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June 2, 1970

Mr. Don R. Crabtree
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Kimberly
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Dear Don:

Your letter of late January with the chips and your comments started me on a campaign of examining everything very carefully, and I have had my eye glued to the microscope as often as not in the times when I have been able to work. This sort of thing just about pulls the eyes out of your head, and I can't keep it up very long.

My tour of duty in the hospital came from April 25 to May 5, just as you all were in Mexico. Reports that I've had indicate that the meetings left something to be desired, but I would have liked to have been there, just the same. With meetings next year in Norman it seems likely that I won't be able to get there.

The results of the tests they put me through during my ten days in the hospital just confirmed everyone's opinion that my naturally crabbed disposition would keep me going along the same course for a few more years at any rate, provided I take some sensible precautions like not sleeping on railroad tracks and not trying to do in one day what one would ordinarily require three to do.

The paper by Irwin and Wormington in the recent American Antiquity supports my contentions that we have something in the east that is very different from paleo-Indian in the west. The percentage of projectile points to total specimens in the lot of Bull Brook stuff that I have checked so far runs below 5. Scrapers run to about 50, an even more if one lumps side-scrapers and end-scrapers together. Not one single implement is made on a blade--there is no evidence for a true blade industry. All implements are made from flakes. I have checked through only a little more than 1000 pieces, and aim to get through at least 2000, and preferably 2500 before I come to any conclusions.

Striking platforms on many end-scrapers are polished. In some cases the polish extends to the ventral surface and ventral edge of the platform. This could only be done by use. Thus platforms on tools must be ruled out. Platforms on chips are not always useful as many seem to have been destroyed in the striking of the flake, but some rare ones do show rubbing. Is it normal to find rubbed and not-rubbed platforms in one and the same industry?

I wish it were possible for you to see the stuff that I'm working over. I have to borrow from the collectors, and return each lot as I work it through. This is a handicap in that I can't have it all here to check and compare. I see more and more features as I go along and wonder if they, also, were on the earlier lots I examined.

Very best to you and Evelyn. Sorry I wasn't able to meet you in New York or New Haven, but it was just out of the question.

Yours, *Jmp.*

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