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Dear Art:

It is good to hear from you again and know you must be enjoying the good weather while we fight the snow here and in Ann Arbor.

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Y  
We are delighted to hear that Francois is coming to Tucson. Last time I heard from him he was a little down in the dumps and know that Tucson is just the medicine he needs. Is Denise coming also?

About the material - it is indeed a problem. I am enclosing a price list from my friend Ed Barry of Gem Center, U.S.A. and also copy of a letter I just received from him. He is by far more reasonable than any other dealer and has quoted me a price of \$80.00 per thousand pounds of mine run Mexican obsidian. Most dealers ask 50¢ to \$1.00 per pound. The Mexican obsidian is free of frost fractures and is good usable material - however you must specify the size of the pieces wanted for most of the mine run is small. If you do order this mine run material be sure and look for aboriginal work. I found several worked tools in my sacks and, if one can judge by patination, it could be of considerable age. There is some very fine Texas flint but, as of now, I have been unable to locate the source. I would suggest that you write to Joel Shiner who is a flintknapper of sorts and also a rockhound and I am sure would know of the source of this flint and also a dealer. Alabates flint is also good and you might contact Calvin R. Cummings, Alibates Flint Quarries, National Monument, P.O. Box 848, Fritch, Texas, 79036 about this. I met him in Santa Fe and he said I could get some sample material when needed.

Also noticed an ad in Lapidary journal of a dealer who sells the Glass Butte obsidian in mahogany gold sheen, rainbow and other colors at 10¢ per pound. - The Elkins Gem Stones, Box 576, Prineville, Oregon 97754. They may make a special price on ordinary obsidian in large pieces. Another ad - but no price - "Ohio's beautiful flint, color and variety" Beechtree Gems, 687 Beechwood Road, Columbus, Ohio 43213. Don't know about this one but have worked the material and it works well after the thermal treatment. Hopewell blades were made from this flint.

I am on the same search for materials for Bird and Gould who want a display of some of my work for the American Museum. It is really a problem to get good chipping stone.

Do hope that Earl has sent Emil the Hohokam paper by this time. Will look forward to seeing or hearing from you.

Yours very truly,

Don E. Crabtree

encl.

Ca. 5.5.26