

# *A Bibliography on Meteorites*

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## INTRODUCTION

This volume consists of a chronologically arranged bibliography of world literature on meteorites and related subjects. It will be followed in the near future by a two-volume set which will outline in some detail our present knowledge concerning meteorites and their properties. It is intended that the next volume will contain alphabetical, chronological, and geographical indexes of all meteorites and descriptions of stony and stony-iron meteorites. The third volume will contain descriptions of iron meteorites, tables of chemical analyses, tables of locations of meteorites in collections, and an index to general subjects related to meteorites.

In this volume an attempt has been made to incorporate contributions to the science of meteorites dating from antiquity to recent times. Although original essays and descriptions by Greek and Roman historians have not been included, early translations of the older works have been included wherever possible. The volume covers literature on meteorites published between the years 1491 and 1950.

The initial stages of the work of compilation consisted in consulting standard works, bibliographies, and also a number of abstract journals in the fields of geology and chemistry. Reference works of special importance were: E. A. Wülfing's "Die Meteoriten in Sammlungen und ihre Literatur, nebst einem Versuch, den Tauschwert in Meteoriten zu bestimmen," published in Tübingen in 1897, and E. Cohen's "Meteoritenkunde," consisting of three parts, published in 1894, 1903, and 1905. Among the abstract publications consulted were: *Mineralogical Abstracts*, *Zentralblatt für Mineralogie, Geologie und Paläontologie*, *Chemical Abstracts*, *Chemisches Zentralblatt*, and *Neues Jahrbuch für Mineralogie, Geologie und Paläontologie*. Compilation of Russian references on meteorites was considerably facilitated by E. L. Krinov's book "Meteority," published in 1948, and the journal "Meteoritika," the first issue of which appeared in 1941. Unfortunately, only the first five issues, of the ten reported to have been published, were accessible for reference purposes. G. T. Prior's "Catalogue of Meteorites" (1923), his "Appendix to the Catalogue of Meteorites" (1927), and M. Hey's "Second Appendix to the Catalogue of Meteorites" (1940) proved to be extremely useful.

A large number of sources was consulted in an effort to locate institutions possessing desired materials. The Union List of Serials, the Library of Congress Catalogue of Printed Cards, and the Union Catalogue at the Library of Congress served as invaluable guides to the leading library centers in the United States where the necessary literature could be obtained. The Library of Congress, the University of Chicago Libraries, the Library of the United States Geological Survey, the Smithsonian Institution, the John Crerar Library (Chicago), the New York City Public Library, the American Museum of Natural History (New York), and the Chicago Natural History Museum provided access to the major part of all literature contained in the bibliography. The Library of Con-

gress was the most important source of information leading to the location of the bulk of Russian as well as other slavic literature on meteorites. Many other libraries throughout the United States co-operated in the task of compilation by permitting access to their collections. The British Museum (Natural History) and the Vienna Museum of Natural History kindly supplied us with microfilm copies of material not available in the United States. Bibliographies and numerous reprints have been received from the Australian Museum in Sydney, from the University of Pretoria (South Africa), and from the Museum National d'histoire Naturelle (Paris).

The articles listed in this bibliography have been extracted from 1,068 technical journals, magazines, newspapers, other periodic publications, as well as 840 books, special monographs, pamphlets, catalogues on meteorites, and correspondence items. Each journal, where available, was checked thoroughly for articles, and each reference was checked against the original article to assure correctness of title, spelling, volume number, and pagination. Some articles mentioned by earlier writers could not be located. Where it was clear that our inability to locate a given article was the result of error by previous recorders, the incorrect reference was dropped from the list. Where our inability to locate the reference resulted from the fact that the publication itself could not be located, and where we had little reason to suspect the authenticity of the reference, the listing was retained. In all such cases, the fact that we did not actually see the original paper or a photographic copy is indicated by an asterisk (\*) following the reference code-number.

The bibliography includes as title references only those papers in which original studies and observations on meteorites and related phenomena were presented. Abstracts, condensations, translations, and conventional reviews are cited as supplementary reference, the titles as well as the names of the authors being omitted. Brief remarks, notes, letters to editors, and reviews which showed evidence of originality or sound criticism were classified as original contributions and included under separate titles. Whenever they occurred without title, their contents were examined and an approximate title was chosen. The present number of approximately 8,600 major reference listings represents about one-half of the number accumulated before the task of classification and consolidation was begun.

All references are listed chronologically and alphabetically by author. Each carries the name and initials of the author (where known), the title of the paper, abbreviation of the publication in which the article appeared, number of the series, pagination, and the year of the publication or the year during which the paper or book was published. Immediately following each major reference will be found listings of abstracts, translations, and reviews.

All references are supplied with a Code-number on the left-hand margin of each page. The code-number consists of the year of publication, the first letter of the author's last name, and the number indicating the order of each reference within the year. In all instances where the author's name could not be established, the letter has been omitted from the code. In the subsequent volumes of this series, which will contain data on individual meteorites, references will be cited by code-number only. The saving in space, time, and expense resulting

from this procedure can be readily appreciated.

Since no unified set of abbreviations for periodicals which overlap so many areas of scientific activity, is in existence, it was necessary to work out a system which is suitable for the needs of this bibliography. The List of Periodicals of the American Chemical Society has been the only reference consulted for abbreviation purposes. Its usefulness, however, was confined to chemical and closely related literature. The majority of all periodic publications have been abbreviated without adherence to any particular scheme. An attempt has been made to be consistent in abbreviations throughout the volume.

An author index is included in this volume, based upon the code-numbers of the references in the master list.

The Editors recognize that the bibliography as here presented is by no means complete. A number of references have been located too late for inclusion in the main body of this volume. As time goes on, these additional references will be accumulated and included as a supplement to the second volume. It is hoped that interested readers will inform us of any omissions which come to their attention.

The work which has gone into the compilation thus far was made possible by a generous grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. The University of Chicago kindly made available space for the compilation task from 1949 through 1952. The tedious jobs of searching, checking, cross-checking, and typing have been undertaken by a loyal and hard-working group including Mrs. Rudd Brown, Mrs. Ora Coon, Mrs. Hans Ramberg, Miss Mary Roberts, and Miss Jody Weaver. Early phases of the compilation were aided by the efforts of Mr. Richard Deschamp, Dr. Edward Goldberg, Dr. Claire C. Patterson, and Mr. Aiji Uchiyama.

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