

Nov. 6
1954.

Miss Patricia Paylore,
University of Arizona,
Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Miss Paylore:-

At this point I do not know how long it is going to take me to recover from all the catastrophe of Thursday evening. First and foremost, to follow such a superb speaker as Dr. Powell wasn't easy. And having had to eliminate the first part of showing as I have done it before, in order to shorten it sufficiently, made it necessary to jump into the subject without the background I usually have. This sort of left me with nothing to lean on, as it were. Next the frightful error of my operator in repeating slides was to say the least upsetting. I found afterwards that he was attempting to put the slides back in my case by feel in the dark and wasn't watching the screen. The table was plenty large enough to hold the slides in stacks after he had shown them. Such a possibility simply never occurred to me. Then to have a lens crack was indeed an awful climax. That was a brand new machine, belonging to a museum here in Santa Fe, and was the first time it had been used for more than a few minutes at a time. It must have been a faulty lens (condensing lens) and has already been returned to the manufacturer. The lines of the cracks looked to me from where I stood to be about a foot wide. Miss Forster says they weren't, but she may be trying to console me. I only hope that people got enough out of the pictures before the accident occurred. Now I am wondering if I must always carry an extra set of condensing lenses with me. Are you sure that that evening Nov. 4, 1954 wasn't Friday the 13th?

That both these happenings should have occurred, has had me in a state of deep depression ever since and I cannot help but feel that failed you miserably. Perhaps at some future time I can in some way make up for it.

Most sincerely