

Dear Doc:

Sorry to have written such a messy letter the other day but we were extremely busy and I wrote that letter on time, ^{that} I should have been going to town.

Doc I have made arrangements for a friend to come out after me and don't hesitate to call - collect.

I went on duty the 10th of July and was at Woodville, Texas until Aug. 7 when I was sent to San Augustin. There are two officers here at present and we have 172 negroes to keep under control.

The main objection to the work is that it is a 24-hour job and we are 15 miles from San Augustin without telephone communication.

Lonsdale told me quite awhile ago, July 10th that he had just accepted the position at Ames and was recommending Baker and mentioned that he would talk to Dr. Bellard about the place at the Bureau if Baker came to A. & M.

I am certainly glad that it happened, as that puts you up with a better salary and more security. You were certainly smart when you made the change - except you should have been head of the Dept. at school instead of Baker, but that would probably have been impossible with Lonsdale doing the recommending. Anyway I guess you tickled I don't blame you.

I am supposed to go off duty here - that is C.C.E. - the 9th of January. I can probably get a 3 or 6 months extension if I so desire at that time and I am making approximately \$265⁰⁰ per month but would resign at any time if another job showed up even for one half that much. Oh yes - I am getting along fine and am enjoying the work but would like to get into geology because this is very temporary and my interests lie elsewhere.

Lonsdale thought 6 months of this would be valuable training or experience ^(he would) and the good money attached is not to be sneezed at. I could - maybe - have talked somebody into giving me a job & Lonsdale thinks he can arrange a job with the Shell, but was pretty broke and decided to try this for six months.

About the job at school - John told me that he could have insisted that I be employed but the Dean wanted a Ph.D. man and John knew he would probably go to Ames so he did let the Dean hire the man he did.

That was O.K. I was glad in a way and I know the College profited by the present arrangement - ^{referring to} not John J.

Doc, I'd give my ass to get that place, but am afraid that is improbable to say the least. I suppose it is unnecessary to say that the main reason is I'd like to work under you or for you or with you again and learn something - and consider it one of the greatest compliments that I have ever received that you have recommended me to Dr. Sellards

→ We are terribly busy, but have 2 ½ days leave coming and would do anything that you think might help.

L.22. Lucy Grace is staying at home at present, but hope she can be with me soon.

Give regards to Mrs Stenzel and the two girls.

Sincerely,

Mark

P.S. Are there any fossil localities close to this pt. if so give instructions and I will ship you a collection. Can take a detail of negroes to help collect.

Mark.