

John J. O'Neill

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENCE WRITERS

SCIENCE EDITOR  
N. Y. HERALD - TRIBUNE  
230 WEST 41ST STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

Personal Correspondence.

209 North Long Beach Ave.  
Freeport, L.I., N.Y.  
March 7, 1945.

Dr. Otto Stern,  
California Institute of Technology,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Dr. Stern:

I am engaged in some research on factors influencing the incandescence of meteors, the so called shooting stars. I recall that some years ago in the course of an interview you mentioned your observation of bright spots, or "stars" that developed on the surface of metal containers of hydrogen. I cannot bring back from memory the details of the circumstances under which this phenomenon developed. Could I trouble you to refresh my mind on the subject?

Was it possible that such spots were caused by the action of atoms of nascent hydrogen on the metal? Were they incandescent spots or perhaps luminescent spots, due perhaps to such luminescence as develops when mercury is exposed to atomic hydrogen? Are there any particular conditions of pressure, etc., under which they develop? How long do the spots remain luminescent? Do any visible conditions remain on the metal? Could the stars have been due to cosmic ray particles or photons penetrating the container of the hydrogen? Have you published anything on the subject, and if so could you give me a reference to it?

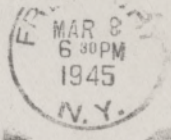


Permit me at this time to congratulate you on the well earned recognition of your work demonstrated by the award to you of the Nobel Prize. I wanted to have a word with you at the midday dinner at the Waldorf Astoria at which the award was presented but you got away before I could reach you at the close of the event.

Sincerely yours

John F. Oliver

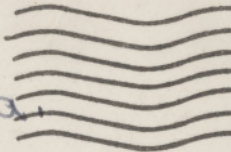
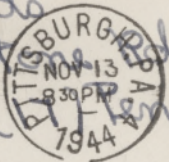
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Prof. Otto Stern,  
Carnegie Institute of Technology,  
Pittsburgh,  
Pa.



from  
Mrs. E. G. Olds  
222 Gladstone Bld.  
Pittsburgh (13) Penna.



Dr. Otto Stern  
1060 Morewood Ave.  
Pittsburgh (13)  
Penna.

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222 Gladstone Rd.,  
Pittsburgh (17), Penna.,  
Nov. 13, 1944,

Dear Dr. Stern,

The Women's Club of  
Carnegie Tech wishes to add  
its congratulations to those  
of the scientific world. As  
the wives of the teaching  
staff at Carnegie we realize  
how richly deserved your  
honours are. The Nobel prize  
in Physics could not have  
been more wisely awarded.

We are so happy for you  
a life of single minded devo-  
tion to science, a record of  
brilliant achievements and  
truly wonderful original  
research, the ladies are in  
awe of you but we do appre-  
ciate you and send you our  
warmest congratulations  
and best wishes.

Sincerely  
Marion Olds.