

A further mystery, indicating the possibility of exposure of the metal in outer space, is that the outer surface, under powerful magnification, shows minute inclusions which well may be micro-meteorites picked up during a long sojourn in space. The Club has in its possession a series of photographs of the outer surface of the metal, taken with the aid of micro-photography, in which these inclusions can be observed quite clearly. The density of these particles is about 30 per square centimeter. Dr. Peter Millman of the Canadian National Research Council, estimated that micro-meteorites of this size would occur through a sq. cm. section at about 10^{-8} second, so it would take about a year to accumulate such a density.

Analyses. Several chemical analyses of the metal have been made by the Club. These vary, indicating that the mass is not homogeneous. To date, the Club has been unable to find any organization with the proper facilities, willing to carry out a mass spectrographic analysis to determine the number of isotopes in the various elements contained in the metal. If this could be done, it would establish whether or not the material is of terrestrial origin, although, of course, there is always the possibility that other planets may have the same minerals as Planet Earth. And even if it were proved to be of terrestrial origin, there still remains the intriguing mystery of how it arrived on the beach!

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