

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
CHIEF, BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY
AND REFER TO

December 8, 1931.

BI-B-Banding

Mrs. J. E. Stewart,
1245 W. 37th Street,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Mrs. Stewart:

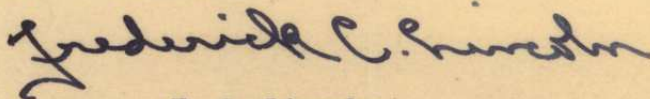
I am in receipt of your letter of November 21, together with a copy of the "Birds of Polk County, Iowa", by P. A. Du Mont. I greatly appreciate your courtesy in sending this to me and I have looked it over with some care.

The Des Moines Audubon Society may well be proud to have the privilege of publishing this work as it has evidently been prepared with much care and it seems to me that it gives an excellent resume of the bird life of your county. I particularly like the caution exercised by Mr. Du Mont in accepting records of the occurrence of the different species. This is particularly important at the present time because of the large number of amateur observers in the field, all of whom are constantly looking for rare birds.

There is one little matter that I am sure neither you nor Mr. Du Mont will mind my bringing to your attention and that is the fact that the word species is spelled the same in both the singular and the plural; that is, there is always a terminal "s". I would not mention this except for the fact that I find the word written "specie" on almost every page and on some pages it is repeated four or five times, so it seems hardly reasonable to believe that it was merely a printer's mistake.

I shall be glad if you will present my compliments to Mr. Du Mont as I think he is to be congratulated on a very good piece of work.

Very truly yours,



F. C. Lincoln,
Biologist, Division of
Biological Investigations.