

State of Iowa

# Fish and Game Commission

Des Moines

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JESUP

Ogden, Iowa  
July 15 1935

Phil Du Mont  
Burns, Ore.

Dear Phil:-

Well I have been corresponding with your friend Vogt and he has taken your word for it that I can write that article so I am going to assemble my data and get busy some day when I feel really inspired. I have also written to Logan who is now at Winona and he has promised to furnish me with whatever data I need. Since I do not have a car yet I have not been able to get to Des Moines but when I do I will see Schwob about the map as you suggested. I had hoped that Logan would come down to Mc Gregor for a few days but he says that he may not be there so we will have to do all by correspondence. Vogt says however that he will not find space for the article now until next spring or early summer so I have plenty of time. I am wondering whether he would care for anything about the day Bob and Jr and I got a list of 123 birds around here. That was May 14 1933. I hate to mention about this if they do not care for single days lists like that. What do you think about it? In yesterdays Sunday Register there was an article on the "wailing and railing" (Open Forum) page that will no doubt give you a lot of kick and I am enclosing it for you. After you have read it you may return it some time and I will send it to Logan as he will also like a good laugh too. I don't know her but she must be quite some old girl. I know Mr Sandvig and he seemed to be a fair sort of fellow. Regarding the number of cattle in the pasture last year I remember myself that there were over 200 but I cannot recall just how many, anyway there were too many for the birds. You have some questions in your outline that I would like to have answered if you can do so. They are - Why do the ducks gather during the fall in this wedge-shaped Wisconsin glaciated area in northwestern Iowa? Where do they feed and then where do they jump to? My own personal experience during the fall hunting season (last fall) was that they all fed in Round Lake the reserve and there they sat laughing (quacking) at all of us hunters who never got a shot. They sure are educated and know just where to go. Had a nice visit yesterday afternoon with Hendrickson and Travis of Ames who drove over and spent a couple of hours with me. The new Commission is considering an open season on Mourning Doves. What do you think of such a proposition? Personally I am not in favor of it and told Jack Stevens so. Sportsmen are aching for something else to shoot at legally and are turning to these harmless birds. Next they will want an open season on house wrens. I would suggest they spend their time trying to kill Starlings where they could really be doing some good. Got a nice letter from your mother a few days ago. She asked me for a recomend for a Custodians job and of course I will be tickled to death to do all that I can for them. Perhaps I will want something like that myself some day. Well, Phil drop me a line when you have time. Best regards and well wishes for success in your work, *Walter*