

Winthrop, Iowa,
December 25, 1938.

Dear Phil and Family:

It is good to hear from you, even if only once a year. We were glad to see the picture of young Paul, and to note that he is growing up to be a big boy. Our family is growing up, too. Our Paul will be in Junior H. S. next fall, and Florence was three in September.

Myrtle Jones and wife were out this year as usual. We took our bird census in the Backbone Park on the 23rd, with a list of 22 species. This was my 19th consecutive bird census for Bird-Lore, so I am beginning to feel like rather an old man. Our list was rather ordinary, with Rusty Blackbird, Mallard and Mourning Dove as the most unusual ones found.

I am glad that you continue to read Iowa Bird Life and find it of interest. It is hard sometimes to get enough Iowa notes to fill the issues. We try to keep it strictly Iowan, and you know the Iowa people are not noted for being writers. They like to get out to look for birds but are reluctant to write up what they see.

Walter Bennett spent a day with me this year and I get up to see Mike Allert occasionally, while many of the others drop in at rare intervals. It has been quite some time since Phil DuMont has called here, but we will keep our eye to the west and hope for a visit.

Are you coming down to Spirit Lake next May for the big convention? That meeting ought to be an extra fine one.

With the very best of good wishes for all of you from all of us,

Very sincerely,

Fred Pierce

