

Probably October 25, 1933

Mr C. L. Horn
President, Federal Cartridge Corp.
~~Min~~ Fosbury Lane,
Minneapolis Minn

Dear Mr Horn:

I am returning to you the
two publications relating to quail
which you so kindly lent me.
I am taking the liberty also to
comment a bit upon inaccuracies
(not ~~stoddard's~~ ^{mist}) in one of them to
illustrate the remarks I ~~recently~~
made during our recent discussion
of good and bad publicity.

On page 38 of the ~~Georgia~~ Georgia
Fish and Game Warden's bulletin
bearing Stoddard's name as author
you will note the pitiful spectacle
of a very wicked skunk holding the
limp body of ~~a~~ a very quail-like
incubating quail that presumably
had allowed itself to be picked
~~up somewhat as you would pick~~
~~up a paper bag~~
off the nest. Apropos of this subject
Stoddard in his original ~~complete~~
text, page 189, says, "As skunks are
almost entirely nocturnal in
this region, it is evident that

not the
underscored
words on the
next page (39).

quail are sometimes attacked
on the nest during the night.
While a few feathers were occasionally
found where animals had tried
to capture the brooding bird, no
evidence of success was found.
This shows a surprising lack of
activity on the part of the
skunks! With this my Wisconsin
data check absolutely. Indeed, it
has been my observation that
a skunk hunts ~~in~~ in a manner
comparable to that of a prazing
small pig, ~~and moving~~ ~~searching~~ ^{for whatever} ~~searching~~
with no attempt at stealth and often
with enough noise to be distinctly
audible at a distance of many
feet. On the basis of my own work
and Stoddards, I see no reason
why the skunk should be an
enemy of adult, functional quail
at all, yet the artist has
portrayed the above touching scene
as one to be expected as a regular
thing.

can find

~~find the~~
~~with the~~

On with the battle. Page 43
depicts a snake of the pit-viper
~~type~~ group, ^(according to Stoddard) about to ~~attack~~ bring
disaster to a clutch of quail eggs.
Stoddard, p 434-435, mentions
six species of snakes as eaters of
quail eggs, none of which species are
of pit-viper type (though the diamond
back rattlesnake has been known to eat

adult quail) see also the marked passage
on page 48 ^{of the bulletin} more shot. On page

48 a clutch of hatching eggs is
being swarmed over by ~~ants~~
ants having designs upon the
contained quail chicks. What
some ants will do to a hatching
chick is plenty, but the chick
does not break out of the egg as
shown; ~~they~~ it neatly saws
off the large end of the egg by
means of its egg tooth, so the
resulting cap ~~falls back like~~
~~the top of an open beer~~

lifts back like ~~opened~~ ^{the top of a} properly
fashioned beer stein. - ?

These mistakes do not
concern trivial technicalities,
~~errors to be expected in almost~~
~~any errata of no consequence~~
that creep into ~~to be expected in the list of~~
publications; they are so
glaringly conspicuous that
~~just~~ practically anybody who
knows anything about quail,
quail eggs, skunks, and snakes
could hardly fail to see them.
What difference does it make
if publicity is accurate or
not? It makes ~~this~~ a difference
to me, though you doubtless
regard me as hypercritical.
Had it not been for my own

personal familiarity with Hodder
and the quality of work that
he ~~does~~ throws out and ~~has~~
~~not~~ ~~had~~ were it not for
sundry experiences I have had
with laymen who attempted
to review or popularize my own
papers, I would, very likely, have
~~relegated the whole bulletin~~
~~without further ado~~
placed little credence upon
the other contents of the bulletin,
except those which from my
~~own~~ personal studies I know
to be correct. ~~The author~~

This by no means
implies that my own ~~researches~~
~~are not best~~ work is free
from the ~~errors that~~
imperfections that attend
any human endeavor; I am
merely laboring to stress
the point that the errors
cannot be of evident and
conspicuous magnitude without
detracting seriously from the
authenticity of a given piece of
publicity. ~~The apparently ever-growing~~
~~public suspicion of old saying~~
old adage to the effect that one
cannot believe anything he
reads is not entirely without

foundation. And may I add
that unless ^{increasing} ~~some~~ attention
is paid to quality instead of
high-pressure newspaper tactics,
we need ~~to~~ not look for any
pronounced improvement over
the biased, sloxworn, and garbled
~~poor~~ propaganda of which I consider
we already ~~to~~ have much more than a
sufficiency.

So much for that. I trust
that ^{by this letter} I may have made a
little clearer the ^{general} basis of my
denfence of a certain down personal
charge which, I understand
from you, has stirred up
adversity. Prospective of the
wisdom or lack of wisdom of
the particular move that
we discussed, perhaps a
definition of my own stand
might make ~~some things~~ ^{at least} more intelligible,
if ~~not acceptable~~ even though
you may not regard them
as wholly acceptable.

Yours sincerely
Paul L. Evington
Assistant Professor,
Wild Life Research

Relative to the Valley quail,
I may say that I have seen a
little of the species and consider
it an excellent bird — on the
west coast where it belongs.
Its success in its native
habitat in no way justifies
its introduction here, even were
it to succeed. It is not that I
have anything ~~so~~ against the
species; I am simply opposed
— and if you dig deeply enough
you will find ~~that~~ I am not
~~the only conservationist who is~~
~~to the general practice of~~
~~introducing for various reasons~~
~~often for no valid reason at all~~
about every exotic under the
sun, if somebody thinks it will
do. The history of our ecological
blunders is replete with
questionable or even disastrous
introductions which need not
be enumerated, and in most
cases ^{can be} attributed to ~~misapprehension~~ ^{well meaning}
effort on the part of individuals
whose good intentions outbalanced
their knowledge of elementary
~~biology~~. I do not know what
perhaps the ~~consequence~~ ~~be~~ ~~the~~ effect of an assemblage
of Valley quail in the middle
west would not be detrimental

to our native wild life at all,
but I don't know and neither
does anybody else.

And ~~may~~ ^{may} it ~~express~~ ^{express}
~~a point of~~ an opinion on what
is directly none of my business,
there seems something ^{publicly} ~~badly~~
incongruous about ^{conservation} ~~attitude~~ that
permits a research project of
~~extreme~~ potential significance ^{and} ~~that~~
that of King's to die out ^{or} ~~out~~ at
~~what~~ ^{has been} ~~propose~~ ^{quiet up} ~~at a~~ ^{to the} ~~time~~ ^{point} ~~when~~ ^{where} it
looks the most
promising of all, yet still be
in a position to put money
into projects of doubtful value,
if not ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ consistent with ~~public~~
permanent public interests.

~~But~~ ^{surely} certainly, I would
appreciate having Mr. Chamberlain
lead me Valley quail literature.
I am always glad to
receive material on species
outside of my own field
for the sake of my own
enlightenment as a zoologist
and a game wren.

I am not entirely rabid
on the subject of sportsman
having a voice in game
matters. That they do pay

attitude
(and I'm
speaking in
terms of
generalities,
not personalities)
that

most of the bills is not at
present to be debated. They
cannot ~~should not~~ be a dictating
faction, however, in game
research or game management
if they are to receive their
full ~~of~~ money worth, any
more than you ~~can~~ ^{would} expect
to get the best returns from
your factory physicist and
chemists if you ~~allow~~
tinkered at random with
their carefully worked out
~~forms~~ experiments and principles.
Then, too, there are sportsmen and
sportsmen. A man like
Sam Anderson is not to be
compared in the same breath
to your ordinary Ike Walton
or game club product.

Yours sincerely

16 40
 28 65
 30 80
 10 85
 17 20
 51 40
 30 65
 16 80

 202.75

of the bill in not at
 6, but to be debated 6 days
 it is a bit of a
 however, in some
 of some importance
 are to receive this
 money, which is
 for the best return
 your property and
 if you are
 at your own with
 carefully avoided out
 experiment and
 are portions and
 I mean like
 is not to be
 compared in the same
 to your ordinary
 or from this product
 Yours sincerely