

Feb. 23, 1932

Dr. W. L. McAtee  
U. S. Biological Survey  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. McAtee:

I received a wire from Drake Saturday afternoon to the effect that my appointment at Iowa State College had been approved and that everything was O.K. Leopold talked with Drake Saturday and told me today that the arrangements looked very satisfactory to him. I have not sent Drake my formal acceptance as yet, but expect to do so shortly.

This, then, I think concludes my present negotiations for a job. I don't know whether I took the wisest course by choosing Iowa--for that matter I probably never will know. I have endeavored to play my cards for what they were worth and with reference also to some things other than my evident personal advantage.

The choice I must admit was anything but easy, particularly in view of the patience and the most gentlemanly consideration you have shown me throughout our correspondence. I am not saying this as an expression of the usual official courtesy; I surely hope that I have not disappointed you in any way--and never will. Perhaps in the long run I might be of greater utility to you--and to the conservation ideals for which you stand--from a position outside of rather than technically in your service.

Sincerely yours,

Paul L. Errington  
In Charge, Quail Investigation