

Sept. 16, 1932

Mr. I. T. Bode
State Game Warden
Fish and Game Commission
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Irwin:

Errington writes me that Mrs. Stewart of Des Moines is trying hard to persuade the protectionists that we do not intend to assassinate the quail, but that she lacks any authoritative statement of what the Game Survey recommended or the Commission intends to do, and that the protectionists are all confused on the matter.

I gather that Errington did not receive the leaflet "Needs and Possibilities of a Game Management Program for Iowa," or else overlooked it. I know how hard it is to get the right distribution of printed material, but will you supply him and also Mrs. Stewart?

Since we cannot make any special educational campaign of the kind I suggested, the future hope of legislative backing for our program rests, in my opinion, on the interpretation of it given to protectionists by a very few key people, including Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Whitley, and Mrs. Frankel. Unless they are kept fully posted, we may expect the automatic and united opposition of the ornithologists and bird lovers. You and the Commission would do well to know them personally, and keep them fully posted. I know you agree with me on this principle, but I am not sure all of the Commissioners fully appreciate it.

The Commission should invite the leading protectionists to see the demonstrations also, even if they have to break a date with the governor to do it. I know that you know this, too, but I am putting it down so you can quote me if you want to.

These key people helped me so much on the Game Survey that I shall rest uneasy until they see the full text of the report, and this, under our present plan of publications, is over a year off. Could you offer to show some of them your copy in case they wish to satisfy themselves of the full context of this quail matter?

Yours sincerely,

ALDO LEOPOLD