

June 23, 1945

Mr. Arthur S. Minarsen
Oregon State Agricultural College
Corvallis, Oregon

Dear Arthur:

Thanks for sending me the paper on Protection Island pheasants.

Your data, as I predicted four years ago, are of extreme value. In the question of interpretation, especially the "levelling off" after 1940 (page 5), I would like to call your attention to Fig. 6, p. 14, of Errington's paper, enclosed. There you see the same thing in quail.

As between food and internal competition as causes for this "inversity", the latter seems to me much more likely. There was no known change in the Prairie du Sac food supply. Please note that your own decline in reproductive gain started a year before grain became unavailable.

If you can spare another copy I would like one for Cyril Kabat (now in Navy) who is attempting to find out, by banding, sexing and aging, what this inversity consists of. *I'm sure Errington would like a copy*

Best regards,

Aldo Leopold

✓cc Errington
Kabat
Cottam