

1532 University Avenue
June 1, 1936

Dr. W. S. Cooper
Department of Botany
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Cooper:

In reply to your circular of May 26, I have one subject to suggest either for a formal symposium or possibly preferably for informal discussion by those interested in the Atlantic City meeting.

I refer to the possibility that Ecology might serve as the official organ for the recently organized Society of Wildlife Managers.

I will be unable to attend the meeting, but I suggest the following as qualified to discuss this question should it seem worth discussing from the Society's viewpoint: W. L. McAtee, Walter P. Taylor, Paul L. Errington.

The question is briefly this: There has suddenly developed a large field personnel, mostly in government bureaus, charged with wildlife management work. These young men cannot subscribe to all the journals in which technical papers on wildlife are now scattered. There is need of one technical journal which will contain wildlife papers and at least apprise them, through reviews or synopses, of current papers appearing elsewhere.

For non-technical or semi-technical papers, the existing periodical, American Wildlife, will suffice.

As a stop-gap to fill this need, W. L. McAtee is issuing a mimeographed "Wildlife Review."

The new society has a committee reporting on the advisability of founding a journal of wildlife management. Many of the older members of the profession, however, are well aware that there is a certain advantage in scattering our literature, and that the financial predicaments of many current journals make it inadvisable to found any new ones if there is any other way to meet current needs.

Many technical wildlife papers fall naturally into ornithology, mammalogy, forestry, etc. These papers have been appearing and should doubtless continue to appear in their respective journals.

Some of the, however, do not pertain to these defined fields but attach naturally to the broader ecological field. There is, therefore, a

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certain logic in looking to Ecology as an outlet. From my personal viewpoint, it would also be desirable for ecologists to come in contact with this effort to apply ecological science, and for wildlife managers to come in contact with pure ecological research.

We can hardly, however, wish ourselves into your bailiwick without an invitation.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the persons above named and to Prof. R. T. King, University of Minnesota, president of the new society.

Yours sincerely,

Aldo Leopold
Professor of Game Management

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