

2 copies

Please return
for files — P.L.E

109 Third Street North,
Black River Falls, Wis.,
July 24, 1937.

Dear Paul:

In glancing through the Wildlife Review I notice Life Histories: Red Fox; distribution and survival by Paul L. Errington and R. M. Berry. I am very much disturbed and also take exception concerning the authors of this report, for the reason that I feel you have done a great injustice by not crediting the rightful individual who actually carried out the work.

During the time this work took place, I was in charge of the Game Management Division and Enforcement and I personally set up the procedure of trapping, tagging and releasing the number of foxes you mention in your report. I do not believe it is customary for any clerical aid, who was instructed to record all incoming reports that came over my desk and returned to my Division, and on account of my field contacts I should be given credit for the work.

The work that I personally contributed was periodic field meetings in districts with field men, explaining the handling and disposition of pups and land owners contacts. I also outlined and prepared all report forms and arranged for certain type tags. With this work I contacted fur buyers, stressing the necessity of their cooperation in returning tags. Mr. Bode and I arranged also for the shipment of foxes to Prof. Green for disease studies, and I personally disposed of all surplus for the Commission. My reports, letters and other correspondence will bear this out. In my files here, I have all the original material on this, so that I am in position to show that Mr. Berry was only clerical aid on the fox distribution and tagging program.

When your stenographer types up your reports, etc., does this entitle her to be mentioned as an author to the manuscript you have prepared? I have no ax to grind with Mr. Berry, but I do feel that he only recorded the figures and reports as they were returned to me.

Unless you have other reasons, I am going to have the matter aired, since this is my contribution in setting this job up, and the original copies will bear me out in this respect.

I regret I find it necessary to write you regarding this matter, but feel you have made an error. I also feel that you omitted the cooperator's name who actually was responsible for the field men's collection of fox material at dens.

You no doubt will recall when the original idea was discussed with you and when a definite understanding was agreed upon on the methods and procedure of field men concerning this work. If the matter is checked you will find

instruction letters to field men signed by me concerning procedures, etc. Several trips were made with you personally, when collected material found at fox dens was turned over to you.

Aldo spent a day with me last week. We had a very enjoyable field trip. Wish you could have been with us.

May I hear from you on the above subject, and with kindest regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Wm. H. Schunke.

WHS*S