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November 2, 1964

Dear Mom:

I'm sitting down to write a letter tonight. I've been meaning to write for a while, but life has been busy. I'm in a bit of a hurry, so I'll try to be brief.

I arrived in town on Wednesday. The town looks very much the same as I remember. I spent Thursday night and part of Friday in town, and then I went to the airport on Saturday morning to fly back.

I'm glad to be back in Florida. The weather is much better than it was in New York. The sun is shining, and the air is warm. I'm looking forward to spending the winter here.

I wish you were here with me. It would be great to spend Christmas with you.

I'll write more soon. For now, I must get back to work.

Love,

[Signature]

P.S. I'll call you soon to tell you about the trip.
July 23. From up to Waminga and friend Ray Still trying to reach me on the telephone. I go up to Nebraska for the conference with the Congressional Committee on Conservation. Deputy Wm. H. Lane is chairman and Senator Henry B. Havens, Mr. and Mrs. Pitman of Nebraska are members.

Found the men not so thrifty as they had to wait till July 25 for the hearing which took the whole day.

The meeting was at the summer cottage of Mr. Ira B. Gifford, of Chicago who made a delightful host. Others present were Mr. Rockwell of Ray Still's. Uncle and myself from the Biological Survey.
Mr. Bates of the Forest Service, Capt. Culley of Mr. Flanagan of the Bureau of Fisheries, a couple of senators from Minneola and some of our readers. Also Mr. Bell of McGregor, Iowa.

In the forenoon of July 25, Gen. Booth, chief of Army Engineers stopped for his boat near the river on the stream. General Allen of the committee, when he left the committee was called to order by Mr. Weeks and Mr. Reddington asked to tell about the campaign.

He gave its history and aims of objects of several administration problems. Then asked me to tell about
its animal life, past, present and future.
I began with 1870 when I first came up the valley in a covered wagon; then passenger pigeons, prairie chickens and white tail deer were abundant and then told of what there is on the refuge and what can be brought back.
Then Mr. Wheeler told of the bird foods and aquatic vegetation of the refuge and later we were asked some questions.
Mr. Miller of the bureau of fisheries made wild statements of how many hundreds of you could each have taken from the stream of great blue herons and wanted to have them all killed off.
Mr. White gave some real figures
on their food, which showed them only slightly harmful to pond fishes and I cited their value in destroying pond guppies and nuisances in some of the smaller staffs. The pond of lizards was cleaned; the predatory animals were asked about.

Returned to Wimara, as caught fish to Ta Cucutt late in evening.

July 26. Left Ta Cucutt after noon and went to Ta Badi, and down river to Fereyville, but jumping no place to stay went on to Fereyville where we found a number of racing quarters near the river. This is at the lower end of the Wimara mill bottoms, but we ran back to Fereyville in the morning to start.
July 27, Found the Game wading at Ferizjeh and planned a trip to tomorrow, they returned to Lyzyjeh to sit traps, took photographs, wrote up notes and got ready for real work tomorrow which will be Monday.

July 28, Went to traps before breakfast and thence up to Ferizjeh where the refuge waderin, Herley Cawthorne, went with us with his boat and we had an all day steady of the upper part of the Willylow Bottoms, followed the Whinweels Slough across the closed are of the plain then down through guardian Slough through the whole 8 of it and all both sides into the marshes at lakes and lotus beds while the
The hunting areas are large and almost all in the nearby forest. The area is much greater than the previous one and there is much more hunting. The method of hunting is not exactly like the previous one, but it is still controlled and legal in accordance with the law.
Cottonwood and willows are the main trees of which there is an abundance of cottonwood and willow along the bluffs. Most trees are almost entirely lacking and there is doubt of peach trees doing well on such rocky bottoms. Squirrels are few, but apparently it is their work eating the bark from silver maple. One fox squirrel was seen and a few ground squirrels.

The surrounding bluff of good country is perfect for squirrels.

The marshes and lakes and sloughs cover extensive areas of are ideal for wood ducks, black ducks, mallards and such game.

The lakes are generally full of lilies (Nelumbo lutea) now in full flower and a wonder of beauty and interest. The flowers often grow out in deep grass or wild underbrush or stand four feet high or waving above the beautiful green leaves, eight or ten inches across and the rich satin green leaves out to two feet across. Few flower displays are more beautiful, and the abundant waders from their seeds are valuable duck food.

Around the shores and on the extensive marshes the tall thirtieth cornered sedge, Spiculae, handsomely grows itself out often higher than our heads. Its full
breezing backs or scottish forming one of the very important ingredients of duck pots.

Several varieties grow in places but lies abundant those farther north, while beardless, bullrushes and many other sedges fill up the marsh spaces. Here is lies grass than farther north.

The three common Sagittariae are abundant. Potamogetons of many kinds fill the water in places, some of these duck weeds are abundant, wild reeds were seen in only one little strip along a shore and it was not that soon. This is very abundant in almost pure stands for miles along the margins of sloughs of calm or over open whole lakes, it is a glorious plant of

forms on the most attractive flower displays is known of like thousands of blossoms waving on slender two foot tall stems often a 10.0 flowers are in delicate pale yellow with waxy topped centers of delicious perfume while the great leaves, 12.0 to 2.0 feet across are bronzy velvet and those standing erect told silver globules from the morning dew. Hapten the waves would easily hold up a foot and probably a little more

The field greats laid on one side not make a dent in it.

The seeds from drier juncuses corks must be cleaned a lot of pond pot duckets and other life.

Cooked 1 / 2 cup of world for lunch.
July 29

Circled the lower half of the Winneshiek Bottoms by boat, making numerous short trips in & waters of lakes that we could not enter by boat. Went clear around & partly through the closed area which is not quite as large as the one explored yesterday, about 1500 acres roughly. While yesterday the closed area was near 2500 acres.

It is the same type of country, low forest and much marsh & wetland, wonderful number of waterfowl country, lots of food plants & great numbers of muskies, frogs, crayfish, fish & turtles. Sun an 800 foot zin.
fished, and the game fish, sunfish, bass, and perch put back while the sheephead, red hors, carp and dogfish were taken to market. They would not eat all together over 200 or 250 pounds of fish and I judged that two thirds of them went to market.

They gave me a sheephead, a skippjack and a morrigan to cook for lunch. The sheephead was delicious, the morrigan fairly good, the skippjack good but kept cold today. I braised them on sticks and they were the best of this kind. Have tried pork or crawfish yet. They found two large soft shell clams and two hard shellled in the net. Beautiful weather.
Ezraville, Wis. July 30, 1930
Quesnelia kietleri
** alba**
** salina**
** macaropa**
** cretica**
Bolbota alba

** nipica**
** meekeri**
** canepigparam
** maccrescens**
** europa**
Corydalis alba

** scottii**
** cinerea**

Hypestria, Fumana, Fumana
** scottii**
** cinerea**

*Cortaderia*
** alba**

Angiospermae: *Fumana*

5 species

** Cynips alba

Poiana

Angiospermae: *Fumana*

5 species

July 30

Took a day to visit up experts
do some collecting.

Austin got a *Euphrasia* as a gift. Last night we had

angiosperms auriculata, 3 very

large ones, weighing 50, 47, and

54 g.

Set more traps, hoping to get

angiosperms of some.

A cool and perfect day.

*Corydalis*

** alba**

Floridana

*Cortaderia*

** alba**

*Physobia*

*Helianthus*

*Euphorbia*

*Rosa*

2
July 31, Harly C. Lawrence came down to Tyngsboro with his motor boat and took us down the river to the lower end of the Harpers Ferry bottoms and all around Tullin and through many of the sloughs and lakes. So we got a good idea of the country.

It is rather low and not much above extreme high water. Almost all of the coves are lined with osiers, willows, cottonwood, maple, elms, ash and other a few of the highest hills a few swamp willow and beaver poles. The lake of sloughs are generally bordered with the three kinds of agglutinum, river rush, and in places lotus or white water lilies but the lotus is not so abundant as last as last summer.
Caught a pinion and Austin
collected 3 Loquat Dendrocygna
and lots of Myotis. Bittern
Lawrence brought us two Myotis
hundreds of wood ducks.
Some wood ducks on a round log
in water at the mouth of a wider stream. The
were all west and did not like to cross across the other side
to the woods.

Four squaws are mostly on the
river flats, graygooses mostly
on the bushes.

Saw a bullfrog for lunch on
each log of large alligator.

The stream contains a frog called
about as wide as a leg and
its barking sounds of me. The stream was

The muskrats have been
caught and killed. No tracks are
common. No wild bee was
seen and little grass.
The muskrats were feeding mainly
on leaves instead of Sagittaria,
cattails, but in our place
been eating the flowers and buds of
cattails.

There would be good for
a large number of ducks,
but the country is not as
good for them as it was
north. There is little open
land, ground for turkeys.

plenty of wood ducks, wood duck
and others. At the bridge

A few ducks, mallard
cold wood ducks were seen.
August 1930

Left Leavenworth, Wisconsin, at 10 AM with Albert Austin in a little car. After about an hour, crossed the river to 11th Street, Des Moines, and drove up to the Wild Life School at top of the hill overlooking Des Moines River and Lake. Fished a little cutting "The Mighty" just right for us, but located right there.

Coxie decided to go back to St. Paul. Saw a family of geese and a duck. Stitched a wet coat. A hot day.
Aug. 2. Got our baggage, packed up and left down to work on reports and specimens. Saw a little of the country as yet, but bearings for next work.

Aug. 3. Sunday and very hot. 100° all day in the coolest part of my cabin, and 110° when I laid the thermometer outside in the sunshine on the grass. Wrote letters and went on reports, but did not try to do much cutting.
Aug. 4. The Wild Life school began at 9 AM and I was called on for a general outline of the help we could give them while there for 6 weeks. In evening gave an illustrated talk on Animal Life at The Wash Valley Wild Life Refuge with an report between times.
Aug. 5, 1929, Sturgis, Iowa

Mr. Reddinston, Mr. Stuber & Capt. Culler came to
Morning Session of Wild Life
School run grade talk.
I was asked to assist at
The morning session.
Aug. 4. The St. Pauls.
Mrs. Bailey gave a talk on bird studies in motion. I gave talk on Grand Canyon in coming withleton slides. Attended some important lectures by Dr. Hamner, Dr. Schieffel and Mr. Titusius.
Aug. 7. A drive to Pincushion State Park from Strawberry Point on all days by car auto in very rugged, interesting country. Great springs bale out of the rocks and make cold clear spring. The State Pearl hatchery is located here. Many old natural white pines occur and some other northern plants and a collection of small mammals would be of great interest. Some talk on beavers in living with motion pictures.
Aug. 9. 11 a.m., Saturday.

Have a talk in morning on Predatory Animal Control, taking place ahead of Dr. Bodle, who followed me with an excellent talk on Conservation of our forests.

Dr. Schimski gave an excellent talk on Surfaced Geology in Iowa.

We lead a bird class in the morning from 4 to 7:30 and went on boat trips to the lagoons. We also fished with Capt. Fred Bell. A cool and pleasant day.

Evening talk by Dr. Kay on Glacial geology and singing by the Cotton Plan Singers of Miles.
April 10, Sunday, Mr. McGregor

Breakfasted with the Bickles at their cottage on the Ridge of walked on to the Golf Grounds by the woods trail along a north slope covered with dense vegetation, blackberries, alders, sassafrass, and juniper under the tall trees, many wild birds and northern plants.

Saw one roasted quail and killed woodpecker and other small birds. The view from the river banks is superb, both north and south.
Aug. 11, Monday, The McGregor left M. G. Egelhauf at 1:30 P.M., went down the river about 100 miles and reached to the Wisconsin side. A cold morning and pleasant day. Followed down the lower end of the Mississippi River to Dubuque, but found the current went too fast to wait till 7:20 P.M. for a train to Sarona. The river-bottoms and islands are about as at McGregor, but generally not very extensive. Forest and other vegetation is rich and dense, and many fields of flowers and Sagittaria. Sedges are pleasant.
Aug. 12 Tuesday, Jacksonville, 11:15 AM. Arrived last night at 9:30 PM. Came to the Radke Hotel. No word from our quarters, Albert J. Cheney & Hallman, former of the unit. Arrived 10 AM and we started out once up the river along the edge of the Wild Life Refuge area. The town talks tell the Military Proving Grounds Reservation in the Alligator Creek. Ran up to the administration building about 10 miles above Jacksonville and explained to Major Thompson in charge that I wanted to go over the reservation to see what kinds of native game it was best adapted to. He detailed Capt. W.J. Henry to take us. Mr. Cheney and myself over.
The reservoir, which he chose, is in a very satisfactory way, showing us all of it on the mainland and sandy prairie and the edges of the right bottoms.

It contains about 12,000 acres, more than half of which is on the prairie, possibly 4,000 thousand acres being on the islands and bottlenecks of the Mississippi, on the east side.

The uplands are mainly light sand with a flora of eastern Nebraska including prairie plants such as Rhus filiformis, Amorpha canescens, Artemisia ludoviciana, Asphodelum Sand cherry, Avenula,

Plantago praecta, Ceanothus velutinus, Wild plum, chokecherry, black cherry, grapes, elderberry, hawthorn, Glauxma grass and Andropogon.
In places there are elms and oaks, maple, box elder, ash, hick, aspen, cottonwood and willows on low ground, and junipers on the hills, prairie grass, and black locust and honey locust.

Meadowlarks, morning doves, vesper sparrows and swallows were abundant.

A badger was in the woods.

Wolves, figures, was killed last year.

Types of both kinds occur: raccoons, muskrats, and beavers.

The prairies are small, adapted to buffalo, elk, antelope, and deer. A thousand buffalo could feed in a day on the prairies, but with the white men, the buffalo could not keep up. A thousand white-tail deer could find feed and cover to their liking on the upland and bottomlands. Wild prairie chickens are still found on the prairies and some ducks on the islands, so numerous and a few aref!)}
The islands on both sides are well forested with cottonwood, willows, elms, maples, birches, and bushes and vines. For grapes are very abundant. There are many species of lakes and marshes on the bottoms and wood-ducks and other ducks frequent. Blue herons, black egrets, and little blue herons are seen, and a few yellow and purple sandpipers were seen and swallows of many species fairly common. Ringed thrushes are common and buntings and woodpeckers.

F Lowell winging his brood last winter, and lots of cuttings out saw a few martlets and lots of thrushes, com and unleached rice an uncommon. So our woodchucks.

Came on my way to Bellmore at about 7 P.M. and stopped at the Hotel. Week for this night. The river is very low and we could not follow many of the channels through the refuge. No lots of wild rice seen.

A rose near Barracona about a mile above. Bluffs not so high as farther north but more abrupt. Scenery beautiful in many places, especially so at Bellmore.


Ass't 2

Herdshery
with the same direction in ebby

They fix in my mind the

In my work and labors all through

I have been so happy in my work

The whole of the family were

With you, came to Washington

..the first week

...and...
The best thing about the land is that it has passed.

The land for settlement is not far away. It is not farm land but good timber land is held at 30 or 40 to 60 a 100 dollars an acre according to the stand of timber on it. If without timber it has little value. The soil is well suited to growing corn very little of very large.

Arriio at Durango at 10:30 at hotel to await fare. Train will be at 1 PM. 13.96.


Cassville:

Riding blackbirds, big flock.

Our big Eyedores in Cassville.

Received M & Goyer 7 PM.
July 14. Went from McGregor over the Project du Chien and across the mouth of the Wisconsin River to the Nelson Dewey State Park in Winnebago at P.M. Gave talk on "Bird Life of the Wild Life Refuge. Returned to McGregor at 4 P.M.
Aug. 15. Start talk in
State at Wild Life School
in morning. Off a general
talk on the Wild Life School
in evening.

Cruise to Island and
take in river bottom with
Mr. Rodgers and Niel
Birds over there, including
a flock of 24 Black ducks.
Aug. 14 Saturday

Went for all day trip up river on the steamship Capital as far as Hastings at upper end of Winnebago and returned to McGregor at 6:30 P.M.

Talked of wild life refuge and its possibilities with a group of people on the steamship.

We saw the whole length of the Winnebago Bottoms and had good views from the upper deck.

A pleasant day and very interesting people, including the faculty and students of the school.
Aug 7, Sunday, McGregor.
Pack up ready for start.

Early in morning.

2 f.m. drove over to
Elkader with the Elverns
and called on Miss Reed
and her mother, Mrs Preston
who was born there over 80
years ago and knows the
early days of the country.

Back to Mount Pleasant.
Say much beautiful farming country
with good crops and lots of
hogs and cattle.

Harvest is over and the
threshing mostly done.
Corn is full grown and a
good crop generally.
Clover is getting up
in the field.
Aug 15 Monday N.S. McGeoghegan left McGeoghegan's first AM

on the CHS #2 P for Niwaura

and came down with many changes up the river valley

and much of the way up the banks.

Saw plenty of black up to near

La Creuse but more about

White or yellow crickets and

abundant at Beamerville

and La Cenere river.

Cardinal flowers abundant

near Beamerville body bottoms

Arrived at Niwaura 11:15 A.M.

went to Hotel Niwaura and to

the Wild Life Refuge office.
Aug. 19 & 20
Writing reports of Wicora.

Aug. 21 - Finished innumerable reports and gave to Mr. Steele to forward.
Went out to Woddlewren Cemetery west of Lake Wicora and saw a Gittel's 16 minutes in the cemetary and a dead cow in the field. Also a Red-winged and several Gray Agitens and a few other species in town. Will take the larger, black, bigger hynophanes.
The red agitens was the first I ever saw this summer. I was chuckling inside — a thrall. Many more perches and crows were heard over the pond in the evening.
Cool and pleasant, very nice.

Country very dry, but grain and hayot of all crops fairly well matured. Most of St. Paul died up and river very low. Hideway all known.

At St. Paul went direct to Old Capitol Hotel and saw the assistant game warden Mr. Forrest and arranged for taking the bears as soon as the fair in one.

Also saw Fred Eustee and talked of the mammals of The Wild Life Agency.

Then continued to Minneapolis where we went to the Harding Hotel, arriving on 12th St. near University and located for the night.
Aug 23 Saturday
Left Minneapolis on bus at 4 P.M. and reached Elk River at 5:15 P.M. and dinner out & Church Hills. Saw Dr. Roberts in waking at Waut & Minnes fed oat supplies & Dr. Roberts agreed to find out about tags for breck tails.

Aug 24 to 29 at Elk River writing reports.

Aug 30—To Minneapolis of St. Paul to see Raphael H. & Mrs. Frakes of Rev. Roberts about field work.

Aug 31 Sunday Visited among old neighbors.
Dec. 31 Sunday at Charles
visited among the old friends
and neighbors and found some
new friends among the old neighbors.
A hot day, still dry

Sat. 1 Monday
Left Indianola at 7 A.M. and
drove to Princeton, Mill Creek and
Grand Rapids, thence to Charlestown
about 270 miles, arriving at 5 P.M.

Steamed Canadian pine between
Princeton and Mill Creek where the pine
and spruce begin. First cut toward
Keweenaw are abundant
Norway pines and cedar mires
and firs begin. Built at Mill Creek
and continue the rest of the way.
Most of the old heavy white pine
and hemlock forest has been cut
and burned, but some stump
stands, but it is good pine land
and fits well for good
natural
Millie's birthday party is coming up on Saturday, and the town is buzzing with excitement. Everyone is preparing to have a grand time, and the anticipation is palpable. The day of the big event, Millie woke up early, eager to start the day's celebrations. She was dressed in her favorite outfit, ready to celebrate in style. The day was filled with laughter, good food, and joyful memories. Millie was the center of attention, and everyone sang her happy birthday song, wishing her a wonderful day.

After the party, Millie and her friends went for a walk in the park, enjoying the beautiful spring day. They talked about their plans for the future, sharing their dreams and aspirations. Millie felt grateful for her friends and the support they provided her. The day ended with a warm hug from her mother, reminding her of the love and care she had in her life. Millie went to bed that night feeling content and happy, knowing that her birthday was a success.
Sept 13, Tuesday. Cass Lake.
Saw Supervisor Howard Hopkins first thing in morning, and he went to the forests with me to inspect fire plans in settler camps on the Chippewa Flat.

Found many of the tree axes gone and some of trees remaining, many killed by recent forest fires.

Most of the little trees a foot high on岭 topped by fire. Many twigs cut off by rabbits in den and of four years ago. Should find the sheltering of seedlings den cutting and gather a bunch of twigs cut by each.

No signs of mouse work on grindstones.

Robins are very scarce now and not last winter but now
About 1925, a big great number of bushes and young trees were killed. Most of the small elders and some little pines and spruce by these cuts and some other kinds. The rest of me pasted with oak, bush willow, willow, holly, rose, buckthorn, sycamore, currants.

These are pasted to bush willow, pin cherry, willow, long, chap, Service bark, harmless willow, and cottonwood. While the lower banks are still quite off and there's a few cherries and yellow rutabaga. The settlers cut larger sticks out of these than diagonally with both ways across the widths of the cut.

No bear signs except he found around Cassida. Some part of my Shirley, studying effects of light on young trees. Of my local game under Mr. Wright who was going up to some lower country about Black Rock. Red squirrel can begin to cut off paper cones to cat but left yet to stay. In PM went to Clares Park of fee and photographed Frenchy at the Marsh Bear Clinic. The park contains large areas of virgin timber, largely Northern pine.

Good night & say good morning. We stand still tonight.
Neddy soon over an old hoofer, caught in the middle of road, our car/panting, horse in demand, set off for left. Almost simultaneously, he all
most straight ahead, but all
seemed off the road. I turned around
and went back with caution. But went slow over the side, just off the road. They two
and upon the mud. One
and one. By the
and left. But
not to know which way to go.
many cars killed in this area.
but need not be if drivers
will exercise caution to
avoid them. A penalty
should be enforced for killing
anything with auto.

Found a full grown mule
walking on the road, run over by
by a car today. Saw this mule
in field off my estate. Walked
in woods, today. Suffered
grains, from stubble
buds and botfly.
Sept. 3 Wednesday,

Returned from Making
via Saint Cloud and St. Cloud
and Elk River, through nearly
good farming country along
the edge of the big prairies.
Saw a number of large lakes
not shown on the road maps.
Found dead fowl tossed
in good run over by automobiles.
Saw several muskrats, ground
squirrels, gray squirrels,
dottartails, malls, ducks,
swans, and turtles, and many
kinds of birds.
Sept. 4 Thursday, Elk River.
Packed up ready to start
for home. Wrote final letters
and telegrams to close up work.
Received letters from Estelle,
cancelling all leave & walk
on refuge.

Sept. 5 Friday, Ford N.P.
Train at Elk River, at 7
PM and changed to C.B.&Q.
at St. Paul, leaving then
at 8:45 for Chicago.

Sept. 6, Arrived Chicago 8:10
AM and left on 9:00
Capitol Express at 1PM
for Washington.

Sept. 7, Sunday, Arrived
Washington 9:30 AM.