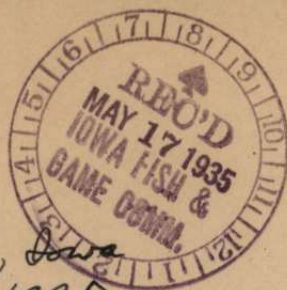


PARSONS COLLEGE

FAIRFIELD, IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Charles Carter
J. S. Dolley



Fairfield, Iowa
May 15, 1935

Phillip A. DuMont
Ia. Fish & Game Department.

Dear Mr. DuMont:

I have looked up my Starling records to see just when I saw the first ones in Jefferson County. On December 23, 1930 I saw a group of about a dozen birds which I decided were Starlings. I saw them also on December 25, & January 1. They were very wild & hard to approach but I got one good look at them from behind the water-works dam.

I am quite sure now that these birds were Starlings. I was attracted to them by their song, which I was unfamiliar with. They weren't Redwings & I am quite sure they weren't Rusty Blackbirds. They remained near a slaughter-house dump, which is now a favorite & dependable place for Starlings. The song, as I remember it, was like that of the Starling. The next appearance was on September 4, 1932, when a group of four fought some Red-headed Woodpeckers for possession of a dead tree. These were around till Oct. 1. Dec. 11 & Dec. 25 large flocks ^{about 100} were seen. In 1933 the birds were seen every month of the year & they nested here that spring.

Last summer we had a roost of them which numbered about 1000 Starlings, along with another thousand Grackles. I spent several evenings in the roost, which was in an orchard.

Yours sincerely,
Malcolm McDonald