

Lee Mont

Mt. Zion Iowa
December 24, 1934

Dear Elwood,

I have been intending to write you for several days but have been busy with different things and then I have been trying to knock down another fox. I have not got any more but should have had one last Friday if a couple of fellows had not got in ahead of me with some hounds and messed things up. They did not get the fox but after they had got done the fox was so far away I did not try to run it any more.

The first arrival of the starling bird so far as I can find out is during the fall of 1932. We noticed a pair of the birds here in the last week of September I think it was on the 26 from what I have in my Diary. This pair of birds stayed here off and on by themselves all fall. In November there were several of the birds around and this flock was around the buildings and in the orchards all winter. Warren Keck reported seeing them in the winter but I think he saw them in Iowa City instead of in Van Buren County. There also was in the Republican an article of someone seeing starlings during February. I think this is possibly the information which you mentioned in your letter.

I have not been able to get my quail shelter made but will try and do so this week some time. If you happen to be down this way sometime could you leave a little of the feed. I do not think I have enough to make one look like it was really doing the business. Let me know a little ahead of time if you can when you will be down to hunt and I will try and have things looking pretty good. I think I know of a place where the quail are pretty tame and it should not be such a hard trick getting them into a shelter.

I understand you had a little bad luck with your car in getting an axle broken.

See what you can find out about the foxes upon that reserve west of Ottumwa. It is not very good fox hunting weather now but you can never tell just when it will be. They are a smart animal to hunt and every break you can get in any way to slip around as quite as you can is all the better. See if you can find out how much land there is, how many shelters there are. If there are any big bluffs in the reserve and if the ground is generally level or generally rough.

Let me know what you find out as soon as you can.

Will you be around here Xmas? I think we will have a dinner here Xmas day.

Robert Campbell