

June 30, 1964

Mr. Les Line
15 Widenmier Drive
Route 6
Midland, Michigan

Dear Les:

I am enclosing two items suggested by your request on the phone. One of these is Fern Holden's paper which you may have forgotten and which quotes at length from the Wood journal. The other is my "translation" of Wood's not-wholly-legible pocket notebook carried in the field at the time of the discovery of the first nest of the Kirtland's Warbler.

It seems that I was thinking of the notebook when I recalled typing a copy of Wood's notes.

Perhaps these two items will suffice for you, but if not, please write and I will send the journal also. Please understand that I have no reluctance at all to show you the journal, but have almost a phobia about dumping anything precious and irreplaceable into the mails. Actually, I am in favor of getting the maximum use out of all such materials.

I shall consider it a privilege to have a chance to see an advance draft of your manuscript on the bird.

There have always been some sincere friends of the Kirtland's Warbler who have shuddered at the thought of the public's becoming aware of the bird. I am not one of them. Of course public attention will do some damage. But public attention also has great potential for good, and I don't think we can ever hope to mobilize public sentiment for the bird without first capturing the public attention. Secrecy just leaves the bird with no friends. At one moment this may not be important, but I believe the day is certain to come when the bird will need friends. We are now preparing for that day.

Please return the typed copy of Wood's notes when they have served your purpose. This seems to be my only typed copy. In a way, Wood's pocket notebook has a fresh, original flavor that nothing else possesses to the same degree. Even in his journal there seems to be a certain ornate manner of expression as though Wood were consciously writing for an audience.

If I can be of any further help to you, don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Mayfield

River Road RFD
Waterville, Ohio

