

12 August 1953

Mr. R. T. Bond
Dodd, Mead and Co.
432 Fourth Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Bond:

Because of the interest Dodd, Mead and Co. has in publications on wildlife subjects, I am taking the liberty of making a proposal for your consideration.

For some time I have been in correspondence with Mr. Joseph Wood Krutch on ways in which we could collaborate on a book on some aspect of nature. He is much interested in the idea, which would involve his writing the text and my contributing illustrative photographs in color and black-and-white. I was very much impressed by his style and approach in two of his recent books, *THE TWELVE SEASONS* and *THE DESERT YEAR*, and would be extremely happy to have the privilege of illustrating another such publication. Several ideas have been considered. Naturally, I am very pleased that he regards the proposal favorably.

My work has been chiefly in the field of bird photography. I am the major contributor to the forthcoming McGraw-Hill book *LAND BIRDS OF AMERICA*. I am not an inexperienced photographer, having made many photographs of other wildlife subjects including the higher and lower plants, insects, reptiles and mammals. My recent efforts have been in color photography in these fields, and this September there will be an exhibition of my color prints at The Art Institute of Chicago. The Smithsonian Institution, also beginning this fall, is circulating throughout the United States an exhibition of my color photographs of birds. My work has been shown several times at The Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Perhaps you will find merit in this rather amorphous proposal and can add the seed that will bring about its crystallization.

Yours sincerely,

copy: Mr. Joseph Wood Krutch
Route 4, Box 655
Tucson, Arizona