

10 El Zaguan
Santa Fe, N. M.

April 30, 1940

Mr. J. R. Hildebrand
National Geographic Magazine
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hildebrand:

Needless to say I am very pleased that my article on MAINE ISLAND AND ITS BIRDS has been accepted by the National Geographic Magazine. I will be very glad to try to write a few paragraphs on the human side of the island. I will not be able to do this, however, before summer but if the article is not to be published for several months that, I judge, will be soon enough.

I assume, from a statement on the check, that all photographs used by the Magazine are copyrighted. I must call to your attention, therefore, that a few of the photographs have already been used in connection with two articles on different aspects of bird photography recently published by the New England Naturalist and by Photo-Tekhnika for March 1940. The subjects of these articles is not the same as the article accepted by the Geographic. I am enclosing a reprint, for your inspection, from the New England Naturalist.

There is another point that I should like to raise at this time and that is the question of remuneration. Is the check for \$175.00 full payment for the article? I realize that by endorsing it I accept it as such but I think it is very poor return for my labors and does not even cover the expenses of making the photographs. Please do not misunderstand me? I am not very commercially minded but since photography is my full time occupation I must try to pay expenses. Of course even without compensation I would probably continue bird photography. However, a magazine as rich as the National Geographic should pay at least as well as magazines much less wealthy. I am not sore, I am very much surprised.

Yours very sincerely,

Eliot F. Porter