

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF ZOÖLOGY
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

March 7, 1943

Dr. Viktor Hamburger
Department of Zoology
Washington University
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Dr. Hamburger:

A short time ago the University appointed Dr. Richard Eakin to succeed Dr. Daniel as head of our Department. I suspect that he was the only man in our Department really qualified for the job. Although he is chairman, he is sharing the responsibility with the rest of us by presenting the various problems to us 2 or 3 times a month, and on matters of major importance acts in accordance with the decision of the group. He has many ideas concerning the improvement of the Department, and is putting as many of these into practice as war conditions will allow.

Dr. Eakin is a splendid teacher. His courses are beautifully organized and his lectures are perfectly organized and orderly. Until now each course operated independently of others, but now we are reorganizing the courses so as to prevent too much overlapping and are trying to determine more definitely just what the boundaries of each course should be. Graduate student training has undergone considerable discussion and plans were drawn up to give these students much better backgrounds for positions as biologists.

The Department here has been pleased with my work and my temporary appointment for this year is to be as permanent as I want to make it, so I am in position now to build for the future within the limits of the war. I now have splendid quarters. They encourage me in every way as far as equipment and materials are concerned and offer me an assistant for my research as soon as I can find someone I want. I now have my first Doctorate candidate, Miss Larjorie Hopkins, whom you may remember from Woods Hole summer before last. I also have one M.A. candidate and 2 senior honors students, so I am happily busy. I am now organizing the course in Comparative Anatomy. I am to teach all except bones and muscles. Fortunately someone else is giving this first part of the course this year, giving me time to think through clearly as to just

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what I want to include in the lectures. My course in technique which is being repeated this semester is going much better after last semester's experience.

I have a copy of your experimental embryology book, but I haven't had sufficient time to even more than glance through it, but am anxious to read it over carefully. We have had to drop our experimental course this semester due to the small size of our staff, but it will be given again soon, and I hope to have a small part in it at least.

The Woods Hole catalog came yesterday. I am going to miss not being there and working with you this summer, but I am having a full year here, and I can't have everything. I hope everything goes well there this summer. I would appreciate knowing how many students you have. Your comments in the catalog in regard to the optical equipment for the students was well put and has certainly needed emphasis'. I hope it will have some results.

Evelyn joins me in sending our personal regards.

Sincerely,

Ray Watterson