

HOBART COLLEGE
GENEVA, N. Y.
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

April 4, 1933

Mr. Edmund O. Luthy
Box 252
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Mr. Luthy:

Dr. Runge's letter which was forwarded to me by Mr. Greene was of great interest to me. It is true that we were unable to do much work in that part of the lake below the bridge due to lack of time. It may be as he says that there are a large number of minnows in certain areas near the lower end of the lake. We did work the upper end of the lake quite thoroughly and did some work in the first bay below the bridge. We were unsuccessful in securing any minnows from these areas. As you know the bottom slopes rapidly away from the shore and so we were unable to use a seine effectively. Besides being unable to secure minnows we did not see any, and the people to whom we talked, including Mr. Rupert Wickes, confirmed our findings that minnows were scarce in the lake. Another confirmation of our findings was that the only fish food found in the stomachs of the bass, perch, northern pike which we caught consisted of crayfish, young perch, and sculpins. It was ascertained also that the perch were eating insect larvae as well as taking the young of their own species.

exhaustive
I hope that it will be possible during the coming spring or summer for someone to make another effort at finding out what the "minnows" are which Dr. Runge mentions, and what their abundance is. There is a possibility that they are the young of some of the fish which we know to be present in the lake. It is also possible that they may be minnows which are quite restricted in their range in the lake living almost exclusively in the shallow areas near the foot and are, therefore, not generally available to the game fish of the upper lake.

10% formalin
It would be of value to us to have some specimens of the types of minnows which Dr. Runge mentions in order that we may make a scientific identification. Perhaps Mr. Wickes or someone else could secure a few of them for us. They could be put into 10% formalin and sent to the Conservation Department at Albany. There they could be identified by Mr. Greene and we should be better able to judge whether or not it would be desirable to make some more collections in the lake before carrying out experimental plantings of minnows.

I am very happy to find a group of people who are so thoroughly interested in the welfare of the Lake. I am sorry that we were unable to spend more time on this lake last summer, but I feel that through the combined efforts of the Property Owners Association and the Conservation Department some very worthwhile work can be carried on in Eagle Lake.

Yours very sincerely

Theodore T. Odell

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Assistant Professor of Biology

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