



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
TUCSON

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

September 23, 1960

Dr. C. Carlos Lehmann-V.
Universidad del Valle
Cali, Colombia

Dear Dr. Lehmann,

Upon the suggestion of my very close friend, Dale Arvey, I am writing you to inquire about the possibility of helping build up the biological collections, or teaching, or both, at your university. I have done curatorial work and collecting of vertebrates and parasites, and I have taught several different zoological subjects as a professor here -- the great variety is to be explained by my willingness to switch courses and teach subjects for my colleagues when they go on sabbatical leave: general zoology, human anatomy, mammalian anatomy, history of biology, parasitology, human genetics, zoogeography, and ornithology.

My main interest is of course ornithology. Knowing from Arvey that you are the finest Colombian ornithologist (as well as an all-around naturalist, linguist, etc.!), I hesitate for fear your university would not wish to duplicate itself in ornithology. On the other hand, from Dale's description, you are a man very worth knowing and the natural areas and beautiful countryside around Cali are very attractive ornithologically.

Transportation must be some problem, and I wrote Dr. Tamsitt of Universidad de los Andes, inquiring if the public conveyances such as horses, busses, and train are pretty satisfactory for prolonged explorations in the field. I am ashamed that Dr. Sibley might have been contentious on this subject.

I am working on an ornithological research problem for the Nat. Science Foundation which will take one or two years to finish. In connection with that project I might be able to visit you, perhaps next summer. Further, I have been offered a curatorial post at a museum, which I expect also to accept in one or two years.

I've been teaching college for 11 years, and if I continue at all it will be only because I find that I can teach some students who are really anxious to learn and to work. Therefore, you will do me a great service if you will tell me a little about your students -- what they are trying to do; how many are in a class at one time, etc. Of course if I could fit into your program in museum work and perhaps just teach ornithology, that would be very fine. But I suppose your major concern is with the premedical courses (which I don't mind teaching if the students are eager and the classes reasonably small). I shall certainly appreciate anything you can tell me about your university.

Very sincerely yours,

Joe T. Marshall, Jr.
Assoc. Prof. and
Curator of Birds

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~~not because I'm lazy,
but because I'd rather not
teach at all unless
it is possible to
do a good
job!~~