

The University of Chicago

Department of Zoölogy

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<i>C</i>	<i>MS.D. Carsted</i>	<i>MSD</i>	
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		<i>L.F.A.</i>	

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
May 11, 1927

Dr. Wicliffe Rose,
General Education Board,
61 Broadway,
New York City, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Rose:

From time to time since our discussion on the subject, I have thought over the problems of the development of the study of Oceanography in the United States. I have also had several discussions with Dr. John C. Merriam on the subject, with members of the Woods Hole Trustees and others, and quite recently with Dr. T. Wayland Vaughan. Up to last month the matter had not assumed definite form in my mind, nor, I think, in Dr. Merriam's mind. But at the time of the meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, April 25 to 27, 1927, Merriam, Vaughan and I agreed that the time was ripe for approaching the subject in an active way. Accordingly at the business meeting of the Academy, I presented the problem briefly from the floor and I must confess that I was surprised to find with what enthusiasm it was received.

The Academy adopted a motion to the effect "That the President of the Academy be requested to appoint a Committee on Oceanography from the sections of the Academy concerned to consider the share of the United States of America in a world wide program of Oceanographical Research, and report to the Academy."

The Home Secretary of the Academy now informs me that the Committee has been appointed as follows: F. R. Lillie, Chairman, E. G. Conklin, William Bowie, B. M. Duggar, John C. Merriam and T. Wayland Vaughan. Dr. Bowie, recently elected to the Academy, is in the Coast and Geodetic Survey; Dr. Duggar is perhaps our best marine botanist, head of the botanical work in Woods Hole and Professor of Physiological Botany in the University of Wisconsin. I am sure that you know the others.

Before any meeting of the Committee, I am writing to ask you if you think that the General Education Board would be interested in aiding in the expenses of a preliminary

investigation of the problem stated in the motion. I assume that there would be some expense for meetings of the Committee, and subsequently perhaps for salary of an Executive Secretary and assistants who would make investigations on behalf of the Committee and do any necessary travelling. The business of the Committee would presumably begin by correspondence and assembly of information in the hands of its members before any meeting was held.

As you are so fully aware of the importance of such an undertaking, I forbear any emphasis on the matter.

Sincerely yours,

Frank R. Lillie

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