

OHIO AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

WOOSTER, OHIO

L. L. RUMMELL, *Director*
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September 26, 1955

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
OLIVER D. DILLER, *Chairman*

Dr. Hugh M. Raup
Harvard Forest
Petersham, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Raup:

Just a note to let you know that things look awfully good here at the Experiment Station. We have a fine group of young men in the Department that includes a forest physiologist, forest geneticist, soil scientist, and wood technologist. These fellows are all raring to go. You will know what I mean when I say: These guys are not the conventional forester type. All have a degree of some kind in forestry, but the group will soon have three Ph.D's and two others are working along that line.

I'm in the process of writing a program of research in Silviculture and Forest Management. I consider it a real challenge, and it's going to be interesting to see how it shapes up. I've had the opportunity to run around a bit in the state - actually it is just the beginning of my field trips. Even though I lived in Ohio for almost 20 years, I've discovered that I'm observing things with a new pair of eyes. This is really a big piece of landscape - Ohio, and a most interesting one too. The variation is tremendous, from prairie, oak openings, strip coal areas to magnificent hardwoods. Some of the white pine plantations that I've seen to date are something to behold. No weevil, with just an occasional moth or sawfly injury, height growths of 3 to 4 feet not uncommon and maintained for several years. The hardwoods in parts of Ohio are very excellent, good form, and growth rate, while in others, on ridges in southwestern Ohio remind you of those on the higher elevations at Black Rock. The silvicultural problems here are many and varied, and it will be interesting to see how they avail themselves to a basic approach.

When I left the Forest, you stated that you wanted to publish my thesis. I want you to know that this matter is in your hands, so you let me know what you want me to do, and I'll do my best to comply.

Are you going to the National Society of American Foresters meeting this year on the west coast? I had a chance to give a paper at the SSSA meeting at Davis, California earlier this summer, but passed it up, and am going to do the same with the Forestry meeting. Next year when I get my feet on the ground, I'll start attending the meetings. Whenever you go through this way, don't hesitate to stop in and see us. We'd like it very much. Our

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house is small, but we'll have room for you. Blanchie and I are in the process of looking for a house to build or buy, so some day we expect to have ample space.

Please tell all hello, and if I can ever be of any help, let me know.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Earl".

Earl P. Stephens
Ass't Professor

EPS.MW