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Another possibility for early season activity would be along the coast just north of your station 4. The U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey has a party doing work in that area, and if it is possible to land a plane in the vicinity of their camp, you might elect to work in that area prior to the opening of the bush flying season, which will occur some time in late June or early July.

The schedule suggested in my letter of April 21st by no means meant that you must spend 53 days at Point Barrow, for I had not allowed for the counting of the time prior to July 1st, since I had no intimation prior to the arrival of your letter that you would arrive so early in June. The other suggestion concerning Wainwright was made with no intention of compulsion, for if Wainwright is not a suitable place for your field work, there is no need for you to spend time at that area.

Early in the winter Dr. Hall had indicated the desirability of having a 60 gauge shotgun fitted with an auxiliary barrel for the use of .410 gauge shells. He gave me the name of the Creitz Gunsmith Shop in Topeka as an outfit that could supply the auxiliary barrel. A letter of inquiry was addressed to Mr. Creitz on the 29th of March, and we received a reply from him in yesterday's mail. He is unwilling to attempt to make the auxiliary barrel unless the gun in which it is to be used is sent to him, so that proper fit will be assured.

Owing to his long delay in answering my inquiry, it is now impossible to get the gun to him in time to have the auxiliary barrel made and returned prior to your arrival in Alaska. It will take him 30 days to make the barrel after the gun arrives in his shop, with additional time required for the return of the gun.

We have one double barrel 16 gauge shotgun, one single barrel 20 gauge, and a Mossberg bolt action 3-shot .410 gauge shotgun. If you can utilize a combination of any two of these guns, the laboratory will be willing to supply them to you during the collecting season. Such weapons of course are checked out to the individual and he is responsible and accountable for the proper care and return to the laboratory at the end of the season.

If you feel that the combination of, for example, the 16 gauge and the .410 repeating shotgun is more cumbersome than you care to use in the field, the only alternative that I can see would be for you to bring a gun which meets your needs from the Natural History Museum. I hope that this necessary change in the plan for small arms will not greatly inconvenience you.