

statement of belief, because of the lack of adequate proof.

It was indeed unfortunate that your ~~last~~ breeding colony died and that you were unable to bring to a conclusion your work on the various hereditary strains of animals with which you were working. It is such research with which you are engaged that will finally answer those questions as you have asked. I am interested in your problem of an arctic mammal and I want to be helpful, in fact, I have approximately 25 pages of unpublished notes and diagrams of the progressive pelage changes of two Microstonyx from northern Alaska which I kept in captivity for seven months at the University of Kansas. If you would be interested in this material I would be glad to lend it to you. The pelage changes of these two animals were so irregular (four complete changes in less than eight months although under constant temperature and food) that I decided not to incorporate any of the details in The Mammals of Northern Alaska. I trust that you will have a pleasant & restful New Year's Holiday. Sincerely James W. Bee.

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas  
Dec. 28, 1956

On Dec. 5, 1956 received a letter from Dr. Ross T. Christensen of the Department of Archeology, Brigham Young University requesting the identification of bone material from a mound on the G. H. Hinkley property west of Provo, Utah. This mound was excavated this fall. The following information was

included in a letter dated Dec 28 and set to Christensen.

"I would be very pleased to identify the bone material which you referred to in your letter of Dec 5, 1956 (Hinkley mounds, Provo, Utah excavated fall of 1956).

At the moment, there are one or two thoughts that come to mind as a result of previous experiences in identifying bone material and in keeping in mind the problems that you will be encountering in analyzing and evaluating the collection. 1) The exact identification (to species) of small fragments of bones is at best difficult, time consuming, and the results which are usually assumptions are generally unsatisfactory and misleading. Under exceptional circumstances where only a few pieces of bone