

YALE UNIVERSITY
PEABODY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

DEPARTMENT OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

April 24, 1958

Mrs. William Robertson Coe
435 East 52nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Coe:

Now that we are actively beginning construction of the new wing, about which I sent you newspaper material last week, I hope that you will help me in thinking about and planning some of the details of the Coe Memorial Room for Ornithology. I am most anxious to have some expression in the design of this room of Mr. Coe's real interest and love of the out-of-doors and of his affectionate regard for his books on birds, and birds themselves.

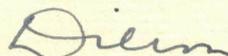
As you know, I am planning to have a portrait painted of him, with that striking photograph that Bob took in Wyoming as a general model. I would like very much to have some feeling of Mr. Coe's dynamic personality and to make it the sort of room that he himself would have been happy to see and to realize as an appropriate home for his books and the expression of his interests.

We do need your help and advice to give it just the sort of personal touch which you only would be able to do. It seems to me that Yale has an opportunity here to remember Mr. Coe in a most happy and delightful side, the one which he and I spent so many pleasant hours discussing, of bird books in that long library room at Planting Fields. If there were any items, such as a table to spread the books out on or a chair which had been at Planting Fields which would make the room have more of a sense of his personality, we would love to have them, or at least join with you in planning some appropriate arrangement.

I know that you will be as much interested as we are in trying to develop some expression of Mr. Coe's personality and interest in this room and, therefore, I am writing you to hope that you will help us and our thinking about ways of establishing the memory of his vibrant personality here in our new wing.

With warm personal regards in which Mary joins me, I am,

Ever sincerely yours,



S. Dillon Ripley

SD R: jr