

John

September 29, 1928

Mr. William Randolph Hearst
137 Riverside Drive
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hearst:

Right in the midst of the heavy re-vamping work, Mr. Macklen left, having secured a position in Los Angeles. I tried to get him to see that it was only honorable to give the customary notice, but he said the condition of the new employment was based on going immediately into the new position -- he says at twice the pay and much less work.

I am afraid of the effect of the place in its present condition on a new man, and think that by putting in some extra time on the Hill with the men we have, we could get the place shipshape by the time you arrive, and then you could instruct the new man as to what you wanted in detail. Meanwhile Mr. Slattery can be looking up someone, and I will put lines out also.

Possibly Pete Sebastian could be called assistant gardener and be tried out. He is no longer a boy, quite a capable young man, well liked by the other men, and with a native good taste.

perhaps assign certain work like mowing, pruning etc. to definite men -
There is a great deal to do yet on the tennis area -- the shovel having struck a ledge of real rock toward the esplanade -- however, all material is on hand for the concrete work, and it will go in very fast once the shovel is out.

Lots of pavements are laid, and lots of concrete has been poured -- although you may not see it. In any case, I think almost everyone has worked to the limit of his capacity.

Yours very truly,

JM:F