August 22nd, 1930

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

Dear Mr. Hearst, -

This is a less gloomy letter - I went down through the burnt area with Mr. McClenahan, the oak tree man, yesterday and found the fine caks, even where a mass of scorched foliage, were putting out finger long new leaf shoots with real vigor. The unmistakably dead ones are being cut away and the dead brush wood cleaned off to give all chance possible for the best resprouting. The sycamore foliage and much other foliage is gone for this year, but the fire swept over so quickly that the trunks were not burned deeply enough to affect the flow of the sap.

The caryatids are being set up in the theatre. The wall around the tennis court proper is poured, - the marble seats are being set - (it will take four or five weeks to finish these,) the steel is going in for the "new tower" scheme, all the remaining sheds, propagating frames, etc., from the earn theatre site are being moved to the new greenhouse location - quite a job, - so everyone is very busy and working to advantage.

With kindest regards,

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