

3586 Sixth St.,
San Diego, Cal.
Sept. 6. 1911.

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Mr. Lumm

Messrs Olmsted Brothers,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

I received this morning your long telegram regarding bills and short telegram regarding Kodak. The details in your telegram add up to 1191.11. whereas the telegram said total 1193.11. As the difference was only two dollars I made out bill as according to detailed account. Copy of bill enclosed herewith. When I presented this bill to the City auditor, his assistant who handles the business remarked that somebody must have been asleep when the contract was made with Olmsted Brothers. Mr. Allen and his colleagues have probably been working to make people think that the Olmsted contract is exorbitant. Such a move might detract attention for awhile from Allen's contract for \$80,000.

I then called on Mr. Waugenheim to tell him that I had presented the bill which I hoped he would act on at the next meeting. I can see however that he intends to wait first and see what happens. I hope I can get the voucher for your bill before your final decision comes.

Mr. Waugenheim

Herbert R. Fitch
Kodaks and Photo Supplies
1243 Fifth Street, San Diego, Cal.

quickly ~~and~~ possible and in sufficient detail to show you the situation before you sent your final decision. I knew Mr. Waugenheim would write a clever (deceitful?) letter and you might be misled by it. I shall avoid expenses ⁱⁿ telegrams from now on, as much as possible; because this Park Board may not pay our bills.

I believe that the publicity in the papers regarding your actions will be so adroitly controlled by Allen and his colleagues that it will all be to his credit and as much as possible to our discredit. They are playing a rather bold game for big stakes, and Allen is working always with Collier and Sifton so the combination are going to get all they can directly and indirectly.

I will send the Union by mail to be sure you see it, so I won't explain here.

I am hoping to sell my furniture etc. to Winslow who for the present is doing just what Allen wants; so he will feel sure of staying here this winter.

I believe that your resignation will be misrepresented in the Union; but I think you could get a fair presentation of your case by the Sun since Scripps has refused

Mr. Waughman read me his very clever letter to you. But he gave himself away to me by saying that he had hurried up to the Div. of Work's office regarding their putting out the Central site plans in the newspaper this morning without getting your approval of it, and found they intended to go right ahead with plans. Therefore if they intended to draw up all the plans you had grounds to resign."

I believe that this present park board would like to get rid of our services. I wrote you some time ago that Mr. Allen was working and plotting and planning to get complete control of this job and either put us out or make us work for him and under him. He has to show himself as the whole head and designer & builder to justify his exorbitant salary. I warned Mr. Goodhue personally that he would run into some very unpleasant and disappointing things on this work; but I said no more than that.

I wired you this morning as follows: -
 Day message. Rumor this morning displays full page plan and description central site. They willfully misstate vote was unanimous and misrepresent you and insinuate you now favor and accept central site of Allen's. Your resignation has been kept quiet to give them advantage in first publicity. Your telegram received and followed."

I felt that I must get this information to you as

to take any interest in the Exposition. That is if you care to make any statements. Naturally a few people will know from me the real facts of the case, before I go.

I believe however that sooner or later trouble will come up regarding your resignation, particularly at Washington where the San Francisco contingent will fight recognition of this fair in the Senate; and also here in San Diego when the subscribers are asked to pay up. A business man, not interested in Real Estate, tells me that they all refuse to pay up while Allen gets \$20,000 and that the Expo is at present without any money.

I believe that Allen is interested solely to get his \$80,000 or all he can of it; and he will keep the thing going as long as possible to get his salary. I have no doubt he will borrow the Park money to go ahead with the Expo. That can be easily done.

I hear a good many people saying that Allen divides his salary with Collier.

All this will show you how thoroughly bad the conditions are here, and how troublous the future seems for this exposition. I only hope that your last bills will get approved by the Park Board. I don't like to telegraph you to hold off your resignation until they do get approved; because you will know better than I what action you prefer to take.

I will hurry my packing as much as possible, as soon as you give me definite instructions. Yours truly
H. H. Blossom