

OLMSTED BROTHERS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, BROOKLINE, MASS.

JOHN CHARLES OLMSTED FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
JAMES FREDERICK DAWSON PERCIVAL GALLAGHER

OLMSTED BROTHERS	
REC'D	MAR 29 1911
ACK'D	OF
ANS'D	Mar 30 BY HHP
READ BY	

24 March, 1911.

Mr. Harold Hill Blossom,
620 Timken Bldg., San Diego, Cal.

Dear Blossom:

I have received various copies of plant lists and notes made by myself when at San Diego, for which I thank you.

In regard to Bing, I agree with you as to his loyalty in the past. It was just a thought that came to me when I was trying to think fast for a foreman in connection with the big planting. Now that we have got Rementer I wont consider him. He is at present working for Rudolph Roehers.

As I wrote Mr. Olmsted the other day, I think it would be better policy, providing this man, Rementer, shows up good, to put him in charge unless Sessions turns out to be an exceptionally good man in branches of the work other than handling men and keeping books. Rementer spent two years in lower California in connection with plants. *You may decide to keep Cummings —??* He has handled all the landscape work for the Milwaukee Railroad System and has worked for

Mr. Harold Hill Blossom - 2

several of the largest greenhouse plant concerns in the country and knows how to carry out work from plans and knows plants. Thompson says he handles men in fine fashion.

I wired you yesterday about an assistant for you and I have just had a reply from Mr. John C. Olmsted as to what Sharman would go for for about six months. I have not even talked with Sharman, up to this time, about the proposition so cannot tell you up to this writing whether or not he cares to go. ^{Yes he says he will go for 110⁰⁰ per month -} Sharman seems to be a much neater draughtsman than Dall, although he does not know anything about plants and probably little of the artistic side of it. He seems to be a hard worker and very neat in his draughting and I doubt if he makes many mistakes.

In regard to the plane trees, - the ground being stony would not make any difference, providing the soil were fairly deep. I think myself that these trees will be successful there in the bottom of ravines where the soil is deep. They are growing native just north of the park on the way to Scripps's place and Miss Sessions is very optimistic about them. You will not be able to get them in the east any cheaper than we ^{can} get them from California nurseries unless we import them. My plan in relation to all these trees coming in for this north border plantation was not to put them in the nursery at all but to heel them in in the

vicinity of where they were to be planted, and I suggest that you get the plants on the ground just as soon as you can because after the ground is ploughed and cultivated it will probably grow warm very quickly. It will be expensive and use lots of time to get them out of the nursery and over ~~for~~^{to} the border planting.

I am glad to have received the copy of the propagating list as I will at once put quantities to it and return it to you.

Personally I think it would be better policy, both for Cumming and ourselves if he did not remain on the work. *if you have let him down* It certainly must be very embarrassing for him to be reduced in his rank and embarrassing for others in giving him orders. You might ask Mr. Olmsted confidentially if he would care to have him take up the Wells Gilbert work in Portland. If Mr. Olmsted is gone by the time you get this, please write him as I promised Wells Gilbert to find him a man to carry on the work at his place this spring. I had had Donald in mind but he preferred to go to San Diego.

I am afraid from your postscript that you have a wrong idea of the amount of bookkeeping that is necessary to keep track of the cost of work that I wanted. That cost was for certain units of things and in a general way. Of course it is necessary to keep the cost of structural things for which we had special appropriations. Koehler never went into any elaborate bookkeeping and only had one man spending

Mr. Harold Hill Blossom - 4

a portion of his time keeping the time of his men. This man did other things such as the keeping account of the cars coming in, the telephone, and helped considerably on certain lists and made out practically all of Koehler's requisitions for him and then seemed to have a certain amount of time to spare.

I appreciate ^{your} ~~that~~ long detailed letter and I hope that you will be able to find it convenient to write me often as to the condition of the work.

Yours very truly,

James Fredrick Dawson