

May 15, 1939

Hello Wak;

Sorry I didn't write any sooner. I was busy looking for some kind of work and my hours were very irregular. For the first week after the Fair I was just looking around mostly, at the Fair. I tried to work in on some ideas but it didn't work out just right. I can still follow it up if I feel like it. I may on one of them.

The most disrupting thing that happened last week is that I moved out to the country more again. I'm at Albertson, N.Y. My Post Office Box Number is 262, Albertson, N.Y. This is a Metropolis of about one thousand people. That is not counting the chickens or the cows. I'm Working for Mr. Mya Myaida now. I found that just doing nothing and looking around is a good way to spend a lot of money. You notice that when nothing is coming in. This way, my room and board comes up to ten Dollars a week, which is two dollars cheaper than I was paying before. The distance into New York and vicinity is just about the same as the distance into Oakland and San Francisco from Hayward. I get five dollars a day from Shogo and I can just about save all of the twenty dollars that is left from the room and board. Of course I have to figure in the laundry. The chink is quite a few blocks down and he doesn't have any auto. It is rather inconvenient to not to have a machine out here. I may buy a twenty or twenty five dollar Ford. Maybe no top but who cares. I will see the country. I haven't seen much of it except from the rides that I have had the good chance to get from various people.

I'm not going to use any more capital letters at the beginning of the sentence. talking about spring. spring is certainly beautiful here. it comes awfully quick and sudden. it is really very spectacular, especially since most of the trees here are deciduous and everything looks very bare and barren in the winter. so when spring comes in the spring why everything is such a change that it is really marvelous... one day you ride out in the country not noticing any trees because they are all barren. the next day the trees are full of yellow green leaves. in two days time the leaves are almost full size. then in a couple of more days the leaves are a darker green. in just a few more days the dogwoods are in full bloom. they are still in full bloom. they tell me that the blooms on the dogwood lasts a long time. it really is a grand sight to see the woods all splashed with a great sweep of white. I like this neck of the woods very much in the spring. i suppose California is just as pretty in the spring. only that i haven't seen it at all. My leisure on sunday gives me a guilty feeling sometimes, but it doesn't bother me in the least. I hope i can take you to see the california spring in the near future. it is something to see too, i think.

yesterday, sunday, i had the chance to see the Rebuhn House, which is another house designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Myaida had to see the party. they are his clients. I had the chance to see all of the house. Mr. Rebuhn himself took me around he is a publisher and a poet too. I'll send you a picture of his house as soon as I get it developed. he was so good enough to let me take a quite a few pictures. he doesn't allow any news paper man to take any pictures of his house. Mr. Rebuhn showed me the preliminary plans, the sketches, the elevations and the final plan of his house done by Frank himself. Mr. Rebuhn said that Mr. Wright only looked at the lay of the land for only about five minutes and within a week he sent him a sketch of a house that followed the contour of the land. It really is a marvelous house. once you get inside the house is arranged that so that natural route through the rooms leads on and on. there is a continuous circulation through all out all of the house. there are no blind alleys. everywhere you look there is a very interesting picture. very fine camera angles. its a great house to live in no matter what anybody says. I didn't see the kitchen because the cook was inside cooking, but i saw all the rest of the rooms. he has so many surprises for you that you would have to live in the house a couple of years to really know the building. Mr. Rebuhn gave me a lead on who else to write to, if i wanted to be an apprentice. I'm going to follow it up. gosh, if i only could stay there for a year. then i would know what architecture would really be like. even if i didn't become one, it would be quite an experience. Mr. Rebuhn was so good too. it is a grand house. very simple in design yet complicated. i hope you understand. this happen to be one of the few houses that Mr. Wright designed that went up so rapidly. most of his houses he has a lot of trouble. really enjoy my work here too. i keep out of mischief. the young fellows get along pretty good. i have a good time with them all. i can get more work out of them too, at least i think so. i'm suppose to be more or less a sort of a foreman. shogo has a couple of other fellows too. from what i've seen and heard, the other foreman don't do any work when they are out on the job. i get down and work with them. we certainly get results. i have a big kick kidding them and they have a lot of fun kidding me. as long as we get along in that way, it keeps their mind off of other things and it makes it easier to get them to do things. i make mistakes but they don't grumble so much about them. some of them don't work much but i don't get so sore at them. its up to me to get the most work out of them. i sketched a few houses today in a real estate development that is going to be landscaped later.

i read your letter over quite a few times. it has quite a bit of appeal to me. all i want is at least one year actual architectural work so that i can decide really well. i hope it will be soon. right now i can afford another year.

i'm at Shogo's now using his typewriter. i live only three or four short block from his place. He really has a

good sense of design but he doesn't do a the work himself he has another fellow do the actual planting and construction. sometimes the effect is lost. i did a couple of houses for him. i misunderstood his rough sketch in a part of one but otherwise it was all right i guess. i want to do a rock garden for him .

the place where i am staying. the husband drives a delivery truck for a trucking concern, the brother of the wife works in a nursery where Shogo buys most of his plants. they have a little kid. Patsy. not much bother . I get fed american dishes, plenty of them too .

i'm getting into a routine again, altho we quit at all hour of the night. we work until pretty late. i don't mind it so much if it isn't raining. we have the funniest sort of weather here. i can guess pretty well how it is going to be thought.

the country is really very fine this time of the year. i enjoy all the rides in the roads around here.

well good bye until- until later . real soon this time i guess the mail man will take a little later now.

so long

Ken

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