

December 12, 1945.

Mrs. Beatrix Farrand,
Valley Club of Montecito
Santa Barbara, California.

Dear Mrs. Farrand:

I am wondering how you are after your strenuous New York trip and hope the calmness and peace of Montecito have done much to restore your serenity.

No doubt Mr. Thacher has given you many side lights on the aftermath of the New York trip, from my own observations I would say that our friend has quite a different attitude and seems subdued and quite cooperative. I think you took him completely off his feet with your suggestion that it might be well if he made a change. He had quite a different story to tell me when I returned and took the first opportunity to go to Mrs. Bliss with a proposition(?) for improvement in the situation at Dumbarton Oaks as regards his own future. Of this you will hear more in detail from Mr. Thacher - but evidently there have been some conferences on the matter.

I have seen Mrs. Bliss only twice and for the briefest when she was here with Mrs. MacLean with whom she went to France, and again last Sunday afternoon at the D.O. concert - she said she wanted to have a talk with me sometime but I would rather she didn't.

Enclosed I am sending you the latest garden report which brought us up to the end of November. Also enclosed is a copy of the notice which was published regarding winter visiting hours, and a copy of the sign which Ralph has made for the gates. The gardens will be closed from the 22d of December to and including January 5th. I expect to leave for New York after working hours on the 22d - if I can get transportation - and return on the 28th. I have been out of the office one day this week with a bad cold but think I have it licked now.

About the post cards; I find we have a big supply on hand and with the limited number of garden visitors during the winter, I am sure we shall not be able to dispose of many of them before Spring. I know Mr. Thacher has the matter of postcards in mind for Spring.

I made a visit to the Botanic Garden to look over the books I had listed and found, as you suspected, that they were not suitable for our kind of library, except the book on Grasses by Agnes Chase - do you think this a good book to have? It seemed quite good to me but am not sure if we would use it much.

I will write Mrs. Stover about the two English books which were never received by me - two from Dulau's and one from K. Gregory in New York.

With many kind greetings,

Sincerely,