

Client

August 5, 1942.

Mr. Jan de Graaff
Oregon Bulb Farms
Sandy, Oregon

Dear Mr. deGraaff:

I don't know whether you have any experience in dealing with Uncle Sam's Washington government. If so I am truly sorry as the delays and the amount of red tape involved in any decision seem to be hopeless and endless. As you know the question was raised in the end of April last as to whether the Dumbarton Oaks-Harvard unit should grow plants for the National Gallery, and poor Bryce, the Executive Officer, and I have nagged and worried the Director of the National Gallery so often that he must think us tiresome, and still there is no answer. Nevertheless the impression in Mr. Bryce's mind seems to be that Dumbarton Oaks is likely to be asked to grow the plants as he feels the prices suggested are extremely favorable. However, we have no authority for placing an order and I therefore write you to say that it looks as though the chances would be that we should be required to supply certain daffodils, and I should say without question that approximately 100 to 150 of the large yellow trumpets and the same number of large white trumpets, or Leedsii's, would be needed. We must, also have tulips and hyacinths, but Mr. Bryce seems to feel that 200 or 300 daffodils would probably be all that he could wisely grow for this purpose. I have told the Executive Officer of Dumbarton Oaks that unless we have a decision from the National Gallery within the next two or three weeks that we really can't undertake to do anything for them as we could not produce good plants that would do the growers credit. I am well aware that this uncertainty is quite as annoying to you as it is to me and only want to tell you what the conditions are so that you may say either - that you are not interested and don't feel that you can undertake to supply any material - or that you feel you could reserve this small number in case they are needed.

As to the other orders placed with you early in the season, they of course stand as sent and I think it would be wise for me to put in an order for 100 of the mixed short bups and again on this order I shall have to send you definite news toward the end of this month.

Quite frankly as to the new Leedsii's I am not disappointed that you can't furnish any of the novelities as our collection is quite remarkable and draws crowds each spring, and such as we have will well serve for next season. I think I shall very much like trying the Ixiolirion and will send you the definite order for this and the miniature daffodils, and the Santa Barbara and Reef Point orders within a fortnight.

Mr. Jan de Graaff 8/5/42 -2

It must be a real satisfaction to you to know how much your bulbs have meant in the way of pleasure to the hundreds and thousands who have visited the college campuses.

With best regards, I am,

Yours very truly,