

June 11, 1947

Mr. Jan de Graaff
Oregon Bulb Farms
Sandy, Oregon

Dear Mr. de Graaff:

As you doubtless know, it is not easy to extract answers from busy enterprises like the Arnold Arboretum, Dumbarton Oaks, and the University of Chicago, but one answer has come in from the Arnold Arboretum saying that they would allot funds for about 3,000 poeticus narcissus. In looking over your wholesale plant list I notice that Glory of Lisse and Recurvus are both priced at \$40. a thousand for the double nose. This would allow us to get at least 2000, and perhaps personally I would contribute enough to purchase 3,000 instead of the smaller amount. These narcissus would be planted in a big "drift" for naturalizing purposes near the Administration Building at the foot of the hill where some of the new Arnold Arboretum introductions are to be planted.

The reason for this advance letter is to ask you whether you would be at all interested in allowing me to order for these institutions the bulbs which in the past you have so kindly allowed me to buy direct from you.

You will I know smile with considerable wicked amusement when you hear that the recalcitrant gardener at Dumbarton Oaks had to acknowledge that your forcing daffodils were better than any he had had through his own "tame" - and I fancy profitable - local retail stores! In order to save time the orders will go direct to you as soon as they are received here on the hopeful assumption that you may be willing to accept these larger orders for the public which has so greatly enjoyed them in the past.

Perhaps you will like to know that our Leedsii daffodils have been magnificent this year and although there have been torrents of rain a good many people have seen them and commented on their extraordinary beauty. Thank you again for what you have done in the past, and hoping you may still be willing to help in the future, I am,

Yours very sincerely,