

June 1, 1939.

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss,
3101 R Street,
Washington, D. C.

Dearest Mildred:

It seems cruel to have added one more to your already heavy load of straws, but it seemed best to me to ask you to suggest to the Kenneth Clarks as to the Cezanne rather than have a more personal message go direct. It seems pretty certain that the picture will be far more expensive than we can ever hope to buy, I am however greatly hoping that it will find a worthy home, and I shall be particularly curious to know if it ever can be found out for what sum the heir sold this picture. She has been extraordinarily shrewd in getting it out of France without taxes and without having paid any inheritance taxes on so well-known a picture.

The preliminary report has come in from Mr. Thompson on the Dumbarton Oaks tree conditions. I think you will see that conclusions are exceedingly favorable to the care which the trees are and have been given. You will doubtless want to pore over the report carefully and this copy is for you and your files. A second copy is going to Bryce so that he will have it for his files and we can next week discuss the few questions which seem to be upper-most in Mr. Thompson's mind.

The frock for the party is all but finished and although I tried my best to make it a really short dress it simply would not "go" in any length shorter than ankle! So doubtless I shall look like all the other over-dressed dowagers as to whom Elizabeth was so comic. It is nice to think that a week from today I shall again be at Dumbarton and at least in your neighborhood even though I may not see you very intimately.

Ever your fond and devoted