

October 3/45

Mrs. Beatrix Farrand,
Reef Point, Bar Harbor, Maine.

Dear Mrs. Farrand:

It was so nice to have your letter of September 26th and to know you are planning on coming 'in the flesh' to visit us at Dumbarton Oaks in November. I look forward with much pleasure to your visit as we always seem to get much more done than we do by writing each other.

Mr. Thacher has told me of his pleasure in visiting you at Reef Point, of how well you were looking, and how eager you were to get your hands in to the work here. I have just talked with him again by telephone concerning some garden guide questions and he asked me to please express to you again his pleasure in visiting with you and talking over Dumbarton Oaks.

With regard to your agenda, of which I am returning the carbon copy with notations:--First - the garden leaflets for sale which we have are the reprints of your article in Landscape Quarterly, of which we sold 1000 copies last Spring.

Second - Colored kodachromes for sale? Do you mean colored post cards?

Third:--More Books? Yes, I can think of some I should like to add but Miss Carpenter tells me there will be \$25.00 in the budget set-up for the coming year, but she says she thinks you probably have some balance in the fund for buying books, part of which was made up from Mrs. Bliss' contribution of \$50.00.

Fourth Post Cards? We now have 15 views, having added three more views to our earlier set and I am sending you a complete set today. We have sold the cards 3 for 10 cents or 40 cents for the set and the money received from sales has more than taken care of the printing.

Fifth:--Comfort Station -- this matter to be shelved until the Spring as there are so many more pressing matters of work to be done.

Sixth:--Record Book (do you mean plant record?) Photograph (what?)

Now, about the leaflet, I am all at sea as to this, i.e. as to what you have in mind for me to prepare. If it is a write-up on the various phases of the garden, I'm afraid it's beyond my limitations. I had thought that some time we might have someone make up a booklet, giving an outline map of the property, with directions as to the various small gardens, and perhaps a copy of the map now in the Catalogue House, or reprints of some of the special spots, like the Star Garden or

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the little tablet in the Wistaria Arbor, or Quod Severis Metes &c. I don't feel that I am equipped to make up such a booklet.

There are some books which I have made a note of which I would like to acquire, if you think they would be useful to the work

- Weeds of Lawn and Garden - Univ of Pa. Press \$2.50
- ✓ North American Ferns M. Broun \$2.50
- Guide to Eastern Ferns - E.T. Wherry \$1.25
- ✓ First Book of Grasses A. Chase \$1.25
- ✓ Manual of the Grass of the U.S. by A.S. Hitchcock \$1.75
- The Lichen Flora of the U.S. by Hendrick and Fink \$4.00
- ✓ Modern Bird Study by Lloyd Griscom \$2.50

Mr. Thacher has just told me that he and Bryce made a tour of the grounds this afternoon and, among other things, the question of the future use of the Orangery was discussed. Mr. Thacher plans eventually to open the front entrance gate to visitors, in which case it seems wise to plan some other approach to the Orangery instead of all the way up the gravel walk to the front door and back on the brick walk to the Orangery. If a straight walk were to be made leading to the south door of the Orangery from the front entrance, it would necessitate the removal of The Bride.

Another thing to think about is the possible future use of the Orangery for a Garden Guide office. To be practical it would mean the possible removal of the vine which, Mr. Thacher says, would have had to go if they had followed their plan of an addition to the bindery, but that is not now necessary, so the Orangery will remain; but the thought of making it more usable is something to think about for future discussion. Mr. Thacher thinks it might be made into an attractive Garden Gallery with Information Desk and the display of garden material, post cards and garden books and prints.

The gardens open for the Autumn season a week from today October 10th to remain open as long as weather permits. I have sent out the publicity for papers and the various groups we always notify and we look forward to a big crowd, especially when chrysanthemums are in full bloom.

I made a few purchases of replacement prints at the N.Y. Botanical Garden when I was on my vacation but soon we shall have to have more as a great many of the older prints have faded out completely and others spoiled by weather and the birds. I have no separate fund for purchasing prints as Mrs. Bliss' check went into the book fund.

I am trying to get my Autumn material ready for next Wednesday but weather has been very wet. Pyracantha looks very pretty but I don't think the dogwood is as vivid as usual, nor the magnolia buds. perhaps they will after frost.

If there is any light you can shed on the booklet in advance of your visit, I will see what I can do, but I can't seem to visualize what you have in mind. It won't be long before we shall be welcoming you here and I shall be so happy to see you.

Very sincerely,