

BEATRIX FARRAND

~~1650 ORLANDO ROAD~~

~~SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA~~

The Valley Club of Montecito

Post Office Box 1140

Santa Barbara, California

February 27th, 1942

Miss Anne Sweeney
Dumbarton Oaks Research
Library and Collection
Georgetown
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Sweeney:

There is absolutely no reason for you to get fussed about anything that is happening in this part of the world as we are all far more calm than people seem to be in the East. Perhaps you will forgive me for saying to you that honestly you ought to stay away from the radio just as much as you can. Most of the news you get from it you can get in a better digested form in the morning or evening newspaper, and the amount of nervous strain in listening to stories magnified and dressed up to tickle the palate of the listener is, to my way of thinking, quite immoral. Don't think I mean to preach and lecture about the radio but I began to get quite fidgety at the constant news bulletins when Mr. Farrand said: "The less you listen to the radio, the quieter you will be." And perhaps what applies to me may equally be true for you.

If you think it would be of any use to you and to the botany teachers for me to meet two or three of them when I am at Dumbarton Oaks, I shall be delighted to do it. But I don't want to trespass on your ground as you know far better than I what is and is not wise.

Mr. Bliss does seem to gain quite steadily. He is, of course, not strong yet, any more than my Chief is. But the winter has been perfect and has helped both the invalids most tremendously.

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden library is actually underway. Mrs. Bliss has most magnificently generously presented not only the library building but a complete re-arrangement of the smaller buildings, so that there will really be a valid and sensible administration group which ought to be useful for at least fifteen or twenty years. It is what the Garden has needed for years, and, thanks to Mrs. Bliss, it is now going to have something which is both sensible and far-sighted.

You ask if I have seen the February 15th number of "Horticulture". I have not and shall look forward to seeing it with its Dumbarton Oaks picture with great eagerness.

Again, don't think I mean to preach or be stupid and solemn about the radio and the war news, but I do know how much one has to keep one's self under a tight hand in these trying days.

Before long I hope to be able to tell Mr. Thatcher exactly when I should like to come to Dumbarton Oaks if it suits his own plans.

Yours ever sincerely,

Beaumont Newhall
Dumbarton Oaks Research
Library and Collection
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Gessner:

There is absolutely no reason for you to get fussed about anything that is happening in this part of the world as we are all far more calm than people seem to be in the East. Perhaps you will forgive me for saying to you that honestly you ought to stay away from the radio just as much as you can. Most of the news you get from it you can get in a better digested form in the morning or evening newspaper, and the amount of nervous strain in listening to stories magnified and dressed up to tickle the palate of the listener is, to my way of thinking, quite immoral. Don't think I mean to preach and lecture about the radio but I learn to get quite tight at the constant news bulletins when Mr. Farman said: "The less you listen to the radio, the quieter you will be." And perhaps what applies to me may equally be true for you.

If you think it would be of any use to you and to the botany teachers for me to meet two or three of them when I am at Dumbarton Oaks, I shall be delighted to do it. But I don't want to trespass on your ground as you know far better than I what is and is not wise.

Mr. Ulises does seem to gain quite readily. He is, of course, not strong yet, any more than my child is. But the winter has been perfect and has helped both the invalids most tremendously.

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Library is actually underway. Mrs. Bliss has most magnificently generously presented not only the library building but a complete re-arrangement of the smaller buildings, so that there will really be a well and sensible administration group which ought to be useful for at least fifteen or twenty years. It is what the Garden has needed for years, and, thanks to Mrs. Bliss, it is now going to have something which is both sensible and far-sighted.

You ask if I have seen the February 15th number of "Horticulture". I have not and shall look forward to seeing it with the Dumbarton Oaks picture with great eagerness.