

Client

August 14, 1942.

Mr. Jan de Graaff  
Oregon Bulb Farms  
Sandy, Oregon

Dear Mr. de Graaff:

Your letter of the 10th of August came almost on the heels of one that I sent to you with regard to the National Gallery. The hitch in the negotiations is one which I had partly foreseen but which developed much more seriously than I had expected. It appears that as the National Gallery is definitely a government enterprise all supplies must be sent in under competitive bids, and Dumbarton Oaks which is a part of Harvard University, would therefore have been placed in the position of competing with local retail florists. This would have entailed tax questions which in these days are delicate matters. As I had briefly written you the whole matter has had to be dropped and it looks to me as though the future did not offer many loopholes for the collaboration we had hoped for. I hope this letter will reach you in time so that we do not have to take advantage of your generous suggestion for sending the bulbs in case they could be used.

Please believe that both the staff and the administration of Dumbarton Oaks and I appreciate most deeply your patience and your generosity in this matter.

Yours very truly,