

BEATRIX FARRAND
~~1850 ORLANDO ROAD~~ Reef Point
~~SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA~~ Bar Harbor, Maine

August 7, 1943

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss
1537 28th Street
Washington, D. C.

Dearest Mildred:

Last Thursday seemed to me a really satisfactory day and thanks to the co-operative effort the decisions reached appeal to me as wise and likely to meet the situation far better than the original scheme. It really was funny that I had already started to make the changes in the wall dummy before you telephoned me as to your ideas of heights, etc.

In thinking over the financial end of the question we spoke of the other evening I have decided that however it works out the only sporting thing to do is to accept the conditions and meet them whatever they may be. Being a stupid old thing occasionally I get a little panicky as to the financial end of matters but I am sure things will come out as they always do if one gives them time.

Needless to say it was the most enormous comfort to see you as I have missed you really fundamentally and bitterly during the last weeks and just the very sight of you means perhaps more than you realize in the way of common affection and companionship.

After the day's work Thursday my fuddled brain didn't function very rapidly so apparently I never expressed what was inside my head - which was to tell you how extremely successful it seems to me you have been with the arrangements of your dear little house. The delicacy of coloring of the walls and furniture, the charm with which you have arranged the rooms, and the friendly welcoming installations reflect you and your taste, so that if I walked into that house in the middle of Sydney Australia I should know that you had arranged it! The garden needs some fussing over when you and I have a chance to do it and there probably will be a few daffodils and perhaps a few tulips left over from other orders that we can stick in to odds and ends of corners in the garden if we have time to do it this autumn.

A little note is being enclosed for William. I am sorry I didn't think to send him a message while I was in Washington but perhaps some day

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you will see that this is delivered to him just telling him how sorry I am to hear of his misery.

A further note will go to Robert in the course of a day or two but please in the meantime tell him how deeply grateful I am to him for having made arrangements for my comfortable journey northward in the Federal.

Bless you two dear things. You will I know like to hear that I found Max had had three quiet good days and had added another one-half pound to his now perceptible weight.

Yours ever and always

Trix

Truly Dumbarton and all of us are most fortunate in having a man like John Thacher in charge of the ship. He seems to me quite a remarkable individual. His absolute straightness and forthrightness, his understanding, his humanity and wisdom for so young a judge seem to me most marked. Then too it does no harm to have the twinkle that he has in his eye!

We know perfectly that it is absurd even to think of it but we should dearly love to have either or both of you two here whenever you want a breath of fresh air!

The garden is cool & lovely This evening in the fog laden sea air, & yesterday's visit of the servicemen was rather touching - One from Iowa admired the corn, another from Wyoming the dwarf willows - & so it went, Max looking paternally out of window for time to time -