

March 21, 1941.

Mrs. Max Farrand,
1650, Orlando Road,
San Marino,
California.

Dear Mrs. Farrand,

Thank you for your letter of March 8th and also for yours of the 18th which I received this morning. I am sorry not to have acknowledged the first letter sooner, but as you can well imagine, the last few days have been extremely hectic.

I shall answer your letter of the 8th first.

1. Bryce will proceed with the sowing of the green garden for this summer.
2. The question of the finials of the south wall of the flower garden I imagine we can settle when you arrive as I imagine you took this matter up with Mrs. Bliss when you saw her.
3. This point has been attended to.
4. I imagine we can also proceed with this when you arrive.
5. For this summer, we will have the one vegetable garden as the seeds, etc. have already been bought and then we shall have to take the matter up next year and I imagine that the answer will be to do away with it entirely.
7. I enclose a sketch for the support for the lantern in the service court. Coles believes that this was approved by Mrs. Bliss, but as neither he nor I are absolutely certain, I am sending it on to you. The estimate for making it is \$65.00. As soon as we receive Mrs. Bliss' and your approval, we will proceed with it. I know where it is to be placed.
8. Bryce has reluctantly consented to abandon the beds in the central

grass plat of the herb garden after the spring flowers which are now planted have bloomed.

The closing of the tennis court entrance to the box walk is proceeding and I hope along the lines of which you and Mrs. Bliss will approve. In other words, the wall is being continued as well as the terraces.

I hope that this covers the points in your first letter and I shall now turn to your second of the 18th. What a busy time you must be having closing your house in San Marino! It makes me feel guilty to bother you with a letter of this kind at such a moment. Dumbarton Oaks is looking forward to welcoming you on Monday morning, the 21st of April, and I am glad to hear that you will be able to remain until the afternoon of the 24th. Your room will be awaiting you. I do not expect to go to Williamsburg and I imagine that Mr. Sachs will not be going either although I cannot answer for him, so that I, at least, will be here during the whole of your visit.

I was greatly relieved when Mr. Bliss decided to abandon his trip East for the opening of the National Gallery, but I am wondering when he, as well as Mrs. Bliss, plan to come East. If they are not expecting to come to Washington for some time, I feel that it is indicated for me to take a trip West, as there are a great many things which I am anxious to have the opportunity of talking over with them, which is almost impossible to do by correspondence. I hope that Mr. and Mrs. Bliss were not alarmed or disturbed by what I wrote in regard to the drawing room and the orangery. You can rest assured that I shall do nothing of a permanent nature without consulting with them. Do you think it would be a help if I saw them before your visit to Dumbarton Oaks? This idea appeals to me unless, of course, they are planning to come East in the middle of April, because I feel that your visit would be much more constructive if certain other plans and policies had been worked out prior to it so that we could proceed along a definite plan. As you have seen them so recently, you have a much better idea of whether my going out to see them would appeal to them or not and above all, whether you think it would be wise and profitable. If you do, would you be so kind as to send me a wire so that I could make my plans. It all hinges on whether they are coming East or not, which, of course, they may not know. The trip from my point of view would be helpful in all ways not only in connection with the gardens.

From what you have written, as well as from what I hear from other sources, I am definitely worried about Mr. Bliss and, therefore, the last thing I should want to do would be to give him any uneasiness as to what we are planning for Dumbarton Oaks.

Professor Focillon seems a little better but, of course, as he has to stay in bed all of the time and will have to for several weeks, it is difficult to judge. Both he and Madame Focillon are so considerate and I am happy to say the nurses are also that his illness is no physical burden upon the household.

With friendly greetings,

Yours sincerely,