

*Copy to
Mr. B.B. files*

Very late Sunday night 1-5-47
1537 28th St.,
Georgetown, Washington 7, D.C.

Dearest Trix,

Your letter came today and you leave me little time before the next meeting ----- a telegram not sufficing for what I want to say.

What you say of Van R's condition surprises and distresses me. I thought he would be back at the garden to begin work in small doses, to be sure -- by tomorrow.

I. For Van R or his potential successors, a director's house would seem highly desirable and I should be sorry to see the construction of one postponed.

On the other hand, I appreciate the building costs may make postponement necessary and that under present conditions the board may find it more economical to pay rent than to build.

II. It does seem wiser to me to defer, certainly the widening of the arroyo trail and possibly the making of the Ceanothus service road until the new parking space grades are definitely settled. If the director's house can't be built now and other basic structural work is decided upon, it may well be that both service road and trail will have to wait, this obviously is dollars and cents and only a close and accurate calculation can determine what action to take.

III. It is regrettable the alternative procedure you suggest presents itself but I see its sensibleness. Therefore I must leave the decision to the board and you may assure them, i.e. Mr. Bullard, that he may consider the allocations specified last summer to be flexible, except for the publication fund and the assistant's salary. These I consider essential.

This will go off tomorrow morning by air and reach you on Thursday I hope.

- - - - -

Also I like to dictate these letters and to keep copies with which to refresh my flagging memory, and I am not always able to do this on the date of receipt of a query.

- - - - -

Many friendly messages to the garden group.

Yours,