

October 22, 1945.

Mrs. Beatrix Farrand,
Reef Point, Bar Harbor, Maine.

SDear Mrs. Farrand:

I have been a long time replying to your nice letter of October 12th, but I felt I couldn't answer most of it until I had had an opportunity to talk several matters over with Mr. Thacher and he, as usual, was too busy to see me. He went off to New York for a week but left a message with Miss Carpenter to give me regarding post cards, pamphlets, enlarged colored photographs of the garden etc.

The matter of kodachromes for sale is not looked upon very favorably by Mr. Thacher; he doesn't seem to think we ought to go in for any more material to be sold. Our green pamphlets are almost exhausted - in fact I could have sold every one of them last Sunday but I felt I ought to hold some in reserve for the following open days this season.

You will be amazed to learn that so far our visitors this month have been 7122. Our first open day was Wednesday October 10th - last Sunday the Washington Star had a big group here and the total check on the day's visitors was 4898. Naturally the grass looks as if it were camped upon by a regiment of soldiers. We took in over \$225.00 on the sale of post cards and pamphlets. Tomorrow we are having the Twentieth Century Club and last Saturday morning we had a special showing for the Cavan MacGregor, all of whom claim to be descendants of Ninian Bell.

Now, as to the booklet which you seem to think I can get started before your arrival - I am absolutely without even a thought as to what to do. I have no illusions as to my ability and I am sure someone else - anybody else - could make a better job of it. Mr. Thacher said he would talk this matter over with you when you got here, meantime I am devoid of any suggestions for make-up or material.

About books - I sent you the names of a few which I thought might be useful. I now have another "The New Book of Trees" by Marcus Woodward also Matthews book on Trees - similar to the field book on Wild Flowers which we have. Our teacher in the Botany class recommended it and it seemed to be a good book to have for ready reference in the Orangery. You would be pleased to see the many comments on the reference books displayed, as well as the magazines and the Autumn fruits, berries etc. One woman last Sunday wanted to buy the wisteria pads and leaves. If I wanted to go into the magazine subscription business this would be a good place to start.

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As to the arrangement of the Orangery for a Garden Gallery. nothing further has been talked about and I suppose Mr. Thacher wants to wait for you to discuss the matter thoroughly. The matter of the approach to the Orangery from the East Gates will also have to be gone into - the gates were open on Sunday and it is evident that something will have to be done to keep people off the south lawn on their way to the Orangery or gardens.

The matter of prints is open for discussion - I have no way of telling what sum should be set aside, but many of the prints are becoming so faded and dirty that they will have to be renewed when and if we can find duplicates.

There are so many 'favorites' in the pictures of Dumbarton Oaks that it is going to be hard to select the right one for the forthcoming planting list. Mr. Thacher agrees with you that the present post cards are not of a quality we would like but under the circumstances and considering the shortages of everything at the time they were made, they have had to suffice and, so far at least, have been a great help in satisfying the public demand for a picture or souvenir. I do wish we could have some sort of outline sketch of the boundaries or one similar to that in the Garden Catalogue House. I think it would be very popular.

I think I have covered all the questions in your letter with the exception of the comfort station and that is something out of my province, so must await your visit with Bryce.

I hope we can show you a good brand of weather for your visit but I'm afraid these present summer days will be gone. Chrysanthemums have been slowly developing but are not yet at their prettiest. We are promised rain tonight and cooler tomorrow - I hope it doesn't mean cold enough to spoil our show.

With kindest greetings to you and those near you and looking forward to seeing you very soon,

Sincerely yours,