

BEATRIX FARRAND
LANDSCAPE GARDENER
~~124 EAST 40TH STREET~~
NEW YORK

1650 Orlando Road
San Marino, California
February 18, 1937

Dear Miss Sweeney:

Your nice letter of the 16th of February makes me realize how difficult it is going to be for you to get started on so complicated an enterprise as the catalogue house. You may depend upon it that even though distant I will help in any possible way.

I had not realized that the establishment did not possess a Rehder and as I get a special discount on books of this sort I am ordering a copy for you. If Mrs. Clark's copy has already come it can be turned over to Gray or the house library as one or both ought to have a copy of this standard book of reference. I am also ordering for you a set of Bailey's Cyclopedia of Horticulture for the catalogue house. It is a thing you will be using almost constantly and Bryce will need his Bailey and your copy of Rehder and Bailey ought to be marked for the catalogue house, and may possibly be kept in the catalogue house itself if it is not too damp.

If I were doing the catalogue house job myself I should first write a list of trees and then of shrubs on typewriter paper to which any additions might be made as you make them on the cards. I should then do the perennials and so on, also on sheets of typewriting paper. These sheets of typewriter paper will be a convenience to you as when you are going to get your pictures it will be a nuisance if you have to carry a couple of hundred cards with you. The sheets can be rewritten from time to time as they become outmoded or a considerable number of names added.

The cards are the ultimate reference and on them the accents, the spelling, the synonyms and so on should be found. The typewriter paper lists could be briefer for your convenience and will be made up from the abbreviated information on the cards. The reason I suggest making the cards so briefly in their description is that you may need to add descriptions later on.

If it is going to take Mrs. Clark six weeks to paste the pictures in the frames we shall, I think, have to ask for aid elsewhere as it will take you some time to collect the material, and as Mrs. Bliss is eager to have the catalogue house at least started by the first of April, ~~so~~ the question of waiting for six weeks for pasting the material as it comes in seems to be impossible.

Do let me hear from you as often as you please. I am really troubled that I am not there to help you and only wish we could go apartment hunting together if during the process we could chatter about our catalogue house job.

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It is always nice to hear from you even though you sound a little despairing in this last letter. My hand and shoulder are here for you to lean on whenever you can make use of these aged and perhaps not very efficient props. This is dictated in haste to catch the afternoon air mail.

Yours ever sincerely,

Beatrice Farnsworth