

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

Valley Club of Montecito  
Santa Barbara, California.

January 29, 1942.

Miss Anne Sweeney,  
Dumbarton Oaks Research Library,  
3101 "R" Street,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Sweeney:

The days flow by like beads on a chain and I am just beginning to realize that within a couple of months I shall be heading eastward and that you and I will again be happily working over Dumbarton and its problems. Tell me how things are proceeding with your work and whether or not you have the helpful talks with Mr. Thacher which I have always found iron out most of my problems. Write me before long and tell me quite frankly if you have any questions on which you feel I can be of use. Also tell me how your work proceeds and if you have any news from the schools as to botany classes. I should think that it was more or less your job to poke them up as to these classes so that they will plan for them before it is too late.

A particularly nice letter came from that remarkable man, Mr. Ellis Russell, giving news of you and of Bryce, and saying that in spite of the days of war, things seem to be moving smoothly with Bryce and that he understands the whole situation more clearly than he has in the past. He also told me, to my great pleasure, that Ralph seems to be fitting into his new job with his usual good temper and willingness to help. Let me know how you get on and what you plan for your first exhibit, and if there is any visiting quota in these wintry days.

You will, I know, like to hear that the Ambassador is steadily gaining. A few days ago when he came to see us, he even said he might do a little golf practice, and last weekend both of them went to Los Angeles on an archaeological excursion which seemed to give them great pleasure and do him no harm.

Mrs. Bliss is definitely fearful as to the outcome of the Japanese situation and says quite frankly she thinks California is likely to be invaded and conquered! Both Mr. Farrand and I, who are less excitable people, do not feel there is, at the moment, any justification for such gloomy prophesies, but perhaps it is well to look on the gloomy side of things in order to be pleasantly surprised when the "glooms" don't come off.

(P.T.O.)

