

The Valley Club
Sta Barbara - April 29. 46

May 1/46

My ever so dear -

Can you bear a pencil
track, just before leaving the
blessed cottage that Max & I have
so gladly & happily owed to you
& Robert. It has been the best
possible solution to the winter
months, & its quiet, beauty, &
comfort have meant much to
us both. In this winter of re-
adjustment it has meant even
more. Clementine & I have been
quiet & away & the weeks of
not-so-wellness were more wisely
spent here than anywhere. As
you have long recognized, the
margin has for years past, been
a narrow one, & the last three
have pruned its edges, & time is

needed to make the piece of
cloth a valid one again, but
it will come. So thank you, for
this & all the other peaceful
winters & more than this for
the years of our long & deep
understanding & close affection.

As you know, Mr. Thacher is
meeting me in Boston in a week's
time. We are both deeply con-
cerned about the condition &
conditions at Dunbar Oaks,
as he & you both agree it needs
trained care & rehabilitation
after the necessarily scant
war years. There will probably
have to be a programme made
which can be followed without
rigidity, but with determination.
As you have long said, the schools
& plants need thinking & in some

Cases elimination or re-
 planting, perhaps with different
 material. It seems clear that
 I am no longer strong enough to
 ramp up & down these hills
 as we used to do, & if you
 & he both think you still want
 my interest if distant eye,
 to keep it memory alive, with
 occasional visits, it will be wise
 to discuss ways & means - Mr
 Thacher seems flatteringly un-
 willing to drop me completely
 over board, & I don't want to
 be dropped unless it is best for
 Denbarten - & this, he & I will
 discuss & he will tell you
 what his opinion is - We
 have an agenda as long as
 a piece of bread to discuss, & I
 foresee several "reprises" - He

Says he can later come to
Bar Harbor for further thinking
aloud, but he would like to
make a start before the end
of this fiscal year, & at least
an outline for the year a-
head.

You will like to hear that
the recently elected board at the
Sta. B. Bot. Garden are keenly
interested in its development &
they see how much the garden
is contributing to the community.
The numbers of visitors are in-
creasing & more members are
coming in, so that the future
promises well. To my surprise
& delight several members of
the board suggested taking a
modest amount for the capital
funds - perhaps \$10,000-15,000.

