

August 14th, 1944

Dear Mildred:

The August 11th meeting of the Trustees of the Botanic Garden was a notable one. Your letter of August 1st, 1944 was read in which you present the Garden with securities of the value of \$200,000.

None of the Trustees has doubted that the Garden would carry on. It simply could not be allowed to die. We have however spent many anxious hours hunting for ways and means to close the gap between income and expense which has kept increasing until it has reached about \$8500. Now the prospect is bright before us. The income from your munificent gift should narrow the gap to manageable proportions. The Trustees accept the gift with joy and send you their most heartfelt thanks. Herewith is resolution of acceptance adopted by the Board:

RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden unanimously and enthusiastically accepts the munificent gift of \$200,000. of capital funds from Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss, with the understanding that the income only is to be used for current expenses, the principal to remain as a permanent fund, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Chairman be requested to extend an expression of the Trustees' deep appreciation to Mrs. Bliss for her kindness.

Now for attention to the points you raised:

1. The Trustees of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden accept your gift of capital funds, the income only to be used for current expenses, the capital to be retained as a permanent fund.

2. The securities should be sent to the First National Bank, Santa Barbara, California.

3. The increase of the Director's salary to \$4500. per year has been authorized to take effect January 1st, 1945.

4. With regard to the house Van Rensselaer is now occupying:

