

May 19,1944 423 n

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss 1537 28th Street, Washington, D. C.

Dearest Mildred:

MADE IN ENGLAND

The tickets are all bought and things seem to be in order for the journey and if all goes as planned and expected I should be in Washington a week from today - but - there is a possibility that I may not get there on this journey for two reasons. First, although Max is much better than he was last autumn and I am in no way worried about him, he is by no means yet well and as you know nerves have much to do with recovery, and I am by no means sure that twelve days absence from his "family nurse" is quite sensible. We'll see how things to and if it seems wise in the eyes of the sensible and intelligent Clemmie I may return here for a few days rest and to hearten him up again and then go off on a short journey to Washington. It is possible also that it would be wiser on my part not to make quite so long a single trip.

You have doubtless scanned the Botanic Garden letter. The situation is serious but is now before you practically in its entirety. The thing we have to look over is if there is anything you think sensible to attempt to do at 28th Street, and also whether the various things on my D.O. agenda should be taken up at this time. Certainly the ellipse must wait, but I am by no means sure that the herbaceous border wall might not be wise to attempt if Steinbraker can do it. It would have two advantages (1) it would definitely do away with the herbaceous border for this year and until the war is over. This I think would be a distinct ease for Bryce. Also I think that the grading could well wait winter or a "more convenient season" as the main thing would be to get the walls in and the hedges out.

Such things as the wall dial, the different inscriptions, the Melissande wall, and all such things must await easier days.

Hoping and looking forward to next week with confidence, I am,

Yours ever and always.

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