

BEATRIX FARRAND  
LANDSCAPE GARDENER  
REEF POINT  
BAR HARBOR, MAINE

October 1, 1946  
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Dearest and best of Garden Twins:

Here goes the air mail letter which was promised you for yesterday, but there was so heavy a storm here that air mails were out of the question so please forgive one day's tardiness.

Mr. Thacher tells me you and Robert will be home on the 11th of October and as Mr. Patterson will be in Washington a few days after you, you may like to have a series of questions to review with him or in your own mind before he comes.

Evidently you and I are as usual expressing the same idea in different words with regard to the treatment of the orangerie. It is manifestly impossible that a building in which there are streams of people and post-card selling and which is made a general distributing point for garden visitors should be exactly the same in its character as when you were expecting a group of people at tea, surrounded by banks of flowers and with a pleasant tea urn humming over a cheerful lamp. The furniture naturally must be a little more utilitarian and some of the lead pieces are suffering so badly from being pulled around on the tile floors that they are becoming rather delapidated. Therefore it would seem as though more practical furniture, somewhat like good teak of good models, or good English rattan, would be more fitting and certainly would wear longer. Naturally the ficus will have to be kept a little less wild in its gesticulations than it had grown when I last saw it. This is merely a matter of pruning. Mr. Thacher, Mr. Patterson and I also think that part of the gravel at the west end of the orangerie could be eliminated by paving over it with some of the same floor tile.

Both Mr. Thacher and you have asked when the plant record book will be ready. The main part of the work is done and awaits correction. Mr. Patterson is going to take it with him when he next goes to Washington and I hope to polish it during the winter so that later on it will be ready for printing if it passes your eagle eye. As so many promises with regard to finishing work have had to be broken in the last years, I cannot say just when the record book will be finished but have it very much in mind as a prime necessity.

The steps to replace the dangerous Goat Trail have been staked out by Mr. Patterson and Bryce and the line approved by me. As I know those hillslopes so intimately it seemed quite possible to agree on a line

