

BEATRIX FARRAND
LANDSCAPE GARDENER
REEF POINT
BAR HARBOR, MAINE

October 2, 1944

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss
1537 28th Street,
Georgetown
Washington, 7, D. C.

Dearest Mildred:

The journey to Boston to see Max's medicos, to arrange for our California journey, and to check up with the kindly and wise Dr. Ragle, is successfully over, and the reports given to Max's medicos seem to them favorable. Let us hope their examinations will prove them right. Dr. Ragle appeared to find me ridiculously healthy for my age and said with a grin that he feared I would have to make up my mind to live a long time.

Now as to the possibility of your wanting help in going westward should you find a journey to California advisable from the point of view of your own well-being. Mr. Karl V. Henderson who is the District Passenger Agent in Boston told me to tell you that when you wanted to go west by Santa Fe to go directly to Mr. Eccleston in the Washington office and tell him that Mr. Henderson - who is a great friend of his - told you to come directly and that Mr. Henderson hoped everything would be done to make your journey possible and comfortable. Mr. Henderson said it would be very "incorrect" for him to sell you the tickets through the Boston office but that Mr. Eccleston was not only competent but nice and would he was sure do everything that can be done in these days toward getting you to Santa Barbara.

Naturally I am divided between the hope of seeing you there during the winter and the certainty that if you do come westward it will be because you have had another let-down and attack of bronchitis.

As I wrote Mr. Thacher, it seems almost impossible for me to alter the dates of my coming to Dumbarton on account of the conflicting meshing together of Max's hospital inspection, his journey to Chicago, my work in Washington, and in New York, and in Chicago, and our caroming together at Chicago for the final westward lap. It sounds extraordinarily disobliging on my part not to shift dates as Mr. Thacher suggested, but the interlocking of the various engagements and the arrangements also with dear Clemmy as to her holiday and her meeting us, all have to be woven into a fabric that will not ravel.

You are in such constant mind in these days as the loss of Mr. Delafield's kindly wisdom is a serious blow to you and Robert.

Your ever fond,

Beatrix