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May 15, 1941.

Mrs. Max Farrand,
Reef Point,
Bar Harbor, Maine.

Dear Mrs. Farrand,

Your letter of May 13th makes me realize that I have been very neglectful in not writing to you in regard to Mr. Root's decision (for your information, his full name and address are: Irving C. Root, Superintendent of the National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.)

Four or five days after we talked with him, he rang me on the telephone and said that his colleagues would be delighted to have a Dumbarton Oaks Park Committee to consist of: 1 Bliss, 1 Harvard, 1 Farrand, and himself. He suggested that we wait until the four of us are able to have a meeting before deciding on the fifth member, which sounds to me very sensible. He said that he would be delighted to have the services of the three old men to work in the park under the supervision of their foreman. I can quite understand that they would have to be responsible to the park foreman, but in actuality, they would be working under Bryce's guidance, as apparently the park foreman turns to Bryce constantly for guidance and advice. I have written all this to Mrs. Bliss plus a suggestion of Bryce's and my own to the effect that we wondered whether inasmuch as the park seems to be doing very well on its own in regard to maintenance, whether it wouldn't be wiser to wait until the autumn before giving them this additional help. I am always a little fearful that organizations will grow lax in their own responsibilities if they know that they can depend upon outside help. By autumn or next spring, I should think that we could tell much better just what assistance the park may need. Bryce tells me that the Bliss'es have no objection to these three old men. Since writing this to Mrs. Bliss, I have had no word from her. If I have said the wrong thing, please do not hesitate to scold me, but in any event, I do not believe that Mrs. Bliss will take any suggestions from me about garden matters very seriously!

