

BEALE, INC.  
New and Used Furniture  
14 Bridge St., Telephone 679  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

Jan 30, 1948

Miss Doris Fales  
Richmond Virginia

Dear Miss Fales;

Thank you for your prompt reply in regard to the Birchview.

I will try to answer your questions as asked-

1. Mosquitoes like death and taxes are always with us but our prevailing wind at Friendship is southerly so that they do not bother us very much as the wind keeps them in the woods. In the evening they are out but I have never noticed that they were excessive or more than ordinarily hungry. Of course they are only around during the first part of the season anyway and are not nearly as bad as they are at the inland lakes where they have been known to carry off a hind quarter of beef bodily. (So they say)

*All windows + doors are screened*

The electric current is furnished by the local power Co and is suitable for any appliances that you may want to use.

The cottage has a double bed with inner spring mattress in each bedroom and a single bed also and we can supply as many cots as you might need on short notice. The only things that you will have to supply will be linen, silver wood for the fireplace and light which you pay yourself. And by the way there is a great quantity of dead wood in the primeval forest right in back of our cottage and great quantities of drift wood that makes an excellent fire that you are welcome to if you feel rugged enough to harvest it. If not you can have wood delivered to you in any quantity that you want. You will not need it for heat except perhaps for the first ~~two~~ weeks in June the rest of the time you will burn it only for decorative purposes. Bring your own ax and saw or you can buy one here.

You are welcome to garden space and all we ask is a very small sum for

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plowing and manure that we have to have done by the local plowman. My wife is a very enthusiastic agricultural sucker and will be out there suffering in the dirty dirt beside you. Personally I will be glad to supervise the work of either or both of you from a rocking chair on the front porch and will be able to give you any amount of advice as long as I do not have to demonstrate my theories. My wife has a lovely strawberry bed with about two hundred plants and she has vegetables of all kinds. The ground seems to be very fertile and she just loves to stand around and watch the peas come through the ground. She is a dentist and carries on a full time practice in the winter time with office in our home. She closes up tight about the time Memorial Day comes and goes to Friendship for the summer. So you will have company.

You will have to furnish your own garden tools except those that you can steal when my wife is not using them. I guess we could scrape up a shovel and one of those insidious instruments commonly known as a hoe and a rake. If you want to bring any small items it might be a good idea.

There is no garage with the Birchview but the tenants have always kept their car under the overspreading branches of a large spruce tree that keeps it out of the sun. And you can use the one that goes with the cottage that we use most of the time as I am only there week ends and hardly ever use it anyway.

I hope that I have adequately covered the questions that you had in mind. And I feel sure that you need not worry about being short of anything as we have most anything around that you need, having been there as you know for a good many years.

You perhaps will be interested to know that one of the cottages will be occupied by Prof Ralph Beebe who is head of the chemistry department at Amherst college and that this is his third summer. Another coming for the

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third summer is Prof Bailey Brown who is head of the mathematics department at Amherst. Another is occupied by a New York lawyer--this will be his 21st year, your nearest neighbor will be an exceptionally nice family whose head is a lawyer in Worcester Mass. I feel sure that you will find everyone delightful and interesting company if you wish to mingle. If you prefer solitude you can have that also as the cottages are far enough apart so that no one treads on anyone else's toes.

I of course am prejudiced and I should take what I say with a grain of salt-- but I think a very small grain will be all that you will need--when I say that I honestly believe that we have one of the most beautiful locations on the whole Maine coast. You are absolutely by yourself if you wish to be and yet you are near enough to stores of all kinds that have everything you could possibly need.

I do not know your tendencies about a row boat but would strongly recommend that you reserve one. The bay is calm and beautiful most of the time and there are fish to be had with a very little effort. Flounders, cunners, rock cod, mackerel, pollock etc. There are lovely picnic spots nearby and the woods have deer and moose that are frequently seen. I know that some are timid about using a rowboat but there is no cause for fear whatever where we are. I furnish the oars and a mooring and everything. The boat is in the water waiting for you when you arrive and I will attend to taking it out after you leave and you will miss a lot of fun if you do not have one as everyone there uses one a lot and it is not uncommon to see several fishing parties floating around at one time within sight of the cottage.

The rental as you know for the cottage is \$250. One half should be sent with your reservation and the balance is payable upon your arrival. The boat is \$35 for the season and one half of this should be included at the same time you



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reserve the cottage. In other words

cottage \$250. With reservation 125.00, balance upon arrival 125.00  
cottage and boat 285--with reservation 142.50 balance on arrival 142.50

This is a rather drawn out letter that has rambladed aimlessly along but I have tried to give you a picture of things and to express also my hope that you will decide to come as I know you will be delighted and I for my part seem to have an affinity for college professors that seems to be increasing with the years in reverse proportion to the excruciating hatred that I held for pedagogues of all descriptions in my younger days.

If there is anything else that I can tell you about donot hesitate to write me and if not I suggest that you send me your reservation check by return mail as I would not be able to hold open for you after the 15th of Feb. Because of the terrible fires in the Bar Harbor and Kennebunk region last fall there appears to be an unusually acute shortage of cottages and I am getting several inquiries a week even at this early date and have most everything signed up already.

With best regards

*Everett O Flood*