

25rd December, 1947.

WMC/PEB/4731.  
D.5477.

Dear Miss Knowlman,

I was interested to have your letter of the 21st December and note that as you are applying for a Horticultural position in Canada you are desirous of having a certificate stating that you have worked at Kew for several months.

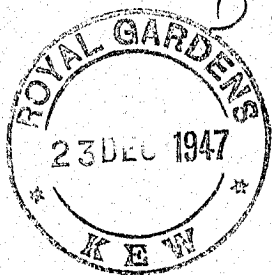
This I now enclose and hope that it will further your application for the post in question.

With kind seasonal greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Curator.

Miss B. Knowlman,  
The Bungalow,  
Halt House,  
Nr. Saltash,  
Cornwall.



The Bungalow,  
Hatt House,  
Nr Saltash,  
Cornwall,  
21 December.

Dear Sir,

I am applying for a horticultural job in Canada and would be very grateful if you could supply a document, in duplicate, stating that I worked in various departments of the Gardens from January 1<sup>st</sup> 1945 — September 14<sup>th</sup> 1945. A short testimonial would also be very helpful.

Yours truly,

(Miss) B. Knowlman.

25rd December, 1947.

WMC/PEB/4732.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that Miss B. Knowlman was employed in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, from the 1st January 1945 until she left of her own accord on the 12th October 1945.

During her period of service Miss Knowlman proved to be interested in her work, and gave every evidence of having had a fairly good knowledge of plant maintenance. She will, I think, render satisfaction to any employer who decided to make use of her services.

Curator.

16th December, 1944.

WMC/DMD/3076

Dear Madam,

In reply to your letter, I would say that it will be quite in order for you to commence duties here on January 1st.

Would you therefore kindly report at this office at 9.a.m. on that day.

Yours faithfully,

Curator.

Miss B. Knowlman,  
161, Nether Street,  
N.Finchley,  
N.12.

161 Nether Street,  
N. Finchley,  
N. 12.

Dear Sir,

I have just received  
the following note from the  
labours Exchange in Finchley,  
and would like to begin work  
in the Gardens on January 1<sup>st</sup>  
as you suggested.

I hope this will be convenient,

Yours Truly,

(Miss) B. Knowlman.

6, Hill End Lane,  
St. Albans,  
Herts.  
6 December 1944.

W. Campbell Esq.,  
Curator,  
Royal Botanic Garden,  
Kew,  
Surrey,

Dear Sir,

I have been to the Labour Exchange to gain permission to come as a Woman Gardener at Kew. They got in touch with the Richmond branch, but I have to wait eight days because the Ministry of Agriculture could not be sure whether more staff should be employed at Kew. They are taking up my case and I will write immediately any news comes here.

Yours truly,

(Miss) B. Knodman.

27th November, 1944.

WMC/DMD/2928

Dear Madam,

Further to your interview at this office on Saturday morning last, I write to inform you that we will be pleased to offer you a position as Woman Gardener in the glasshouses providing that you can get your release from your present position.

The experience you have gained and the fact that you intend taking up horticulture as a profession will allow of our finding you work which will be particularly on Food Production but with the remaining hours devoted to the maintenance of the glasshouse collections.

I would therefore suggest that you communicate with the Manager of the local Labour Exchange and inform him of our offer and I hope that they will agree to your release to take up your duties no later than the 1st January.

Yours faithfully,

Curator.

Miss B. Knowlman,  
6, Hill End Lane,  
St. Albans,

Herts.

6, Hill End Lane,  
St Albans.

24 November 1944.

WHC/DHD/2882

D. 2108

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter Saturday  
morning will be quite convenient and  
I will be at Kew Gardens by 11 AM.

Yours faithfully,

B. Knowlman (Miss)

2 1/2 hrs Experience

most interesting



22nd November, 1944.

216/0 P/2382  
D. 2106

Dear Madam,

With reference to your application to come to Lew, it would, I think be advisable if you could call at this office for an interview fairly soon.

Saturday morning is the best from my point of view, and so if you could come on Saturday morning next at 11 a.m. this would be very convenient.

Yours faithfully,

Gunter.

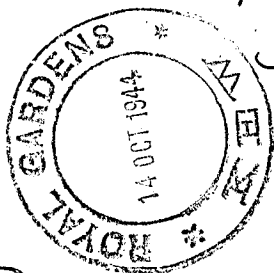
Miss R. Knowlman,  
Institute of Agriculture,  
Oaklands,  
St. Albans, Herts.

D2108 (Application to C)  
11-10-44

Hornedepath,

St Albans.

13<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1944.



Dear Professor Salsbery,

A very charming young woman, called Betty Knowlman is, I believe writing to you about the possibility of a job as a pupil-gardener at Kew. I don't know a great deal about her, or even if you want anyone in that capacity,

but she struck me as  
good & keen & she has  
a passion for learning  
Botany, particularly  
Ecology. She has had  
a good secondary  
education, minus  
Biology, but with a  
grounding (in VI Form)  
of Chemistry & Physics  
which I gather she  
had not find difficult  
she has trained at Caklands  
& is now back there as

the Ministry of Labour disallowed her application to train at Reading, although she was accepted & all preliminaries concluded for her to go there.

I do think she is one of the unfortunates caught up in the coils of the war machine but I also think she is good & promising.

I enclose a letter  
giving the views of  
the Chief Specialist  
in Horticulture <sup>at Oakland,</sup> who  
I know well. He is a  
Yorkshire man & not  
given to eulogizing.  
Of course if you do  
want a pupil-gardener  
& you consider his knowledge  
you will want McHunter-  
Smith, the Principal of  
Oakland's views, but  
she is ~~now~~ in McHodson's

department she would  
know her work.

I imagine she might  
be very useful & quite  
definitely, is experience  
she wants, — not need,  
a job. I gather she  
her people are quite  
willing for her to train  
thoroughly so soon as  
the opportunity occurs.

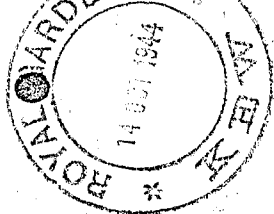
Of course it's all  
all this if you don't find

it useful. —

In great haste,

Yours ever,

Eileen.



13 East Drive  
Oaklands

St Albans

Dear Miss Gibbs.

12 Oct 44

Please excuse me not answering your letter before but I have been busy at the St Albans Flower Show this week

Miss Knowlman is the girl you referred to in your letter & it was the ramble on Dunstable Downs last June which she attended with the H.N.H.S. She thoroughly enjoyed that day & is really quite keen, and often goes to Hen. The year she was a student at Oaklands she was the best of those attending, & I have thought it rather a waste of time for her to continue as she is doing at present. If she could get in at Hen there would be more scope & opportunities for her to spend in whatever line she decided to take up.



She has a likeable personality & is very enthusiastic about her work being industrious & resourceful, and would I am sure make the best use of such opportunities as came her way.

If I can answer any more queries about her I shall be glad to do so.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Hy. A. Hudson

450

11th October, 1944.

WMC/DMD/2486  
D.2108

Dear Madam,

In reply to your letter of the 8th October, I regret that at the present time we have no vacancies suitable for a person with your rather limited experience.

I can only suggest therefore that you continue in your present position, or failing that, try and get work at Wisley or any of the really good class nurseries.

Yours faithfully,

Curator.

Miss B. Knowlman,  
The Hertfordshire Institute,  
of Agriculture,  
Oaklands,  
St. Albans, Herts.

The Hertfordshire Institute  
of agriculture,  
Oaklands,  
St Albans,  
Herts.

D 2108

8 October 1944.

450

Dear Sir,

I am very keen to work at  
Kew if there is a vacancy. I am  
female, aged 20, and trained at  
Oaklands for eight months doing  
practical gardening and attending  
lectures there, also passing the R.H.S.  
general senior examination.

Reading accepted me for a two-year  
course in Horticulture in September,  
1943, but Mr. Berin interferred just  
as I was going into residence, on  
account of the age limit.

Then I worked for three months  
with Messrs Maxwell and Beale,  
the Peatier specialists in Dorset.

Oaklands accepted me back on  
the staff last December where I am

working in the gardens among  
Dutch light and field vegetable cultivation  
and a fruit orchard.

at Talbot Heath school, Bournemouth  
I gained school Certificate, but only  
took Physics and Chemistry when in  
the VI<sup>th</sup> forms, and I have no formal  
knowledge of botany other than from  
private reading and practical  
experience.

Ecology is my interest and I am  
anxious to work where I can  
study plants whose ecology is  
being investigated.

at present I am studying  
botany when possible.

I remain

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) B. Knowlman.