

Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) 1947-1949  
Mar. 1949

ada

*Handwritten signature*

January 4, 1947  
Everyone would pay for lunch  
and would be paid by the  
state and federal government.

Dear Helen:

ALICE BRIDGES

Hick gave me your memorandum and I was terribly sorry you did not get to the meeting in Washington so I could talk to you. Your secretary told me you were put down in Kansas City and that you developed a case of poison oak. Poor dear, I am sorry for you.

We came out of the meeting with a progressive organization calling itself Americans United for Democratic Action, and I think it will be a vital and growing organization.

I have been over the memo which you sent me and if it were to be undertaken by the Women's Division of the Democratic National Committee, and pushed by them as a state committee job everywhere throughout the country, I think it would be a very good plan but as a separate thing outside of the regular organization, I think it only means an extra piece of machinery which will be costly and take a great deal of time and I doubt whether you can get the women sufficiently interested. We will need most of them in this new organization, I think, and I believe a plan like yours for men and women might be useful.

I suggested that Congress would find it valuable if the progressive Congressmen in both houses could get together once a month, hold meetings among themselves and discuss their actions and strategy and educate each other on the different things which as a group, they can back. Further as a group they could hold a meeting every once or twice a month to which they could invite the National Committee people, prominent individuals and have a luncheon-forum on the progressive programs in Congress, situations to be canvassed, and people told exactly what they should do in their communities to uphold progressive programs. That would seem to accomplish what you have in mind and be more vital. Expenses for national and

state people would be paid by their organiza-  
tions. Individuals would pay their own and  
everyone would pay for lunch.

Affectionately,

Dear Helen:

How glad I am to hear from you and I was terribly  
sorry you did not get to the meeting in Wash-  
ington as I could talk to you. Your secretary  
told me you were put down in Kansas City and  
that you developed a case of polio in the  
back, I am sorry for you.

We came out of the meeting with a progressive  
organization calling itself American United  
for Democratic Action, and I think it will be  
a vital and growing organization.

I have been over the memo which you sent me  
and it is very good. It was written by the Women's  
Division of the Democratic National Committee  
and passed by them as a state committee job  
everywhere throughout the country. I think it  
would be a very good plan but as a separate  
thing outside of the regular organization.  
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W.D.

Recd.

I will write Mr  
Johnson, as soon as I  
have time.

I thought your  
announcement was rather  
bold as I am not  
attacking Mr Wallace nor  
other progressives

**CLAIM OF SERVICE**  
 This is a delivery Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol shown in preceding this address.

# WESTERN UNION

103

*del*

SYMBOLS	
DL	Day Letter
NL	Night Letter
DL	Deferred Cable
NL	Deferred Cable
DL	Cable Night Letter
NL	Cable Day Letter

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MRS ROOSEVELT'S COLUMN TODAY PRACTICALLY KILLS ANY CHANCE OF LOCAL ADA AFFILIATIONS NOW OR IN THE FUTURE AS IT COMPLETELY JUSTIFIES OPPOSITION ARGUMENT THAT THERE IS NO REAL DIVISION AND ULTIMATE UNITY IS POSSIBLE AND DESIRABLE WE ARE AT A LOSS TO UNDERSTAND IT AND FRANKLY VERY DISILLUSIONED GOOD LUCK=

ELLA AND MORSE JOHNSON

*Secret*

LEON HENDERSON  
WILLY WYATT  
CLYDE JOHNSON  
JAMES LOEB, JR.  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

## AMERICANS for DEMOCRATIC ACTION

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

819 13TH STREET, N. W. • WASHINGTON 5, D. C. • DISTRICT 3807

CHARLES G. BOLTE  
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DAVID DUBINSKY  
GEORGE EDWARDS  
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RT. REV. WILLIAM SCARLETT  
WALTER WHITE  
SAMUEL WOLCHOK  
WILLARD S. TOWNSEND

Washington 27, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
29 Washington Square, West  
New York 11, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I thought I should send you the enclosed wire which we just received from Cincinnati. Let me give you the background of the wire.

Mrs. Johnson was named on the Organizing Committee, you will recall, at the suggestion of Leon Henderson. She and her son, Morse, were both at the January 4th Conference and are both solidly with us. However

they have real troubles in their local organization which is called the Progressive Citizens of Cincinnati. The Wallace editorial threw them into complete confusion. They consulted with Mr. Hugo Ernst, President of the Restaurant Workers which is located in Cincinnati. He suggested that Mrs. Johnson call me and I tried to clarify the situation as best as I could.

All of us read your column carefully and were greatly pleased. We felt that you had expressed your point of view carefully and diplomatically, but very clearly. However, this reaction from Cincinnati indicates that it was not as clear to everyone.

If you have any free moment in your correspondence, it would be very helpful if you could drop a line to Mrs. Clyde Johnson, 1747 East McMillan Street, Cincinnati 6, Ohio, stating your support of ADA once more. Mrs. Johnson is doing a good job in the face of a very difficult situation and I know a direct word from you would be of real help.

Most respectfully yours,

*Jim Loeb*  
James Loeb, Jr.  
Secretary-Treasurer

JL/bg

*I'll see I thought  
his communication but had  
I am not speaking Wallace or  
other Progressives*