January 16, 1947

My dear Mrs. Bush:

Americans United for Democratic Action is really a group to stimulate progressive action in the Democratic Party, and I have asked Mr. James Loeb, the secretary to send you as soon as the organizing committee has formulated its principles and plans, full information on the projects which they are going to undertake.

A group of twenty-five was named to work on formulating these projects.

At the same time it was suggested to the few remaining progressives in Congress that they get together and start some kind of educational plan for the benefit of all of us working in the state and local party organizations. We should feel that our people have a plan for promoting legislation, and for opposing certain legislation and we should be able to get information from this group and carry it back to our communities.

Mr. Henry Wallace is a fine person and I believe in his complete integrity, but I have been a little troubled by the fact that he hasn't always gone to the root of questions and got the fact completely straight. That is probably the fault of some of the younger people whom he has had around him, and I hope that they have had a lesson.

The New Republic does not reach a very large audience, but it was originally designed to reach leaders and perhaps that is the way in which Mr. Wallace can make his greatest contribution.

Very sincerely yours,
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

In yesterday's Buffalo "Express", I read your account of the progressive organization called "Americans United for Democratic Action." It sounded like rock-bottom material to me and that's what our Wyoming Democratic Organization needs, for a foundation if I, myself, can continue to allow myself to be its leader.

It has seemed as though the main reason for being a Democrat were no longer in evidence—that the main object of the organization was merely to fight tooth and nail to get a Democrat into some office. If we have food or play cards we can get a group together, but, only a few really want to hear about or work for objectives that will benefit all classes of people. I am tired to death of the uselessness of such meetings. The day is done and what have you?

Life should not be a struggle, a mere to wear one's Bray through until released by death. It should be a challenge to be eagerly sought after.
and me. And the only way it can be that way for all people is for each human being to recognize the Christ in his fellowman and to work on that level.

To me, Mrs. Roosevelt, you are wonderful in your level-headed way of fearlessly looking ahead to days when all people can live and will live for the benefit of one another. I admire your determination to get concrete results by putting progressive principles into action for the sake of all people.

A week from tomorrow we are calling a meeting of the Democratic Women here in Attica and would like to have a letter from you regarding the program planned for the education of the groups calling themselves “Americans United for Democratic Action” so I can read it at that time.

May I ask what your opinion is of Henry Wallace as a promoter of progressive ideas? Do you not think he has made an excellent move in taking over the editorship of “The New Republic,”—thinks freeing himself from the influence of a controlled press?

Most sincerely,

Adare Mrs. Earl Bush
Attica
New York
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Dutchess County
New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

as the wife of one America's greatest
president, and one of the greatest and
respected women in America, I would
be very pleased and honored if you would
send me your autograph, or if possible,
an autographed picture.

Respectfully yours,
Eugene Bustard
Box 13
Elon College
North Carolina
Springfield, Ill.
April 27, 47

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt:
Hyde Park, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Last summer my son Charles
Buston wrote me of his trip to Hyde
Park with the group of farmers.
He later sent me 2 splendid pictures
one taken with you and one with
Little Lake. I prize them more
than any of my pictures. I am
enclosing a copy of V. Y. Dubmann
Column written at that time. The
afternoon "Register" had a very good
copy of the one taken with you
at the same time.

We are so happy that you
are coming to MacMurry College
to speak. I shall look forward
so hearing you and hope that
Buster
I would love the pleasure of meeting you.
We remain such ardent admirers of President Roosevelt and we feel very deeply that much of his wonderful work was due in a large measure to your keen and understanding.

Sincerely and Cordially,

Edith A. Butler

1003 20th St.
Springfield, Ill.
LIGHTER VEIN
By V. Y. DALLMAN, (Admiral)

LOG OF FLAGSHIP SMILES

Pretty Drama With This City
As Setting Brought To Mind
By A. P. Flash About "Fala!"

DOG-FANCYERS—and they are as nu-
omous as flies—will enjoy the AP flash
-going the rounds today
about the famous White
House Scottie, "Fala," a
close companion of the
late President Franklin
D. Roosevelt, and now
the traveling companion
of Mrs. Roosevelt.
According to the flash,
"Fala" was denied admis-
sion to a Roald in
Maine sometime ago, but
they're rolling out the
red carpet for Mrs. Scottie
and Mrs. Eleanor Roose-
velt at the DeWitt Clinton Hotel in
Albany, N.Y.

John J. Hyland, manager of the latter
hotel, says that the famous lady and her
much publicized dog plan to check in next
Tuesday for the New York Democratic
State Convention at which Mrs. Roosevelt is to be
the keynote.

Mr. Hyland says: "Fala is
an old friend of ours. He will be more than
welcome, and we will even lay on a special
supply of dog biscuits."

... *

AND THEREBY hangs a tale of great
interest concerning "Fala." Not long ago
Charles Butler, talented son of Mrs. Edith
Butler of Springfield, was a guest with other
members of the dramatic group, The Van
Wycke Players, of Mrs. Roosevelt at her
Hyde Park home.

Mrs. Roosevelt had attended one of the
plays in which Charles Butler was starring
at Fiskhill near Poughkeepsie. She was so
fascinated that she invited the entire group
to be her house guests. While there, Charles
Butler took a great shine to "Fala." They
were photographed together as shown in
this picture made for this Column at Hyde
Park. *

THE VAN WYCKE PLAYERS close their
all-summer engagement tomorrow night
when Charles Butler will return to New
York. All of which recalls a local drama
more remarkable than any ever staged by
the Van Wycke Players. Starring in it were
the parents of Charles Butler.

The scene was laid in this city in 1909
when Billy Sunday was conducting a six-
weeks' revival here and when hundreds of
converts hit the sawdust trail in the big
Tent for the Northwest owner of First and
Adams Streets.

During the year prior to that, Charles
Butler, Sr., the famous baritone with the
Billy Sunday party, had come to Springfield
to sing at the old Leland Hotel at a banquet
sponsored by the Ministerial Association. The
then Miss Edith Anderson was studying for
grand opera in Chicago and was also en-
gaged to sing at this ministerial banquet.
As the voices of the two star vocalists were
blended in harmony at that banquet, it
later their lives were united in matrimony.
And Mr. and Mrs. Butler sang together at the
successful Billy Sunday revivals, during
which the wedding took place in a colorful
ceremony performed by Rev. F. W. Burn-
ham at the First Christian Church.

As a footnote, may I also remind my
readers that the elder Charles Butler was
internationally famous. He had traveled
as a singer through Europe with the Rev.
R. A. Torrey. Mrs. Butler's father, the late
Edward A. Anderson, was connected with
the Springfield school system for 56 years.
Charles Butler, Jr., was born in Springfield.
He is a graduate of the Springfield High
School, saw service overseas during World
War II and is another star in the galaxy
of talent which this community has sent
into far-flung fields.