de Mares, Marie
1946-52

101 West 55th Street
New York City 19
The Jane

January 15th 1947

Dearest Mrs Roosevelt,

Your lovely foreword came this morning and makes this a very happy day for me! Jeanne is just back from the luncheon & tells me how moved everyone was by your beautiful speech – a few words that carried so far! and by the thrilling Ilolocovic report. Oh! how much we all need to work and pray and spread the true words, that peace may come at last and full understanding follow!

How much you stand

for all that is great and truly American, we – and fortunately many – know to-day, and the generations to come will bless you in their hearts for it....

I am at work on the book, and with the help of Mrs Hayden who comes to me evenings to take dictation, I hope to get the last chapters in shape before long. There will come a little more revision and then, I hope I may yet see it personally in the hands of a publisher... if not, my children will have to attend to it – but I am of an optimistic nature!

Thank you again from my heart, dear Mrs Roosevelt,

Devotedly yours
Marie de Mare

101 West 55th Street
New York City

January 1st 1947

Dearest Mrs Roosevelt,

While you are always very much in our thoughts these days that seem particularly family days make us feel more vividly still how sad for you is the empty chair. We all feel the material absence keenly & I can easily realize what it means

to you and your remark-
able children. I say "ma-
terial absence" for his
spiritual presence, thank
Heaven, is still with us
all, with the whole
country he served so well
and the whole world
he tried to make "a better
world"....

How often we long for
his leadership — and how
thankful we are that
you are here to carry the
torch and remind those
who might forget, or
grow weak, that the

light must continue to shine if America is to fulfill her destiny of world freedom and duty...

I spent most of the night reading Miss Perkins' "The Roosevelt I Knew" and re-lived with her, with you, those marvelous years that must remain a miracle — the greatest constructive era in the face of almost inevitable annihilation... We are privileged indeed who could watch closely the miracle accomplished —

and in my own year and
a half of black anguish on
account of my darling
Agnes, I have always
felt that her closeness
to you, the superb influence
you had for years on her
truly lovely nature have
helped to save her and
give her back to her children.
The two very lively darling
boys are still with us,
having worn my sister
and me to a frazzle! (My
little room is their dormitory
and Jeanne's their playroom)
and now Agnes is staying

here too (sleeping on the rather narrow sofa in the living room) to take charge of them during the day since we cannot do it anymore & it is impossible to obtain help we could afford. That of course, stops Agnes' work at Polyclinic Hospital & we are all looking for a little place where she can have the children to herself and manage on the very slim support Fred gives for the children... so far it has seemed impossible, but we still hope! Here it is definitely too crowded to be healthy and does not give her the

freedom she craves...

Next week I shall start working again with Mrs Hayes Lou who can give me a few evening hours, so that I can dictate them whatever I shall have prepared during the day. It was impossible while the children required all our strength and time but I feel strongly the urgency of finishing the book now, and as it is never really out of my mind, it may be that this apparently idle period still has allowed some growth... At least I hope so!

All our love, dearest Mrs Roosevelt, and may the year 1947

bring to you much comfort and the fruition of most of your magnificent work. Happy New Year to you and yours, from us all

Admiringly and affectionately yours always

Maria de Mar