[F.D.R.]
[Organizations and Institutions]
1945-52
November 12, 1945

My dear Mr. Forem:

I have your letter of October 22nd and I wonder if you could not ask me by letter what questions you have in mind as my time is very crowded just now.

My husband meant the Jewish people no harm. He dreaded war between them and the more numerous Arabs and hoped a more amicable agreement could be reached. He felt that he had not succeeded with Ibn Saud.

Very sincerely yours,

Editor, Americana
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Since the exchange of letters and their contents between President Roosevelt and King Ibn Saud were made public there has been a depressed feeling amongst Jews throughout this country. Some extremists, and we have them too, even say that the President has, in a way, betrayed them (for they loved and trusted him so much). There have also been a few articles in the Yiddish press expressing this general sentiment.

I, of course, think it utter nonsense. President Roosevelt was the humanitarian he was and meant to do us no harm. But the after-taste of all this late development is pretty bad.

I am preparing an answer to those of my brethren who think that the President meant to do them injustice. But I should like to see you first, if it is at all possible. This misunderstanding must be eradicated.

I shall be happy to see you at your New York home at any convenient time to you.

very respectfully yours,

L. Forem

P.S. As you will recall, I am the author of a biography of the President in Yiddish.