ES-ET

Esther:

My husband shaved once every day & always shaved himself & using a soap stick & a Safety razor although at times he used a straight razor.

While he was in the N. H. one of the household staff cut his hair with every good

...ish for your success
Dam

New York, N.Y.
June 26th, 1947

The Secretariat
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park, N.Y.

Dear Madam:

A temporarily incapacitated ex-GI up from West Virginia, a former newspaperman taking a fling at free lance writing, I have a second assignment to do an article on the history of shaving for a well known monthly magazine. This I would like to color with the shaving habits of famed and beloved personalities.

It may be brash of me to ask, but I would like ever so much to have some small information on the shaving habits of our late, great President. If Mrs. Roosevelt can be approached and will entrust the information to one who will treat it with respect and propriety, I would ever so much appreciate an answer to the following questions:

a) How often did President Roosevelt find it necessary to shave?

b) Did he shave himself, or was he valeted and by whom?

c) Did he use a mug, or creams?

d) Who was his regular barber? Was he shaved by him?

e) Did he use a straight, safety or electric razor?

If you consider any of these questions improper, or this request untoward, you may ignore any of them and all of this.

It just happens that I once met Mrs. Roosevelt, when Morris Harvey College at Charleston, W.Va., presented her with a statuette of "Mad Anne Bailey," the frontier heroine, which I made for her. She touched me as being gracious and kind then. I thought perhaps she might not mind your putting these questions to her some day when she is not too occupied.

Yours very sincerely,

William C. Estler

128 West 104th Street
New York 25, N.Y.

William C. Estler