Hopkins, Harry L.
and family 1945-52
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Thank you so much for your check. It was just wonderful. Mummy and Geoff gave me a victrola for my birthday when I went home last weekend and I got two new albums of records for it with your check. It was just wonderful of you.

I'm so happy about Mummy and Geoff getting married. They are so wonderful together and Geoff is one of the nicest persons I have ever known. I'm very pleased.

We have a new house now which I just love. It was in complete shambles when I left for school and now it is so divine I can't believe it.

Thank you again; love, Diana.
June 26, 1945

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

A friend of mine and I have started a dog club. We thought it would be nice to give a dog bowl to "Fala" with the names of all the honorary members on it. I thought...
you would be interested
in the letters we send
out.

I hope you have a nice
summer. I am going to camp
in Maine again.

Love,

Diana Hopkins

The dog will follow soon)
WASHINGTON, D.C.,
March 17th, 1945.

June 26, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

We are forming a Dog Club called the "DOG SPROUTS". To become a member you must pay between five and thirty-five cents. If you want your dog to become an honorary member the fee is 35¢ or over (you may pay as much as you wish). We are going to buy a dog bowl for "Fala" and the first twenty honorary members will get their dog's name written on the bowl.

The membership fee we collect and the money left over from "Fala's" dish is going to be given to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

If you want your dog to become a "DOG SPROUT", no member or honorary member, please send your money to 3340 N St., N.W.

Washington.

and you will receive a membership card.

Yours respectfully,

Diana Henning
and
Rue Hill

Fala's poster
Fala, an honorary member
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 19, 1945

Dear Fleanor:

The army has sent me a set of the pictures of the President's funeral and I know you will want to have them. They are being sent to you under separate cover.

I am feeling ever so much better each day.

As ever,

HARRY L. HOPKINS

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
New York
May 22, 1946

Dear Harry:

I am glad to have the photographs of Franklin's funeral and appreciate your sending them to me.

I am delighted to know that you are feeling better each and hope you are taking very good care of yourself.

The work here is endless and the mail still pours in, but with steady application we hope to see the light some day!

Affectionately,

Harry Hopkins
Dear Harry:

I could, of course, go to Russia in September if it is important that I go then and not wait until September.

However, when I do go I shall go as a correspondent for the United Feature Syndicate and use whatever transportation the other correspondents use. I would not want to use Averell's private plane.

Also, I would not want to do a lot of parties, etc., except of course, for calling on Marshal Stalin. I have not spoken to Mr. Carlin of the Syndicate about going in September, and I do not know that he would want me to go that soon and I also want to know first what you think of my going purely as a correspondent and not as Franklin's widow.

I heard about the Dubinsky offer and I am very pleased,

Very cordially yours,
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Personal and Confidential
June 26, 1945

Dear Eleanor:

I don't know whether you would consider going to the Soviet Union in September of this year, but if you could do it early in the fall I think it would be better than waiting until next May, altho, of course, that would be all right. Averell has a very good plane which he can bring from Paris to Russia which I am sure you could use with a first rate crew, and I have no doubt they would let you see everything you wanted to see everywhere in the country.

I am expecting Louise back from France today and she will have a great story to tell about her hospital experience.

Diana leaves for camp tomorrow.

I have not finally decided whether I am going to Berlin or not.

The Dubinsky union and the Women's Cloak and Suit Manufacturers have offered me the job of Impartial Chairman of the industry and I am thinking seriously of taking it and, if I do, I am anxious to get about six weeks' real vacation before I start. The job only requires a day or day and a half a week and this is just the kind of thing I am looking for.

Ever so cordially yours,

HARRY L. HOPKINS

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Val-Kill Cottages,
Duchess County,
Hyde Park, N.Y.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Personal

July 2, 1945

Dear Eleanor:

I would think it would be important that you do go as correspondent to Russia altho, of course, the Russian Government and the Russian people would receive you as the widow of the President and there is just no way out of that one.

It is quite possible that by the time you get ready to go you could fly directly across Germany as we did, hence would not have to go way around by Teheran. There will be no trouble whatever in September about transportation. The government now permits private transportation on the ATC. Averell's plane, incidentally, belongs to ATC and is, I suppose, used by them three-quarters of the time. The Russians have no really good planes to get you around Russia in, but that is a detail. The main thing is that I hope you decide to go.

Louie has heard rumors that you are going to be in Washington before too long. If you are, I hope I can see you then.

Ever so cordially yours,

HARRY L. HOPKINS

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Val-Kill Cottages,
Duchess County,
Hyde Park, N.Y.
MEMO FOR MR. HARRY HOPKINS
FROM: MRS. ROOSEVELT

SUBJECT: The Problem of Women Workers.

If great numbers of women are going to be used, undoubtedly many married women will be needed. This is going to have an effect on the way of life and on the homes in the United States, if we wish to have as little dislocation as possible, and we should plan ahead.

I suggest a meeting with the
Heads of the Unions
Dean Landis and Jonathan Daniels of OCB
Miss Mary Anderson - Labor Dept.
Mrs. Ellen Woodward
Mrs. Florence Kerr

I include all these people because they have had experience and will look at this problem of the future, with that background and with a knowledge of what are the techniques to be used.

I should judge that we would want to preserve as far as possible, because of the preference of our people:

1. A sense of home life and that centers very largely with us around eating in the home
2. We must preserve the health of our women as far as possible
3. For the sake of the home and efficient production, women must be as little tired as possible.

I see the possibility of chain restaurants, near plants; day nurseries; play schools, adjacent, and if possible, local schools attended by older children within walking distance, or the providing of transportation to both grade and high schools.

Mass buying will probably make it possible to serve food at a cost below that which the individual could buy it for. The whole feeding plan might be run as a cooperative thing so that people might feel that they owned these restaurants. These restaurants should serve breakfast and lunch, and have lunches packed where necessary which can be bought by workers and children. The evening meal could be packed in a container, ordered from a menu available in the morning and taken home by the family at the end of the working day in order to give the family one meal at home together.
On the day of rest or on any holiday, prepared or semi-prepared food should be available at the close of the day before and taken home, minimizing the work in the home as much as possible.

I think we should establish community laundries.

How much subsidy by the government would have to be granted to start these various things, including day nurseries and play schools, should be worked out. Eventually I think play schools and day nurseries should be included in the regular school systems in order that preparation for school life should be continuous from the earliest possible age.

As many methods as possible should be devised for selling to the people, this new mode of living and making the people aware of the possibility of more valuable home life with better education; less fatigue; better understanding of the training of children, and the type of family life that can be developed in leisure hours both through joint recreation and the sharing of necessary tasks.

This pattern may seem to be important only to the war effort, but it may be possible that we are going into a period where much more production will be sustained and many more women will be at work in many ways. I am not at all sure that everybody in the future may not have to justify themselves either by working with their heads or working with their hands.

None of what I have suggested, of course, takes into account the changes which may have to come in rural communities. These changes may come for a number of reasons - the increased need for food production; the need of young people over a period of years in the Services or some production occupation; the need of making farm life more attractive in order to keep the population on the farms which is really needed.

Unionization of farm labor with changed standards will bring changes.

There seems to me to be a dearth of women on the higher planning boards. I think this is vital to the consideration of the whole problem of American life in the future.

There is also the problem of proper legislation to cover the medical side of the whole picture, but specifically the period allowed before a child is born and afterwards, the salary which must be paid, the medical care which must be provided and a general health check up before a woman returns to work.
Many more suggestions will be made by other people during the discussion. This seems to me a possible skeleton for a beginning.
Personal and Confidential

Dear Eleanor:

I have your note and my thought is that I would write a personal note to Attlee, Molotov, Chiang Kai-shek and de Gaulle, letting Stettinius know what I am doing. The whole thing is a little touchy because I have a hunch that Stettinius has his heart set on San Francisco.

I should think that they would like to be away from a big city and develop a community of their own. Hyde Park would lend itself ideally for such a development because there is plenty of room for housing, to say nothing of the main buildings. I have no doubt but that our government would give them the Rogers estate. I rather think the headquarters will wind up somewhere in the United States. I think perhaps I had better let Stettinius know what I am doing first.

I cannot say that I am too happy about the way the atom bomb is being handled. In fact I think we are doing almost everything we can to break with Russia which seems so unnecessary to me.

The labor business seems to be developing in an inept fashion. The United States has world leadership in its hands but if we don't look out we are going to lose it very rapidly. I do hope that I will get a chance to talk with you about some of these things before too long.

I think I am getting on all right here but with all my hospital experience I have never quite been able to learn the mumbo jumbo of medical lingo.

I am glad that Franklin has gone with Poletti. I think he made just the right decision. I also hope he will not spread himself out too wide and will confine, for a few months at any rate, his communal activities to housing.

I have been greatly disturbed and still am about the Pearl Harbor investigation because I have a feeling that none of those people are looking after the President's interests.
I thought Leahy's testimony was pretty feeble. I am sure, in the long run, it will come out all right but you have got to remember that all of the witnesses are going to look after themselves.

As ever,

HARRY L. HOPKINS

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
342 Madison Avenue,
New York 17, NY.
Dear Harry:

Many thanks for your letter and for writing to the various gentlemen.

Could I come to see you on Saturday of this week, some time in the morning, or on Sunday between four and six?

Affectionately,
Ottawa
December 8
1945

Personal

My dear Harry:

Your letter of October 23rd, addressed to me at Ottawa, was received, unfortunately, at a time when I was still in England. It was forwarded to England, but I did not receive it until the moment of my departure, and from that hour to this I have had scarcely a moment for personal correspondence.

I appreciate deeply your kindness in allowing me to make a suggestion as to how monies invested in a Memorial Association for President Roosevelt could best be used to further the purpose of the Association.

I very strongly endorse your own idea that a way should be found of remembering the President in terms of American-Canadian relationships. Something which would serve to foster friendly relations between all nations, as the most effective means of averting war, would certainly be an expression of what the President had nearest to his heart. How this could best be effected I should like to think over very carefully. Perhaps you will let me write you again a little later on.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

(S) W.L. Mackenzie King

Harry L. Hopkins, Esq.,
1046 Fifth Avenue
New York 28, N.Y.
December 13, 1945

Personal

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Mr. Hopkins has asked me to send you, for your information, the enclosed copy of a letter he had from Prime Minister W.L. Mackenzie King.

Sincerely yours,

D.E. Krauss

encl.

Secretary to Mr. Harry L. Hopkins

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
342 Madison Avenue,
New York City