

SEG - SEIL

I am sorry I do not know how one could
obtain the training which the young lady
wants.

Segal, H.

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NEW CANAAN
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February 1, 1947

Miss H. R. Miller

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
29 Washington Square West
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have been asked to forward to you the enclosed letter which came to me from Germany sent by a close personal friend who is working with displaced persons in Heidelberg. When the young lady in question arrived here last fall I had occasion to meet her and talk to her at some length. She is very eager to study nursery school education as she had some experience with children, I believe, in France. Naturally, I am even more aware than Mr. Weil probably is of the number of such requests that must come to you and in which you cannot possibly take any personal interest. However, it seemed to me that it was not within my province to withhold the letter, and I am, therefore, enclosing it.

Mrs. Hull, Katharine Barnes, and the others of our New York State War Savings staff often speak of the many times when you extended your hospitality to us and spoke on our programs during the active period of our work.

With kindest personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

(Mrs. H. R.) Maria M. Miller

MM:HS
Enclosure

COMMERCIAL
NEW YORK

HEIDELBERG, GERMANY

January 24, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
New York City, USA

*request of Mrs. Segal has been done to
ask her to keep for her -*

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Though I realize the extent of the demands made upon your time, I take the liberty of directing this personal appeal to you at the urgent request of Mrs. Herman Segal now residing at Munich, Germany. She is one of the thousands of D P's whose brief and anonymous contact with you during your visit to the D P camp at Zelsheim near Frankfort inspired her with new faith in a better world.

Her request concerns itself with the possibility of your affording an opportunity for the further education of her only surviving child Anita Segal, a recent immigrant to the States, now residing with her uncle Philip Brand, 635 High St., Newark, N.J. This is an extremely intelligent, cultured and personable girl in her early twenties. During her employment as my secretary here, while awaiting emigration, she made unusual progress in her command of English. She is now earning her own living and going to night-school and has a burning desire to further her education in full time vocational training. Her ambition is worthy of support not only because of her natural aptitudes and dependable character but in response to a sense of poetic justice in recognition of the tremendous ordeal which she endured during the dark age of racial persecution in Poland and in that the strength, implicit in the fact of her own survival, was mainly derived from her dauntless purpose of rescuing both her parents.

With earnest expressions of esteem,

Sincerely yours,

Jesse Weil

(Signed) Jesse Weil

Jewish National Welfare Board
Representative in the ETC

Ch.B./J.W.

Alhambra, Calif.
March 16, 1947

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Beverly Wilshire Hotel
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Please pardon the liberty I am taking of addressing a great lady, and I feel that you are gracious enough to do so.

I am attaching a poem I was inspired to compose in memory of your husband on the day of his interment at Hyde Park. I have submitted this poem to numerous newspapers for the anniversary of his passing, but they all rejected it. I wanted to send it to you then, but did not know where to reach you. Today I read in the paper that you are in Los Angeles and will speak tomorrow evening at the Shrine Auditorium.

Attached is also another poem. There is a note at the bottom of its page.

I worked on Defense Housing Projects at Fort Dupont, Delaware; Pine Camp Army Reservation Defense Housing Project, Pine Camp, N. Y., and Bristol, Penna. Defense Housing Project. At Bristol I was secretary to Project Engineer Moore, who claimed he built the Library at Hyde Park. Later I worked in Cincinnati, Ohio, for the Procurement Division, Property Utilization Division. Before being assigned to the Defense Housing Projects, I was employed by the Home Owners' Loan Corp. in Cincinnati, Ohio, for four years.

I am now retired from business and am devoting my time to song lyric writing. At present I have two songs in the process of publication by Hollywood publishers; their titles are:

YOU PUT A NEW SONG IN MY HEART

OUR TWILIGHT REVERIE

Our Twilight Reverie was written while I was working on the Pine Camp Army Reservation Defense Housing

Seidel

Page 2

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt

March 15, 1947

Project.

Another one is still unpublished titled:

WHEN THE SUNSET TURNS THE OCEAN'S BLUE TO GOLD.

It was written in memory of our boys in the last world war.

In submitting these poems and this letter to you, it is not with the thought in mind that I expect any favors, but merely felt you might be interested in having the poem in memory of your husband. I would like to see it published in some paper or magazine on the anniversary of his passing next month.

Thank you for your kindness in reading this letter, and may the Father bless you in your work and keep you in His loving care.

Respectfully yours

Bertha A. Burger
Mrs. Bertha A. Burger
1216 So. Garfield Ave.

P. S. My pen name is Bertha Seidel and was my name while employed by our government.

Alhambra, Calif.
1216 So. Garfield Ave.
March 16, 1947

IN MEMORIUM

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

On this sad day, Oh, Heavenly Father,

Hear our prayers, we humbly pray;

Pilot the soul of our beloved leader

Home to Thee, make straight his way!

May the memory of his faith and courage

Lighten the burdens of those he sought to aid;

Let it shine in blazoned glory

And may it never fade.

He has piloted this nation

Over turbulent seas of strife;

In his desire for a new creation,

He unselfishly gave his life.

Now, we pray Thee, Heavenly Father,

Let the light shine on his way,

Take him to Thy home up yonder

There, at peace, with Thee always.

Bertha Seidel

Author

The inspiration to write this poem came while I was listening to Kate Smith's program between 7:30 and 8:00 P.M., Sunday, April 15, 1945, on the Mezzanine of the Hotel Seminole, Jacksonville, Florida, where I was then living. This poem has never been copyrighted or published.

Alhambra, Calif.
1216 So. Garfield Ave.
March 16, 1947

SWEETHEART OF OLD FORT DUPONT

She's the sweetheart of Old Fort Dupont
As she trips along the way,
To the Fort every morning
While she greets the new-born day.
With a smile the M. P.'s greet her
As she passes through the gates,
She's the sweetheart and the darling
Of Old Fort Dupont, U. S. A.

Bertha Seidel

Author

This poem was written while I was working in the Quartermaster's Office of Fort Dupont, Delaware, while I was employed as Secretary-Stenographer on the Fort Dupont, Delaware, Defense Housing Project, in 1941.

I can set this poem to music and would like to dedicate it to Fort Dupont and send it to the Commanding Officer. Can you tell me who can give me his name? I would appreciate having it. Thank you.

This poem was published in "THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA - 1941 EDITION", poetry anthology, by Avon House, New York City.