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Theo A. Strandness
3925 Hammersley Road
Madison, Wis.

January 19th, 1947

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Hyde Park, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

I hope that I have your address correct. I have been reading with great interest the story now running in Liberty Magazine, about the last half of your husband's life. I heard Dorothy Canfield say once that the last half of a person's life is built on the first half. Franklin must have built a wonderful foundation, to have been able to pull himself back from a living death to become a great world leader. I consider it the story of the century.

This past summer I had published in the Capital Times here, a poem entitled I'VE SEEN THAT MAN. In the middle of it I had this stanza:

I've seen the spirit of Him in the work of The Red Cross,
In the lives of leper nurses, who count not gain or loss;
In the life of Herbert Hoover and of Franklin Roosevelt,
Who sacrificed his own good comfort for the duty that he felt.

This idea about Franklin is verified by the way in which he gave in to Al Smith's urging to accept the nomination for the governorship of New York.

I am a great believer in the guiding hand of Providence, and I believe that Providence was working in your husband's life, preparing him for his great role. The story of Eleanor runs like a silver thread thru this remarkable story. Providence was using you, also, to carry out His plan.

In the last stanza of that poem I said:

I see Him in His Golden Rule, which He said included all
The rule that this world needs, which again seems riding for a fall;
But I have a hunch that Providence has taken things in hand
By giving us the atomic bomb, which on anyone can land.

Years ago they said that when the big meat companies saw that it paid better to co-operate, they quit fighting among themselves; let us hope that the nations of the world have learned this lesson, and that they have come to realize that modern war is "too hot to handle".

Most Sincerely yours,

Theo. A. Strandness

Campobello Island
New Brunswick, Canada
August 3, 1947

My dear Mr. Startford:

Your letter of July 11th, has just reached me, and I am very much interested that your Council wishes to name the new community church in honor of Mr. Churchill and my husband.

You do not need my permission to dedicate your church to my husband's memory and my children and I deeply appreciate this tribute.

With every good wish, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Church of England Parish of Groveley *Stratford*

In which is incorporated: St. Matthew's, Groveley. St. Mary's, Alderley. St. Paul's, Samford

People's Warden :
T. D. Turner-Jones
Samford Road, Enoggera.

July 11, 1947.

Rector's Warden :
H. Somerville
Samford Road, Alderley.

Secretary :
D. G. Stratford
Harding Street, Enoggera.
Brisbane, Q'ld.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
White House,
WASHINGTON, D.C.
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Dear Madam,

At a meeting of the Parochial Council, Groveley Parish Church of England, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, on the 9th inst. it was unanimously resolved that "In appreciation of the magnificent self sacrificing services performed throughout the recent Great War to humanity by Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Gt. Britain and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt that the new community church centre at Enoggera be inaugurated and dedicated to the abovenamed great architects of the Pacific Charter."

The Enoggera District is the centre of Queensland's Military activities and was the training ground for the Anzacs of the 1914-18 War and the heroes of the recent World War. It too was the centre of a portion of the U.S.A. Signal Corps and the main Military camp where many American troops did their practise on the Rifle Range.

St. Matthew's, Groveley, the Mother Church of the Parish is the oldest Church in the Brisbane Diocese and in September next celebrates its 80th Anniversary.

We respectively approach you for the purpose of securing your consent to allow us to dedicate our Church Community scheme to your late husband and his most esteemed colleague, Mr. Winston Churchill.

For your benefit we desire to mention that this community scheme includes the building of a new Church, new Parish Hall, Rectory, Tennis Courts and other Recreational facilities for the young manhood and womanhood of Queensland. The grounds are already purchased and situated in a central position in the Enoggera district on a commanding hill side within four miles of the Brisbane Town Hall.

Stratford

Send to Enoggera in appropriate

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.

July 11, 1947.

It is the intention of the Parochial Council of the Grovely Parish to make this Community centre an international memorial area and by that is meant that the birthday of your late husband and his colleague will always be honoured and that national services will be held on Empire Day and Thanksgiving Day in addition to the regular church services. It is hoped that it will forever symbolise the comradeship of the ideals and aspirations for which Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt stood.

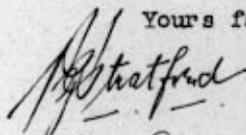
We are not seeking a donation from you but merely asking you to grant us your permission to honour forever the names of the two of the greatest men of our time.

Immediately your consent is given we will instruct the Diocesan Architects to finalise the plans (a copy of which will then be forwarded to you) and a formal request will be sent to the Diocesan Council for the Archbishop's formal consent in Council and blessing.

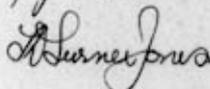
Awaiting the favour of an early affirmative reply when the Parochial Council will rise as one man and say "This is our finest hour".

For and on behalf of the Wardens and the Parochial Council we are,

Yours faithfully,



Hon. Secretary.



Peoples' Warden.

P.S. Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill has been communicated with in a similar strain by same air mail.



Beno Strauss
295 Fort Wasington Ave.
New-York 32.N.Y.

February, // 1947.



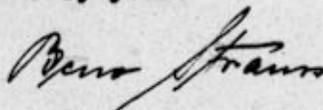
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Permit me here to present to you, as a sign of my deep respect for our late President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, your beloved Husband, this poem dedicated to his memory.

Doubtful only, as to whether or not I would be vindicated in making any further use of the same - by submitting it for evtl. publication - I should like to have your kind advise and suggestions first.

This my modest attempt, to depict our admirable late President at his Hyde Park Home, will certainly best be judged by you, dear Mrs. Roosevelt, as his lifelong companion.

Sincerely yours



Enclosed: Poem

Beno Strauss
297 Fort Washington Ave.
New - York City 32.

February 1947.

Dedicated to the Memory
of our late President:
Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

REMINISCE

How much we miss you here,
At this Nation's revered Shrine,
This, your beloved Home. --
How well we can picture thee still,
Our Peoples illustrious son -
This Countries sagacious gentleman: -

'In the falling shadows of the dimming light
Seated quietly near your fireside;
Gazing at the flaming, licking tongues,
Listening to their crackling soothing songs.
Warming your thoughts - reflecting -
Perhaps a great speech perfecting.
Or, meditating a day's hopeful progress
Confronted with difficult deeds,
Pondering the actions for future needs
To build a United Nations Congress.

over

Or, waiting for nothing particular now,
Safe for a nights wellearned sleep.
Looking down on Fala, your faithful dog
Beside you - relaxing and motionless,
Exept for her casual wistful look
At her Masters serene recess.

How much we miss you, dearest friend
This Nations beloved President.
Thanks your great efforts unceasing toil
We kept the enemies of our sacred soil;
Rejaiced in victory and in redress,
United for Liberty and Progress.
How much we miss you -- !



HELEN STRAUSS City Pl.
5 Tudor City
APT 1379 N.Y.

Hoping you are feeling much better

Helen L. Strauss
Just one of your
savage admirers

HELEN STRAUSS - Pl.
5 Tudor City
APT 137B.1