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FOLDER # 4

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Terrell Law School

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C.

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE FELIX FRANKFURTER

W. H. H.
October 29, 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

This is the result of my inquiry into the opportunities open to Negroes for legal education in the District of Columbia.

The Law School of Howard University is an admirable institution. It has high standards and an able faculty and a good student body. But, unfortunately, it has only day sessions. The only law school in the Washington area open to Negroes at night is the Robert H. Terrell Law School to which you made reference in your letter last August.

Only graduates of schools accredited by the American Bar Association are eligible for admission to the bar in the District. A rule like that is rather common throughout the country. Unfortunately, the Terrell School is not yet so accredited, because it does not fit the minimum requirements for such a law school. The difficulty is that an accredited law school calls for a library of at least ten thousand volume, a full-time librarian, and three full-time instructors. While Terrell has the necessary books and staff, it does not have the facilities in which to house the books.

It is not suggested that the ruling of the Bar Association is discriminatory. It merely enforces what seem to be the recognized standards for the adequate training of lawyers. The ruling affects only future graduates, because those who were graduated in June of this year will be able to take the bar examination in December. Those who finish in June, 1948, will be the first

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to be affected by this ruling and I am informed that the Dean of the Terrell School hopes that by then the requirements will have been met and the School accredited. If the Dean's hope is fulfilled, the Terrell School will afford facilities for night study by colored law students.

With cordial regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Wm. Handwerker

M. More strength to

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

*Your efforts to stop
the barrier wronging
at Hall's success*

Ferrell Law School

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 20, 1947.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

The President handed me your letter of August 29th about the Ferrell Law School some time ago, and I have had the facts looked into as carefully as I could in the meantime.

The refusal of the District of Columbia Committee on Admissions to permit graduates of this school to take bar examinations is one of those difficult and knotty problems which continually plague us in trying to bring about better race relations.

The Ferrell Law School has been on notice for several years that its curriculum and staff do not meet the standards of the D. C. Admissions Committee. Despite this fact, the Law School has never made a serious effort to meet the standards of the Committee. Nevertheless, because it was the only night law school open to Negroes in the District, the Committee continued to accept the graduates for examination. Now it feels that the only way to compel this school to raise its standards is to refuse to examine its graduates.

This, of course, works a great hardship on the present graduating class, and it may be that some means can be found to correct this injustice. However, I am afraid that the school has been negligent and has had ample warning, and must share responsibility for whatever injustice is being done the present graduates.

Cordially,

David K. Niles

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Apartment 15-A,
29 Washington Square, West,
New York 11, New York.

Terrell Law School

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C.

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS

October 7, 1947.

Just Douglas

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Apartment 15-A,
29 Washington Square West,
New York 11, New York.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Some weeks ago you wrote Mr. Justice Douglas concerning the Robert H. Terrell Law School of Washington, D. C. The Justice made inquiry of a close personal friend who is a member of the District of Columbia Bar. His reply to the inquiry has arrived in the absence of Justice Douglas. I have taken the liberty of setting forth below the gist of his report on the School.

The Terrell School has been struggling for some time, because of lack of funds, to meet the requirements of the American Bar Association for "approved" law schools. These requirements were adopted by the District Bar Association at the direction of the District Court. The Committee on Admissions and Grievances of the District Bar last year appointed a special subcommittee on the Terrell School. As a result, the School was approved temporarily while it made further efforts to conform with the requirements of three full-time instructors and a law library of 10,000 volumes. However, this temporary approval will lapse before the December examination for the District Bar.

The School reopened on September 2nd. It now has under way a campaign to raise funds to maintain a staff and a library. So far only about \$4,000 has been raised. They have, however, employed three full-time instructors, a librarian, and have on hand or on order the required 10,000 law books.

The Dean of the Law School is advising the Bar Association of their compliance with the requirements. If the Bar Association does not approve the School so that the students can take the December examination, the Dean will communicate with the Justice's friend at once.

The Justice will, I know, wish to write you himself when he returns to Washington and can get further information as to the success of the School's fund-raising campaign and their efforts to meet the Bar requirements.

Very truly yours,

Edith Allen

Secretary to Mr. Justice Douglas.

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

file in
1944 for reply
with other letters

Justice Felix Frankfurter

Dear Mr Justice
Many thanks for
your note. I shall
be interested in your
findings in regard to
~~Calvin~~ law
School for Negroes.

I hope you have
had a pleasant
summer.

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

From

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Sept. 15, 1947

Tracy

Dear Mr. Roosevelt:

Your letter regarding opportunities for Negroes desiring to secure a legal education has at last caught up with me, for we have been on a period of visits. The situation in Washington is not known here, but I shall look into it on my return, about October 1st, and then write you my findings. I need hardly tell you how deeply I feel the great handicap

under which worthy and qualified
Negroes labor in trying to
enter and serve in the
learned profession. But
we are making progress -
slow as it is. Even of
the best things, in this
regard, that Franklin
did was to make
Bill Hartie, first a
judge, and later the
Governor of the Virgin
Islands. Hartie is
really first rate.

My very best wishes for
"peace" with labor at the
U.S. Assembly. Ever faithfully yours,
Franklin

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington 25, D. C.

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS

Fortino, Ca
Sept 16, 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt -

Your letter of
Aug 29th relative to the
Robert H Fenell Law
School of Work DC has
just reached us in Oregon.

I am sending
your inquiry to a
lawyer friend in work
DC. who will be able
to advise you, I hope, to
help in the matter. I will
write as soon as I hear.

As ever

Wm O Douglas

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt

Terrill
1947

I have explained my reasons
many times for opposing the
Equal Rights Amendment. If
the amount of work necessary
to ~~to~~ pass an amendment
were done in each state
which has laws unfair to
women, we could accomplish
the same thing. In addition

I think women in industry
still need some of the
protection laws now on the
statute books.

However if a sufficient
number of men & women
approve of this amend my
opinion will be of little
value.

CALIFORNIA

Ferrill

NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SOUTHERN BRANCH

1028 So. Wilton Place
Los Angeles 6, Calif.
Sept 10, 1947

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York

My Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have just read the August Bulletin of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, in which the 38th Annual Conference was reported. I was happy to know that you, President Truman, and Senator Morse were speakers for this occasion. I am glad you support the cause of equal rights for Negroes. I have been a member of the NAACP for years.

May I call your attention, Mrs. Roosevelt, to the fact that twice in Senator Morse's talk, he said that there should be no discrimination in our democracy because of race, color, sex or creed. Senator Morse, a man, does not believe in discriminations of any kind. Yet you, a woman, uphold discriminations against your own sex. You fight the adoption of a clause into the American Constitution giving women equal rights with men. You are helping to draft the Bill of Human Rights for the entire world, yet you deny those rights to your own sex. This is the most paradoxical thing in politics today.

Did you also notice, in the Resolution drawn up by the NAACP Conference, under the section of civil rights, the words:

"We call upon Congress and the majority party to pass legislation adequate to protect the civil rights of American Negroes throughout the country."

This resolution does not call for the protection of Negroes but for the protection of their RIGHTS. You, in supporting the so-called Protective Laws for women, are demanding the protection of women rather than the protection of the RIGHTS of women. The NAACP sees the difference involved.

How can you conscientiously accept the title bestowed by Walter White, "the First Lady of the World" while standing between your sisters and the establishment of their rights under law?

Why cannot you see, that the way to provide equality for both men and women, without destroying necessary protection for women, is to increase the protection of men to the level of that for women? Do you not want your sons protected, as well as your daughter?

Most sincerely yours,

Josephine Ferrill

Chairman

MAJOR A. J. TERRILL, PRESIDENT
EVERETT H. JONES, VICE PRESIDENT
JOHN L. HARPER, DIRECTOR
SECRETARY-TREASURER

MINES IN HUACHUCA AND
SANTA RITA MOUNTAINS

POMONA MINING CO., Inc.

HEREFORD · ARIZONA

Feb: 24th. 1947.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.

Hyde Park.

New York.

Dear Madam,

Herewith it affords me a pleasure in sending you a brief eulogy of a most worthy fraternal brother, I have nothing further to add than what I have written.

I pray God that your life will be spared to add further lustre to his memory.

Believe me to be,

Respectfully yours,

Major A. J. Terrill, S.M.

Major A. J. Terrill.

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HERFORD - ARIZONA

1945

A Tribute to Franklin D. Roosevelt

REPRODUCED FROM THE TOMBSTONE EPITAPH
APRIL 18, 1945

By MAJOR A. J. TERRILL

He is not dead, he cannot die;
The mortal life has passed him by.
Serene he lays within his shroud,
"Humble, Noble, Glorious, Proud"—
His wisdom beacons o'er the seas,
The torch will burn forever,
Columbia's son all nations mourn,
He toiled not with flashing sword;
A mighty pen he wielded,
He gave his life
In Freedom's cause,
And other nations shielded.
Each State a star will build his crown
To make a diadem worthy
Of such a noble son as he,
Of feeble frame; not sturdy,
We bow our heads in reverence true,
We question not the reason why,
In God's great mansion he now lives
He is not dead—he cannot die.

TEXICAL

Registered Country of Ill. Pat. State of Texas July 12 1946

IMPORTS & EXPORTS

ALPINE, TEXAS,
U. S. A.

January 30TH, '47.

My dear Mrs Roosevelt,

This day and date, brings both joy and sorrow to our great country; joy, because we can give, to aid the unfortunate polio victims; sorrow, because, the great leader against this terrible disease is still in body in the grave at Hyde Park. — Though his gallant soul lives on.

His great leadership, his courageous fight ever for the right, his valorous fight against polio-myelitis, that gave me the inspiration to have a nation wide Birthday Party for our great President. The financial returns to be used at Warm Springs Georgia, to aid him, to be able to aid many more others.

No one would ever tell me, that he longed to retire to Hyde Park, and rest; Francis Perkins knew this, yet, she did not so much as hint, in her press notes that I ever saw. How utterly cruel that so valiant a man should have been kept in the White House, so long; against his personal desires, when his health demanded so much, that he rest.

No person in the Armed Forces died a more heroic death, and, I shall condemn myself for not seeing the tragic result of his last re-election, until my last breath. That dear lady is the main reason, that I pray ed: In the Holy Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, that the entire credit for the March of Dimes be given to the master, of valiant gallantry: — Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Very sincerely yours in his sacred memory, Clarence Goodwin Neal. (Tel. P.D. & sincerely hope you are enjoying the best of health. — over —

P.P.S.:- I have saved my "Roosevelt Dimes" that I have received in change this year - sixteen of them, and I am giving one-dollar in the month of dimes for each one I have.

With these sixteen ^{dimes} and 1947's accumulation, I hope to be able, by laying away a dollar each time I receive one, to have at least a hundred dollars to give January 30TH, 1948.

You, who were so close, to the man whom I fondly considered this Planet's greatest leader, and knew of his methods, and aided him with your own great talents; if, your health permitted, would you run for President? This is not just idle curiosity, we can straw vote the entire country, and, fell out the trend of public thought.

Mr. Truman is doing fine, but, I'm afraid Republican contrall of the U.S.A., might disrupt our national defence and Universal External Peace plans; September 1929, under ^a Republican Administration, is still fresh in my mind; and, our heroic Veterans, should not suffer because of heedless selfish (national security's financial insecurity) Wall Street's grasping greed.

The American dollar ruled the financial world until 1929, (after World War One); then, the English Pound took over. Where is the financial center of our Planet if it is not our country? Then why, should the British financial exchange, rule American finances?

You and I both know, that Americanism crushed Nazism. England wont admit it, but we KNOW the Hoover Administration turned the World finances over to the Universal contrall of Great Brittain.

Hoover was a friend of King George V., the English Statesmen speak openly of being satisfied more with the Republican rule of Congress, than with our Democratic contrall of our country, and, we know, that when the country is secure financially Brittain gets the Canadian letters. You know why, so do I.

C. Neal.