Blandings—

The only person
I can think of at
the moment is—

Miss Dorothy Faraday,

Whom you may know.

I will try to

think of others.
November 18, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

At the end of this academic year, Miss C. Mildred Thompson is retiring from the dean's position at Vassar College. The members of the faculty Committee on the Selection of a Dean and I will be grateful to you if you will give me the names of women whom you consider suitable candidates for this position.

The dean will have great responsibility for the ongoing development of the educational program of the college. In addition, she will serve as the executive officer of the faculty. Allied with her office will be the appropriate academic divisions of the college.

As is the usual practice, we are looking for a close relative of the Angel Gabriel. We would like a scholar with teaching experience, a flair for administration, a person who is warm and outgoing. Age, I am glad to say, is not the chief desideratum. The retirement age at Vassar is 65.

The salary will be from five to ten thousand dollars, depending on the background, experience and qualifications of the successful candidate.

I shall greatly appreciate it if you can give me the names of one, two or three women who might be considered for this position.

We hope to be able to make the nomination when the trustees meet in February. This is the most polite way of asking that this letter be not buried under your pile of unanswered mail--that is, if you, like me, have such a thing.

Cordially and sincerely,

Sarah Gibson Blanding