Wese- Weste

Lear DE Dens -I can not set a defendedate at the writing for my nich to distate. I kon heard endirectly + unofficially that I very be appointed as delegate to the un assembly which needs arrived the meddle of Sept. It is not possible tolenors un advance. how long the descuelly will last I thento later in homewhere moved be Doper. In any case I'll all you know definitely and form as I know

Jeto per de againe Demograve to againe mill mill

mest Vir. State college WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE INSTITUTE. W. VA.

20 June 1947

JOHN W. DAVIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Following your letter of May 4th, copy of which is enclosed, I beg to submit herein a series of dates on anyone of which a special convocation might be called.

Possible convocation dates here are as follows: October 5th; October 12, October 19, 1947. The following dates in November, 1947 would be acceptable as convocation dates: November 2 and November 9, 1947. Please know that the dates herein submitted are for your consideration. They may be of value to you in deciding on a date to visit this college. The form which in visit this college.

Let me hear from you.

Sincer

JOHN W. DAVIS President

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt Val-Kill Cottage Hyde Park, Dutchess County New York



COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Val-Kill Cottage Hyde Park, Dutchess Co. New York

May 4, 1947

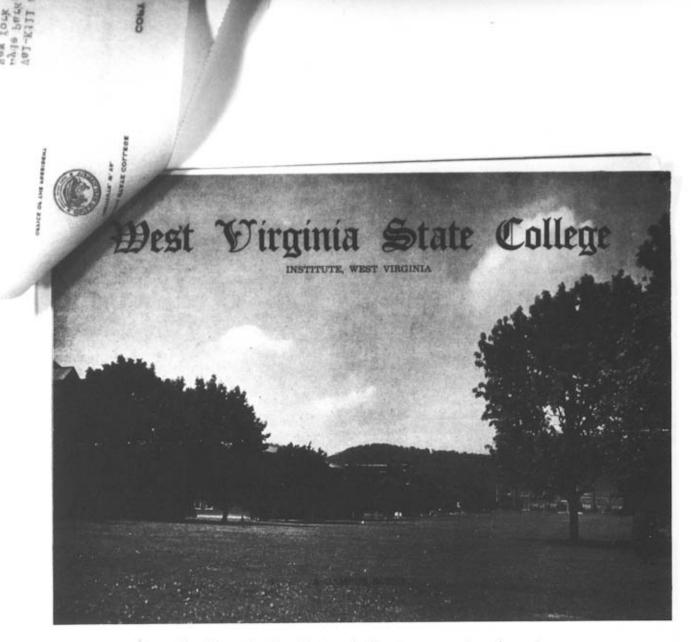
Dear President Davis:

I lo want to come to Institute some time and I would much prefer that you hold the honorary degree until I can accept it personally.

It is not possible for me to set a date now until I know how much time I will have to give to the work of the Human Rights Commission, but I will set a definite time as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

Eleanor Roosevelt



A college that is alert and alive to current and postwar problems. ¶ Students are trained to live vigorously and serve efficiently. ¶ A member of the North Central Association of Colleges for 19 years. ¶ High scholarship and character receive major emphasis. ¶ Practical and cultural courses meet the needs of enrolled World War II veterans.

- A Co-educational Institution.
- A Land-Grant College.

For additional information, write President John W. Davis, Institute, W. Va.

May 4, 1947

Dear President Davies

I do want to come to Institute some time and I would much prefer that you hold the honorary degree until I can accept it personally.

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Very sincerely yours,



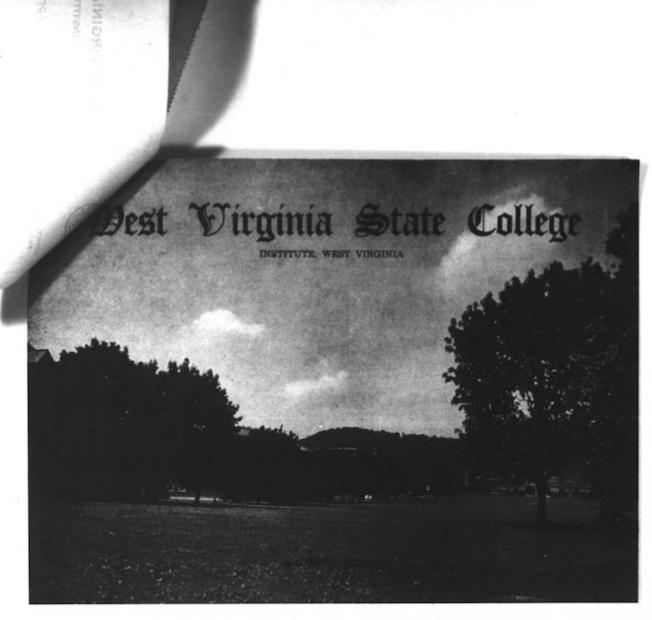
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

We have most carefully tucked away here an honorary degree and a beautiful hood which have been voted to you by the Executive Committee of this college and the West Virginia Board Jane of plants don't of Education. I am writing to ask if it will be all right to make awards in this connection "in absentia" on May 25, 1947. This is the date of our regular convocation this year.

Let me her from you. Sincer y yours,

> JOHN W. DAVIS President

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



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For additional information, write President John W. Davis, Institute, W. Va.

3. Benjamin West

Rember National Betters Cinb Engineer und Journalist

M

February 21, 1947

Miss Isabel Smith United Nations 250 West 57th Street New York City

Dear Miss Smith:

Perhaps you will recall that a few Saturdays ago, you received a telephone call from this writer just as you were about to leave your office for the day, and that I indicated a desire to get some material before the Civil Rights Commission of United Nations. I also recall that you indicated you had been a secretary to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who is chairman of this Commission.

In regards with our conversation, and in view of your kindness in giving me the name of Dr. John Humphrey, secretary of the Commission, I have sent him certain material bearing upon the subject matter in mind, and he has been kind enough to acknowledge same.

However, there are certain unusual circumstances which prompt me to wish to bring to the direct attention of Mrs. Roosevelt certain facts in connection with this writer, and accordingly, I am taking the liberty of asking you to kindly arrange for the enclosed letter to be delivered to Mrs. Roosevelt, as I am sure you will have channels through which this may be effected.

Thanking you cordially for your kindness to me for the above inficited and for whatever consideration you may be able to give this request, I am

W/D Encl

P.O. Box 3 93, moumouth Black

W. J

WBilled

Perm. Abbr.s 715 Gremmt Comple

M. Benjamin West

Ember National Metters Club Engineer and Journalist B.O.Box No.393, Monmouth Beach, New Jersey

Feb. 24, 147

Mrs. Eleanor Rocsevelt, % Miss Isabel Smith, United Mationa, New York, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Through the courtesy of Miss Isabel Smith, I wish to bring to your attention certain data regarding this writer for your consideration, as Chairman of the Human Hights Commission of the U.N.O., in connection with some data which I have recently sent to the Secretary of the Commission, Dr. John Humphrey.

I shall not write at length in order to describe each of the inclosures as they will really explain themselves, but shall simply point out that while most of the activities referred to therein were being engaged in, the charges which I have reported to Dr. Humphrey were being kept alive by those who ultimately sought to further injure me and -- as a result of these unfortunate and demoralizing experiences -- I have sincerely endeavored to promote the enactment of legislation which will hereafter protect others (and AT LEAST seriously disabled persons) from having to undergo such experiences without FIRST having had an opportunity to a FAIR AND OPEN TRIAL where they would have an opportunity (in open court) to set forth THEIR side of whatever story may be told by others.

Also, it may be observed that -- whereas, for MANY years while these charges were being held over my head, I worked untiringly in the interest of the Government's side of the Muscle Shoals enterprises in N.B. Alabama, it remained for your late Husband to come forward and REALLY MAKE SOME-THING OUT OF THE PROJECT and expend it FAR beyond what either the late Senator Morris of Nebraska or this humble writer had ever envisioned therefor. (I was always on the side of Sen. Norris in his battles for Government operation of the project). Thus, from a photoprint from a RECENT issue of the Congressional Record, you will see that my interest in TVA continues to this time and thus I sincerely hope that you and your associates on the Human Rights Commission of the U.N.O.may find some merrit in my report and recommendations in this other controversal field to the end that something thereon may be included in whatever report and recommendations the Commission makes.

Very sincerely yours, W.B. Want

1928

BROOKLYN EDISON TOPICS

Elec. Constr. Bureau

By W. T. Hatter

Every man, from the division head down, in the Consumer Apparatus Division is attending some night school this year. All but one man are attending the Company School.

W. Benjamin West has just recently returned from the American Legion Convention in Paris. West is a member of the World War Amps. He spent much of his time abroad in visiting power plants and electrical equipment manufacturing plants. The result of his visits



W. B. West

is a collection of very interesting photographs of foreign methods and machines. He visited and obtained a technical description of the New Barking Station of the County of London Electric Supply Co., located just outside of London. No tech-

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nical information concerning this station has as yet been issued to the British engineering world.

Hennel has gradually been acquiring

West, W. Benjamin AGE: 51 NAME: LOCATION PREFERRED 5191 HEIGHT: Quit New York, N.Y. WILL YOU LEAVE CITY? No. 190 WEIGHT: Yes CITIZEN? Yes MARRIED: PHYSICAL DISABILITY: One CHILDREN: Leg Amputation (Disabled U.S. Veteran, wears an artificial limb.)

MEMBERSHIP B.S.C.E. A.I.E.E.

EDUCATIONAL RECORD

Alabama Poly. Inst .-- Hydraulics and Elec. Engrs .-- B.S. degree 1918.

Correspondence Course under a Mem., A.S.C.E. and Eve .--Hydraulic and hydroelectric engrg.

Post graduate course at Bklyn. Poly. Inst. Honorary Societies: Acad. of Polit. Sc., Foreign Policy Assn., etc.

EXPERIENCE RECORD

Feb. 1944 Dec. 1946 Technical Editor -- Publications Agency

U.S. Army Signal Corps Duties: Writing, revising, rewriting and technical editing manuals for the forces of the U.S. Army Signal Corps and associated agencies. This work includes collating and otherwise preparing manuscripts for the printer. I have to do with the selection (sometimes drawing), captioning and arranging illustrative materialincluding drawings and photographs -- to the end that these may be properly placed in the finished text. Since August, 1945, Editor Final Inspector" of all manuscripts issued by the Signal Corps Publications Agency. This work includes especially checking all details for compliance with standards in every respect.

1942-44

Naval Inspector, Florida. (Inspector-in-charge at one plant for 10 months).

1931 1941

Editorial Representative -- "ENGINEERING"London, England.

Duties: Locating and obtaining data from which technical articles were written on various engineering projects and equipment in the United States, Canada and Africa. This work involved considerable travel and contacts with thousands of people in various states of this country and those of several other countries abroad. During this period, I reported technically on all National Powers Shows held at the Grand Central

Palance New York, from 1929 to 1938 inclusive, on many

government projects and numerous large privately constructed engineering works in the U.S.A.

Feb. 1929 May 1930 Checker- New England Power Serv. & Engr. Corp. Utility.
Duties: This work involved checking drawings in the drafting room, making hydraulic computations (in the office of hydraulic engineers), looking up and tabulating computations, stream flow data, checking the location of waterpower sites, writing technical articles for one of the company publications, interviewing applicants for engineering employment and keeping a record thereof. I also made studies of water power data at libraries in Boston and New York and reported to superiors on same.

42 years

Inspector-Estimator-Bklyn.Edison Co. Utility
Duties: (a) Cost estimating on industrial power
apparatus, e.g. substations, etc.

(b) Specifications and magazine articles writing on power plants visited abroad.

(c) Inspecting large consumer equipment prior to drawing plane and estimating.

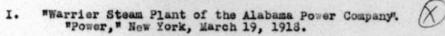
(d) Investigating and comparing actual costs with estimated costs of work.

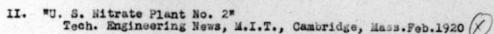
(e) Keeping records and making reports on the amount of high tension cable pulled each year.

1918

Technical writer -- free lance -- writing technical articles for various publications. Duties: Throughout the entire period (with some exceptions) since the middle of my senior year at college, I have been writing and contributing technical articles to various engineering magazines in the United States and England. Among the publications which have published one or more of my articles may be mentioned: "POWER", "ENGIN-EERING NEWS RECORD", "SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN", (many) "PR. PL. ENGR.", "ENGINEERING" London, England -hundreds accepted; and "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS". (For 10 years, Editorial Representative, "Engineering". London, England. Now "Editor, Final Inspector," Publications Agency, Signal Corps., U.S. Army, Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey).

PARTIAL LIST OF ARTICLES By Benjamin West





- Page 652, "Electrical Review" (Chicago) April 17, 1920 (Vol. 76, No. 16).
- IV. "Technology Men Building America's Biggest Dam"

 Boston Sunday Herald, May 9, 1920.
- W. "Hydro-electric Development at Muscle Shoals"
 Electrical Review (Chicago) Vol.76, No.23, June 5,1920.
- VI. "Mat Brush Scores a Success at Hog Island"

 Boston Sunday Herald, June 20 (?) 1920.
- VII. "Revising High Bridge"
 Scientific American, October 20, 1920, (See cover picture)
- VIII. "Substation at Hog Island"
 Electrical Review (Chicago), Vol. 77, No. 18, Oct. 30, 1920
- IX. "The World's Largest Shipping Terminal"
 Scientific American, December 11 (?) 1920 (See cover picture.)
- X, "Plans and Purposes of the Super-power Survey"
 Power Plant Engineering (Chicago December 15, 1920.
 (See also Industrial Management, December 1920.)
- XI. "America's Greatest Dam" Scientific American, May 7, 1921. (Cover photo of Wilson Dam).
- XII. "Muscle Shoals Active at Last" Scientific American, October 1933.
- XIII. "Pioneering in Africa"
 "Power, " August 1941.
- XIV. "Livingstone's Last Tramping Ground"
 "World Outlook, " March 1942.
- XV. "Soil-Cement Base for Airport Runways"
 "Engineering News-Record," March 12, 1942.

experiences as recounted to d. n. To.

Dear Mr. Test:

I received your letter of September twentyseventh and want to thank you for your kinoness in sending me the July twenty-eighth issue of "Engineering", the October issue of "Scientific -American" and the page from the September eighth issue of "Engineering".

I shall be glad to call the articles to which you refer to the President's attention at the first opportunity.

Very sincerely yours,

Louis Need Harz

Secretary to the President

William Benjamin West, Fsc., 30 East Avenue, Valley Stream. New York.

XX Totale with by with about ivit.

Lakeland Engineer Tells Of Supervising Native Projects While In Africa

where he supervised the but of a church and taught the m how to edapt materials on he

West had specialized in neering and power devel writing for several years bets deciding in August, 1939, to go into Africa as an engineer to super-vise construction of Methodist mis-

sionary projects,
Arriving in London Aug. 28, he
experienced the first total blackout of the present war when the city was preparing for attack by Germany and studied methods of

defense against air raids.
One of West's interesting, though dangerous, experiences was his voyage from England to Africa on the Gloucester Castle — a ship on which he said the firemen were to the possibility that it would never get more than 200 miles from Plymouth, its salling point, without disaster. The abin both furnished power for the town without disaster. The ship had been condemned by the British admiralty as unfit for service and had been pressed into duty because of the wartime shortage of vessels. The ship was still navigating the Thames river when the first German air raid on the coast of Eng-

desia by railway and in Umtali is at the present time writing spent several months supervising articles on the establishment of a the construction of a native Methodist church financed by Metho-dist missions. The labor was done ers' war board of New York. by natives who used primitive West has an interesting collec-methods of work. Stone for the tion of African souvenirs which he concrete foundations was cracked brought back from his travels. mixing mortar was pumped from nearby streams into barrels by a hand operated pump.



PERSONAL PROPERTY NAMED IN 1940

Later West went to the Mbereshi mission, 35 miles from the nearest postoffice and 330 miles from the nearest railway. Here he supervised construction of a hydroelec-

West is a member of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers and has published several technical engineering books as well as contribut-ing to the Scientific American, and the Engineering News-Record. He was at one time editorial repre-In spite of the passimism of the crew, the Gloucester Castle reached Lobito, a Portuguese town in Africa, about a month later, He went on to Southern Rho-tional Writers club of Denver. He sentative in the United States for

with hand hammers and water for They include a telegraphic drum, leopard skins, native tools made by hand, a hunting spear and bow and arrows.

e surplus spude went into the of alcohol. Some more of them in the school-lunch program. have gone for livestock feed-welly a lot of them just spoiled ast year was the largest on recenting to around 475,000,000

dortunate, to say the least, that betterion has such unfortunate to Department of Agriculture-toury—when around the world the Department around the sawy—when around the sawy—when around the sawy—who around the sawy—who are being ship to the sawy are the sawy ar

o situation after all s about what can be

y, the Government is prices for nearly two or of important agri-

e left in which to far as not return to pro-and to evert the diseaser rtion might bring in the in the shaence of guar-

It has m

BETENSION OF REMARKS

HON, ALBERT BAINS

-

THE BOOKE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, January 29, 1967

mand my remerks in the Raccus, I wind my remarks in the Record, a the following letter addressed to editor of the Red Bank Register, a maper published in Red Bank, N. J., while the letter is written by Mr. W. B. West, while the letter is written by Mr. W. B. West, er of Boston Society of Civil Englwith reference to TVA:

THE RED BANK REGISTER

Red Bank, N. J. More Pavors" in your November 21
was read with interest, and whereas the urge to write you on this subject, remained for a friend to also call your missial to my attention before I resolved to

rat, as a reader of the Register, and one your customers, I cannot believe that, at art, you would willfully be unfair to anyone anything, so these remarks are predi-

ed on that thesis. second, I must confess complete lack of wledge of the merit (or lack of merit) of

the claim of the TVA for exemption from the order of Reconversion Director John R. Steel-man curbing all nonessential contracts; nor do I wish to become involved in your general references to the bureaucratic mind at

Third, I do wish, however, to stanchly challenge your statement that, "The Authority (TVA has principally distinguished itself as an insatiable spender of tax funds." Because, through research and personal observation over more than a decade, I became something of an authority on the Govern-ment's Muscle Shoals Industries (which formed the nucleus for the TVA) and wrote extensively about not only that project, but also about the TVA and its activities for publications in the United States and Europe, so that surely I should be in a position to challenge such a statement as that quoted above. (See, for example, Scientific American, May 7, 1921, and October 1933, and the Journal of the Boston Society of Civil Engi-

Journal of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers for April 1954.)

Fourth, because of other duties, I have not been shie to keep abreast of the progress of the TVA for the last few years, but have—on the other hand—been able to glesn, from time to time, some information from the public press, and especially from professional and scientific publications which—so I am

and scientific publications which—so I am convinced, proves your statement, as above quested, to be in error.

For example, consider the following quo-tation from an article by Theodore B. Parker, head of the Department of Civil and Sani-tary Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as published in the Journal of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers for January 1944:

the Boston Seciety of Civil Engineers for January 1944:

"The TVA development represents a very great investment by the people of this country, who should be vitally interested in the soundness of this investment. The responsibility of expanding such a huge sum has been from the start very keenly appreciated. Those who have been concerned with this responsibility are naturally anxious that the essential economy of the whole project be clearly understood.

"As a result of the work how completed or under construction there will be made

construction there will be made

"I. Bix hundred and fifty miles of 9-foot

river to Knorville.

"2. (a) Control of destructive floods along the Tenasses River and the lower portions of its principal tributaries.

"(b) Beduction of maximum flood creats on the Ohio below Paducah and on the Mis-

ippi River at Cairo, by at least 3 feet.

"3. Total power generating capacity of approximately 2,000,000 kilowatta, capable of producing 1,000,000 kilowatta of continuous

This is without doubt an exceptional example of the merits of multiple-purpose de-velopment, where several benefits accrue from the construction of a single set of

Thus, it will be seen the TVA has also distinguished itself in flood control and navigation, to mention but two of its ex-tensive benedicial activities and it would require a long time and many pages of copy to enumerate all of its distinguishing accom-pliahments.

Again, several foreign governments have sent agents to these shores to study the or-ganization and operations of the TVA in order that similar schemes may be applied to one or more river systems abroad. Because modern science has come to redomise the necessity of thinking of and working on a whole river system (including tributaries) instead of just some patricular point on or portion of a stream when attacking flood control, navigation and hydroelectric power development problems.

Pinelly, the TVA made valuable and size nificent contribution to the recent war ef fort. For example, my friend who prodded me into writing this letter has pointed out the following facts which are known to him as a resident of one of the hundreds of communities served by the TVA: Large numbers of naval landing eraft and even oceangoing vessels were constructed on a large TVA lake at Decatur, Ala., from which point they were able to pass out to sea—thanks to the TVA (and Mississippi river) navigation systems. He also says there was a great amenal at Redstone near Huntsville, Ala., where mil-lions of rounds of ammunition were made during the recent war and that the abundance of TVA electric power was a contributory reason for locating this plant in that

This was, of course, in addition to tons of explosives turned out at the Muscle Shoals nitrate plants, the power supplied to slu-minum factories for sirplane materials manufacture, and even the atomic-bomb plant at

Oak Ridge, Tenn.
With these facts before you, surely you will agree that when problems of national interest and concern are being discussed. every possible effort should be made to be accurate and truthful and above all, entirely free from sectional prejudice.

Concerning your reference to the TVA having destroyed the privately owned power com-panies which had been operating in that area prior to the organization of the TVA, the preme Court (thanks to the late Wendell willkiel, so the power companies had their day in cou. In any event, what is the dif-ference, in righteousness, between drafting private property in the form of a human being for the defense of the Nation in war (with frequent resultant wrecking of his life) and taking over private property for the good of an area or the Nation in either peace or war? On the other hand, many of the private power companies which had b operating in the Tennessee Valley and con-tingent areas prior to 1933 are yet operatthere, some in competition with TVA, so the fight goes on

Very tr'ly yours,

W. B. WEST. Member, Boston Society of Civil Engineers.

America Must Recepture Zeal for Democray If We Hope To Persuade Others

> TENSION OF REMARKS

MELVIN P

LLINGIA IN THE HO OF REPRESE TIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 19 Mr. PRICE of Illinois. Mr. Saker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Recour, I include serwith the follo-instelliorial which appeared in the Si Loug Post-Dispatch in Foruary 2, 1947: NOTES ON A WORD

Did you was only a party na too, O friend, slittee, and for

Wait White saked that quite it can be used with far gritoday. To wait whitman, des not a stat and m by word, conquish offward for but a which men have ing itself which men have die be free, in body

The reason the Upfted poor job in teaching der

MILLARO W. RICE

THOMAS J. KEHOE

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS:

WM. E. TATE

Bisabled American Beterans

NATIONAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT MUNSEY BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.



EARL G. Hensence

May 14, 19-3.

Mr. West,

Lear Comrade West:

I have just finished reading your The Tyranny of Paychiatry, and found it to be very interesting, and convincing. Contact with several other individuals who have had similar experiences convinces me that the assertions in the first two pages of your manuscript, as well as in the last few pages, thereof, are absolutely correct, but — what is the remedy? I have discussed that question with a couple of Senetors and Congressmen, and others, and have had no adequate practicable suggestions to remedy conditions which you joint out, and which have been duplicated many times over, throughout the country. I am convinced, not only as among veterans, but as among civilians, whose relatives wanted to put them out of the way."

I am returning your manuscript to you herewith, via registered mail, as per your previous request.

Why do you not put the whole thing in the form of an affidavit in the first person, and then file it with the Veterans Administration?

With best wishes, I am

mwr/hs enclosures.