

Williams, Charles,
1946-48

I am sure you
would triumph in
any court

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

February 27, 1947

The G. Edward A. Jones

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Apartment 15-A
29 Washington Square, West
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

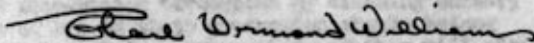
I have given a great deal of thought to the letters to Dr. Shipman and Mr. Morgenthau. It seemed to me that if I were writing at all to the director of the Library, that I ought to give him some description of what I wish to present.

After much cogitation I wrote the enclosed letters to these two eminent gentlemen. You will note that I sent the same letter to both of them, adding a short paragraph only to the letter to Mr. Morgenthau. I hope I have done the right thing.

If I have erred in the least, the error can be charged to my head and not to my heart. As soon as I return from Atlantic City, I shall write the "little speeches" that will be delivered with each of these gifts.

I am still remembering that interesting evening with you.

Affectionately,



Charles Ormond Williams

ccw/b

February 27, 1947

Mr. Henry Morgenthau, Jr.,
President of the Roosevelt Foundation
Hopewell Junction, New York

Dear Mr. Morgenthau:

At the request of Mrs. Roosevelt I am writing to tell you that on May 17, 1947, I am to have the privilege of presenting to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library some unique and historical pieces. When I was a guest of Mrs. Roosevelt the last weekend before President Roosevelt's home was turned over to the United States Government, I conferred with Dr. Nixon about the best way to bind about ten volumes of correspondence which I have had with Mrs. Roosevelt since 1934. Dr. Nixon at once expressed the hope that I would place that correspondence in the Library. I assured him that I wanted to do that after I had written my book.

Then I told him of the two lovely silver trays made by Tiffany on one of which is engraved "an inscription" to me written in President Roosevelt's own hand on April 18, 1940. There is quite a story connected with this tray which I shall tell in the presentation. On the other tray is the last letter which Mrs. Roosevelt wrote to me from the White House on April 20, 1945, in a line of which she mentions "our contacts and the many pleasant things we have done together." Tiffany has done a beautiful piece of work on these two trays and they are precious beyond words to me.

Because of my gratitude and indebtedness to the teachers of the nation for their loyal support and cooperation throughout my teaching career, I feel that this recognition of one of their profession should belong to all of the teachers. Sooner or later vast numbers of them will visit Hyde Park and there they will see these priceless treasures in which they have had some part.

Then, too, there are some important mementos of the historic dinner which the Women's Joint Congressional Committee, made up of the organizations listed on a separate sheet, organized in honor of the appointment and record of Mrs. Roosevelt as the first woman delegate from this country to the General Assembly of the United Nations. All of these groups feel as I do, that these mementos, including the silver bowl, should go to the Hyde Park Library. I am enclosing a copy of a letter which will throw some additional light on this part of the presentation.

On January 8, Mrs. Roosevelt came to see me and saw all of these objects of interest about which I am writing.

Mr. Morgenthau

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February 27, 1947

Finally, I have some interesting correspondence with President Roosevelt about his beloved dog, Fala. At the request of one of the delegates to the White House Conference on Rural Education, held on October 5-6, 1944, Fala paid us a visit and left a trail of good cheer in his wake after he retired from the East Room. Mr. Berryman, our noted cartoonist in the Evening Star, made an appealing pen drawing of Fala under which President Roosevelt wrote in longhand on January 7, 1945, the words Fala is supposed to speak. The pen drawing was used as one page in the 200-page volume of proceedings which has been widely distributed not only to all the delegates, but to most of the libraries in the United States. This pen drawing and the correspondence, I also wish to present to Hyde Park.

When I was an overnight guest of Mrs. Roosevelt in New York, February 17, she asked me to write to you and to suggest that you send someone to the presentation of these historic pieces on May 17, 1947, to represent the Roosevelt Foundation. I should like to add that it would make me very proud and happy to have the Foundation represented on that occasion.

Yours sincerely,

Charl Ormond Williams
Director of Field Service

CCW/b

February 27, 1947

Dr. Fred W. Shipman, Director
Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
6804 Fortieth Street
Chevy Chase, Maryland

Dear Dr. Shipman:

At the request of Mrs. Roosevelt I am writing to tell you that on May 17, 1947, I am to have the privilege of presenting to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library some unique and historical pieces. When I was a guest of Mrs. Roosevelt the last weekend before President Roosevelt's home was turned over to the United States Government, I conferred with Dr. Nixon about the best way to kind about ten volumes of correspondence which I have had with Mrs. Roosevelt since 1934. Dr. Nixon at once expressed the hope that I would place that correspondence in the Library. I assured him that I wanted to do that after I had written my book.

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On January 5, Mrs. Roosevelt came to see me and saw all of these objects of interest about which I am writing.

Mr. Shipman

-2-

February 27, 1947

Finally, I have some interesting correspondence with President Roosevelt about his beloved dog, Fala. At the request of one of the delegates to the White House Conference on Rural Education, held on October 2-6, 1944, Fala paid us a visit and left a trail of good cheer in his wake after he retired from the East Room. Mr. Berryman, our noted cartoonist in the Evening Star, made an appealing pen drawing of Fala under which President Roosevelt wrote in longhand on January 7, 1945, the words Fala is supposed to speak. The pen drawing was used as one page in the 200-page Volume of Proceedings which has been widely distributed not only to all the delegates, but to most of the libraries in the United States. This pen drawing and the correspondence, I also wish to present to Hyde Park.

Yours sincerely,

Charl Oswald Williams, (Miss)
Director of Field Service

CCW/b

WOMEN'S JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Member Organizations

American Association of University Women

American Dietetic Association

American Federation of Teachers

American Home Economics Association

American Medical Women's Association

American Nurses' Association

American Physiotherapy Association

Association for Childhood Education

General Federation of Women's Clubs

Girls' Friendly Society of the United States of America

National Association for Nursery Education

National Board of Young Women's Christian Association

National Congress of Parents and Teachers

National Consumers' League

National Council of Jewish Women

National Education Association

National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs

National League of Women Voters

National Service Star Legion

National Woman's Trade Union League of America

United Council of Church Women

Woman's National Homeopathic Medical Fraternity

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

January 15, 1947

Mrs. James W. Irwin, Chairman
Women's Joint Congressional Committee
Tilden Gardens, 5051 Sedgwick Street
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Irwin:

Although I expressed my appreciation to the Women's Joint Congressional Committee at our last meeting on Monday, January 6, 1947, I feel there should be some written record of my remarks on that morning. I do want to express in writing my deep appreciation of the beautiful, sterling silver bowl sent to me by the Women's Joint Congressional Committee, in recognition of my services as chairman of the historic dinner for Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, March 14, 1945.

The fact that the bowl was delayed in reaching me was in no-wise the fault of the Committee or any of its members. You will recall that it took some time to make the final report to the WJCC through its dinner committee. First it took several weeks to get the manuscripts revised by the speakers on the program, and then more weeks before we could get the entire program printed in the Congressional Record. There were some long drawn-out moments that frayed my nerves.

You did bring that lovely Paul Revere silver bowl to my home for me to see, and for us both to decide on the engraving. The jeweler said that it would take a month or more to engrave it. Because I was leaving on a Pacific Coast field trip for ten weeks, I asked that the bowl not be delivered to me until my return. It could not be delivered at home, and I was afraid to have it delivered at the office. One field trip followed after another, with the result that, at my request, the silver bowl was delivered to me on Monday, December 23.

I should have written immediately to you had it not been for the expected visit of Mrs. Roosevelt on Friday afternoon, January 3, 1947. I wanted to tell her, as I told you that morning in my home, that I thought the bowl should be placed in the Hyde Park Library. The idea appealed to Mrs. Roosevelt and in the early Spring, presentation will be made. At that time I shall write the WJCC a letter with further details.

In the meantime, I want to record my deep appreciation of the opportunity that was given to me to participate in this dinner for Mrs. Roosevelt on her return from the General Assembly of the United Nations in London. We shall never be celebrating again the appointment of the first woman to the first meeting of this world organization. We are not likely ever to have again another woman who is the counterpart of Eleanor Roosevelt.

Very sincerely,

Charl Ormond Williams
Director of Field Service

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

February 27, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Apartment 15-A
29 Washington Square, West
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

If there were time, this last hour in my office before leaving for Atlantic City in the morning, I should write you of an unprecedented meeting which took place in our staff on Thursday afternoon, February 20. I was summoned to attend this meeting, not having the faintest idea that I was going to be "put on trial," so to speak, with "judge, jury, and prosecuting attorney." I shall have to tell you about it when I see you, because it involves the question about which I wrote to you in full while you were a member of the President's Commission on Higher Education.

The NEA has a bill in Congress now, S. 472, with a section in it that would allow the states to distribute this federal aid to religious and private schools if they so desire, even though in every other paragraph in the bill the federal aid is appropriated to public elementary and secondary schools. I have contended that the bill is contradictory and that the passage of such a bill would be hazardous to the future of public education.

No one in our staff really wants that provision passed, but our legislative representatives have allowed themselves to be maneuvered into this position by Senator Taft, who is running as hard as he can for the Republican nomination for President — and who is riding two horses which are going in opposite directions.

Since I battled the Tennessee Legislature on occasion, alone and single handed, as well as the Shelby County Court and the Crump Machine, those six men who were arrayed against me seemed feeble indeed. When I denounced in the beginning this procedure as unprecedented in our staff, I put each one of them on the spot with factual statements that they had made. I decided that if that meant my job, it would be a mighty good issue to get fired on! I am reporting to you this afternoon that all is quiet on the Potomac and that I have been instructed to pursue my course according to my best judgment.

The National Congress of Parents and Teachers, two years ago, after I had gone off the National Board of Managers, went on record approving federal aid for tax-supported public schools only. You may remember the two books that I compiled for that organization — "Our Public Schools" in 1954, and the revised book, "Schools For Democracy," in 1958. The latter you strongly supported in "My Day" and several thousand reprints of your column were distributed over the country. In both of these books, Dr. Edgar W. Knight of the University of North Carolina, author of a number of books, including one on the History of American Education, wrote a chapter in each book, and at my request, stated the cardinal principles of democratic education, namely: "that it shall be universal, free, compulsory, non-sectarian, publicly supported, and publicly controlled."

*Thank you for the bill things
I am sure you will support!*

Mrs. Roosevelt

-2-

February 27, 1947

Eleven years were to pass, however, before that organization came out in support of these plans. I could write much more about this, but I do not want to burden you. Perhaps we shall talk of it when I see you.

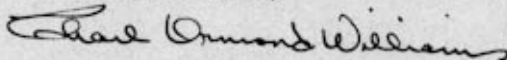
My sister, Mabel, and I have been on the long-distance telephone five times since I returned from New York on this question. She has called me twice, and I have called her three times. During those conversations I asked her if it could be possible that she or Miss Bottomly had not advised you of the change of the date of their convention. In a later telephone call, she told me, with heart-breaking regret, that a blunder had been made and that she had wired you and then later phoned you.

It made me heartsick that they had fallen down at their end of the line, when I left you the morning of February 18, I had some hope that somehow you could manage it and I wish you could. However, I am the last person to urge you to do more than your strength and time permit. I know that you wanted to fulfill this request and it is not your fault in the least that you cannot do so. Please know that I understand, though I deeply regret that you cannot be there.

You know that I was not thinking so much of the present as of the future when I wrote to ask that you speak to this Fiftieth Anniversary Convention.

I marvel that you do all the things that I know about, to say nothing of the things that I know nothing about. I do not want you to wear yourself out, but to live for long years ahead, carrying on your useful work.

Affectionately yours,



Charl Ormond Williams

COM/b

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET. N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

March 28, 1947

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am sending you some very important material that has grown out of the Supreme Court decision regarding bus transportation at public expense in the state of New Jersey. The whole situation has created a storm of protest and it will very probably awaken the nation to the aims and purposes of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Christian Century, published in Chicago, is a non-denominational magazine; therefore, the enclosed article carried in the February 26 issue of this magazine is all the more important for that reason. Dr. J. M. Dawson, executive secretary of the Joint Conference Committee on Public Relations, representing all the Baptists in the United States, prepared the folder of press comments also enclosed in this letter. He told me that he spent a whole day in the Library of Congress reading magazines and newspapers of the lay and religious press of this country.

In this folder he has chosen editorials and statements from outstanding publications and statements from a few outstanding leaders. The end is not yet.

Dr. Dawson's Joint Conference Committee also reprinted in its entirety the Supreme Court decision, with a preface and an analysis of the opinion by a wellknown lawyer. This document bore the title of Church and State, and it was sent to 1000 officials of their church as well as to all of the Baptist publications -- local, state, and national -- in this country. If I had an extra copy I should send that to you also.

All these things shed additional light on the memorable Sunday morning conference with you on January 14, 1945 at the White House. They also help to explain the letters I wrote to you about the President's Commission on Higher Education.

I hope we may have an opportunity to talk about this when I go to Hyde Park in May. Just now, I am making every effort to get to hear you tonight at the Mayflower. Again I was out of town when the publicity, if any, for this dinner was launched. If I am not fortunate to be able to buy a dinner ticket, I shall certainly try to be in the gallery.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

*An editorial reprinted from the
Christian Century of February 26,
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ies of this reprint are available at
\$3.50 per hundred.*

Now Will Protestants Awake?

THE FIVE-TO-FOUR decision of the Supreme Court in the New Jersey bus transportation case should open the eyes of all American-minded citizens, and especially of Protestant citizens, to the strategy of the Roman Catholic Church in its determination to secure a privileged position in the common life of this country. This church wants something no other church wants and which, if it were available, every Protestant church would reject. The powerful and persistent pressure of the Roman Church to secure from the public treasury a mere bagatelle in the total cost of its parochial school system can be understood only in the light of something vastly more important that the church wants. What is it that the church wants? It makes no secret of its ultimate aim.

The Roman Church wants the state to provide for the complete support of its parochial schools with money derived from taxes levied on all citizens. Its ultimate purpose is to shift to the public treasury the entire burden of financing its parochial schools, while the church retains control of the educational process in them. Its plan is that public school tax funds shall be diverted to the church in an amount that would be determined by the number of children in parochial schools in proportion to the number in public schools. Thus the church would be relieved of the financial burden of its entire parochial school system, including support of its teaching staff, cost of real estate, cost of building construction, cost of upkeep and administration.

I

The Roman Church is now withdrawing its children from the public school as rapidly as it is able to finance its own schools. So far, only a minority of the Catholic child population is in Catholic schools. But with the achievement of its final purpose to gain legal access to the public treasury for the support of its own institutions, the church would be able to withdraw all children of Catholic parents from the public school. This it would unquestionably do.

The effect of such a development in the cultural life

of America would be profound. Two school systems operating side by side, both financed by public funds, each suspecting if not hostile to the other, would mark nothing less than a breach in the cultural foundation upon which a democratic state can be erected. To obviate such a cultural fission in the very structure of the American state, the fathers limited the functions of the state by prohibiting any form of legislation respecting the establishment of religion.

If we are to understand the portentous implications of the Supreme Court's decision, it must be viewed from the standpoint of this ultimate purpose of the Roman Church. Merely to confine one's attention to the particular case brought before the court is either naive or evasive. So regarded, the question whether bus service for carrying children to church schools shall be paid for out of tax funds seems trivial, and is glibly answered by sentimental arguments or indifference. "Don't be stingy!" was the recurrent appeal of the Catholic proponents of this measure in the recent referendum in Wisconsin.

Such an appeal to the non-Catholic citizens discloses the strategy of the Roman Church. Its hierarchy knows that a bold and honest presentation of its ultimate purpose would meet with overwhelming defeat by the people and in the courts. An open campaign for the diversion of public funds to support Catholic schools on such a scale would create such a religious tension in the United States that the steady increase in prestige which Catholicism is now enjoying would be set back immeasurably. So the church adopts a different strategy. It undertakes to crack the constitutional principle at some point where the average citizen will not be aware that it is being cracked, and where even the courts may be able to find a technical pretext for approval. It therefore selects a point at which the constitutional principle may be obscured by a sentimental or humanitarian appeal. If the principle is breached here, it will open the way to a sequence of further violations of the principle, leading eventually to the achievement of the total aim the church has in view.

Justice Rutledge, who wrote the dissenting opinion of the minority, sees this clearly as the effect of the majority decision, and he comes close to implying that purpose to the church as a deliberate strategy. "This is not just a little case over bus fares," he says. "Distant as it may be in its present form from a complete establishment of religion, it differs only in degree, and is the first step in that direction." Elsewhere in his statement he calls it the "second breach" in the wall between church and state. The first breach was the court's decision in 1939 upholding the use of tax funds for the purchase of textbooks for the children in parochial schools. "That a third and a fourth [breach] and still others will be attempted, we may be sure," he declared.

II

With respect to the argument of the court's majority, it must suffice at this time to say that the five justices yielded to the specious argument that the New Jersey provision for bus transportation falls within the category of "public welfare" and not public education. By a long stretch of sophistry it classified bus service to parochial

schools with police protection, fire protection, health protection, etc. In our judgment, this technicality on which the majority opinion turned should have been decided by the simple fact that it is *school funds*, not *general welfare funds*, that are used to maintain bus service. The bus service therefore clearly falls within the orbit of the school system. School funds are raised by taxation specifically for the support of public schools, and for nothing else. To divert any portion of such funds to any other use, even to the "general welfare," is a misappropriation of funds as grossly immoral as it is illegal.

While the minority opinion rejected the contention of the majority on this technical point, we believe it could have stated its case more sharply than it did. But a few of the words of Justice Rutledge on the larger issue should be quoted. Recalling in detail the fight led by James Madison for the separation of church and state, he asked, "Does New Jersey's action furnish support for religion by use of taxing power?" Speaking for the minority, he answers:

Certainly it does, if the tax remains undisturbed as Jefferson and Madison made it. . . . The funds used have been raised by taxation. The court [i.e., the majority] does not dispute, nor could it, that their use does in fact give aid and encouragement to religious instruction. It only concludes that this aid is not "support" in law.

Believers of all faiths, and others who do not express their feeling toward ultimate issues of evidence in any creedal form, pay the New Jersey tax. When the money so raised is used for transportation to religious schools, the Catholic taxpayer to the extent of his proportional share pays for the transportation of Lutheran, Jewish, and orthodox religiously affiliated children to receive their non-Catholic religious instruction. Their parents likewise pay proportionately for the transportation of Catholic children to receive Catholic instruction. Each thus contributes to the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves.

New Jersey's action therefore exactly fits the type of coercion and the kind of evil at which Madison and Jefferson aimed. Under the test they framed, it cannot be said that the cost of transportation is so part of the cost of education or of the religious instruction given.

If the contention of the majority were conceded, Justice Rutledge said, he could see no reason why the state could not make appropriations for the full support of private and religious schools, just as it does for public schools.

This view contradicts the whole purpose and effect of the first amendment. Our constitutional policy is exactly the opposite. It does not deny the value or the necessity for religious training, teaching, or observance. Rather it secures their free exercise. Not to that end it does deny that the state can undertake or sustain them in any form or degree. The realm of religious training and belief remains as the amendment made it, the kingdom of the individual man and his God.

In a separate opinion, supplementing that of the minority with which he concurred, Justice Jackson frankly stated that originally he had wished to join the majority because of his sympathy, "though not ideological," with Catholics who had to pay taxes for public schools and yet felt it necessary to support schools for their own children. But he had been forced to change his mind. He roundly criticized the majority opinion for its inconsistency in paying homage to the principle of separation of church and state and reaching a conclusion in this case at utter variance with this principle. "The undertones of the majority opinion," he said, "advocating complete and

uncompromising separation of church and state seem utterly discordant with its conclusion yielding support to their commingling in educational matters."

III

In the short editorial paragraph in our last week's issue, we expressed astonishment that Justice Murphy, a Roman Catholic, should have gained the consent of his judicial conscience to participate in this case in whose outcome his church was the sole beneficiary. We believe his prejudiced position in relation to the issue should subject him to criticism from all fair-minded citizens. Any conscientious judge who has a pecuniary or other personal interest in a case that comes before him refers the case to another court or steps aside and leaves the decision to his colleagues. The charges recently directed at Justice Black by Justice Jackson for not voluntarily disqualifying himself in certain litigation in which a former law partner was an attorney for one side, are fresh in the public mind. And now the willingness of Justice Murphy to participate in this New Jersey case in which he was manifestly prejudiced does not strengthen public respect for the court at a time when it greatly needs public confidence.

The American people will not take this decision as final. Certainly the Protestant citizenship of the country will not so regard it. But the Protestant churches have themselves to blame for this untoward and un-American development. They have allowed seventeenth century laws to remain similar to that in New Jersey. In all but one of these states the Protestant citizenship is in a majority which is supplemented by great numbers of other citizens who cherish the religious liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. But this great body of the electorate has allowed a church representing only one-sixth of the population to make, as the minority opinion declared, a second breach in the wall of separation between church and state. They have allowed it to happen because they were insensitive to the thing that was happening before their eyes.

Few Protestant ministers have brought this issue to their people, even in those states where action was imminent. They felt that it was such a "little thing" to get excited about—first free textbooks, then free bus transportation, for parochial schools at public expense. They were blind to the strategy of the Roman Church in using these apparently insignificant matters as the thin edge of the wedge which would ultimately crack open the Constitution and give the church the privileged position in the United States which it confessionally seeks. Even when the disguised appointment of an ambassador to the pope was made by the late President Roosevelt, Protestants were slow to arouse themselves to its constitutional and religious implications.

But Protestantism can no longer be complacent in the face of such encroachments by the Roman Church. They should now see that the issue raised by the aggressive policy of this church involves much more than the determination of a legal point. It involves the ultimate character of American culture and the destiny of Protestantism in this country. A culture dominated by the Roman Church will be a different culture from one in which Protestantism is the ascendant faith. This incontrovertible fact should awaken

all non-Roman citizens of the nation—regardless of their religious faith or lack of it—to see (1) that no further advances are made toward the goal of a privileged relation of this church with the government, (2) to undo by congressional action the effect of the two Supreme Court decisions which, as Justice Rutledge strongly says, mark the beginning steps toward that goal, and (3) to hasten the fulfillment of President Truman's promise to discontinue the American embassy at the Vatican.

The government's state must be wiped clean of all the encroachments to which it has yielded under the aggressive pressure of the hierarchy in recent years. The Roman Church must be told by positive government action that its operations are henceforth to be kept separate from the operations of the state and confined to the forum of freedom where all religious faiths and institutions stand on their own feet. In that forum, every faith enjoys the legal tolerance guaranteed by the Constitution. Unaided and unimpeded by any law or the administration of law, it is free to flourish according to its own inherent strength or weakness. This is religious liberty. Upon it, American democracy is established.

IV

It is the duty of Protestantism to lift high the banner to which all lovers of religious liberty can now repair. For Protestantism has the largest stake in keeping open this forum of freedom, even as it was the spirit of American Protestantism which established it. The principle of a free church side by side with a free state, both of them existing in a free society, emerged in an America in which the influence of Protestantism was overwhelmingly preponderant. At the time the Constitution was adopted the population of this country was about 4,000,000 and the Catholic population only 30,000. Through the intervening years, the Roman Church has patiently held in abeyance its own radically different conception of the relation of church and state. As a minority church, it could not make an effective claim for a special relation with the state. It was content with, and no doubt grateful for, the freedom and equality which, through the Protestant majority, the state accorded to all forms of religion.

But the situation has changed. Though still a minority as compared with the whole of Protestantism, Catholicism has become a strong and formidable minority. It is now asserting its claim, long held in abeyance, for a privileged recognition. It will not long be content with the half-loaf of an illegal ambassadorial appointment by the President. Influential voices are already asking for the whole loaf—that is, a full undisguised legal exchange of diplomatic representatives with the Vatican. And it will not be content with the two crumbs it has now gained in the form of tax money for textbooks and bus transportation. It will soon be asking for the whole loaf of complete tax support for its parochial schools. Indeed, it is chiefly the demand of the Catholic Church for its full proportionate share of the proposed multi-million dollar appropriation to the states for education that is obstructing action on a bill now before Congress. For Congress to yield to this demand would mark a long advance toward the achievement by the church of its ultimate goal.

Protestantism cannot, without resistance, allow the government of the United States to yield to this claim, nor allow the claims already conceded to become permanent. To do so is to consent to the curbing of the liberty of all non-Roman faiths. By as much as the Roman Church is given a special position in the processes of the government, every other church will find itself in a subordinate and prejudiced position in American life. By as much as that church is accorded a special access to the public treasury, Protestantism will be restricted and embarrassed. By as much as the Catholic Church uses its special position and its unique access to the public treasury to achieve its own ends in American society, Protestantism will awake to find that its influence in American society has been undermined.

V

If Protestantism passively tolerates any compromise of the principle of the equality of all religious faiths before the American state, it seals its own destiny. It dooms itself to become, in the end, a minority sect existing on the margins of American life. The main stream of our culture will flow in the channel determined for it by the particular religious faith which has entrenched itself in the favor and privilege of the government.

No protest can be raised if American culture finally comes under the dominance of the Catholic faith—*provided* it does so as the result of a spiritual and moral competition in the forum of freedom where the rules are tolerance, persuasion, argument and example. But no Protestant, no Jew, no democratically minded American can envisage with complacency a transformation of American society and American institutions achieved as the result of special privilege and favor granted by a state which has pledged itself to keep the forum of religious freedom open to all comers.

The Christian Century is not among those who close their minds or their fellowship against Roman Catholics. We wish to be counted as an enemy of every form of anti-Catholic fanaticism. We wish for the Roman Church the same enjoyment of religious liberty that we claim for Protestantism. If, in the exercise of this liberty, Catholicism can win America, it will deserve to win it. But we are bound to resist every attempt by the Roman Catholic Church or any other church, including any Protestant church, to secure a position of advantage in the forum of our free society by maintaining an official connection with the government or a financial connection with the public treasury.

The membership of the Protestant churches must be aroused to an intelligent understanding of the issue which the Supreme Court's decision has now clarified. No pulpits can be silent on this issue. The Protestant religious press can be counted upon to do its part. But the issue must be carried down to the grass roots of the churches, namely its voting members. As citizens, they have no more imperative duty than to exercise sharp vigilance in keeping open the forum of religious liberty. Neither the federal government nor the states must be allowed through blindness or pressure or sentimentalism to destroy this open forum.



REPORT FROM THE CAPITAL

JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

715 Eighth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

The Northern Baptist Convention

The Southern Baptist Convention

The National Baptist Convention

The National Baptist Convention, Inc.

J. M. Dawson, Executive Secretary



E. HILTON JAY, Secretary

A. H. LIPPARD, Secretary

March, 1947

GOVERNMENT AID TO CHURCH SCHOOLS - SUPREME COURT DECISION REVIEWED

The five-to-four decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, handed down on February 10, 1947, has produced tremendous repercussions throughout the Nation. The majority opinion as read by Mr. Justice Hugo Black presented an eloquent and convincing account of the background which explained the American espousal of the doctrine of separation of church and state, the repudiation of religious establishment from which the colonists fled Europe, from which they had a taste of the same suffering on these shores, causing the adoption of the First Amendment forbidding any further imposition of the evils of an official, state-supported church. After such a deliverance, when he announced that his group would uphold the New Jersey statute, which provides tax money payment to Catholics for the transportation of their children to parochial schools, the words sounded almost incredible. The vigorous dissent voiced immediately by Justices Jackson, Rutledge, Frankfurter and Burton showed how certain facts involved were neglected or failed of true construction.

The relative merits of the majority opinion and the dissenting opinions are so susceptible to evaluation, the Joint Conference Committee on Public Relations for the Baptists of the United States determined immediately to publish the opinions themselves, together with a legal analysis of them, along with its estimate and certain representative press opinions, to be embodied in a booklet so that the reading public might pass its judgment in the case.

An alert press was not slow to speak up, as shown in this issue of Report From The Capital. We consider this another encroaching step toward changing the Constitution in a manner to give the Catholic Church a privileged position, hence a long step toward altering the culture of the country. It could wreck the whole cherished public school system, for if one religious group can receive government aid in support of their institutions, then all should. What would be the effect of allowing two hundred and fifty-eight religious denominations to get support for their church schools? How different is the plea of public welfare as a reason than public welfare served by religion? Isn't payment of priests and church upkeep as logical?

Baptists do not propose to sit complacently by, but will raise an outcry in the hope that the country may become aroused to this threat. Already nineteen states in which Catholics are strong have passed some kind of enactment providing tax aid to church institutions. If denied a rehearing before the Supreme Court in the New Jersey case, Baptists will appeal to Congress not to enact pending educational bills into law which would extend Government aid to Church schools; they will appear in other cases which will come to the Supreme Court; and they will continue publicly and extensively to make their argument against this portentous danger to religious liberty.

* * *

CATHOLICS WRONG AS USUAL

Our Sunday Visitor, National Catholic Weekly: "Bigotry did its best to defeat the cause of private schools before the Supreme Court. The American Civil Liberty Union prepared an Amicus Curiae brief against it; so did the Southern Baptists; so did the Junior Order of United American Mechanics; so did the Seventh Day Adventists; so did another powerful organization which later withdrew its brief. And now bigotry will only begin to rant."

The above characteristic remark of Our Sunday Visitor contains three distinct errors in one sentence. First error: it says the Southern Baptists prepared a brief, whereas the Hon. E. Hilton Jackson, Chairman of the Joint Conference Committee representing the Baptists of the United States, North and South, white and colored, prepared the brief, which was not for Southern Baptists alone but for the Baptists of America. Second error: it says "another powerful organization which later withdrew its brief" entered the case, whereas the Clerk of the Supreme Court tells us no single brief was withdrawn, and furthermore we know that several other groups did desire to submit briefs against it along with Baptists but were not in time to qualify. Third error: it says "bigotry will not only begin to rant," whereas the reaction of the Nation's press as reflected in this issue of Report From the Capital indicates who is talking, and the Catholic editor could hardly stigmatize the secular press as guilty of bigotry toward the Catholics.

We welcome such a Catholic expression as this one from Our Sunday Visitor, because it will in future contests with the Catholic encroachments on the American Constitution everywhere afford a true indication of who is guilty of bigotry in this country.

* * *

BAPTISTS DISCUSS COURT DECISION

The Joint Conference Committee of the Baptists of the United States, by reason of its backing the appellant in the New Jersey case in which the Supreme Court rendered opinions sustaining aid to Catholic parents in transporting their children to parochial schools, finds itself under heavy pressure to meet invitations for public discussion both in the press and on the platform. The Honorable E. Hilton Jackson, Chairman of the Committee who prepared the Baptist brief as Amicus Curiae, has consented to address the annual convention of Congregational Churches of Massachusetts in Boston; a mass meeting of Baptists in San Antonio, Texas; The Baptist Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas; and the First Baptist Church Brotherhood in El Dorado, Arkansas. Dr. J. M. Dawson, Executive Secretary of the Committee, will speak to a meeting of Baptist pastors and others in Atlanta, Georgia, Monday, March 17. He has recently addressed audiences at Mississippi College at Clinton, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N. C., and Meredith College at Raleigh, N. C. on the subject. Resolutions deploring the Court's decision have been prepared for both the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in St. Louis the first week in May and the Northern Baptist Convention to be held in Atlantic City the week following.

* * *

NOTABLE COMMENT ON COURT DECISION

To give some understanding of the country's reaction to the decision of the United States Supreme Court upholding the New Jersey law which provides payment of public tax money to Catholic parents for transporting their children to parochial schools, we are printing a few out of the many adverse expressions.

The Washington Post: "Only a narrow gap divides the five Supreme Court justices who upheld the use of public funds for transportation of students to church schools from the four who took the opposite view. But that narrow gap runs to immense depth. For the principle at issue is one of the most fundamental in the American concept of government - the separation of church and state....School children's bus fare is one of many items in our national bill of education. If citizens can be taxed to pay this expense, they can be taxed to pay the salaries of church school teachers and the cost of buildings for religious educational purposes. When and if this happens, the dominant group in any community will be in a position to dip into the public purse to propagate its own faith and the separation of church and State, as we have known it in the past, will be nothing but a myth. The majority opinion carries strong suggestions that the court would not go that far. But the court has destroyed the only basis on which a rational distinction can be made. Its resort to expediency in this instance will deprive it of an anchor to tie to when the larger issues are raised. Justice Black's argument favoring this relatively small encroachment upon a constitutional principle reminds us of the young woman who tried to excuse her transgression of the moral law by saying that her illegitimate child was only a small one. It is the principle that is vital, as Justice Rutledge made clear in his powerful dissent, and not the amount of the assistance given. Taxes are wholly public. The religious function is wholly private. The two cannot be intermingled, in our opinion, without grave damage to both. We should think that every religious group interested in maintaining freedom in its relationship to the Deity would understand and appreciate this fact. For, as Justice Jackson wrote in his separate dissent: "If the State may aid these religious schools, it may therefore regulate them." In this sense, the court appears to have struck a blow at religious freedom as well as the separation of church and state, for the two are inextricably woven together."

Scottish Rite News Bulletin, Washington, D. C., pp. 1: "After reciting the law, fact and our tradition for 160 years, which the Roman Catholic Church (a foreign temporal power) has tried in every way to strike down, bit by bit, one is amazed at the reasoning of the Court in its findings....It will certainly occur to but few students of the First Amendment that the Supreme Court has, in the New Jersey Case, kept 'the wall between church and state high and impregnable' when it succumbed to an alleged welfare statute of that state to strike down that wall or at least to breach it....In holding that it 'must not strike that statute down' because it is 'a public welfare legislation' the Supreme Court did strike down the First Amendment, the greatest public welfare organic law ever evolved by man in his age-long fight for freedom and peace. The Court not only superimposed a state statute of alleged welfare benefits above the First Amendment but in doing so veered far afield from its own sound definition of that Amendment, which it gave at length....When the Court hears from the country in no uncertain terms it may be cogent enough in its processes to grant a rehearing."

Time, New York: "The Court, operating more as a debating society than as the Government's judicial mind, could produce nothing better than a 5-to-4 decision which settled little and solved nothing. It did show - and thereby took aback those who fondly imagined that the question had been answered long ago - that the relations of church and state were still, or again, an issue....The issue was not settled. In the past, the courts of six states had thrown out, as unconstitutional, laws similar to New Jersey's permitting transportation at public expense for parochial-school pupils. There was talk of drafting a constitutional amendment to bar the practice. The issue would be before the people for a long time to come."

The News and Observer, Raleigh, N. C.: "Last week in a five to four decision the Supreme Court of the United States struck the worst blow against the American complete separation of church and state of a century....For some years Catholic priests and others have been seeking to compel the State to transport children to church schools in

buses bought and operated by public taxation for the sole purpose of transporting children to the tax-supported public schools, and several States have passed acts permitting such transportation. The use of public money for church schools is contrary to the principles and policies which are the cornerstone of our republic. If the money appropriated for public education can be employed to transport children to the Catholic schools in New Jersey, or to Lutheran schools in Illinois, or Methodist schools in Michigan, public school money can be diverted not only to transport children attending all church schools, but it can be employed to pay teachers in church schools, erect buildings for church schools and go along toward undermining the whole public school system in the interest of the first steps of a return to the union of church and state....The narrow margin in the Supreme Court's reactionary decision gives rise to the hope of future overturning this dangerous departure from the rock-bed of hostility to anything that tends to overturn the Jeffersonian doctrine that has made this a country of religious freedom or any suggestion of church direction of public affairs.

Washington Evening Star: "The diversity and vigor of the court opinions evoked during the course of the litigation are indicative of the explosiveness of the issues involved. The New Jersey Supreme Court by a two-to-one vote ruled that the statute and resolution permitting payment of Catholic school students' fares are invalid. The Court of Errors and Appeals, by a six-to-three vote reversed that decision. And now the Supreme Court, by a five-to-four division, has upheld the New Jersey law and the township action under it....The dissenters pointed out that Catholic schools are bound to benefit by transportation aid, no less than they would by any other form of State subsidy; that Catholic schools are 'the rock on which the whole (church) structure rests' and that tax aid to a Catholic church school is 'indistinguishable' from rendering the same aid to the church itself. As for police and fire protection, Justice Jackson emphasized that these services are rendered not only to Catholic schools but to private schools of all description, whether operated for profit or not." At some length The Star insisted this was no small issue, and took its stand with the four dissenting Justices."

The Nation: "Not in a long time has the Supreme Court come up with a ruling as vulnerable as its recent decision that public moneys may be used to provide free bus service for parochial school....The reasoning of Justice Black appears to be shockingly loose....Nervously, haltingly, but surely, the Court majority has breached the wall of separation so carefully built up by Jefferson and Madison. We will hear more of this matter as other communities take their lead from the Ewing Township case. We can only hope then, that the Court will reverse itself, as it has on other occasions when its decisions have clearly misfired."

St. Louis Post - Dispatch: "If it were a unique and isolated instance, the Supreme Court decision in the New Jersey parochial school case might attract little attention. But this decision will not rest in some remote judicial plane. It lends abrupt support to an increasing and subtle encroachment on separation of church and state....The first real assault on the principle of separation of church and state came only after World War I....In the 30's parochial schools caught in the depression looked for public assistance. The chasm between church and state began to narrow....Amid the legal confusion, it is clear that many citizens are now taxed, however indirectly, to support religious teaching in which they have no conviction....But the astonishing thing is that after so many years of study and jealously-guarded independence, religion is now considered so feeble as to need government help."

Chicago Daily Tribune: "We believe, with the minority of the Court, that the line between church and state should be strictly drawn and that this strictness will, in the long run, redound to the benefit of religious organizations, and the preservation of

religious freedom....The teaching of religion should be encouraged in every way so long as it is carried out by the citizen himself in his home or through his church. It is not a matter with which any public body can safely concern itself, however indirectly."

The Christian Science Monitor: "Separation of church and state is a bulwark of religious liberty. To remove a stone from that bulwark is to weaken the fortress of religious liberty. In our opinion the Supreme Court, by its decision permitting the use of public funds to pay for transportation to sectarian schools, has torn down a whole section of that bulwark....The Court has opened a very wide door. Where will we draw the line? It might be well for the friends of religious liberty to carry a new case to the Court to permit it to call a quick halt to this breaking down of the separation of church and state - or even to reverse itself."

Alabama Baptist: "This decision of the Supreme Court is the most serious thing that has happened within forty years of our active life. It is the opening wedge whereby larger public funds will be asked for the support of Catholic institutions. The next step will be to get through Congress a bill to pay the teachers of Catholic schools out of public funds. The decision tends toward a union of church and state for which the Catholic church has stood since the church and state were united by Constantine, the Roman emperor, in 325 A. D. The decision tends to circumvent the Bill of Rights which separates church and state and guarantees religious freedom for all. And it will do more to widen the rift between Protestants and Catholics in America than anything else has ever done. More than that it is so loaded it will enter American politics, a thing which ought not to be done in this country."

Religious News Service, New York, Washington dispatch: "The Supreme Court decision in the New Jersey school bus case hit Protestantism generally and the Baptists in particular with the force of a judicial atomic bomb. As a result, it can safely be predicted that Monday, February 10, 1947, will be remembered in church history. For, as Arthur Krock, the New York Times columnist pointed out, the Supreme Court on that day did not end a controversy by its decision, but really gave birth to a continuing conflict. Protestant spokesmen here - other than the Baptists - generally restricted their statements to private expressions of opinion, but all of them agreed that the last has not yet been heard of the use of public funds for private schools. And that wasn't all. Protestant spokesmen here said freely, that the decision would stiffen their opposition to any federal aid-to-education measure, even the watered-down Taft bill that would allow the states to use the funds as state laws provide. The Protestants here have determined to fight every piece of legislation even remotely relating to cooperation between church and state more vigorously, but it remains to be seen whether their constituents throughout the nation feel the decision as keenly as the men in the capital."

The California Southern Baptist: "Baptists should never stack arms until men with such a warped sense of justice are shorn of their authority. All this coupled with the fact that President Truman still keeps his personal ambassador to the Vatican, Mr. Myron C. Taylor, on the job makes our patriotism stagger."

The Watchman-Examiner, New York: "The decision of the Supreme Court that public school funds raised by taxation may be used to pay for transportation of children to Roman Catholic parochial schools is the stiffest blow at the great American principle of separation of church and state since the Bill of Rights became law....The Supreme Court, however, has often shown sufficient ingenuity in the use of lawyers' language and the shuffling of its precedents - when its decisions have met with public disfavor - to correct its own mistakes. If sufficient numbers of Americans now tell the Supreme Court and their representatives in Congress what they think of this destructive decision, a way may be found to change it."

The Christian Index, Atlanta, Georgia: "One does not have to be a lawyer, much less a Supreme Court Justice, to know that if public tax money can be used to take children to private, religious, schools, public tax money can also be used to support religious schools, hospitals and orphanages. There is no difference in principle and we may rest assured that the Roman hierarchy will press its victory to its logical limit This decision will do more to fan the flame of religious strife in this country than Ku Klux Klans and Columbians could ever do. Intense and bitter controversy is bound to result if this decision is not reviewed and reversed. It is a body blow against the principles of separation of church and state and, if allowed to remain, is destined to destroy completely our Constitutional protection against the union of church and state. The decision forces every taxpayer to contribute to private religious schools. Unless the decision is changed, or a new Constitutional amendment adopted, soon millions of our tax money will be pouring from our public treasuries into Catholic institutions."

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, former President Federal Council of Churches: "If parents have the natural right to determine the education of their children, a privilege this Nation gladly gives, it follows that parents who refuse the benefits of these splendid public school educational opportunities... should pay for such private education as they insist upon. Otherwise, the Communist father and mother who may demand a Marxian education for their children may also call for private schools and logically ask for public support. Public funds should be used for public education."

The Standard, Chicago (Swedish): "Taken by itself this measure may appear to be quite insignificant, and many will look upon the act of the Supreme Court as a just and humanitarian one. Why should not the state have a right to spread its benevolent wing over pupils in Catholic schools as freely as over boys and girls in public schools? These arguments - the 'child benefit theory' and the extension of the police powers of the state - were also used by the majority in presenting its decision. But seen as a part of a definite program of advance by the Roman Catholic church of today this measure gains considerably in importance. It is another step closer to the fulfillment of the dream of a Roman state church in this country and farther away from the treasured democratic principle of separation of church and state."

Dr. Louie D. Newton, President, Southern Baptist Convention: "I see in the decision a dark shadow, now no longer, it may appear, than a man's hand, but portending a great and terrible cloud that may be drifting out over every hamlet and dale from Plymouth Rock to the Golden Gate to darken the torch of religious liberty."

The Baptist Review, Dallas: "National aid to parochial schools will be one of the great issues before the Congress in Washington. The National Catholic Welfare Conference with other Roman Catholic bodies will bring tremendous pressure on the senators and representatives to support such measures.... It (the Roman Catholic Church) intends eliminating the public schools and every other institution which tends to create a non-sectarian unity within the nation.... We are now passing through a period where the whole concept of democracy is being challenged.... A bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives by R. J. Welch of California to appropriate \$150,000,000 this year (and more thereafter) for 'elementary and secondary parochial and public schools.' Catholic spokesmen for this bill justify it because 'it recognizes that parochial schools are semi-public because they serve the public good.' Let that specious argument soak in! To justify the appropriation of public monies to sectarian institutions on the ground that they 'serve the public good' would open the treasury of the United States to every denominational school and hospital in the country. The whole objective of such bills is, as the Christian Century well says, to 'abolish non-sectarian schools; let the state support the schools; let the church (the Roman Catholic) run them!' Senator Aiken has introduced a bill, S. 199, which would, if passed, enable parochial schools out of tax

money to pay teachers, build houses, transport and equip pupils - in short, in the words of Dr. J. M. Dawson, 'provide what Protestants have long feared would be done under the Catholic appeal.' It is the solemn duty of every citizen to keep informed of this unrelenting, sinister, and wholly un-American fight of the Roman Catholic Church to feed at the trough of public monies for the support of their institutions."

Religious Herald, Richmond, Virginia: "The Roman Catholic Church has won a signal victory by this decision. The Supreme Court unconsciously gave 'the clock's hands a backward turn.' It is unfortunate that Protestants by complacency and compromise encourage this movement towards state religion. A statement of protest by the Baptist Public Relations Commission in Washington issued against the Supreme Court decision is made less effective by those who support the program to teach the Bible and religion in the public schools."

Western Recorder, Louisville: "Catholic education is the rock on which the whole structure rests, and to render tax aid to its church school is indistinguishable to me from rendering the same aid to the church itself. The State cannot maintain a church and it can no more tax its citizens to furnish carriage to those who attend a church. The writer cannot be accused of having a persecution complex. He would have been equally opposed to the decision had the point in question involved transportation of Baptist children. It is not, therefore, a matter of its relation to a particular religious group. Neither can any accuse us of being disloyal to either the whole or any branch of our Government. Loyalty to Government is a part of Baptist nature. Nevertheless, this is the long dreaded step toward the union of church and State - the support of religious groups from public funds. The decision in the writer's judgment will bring an unprecedented outcry. It will plant a fear in the hearts of the American public, lest the religious liberties purchased at so dear a price, shall under pressure be sacrificed. We as Baptists say calmly and without rancor that the decision is the most unfortunate act on the part of any branch of our Government within the memory of any now living."

The Churchman (Episcopal) New York: "When the Supreme Court handed down its decision in the New Jersey school bus case it hit Protestantism a wallop which may at last awaken it. Baptists, long champions of separation of church and state, spoke up immediately. Their Joint Conference Committee on Public Relations issued a blast against the decision that was heard 'round the nation....' The time is ripe, and rotten ripe', to use a line from James Russell Lowell, for Protestants to go to work against the political activities of the Roman Catholic hierarchy - as we have been gently insisting in this journal for several years. Because of their lethargy, due to their fear of being called 'bigots' and 'intolerant', Protestants got what they deserve in the Supreme Court bus bill decision."

The Christian Century (Non-denominational) Chicago: "Protestants can no longer be complacent in the face of such encroachments by the Roman Church. They should now see that the issue raised by the aggressive policy of this church involves much more than the determination of a legal point. It involves the ultimate character of American culture and the destiny of Protestantism in this country. A culture dominated by the Roman Church will be a different culture from one in which Protestantism is the ascendant faith. This incontestable fact should awaken all non-Roman citizens of the nation - regardless of their religious faith or lack of it - to see (1) that no further advances are made toward the goal of a privileged relation of this church with the government; (2) to undo by congressional action the effect of the two Supreme Court decisions which, as Justice Rutledge strongly says, mark the beginning steps toward that goal; and (3) to hasten the fulfillment of President Truman's promise to discontinue the American embassy at the Vatican. The membership of the Protestant churches must be aroused to an intelligent understanding of the issue which the Supreme Court's decision has not clarified. No

Should Parochial Schools Be Provided?

IN EXAMINING the wisdom of establishing parochial schools for Jewish children, one would have to be extraordinarily myopic to narrow the issue merely to Jewish education. Unquestionably, the parochial school can inculcate greater Jewish knowledge and develop more intense loyalties than the Sunday School or Talmud Torah. But we cannot set a policy for the education of Jewish children in America by reference to this ideal alone.

We also want a liberal, progressive, and cooperative American people without cleavages based on race, religion, and descent. We want human beings with broad human sympathies in an America where Jews and all other elements will feel at home. The kind of education to be provided for Jewish children must be determined on the basis of all the relevant ideals.

Those who play with the idea of Jewish parochial schools should realize that by so doing they join the powerful influences which would liquidate public schools for all children and substitute separate schools for the children of the many denominations we have in America. The public school is not beyond danger of destruction. It is under attack from many quarters. It is charged with being "Godless," of neglecting "spiritual" education. Some religious leaders maintain that the education of children is outside the legitimate scope of the state, that schools should be turned over to the churches. Others seek to capture the public school for their respective denominations by introducing religious instruction.

If one chooses to emphasize the nationalistic reason for the establishment of Jewish schools, he simultaneously builds up a case for separate schools for German-Americans, Polish-Americans, Italian-Americans, and perhaps a hundred additional kinds of Americans. It is either one public school for all children, or many separate parochial schools for all religions and nationalities.

The public school has become traditionally identified with the American way of life. It promises a more cooperative, intelligent, broadminded, and

MORDECAI GROSSMAN

Research Consultant

unified America whereas parochial schools point to a sect-divided, indoctrinated, and conflict-ridden America.

The choice between public and parochial schools is not an isolated choice. Before Jews are persuaded in favor of parochial schools they should ask themselves: What kind of America do we want? What status do we desire for Jews in America? What kind of human beings do we want our children to be? What kind of Jews?

The kind of human beings our children will be will determine the kind of America we shall have. The way Jewish and Gentile children think of each other will determine the status of Jews in America. The kind of human beings Jewish children become will decide what kind of Jews they will be.

Inevitably, the parochial school must produce a sectarian individual. Instruction will be sect-centered. Children will learn but little of others' share in the making of American and human civilization. That which differentiates sect from sect will tend to loom more important than our common American and common human tradition.

Not only the formal instruction but informal associations must be considered. There is no spontaneous generation of broad human sympathies and broad human associations. Segregation of children for study purposes means also segregation for play and in all forms of human association. The consequence can only be a kind of mentality which identifies mankind and America with a particular sect and relegates all others to an inferior status.

The parochial school is likely to fashion an indoctrinated mentality incapable of coping with world problems. There is no Jewish, no Catholic, no Protestant solution to the problems of creating a peaceful, just, and saner world. There is only a human solution to be discovered by all the people cooperatively. Should we approach the practical problems of society from the viewpoints of our different theologies,

we should wind up with confusion worse confounded. Let churches and synagogues encourage the cooperative human quest for a better way of life; let them sanctify the best that the human mind can attain, but do not surrender to them the exclusive responsibility of fashioning the human mind.

If parochial schools gradually come to displace our public schools, we shall have a vastly different America. We would become a society of nations with religion constituting the principle of nationality. As yet we are potentially one people. That we have progressed to that goal is largely due to the public schools.

We are still a varied people. Variety has enriched our culture, broadened our perspective, made for religious freedom. But variety is good only insofar as the different elements blend into one harmonious unity. Should the parochial school displace the public school, whatever harmony we have attained would give way to conflict and discord.

What would be the status of Jews in the sect-divided society that would be fashioned by a general system of parochial schools? Our status would be that of prewar Poland. We would be a religious and national minority, subject to more misunderstandings, prejudices, discriminations, and animosities than we have been subjected to hitherto.

For the cultivation of the kind of Jewish culture which can thrive in America, we must look to and improve our supplementary afternoon schools, to extracurriculum programs in general schools, and to clubs and activities under synagogue and community auspices.

The parochial school is unequal to fashioning the kind of Jewish culture and Jewish individual which can thrive in America. The Jewish religious and cultural heritage must function within the complex of the total American culture. It must link us to other Americans, not separate them from us.

Jewish, American, and broadly human interests require the support, extension, and improvement of public education. —Abridged from the *National Jewish Monthly*, Feb. 1945, published by B'Nai B'rith.

April 2, 1947

Dear Miss Williams:

The list of people
given in your letter of March 27th
is fine and if you will send me
the addresses of the people. I
shall send them notes asking them
to a buffet lunch with me at the
cottage.

Affectionately,

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Williams

March 27, 1947

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Through your column I have kept up with you pretty well during your swing around the country, and I have awaited to write you until you had caught up, to a degree, with things awaiting your attention in New York. In the meantime, I have been very busy on the plans for Hyde Park on May 17.

I have made a tentative list of people and organizations that I should like to have represented on that day. They are as follows:

Roosevelt Foundation	<i>Let Publ. Inc.</i>
Women's Joint Congressional Committee	Mrs. James H. Irwin
White House Conference on Rural Education	Dr. and Mrs. Howard A. Dawson
Democratic National Committee	Mrs. Chase Going Woodhouse
Woman's National Democratic Club	Mrs. Izetta Jewell Miller
National Congress of Parents and Teachers	Mrs. L. W. Hughes, President
National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs	Miss Margaret Hickey
	Miss Pauline Mandigo
(Miss Hickey is past president and honorary president of the Federation, and associate editor of the Ladies' Home Journal; Miss Mandigo is publicity chairman for the Federation and has a publicity bureau of her own)	
National Education Association	Mr. and Mrs. Willard E. Givens
New York Times	Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Pine
Roosevelt Family	Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Roosevelt
Williams Family	Colonel and Mrs. H. N. Williams
	Mr. L. C. Williams
	Charl Ormond Williams

This makes nineteen unless the Roosevelt Foundation should send two. It would be nice if Mr. and Mrs. Morgenthau would come. If they send only one person, then I shall have one more place to fill. I do not need to tell you that every person so far to whom this occasion has been mentioned, has shown pleasure in the prospect of that visit to the Library and to your home for the luncheon. I wanted you to see the list before I wrote any letters to these people. You may pause at two of the names listed, but I invited them for professional reasons.

I am sure that I shall regard the day on which I give my treasures to the President's Library as a great event in my life, a veritable climax to a long period of service for teachers and schools.

I am sending you the carbons of the replies to my letters to Dr. Shipman and to Mr. Morgenthau. I have made numerous attempts here and elsewhere to find a maker and the material for the two bases on which I want to display the two silver trays. Last Friday I spoke in Philadelphia and then went on to New

F. Roosevelt

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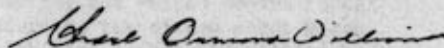
March 27, 1947

York for the express purpose of finding out on Monday what Tiffany could do about the matter. I learned there that they had no mahogany in stock and none in sight in the near future with which to make their chest and table for their flat silver. However, the firm gave me two holders which can be temporarily used and they promised to make the appropriate bases for the trays as soon as they receive their mahogany. Those bases must be right and I shall see to that as soon as it is possible.

Yesterday — of all days when the wind blew at 45 to 60 miles an hour — I started out with an arm full of things, among them Pala's pen drawing and the President's photo in their frames. There were street corners which I thought I would not be able to cross in safety and finally after visiting three different places I took a cab home.

I shall be writing you again sending you some of the comments about your trip, and then there are two other items of a more or less personal nature that I want to comment on, about which I read in your column, during the past weeks.

Faithfully yours,



Charl Ormond Williams
Director of Field Service

cow/b

HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR.

265 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.
Murray Hill 5-5362

March 5, 1947

Dear Mr. Williams:

In Mr. Morgenthau's absence, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 27th. Mr. Morgenthau is on a speaking tour for the United Jewish Appeal and will return to the office about March 17th, at which time I shall be pleased to bring your letter to his attention.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) H. S. Klotz

H. S. Klotz
Secretary

Mr. Charl Ormond Williams
Director of Field Service
National Education Association
of the United States
1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

MAILS
502
FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

The National Archives
THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY
Hyde Park, N.Y.

Office of the Director

March 7, 1947

Miss Charl Ormond Williams
Director of Field Service
National Education Assn. of the U.S.
1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Williams:

I was pleased to receive your letter of February 27 in which you tell me of your plans to present some unique and historical items to this Library on May 17, 1947. From your description of the trays and the volumes of correspondence, I am certain that they will be valuable additions to our collections. I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

I shall be glad to hear from you again concerning your plans for the presentation of this material to the Library.

Very sincerely,

(signed) Fred W. Shipman
nn
Fred W. Shipman
Director

FWS:nn

I have your several
letters which I read
with interest.

I think you should
give the original
photos to the library.
There is a good chance

from the Central
Station at 9¹⁵ to
Poughkeepsie and I will
send the car for
you

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Williams

April 8, 1947

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

All my life, it seems to me, I have been doing things I had never done before. For exactly that reason, my life has been full, rich, and, at times, downright exciting. Ten years ago, I am sure I never thought that I should be so engrossed in preparation for a presentation of treasures to The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park. Indeed, did we know ten years ago that there would be such a library? I cannot recall the date of its announcement.

All the things I have done, and am now doing, and shall be doing until I see you on May 16 have truly been a labor of love. I have not secured exactly what I wanted for some of my contributions, for the situation in regard to men and materials made it necessary for me to take what I could get.

For instance, I had to frame the two dinner programs, back to back, in three separate frames hinged together instead of the large single frame I had planned. Kiln-dried walnut was not procurable for the box to contain the programs, reprints from the Congressional Record, and the copper plate from which the prints of you were made for the dinner programs. So I had to have the box made of nickel. It may turn out that the change was for the better — we shall have to wait and see. I had the copper plate chromium-plated, so that from 50 to 500 years from now prints may be made from it, in case the women of that day may be commemorating your service to our country and to the world.

Underwood's is making a photograph of President Roosevelt's photograph for me; I felt I must have a copy. They are doing "art work" on it to take out the creases caused by mailing. I have felt that the original one should go to the Library. If the copy is excellent, should I give that one? What do you think? *(see attached letter)*

no original

Beautiful mahogany bases for the silver trays will be made for me by Tiffany and Company as soon as that wood of the right quality is available. I am not willing to have anything else as permanent bases for them.

I am sending you a copy of the list I made for Dr. Nixon, as well as my letter to him. Please note in that letter that I told him I hoped to arrive

1000 BIKIKIEMHIN BJSHEL M. JAMICIAK
EDUCATION JAMICIAK

86m
9-10-7
Kudap

on a morning train from New York, one that would reach Poughkeepsie about 11 o'clock -- probably the same one I came on the last time when you were on the train. Is that convenient for you?

It has been difficult to write the remainder of this letter, and I have thought a long time about how to record my ideas underlying this presentation because I do not wish to be misunderstood. But you have always understood, so I shall proceed.

I have visited Mt. Vernon, Monticello, and The Hermitage often, particularly Washington's and Jackson's homes. Washington said more about education in his state papers than any other President, and Roosevelt ranked second, according to a fairly recent study. Jefferson devoted a large part of his life to practical development of his educational ideals. If there is any exhibit in any of these shrines revealing the humorous, personal, human touch of the President or his wife with education, or with any teacher, I have not seen it.

During the past eight years 350,000 teachers have left the teaching profession largely because of lack of decent salaries. Many have given as an additional reason lack of recognition by their "superiors" in education, and lack of social esteem on the part of the public. At the time when this situation in education is more critical than at any other period in our history, these exhibits are presented to the Library at Hyde Park. If these evidences of recognition of a member of the teaching profession cause one teacher, or prospective teacher, in a thousand to stop and think, then these treasures of mine will be worth many times the money, time, and loving thought that have gone into them, to say nothing of the work of most of my life that has made them possible.

Please do not be appalled at the bulk of this envelope of letters. I have marked with a red pencil the points on which I should like a reply.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

April 8, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Apartment 15-4
29 Washington Square, West
New York 11, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Underwood and Underwood has just sent me the photograph of my 1921 photograph of President Roosevelt. It is excellent. I asked for a wide margin on it which makes the autograph stand out, although of course it shows its age.

The original photograph was a glossy print on dark gray cardboard which makes the reading of the inscription somewhat difficult since it was written 26 years ago. Then, too, the President's signature is right on the edge of the cardboard, so that the frame of necessity obscures the lower part of the writing.

In the mailing, the photograph was so bent that there are three creases across the face of the President, but not an actual break in the glossy print. All these are taken out in the Underwood photograph.

"Harris and Ewing, Washington, D. C." is stamped on the left hand corner of the photograph, but I am taking it right back to Underwood's to have that removed.

My own judgment, now that I have both photographs before me, is to give to the Library the Underwood photograph. A card could be placed in front of it stating that this is a reproduction, if that seems desirable.

What do you think now?

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

For your information

April 7, 1947

Dr. Edgar B. Nixon
Assistant Director
Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
Hyde Park, New York

Dear Dr. Nixon:

One day last summer I made my third visit to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library for the express purpose of asking you about binding in durable material the correspondence I have kept since 1934 with Mrs. Roosevelt.

When you expressed the hope that I would deposit that correspondence in the Library, I then told you of the few precious minutes I have of both President and Mrs. Roosevelt, and that I had already talked to the latter about presenting them to the Library at an early date.

On January 5, 1947 Mrs. Roosevelt found time in a busy visit to Washington to come to my office to see both the correspondence and the other things about which you know. It was then that I told her of your wish that I bring them to the Library. She suggested a presentation ceremony, and that I ask members of my family and some friends to be present.

On February 17, I spent the night at her apartment in New York at which time we made plans for the presentation to take place on May 17, 1947. Complying with her suggestion, I immediately wrote to Dr. Fred W. Shipman, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, from whom I have received a very cordial reply.

Since that date I have been occupied with the difficult task of getting my treasures ready to turn over to the Library — difficult, because of the problem of "man and materials" about which we have heard so much during the last few years. However, they are now scattered through several shops in Washington and New York, and as fast as they are ready I shall have them shipped, carefully packed in wood and insured to you. Will you please send me by return mail, if possible, accurate shipping instructions so that no package may go astray?

I plan to arrive on a morning train May 16, if that is convenient for Mrs. Roosevelt, so that I may spend the afternoon at the Library with you, and have your help in unpacking the boxes.

I am sending you a complete list and description of these minutes so that you may make plans for their disposition. I hope you will not think me "efficiency" when you read the suggestion I made at the bottom of each page. I hope the things connected with both President and Mrs. Roosevelt may be kept together in a glass case where they may be seen and read by junior and senior high school students, as well as teachers, and other adults.

Dr. Himm

April 7, 1948

Later, I shall send you a list of the firms from which they will be expressed to you, and I shall appreciate your notifying me upon the arrival of the boxes. In that way, I can "pref" those who are taking with their work.

I am giving these treasured moments to the library because I think they really do not belong to me. They belong to the teachers and school children with whom I have worked since I was eighteen years of age. Countless thousands of them will visit the library in the years ahead and I hope and believe that they will be deeply interested, even inspired, by what they see, and read into these treasures which I have placed there for them.

I want you to know that I deem it a great privilege to be permitted to leave this "legacy" to them.

Yours sincerely,

Carl Oswald Williams

cuw/s

P.S. A copy of this letter is being sent to Dr. Chipman, and to Mrs. Roosevelt.

GROUP I

IIIA

1. Correspondence about including Fala in the volume of proceedings of the White House Conference on Rural Education, October 8 to 9, 1948, published by the National Education Association.

In a frame about 2½ feet square are:

- A letter from Miss Williams to Mrs. Roosevelt
- A letter from Miss Williams to President Roosevelt
- A letter from Miss Williams to Mr. Clifford Neuvynson who made the pen drawing of Fala
- A letter from President Roosevelt to Miss Williams

2. The original framed pen drawing of Fala, about 18" by 18", made by Mr. Neuvynson, artist and cartoonist for the Evening Star. Underneath the drawing of Fala are the lines written by President Roosevelt on January 7, 1948 in the White House.

These lines are the sentiments Fala is supposed to have expressed after having been invited to appear before the conference of delegates.

These two framed contributions might be hung on the wall in Fala's corner. Children as well as teachers will be interested, I hope and believe, so they should not be hung too high.

GROUP II

HISTORIC MEMENTO FOR MRS. ROOSEVELT

1. Nickel box, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " by 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " containing 1 program of dinner, 4 Congressional Record reprints of proceedings and engraved plate from which the prints of Mrs. Roosevelt used in the program were made.

On this box in plain letters will be the record of its contents.

2. Three frames about 9" by 11" each, hinged together containing the whole program. The program was taken apart so that all six pages appear in the three frames -- back to back with glass on both sides.

3. The engraved silver bowl about 9" in diameter -- Paul Revere style -- that was presented to Mrs. Williams, in appreciation of her services as chairman of the dinner, by the Women's Joint Congressional Committee.

These 3 contributions, I suppose, would be displayed in a glass case with the articles in group III and group IV.

GROUP III

REMINISCS OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

1. The original photograph, 12" by 12", that President Roosevelt gave to Miss Williams in 1941, after the 1936 campaign was history, with the now faded autograph, framed in an easel frame.

2. The blue sheet of White House stationery on which President Roosevelt wrote the autograph of 1941 and to which he added some significant words, framed in an easel frame.

3. The silver tray 11" square, made by Tiffany and Company on which Miss Williams has preserved "for a thousand years," to quote the President, the words on the blue letter head written by President Roosevelt on April 18, 1940.

These 3 contributions would also be displayed in a glass case, I should think.

GROUP IV

MEMORIES OF MRS. ROOSEVELT

1. Last letter written by Mrs. Roosevelt to Miss Williams on moving stationery on April 30 just before she left the White House, framed in an oval frame, about 7" by 9".

2. The silver tray, 11" square -- an exact copy of the tray used for President Roosevelt's inscription -- on which Miss Williams has preserved this treasured letter from Mrs. Roosevelt.

It is a milestone in the correspondence with her that dates back to 1904.

These 2 contributions should be displayed in a glass case along side those articles relating to President Roosevelt.

For your information

This box contains programs and
reprints of the proceedings published in
THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD
and the engraved plate from which the prints were made of
MRS. FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
FIRST WOMAN DELEGATE from the UNITED STATES to the
FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS
for a dinner in her honor sponsored by
THE WOMEN'S JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE
Washington, D. C.,
Hotel Mayflower
March 14, 1945

The above wording will be "stamped and engraved" on the nickel box
mentioned in group IX.

LIST OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MISS WILLIAMS' PARTY TO WHOM MRS. ROOSEVELT WILL
SEND AN INVITATION TO THE BUFFET LUNCHEON AT HER HOME AT HYDE PARK
FOLLOWING THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS TO THE
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

Mrs. James W. Irwin
Tilden Gardens
3031 Sedgewick Street
Washington, D. C.

Dr. and Mrs. Howard A. Dawson
6420 Barnaby Street, N. W.
Washington 16, D. C.

Mrs. Chase Going Woodhouse
Democratic National Committee
Hotel Mayflower
Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Isetta Jewell Miller
2222 Que Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Mrs. L. W. Hughes
Arlington
Shelby County
Tennessee

Miss Margaret A. Hickey
560 N. Skinker
St. Louis, Missouri

Miss Pauline Mandigo
National Federation of Business and
Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.
1819 Broadway
New York, New York

Dr. and Mrs. Willard E. Givens
4329 Blagden Avenue, N.W.
Washington 11, D. C.

Colonel and Mrs. Elliott Roosevelt
New York City, New York

Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Fine
The New York Times
Times Square
New York, New York

Colonel and Mrs. Hartwell Newton Williams
Quarters #302
Mitchel Field
Long Island, New York

Mr. Laurence Crittenden Williams
John Marshall Hotel
Richmond, Virginia

Miss Charl Ormond Williams
2727 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington 8, D. C.

Carbon of one Jimmy ~~letter~~ ^{invitation}

APRIL 7, 1947

Miss Pauline Mandigo
National Federation of Business and
Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.
1818 Broadway
New York, New York

Dear Miss Mandigo:

On May 17, 1947 at 12 o'clock I am to have the privilege of presenting to the Hyde Park Library of our great President, and my long-time friend, four groups of mementos, priceless to me, that I have gathered and cherished through the years.

Group I concerns Fala, the President's little black scottie, internationally known and loved, and records the steps by which he came to have a place in the volume of proceedings of the historic White House Conference on Rural Situation, published by the National Education Association.

Group II is a record of the historic dinner, March 14, 1945, sponsored by the Women's Joint Congressional Committee of Washington, D. C., a group of organizations with a membership of 10,000,000, in honor of Mrs. Roosevelt, the first woman delegate to the first General Assembly of the United Nations held in the early months of 1945 in London, and "The First Lady of the World" today.

Group III consists of a photograph of President Roosevelt sent to me by him in 1921 in appreciation of my help in the 1920 presidential campaign, and two other articles that show how I preserved the meaningful autograph on that treasured photograph.

Group IV consists of the last letter Mrs. Roosevelt wrote me from the White House on April 20, 1945, eight days after the death of President Roosevelt, and the silver tray on which I have preserved that cherished letter. You will be told at the presentation about the part Mrs. Roosevelt played in making it possible for me to have these mementos, and to present them to the Library.

I have been given the privilege of inviting you to be present at the presentation at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at 12 o'clock on May 17, 1947 after which Mrs. Roosevelt will entertain at a buffet luncheon in her home the group of twenty of my friends and members of my family.

I do hope that nothing will prevent your being present. I shall send your reply to this letter on to Mrs. Roosevelt and she will then extend to you a personal invitation to be her guest on the day that means much to me.

Yours sincerely,

Charl Conrad Williams

Miss Madigo

-2-

April 7, 1947

P.S.

Dr. Howard A. Dawson, Director of the Division of Rural Service of the National Education Association, and Executive Secretary of the Department of Rural Education of the National Education Association was one of the three Co-Chairmen of the White House Conference on Rural Education held on October 3 to 5, 1944.

He returned this morning from an extensive field trip. I have arranged that he will have the honor of presenting to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library a volume of the proceedings of this historic conference that he is having bound especially for this occasion.

Charl Ormond Williams

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

April 11, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Apartment 15-A
29 Washington Square, West
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Please do not think that you have to read all of the enclosed mimeographed material. Well do I know that you do not have time to do it, and right here I shall say that you do not need to reply to this letter:

This is the ninth year of the Institutes on Professional and public Relations and they have made a contribution. I have put a few red marks around some paragraphs and some sentences because they will explain in part why I want to establish the Foundation about which I spoke very, very briefly to you.

You have made a contribution to this work too. Although you have seen it before, I am sending a copy of the blue, flag bulletin issued in 1942 with a quotation from you and Margaret Bondfield, first woman Minister of Labor in the British Cabinet. This has been our promotion bulletin ever since 1942 and it will now be replaced by the bulletin with the canary-colored cover.

Later on I may ask you for another quotation, so if your files are not full to overflowing, you might put these pamphlets in them for later consultation.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams
Charl Ormond Williams

CCW/b

Thank

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Williams

April 10, 1947

file

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Apartment 15-A
29 Washington Square, West
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am sending to you a copy of the very nice letter I received in the afternoon mail from Mr. Morgenthau, and I want you to know that an invitation to Miss Grace G. Tully will be mailed this afternoon and she will be added to my list. You already know that her address is: 810 Eighteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

I added the following paragraph to the invitation to Elliott and Faye, and I do hope they can join us on May 17.

"I do hope that both of you will be in New York at that time — you may even be in your hill-top home in the country — and that you can take time from your busy lives to attend the presentation ceremony and join my party at your blessed mother's home. I want very much to see you and talk with you about your trip to Russia and your book, for I am hoping to make that journey sometime before too long. I remember with great pleasure the evening I spent in your home — and the hour I spent in the morning with your little son. Please remember me to him. Do write me that you will be there!"

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

CCW/b

Faint typed text at the bottom of the page, likely a carbon copy or a stamp.

ADDRESS ONLY
NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
President

Robert E. Sherwood
Chairman, Executive Committee

Frank C. Walker
Chairman, Finance Committee

George E. Allen
Chairman, Advisory Committee

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.
President

Joseph E. Davies
Treasurer

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Honorary Chairman

Louis Brandlow
Director

Grace G. Tully
Executive Secretary

Charles E. Merriam
Consultant

Telephone
Executive 7955-56-57

610 Eighteenth Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

April 7, 1947.

Dear Miss Williams:-

Thank you so much for your very nice letter, received some time ago, telling me about the presentation you are going to make to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library on May 17, 1947, and I am sorry for the long delay in replying.

I have been greatly interested in the description of the historical pieces, which will be a real addition to the late President's collection.

The foundation would be very happy to be represented on that occasion, and I have asked Miss Grace G. Tully, Executive Secretary of the Foundation, to attend the ceremony at Hyde Park. Will you be good enough to get in touch with her?

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Henry Morgenthau, Jr.
President

Miss Charl Grand Williams,
Director of Field Service,
National Education Association of the U. S.,
1801 Sixteenth Street, N. W.,
Washington 6, D. C.

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

May 13, 1947

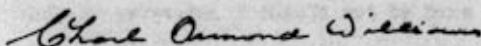
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Apartment 15-A
29 Washington Square, West
New York 11, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you so much for your telegram this morning. It settles everything. I am enclosing a copy of the letter that I am writing to the guests on that day. I am also sending you the introduction of what I am going to say so that you will see in writing just why I want to place my treasures in the President's Library. There is a phrase there on that first page which hints of further plans that I have, about which you know a little.

It is going to be a wonderful occasion for all concerned, and I am so grateful for all that you have done to make it possible.

Affectionately,



Charl Ormond Williams

w/e

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
Hyde Park, New York
May 17, 1947

Dr. Shipman, Mrs. Roosevelt, members of our two families, and friends:

In the life of any person, this day would be unique. It stands out sharply in mine, and will be remembered always. Your presence here is deeply appreciated, and I want all of you to know that I count it a great privilege to be able to present to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library four groups of mementos connected with President and Mrs. Roosevelt that date back 27 years.

In the invitation to you I listed the four groups and today, in order to make them more meaningful, I shall tell you something about the interesting experiences in which these mementos have their beginnings. All the experiences of these years, and many others, came to me, I truly believe, because I was a teacher, filled with pride in, and enthusiasm for my profession. I have learned long since that one does not achieve much alone — and besides, that it is more rewarding and exhilarating to work with people.

The people with whom and for whom I have worked all my life have been teachers and children, and I count myself fortunate that this is true. They are a part of all I have done. Indeed, without their cooperation, I should not be here today, in all probability. I have a debt to discharge, only a fraction of which can be paid today, and with humility of spirit and a deep sense of gratitude I place these precious treasures of mine here for them for safekeeping.

I have too great a sense of history not to know that my name will soon be forgotten, but the teaching profession will live on through the years. As long as children are born into the world, there will be schools with teachers to teach them. It is my hope that many of the teachers and school children of the nation may see these gifts and derive some pleasure and inspiration from them.

With your forbearance, I shall begin with the group that concerns the President. The story of that group might be called "The Evolution of an Autograph."

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

May 13, 1947

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

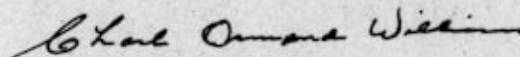
I have written you before that the Washington Daily News fails to reach my home several times a month — just why I cannot imagine. Because of the lax delivery of this paper, I did not see your May 6 column until May 12. I would not have missed that column for anything!

The story of your butter making took me back to my childhood days when I stood by a cedar churn and counted the strokes "to make the butter come." There were those barrel churns then but we did not have one.

I hope that you will not weary in this ambition of yours and that you will be able to serve me some of your own butter when I arrive this week end.

I shall be on the train that leaves New York at 9:15 in the morning, as you suggested.

Affectionately,



Charl Ormond Williams

Williams

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

May 27, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Dutchess County
New York

JW

My very dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Already the week end visit with you, and the memorable Saturday — the whole day — are taking on the aspects of a lovely dream. It does not seem possible that three days could be so perfect. All the rest of my life I shall feed upon the memory of this heart-warming occasion.

I was truly surprised at the spontaneous reception of my presentation stories, even though much loving thought and work had been expended upon them. I was quite overwhelmed by the laughter and the tear-dimmed eyes of both men and women who were there.

You, my dear, ran like a golden thread through the presentation of every one of my treasures. But for you I should never have possessed them, nor would the beautiful arrangements have been made.

The gracious hospitality you extended to my twenty-three guests, the other members of your family, and the things you dropped in unexpectedly, made May 17, 1947, a red letter day in our annals.

I was very happy to have present the two well-known cousins of President Roosevelt whom I met for the first time. There was little opportunity to talk with Miss Delano at the luncheon, but I did get to know Miss Suckley, who helped me so graciously on Friday afternoon. I fell in love with her, and I truly hope our paths will cross again in the days ahead.

I first saw your column about this event in the New York World-Telegram, and I love the story you told. When I returned home and clipped my papers, I found the New York paper had omitted a whole paragraph of your column, which contained that precious statement about the President. I am truly grateful to you for all of it, and I particularly appreciate that sentence. You have done so much for me.

This afternoon I leave Washington to be absent until June 10, at which time I shall be writing you again. Until then, and always,

Faithfully and affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

LADIES' HOME JOURNAL
The Curtis Publishing Company

Philadelphia 5, Pa.

May 25, 1967

Dear Charlie:

Saturday was a never-to-be-forgotten experience. The NEW YORK TIMES story about it was splendid, but it did not do justice to the warmth and friendliness of the ceremony and, above all, to the years of service and loyalty which made them possible.

As always, I was deeply impressed by your leadership, and came away with renewed confidence in the ability of the individual to have a real and lasting place in the history of great events.

Thanks for making that experience possible for us.

Devotedly,

(signed) Margaret


Margaret Hickey
Editor
Public Affairs Department

Miss Carl Oswald Williams
NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
1201 16 Street, N.W.
Washington 6, D. C.

ME: MS

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

June 10, 1947


Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Apartment 15-A
29 Washington Square, West
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You have already received the lovely letter from Miss Jessie Harroun of Salt Lake City, for whom you autographed your photograph. I am enclosing a copy of her letter to me. Jessie Harroun is the finest possible type of teacher, which means that she is a very fine all-round person. Well educated, with a good family background, endowed with a pleasing personality and poise, to say nothing of her good looks, she would stand out in any company. All this I perceived at the very first glance I had of her, and we have been friends ever since.

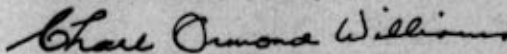
I must add to this letter my own very great pleasure in the honor that came to you through a degree granted to you by MacMurray College in Illinois.

In the recent issue of the Ladies' Home Journal, I saw that someone had asked you again about how you should like to be addressed. Some time ago you wrote a similar answer in your column. I settled that question for myself when that dinner program for March 14, 1946 was printed. This same question came up in the committee, but it was not debated long for I said to them that I was going to include the name of Franklin D. Roosevelt in every place on that program that was appropriate. You, of course, know that every letter I have ever written to you has been addressed to Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

- Everyday I have occasion to think and speak of May 17. At the recent Golden Jubilee Convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers in Chicago, many people told me that they had read in your column about the doings of that memorable day, and to each of them I promised to send a copy of the Congressional Record reprint.

This, my first day in the office since May 26, will be largely devoted to getting that manuscript in order. You have crossed the continent recently, and I returned to Washington five days earlier than I expected. ~~If you could send me your remarks following Dr. Shipman's acceptance speech, I would like so much to include them in this reprint.~~ I am writing a simple little story of the luncheon that I shall send you as soon as it is ready. I was urged by my Congressman to get this material into the Record as soon as possible, lest Congress should suddenly decide to adjourn.

Affectionately yours,


Charl Ormond Williams

Salt Lake City, Utah
June 3, 1947

Miss Charl Ormond Williams
Washington, D. C.

My dear Charl,

Last Wednesday will always be a red-letter day in my life. I thought your hint that you had a pleasant surprise for me referred in some way to Mrs. Roosevelt but I was not prepared for the receipt of her beautiful autographed photograph. Isn't she regal in that gown? I recall that in Miss Perkins' book on President Roosevelt that he remarked upon the way Mrs. Roosevelt wore evening clothes so beautifully. Nothing could have given me more pride or pleasure than this lovely gift and I am sure you knew that. I am deeply grateful to you.

I am acknowledging the photograph, not just formally, but somewhat at length. I am sending you a copy of my letter and hope you will approve of it. It contains accounts of actual happenings that may be of interest to the giver and to you. Many, many thanks. Do let me know when you are coming to Salt Lake. I do want to help make your visit a pleasant one.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Jessie

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1205 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Williams

June 17, 1947

*Rec'd
Type & copy for work
A. 3 v 4*

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Apartment 15-A
89 Washington Square, West
New York 11, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am dictating this letter over the phone from my home, where I have a colored man and his wife cleaning house for me. In the meantime, I have been putting the finishing touches on the manuscript for the Congressional Record. I have gone over it so many times, I almost know it by heart.

I am sending you a copy of the story of the luncheon and my visit with you. If there is a word, phrase, sentence, or paragraph that you think should be changed, or omitted, do not hesitate to draw a line through it — then return it to me. Even though I had reasons for writing as I did, that does not mean that it all has to be printed. In any event, I wanted you to see it before it was in print. All of it will go to press when I hear from you.

Affectionately,

Charles Grand Williams
Charles Grand Williams (C.G.W.)

COW/b

Dictated, but not read.

file
NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

June 17, 1947

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am dictating this letter over the phone from my home, where I have a colored man and Rosie cleaning house for me. In the meantime, I have been putting the finishing touches on the manuscript for the Congressional Record. I have gone over it so many times, I almost know it by heart.

I am sending you a copy of the story of the luncheon and my visit with you. If there is a word, phrase, sentence, or paragraph that you think should be changed, or omitted, do not hesitate to draw a line through it — then return it to me. Even though I had reasons for writing as I did, that does not mean that it all has to be printed. In any event, I wanted you to see it before it was in print. All of it will go to press when I hear from you.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams
Charl Ormond Williams

COW/b

Dictated, but not read.

Lansheen and Visit with Mrs. Roosevelt at Val-Kill Cottage

After Mrs. Roosevelt's short and unprogrammed remarks, she led the procession of cars to Val-Kill Cottage, two miles distant, situated in a bend of a creek by that name. Since two highways cross the Roosevelt land, the uninitiated would have found difficulty otherwise in reaching their destination. By the time I arrived in the car with four members of my family, the guests were being served.

Mrs. Roosevelt was dispensing loganberry and apple juice from two white enameled pitchers, thereby having a word with each one she served. Colonel Elliott Roosevelt was carving the turkeys, and other members of the family and friends added to the plates carried sweet potatoes, string beans and cranberries. Large round platters of hearts of celery with mounds of big ripe and green olives in the center were quickly passed to the guests who then made their way to a refectory table on the summer porch off the living room, and to tables in the yard. Others remained in the living and dining rooms. With her own plate in hand, Mrs. Roosevelt joined the group in the yard, and soon thereafter visited about in the rooms chatting with all the guests. She then returned to the dining room and served vanilla and coffee ice cream that was sent out to all of us. A huge coffee urn in a corner of the dining room was sufficient for those who wanted their second cup.

It was all done with such ease, grace, and cordiality that several remarked about it to me. Such things do not just happen. Mrs. Roosevelt is not only a heartwarming homemaker, and an unexcelled hostess, but she is an excellent housekeeper, besides. One never hears the wheels go round. On Friday night, ^{the day of my arrival,} just before we retired, I asked her if there was anything I could do to help her the next morning. She said, "Not a thing -- everything is all planned." Knowing from experience that unexpected people would drop in, she had laid in an extra reserve of food.

After an eight o'clock breakfast, the dining table was extended and covered with a white linen cloth embroidered in French blue and dusty pink. I commented on its beauty to her as she was arranging plum blossoms and other flowers from her yard and from Nancy Cook's, her neighbor's, and she told me that the cloth had been bought by the President's mother on one of her numerous trips abroad.

The delightful hours passed all too quickly and by five o'clock the last guest had departed. Most of my party of twenty-three -- there must have been a dozen others -- had never visited Mrs. Roosevelt before, and as I saw them to their ease, they spoke of their deep appreciation of the privilege that had been theirs.

Then I went immediately to the kitchen to thank with all my heart the three maids -- Sadie, Alice, and Rose -- for their part in giving me a day unsurpassed in all my life. Sadie comes from Tuskegee, so she and I had much in common, and I promised to look up some of her friends, if I ever visit again that remarkable institution. She told me how fortunate it was that the three of them got along so well together -- that they each had their own work to do. That did not just happen either. In my book I shall tell the story of how Mrs. Roosevelt came to write her autograph for my maid that I had acquired just three days before I left Washington, the first service I have had, worthy of the name, since Pearl Harbor. Mrs. Roosevelt is the most gracious and understanding human being I have ever known.

At eighteen years of age, I made my first trip to an eastern summer resort on my first teacher's salary, if such it could be called, and there I learned that a cottage could be a four-room house or an eight story hotel, or a mansion of many rooms, if I had ever gone to Newport. Mrs. Roosevelt's cottage is none of these; it is neither large, nor small, and it is certainly not a mansion. But it is a home that her family and friends and everyone else who has ever had the privilege love to visit. Mrs. Roosevelt has a strong sense of family, and there must be

times when her home is filled to overflowing. All the children, grandchildren, nieces and great nieces, and "in-laws" that I have met adore her, and for good reason. She can stow away a considerable number of them, for I counted from memory at least sixteen beds, some double as well as single, to say nothing of several couches that could, on a pinch, be pressed into service. The maids' rooms had the appearance of guest rooms.

Hyde Park itself is not a mansion. It bears no resemblance to the Vanderbilt house a mile down the road. After the President's death, the reporter who made the early photographs of Hyde Park for Life magazine told in the New Yorker of his interview with President Roosevelt before starting on his journey there. Among other things, the President said to him, "Do not expect magnificence." After my first visit there, I wrote Mrs. Roosevelt that I was glad that Hyde Park is just the kind of spacious house it is, that it impressed me as being a home that had been lived in all over, and loved. I am grateful beyond words that President Roosevelt was not born and reared in the museum-like Vanderbilt mansion.

On Friday evening at the dinner table, Mrs. Roosevelt told us that she had dictated about 35,000 words on her next book, most of it on plane and train. We asked her to read some of it to us, and she promised to do so on one condition, namely, that we would promise to be severe critics. We took her at her word and did our best. We dined for more on Saturday evening, and in all, she must have read us about eight chapters. Each of us looks forward with keen anticipation to its publication.

Everyone who ever knew, or had read about, President Roosevelt and his mother would know without being told that Mrs. Sara Delano Roosevelt had kept every scrap of a message or letter that her beloved son had ever written to her. After his death, Grace Tully at Mrs. Roosevelt's request came to Hyde Park to go through the papers in the President's little study. Among them, she found several boxes

the President's
marked in his own hand -- "family letters." Not only his childish letters to
Santa Claus, but those written through the years to his mother were found, and
we were told that later they will be published grouped in three periods of his
life in ^{each} one volume.

On Sunday morning, we went with Mrs. Roosevelt to the President's grave where
she participated in a patriotic ceremony in a pouring rain, and she later rode in
a parade in Poughkeepsie. At noon, another friend and I accompanied her to Vassar
College whose president, Dr. Sarah Blanding, a friend of mine from Kentucky, and
the first woman to hold that position, is making a notable record. Mrs. Roosevelt
spoke to one of the home-coming groups, the first since the war, uniquely made
up of "grandmothers" and granddaughters" judging from their respective years in
the college.

And then it was time to go to the station for an afternoon train. This lit-
tle chronicle cannot be concluded without special mention of the gracious courtesies
extended to every member of my party by every member of the Library and Grounds
Staffs who were on the lookout for my ^{family} group at the gates, as well as at the house,
the library and the grave of the President. All of us will remember the day as
long as we live.

Papers volume as he had said he wanted to go into 'history' but in case they had not been put into it yet. Very best P. - War & History

1

Many thanks for your
letter & for your invitation
to stay with you. I
shall be very happy to
do so when I come to
Wash again sometime.

I am so glad you are

going to take a
to good holiday

all

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

July 2, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park, Dutchess County
New York

Handwritten note:
Hawker ✓ asked how
A stay with her.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am more sorry that I can tell you that I did not hear your speech Sunday afternoon at the Lincoln Memorial to the Annual Convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. During the morning, I glanced at the radio programs and noted that you and President Truman were to speak, and I made a mental note of that fact. About 3:00 P.M. the young couple arrived from Chicago at least three hours earlier than they had wired. Since they had never been in my home before, I first got them settled in their room and then we sat down and began to talk about their trip here and other things. Before I knew it, it was 5:00 P.M. and the broadcast was over. While I know very well about what you said on that afternoon, still I wanted to hear you say it.

Your last letter to me brought me the good news that you were making no speeches this summer. How glad I am to know it! For the first time in years, I am going to take my full time — almost five weeks — and have my vacation at home. A young friend from Birmingham will spend two weeks with me arriving July 22. I have promised myself that I shall cut loose from the office and not telephone twice a day about the mail.

This is my last afternoon in the office until July 14, because I shall leave on Saturday to attend the National Education Association Convention in Cincinnati. Tomorrow I shall spend the whole day at home trying to prod three painters to finish the exterior of my house. It will all be ready for me when I return from the Convention and I am going to make the most of it this summer.

Sometime I should like to have you for a guest in my home. I have thought of it a number of times and of how we could make it a milestone in some of the things we have thought about and worked on together.

This morning I had a lovely letter from Anna and I am sending you a copy of it. I have had more conversation and correspondence with Anna and James than with the rest of your children, even though that was necessarily limited. My memory of both of them is delightful. Elliott was a gracious host and I so enjoyed being in his home that time. If we ever had the opportunity to sit down and talk together, I am sure I would find him interesting and stimulating. John and Franklin I have never even seen.

How stupid it was of me not to report Elliott's proper title. It wasn't as if I didn't know that he was a General in the Army for I remember well when the promotion came to him and then I read his reference to it in his articles in Collier's. I am going to write him a special letter telling him how happy

Mrs. Roosevelt

-2-

July 2, 1947

I was to have him and Faye present on May 17. He sat right on the front row in full range of my eyes. He was such a good listener that I was very much inspired by him. I think it would have made a real difference if he had not been there and I want him to know it.

And now, my dear, I feel happier in knowing that you are going to be in your quiet and lovely retreat for the summer. You will not be idle, I know full well. Undoubtedly, you will do some writing on your book. There was one of the chapters you read to us in your book that I hope you will go over again very carefully. This second book is a much more difficult one to write than your first one. Everybody accepted your story with no interpretations of their own for none of us knew anything about your childhood, girlhood, and married life. Millions will know about the period in which the second book is written.

The manuscript for the presentation ceremony is now in the hands of Congressman Davis, but it is much longer than the limit allowed to a Congressman. I could leave out the addresses of the guests, the story of the luncheon and visit, my letter to you, and "My Day" for May 19, 1947. Even so, I think it would still be too long. The only other possibility is to rewrite it and that, of course, I do not want to do. I shall let you know the course I pursue when I get back from Cincinnati.

Until then, I am

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams
Charl Ormond Williams (L.B.)

cow/b

Dictated, but not read or
signed by Miss Williams.

THE ARIZONA TIMES
Phoenix, Arizona

June 30, 1947

Dear Miss Williams:

Please do forgive me for taking so long to answer your very kind and most interesting letter of May 13.

I wish, more than I can say, that it would have been possible for me to have been at Hyde Park on May 16, and particularly on the 17th when you presented your four groups of treasures to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library.

Mother wrote me how much she enjoyed those two days.

From time to time I run into friends of yours out here, all of them in educational work, some of whom attended the first conference on rural education held in the White House. The fact that you have so many friends out here makes me hopeful that it won't be too long before you will make another trip. It would indeed be grand to see you.

With all good wishes and many thanks again, I am

Sincerely,

(signed) Anna

Anna Roosevelt Boettiger

Miss Charl Ormond Williams
National Education Association of the United States
1201 Sixteenth Street Northwest
Washington 6, D. C.

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

July 18, 1947

fw

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Campobello
New Brunswick, Canada

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

What a cheer your column gave me when I read that you were off for Campobello for a whole month of rest and retirement from your official duties and obligations.

Up there in that cool, crisp air, with fresh vegetables, fruits, and berries, and blazing fires at night, you will feel like working on your book in the mornings and playing in the afternoons and evenings. I shall be able to keep up with you through your column.

Incidentally, we have clipped all of your columns that I have been able to get since the day you left the White House. They are now being bound in spring back binders, but later they will be actually bound in book form. I have written you that the delivery of the NEWS here is very uncertain, so I do not have all of 1945, but the showing for 1946 and 1947 is much better.

I shall be thinking about you and planning for your visit. I want it to be one more evidence of your interest in education. I am not going to plan anything that resembles a speech for you, for I have been urging you not to make them.

I shall not write you again while you are up there, for I do not want to take even your time to read a letter. And, please do not answer this one.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams
Charl Ormond Williams

CCW/b

Campbello Island
New Brunswick, Canada
July 23, 1947

Dear Charl Williams:

Many thanks for all of your letters
which were forwarded to me here.

I think you are wonderful to want to
have a dinner party for me at your
home, and I am afraid it will have
to wait until after the General
Assembly of the United Nations in
November if I am confirmed as dele-
gate. I should like very much to
come to Washington then as I must
report on the work done.

The President, at the request of the
State Department, sent my name to
the Senate for appointment as dele-
gate to the next Assembly. It
comes up for ratification before
Congress adjourns.

The next time I go over to the Library
I sh

I shall ask about your exhibition,
I know they are constantly changing
the things which they put on display,

The four year appointment to which
you refer is my appointment to the
Human Rights Commission. The delegates
to the General Assembly are appointed
for one session only,

Please do not think anything more
about the telephone call - it was
very little indeed,

I am enjoying my time up here with
Elliott and his children, and doing
some work on my book,

Affectionately,

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

July 26, 1947

*Very much interested in this report on back class -
the report on the trip in 2nd in
how I will like to report on
to write response*

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Dutchess County, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Yesterday morning Mr. Hartshorn came into my office to tell me about his visit to Hyde Park with a group of teachers from thirty-five different states. He had not seen your column in the NEWS the day before, but he said he would go right out and secure one. I told him that you had mentioned my name in the column and that I felt that I had a personal message from you thereby.

*I will
send out another
I got to February
where in it.*

He sat here for thirty minutes and told me the whole story of the group, and what they were doing, and why they were on this journey. The climax of it all, he said, was your visit with them at the Vanderbilt Inn. In fact, he said that the visit with you made the trip, that the teachers were "thrilled" over the opportunity to see you and talk with you. I think it was grand of you to do it, but again all that means taking your rest time.

Unfortunately, Mr. Hartshorn did not know of my gifts to Hyde Park. I rarely see him and I had no particular reason to tell him or even an opportunity to do so. He said he did not see these mementos of mine, but I am not surprised, for I have been through the Museum three times and there are many things probably that I have never seen either. For instance, I never saw the Roosevelt White House China until I asked you about it last May. It would be interesting to know how Dr. Shipman displayed these treasures of mine.

I was much amused over your column about the last picnic, in which you implied that a picnic was compounded of children, dogs, and noise, for all of which you confessed a liking. I can easily visualize you in the midst of it all.

The posthumous award to President Roosevelt by the Republic of France is a fitting recognition of his world leadership and mighty effort in winning the war. I did so want him to live to make several trips to Europe and Asia where the people could see him and he could see and heard their appreciation. I shall always have the feeling that we would not now be in this state of uncertainty and fear if President Roosevelt were here at the helm both in this country and in the world. I still feel that the White House is vacant.

I did not know until yesterday when I learned at that luncheon table of the death of Dr. Emily Hickman, who fell asleep at the wheel of her car. When I think that that might have happened to you in your accident -----, A member of this group told me that the last letter she had from Dr. Hickman concerned your appointment to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Mrs. Roosevelt

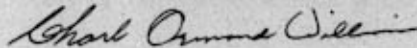
-2-

July 16, 1947

Now that I know you can pay me a visit at some time convenient for us both, I shall be very happy in planning a dinner party that will be an event in the lives of everyone present. The big question now is whom shall I ask. To choose fourteen people out of the thousands I know in this country who would love to be present, requires some careful consideration. Just off hand, I should say that the latter part of October or the first weeks in November would be an excellent time for me. Washington is so much nicer in the fall than it is in the summer. More than that, nothing should impinge upon your vacation time, and I am not going to be one to do it. About all of this I shall be writing you later. I just wanted you to know that I was very happy about it now.

I will not tell you that I shall not "go to any trouble for you" for I fully intend to do so, knowing that it will be the happiest and most rewarding trouble I ever had in my life.

Affectionately,



Charl Ormond Williams

COW/b

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

July 16, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Dutchess County, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

At the University Club yesterday, I stopped to chat with three people and our conversation turned to you. One of them said that your appointment to the General Assembly of the United Nations would come up again any time.

I do not know why I did not know that fact, unless it was because I thought I had read somewhere that you were appointed for four years.

All of us want to do something about your appointment, and I have already written some letters to some important people. Just a line from you that would give me the actual status of your appointment would be helpful -- to me.

It is unthinkable that your appointment should not be made, but in these terribly uncertain days nothing should be taken for granted.

Faithfully and affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

COW/b

app to H.P.
*The Pres. at the
of J. D. by
Secretary of
the United States
House of Reps
advocated for
confirmation*

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

July 16, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Dutchess County, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

— that's real interesting

I am sending you a very important statement packed with information which you doubtless know — in fact I ordered the enclosed copy for you. If the statement had been written by any one else but a candidate for the presidency of the United States, I probably should not have paid much attention to it. It is amazing to me that a man who would aspire to that high office, would be so stupid as to make such a statement as he did.

I have been writing you a lot on the question of the separation of church and state during the past decade, and now I can say with assurance, I believe, that thoughtful people are going to band together to halt the inroads which the Roman Catholic Church is making on the public school systems of the country. What they have already accomplished is alarming to me.

When I get the Resolutions of the Cincinnati Convention of the National Education Association, I shall write you another letter on this question.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

COW/b

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

July 14, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Dutchess County, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I returned to my desk this morning after having been out of the office for our Convention and for some painting and repairs on the house for about two weeks. While in Cincinnati, a friend from Connecticut asked me if I saw in the papers the orders of your doctor "to cut your schedule to the bone." It seems that Dorothy Kilgallen had written a rather gloomy paragraph in her column in the New York Journal. I had seen nothing about this, but I was deeply disturbed, for some such orders might well have been given to you.

Soon after my arrival Sunday morning, I began to clip my papers and to read your column. Much to my joy, I found your refutation of that rumor. Even so, I want to urge that you cut your program to the bone!

There is another little matter about which I had a memorandum to write you the afternoon before I left for Cincinnati, but my one secretary in the office at that time was taken ill and had to leave.

Lucretia!
When I was with you in Hyde Park in May, I phoned to my brother in Mitchell Field on Sunday morning, telling him when I would arrive. I specifically asked the operator to reverse the message and she said she would. As soon as I arrived at my brother's home, I told him of the message and insisted that he take the money for it. About three weeks later, when the telephone bill came in, that message was not on it and his wife wrote me, knowing that I would want to know it. I am sorry about this, for I am meticulous in matters of this kind.

I am happy to report that all the painting and repairs are finished on my house and that I am going to take my vacation at home this summer. I shall have some friends with me part of the time to enjoy it. With Rosie to look after the house, I expect to have the rest that I want and very much need.

I am afraid you aren't getting very much rest judging from your column. I loved the story of the Wiltwyck picnics, and I think it is wonderful of you to promise to go over on Christmas Morning and read Dicken's Christmas Carol to those boys.

I am going to be writing you again before long on the plan that I have for the future. Everything that I saw and heard at the Cincinnati Convention convinced me that it is a project well worth my serious attention.

Faithfully and affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

COW/b

August 18, 1947

Dear Charl Williams:

Thank you very much for writing such a nice letter to the Washington Daily News. I am so glad you liked what I said in MY Day.

Campobello was a great rest, but I came back to a lot of work on my book and the preparation for the General Assembly. After the meetings are over, I fear I shall have to go to Geneva for the Human Rights Commission meeting so when I do go to Washington, it will be for one night only and my visit to you will have to be delayed until some time in the winter.

Affectionately,

C O P Y

July 29, 1947

W. L. Williams

Circulation Department
Washington Daily News
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I want to express great appreciation of your sending me two copies of the Washington Daily News of Friday, July 25, 1947.

You have had many complaints from me about your failure to deliver a paper to my home each day. When no paper came on Friday night I telephoned not once but twice to get that issue. If you had not sent me the copies, I should never have known that on that day Mrs. Roosevelt wrote one of the most powerful columns in all her newspaper career — on a subject of supreme importance to the nation from the days of its founding to the present time.

Again I want to tell you that I subscribe to your paper almost wholly because of Mrs. Roosevelt's column which I have clipped faithfully since she left the White House. Improved services in the future will be still more appreciated by me.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) Charl Ormond Williams

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

August 7, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Campobello Island
New Brunswick, Canada

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You must know I have been feeling below par or I surely should have written you about two things at least -- even though I promised myself that I would not write you while you were on vacation.

And you think I am wonderful to want to have a dinner party for you! I think it is wonderful for me to have the privilege of having you as an honor guest in my home. Already I am thinking about who will be invited and what can be done and said around my dinner table that will guide me in setting up my plan for the future, about which you already know something.

This group will be entirely educational, and I want you to hear their discussion and join in it whenever you feel moved to do so. Of course they will want to ask you some questions about your work on the Assembly of the United Nations and the Human Rights Commission. It will all be very informal, and you will not have to make any speech. About all this I shall be writing you when you return.

You are certainly leading a pastoral life on your "beloved island." For reasons of sentiment I hope it will be kept in the hands of the family for generations to come.

On last Sunday, my guest, a lovely teacher from Birmingham, Alabama, left on the night boat for Norfolk after two weeks with me. I regret that I have to add that I took a deep seated chest cold before she arrived and that it still hangs on, though I think I can see the end of it now after two visits to my doctor.

I did go to the office on a sort of busman's holiday on July 29 to sign some checks, look over some mail, and write the enclosed letter to the Washington Daily News. I did not write you about this matter on that day, for I wanted to think over that letter. Since that time, I have been very listless, and not until today have I been able to get around to this very important subject which you discussed so forthrightly in your column on Friday, July 25.

When I sent you that statement issued by the Joint Baptists, I had no thought that you would comment on it in "My Day." I thought that statement was lucid and cogent and that it would do you good to read it, as

it did me. I tell you frankly that I could hardly believe my eyes when the two issues of that date, July 25, finally reached me from the offices of the Washington Daily News. After long years of standing for this principle, I was fairly thrilled to read what you had to say. It was just as if a battalion of fresh troops had marched up to my side.

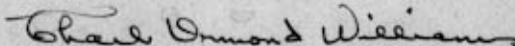
It was on this very issue that I was called in to that staff meeting to face six men -- a meeting that took place around the first of March of this year. You do not need to be told that I did not give one inch of ground, and never intend to do so. Those six men will never forget that experience as long as they live. They looked like kittens to me.

This issue was the paramount thing you would have had to face had you remained a member of President Truman's Commission on Higher Education, and I so wrote you a number of times. I feel sure that the American Council on Education engineered your appointment because they thought you would support them in their efforts to get federal funds for non-public institutions of higher education. I can think of a number of reasons why you might not have wanted to make a declaration on this question, and I was relieved when you resigned from this commission.

I thought that that ended the question as far as you were concerned, so you can imagine my great pride and pleasure when I read this statement. My dear, it will have tremendous influence in this country -- much more than either you or I at this time can measure. This issue will have to be fought out in this nation, and the sooner the better. I do not believe I sent you the story of the encroachments the Catholics are making on the public schools in the Province of Ontario. When you return home, I shall consult my files and see if that material has been sent to you.

I do hope you will come back to Hyde Park and New York refreshed in body, mind, and spirit and that you will take good care of yourself when you start the next year's work.

Faithfully and affectionately,



Charl Ormond Williams

P.S.

Next morning

I must add a postscript to this letter to express the hope that your radio was in good working order last night. I listened in with great interest first to Elliott on WDNX and then to James on Town Hall over WMAL. Both of them acquitted themselves admirably. James has an especially good radio voice, and he spoke without hesitation and made some very good points. I would not have missed it for anything.

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

August 27, 1947

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Your letter revealing your deep concern over the plight of Displaced Persons reached me a few minutes ago. Letters have already been dictated and will go out this afternoon to Mrs. L. W. Hughes, President of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, Arlington, Tennessee, and to Mrs. Stanley G. Cook, Chairman of Legislation, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, Indian Head, Maryland. A joint letter will be sent to Miss Ruth Bottomly, Office Director, to Mrs. Eva Grant, Editor of National Parent-Teacher, and to Miss Mary Ferre, Director of Publications, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 600 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago 5, Illinois, asking any help that they can give to this situation at this particular time.

And then I wrote to Elinor Pillsbury of the Oregon Journal, daily paper of Portland, Oregon, asking her to get in touch with the state president of the Oregon Congress and with a former national president, both of whom live in Portland. I hope there may be some decided movement in that organization during the fall when some of their state conventions will meet. Action on this question I think can be taken only through a state convention vote, but I am not certain about that. It may be that not enough time has elapsed to get the full sentiment of the organization. Whatever I hear from any of these people I shall let you know.

While I have my pen in hand I want to tell you that sometime during the winter will suit me admirably for your visit to me. As a matter of fact, I need to have more time to do what I am thinking of doing on that occasion. By all means you should go to Geneva for the meeting of the Human Rights Commission. Let me urge you to go by sea and not by air. A sea voyage would be invigorating and would give you time to make the preparation for this meeting which you have always done. There are just too many crashes on land and on the sea for me to feel easy about planes now. I like to fly and have flown thousands of miles and shall probably fly to Europe when I go. However, since I do not plan to go within the next two years, there will be time for ample improvements in the whole operation of airplanes.

There are a number of things about which I want to write you but those letters will have to wait a few days at least.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams
Charl Ormond Williams

Change to the account of

ACCOUNTING	ORDER	LETTER	LETTER	LETTER	LETTER	LETTER	LETTER	LETTER	LETTER

Send the following indorsements subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

WESTERN UNION

As a WILLIAMS PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

Dear Carl Williams

Many thanks for your letter & the enclosures. I am so glad you wrote to Anna - I know she will appreciate it

Best wishes

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

August 29, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Val-Kill Cottage
Hyde Park, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I. Yesterday a friend told me of your page in the Ladies' Home Journal, so I went immediately to the Statler to get a copy. I am very glad indeed that you have spoken on the one thing in Mr. Farley's articles that people with whom I talked even mentioned. To every person with whom I talked, I called attention to the stream of people in every walk of life, of every race, creed and economic status, who went to the White House and were received there in such a gracious way that they were made happy for the rest of their lives. Perhaps the most vitriolic criticism that was made of you and the President was the one that you had "forsaken your class." I never thought either one of you was a snob. I am sorry that Mr. Farley's inferiority complex allowed him to be used in any such way by Mr. Trohan of the Chicago Tribune. I thought you gave Mr. Farley a knock-out blow when you chided him for putting society questions so far above the great social questions of the day that he neglected even to mention them.

II. Last night I got to my home just in time to turn on the American Forum of the Air which came from Phoenix, Arizona. Remembering that Anna was to be on that program, I immediately called several friends who I knew would be as keenly interested as I. I was proud of Anna and thought she handled her points and questions admirably. Strangely enough, there were many accents and words that sounded just like you — particularly the word "question." Anna has a very nice voice and a very nice manner over the radio. I shall watch her in the years ahead.

III. That was a simple, moving story you told about the starving children in Europe after the visit of Dr. Martha Eliot to Europe and then to you to report on the deplorable conditions there. I think if you wrote directly to the women on different aspects of this, through your column, women might be aroused to do something about it.

IV. In the September Ladies Home Journal you came out against a third party and in support of the Democratic Party. There is nothing startling about that, for that was what I expected you to do. James, on the American Forum of the Air, also came out against a third party, although he said very kindly that he thought Mr. Wallace had done a service in bringing certain great issues of importance to the attention of the public. Of course, I have no other idea than to support the Democratic Party and its nominee, who, as far as anyone can see now, will surely be President Truman. Later on I may put before you an idea that has occurred to me in this connection.

Faithfully and affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams
Charl Ormond Williams

August 29, 1947

Mrs. Anna Roosevelt Boettiger
Arizona Times
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mrs. Boettiger:

Last night I stepped into my home just in time to turn on my radio to receive the American Forum of the Air, on which I already knew you were to speak. I hurried to my telephone to call several friends who I knew would be deeply interested in hearing you, to remind them of the program.

I listened with excited interest to the forum, and I want to congratulate you on the contribution you made. You have a perfect radio voice — truly your father's daughter. But what is more important is that you knew your subject and presented your arguments cogently and very tactfully. I did not think you missed the point a single time in the answers to the questions put to you, and your summary was well stated and left us with a hopeful outlook.

I have just written your mother about my pleasure in hearing you and told her there were several accents and even words which sounded exactly like her. You both pronounce the word question exactly alike. I predicted to her that you would go far and told her that I would keep my eyes on you in the years ahead.

I listened with great interest a few weeks ago to Elliott and James, who appeared on the same night on two consecutive programs. While Elliott was in a tough spot, he gave a good account of himself. James, I thought, did particularly well. I have never heard Franklin speak on the radio, though he has appeared on several occasions about which I knew nothing until afterwards. According to a recent press notice, John is "sticking strictly to his knitting" and will be neither interviewed nor photographed..

Along with my congratulations, I send you my best wishes for the months and years ahead in whatever you undertake.

Yours sincerely,

Charl Ormond Williams

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

August 29, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I. I am sending you a very important statement concerning the separation of church and state in the matter of public education in the Province of Ontario. The writer, George A. Cornish, executive secretary of the Inter-church Committee on Protestant-Roman Catholic Relations of Canada, was an acute observer of the struggle going on in our own country, and of his own volition he wrote the letter attached to the Christian Century and sent documentary proof with it of every statement he made. Now that you have declared yourself on this highly important question, you will find your stand re-enforced by the experience in our neighboring country.

II. I was stupid to send my last letter to you to New York instead of Hyde Park. I am sure you have it by now. After I mailed it, I had another idea, so I went down to Mr. Givens to ask if the National Education Association had taken any action on the question of Displaced Persons or would consider doing so. The Association has not taken any action as a whole, but I learned that the executive committee of the NEA would meet here September 15. Mr. Givens thought some action might be taken, so I sent him a copy of your letter and the letters I wrote to the people enumerated in my letter to you. I suggested to Mr. Givens that our Journal might also carry an article about the Displaced Persons situation. I shall keep in touch with this and write you if anything positive and constructive is done.

III. While I was in Mr. Givens' office, I asked him if he had seen your column on the separation of church and state. He had not seen it so I took him the one copy I had placed in the books in which I keep "My Day." I cannot be sure of this, but I have an idea that your statement had its effect on Mr. Givens. Yesterday afternoon we had our first staff meeting of the fall, and Mr. Givens presented a long series of topics which he thought officers and members of the staff ought to discuss in the field in the coming year. Among these topics were two which have never before been suggested to us for discussion in the field:

1. Separation of church and state
2. Should federal aid be appropriated to private and sectarian schools?

When the topics came up for discussion I led forth with a plea that his suggestion be carried out that a handbook on all these topics be prepared and placed in the hands of the staff. During the discussion of this question, I said it was high time the officers, staff members, and entire membership of the NEA inform themselves on these important questions and in addition take a firm stand in regard to them. I further said that the great newspapers of the country were fighting our battles for us and they had the

right to know beyond the shadow of a doubt where the educators stood. I had with me the Sunday, August 24, edition of PM, which had a two-page spread with banner headlines extending across the whole of the two pages in these words: "Should Public Funds Be Used to Support Parochial Schools?" I called the attention of the staff to the two articles, pro and con, written on this subject and also to your own cogent statement, which moves me even now when I think of it. I told you that it would have wide-spread influence, and I feel positive that it played a part in the decision to put these two topics on the list for discussion by staff members in the field. You were very right in your statement on this subject that "the ancient safeguards are slipping." I could send you a long list of such lapses and may even do so when I get the information together.

Faithfully and affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

w/c

For Mr. Bennett

HORACE KANN LEAGUE LETTER NUMBER SIXTEEN

Kann's file

The following letter written to the editor of The Christian Century by George A. Cornish, executive secretary, Interchurch Committee on Protestant-Roman Catholic Relations, Toronto, Canada, gives the experience of Ontario in the use of public funds for parochial schools. The letter appeared in The Christian Century for June 11, 1947 pages 742-43. We are sending 3 copies so that you may share this with others. Treasurer-General Floyd T. Goodler called our attention to it.

SIR: I have spent the past two years in an exhaustive investigation of the educational activities of the Roman Catholic Church during the last hundred years in the province of Ontario. As I read in American papers of the Supreme Court decision regarding parochial schools in New Jersey, the demand of Roman Catholics for state support for their schools which is before the court of Pennsylvania, and the repeated endeavors to compel the public school board in an Ohio town to consider a parochial school to be a public school—as I read these demands, after my investigation in Ontario, it seems like looking at the first reel of a moving picture for the second time. The church's aggressive plan of action in the United States is following the same pattern that they have worked out so successfully in the Protestant province of Ontario during the last hundred years.

In order that Protestants and Jews in the United States may realize, before it is too late, the nature of the fight before them, an outline of the encroachments of the Roman Catholics in the schools of Ontario should not only be enlightening but a warning of the result of pacific indifference and blind tolerance. In 1843, two years after the union of Ontario and Quebec, separate (parochial) schools were forced on an unwilling and Protestant Ontario by the overwhelming votes of Catholic Quebec.

At first a separate school could be formed in a school section (district) where a group of Catholics dissented and separated from the public school. They still had to pay taxes to the public school but received a school grant. But not for long. In a few years they had thought of the taxes for public school purposes, and collected instead taxes from their supporters for their own parochial school; a few years later the collecting of their school taxes was made a municipal obligation. Next they were allowed not merely to injure one public school district by withdrawing pupils and taxes from it but were allowed to draw pupils and taxes from all adjoining school districts within three miles of their school. In this way every parochial school formed stirred up dissimily and weakened the finances and lessened the attendance of from three to seven or eight of the adjoining public schools.

At first these privileges were controlled by the legislature of the province and could have been repealed at any time. But when the provinces were confederated into the Dominion of Canada in 1867, these special privileges to Roman Catholics were woven into the constitution and made legal rights that even the Parliament of Canada cannot weaken or modify, let alone repeal. They are almost as secure as the laws of the Medes and Persians. Only by an act passed by both houses of the Canadian Parliament and ratified by the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain can these rights be modified by one jot or tittle.

Without the consent of the public school board, the municipal council or the provincial department of education, any five heads of families who are Roman Catholics can call a meeting and in five minutes form a separate (parochial) school corporation, withdraw their pupils and assessment from the public school, and demand an equal share of all legislative grants. A thriving public school corporation wakes up some five mornings and finds half its pupils gone, half its assessment withdrawn, and its grants skunked to poverty proportions.

But this is not all. At first a separate school could be formed

only by separating from a previously formed public school. But the hierarchy watched its chance and at the psychological moment wrung from a floundering government the right to establish the first school in new communities. As a result in more than six-tenths of this province Roman Catholics have gained the exclusive right to form separate schools, quite independently of the presence of a previously formed public school. Indeed, by harrying regulations on the formation of public schools, separate schools can be established much more easily and under more favorable circumstances.

Remember that most of these separate schools receive three-fourths of all the capital expenditure to obtain the site and build and equip the school, as well as four-fifths of the current expenditure, from provincial legislative grants. At least three-quarters and probably nine-tenths of the revenue for these grants is paid by non-Catholics, yet no Protestant or Jew has a right to send a pupil to the school, to attend a school meeting, even when it is the only school in the community, or to be a trustee. It is an outrage that in nine-tenths of the province these exclusive schools have a preferred position over the all-inclusive public school, which all people, whether rich or poor, Protestant or Catholic, British, French or Chinese, have a right to attend, and whose control is in the hands of all the people of the community. It is also to be remembered that in these new areas only Roman Catholic separate schools have these special privileges. If a group of Methodists, Jews, Finns or English Protestants wished to form a similar separate school it could not be done.

But the Roman Catholics have not been satisfied with the legal privileges which they have been able to wring from hard-pressed governments, clanking at straws to keep their political heads above the troubled waters of a rising public disapproval. They do not hesitate to violate the law when they can get away with it. Among many illegal practices which they have introduced I will only mention one which is so outrageous that one wonders that even the hierarchy could have had the impudence to plan such a scheme and the effrontery to carry it to a successful issue. The Roman Catholics have established what we have called "dummy" separate schools. Five heads of families in the regular manner call a meeting and form a separate school corporation. Yet they buy no site, build no school and hire no teachers, but illegally farm out the pupils to an adjoining school. For this "dummy" school they receive government grants and collect taxes from the Roman Catholics of the community which legally belong to the public school of the section. In at least one of these "phantom" schools they collected in one year over \$13,000 in grants alone. Such schools had a rapid growth during the last few years until at last they were exposed in a brief volume the Royal Commission on Education in Ontario.

It is not the best plan of those who oppose the encroachments of the United States hierarchy in the field of education to present to poor people the outrageous and ruthless methods which they have made in a Protestant province in Canada similar in almost every respect to most of the states of the union? We are forwarding with this letter a research report for the editor in which every statement made in this letter is completely documented from official reports.

James B. Edmonson, President-General
Horace Kann League
Dean, School of Education
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
July 14, 1947

Joy Elmer Morgan, Secretary-General
Horace Kann League
1201 Sixteenth Street Northwest
Washington 6, D. C.

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

September 17, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park, Dutchess County
New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

A friend sent me three pages from the magazine, "The English-Speaking World," which contained an article entitled "The REAL ROOSEVELT," by H. G. Nicholas. This story is a review of Miss Perkins' book, "The Roosevelt I Knew." If I had another copy I should send it on to you. There was one section that appealed to me so strongly that I am having it copied for you.

"When Roosevelt died in 1945 she (Miss Perkins) and Harold Ickes were the only members of his Cabinet to have lasted the long course from 1933. THE ROOSEVELT I KNEW tells us why. It becomes obvious to a reader of these pages that Miss Perkins brought to her relationship with her political chief not only that loyalty which is the sine qua non in politics as in war, but also a far rarer gift of sympathy and intuitive understanding. The Presidency of the United States is one of the loneliest eminences in the world. Certain incumbents have sought to ease the strain by the devices sanctified by tradition and unwritten usage -- the backstairs cronies, the court jester, the little house on R Street and the like. There was something in Roosevelt's nature -- whether or not it was merely the effects of Hyde Park, Groton and Harvard -- that made such solaces inadequate. Instead he had to find his intimates among people whose private tastes and interests were on a level no lower than his own -- and no lower than the dignity of his high office dictated. Sincerity and humanity, in other words, were indispensable passports to his intimacy."

I liked this passage very much and believe it to be true. I am firmly convinced that herein lies one of the reasons for the undying loyalty to President Roosevelt. The little people of the country, the rank and file of the people want a President in the White House whom they can "look up to."

Mrs. Roosevelt

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September 17, 1947

Some misguided souls tried very hard to make out of President Truman a whiskey-drinking, poker-playing man surrounded by cronies of doubtful character, and were slapped down promptly with the people's disapproval.

None of the things said in this article imply that the President was a snob. All of us know how easily he met people of every race and of every creed and from every economic level. He was the same to all -- high and low, rich and poor -- and there are millions to testify to that statement. Incidentally, I would have loved seeing President Roosevelt in conference with our colored friend, Mrs. Bethune. Somewhere in the last year or so I have read an amusing account of it.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

w/b

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

September 17, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park, Dutchess County
New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I like your new stationery very much on which your letter of September 14 was written. I am leaving tomorrow to attend a meeting of 1,000 county superintendents in Indianapolis, and I shall be gone a week. You may remember that I held the position of county superintendent in Shelby County, Tennessee, for eight years before I came to Washington. I am the first and only county superintendent to go from that position to the presidency of the National Education Association, and the only one ever nominated.

I am looking forward to this meeting in the hope that I shall find that great advancement has been made among this group during the past twenty years.

I am trying to clear up my desk before departure and I find on it a number of things that I had saved to send you.

I. The first is the red slip which Mr. Givens sent me when he returned your statement on the separation of church and state which I had taken to him the day before.

II. I am sending you further information on this important question. You may have seen in the press that the American Federation of Teachers voted down a proposal at their Boston convention which would grant federal aid for health education and transportation of parochial and other non-public schools. The same proposal was made at the 1947 Cincinnati convention and it was defeated by a unanimous resounding "no." An excerpt from the minutes of that convention is enclosed.

NEA

Mrs. Roosevelt

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September 18, 1947

III. I learned recently that a large committee of influential leaders has been organized in New York City to carry on this fight against the encroachment of non-public schools on the funds set up for public education. I was glad to hear over the phone that Mr. Givens' name was on that list.

Later on, I may send you a copy of the hearings on S. 472 which contains a broad program of federal aid to public elementary and public secondary schools, or it might be better just to tear out a few pages that I want you to read. Then you will understand the difficulties I have experienced being forthright on this grave question.

You are now entering a four-months period, at least, of pressing work and you will have so much to read and study that I shall not send you anything that does not seem highly important to me.

Through it all, please take care of yourself.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

W/b

ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICANS SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Miss Wilkins

- BOOK
- ADDED
- ADDED
- COMMENTS
- CONFERENCES
- CONSIDERATION
- CORRESPONDENCE
- CRITICISM
- DATE'S FOR ME
- FILE
- FILE AND REFER
- HOLD
- INFORMATE
- LIBRARY
- MAIL
- READ AND RETURN
- RECOMMENDATION
- REPORT
- RETURN
- RETURNED
- RESERVATIONS
- USE
- YOUR INFORMATION
- MARK JOB

*An excellent
statement.
Glad to
see it.*

PROPOSAL

TEACHERS VETO SCHOOL BUSES

OPPOSITION TO RIDES FOR PAROCHIAL PUPILS LEADS TO VOTE 402 TO 340
AGAINST TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY FOR ANY STUDENTS -- SUPPORTS FEDERAL
EDUCATION BILL IN OTHER RESPECTS

CATHOLIC EDUCATOR IN WARNING THAT VOTE THREATENS WHOLE CAUSE OF
SCHOOL FUNDS

Opposition to parochial school children sharing in a government-controlled school bus system prompted delegates to the American Federation of Teachers Convention to vote 402 to 340 yesterday against including any transportation subsidy in the proposed federal aid bill now in Congress.

The announcement of the vote opened a controversy in which the Rev. William E. McManus, assistant director of the department of education of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington, warned the teachers their action set back the whole cause for federal aid to education.

Father McManus, who attended the convention as an observer, issued the following statement as soon as the vote was announced:

"The action of the American Federation of Teachers in recommending that parochial school children be ejected from public school buses has set back the whole cause of federal aid to education. This action will alienate the support for federal aid by Catholics who send their children to parochial schools.

"Certainly the AFT will not expect parents of parochial school children to be enthusiastic for raises in teachers salaries when the public school teachers themselves are unwilling to permit parochial school children to ride on public school buses."

Father McManus after issuing his statement pointed out that the decision of the AFT in refusing to allow the transportation phase into its recommendations was "a hard blow." He said he and others in the National Catholic Welfare Conference had suggested to many teachers that they join the AFT.

On one occasion in an address to the National Catholic Education Association in Boston a year ago, Father McManus said he suggested to teachers that they join the AFT. "I'm reconsidering my judgment," he said last night.

Boston (Mass.) Post
Aug. 23, 1947

EXCERPT FROM NEA MINUTES OF 1947 CINCINNATI CONVENTION, SHOWING ACTION TAKEN ON PROPOSAL TO GRANT FEDERAL AID FOR HEALTH EDUCATION AND TRANSPORTATION TO PAROCHIAL AND OTHER NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

PRESIDENT WANAMAKER: It has been moved and seconded that Resolution No. 5 be adopted. (This refers to the Resolution on Federal Aid) Is there discussion?

MISS HELEN M. MALLOY (Delegate, Hartford Teachers League, Connecticut): I would like our legislative chairman to answer for the information of our delegates, these questions:

(1) Is it not true that both federal aid bills, that of the Senate and that of the House, require or provide a minimum payment to the states based on the total school census of the state regardless of whatever schools the children may attend?

PRESIDENT WANAMAKER: We will ask Mr. Ivy to come up and answer the question.

MR. IVY: I will be glad to answer the question. There is nothing contained in the form of either one of the bills that takes state aid on anything. The requirement deals with federal census, enumeration or count annually of those from five to seventeen years of age.

MISS MALLOY: I would like to further ask, is it not true that both bills permit the use of federal funds in whatever communities may now be using them, for such purposes as general health education and transportation?

MR. IVY: The answer is "no."

MISS MALLOY: Thank you. Would it be possible under these federal aid bills in the future for states to extend such aid to the community or would the federal aid bills now being proposed and acted upon, prohibit such action in the future in states that might so wish to extend their services?

MR. IVY: There has been continuously throughout our attempts to secure federal aid a definite attempt to prevent any form of federal control. I think you will find that a careful investigation of either one of the bills supported by your Legislative Commission will carry out that situation.

Now, I am neither a prophet, son of a prophet, and I am not a clairvoyant and I am not a crystal gazer, consequently I cannot tell what these legislatures now, next year, or ten years from now are going to do in these respective states. I sometimes wish I could, but unfortunately, I cannot prognosticate the proper answer to that question.

(applause)

MISS MALLOY: I wish to thank Mr. Ivy for his information and I wish to move an amendment to the report of the Committee on Resolutions on Resolution No. 5, that Resolution No. 5 of the Report of the Committee on Resolutions be amended by the addition of this paragraph, as follows:

The National Education Association urges that Congress take immediate action to provide federal aid to sustain transportation and health services to both public and non-public schools.

Madam President, I believe we have already recognized that principle -

PRESIDENT WANAMAKER: That is a motion - we need a second for it before it can be before the body.

...The motion was seconded.

PRESIDENT WANAMAKER: The motion has been seconded and now you may speak on the motion.

MISS MALLOY: I believe we have already recognized that principle in the preceding paragraph of the resolutions on aid in the school lunch program. I believe that the NEA will eventually wish to liberalize its policy to include all America's children, no matter what schools they may attend, on these general community services.

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When our youth were being drafted and sent into our national service, we did not ask them what schools they attended, when they were given their physical examinations. It was only enough that they were able and willing to serve their country. Now I think we have already recognized the principle, Madam Chairman, and I am only asking that we go one step further and extend it to such general services as health service and transportation ... Thank you.

PRESIDENT WANAMAKER: Is there further discussion?

MISS MARY VIRGINIA MORRIS (Delegate, Department of Classroom Teachers, California): I move the previous question.

PRESIDENT WANAMAKER: Now you are voting on a demand for the previous question ... (Motion placed before the body and carried) Now the previous question has been ordered. You are voting on the amendment as proposed by Miss Malloy ... all those in favor of this amendment will signify by saying "aye" - those opposed, "no" - the amendment is lost. (applause)

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

October 2, 1947

Handwritten signature/initials

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You are so busy doing so many things that I actually hesitate to send you anything. You really ought to know of the recent action of the constituent assembly of Italy, which outlawed state support of denominational schools. What a lesson that ought to be to this country.

Affectionately,

Handwritten signature of Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams

W/b

From BULLETIN Friends Of The Public Schools, Vol. X, No. 4, Serial 109,
Washington, D. C., October, 1947.

AN ITALIAN LESSON
AMERICANS BETTER LEARN -- AND SOON

September 30, 1947

Italians Bar State Aid to Church Schools
From Baptist Messenger

State subsidies to denominational schools were recently outlawed by a vote of 244 to 204 in the constituent assembly of Italy. This action climaxed one of the bitterest debates in Italian parliamentary history, according to the Religious News Service correspondent in Rome. It was opposed by Christian Democratic party leaders, but the combined efforts of the parties of the left carried the day.

The action is the more surprising because it followed the recognition by the assembly of the Lateran treaties, which accorded a position of special privilege to the Roman Catholic Church. . . . Henceforth the schools of the Roman Catholic Church will depend upon the contributions of members of the church for support.

Most Italian children attend public schools, which permit pupils to receive religious instruction if the parents so desire but do not permit them to receive credit for these classes. Thus Italy reaches the climax of a prolonged struggle to disentangle public education from the grip of the papal church. That the grip should be broken at a time when the Roman Catholic Church in the United States is waging a determined and partially successful campaign to secure public funds for its schools and their corollary services should furnish Americans with food for reflection.

The Italian people have good reason to know what happens when the church dominates the state and its educational system. By demanding a separation of church and state in this vital matter they have provided an example which should stiffen the determination of those who are defending our own constitutional principle.

All over the country this struggle is going on. In half the states of the union it centers on the issue of whether the public treasury shall pay for transportation of pupils to parochial schools. In Washington it comes to focus on whether sectarian schools shall share in federal aid to education. Wherever Protestants have understood the gravity of the issue, they have risen up to defend our American heritage. But many still sleep.

—The Christian Century.

Underlinings were italicized in the original.

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

September 30, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Dutchess County, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

The enclosed letter to my sister, Mabel, marks a milestone in my career with the National Education Association. At long last it seems that the NEA has got to go on record publicly for the principle for which I have battled so many years.

I still think that your own statement on the issue of church and state had a great influence.

Affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams

Charl Ormond Williams
Director of Field Service

W/b

September 30, 1947

Dear Mabel:

Something thrilling happened a few moments ago in a conference with Mr. Olyens. He has asked me to go out to work with the Protestant women's organizations on federal aid. Immediately I said, "Mr. Olyens, if you will send me out to champion federal aid for free, tax-supported public schools, I can work my head off for it." He replied, "Well, that is what I want you to do. There is no doubt that Senator Donnell is going to fight this fight to the finish on the Senate Floor."

After ten long years of battling for this issue in the National Education Association staff, it seems something to me -- more than words can express -- to have arrived at this point.

I began my work in 1934 in OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS, published by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, to bring this issue to the fore. And I have never let up since and do not intend to do so. I shall talk a great deal about it when I see you again.

I am thinking up the list of persons on our staff whom you will want to invite to the White House tea. Do you want to ask the wives of the men and the husbands of the women? I do not think you have to do so since this is more or less of a professional affair. The husbands and wives of your board members will not be present, so a pattern is set there. However, you are the one to make the decision. Send me a line from Chicago to tell me how to proceed in making up this list.

One word more. When Mr. Olyens left my office this morning, I immediately called Colonel Cordes, Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite Masons of the Southern Jurisdiction (which included 33 states -- all those south of the Ohio and west of the Mississippi River) and told him I must see him today. We set the hour for two o'clock, and when I see that gallant old soldier, the first thing I shall say to him is, "You have won your fight." He has taken an awful beating from educators, including our own staff, because of his firm stand for free tax-supported public schools. If we had put those words in our bills ten years ago, we should be on much clearer and safer ground than we have been all these years.

Affectionately,

Mrs. L. W. Hughes, President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers
William Penn Hotel
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES
1201 SIXTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON 6. D. C.

December 19, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Chairman, Human Rights Commission
of the United Nations
Geneva, Switzerland

John

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

It seems ages since you left even though I have kept up with you through your column each day. I have loved particularly some of the things you have written in the past weeks, especially that article about growing old gracefully, in which you pointed out as good examples Bernard Baruch and Josephus Daniels. Last night at the Woman's Democratic Club, Mr. Daniels spoke. He was seated between Mrs. Woodrow Wilson and Mrs. Harriman, a memorable trio. For nearly an hour he read his paper without once putting on his glasses. How I envy him!

I found your last letter to me on my desk when I returned from a week's trip to Chicago. Very soon afterwards, I sent it on to Judge Kelly to ask for an investigation and aid, if she could direct it to some agency or institution in Tennessee. I have been out of the state so long that I do not actually know the names of institutions or agencies or their location and managers. I hope something can be done for this young negro woman.

The President's Commission on Higher Education has released its report to the press, but I have not seen a copy of it yet. As soon as it is in print, of course, our staff will have a number of copies. However, there are two very controversial issues involved in it not specifically mentioned in this press release I am enclosing. You know without the telling that any effort to put the white and colored children together in schools in the South is going to bring forth a storm of protest — and maybe more than that. Also, the effort to give wholesale aid to non-public schools will bring forth another kind of protest. For these and other reasons, I am glad you resigned from that Commission. The predictions that I wrote to you in the early days of that Commission have proved accurate.

I cannot tell from your column just where you will be at Christmas time, but wherever you are, I hope that it will be as happy as possible, and that there will be in sight some definite hopes for a permanent peace.

Secretary Marshall is to report the failure of the London Conference at 10:00 P.M. over the radio. I must not forget to tell you that one night I came home around 11:30 P.M., and turned on the radio and picked up the evening paper to read. In a few moments I heard your name spoken and then I pricked up my ears and soon your voice came through in your interview with the press, I think it was. I thought your voice seemed a little tired, and I do not wonder. I think of you working on that grilling task and always hope and pray that the best possible results will come from it. Through it all, take time to take care of yourself. Your articles on Switzerland have been very interesting. It is a little country that too few of us know anything about.

Faithfully and affectionately,

Charl Ormond Williams
Charl Ormond Williams (L.S.)

President's Commission on Higher Education Urges: 'Free Junior College Tuition for All Worthy U. S. Students'

By United Press

President Truman's Commission on Higher Education urged today that all worthy students be given tuition-free schooling thru the first two years of college.

Calling for "sweeping changes" in higher education, the Commission also recommended a reduction in tuition fees for college upper classmen and graduate students, prompt elimination of the "quota system" and segregation and doubling present college attendance by 1960.

In the first of six volumes reporting on "Higher Education for American Democracy," the 30-member commission also told Mr. Truman that many European concepts of education should be abandoned.

It recommended a system of "community colleges" to provide all qualified students with at least 14 years of education at public cost—eight years of elementary schooling, four of high school and the first two years in college.

The proposed community colleges would correspond to junior colleges.

All of those things, the commission said, would bring outmoded U. S. educational methods more in tune with the responsibilities of modern American life.

The commission is headed by Dr. George F. Zook, president of the American Council on Education.

Responding to the commission's initial report, Mr. Truman said in a statement that "a carefully developed program to strengthen higher education, taken together with a program for the support of elementary and secondary education, will inevitably strengthen our nation and enrich the lives of our citizen."

The Commission's 12 specific recommendations included:

- Reorienting educational programs and administration to the needs of democracy. Sweeping changes in curriculums.
- Increasing college enrollment

by 1960 to a minimum of 4,600,000 youths between 16 and 21 years old, and 600,000 in professional and graduate schools.

• Healing the present rift between education for work and education for life.

• Eliminating the "quota system" operating in many schools and colleges and the segregation of whites and Negroes.

• Revising graduate and professional school education to make it effective for training well-rounded persons.

• Expanding Federal Government support of higher education.

• Expanding adult education.

• Distributing Federal aid to education in a manner that will aid the poorer states to bring their educational standards closer to the quality of the wealthier states.

DOUBLE ATTENDANCE

The 103 page report centered its fire on the dual goals of doubled college attendance and an extra two years' free schooling for apt high school pupils.

Reminded at a press conference that colleges now were overcrowded and probably could not handle the doubled enrollment proposed by 1960, Zook said:

"The country ought to get ready to accommodate that many students in colleges in 1960."

Under the present educational system, Dr. Zook said, students are not being adequately prepared for adult citizenship, particularly on international matters.

As for community college education, the commission said such

schooling should be a "terminal education" for those who did not plan to go on to professional schools or to graduate studies.

Such a program, the report said, "should include both general education and vocational training."

GENERAL; TOO

"If the semiprofessional curriculum is to accomplish its program, however," the report said, "it must not be crowded with vocational and technical courses to the exclusion of general education."

"It must aim at developing a combination of social understanding and technical competence. Semiprofessional education should mix a goodly amount of general education for personal and social development with technical education that is intensive, accurate, and comprehensive enough to give the student command of marketable abilities."

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