

Mc - Mac Donald; A-Z

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April 12, 1945

My dear Mr. MacDonald:

Mrs. Roosevelt was interested to hear of your proposed play, but she cannot sponsor its production. All the money she has that she can spare has been pledged well in advance.

Very sincerely yours,

Malvina C. Thompson

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. W. J. MacDonald
P. O. Box 258
Beverly Hills
California

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE &
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE

My

Mr. W. J. MacDonald
P. O. Box 258
Beverly Hills
California

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4/12/45 - APR 9 1945

P. O. Box 258
Beverly Hills, Calif.
March 31, 1945

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

There have appeared, in our own time, three Passion Plays -- that, in Bavaria; another, in Hollywood, California; and still a third, in South Dakota. These outdoor pageants presented the chief performer from the beginning of his ministry at 30 years of age up to the time of his ultimate triumph three years later.

The writer has constructed an entirely new type of biographical play, for the regular theatre, of this remarkable man. Herein he is first presented at near 30 years of age, and withdrawn on his 30th birthday. With the exception of a few short introductory scenes, the material is entirely new, and, some of it most startling. A lot of painstaking research at most of the great European libraries yielded up some rich discoveries on the Life and Times of this truly immense character of history - Jesus, of Nazareth.

Conforming to what might well have been an accurate description of him, the man's outward appearance has been altered to differ quite perceptibly from the common conception prevalent -- ridding him, for one thing, of the brooding look which religiously morbid painters, the Old Masters, gave him; and, regretfully, a face popularly attributed to him in our own day. At no time throughout the research has he been found wearing such a look as that, in the more authentic works. Finally, it must be said that the presentation is non-sectarian.

May I interest you, or through your gracious aid, in the production of this timely offering -- its financing until it has begun to pay? After restoring the amount necessary to see it on its feet, your share of the profits may, if you wish, be given to charity. What better spot is there for this lovely offering than broad minded America (its large cities) in these days of great tribulation, such as the world has never known before? People these days are acquiring the habit of reaching up into the Infinite. You may have a copy of the manuscript to look over, if you like.

Yours very sincerely,

W. J. MacDonald
W. J. MacDonald