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April 12, 1945

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I know that you are very much interested, as we all are, in the rehabilitation of wounded men, and, for that matter, in helping all who are handicapped, whether soldier or civilian. Because of this I am sending you a book which we have recently published, "Normal Lives for the Disabled," by Edna Yost in collaboration with Dr. Lillian M. Gilbreth.

I think this book is very important and should be a tremendous help to anyone with a handicap, hidden or otherwise, and also to the families and friends of such people. The authors mean exactly what they say in the title and Miss Yost shows how and where people can find help, and gives proof of the fact that they can and have succeeded in living normal lives, holding down good jobs, and successfully adjusting to their handicaps whatever they may be. The book is full of encouragement and hope and sane advice, and is quite different from anything else I have read on the subject. - I hope that it will interest you.

Sincerely yours,  
*Leslie Grinnell*  
(Miss) Leslie Grinnell  
Publicity Director

The Macmillan Company  
New York, Fall 1944

About the Authors of "Normal Lives for the Disabled"

EDNA YOST

Edna Yost, an alumna of Allegheny College, 1913, organized the War Work Center in Long Island City under the War Work Council of the Y.W.C.A. during the First World War. This was one of America's three largest war-industry centers and served, among others, the thousands of women employed by one of the country's biggest gas-mask factories.

In some fifteen years of free-lance writing, Miss Yost has published in more than twoscore magazines and newspapers. As a contributor to the "Dictionary of American Biography," and as the author of "Modern Americans: In Science and Invention," 1941, and "American Women of Science," 1943, she has long been conscious of the frequent appearance of physical handicaps in the lives of the people she has written about.

LILLIAN M. GILBRETH

Dr. Lillian M. Gilbreth, author and industrial engineer, is a graduate of the University of California. Honorary degrees have followed her career as one of the outstanding women engineers of the world. For twenty years before his death, Dr. Gilbreth was in partnership with her husband in Frank P. Gilbreth, Inc.--first in construction engineering and later in the development of the science of motion study (in which field they were pioneers). She collaborated with him in the writing of "Time Study," "Fatigue Study," "Applied Motion Study," etc., pointing the way toward an entirely new concept--scientific management.

A member of several scientific and personnel organizations, Dr. Gilbreth is also professor of Management at Purdue University and has been Chairman of the Department of Personnel Relations at the Newark College of Engineering. At this time Dr. Gilbreth's experience is being utilized extensively by war plants in setting up personnel relations departments.

Her sympathy and interest in rehabilitation date from the First World War, when she and her husband wrote "Motion Story for the Handicapped"--a book still a classic in its field. Today one of the most outstanding rehabilitation projects in the country, concerned with teaching new industrial skills to hospitalized servicemen, owes much of its preliminary planning to her vision and experience.

This book reiterates her conviction of the self-respect and happiness which handicapped men and women can attain.

Mrs. Gilbreth has eleven children, ten of them married, and she says "eleven grandchildren at present count."