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NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

September 25, 1945

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Val Kill Cottages,
Dutchess County,
Hyde Park, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Our studios are producing a picture tentatively titled "TENTH AVENUE ANGEL". The story is fictitious. The "angel" is a young girl, played by Margaret O'Brien, living in the tenement section of 10th Avenue, who brings happiness to several lives through her simplicity, honesty and inherent goodness.

At one point in the picture there is a neighborhood 4th of July Block Party and this girl (Flavia) has been asked to speak.

Attached is the proposed continuity on this point of her speech. While it may be changed somewhat, it will probably be substantially along the lines shown.

You will note that her speech is a compilation from various speeches of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

We spoke to Mr. George Bye about this and while it is his opinion that these speeches are open to our use, we felt that you would be glad to know of this and would also give your approval.

We would appreciate it if you would write us in the very near future, as the picture will soon be in production.

Very truly yours,

LOEW'S INCORPORATED

W. D. Kelly
W. D. Kelly
Production Department
1540 Broadway
New York 19, N.Y.

WDK/fb
enc.

MISS FLAVIA MILLS!

Looking very small, Flavia comes out on the platform, walks confidently to the center of the stage and makes a curtsey. Mr. O'Toole retires to the background, applauding vigorously.

Helen and Joseph are smiling tenderly and looking very proud.

Flavia smiling -- making another curtsey in response to the applause that is greeting her. Then--

Flavia (with great simplicity)

"One hundred and sixty years have passed since the Fourth of July, 1776--
(pauses impressively)
We have subdued a wilderness that men said could not be conquered. We have established a civilization where others insisted a civilization could not survive. We have built a Republic, a Government, for which, in the extent of its Democracy, there had been no precedent."

Blocking the f.g. is Flavia. Circling slowly around her, but keeping her always in view, CAMERA PANS over faces representative of almost every race, creed and tradition. We focus for a moment on the intent faces of a swarthy young couple, their attire still suggestive of their Mid-European origin. They listen with a fine kind of pride lighting their faces, and we can imagine that the muted strains of AMERICA, which we now HEAR in the back ground sing softly in their hearts....."My Country, t'is of thee... Sweet land - of liberty..."

Flavia

"Our country, richly endowed in body, mind and spirit, still has need of many things."

CAMERA PANS slowly over the upturned faces of the listeners...There is Mr. Spinelli and his good wife, both very intent, very happy..There is Mr. Cassetti, the temperamental little cobbler, not nearly so stooped tonight and looking quite gay...Beside him is Mrs. Klein..Mrs. Murphy's strong, Irish face comes into our view...CAMERA has continued to hold Flavia as the pivotal point.

Flavia

"But I am certain that one of its chief needs today is the enlistment of the spirit of youth....Our war for Independence was a young man's crusade...Our Constitution, likewise, was the creation of young minds."

CAMERA continues circling Flavia and now picks up Blind Mac, and Joseph, and Helen. None are so proud as these three as they listen. Helen, her face aglow and her eyes filled with tears....Joseph, the proud father. Joseph reaches for Helen's hand and keeps it captive though his eyes never leave Flavia. Music is no longer distant and muted. It is part of the scene itself- strong and firm and lofty...."Long may our Land be bright... With freedom's holy light..."

Flavia

"Be wise enough, be tolerant enough, you who are young in years - to remember that millions of older people have kept and propose to keep those qualities of youth."

CAMERA has moved to Luke. His eyes sweep the crowd for Susan.

Flavia

"You ought to thank God tonight, if, regardless of your years, you are young enough to dream dreams and see visions -- dreams and visions of a greater and finer America that is to be."

We are conscious that the music we HEAR is saying "Protect us by Thy might.."

CAMERA has picked up Susan. She catches Luke's eyes on her and turns hastily away.

Flavia

"That poverty can be lessened....That class hatreds can be done away with.."

CAMERA SWINGS slowly around, completing the circle, returning in front of Flavia and holding directly on her.

Flavia

"...And that one day a generation may possess this land blessed beyond anything we know by these things, material and spiritual that make life abundant."

CAMERA SLOWLY PANS UP to a flag-draped picture. A breeze stirs the bunting at the side of the picture and sends the folds of a flag billowing out gently.

Flavia's Voice

"If that is the fashion of your dreaming, then, I say -- Hold fast to your dream-- America needs it."

CAMERA HAS SLOWLY DOLLIED UP TO A CLOSER SHOT of the photograph revealing the words beneath it. "Our President, Franklin D. Roosevelt."

The strains of America swell to a crescendo.