NORTOL-NOY

# NOTRE DAME

of Saskatchewan

Wilcox, Sask.
May 6th 1945

Dear Mrs Roosevelt,

You have been overwhelmed & know with the sympathy of America and - of all mankind - in the great loss that has come.

Yet - somehow I feel Franklin Roosevelt played such a tremendous personal role in my life and exercised such a deep influence on all the students of Notre Dame, it is proper that we should tell you of our immense gratitude to you both - and of our desolation at his passing.

The hand of God very obviously hovered over President Roosevelt through all his days and his great executive utterances. His inspiring speech on June 10th 1940 - His great address to Congress

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after Pearl Harbour (we Canadians at Notre Dame all took it standing — tears, hot, proud tears on our cheeks) — and finally his last allocution to Congress — after Yalta. These things are among the finest things in the whole story of man.

Here, in Saskatchewan, his splendid painting looks down on us. How we all crowded disconsolately around it the day the radio brought the fatal tidings! Somehow we know his world influence is only now gathering its full force. If Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Augustine still live and sway mankind — so surely will Franklin Delano Roosevelt down the years.

In the great tragedy of his passing nothing was finer than the magnificent Christian stoicism of your own splendid

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self. Your understanding, poise, control — and genuine grandeur of soul was in true conformity with the whole wholesome human story of the great Roosevelt-age. Do accept, however humble, the homage of our profound esteem and admiration.

Faithfully,

Ethel Rumsey

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt,
New York.

The Laocoon — 1945