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MARY G. F. BEER
306 SOUTHERN AVENUE
BUCYRUS, OHIO

Sept 5, 1946

Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt
New York City, N.Y

Dear Mrs Roosevelt,

I feel sure you will wish to read this interesting letter from Mme Cazamian, Convenor International Fellowship University Women - Committee on Standards Address rue Monticelli, Paris.

Her mention of President Roosevelt touches me deeply.

opy.

August 7th 1946
St Haon - la - Chatel - Loire

Dear Miss Beer,

I have to thank you for an interesting letter, with enclosed reading, and a most precious parcel. The peanut butter travelled very safely; and you seem to know that superfluities come to be so much more necessary than essentials! – gingerbread mix, liver spread, pie crust! The wherewithal to give a party on occasion, have something to offer! And then those beautiful American preparations which the traditional housewife may have been prone to looking severely upon, but which we find so good now — and absolutely priceless, harassed as we are to have to manage without service under our difficult circumstances. I loved your flowery towelling as well – sure it dries dishes all right, by the side of our own plain, drab towels look quite depressing; any kitchen equipped with them will look cheery, almost Christmassy – so you see how much I have to be grateful to you! Only opening the parcel was a wonder.

I am glad to know you are a BEER New Dealer and a follower of your admirable Franklin D. Roosevelt. We worshipped him as much as you will allow foreigners to do;

and may be the liberty is not too offensive, as Dean Gildersleeve, whom we met on several occasions, used to say that, "we were good Americans", which I took as a great compliment.

I feel as you do that we must go a long way to meet Russia, and I am much in sympathy with its social gospel — though I rather dread its methods, and would rather entrust the care of our liberties and of ~~our~~ the amenities of our culture and civilization to anglo-Saxon hands on this or that side of the Atlantic Ocean. The novel of Koestler, Darkness at Noon is very largely read in France just now. In its translation — Zéro et l'infini I am sure it does <u>not</u> do justice to the achievements of Soviet Russia; but the moral tragedy at the back of it (or of any dictatorial regime) is very forcibly put.

We do live in a complex world; and to have come back so soon to our divisions and sordid competitions is something of a shock (I am speaking of France). I suppose we have to be very patient with ourselves and unravel our difficulties through mutual concessions, as we have seen what taking the

sw in one's own hands means - - -

You mention the treatment of Indians and negroes in the States: I now and then hear it mentioned against them as an indubitable case of racism; and I always make a stand for your country - fairly, I believe, urging that with you it is an abuse, a scandal rousing protest on all sides and officially reproved - not a doctrine strictly enforced - to me that is a world of difference.

Let us hope we shall some day discuss all that and much more in my home in Paris (since travelling has grown for us almost impossible) My daughter Jeanne though has had the luck of getting one of the A-A-U-W. scholarship and will be with you soon. With renewed thanks, believe me, dear Miss Beer

Very truly yours,

M. L. Cazamian

St Naon-le Châtel - Loire.

[Behrends]

1633 Golden Gate Ave
Los Angeles 26, Calif.
Sept. 16, 1946

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt -

I am fulfilling a desire of something I intended doing, right after your husband's last election. I waited too long, something I shall always regret.

I wanted to tell him of my appreciation of what he had done for me and for several million other people, like me. I felt as though I had a personal friend in Washington and my grief at his passing was as for a very close friend.

I am an average American mother and wife, white, almost forty and with a full daily life sewing, gardening, antique hunting and housework. I have three children and a husband that was in the Army for forty four months. My daughter graduated from High School and my oldest son from Junior High in June. I attended both exercises the same day and evening. At each exercise, they paid tribute to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. I was very grateful.

You are an inspiration to me and I know you were to the greatest President that has ever lived. No man could be so great, so human and so understanding alone. You are to be admired and thanked for such help.

You have such beautiful philosophy and good food for thought in your daily column. I want you to know I am just one of the many that read your 'homey conversations' and feel better after doing so.

This is just a note to express my humble appreciation to you, Eleanor Roosevelt, for all the good you and your late husband have done for the many and for me.

Very sincerely,

(Mrs) Dorothy S. Behrends