Collins, Mary Love
1945-52

26 COOPER BUILDING
HYDE PARK, CINCINNATI, OHIO

(8)

Nov 9 '46

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Your column on the elections was greatly enjoyed — for some time there have been indications that we might repeat history following World War I — but in somewhat different ways. In the middle twenties I wrote the enclosed — not as a dramatic — but merely putting together some incidents! It had no distribution except among some friends.

Due to exceptional pressures and travel I have not been able to arrange for the annual meeting of the Achievement ~~Award~~ Committee but will do so within a few days. And I would like very much to talk with you for a few minutes before the meeting.

Sincerely yours

Mary Rose Ellis

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26 COOPER BUILDING
HYDE PARK, CINCINNATI, OHIO

(8) Nov 9 '46

Dear Miss Thompson:

Will you be good enough to give the attached to Mrs. Roosevelt —

Sincerely yours

Mary Love Ellis

acknowledge this - Mrs R will read first [illegible] un takes [illegible] of time

to their collective well-being.

A Memphis conservative Democrat and close friend of Mr. Crump summed up the viewpoint of the controlling school of thought as follows, early in the campaign when it was less apparent that the country was going to swing to the Republicans:

"The hope of the country lies in keeping the Democratic party just as conservative as the Republican party. In that way, when we have occasional upsets, no great danger is involved.

"When the Democratic party swings to the left, it is time for the Republicans to take over the national government. We can keep alive an intelligent opposition in the solid South, and we will not have to go along with those crackpots who have been riding on the party's coat-tails."

As things work now, in the one-party states of the Southeast, alignments of various factions are fluid and shifting. Elections are fought over men, not issues. Allegiances between leaders change with almost every election.

While national issues cannot be said to have played any important part in the southern Democratic primaries during the summer, it is true that the successful candidates, such as Senator Theodore G. Bilbo and Representative John Rankin in Mississippi, made more capital out of denouncing the Wallaces, Peppers and Ickeses of their own party than they did by viewing the Republicans with alarm.

Another profitable target of opportunity for nearly all hard-pressed candidates in the Southern primaries was the Political Action Committee. It combined opportunities to exploit the overwhelming anti-union sentiments of the rulers of the Southern Democratic party with openings for denunciations of communism with which these speakers sought to link the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Most Southern members of the eightieth Congress will probably feel more at home in a national [illegible] where the majority can