June 27, 1946

My dear Mr. Feeley:

I remember very well talking to my husband about his hopes for the candidates and at that time, he told me that he felt if General O'Dwyer could be run for Mayor of New York City, Mr. LaGuardia could be induced to run for the Senate, as running mate for Senator Mead as Governor and that the ticket would be a winning ticket.

I know there has been considerable discussion as to whether consideration might be given to Mr. LaGuardia in view of the fact that at the time of the Maycralty campaign, no understanding was arrived at and he was not particularly tactful about the Democrats, and there also was a feeling among some of the high Democrats that ex-Governor Lehman should be running with Senator Mead for Senate.

I am in no position to know what anyone is planning to do. I think it is important if Senator Mead decides to run for Governor, the strongest possible candidate for the Senate.

I do not think, however, that my husband should be quoted because when a man is dead, one can not be sure of how he would feel, given new conditions and he might feel quite differently about a situation, so I think you should be careful in any publicity to state the whole background and circumstances of the original feeling. He was always very fond of Senator Mead and I know would have wanted to give him the wisest political advice at any time.

Very sincerely yours,
June 24, 1946

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York.

My Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Although Senator James M. Mead has not announced his candidacy formally for the governorship of the state, I know I am not telling you any secrets in telling you that he will be a candidate.

The Senator is an old friend and I see him every day as a newspaperman. In conversation Sunday he said he believed President Roosevelt endorsed him as a candidate for this year and that the presidential endorsement came as early as 1942, after the debacle at Brooklyn.

Today I am asking Mr. Ickes, Secretary Wallace and Miss Perkins whether they recall President Roosevelt saying that he wanted Senator Mead as a candidate. Senator Robert F. Wagner told me that your husband frequently told him that he favored Senator Mead's candidacy. If you are free to do so, can you tell me whether President Roosevelt told you that he favored Senator Mead for nomination and election this year?

If you can give me this information I should like your permission to publish it in New York State newspapers and radio stations, which I serve in Washington.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen V. Feeley