

ELIZABETH MAY CRAIG

1937 - 1944

November 24, 1937

100

My dear Miss Craig:

Many thanks for letting me see
what you wrote about the Val-Kill party.
Your columns were very interesting and
I appreciate your sending them to me.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Elisabeth May Craig
Room 858 National Press Bldg.
Wash., D.C.

DD

GUY P. GANNETT
President

FRED R. LORD
Treasurer

GANNETT PUBLISHING CO., INC.

Portland Evening Express - Portland Sunday Telegram
Portland Press Herald - Waterville Sentinel
Daily Kennebec Journal

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT
ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
ROOM 858
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gannett:

I thought you might like to see what
I wrote about the tax bill party.
This was in addition to wire stuff.
Sincerely,

Elisabeth May Craig

Travis L. Smith
EP

Washington
2/11/31

On the Inside in Washington

By Elizabeth May Craig

Washington, Nov. 1.—This might be called on the Inside at Hyde Park, because I've just been there. No, really, at Val Kil, across the fields from the Big House, which is the Summer White House. At Val Kil Mrs. Roosevelt has a cottage and she had a party there for the National Youth Administrators, who had been at an official meeting in Washington. But of course, reporters who went to the Young Administrators party, went over to the press conference the President had at the Big House.

You usually speak of the Summer White House being at Hyde Park and the President is called "the Squire of Hyde Park," but the place isn't at the village of Hyde Park, it is between Poughkeepsie and the village. It's about five miles from Poughkeepsie and you might very easily miss it, for it stands back from the road. There are a few trees, except that there is a little sentry house, with a State trooper and usually a Secret Service man, whenever the President is "in residence."

The place really belongs to the President, Mrs. Sara Delano Roosevelt, but he was born there, and it will be his after she is gone, and he has a lot of land around it. He has bought for himself, and Mrs. Roosevelt has bought some, too. The President and Mrs. Roosevelt have the town house and the little place at Warm Springs, Georgia, so the Hyde Park place serves for the family home.

I keep calling it Hyde Park, because that is the way we have been accustomed to call it, since he has been President, and news dispatches are always dated Hyde Park.

There is a controversy over the special name of Mrs. Sara Roosevelt's place that has lasted for years and is just flaring up again. The National Geographic Board, which has the duty of deciding the correct names for places, rivers, mountains, etc., is said to have finally decided to let Mrs. Sara Roosevelt's place be called Krum Elbow.

For five years the battle has gone on, between this place which is on the east bank of the Hudson, and the place belonging to Howard Spencer, on the west bank. Mr. Spencer has a place he calls Krum Elbow. The President always said his mother's place has a right to the name. Mr. Spencer, a Republican (which made it worse you see), insisted he has a right to it.

There is supposed to be great secrecy about the decision of the Geographic Board, but I don't see why. If you read the American Guide, just got out by WPA for Dutchess County, you see the Roosevelt place called Krum Elbow. So the Guide must have known ahead of time that it was correct. The Guide spells "Kil" with one "l," too, though I have always seen it with two, and they spell it with two, there.

Everybody is thinking about the Duke and Duchess of Windsor nowadays, so everybody notices that the estate next to the Roosevelt place belongs to the Herman Rogers, the friends of the Duke and Duchess, with whom they stayed at Cannes. Everybody wonders: if the Duke and Duchess will go to stay at the Rogers place, and think how handy that would be to the Summer White House—only the President would have some back on Washington for the opening of Congress by the time the Windsors get here. He goes back and forth to visit his mother a great deal, though, even in winter.

You have to be identified before you can get into the President's place, and on this occasion, when the reporters went from Val Kil to the press conference at the Big House, Mrs. Roosevelt's secretary, Mrs. Scheider telephoned our names, so we didn't have any trouble getting in. Besides the Secret Service men at the sentry box was from Washington and knew us.

The House is a pleasant old place, centre stucco, wings gray stone. Evergreen trees, hedges, lawns make it a lovely, serene refuge. No wonder the President likes to go there when he is worn out with the noise and hustle of Washington.

In the wing nearest the driveway is a little study where he has a

desk and rows of docket books in glass-shuttered cases. A half-dozen reporters came over from Poughkeepsie whenever the President's Secretary telephones that there is news. It is much less formal than Washington press conference. Most of us are Washington correspondents, so we notice the difference.

We started right in on taxes, because Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau had come up, and we knew that financial conferences were going on and that at Washington members of the House Ways and Means committee are studying the budget and the coming appropriation bills.

We asked how about repealing the undistributed profits tax and the capital gains levy. Business says these are holding them back from expansion. The President said he was talking about a lot of things with his officials, taxes among them. Said we seemed to be thinking about this financial subject only from one side—that of business, people who have something. He said there was the other side—the people who have little.

Way he looked at it, we have to have so much money to run the Government. The Government has withdrawn a lot of money lately from the total income of the people, probably around 2 1/2 billion dollars a year. The bonus for instance takes out about 1 1/2 billion; the retail payments were out maybe another billion this year and will be less the coming year. Doesn't make any difference, so far as purchasing power is concerned, you see, where the money comes from.

Total income of the people (which makes spending power), has gone down to thirty-odd billion. It's about up to sixty-five billion. Should get to a hundred billion. When the Government sticks off, private industry and business is supposed to fill in. He didn't say it again, but that undistributed profits tax is supposed to induce corporations to pay out the money in dividends and wages; that's the theory of it. The wage-hour bill, to come up in Congress, is another attempt to distribute money to the masses and make purchasing power.

Then we got to talking about the Czecho-Slovakian trade agreement, which was a hearing in Washington, with labor and business protesting against concessions which would let in product of low-labor-standard countries. The President said we couldn't export with the question of isolation behind a tariff wall, only this time labor is out front, rather than businessmen.

Meantime, the President's secretary had whispered in his ear that the Norwegian Minister and the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs had come, for lunch. The President exclaimed in surprise that time had gone so fast; but kept on talking to us about taxes and tariffs. The third time the secretary was insistent, so we departed and the President went off to lunch with them, in the big dining room that is to the river side of the house.

LIGHT AND AIRY

Insult
Judge—Why did you hit P driver?
Victim—He insulted me
paid my fare and tipped
yelled, "Mister, you gents took much."—Bal

Keeping Pr
"You have made
"Yes," answered
hum. "And I
them calmly.
—Washington

Tv
The cle
through U
one of hi
"How's
asked.
"Very
pariah
"Ar
"A
Pro

On the Inside in Washington

By Elizabeth May Craig

Washington, Nov. 2.—You just can't be two places at once, Mrs. Roosevelt said philosophically when I telephoned her distinguished foreign visitors were coming to lunch at the Summer White House on the very same day that she had asked the State Youth Administrators to a party at her cottage at Val Kil. So the President's mother presided, and Mrs. Roosevelt came in her car from the cottage where the administrators were to the Big House, to meet the Minister from Norway, Foreign Affairs, and then went back to Val Kil. Later in the afternoon the President came over in his car to see the administrators at the cottage. It's just a little distance by a winding back road through the fields.

Anyway, Mrs. Roosevelt, the President's mother, loves to preside. She is a real grande dame. In the little passage the leads to the library at the Hyde Park house, is a picture of her when she was young. She was perfectly beautiful. The library is a big room filled with books—that have been in the family since the grand-father's portrait over one mantel and great-grandfather over the other.

It's all very formal though very comfortable—a house that is lived in. But it's not like the little cottage at Val Kil, which looks as though it had just grown like Topeka, with a wing added here and there when more rooms were needed. While you call the Roosevelt cottage at Val Kil, it isn't the village of Val Kil, which is down the road a little way. But the cottage is built by the side of the little Val Kil, which is Dutch for (brook), and it's the nearest name you can use to distinguish the cottage from the Big House. The cottage belongs to Mrs. Roosevelt, it was in her own sitting room that the Youth Administrators met. The women administrators put their things in her bedroom, just above; the men put their things in the spare bedroom that is in the wing that belongs to Mrs. Shelders, Mrs. Roosevelt's secretary. You know how these frame houses grow up? Stairs going up in the most unexpected places, and a step-up and a step-down as the different additions are not on the same level. A little flagged walk leads to the other cottage belonging to Nancy Cook, who designs the sweater that they make in the forge, which is about a hundred yards away. It is at Val Kil that Mrs. Roosevelt and some of her friends started the handicrafts, furniture weaving, etc. that helped out the Val Kil people.

Beside Miss Cook's cottage is the swimming pool where the President comes to swim in the summer; there is no pool at the Big House. And there is a big stone fireplace where they have weiner roasts and picnic for the newspaper people and other visitors away from the formality of the Big House. It was at a picnic there this past summer that Emil Ludwig, the German author was so astonished. "Where is the military?" he inquired. But the best that could be done for him was the Secret Service men and an occasional State trooper.

It took considerable ingenuity to get all the administrators into the sitting room, even with the folding chairs contributed by Miss Cook. There was an administrator from every State except North Dakota. And there were regional administrators. And Aubrey Williams, who is assistant WPA administrator and in charge of the Youth Administration for WPA. And Richard Brown, who is head of the NYA. And five women reporters. The men had looked a little superior when we said at the cottage for the NYA meeting. They thought that was just "woman stuff" and unimportant. Funny how men have the idea that these human things are unimportant, compared to the formalities of business or politics (with capital letters). When you know as well as I do that the really important things of life are the humanities, the feelings inside of us and what we do about them.

But the men looked a little anxious when they found that the President was going over to the cottage in the afternoon. "To make a speech?" they inquired. "No, just

to greet the administrators, no statement," they were told. Which satisfied them, apparently, and left us free to go back to the cottage.

Mrs. Roosevelt sat with her back to the fireplace (no fire there), with Williams on one hand and the Kansas Youth Administrator, Miss O'Laughlin, on the other. I don't know whether this was a happen-so or not; anyway, the Kansas lady got the poet of honor, Mrs. Roosevelt was knitting a red sweater for one of the administrators' grandchildren. Mr. Williams called on first one and the nanosher to tel about what they were doing in their States and it turned into a regular talk-fest.

There doesn't seem any way to tell about it except to tell how it went along. The question is, what are we going to do with young people, reaching the job-age, in a world where there aren't enough jobs? grown people. Maybe you think it is none of the Government's business. But the general opinion seems to be that it is because uneducated, unskilled, unsteady, unhealthily young do not make good citizens; they make trouble for all the rest of us; even if you want to put it on that level.

The National Youth Administration is seeking to help them get an education; to help them find out what they are fitted to do; to help train them to do that; to help them get a job. The Youth Administration is hampered by many things. First, money, like everybody else. Then the fact that this is something new. Up to now we have muddled along; young people came out of school if they were lucky; and faced a broad world where they had to earn a living. Frequently their education had had no relation to making a living. They had no idea what they were physically and temperamentally fitted to do. They did not even know what jobs were available. Even if they knew what they would like to do, and had been given some preparation, as some fortunate ones had, they didn't know whether or not that field was over-crowded.

It was interesting that the administrators discussed suitability of work to college education. "We've got to find some yardstick" for they said. "They didn't want to go on helping boys and girls to struggle through college if that was not what suited their abilities. How to find out what children are fitted for? That seemed to be an initial problem. You must have some technique, some pattern, some variety of opportunity to discover what the coming generation, individually, can do and do best at." The Quoddy idea," says Mrs. Roosevelt, knitting.

They have a community there to try this out, says Williams; most pieces for the youth administrators with their local helpers are fumbling along to a solution by trial and error. This Quoddy idea is pioneering. They hope to work out a technique there that can be used elsewhere. Washington is very interested in the Quoddy idea.

BIT O' VERSE

THE WEAVER

Across a silver warp of song
I cast my rainbow dreams,
The fragile shuttle swiftly
The fragile shuttle swiftly
With memory's misty wit
The tender green of youth,
A scarlet strand of gallant
The clean clear blue of tr
The wet is wrought v

The gray of patient pat
The glistening gossamer
And scrow's amber
Here runs a golden r
Then through its pe
I weave a single s
The stainless whir
—Ms

SO.

A man at
to own he
which is b
that he l
yesterday

The
that
we
ought

On the Inside in Washington

By Elizabeth May Craig

Washington, Nov. 2.—This column tags along right next to the one before, telling about how Youth Administrators went to Mrs. Roosevelt's Val Kil cottage. Charles Hewett, Maine's Youth Administrator, was there, for Maine. Col. Henry M. Waite, who is in direct charge of Quoddy, was not there, which was too bad, because Mrs. Roosevelt is personally very much interested in the experiment at Quoddy, in how to find out what young people are individually fitted for, and so is the President.

From other States have been to Quoddy to see what's being done, because they are up against the problem of the "round peg in the square hole" in their localities. The Youth Administration is seeking some method which can be used locally, and Quoddy is the laboratory, the clinic, so to speak. They have to find the pattern there, then find a cheap way to do it locally.

Mrs. Roosevelt calls it "the Quoddy idea", but the Youth officials are trying to get away from that name, because you know how most people laugh the minute you mention Quoddy—they think you mean the power project at Quoddy, the tide-trap.

After the general discussion in the morning, the administrators went out to walk around the place, while Mrs. Roosevelt went to the Big House to greet distinguished visitors, and lunch was prepared. It is a pretty, little place in the woods. There is a little bridge, the Kil, about twenty feet wide. Used to be no edge to the little bridge until the Secret Service just said the President couldn't come there unless they put an edge. So they put some logs along the side.

It's cozy and comfortable, no formality. Mrs. Roosevelt was in a plain light wool suit, a white ribbon tied around her head, white crepe blouse tied with a self-bow at the neck, white shoes and stockings. She wears heavy white silk stockings a great deal; only woman I know who wears white stockings. She is a genius at making people feel at home and while they ate lunch, cafeteria style, off paper plates, they all talked some more.

Soon as the ice cream and cake (home made) was eaten they rearranged the chairs again in her sitting room and started back to what you might call informal reports from different States, to Aubrey Williams, who sat beside Mrs. Roosevelt. He is WPA man in charge of Youth Administration. They said communities were taking great interest — one man said they had loosened purse strings where they didn't know there was any purse. The boys and girls are interested. Employers are less hesitant; Labor is not as antagonistic as it was when Labor thought maybe youngsters were going to be shoved in to take the places of older workers in crowded trades and professions. But the whole thing is so new — and they need money, and there are so many other places to put money.

To me it was as interesting as a picture-puzzle. Pieces were being fitted together, right there in that October sunshine, by the handsome man in the automobile; the eager, warm-hearted woman standing by the running-board; by the fifty men and women from all over the country who have come so close to this problem of helping children to find a happy life-work.

This was part of the big picture that we are fitting together to make a happier people — Employment Service, which are helping the Youth officials; unemployment compensation to tide them over idle periods, old age assistance when the working day is done in each life; better wages, shorter hours, help for mothers and dependent children. To make this God's country humanly speaking, as Nature has made it God's country.

Then a Secret Service man poked his head inside the door to say the President was coming. So everybody went out to where the President sat in his car. He had only a couple of Secret Service men with him, who stood at either end of the car. Mrs. Roosevelt stood by the windshield, with one foot up on the running board. Everybody gathered

around close to the car and the President asked questions. Williams stood beside the car to introduce and to show photographs and add bits of information. It's always a surprise to me to know how much the President knows about things. He has so many fields to cover and yet he knows the principal points at issue in each.

It was rather amusing, this "conference" out there on the grass, in the trees in the bright October sunshine. Mrs. Roosevelt is so interested in humanities, in children. She was really an advocate; she wants the Youth Administration to get funds and go forward. So she would say "Well, you see Franklin" every now and then when she thought she could put in a helpful sidelight. She has been around to practically every State, seeing the Youth activities, as well as other social experiments, so she could really steer the conference.

The President hasn't been married to her for so long without knowing her methods—doesn't every husband? He knew she was trying to show him this Youth program because it is close to her heart. But he has an eye on the budget and he knows how many other worthy projects need money. So he kept asking each administrator for facts, figures. He wanted to know how much it cost per student for instance, he wanted to know if there were any figures on crowding in professions, so you wouldn't be helping children to learn to be teachers, when there are thousands of jobless teachers. He is going to have a survey made along that line, by the Youth Administration. Col. Waite of Quoddy, is to help with that.

Mrs. Roosevelt didn't forget Maine. She reminded the President that he would like to hear about Maine. So Mr. Hewett was called to the edge of the car. The President had previously asked Mr. Hewett where he was from in Maine and Mr. Hewett said Rockland. When he came up the second time, he said he didn't know whether or not the President wanted to hear from a foreign country and everybody laughed. The President said as long as Hewett didn't ask for any more money for Deer Isle Bridge it was all right. Then Hewett told about what the Youth Administration was doing in Maine; the cabins for students at the University of Maine, etc. The President asked what about the youngsters on the islands and Hewett wasn't too cheerful about that phase of it. Then the President asked about Quoddy and Hewett said he would rather not discuss that. The President and everybody laughed, as people always do when Quoddy is mentioned and Williams said he was proud of the Quoddy experiment. I was disappointed that Waite wasn't there to tell about Quoddy. Hewett, you see, is not directly in charge of Quoddy, but it would have been a grand chance to tell the President all the interesting things Hewett had been telling me earlier about the Quoddy experiment.

Then the President drove off and everybody got their hats and coats and dashed for the bus to the train. Mrs. Roosevelt had to write her column and then to the Big House to dinner, and to the opening of a community gymnasium at Poughkeepsie and a speech at Vassar College that night.

LIGHT AND AIRY

Lazy Letter
Teacher—"What does the letter stand for?"
Small boy—"Cos it would be letter B if it lay down.—His' Courant.

Warning
"You want more money my boy, I worked three sild a month in this ve Now I'm the owner!"
"Well, you see what your boss. No man assistants like that his job."—Pearson

Har'
"Louise has part in the A production."
"Difficult?"
say a sing'
Well, 'cull the

August 29, 1938

100

Wynne
Dear May Craig:

Thank you for the long newsy letter. I feel as if I had been miles away from everything. We get no news up here at all.

You sound as though you had a very hard time. I guess tonsils can be very mean when they want to be. However, I will give you the same thing that has been given to me: "You'll undoubtedly be better than ever, now that this is over."

I can imagine that Bethany Beach never runs out of conversation as long as General Johnson and Robbie are there. I haven't heard from Martha in a long time. I wrote to her the other day because both Mrs. Roosevelt and I wondered how she was.

I gave Mrs. Roosevelt your message about luncheon with the Women's Press Club and, while she gave me no definite answer, I am sure if you remind her that you would like to have her she will do it. It won't be, though, until some time in December, I imagine.

Your story about Heywood Brown is very amusing. I understood that he was very much on the wagon and living under a pretty strict set of rules. I saw him the other day at George Bye's and he looked much better than I have seen him for a long time.

Affectionately,

SO

W. J. Johnson

WESTERN UNION
PRESS MESSAGE

Aug 25

Dear Tommy:

It was nice of you to write. I had had my tonsils out once long ago but it seems they were not thoroughly done and I had to have them out again and did not get along so well. So I had to stay around Washington to have throat treatments and that took all my sick leave and vacation--five weeks altogether. I am back on the job again but taking it easy till after Labor Day. Went down on the Potomac River for a week and am going down to Bethany Beach to stay with Ruby over this coming week end. She is coming back Aug 30th.

I hear from Isabelle Griffin who has just come back from Bethany Beach that she was regarded as one with a deformity, because she is a New Dealer. They talk about her in whispers and stop when she arrives. Some were bold enough to say "Are you ACTUALLY a New Dealer?"

The domicile of General Johnson with Robbie is the high light of the Beach it seems. Beth Campbell of AP tells a story about AP sending her to get a story about Wallie and the Duke from Robbie.

It has been very hot here but today is cooler. We hear the President is coming back the 30th to talk war debts with the Britishers. "So they can borrow some more" say the cynics of the Press Room.

Martha has gone to Ohio to her family for vacation. Will be back Sept 3d.

WESTERN UNION
2

I had lunch with Hope Miller the other day, the new President of the Woman's Press Club, and we were saying we hoped Mrs. Roosevelt would come to the Club lunch or business meeting some time, just as a member. So if Hope asks you about it you will know we all would like it. Not to let anybody know, so there would be a crowd, but just let Hope know and drop in.

Heywood Brown was down to the Dies un-American hearing. A man by the name of Matthews said Heywood told him he was getting out of the Socialist party so he could work for the Communists. Heywood was sitting at the Press table like some big bear--you know how he wheezes---and finally got a chance to answer. Heywood said he got out of the Socialist Party because they reproved him for writing something nice about "I Smith." He said he was for peace and democracy and against war and fascism. "And before you cut me off I want to say you are wasting your time....." Dies jumped up and whanged the gavel and the crowd laughed and applauded and Dies said he would clear the room if the audience didn't stop demonstrating.

Heywood and Adam Lapin of Daily Worker and Dick Turner of the AP and Ken Crawford of the New York Post ^{and I} went over to a little eating place called Neptune's Grill (I don't know why) for lunch. We order roast beef and ham sandwiches, et al. Heywood says "I'll take a whiskey sour." "What else," says the girl. "A whiskey Sour," says Heywood.

When she brings ours she says "What else?" to Heywood.

"A whiskey sour," says he.

When she brings out dessert she says "What else?" to Heywood.

"A demi-tasse," says he.

"What?" says she.

WESTERN UNION
PRESS MESSAGE

3

"A demi tasse," says he.

"WHAT?" says she.

"A small cup of coffee," says Heywood.

"All our cups are the same size," says the waitress.

"Bring me a big cup of coffee," says Heywood, beaten down.

Washington spends its time in a passionate argument over whether or not the President should go into the primaries. Nobody agrees with anybody else or with themselves most of the time. When I am with economic royalists I argue for it. When I am with radicals I argue against it. When I am with myself I flounder from one side to the other.

We shall be glad to see you and Mrs Roosevelt back again. I hear Alice Roosevelt is going to make ten lectures in the West in the early fall on "The American Government."

Most friendly wishes for your feeling fine.

May Craig

January 1/, 1939

Dear Mays:

I tried to follow through on the letter from Eastport and find from a duly credited source that W.P.A. and N.Y.A. are doing all they can proportionately and that the State of Maine is not. Is there anyone there who could jog the Governor?

Sincerely yours,

Miss May Craig
National Press Building
Washington
D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 12, 1939.

MEMO FOR E.R.

I see nothing we can do about
Eastport because W.P.A. and N.Y.A. are doing
all they can proportionately and I think the
State of Maine is not. Somebody ought to get
after the Governor.

~~_____~~
Pass the money to May (May)
without A. S. R.

Dear May -
I tried to follow through on
the letter from Eastport &
found from a daily newspaper
source that Mike & Nye
don't see their counterparts
& that the situation is
over

GUY P. GANNETT
President

FRED R. LORD
Treasurer

GANNETT PUBLISHING CO., INC.

PORTLAND, MAINE

Portland Evening Express

Portland Sunday Telegram

Portland Press Herald

Waterville Sentinel

Daily Kennebec Journal

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT
ELIZABETH MAY CRAIG
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Washington D C
Dec 26 1938

Dear Tommy:

The enclosed letter is pathetic. I am passing
it on, as requested by the writer, whom I do not know.
I thought maybe you could bring it to Mrs Roosevelt's at-
tention or do whatever else seems indicated.

Sincerely,

May Craig

Mrs. Elizabeth May Craig;
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mrs. Craig,

For a long time I have been considering writing you to ask if there is any way that you could inform President Roosevelt of the drastic conditions going on in this city and seeking his aid in such a crisis.

Your columns in the Portland Press Herald are most interesting, educational and above all so humane and it would seem to me that you admire our President for these same qualities which you possess yourself and for this reason I am appealing to you.

Eastport Maine is a very beautiful little city, typically American and free from any foreign element, a city filled with the most hospitable and genuine people in the world. At one time it was a thriving little city, unemployment was unknown as there were a great many sardine factories, a large canning plant owned and operated by the American Can Co. and many smoked fisheries that took care of the entire population. Year by year the sardine plants dwindled and now there remains only two and the work in these is seasonal and not sufficient for a normal livelihood.

At the time President Roosevelt took office Dexter Cooper was living and saw a possibility of fulfilling his dream of harnessing the tides of Passamaquoddy Bay. You can never imagine the happiness of the people in this eastern section of the country when our great President appropriated seven million for this work. It gave new life to the entire population for at last they saw a chance of earning a daily wage. Homes were repaired that had been going down for years, younger men went into business for themselves and it was a tremendous help in every way. Not only was this section of the country benefited by it but construction companies, machinery companies, and a hundred different industries all over the country sold supplies to the government for the construction of this project. Had Dexter Coopers original plans been carried out and had he been consulted on this high undertaking Quoddy might have been a different story to-day.

The project was handicapped from the beginning by a very hostile press, a strong opposition on the part of the power companies and by such writers as Westbrook Pegler, Richard Boyer and others who came here and were extended the utmost courtesies and considerations only to return them in most of the leading papers of the country by nasty and unfair editorials not only concerning the project itself but the people of this city as well. Men from the western and southern states came here seeking employment and after receiving such proved to be secretly spreading false and malicious propaganda against the project.

After Quoddy was rejected by Congress things around the city began to go from bad to worse and at the end of two years the city officials were compelled to ask the state for aid. A commissioner was sent here to take over the affairs of the city and instead of trying to assist the people out of their difficulties at least by using kindness and tactfulness nothing but sarcasm and severity were meted out to all who approached him. A lien was placed April first of last year on all taxpayers property having a balance as low as two dollars. In August of this year all property in the

city was reevaluated by inexperienced men and assessed at the rate of nine and eight tenths mills, the highest tax rate of any place in the United States.

The needy and the people requiring city aid receive one dollar and a quarter a week per person. A month ago one half the street lights were eliminated and most of the city was in darkness until the insurance companies filed a complaint with the public utilities and after several radio broadcasts concerning the state of affairs existing here it became compulsory to restore the lights.

The government sent food supplies here for the W. P. A. workers and their families from the surplus commodity supplies and it was kept in a storehouse so long that potatoes, butter, flour etc. were dumped in the docks due to decay and vermin from rats. Cheese was given to workers that was so deteriorated that if eaten there would have been a possibility of infection and for a week it was displayed in several of the stores to show the actual condition of the food.

The only employment of any kind in this city is W. P. A. with the exception of the U. S. A. work experience project at Quoddy Village. Conditions exist on this project that are never made public by the press. The idea of this school is very fine but as far as a benefit to Eastport is concerned it is of little value. All administrative positions have been filled by people from the southern states as the director was sent here from T. V. A. and to secure work there one must have a relief number but there are cases there were made exceptions to the rule as the case is not what one knows but who one knows. If a vacancy occurs in the personnel it is immediately filled by a person out of the state. Letters have been sent to Washington stating these facts but conditions remain the same. The village itself is a very beautiful little place, the houses are fully equipped with all modern improvements and electrical appliances and there are a great many other purposes that the village could be utilized for that would be of greater benefit to Eastport than this school in the present set-up.

At his summer home in Campobello N. B. two years ago President Roosevelt told the people of this section "We are going to have Quoddy" and they still have hopes that he will fulfill his promise. The Eastport Chamber of Commerce interviewed James Roosevelt this summer and informed him of the urgent need of this project asking him to intercede to his father in behalf of the city of Eastport. If Quoddy is an impossibility we would be satisfied with something in the line of national defense as long as it is a means of earning a living and aiding the people of this city out of their difficulties for I cannot help but feel that it is wrong to proclaim our love of humanity and yet forget that humanity includes the human beings of Eastport Maine as well as the Western and Southern states. The people of this city are the most courageous in the world for in the midst of their hardships they still have faith in the President aiding them in some way.

I hope I have not indulged in too much bitterness as this is not my aim for I hate bitterness but the conditions are so deplorable that I feel it necessary to enlighten you and if there is any possible way of you extending this letter to either President or Mrs. Roosevelt and asking their assistance I can assure you that you will be blessed for all time.

Very truly yours,
Harold C. Andrews. Eastport Maine.

February 2, 1939

100

Dear May:

I gave your letter to Mrs. Roosevelt about Quoddy and she got in touch with Aubrey Williams who says that he, in turn, will get in touch with Congressman Brewster. I hope something comes of it. If not, you might give us another reminder.

Affectionately,

Miss Elisabeth May Craig
National Press Building
Washington, D.C.

DD

GUY P. GANNETT
President

*Collected
2-1-39*

FRED R. LORD
Treasurer

GANNETT PUBLISHING CO., INC.

PORTLAND, MAINE

Portland Evening Express

Portland Sunday Telegram

Portland Press Herald

Waterville Sentinel

Daily Kennebec Journal

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT
ELIZABETH MAY CRAIG
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Jan 26 1939

*John Anthony Lord
had gotten to work
with Brewster*

Dear Tommy:

Congressman Brewster and I had an idea that it would be swell if we could have a model of Quoddy, actually working, set up in the basement rotunda of the Capitol, to arouse interest and maybe get Congressmen to thinking about it. We thought maybe we could get a WPA project model, like they have at Quoddy. That is too big and would be difficult to break down and move. What think?

Reason I am telling this to you is that we don't know who is acting for the President about his revival of Quoddy and don't know where to put the model suggestion.

I had such a nice time at lunch today.

Love,

May

*J.P.R.
Caldwell & G.A.
make no
M*

100
6.45
May 19, 1939

Dear May:

Mrs. Roosevelt wants to get all the girls together before she leaves for the summer and suggested dinner in the garden here on June 7.

Will you reserve that night for a while? Something may turn up to change Mrs. Roosevelt's plans, but she hopes for no interference.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Elizabeth May Craig
Capitol Towers
Washington, D.C.

SO

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
301 CAPITOL TOWERS
WASHINGTON
D. C.

May 24 1939

file

Dear Tommy:

I will hold the evening of June
7th open and hope it materializes.

May

3000

7/31/40

100
CRAIG

My dear May:

Thank you for your long letter. I agree with you, staying in is better, though I feel very useless, because I cannot attend meetings or really speak out.

I do, however, realize that getting out would hurt the whole Guild and I do not want to do that. It has accomplished good things and in the proper hands can accomplish good things in the future.

If you can think of any way in which I can be really useful and exert some influence I will be glad to try. When I am out of the White House I can go to the meetings and try to make my ideas heard.

I will watch for the Saturday Evening Post article and do as you suggest, in my column.

It must have been terribly hot because it has been terribly hot here. I would love to have a chance to see you and if anybody brings you up this way, let me know.

Toomy sends her love with mine.

affectionately,

Washington D C July 29 1940

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

Well, all was lost save honor, at Memphis. We did not elect a single one of our candidates, except Martin of Memphis, who was unopposed, and elected by acclamation. We failed to move headquarters out of New York, or to take the vote away from the paid officers, or to get an anti-"ism" resolution through.

We succeeded in bringing the isms to the floor for the first time; we dramatized the existence, on the floor for all to see, of a rallying-point for reform, stating our position on all points and why we voted as we did. We showed both Philadelphia and New York that we would go down with the flag flying rather than compromise principle. Up to now they said, Oh, well, Washington will have to place to go and will have to come to us in the end, so why should we make any concessions. They know better now. Philadelphia is no better than New York.

With us we had Seattle, Toledo, Madison, Pittsburgh, Cumberland, Tacoma, Youngstown, sometimes Chattanooga, Twin Cities. We are planning to keep this group together, with one person in each forming a sort of Council, to make plans for the year which will bring in other Guilds and give us more delegates next year. We are planning a referendum on 1) move the headquarters out of New York; 2) election of national officers by referendum; 3) an anti-isms resolution. We do not want to say anything about the referenda till we know that we have the 11 Guilds in 5 States necessary for seconds.

I was on the Resolutions committee and got batted down on the isms, which included Communism, Fascism, Nazi-ism. First they voted down the Seattle isms resolution, which was long and full of whereases, though we offered to shorten and change in any way so long as

the isms were named. Opponents said this would estroy civil liberties, pleas Pegler and the publishers, destroy labor unions. I asked if John L. Lewis was destroying labor unions and civil liberties when his United Mine Workers passed an anti-communist resolution.

The committee adopted a resolution against subversive forces, but refused an amendmnet naming them as communism, fascis, nazi-ism. Next day they came into committee, reconsidered the resolution and imbedded it in the national defense resolution, which made it hard to combat. We reserved the right to bring in a minority report on the isms, no matter where it was. We did, though they tried their best to keep it off the floor. We brought in a short report and a revised resolution which said merely that Communism, fascism and Nazi-ism are not indicative of the beliefs of the ANG and that we would not tolerate any attempt to dominate the Guild or set its policies by these subversive forces. Seattle and Washington and our allies defended this on the floor, and was there a fight! The issue was ducked by a vote of 105 to 37.

Herb Littel says you are thinking of leaving the Guild. Several Washington members have said the same to me. I hope they will not and I hope you will not. That would ruin us and do no good. It would please the publishers who don't want a Guild anyway. It would discredit this Guild and not make possible any other. I think the thing to do is to stay in and try to make headway at the next convention. I understand there is to be a piece in the next Satevepost bya Boston Guildsman who got out last winter. That will be a blow. Perhaps, if you wish, it would give you an opportunity to say ^{in your column} that you too thought of getting out, but decided that was no way to help a newspaper union get along. If you believe in a union for newspaper people, then the way to help is to stay in and make the union function right, not to get out and abandon it to those who are running it wrong, or defeat the union entirely.

It's hot as anything here, and the Congressmen and Reserve men and dollars a year men are thinking very hard about patriotism to keep themselves going.

My regards to Tommy, please.

Fraternally,

May Craig

August 8, 1940

100
CRAIG

Dear May:

Thank you for your letter. I am not bucking the President but would like to see a wider service.

I have no idea whether the President will be here on Labor Day and he has so little free time our recent picnics have not been very exciting. However, I should love to have you and Ruby anyway. I have to be at the World's Fair on August 17, and you could meet me in New York City that morning, go to the Fair with me, and then come up here.

Affectionately,

DD

Miss May Craig
National Press Bldg
Washington

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

I was much pleased with your piece about the Guild. Also with the piece about the draft bill. There was a lot of talk in the press gallery when your column came out about what you'd heard from young people against the draft bill. The way it was written, it looked as though you shared their views against the draft. Reporters commented that you were "bucking the old man" on the conscription bill, which was unfortunate. One or two of the newspaper even printed that you were opposing the measure. Lorena and I talked about this.

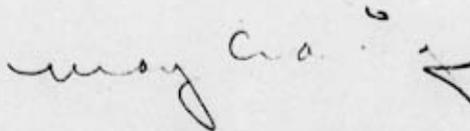
So I was glad to see your piece today.

Ruby and I would still like to come to Hyde Park for the Labor Day press picnic, somehow we have always missed it. If there is to be one this year we would like to come. Do you know if there will be? Probably both you and the President are uncertain as to what you will do.

Betty, my daughter, and her husband are starting off for a week's vacation the week end of the 17th of August, up in that direction, and can bring me by, if it suits you to have me then for a day or two. They would go on to the seashore and I would come back by ~~tax~~ train, to my dear Congress.

Looks like a fight over conscription unless Willkie comes out for it too in his acceptance. I cannot believe that the Members could be so shortsighted as to fail to pass some sort of a draft bill. I thought what the President said about it at his press conference here was fine.

Affectionately,

W. C. C. 

Y. J. ...
... August 6 1940
... go to ...
... case if ...

August 27, 1940

100

Dear May:

I think your column is swell!

Many thanks for sending it to me.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
301 Capitol Towers
Washington, D.C.

DD

Inside In Washington

By Elisabeth May Craig

Washington, Aug. 21.—This is written at Val Kill, Mrs. Roosevelt's cottage near Hyde Park, looking out across a smooth little pond, where the purple plumes of loosestrife are reflected in the water. Means that Fall is near; they say if Britain can hold out till Fall, the weather will be so bad Hitler will have to slack up in his attack. Hitler seems very far away from this pleasant place; but along a winding country road and across the fields, is the Big House, where the President of the United States hears bad news from abroad. This pleasant little place is very close to world tragedy.

The President is back from talks with Canada's Mackenzie King about mutual defense of this Country and Canada. Maine is very close to Canada, only an imaginary line divides them for long miles and Hitler doesn't care about boundary lines. The U. S. Government is putting a great deal of secret thought on the defense of the Northeast; Bangor will be a key point in the defense of the Northeast. Naturally, military men do not talk about this sort of thing for publication.

There was considerable satisfaction among Administration circles about the strong stand that Willkie took, in his acceptance speech, for national defense, for selective service, for help to Britain, for farm aid, for old-age pensions and unemployment compensation, for proper regulation of business. Naturally, New Dealers did not agree with Willkie's criticism of the way Roosevelt has applied these social reforms; nor his accusation that Roosevelt has fomented class hatreds, courted war, prevented expansion of production.

It was a brave speech; nobody could help admiring his echo of what Churchill said to the British when he took over—that he had only a hard road to offer his people, that it meant blood and tears and toil and sweat. Willkie said that he hoped we could avoid the blood and tears, that we cannot avoid the toil and sweat. I remembered other speeches of other Presidential candidates, how well they meant, how they were coerced by circumstances.

Washington sees Presidents come and go and watches how their souls are tried by the coercion of circumstances, of their own parties, how little they can accomplish of their soaring dreams.

Willkie is a strong man and he spoke strongly. He will make a strong candidate. You could tell by the storm of applause how the American people will be intrigued by his challenge of debate. It's the sort of sporting proposition that the people love.

We know perfectly well that Willkie was a little fanciful as he recounted his adolescent promises to himself about being a statesman. We know from experience how impossible it is to tell the public about the diplomatic exchanges between nations. We have seen Presidents make their plans and their programs, integrated and dovetailed, and then have Congress knock out the very keystones of it. We don't see how Willkie is going to keep up all the parity payments and the social security and the relief, without spending money. He thinks he can boost private capital and increase national income. We hope he may be able to, if he gets elected, but Roosevelt has been trying to boost national income, too, and relief has only been an expedient.

We saw how Hoover tried to help the farmers with the Farm Board, and how he ran into debt and piled up surpluses and got no thanks. So while we admire Willkie's courage and his vision, we aren't going to hold it too much against him if he finds he cannot do all his promises. What we ask is sincerity in trying to do it.

MRS. Roosevelt and I had trouble finding the Quoddy model at the World's Fair, which is why we went there. It was not at the National Youth Administration Building, where we went to look for it, though it was built by NYA boys at Quoddy Village work experience school.

The policemen who were escorting us didn't know where it was, but said they would inquire, while Mrs. Roosevelt was having coffee at the Brazilian pavilion, unveiling a poster at the Finnish building, making a speech to the Boy Scouts and rural youth at the assembly hall.

"What kind of a statue is this she wants to see," said one of the policemen to me, desperately, whispering behind his hand as we watched the Boy Scouts.

"What statue?" says I.
"This statue of a Quoddy youth," says the cop. Well, I explained that it was a working model of an electric power dam and then they found it and we went to see it. People were jammed around it, watching the tides fill the upper pool and percolate through the gates where the turbines were. People love to see things work. I wish we could have this model in the Capitol next Winter, so the members could see it. Most of them have never given any thought to the idea of power from tides. Maybe if they could see it work, they would really think about it. Congressmen are just like boys. I remember once we had a big working model of an irrigation project in the Senate Office Building, and members spent hours looking at it. Maybe the generation after us, will get power from the tides and think no more of it than we do about power from rivers.

THAT was the afternoon of the Willkie notification speech. Mrs. Roosevelt listened to it in the car going back to Val Kill. She is so well-known that people recognize her instantly. Going around New York, into stores, along the sidewalk, in the Fair buildings, people glance at her, recognize her, say: "Oh, look, that's Mrs. Roosevelt." That's one thing her height does for her, though probably as a young girl she hated being so tall.

People notice the White House monogram on the door of the car and then look to see who's in it. They did that, and heard the Willkie voice; everybody had it on; there was a regular medley of radios giving off the Willkie speech as traffic jammed. She was intent listening, she didn't notice people looking at her, but you could tell that they were interested in her listening to the speech.

One thing is certain. We have two unusual men from whom to choose our next leader. The President's acceptance speech—outside of the rather thin explanation of how he happened to be "drafted" was a magnificent speech. Willkie's acceptance, outside of some of the partisan aspect, was magnificent. If I were picking a sentence from Willkie's speech that was most important, I might pick:

"We must have faith that the welfare of one is the welfare of all." Willkie promises that he will try to make democracy work in this Country and will strongly defend it from any attack.

Ferdinand Lundberg, 125 Riverside Drive, NYC - about the communist activities in the Newspaper Guild.

September 23, 1940

Pending

100

Dear May:

Will you let Mrs. Roosevelt know what you think about this letter and whether you feel she should see these people?

Sincerely,

Will send
look.

Mrs. Butler

Reuby Block

Miss Craig

Miss Elisabeth May Craig
Capitol Towers
208 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C.

DD

P. S. - Would Monday Oct. 21st be a good date for your lunch?

100

October 7, 1940

Dear Mrs. Craig:

I think you told us that Senator McNary had made a speech against Mr. Willkie during the utilities hearings. I have been asked to get a copy and no one seems able to find it. Do you know where it can be located?

Affectionately,

MCT:mds

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. May Craig
Capitol Towers Apartment
Washington, D. C.

October 8, 1940

100

Dear May:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send you the enclosed copy of letter from Mr. William Gammon, of Hollywood, California, together with the information which he sent her.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
301 Capitol Towers
Washington, D. C.

ds

10/8/40

SEP 25 1940

P. O. Box 1813
Hollywood, California

SEP 26 1940

September 20, 1940

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

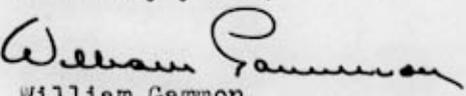
I admired your decision to stay in the American Newspaper Guild and investigate for yourself conditions which led Westbrook Pegler to brand the organization as a "Communism transmission belt."

I also want to congratulate you for your letter printed in The Guild Reporter of September 15 in opposition to the International Executive Board's statement on the Burke-Wadsworth draft bill.

May I draw your attention to the lengthy statement printed in the same issue of The Reporter urging affiliation of the American Newspaper Guild with the American Peace Mobilization, and especially to the fact that three prominent Guildsmen were elected to the national council of this organization.

I am enclosing an anti-Communist resolution adopted by the Los Angeles Newspaper Guild--and the cause of a bitter fight in progress here now--which calls for a national referendum on this important issue that was so neatly side-stepped at the Memphis Convention.

You may be interested also in leaflets circulated here yesterday--one under the aegis of John Dunn, assistant editor of The Guild Reporter, and the other by Dick Washburne, president of the local, who drafted the anti-Communist resolution.

Sincerely yours,

William Gammon

October 19, 1940

MEMO FOR MISS THOMPSON:

Mrs. Roosevelt will go to lunch at the Willard Hotel on Oct. 21, at 1 p.m. I will not know what room the luncheon will be in until Monday.

H.T.L.

13
OCT 24 1940

Hope Kildings, Miller, Isabel Kinnear Griffin, Elisabeth May Craig
request the pleasure of your company
at a luncheon in honor of
Eleanor Roosevelt
Ruby Black
and
"Eleanor Roosevelt"
Monday, the twenty-first of October
at one o'clock
Willard Hotel

R. S. v. p.
1233 - National Press Building

~~SECRET~~

November 5, 1940

noted
with

100

Dear May:

The new house sounds very exciting, and I do wish you all good luck for the future.

Affectionately,

no lump
rate change 7
address

Miss Elisabeth May Craig
~~717 North Capitol~~

717 North Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C.

*Richard
please note*

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
301 CAPITOL TOWERS
WASHINGTON
D. C.

Oct 28 1940

Dear Tommy:

I have bought a little old-fashioned brick house at 717 North Carolina Avenue, Southeast and will move November 1st. Thought you might make a note of the change of address. Betty and Al are going to live with me a couple of years so they can save up some money and have a baby.

Affectionately,

May

*Bees here it
Arms - meeting
and such for
the meeting
11/1*

March 4, 1941

100

Dear May:

We would both love to have dinner with you on March 19, and afterwards I can either be sent home or go into another room and knit.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
301 Capitol Towers
Washington, D.C.

DD

May 31, 1941

full
ending
June 21
100

Dear May:

I think June 21 would be a good date for you and Mr. Gannett to come to Campobello for lunch, if this would be convenient for you. Let me know and I'll meet you at Quoddy.

The President said he would autograph the picture for Eether Tufty and I will get it and have it framed and take with me on the 9th.

Affectionately,

Memo sent to Miss LeHand with letter from May Craig to get picture autographed by the President and to return it to Mrs. Prece to have framed and ready for Mrs. Roosevelt to take on June 9.

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Wash., D.C.

DD

ROBERT M. BUCK

2009 SOUTH ARLINGTON RIDGE ROAD, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

WASHINGTON NEWSPAPER GUILD



Mr. James Farmer
6552 34th Ave. SW
Seattle, Wash.

May 25 1941

Dear Jim:

Mrs. Roosevelt recently reported to May Craig that your delegates are puzzled what to do at the Detroit ANG convention. Small wonder. May asked me to write you and I promised to do so, but find myself at a loss what to advise. I delayed writing to await the delegate election results from New York. But I hear that our fellows lost and the Kaufmanites won. That probably makes the anti-Kaufman cause hopeless at Detroit, yet that does not necessarily follow.

As I wrote you, Barney Taylor went off for himself here and the Communists endorsed his ticket. The combination beat us. Barney beat his breast before and during the campaign and after the election in denunciation of Communists, but it was they who elected his ticket, knowing that he had attached himself to the Max Ways machine. That was in the election of officers of our Guild in January.

In view of their joint control of our Guild, Waysites and Communists, it was useless for us to enter the contest for delegates--as I wrote you. So none of our group will be at Detroit. Barney Taylor is no longer in our group. If the rebels had won in New York I would have gone to Detroit, altho not a delegate, to help them organize the convention. They have left Ways and have expressed solidarity to us. They asked me to promise to attend the convention to help them if they won and I did so. But they lost.

Of course, some of the other Guilds have elected anti-party-line delegates; Los Angeles, for instance. All the anti-party-line Guilds will no doubt find it expedient to unite for an assault on the Kaufman machine. The coalition will, I expect, be led by Ways. You know my views as to him. I believe him to be little better for the Guild than the Communists.

I believe his capture of Guild leadership might even be worse than a continuation of Kaufman rule for the reason that when it is shown ~~what~~ what a dictator he is--what central control he will preserve and even augment, stamping out what remnants of autonomy the Communists have left the local Guilds--it will be impossible to arouse the opposition again to beat him. They will say what is the use, you take us from the frying pan into the fire and you will have no convincing answer.

Nevertheless I can see that all of our kind of folk who attend the convention may find it necessary to join with Ways. They must do so with tongue in cheek and finger and thumb stopping the nose. If, as I believe, Kaufman cannot be unseated at this convention, it would be well for the Guild to have Ways lead the unsuccessful opposition and for him to be aided in developing his fullest possible strength in order that it may be made clear that someone other than he will have to take up the flag in 1942.

It is tragic, is it not, to have to keep talking year after year about the future instead of the present.

Well, I guess there is the only advice I have. You will have to make up your minds whether to vote the Ways ticket or refrain from voting as we did at Memphis. Washington, you may be sure, under the callow leadership of Barney Taylor, will line up with Ways. If you decide to go with Ways, my advice is to try to keep the record clear on issues. Adhere to the program we fought for at Memphis and which we will fight for again but for which no strong enough ~~group~~ group will strive at Detroit. It was and is important; ~~it~~ it is vital; to unhorse Communist leadership. Yet it is even more important to unbind the Guild, recover autonomy for the locals, make the collective bargaining program more practicable and the discipline less harsh. We cannot get new members without downing the Communists. We cannot keep them after we get them and grow in strength and self sufficiency unless we throw off all leading strings of centralized control--that is, dictatorship.

Let us continue to keep in touch with each other. Our day will come.

Cordially

Bob Beck

X
Edward Hunter, Chairman Out-of-Town Committee, 95 Park Ave., Port Washington,
L.I., N.Y.

April 7, 1941

100

Dear May:

Will you let Mrs. Roosevelt know
what you think she ought to do about this?
She says she would be glad to be a member
but she wants to act as the Washington Guild
feels she should.

I would appreciate your returning
the letter as it has not been acknowledged.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig/
717 North Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C.

DD

X
ILGWU Publications Unit -Newspaper Guild of N.Y.

May 12, 1941

100

Dear May:

Mrs. Roosevelt wants me to ask
you if you have the enclosed publication or
want it.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C.

DD

100
May 19, 1941

Dear May:

It is so nice of you to want to have us for supper, but Mrs. Helm leaves May 22 for the summer so perhaps that completely spoils your plans.

I have long hoped to have some of you "gals" at my apartment but so much galloping around the country leaves me very few free evenings.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C.

DD

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 16 1941

Dear Tommy:

I'd like very much to have some of
the newspaper girls in for Mrs Helm and you,
just a very informal supper--short skirt. How
about the first part of June? Is Sunday night a
bad night for you all? I am dated for June
3d and 4th.

If you'd like to call me and discuss
the date all right, and if you are just too busy,
all right too.

Love,

May

May 11 1941

Dear Tommy:

Presently you will receive a telephone or letter from Sigrid Arne, chairman of a special committee of the Women's Press Club on inauguration.

We are having an election the first Tuesday in June--- all sweetness and light this time, a coalition ticket, with Esther Tufty as president and me as second V P ---that's the coalition. Doris engineered the coalition. Looks like no hard feelings, for once. So we want to have an inauguration in the Press Club auditorium about the middle of June. We would like to have Mrs R come as a member if a date can be arranged that suits her. That's what Sigrid will call you about. But Esther asked me to to say something to you about it because Sigrid says she doesn't know the White House secretariat very well and would like to have the way paved for her. Silly, ~~that~~ that's what Sigrid said. Sigrid is the other AP girl.

Esther Tufty is the girl with Michigan papers, you know her, she was on the train to Arthurdale that time. She has always played the President at the ~~ixix~~ stunt party. Last year we gave the President a framed picture of the White House stunt with Esther as President, and the President said he was going to put it in the Hyde Park Library. What I am getting at is that the desire of Esther's soul is to have the President give her a photograph of himself, autographed to her as his double. I thought maybe it would be a nice touch if she could have it at her inauguration,

"from President to president", or something nice like that.

Don came home for leave today from camp--you remember he was drafted---his hands are blistered from shovelling manure---- yes, I said manure. He thinks that is one of the funniest things ---says all of them do it. Henry Ehrlich, of the Boston Herald, whose desk was next to mine, was drafted and is at Fort Bliss. He took his turn at cleaning the officers latrine the other day and used the same brush for everything!!!!!!

Love,

70 X

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 2 1941

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

Meetings of unions are supposed to be executive, unless otherwise specified by leadership. Meetings of the central bodies (like the Central Labor Union of the AFL or the IUC of the CIO) are open unless otherwise specified.

There was a crisis about the story printed about our last Guild meeting. It should not have been done. The Executive Committee will take it up at its meeting June 4th. We will probably adopt a drastic bylaw and send out notices to all members that there must not be any revelation of what goes on in union meetings, either in print or to non-members, except by the Exec Comte.

The CCC man who offered the Dies resolution really got into trouble. Names of members are not supposed to be revealed. I have called John Moutoux about your letter and you will be formally informed of what goes on.

Affectionately,

June 12, 1941

Reading
June 12

100

Dear May:

If you plan to come up on the 20th, why not come over to Campo and spend the night with us, and then go over with us on the 21st? We will meet you whenever you say.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 N. C. Ave., S.E.
Wash., D.C.

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 7th, 1941

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

I do not think that Mr Gannett will be able to come to lunch the 21st because he expects to be on the West Coast. However, I have written him and expect to hear soon.

I can make whatever plans you like about Quoddy and Campobello. Did you mean we were to go over Quoddy on the 21st? I thought perhaps I would go there on the 20th, and see the dams and whatever I could, related to the power project, and then be ready to meet you the morning of the 21st.

I hope to see you at the inauguration at the Press Club. Thank you, about the picture.

Affectionately,

Elisabeth May Craig

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 8th, 1941

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

I read the enclosed letter from New York Hunter to Crouse of Twin Cities, with great interest and showed it to Bob Buck, who is the leader of my group.

I would not take the responsibility of showing it either to the Washington Executive Committee or to the Washington ddelegation to the Detroit convention. Both groups were elected with help from the Washington Communists and I have no confidence in them, and would not show them such a confidential document as the Hunter letter. If you have anyone else here in that group that you want to see it, that's up to you. Buck has been in correspondence ~~with~~ with the out-of-towners and some of them wanted him to go to the convention, but since all the N Y crowd that we wanted were defeated, Buck will not go.

Love,

Elisabeth

(Copy of letter I mailed to Crouse (Twin Cities) and Washburne (L.A.))

*Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:
for your background (And thank you for your twofold financial aid.)*

New York Post

FOUNDED 1801

75 WEST STREET • NEW YORK • WHITEHALL 4-9000

Shaw (Hunt)

May 26, 1941

Dear Crouse,

Well, we lost out in New York! The entire Administration slate went over. I believe you are entitled to a complete picture of what took place. I shall give it to you, first, personally, and secondly, as Chairman of the Out-of-Town Committee we have up here. I remember that I first got into contact with out-of-towners as the result of a letter from Diddison, following one I wrote to the Guild Reporter. I wrote Diddison then a very frank account of the situation here. That's what I intend to do anew.

First, there is a large bloc of newspapers (so-called) up here which are Communist organs---officially so---or faithfully follow the Communist line. Such as the Daily Worker, New Masses, Freiheit, In fact, Russky Colos, etc. etc.---all Newspaper Guild units, all with every individual faithfully voting as a machine. There is no persuasion of them, of course. Yet they number about 300!! A decisive factor in any tight race. A decisive factor to nullify democratic ~~procedure~~ procedure; to wreck it. They were just enough to lose us the citywide election recently for New York Guild Executive Council members, ~~for~~ for example.

About 60 per cent of the eligible voters cast their ballots, and of these, we were not far behind---but nevertheless, behind. The 40 per cent who did not vote were almost wholly those whom we know would have voted for us. They are the silent, suffering mass who have become disgusted and discouraged with the entire mess. The ones who say, "You can't do anything about it," or "We've been through that mill---it's too unpleasant." We got some of them to vote, but not enough. Yet, we almost got half of the votes cast, (I am enclosing the final count), and as far as the membership as a whole goes, we know we do represent the majority's wishes.

We were persuaded to foolishly hold back on our punches here in an effort to win over the hesitant ones who don't like name-calling. We did get some of them, but paid for it by sacrificing the silent majority which usually doesn't vote. It was a bad exchange.

We were terribly ~~xxx~~ slammed, terribly smeared. We were accused of anything and everything, from being "company-unionists" to being stooges for the publishers, to being deliberate Guild-wreckers. During the closing days of the campaign the Communists put on a drive from Guild headquarters, alongside which ours was barely a whisper. Almost daily leaflets to the entire membership, mailed out. Daily leaflets for each unit, addressed to each unit. A regular campaign staff in each important department. The bringing in of speakers under every pretext. We got one from a Post Unit meeting from the AP, for instance---a chap who had the nerve to tell us there was no proof that Watson was a Communist, and that it was red-baiting to call him one. (Watson, who was one of the main figures at the Peace Mobilization Meeting here; who was one of the leaders in the Peace Mobilization "permanent picketing" of the White House(!)) The entire membership received a leaflet from Guild Headquarters signed by Monroe Stern,

(Copy of Letter.....2)

Guild President here, mailed at Guild expense, accusing a number of our candidates (Cant, Randall, etc.) of raising the red issue in a Guild-wrecking effort. A purely political document. On our protest over such political use of our dues, he replied that he considered it Guild business. Just like that! Is there any wonder the overwhelming majority was confused? Remember, that of our almost 4,000 members here, no more than 350 every attend a membership meeting, usually less, and of these ~~350~~ 350, you always see the same 200 or so faces---the complete staffs of the Communist line papers, etc. Of course, the bulk of the employees of legitimate papers such as the Times, Herald-Tribune, News, cannot attend---they are working evenings.

As a result, you have have a New York delegation almost entirely Communist party, Communist line, or at least fully fellow traveler. You will have an individual such as Arthur Hurwitch from this newspaper, the Post, who has been repudiated---mind you---by his entire unit, at an election. He was defeated as a Communist---the Communists at the Representative Assembly put him into the City Executive Committee in spite of our protests as representative of the Post, mind you---he has ignored the voted demand of his own unit that he resign ~~the~~ as not representing his unit---and now he ~~will~~ will go to Detroit, from the Post, which has repudiated him! When such things can happen, one cannot help being deeply concerned over the extent to which our subversive elements will go right here in America.

I shall send you a who's who of the New York delegation, including signed proof ~~that~~ of the Communist connections of some of them. I shall send it to you personally, for whatever distribution you think should be made of the data, in preparing for the Convention.

Incidentally, you will confront the same tactics (in regard to the nation-wide movement, which we have backed in our N.Y. opposition, for election of major officers by ~~reference~~ referendum) as confused the Youngstown Resolution. In the same way as the I.E.B. voted its own resolution, so it is to attempt, I am informed, to take the teeth out of whatever referendum action is taken at the Convention by possibly agreeing to a referendum, only stipulating that the nominees by the Convention slate---and no petition slate allowed. That is the joker---no petition slate allowed. Might as well not have a referendum.

Also, at the convention ~~the~~ those opposed to Communism will be confronted, ~~we~~ we are ~~informed~~ informed, by the Guild Constitution which declares there must be no objections raised as to race, religion---politics. The inclusion of politics---done only in Communist-dominated unions, is the joker there. Race and religion are private matters---but a man's politics is a social matter. We have a right to know that, and to object to it, or approve. I believe that there necessarily will have to be some action---possibly at ~~the~~ the Convention---to delete that restriction regarding politics from the Constitution. At present, we have no right to object to any man---constitutionally---be he Bundist, Christian Frontist, Monarchist---or Communist---as if these were ordinarily democratic parties.

I wrote you quite a while ago that I felt New York had to be cracked from the outside. I still believe so. By that I mean to say that subversive elements are so much more deeply entrenched in New York than elsewhere that their elimination would require a much longer time---perhaps fatally long---than pressure from the outside. We shall---I most certainly shall---continue to do the best, but when you get

(Copy of Letter.....3)

Communist blocs such as you have here---complete Communist units---it is almost impossible.

Unfortunately, too, we have not had enough good local names here. We have had the backing of all the good names---cash, too, in a very moderate manner---but they either have been too busy to do any work, or just lacked the courage to lend their names to what they knew would be a terrible smearing. The usual cowardice of old-time liberals, of which New York is full---the kind who made the Hitlers and Stalins possible by their hesitancies and inaction and excessive sense of fair play that converted it into favoritism for the other side, and allowed liberty to be interpreted as license, and democracy as demagogy.

Having lost the election, we have no right to raise our mouth in offering recommendations or advice. What I have offered is therefore ~~ix~~ on my own, and with a feeling that you appreciate our position. I do hope that you get a working plan together before the convention begins, and if there is any material or any help that you want from us in New York, let us know.

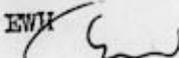
I am sending this letter just to you, Mr. Crouse, and a copy to Mr. Washburne. Make whatever use of it you judge opportune. I shall send out shortly a brief statement to ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ contacts we have in units scattered throughout the country. quote the letter, if you wish.

Sorry it couldn't have been different,


Edward Hunter

p.s. As to my position in the election campaign here, I was not a nominee. I took part in a number of strategic meetings, but was unable to do much besides my work as Chairman of the Out-of-Town Committee. We made much use of information from out-of-town. For instance, it was at the urgings of out-of-towners that we backed the referendum. We studied it and found it good! We distributed the Twin Cities leaflet, signed by Guildsmen from various cities, in one of our mailings. Every copy went out! Jack Ryan, the paid organizer, protested to me when I had it distributed at a membership meeting here. We had no right, the paid organizer said. The same evening, a leaflet in favor of Bridges was distributed. That, I was told, was Guild business; not the Twin Cities leaflet.

Fraternally,

EWH 

Statement adopted unanimously June 13 by Exec Comtee Wash Guild
in reply to request from ANU 88 to endorse North American
strikers and protest Roosevelt's use troops

The Executive Committee of the Washington Newspaper Guild
joins with Philip Murray and other CIO officials in condemning
the irresponsible local leadership which disrupted vital
defense production by calling an unnecessary and wildcat strike
in the North American plant at Los Angeles.

The facts in the case speak for themselves. The demand of the
workers for better working conditions was thoroughly justified and
the record of the National Defense Mediation Board gave every
evidence that their just demands would be fully recognized.

But against the advice of the national officers of their
own union, local leaders wilfully and illegally called a strike in
violation of the agreement their spokesmen had made with the
Mediation Board. They even turned down a plea from Philip Murray
to return to work. Their pretext was that the Board was stalling.
Yet the Board had already obtained an agreement from management
that any improvements would be retroactive to May 1st and the
union was gaining members daily.

The action of the local union officials is prima facie
evidence that they were more interested in calling a strike
than in getting better working conditions. The CIO leadership
has never failed to support a strike when it was in the interest
of the workers.

The strike worked inestimable harm to the cause
of labor nationally and gained the workers nothing. It provoked
to government into ~~sending~~ using the Army to break the strike,
which resulted in the advantage of an unfair employer and which
set a dangerous precedent which is now being written into law.
All this could have been avoided had the local leadership followed
the advice of Philip Murray.

Yet the national officers of the ANU have supported
the position of local leaders despite their unwarranted defiance
of CIO leadership, and one of them was active in calling the
strike. This, more clearly than anything else, shows that the
National officers of the ANU wear a false mask when they protest
faith in the sound trade union leadership of Philip Murray.

From Tony Corning

The Executive Committee of the Washington Newspaper Guild hereby calls upon its representatives at the National Convention of the ANO and the convention itself to repudiate this false front, which in this case as in others in the past, has worked irreparable damage to the ANO. The Committee calls for the election of new officers who will speak for the rank and file of Guild members and who will win the confidence of the great mass of unorganized newspaper workers.

--

June 10, 1941

160

Dear May:

I am returning the picture which Mrs. Roosevelt has signed, together with Miss Kerr's letter to you. I thought perhaps you would rather send it than have us send it direct from here.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C.

DD

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 1 1941

Dear Tommy:

Greta Kerr, editor of woman's stuff for my chain of papers would like very much to have Mrs R autograph this picture of the press conference she had in Maine, if she will be so kind. Greta is the one who sat across the table from you when she came down to be my guest at the stunt party two years ago--or I guess it was last year.

She is the one in the light dress at the right of the picture, she thought Mrs R would write on her dress.

Love,



June 17, 1941.

Dear May:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send you the enclosed summary made from some extended notes taken by Edward Hunter of the New York Post, during the meeting of the New York Newspaper Guild on June 10. Mr. Hunter forwarded the papers to Mrs. Roosevelt and she is sending them on to you to do with as you think wise.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

New York Post

FOUNDED 1801

75 WEST STREET • NEW YORK • WHITEHALL 4-9000

*Ch
6/17/41*

June 15, 1941

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I enclose a summary of that ~~most~~ most deplorable meeting of our New York Newspaper Guild on June 10 to instruct delegates, when the Communists ran the show more desperately and more subversively than I have ever witnessed before. This summary is from extended notes I took during the meeting.

With the summary, are several enclosures---of the motions defeated. They tell the whole story most graphically.

I am sending this summary and the enclosures to Mr. Crouse at Twin Cities and Mr. Eubanks at San Francisco (Oakland). You may make whatever use you desire of this material, in any way you believe would react most beneficially for the Newspaper Guild and indirectly the American public as a whole.

Fraternally yours,

Edward Hunter

Edward Hunter
Chairman, Out-of-Town Committee
Committee for Guild Democracy
(The Progressives)

July 3, 1941

100

Dear May:

Many thanks for your letters and I am glad that you had a good time at Campobello.

I haven't the time now to go to see the camp, and I think it would be much better for you to have your trip alone and that I should go unheralded and unannounced.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
1717 N. Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C.

T:DD

7-3-41
Friday June 27

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

The Quartermaster Corps is going to take about 20 Washington reporters to Camp Lee probably July 8th, to show us the life of the soldier. The Corps press relations man was talking to me today about the date and mentioned that they might ask you to go. I said I thought that ~~is~~ a bad idea, that every one of us would insist on being with you and the thing would turn into a big ~~parade~~ parade, with none of us getting the stories we hope to get, as planned, splitting up into small groups of four or five, with an officer. Hope you agree with me. They may ask you anyway, in which case you can decide for yourself.

What I did say, when they asked me if they didn't think you would be interested, was that yes, I did think you interested, but that for you to really see a camp, you ought to come unheralded, with only such reporters as might be on the lot--there are press association reporters at all the big camps every day. What you would want to see would be just how things are normally, I said. I said yes, you would be interested, I thought, in the food of the men, the way they live and eat and sleep etc. That's what the Quartermaster Corps is taking us down for, on the 8th. I said I thought the best way to find out, would be to have the proper official ask you, offering any camp that would be convenient to you. My ulterior motive was to get you to find out for yourself about the bread. Remember what I told you about the bakers squawking about the camps making their own bread, and trying to prevent Army allocation of money for baking machines at camp? And

that when the army tried the bakers they got inferior bread?

The Army is experimenting with enriched breads and yeast and whole grain breads.

Love,

May Craig

Received on July 22 - in envelope from HP

United States Senate

PRESS GALLERY

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 15, 1941 1

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

La Guardia and Dean Landis will be in Augusta, Maine, on July 22d for a civilian defense meeting, and the Quoddy people want very much to get La Guardia to Quoddy----- New York boys are included in the Quoddy school.

Senator Brewster and Mr Gannett would like very much to have them both, maybe have Landis interested in the Quoddy school council. Mr Gannett said he would be glad to fly them in his plane. Mr Gannett thought you might be interested to have them come to Quoddy, and said that probably you would be the only one who could interest La Guardia in Quoddy.

Mr Gannett you know is on the three-man committee set up for La Guardia for a civilian reserve of private pilots and planes, that's why Gannett will be in Augusta for the La Guardia meeting.

My Don has been transferred to Camp Lee, down by Petersburg, Virginia. Am I glad. I haven't seen him yet, but hope to, nextweek end.

Affectionately,

11-2-0

August 8, 1941
Hyde Park, New York

100

Dear May:

Many thanks for your letter.

I hope you have a grand vacation and that
I shall see you again before the summer is
over.

Affectionately,

) Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig /
717 North Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C.

DD

Aug 1st 1941

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*Back to the lab
in Grand Lodge
E.C.*

August 1st 1941

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

You break into my paper!

You and me and Ray Clapper and Dorothy Thompson ought to give 'em gospel. I am leaving at dawn tomorrow morning for Bethany Beach with Ruby for two weeks. Then I go to Maine, to speak Aug 21 at a State-wide Grange meeting, then to look at shipyards and starch factories and jave some fun too. Home after Labor Day. If there is to be a press picnic I'd like to come, but I suppose you do not know.

I will come through Washington for one day, the 18th on my way to Maine, but probably will not see you even if you are here between now and Labor Day. I see Westbrook doesn't like the Campo school.

Affectionately,

And to Tommy .

May

100

File

January 13, 1943.

Dear May:

I could make it the 10th, 11th
or 12th, but will probably go west on the
14th or 15th, though I am not too certain.

Affectionately,

Miss Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

4

10. a. he had - had it
11. a. a. a. a. a.
got back 11-12-42 15-42

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Handwritten signature

ack
1/13/43

Jan 10 1943

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

The Washington Guild will have its annual election the last Wednesday in January. Since there is almost no contest, we may fix it to have the secretary cast the ballot and do without the ballot box election.

Dillard Stokes of the Post will be President; Gordon Cole and I will be on the Executive Committee.

We would like very much to have you come to my house to meet the new officers and Board members in February. We meet regularly on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. The first Wednesday would be given over to organization and would not be interesting.

We would like you to come to the meeting of the third Wednesday, which would be February 17th. If you cannot come that night, then any day that week that suits you, we will set as the night to meet. If not that week, then a night nearest before or after, that suits you. I would like you and Tommy to come to dinner if you will, alone, and the meeting starts at 8:15.

Affectionately,

May

file

100

*Worsham
Pending*

January 22, 1931

J. K. O

Dear May:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send you the enclosed copies of letters from the Civil Service Commission about maternity leave, etc. I thought we had sent them when they were received.

Very sincerely,

Miss Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

amb
1/22/42

Jan 17 1948

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

Wednesday the tenth of February would suit the boys. We have several girls on the committee now, and I will let you have a list of the officers and committee before the meeting.

I would like you and Tommy to come to dinner if you will, 6:30 I live near either the Pennsylvania Avenue carline or the Lincoln Park carline, if we are not riding then, though this might qualify as Guild business.

Book 3 p
Did you ever ask the Civil Service Commission about uniformity in maternity leave? Every Department makes its own rules, which is sometimes very unfair, and sometimes a girl has no way of knowing what time off she can expect. The War Department has a very good, liberal, formal rule, which would do for all. Press women discussed this over the radio a month or so ago. But I thought you might ask for a report on the situation, maybe get uniformity, maybe say something at your press conference. Betty is all right because her boss will give her all the time she wants.

Affectionately,

May

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 5th 1943

Dear Tommy:

Don't let Mrs Roosevelt forget the
lunches for the rest of her press conference.
There are hurt feelings among those who have
not been asked. 

Love

*Have sent letters
Friday 12th
(6)*

Mary

ask next bunch $\frac{1}{2}$
do not know how many
are left on list, but after
you check - if not many

More than 12 - divide
the number & ask half
12 & rest at later
date. Helen Essary
last group —

100

April 12, 1943.

Dear May:

I have your letter of April 2nd,
and Mrs. Roosevelt is willing to do the bit
for the picture. She prefers to have it
taken contributing some books at the Guild
office.

Affectionately,

Miss Elizabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C.

VDS

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Handwritten: 4/12/43
April 2d 1943

Dear Tommy:

The enclosed letter explains itself.

I think it would be nice for Mrs R to make the bit of film, though I do not know whether she wants to go into the CIO aspect.

That depends on what she wants to do. If she wants to keep it Guild, then that can be arranged. Maybe it could be her contributing a batch of books to the Guild office here. I do not think she should do it at one of the local papers because that would cause jealousy.

First point the Washington Guild wants to know is, will she do the bit. Then we can decide on how she wants to do it.

If she wants to include th CIO, then it could be done at CIO headquarters. Myself, I would rather emphasize the Guild.

Love,

Handwritten signature: May

WASHINGTON NEWSPAPER GUILD

Local No. 35 of the American Newspaper Guild
210 KELLOGG BUILDING, 1416 F STREET, N. W.
Washington, D. C.



REpublic 1973

April 1, 1943

Mrs. Elizabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Craig:

The American Newspaper Guild is working on an 8 mm. motion picture showing the war activities of the various Guild throughout the country. Each local Guild is asked to shoot a few feet of film which will be edited and spliced into the composite picture of the Guild in wartime.

The WNG has been asked to do a scene of the Victory Book Drive, the national CIO office, and Guildmember Eleanor Roosevelt.

The Times-Herald unit which was particularly successful in collecting books is going to re-enact a collection scene, in Mr. Shelton's office we hope. We are tentatively planning a scene showing WNG officers conferring with the CIO's Cost of Living Committee (J. Raymond Walsh) with Philip Murray and James Carey joining the conference.

Now, for Mrs. Roosevelt and the Guild engaged in some war activity--we haven't thought of an appropriate scene as yet. Perhaps she would have some suggestions. However, we should like to obtain her consent to face the camera when she returns to Washington and when we have figured something out.

Fraternally yours,

Mary Gion Kovner
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

P.S. The movie will be silent.

100

June 1, 1943.

Dear May:

I think I'd better not be on any committee but if you need help or guests, I'll gladly help at any time.

Affectionately,

Miss Elizabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue, S.E.,
Washington, D. C.

VDS

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*ask
6/1/43*

May 30 1943

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

I don't get elected till Tuesday, but I'm thinking about my committees.

I would like you to be on the Guest Committee. It does not have meetings, but we expect members of the Committee to think up guests, suggest them, help get them.

Naturally, this would have to be sort of honorary for you, but I think it would be swell to have your name on the club committee list-- I don't think you've been on a committee since you have been in the club.

There is one hitch--Helen Essary is to be chairman and you might not like that. Other members of the committee will be Cottrell, Herald Trib; Kernodle AP; Spargo, Post; Pasley, NY Daily News; Miller, Post; McEannan, NY Times; Ruby Black, Government. This is tentative list.

Will you let me know?

Affectionately,

I think I'd better

*not be in any form. I'll
you had help in getting I'll pull
superiorly too. E.R.*

*May
E.R.*

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

file 100

June 16th 1943

Dear Tommy:

Just to remind you:
The press club inauguration is
June 29th, Tuesday, at the Statler, at 7:30,
informal buffet dinner.

Elmer Davis is going to take his
hair down and say what he thinks of the Wash-
ington press.

We would like Mrs R to tell what she
thinks of the way her press conference reports---
all of this is to light and gay we hope--- she
to speak about ten minutes.

You are invited as a club guest.

As a member, she is entitled to bring
three guests. We would like reservations by
June 23d if possible because the hotel has ration
troubles, though the meal is to be as unrationed
as possible. Perhaps she would like to bring
Mrs Hopkins who has never been to the club. I
don't suppose Harry would come on a bet, so shan't
ask him.

Betty and the baby would like to see
you.
Love,

Elisabeth May Craig

100
July 30, 1943

Dear May:

Mrs. Roosevelt has read your note to me about the Swedish girl reporter who wants to come to the press conferences. She says she thinks it would be a good idea.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C.

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 28 1942

Dear Tommy:

There is a Swedish girl reporter here,
Name Elsa Strom, who is here for the duration, so
is "permanent".

She has spoken to me about joining the
Press Club and also Mrs Roosevelt's pree con-
ference. I am not on the latter committee now, but
the question of an alien, even a friendly alien,
joining the press club is inter-related with her
other press connections.

She has not yet got her credentials
together yet for the President's conference, so
the issue of the club and Mrs R's conference are
not immediate.

However, I'd like to know ahead of
time, what Mrs R thinks of an alien member of
her conference. If she gets into the President's
conference, I would not suppose Mrs R would mind.
Will you tell me, because I want to be dis-
cussing the club problem with the membership
committee.

The baby weighs 10½ lbs!

Love,

May

Swedish girl

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dec 9 1940

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

The platform of the Cant
group in New York local is O.K. though a
little diffuse and advertises Pegler.

Nobody here knows much about the
candidates, but think they are O.K. running on
that platform.

A very short message of endorse-
ment to Ernst of Cant would be O.K. Saying
that since you mean to participate as far as
possible in Guild activities, you will vote
for the candidates on the Cant slate and approve
their platform.

It would be best to hold your
request for transfer to Washington until after
you vote. The Constitution says you can vote in
both places, but pay dues where permanently
assigned, so there can be no objection to your
voting in New York and here in January. am
enclosing new Constitution.

Fraternally,

May

Mrs Magee -

Will you watch
ballot for voting on
Guild election. If it
doesn't come in by 12th
I shall have to write

File
Newspaper
for Guild

Guild because the Constitution says that you pay dues where
you are permanently assigned and you expect to live in
Washington for the next four years. The transfer card will
not be sent to you, it will be sent to the Washington Guild
here and you will be notified of acceptance.

I am enclosing a column I wrote recently I thought
you might like to see.

Affectionately and fraternally,

May Craig

Inside In Washington

By Elizabeth May Craig

Washington, Nov. 29.—Ever since President Roosevelt has been in office he has been trying to do something for the people, just the common people. He started with the thesis that one-third of the people of this Country are ill-fed, ill-clad and ill-housed. He said he would try to do something for the forgotten man, and he has tried. That is why he has such a grip on the people. They believe that he cares what happen to them. He has spent a lot of money, mistakes have been made and Government aid has been exploited, from the palace favorites who got jobs for their friends, to the tycoons of the party who got contracts and the little local grafters who saw to it that they got theirs, even if they took it out of the mouths of the people on relief.

He has been accused of socializing us, of being extravagant, of breaking down the American rugged character. But, allowing for all this, the guiding star of the New Deal has been that this is a democracy, dedicated to the welfare of all the people, and that if we do not provide for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all the people, then how do we justify our form of government, either to ourselves or to a world aflame with new forms of government? We can't just use the word "democracy" and expect the world to kow-tow. We've got to justify our form of government by making it work for all the people.

Well, what I am getting at is, the new investigation launched by the Department of Justice against profiteering in food. One of the first things Roosevelt did was to make small bank deposits safe by insuring them up to \$5,000. Then he put through the Securities Exchange legislation which makes investments reasonably safe.

He instituted relief for the unemployed, though never enough to take care of all because of the expense. He helped the farmers. He set up a social security system to provide old-age pensions and unemployment compensation. All inadequate and full of faults, but all hewing to the Roosevelt line of trying to help the masses of the people. He put through a minimum wage and maximum hours law; he put through the Wagner act which guarantees labor the right to collective bargaining. I am not saying he originated all this himself, or did it alone; but since he gets the blame for everything in his administration, he ought to get the credit.

EVERYTHING he did, won him criticism from those who were inconvenienced by it. We have got somewhat accustomed to relief and public works and Securities Exchange. But you remember the screams when he proposed some sort of system whereby people could get the medical attention they need and don't get now; while at the same time doctors often didn't get a decent living. When the Department of Justice took a case to court against the "medical trust," there was a terrible hurrah.

When the Department of Justice started its investigation of the building industry, saying that contractors and labor were in cahoots to keep up the cost of housing, there were more screams. The American Federation of Labor wants to oust Thurman Arnold, who heads the anti-monopoly division of the Department of Justice. Now the department says that 45 million people in this Country live on so poor a diet that they do not get the essential food elements they need for health and happiness. That is, 41 per cent of the people of this Country, either cannot pay for decent food or they must exercise the greatest care in buying in order to get a minimum good diet.

And this is the situation in a Country crammed full of every kind of food, with capacity to produce a great deal more. Farmers are poor because they cannot sell their produce and other people are only half-alive because they do not have the money to buy. This doesn't justify democracy.

PARTLY this is due to bad distribution. Partly due to what the department believes to be selfish, greedy monopolistic practices on the part of industrial groups which are so close-knit and powerful that they made satisfactory profits throughout the depression. The food industries function badly, both for consumers and the farmer, says the department. Processors and distributors get 59 per cent of the dollar that the consumer pays for food. Between 1913 and 1920, they got 40 to 48 cents.

Part of this, of course, is due to the elaborate processing and expensive service that consumers now expect. But there is a lot of inexcusable profiteering, says the department, and that is what is going to be investigated. The Government wants to see that the farmers get decent prices and that the people get decent food. There is no intent to deprive middle men of a decent living either. Food, next to rent, is the biggest item in the average family's budget. Unless people get decent food they cannot be healthy or happy. If they are not healthy and happy we will go to pieces as a Nation, because democracy depends on the way the people function.

When you have universal suffrage and the government flows from the people, then you must have understanding minds and sound judgment, and the people must love their government and passionately desire to see it continue. You don't get any of those things from masses of people weak with malnutrition, sullen with looking on tomatoes rotting in fields while their children are eaten up with scurvy.

THE sort of thing the department is going to investigate is shown by complaints already in. Complaints that two associations of bakers have fixed prices and tried to destroy independent competitors; that in a certain city, slaughtering concerns have increased prices five cents a pound by limiting and allocating the amount of slaughtering and by preventing importation of meat from any place else; that associations of fishing-boat owners and fish cannery make annual agreements to fix prices, and that the price of one variety is fixed by collusive action of a few brokers; that dairy companies and distributors have agreed to maintain prices and handicap sales; that cannery associations have agreed to fix and manipulate prices. And so on.

Meantime, the Surplus Commodity Corporation buys surpluses and distributes them to people on relief, either directly or through the food stamp plan; but everybody recognizes that this is not a satisfactory situation. People ought to be able to buy their own food with their own money. And with all the food there is in this Country, food ought to be cheap. If you want a concrete proof of the lack of proper food in this Country, look at the rejections of applicants and draftees for the Army. And don't forget that we have to depend on these men for our defense against dictatorial world that feeds its soldiers and its people like cattle, planning their diets. True, they do not have the abundance that we do, but they do far better with what they have.

We lose a lot of money in our muddling system. The Department of Agriculture wants 400 million dollars next year for the extension of the stamp plan of distributing surpluses to people on relief.

January 28, 1944

Dear May:

Many thanks for your note of
January 22. One condition of my coming
to dinner on the ninth is that I hold the
baby!

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C.

an
1-28

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Jan 22 1944

Dear Tommy:

I, and the Guild officers, are pleased that you are coming to the meeting at my house, the evening of Wednesday, February 9th.

Dinner is 6:30, so you can see the baby who goes to bed then. The new officers will come in later.

Love,

*one consolation
my coming is that
I had the baby!*

Elisabeth May Craig

*Letter from ~~X~~ Ruth Cowan, c/o P.R.O. Force Headquarters,
A.P.O. 887, New York City. returned.

February 16, 1944.

Dear May:

Thank you for sending me Ruth
Cowan's letter which I am returning. I
shall write to her since she likes to re-
ceive mail.

Whom would you like to come to
the Press Club that you would consider
"colossal"? Give me an idea whether you
want a foreigner or an American and I'll
see what I can do.

Both Tommy and I enjoyed our
evening with you and agree with you that
your grandson is a lovely baby.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue S. E.,
Washington, D. C.

VDS

all
2/16/44
ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*Yah to the
young domestic?
Feb 18 1944
B.*

Handwritten note

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

Here is the Ruth Cowan letter, which I forgot to give you. May I have it back?

The Guild officers were honored and pleased to have you and Tommy with us for the meeting. There is a row on between members who are mad about Rabanks trying to "stop" merit increases.

I would like it very much if, before my term is up in June, you could get me some "colossal" guest. I don't know who, but somebody so I could go out of office in a blaze of glory.

I would also like it very much if and when you go to the Caribbean or elsewhere, you show us the pictures as soon as you can get them censored--I mean, show them to the Women's Press Club. We have pix shown to us often at Archives--did you look at your Club notices and see that we are to have Soviet pix Feb 15th?

Affectionately,

May

100

February 22, 1944

Dear May:

I am afraid (confidentially) that
I'll be gone by March 6th. Why not ask Anna
to receive the women?

When do you go out of office?

Affectionately,

Mrs . Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C.

0

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*Just let it be
you'll be glad to
get it if you
want*

Feb 20 1944

*Reference
made
to
you
in
letter
of
2-17-44*

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

Enclosed is picture of Betty and Ken ~~in~~ in our backyard, which Al took, and which I think is lovely,

I don't have anybody in mind as a Club guest--you would know better than I who might be coming, or who would be here. By the time I would know it might be too late. Just keep it in mind, please.

On Monday, March 6th, the Women War Production Drive will have its opening at the Press Club, at a luncheon. You will probably receive a request from the War Production Drive (which is under WPB), to have the war plant women to tea at the White House, and to come to our luncheon, and to come to a ceremony they will have that afternoon at the Commerce Department.

I do not know which, any or all of these you will want to do, but thought I would mention it to you. We like you to come to the Club whenever you will, but don't want to burden you. Lady Halifax, who was away when we had our Christmas diplomatic luncheon, said she would like to come another time, and has accepted an

invitation for the 6th of March as suitable.

It will be worthy and we will try to make it interesting, but I fear it may be dull. There will be a couple of lady welders, and a valve maker from Conn., who is president of the grandmothers club there at the plant, and two others, I think.

War Drive will probably send you all the dope on this.

We would not like you to have them to your press conferenc that morning, if you have one, because that would take the edge off the news at the luncheon. The Main Drive starts Feb 28th, but the Woman Drive starts the 6th.

Affectionately,

*Re: Letter from ~~X~~ Mr. Owen Dixon, Australian Legation, Washington, D. C.
about Mr. Curtin addressing Club while on way to London. States time
too short and will be unable to do so on forward journey, etc.

April 11, 1944.

Dear May:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send
you the enclosed letter from Mr. Owen Dixon.

Mrs. Roosevelt says he might come
on his return but that would perhaps be too
late?

Affectionately,

Miss Elizabeth May Craig
Women's National Press Club
1363 National Press Building
Washington, D. C.

VDS

April 19, 1944

100

Dear May:

I think Mrs. Gasch deserves a party.

For your party why not have all the women mentioned as candidates for the "peace table" to come and make a talk?

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elizabeth May Craig
1303 National Press Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL PRESS CLUB
1363 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 13 1944

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

APR 14 1944

I do not know what to say about Mr Curtin because I do not know when he would be coming back through Washington.

Ordinarily, my program concludes the end of May. Election is the first Tuesday in June. The inauguration is usually the only big event in June. The inauguration will have to be rather early in June this time because I am leaving for the Republican National Convention June 20th.

Do you think of any one else colossal, you could get for me in ~~June~~ May? We are going to have a luncheon for Marie Gasch and her book, sometime the middle of May---this is very unusual, we have a sort of unwritten rule against parties for members, because it rouses jealousy. But I want this for Marie.

Affectionately,

Shirley
I have no idea
but I will
Women's National
Press Club
1363 National Press Building
Washington, D. C.

100

May 10, 1944

Dear May:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to thank you
for the story of Mrs. Curtin's press conference.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Elisabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue S. E.
Washington, D.C.

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 5th 1944

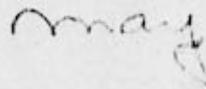
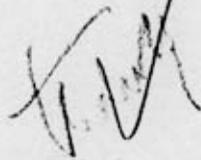
Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

Here's my story about Mrs
Curtin's press conference--and the dog!

As I said, I would not ask
that the President come my my Club ; when he is
so burdened, though you know how much I would
like it.

However, if the argument
should be that it would be a precedent and he
would have to go to others---maybe the White
House Correspondents dinner can be opened to
women members and then there would not be that
rankling resentment that there is not a single
event to which women correspondents can go.

Affectionately,



100
May 24, 1944

Dear May:

Thank you for sending me a copy
of your column about the Ward story. I had
seen it and I understood.

Sincerely,

0
Mrs. Elizabeth May Craig
717 N.C. Ave. S.E.
Washington

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 20 1944

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

There has been so much misunderstanding of my conversation with the President that I'd like at least you to know exactly what it was about.

It dealt strictly with his belief that the press and radio had not told the Wardstory to the public. I think it had.

Still, I am being congratulated by reactionaries who think I was defending Sewell Avery!

I enclose one of the columns I wrote about it.....

Affectionately,

May

Handwritten notes:
I have a letter
with a copy of
ER

Inside In Washington

By Elizabeth May Crake

Washington—The development of the war training program is illustrated in a reply Senator Brewster of Maine has received from Under-Secretary of War Patterson, when the Senator suggested that Bowdoin College be included in the Army Specialized Training Program. Mr. Patterson said it could not.

He said that the developments recently with the regular Army Specialized Training Program reduced from 10,000 to 25,000, resulted in activation of many of the training units. No units are being activated at all in colleges which have not previously participated. This is in relation to the pre-professional phase of the Army Specialized Training Program.

Mr. Patterson said that the training of 17-year old boys by the Army in the Army Specialized Training Reserve Program is given only to high school graduates who volunteer for the training, and who pass a qualifying examination. In general, those schools which have been engaged in the ASTR program will continue to offer this type of training. At present the War Department has enough facilities selected to fill needs.

It is not expected that enough boys will apply for the Reserve training to maintain all the units now activated at educational institutions. To distribute the available trainees in the Program among colleges and universities qualified to instruct them would entail the use of military administrative personnel out of all proportion to the number of students.

The longer one lives, the more one realizes how many different opinions there are, on the same subject. I was talking to a high official the other day about the Montgomery Ward plant seizure, and the picture of the boss, Sewall Avery, being carried out by two soldiers, after he had refused to move out when the Department of Commerce took over the plant on refusal of Avery to obey a War Labor Board directive and a request from the President.

My friend was shocked by the picture. So far as he was concerned, it meant that private initiative, free enterprise, property, the American way, were all being carried out with Avery. Nobody was safe in anything. The Bill of Rights was repealed. That was dictatorship.

Well, the picture meant something entirely different to me. I was shocked that any civilian would force soldiers to carry him out of anywhere, when his government, at time of war, asked him to go out. These men in uniform had been drafted, left their families and property at great financial loss maybe, tomorrow they might be on their way overseas to face death or loss of right-hand limb. That's what the war effort cost them.

And here was a business man, whose business incidentally has been enormously profitable in the last couple of years, who wouldn't intend a union contract for a short while, till an election could be held. His grievances were academic, he could take them to court. Anyway, suppose he did have grievances—they could wait till the war is over if they had to. I don't know whether or not the President's legal powers cover the seizure—committees of Congress are going to investigate that now—even Congressmen do not know whether or not the President had the authority. I have heard that reports of Ward's labor practices in the past, so he is under suspicion that he wouldn't be fair to labor in any controversy.

But just as labor should not strike in wartime, regardless of provocation, neither should management strike. Well, anyway, that picture to me means a citizen of this country resisting his government at a crucial point in a war. Avery said the President had no right to take over his plant because it was not a war plant. But he asked employees for thousands and thousands of his employees on the ground that his business is essential—and he got them.

Having carried considerable on the company side of the picture, it might be fair to repeat what the newspaper "Labor" organ of the railway brotherhoods say about the Ward case.

The newspaper calls the Congressional reaction "amplified". It said the government was trying to enforce law against one of the most hard-headed, labor-hating employers in the country.

In Congress, Tully Republicans and Bourbon Southern Democrats practically side-tracked all legislative business for days in stalling a brooding bee against the executive arm of the government and defying a defiant multimillionaire who considered himself bigger than Uncle Sam.

The newspaper said: "See what I mean by a lot of different opinions?" William H. Davis, chairman of the War Labor Board, has pointed out that it is standard practice to extend a union contract while a new one is being negotiated. There have been long hearings on this case before the board. Industry members of the WLB joined in directing an ultimatum. The board ordered the union to petition the National La-

bor Relations Board for an election to decide whether or not the union really represented a majority of the employees. Avery said it did not. Mr. Davis who incidentally is a Bangor man, was a New York lawyer when WLB took him, said that if Avery had been allowed to get away with his defiance, the whole structure of labor-management relations would have fallen in pieces, and there would have been strikes and other disputes which would tie up war production.

Most of the Congressional resolutions deal with the extent of the President's powers. But the Senate Judiciary Committee sent a man out at once to investigate and will have his unbiased report when they start the investigation which will be all over.

Meantime, Avery tries to make a martyr out of himself with the picture to prove it. All it proves is that he defied his government in time of war, when he could have protested, walked out, and taken it to court. If he felt aggrieved—I am sure the morals of the two soldiers who carried him out was not improved by the job.

"Blue-Headed" Romans

Men, in ancient Rome employed blue paint to trace the veins in their arms in the belief that this made them much more attractive.

GUY P. GANNETT
President

Radio Station
WGAN

FRED R. LORD
Treasurer

GANNETT PUBLISHING CO., INC.

Portland Evening Express - Portland Sunday Telegram
Portland Press Herald - Waterville Sentinel
Daily Kennebec Journal

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT
ELIZABETH MAY CRAIG
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 4 1944

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

I have just received a letter from Mrs Stabler of CIAA saying that the trip of Latin American women journalists is all off. It cannot be started by June 28th, and so the money will no longer be available.

The reason given by Mrs Stabler is that they were unable to get suitable women in time. Some were turned down by the War Department, some by the State, in some countries there were no women journalists who could come.

I do not know whether this is really because the State Department just doesn't want to be bothered with women journalists or not.

I had my doubts whether they could be started by June 28th, and hoped they could come later in the year anyway, but it looks to me as though this were the end of it, since otherwise, the whole weary road of arrangements would have to be gone over, in this fiscal year beginning July 1st.

If it is true there are not enough qualified women journalists, that's insurmountable--but I have my doubts.

Affectionately,

W. G. A.

Isabell May Craig war correspondent
PO Box 270 USA APO 887
c/o postmaster New York N Y
London Aug 18

100

Dear Tommy:

I am here in London between trips. I have been going around England considerable, to hospitals, bomber bases, fighter bases, etc., and stayed in London a week or so while Parliament was still in session, to get an eyeful of civilian stuff.

Have just come back from a few days by air in Normandy and Brittany, seeing air evacuation of wounded, war prisoners, the beaches etc. I expect to go back to France for a couple of weeks and come home in September, unless there is something big to keep me here.

The flying bombs are not as bad as they were, just enough to keep you listening. V-2 has not materialized and I hope it won't. You should see May all draped up to go to the War Shore: pants, field jacket, pistol belt, steel helmet, gas mask, canteen, musette bag, hung on me, and sitting on a roll bedding which weighs about forty pounds, hoping that a jeep will come by. Doris is a veteran and she has probably told you all about everything.

I got marooned a few nights ago in Normandy by bad weather and had to sleep in my clothes in a half-shelled stone "Chateau 13" as they call it, at an airstrip, with the latrine a half mile away, and a thousand sentries between me and it. They have only an occasional nurse ~~standed~~ ^{standed} here from air evacuation, so they are suspicious of a female, especially in pants. One thing, wish Mrs A could do, and I have told a couple of medical people---some of the men have never been in the air and they don't know when the plane is landing and they think they are crashing when it's a bumpy landing--I think the flight nurse could just go round and tell each one "we're coming down now". This is for the evacuation by air, of wounded. I came back to England in a plane with the wounded. Love,

May

Elisabeth May Craig war correspondent
c/o HQ TCUSA APO 413
c/o Postmaster New York
London Sept 18

pl

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

Here I am back in London with the flying bombs again but I expect to start home maybe next Sunday, flying Army transport so may be home before this letter reaches you. I see by the London papers that you went to Quebec with the President. I'd love to hear all about it.

Mrs Bolton is still here in London, going home in a few days I think, and Mrs Rogers has come, with a half dozen other Congressmen. The Army groans when it thinks of having Congressmen on the war shore, but since Mrs Bolton and the labor people went, they don't see how they can refuse if the Congressmen insist.

I have not seen Edith Rogers yet--she was at Cliveden over the week end. I saw Mrs Bolton once at Valogne and once in Paris and once here. I think she has really seen the hospital situation thoroughly.

Muth Cowan looks very badly, though she told me not to tell you--- I said to her that she is like Arnie Cyle. and she said I must not say that to anybody. Muth has had it, in the hospitals. Dudley Harmon of UP got pleurisy and was in the Beaumont hospital in Paris for a while. It's a hard life, being a war correspondent, if you do it for any length of time. Hard emotionally and physically. I expect the Army transport to put me right into Washington, and hope you will be back in Washington for the season, by that time. I need a little rest, and maybe will get the tag end of the political campaign.

Love to you and Tommy.

May

Elisabeth May Craig war correspondent
PRO Hq ETOUSA APO 413
c/o postmaster New York
London Sept 18

pl

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Ruth Cowan looks very badly, though she told me not to tell you--- I said to her that she is like Ernie Pyle. And she said I must not say that to anybody. Ruth has had it, in the hospitals. Dudley Harmon of UP got pleurisy and was in the Beaujon hospital in Paris for a while. It's a hard life, being a war correspondent, if you do it for any length of time. Hard emotionally and physically. I expect the Army transport to put me right into Washington, and hope you will be back in Washington for the season, by that time. I need a little rest, and maybe will get the tag end of the political campaign.

Love to you and Tommy.

May

December 15, 1944

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Dear May:

Many, many thanks for sending me
the leaflets. I think they are grand and
I will write both boys. I am giving them
to the President.

Affectionately,

0

Mrs. Elizabeth May Craig
717 North Carolina Avenue S. E.
Washington, D.C.

Ret. letter from Gordon Cole

ELISABETH MAY CRAIG
717 NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE SOUTHEAST
WASHINGTON 3, D. C.

Dec 13 1944

Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

The enclosed letter and enclosure explain themselves. (Gordon Cole, you remember, was president of the Washington Newspaper Guild, was with the Washington Bureau of PM. Al Toombs was with the Washington Star, also was president of the Washington Newspaper Guild. I was vice president several times and twice inherited the presidency which I held only long enough to elect a successor. However, I had it long enough so that when Al and Gordon and I met in Paris, a few days after the liberation, we had a presidential reunion. They were both in Psychological Warfare, doing pretty dangerous and daring work.

Perhaps the President would like to actually see one of these leaflets, as Gordon suggests. At any rate, I know you would. Will you return the letter to me, and keep the leaflets? I will write to Gordon, unless you would care to write yourself.

Affectionately,

May

P.S. Al is chief of Intelligence for Press and Psychological Warfare, 12th Army Group---Gordon is Deputy Chief of P & PW Operations, 12th A Gp.

but not by J

*Thank you very much
Send leaflets*