The information secured by the Georgia Department indicates that Mr. James Roosevelt has a nephew who is Rector of a large Episcopalian church in Atlanta and a sister who also resides in that city. At the time Mr. Roosevelt made his application for old-age assistance, he made no statement that he was related to the President.

Mr. L. J. Horton of W. Kinney and Company, Macon, whose letter you enclosed, has also been interested in Mr. James Roosevelt's situation for some time. We do not know whether the Georgia agency has explained to Mr. Horton the basis on which Mr. Roosevelt's application was denied.

If more detailed information is desired concerning this matter, we shall be very glad to secure it.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) A. J. ALTMeyer

Chairman
Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt,
Hyde Park, N. Y.
Dear Mrs Roosevelt:

I received your nice letter, in answer to mine, with reference to Mr James Roosevelt.

He is right pitiful and really hasn't a great while to live I don't believe.

I don't want to be presumptuous or officious, but if you would send this man some small amount each month, it would contribute more to his happiness than anything I can think of. He probably would not appreciate it if he knew that I had ever written you, but he would appreciate this gift from you to Mr. Roosevelt, I know, because he really needs it.

With best wishes,
Sincerely,

[Signature]

Aug. 27th, 1938.
September 1, 1938

Mr. Ralph W. Magee,
Administrative Officer,
Social Correspondence,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Magee:

You will recall that on August 12 I acknowledged your letter of August 9 to Miss Dewson, with which you enclosed a copy of a letter from Mr. L. J. Horton, Macon, Georgia, concerning the old-age assistance application of Mr. James Roosevelt of that city. We have just received the following report from our representative concerning the information which the Georgia State Department of Public Welfare, the agency responsible for the administration of old-age assistance in Georgia, has concerning this application.

Mr. James Roosevelt applied for old-age assistance in Macon in the autumn of 1937. The application was denied on January 22, 1938, because Mr. Roosevelt had an income of $480 per year. For some years past Mr. Roosevelt has been employed by the Juliet Milling Company of Macon in connection with the cotton brokerage business which that company conducts. The company regards the salary which they have been paying Mr. Roosevelt somewhat as a pension for his past services. Mr. Burch, who is an officer of this company, apparently had suggested that Mr. Roosevelt apply for old-age assistance, expressing his belief that the company should be relieved of the payment of this salary. However, when Mr. Burch learned that old-age assistance was granted only to individuals who were in need, he agreed that the company should continue to carry Mr. Roosevelt on its payroll. The county office of the Georgia agency explained both to Mr. Burch and to Mr. Roosevelt that under the Georgia law the maximum old-age assistance grant was $30 per month and that an individual who had an income of more than $360 per year was not eligible for aid.

The information secured by the Georgia Department indicates that Mr. James Roosevelt has a nephew who is Rector of a large Episcopal church in Atlanta and a sister who also resides in that city. At the time Mr. Roosevelt made his application for old-age assistance, he made no statement that he was related to the President.
Mr. Ralph W. Magee - 9/1/38

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If more detailed information is desired concerning this matter, we shall be very glad to secure it.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Chairman
August 12, 1938

Mr. Ralph W. Magee,
Administrative Officer,
Social Correspondence,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Magee:

In Miss Dewson's absence, I am acknowledging your letter of August 9 with which you inclosed a copy of a letter to Mrs. Roosevelt from Mr. L. J. Horton of Macon, Georgia, concerning the old-age assistance application of Mr. James Roosevelt.

We are looking into this matter and as soon as we receive a report from our representative, we shall advise you further.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am taking the liberty of writing you in behalf of Mr. James Roosevelt, a distant relative of yours and of President Roosevelt.

Mr. Roosevelt is about eightysix years of age, and while he is in fine physical condition for a man of his age, he is incapable of earning a living in his line of business, which is buying cotton, and he has no fund of any kind or any means of support. He has just left our office to go to lunch and he expressed himself as being very much disappointed because he is unable to get anything from the Social Security fund or Fund for aged people.

I am writing you because of your great personal interest in people generally, and because, I feel so sure that if you knew of his financial condition, you would do something for this relative of yours and the President, who at best, hasn't many more years to live, but who, on account of pride, would not appreciate this appeal to you, if he knew it was being made.

If I have erred in writing you so frankly, I hope you will pardon me, but I am very fond of him personally, and if I were financially able to help him, I would certainly do so. He is so loyal to you and the President and all the family that he never misses an opportunity to commend you.

With best wishes,

Yours very truly,

L. J. Horton
October 14, 1938

Dear Molly:

I am grieved if I've missed you as I am off tonight until the 29th lecturing. I do want to see you.

Why not change your piece to say "we are a temperate family"!

Do take care of yourself.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
Moss Acre
Castine, Maine
Moss Acre
Casting
Maine

Oct 10, 1938

I am not old enough to be forty, but I can't believe you are only ten years younger than I and feel a thousand years older. Why may you live a thousand years more. I only wish there were others like you.

I want your advice. In the '36 campaign I wrote the successful letter to Florence Armstrong in
response to her appeal for some
argument to break the solid vote
of the prohibitionists for the Republicans.
Also enclosed is her letter, which
was widely used in Iowa in the
campaign.

Now "Public Opinion" wants to
reprint it. Well since 1936 I
have had a cocktail with FDR
and you have begun to serve wine
at state dinners (maybe you did
before) so this is not strictly
accurate. Although I never
saw any family more tearful.
than yours.

What do you advise?

I am staying here until November first. I really was as to doctors so pitifully express it "all washed out." But staying outdoor fluttering around the place and doing little socially I am beginning to feel my quite strengthening a little but I who have always adored working have not the
slightest desire to do another stroke
over.

But I'm coming down for a day
to see Arthur Altmeier about Oct. 16th
and I shall act accordingly if I
can gladden my eye by seeing
you for two minutes.

What a long letter to write
to such a busy woman,

My love as always

Molly
Jan. 30, 1936

Dear Melvina,

It was great to hear that you've forgotten you ever were sick for you two did scare us to pieces, and I'd have thought you'd think I must be fragile and take care of my old cowpals.

I always say bad things slip off the mind and I guess to do so.

Give my love to that grand son of yours. I had hoped he'd be looking by this summer and say hello to me. Affec. Molly Brown
Dear Molly,

Upon receipt of the enclosed copy of Harriet Elliott's letter, I went into action, as you see from its answer on October 1.

Yesterday Miss Elliott called to say that they were fearful that N.C. 1508 would not go through.

Mr. Stevenson's office advises me that the Project has been approved but that no more funds are available. This will crush Miss Elliott who is working so hard to make the Woman's College of the University a real place.

Since some funds will inevitably be forfeited, do you think that Mrs. Roosevelt might have any influence with Secretary Ickes? From the social viewpoint, this recreational center (N.C. 1508) is extremely needed.

Can you help?

We are joyfully anticipating your return on the 10th.

Devededly yours,

P. S. You will make Massachusetts and Maine Digest conscious yet! Our November order is 25,500.

Eleanor—

Can you help on this. Miss Elliott was immensely useful in 1934 and 1936 and she has not wanted anything for herself. Not that she would ever have felt she should be reimbursed for her services. But a little appreciation is warming to the heart—hugs Molly
The Woman's College
of
The University of North Carolina
Greensboro, N.C.

September 28, 1938

Office of Dean of Women

My dear Mollie, Dorothy, and May,

I am writing a combination letter to you concerning a very serious problem for the College. I thought if the three of you could read this letter together, May might interpret between the lines and help you to understand the full significance of my request.

A few moments ago Frank Graham called me from his sick bed in Chapel Hill to tell me that our project for a recreation building on this campus has been sent to Washington with the approval of the Atlanta office. Frank had intended to go to Washington to follow this up, but he is sick in bed and I am sure that you will all agree with me that he should take no risks with his health. Mr. Woollen's sudden death has left a gap in the University which places enormous responsibility on Frank Graham.

The project I refer to is North Carolina 1508. (A P. W. A. Self-Liquidating Project). It is a recreation center which will provide adequate social facilities for 2050 students now enrolled in this College. It includes a necessary tavern, bowling alleys, game rooms, and a ball room. It has been beautifully planned and we have worked out a liquidating program which makes it possible for us to pay for the building in the number of years required without any difficulty.

May can tell you how inadequately this College has been planned from the social point of view. In fact, we have no facilities for general community living. When you realize that we have 1750 women living on the campus and the additional day students who come and go in our community life, I am sure you realize how much we need such a center.

Years ago I realized this need and on my own responsibility I visited several colleges and studied such buildings. I then proposed this plan to the Administration and it was flatly turned down. The need for it was not comprehended. I am saying this so that you will know that this is not a snap judgment or a half-baked scheme. It is really a pet project of mine with which I have been concerned for more than twenty years.
Social life in a modern college is complicated at best and we are making a desperate effort here to create opportunities for students to live a more normal life and to use their leisure time in a more natural way. Three years ago, when I became Dean here, there were five social counselors on this campus. Today we have thirteen counselors and one part-time counselor. This indicates that we have an adequate staff to direct our social life. In these three years we have worked out a program, using our improvised quarters, which has worked a revolution in our college community living. Before we began this work, hundreds of students left this campus every week-end. Many students were making their social life outside the college community, and I am sure you appreciate how unwholesome that is in a community like this. We have worked very hard in building up a different social attitude on the campus and we have made a real dent in this restless, roving custom which had developed in this College. It has been desperately hard to do it since we had no facilities with which to work. As I said, we have improvised and cheated to the limit of our ability. The number of students leaving the College for week-ends is greatly reduced and we have been able to create a kind of community attitude here which has aided tremendously in stabilizing our academic work.

I know this is a hideously long letter, but I am trying to create in you minds the real problem with which I am confronted. If we had such a building as we have planned, it would reduce our problem to the minimum. I do not believe it is necessary for me to add any more to this. I know the building is needed. I believe we have planned it in an adequate way and from my own point of view I can't think of anything needed any more in stabilizing this rather large and heterogeneous student group.

It may interest you to know that the building we have planned would cost $125,000. We have an ideal spot for it on the campus, and if you can do anything to help us put this through, I would be everlasting grateful. Frank tells me that the amount of money left for such projects is limited and he feels that unless it gets special attention, there is no chance of its going through. I don't know the technique, but I am sure you will, Mellie.
We are thanking God on this campus today for Franklin Roosevelt. The breathing spell until tomorrow has calmed our nerves. His two messages to Europe may save the world. I have lived through agony for days and can only hope that the mad man in Germany may be stopped.

Much love to all of you,

(Signed) Harriet

HE: es.
My dear Hollie, Dorothy, and May,

I am writing a combination letter to you concerning a very serious problem for the College. I thought if the three of you could read this letter together, May might interpret between the lines and help you to understand the full significance of my request.

A few moments ago Frank Graham called me from his sick bed in Chapel Hill to tell me that our project for a recreation building on this campus has been sent to Washington with the approval of the Atlanta office. Frank had intended to go to Washington to follow this up, but he is sick in bed and I am sure that you will all agree with me that he should take no risks with his health. Mr. Woolen's sudden death has left a gap in the University which places enormous responsibility on Frank Graham.

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We are thanking God on this campus today for Franklin Roosevelt. The breathing spell until tomorrow has calmed our nerves. His two messages to Europe may save the world. I have lived through agony for days and can only hope that the mad man in Germany may be stopped.

Much love to all of you,

(Signed) Harriet
October 1, 1938

Dear Miss Elliott:

I followed through immediately on the Project, N.C.1508.

Mr. Michelson will get in touch with Secretary Ickes immediately upon the Secretary's return on Monday, so I am sure everything will be all right. When I talked to Mr. Michelson, he said, "Why, I am sure we can get this."

I have gone through various channels, and today Mr. Benjamin Thoron, Chief of the Finance Division, advised me that the project now is under active consideration, and that they are particularly glad to have small projects. Because of the various reviews in the legal, engineering, etc. departments, they do not risk estimating the time when you will hear about this.

Mr. Thoron will let me know if further information is wished; but of course they will not let me know if the decision is adverse.

My conversations with FWA indicate that everything to date is favorable. If you should get word that it has been turned down, let us know post haste.

It is a pleasure for me to help the school get this recreational center. Such a building is of primary importance.

A letter from Gladys said she was also interested in a Project, N.C.1502. Letters enclosed from her to Senator Reynolds, Miss Dawson, and Dorothy give the number as N.C.1520. I was advised yesterday by FWA that N.C.1520 has already been approved. If there should be another Project, N.C.1502 with which I can help, I shall welcome the opportunity.

I am sure that "Charlie the Mike" will be able to fix everything.

I told Dorothy you were planning to be here. Let me know so that we can have her out to dinner or breakfast or whatever will suit you best.

All our love,
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 13, 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MRS. ROOSEVELT

The President has seen.

[Signature]

[Handwritten note:]

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

[Handwritten note:]

Best wishes.

Franklin D. Roosevelt
December 5th, 1938

Excerpt of speech given before the Women's National Republican Club,
by Anna Steese Richardson, Associate Editor of the Women's Home Companion:

"I have watched the Democratic women build up their
organization. We Republican women can take lessons from our
Democratic sisters.

"For six years they have not only been supplying popular
study courses for a nationwide chain of clubs but they have
made those clubs the social centers of their communities.
They have bored into the lives of families and individuals."

This from our enemies is evidence
of the effectiveness of your
program!

Dr. May

dear Eleanor -

I thought you would like to see
this and perhaps you would show it to
our Mr. President.

Jack Puley
Mok

Oct. 25, 1938

Dear Eleanor:

Of course I hate to think of seeing even less of you for I love you dearly. I like every one. I think of you as about the grandest woman in the country but more important to me I think of you intimately as a friend. Well maybe when you are not the wife of the President you may have a little more time for non-public affairs. Though discouraged I remember...
that when one is full of energy and
ideas, there are always no end of activities
that come before people. They are more
indicative.

I shall be so happy if you land
a job for Harriet. She is a pearl
worth price.

You ask what I shall do? Do
you know what Maine folks call
a dusty log of wood? In that just
eaten through with the dry rot of
fatigue. I kept on doing more than I
felt like doing too long. However
am glad I did. When you are lucky
even enough to have the chance to do some-
things you believe in awfully it well to
Moss Acre
Castine
Maine

Nov. 14, 1875

To Miss [illegible]

I have the honor to write a letter to you this morning. I am looking forward to seeing you in a few days. I am sorry that I did not have the opportunity to write earlier. I have been busy with various activities, including running errands and spending time with friends and family.

I hope that you are well and that you are doing everything that you need to do. I am always here if you need anything or if you want to talk about anything. I am here for you.

Best regards,

[Signature]
December 14, 1938

Dear Miss Dawson:

Mrs. Roosevelt was most interested to see the excerpt from Anna Steese Richardson's speech and she showed it to the President.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Mary Dawson
Social Security Board
Washington, D.C.
December 14, 1936

Dear Molly:

There is no question at all about what you did. It was perfectly all right. The only difficulty is to find something for Lewis.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dowson
171 West 12th St.
NYC
Tuesday night

Dear Eleanor – Mr. MacIntyre has just telephoned the President is giving his acceptance of my resignation to the Press tomorrow but that he did not mention a successor.

Oh dear oh dear I hope I did nothing to put the President off Ellen Woodward by being so eager to work out a perfect team mate for Arthur Altmyer.

FDR said when I spoke...
about her that he was "sold on the idea" and wanted time to
work out something for them.
He thought he could do it in two weeks and I waited
four.

He must hate picturesque
people and I am awfully
sorry to go out under a
cloud so far as he is concerned.
after ten years of sunshine.
What a world! But feel
quite sad.

Molly
Dear Molly:

Mrs. Florence Kerr is being appointed to Mrs. Woodward's place. She has been working on the program for a long time and the feeling is that she knows more about it. She is an old friend of Harry Hopkins and he has great confidence in her.

I am so glad Mr. Barush was able to lend the Women's Division the money to buy paper for the Digest. I should hate to see the Digest given up, even temporarily.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
Bagaduce Kennels
Route 3, Box 64
Georgetown, Conn.
Dec. 23, 1938

Dear Eleanor,

I can't have too many souvenirs of my first lady and I long to copy of my days, I always read them for I enjoy knowing what you are up to, but I have not reached the point of cutting them out! Maybe I shall now I am a lady of perfect leisure.

I am through trying to get
anyone appointed to anything any more for it no longer my responsibility BUT if you have not found the person you are looking for in Ellen Woodwards place why don't you consider Mary Evers at the Dem. Nat'l Com. She is executive and gets on well and is passionately interested in the New Deal. She would be better than Dorothy McClung for that particular job. And anyway it would be too sad to have the educational work of the Women's Division peter out for there is
Not another woman of political standing in the Party who knows enough and cares enough to keep the work humming. No one but TDR among the men can appreciate the value of the program we've been carrying out the past four years in keeping the men women alive and active. I'd like to see it go on full blast at least through 1940.

My love,

Molly
Jan. 27, 1939

Dear Eleanor, it did me a world of good associating with you. I felt a new sense of the shadow of Lincoln. But I can't be any more appreciative than I've been for years.

Saturday night I had dinner with Mrs. Mussler and a bunch of N.Y. women. No my dear this is not the time my judgement failed you. I am quite sure.

Now for the real matter. Sumner Wells asked me to suggest a woman for the U. S. representative on the Pan-American International Commission of
woman about three weeks ago. It is an
unpaid job—nothing for expenses—only office
work in Pan American Ady. Therefore
it requires a D.C. woman of some means,
or one who would move to D.C.
And because the fight has been to get
rid of Doris Stevens, the Natl Woman's
Party, and those opposed to protective
legislation i.e. hours and wages laws
for women in intra-state occupations
the PRIME REQUIREMENT
is for some one who understands.
Therefore I wrote Welles by return mail
why not Mary Winlow?
Last Friday I telephoned Welles and
he was enthusiastic about Mary Winlow
and added "Her appointment will be
popular too."

So I considered it settled happily
for of course the Trade Union League
and Mary Anderson were delighted
and I believe Miss Sibley likes her.

Then today Dorothy McAllister
telephoned Ruby Black is rooting
for Katherine Lewis (C10). Now
altho' Sidney Hillman, and I suppose
the rest of C10, is for protective legis-
lation, Laura Stevens took K. harri
into camp at Lima and added to
Mrs. Musser's difficulties. If she
were appointed representative the
Trade Union League, Consumer League,
league of Women Voters, Y. W. C. A., etc. would indeed be sunk.

I wondered whether you would be willing to telephone Summer Wells and get him to see Mrs. Widows appointment was made soon — for I am confident his mind is settled on her — and so the anguish would be over.

When you are shopping in New York sometime could not I go along and hold your purse? Or chauffeur you to a meeting in the Bronx?

Yours, devotedly, Molly Seaman
February 27, 1939

Dear Molly:

I am sending you the report which has just come to me from Chairman Noble, of the Civil Aeronautics Authority, on the case of Phoebe Oalie.

The President never waives the rules, so I fear there is not much hope.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
171 W 12
NYC
MEMORANDUM FOR MISS THOMPSON:

Here is Chairman Noble's report on the case of Mrs. Phoebe F. Omlie.

Apparently there is nothing we can do.

M. H. M.

[Handwritten note:]

Just copy it today and let this [unreadable]
PHOEBE OMLIE HAS NO CIVIL SERVICE STATUS
Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre,
Secretary to the President of the
United States,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Colonel McIntyre:

Sometime ago you discussed with me the possibility of placing
Mrs. Phoebe F. Omlie of 2104 Union Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee,
in a position in the Civil Aeronautics Authority.

I have now found a position to which Mrs. Omlie could be ap­
pointed if she had a civil service status. In view of the in­
terest in her case, I am wondering if you would feel disposed
to recommend to the President the issuance of an Executive
Order which would permit the appointment of Mrs. Omlie to this
position without regard to the civil service laws. The posi­
tion to which I refer is that of Assistant Chief of the Flight
Information Section. Briefly, the duties of this Section are:

1. Collects and disseminates information concern­
ing current conditions of airports and other
air navigation facilities.

2. Prepares periodical airport and air navigation
facility bulletins.

3. Provides data to be included on charts pub­
lished for the use of airmen.

4. Prepares flight bulletins and maps for airmen.

5. Coordinates bulletins of all information relat­
ing to the status of air navigation facilities.

6. Compiles and prepares weekly notices to airmen
of any changes in the air navigation facilities.
This position will pay $2,900 and possibly $3,200. Since Mrs. Onlie has received a higher salary in the past, it is possible that she would not be interested in this position, however, it is the only one that I have been able to find in the Authority to which she might properly be appointed at the present time.

I am returning herewith your papers in this matter.

With warm regards, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Edward J. Noble,
Chairman

Encl.
FOR THE PRESIDENT:

"FDR - She should have some job in the bureau tho I fear not this one. Z.R."

Note: you ask Tobler, and tell Charley what he thinks about this.
Memphis, Tenn.
Oct. 17, 1938.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I would really appreciate the appointment as the third member of the Air Safety Board. I took the matter up with Senator McKellar and Congressman Chandler, who have always been my very good friends.

I am enclosing two photo-static copies of letters received at the time of my resignation. As you know, at that time I really wanted to come back home and would still like to remain in Memphis, but I have devoted all of my time to safety and development work since I left Washington and would like to have the privilege of working with this new board.

Thanking you for all the kindness and consideration that you have given me.

Sincerely yours,

Phoebe F. Omlie
2164 Union Ave.

[Handwritten note on the paper]
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DIRECTOR OF AIR COMMERCE
WASHINGTON
August 29, 1936

Mrs. Phoebe Fairgrave Omlie
Mid-South Airways, Inc.
Municipal Airport
Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Mrs. Omlie:

This will acknowledge your letter of August 26, 1936, informing us of your desire to resign from your position as Special Assistant for Air Intelligence of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and liaison officer between that Committee and the Bureau of Air Commerce.

While your position officially was with the N. A. C. A., I know that you devoted a generous share of your time and attention to problems of the Bureau of Air Commerce, particularly in connection with planning and carrying out the program of providing air markers for the guidance of airmen as Works Progress Administration projects. In addition, you have rendered noteworthy and extremely valuable service in promoting and fostering civil aeronautics through your own flying activities, and in assisting organizations which are engaged in the promotion of aeronautics.

We appreciate the fine work you have done, and I regret that you find it advisable to sever this connection with the N. A. C. A. and the Bureau of Air Commerce. However, I understand your reasons for doing so, and therefore can only concur with the Committee in accepting your resignation without prejudice, contenting myself with the knowledge that our loss will be commercial aviation's gain.

In bidding you farewell, insofar as your official connection with the Bureau is concerned, I wish also to express to you my deep personal sympathy in the recent death of your husband. My associates in the Bureau join me in this expression of sympathy. Capt. Omlie had long been known and respected by us.

With all best wishes for success in your new field of endeavor, I am

Sincerely yours,

Eugene L. Vidal
Director of Air Commerce
Mrs. Phoebe Fairgrave Omlie,
Special Assistant for Air Intelligence,
National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics,
Municipal Airport,
Memphis, Tennessee.

Dear Mrs. Omlie:

Your resignation as Special Assistant for Air Intelligence, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, effective September 15, 1936, is hereby accepted without prejudice.

I regret sincerely this severance of our official relations. In your liaison activities and cooperative work with the Bureau of Air Commerce you brought to bear in the performance of your duties a wealth of experience and judgment and a keen zeal for the promotion of safety in flying - especially in private flying. You are to be congratulated and particularly commended for the excellent results recently accomplished under your direction in the air marking of cities, towns and landing fields in all parts of the United States.

On behalf of the Committee members and of your office associates, I extend sincere sympathy to you in the recent tragic death of your husband and our best wishes that your return to commercial aviation will bring you much success and happiness. While we shall miss you, we shall be with you in spirit in all your undertakings to advance the progress of aviation and to enrich the pages of aviation history.

Sincerely yours,

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR AERONAUTICS,

[Signature]

Secretary.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 4, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

MRS. ROOSEVELT

Sorry but I cannot possibly make an exception. I have had many similar cases in the past.

F. D. R.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 1, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR: The President.

Mrs. Roosevelt wishes to know if you would exempt Mrs. Phoebe F. Omlie by Executive Order from Civil Service requirements so that Mrs. Omlie might take a job with the Civil Aeronautics Authority.

She does not believe you will.

JH R
JAMES HOWE, JR.
Memo. for Mr. Rowe

Ask the President if he would exempt. As he never has, I think doubtful. If not, that settles it; if he would, then ask her.

E.R.
March 21, 1939

Memorandum For Mrs. Somerville.

Could you bring this to Mrs. Roosevelt's attention as soon as possible?

Thank you.

J.H.

James Rowe, Jr.

[Handwritten note:]

Ask Mrs. if she will accept as he says her I think doubt not. Your last note let it of to Aunt. Ask the—
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 21, 1939

Memorandum For Mrs. Roosevelt.

Re: Phoebe F. Omie

Mr. Early tells me that the President has sent the file on Mrs. Omie to you.

The Civil Aeronautics Authority is very anxious to get the matter settled and desperately needs someone in this job. However, they will hold it open until they hear from the White House. They do not believe that Mrs. Omie would accept this job anyway since it would involve a considerable cut in salary.

Also it would necessitate the President having to exempt Mrs. Omie by executive order from the civil service requirements.

Could you let me know what should be done at your earliest convenience?

James Rowe, Jr.
memorandum for secretary Early.

Re: Phoebe F. Omlie.

The Air Safety Board cannot use her: (1) She has no Civil Service status, (2) their work is mostly field work at accident crashes and is too tough for a woman. Hardin, Acting Chairman, speaks very highly of her.

In the meanwhile a memorandum from Estes, the Administrator, crossed my desk. Noble has a position paying $3200 for her (considerably less than she has received in the past) if she has a Civil Service status. Therefore, it would be necessary for the President to exempt her by executive order since she has no Civil Service status.

Otherwise, there is no position unless the President directs the authority to create a position.

James Rowe, Jr.
March 5, 1939.

Dear Molly:

I was deeply shocked to hear from Jim Farley last night that your brother and his wife had been killed in an automobile accident in Florida.

I had not heard about it or I would have written to you immediately to tell you how deeply concerned Franklin and I are that you have had to have this grief and shock.

Do let me know how you are.

With deepest sympathy in which Franklin joins,

Much love,
Dear Molly:

Oh dear, oh dear! I can’t be with you on any of the days you mention.

Can’t I see you on your way to Maine for a day?

Much love,
April 11, 1939

Dear Alexander,

It seemed impossible that you have seen my earlier diaries for seven years. Such lovely fragrant flowers... I guess I ought to be far to third term idea for I love getting the lilies and knowing I am on the list. Have you seen the "Swing Mikado" and the "Hot Mikado"? The W.P.A. me...
is not so good but very good indeed.

If you are in N.Y. C. on April 20, 21, 24, 25 or 26 I'd be so glad to have tea with you as you suggested. For on May first I am going to California to take a motor trip with Dean Stobies and from there to Cas屯o until November first. Am I retired?

My love always

Molly
March 10, 1939

Dearest Eleanor, you are sweet as always to write me such a lovely letter about the tragedy in our family.

They were to have had their golden wedding this June and were so happy together it is very sad that they could not have had a few years more.

I have only one of my six brothers and sisters left now.
and he is seventy-nine. Soon I may be the last leaf on this tree but he and I both follow a tough stream in the family so we want neither trouble.

When you come to New York next for recreation can't I help you get it?

GRAMECY 7-4449

My best love

Mo, My
April 26, 1939

Dear Molly:

Thank you ever so much for your letter. I am so sorry you have been so anxious. I know what a hard winter you have had and am surely glad your brother is better. I hope all goes well from now on and that your trip out west will be a great success.

I am quite conscious of the necessity for uniting the unemployment compensation and the reemployment service. I am bringing it to Franklin's attention.

Much love and good luck.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
171 West 12th St.
NYC
APRIL 26, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

From all I have heard I really feel it important that Employment Compensation and Reemployment Service work together. Often people take advantage of unemployment insurance and do not take jobs. If they were obliged to register and take jobs as soon as found it might save money.

Molly is right about these two working hand in hand.

E.R.
April 30, 1939.

Dear Molly:

Under the reorganization, the Employment Service and the Unemployment Compensation are to be put under the Federal Security Agency.

There is some fear that Frances Perkins will oppose it. I think if you speak to her, it will have more weight than if I were to do it.

Much love,
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 27, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR E.R.

I have taken the Employment Service from the Department of Labor and put it in the same group with unemployment compensation under the Federal Security Agency. If you get a chance, please tell Miss Perkins not to oppose this.

F.D.R.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

From all I have heard I really feel it important that Unemployment Compensation and Reemployment Service work together. Often people take advantage of unemployment insurance and do not take jobs. If they were obliged to register and take jobs as soon as found it might save money.

Holly is right about these two working hand in hand.

E.R.
Tuesday

Dear Eleanor. I am so sorry about your brother's boy. I don't really know anything about it but it seems to me your brother has had a hard time in life and I have always liked him and thought he was fine.

The more you love the more hostages you have given to fate but what is life without love. It's like wanting security at the price of finer things.

This winter has been rather sad for
me too losing Ed and Nandu and Sunday night my brother George was so ill with migraine the doctors thought he would not live through the night. He is 79 but a tough constitution like me. Everyone that resembles my old irish fighting great great grandfather Col. Joe Williams has that tough strain. George is much better today and we hope he will pull through.

As for we last week the doctor was amazed for my blood pressure and heart are actually normal. That's what your months without anything to be persistent about
and fiddling around out does has done for me.

If I were at Washington I should be "pleading" that the President write unemployment compensation and the Employment Service because I think it's a vital mistake - and costly in the millions - not to do so. Than I would be back again physically.

So I am not pestering you to see he does not overlook it.

Just loving you

Molly
July 6, 1939

Dear Molly:

I have your letter and am sorry to say that I have no idea who will be named as head of all the social agencies. I rather think that Franklin wants to keep Altmeier in the Social Security.

I am thrilled that you are feeling so much better but hope you will not overdo and lose what you have gained. The quiet rest in the country which I talked so much about has not yet materialized. There always seems to be something I have to do.

It was grand hearing from you.

Much love,

Miss Molly Dewson
Moss Acre
Castine, Maine
June 30, 1939

Dear,[

I know all about you but maybe you'll be glad to know I feel five years younger now I'm completely and finally retired.

I don't have to take thyroid pills!!

It's magnificent if you are ready to quit. I guess you are well and will be able to pull off a third term if necessary.

Well, I loved you just as much and think of you just as often as though I were trying to help Franklin via you.

However today I am returning for a second to that role.

1) I think Arthur Altman is one of
the finest, ablest man in the administration.
He is no stormy petrel, but a great and quiet administrator. If I had made him head of the aggregation of welfare agencies I should be commanding his choice with joy. I admire him immensely.

2) If F.O.R. wants some one else why does he not think of Josephine Rhode? She has such a taking personality it will be a popular move. Especially with labor. She is an ardent New Dealer, although working in her heart to go faster. And she is pretty prudent.

There are so few in whom you can have great confidence.

My love,

Molly
August 9, 1939
Hyde Park, New York

Dear Molly:

Your letter arrived after the meeting in Pittsburgh was over, but, in any case, I had had several invitations and had to refuse. Confidentially, I think the Young Democrats are very weak. I went to one session and thought they were very poor and did not think they were worth my time.

I hope all goes well and that you are having a grand summer.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
Castine
Maine
Dear Molly,

Things look pretty discouraging for the Young Democrats -- particularly the young Democratic women.

The younger women have not taken hold in the Young Democrats as we would like, therefore they are in the minority.

They are overlooked in membership of committees as well as in activities of the organization. The few who are active however, are plugging away towards 50-50.

Mrs. Roosevelt's absence from National Convention in Pittsburgh on August 10-11-12 this year is a real blow to them -- particularly since Mr. Farley will also be absent.

Do you feel that you could drop Mrs. Roosevelt a note? We join the Young Democrats in urging her to attend if possible, and we know only too well that she can't do everything.

With the reactionary forces so strong, Mrs. Roosevelt's presence would be more significant than otherwise.

Devotedly,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
Castine
Maine

Mrs. Evans had to leave the office before signing this.
Dear Molly:

I read Franklin the report that Dorothy McAllister made to you and he seemed very pleased. He said he had seen her and made one suggestion to her. I think he feels that the Women's Division is doing a grand piece of work.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
Castine, Maine
December 30, 1939

Dear Molly:

I love the little carved paper cutter and she'll find it very useful. It was dear of you to send it to me.

I gave Franklin your card and he was pleased.

Many thanks and every good wish.

Much love,

Miss Mary W. Dawson
171 W. 12th St.
New York, N. Y.
Merry Christmas,
dear Eleanor. From one.
who is symbolized
sadly — by the enclosed.
But her spirit is
green and full of
love for you.
Molly

[Signature]
Christmas Eve.

Dear Eleanor,

Would you be good to me again and get the President to read my Christmas message? It's late but I feared it would get lost if I sent it earlier.

I hope you agree with me that the Children's Bureau is doing a grand job - and that everyone thinks so. Why not leave it whole right where it is in the labor report?

Nowadays everyone talks about
the fearful results coming from destroying "balance of Nature."

It seems to me the Children's Bureau is "in balance" now.
If health was taken out of it who can see any great gain and who can't foresee the silencing of that fine organism so thoroughly rooted. Doctors are all right on disease but on the human being pretty poor.

It is only two weeks ago tonight I was with you - and so glad to be.

My best

Molly
Mr. President you have the mistletoe and I am ready but not near enough!!
But please read into insides.

Molly
Duchess
My Boss.-I hope I still rank as one of your leading political advisors in re. women.

Well! Do keep the Children's Bureau intact. Kathroff, Abbott, Lenroot, have educated women - including me - to think babies and children must be considered as a unit.

The Children's Bureau has few enemies because it does not deal with economic problems. Its legion of friends in Congress and the powerful women's organizations will spring to its defense.

Let sleeping angels lie! Why precipitate
GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES
FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS

trouble among our natural friends for theoretical reasons by splitting up something effective and the ONE thing enshrined in the heart of millions of women?

Remember the distribution of their pamphlets leads all others — Molly
TELEGRAM
23WU 23 DL

The White House
Washington

New York NY 1012am Feb 11 1940

Mrs. Franklin D Roosevelt

The White House

Thought you and the President would want to know that Harry Dickerman died last night Marion goes Westfield tonight for funeral services Monday

1105eml
March 8, 1940

Dearest Molly:

Franklin says to tell you that it will be all right for Mr. George Warren to go back to his own committee, and that while the committee on refugees will continue to be a skeleton, they will probably do no work.

How are you and what are you doing? I am going off lecturing but I may be in New York the end of this month and if you are there we might get together.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
171 West 12th Street
NYC
March 5, 1940

Dear Eleanor, how glad I am you had such a grand vacation. It did me good to think of it.

Do you feel refreshed enough to find out something for me from Franklin? The difficulty is that the background is too long for him to listen to. Must not let him get a prejudice against George Warren, executive of the President Committee on Refugees. There is the quandary.

Warren is one of the highest grade men I know — with an unquelled integrity and willingness to devote...
himself to his own disadvantage to inconspicuous, worthwhile cause.

He is Director of the International Migration Service, (of which I am a director) on leave of absence to the President Committee. He is happy on the Committee but he thinks the President may be expanding it soon so that he, Warren, won't be needed. That is perfectly OK. to Warren but he does need to know like termination whether he is to stay or go, because the I.M.S. is one of those financially weak organizations with a big program that nearly kills...
its tiny staff because of their devotion. Just as I nearly committed hari-kari over the Minimum Wage Briefs.

If the President needs him, he will stay and the saving of his salary will enable I.M.S. to hire workers sorely needed. And the pinch is that suitable persons are available now and they are scarce.

If the President does not need him he will quietly go back to I.M.S.

I have known Warren, say, 35 year and his hari-kari-king
Ruth Harris
assistant almost twenty. So all
this is just scribblu truth - no
pinches of salt necessary.

My love to you.

Molly
April 19, 1940

Dear Molly:

Of course I have a bed for you for the 3d and 4th of May, and I am delighted that I am to have a chance to see you.

Let me know when you arrive so the car can meet you at the station.

I have the same hankering to see you - it has been such a long time.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dawson
171 W 12
NYC
April 17, 1940

Dear Eleanor—

Would you have a bed free for me Friday and Saturday night May 3 and 4? I have lots of friends in Washington so you do not have to think of me in some dreary hotel if it is one single bit inconvenient for you to take me.

I'm writing because I just
I look forward to seeing you.
As ever,
Molly.
July 21, 1940

Dear Molly:

I was so glad to get your letter and I can imagine you must have had a feeling of homesickness listening to the Chicago Convention. I know that you are very much missed, and particularly by the men, but I think you were wise to take care of yourself.

I think this campaign is going to be a really tough one and I shall be very sorry if Jim does not stay in until after election.

The name of the editor of the Saturday Evening Post is Lorimer.

I am always delighted to hear from you and wish that the distance between us was not so great.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
Castine, Maine
July 13, 1940

Dear Eleanor,

I've just been listening to Dorothy McAllister and her girls broadcasting from Chicago. It almost makes me homesick. I can't wait to hear what Franklin has decided. I am nearly reconciled to his running again.

Would you be an angel and send me the name of the editor of the Sat. Eve. Post (or was it?) who was at lunch one day when I was at the White House, May 5th? I don't see
how you can answer such trivial
questions but I want to write
him, and maybe Heloise will do this.
My best love as always
Morley
Dear Eleanor,

I know how busy you are but I do hope you will give an hour to my friend Phoebe Owlie.

It's two and a half years since she had her little difference of opinion with Runcoe Johnson, and she wants to inter that matter with you, whom she unreasonably admires. It's a good and short story for a summer
day.

She has had such a vivid, diversified and useful life that her interests are very much, but I can't expect you to get more than the nears of which come out best in short biographical tales. Moreover, she is not a good self-starter.

But do see how for her sake and mine.

May best to you as always.

Sincerely,

Molly
August 8, 1940

Dear Molly:

Eddie Flynn and Dorothy McAllister are both writing to you and this is just to tell you that I think it would be a tremendous help to Dorothy McAllister if you could come down around the middle of September to be on hand. We do not want you to do any work that you would not feel able to do, but if you could be in the office to meet people and do some of the work with the men, it would be a great help. That is where Dorothy is weak.

Eddie Flynn is more difficult in some ways than Jim, although much easier than others, but his feeling about you is sincere and he really longs to have you.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
Castine
Maine
August 17, 1940

Dear Molly:

I am sending your letter to FDR at once, and am copying what you say about the campaign for Eddie Flynn.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
Moss Acre
Castine, Maine
August 30, 1940

Dear Molly:

I am delighted that you are coming down. I know, and so does Ed Flynn, that you will do a valuable job.

I am glad to say that as people get to know Eddie Flynn, they like him and enjoy working with him.

Much love,

Miss Molly Dewson
Castine
Maine

DD
October 5, 1940.

Dear Miss Dewson:

Thank you for your quick reply. The baby's name (presupposing the sex) will be Geoffrey.

Mother's job with the FWA has consisted of filing (she has been in complete charge of all the filing) and typing, as well as some comptometry work.

Under a couple of the President's recent Executive Orders, she has special reinstatement status for emergency defense jobs in the Government. These jobs are floating around, and she qualifies for them. Don't you think maybe a gentle word spoken in the right place would help her get one of them?

She is Mrs. Kate A. Bonwit, 29 Arden Street, New York City.

Affectonately,

[Signature]

Dear Eleanor. You remember little Julia Bonwit. She was a great help to me in 1934 giving the B.L.D. real publicity with a double-column feature when they visited Washington. Sort of compensation in many cases for jobs. Can you help her mother, who is now out of work? I do not know what to ask... I am going
over to Colly on Oct 30th when you are there if it's decent motoring weather. I wish Melvina would drop me a line as to the place, time and to whom you are speaking.

My best,

Molly

But don't let this waste paper

The old one will. Idiot.
November 12, 1940

Dear Eleanor:

This Wellesley graduate friend of mine wishes President Roosevelt would make "America the Beautiful" the national anthem. Don't you think it is the best of all the national songs? I am not musical but Corinne Waldo says it should be set to sensible music. In these days we need a good enough uplifting anthem for our many meetings.

It was grand to see you Saturday.
I was furious at missing you in Maine.

Affectionately yours,

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

Excerpt from letter of Corinne Waldo
5220 Caroline Street
Houston, Texas

"Molly, heaven forbids somethings, and one of them is the likelihood of my writing poetry--a national anthem! But Katherine Lee Bates did. In many subtle, devious ways, the press over this country is trying to spotlight Irving Berlin's "God Bless America" as the substitute for the "Star-Spangled Banner". Anticipating that fatality, I am thinking of a plan. It is this. Why not let the Star-Spangled Banner be the air--(a piece not a song) for Navy and Army regulations. And why not have "America the Beautiful" when set properly to singable music by an American composer, named our official national anthem?...."
November 18, 1940

Dear Holly:

I will pass along your suggestion about "America the Beautiful" to the President but I doubt if he will make the change.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary Dewson
Hotel Biltmore
NYC
Nov. 10, 1940

Dear Eleanor,

It is nice we could have had longer to discuss the Woman's Division yesterday. Without your support it won't amount to much, and you evidently don't think much of Mrs. Tillett for the job.

Well, we both agree there is no embarrassment of riches.

On the whole, I think the best thing we can do by Democratic women...
is to plug ahead on the educational line as long as the New Deal offers its extraordinary opportunity.

Because through it:

1. We certainly have been able to attract more able women to the Party
2. And by making it a crusade of it we have increased Party organizing.

Neither Mrs. Wolfe nor Mrs. McAllister had talents of leadership through personality but by sheer organizing ability and friendliness they built up that crowd of 5000 women who came down in May to Woodford Institute of Government.
The women respected their brains, earnestness and objectivity.

Gladys Tillett has the same brains, earnestness and objectivity also drive like Dorothy.

She too is friendly and of course knows the speakers well and they think she is very competent, and she has grown on them.

If we were not selling amidst "benevolent capitalism" as W. Allen White calls it - but a personality like Paul Venus McNutt we should be
necessity have to take up with a personality like Mary Norton—
or since Mary is busy and too old—and I can’t think of any other good one—Blanche Fitz, Bernice Pyke, or Emma Buffey Miller. Or some new one like Mrs. Melvyn Douglas.

If Paul McNutt runs in 1944 he is content to use some one like someone from Wisconsin. Well anyway we shall have created a pattern in 12 years. And the Republicans are popularizing it too. It won’t wholly fade out.
By the way have you noticed that Eddie Flynn has put Paul McNutt’s campaign manager in as his assistant chairman. And he said he was not going to let any potential candidate use the committee!!!

So if Gladys Tillett will take it I can’t see anyone who will do so well in popularizing the New Deal through spreading information about it on the present pattern. She can conduct the regional conferences well. She speaks well. If she won’t take it, goodbye.
Burlington Iowa is the only other
person in our general mold. Her
husband is general counsel for the
Chi. Burlington Iowa RR. A fine
fellow. The President could give
him a judgeship in the district
maybe. No one is foot loose when
a woman.

But they will be helpless without
youth and the President's support
and you will still fill the eye of the
people as the great Democratic
woman. We don't really need more.

Now about Gladys Tillotson execu
tive secretary - the Charlie Nicholson behind
June shoulder who felt he ran the campaign, but was anonymous.

Sorena Hickey told me she wanted to join with some one as a face.Had her have lunch with Gladys Tillet.

Incidentally during the campaign. But I did not commit myself in any way for mention my analysis of fellow of women to Gladys or Dorothy or that I knew none but Betti Tillott.

I am very doubtful about Betti on certain sides—whether she could be patient in developing our 80,000 little women, so that they can serve the party to the best of what they can in them lives. All that—detail should bore.
She would have to do that and answer all three letters constructively that they write headquarters. A host of help could be given. They have research staff of young thoroughbreds - unpaid - like Mrs. Rowe, Pratt etc. could continue.

Doro they would be willing to try to raise enough money to finance the defect - i.e. supplement what the committee felt like giving.

I am doubtful about Hick but if Gladys was willing I would not mind trying her. I would not mind trying Bass.
Furman as executive secretary as she wanted to give up her bureau. Dorothy says she is wonderful to work with.

I should like to see what a woman with newspaper experience could do toward training our women to get more publicity.

But it would be dull to conceive of this job as Charlie Michelson and the men think of their side just as voices speaking the press and air in behalf of a few leaders. Between elections the
Women's Division to my mind should be an instigator of self-expression by the women if they are to grow and amount to anything in the party.

The above is what I think. What I do not think is that money cannot be saved in the biggest. Although I think it will be less than we hoped because the printer looked on the biggest as his baby—had a queer pride in it—and absorbed the cost of many corrections—he claimed all.
The reason I was not enthusiastic about Bess Furman taking it over was because I thought if Gladys was chosen some arrangement would have to be made at headquarters and the publication of the Bright Should be considered after the new person came in.

I would never have written so much but I was not happy about that conference and I thought you got me wrong and you know I have loved you dearly without a flicker for those many years.
Dear Molly:

I quite understand how you felt the other day and I am quite sure you are right about Mrs. Tillett. She does not give me an impression of strength personally. I always felt that that job needed some one with a great deal of strength, but for that matter Mrs. Woodward and Dorothy herself do not give that impression either.

You know me well enough to know that if you and Dorothy, who know her well, think she good I would trust your judgment and I certainly will work with her and do everything I possibly can to help.

I feel too that Hick has the difficulties that you are conscious of. On the other hand I think she can make a magnificent job of cutting down expenses on the Digest and I am not sure that she could not succeed in making the men consider it their publicity organ as well as ours. I have written Edie Flynn suggesting this. If it could be done we would be set for all time.

I think Hick could work with Mrs. Rowe and Mrs. Pratt, etc. I do not know how Mrs. Tillett likes her, but I know she likes Mrs. Tillett. I can work with Hick. She is not anxious to work immediately, but I think it would be advisable if you finally decide to try her, for her to go to Washington before Dorothy leaves and then she can take her holiday and return as soon as possible.

If you think any one else would be better there is no reason why she should not be considered, but on the whole I think it would work out satisfactorily. Bess Furman has her own news bureau and she does not want to give it up. Hick would work well with Bess and Bess could continue on the publicity material and the fliers which we should never neglect. A real campaign of publicity is necessary for we will have a constant fight on our hands. La Guardia said he is going to continue his committee as long as the Willkie clubs remain organized. That will mean the women's division will have to supply publicity material and work up things for them to do and the women are much better at that and have more ideas than
the men. Hick would I think be good at this.

I would have liked to have longer to talk the other day but I am never unhappy about leaving things to you and I do trust Dorothy and admire the work she has done. Anything you decide will be entirely agreeable to me.

I will be seeing you when this trip is over. I hope you are coming down on the 14th for the Gridiron Widow's party and of course, I want you to stay over the weekend with me if you can.

Much love,
November 26, 1940

Dear Molly:

When Eddie Flynn gets back we must all meet and talk over the Women's Division.

I am looking forward to seeing you on December 14.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dawson
171 West 12th St.
NYC
Dear Eleanor—

You are always so understanding and sensible! This refers to the Women’s Division.

Of course it’s none of my business but I do want to see it carry on in the interests of the New Deal.

I will spend the week end of the 14th December with you at the White House with the greatest of pleasure. I am delighted to be asked.

My love

Molly
February 21, 1941

Dear Molly:

I will ask Dorothy Thompson about speaking at the anniversary dinner and will let you know.

How are you?

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson  
Care Consumere League of NYC  
215 Fourth Avenue, NYC
February 14, 1941

Miss Mary W. Dewson
171 West 12th Street
New York City

Dear Miss Dewson:

I enclose a copy of a letter I sent yesterday to Morris Ernst which is self-explanatory.

At the Consumers League meeting yesterday it was suggested that we get help from as many sources as possible to influence Dorothy Thompson to speak at our Anniversary Dinner. Nelle Swartz, Louise Griffith, and Dorothy Kenyon had the bright idea that you might be willing to ask Mrs. Roosevelt to ask Miss Thompson.

What do you think of the idea and would you be willing to help us?

Sincerely yours,

Helene P. Gans

Executive Secretary

[Handwritten note]

Dear Eleanor - Of course I think it would be grand to have Dorothy Thompson. She always stops up a meeting. It is our 50th Anniversary - Comes about April 23rd.

I would appreciate a lost year saying a good word for the League - and helping it.

Devotedly Molly
Mr. Morris L. Ernst  
265 Madison Avenue  
New York City  

Dear Morris:

The dinner I spoke to you about is to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Consumers League of New York. Mrs. F. Russell Bowie, the President, will preside. Elinore Herrick will review the past in dramatic form. Elinore suggests that Miss Dewson might be willing to present the history with her. We hope Dorothy Thompson will chart future needs.

Here are some facts about the Consumers League that Miss Thompson might be interested in knowing. In addition, I enclose a leaflet giving a bird's eye view of its activities.

The Consumers League began the fight for the improvement of labor standards fifty years ago. It was backed by such people as former Justice Brandeis, the late Newton Baker, Justice Frankfurter, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Frances Perkins.

It has had a long history of accomplishment. Its program was a forerunner of the New Deal social and labor program - in fact in 1933 President Roosevelt used the model minimum wage bill, drafted by the Consumers League under the direction of Felix Frankfurter, as the basis of his N.R.A. program. New York had the honor of passing the minimum wage bill first, and its passage was due primarily to the Consumers League of New York.

But before it was possible to secure legislation of this nature the Consumers League had to demonstrate, by means of White Lists, that voluntary methods of raising labor standards were inadequate. The chiseling manufacturer always made it impossible for the enlightened employer to do what he knew was good business, i.e. to pay decent wages for a reasonable working day.

It was Frances Perkins, then secretary of the Consumers League of New York, who focused the attention of a horrified public on the dramatic Triangle Shirtwaist Fire. Gradually New York has moved to the front rank in progressive labor legislation, although there is still room for improvement.

We are now in the position of having to defend what we struggled so hard to attain. There is a growing demand to break down labor standards. We must counteract this trend, not only because it has
been proved that production lags with long hours, but because democracy must mean more than a word to those who are defending it.

In New York State, for instance, workers in charitable institutions are not covered by many of our labor laws. Domestic workers, the most exploited of any group, and agricultural workers have no protection whatever. Last summer 472 children worked on commercial farms in Erie County. Thirty of these children were under five. Our excellent child labor law still does not go far enough when this is possible.

The people need to be told that the millennium is by no means here. Our laws are so good that there is a disposition to regard them as perfect. Because of Miss Thompson's passionate defense of the democratic way of life she is our unanimous choice to present this point of view.

The dinner, by the way, is scheduled for the 23rd of April or thereabouts. There will be three or four hundred guests.

Yours,

Helene P. Guns
Executive Secretary
Dear Molly:

I am so sorry I will be in the West on a lecture trip on April 23 and will not be able to attend the anniversary dinner.

I have not become hardened to saying "No" to you. I would always make an effort to do anything you really wanted me to do. It would help if I could be in more than one place at a time, but, unfortunately, I haven't been able to manage that.

Are you coming to the newspaper women's stunt party on April 1? If so, I shall count on your staying here with me. I get back that morning.

Affectionately,

kiss larry w. dawson
171 west 12th st.
NYC
March 18, 1941

Dear Eleanor, I cannot see why the girls are always asking me to ask you things when inevitably because I ask you so often you have become used to saying no - and do not feel the pain you may feel when turning down a first request.

Well here goes: The Concerned League of N.Y. has its 50th anniversary dinner on Wed. April 23rd. Senora de Palencia is to be the only speaker but the league is dying to have you its honor guest because you
are you and so deeply interested
in better working condition by law
short five minutes.

Of course I'd like to have you
say to Wags & Honor how so
far as Interstate work goes
pretty well clinches the matter in that
field and gives precedent for inter-
state laws. These and a public
opinion that will assure enforce-
ment are still left to us.

My, my. FOR the news can
really through out their chest on
this stupefying achievement.

Will you please? My love Molly
March 26, 1941

Dear Eleanor,

Who should know better than I how many things I have wanted like the old Harry you and you alone have made possible.

Of course I should like nothing better than spending a night at the White House which always means breakfast with you but this week end it does not fit well.

I wish you would swing the invitation for me for lunch on the next Sunday you are at Hyde Park. I could remain from Georgetown - the kennels - easily and
I do want to see FDR's library.

I am standing coat cold and windy
days feeling my days in big scrab
books for the library. Franklin asked
me for them and I consulted Archivist
Cornw who said "Certainly." He wants
even my minimum wage briefs and
samples for they show how much
work had been done for minimum
wage laws before N.R. A. and the
wage and hours laws. The stuff
has been bound. I think it is worth
while to show the President did not
bouncing off on bright ideas and hasty
thoughts but on a basis of experiment
working out an economic plan long
contemplated. Molly

Molly
April 1, 1941

Dear Molly:

I shall be delighted to have you come to Hyde Park the first chance when I am there for a Sunday. The next two visits I have to leave at noon on Sunday.

Much love,

Miss Molly Dewson
171 West 12th St.
NYC
April 17, 1941

Dear Molly:

I am sending you Mr. Bennett's letter about Mr. Browder and I am sure that Mr. Browder will be well taken care of.

I am off on a long trip and will not be back until about the 12th of May. Will hope to see you soon after my return.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
171 West 12th St.
NYC
Dear Molly,

We are very much concerned at Earl Browder's being sent to Atlanta, of all federal penitentiaries, the worst. It was the prison that broke the health of Eugene Debs 20 years ago and caused his death at a much earlier age than would have been natural.

Earl is 50 years old, a devoted father and husband. He has indigestion. If he is allowed to work out in the prison fields in the hot summer sun of Georgia, he will be broken in health as Debs was. In the long range of history those who sent him to prison will be adjudged guilty of murder.

Knowing your many contacts in Washington, can you, will you speak for better treatment of a brilliant, kindly, human being, whose only "crime" is a love of humanity and opposition to war? The passport charge was a technicality, known to the Government for 13 years and dismissed as of no importance—until the war made it a convenient excuse. The usual penalty for such is 30 days in prison, but Earl gets four years!

But I am not trying to persuade that he is innocent. Only that he needs special care and consideration in the prison, in order that his health may not suffer. Now that the Administration has gotten him safely out of the way, at least it can afford to be generous in the matter of treatment.

If you asked Roosevelt, Mrs. Roosevelt, others in Washington to interest themselves in his welfare in prison, they would listen to your words and respond. Whereas any Left Winger who writes the authorities, only has his letter referred to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to add his name to J. Edgar Hoover's enemies.

There are literally hundreds of men and women who would be ready to go to prison in Browder's place if that were possible. I am one of them. But of course that is exactly why they want him out of the way—because he has a mass following.

I know Earl well. I know his wife and his children. They are one of the best, most devoted families in the United States.

Please give my love to Polly.

Affectionately yours,

65 Bedford St.
New York City
March 28, 1941

Dear Eleanor. Grace Hutchins is here. Known at Astoria, Maine, playing tennis, yachting etc., for thirty years. Her father was president of the Massachusetts Bar Association and a warden of Trinity Church. They lived on the water side of Beacon St. Grace went to Bryn Mawr
but could follow the conventional pattern no further. She became a missionary in China and afterward worked in the Episcopal church at St. Hilda's New York on the World Tomorrow etc. Now she and her friend Anne Rochester, also Bryn Mawr, and for years Julie Hartshorne's secretary, are religious communists. They do research for the Communist Party and write books for it on various industries, silk, coal etc. I think they are high in the councils.

Polly and I, they say, are the only "bourgeois" friends they have left. We see them once or twice a year. They are in their fifties and such good women and earnest souls.

Of course Federal prisons are supposed to be models, and to return the prisoners to the world in better physical condition than when they went in. I know how much the President has been interested in the Prisons and that he appointed Sanford Bates because he wanted them not only to hold but help the prisoners.

I should like to be able to reassure Grace that she need not worry about Broadden's physical condition being undermined by improper work in Georgia heat. Devotedly,

M. H. Newton
June 7, 1941

Dear Molly:

Many thanks for sending me the material from Julia Jaffray. I was glad to be of help.

I hope you are having a grand trip.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
2715 Durant Avenue
Berkeley, Calif.
May 29, 1941

Dear Eleanor,

I liked Julie Taffray because she warned me in the twenties that the General Federation of Women's Clubs was selling out to big business—although at the same time she was head of their work for correction—non-controversial. She was much more liberal than the company she performed kept.

So during the ensuing years we lent each other a hand when we could.

Therefore I hand the enclosed to you for it would be good for America if there were more women who worked faithfully and imaginatively in their given areas.

Franklin's talk was just right.

My best to my great women

Molly Newton
July 24, 1941

Memorandum for the President

We must find something for May Ward. I have tried every avenue and have had no success. Can't you do something?

E.R.

Sending letter from Molly Dawson
August 19, 1941

Dear Molly:

I do remember Mr. Bailey and am glad to write to the Mayor about him. I hope the Mayor will have the time to see him.

Much love.

Miss Molly Dewson
Moss Acre
Castine, Maine
August 16, 1941

Dear Eleanor,

Do you remember Louis Baily who was at the White House four or five years ago with his Curtis quartet to give a concert?

My musical friends think he is one of the world's best viola players, some of them think the best. Any way for years he played with the Longley Quartette and for sixteen years he has taught at the Curtis Institute. Now he thinks on the whim of
old Mrs. Edward Boif, he has been let out of the Curtis Institute.

So he wants an opportunity to play or teach and is very eager to get a really personal introduction to Mayor La Guardia whom he says is a very great power in New York musical circles.

He would like to teach in the New York School of Music. He would like to give a series of concerts over the New York City radio station. As a matter of fact he did give three this spring. He could conduct stadium concerts or
arrange programs and see them through.

Of course he is very well known in the world of musical culture.

Could you, would you, get him a chance to see Mayor La Guardia under your aegis?

There just had to subscribe to the Portland Press Herald to get my bag and keep in touch with you.

My love,

Molly Dorothea

I'm so glad about May Ward.
October 28, 1941.

Dear Molly: Dewson

When I received your letter,
I had Captain Beardall look into the case
of Mr. Howell and he has just given me
the enclosed memorandum.

Affectionately,
Oct 19, 1941

Dear Eleanor,

I know a man in his fifties, who is eager to join the U.S. Navy's fighting force. He is a misfit in civilian life. But I believe he would be in his element in danger on the seas.

In the last war he was a lieutenant (?) in the Navy and was publicly commended for rescuing some two hundred men. But the war over, he resigned. I suppose the life was not dangerous enough then.
He has done a lot of things like taking a boat around Labrador into Hudson Bay. That required skill and courage.

He tried to get back into the Navy by studying the Morse Code. He was so smart at it he was offered the instructor's job but so quixotic that he would not displace the instructor.

I suppose he is so eccentric he would be invaluable in peace times but today he should be valuable.

Dawson Howell is now a seaman on board the S.S. T. A. Moffett
Socony. Vacuum line. Care Marine
Transport Dept. Socony Vacuum Co.
26 Broadway, New York City.

His mother told me his story today. She took a year at Radcliffe when in her seventies and received an A. in every course. I knew him myself when he was at St. Mark's, a charming, interesting fellow. They are a brilliant lot.

I may have some of the details wrong, but his President's aide (in my dotage I forgot his name) was Howell's Captains and knows about his rescuing over two hundred men in the last war.
Would you give him this letter. Perhaps he would find a place to try him out to see whether he might be taken back into the Navy.

His brother Charlie Howell, through out the last war, was in the English flying corps, put there by no less than Winston Churchill himself. He gave a grand account of himself. Today he is quiet about a beach comber in Florida.

Ever, devotedly,

Molly Newton
December 1, 1941

Dear Molly:

I am so glad you enjoyed your visit to the Library. I sent your letter to Franklin and he will love it.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
Bagaduce Kennels
Georgetown, Conn.
Nov. 21, 1941

Dear Eleanor,

The Hyde Park library is only two hours from here so when Fred Shipman asked me some questions on political records I drove over to see the place.

I am crazy about it and I have so written to the President. If you think the letter would be good to go into his "red tape basket" that Harry so hand used to carry on - why not.

If not just pitch the letter for it is of no importance.

The Shipmans took me to luncheon.
in Poughkeepsie and were ever so friendly and agreeable.

My love
Molly
December 30, 1941.

Dear Molly:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed letter which she has just received from Mr. Welles. She hopes it will be helpful to some extent, and that it is not too late for Mrs. Deutsch to find some way of leaving Portugal if a visa is issued.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
171 West 12th Street
New York, New York.
Dear Eleanor:

This is the case I telephoned you about in behalf of the head of the National Board of the Y. W. C. A.

They are interested in their European Y. secretaries in Brussels and Cairo who have known Victoria Deutsch for many years.

She is now in Lisbon working for the Hebrew Immigration Aid and has a Portuguese passport as Portugal is the land of her birth. She wants to sail on the next and last boat for America supposed to sail this Saturday, Dec. 20. She is afraid to stay as it appears Hitler will
Move into Spain and Portugal soon.

The Y. have been to the State Dept.
(Case no. is Y.D. 811,111) Mr. Seliger said on
sec.16 "only 1 report out of five is missing; but
he could not say which.

Because of the time element we turned
to you to see whether you could speed
this matter.

Her sponsor Emily J. Hickman Professor
at the N.J. State College for Women is
well known to you as well as me. There
is plenty of money available for Mrs. Deutsch.

Her husband Felix M. Deutsch is an
Austrian, now in unoccupied France.
The Emergency Rescue committee is trying
to get him out. Deutsch brother is on Hitler's
black list as an anti Nazi newspaper
man but Deutsch has not been so active
politically. Thomas Mann's brother says however
that he is strongly anti Nazi in spirit.

But the Y. is not concerned with the husband at the moment.

Everyone will be very grateful if you can expedite the visa for Victoria Deutch in time for her to catch the Saturday boat.

To ever,

Molly DeWoson
Dear Eleanor:

I have your note of December 16 enclosing a letter from Miss Molly Dewson, who is interested in the visa case of Mrs. Victoria Deutsch, a young refugee worker now residing in Lisbon.

The records of the Visa Division indicate that the case of Mrs. Deutsch was submitted to the Department together with that of her husband, Felix Martin Deutsch, and was given formal consideration on December 22. It was not possible to take favorable action at that time, however, because it developed that Mr. Deutsch, a former Imperial Austrian Army officer, is residing in Marseille and is therefore not in a position to accompany his wife in her proposed early sailing.

It

Mrs. Roosevelt,

The White House.
It was also noted that Mrs. Deutsch has no relatives in the United States and that her immigration into this country without her husband would create a serious hostage situation, since he is presently residing in territory where pressure may be brought to bear upon him by forces inimical to the United States.

You may wish to inform Miss Dawson that the original disapproval of this case is subject to review under the established interdepartmental procedure, and that in this connection it would be helpful if evidence were received to the effect that Mr. and Mrs. Deutsch were prepared to apply together at Lisbon for the desired visas, or that Mr. Deutsch had proceeded overseas to some territory where he would not be in danger of apprehension by enemy agents.

Believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

Enclosure:

From Miss Dawson,
December 16, 1941.
April 27, 1942.

My dear Miss Dewson:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed "Memorandum" which is self-explanatory.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary E. Dewson
171 West 12th Street
New York, New York.

*Memorandum to Captain McCrea from Captain Ralph E. Davison, USN, rer: Byerly Navigation Device. Is now being tried out in various departments and tested as well. Last paragraph says: "It is the opinion of the Bureau of Aeronautics that the simplicity of the Byerly plotter and system of aerial navigation compensates in large measure for some of its disadvantages. Final action as to the procurement of this device is being withheld pending receipt of the report from the Instrument Development Unit at the Naval Aircraft Factory".
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR
MRS. ROOSEVELT

Attention is invited to the attached memorandum from the Bureau of Aeronautics with reference to the Byerly Navigation Device.

Basic correspondence is returned herewith.

John L. McCrea,
Captain, U. S. Navy,
Naval Aide to the President.
April 22, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR
CAPTAIN McCREA

Will you find out about this but don't disclose the source? When you have checked on it, will you please let Mrs. Roosevelt know?

F. D. R.
Dear Eleanor,

I feel quite sure the enclosed Navigation Device will interest our sailor President very much, and it seems very important to me. I did not dare put in my letter that General Arnold is the stumbling block for naming named sometime makes matters worse.

The device is miraculous to me.

Please destroy this letter but you might whisper Arnold in the President's ear. My love Molly.  

[Signature]
Maybe I should have said a patent is pending. I insisted on this putting a price on it. He said $1,000 for each chart or $50,000 for the device. But Bynoe said if they got bargaining with me I might say take it for nothing. I am so anxious to have the pilots have it. He is not on the make at all at all but I do not see why he should not get something for his work.

The Exeter lilies were as lovely as ever. A thousand thanks.

Molly
Dear C. in C. (especially of the Air today),

First, appreciation for utilizing my genius of a tool-maker and my man with a third class mate ticket.

Today I suggest you utilize a QUICK Navigation Device by the genius son of old Prof. Byerly, mathematics, Harvard, your day. Enclosed is photostat of letter from Canadian ferry service about its value.

Your air corps talks about it. The young men want it but the old men have no executive dispatch. And today we are doing so much flying over water.

Admiral Leo O. Colbert, Director US Coast and Geodetic Survey or his Lt. Paul A. Smith would explain it to you in three minutes.

If you wanted ten minutes rest some night before bed time you would get Byerly, himself, to explain it. He would rest you because he is so gay, charming, intelligent and in earnest.

Just the kind you cotton to.

Devotedly my chief and boss,

[Signature]
April 15, 1942.

Miss Mary W. Dewson,
171 West 12th Street,
New York City.

Dear Miss Dewson:—

I am enclosing a copy of the Royal Air Force Ferry Command letter which I showed you yesterday. It was after I showed this letter to the Coast & Geodetic Survey that the Survey made accurate charts which may be used in my method. It took some time to get these charts engraved and printed, and, when I was finally able to send one to Captain Siple on February 7, I found, as I have told you, that he was headed in the other direction and taking the chart with him.

I shall, of course, be glad to give you any further information that I can.

Yours very sincerely,

Encl.
ROYAL AIR FORCE FERRY COMMAND
BRITISH AIR MINISTRY

December 16th, 1941

Mr. R. W. Lyerly,
c/o Lyerly, Watson & Simmons,
225 Broadway,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Lyerly:

As Training Superintendent of the R.A.F. Ferry Command, I wish to make a report on your navigational invention, consisting of a chart of curved lines of latitude and straight meridians of longitude, with a sheet of transparent cellulose acetate pivoted in the centre of said chart, with a pointer at the left hand corner for fixing the transparent material on which the body is plotted.

I have used this device which you have made and kindly sent here for our use, and find it to be a great saving in time and as accurate as any methods necessitating the use of tables. One of my navigators has used this device on a Trans-Atlantic trip and found it to be entirely satisfactory and enabled him to plot twice as many fixes per hour as was possible with the old method of tables. We have been using N.M.T. tables and H.O. 214.

I would appreciate it very much if we could have some more accurate charts made up which I believe would increase the accuracy of fixes two or three miles. Would you be so kind as to advise me when you are able to obtain more accurate charts?

Yours truly,

ROYAL AIR FORCE FERRY COMMAND

[Signature]

Captain W. C. Siple
Training Superintendent
June 11, 1942

Dear Molly:

I gave your letter and enclosure to Franklin.

It is always good to hear from you, and I’m glad you are back in Maine and not here in the heat and rush of Washington.

I was delighted to have Dorothy McAllister stay here. Miss Hickok told me she was coming on for her daughter’s graduation.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary Dewson
Moss Acre
Castine
Maine
June 6, 1942

Dear Eleanor,

Is the enclosed too detailed for the President's consideration?

What old fogies the Army boys are. I shall never forget that letter on women on draft appeal boards they wrote for FDR to sign. When I feel a little down I think of him signing that antiquated stuff and wonderence for us one has even helped the girls on and up more than he has and get a big deep chuckle.

Dorothy McAllister was so happy
to have a chance to stay with you. And young Mary! You certainly think of and do the loveliest things. Since you know thousands of us intimately, how you keep us all in the air beats me. Regular old glass ball juggler!

My love

Holly
October 9, 1942.

Dear Molly:

I am distressed that you had to have an operation but glad it is all over and you have twenty-five good years ahead.

When are you coming back to New York?

Affectionately,

Miss Mary N. Dewson
Moss Acre
Castine
Maine.
Oct. 1, 1942.

Miss Eleanor:

I am writing you again against my own ideas that although I have made a miracle of a recovery I was laid up a month ago in the little hospital you visited when you were here, to have all the useless scar tissue removed from my abdominal cavity.

There is so much going on today that it seems to me foolish to
My love, Mr. Mc.[...]

And in a week, I’m only a quarter of a week...

...can’t stand any more work. But I can read and read

Such fun! and walk on the fridge

and look at my beautiful books.

I shall have the next 25 years on sea and travel.

Love,

Brother.
November 25, 1942

Dear Molly:

I hope you are much better and that your cold is completely gone by now.

Can you come to Washington for dinner and the night on December 7th, to talk to Franklin? I am asking Mrs. Tillett, and Hick too, to join us at dinner.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary A. Dewson
171 West 12th St. NYC
November 28, 1942

MEMO FOR MR. CRIMP:
MRS. HEIM:
MRS. MESSITT:
MISS THOMPSON:
MR. TOOLEY:

Miss Mary Dewson has been invited to dinner and to spend the night of December 7.

She will leave New York on the 12:30 train and is to be met.

M.T.L.
Nov. 25, 1942

Dear Eleanor,

Nothing will do me more good than to see you and the Chief on December 7th.

I am greatly concerned about the Women's Division. It has been doing a fine job of adult education. It has persistently refounded its point of view - as little she has. The great advocate of old fashioned capitalism - like
the Chicago Tribune. The Daily News, the National Manufacturers Association on the other hand, even as the brook, go babbling on forever.

I should come on the 12:30 from N.Y.C. — and I am very happy to stay over night for it means breakfast with you.

My best,

Molly
January 7, 1943

Dear Miss Dewson:

I sent your letter by hand to Governor Lehman.

I was sorry not to see you and to miss Ellen Woodward's party, but the flesh was weak.

As to Royalty, there was nothing I envied but much that I as a plain American citizen gazed over - mainly the warmth of my two-room "flat".

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
Route 3, Box 64
Georgetown, Connecticut
Jan. 5, 1942

Dear Malvina, you old consort,
with royalty will you do me
a favor by getting this letter
into Gov. Bohmacev's hands?
Please!

I was disappointed not to
dee you when I was down. I
wanted to hear all about
it.

Affectionately

Molly F. Brown

I'm trying to keep warm out here. Good
March 12, 1943

Dear Molly:

I have been a long while getting an answer to your letter. I am enclosing it.

Congratulations on your sixty-ninth birthday. I hope I am as young and well and as interested as you are when I am sixty-nine.

I hope to see you soon.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
Georgetown, Conn.

Mr. Altmeyer's let. - Soc. Sec. feels it better for the Bd. not to submit specific recommendations until a com. of Congress is prepared to consider the subject of social sec.
Feb. 18, 1943

Dear Eleanor,

I am so marooned up here with Polly and the dogs - for certainly we cannot shuffle off seventeen friends - that I do not have my usual sources of information and I am dying to know whether there is help for our Social Security amendments getting attached to the value of public discussion by Congress. Or do we have to mark time to that "American über Allies" crowd. There are too many descendants of humorists.
Yankees for Claine Booth have to make much head way with her loose tongue. But those old Tydings and other byrds of the same feather count head by head against us when it comes to voting.

Just tell Melonia to write me don't worry or we have to hold our tongue - altho really I think now is the hour myself - and I shall be very grateful.

Today is my birthday - 69 years — Nobody ever told me so I could hear it how alone a person can feel at three score years and ten.

And one great thing in my life has been knowing you Molly
May 26, 1943

Dear Molly:

Thank you so much for telling me about the "Fest" lotion. I am glad to know of something that will keep the bugs away.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
Moss Acre
Castine
Maine
August 30, 1943

Dear Miss Dawson:

I will give your note of August 19 to Mrs. Roosevelt the minute she gets home at the end of September.

Sincerely,

(Dictated but not read)

Miss Molly Dawson
R.F.D. 1
Penobscot, Maine
Molly

I found your letter asking me for a contribution to the women's rights collection at Radcliffe. I will send them a small gift.

This last trip was terribly interesting and some time I hope to get a chance to talk it over with you as I think you would be interested. Let me know when you come back to NYC and perhaps you will come down here a little later on.

affec.

e.r.
September 28, 1943

Dear Molly:

I found your letter asking me for a contribution to the women's rights collection at Radcliffe. I will send them a small gift.

This last trip was terribly interesting and some time I hope to get a chance to talk it over with you as I think you would be interested. Let me know when you come back to New York and perhaps you will come down here a little later on.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dawson
R.F.D. #1
Penobscot, Maine
Dear Molly:

Many, many thanks for your thought of me on my birthday and for all the good things you say of me.

I would like very much to see you and will hope to do so in New York in early November.

With every good wish,

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
R.F.D. 1, Box '82
Penobscot, Maine
Oct. 11, 1943

dear Eleanor,

The radio celebrates your birthday by saying you look fine.
I am so glad for Rich said you looked tired and that to have you
act as though you did not drink
at Springs Eternal which I am
sure you do. Anyway you are my
wonder woman and at the same
time perfectly simple and darling
as though you were Mrs. Smith of
Smithville.

I should love to make a little
in Washington this winter - if there is any good reason for going. But anyway, way can't I try alone some time in New York when you are buying shoes or what not?

After October I expect to be in N.Y.C. half the time and in Georgetown, Conn. the other half.

I indulged myself by writing this love letter - usually I feel you have too much to do to be bothered with inconsequential mail - but birthdays really are different.

Molly
Dec. 24, 1943

Dear Eleanor,

I appreciate your loyalty to the Christmas spirit and love to be on your list of those you want to remember. Incidentally, the recipe were very good and much enjoyed—but I guess I'm slipping myself—perhaps because I have no grand-children—but I never slip in my affection and love for you and Franklin and my belief in you.
Destiny:

So Merry Xmas and a good New Year

Molly

Mary

I shall not be in N. Y. C. until Jan. 18 so I shall miss hearing you at the Cozy Club.
TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

MISS MARY W. DENISON
GEORGETOWN, CONNECTICUT (TELEPHONE 424)

IF YOU ARE IN TOWN ON EIGHTEENTH HOPE YOU WILL MEET ME
AT MY APARTMENT 29 WASHINGTON SQUARE WEST AND AT ONE O'CLOCK
AND HAVE LUNCH WITH ME EITHER AT APARTMENT OR SOME NEARBY
PLACE AM SO ANXIOUS TO SEE YOU

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
Jan. 5, 1943

Dear Eleanor,

I am fierce for I counted

So much on seeing and hearing you

yesterday and that dusty old garage

Taxi man just would not come

for me because, he said, the hilar

were so slippery that there was no

sense to it. He is just another

disagreeable Republican, not out

to get anything but just to put spoken

in some one else's wheels.

I shall be in N. Y. C. from Jan. 18 to Feb. 1

If you happen to be up during that period
and if I could escort you somewhere.

But really I can not help knowing
how busy you are and what a
burden you bear so you do not
have to consider how much I
should enjoy seeing you.

Sincerely,

Molly

[Signature]
February 11, 1944

Dear Molly:

This is just a note to tell you I have asked Mr. and Mrs. Tate to dine with us Saturday, and to add a word of good wishes on your seventieth birthday. I hope the flowers will add some pleasure to the satisfaction you must feel for having accomplished so much.

May you continue to contribute to the world for many years.

Affectionately,

[Handwritten note:]
Miss Molly Dewson
Route 3, Box 34
Georgetown, Conn.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Feb. 9, 1944

From the desk of—
Mrs. Helm

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

Card sent with flowers to Miss Benson.

Mr. and Mrs. Tate accept for dinner
Saturday, the 12th.

E.B.H.
Feb. 4, 1942

Near Eleanor:

Yes, in a few days I shall be seventy.

I usually make some presents on my birthday to celebrate. Providence giving me another year, and this in such a big milestone it should be greatly celebrated, but thinking the Government has reconstructed, unless you will make me a present that will be a wonderful present for someone else! Not that you and Franklin have not given me a life present, so immense, it would celebrate every future birthday if I lived to be a Methuselah, for you have given me fifteen years so interesting and satisfying that
all my previous years seem pale things in comparison.

It is this. I really love Jack Titus. He was a General Counsel, and I should like so much to have him dine with you two informally, to get the feeling of what you are as private human beings. You could tell Jack. I suggested it so he would not wonder why he was asked.

The President must occasionally need inconsequential intercourse when he is taking time off to eat. However, you know you can say ‘No’ to me without reason.

It was like touching mother earth to see you again and always just as I think of you.

My love

Molly Bristow

Jack has a nice little wife and sympathizes with her enjoyment teaching English at Miss Medworth, but that is neither here nor there.
February 15, 1944

Dear Molly:

I thought you would like to know that we liked Mr. and Mrs. Tate very much. Mrs. Tate wrote me a very nice note, and apparently they enjoyed coming here.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary T. Dawson (Molly)
Route 3, Box 64
Georgetown, Conn.
May 1, 1944.

Dear Molly:

Many thanks for letting me see your letter to Sam. I have passed it on to Hick.

F.D.R. will be fine when he gets back in another week or so.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
Bagaduce Kennels
Route 3 - Box 84
Georgetown, Connecticut.
Dear Elspeth,

In my opinion, Wilson thought that Judge Robinson was great. He said he would not a young lawyer on the case. Then he wrote me he thought it worth while to make an answer if they could get a good one.

Enclosed is my response to you. Probably it is too long for you to bother to read. Would you mind sending it to [redacted] so that he, with [redacted], will be an eyewitness.

Thank you very much for your...
quick action.

Do hope Franklin is no worse off than any were driven chief—who he
had a cold he could not shake.

I think one person in every five I talk
with brings up his health. I scarce
he is in better shape physically
than any other man in his shoes
would be. Considering I know
nothing I am very positive.

My love

Molly
July 3, 1944.

Dear Molly:

I do not think the Democratic platform will include an Equal Rights Amendment.

There is a lot of agitation and I have many letters protesting my stand on the subject.

If the Republicans win, all of us sixty and over are evidently going to be banished from active life!

I hope all goes well with you.

Affectionately,

Miss Mary W. Dewson
R.F.D. #1, Box 82
Penobscot, Maine.
Dear Molly:

I can hold out this much hope on your refrigerator troubles; the little part that you want is not made in Cleveland, but the service department of General Electric here expects to have some of them in a few days. We will keep after them by telephone. It will not be at all difficult to go out to this branch and pick it up and mail it. They make no promises about the arrival of the part until early next week.

I have been expecting to write to you for some time about Equal Rights and the Chicago convention. I expect you have heard from Dorothy McAllister. She was here the last of May at the time of the annual meeting of the National League. I am wondering whether you think it has much chance of being approved by the Platform Committee? Are you going to Chicago? If so, I will be more confident of the platform decision at this point. If you are not going to be there I am sure you will know with whom to communicate in advance.

I was in Hartford on Monday and was delighted to know that Mrs. Woodhouse is working on this. I spent part of Sunday with Dr. Alice Hamilton. She was elected president of the National League at the Cleveland meeting. We are all delighted.

With affectionate regards,

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth S. Magee
General Secretary

The National Consumers League is an educational movement founded in May, 1899, to awaken consumers' interest in their responsibility for conditions under which goods are made and distributed.
October 15, 1944

Dear Molly:

I am sure you will enjoy staying in Maine all winter. I am only sorry because it means I won't have a chance to see you.

I will ask Franklin and let you know about the stamps. He is still very much interested in his collection.

I liked Mrs. Freer very much and am pleased that she liked me.

It won't make any difference to me personally what happens on November 7, although my real desire is to get out of here and live a personal life. However, if the country wants Franklin to continue, my personal wishes do not count. There are so many uncertainties this year which were not present in former campaigns, that the result is not predictable.

Much love,

Miss Mary Dewson
RFD 1, Box 82
Penobscot, Maine
October 19, 1944

Miss Mary W. Dewson
Penobscot
Maine

Dear Miss Dewson:

Your letter of October 9, 1944, addressed to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, has been referred to this office for reply.

Before considering the point raised by Dean Stebbins, I believe it is important to briefly relate the steps taken by the War Production Board in an effort to assure battery service to those dependent on hearing aid instruments. Recognizing the essentiality of hearing aids to industrial efficiency and civilian morale, the War Production Board and the hearing aid battery manufacturers are making every possible effort to maintain pre-war quality and at the same time provide batteries in quantities which will adequately supply the needs of the large growing group of deafened people. Despite the fact that our prime responsibility at this time is to provide the necessary production capacity required to meet the critical battery needs of our armed forces, hearing aid battery production has increased between six and seven times the estimated pre-war production rate.

Hearing aid batteries are composed of the same type cell as is used in batteries required by our armed forces for the operation of communications equipment, bombing and fighting planes, tanks, jeeps, landing craft and other instruments of war requiring radios, telephones, range finders, directional finders and other electronic devices all of which are useless without dry cell batteries required to operate them. Because of the essentiality of batteries of this type, various diversions had to be made among the dry cell battery manufacturers to provide the additional productive capacity required to meet the critical military needs.

As a result of these diversions, the production of "B" hearing aid batteries was limited for a brief period during the third quarter of 1944 to two of the five manufacturers of hearing aid batteries. In order to render battery service to the accounts formerly supplied by the manufacturers whose facilities had been diverted to military batteries, a battery which would readily lend itself to widest application had to be adopted by the two producing manufacturers. It is quite likely that Dean Stebbins has identified one of these as a new model. In view of the fact that all five manufacturers are again producing hearing aid batteries, she will undoubtedly be able to secure sometime in the near future the type she has formerly used.

Very truly yours,

cc: Mrs. Roosevelt

Stanley B. Adams, Director
Consumers Durable Goods Division
November 15, 1944.

Dear Molly:

I can well imagine you champed at the bit during the campaign. I felt on occasion, that I would like to get into some of the work. However, since it all ended well, we can relax.

I will give your letter to the President and hope he can find the time.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson
R.B.D. #15- Box 82
Fenobscot, Maine.
December 12, 1944.

Dear Molly:

Many thanks for your letter.

I asked Franklin about Mr. Greenbie's offer to send him the stamps and he would be very happy to have them. The only ones he has of the kind Mr. Greenbie wants to send is a complete collection of the American Red Cross stamps.

Affectionately,

Miss Molly Dewson

R.F.D. #1 - Box 82
Penobscot, Maine.