CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSET

1934 - 1945
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I want to thank you for your note of introduction to Mr. Vincent Astor. It reached me in New York City on Thursday of last week. I called Mr. Astor's office on Friday morning, and from his secretary I learned that he would be out of the city until Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

At the suggestion of Mr. Astor's secretary, I am forwarding your letter to him, with the sincere hope that he will be sufficiently interested to talk with me for at least a few moments regarding the Institute of Race Relations. If I do have the opportunity of talking with him I shall be happy to let you know the outcome of our conversation.

Please know again how deeply I appreciate your willingness to give time in this way to the Institute.

Sincerely yours,

Crystal Bird Faust

Crystal Bird Faust
June 29, 1934

My dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the attached copies of letters.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
20 South 12th street
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania

Letters from Mr. W. A. Harriman, 59 Wall street,
and Mr. Alexander M. Bing, 18 East 48th street, New York.
June 25, 1934.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Will be very glad to see Mrs. Fauset and to do anything I can to be of assistance to her.

I am going to take this opportunity of writing you a few words about City Housing Corporation. We are in the midst of trying to work out a complete reorganization, taking advantage of the recent federal bankruptcy legislation and at the same time trying very hard to get some new capital. Thanks to the new legislation, it may be possible to get certain additional assistance from a number of other sources which, if we succeed in effecting the reorganization that we are planning, would enable us to continue and perhaps to complete Radburn.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.
June 25th, 1934.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I received your letter of June 21st, regarding Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset.

I will be glad to see Mrs. Fauset at her convenience.

I am in Washington half of the week and in New York the other half. I suggest that Mrs. Fauset call my Secretary at Bowling Green 9-1650, New York City, and arrange a mutually convenient time.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.
July 2, 1934

Letter from Molly Gerard and one from Adeline H. Taylor, Secretary to Mrs. Mary H. Rumsey, in re-seeing Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset, in connection with the problem of the negro, sent to Mrs. Fauset, 20 South 12th St., Phil. Pa.
Mrs. Malvina T. Scheider  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Scheider:

I have delayed writing to Mrs. Roosevelt because of my desire to give her a complete report regarding the response of persons to whom she has written, in connection with my letters to them. I hope I shall be able to do this the early part of next week. In the meantime, may I ask you to indicate to Mrs. Roosevelt the reason for my delay?

I want to thank you again for forwarding the letters to me.

Sincerely yours,

Crystal Bird Fauset

Crystal Bird Fauset

CBF: HDS
MRS MALVINA T SCHEIDER
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

PLEASE INFORM MRS ROOSEVELT THAT THE LETTERS REACHED ME TODAY
I SHALL WRITE HER AT ONCE THANK YOU FOR SENDING THEM

CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSSET.
November 5, 1937

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt wishes me to thank you very, very much for your fine report on Margaret Inness. She is grateful to you for taking so much trouble in making this investigation, and is glad to have your opinion. She is writing to Miss Inness in accordance with your suggestions and will try to find the money to finance the course if Miss Inness feels she wants to go to school.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Malvina T. Scheider
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5403 Vine Street
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania
My dear Mrs. Schneider:

As I stated in my telegram to you this morning, I am greatly distressed that I was not able to have the report regarding Margaret Inness reach you last week. It happens that I have been going over the records which accumulated during the two years I was associated with the W.P.A. here in Philadelphia, and the young woman who has come recently to my home tucked my notes into this material, and I have had a hectic time discovering their whereabouts.

I enjoyed more than I can tell you the day I spent in New York City with Margaret Inness. Upon reaching New York I went directly to the apartment where she lives on 124th Street, between Seventh and Eighth Avenues. I had not written her of my intended visit and felt very happy, indeed, to find her at home. The tiny two-room apartment was spotless, and showed nice little evidences of simple good taste.

Margaret Inness, herself, is a rather short, slender brown person—her eyes are her best feature. They are alert, warm and kind. She is pleasantly communicative, her manners quite simple and cordial. She dressed very appropriately for our trip to her play-street on East 117th Street between Fifth and Madison Avenues—sport shirt, brightly colored kerchief, little tailored brown woolen jacket, green woolen skirt, socks and brown sport shoes.

We went over to East 117th Street after talking together for several hours during which I gathered the information contained in the enclosed report. This may be a bit more detailed than was necessary but I thought you might be interested to have a somewhat complete picture of her.

As we walked into 117th Street from Fifth Avenue, Margaret was greeted by a number of the children and their mothers, whose attitude was very friendly but respectful, showing that her personality absolutely compensated for her lack of height. We remained in the street about one hour, talking with children and watching the numbers runners—white and colored men who, according to Margaret are operating one of the most open numbers set-ups in Harlem. By five o'clock the street was swarming with colored men and women with a sprinkling of white people from nearby streets, waiting for the returns.

We then went to the empty store-space on Fifth Avenue where Margaret had suggested to Mrs. Roosevelt that a community center might be opened. Then we walked over to Madison Avenue and 119th Street, to Public School # 103 where Margaret wanted me to see the recreation room where she had directed games as a W.P.A. recreation teacher.
I then telephoned Mr. George B. Baylous her former Project Supervisor and went to talk with him at the headquarters of the East Harlem and Yorkville Unit at 300 East 109th Street. Mr. Baylous asked Mr. Walter S. Lowe - a Negro - Margaret's former immediate supervisor to participate in the conversation. Both men were in absolute accord with regard to her fine character and willingness to work. They stated that she stood out among other workers in her ability to control children. Mr. Baylous thought it would be an excellent thing if she could have greater understanding of community coordination.

Since it is impossible for Margaret to receive her citizenship papers until 1939 and since the recreation work at the school will continue, thereby taking care of the children on East 117th St. in whom she is so deeply interested, I suggested that it might be wise for her to enter an accredited school and work for a certificate or diploma. Mr. Baylous and Mr. Lowe agreed enthusiastically - Mr. Baylous stating that in his opinion New York University probably gives the best courses in recreation for persons who intend to work in New York City whereas Teachers College gives the best general training for the entire country - and that at Teachers College there is the possibility of a two year course being established under Dr. Nash.

May I, therefore, ask you to say to Mrs. Roosevelt if there are any funds available, I feel that they could be put to no better use than to make it possible for Margaret Inness to study for the next two years, so that she would be prepared to work anywhere in the field of recreation. She is a fine, lovely person and I feel certain that no one would ever have reason to regret any interest taken in her. Please, also tell Mrs. Roosevelt how much I enjoyed getting acquainted with this very nice young woman.

Sincerely yours,

Crystal Bird Fauset.
Miss Margaret A. Inness
224 W. 134th Street
New York City

33 years old.

Born in Barbados - B.W.I.

Calls Trinidad her home.

High School graduate - St. Joseph's High School - Barbados.

2 years work - Queen's College - Barbados - majored in athletics.

Worked in Barbados - "monitor" in St. Joseph's High School instructor in athletics - about two months - no salary.

Came to U.S. in 1916 to live with Aunt -
Mother had died in this country
Father dead - a surveyor - educated in England -
Oxford - killed in a quarry blast.

In U.S. - New York City
1. Took care of three months old baby for seven months.

2. Errand girl - store on Broadway & 79th St. - 10 months.

3. Receptionist - doctor's office - 1½ years.

4. Errand girl - Interior Decorating Shop - Madison Ave. & 56th St. - 7 months.

5. Maid - Robert's Beauty Shop, 675 Fifth Ave
Became Asst. Manager. Worked there six years left 1932.

6. Studied at Pratt Institute - 2 years - Interior Decorating.

7. Studied at New York School of Interior Decorating on Madison Ave. - one year.

8. Previously, while working as an errand girl, etc.
studied physical education, swimming, tennis - 4 years at 137th Street Y.W.C.A.
Asst. to Miss Leola Nelson - Director - 3 years Left in 1932.

1932 - Studied theory of recreation at Public Library - played tennis, hiked - bicycled - from 1931 - 1933
Scout lieutenant - Troop # 144.
1933 Went to Camp Tara as result of a conversation with a Mrs. Miller with whom she had become acquainted as a patron of Robert's Beauty Shop.

June 20 - 1933 went to Camp Tara stayed until Jan. 6, 1936 - when Camp closed.


In May 1936 - went to Edith Macy Camp - National Girl Scout Camp for Training - took Camp Director's Course - 2 weeks course - Briarcliff Manor, N. Y.


Returned to New York Sept. 25.

Nov. 11, 1936 - Went to work with W.P.A. as teacher of recreation - Public School # 103 - Madison Ave. and 119th St. Hours - 3-6, 7-10 P.M.

Monday - day off - used time to study camping at Teachers College - Columbia University from March until end of April.

Continued with W.P.A. until July 7, 1937 - when dismissed because of failure to submit proof of citizenship. Since then has worked as a volunteer in Play Street - East 117th St. between Fifth and Madison Aves. Reaches about 50 children daily. Was only person working in that block. One man helped at first - lost interest because not paid.

A public school friend supplied some materials. A woman in the block made a volley ball net from a fish net - a person who was somewhat of a social worker - now president of Willing Workers' Mothers' Club in the block.

Returned to Relief Rolls - receives $13.00 every two weeks.
Looking for work. Has written to Heckscher Foundation - talked with attendant there. Wrote to Henry St. Settlement - " Boys Athletic League " - Mayor La Guardia regarding possibility of interesting city in having a Recreation Center in East 117th St. No encouragement from any one.

Would like to study Recreation Administration at New York University. Realizes advantage of having certificate from accredited school or college.

Came to U. S. - 1918 - as a minor. Mother had died. Went to live with Aunt on 63rd St. San Juan Hill district. Lived there 3 or 4 months. Then went to live in home where she took care of baby for 7 months. Then returned to 63rd Street - remained there until 1925. Went to Harlem to live - 120th St. - 137th St. - 151st St. - 126th St. - 175th St. - 124th St. Continued to move in an effort to improve her condition. Now living in 2 room apartment with a Miss Dorothy Davis who works in a dress shop.

First attempt to take out citizenship papers in 1927. Was misinformed and instead of returning to office waited for summons from Investigation and Naturalization Service. Paid no further attention until June 30, 1937 - read in newspapers about ruling on aliens connected with W.P.A. Then filed first papers again. Will have to wait until 1939 for final papers making her a citizen.
Mrs Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington D.C.

My dear Mrs Roosevelt:

May I ask for your financial aid in helping me to open a community center in East Harlem for the underprivileged colored, and Porto Rican children of the district. You no doubt will not remember me, however, I'm the colored girl who...
was at Camp Tera, and whom you wanted to send to the Virgin Islands to do similar work there. I'm enclosing two references which will give you an idea as to what I'm interested in. I'm trying to get my final papers. After my dismissal from the project with the aid of another worker we opened up a Play-Street. The equipment was practically all homemade as we had no funds to purchase any and it was too late in the season to get any donation from the stores. So I contacted the women
in the neighbourhood and with their cooperation they made us a Votley net and Paddle tennis net out of a fishing-net, our entire activities was made up of our own material. Blocks were made out of a small oak log I brought in from a hike, all of our relays was of no equipment. In the neighbourhood there is a store which I can get for the winter but the price is $5 per month and we haven't 50 cents. The parents are willing to help us but they haven't an extra penny to spare. We can do a better job in a center than in the streets, because we can
have rules and discipline. Our aim is to try to decrease in Juvenile delinquency which is prevalent in the neighbourhood. Youth belong in schools not jails. We want to teach these youngsters culture, responsibility, regards of other people’s rights and their property, to be sanitation-minded, to learn how to play and a better relation between people regardless of race, color, or creed. All this can only be done through education and recreation. We want them to be an asset to the community in which they live and to the country. I earnestly hope this letter may meet with your approval. I know you will do all you can to help; it’ll be deeply appreciated.
May I look forward for an answer at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,

Margaret Anniss.
Miss Margaret Inniss  
224 West 134th Street  
New York City  

My dear Miss Inniss:

I am sorry that you had to be dismissed because of your failure to submit proof of your citizenship.

I have received fine reports about your work from your superiors. I am sure that they will carry out my instructions to give you a letter of recommendation that I know you justly deserve.

With best wishes for the future, I am,

Very truly yours,

MARVIN DWORIN  
Managing Project Supervisor
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Miss Margaret Inniss of 224 W. 134th Street, New York City has been under my immediate supervision for the past nine months. She has proven herself an able recreational director in planning and executing programs for children of all ages. This past winter she had charge of girls' high and low organized games at Public School #103 located on the corner of Madison Avenue and 119th Street. Her education, character and ingenuity in the field of social work and recreation will make her a valuable asset to any organization desiring to employ her.

George B. Baylous
PROJECT SUPERVISOR
Philadelphia, Penna., October 21, 1937
Mrs. Malvina T. Scheider.

I am greatly distressed regarding my failure to have the report reach you last week. A new person in my home misplaced my notes. I have finally recovered them and the report will be sent today.

Crystal Bird Fauset.
January 6, 1938

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
American Friends Service Committee
20 South 13th Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mrs. Roosevelt could go to National Negro Council evening February tenth
How long would she have to stay.

Malvina T. Scheider
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt
TELEGRAM

The White House
Washington

Philadelphia Pa 155pm Jan 4 1938

Mrs Malvina T Scheider The White House

Thank you for the telegram which reached me last night the Committee here is prepared to accept any date that is convenient for Mrs. Roosevelt late in January or at any time at all in February or even March approximately twenty five organizations affiliated with the Philadelphia Council of the National Negro Congress such as the National Association for The Advancement of Colored People the Urban League the Young Womens Christian Association Young Mens Christian Association large fraternal organizations and several church denominations are planning the meeting hundreds of school children will sing I know that Mrs Roosevelt will understand my feeling of responsibility and my very great hope that she will find it possible to speak here I should be very happy indeed if you would make it possible for me to report something definite at a meeting of the Committee on Thursday night of this week.

Crystal Bird Fauset

248pmd
Mrs. Malvina T. Scheider  
The White House  

Final plans for the meeting on February tenth were completed today and I shall write you at once giving the detailed program. I believe the meeting will be the most thrilling ever held in Philadelphia—Crystal Bird Fauset.

Sincerely,
Phila del phia, Penn. , January 7, 1938

Mrs. Malvina T. Scheider.

It is simply impossible for me to tell you how happy your telegram made me this morning. I have talked with the Chairman of the Meeting and we both greatly hope that Mrs. Roosevelt can stay at least one hour on the evening of February tenth. The meeting will begin at 8:30 and of course if Mrs. Roosevelt could possibly remain until ten o'clock she would then be here for the entire program, but we shall be happy to have her for whatever length of time is most convenient for her. I shall send the details of the program to you within day or two. Many, many thanks,

Crystal Bird Fauset.
April 13, 1938

My dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt has written to Mrs. McAllister, asking her to get in touch with you. Undoubtedly, you will hear from her in the near future.

Very sincerely yours,

Malvina T. Scheider
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5403 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 22, 1939

My dear Mrs. Fauset:

I am sorry but I do not feel that I could attend a meeting such as you suggest. I am speaking for a negro group on July 2 in Richmond and think that is all I should do until autumn because of the late publicity.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
April 18, 1939

Dear Mrs. Fausset:

Mrs. Roosevelt is away, but I will take up the subject of your telegram with her when I join her at the end of the week.

I am afraid, however, that because her time is so full, she will not be able to attend the meeting which you suggest.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fausset
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania
Please ask Mrs. Roosevelt if she would be willing to allow a group of negro women representing the entire country to arrange a meeting in her honor with the emphasis only upon Mrs. Roosevelt's desire to be of service to all humanity. The meeting would be held early in June or at any time most convenient for Mrs. Roosevelt either at the Academy of Music here or at Carnegie Hall, New York.

Crystal Bird Fauset.
My dear Mrs. Fauset:

I will ask Mr. Farley to see you and the others who wish to have a conference with him. It would be far more useful for you to see him than to see me.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5403 Vine Avenue
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

May 27, 1940

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

It makes me very happy to be able to tell you that I received a letter from Mr. Farley on Saturday morning, May 25, stating that you had sent him a copy of my letter, and that he would write me this week to arrange for an appointment to talk with me either in New York or Washington.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your gracious, friendly description in "My Day" of May 8, of Karamu House in Cleveland. Many of us, Mrs. Roosevelt, are aware that certain processes involving Negroes in America cannot be hurried, and that the general situation is still at the point where your own unaffected inclusion of colored people in your thinking, amazes the mass of both white and Negro people. We realize that your attitude has set a new note in American life which is being felt everywhere, and is giving a new sense of courage to a great many individuals who have wanted to be more liberal in their thinking and behavior, but lacking general public support, have been timid and fearful.

It is not at all surprising that women throughout the country have been heartened and strengthened by your example, and I hope very sincerely that within my own lifetime, just as I have seen it develop within the Young Women's Christian Association through fine, liberal leadership, there may come into existence within the ranks of the Democratic women of this country, despite sectional differences of long historical development, at least a working friendliness among the Negro and white women, which will lay the basis for the beginnings of true democracy in our country.

Thank you so very much for your personal note assuring me that you would communicate with Mr. Farley regarding my letter. I shall be very happy to write you following my conference with him, for I am certain that you will be interested to know what happens.

Sincerely yours,

Crystal Bird Fauset
August 23, 1940
Hyde Park, New York

My dear Mrs. Fauset:

I spoke to Mr. Flynn today and the same man who was responsible last time will be running the Bureau this time. Mr. Flynn will speak to him and get in touch with you very shortly.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5304 Vine Street
TELEGRAM
OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

I HAVE JUST RECEIVED YOUR LETTER ON MY RETURN FROM NEW YORK.
PLEASE DO NOT THINK THAT I WAS DISTRESSED BY YOUR GIVING MY
LETTER TO MR. FLYNN. I BOTH UNDERSTAND AND DEEPLY APPRECIATE
YOUR KINDNESS IN GIVING IT TO HIM. MY DISTRESS WAS CAUSED
BY THE DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING MR. FLYNN'S
APPOINTMENT BUT WANT VERY MUCH TO EXPLAIN TO YOU BY LETTER
TODAY TALKED WITH MR. FLYNN AND MRS. MALLISTER AND FEEL
CERTAIN THAT EVERYTHING WILL TURN OUT VERY HAPPILY. THANK
YOU AGAIN FOR INTEREST AND KINDNESS.

CRYSTAL BYRD FAUSSET

The White House
Washington

[Sept. 1943]
September 7, 1940
Hyde Park, New York

My dear Mrs. Fauset:

I did not give your letter to Mr. Rainey. I gave it to Mr. Flynn because I thought Mr. Flynn should know that Mr. Farley had this understanding with you.

I am sorry if I have humiliated you in any way, but I could do nothing more than speak to Mr. Flynn and give him your letter inasmuch as Mr. Farley resigned.

I regret that anything has been done to hurt you but I am quite unable to see how even giving your letter to Mr. Rainey should upset you. It was a perfectly proper letter with nothing in it as far as I could see that you would mind having any one else see.

With many regrets, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5304 Vine Street
Fauset

I did not give your letter to Mr. Rainey. I gave it to Mr. Flynn because I thought Mr. Flynn should know that Mr. Farley had this understanding with you.

I am sorry if I have humiliated you in any way, but I could do nothing more than speak to Mr. Flynn and give him your letter, inasmuch as Mr. Farley resigned.

I regret that anything has been done to hurt you but I am quite unable to see how even giving it to Mr. Rainey should upset you. It was a perfectly proper letter with nothing in it as far as I could see that you would mind having anyone else see.

With many regrets, I am

E.R.
The White House
Washington

Philadelphia, Penna., September 5, 1940

Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt

I have just received a letter from Julian D. Rainey recently appointed director of the Colored Division of the Campaign, stating: Mrs. Roosevelt, to whom you wrote stating your activities in Chicago and your attempted conferences with Mr. Farley, has turned your letter over to me. Why not drop over to New York and have a talk with me. End of quote. I am unwilling to believe that you gave my letter to Mr. Rainey. I have received no word from Mr. Flynn. Never in my life Mrs. Roosevelt, have I felt so deeply humiliated.

Crystal Bird Fauset.
New York, N.Y.
Sept. 19, 1940

My dear Mrs. Fausette,

I have your letter and will speak to Mrs. McAllister and Mr. Flynn. I hope everything will work out satisfactorily.

You may remember that I wrote to you twice about a case in Philadelphia in which I am interested. Mrs. Susie Madison who has worked for me for a number of years, has been trying to have an estate settled for over two years. I wonder if you have had time to make any inquiry into why there has been this delay. If there is anyone to whom you think I should write, will you be good enough to let me know?

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Address]

[Note: Whole case sent to Mrs. McAllister]
DE MOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
HOTEL BILTMORE
NEW YORK CITY

JULIAN D. RAINEY
Director, Colored Division

OCTOBER 15th,
1940

Mrs. Henry Morgenthau, Jr.
2211 - 30th Street
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Morgenthau:

In accordance with your suggestion I am sending you this brief statement regarding the opinion of several persons here in New York, including Mr. Julian Rainey, Director of the Colored Division, that in the light of the newspaper accounts of the last few days concerning the mimeographed material taken by one of the newspaper reporters, it would be well for Mrs. Roosevelt not to have contacts, during these weeks just before the election, with colored groups in Washington which would be given widespread newspaper publicity.

Those of us who have been discussing the present situation feel it is neither politically necessary nor wise for a group of colored women to appear at the White House at this time. No Negro in the country doubts the sympathetic and generous attitude of Mrs. Roosevelt toward the colored group as a whole, and during this campaign nothing should be done to emphasize the difference in her attitude in Washington, and that of large groups of Democrats in other parts of the country. It was with this thought in mind that I advised against Marion Anderson's singing at several important political meetings when I was consulted by her sister, realizing the subtle use even Negro Republican newspapers would make of Mrs. Roosevelt's attitude as campaign propaganda, just as the white newspapers have in this present situation.

Please know that this is not just my personal opinion but the opinion, as I have stated, of several persons who do have some real understanding of what constitutes good strategy during a campaign. I think it is to be regretted that a conference of well known Negro leaders was not called either before or during the early weeks of the campaign to help make certain suggestions. If this had been done I am confident that several mistakes such as this recent newspaper affair, would not have occurred.

Sincerely yours,

Crystal Bird Fauset

Crystal Bird Fauset
November 12, 1941

Memorandum For Mrs. Fauset:

What do you think of this suggestion? I think it would be a mistake to have two separate days and in many places colored people do organize balls and parties.

E.R.

M.S. Crystal Bird Fauset
Office of Civilian Defense

Mrs. Ralph T. Stone
Narberth, Penna – suggests two sets of Birthday Balls – a Marian Anderson series and a Dorothy Lamour series.
May 1, 1942.

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Of course I will gladly have a meeting, for I think only harm can come from a march on Washington. You would have to get the people together and then ask me to see them. I will be here May 5th to 8th.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
Office of Civilian Defense
DuPont Circle Apartments
Washington, D. C.

Miss Charlotte Moton
Mr. McRutt
Mr. McClellan

Giving great of qualifications of Charlotte Moton - who she is, etc.

I think she should be in some position.

E.R.
April 29, 1942

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

It was very kind of you to suggest that I send you the name of Charlotte Moton. I felt very apologetic about mentioning the situation to you last Friday night and was very happy when you said that you would speak to either Mr. McNutt or Mr. McCloskey about her. I hope so much that she can be fitted into the program of the Defense Health and Welfare Services. She is a very well-trained person - a graduate of the Sargent School of Physical Education of Boston University and has made an excellent impression in connection with the Physical Fitness program.

As I explained to you, she is the daughter of Dr. Robert R. Moton and the sister-in-law of Dr. F. D. Patterson, President of Tuskegee Institute. She was released from the Department of Physical Education at Hampton Institute the first of the year to direct the Physical Fitness program among Negro girls and women and, of course, had to secure a substitute to take her place for the rest of the semester, which means that it is out of the question for her to return to Hampton at this time. I shall tell her only what you wish me to tell her in connection with your interest in her case, but I know how deeply she will appreciate being able to continue working with a Federal agency.

Mrs. Roosevelt, while I am writing to you, I want very much to tell you how disturbed some of us are regarding the series of protest meetings which the "March on Washington" movement directed by Philip Randolph is planning to hold in various parts of the country. Both Marian Anderson and Todd Duncan have been invited to sing at the meeting to be held in Madison Square Garden on June 16. In talking over the situation with me a few nights ago, Mr. Duncan said that he was somewhat confused about the situation
and would rather not participate in a protest meeting, whereas he is perfectly willing to do everything within his power to aid in the war effort among Negroes.

I know that you realize that the Office of Civilian Defense is an agency which could help tremendously to give the colored people throughout the country a feeling of really participating in the war effort. I know, too, that you realize how satisfied the colored people of the country were in feeling that they could bring their problems directly to you. Would it be possible at this time for you to have a conference with a group of colored people so as to relieve the feeling of frustration that so many people are experiencing so far as a direct approach to the President is concerned? The Negro people are so certain of your interest in their problems.

You may know that there is much discussion regarding the appointment of a Negro to the War Manpower Commission. Some persons have thought that it would be a good thing to placate Philip Randolph by appointing him to the Commission. Others have felt that Dr. Channing Tobias was the logical person to be appointed to the Commission. There is a very definite feeling, Mrs. Roosevelt, in some groups, that friends of the Administration should be consulted and their recommendations approved rather than action always being taken as the result of protest.

I dislike so much to bother you knowing how much time you are giving to various situations and problems but the undercurrent is so strong at this moment, I feel that I should bring this matter to your attention.

Sincerely,

Crystal Bird Fauset

Yes, I will gladly have a meeting for I think only you can consider
the facts on both sides. You will have to

[Handwritten notes on the margin, not legible]
June 10, 1943

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Thank you for your letter of June 2 which interested me very much. I gave it to the President and he asked me to tell you that studies are already being made along the lines of your suggestions.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
1600 T St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 9, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

MRS. ROOSEVELT

Will you tell the lady
that studies are already being
made?

F. D. R.
June 2, 1942

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Last Sunday, after reading Pearl Buck's article in the New York Times magazine, I began to think about the help that you gave me several years ago in securing the attendance of several Government workers at the Swarthmore Institute on Race Relations and I recalled your statement of how helpful it would be if some continuing arrangement could be made to have the heads of Government departments consider carefully the whole question of race relations in this country. I realize that during this war period it may be impossible to do anything more definite than is being done at the moment through the executive orders of President Roosevelt, but the thought occurred to me on Sunday that perhaps this is the time when you might make a plea to the colleges of the country to make anthropology a required subject. I know that many of my own convictions are based upon the little work that I did several years ago at Columbia University under Dr. Franz Boas and I felt at the time that a clear picture of the development of human customs and cultures could not help but liberalize the thinking of any person.

I hope it will not sound too silly for me to suggest that it would help to focus attention upon the importance of a better national understanding of human relations if you should call a conference at the White House of the outstanding anthropologists of America. There could be no hostile criticism of such a conference because there would be no special emphasis upon any special racial group and I feel certain that the people of the country would accept it as a most logical next step in your long continued effort to help the American people to think clearly and simply in terms of knowledge and justice in connection with all human groups.

Many persons feel that the recent speeches of Attorney General Biddle and Under Secretary of State Welles have prepared the country for further emphasis upon this whole question by the Administration, and while some people may grow a little weary of having attention focused upon the Negro-White situation in America, surely there can be no objection at this time to focusing attention upon human life in world terms, with the possibility
of subsequent realization of the need for improved relations in our own country. I can well imagine the joy with which the leaders of organizations that have been working in the field of race relations in America would welcome your calling such a conference for it would serve to give official recognition to the need of a new pattern being set in American life, not only in the schools of the country but also in Government.

Sincerely,

Crystal Bird Fauset

1600 T Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.
November 18, 1942.

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Thank you so much for your message of welcome on my return from England. It was kind of you to send it and I am deeply appreciative of your thoughtfulness.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
Office of the Director
National Museum of African Art
1600 T Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
WB55 13

WASHINGTON DC NOV 17 828P 1942

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
WHITE HOUSE

I AM SO GLAD THAT YOU ARE BACK IN AMERICA SAFE AND WELL
CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSSET.

[Handwritten note: I B]

[Handwritten note: I B]
December 2, 1942

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I talked to Mr. Landis since I saw you. He has a plan which he will talk over with you in a few days.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
1600 T St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
November 27, 1942

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I can never tell you what a relief it was to talk with you Wednesday morning and I do understand the delicacy of your position in questioning Mr. Landis, but I know, Mrs. Roosevelt, that without your interest or that of President Roosevelt's nothing will ever be done to set up an adequate arrangement in the Office of Civilian Defense where Negroes are concerned.

In connection with the Negro vote, I hope that you will talk with Mr. Richard C. Durham of the Democratic National Committee, who really understands that something must be done so far as Negroes are concerned and who has tried consistently for over two years to have the National Committee call into conference a group of outstanding Negro Democratic leaders. Negro men who have had contacts with Mr. Durham both like and trust him.

I know you can imagine how eagerly I am awaiting word from you regarding your conversation with Mr. Landis.

Sincerely,

Crystal Bird Fauset

Crystal Bird Fauset
1600 T Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.
January 8, 1945

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I am sending you a copy of the letter I have received from General Marshall and I am sorry it does not seem possible for you to go to Liberia.

Following General Marshall's suggestion, I have written to Mr. Norman Davis, suggesting that it would be a good thing for you to go to England and that, if he agrees, he ask you to come to see him.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5405 Vine St.
Philadelphia, Penna.
January 5, 1943.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,  
The White House.  

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have had the question of Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset's proposed trip to Liberia investigated and I find that the difficulty is one of air transport. I see no objection to her going, and think it might be quite helpful. However, the transportation problem is the difficulty.

At present the backlog of people who should be sent overseas for important war work has reached tremendous proportions. Actually we are some three months behind schedule in providing transportation for those whose services are urgently needed in North Africa, the United Kingdom, the Middle East and other combat zones. Under the circumstances I do not think it would be wise to have Mrs. Fauset sent to Liberia at this time. If an opportunity arises for her to go by convoy I shall have it in mind but even so this probably would not give her time to do useful work there without our providing for the return trip by already overcrowded air transport.

It occurs to me that Mrs. Fauset's services might be valuable in England and she could be sent there on a convoy if air accommodations were limited. This might be done in connection with the Red Cross or on some other basis. I should appreciate your having your secretary give me your reaction to this suggestion before I go any further in the matter.

Faithfully yours,

[Signature]

Chief of Staff.
January 18, 1945

For Mrs. Fauset:

From letter to Mrs. Roosevelt
from Honorable Norman Davis, Chairman,
American Red Cross, Washington, D.C.

"I remember Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
very well and would appreciate it if you will
have her telephone my secretary for an
appointment. I should be glad to see her
and discuss with her the work we are
doing with Colored Service Clubs."

Above forwarded by Mrs. Roosevelt
for Mrs. Fauset's information.
January 14, 1943.

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you for your recent letter about the forthcoming Reader of Alec Woollcott. I had previously had a message about this from another source and the Red Cross is in communication with Mr. Woollcott on this subject.

I remember Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset very well and would appreciate it if you will have her telephone my secretary for an appointment. I should be glad to see her and discuss with her the work we are doing with Colored Service Clubs.

Faithfully yours,

[Signature]
January 25, 1943

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I am glad to have your letter and to hear that, after talking to Mr. Landis, you are back in Washington. My best wishes to you.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
Office of Civilian Defense
Washington, D.C.
January 22, 1943

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you so much for both your letter and memorandum regarding Liberia and Mr. Norman Davis. I know that I am just one of many persons who wonder at your willingness to maintain a continued interest in their personal problems in the midst of all of your activities. It is as though you hold tightly to very slender threads which you do not allow the pressures under which you live, to break.

A few days after receiving your letter regarding Liberia, I received a message from Mr. Landis asking me to have a conference with him and so, of course, I returned to Washington. As soon as you have time I hope you will let me tell you about my conversation with Mr. Landis. The upshot of it was that I am now working directly with him and shall have my first conference with a Regional Director next week after speaking at the Phyllis Wheatley Association in Cleveland.

Following my conversation with Mr. Landis I talked with Mr. Coy who realizes that it may be very difficult to correct the situation here in the Office of Civilian Defense but who felt that it probably would be fair at this time to see what could be done. Mr. Coy said that he planned to talk with you as soon as he thought you would be free to see him.

As suggested in your memorandum I have called Mr. Norman Davis' office and his secretary plans to have me see him next week after he returns from several days of rest.

I know that you do not have time to read long letters and I shall make no attempt to express my feeling of gratitude to you at this time except to say again that I know no man in public life who has quite your clear sense of integrity and I hope that whatever I may be able to do in the Office of Civilian Defense will reflect that integrity and your fine impersonal sense of justice.

Sincerely yours,

Crystal Bird Fancett

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.
February 10, 1943.

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I will be glad to see you but the matter you mention is not caused by the Administration but by an element in the South which is opposed to the Administration.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
1600 T Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
WASHINGTON DC FEB 6 637P

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
THE WHITE HOUSE

THE DIES COMMITTEES REPORT REGARDING MR WILLIAM PICKENS IS UTTERLY FANTASTIC MANY SOUTHERN DEMOCRATS DO NOT SEEM TO REALIZE THAT THEY ARE DESTROYING THE FAITH OF NEGROES IN THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE COULD DO A GREAT DEAL TO OFFSET THE ATTITUDE OF MANY SOUTHERN DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. MRS ROOSEVELT PLEASE LET ME DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH YOU CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSET 1600 T ST NORTHWEST.
May 27, 1945

Dear Mrs. Fauzest:

Thank you for your letter. I am glad to know that you are recovering your health and that things are going so well at O.C.D. I will surely see you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauzest
2348 Sixth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
Wednesday Morning.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt—

I am so glad that President Barclay is to be at the White House today that I can't forbear sending you this tiny note.

Thrilling history is being made and the Negro people of America are so proud that you and President Roosevelt are responsible for it. Any role that you, Sirhan's can play in the United Nations war effort is something to sti
the minds and hearts of all lovers of freedom so that I imagine many white people, too, are deeply interested in President Barclay's visit.

I have at least begun to recover from a very serious throat condition and hope that sometime soon you will let me tell you of the pleasant relationships that are now being developed here in the Office of Civilian Defense. I know that you will be interested.

Sincerely,

Crystal Bird Fausett

2348 Sixti Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.
February 8, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I am sending this copy of Mrs. Roosevelt's letter to your home address, because I did not have your exact address in New York and am afraid the original might not reach you.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

(Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset)
5405 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
February 15, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I talked to Mr. Frank Walker last night and he told me that you had seen Mr. Hannegan and that Mr. Hannegan told you he was working out an over-all plan. I understood from Mr. Walker that you had been given a check to cover salary and expenses so far and that you are on the pay roll but were just waiting to hear what had been worked out.

I talked to Mr. Hannegan before you did, so after he had seen you he wrote me that he thought possibly you were too impetuous. He did not say he was opposed to anything that was being done.

I would, however, wait until he gives you his ideas, as, after all, every new chairman has a right to work out his own plans and I can not interfere with that. I do not think, however, that he has made any changes as to your actual work with the committee. If you got that impression I will speak to him again.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5405 Vine St.
Philadelphia, Penna.
February 12, 1944.

My dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt feels you will be interested to see the enclosed excerpt from a letter from Dr. Will W. Alexander.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5403 Vine Street
Please send a copy of this letter to Mrs. Feuset and say I am sending a copy because I did not have her exact address in NYC and am afraid it might not reach her.

m.c.t.

Mr. Magee to sign and send
February 9, 1944

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have your letter of February 1.

The Rosenwald Fund is this year supporting Mrs. Bethune enterprises as follows:

An appropriation of $6,000 was made for the current year to the National Council of Negro Women. An appropriation of $4,000 was made to the special Hold-Your-Job program of the National Council of Negro Women. This makes a total of $10,000 which we are contributing to the National Council of Negro Women and its program. Mr. Field quite recently gave $10,000 for the building for the Council. This seems to Mr. Embree, Doctor Johnson and me about as much as either the Fund or Mr. Field ought to be expected to contribute.

It is our feeling that with the financial backing indicated above that the council should not have great difficulty in raising among its constituent members at least $2400 for Mrs. Bethune's secretary and travel expenses. When we made the $6,000 appropriation to the Council, our board members expressed very strongly the opinion that the constituent members of the National Council of Negro Women should raise substantial amounts of money for its support. Any future contributions from our Board will depend somewhat upon how much the constituent members of the council have, during this year, supplemented what we and other large donors have done.

It is our feeling, therefore, that Mrs. Bethune should have no difficulty in raising the $2400 mentioned in your letter and considerably more from among the Negro women's organizations. For her to do this is one way to increase her chances of continued support from other sources.
With the salary, as mentioned in your letter, and with the help that the Fund and Mr. Field have already given the council, it seems to us that Mrs. Bethune's remaining financial problem is such as can be solved by colored women's organizations themselves. And that in the long run, it will be better to do it that way.

I am glad you had a good meeting in Detroit. We are in the midst of an amazing experiment here in Chicago in the series of forums which has been called by the Mayor at which some two hundred leading citizens of Chicago are sitting down for four three-hour sessions in the Council Chambers of City Hall to discuss in the most thorough and open manner the whole problem of Negroes in Chicago. Out of these discussions will come a recommendation to the city planning commission and to the departments of government, as well as to non-governmental agencies, for a comprehensive program for the City of Chicago. We are putting a great deal of time on this with the hope that we are developing here a method that can be recommended to a great many other cities. Two of the forums have already been held and we have had two hundred of the most important people in the City of Chicago giving the most serious and detailed attention to the important aspects of the problem. Eventually it would be our hope that a city like Detroit might undertake to approach its problem in the same way.

Edgar Brown busies himself with these matters. I am told on good authority that he is now paid by the Chicago Tribune. This would throw a good deal of light on the kind of things he is doing.

I am,

Sincerely,

WWA:SO

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.
February 22, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I just learned that Mr. Hannegan and Mr. O'Connell are out of town until March 8th. Unfortunately, I will be gone by the 8th and therefore cannot see Mr. Hannegan.

I will try to find someone to talk to about your being on the payroll.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5405 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Penna.
PHILADELPHIA PENN MAR 2 1944 1248P

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
WHITE HOUSE

IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR SUGGESTION I TALKED WITH MR BARNES LAST SATURDAY. MR BARNES FEELS NOTHING CAN BE DONE UNTIL MR HANNEGAN RETURNS MARCH 10. AS YOU KNOW I LEFT THE OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE JANUARY THIRD AFTER TWO YEARS OF GREAT NERVOUS STRAIN AND WHERE I RECEIVED THE LOWEST SALARY OF ANY ADVISER ATTACHED TO THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR. I CANNOT THEREFORE LIVE FOR TWO MONTHS WITHOUT A SALARY. MY MONTHLY OBLIGATIONS ARE NOW DUE. COULD YOU POSSIBLY ASK

[Signature]

Crystal Bird Fausell
FOR THE USE OF PRESIDENTIAL FUNDS UNTIL THIS SITUATION IS SETTLED. I CANNOT MAKE EXPLANATIONS TO MY FRIENDS.

CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSET.
March 3, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I have just talked to Mr. Walker and he is sending you his personal check to tide you over until Mr. Hannigan returns. He tells me he gave you $250 about a month ago and that the last time he talked to you, about a week ago, you told him your were all right financially.

I will be gone for about three and a half weeks and will be out of touch, so I hope you can work out some satisfactory settlement with Mr. Hannigan. Otherwise I think Mr. Walker will try to find you a job. Mr. Hannigan is the chairman and neither Mr. Walker nor I can force him to do anything he does not want to do.

Very sincerely yours,
March 30, 1944.

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Thank you so much for your message. It was good of you to send it and Miss Thompson and I are deeply appreciative of your thoughtfulness.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5403 Vine Street
PHILADELPHIA PENN MAR 29 1944 546P
MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
I AM SO GLAD THAT YOU AND MISS THOMPSON ARE SAFELY BACK IN
THE UNITED STATES
CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSSET.
May 26, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt could see you on May 30th in Washington at 3:30 p.m. or in New York City, 29 Washington Square, West, at 9:30 a.m. on the 31st.

Will you let me know which is more convenient?

Very sincerely yours,
AFTER MY CONVERSATION WITH MISS THOMPSON TUESDAY I APOLOGIZE SINCERELY FOR TELEGRAPHING YOU TODAY. I HAVE TRIED TO FOLLOW HER SUGGESTION REGARDING A LETTER TO YOU BUT I CANNOT QUITE PUT INTO WRITING WHAT I FEEL ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE JUNE SEVENTH CONFERENCE IF I COULD TALK WITH YOU NO MATTER HOW BRIEFLY I COULD THEN SEE MY WAY CLEARLY IN CONNECTION WITH A NEW INTERRACIAL APPROACH TO WOMEN - CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSET.
June 21, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

The President feels very strongly that anything we do in the next few months should be done very quietly and should have no publicity.

He thinks that your work for the Democrats should, if possible, be on the side of peace and understanding, because if we get people too much excited there will be trouble, particularly in the South.

I could come into town for small meetings of women once or twice, but they must be really small and no publicity — if you think that would help.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
54C3 Vine St.
Philadelphia, Penna.
Memorandum for Mrs. Roosevelt:

I would not encourage any announcement on future meetings on the interracial subject. The less said about it for the next few months, the less lives of life.

F.D.R.
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I was so pleased to receive Miss Thompson's note and without further delay I should like to suggest the following plan for the next three months, with a possible White House Conference being held as you advised, late in November.

At the conference last week, you suggested the possibility of organizing on the part of the group of women. My first point is in accordance with your suggestion.

1. An immediate organization meeting to be held in New York of twenty to twenty-five women who are deeply interested in international activities as a contribution to American unity. All of these should be women in whom you have absolute confidence. They might come from different sections of
the country or from within a convenient radius of New York. A name for the group, such as National Women's Committee on American Unity or National Women's Interracial Council, has been running through my mind.

2. Several more conferences with small groups of women representing various interests and various sections of the country. The number of conferences to be determined by you and dates with individual women chosen as soon as possible. Following a conference with you those women could be encouraged to become affiliated with the organized group.

3. Toward the end of August or the first of September, a tremendous meeting sponsored by the organized group of women could be held in Madison Square Garden or Central Park around the themes - American Unity - emphasis being laid upon the activities of women.

4. Several small group conferences with you might follow this mass meeting - a continuation of the conference under point two.

5. During the middle or latter part of
November, a White House Conference could be held for the purpose of bringing together the enlarged organized group of women and many other women from all parts of the country engaged or interested in interwar activities. This truly national committee, thereby, being brought into existence.

This, of course, is just a skeleton plan but I hope it will seem somewhat sensible to you. During the next three months I plan to talk with Mrs. Morganthau, Mrs. Kern and each one of the women whom you included in the conference last week, in addition to the group work.

Again, please let me tell you how much the conference meant to the Philadelphian women and, of course, Mrs. Vann. Their feeling about you is so warm and genuine.

Sincerely,

Crystal Bird Faueet
Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I do think you should talk to Mr. Hannigan about Mr. John P. Davis' political affiliations.

Very sincerely yours,
I have just learned that John P. Davis is being sent as a member of Washington delegation to the Democratic National Convention. Do you think his political affiliation should be discussed with Mr. Hennigan?

Crystal Byrd Fauset
Hyde Park, N.Y.
June 29, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fausett:

I will not be in New York City again for some time, but if you would care to make the trip to Poughkeepsie, I will be glad to see you. There is a good train out of New York City - Grand Central Station at 9:20 a.m. and we use the Poughkeepsie station. I could see you either the 7th or 8th, and after lunch I can send you back on the 2:17 p.m. train. My car will meet you at the station.

I read the article in Harpers and I really do not know what I can do to help.

Very sincerely yours,
July 14, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt asked me to thank you for your telegram of July 11. She has asked Mrs. Van and Marian Anderson and her sister to come up here on August 8.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
Philadelphia, Penna.
TELEGRAM
OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

Mrs. Roosevelt

Philadelphia July 11

I have been invited together with Congressman Dawson to talk with President Roosevelt tomorrow afternoon. I have no words to express my feelings to you. Saturday was a day I shall never forget. Marian Anderson will be delighted to come on Aug. 8 subject to your wishes. She has expressed the desire to have be accompanied by her sister rather than Judge Delaney. Her sister works very closely with her in gifts. Your decision in the matter however will be entirely acceptable to her. Mrs. Van also will be delighted to come.

Crystal Bird Fauset
July 15, 1944.

My dear Mrs. Fauset:

I will appreciate it if you will be good enough to forward the enclosed letter to Mrs. Robert L. Vann as we do not have her address.

Very sincerely yours,

Administrative Officer
Social Correspondence.

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5403 Vine Street
The White House  
Washington  
JUL 18  4 02 PM 1944  

WB60 14  

PHILADELPHIA PENN JUL 18 1944 342P  

RALPH W MAGEE  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER WHITE HOUSE  
IT WAS A GREAT PLEASURE TO FORWARD THE COMMUNICATION TO MRS  
ROBERT L VANN  
CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSET.
Mrs. Shelby wants information concerning the formation of a Committee for the Roosevelt for President club among her people.

August 9, 1944.

My dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed letter from Mrs. Marietta Shelby, 309 East Lee Street, Pensacola, Florida.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5403 Vine Street
Hyde Park, New York
August 12, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt received your message about the Reverend Marshall L. Sheppard and asks me to tell you that she has passed it on to the proper persons.

Mrs. Roosevelt is so glad that you enjoyed being here on Tuesday.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Friday — Philadelphia, Penna.

Reverend Marshall L. Sheppard of Phila. has been endorsed by Senator Guffey, National Committeeman David Lawrence, and Mr. Hannegan to succeed the late Dr. Wm. Tompkins as Recorder of Deeds.

I have discussed Mr. Shappard with you several times and you may remember him in connection with the small Lighthouse Conference in 1942. In talking to me this morning he expressed his keen desire to have you know of his endorsement and his hope that it would have your approval. I assured him that I would telegraph you.

Tuesday was one of the happiest days of my life.

Crystal Bird Fauset
Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I am sorry to say that I have absolutely no influence with Mr. Mannegan, and he does run the National Committee. I did speak to Mr. Walker and he promised me that you would be paid. I think if you sent him a note telling him you had not been paid he would see to it.

Aside from that, I think you should go to Congressman Dawson and then to Mr. Mannegan telling them you want to do whatever will coincide with their plans, and then if they do not work out something which you feel you can honestly do, I would resign and find a job somewhere else.

I am sorry, but I am convinced that Mr. Mannegan does not wish me to interfere in any way in the Committee.

Very sincerely,

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
Philadelphia, Penna.
TELEGRAM
OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

MR. HANNIGAN DOES NOT SEEK TO HAVE ANY INTEREST IN THE PARTICIPATION OF NEGRO WOMEN IN THE CAMPAIGN. COULD YOU OR THE PRESIDENT REQUEST THAT THERE BE NO FURTHER DELAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS. I HAVE BEEN VERY APPREHENSIVE EVER SINCE THE PLANS AGREED UPON BY YOU AND MR. FRANK WALKER WERE SET ASIDE LAST WINTER BY I.M. HANNIGAN AND CONGRESSMAN DAWSON. I THINK NOW THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT I WAS NOT OFFICIALLY ATTACHED TO THE COMMITTEE UNTIL JULY FIRST AND THAT I HAVE RECEIVED NO SALARY FOR THE MONTHS OF APRIL, MAY AND JUNE. I HAVE MADE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO KEEP THIS LATTER FACT FROM YOU.

CRYSTAL BYRD FAUSET
Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I gave Mrs. Roosevelt your telegram, and she will be very much interested, as you know, to learn about the outcome of your meeting with Mrs. Tillett.

In reference to your message about Mr. and Mrs. Ormaniy, Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to say that she will be away keeping several engagements both this week and next, and the President is too busy to add anything to his schedule.

I am enclosing some clippings which the President thought you might be able to use.

With Mrs. Roosevelt's regrets,

Very sincerely yours,
MRS. F. D. R.

I have received telegrams from both Mrs. Tillett and Mrs. Miller and shall see Mrs. Tillett this week after telephone conversation with her tomorrow and shall be glad to let you know the outcome.

As you know Eugene Ormandy conductor of the Phila. orchestra and his wife have just returned from their Australian tour in connection with the fighting forces. I spent last evening with Mrs. Sofia Yarnall Jacobs, program manager Phila. orchestra and we agree what a marvelous thing it would be if you or you and the President would receive Mr. Ormandy and his wife to get personal report of the tour. This morning Mrs. Jacobs discussed the matter with Dr. Harold McDonald, manager of the orchestra. He was most enthusiastic and wondered if there would be any possibility of see Mr. Ormandy and his wife during the week of Sept. 11th. I know how delighted Mrs. Jacobs will be if you can find the time.

Crystal Byrd Fauset
OCT 23 1944
1830 RITTENHOUSE SQUARE
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

October 20, 1944.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt -

May I express to you my wife's and my own thanks for having invited us to visit you at the White House last Wednesday.

We realize how occupied your every minute is and we are grateful for the opportunity you gave us to meet you. We are looking forward to seeing you at our future Washington concerts and, if your time permits, perhaps meeting you again in the not too distant future.

Mrs. Ormandy joins me in sending you our most cordial greetings.

Very sincerely,

Ignace Ormandy.
September 7, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

I have had some communication with Mr. Frank Walker and he tells me that Congressman Dawes says that he has arranged for you to make some speeches to big audiences, but that because of some opposition in Philadelphia it does not seem advisable to let you do general organizing work there.

I think too, that there has been some feeling that because they felt he explained to you what he wanted you to do and you were not willing to do what they wanted, it was difficult.

I think it is most important for you to do what they feel is needed in the campaign. I am not planning the campaign and I am not working in the campaign so of course, I can not expect them to follow my plans, which I might think were good and which they might feel differently about.

I hope you will understand and do the best you can for them. They also told me that they were anxious to get an accounting from you of some expense money given you in the early days. I think it would be a good idea to turn this in as it is particularly hard to keep campaign accounts with the laws as they are now, and when everyone is desirous of keeping within the law.

With every good wish,

Very sincerely yours,
CRystal Bird FauSet JoINS DEwEy BaCKERS

Former Democratic Legislator

Congratulates Nominee

Republican Negro forces in this city were augmented today by Mrs. Crystal Bird Fausett, who has been an active Democratic party worker, served a term in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1939-1940, and subsequently held two Federal positions.

Mrs. Fausett, who lives at 5403 Vine St., opened public her change in political affiliation last night on the stage of Convention Hall, immediately after Governor Thomas E. Dewey concluded his address and was departing. She congratulated the Republican presidential nominee on the speech.

"I was delighted to find a man who is willing to confer with the Negro leadership of the country, and I will support him," she said. She had been seen late yesterday on the floor of the Bellevue-Stratford, where Dewey made his headquarters, but was not a member of the delegation of Negroes which conferred with him.

At that conference the group's spokesman, Dr. Emmett J. Scott, told Dewey: "Your dynamic leadership has given us, loyal colored Republicans, an uplift of feeling we have not had for 12 long years. The platform adopted by our party at Chicago is the only definite, positive expression of party interest in those particulars which beset and discourage us."

Mrs. Fausett has been known as a personal friend of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and served under the President's wife as a special consultant on Negro affairs with the Office of Civilian Defense in Washington. She also was director of WPA Negro activities in this state.
Enclosed Clipping

From
Thick Evening Bulletin
Sep 6, 87

This is one case of
Base ingratitude
if there ever was one.
She was supposed to
be a great friend of
yours.

No doubt Cash—
caused the change.

Also note Irene
proceeding.
September 27, 1944

Dear Mrs. Fauset:

Mrs. Roosevelt received your telegram of September 24 and has sent it on to Mr. Hannegan.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Crystal Bird Fauset
5405 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washdc

Despite several conversations with Postmaster General Walker's Secretary
Mr. Walker never honored your request to attend to the payment of my salary
for the month of April May and June. The Democratic National Committee has
never repaid the sums I spent for long distance calls since last December
and for travel except in connection with the Detroit meeting. The total amount
involved is approximately $2,000. I hope Mrs. Tillett told you the contents
of the telegram she sent me on the day I was waiting so happily to hear from
her. I think you know how desperately I tried to remain loyal to you and
President Roosevelt. I am loath to take legal action against Mr. Hennegan.

Crystal Bird Fauset
The White House
Washington

PHILADELPHIA PENN NOV 25 1944 1202P

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE

I HAVE ASKED MR ALFRED SCHAFFER TO SEND YOU A COPY OF
POSTMASTER GENERAL WALKER'S REPLY TO MR SCHAFFER'S LETTER OF
INQUIRY. I THINK YOU WILL BE PROFOUNDLY SHOCKED

CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSET.

1228P.
WB43 91

PHILADELPHIA PENN DEC 5 1944 332P

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

CARE MISS MALVINA THOMPSON THE WHITE HOUSE

THIS MORNING WHEN I READ YOUR RECENT STATEMENT TO MR.
SCHAFFER I FELT AS I DID ON THE DAY DURING THE 1940
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN WHEN YOU WERE LEAVING THE BILTMORE
HOTEL AND I WAS ENTERING THROUGH THE SAME REVOLVING DOOR
YOU LOOKED AT ME AND I SMILED BUT YOU AVERTED YOUR EYES AND
GAVE NO SIGN OF RECOGNITION JUST AS I WORKED LOYALLY TO THE
END OF THE 1940 CAMPAIGN WITHOUT ONE SIGN OF RECOGNITION I
SHALL STAND LOYALLY BY THE PRINCIPLE WHICH I THINK IS INVOLVED
IN THIS PRESENT SITUATION

CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSET.
PHILADELPHIA PENN MAR 5 1945 1151A

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
CARE MISS MALVINA THOMPSON WHITE HOUSE

PLEASE KNOW THAT MY TELEGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SENT TO ANNOY
BUT AT THIS HISTORIC MOMENT TO EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT
THE FUNDAMENTAL WELFARE OF THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN AMERICA IS
DEPENDENT PRIMARILY UPON A RESPECTED POLITICAL LEADERSHIP
LOCAL STATE AND NATIONAL NO MATTER HOW HUMBLE THAT LEADERSHIP.
I THINK THIS IS IN LINE WITH THOMAS JEFFERSON'S POLITICAL
PHILOSOPHY. A POLITICAL
LEADERSHIP OF NEGRO DEMOCRATS
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN OVERSHADOWED BY NEGRO LEADERS IN OTHER FIELDS WHOSE POLITICAL PRETENSIONS WOULD BE SHATTERED COMPLETELY UNDER THE PRESSURE OF REALISTIC PROOF. SUCH NEGRO LEADERS ARE GREATER TRAITORS TO THE BASIC WELFARE AND ADVANCEMENT OF THE NEGRO PEOPLE THAN ANY WHITE PERSON IN AMERICA NORTH OR SOUTH. ALL OVER THE WORLD GREAT NATIONAL GROUPS ARE INSISTING UPON GREATER POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND UPON LOGICAL POLITICAL LEADERSHIP. SHALL THE NEGROES OF AMERICA ALONE OF ALL PEOPLES LOOK BACKWARD AND NOT FORWARD. ANY NEGRO WHO IS NOT LOOKING FORWARD WITH EAGERNESS HAS ACCEPTED FOR HIMSELF A STATUS OF A SLAVE.

CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSSET.
The White House
Washington

WU35 LG PD

MAR 3 1 6:00 PM 1945

PHILADELPHIA PENN MARCH 3 1945 1146A

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT CARE MISS MALVINATHOMPSON

THE WHITE HOUSE

LABOR HAD THE COURAGE AND VISION TO INCLUDE AN INTELLIGENT NEGRO WOMAN IN THE DELEGATION RECENTLY SENT TO LONDON IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT MRS TILLETT DID NOT HAVE THE COURAGE TO INCLUDE AN INTELLIGENT NEGRO WOMAN IN EITHER OF THE DUMBARTON OAKS PANELS RECENTLY ASSEMBLED AT THE WHITE HOUSE IN HIS SPEECH TO CONGRESS PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT MENTIONED THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN BEING THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE APPARENTLY HAS NO INTEREST IN THE DIGNITY OF THEIR
AMERICAN NEGRO AS A HUMAN BEING IT APPARENTLY HAS BUT ONE
OBJECTIVE AND THAT IS TO EXPLOIT THE NEGRO THIS IS A STORY
ON THE SAME LEVEL AS WALTER WHITE RECENT STORY OF THE
TREATMENT OF THE NEGRO SOLDIER IN THE AMERICAN ARMY
CRYSTAL BIRD FAUSETT.