

100

November 30, 1940

Dear Bess:

I shall probably see you at the
press conference on Saturday before you
get this.

I am afraid I can't get out to
see you until after I get back for good
in December.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda
Maryland

0

am
11-30

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

See them all
m. 27 - 6 or 3:30

Thanksgiving Day

Dear E.R.:

Of course, I'll be delighted
to be in any stunt with the
swell group that you mention.

On the Digest, I should
have told you long ago that
the more we investigated the
more we realized that it
would be impossible to do
the Digest independently unless
it was heavily subsidized at
the start and had extra good
luck as time went on.

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Our only thought in the matter anyhow was not to let the Digest die until every possible effort had been made to save it! I attribute the fact that the Women's Division was ready to function when this campaign started in a large measure to the Digest.

Dorothy is trying to work out a budget before she goes whereby Lucile and I can carry forward the study outlines for the Reporter Plan, by Digest if possible, if not by mimeograph. I certainly hope she can do it for we badly

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Talked to Gene on the party,
and will keep in touch with
her. Bob and I start on
vacation tomorrow — but
we will probably spend most
of it right at home getting
our house in order for the
winter.

Will you be where we
could kidnap you any time
in the next three weeks
with the idea of leading
you entirely astray?

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

need the account — since the Digest always was one of our standbys and I also lost the League of Women Voters by going political. However, if it don't work out that way, we will just have to work it out ourselves some other way.

Anyhow, the campaign was sure grand fun and swell experience, and Lucile and I both enjoyed it fully.

I want you to know that Bob got his Civil Service rating last week, plus what we think is a nice raise.

Much love
Bess

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION (11)

1701

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
 NT = Overnight Telegram
 LC = Deferred Cable
 NLT = Cable Night Letter
 Ship Radiogram

H. B. WHITE
 PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
 FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

DBD37 18 GOVT 4 EXTRA DENVER COLO 1 VIA WH WASHINGTON DC 2

MRS ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

HOTEL WOOTEN



DEC 2 AM 10 12

*100
 No B*

MY LITTLE NEPHEW PASSED AWAY. COUNT ME OUT ON GRID-WID
 STUNT. MUCH LOVE.

BESS.

Deirdre Bass

*Mollie - Mervel
 Perhaps you had
 better call Betty Hendley.
 + tell her Bass is
 out of the picture
 in case Bass hasn't
 let them know.
 Love
 12/1/12*

GRID-WID

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

December 10, 1940

100

Dear Boss:

Thank you for sending me the article.
Of course, I will come out to see you and your
family as soon as I find you are back.

Affectionately,

0

Memo. to
Mr. Reeves

Mrs. Robt. Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Md.

Will also bring my brother's family
back to Washington. I know better
than anyone else December is your
Dearest "E.P." busiest month, but
maybe you could 'run' or
half a minute or so over

Thanks so much for your ¹⁹⁴⁷ telegram.

I want you to know that
I used it — and I want you
to know how I used it —
and I want you to know
why I used it.

It was because the local
paper, being manned by
near-strangers, at first made
a mistake even in the name
of my little nephew who is
probably the best-known little
boy in this town

~~when my brother turned down a~~
my brother has always given
the best to what he has termed
"my classy little boy" and I felt
maybe I could give him something
a little special to. Love Beas.

We are bringing my mother's family
back to Washington. I know better
than anyone else December is your

Dearest "E.P." ^{busiest month, but}
^{maybe you could, run or}
^{half a month, as you}

Thanks so much for your ^{love}
telegram. ^{12/12}

I want you to know that
I used it — and I want you
to know how I used it —
and I want you to know
who I used it.

It was because the local
paper, being manned by
near-strangers, at first made
a mistake even in the name
of my little nephew who is
probably the best-known little
boy in this town

~~when my brother turned down a~~
my brother has always given
the best to what he has termed
"my classy little boy" and I felt
maybe I could give him something
a little special too. Love Dad.

See - Have Jones & me
work on arrival - before the
great in the

Death Takes A Little Boy; Among Those Who Mourn Him Was Friend In Person Of First Lady Of U. S.

By Bess Furman Armstrong
Funeral services for 4-year-old Donald Robert Furman, who passed away in Denver Sunday evening following a brain operation, will be held at the Methodist church, two doors from the home of his parents, Dr. and Mrs. D. A. Furman, at 3 p. m. Wednesday.

Among the first to telegraph condolences was Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President of the United States. Her message from Abilene, Tex., where she is on lecture tour, read in part, "Deeply distressed. . . my deepest sympathy to you all."

Little Donnie Furman had made the personal acquaintance of the First Lady when but a year old. His parents had motored back to Washington with his aunt, Bess Furman Armstrong, who long covered Mrs. Roosevelt's activities for the Associated Press in the nation's capital.

Perhaps because a sunshiny enjoyment of living was written on the face of this red-headed little boy, his four years were filled as full as many a long life-time. All McCook's Main avenue knew and loved him, and many called him "Little Doc". He often accompanied his father on his rounds of professional calls. He had seen the historic sights of the east, and had gone fishing on the northern lakes.

Even though the modern miracle which briefly prolonged his life failed to save it, his passing was a symbol of the high civilization that this country must save. The long distance telephone made it instantaneously possible for his aunt, and the uncle for whom he was named, Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Armstrong, jr., to catch a plane which took them from Washington to Denver overnight. Radio beams guided it through snows through which it would have been impossible to fly a few years ago.

Only a few years ago, such skill as awaited Donnie could not have been found in Denver. Two transfusions were given him from his father's blood, one at the Lamb osteopathic hospital and one at St. Luke's medical. Side by side, the best talent of two sometimes conflicting schools of healing fought for a little boy's life.

The fact that the brain tumor thus successfully removed was malignant is here set down be-

cause the field of cancer is the next great field for scientific research. Only a few weeks ago the cornerstone for a National Cancer Institute was laid in Bethesda, Md., the Washington suburb in which Donnie's relatives live.

Following the funeral services, Dr. and Mrs. Furman and their daughter Charlot will motor Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong back to Washington, D. C., to remain until after the first of the year. Other relatives there are Miss Lucile Furman, and the Armstrong twins, Robert Furman and Ruth Eleanor.

In Denver with Donnie at the time of his death were his aunt, Miss Hazel Furman, and his grandmother, Dr. Mattie Furman of Leadville, Colo., and his father's aunt, Mrs. Lavinia Van Pelt of Ft. Collins, Colo., all of whom came to McCook for the services, as did his grandfather, A. C. Furman, and uncle, Charles E. Furman, of Danbury. Others with him at Denver included Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lindall of Kimball, Neb.

2 TWO 2

(Continued from Page One)
offered no explanation as to how it had obtained the detailed report on submarine operations so quickly.

It appeared obvious that the submarine or submarines could not have reached their base, presumably on the French coast, since the action occurred only yesterday 400 miles off the northwest coast of Ireland, according to a series of radio SOS messages heard in New York yesterday. The distance is far greater than any submarine could cover in 24 hours sailing. The SOS messages indicated that about eight vessel had been attacked by submarines but did not reveal how many were sunk.

BRITISH RECALLING FORMER SITUATION

In this connection it was recalled that two weeks ago the Germans reported "destruction" of a British convoy with sinking of 15 to 20 ships. The British later reported safe arrival of all but a handful of these vessels.

The German radio in announcing the convoy attack today claimed that among the ships sunk was

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~~Thank you for a very nice visit
to the White House
and for the Christmas party
and for the small girl starr~~

515 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Md.
Jan. 1, 1941

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

JL

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

The opening of a new year
seems a particularly fitting time to
try to thank one who did so
much to make the past year a
memorable one for this family.

Thank you for the Twins
Christmas, for a truly delightful
luncheon, a most gracious visit
and a Christmas party that is
sending one small girl starr

-2- eyed back to Nebraska. Her father
and mother, too, have returned to
McCook with greater strength
because of your understanding
friendship.

In casting up accounts of
last year's great intangibles it
seems to me that Bas and I
are still more deeply indebted
to you. Indebted for a sharing in
an understanding friendship that keeps
life a great experience and the
ways of civilization a reality. We
are indebted for kindness and generous-
ness and intent and understanding -
which we try our best to repay in
kind even though the greater must
leave the lesser in its debt.

3. Despite the tempest of
evil that blow clouds of
suffering and terror through out
the world we wish you a
Happy New Year. Happy in the
fullness of your life and new
in that there will be time in this
year to do the things that you enjoy
most. And to this wish we again
add our deepest thanks to you -
perhaps haltingly and none too articulately,
but none the less heartfully.

Sincerely,

Beas and Bob Armstrong Jr.

Lee Bass nothing
Pres can do - must be
done by the state -
so sorry

Telephone law

Done

100

January 16, 1941

Dear Bess:

Thank you for sending me the message from Lady Astor, and also for sending on the letter from your brother.

Affectionately,

0

Mrs. Robt. B. Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Md.

Dear "ER"

Kess Furman
513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Jan 1-16

From Ben Robertson, P. M.

Thank

"Tell Mrs. Roosevelt that Lady Astor sends her all sorts of regards, a personal message for them to be nice to Lord Halifax, and also a kind of plea to know ~~what~~ she - Lady Astor - could be of any use over here at this time."

I just found in my stationery box the letter my brother wrote you before he left Washington. I am stricken that I did not mail it then and I do so forthwith. I am wondering if any of the rest of the letters written there also went astray.

January 13, 1941

Feb 3 100

Dear Bess:

X I will be delighted to have
Mary Margaret McBride for dinner on Monday,
February 3, and I hope you and Bob will dine
with us. Let me know if there is any one
else you would enjoy having with us and I
should like to ask them too.

I am enclosing a letter to
Miss McBride for you to mail whenever you
think best to do so.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
Furman Features
1097 National Press Bldg.
Wash., D.C.

McBride

DD

FURMAN FEATURES

1097 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 9, 1941

Dear E.R.

How about the night of February 3—it's a Monday—for Mary Margaret? She will then be on her way back from Florida, and could broadcast from Washington that day.

When I talked to you, I hope I made this stunt clear as both she and I want all cards to be on the table. She is sponsored by the State of Florida to broadcast for their citrus industry. For a whole week, starting the twenty-seventh, she broadcasts each day from a different orange grove in the citrus belt, in a state-wide Orange Festival climaxed with a big to-do at Winterhaven January 31st.

The broadcasting people frankly want her stay at the White House, going or coming, to add glamor to the gal and a bit of publicity to the occasion. If you do write her an invitation, they'd like it to arrive in Florida—and said so.

By now you know this is the first commercial request you ever got from me, and the only person under the sun I'd do it for is Mary Margaret—whom I consider not only a great friend, but a great personality. I think her last book, "So Dear to My Heart" is a notable mirror of the Midwest I grew up in, the old rural setting, in contrast with metropolitan life of today. I truly believe that you'd enjoy knowing her better, and that the whole state of Florida and eating more citrus is a comparatively worthy cause!

Affectionately,

Bess Furman

Bess Furman

January 27, 1941

100
MRS. ROBERT ARNSTADT

Dear Bess:

I am returning your manuscript.

Mrs. Roosevelt says that the President
says it is O.K.

Affectionately,

Miss Bess Furman
Hotel Mayflower
Democratic National Committee
Washington, D.C.

DD

100
MRS ROBERT ARMSTRONG

January 24, 1941

MEMO FOR MISS THOMPSON:

Miss Bess Furman has been
invited to come in to see Mrs.
Roosevelt on January 26th, at
6 p.m.

H.T.L.

February 4, 1941

100

Dear Bess:

I think Mr. Knudsen is the person to see about the McCook Shell Plant and I am enclosing a note of introduction to him.

I am also returning your brother's letter.

Affectionately,

513 Mrs. Robert Armstrong
509 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland

DD

February 4, 1941

My dear Mr. Knudson:

This will introduce to you Miss Bess Furman, who would like very much to talk to you about the possibility of establishing a shell plant in McCook, Nebraska.

I would appreciate it very much if you could find time to see her.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. William S. Knudson
Office of Production Management
(Sent to Bess Furman)

DD

Saturday, Feb. 1

Dear E.R.:

I am enclosing my just-arrived air mail special delivery letter from my brother because I think its first sentence will give both you and the president a laugh---as it did Bob and me. Our humorous brother certainly sizes up the psychology of situations succinctly.

7 And having had your laugh, if there is anyone on the "Shell Plant" front that you know personally and would introduce me to, or just tell me the name of, so that I could go personally and put McCook's case, I'd sure appreciate it. I'm green as a gourd on who's doing what down there at the moment, although we already had staked the place out as our next line of Digest research. But right now we are head over ears meeting the previous Digest deadline.

As a matter of cold sober fact, McCook has ten times the pep, personality, and ingenuity that Minden has---and needs help far worse being in a worse-hit section. Right around McCook there have been eight straight years of crop failure, and even in the Bible famine they only had to stand seven years of it.

Bob and I are certainly looking forward to having dinner with you on Monday night next.

Yours always and most affectionately,

Beas

The twins are beginning to perk up and crack wise today so life looks rosy.

Read as much of the letter as you choose.

March 19, 1941

100
ARMSTRONG

Dear Bess:

I received your letter before I left Golden Beach and was so glad to have it.

You are very kind and thoughtful to offer me the ticket for the stunt party. I would like to ask my cousin, Edith di Zoppola.

Affectionately,

0

Miss Bess Furman *Armstrong*
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda
Maryland

air
3-19

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Dear E. R.

It seems to me it is worse
I was catching you up.

I didn't get the P.M. job.
They didn't quite know what
their idea for a column
was, but mine wasn't
quite it. They said they
held several conferences
on it before deciding the
answer was no. So
that is that.

Mr. Knudsen was
very nice to me that day
so long ago. He showed
me a map which convinced
me completely that Nebraska

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

is the white spot on the wrap
so far as defense contracts
will ever go. No plants.
No raw materials. But
at any rate I could keep
them from building up
false hopes which I did!
And I got back a most
appreciative letter which
I should have sent to
you. Will you please
consider yourself appreciated
until I can manage to
lay hands on it again?

I do hope the vacation
is a hundred percent happy
for both you and Tommy!

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

If you have an extra White House quest or stunt party night, I have a "poolquest" ticket that I have sort of held onto in view of any last minute emergency. I'd be delighted to be hostess to Mrs. John Roosevelt, Mrs. Franklin Jr., Terry or anyone else who happened along.

While reservations are closed, tickets are clearing through our office, so I could fix it up with a minimum of fuss.

yours always,

Bess

April 1, 1941

100

Dear Bess:

I am sending you this check for the twins and, at the same time, want to wish them a very happy birthday. Please use the money for something they want or need.

I also am sending along a couple of books and hope the children will find them entertaining.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Bess Furman Armstrong,
513 Goddard Road,
Bethesda, Maryland.

Enclosure - Check for \$20 and two books, Barney's Adventure and Animals through the Year.

Bess Furman: Staff writer
Washington Bureau, Associated
Press 1929-37; reporter and
feature star metropolitan dailies
1918-29.

M. 10-11-41
156.17-11-11-41

Furman Features

Lucile Furman: Editor and
publisher country weekly
12 years; copy editor and
staff writer city daily 2
years.

BESS & LUCILE FURMAN

1097 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

PHONE DISTRICT Q246

WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 26, 1941

*Acknowledged by
Office of Civilian Defense*

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

The matter of how our office can best function for the general good has been heavily on my mind for some time. I would like to be a dollar a year woman, but like Harry Hopkins I am a Democrat. I am not seeking a job from the government, but I definitely want to give what I consider a highly necessary and very specialized service to the government.

Only yesterday I was talking with a young woman scientist who had been in Germany during the rise of Hitler and she reiterated what everybody knows, that it would have been impossible without the propaganda of Goebbels, which reached down to and caught hold of the people.

If we are going to counteract what has happened in Germany, we must use a constructive intelligence with as much finesse as a destructive intelligence was used in Germany.

In the last campaign, with the Rainbow Fliers and County Fliers, and month by month during the last two years, in the study outlines for The Democratic Digest, my sister and I have -- I believe -- proven that we have a real ability to digest the current governmental and political scene and put it into simple statements which actually set women to work.

At the present time we have two accounts -- small in remunerative returns to us because they are women's organizations which operate on a shoe-string basis -- but very large indeed in their educational influence out over the country. They are, as you know, the Women's Division of the Democratic Party, and the American Association of University Women. We need a third and more substantial account simply to keep our office going. We think our past record has earned us a right to operate on the governmental scene. We think we could make a genuine contribution on home defense when it gets set up -- on the same kind of consultive basis with per diem pay on which Ernest Lindley operated on the health front.

It seems to me that this would work to double advantage. It would be very worthwhile if we could have some direct contact with home defense in order to get correct information out through the publicity set ups of A.A.U.W. and through our connections with The Democratic Digest. At the same time, we could be making a direct contribution to home defense.

I would like to have you show this letter to the President, since I worked directly with him on the Rainbow Fliers. I might also mention that I was up on the Hill for two years while Mr. La Guardia was there, have watched him in action, and have ever since had the deepest admiration for his colorful personality, ability to dig in and surround a subject, and effectiveness and resourcefulness in his methods. I would consider it a privilege to work with him.

Sincerely,

Bess Furman

Bess Furman

*You find it
later with
the Digest*

MEMORANDUM

To: Mrs. Roosevelt
From: Bess Furman

Enclosed is a copy of the first "fan letter" Kathleen McLaughlin ever wrote to a woman's group, and a statement of the action taken by the American Association of University Women at their convention.

I really think that they were put into the right frame of mind to take this action partly by the psychological effect of a broadcast with England which I was able to arrange through having Ben Robertson as a friend and helper on the other side.

This broadcast was the first, other than war news, which Columbia had put on from London since December, and by pure luck was preceded by a perfect newscast to put the audience in the mood. What we heard was about Haile Selassie re-entering Addis Ababa, together with tid-bits of news the world over. The whole world scene was set on that little glimmer of hope that Ethiopia represents, but keyed to the grave crisis shown by the rest of the world's news. Dr. Mary Woolley and Esther Brunauer spoke from here, and Janet Murrow of CBS, Lady Iris Capell, and Dr. Edith Summerskill, Labor Member of Parliament, from London.

Official Press
Information
Biennial Convention,
American Association of
University Women
Netherland Plaza Hotel

Immediate Information

May 9, 1941

Highlight of the biennial convention of the American Association of University Women with respect to convention action was voting of a policy of all-out aid to the democracies fighting the Axis powers--- including military aid if necessary.

The A.A.U.W., which closes its week-long meeting tonight, is the first great woman's organization to take this stand by full convention action, and is thus in a position of leadership in favoring total opposition to totalitarianism.

Dr. Margaret S. Morriss, president, today issued the following statement on this stand: "After careful discussion, the American Association of University Women voted the following statement in its legislative program for the coming biennium.

'Support of an immediate foreign policy for the United States in response to the present crisis and the rapidly changing international scene directed toward: Recognition of a common cause with all nations resisting totalitarian aggression and the furnishing of whatever aid we can give to make this resistance effective.'

"The convention had a clear understanding that this meant all-out aid including military if necessary".

C
O
P
Y

THE NEW YORK TIMES
Times Square, New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. McHale:

Such busy people as we are - at the wrong times of day to indulge in any kaffee klatsch comments during conventions.

This note is a wholly personal expression of admiration for the candor and courage reflected in the actions and utterances of the membership of the A.A.U.W. at Cincinnati. I have to confess that their intense and concerned attitudes on international matters was a complete - and happy - bombshell to me, and I hope I may be forgiven if I add that I never dreamed they were capable of such resolute leadership as they showed.

For to me, that vote on "all out aid" was a precedent set, for other and more timorous groups of women to follow, as I am confident they will. And it will be many months, I know, before the Association begins to realize the prestige which I predict will accrue from its record as the first great organization of American women to speak up boldly and flatly on the course they would like this nation's government to pursue in these troublous days.

It was, I feel, a patriotic service which I hope will be emphasized properly, to take advantage of the momentum it can give both to your own members and to the less decided, less outspoken units of women everywhere.

So in a far but not faint voice, just consider that I'm hollering "Bravo!" at you all.

Sincerely,
(signed)
Kathleen McLaughlin

May 14 - 1941

(P.S. - This document is probably worth preservation as the first fan letter I ever wrote to a woman's group.)

May 29, 1941

100

Dear Bess:

I think your idea for the Digest series is good and I hope it will materialize.

I will take up your idea in the other letter with Mayor LaGuardia.

Many thanks for both your letters.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland

DD

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Called
5-29-41

- Sunday -

Dear "ER"

Today I'm writing a personal letter. Tomorrow I'm going to send you a business one - all neatly typewritten for your "Future Reference" files.

This one is to tell you how completely I enjoy the quilted jacket from China town. It turned my thoughts back to the first gift you sent me from there - and the whole meaningful scroll of how much it has meant to me to have you for a friend.

And to add that I enjoyed still more seeing you in that purple suit Saturday. If it bowled me over as it did, what must

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

it do to Gene with her gas, not
for the purple.

I have been alternately working
in the garden with the children
today and listening to the
radio. I can't imagine a
more fantastic contrast - Roses
spilling all over the garage
and arbor - and the Patent
bulletins from Bette. I also
read Demarest Bess in the
Saturday Evening Post and got
angry four + three. When I
think of the SEP cutting snugly
& snugly on Independence Square
where our ideas of individuality
& independence got going good, I
darned well think they deserve
what no doubt is cooking to them.

513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Good idea - will take up
idea in
other letters
Met Sabers
if

Incidentally, I think one of
the best pronouncements you
have ever made is "no more
monuments" until we get some
of the root of these things.

There is so much harping
on how we aren't getting ahead
fast in defense, couldn't we
start a more heartening
Digest series in terms of "go-
see - accomplishment." For instance,
a visit to the various defense
housing outfits - I understand the
army will be having a big move in
lay July 4 and Mr. Carmody has
a lot to show - and you could
bring out trailer versus the more +
permanent type.

Love -
Beau

100
Mrs Robert Armstrong

June 6, 1941

Dear Bess:

If you will send me the letter you received or the names of the people concerned, I will ask the State Department to do whatever is possible.

Affectionately,

Miss Bess Furman
1097 National Press Building
Washington, D.C.

0

This would mean nothing to the State Dept.
Shall we ask her to send the letter or the
name of the persons concerned?

Or did you receive the fat letter and send
it on to State Dept? - *no* - ask her

for names -

Bess Furman: Staff writer
Washington Bureau, Associated Press 1929-37; reporter and feature star metropolitan dailies 1918-29.

act
6-4

Furman Features

Lucile Furman: Editor and publisher country weekly 12 years; copy editor and staff writer city daily 2 years.

BESS & LUCILE FURMAN

1097 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

PHONE DISTRICT 0246

WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 29, 1941

Dear Tommy:

I have received a large, fat air-mail special-delivery letter from St. Louis telling of the dire straits of the brother of the conductor of the symphony orchestra there. This letter is from a woman I knew in the League of Women Voters.

It has always been my custom to send such letters back with the remark that any citizen of this country could write Mrs. Roosevelt and that she gave honest and earnest consideration to all her mail. In these dreadful days, however, one cannot help but wonder about the human lives involved. From this voluminous mass, the gist that I get is this: This man is in France, released from a German concentration camp. He apparently has all his papers in good order, but authorities over there are demanding that he show a certified copy of his brother's income tax return as a further guarantee of financial stability. The brother has a letter from the Treasury Department which says they cannot send this paper now.

What they want is the usual word, which they consider magic: "Mrs. Roosevelt's interest." With 7,000 such cases in Shanghai and even more in Lisbon, I know that by this time you must be fairly well aware, from the same sort of pleas, of where this letter ought to go or whether it might as well be consigned to the wastebasket.

From the hunk it took out of my day, I know the imposition this is on you. But I know that you also feel as I do that no effort is too great these days if some of the awful wrongs of the world can be righted.

Affectionately,

Bess

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

FURMAN FEATURES

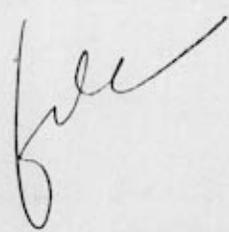
1097 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 26, 1941

Dear Tommy:

I am deeply grateful for your help in the case
of Rene Golschmann which seems headed for a happy end.



Very sincerely,

Bess

Bess Furman

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 27, 1941

Memorandum for the President

I think this is unfair, since the men are doctors of experience, as well as osteopaths. Is there anything to be done to the A.M.A?

E.R.

No - a state matter

JMR

*100
Mr. ROBERT A. TRAVIS*

Dear "E.R.":

Sorely troubled, I turn to you. Not that I think that you can do anything in this particular situation. But that, out of your great experience, you may be able to tell me something I can do. And also that I think that such terrible injustices as I now have to report should be known in high places.

Here is the situation: The prosperous practice of my brother, and all other osteopaths in the state of Nebraska, has been suddenly blitzkreiged by political maneuvers of the American Medical Association, with, of course, the aid of some highly-placed state officials. It seems incredible to me that what has happened has happened, but here it is.

To make the picture clear I must explain that out our way we often go osteopathic instead of medical by intelligent choice; that we have osteopathic hospitals; that the Kirksville, Mo. College of Osteopathy where my brother went requires 378 hours of surgery as against 263 at the University of Nebraska Medical school; that taking out tonsils, sewing up after accidents, circumcisions, etc, etc, etc is just run of the mill for osteopath as well as medico. And when some silly little court case came up out in Scottsbluff challenging the right of osteopaths to do surgery, the local court found completely in favor of the osteopaths. The case was appealed to the Nebraska Supreme Court, and a few weeks ago a noble judge just naturally ruled all ~~the osteopathic hospitals~~ ^{surgery} off the landscape in a single sentence. The legislature was nearing its close, and a last minute campaign by the osteopaths to get their rights written into law ^(as they had thought they had) ~~was~~ ^{lost by} four votes.

The attorney for the osteopaths naturally asked for a ^{supreme court} rehearing. The answer of the attorney-general of the state to that was to contend that the supreme court had erred in determining the legislature had permitted osteopaths to practice obstetrics, and that osteopaths should serve only as a midwife in childbirth. When I think how my own life was saved by the expert obstetrical handling that I got from my brother and his family doctor, an osteopath, and my sister-in-law a crack medical surgical nurse, I do think that in these troubled times the state where I was born could do less than treat people of high intelligence, great skill, and vast humanitarianism, who are doing a really wonderful work in the world, exactly as Hitler does the Jews. I do n't know of any similar cases I have ever heard of in this land of the free where overnight 135 professional citizens of a state should have swept away—permanently—their right to make a livelihood.

Attached you will find my brother's letter about the legislative fight. He was gay and game about it, figuring they could work it out with time, until this more ominous move—as Don phrases it in a letter I got today—"the damned attorney-general wants to take away the rest of our rights, leaving us as our predecessors 50 years ago with nothing but our hands—not even a thermometer, microscope, or blood pressure instrument". He also said, "I noticed in today's paper that President Roosevelt is publicly rebuking the Defense administration for discrimination against Negroes, etc. etc., Maybe when war is declared we could get recognition from the top?"

I am also attaching one of Martha's stories fresh from a hearing on the hill, on the vast shortage of MEDICAL PHYSIO-THERAPISTS in the army. When the medics found physiotherapy, they at last could compete with the osteopaths, who had it all the time.

That's the story as summarized on one page. And I would appreciate it more than I could ever tell you if you will also glance through the attached.

Affectionately,

Bess

Thursday, June 19

I think this is unfair since the same article as I have seen in the paper
23rd June
Text
18/21
John
PSX

It's in the Army Record Army Going All-Out for Draftee Health

By MARTHA STRAYER

(In these days of national defense emergency, all citizens are curious about what goes on in the Army and Army contingents. Hearings on the War Department's 1942 appropriations bill, just made public, give a better picture than can be had from any other source. This is the seventh of a series of stories from these hearings.)

Mother should know what the Army's doing to keep her drafted son in good health.

Plenty, according to hearings on the War Department's 1942 appropriations bill; a colossal medical and hospital program, in addition to woolen underwear and a well-balanced diet.

More than \$100,000,000 has been spent or is being spent for new cantonment-type Army Medical Department buildings. These will include 42,349 hospital beds, exclusive of 9500 in new general hospitals for treatment of serious cases. And for mildest illnesses there are infirmaries for all regiments or similar units.

NO BIG EPIDEMICS

"Up to the present time there have been no devastating epidemics in our new army," the House Committee was told by Maj. Gen. James C. Magee, surgeon general.

"Many camps reported 5 to 10 per cent of their commands ill with a mild influenza last winter.

"Measles, chickenpox, whooping cough and scarlet fever also have appeared in most of the camps, but in no greater numbers than normally expected."

However, Gen. Magee indicated that at the takeoff a drafted soldier finds himself in camp hospital pretty often. Last December (first month of the draft) admission rate was 1295 per 1000 soldiers per year.

TECHNICIANS' SCHOOLS

"This," said Gen. Magee, "was due to the influx of untrained and unseasoned troops."

"The Army has set up schools to provide three-month courses for approximately 18,000 enlisted technicians per year. These will be dental, veterinary, sanitary, medical, surgical, pharmacy, laboratory and X-ray.

"It is co-operating with physical therapy training schools and the American Medical Association, so that the annual output of physical therapists will be increased, due to larger enrollment and a shortened course from 22 to 8 months. This is a national defense medical bottleneck, said Gen. Magee.

VACCINATIONS GIVEN

"The Army used 25 of these physical therapists before the national defense program began," Gen. Magee reported.

"Now we need 200 and Civil Service examinations have produced not more than 25 to 30 eligible."

"Troops sent to the Caribbean are being vaccinated against yellow fever. In addition to vaccinations against smallpox and typhoid, the Surgeon General reported. The yellow fever vaccine is prepared and furnished free of charge by the Rockefeller Foundation for Medical Research.

War Secretary Eilanson has set up a civilian board for investigation of influenza and other epidemic diseases in the Army.

PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

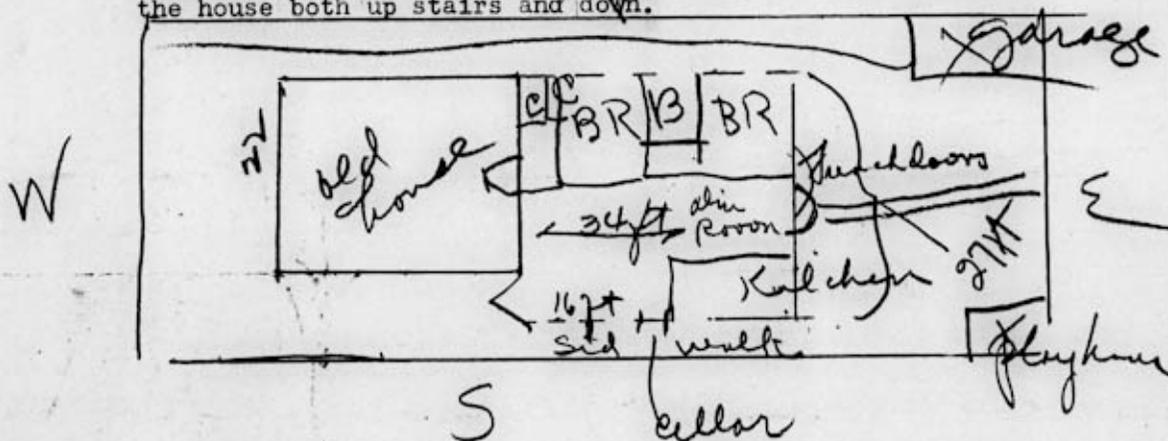
Mosquito control activities are under way in Southern posts and camps, and will be initiated at all places where malaria is a serious health problem.

"The continued objectives of the Medical Department are to prevent all possible illness among members of the military establishment, to eliminate infections with detectable defects, and to furnish casualties the finest care obtainable," said Gen. Magee.

DR. D. A. FURMAN
MCCOOK, NEBRASKA.

Thursday. May 29

Bess Dear; Havent had time to write up to now, but appreciate all the help you gave us. Tomorrow we decorate Donnie's grave and we have some wonderful peonies and roses of our own, his marker is in place, and it is about what I think is appropriate, the cemetary is very beautiful, and very well taken care of, it is nice to know that his resting place is so clean and peaceful. We think of him every day and are proud that we had such a wonderful son. Our basement is completed and we transplanted most of our flowers, loseing only a few, the house is directly behind this one extending thirty four feet east and it is 27 feet wide which goes five feet south and gives us a front door between our house and the one south. We are going to heat the back part with a separte furnace there will be a door between the house both up stairs and down.



9 windows in Basement

Estimated cost building \$4,500, fixtures \$1,500. Insulation etc etc .

While on the subject why dont you wait and come out for the house warming? Where is the money coming from I may borrow a little from the bank.

We spent \$120.00 putting in 32 acres of alfalfa on our farm and are going to put in 27 more acres this fall- all the tillable land, which we are summer fallowing this summer, we were up to see the alfalfa Sunday and we have a nice stand so pray that it lives. It has been an ideal spring and Nebr. looks like the garden of Eden.

Well I learned a lot about Senator Norris's Unicameral legislature, mostly when there are so few senators it dont take very damn much to buy off the few it takesto ruin somebody.

DR. D. A. FURMAN

MCCOOK, NEBRASKA.

I Realize now that our worst shortcomming was in not having a press agent. We were thrown out by the supreme court of Nebr and were trying to get back in, had we been to throw out they never could have done it. Five who difinately promise us were either in the Hotel drunk and a big shot in their hide by some helpful medics(hhree) and two who were there but couldnt think. It is deplorable that 135 good Xtian doctors should be in the hands of forty three men that dont know a hell of a lot about anything. The medics were so elated after the crucifiction that you would have thought each had won a seat in paradise. I will recite what the medical monopoly has done for us. Legislated out of Business seven hospitals (200)beds representing almost a million dollars in investments. One of these men had been doing major surgery for twenty six years all for at least ten.

Deprived the other one hundred and thirty of part of their lively hood.

Deprived us of the opportunity to take an examination so that if we could qualify with any standards they wished to dictate with three of them on a board against two of us.

Judge Carter of Nebr. Supreme court in the case of the people vs Dr. Grable of Scottsbluffs, reversed the dicision of the District Court and said that the license to Practice as an Osteopathic Physician & Surgeon, did not mean surgery, except with the fingers and without instruments, he did leave us the right to do Obsteterics, use antiseptics, anesthetics and give morphine for the relief of pain-- all of which was written in our practice laws.

We have no ~~out~~ out the way things stand now. The various surgeons would like to have me come to Washington and personally interview F.D.R. and have him declare a state of National Emergency and give us back our knives, personally I believe we are behind redemption and our followers will have to be whittled up by Members of Maurice Fishbeins Fellow Travellers. As for me I am not down hearted, it only cost us an economical loss of about \$750.00 a head to get the ax and that is small stuff for a hot D.O. I am going ahead with my plans for the future, when all the medics get in the army-I will go join the marines.

*Love
Don*

*Ruthie Robbie Hello.
Lucile hope you are well.
Bob how are you?*

Other Excerpts from my brother Don's last letter on the Nebraska situation *June 16*

Pat is the only doctor in 25 miles radius. MD's have starved out of all our small towns out here. There is no doctor of any kind in Hayes County. The punks are all enlisting in the army from the small towns, and 135 good all-around physicians including seven good well-qualified general surgeons with hospitals and many men capable of taking care of anything that comes along being restricted to where they can't do country practice, and who have large country doctor followings! It certainly is anti-American, nefarious, monopolistic doings and I sure wish we could figure out some way to get some influence from the government to chastize the A.M.A. for perpetrating such an un-American squeeze on a minority group of good American citizens who pay their taxes and ask no favors.

My license for which I paid \$25 and took exams in obstetrics, surgery, etc.etc, plainly says in large type that I am licensed to practice as
OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
as authorized by civil code, etc.etc.

Now I was given a fraudulent piece of paper which the Judge says don't mean what it says. I came to my native county and spent 17 years practicing as a small town doctor, delivering 314 babies in homes, doing several hundred well-done tonsil operations, fitting several thousand pairs of glasses, taking care of whole families for everything up to major surgery, and diagnosing it, and getting it to a good osteopathic surgeon. I have bought property, raised a family, bought a grave for all, and intend to stay here from now on, but up jumps a judge and reverses a court decision---instigated by NMA (Nebraska Medical Association) and AMA, and I learn that my time, my holdings, and everything I have is jeopardized.

May 30, 1941

Senator George W. Bevins
5129 South 39th Street
Omaha, Nebraska

Let me personally thank you for the consideration you gave to LB 513. We came in on you at the close of the session caught between the coqs of the Supreme Court's decision and extinction, and naturally, but unfortunately, we were all upset, angry and apprehensive. But one can't hold one's breath forever and now I can see more clearly the predicament many of the legislators were in. I reluctantly realize that consistency is often a political virtue, but a physician must, as symptoms reveal themselves often change his diagnosis for the welfare of his patient. So I sincerely hope that you, when sufficient evidence is presented, will see this matter differently, not for the welfare of our profession nor our opposition but for the people. It is a tragedy that personal animus should have entered into this and for my part, I sincerely regret any action of mine or my colleagues which was of that nature.

May I use my own story to illustrate our plight? I came to Lexington 25 years ago, and the only reason I ever stayed was the fact that for the first 2 years I couldn't get money to get out of town. I made my calls on a bicycle until some ingrate stole it and if I couldn't have bought a quarter's worth of beans on credit, my wife and baby would have gone hungry. As my practice grew, my earnings were all put back in my business. For 15 years, I conducted a hospital in a converted residence. I gained surgical experience the hard way. I assisted other surgeons and yearly I went to Chicago, Denver, Kansas City, and Rochester for post-graduate work and observation. Five and a half years ago, I built the first modern hospital this community had ever had and secured associates who were especially trained to assist me in its operation. My 2 sons are preparing now for the D. O. degree. This was all done only after several attorney-generals had interpreted our law and assured us of our rights to lawfully and legally operate. At one time, Chief Justice Robert Simmons was the attorney for our association and he also gave us his interpretation saying that the law plainly meant that we could legally operate and advance with modern science, and now, with one fell stroke, through no fault of my own, everything, the future of my profession, my life's savings, all mortgaged, my sons and my future, are all wiped out. Surely, in this country of ours there must be some recourse but frankly I am so bewildered that I grope like a blind man. If something similar happened to you, what would you do?

I am enclosing a reprint which appeared in a National Magazine several years ago, and request that you read it. Strangely, it repeats language you have heard spoken by both sides. I again apologize for inflicting this question on you and extend my best wishes for your continued success.

Yours very truly,

GCH:DW
Enc.

Geo. C. Widney, D. O.

July 8, 1941
Hyde Park, New York

Mrs. Robert Armstrong

Dear Bess:

I am so glad that the case in which you were interested turned out so well and that the man got his passport. However, you do not have to thank me as all I did was pass the buck too! Evidently it struck the right spot.

Affectionately,

Miss Bess Furman
Furman Features
1097 National Press Building
Washington, D.C.

DD

FURMAN FEATURES

1097 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 3, 1941

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Tommy:

Here is one time that it came out right, and you are one of the main ones to thank for it. You should get this letter, not me, because all I did was like all the rest of them — pass the buck!

Sincerely,

Bess

Bess Furman

*I'm so glad - acc
did work for
luck too
Bess
Furman*

Mrs. Virgil Loeb - 727 Radcliffe Avenue - Saint Louis, Missouri

A thousand thanks. Ben's got
his American passport, thanks
to you & everyone. Now he
has his portie visa, his ~~passage~~^{passage}
& every thing seems set for
his sailing July 15. Now if only
the boat isn't torpedoed, he
may be able to join his
family.

Bess - I'm busy with the Battle
of Coeducation - The League's program.

Send me your recent releases
on women and defense, please.

Much love

Hastily (and low!)

Bess.

Thanks again and again.
July 1.

July 19, 1941
Hyde Park, New York

100
ARMSTRONG

Dear Bess:

Thank you very much for your letter
and for the enclosure.

I can imagine you must be quite lonely
without the twins. I expect to be in Washington
on the 24th for an all day meeting with Mayor
LaGuardia's Committee. I am not having a press
conference but it may be that you will have a
chance to see the Mayor and his committee after
the meeting.

Affectionately,

Miss Bess Furman *Armstrong*
Furman Features
1097 National Press Bldg.
Wash., D.C.

T:DD
/

FURMAN FEATURES

1097 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 14 -

Dear "E. R."

I certainly want to thank you -
and Tommy too - for having
Muriel Lund call me on Doris's
difficulties.

Lucile is out there now, and
I am sure by the time that
she returns they will have
worked out a program of what
is practical to do - and a
philosophy to accept what
can't be done.

I let her take the twins -
the folks out there would have
been so disappointed not to
see them this summer and
it began to look impractical
for me to get away. They are
having a grand time, and are
getting lots of Nebraska, and
also Colorado sunshine into their
systems.

FURMAN FEATURES

1097 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Enclosed you will find a tribute to you which was sent me by my friend Frazier Bearno in Toledo. Frazier commented that a compliment from a Chamber of Commerce was rare for a new Dealer - especially when it came publicly and officially! He has quite a voice in Toledo being a leading New Dealer in a nest of Republicans. He and his Republican brother each lived up their arguments for the sake of their 80-year-old preacher-father and Frazier won!

He feels very gratified by the change in the Toledo labor policy as he had a hand in it from 1933-37 as Prosecuting Attorney.

Hope you get some rest and relaxation this summer. For buying to modernize my kitchen. Trust love
Bearno.

"WHAT'S GOING ON IN TOLEDO"

Published weekly by The Toledo Chamber of Commerce

Vol. 1 No. 47

Toledo, Ohio

June 18, 1941

Page 2

GRATEFUL

We deeply appreciate the many words of praise from out of town guests and members who seem to have liked the annual dinner. We'll print one of them. It comes from Herbert N. Lape, Sr., head of Julian and Kokenge, Columbus, and a director of the United States Chamber of Commerce. He calls our meeting "the most inspiring and best managed" chamber meeting he ever attended anywhere. That's quite a statement, coming from a man who gets all over the country and attends many a dinner.

* * *

HARRISBURG VISITORS

Dan Casey, head man of the Harrisburg, Pa. Chamber of Commerce and some 160 Harrisburg business men will be in Toledo Wednesday night. They arrive by boat, Toledo being the last stop on a lake cruise. Immediately upon arriving, they are going on a sightseeing tour of the city, then to the Commodore Perry Hotel where they'll give their own party--and incidentally, they want to meet Toledo's business and professional men.

This is your notice and invitation to come around Wednesday night and meet the gentlemen of this lively group. El Dorado Room, 9:30 p. m.

* * *

WELCOME

This week's big event is the Inverness Invitational, and this is a welcome note to the visitors Toledo will have from all over. Also it is a congratulatory note to the men of Inverness, who devised this tourney in 1935, and have made it one of the nations leading golf events.

* * *

LEWIS SPEECH

We are mimeographing copies of the speech of Sir Willmott Lewis and will mail them to members at an early date.

* * *

GOLF TOURNEY

Like our bowling league, our annual golf tournament is a Chamber institution. This year the big day will be July 9, with Everett Taylor in charge of the committee which has a prize sub-committee, headed by Joe Everett, and there will doubtless be sufficient prizes for any dub to have a chance. The course will be Sylvania.

FIRST LADY

The value to Toledo of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt's comment on Toledo at one of her press conferences is difficult to estimate. Mrs. Roosevelt, commenting while the Ingleside, California strike was at a critical stage, directed the attention of the cities of the nation to Toledo. Just to prove it wasn't a casual comment, Mrs. Roosevelt several days later gave Don W. Robinson, director of the Toledo Metropolitan Housing Authority, a 30-minute quiz on Toledo's labor conditions. Mr. Robinson was at the White House as a delegate to the National Housing Inventory. Mrs. Roosevelt's comment at her press conference went all over the nation, so we sat down and wrote the First Lady a letter.

We also wrote letters to many columnists, enclosing the William Hard article on Toledo.

The First Lady has a big audience and what she had to say about Toledo carries weight--and circulation.

* * *

AIRPORT DEDICATION

We don't have to tell you anything about the dedication of Toledo's airport--June 29--except to call your attention to that date.

The plans are forming, the details necessarily are "under the gun" and are being announced from time to time, as they are approved.

Brigadier General H. A. Dargue will be here, and so will a fleet of fighter planes, including pursuits, bombers, and other aircraft to be sent in by the army.

Students from northwestern Ohio and southern Michigan colleges and universities have been invited.

The big companies will be represented with planes and with their officials.

The state also will be represented, and there will be countless hundreds of others specifically interested in the most important of all governmental-industrial enterprises--aviation for defense, aviation for a long-haul future.

* * *

NEW MAGAZINE

Harold J. Sherman, widely known Toledo advertising man and promotion man, has succeeded Jack FitzGerald, resigned.

In addition to his departmental duties, Mr. Sherman will act as business manager of Toledo Business, the monthly magazine of the Chamber. Lov Flournoy will continue as editor.

The magazine will be revamped, effective with the July issue.

Heretofore, we've printed a magazine only partly local. More than 50 per cent of the contents were of general interest to business men, but the articles were written elsewhere, and while they were excellent, it was deemed better to devote all space in this monthly publication to our own affairs.

The new 100-per-cent Toledo content will enable us to report Chamber and business activities without too much abbreviation of detail.

Likewise, the new 100-per-cent Toledo content will increase and enhance the advertising value of this magazine.

* * *

GROWTH

Toledo Business started with a circulation which covered the membership of the Chamber, leading business contacts in Toledo and the state, not affiliated with the Chamber; publicity channels and contact points, a quality circulation.

Today, the Toledo circulation has more than doubled for the reason that the membership has more than doubled. The additional copies are in greater demand, and the curiosity about Toledo calls for more state and national copies.

Mr. Sherman can offer the advertisers in Toledo Business a contact with Toledo's representative business and professional men--practically all of the leaders in their fields--for all of them are Chamber members, and our own check-up with a cross section of them shows them reading Toledo Business.

MAN BITES DOG

Generally speaking, a published item about taxation, calls for weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth. We printed one such item a few weeks ago in this bulletin--not to deplore--but just to call attention to the fact that if you pay a good stiff income tax you probably can't buy more than a Gerand rifle or two with it, and if you are U. S. Steel, you still can't buy a battleship with an entire year's tax payments of all sorts.

Whereupon, instead of weeping and deploring, one important Toledo business man sends in the following:

1. Is it not true that with few if any exceptions, we readers of your valued publication are all making more money now than at any previous time in the last ten years?
2. In spite of taxes, it is my guess that most of us will certainly NET more this year.
3. This windfall is very little due to our own aggressiveness, astuteness, or keen business judgement.
4. Most of it is the Direct Result of the Defense Program, the ostensible purpose of which is to perpetuate the democratic system of government under which we still enjoy that fast-glimmering privilege of being able to CUSS THE GOVERNMENT--our own government.
5. And while we all grab all the business we can, some of us resent having to pay for it, although by so doing we keep ourselves in business on a more profitable basis than before.
6. Unless we want the eventual slavery of the French and Dutch (both of them having also been good business nations) we must unify our efforts into One Great Purpose. Subtle cracks about extortionate taxes, unsupported by intelligent Action, are not only futile but are fuel for the flames of national discontent and disunity.
7. Since we just Gotta Do It, why not be grown up about it? Is it not time for us to quit our childish tantrums over the inevitable; especially when many of us are already Better Off (even though temporarily) because of it?

* * *

THE TOLEDO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sydney D. Vinnedge, President

Stanley Grove, Executive Manager

100

September 17, 1941

Dear Bess:

I meant to write to you as soon as I received your first letter, and now I have two letters and a lovely pin to thank you for.

I am so sorry to hear that Lucille had to have an operation and I hope she is getting on well. I am sending her a few flowers to cheer her up.

I am so glad things are going well with you and I want to see you very soon. At the moment my brother's illness makes it difficult for me to plan ahead.

Are these pins made and sold in the parks or was the label just a boast? I am interested.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland

Aug 17 Labor Day

Dear C.R.:

Somewhat, I feel like reporting to you at the summer's end.

My children are safely back, since Aug 10, bronzed by midwestern sun, looking better than they ever did before.

In their absence, Bob & I with our own two hands & the help of the triplets, artistic rooming, the Frigidaire people & the Bendig boys etc modernized our kitchen, including the painting thereof. It is now engineered to

my satisfaction.

If I weren't almost afraid to put good news down on paper, I'd report that I honestly believe that little story you told me once may work out into a happy ending — the one about your friend who let her husband remain a boy. Some of the load of worry has rolled off me this summer — I almost believe Bob has found the answer to the drinking business.

Hick is going to have two very special stars in her crown — for

giving self-confidence to two
exceptionally able people -
Virginia Rachel and my
sister Lucile. That's another
reason I have for feeling
personally thankful.

Bob and I both feel
very sorry that Mavis has
been so ill for so long.
I have been very lazy
and remiss about my
friends lately. I broke
the little bone at the
end of my spine and
it was painful and
de-vitalizing out of all
proportion to its size.

I read about you and
I read your column &
keep track of your songs

"and courage and do
my little bit on all
the fronts I have to
work on to try to arouse
the great American
people to what they
have to face.

I guess that about
completes the report.

Affectionately
Bess

Reading this over it sounds
too glib for words.

It must be the paper.

What I am trying to
say is that I realize

you and miss newspapers
but I find plenty to be

glad about in the life that
I do live, and hope to do
better by it.

sept 9 1941

Dear ER.

The thought of getting a note off to you has been with me ever since I first saw the news about the president's mother at 4 a.m. as I walked out of Sibley Hospital where Lucile had just had an emergency appendectomy.

It seemed a part of an
other-world dream - the closing
of past chapters of all of
our lives - the gripping
intensity of the present. I
had been thinking about
the President's mother that
afternoon between the kind
of hour by hour things you
have to do + decide as
an illness becomes acute - I
happened to read a poem,
"The Matriarch" in the
current *McCall's* on the
death of a matriarch -
and it was honestly the
first time I had ever
wondered what it would
be like for all of you
of the President's mother.

died. She was so the personification
of her time and place that
she seemed to me one of the
eternal verities in gladness.

This is to express to you
my sympathy and understanding
I think maybe she helped to make
you the great woman that
you are more than any one
other compelling factor! Love Bless.

100

October 6, 1941.

Dear Bess:

I want to thank each of you
so much for your kind expressions of
sympathy. The flowers were beautiful,
and I am deeply grateful for your kind-
ness in sending them.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong,
513 Goddard Road,
Bethesda, Maryland.

VDS

Dear E.R.

Like thousands of others
we hope that the courage,
kindness, understanding and
sympathy that you have
given to us is reflected
back a thousand fold.

With all our love and ^{all} 10/6/44
sympathy.

Bess and Lucile

Bob.

Thank very much - J. Snow

FURMAN FEATURES

1007 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 16, 1941

MEMORANDUM

To: E.R.
From: Bess Furman

I have asked for just five minutes of your time on Monday to finish up the ground-work on a story of Civilian Defense for The Democratic Digest. In order that none of the five minutes will be wasted, I herewith submit the questions that I am going to ask you:

1. How does the program of the Women's Division of the Democratic National Committee key in with the Civilian Defense work that you are doing? Of course Democratic women will wish to follow your leadership. As you know, they have been specializing on county surveys, and on study and action programs in foreign affairs, hemispheric solidarity, military defense and civilian defense.
2. Are you going to wear a uniform for your work -- if so what kind of uniform -- is there any possible chance that we could get the first picture of you in that uniform and thus scoop the world?
3. How are you going to make use of our big Democratic gals who were widely touted in The Digest as members of the OCD Advisory Committee, viz: Ruth Bryan Rohde, Daisy Harriman, Anna Roosevelt Boettiger, Helen Gahagan, and Ellen S. Woodward? Will they have uniforms befitting their rank? Personally, having had some World War experience with popular psychology, I honestly think it would be an inspiring thing at this particular juncture to uniform these particular women swankly. They are all handsome, go about making speeches, and would, I think, dramatize the Civilian Defense movement mightily.

If I were as prompt as you are --they tell me you O.K. each press release inside of twenty minutes --I would certainly have reported to you long before this on your question about Miss Johnson's jewelry. I am sorry to say that the Parks insignia had nothing whatever to do with the package. I have a habit of wrapping packages at my desk with whatever is handy there. The only thing I happened to have with stickers on it was some National Parks emblems that Bob had

brought home to educate the children. However, your suggestion gave me an idea. Alice Johnson gets all her inspiration from nature and all her designs from birds, flowers, and leaves. Her jewelry already has a spirit that would key in wonderfully with the souvenir shops of the National Parks. You should see her wild geese, maple leaves complete with seed pods, etc., etc. Perhaps at some future time it might be possible to send her into the Parks and make a line of souvenirs which certainly should have great artistic appeal.

November 10, 1941

Dear Boss:

I am very much interested in your letter and happy, of course, that you and Bob have found a solution.

Fortunately, I do not have anyone on my hands at the moment to suggest who needs help.

I'd like to go to a meeting and will try to go November 20, but, of course, can't be sure.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland

d.

Mrs Bob Armstrong
Bess 513 Goddard Rd
Bethesda, Md.

Dear E.R.

Ans
11-10-41

Bob and I have come to you so often with our troubles, we want to bring you the other side of the picture too. We talked this over, and he really wants me to tell you that he has been lined up with Alcoholics Anonymous now long enough to feel pretty sure of his ground, and to feel sure too that in this particular program he has found the answer to his problem.

By this time I know that I can't introduce you to anything. You probably know all about Alcoholics Anonymous and have read their book. To us it seems to open a whole new field of hope to an otherwise insolvable problem. Of course you know it works through those who have been through the mill working with each other, bringing the thing right out into the open and facing it, privately and in the meetings of the group. Bob wants me to tell you that if there comes to your attention a situation in which he might help along with somebody that you are trying to help, he will be more than glad to do it.

Tell them
about G. W.
Lusk's
Bread and
Love

We also thought you might perhaps be interested in sometime going to some of their meetings. They are allowed to bring friends in every Tuesday night here, and any Tuesday night we would be glad to introduce you to the local group and give you the opportunity to drop into a back seat and see them in action, without any fuss or feathers or particular calling attention to the fact that you are there. And if you wanted to mention this particular form of working mental hygiene in your column, I am sure it would be carrying along the good word of something which in the last six years has proven a great benefit to a lot of smart people who otherwise would be a straight deficit to society. After you've seen for yourself, of course.

Also, it so happens that Bill Wilson, the ex-drunk who started the movement, will be down here the last Sunday in November, the 30th, making a speech to the group at 7 p.m. He is the anonymous author of Alcoholics Anonymous, a darned well-written book. I know you're never free these days, but Bob and I would sure be pleased and proud to take you there if it would be possible.

I'd like
to get
radio

Yours always, and affectionately,

Bess

November 25, 1941.

Dec 1 10:11
Mishkin d

Dear Bess:

I find I shall have a good
many people here next week end and
cannot go to the meeting on Sunday
the 30th.

I do want to see you, and
hope you will lunch with me December 1,
at the White House.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

VJS

November 29, 1941

file

MEMO FOR MR. CRIM:
MRS. HELM:
MRS. KNIGHT:
MRS. MASHITT:
MR. TOLLEY:
MISS THOMPSON:

The following people have been invited to luncheon on December 1st, at 1 p.m.

Judge Carrick Buck - member of the Civilian Defense Commission in Hawaii.

Col. Lesnel Rolles - connected with the D. C. Defense Council.

Appointments made by Mrs. Knight.

H.T.L.

rl

February 10, 1942.

100

Dear Bess:

Thanks for your letter. I'm
waiting 'till the time seems best.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

VDS

PLEASE RETURN
THIS LETTER TO
MISS THOMPSON.

VDS

Thank you
for writing
Dear E. R. Help
of newspaper
back
8, 1972

I tried to get you by phone today, simply because everything I look at reminds me of you and if my twenty years of newspaper experience could do you any good at the present moment, I'd like to have it helping you out.

You certainly are competent to handle any situation - as witness the convention in Chicago - and you also have plenty who know newspapers to give you good advice. But once in awhile someone stumbles onto something the others haven't thought of.

So may I tell you the ideas which occurred to me?

1. The newspapers already have had a three-day RRRR holiday and it certainly should be your turn now. Instead of letting them put you on the spot with a peppering of detailed questions, it would be my assessed judgment that here would be a place to start a press conference with a full

presentation of just about
all you intend to say on
the subject — by all
means take down
verbatim as a guard
against incorrect quotation

2. Please take a little poke at
that chivalrous columnist,
Ruy Clapper, or yelling for
his fellow columnist, Westbrook
Payler, to come on down
and help finish you off. Shall
we have government by the HEEF and CUP method?
3. Please defend Donald Duck.
Ask even Congress, in all
fairness, to withhold judgement
until they have seen this movie.
The first half is the light,
typical Disney cartoon.
The last half is a technical
synthesis of all America is
now thinking, saying and doing.
Person after person who saw it
at the Press Club said, "How
different from the propaganda
of Goebbels." Ask them to read
what this week's New Yorker says
about it — attached. It is worth a
million, not a mere \$40,000.

4. Re both this cartoon and
Melvyn Douglas, I think
it might fairly be remarked
that movies are as much
a part of the Civilian
Defense effort as newspapers
are and have a right to
be represented here even though
they happen to center up
on the West Coast whereas
the whole publishing business
centers up on the East Coast.

5. I might add as a last
little plaintive note that I
sure hope you won't ever
let anybody argue you out
of holding press conferences.
I think the grand sum
total of the good they have
done will far outweigh
the trouble you've seen
at various times.

Love and luck,

Ben



THE TALK OF THE TOWN

Notes and Comment

EVERY now and then we go back to "Mein Kampf," just to check the progress of the war against the Führer's dream of it. We did this last week, skipping around in the section devoted to Eastern policy, and at least two comments we found there had, it seemed to us, a timely quality. Discussing Russia's value as a possible ally, the boss observed that the Soviets would soon "completely drop out . . . as a technical factor in the struggle." "Russia," he said, "can still not call its own a single factory in which can be manufactured a motor vehicle that really runs. Thus the fact of the conclusion of a treaty . . . would be the end of Germany." The other note had to do with Japan. Here Hitler's vision was of an Anglo-Japanese pact directed against the United States. "England would be doomed were she to stand alone," he wrote. "Hence they anxiously reach out for the yellow fist and cling to an alliance which, viewed racially, is perhaps irresponsible, but which, nevertheless, politically offers the sole possibility of reinforcing the British world position in the face of the aspiring American continent." Nice prophesying, kid, we murmured, and picked up our paper, which dealt that day with a Russian gain of sixty-two miles in the Ukraine and various Anglo-American conspiracies against the little Aryan brothers.

ONE of the minor curiosities of this war is the fact that so far the artists have failed to produce anything recognizable as the typical German soldier. It was different, of course, in 1917. We were looking over a collection of old cartoons the other day, and there he was on almost every page—a fat-necked barbarian, wearing a spiked helmet and decorated with the Iron Cross; a monstrous baby with disgusting habits. No matter who drew him, he was always

the same: his name was Fritz and the balloon that issued from his mouth contained vaudeville Dutch. He was drawn in many poses but most frequently either with one hobnailed boot on the body of a beautiful young woman labelled "Belgium" or else in comic surrender to a contemptuous athlete with a bayonet. We look in vain for any such foolish, reassuring composite today. The artists still draw Germans, but there is no agreement among them and out of all the faces comes no face at all. It occurs to us that the faceless



men, the blank symbols of a race that has surrendered its identity, are better propaganda than the Hun at his bloodthirsty worst. They may even be a healthy symptom, indicating that we are outgrowing our political age of innocence.

WE New Yorkers are a lovable, sunny-tempered people, totally lacking in the capacity to get scared and stay scared in any constructive way. After spending the better part of a month purchasing flashlights, sleeping bags, phosphorescent doorknobs, commodes, portable radios, yard goods, and other "blackout supplies," we found ourselves



spiritually prepared not for an air raid but for Newbold Morris's calm announcement that, since Manhattan Island is outlined by water and thus unmistakable from the air, there is no use in blacking it out. We think, if anyone cares to hear what we think, that Morris is absolutely right. Military objectives are as dark as

a pocket anyway, in the ordinary way of things—pierheads, warehouses, and the like—and if the brave glow of a bar-and-grill succeeds in diverting a Nazi bomber from his true objective, the bombed-out toppers should be delighted. Manhattan's best protection against air raids is not blacked-out streets but the baffling fact that if you walk, or fly, due west from the East River, you come to the North River. We are confident that this will reduce the German navigators to a state of utter helplessness, and that the bombs, if any, will flop harmlessly in the bogs of New Jersey.

A FRIEND of ours who reviews movies for a living strode into the hotel lobby where we sometimes go to sit at dusk, beating sleet off his hatbrim and grinning all over. He told us he'd just been to see the much-talked-of film in which Donald Duck pays his income tax. "Good?" we asked, indulgently. "Definitely recommended," he said. "It was," he added, consulting a press release that he pulled from his ulster pocket, "a Walt Disney-Treasury Department Donald Duck Production. That's official." Over a couple of duty-free domestic aperitifs, we agreed that a nation whose Treasury Department could sponsor (or, to be exact, co-sponsor, with secondary billing) a Donald Duck Production could never lose a war of nerves.

THE Nazis, people who, we sometimes feel, have a tendency to overreach themselves, were recently reported to favor the establishment of worldwide prohibition. Considering that they also seem to be in favor of first winning the war and then managing the affairs of everybody, including us, we cannot help admiring their pluck. The awful prospect of trying to enforce prohibition in the United States is something which only the Nazis could face without cringing, and even though they could

FEBRUARY 6, 1942

How About It, F. D.?

By Raymond Clapper



I HOPE Westbrook Pegler will come down here and do one of his justly celebrated scalping jobs on the Office of Civilian Defense. I mean on Mrs. Roosevelt, too, because half the trouble around there could be got rid of if the President would haul her out of the place.

Most of the remaining trouble would be eased if the erratic and irascible activities of Mayor LaGuardia were removed from the scene.

Do that and give James M. Landis, the present executive of the OCD, real authority to run the show and I believe you

would get something worth while. The Office of Civilian Defense has done a vast amount of work that is indispensable and has done it well. But its effectiveness has been undermined by the misused talents of Mayor LaGuardia and Mrs. Roosevelt.

IF SOME of the responsible persons around OCD and some of the other responsible officials around town could say what they thought, I think they would agree with the foregoing. But they cannot do it. There is hesitation in Congress about saying much because nobody wants to criticize the wife of the President.

But this is public business, and very important public business. The work of the Office of Civilian Defense concerns the safety and welfare of the people of this nation. Yet it has become a kind of personal parking lot for the pets and proteges of Mrs. Roosevelt, some of them at salaries larger than a brigadier general or a rear admiral gets.

Last November Mrs. Roosevelt's dancer protege, Mayris Chaney, was appointed at \$4600 a year, which is more than a major in the Army gets. Her job is to encourage rhythmic dancing for children. When I asked how she got there, I was told thru Mrs. Roosevelt. Melvyn Douglas, the motion picture star, will run a kind of service exchange for actors, writers and musicians who want to do something for defense. He got there thru Mrs. Roosevelt. The three new sub-executives who will direct the volunteer participation work are selections of Mrs. Roosevelt. The place is filled with them.

IT IS incredible that President Roosevelt will allow this situation to continue much longer. It has become a public scandal.

The worst thing about all this is that, more than any other Government agency, the Office of Civilian Defense is concerned with maintaining civilian morale. That is one of its important duties set out in the executive order.

How can you have any kind of morale with a subordinate employe, who happens to be the wife of the President of the United States, flitting in and out between lecture engagements to toss a few more pets into nice jobs? What does the school teacher who has to stand watch at the school building all night for civilian defense think about that? How is the morale of thousands of people, who are giving up evenings to prepare for possible emergencies, going to be maintained with such a situation at the top?

THE Office of Civilian Defense is charged with the most serious responsibilities. On the fire-protection side it has worked faithfully at them. Fortunately most of that work was handled by Army and Navy officers and experienced firemen and technicians. Here it is only fair to say that Mayor LaGuardia, thru his interest in protecting New York City, did some most valuable pioneering.

On the other side of the Civilian Defense work, where the children's rhythmic dancing comes in, a whole clutter of stuff has grown up largely thru Mrs. Roosevelt. Landis, who ought to be running the show, is finding constantly that new orders are being issued without clearing thru his office. The place is full of people who look not to him but to Mrs. Roosevelt as the boss.

Duties and authority are poorly defined. The executive order means almost nothing as it stands. OCD needs the same kind of shaking up that war production had the other day. A new executive order is needed which will give Landis authority such as Donald Nelson has and make it clear who is boss. The agency can never be run well until that is cleared up. Until Mr. Roosevelt does that the place will disgrace the serious mission to which it is dedicated.

2
February 28, 1942

Dear Bess:

Your note telling Mrs. Roosevelt about the speech on March 3d is at hand, but I am sorry to say that Mrs. Roosevelt will be away until Thursday afternoon.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Robert A. Taft

Miss Bess Furman
Room 1097 Press Building
Washington, D. C.

0

ack
2/28

Dear E. P.

See his
msg away
until 3pm

The chap who wrote
Alcoholics Anonymous
will address the local
group next Tuesday
night, March 3, before
going into military
service. 8:30 p.m.

If you could crowd
this into your always
crowded calendar,
give me a call.

Affectionately

Bess Truman

100
Mrs. Robert Armstrong

5

March 25, 1942

Dear Bess:

I have written Nelson Rockefeller
in your behalf, as I know him and do not
know the other gentleman.

I am sorry to see you so infrequently.
We'll have to remedy that!

Affectionately,

Miss Bess Furman
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Md.

0

Nelson Rockefeller

I understand that
Bess Furman's name
has been suggested as
a successor to Miss Mary
Winslow, & I have known
Miss Furman for a long

time & I ~~am confident~~ know
she is capable & a fine
person. This is just to
speak a word in her
behalf -

ER

ack
3.25, March 23

Dear E.P.

Somehow, though I never see you any more, I go about feeling you are still with me.

That is easy, of course, when I read you every day, hear you every Sunday night, and catch up on things I didn't know before once a month in the Ladies Home Journal.

Lucile got hold of the last journal first and brought it to me with the comment that your favorite quotation — the one about Charity — explains you completely! I was most amused at the story about the White House Reception to which the invitations failed to go out.

Lucile and I are still
looking hither and you for
jobs, having had more of
them vanish in our very
clutches than you would
have believed possible.

The last place where I
mentioned your name
as among those who knew
me came up in the
following fashion —
strictly off the record but
I feel if you knew about
it you might say a
word of opportunity
offered — in behalf of
one Bess Furman.

Mary Winslow, who has been
coordinator of women's club
activities for Nelson Rockefeller
is going up the ladder
to something else. She
asked Shirley Encho to
help her recommend a
successor and they agreed
I would be the one person
in Washington most
conversant with the study
and action programs of
all the women's groups.

However, Mary found
that one Walter H.C. Lives of
Chicago, who has to ok
this thing, had chosen
Louise Leonard Wright,

who, if it sticks, will have
to do it on a part time
basis, commuting from
Chicago. In an interview
with him, I told him
I'd worked 2 1/2 years with
Louise on the League of
Women Voters - that I
considered myself completely
capable to hold first place,
but that I was also
experienced in playing
second fiddle (a place
which will also be vacant)

From a salary point
of view, I don't insist
whether second place
there would be worth
having or not - but that
is how the matter stands.

I smile now to recall
how Mrs Shipley, Mary
Windsor and Mary
Anderson turned to
me — and I called in
Shirley Enock to figure
out how to cut short
the devastating career
of Doris Stevens in
our Pan American
relations. Shirley and I
picked up Louise Wright
bodily + threw her into
her first Pan American
conference — with Doris.
Shipley's help of course —
and then Shirley herself
went down and did the
heavy

work that turned the
trick of opening up a
new era in Inter-
American relations
among women.

The Lord must aim
me to be something special
in the lives of my husband
& children right now,
or He would make it
so hard for me to find
a place to serve my
country in the manner
to which I am bound!

Love,

Bees
my love to Tommy and thank her
for the message that she sent me.

100
MRS. Robert Armstrong

4/6/4v

Sent to Bess Furman

Mr. Rockefeller's letter March 30 - final decision
delayed on successor to Miss Winslow, until
Dr. Walter Laves returns to Washington.

100

April 20, 1942.

Dear Bess:

I am so glad you have temporary work and I hope the other job comes through.

I am sorry the children could not come to the Easter party - but they will get such things as chicken pox!

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

VDS

April 25, 1942

/ 50

Dear Bess:

I think it is fine that you took
the writing job and I hope that you will
enjoy the work. Good luck to you.

Affectionately,

0

Mrs Robert Armstrong
Miss Bess Furman
1097 National Press Building
Washington, D.C.

4-23

FURMAN FEATURES

1097 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 19, 1942

June

Furman

Dear E.R.:

This is just to let you know my present situation. John Herrick called me up and said that the position he had for me was okehed by the budget. Whereupon, I authorized him to put my papers through, as the saying goes, and withdrew my application from Inter-American Affairs. As between a writing job and an organizing job, I just couldn't do anything but take the writing job.

As I understand it, I will be the one woman writer in the Information Section of OFF---and I am hoping that may possibly bring me back into your press conference as a regular observer with the rest of the women in the federal information offices. I have not yet mentioned the matter to John, but will wait and see what the set-up looks like when I am on the job. I'll drop you a loud, triumphant line on the day I take the oath.

And I'll always appreciate your writing Nelson Rockefeller, even though I did take a different job. I'd have taken his, and worked my hardest at it, if this chance to work in the old writing game hadn't come along.

My very best to Tommy,

Affectionately,

Bess

Bess Furman

Dear E. R.

one can at least hope
to see Holland's press!

Thought you might like
to see a copy of my
first "woman-interest" release.

It is not pleasant reading,
but I hope it will tell those
who read it something about
what we are fighting for.

It went to all ~~the~~ women
Editors of daily papers - so you
see I was a bona fide applicant
for your press conference. I'll see
you there on Tuesday. Bless

OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION

WASHINGTON

PRESS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE IN
PAPERS OF SUNDAY, JUNE 21
AND THEREAFTER.

file 100
Mrs Robert Armstrong

Note to Women's Editors and Sunday Editors While the papers have already carried the news of the Lidice massacre, the attached release, presenting the story of the women of Lidice as typical of the fate of women in Nazi-occupied countries, may be of timely interest to you and your readers.

If the space at your command does not permit its publication, you may wish to file it for future reference. Already, dispatches from Washington and from London indicate that the Allies are determined that though Lidice has been destroyed, the name of Lidice (pronounced *lood-ent-ary*) shall not die, but rather will become a rallying cry in the war against the Axis.

The Office of War Information today issued the following statement:

The women of the little Bohemian village of Lidice were wives two weeks ago. Today, they are widows.

Imprisoned in Nazi concentration camps, their husbands murdered by the Gestapo, their children torn from their arms and herded into Nazi "education centers", the women of Lidice symbolize the sufferings of the women of all occupied Europe at the hands of Hitler.

Their town, near Prague, had stood, through war and peace, for at least six hundred years. Mention of Lidice, and of the castle for which it was named, appeared in musty annals of the year 1309. St. Margaret's Church, to which they took their children on the Sabbath, had dominated Lidice for more than two hundred years. As wives of men who worked in the coal mines and in the village mill, the women of Lidice led simple lives. They had three shops to choose from in doing their buying, one of them run by a woman, Marie Mastalirova. Their town also had three inns, a shoemaker's shop, a tailor's shop, a blacksmith shop, and a wheelmaker's shop. Their men were traditionally craftsmen, carvers of fine furniture, and their homes were filled with heirlooms.

The women of Lidice had committed no crime - except the crime of remaining patriotic, of wanting to be free of brutal Nazi rule. But they chanced to live not far from the winding road where Hitler's chief terrorist, Reinhard ("The Hangman") Heydrich, was fatally shot. So the Berlin radio coldly told what happened to them and to their village: "All male inhabitants have been shot. The women have been transferred to a concentration camp. The children have been taken to educational centers. All houses of Lidice have been leveled to the

ground, and the name of this community has been obliterated. Lidice had 483 inhabitants."

The men of Lidice are dead, but the women of Lidice live as symbols of Nazi horror in the further horror of a concentration camp. Their story is typical of the dark chapter now being written in the history of the women of the world - a chronicle of executions without cause, slavery, child suffering, starvation, told as often by Berlin and the radio stations it controls as by the enemies of the Axis.

In the list of more than three hundred persons, exclusive of the men of Lidice, executed in groups as a result of the Heydrich assassination there have been at least 56 women. As reported by the Prague radio, the names and the crimes of these women were lumped off in a casual fashion. For instance, Marie Borovska, of Vratimov, District of Frydek, whose name fell between numbers 4 to 7 on one day's execution list, was among those said to have "approved of the attempt against Heydrich or appealed for the support of the perpetrators." "Zdemka of Prague, a Jewess" was listed among those sentenced "for illegal possession of arms." Marie Karaskova of Tynice was among those who "were not registered with the police or who took part in acts hostile to the Reich or gave shelter to such persons."

The Nazi murders because of Heydrich's death were bloody sequels to the massacres that took place under Heydrich living. In the occupied countries, children have not been spared the "lesson" of what it means to live under Nazi rule. A London broadcast on the day of Heydrich's funeral ran: "The horrors of Reinhard Heydrich's reign in Poland are disclosed. School children were forced to watch executions on gallows set up in every town. Hundreds of Poles were executed for every German killed."

And childhood under the Nazis has also been subjected to slower tortures. The children of Greece are starving in great numbers. One authentic eye-witness account contained this sentence: "Young children, very thin, with dull eyes, weep while asking you for something to eat." In Norway, child mortality is three or four times normal, the Stockholm radio says. Germany is drafting its own children under fifteen years of age to work in the fire departments at night.

Companion pieces to accounts of the executions of women in broadcasts from Europe are references to women in great numbers being sent into Germany as labor slaves.

The Quisling government of Norway is conscripting women both to work in the fish packing plants of Trondheim and Bodo, and to be sent into Germany to take the place of 70,000 men who have been transferred for fortification work. On the day of the Heydrich funeral, General Froelich Hansen, commander of Quisling's Labor Service, was in Berlin consulting, so the German-controlled radio announced, on "the tasks and objectives of the Reich Labor Service." Before leaving Norway, Hansen had announced that compulsory labor service for all women between the ages of 18 and 23 years would be introduced next spring. The Nazi-controlled radio at Oslo revealed that 60 work camps for women will be established in Norway this summer. In the fish factories, Norwegian women are forced to help process the Norwegian fish catch into frozen filets to be sent to the Germans in a specially constructed refrigerator ship, the Oldenburg. Ninety percent of the Norwegian fish catch is now going to Germany.

Hundreds of French factories were closed down last week by the Laval government so that French workers could be sent to Germany as "war slaves", the London radio said. Simultaneously Berlin was broadcasting: "All other interests must at present take second place compared with the necessity to reserve existing female labor for munitions plants."

A Vichy broadcast informed: "The third contingent of workers and of women from the region of Athens is about to arrive in Germany to work in the war industries." From an official Finnish broadcast came this: "The first contingent of women and girls left Helsinki to spend the summer doing agricultural work." Girls and women from 14 to 60 have been ordered to register for industrial work in Hungary, an official broadcast announced. Two hundred and fifty thousand Polish women have been put at forced labor in Germany, and one-fourth of them are working on farms, Berlin said.

Berlin also is authority for this announcement: "A number of Latvian girls, from 16 to 25 years old, have recently arrived from Riga to work as farm and industrial hands in Northern Germany. All of them concluded contracts with the German Employment Office in Riga and will stay in the Reich for one year. The German Labor Front will care for the girls by controlling their working conditions and organizing their leisure time."

That this is all a part of an accelerating movement is indicated by a Moscow broadcast which ran as follows: "In the towns and villages of the Ukraine, German officials are forcibly seizing girls and young women and sending them off to Germany. These victims are by the thousands being shipped to work in German factories and on large estates. The enslaved are taken on special trains under the escort of S. S. detachments. Many trainloads of Ukrainian women were sent into Germany during the winter. Since the advent of spring, more trains are being sent off with increasing frequency. Train follows train, carrying off the women who will have to toil like slaves for German manufacturers and landowners."

100

July 7, 1942.

Dear Beas:

It is just grand that your
job is O. K., and I think the article
is good stuff.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

VDS

Dear E. R.

^{7/11/42}
I thought that the President would be interested in this rare coin - if he didn't already know about it -

And that you might be interested in reading my gleanings on Queen Wilhelmina. The reason for this release is obvious - to get some of the real meaning into royal visits

instead of the stereotyped handling by time-schedule and social event, to the exclusion of the broader news background.

Beas.

Later: Dorothy Ducas asked for me to help her on magazines and I was speedily transferred to Henry Bringle's part of O.W.I. Delighted am I that I still can write for my country!

BESS FERRIS ARMSTRONG

Dear ER. S.O.S.

I've used up almost
all my paper writing
letters to you and
tearing them up.

Now I'll give you
bare facts.

Bob Horton was
made head of the Press
Division of the Office
of War Information.

That means that
John Herrick probably
will have his throat
cut, and I as his

appointed will get
the same dose unless
no less than your
husband stays
the execution.

John and I
are both darned
valuable people
who can get
along with
anybody who
gives us a

half a chance,
and therefore
both executions
should be called
off for the
duration.

Yours with
utmost love
and devotion

P.S. Sure ^{human} Bless
sorry to miss your
press conference but =

Tuesday is our Hour of Armageddon

11 a.m.

JL

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. ROOSEVELT:

Tell John Herrick to go
to Davis direct and ask him about
it.

F.D.R.

Letter from Miss Dorothy Lucas, from Mrs. Esther L. Schwartz,
457 West 57th Street, New York City. re: Conservation of food
during the war and making a little go a long way. Submits outline
of her plan.

August 10, 1942.

100

Dear Bess:

I have no ideas. Perhaps
Jonathan Daniels has.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong,
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

VDS

Tommy:

A treat for you---another letter!
This gal at least succeeded in arousing our
special curiosity. She mentions you---know her?
Any ideas aside from the routine See Your Local
Defense Council?

Bess

Bess Turner
Sagebrush Saloon
Office of War Information
Social Security Bldg

From Bess
Home in ...
Private ...
Private ...

ack
8/10/42

100

Miss Bess Furman

September 23, 1942

Dear Bess:

Your article, "Children As Weapons of War" is very interesting and I am glad to have a copy of it. Thank you for sending it to me.

Affectionately,

0

Miss-Bess-Furman *News*
Magazine Section, OWI
Washington, D.C.

admission.
Thought you ^{all} might be interested ⁹⁻²³
in the subject smaller
of this, my latest
outpouring.

Attached ^{Bess} magazine War Guide shows
now ~~this~~ will be used.

If you yourself should
want to do a piece
along these lines, I've
been over the ground
once & could give
you some pointers
& materials.

Bess

CHILDREN AS WEAPONS OF WAR

Magazine Section
Office of War Information
Social Security Building
Washington, D. C.

copy
with

(not for publication)

P

Note to Magazine Editors:

This is not for publication, but is rather a pattern for a piece about what the Axis is doing with and to children in the occupied countries.

This material was obtained through the following sources:

Foreign Service Division, Office of War Information, Washington. Address
Matt Gordon, Chief.

Inter-Allied Information Service, 610 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York.
(This is the combined information service for the United Nations. They
can give you information themselves or refer you to the information
office of the country in which you are most interested.)

Trygve M. Ager, Editor, News of Norway, Norwegian Embassy, 3401 Massachusetts
Avenue, Washington.

H. R. Van Houten, Counselor of Embassy, Netherlands Embassy, 1470 Euclid
Street, Washington.

Netherlands Information Bureau, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York.

Dr. Vladimir Palic, First Secretary, Czechoslovakian Legation, 2439
Massachusetts Avenue, Washington.

American Friends of Czechoslovakia's publication, News From Czechoslovakia,
8 West Fortieth Street, New York, New York.

Andrew Michalopoulos, Greek Minister of Information, Fairfax Hotel,
Washington.

Other Sources are:

J. A. Goris, Belgian Information Center, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York

C. L. Hsia, Chinese News Service, 1250 Sixth Avenue, New York, New York.

C. H. W. Hasselriis, Friends of Denmark, 116 Broad Street, New York, New York

Adrien Tixier, Free French Delegation, 626 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York.

Stavros Theofanidis, Greek Research and Information Office, 30 Rockefeller
Plaza, New York, New York.

B. J. S. Kosanovich, Royal Yugoslav Information Center, 812 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Andre Wolff, Luxembourg Information Center, 441 Lexington Avenue, New York.

Bjarne Braatoy, Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission, New York, New York.

CHILDREN AS WEAPONS OF WAR

One of the saddest chapters which has been written in this second world war is that of the "Vienna Children".

After the first world war Norwegians, who had been neutral in the conflict, took into their hospitable homes thousands of the half-starved children of two of the losing nations, Germany and Austria. They were fed and clothed and restored to health, then returned to their homeland. Because the movement started with the many post-war waifs of Vienna, all were called "Vienna Children."

Some of these children's happiest years were spent in Norway. Yet in 1940 they came back to conquer and to kill the people of their foster parents.

How could child victims of the first world war have found it possible to return in young manhood and bite the hands that fed them? The whole civilized world wondered.

In an annex of the overflowing Norwegian Embassy in Washington, Trygve M. Ager, editor of the official Norwegian news bulletin in this country, translated as he read the answer from the Norsk Tidend, published in London. The article Ager read described the Scandinavian Club on Tuchlauben Street in Vienna.

"Travellers visiting this club were surprised to find no Scandinavians in it", the story ran. "For it was the gathering place, in adulthood, of the Austrian children who had been cared for in Norway. In 1935 they were between twenty and twenty-five years old, bound together by a mutual love for Norway, apparently a genuine love. Norwegian travellers were warmly welcomed, and the club even was written up in a friendly way in Norwegian newspapers.

"However, Nazi agitators found listeners in the Scandinavian clubs. Gradually love for Norway was transformed into militaristic desire for power. Club members were deluded into believing it would be to Norway's good to be part of Germany."

After Austria fell in March 1938, the Scandinavian club was made part of the Nazi organization. Gripped by the desire to be party leaders, its members gave information--geographical, political, strategic--on Norway. They sent to Norway letters filled with praises of the Nazi system. But only the "strongest" among them--that is, the most thoroughly indoctrinated Nazis--were allowed to make the customary summer vacation trips to the land dear to them in childhood. It was feared that others might be "harmfully influenced" by Norway's democratic atmosphere. Those who did go usually combined with their pleasure trip a mission for the Nazi Information Service.

The "Vienna Children" wanted to get back to Norway. They believed the propaganda lie that they would go there "to free Norway from the English and the Jewish yoke."

Ager laid down his newspaper to add an ironic finale to the piece.

"Some of these Vienna children have committed suicide in Norway," he said. "Apparently they understood only after they got there what they had really done."

The case of the Vienna children is spectacular proof of the fact that children may actually be used as weapons for winning wars. Hitler has operated on the fundamental Nazi thesis that in order to control the future it is necessary to capture and manipulate the oncoming generation.

From legations and embassies, from short wave broadcasts, from news services and from the steady stream of refugees, this country is being

increasingly impressed with the fact that the Axis wants children. Hundreds of children to be made into arrogant masters. Millions of children to be made into cringing labor slaves. Young boys to be soldiers. Young girls to bear soldiers. Teen-agers to settle the new frontiers. Boy and girl spies, saboteurs, executioners. Children as propagandists. Children as hostages to guarantee ill-gotten gains.

Each item of information which helps to lift the curtain on what is happening to children in Nazi Europe gives another glimpse of an awesome drama of smashed educational systems, mass movements of children from one country to another, wholesale enslavements, and worst of all, widespread starvation and extermination among populations most despised by the Nazis.

Aside from races which Hitler would prefer to push from the face of the earth, children are the most coveted critical material for the New Order, that fearsome future Hitler would found on force. The 'Germanic' victims would be forced into the Nazi mold as bosses, the 'Non-Germanics' into straight-out slavery.

Japan has torn a large leaf from the German Youth Book. Japan's totalitarian way of life, based on her own plan for world domination, is exemplified in the Japanese fascist educational regime in Korea. Control over Korean youth became increasingly stringent as Japanese dreams of world domination grew. Children must learn the Japanese way---large classes taught by the lecture method, frequent collective responses, stiff recitations with the book held at a prescribed distance from the pupil's eyes. Korean history, of course, is forbidden, and any western learning which might inculcate what the Japanese call "dangerous thought" is cut from the curriculum. Students spend less than one-third of the time in classes, since they have to go down to the station

to wave little Japanese flags if a trainload of Japanese troops or an important Japanese official is going through their town. In Korea, every single Japanese can go through high school, but only one out of a hundred Koreans can.

Teachers' meetings under military auspices have been an increasingly favorite topic on the Tokyo radio as the "Co-Prosperity Sphere" got rolling in newly occupied countries. Teachers' meetings were held in China and Java and Burma and the Philippines. Filipino educators met on June 19 "to discuss educational principles laid down by the Japanese military administration." Tokyo reported ceremonies launching the Asia Young People's Federation in Rangoon June 27, "formed by a merger of the Burma Student Federations having about 30,000 members, and the Young People's Communications Federation, with some 10,000 members." A Japanese-language broadcast to the South Seas included this bit: "Eighty-one Singapore schools already have Japanese courses. New school books will be issued in Singapore, as Malayan children become Japanese children."

From still-free Chungking, Minister of Education Chen-Li-Fu made vigorous protests. Condemning "the enemy's sinister aim to enslave the minds of Chinese youths, hoping thereby to make slaves of them," he urged parents in occupied China "to make home education a counter measure."

"Chinese boys and girls are compelled to take a slave education eight hours a day," he said. "Parents should educate their children during the other hours, teaching them to recite silently the will of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen and the national anthem."

The strategy of the United Nations is to resist with all possible strength on all possible fronts where the Axis attempts to use children to

further their conquests. The children themselves resist, too, and much of their resistance is self-motivated.

An early-in-the-war story as astounding as that of the Vienna children, but on the other side of the war ledger, is that of the Yugoslavian "diaper revolution," thus christened by reporter Robert St. John. In his "Europe in Revolt", another war correspondent, Rene Kraus, gave this uprising of nine-and-ten-year olds much credit for precipitating the Yugoslavia break with the Axis. Yugoslavia was very close to complete collaboration with Germany. Its Prime Minister actually had signed the Pact of Berlin, including an order to hand the Fuhrer's picture in all Yugoslavian schoolrooms. Then the schoolboys tore the pictures into shreds, chalked their derision on all the blackboards and then the Premier ordered the schools closed, they staged a sit-down strike in their schoolrooms. They peppered the Belgrade police with muddy snowballs. Their parents were courageous enough to back them up openly, and Yugoslavia made its brave break with Berlin.

Glorious have been the succeeding chapters. Though this country was conquered, Yugoslavia still boasts a mountain-fastness "Island of Freedom" comprising one-fourth the area of the country, from which 100,000 men now wage guerilla warfare on the Axis. Apparently, the "diaper revolution" did not cease with conquest. The Associated Press in August 1942 carried this news item: "Several hundred Serbian boys have been sent to concentration camps or deported to prevent them from joining guerilla bands."

The Axis pattern for getting control of the children varies little from country to country. When the occupying army moves in, it takes over the school houses for barracks and headquarters. That interrupts the educational program. By the time the boys and girls can get back to their

classes again, a local Quisling has been set up as education czar. He issues decrees to bring the youth of the country into the Nazi lock-step. This includes looking to Nazi Youth Organizations for leadership and culture patterns, including what the Nazis euphoniously term "interchange of children."

University professors and secondary school teachers who evidence continual independence of thought are persecuted. Student riots are fomented to furnish a pretext for closing down fine old universities. When the most flagrant persecutions and blood purges have failed to batter down intellectual resistance to ideological oppression, the Nazis edge in on the educational systems by the economic route. Boys and girls are compelled to go into Nazi work camps, where lessons about the beauties of the New Order are crammed into every idle moment.

Czechoslovakia, where the war started with bestial student murders at Prague in November 1939 and crescendoed to macabre climax in the terrors instituted by Heydrich and multiplied after his assassination in the summer of 1942, furnishes ample illustration that any civilized concept of boys and girls as innocent by-standers in the Axis struggle is utter illusion.

Dr. Vladimir Palic, attache of the Czechoslovakian Legation, put it this way: "From the first day of occupation, the terror of the Germans was directed at the schools. The Germans knew that Czech youth, as educated in Czech schools, was their main opponent. All universities were closed. Students and professors were given a too-short time to find employment, and when they said they could not find work, they were all sent into work camps and set at the task of building roads."

To bring his account up to the present, Dr. Palic turned to the Memorandum of the Czechoslovak Government on the reign of terror in Bohemia

and Moravia under the regime of Reinhard Heydrich and pointed out this passage:

"Heydrich's fury has also struck at the last remains of the Czech schools. Everywhere a teacher was executed or merely underwent examination on suspicion of unlawful activity, the whole school was closed. In more than one case, the arrest of one teacher sufficed to bring about the closure of all the Czech schools in the town or village in question. This took place in the towns of Kladno and Klatovy and in a number of Prague districts. 'The teachers are still the most dangerous bearers of the Bolshevik germ' says the paper of the Czech Nazis, in justification of the new persecution of Czech schools which this time strikes at the schools of the lowest grade, for there are hardly any secondary schools left in the Protectorate still to close."

Mention of Heydrich brings up the name of Lidice, the hapless Bohemian village which was wiped off the face of the earth in reprisal for his assassination--its men killed, its women sent to concentration camp, its children to "educational institutions." Just what was the fate of those children?

Dr. Palic's explanation was the obvious one. Building manpower and womanpower for his wars, Hitler forces the breeding of children, in marriage or out. Children born outside of wedlock have to be put into institutions while their mothers work. Since there are few of these child centers in Bohemia, the young children of Lidice were probably sent to homes for illegitimate children in Germany. The older ones went into work camps. Boys of 17 and over were killed.

The most horrible war use that Hitler has yet made of his Nazi youth occurred in connection with the executions of the Heydrich summary

courts. Accepted as authentic, this story is told in "Prague Braves the Hangman" by E. V. Erdely:

"The executions were carried out in the court building itself. The condemned men awaiting their turn could hear the firing and see the gallows. The sentence of death by shooting is not carried out by the Nazis by a party of four to twelve men, but two S. S. men. This infamous task falls to young boys, none of whom can rise to a higher rank until in his Conduct Paper a certain number of 'legal murders' are entered."

Younger German children practice espionage as their older brothers go in for execution. Said Dr. Palic: "Germans are sending their children in large numbers into the occupied areas, including Czechoslovakia. This is done for a two-fold purpose: They want to get them out of the Ruhr valley and other places where the RAF is bombing; they want to use them as spies on remote farms. The nicer vacation spots are chosen for the German children, the spas, the hot springs, the white sulphur springs of which there are from twenty to twenty-five in our country. These regions have been full of German children since 1940, when the RAF first started bombing Germany. They are distributed among the population. That means that it is hard to hide foodstuffs, that a lone pig can't be slaughtered on a farm."

To this country from Czechoslovakia comes such news as the following: "Every infringement of the regulations concerning food-stuffs is punished by fines and imprisonment, and in special cases, by death. Behind every barn and in every stable there is a Nazi spy. Ten to fourteen year old Hitler youths are helping on the land. They are a stone around the peasant's neck. The Nazis eat up everything, like locusts. The peasant is just an animal for work on his own soil."

From a Spa an hour from Prague a woman whom we shall call Mrs. Skalek recently came to this country. She told what life under Hitler had meant, Jewish children were not allowed to go to the public schools, so she had her children tutored. But the books they used were censored like the rest.

"Immediately after the Germans came, the books were gone over and everything the Czechs had written about Germany was marked out in very black ink," she said. "Sometimes a whole page was pasted over. Then for awhile there were no books at all; the old ones were prohibited and the new ones not yet printed. The only books not changed were geometry and chemistry. Especially were the history books destroyed and the world war story distorted, to make the points that the Germans were right and war was forced upon them, that the Germans really were a peace-loving people.

"Czech children were told not to associate with Jewish children, but some of them did--at least until one child threatened to inform on them. Jewish children suffer greatly from being shunned. They do not see their fathers for weeks at a time, for Jewish wives and husbands are kept in different buildings.

"Czech children live largely on rough cabbage, bread, and potatoes. Rations are steadily being reduced. Jewish children get tiny allotments of milk and butter like the Czechs, and no fruit at all. To make living even less comfortable, coal is scarce.

"German children were sent into our country for safety. In a little bathing place near our town, all the houses were filled with German children. They would march through the streets singing Hitler songs. People who had lived there always were in a bad humor. The German children destroyed everything. They made holes in the hardwood floors to put their marbles in.

If the owners protested, the Germans said, 'This is your property on paper and for the time being'. There had been a speech by the German Minister of Agriculture that after the war only Germans would own the property. Czechs know their land and their houses will be given to soldiers of Nazi Germany for their services to Hitler--if Hitler wins."

Denmark, too, is being used to house German children, thus taking the bread out of native children's mouths.

Last June the Danish government received orders to get ready to prepare for 60,000 German children, the offspring of Nazi officials, officers and police agents. The same radio report that carried this news said that additional German children would be sent to Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Croatia. All through the summer vacation season of 1942, little items on "exchange of children" kept cropping up.

Asked what this "exchange of children" really amounted to, H. R. van Houten, counselor of the Netherlands Embassy, instituted a thorough research, and reported that, so far as could be learned, 1740 children from the Hague and Rotterdam were sent into southern Germany.

"For the mountain air," said the Nazis.

German children residing in the Netherlands went along and were mixed with the Dutch, obviously for the purpose of Germanizing Dutch youth through German youth. Later came an announcement that German schools would be opened in Holland with mixed staffs of Dutch and German teachers and mixed classes of Dutch and German students. The Dutch comment was: "The object is plain---the Nazis are working on Dutch youth through the 'Hitler Jugend', organization which is also assisting the Gestapo in its nefarious activities."

Netherlanders in exile believe that this form of Germanizing and Nazification will prove as fruitless as all the previous efforts of the puppet head of the state, Seyss-Inquart, to Nazify the Netherland's school system.

Holland as well as Norway had the disillusioning experience of saving starving German, Austrian, and Hungarian children, to have them return as enemy soldiers.

Both Norway and Holland thus far have been notably successful in resisting inroads on the education of their youth. True, there have been enforced vacations and mass persecutions. The saga of the Norwegian teachers, who went into suffering-filled exile rather than join the Nazi teacher group, will always rank among the greatest stories of heroism of all times. Church broke with State in Norway, rather than countenance Nazi teachings and Nazi labor services for boys and girls. School buildings in Holland were requisitioned and teachers dismissed. But the tiny minority of local Quislings backed up by the Gestapo never were able to put over in either country its kind of school classes.

Two Norwegian boy refugees to the United States, who smilingly chose Hans Hanson and Ole Oleson as pseudonyms to protect their relatives still in Norway, gave in brisk dialogue a first hand report on school life under the Nazis. Hans was brunette, Ole blonde. They had been chums in school at Stabbek, close to an airdrome. One morning early, the Germans surrounded the town, took over all cars and trucks, machine-gunned the soldiers from the air, bombed the airdrome, chopped down the surrounding forests.

"There was fighting then between Norwegian and German soldiers," said Ole. "There is no chance for fighting now. So very many Gestapo were sent in, some of them in civilian clothes. They are everywhere."

"A German officer kicked Ole down in the street," said Hans. "It was only because he stood with his sled in front of our school as the Germans, singing at the tops of their voices, were to pass the school. The officer would have to turn out a little way for Ole and his sled. So he kicked him, and the song of the soldiers stopped. That made the officer so mad he kicked Ole's school bag until he had scattered his books all over the street."

"Oh, those Germans go singing, shouting along the street every day," said Ole. "They sing 'We're On Our Way to England' very much. We wished for English raids on the airdrome. We were glad when they came. The English could bomb all they wanted to--we were never afraid for we knew the English would never hurt civilian places, though the German lie about how the English only take Churches and so on."

"One day we heard Quisling had treated some teachers very badly. So we just went home on strike. When the Germans came in the streets, we stood with our backs to them when they passed."

"I must tell you one teacher that we had and the risks that he took," Hans eagerly broke in. "He was a new teacher. We were big boys and we made so much noise he could not carry on his class in history. Suddenly he said, 'If there are any Quislings in this class, let them stand up.' None stood. So he said, 'Let us not talk of history, let us talk of what is going on now.' And he asked us if we had known that Goebbels had taken a clandestine trip to Norway. Of course we were all tremendously interested. We all talked. After that our class was on current events. Nobody could keep us from that class."

Ole had another heroic incident to add: "Twenty Norwegians were shot by the Germans outside Bergen," he said. "One of them was my good friend, and a friend of Hans here too. He had gone to our same school, in a class two years ahead of us. He was caught making ready to go to England by small boat. Maybe you have heard of what happened in our school then. It was just fourteen days before I left Norway. Minister President Vidkun Quisling came to Stabbek with his Minister of Education and his Minister of Police. They called all the teachers together. Quisling demanded that they join the Nazi Teachers' Union. When they would not do it, Quisling flew into a rage. He said it was the teachers' fault that eighteen young boys had been executed. It was the teachers' fault that boys and girls were not joining up with the 'youth service plan' as required by law. It was the teachers' fault that Norway was not getting her freedom back again. He sobbed as he shouted in great anger, 'You are spoiling the game for me! You prevent me from making peace with Germany!'

"Seventeen teachers are now under arrest and the Stabbek schools are closed. After this happened, I'm afraid they couldn't begin school again, because (Ole said this very proudly) Quisling himself said that Stabbek school had destroyed his New Order!"

The boys said that among the 600 students in their school, literally only five or six were Nazis, and that this proportion was a fairly accurate picture of the situation the country over.

In January 1942, Fritz Sauckel, whip-cracking, storm-trooping Manpower Commissioner of Germany, started his great drive for farm and factory production. He called up all German school children between six and eleven for land work. He took from school 200,000 boys over eleven to work in munition,

tank and plane factories. He summoned the puppet rulers into conference. Quisling proclaimed a law that all children ten to eighteen would have to do service with the Nazi Youth Organization. A law was passed in Holland that youth over eighteen could not enter college until they had first finished their labor service. All over Europe the Nazi radio importuned youth, both boys and girls, to enlist for work in the factories and on the farm.

A typical harangue was this radio appeal to Esthonian youth: "Register for agricultural work in the Reich, in order to show you are worthy of the blood spilled for your liberation. Come to work in the Reich to learn the country which has done so much for you. In work and sport you will see the mentality of the German youth. After the war when you return to your own country, you will be full of new ideas and full of understanding for the work of New Europe."

When European youth neither volunteered nor obeyed edicts, there were wholesale forced kidnappings. Reported the Inter-Allied Information Services, "Youth organizations in France, Holland and Norway soon became work contingents destined for German farms and factories. The Paris police were given written orders to arrest 'youthful idlers' and immediately enlist them in the Labor Service."

The summer nightmare concocted by Pierre Laval, French collaborationist, is one of the outstanding examples of Nazi cruelty to youth. On the night of June 12, police raided the larger cafes along the Champs Elysses and arrested boys and girls, taking them into police headquarters in big vans. Apparently the public reaction was bad, for on June 24 Vichy radio attempted to justify the move in this fantastic fashion: "Our elegant 'swing youth' parades on the Boulevard St. Michael and the Champs Elysses. They dress in a ridiculously exaggerated manner and wear their hair long. As they were drinking alcoholic

beverages forbidden for minors, the police rounded up a group of these youngsters."

Moscow promptly gave this the lie with: "Laval has made another humiliating concession to the German government. Since the Vichy government's appeal to French youth to go to Germany was unheeded, the police have been ordered to detain boys and girls in the streets and dispatch them to compulsory labor camps, from which they are sent off to Germany."

The reliable Turkish radio at Ankara added: "These youth, admitted to German youth camps, are taught both the German language and a trade. This move has more than an economic significance. It is connected with the future society of France, and emphasis must be laid on the social relations between France and Germany rather than the economic."

The full enormity of the crime came out in early August when Laval announced he had promised 150,000 French workers in exchange for the release of 50,000 war prisoners. On the basis of that bargain, it would take three kidnapped French boys to effect the release of one French war prisoner. Those boys in French factories, beloved by their families no less than the prisoners, would constitute three times as effective a hostage system to guarantee the continued cowed behavior of the French people. Meanwhile, more than twenty times as many war prisoners would remain in Germany as were promised release.

When the German-controlled Netherlands radio in the early summer of 1942 appealed to youths of fifteen and sixteen to settle in eastern Europe, where began another mass-migration which probably can be stopped only when the United Nations win the war. The broadcast said the youths would be sent first to farms in the Danzig region, where they would work for one or two years without pay in order to learn farming. They would then be settled on farms to be

presented to them in the Ukraine. The work would be done "under German direction with Russian agricultural labor", a typical Nazi rosy-future picture of a master-slave relationship. The "East German Agricultural Company" would be in charge.

On June 13, 1942, the Dutch news agency Aneta carried this item: "A commission from occupied Holland headed by Rost van Tonningen, Nazi-appointed president of the Netherlands Bank, arrived in Riga yesterday to discuss the execution of the Nazi plan settling 3,000,000 Netherlanders in German-occupied parts of Soviet Russia. Germany is also planning to transfer Netherlands industries and workshops to western Europe.

To occupied Belgium, this Nazi-fabricated appeal was made, "The Ukraine calls you. Join us as your Dutch brothers do by the hundreds. The most beautiful task indeed awaits you. Participate, fulfill your tasks and at the same time save your dear family from starvation at the hands of England and America."

The Dutch comment was: "Hitler wants to change the map of Europe so radically that no Allied Victory could restore it."

And when all these things have been considered, it still remains for Andre Michalopoulos, Greek Minister of Information, to present the saddest aspect of children in this war--the too-real photographs of little slow-starved bodies. Said he: "When children are dying of starvation, when they seek the steam of drains in the streets to warm themselves, the essential thing at the moment is to get food and other essentials of life. You can't inculcate doctrine on one side or the other. But this much can certainly be said--the Greeks are individualists--they will not fit into any plan like this New Order."

Michalopoulos illustrated with two child stories, both authoritative. "In the first days of the German occupation, a little boy selling cigarettes saw a truck load of British prisoners who had been captured by the Germans,"

he said. "He threw all his cigarettes to them. A German officer came up and scolded and threatened him. He drew himself up and stuck out his small chest and said, 'Well, kill me if you want to.' The German officer turned away. Later in the occupation, when children were really starving, there has been more than one instance when a hungry child would say, 'You're a German. I'm not going to take bread from you.'"

Greek starvation is not war necessity; it results from special war strategy. Because the Greeks defied Hitler, he seeks to exterminate their race. At crop time, Germany sends harvesters in. They took all the tomato crop this year, sending down automatic machines to pick and can them on the spot. Then they sent the tomatoes to Germany.

Yet somehow the hearts of youth stay amazingly strong.

"On the first anniversary of the Italian attack on Greece," said the Minister, "About 2,000 students of Athens University got together and went to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, pushing their way through Italian soldiers. They laid a wreath on the grave and knelt and sang out national anthem."

In ages past, when children were merely victims of the wars their elders waged, their war-time situations were unfair enough. What is happening to children in the total war of today is unspeakably worse. But when its awful enormity at last grips the mind of America, grips it with the conviction that it could happen here, surely we will get this oppression forever over with and done.

File

17-11-43
17-11-43
12-11-43

November 17
Thank you very much
for the copy of the
Magazine

Dear E.R.

If I had gone along, I couldn't have been more thrilled than I was by the trip you and Tommy took. Dorothy Ducas and I have compared notes day by day. If you want to catch up on your press, we can help you!

Because it hits down your main line, I want you to look over the brain child I gave birth to while you were gone titled War Jobs for Women. Our first multolithing went to the magazines---and it is all gone. So many were interested in it and requested copies that now 25,000 copies are to be made for distribution to schools, libraries and study clubs---it will take about two weeks to get it out again. WAACS and WAVES will be brought up to date and an index added. I think a little mention of this product of the Magazine Section in your column might start it gaily on its way to get more women to planning a place for themselves in war work.

Now---the next step after this would be to give magazine editors background material on the day care and mass feeding and housekeeping necessary to get women into jobs. That of course is what you know as nobody else does, and from both sides of the ocean. Do you think it would be possible to give us some special cooperation on this?

If you plan to cover the ground in articles already contracted for by women's magazines, fine. If you have made no arrangements yet, may we work with you on it? As you know, Dorothy has been going to New York for OWI every week since she took the job, educating magazine editors in all the things the government wants the people to know and do about this war. Maybe through you she could help put some of the right pieces in the right places. Then if you have any left-over information for the use of ALL the magazines, who after all do not have access to the education of your press conference in these war times except through me, we would like no end to send out a memo NOT FOR PUBLICATION but as background material for the magazine editors on the War Jobs for Women front.

It is because so much of our work has been along that line that Dorothy asked to go to today's press conference to hear your England report. Since that was not possible, do you think you might give the two of us a few minutes of your time some day to explain how we're trying to win the war on all angles where magazines---including the pulps---can inspire their readers?

Enclosed you will also find the last copy of Dorothy's Magazine War Guide. I do hope you'll find time to look it over because the editors tell us it is really doing a good job, and we'd love your ideas on things that should go in.

There aren't words to say how proud I am of the job you did in England---and how glad I am a meeting with Elliott could be included just before he dashed off to North Africa!

Affectionately
Beas

PS: I have just been asked by Robert J. Blakely to cooperate with him in any way I can in your radio programs. I promised to take careful press conference notes today and to check with him later---subject of course to your approval.

Will you mail this back as soon as possible? want to send it out with my magazine War Guide this week.

100 MRS ROBERT A.

Dear E.R.: Here's what I have drawn up as a memorandum to go to the magazine editors of the country. We are not trying to scoop you on your own story---we simply think that what you have seen in England is far too valuable to getting on with this war not to have it down on paper for ready reference somewhere---and all done up in one package. We feel sure that if magazine editors read it over, they will find many ways of making use of this information.

On the companion report of what is being done in this country, ~~we are~~ stymied until a "directive" on the government policy in day care jells. We have been requested not to seek publicity on this subject until negotiations now underway between WPA and the Office of Health Welfare, etc. are completed.

I have marked ~~it~~ with a red X all the points that I think still need clearing up, and have asked a few questions. Edit it in any way you see fit. We would like to throw it out to the magazines with no strings attached, but we will mark it NOT FOR PUBLICATION if you think it will interfere with your other magazine plans. And thanks a million again for your grand cooperation. As a result of your single paragraph mention of War Jobs For Women, it had such a tremendous advance order they decided to put it on sale at the government printing office---the first OWI publication ever to be sold!

Affectionately,

Bess

Aut 12-6

100
Mr. Robert Armstrong

December 18, 1942

Dear Bess:

This is all right, but I think if you
use what I write in articles credit should
be given the magazine.

Sincerely,

Mrs Robert Armstrong
Miss Bess Furman
Office of War Information
Washington, D.C.

0

Statement which Mrs. Roosevelt initialed

To Magazine Editors: This material resulting from Mrs. Roosevelt's recent visit to England may be published in whole or in part by magazines if it is stated that publication was made possible through the Magazine Section of the Office of War Information. The memorandum may of course also be used as basis for editorial comment.

Dear Sir: Will you please initial the above statement which Henry Single feels will be a safeguard to you? He brought up ^{to you} the subject of making this material available to other magazines when LBJ and Sculliers were paying you for articles. I pointed out that your radio broadcasts have been published by magazines; that you get paid for certain lectures whereas you talk for many causes and worthy organizations free, both as a means of educating the public as it needs to be, and also as a part of your infinitely broad interpretation of how you can help along as wife of the President. You sell an exclusive with a by-line, you give general information which all concerned know has been given generally. However, he felt that this point should be made very clear indeed to all, and that magazines should know you were cooperating with OWI at the request of OWI.

Boos

I think if they do what I put in articles they should credit the magazine.

Beas Furman
Magazine Section OWI
Social Security Bldg

P.S. If this gets to you in time, could you return it initialed through Tommy at the Thursday press conference. I am anxious to get the thing rolling.

Statement which Mrs. Roosevelt initialed

To Magazine Editors: This material resulting from Mrs. Roosevelt's recent visit to England may be published in whole or in part by magazines if it is stated that publication was made possible through the Magazine Section of the Office of War Information. The memorandum may of course also be used as basis for editorial comment.

Dear ER: Will you please initial the above statement which Henry Pringle feels will be a safeguard to you? He brought up ^{the} subject of making this material available to other magazines when ~~ILL~~ and Colliers were paying you for articles. I pointed out that your radio broadcasts have been published by magazines; that you get paid for certain lectures whereas you talk for many causes and worthy organizations free, both as a means of educating the public as it needs to be, and also as a part of your infinitely broad interpretation of how you can help along as wife of the President. You sell an exclusive with a by-line, you give general information which all concerned know has been given generally. However, he felt that this point should be made very clear indeed to all, and that magazines should know you were cooperating with OWI at the request of OWI.

Bess

*I think if they ask what I put in article
they should credit the magazine.*

Bess Furman
Magazine Section OWI
Social Security Bldg

*P.S. If this gets to you in time, could you return it
initialled through Tommy at the Thursday press conferece.
I am anxious to get the thing rolling.*

100
February 3, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Armstrong:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me
to return the enclosed and tell you she
read it and thinks it excellent.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

VDS

Magazine Section,
Office of War Information,
Social Security Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Background
Mmo. Chiang Kai-shek
Magazine Conference
February 24, 1943

MEET YOUR HOSTESS, Mme. Tao-Ming Wei, wife of the Chinese Ambassador, as interviewed by OWI.

Mme. Tao-Ming Wei is a woman who is wise even as China reckons wisdom. A yellowed newspaper clipping establishes her right to the title of prophetess. It is from the New York World of Sunday, November 23, 1919.

Then a girl in her early twenties, the glamorous Soumay Tchong, who had first been a revolutionist and later commissioned by the Chinese parliament to represent her countrywomen in the Chinese delegation to the Versailles peace conference, was telling an interviewer why China could not sign the Versailles treaty.

"I wish to make clear to the American people that it was not only to our interest not to sign the peace treaty, it was our duty to the future peace of the world not to sign it," she said 23 years ago. "It has always been the purpose of Japan to divide China. China is too big for her to take all at once, but if she can take a part at first, in the end she can swallow all. Now Shantung lies between the two parts of China. It is a great railroad center. If Japan takes Shantung, she can strangle China."

Mme. Wei, who now has fled from Chinese city to Chinese city before Japanese bombings until the capital was established in Chungking, came to this country in the last boat before the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor.

She looked at the yellowed clipping and said: "I am not happy to be a true prophet. And I was a truer prophet even than this clipping shows. I went from place to place saying, 'In this treaty you don't prepare for peace, you prepare for war.' But only one paper would print those words. That paper was in Paris."

Soumay Tchong was born in Canton of one of the oldest Chinese families. She spent her earliest years in the ancestral palace of the Tchongs. In her early girlhood, she joined her father at Peiping, where he served as Minister Plenipotentiary to the old Empress Dowager.

Soumay took a precocious interest in politics, and her father humored her by instructing her in affairs of state. When the old Empress Dowager died, the Minister told his daughter how wicked the rule of the Empress had been, how it had cut China off from progress, how it had impoverished the peasantry and the laboring classes.

Taking as her heroine Moulan, the Chinese Joan of Arc, who lived more than a thousand years ago, the 14-year-old Soumay Tchong joined a secret revolutionary society and personally smuggled in the bombs which killed the Manchu general, Liang Py, who completely controlled the Manchu Army. This was the death warrant of the dynasty.

Soumay's later revolutionary activities in collaboration with Sun Yat Sen, founder of the Chinese republic and brother-in-law of Mme. Chiang Kai-shek, became a series of hair-breadth escapes. She finally was forced to flee to Paris where she studied at the Sorbonne, receiving with double honors her Bachelor's Degree and later her Doctor's Degree in law. There she met and married Dr. Wei.

"Because I had the chance, because I could travel, because I did not die as did many of my revolutionary friends, I must in all conscience do all I possibly could for my country," said Madame Wei.

She made nineteen trips to the western world and back to China. Each time she returned to China, she toured the Chinese provinces, often going into all fourteen of them, making speeches, and talking to women afterwards.

She has held many official positions. She served as a judge of the Shanghai District Court. She was the only woman member of the commission delegated to draw up a new legal code for united China.

"Ever since the republic, women have had equal rights in China," she said. "But for thirty years they did not practice them much. Since the war with Japan, all these rights are realized. By the necessities, all have awakened. Chinese women are led by Madame Chiang Kai-shek. She makes the appeal. She held the first National Women's Conference in the history of China. She is wonderful. She never gets tired. She gives so quick, and so much. There has been a mobilization of women. There are women who work in the hospitals, women who are at the front, caring for the wounded in barracks. There are women guerilla fighters. There are women who give the news to the country; women who take the places of the farmers.

"And the first duty laid upon all the women by Madame Chiang Kai-shek is to bring up the children to the love of China, and keep them from falling victims to the militaristic philosophy of Japan. Dangerous indeed is the Japanese propaganda drive on the children. What Japan lacks is manpower. We must keep her from getting manpower through informing the children. Mme. Chiang Kai-shek is quick to see the very first importance in striking at Japanese manpower by informing Chinese youth and she talks of it unceasingly to the women of China."

Magazine Section
Office of War Information
Social Security Building
Washington, D. C.

Background
Mme. Chiang Kai-shek
Magazine Conference
February 24, 1943

For whatever value it may have as a starting point for conversation, the Magazine Section of the Office of War Information has gathered together a few of the things that other people have said about Mme. Chiang Kai-shek and her work for China, and a few of the things that she has said about topics of vital interest to the world today.

As the after dinner speakers say, we give you---alphabetically--- Mme. Chiang Kai-shek (Mayling Soong Chiang), a writer's writer, and a woman who walks through the pages of her husband's biographies as few wives do.

Agriculture: "Any governmental policy in China ought to take cognizance of the all-important fact that we are an agricultural nation. Over 90 percent of our people are dependent directly or indirectly upon the land--the overwhelming proportion directly. It follows that the nation cannot flourish unless the farmers are prosperous. At present they are enjoying a degree of prosperity undreamed of since the Golden Age. As a by-product of war, prices for all that comes from the land have increased so much that the standard of living of the rural population has reached a height that did not seem possible. Children are attending school who formerly would never have had a chance of education; homes that have been perforce mere inadequate protection from the elements are being made hygienic and comfortable. This is as it should be. We want these gains held and consolidated. This vision of a better life that has been given to the backbone of our nation must not be dimmed by the policy bequeathed us from the conservative past." Mme. Chiang Kai-shek in ATLANTIC MONTHLY, May 1942.

Air Era: "Next to the Generalissimo, Madame Chiang is in the best position to evaluate the influence of air travel on national political and social development, to say nothing of its economic aspects. A review of the aerial itineraries of the Generalissimo in her own words, therefore, will be of extreme interest: 'He has flown to almost every province of China--journeys that he never could have undertaken in ordinary circumstances. From Nanking to Yunnan and back, via the Yangtse River route, would have taken two months of quick travel by the usual means of transportation. Yet now it can be done in one day by airplane. The journey from Chung-king to Kweiyang, in Kweichow Province, used to absorb 16 days of arduous sedan chair travel, and enormous energy..... He has flown the length and breadth of the country, over rugged mountain, fertile plain, and desert sand, and he has been able to do things of inestimable value and far-reaching importance for the country. He has been enabled, with comparative ease and without loss of time, to meet officials of remote regions in their own yamen, and there solve with them their varied problems.'" -- Hollington K. Tong's Chiang Kai-shek, 1937.

American Tour: As the result of an interview in Chungking, Martha Gellhorn quoted Mme. Chiang Kai-shek as follows: "The overseas Chinese said I must come to America to make a lecture tour. They said it would be worth ten divisions to China if I came. My husband told me to say I was worth twenty divisions to be with him, here, so I did not go." -- COLLIER'S, Aug. 1941.

Mme. Chiang will visit New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Wellesley College on her present trip according to announcements in the current press.

Chinese Morale: "I can assure you the Chinese people are confident of their ability to hold up in the face of apparently insuperable difficulties if China is given the necessary equipment now. The morale of our people has been the main factor of this resolute determination never to admit defeat but to plug on in sheer dogged resistance." -- Radio address to Wellesley, June 13, 1942, on occasion of 25th year reunion of the class of Madame Chiang as reported in the New York Times.

Children: "When it was decided to give educational facilities to the children whose fathers sacrificed their lives for the Revolution, Madame Chiang assumed responsibility for the organization and administration of a school at Nanking. It now stands as a monument to her and is remarkable both for its planning and for its efficacy in attaining its purpose." -- Hollington K. Tong's biography of Chiang Kai-shek.

"When victory is won we should see to it that the evil which has brought about this world catastrophe is attacked at the source--in the schools. If the minds of millions of children had not been poisoned in the schools of Germany, Italy, and Japan, their young men would not have allowed themselves to be led like beasts to the slaughter for a cause contrary to all ideas of humanity and justice." -- Mme. Chiang over Voice of China radio, Chungking, October 11, 1942.

Diplomacy: "Her visit to Hongkong for medical attention bore valuable fruit for China, for she was able to lay the foundation for better relations between Hongkong and Canton and arrange for the visit of the Governor and Lady Caldecott to Whampoa to meet the Generalissimo. This visit may have far-reaching consequences in the cementing of the friendly relations between China and Great Britain." -- Hollington K. Tong's biography of the Generalissimo, 1937.

Democratic Development: "In the midst of war in 1938, the People's Political Council was established as the precursor of a National Parliament. This body of 240 members includes not only regional representatives, some of whom are women, elected by provincial and municipal popular assemblies; but also scholars and experts appointed by the National Government. It has the power of revision and recommendation and has become an important element of our national life. One of its outstanding achievements was the adoption of a proposal to constitute the county (hsien) as a unit of self-government... This new hsein system aims to enable people to manage the affairs of their home districts by electing their own representatives to local governing organizations. When this program for local self-government is carried out, they will be free to elect their chief magistrate. Furthermore, these assemblies, composed entirely of elected representatives, will choose delegates to a national convention for the purpose of adopting and promulgating

a permanent national constitution and for the election of the president of China. From the base to the apex, the political structure will be erected by the people themselves." -- Mme. Chiang in ATLANTIC MONTHLY, May 1942.

The Enemy: "But as a snake strikes at its unsuspecting prey, so struck Japan at us, and our hope of peace was crushed. We found ourselves involved in the coils of a war which soon expanded to the view of the world as the most colossal exhibition of remorseless barbarism that had ever stained the pages of history. Unrestrained fury and hate were loosened upon us. We fought back, unprepared as we were, because there was nothing else left for us to do. We are still fighting back. We shall continue fighting back. We must do so or submit to slavery as a people, and death as a nation.

We must fight, as every self-respecting nation must fight, because our country is being violated; because millions of our people have been put to flight, sacrificing their all, by fear of death; because hundreds of thousands of our unfortunate girls and women have been violently and shockingly outraged; because personal and public property valued at millions of dollars has been wantonly demolished in villages, towns, and cities; because the most outrageous organized ravine the world has ever seen is being engaged in with the sinister object of destroying the means of livelihood of our survivors, as well as enriching the uniformed looters of Japan. It is the most gigantic spectacle of shameless wholesale systematic robbery by any nation for the beggaring of human beings of another nation that has ever been seen." -- Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Translated from Chinese Text, in THE FAR EASTERN MAGAZINE, May 1938.

History of China: Martha Gellhorn, COLLIER'S, August 1941, quotes Madame Chiang as saying she spent 20 hours over a few pages of ancient Chinese text, in order to translate political thought in China of 3000 years ago. Miss Gellhorn asked, "When did you find time?" and Mme. Chiang answered: "During air raids. I was so mad at the Japanese, so boiling mad, that I thought I had better do something. I could at least keep my mind occupied."

"Westerners may be surprised to learn that China is the Columbus of democracy. Twenty-four centuries before the Christian era, Emperors Yau, Shun, and Yu succeeded each other by their subjects' wish instead of by hereditary right. Over a thousand years before Confucius an articulate political platform proclaimed, 'The people's views are heaven's voice,' anticipating by centuries the Western adage: 'Vox populi vox Dei.' From earliest times a system of local government prevailed in our country, based upon subdivisions of the hsien, or county, which is the foundation upon which we now are framing--even in wartime--our constitutional government." -- Madame Chiang in ATLANTIC MONTHLY, May 1942.

Homemaker: "The salon of her Chungking home is simple and gray, and the furniture stands about in a neat rigidity. There are lace doilies on the chair backs, and the polished wood of the tables gleams. It is a solemn, Victorian room." -- Gellhorn, COLLIER'S, August 1941.

New Life Movement: "While the people of the regions previously infested by Communists and bandits were in virtual state of mental numbness and beggary, the rest of the country suffered from serious economic paralysis... The apparent demoralization of the people prompted the introduction of the New Life Movement. That movement was designed to give them spiritual help and inspiration. Whereas the original intention was to apply it only in the areas which had suffered from Communist or bandit operations, it quickly spread over the country. Among other things it taught the people the spirit of service, cooperation, and the requirements of citizenship and its responsibilities. But more significant, it enabled them, in time, to understand the value and power of their own voice... Hand in hand with the New Life Movement came the organization of a movement to rehabilitate the rural areas." ...Madame Chiang in the volume General Chiang Kai-shek of which she and her husband were co-authors, 1937.

"The Generalissimo gave an endless number of interviews to provincial officials...Madame Chiang was almost as consistently busy enlightening various groups as to Government policies and the aims of the New Life Movement. It was substantially Madame Chiang's effort to forward the latter movement." -- Hollington K. Tong, in his authorized biography of the Generalissimo.

Post-War: "We are trying to institute a flexible system of political and economic development that will serve the future as well as the present. This attempt started directly China became a republic, and has continued even through the war years. In order to give our people fuller and better opportunities for a well-rounded and happier life, a new kind of Chinese socialism, based on democratic principles, is evolving. It is no mere pale reflection of Western socialism. China colors all seas that wash her shores. We do not necessarily reject everything the West has to offer; to views of modern socialists we lend a willing ear, more especially as most of their ideas find their counterpart in the third of the three principles envisaged by our late leader, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, upon which our whole ideology is based. These three principles are: first, Nationalism; second, the People's Rights; third, the People's Livelihood. Nationalism means that there should be equality among all peoples and races, and that all peoples and races should respect each other and live in peace and harmony. The People's Rights means that the people should have these four rights: election, recall, initiative, and referendum. The People's Livelihood means that people are entitled to proper clothing, food, housing, and communications." -- Madame Chiang in ATLANTIC MONTHLY, May 1942.

Refugees: "The refugee problem is an immense and increasing one. As the vast homeless masses struggle into one district or another each district finds its difficulties increased by just as many refugees as arrive there after saturation point is reached. Agricultural areas are able, quietly and without ostentation, to absorb great numbers, but there are the hungry and homeless masses always on the march to be taken care of. System and order are required to deal with the situation, and benefit or charity organizations must cooperate and interlace, rather than overlap, in order effectively to meet the terrible situation." -- Madame Chiang in THE FAR EASTERN MAGAZINE, May 1938.

United China: "There used to be political differences which kept our country distraught but they have been broken down not only by the political unity that came to China and by the highways that opened provincial communication, but by the war that we are fighting. Not only are troops of all provinces fighting together, but people of all provinces are working together, and many unhappily, are fugitives together in one, to them, strange province or another. What this melting of differences in dialect, opinion, and feelings may do for China can be appreciated by anyone with some imagination, some hope, and some constructive energy." -- Madame Chiang in THE FAR EASTERN Magazine, May 1938.

Women of China: "No feminist, Madame Chiang has nevertheless liberated for useful social activity more members of her sex than any other woman alive."
-- Clare Booth in article reprinted by SCHOLASTIC, September 28, 1942.

OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION

WASHINGTON

100
Mrs. Robert Armstrong

April 5, 1943

*Delivered to post
at 11:30 AM
APR 11 - 1943*

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Tommy:

This is the booklet I wrote
you about when you didn't know how much I was
"letting you in for." It occurred to me that
you might find it right handy to have around,
although I suppose you know the telephone num-
bers by heart.

Affectionately,

Bess

Bess Furman
Assistant Chief
Magazine Division

Have been right worried
over my Laurel - she's
been ill - Councils have
to come out & see us



She says the little girl is much better.

Mrs. Roosevelt received a letter from Bess Furman
today telling her about the child.

7/14/11

bess furman armstrong

513 goddard road

bethesda, md.

April 7, 1943

Dear E.R.:

I pause again to marvel how you ever find the time to send birthday greetings to your god children in your own hand writing! Believe you me, I cherish them down the years.

Your gifts to my twins were so wonderful and so welcome! Ruthie had been running a fever for more than a month and I was about at my wit's end about her. But the next day after the birthday I turned her over to a specialist in whom I have the greatest confidence who says there is a flu bug now going around these parts which causes children to run fever for as much as three or four months! Anyway, her improvement the past three days has been amazing — so probably part of it was relief from oppressive worry.

Anyway, she amused herself no end by playing Bird Lotto and stringing the beads with her devoted brother — and then she insisted on scooping us all by turning out her own
(over)

thank-you for which I wrote the
model and she followed copy. She
firmly refused however to let
Robbie and me in on her letter.
Now he's fast asleep so I guess
I'll have to do the thanking for my
son. He pays far greater attention
to his war stamps than she does,
and I begin to have hopes he'll be the
second male ever related to me who
can manage money. My doctor brother
can — otherwise all my men folk have
been a happy-go-lucky, let-er-come,
let-er-go lot.

~~his letter~~
1/1

I'm still remembering the grand
time we had the night of the
Madame Chiang conferences. I have
followed her course to the coast with
tremendous interest — you were right
on her physical condition yet she
did see the tour thru. We already
are getting real results from the
Majestic conference — did you see the
current Vogue?

Again love and thanks for all
you have meant and continue to
mean to me,

Bess

150
May 12, 1945

Dear Bess:

I am so glad to hear from your letter of May 9 that you have worked up to \$5800 per annum. This is grand and I congratulate you.

Affectionately,

M. S. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland

0

at 5-12

BESS FURMAN ARMSTRONG
513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MD.

Sunday Night

Dear ER:

Now that the Victory
Gardens in G can take a
half minute off to tell
you I simply adore
those little Cherise ash-trays
you sent me. They'll always
have an honor spot in
my home — and will go
on from there — I see twin.

I came home and found
them right after I'd written
that begging-for-an-autograph
letter. It made me ashamed
of myself!
(over) Love Bess

That you'd like to know that I've
worked up to a ~~AP~~13 in government
— \$56.00 per annum.

W. H. D. !

July 30, 1943

Dear Bess:

I am glad Bob is better and hope he will find work he likes if the other work folds up.

I'm sorry about Dorothy's little boy but hope he will soon be entirely well.

I'd love to see your office, but can't come in September. I will try later.

Affectionately,

(Mrs. Robert Armstrong |
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland

bess furman armstrong

513 goddard road

(bethesda, md.)

July 26, 1943

Dear E.R.:

Thanks so very much indeed for checking up on Rex Haase. I'm glad the report on him was so good, and I sure do hope he gets his first lieutenantship before he utterly despairs. It seems a promotion has been started through for him about four times, and something has blocked it each time. Don and Faye thought it was just a plain miracle that they were able to get any kind of a realistic report at all. I'll let you know how it turns out. How many, many life stories you have made brighter since you have been in the White House!

Bob is looking simply fine now and will soon be able to go to work again. His whole division folded up and vanished quite away while he was so long sick, but though the rest of them were separated from the pay roll he wasn't. The personnel officer sent a word to him in the hospital that the Old Guard around there were looking after his interests. He'll have a different job when he goes back, but presumably he'll have a job. If he hasn't he can find one. I don't need to have any worries on that score any more.

Last week Dorothy Ducas' little red-headed boy Tommy had appendicitis and had to be operated on in Asheville, N.C. He had been at a boys' camp near there. She and her husband both dashed down and were with him. He's coming along just grand.

Louise Morley came in to see me at your suggestion. It was funny, because when she called up, I had been looking for her, and I thought she came in response to my call. I am hoping to be able to work out a magazine story with her, but I can't tell yet whether it will pan out or not. I liked her very much indeed, and gave her quite a bit of advice as to people to see on this and that.

Any possible chance that Dorothy and I could coax you to come and see our office and the work we have done with the magazines on women in necessary civilian services the first week in September? We'd sure love to have you.

The western trip sounded swell. My best to Tommy,

Much love,

Bess

100
September 27, 1943.

Dear Bess:

Many thanks for your note.
I am so sorry I will not be here much
in October but will try and see you
later.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

VDS

BESS FURMAN ARMSTRONG
513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MD.

9/15/42

Sept 15, 1942

Dear E. R.

While we know just how busy you will be when you get back from the South Seas, Dorothy and I want to talk to you as soon as you can work us in, with regard to some plans for our clients, the magazines.

We also want you to see our shop! and our display of magazines

BESS FURMAN ARMSTRONG
513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MD.

helping on our September
campaign on the subject
of women in necessary
civilian services.

But most of all we
want to see, you just
you — and Tommy too.
We hope you will both
smile upon us and
put us up close to the
top of the list.

With love

Bess.

bess surman armstrong

513 goddard road

bethesda, md.

Tuesday

Dearest ER:

Well I sure went off on the wrong foot by writing an ~~and~~ overheard remark! I had hardly got that letter mailed before I found a paper in Bob's room and found out that story was about Philadelphia and not Texas.

I can't tell you why, but it quite removed from ~~me~~ my feeling of shock about future psychology. I recall little Billy most vividly — a fairy-land laddie in white — on the platform the night of Franklin Field acceptance. With him an accident would always be a straight out accident. Whereas this East never quite trusts us westerners — it would always say it was too bad a Roosevelt ever had to mix up with gun-totin' Texans.

Bob really is better. The next ~~twelve~~ four hours will tell whether he has to be operated again — I really don't think he will and neither does Dr. Charles White, a wonderful old servant I called in. Ruth will be in today.

Much love

Bess

150

September 28, 1943

Dear Bess:

The picture of the twins is sweet
and I am very glad to have it. Many thanks
for your note of greetings on my return.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
515 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Md.

0

ack
9.28
BESS FURMAN ARMSTRONG
513 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MD.

Handwritten
H. & Bess
ER
September 27

Dear ER:

October, your birthday
month approaches.

Realizing the slim
chances these days of
celebrating at the time,
the House of Armstrong
Pewalt salutes you
in advance with love
and kisses —

From Bob — (he took and
donated the picture) Bess
and the twins.

October 26, 1945

100

Dear Bess:

I read these articles, which I am returning. I think they are interesting, but I am afraid much is speculation and not research. In any case, I would not know the facts. Certainly I never suspected my husband of "putting one over" on the question of a White House victory garden!

Very sincerely yours,

0

Mrs. Bess Furman Armstrong
513 Goddard Rd.
Bethesda, Md.

Dear ER:

While you were in the South Seas, a series on the White House, written by my old AP friend Frank Weller, was published.

Frank is one of the fine old school of newspaper men who writes with the sole purpose of interesting and informing his readers. There is no malice in him. Had it not been for alcohol, he would undoubtedly have been one of the outstanding newspaper men of our times.

The AP feature service is going to send in his series with the idea of giving him a headlines prize---of which he is already a one-time winner. They might even make a try for the Pulitzer.

Would it be asking too much of you to read this series over? If you really think it is good and that he has done a good research job---as I do--- could you find it in your heart to write him a little note to that effect? In your note you would be perfectly free to say that I called it to your attention on your return---since you had missed reading it due to the dates of its publication. If you have any quarrel with any part of it, I'm sure he wouldn't mind if you brought that up too. Frank doesn't pretend to be an insider. In the part of his piece that was cut off Frank led off the article on you with this mot: "Mrs. Roosevelt does not consider this reporter any Kipling, so he...

...learned about her from women.

He accumulated the sum of a buck and a half and went abroad among the newspaper gals bartering beverages for bits from the book each swears she is going to write "someday" about the Roosevelts."

Thanks for the many good works you have done for me. The Texas soldier I wrote you about got his raise in rank and is not being sent to a school which may mean further promotion.

Love,

Bess

And will you please return
the clippings? To me.

November 19, 1943.

Dear Bess:

Many thanks for your letter
and congratulations on your going with
the Times. I will certainly be glad
when you can raise some interesting
questions.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
515 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

100
VDS

Bess Furman Armstrong

513 Goddard Road

Bethesda, Md.

November 13, 1943

only
11/19/43

Dear ER:

Has anyone told you what a complete shuffling around has been going on among your girl friends? Kathleen got fed up on running a journalism school and came down to do a man's kind of a job on the Washington staff of the New York Times. Eleanor Darnton went up to New York to take her place. I took Eleanor's place on the Times (only everyone calls her Tootie). And now, hurrah, Geno is going to take my place on the Magazine Bureau of OWI---and Dorothy Ducasz is going to quit there December 17 because her husband has gone back to New York.

Some day I hope I'll be returning to your press conference on a question-asking basis---if I haven't lost my voice from disuse.

I'm sorry I bothered you with Frank's articles. But if AP aimed to submit them in any contest, I still think it was better that you saw them. He'll probably drop the matter now, for he honestly thought he'd arrived as some fairly accurate reporting. On AP, you see, you'd never just say, "I shall take it upon myself to do some inside the White House stuff". New York thinker-uppers tell you to bestir yourself that way---and you do it or fall down on your assignment. It seemed to me the series, especially the article on Hopkins, was in so much more genial and fair spirit that it at least partially counteracted the pure poison that Drew Pearson was handing out on the same subject. On the other hand, I certainly don't blame you if you're fully fed up on the whole goldfish bowl school of journalism. So that's that---and let's forget it.

In New York I went with Ruth and her husband to the same movie Robbie saw at the children's party in the White House. Ruth asked me please to convey to you her very best love. Which I herewith do---and mine too---

As ever,

Bess

Thanks very much
will acknowledge to ER
from the new phone
for understanding
Bess

Wll 1/12/44
Dear E. P. ~~ARMSTRONG~~ ~~ROBERT~~ ~~ARMSTRONG~~

Orchid to you! I
am delighted you are
going to be Assistant
Director of Civilian
Defense — having
been all out for
you from the first.
I even have complete
faith in your doing
something with it
now — which is far
more of a compliment!

Under separate
cover I am sending
you a pin to hold
the orchid. It is
one designed by

a friend of Dorothy
Ducos named
Alice Johnson. The
leaf that flops back
is supposed to hold
the flowerlet - fresh -
aloft. If you ever
should get a bouquet
that small you
might even use it.
I hope it works.

She swears it will

Much love to
you + Tommy -
and figure out
when you get back
some way actually
to use well the
AAU.W words

who are ready
to leap into defense
in some other
fashion than
running to fires!

Yours affectionately
and fervently

Bess

Bob sends his love too
And so do the kids
Lucile is coming long
time..

Bess Furman

The New York Times

Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

100

December 21, 1943

Dear E.R.:

I finally got the full picture on Dorothy Davis and it is pretty discouraging.

Her case is not so simple as enlisting as of now if the other enlistment didn't stick---although she thinks it is. The nurses in Blanshfield's office finally broke down and told me they have grave doubts that she could pass her physical to enlist now. While she looks in good shape, practically all of those who were in that camp have a low blood count---and she was ill four times during her internment.

She wants to wear that Army Nurse Corps uniform and to be on active duty so bad that it will sure go hard with her morale, I'm afraid, if she gets barred out on physical grounds. Of course she will go up to Presbyterian Hospital under that eventuality---and of course under present circumstances they will take her---so she will be nursing in the army or out.

She would feel much better about it if she could even have the opportunity to talk to someone who is in the department which is considering her case.

I sure find it in my heart to wish that a way could be found just to cut the red tape from on high---the way Abraham Lincoln sometimes did in the Civil War.

They told us at her press conference she even took an oath--- MacArthur had them do it---but it was not the oath of office.

The top Army Nurses would like to have the date of the oath she took stand as the day of her starting duty with the Corps.

I'm going to drop a very small Christmas remembrance at the gate for you, and a tiny, tiny one for Tommy. I do hope you'll both have as merry a Christmas as is possible in these days.

Love,

Bess

H. ARMSTRONG

100
December 28, 1945

✓ Dear Bess:

I am delighted to have a copy of Regler's book and I appreciate your thoughtfulness in selecting it for me for Christmas. I shall read it with great interest.

Many, many thanks for the gift and every good wish for the New Year.

I am glad to hear that Bob has started working on

Affectionately,

O

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland

The New York Times

Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 24

Dear E. R.:

A month has passed since Christmas and I have not told you how completely I appreciated your generous gifts to our whole household. Ever though such a thing would never happen in your efficient life, I know that you will both forgive me and know deep down in your heart that the glow around my own heart was as warm as though I had written promptly.

What happened to me in the midst of the tangerines and grapefruits was that my son's eyes swelled up and after some days of worrying with this and that, nephthases were off for a weeks tent in Children's Hospital in a jolly little room to which I came home one night to find the toilet sitting in the bathtub and there it remained to the end of our stay. The verdict was nephritis and 6 to 8 weeks in bed for Robert which I accepted thankfully as it might

The New York Times
Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

file 100

BESS FIRMAN

I've been so fair something

I hope
is bid 10000

have been so very much worse, and took
him home. However, when I am upset
about one of those twins I am
utterly upset and my poor little
one - a poor one - just lets everything
else go until the brain cells somehow
gather themselves together and start
functioning again.

Both the twins loved the books and
they are doing double duty now as
entertainers + educators to keep Roffie
quiet. He is however a saint, cooperative
and model patient, and he has a globe
by his bed as reference on the geography.
You have such discerning good judgement
on age-labels! The books always fit!
As for the stamps, I'm going to turn
them into books for them as fast as
possible.

Thanks so much for all your
dud on Dorothy Davis. She is in
Presbyterian Hospital in New York now.
Have just seen Ruth
who sends love to you!

Love,
Bess
Love to
Tommy
will write
his letter

100 ✓

May 13, 1944

Dear Bess:

I do not mind discussing the question of what is to be done with the aggressor nations but it won't mean much as I have no knowledge.

I'll gladly go to the ~~the~~ Bethesda USO and could do so on June 4 at 6:00 p.m., if that would be a convenient time.

Affectionately,

0

Miss Bess Furman
New York Times
Albee Bldg.
Washington

The New York Times

Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

2
13

Dear E.R.

Wherever I turn these days I hear the topic of what's to be done with Germany--and Japan---after the war discussed.

What do you think on this subject? Or do you feel free to discuss it? *Y*

I'll be asking you on Monday. *later in week*

as always, *with love & care*

no knowledge

Bess

PS: My very near neighbor, Anthony Gould, has just confided to me that he has written you a letter asking you to come to the Bethesda USO some Sunday. I do hope you can.

Each Tuesday night we gather our flowers and tote them down to Mrs. Gould who totes them out to Navy hospital. As I gather it, the Goulds feel that if you showed up some Sunday it might help to melt the ice between the hospital and the USO closest thereto. More specifically, I may say, the idea might be to get the Supt. of the hospital more enthusiastic over the nearest USO and what it might do to lighten the tedium for the boys.

Let me know if you can do it, and I'll do anything that can be done to help the project along as I see it.

Bess

*Y
12/13/45
E.R.*

Church Will Toll Bell To Call D-Day Service

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., April 19—When word is flashed here that D-Day has arrived in western Europe the residents of this city will be summoned by church bell and telephone to a prayer meeting in historic Trinity Episcopal Church, the Rev. Philip M. Styles, rector of the church, announced today.

So many Americans will be giving their lives and the day will be such a turning point in world history that similar prayer meetings should be held in all churches, business houses and public places throughout the land, even if only for a few moments, the Rev. Mr. Styles contended.

The prayers here will be for the home folk as well as for the men storming Nazi fortifications, the clergyman said. To notify as many persons as possible of the hastily called meeting twenty key men of the church have agreed to make telephone calls to acquaintances, who will call other persons, the Rev. Mr. Styles explained.

It is probably too late now, but I some time ago promised someone I met in my travels that I would call your attention to some local moves for a call to prayer as soon as invasion is announced, with the idea it might be made national through a request to the Chief of Chaplains, who would make the formal announcement.

E.R.:

Have saved this for weeks and weeks to call to your attention, but keep forgetting to do it.

This marked section of the New Yorker presents a problem far deeper than just paper. It explains the stranglehold of the advertiser at a time when there is little excuse of his being. The chief opposition to OPA's struggle for standards which would check the sad deterioration of fabrics comes from this well-padded source.

Our clothing problem differs from England in that in England they will not permit manpower to be wasted making up materials that won't wear two days, whereas at the present moment there is hardly a seam in our best stores that doesn't sag from synthesis.

Bf

Miss Dow

The "congratulations"
are for you + Muriel +
Haskins —

Now - find something
little boy can play with
as he'd

Miss Dow / 100
Call Bess Furman

ask press club for
1 ticket - Mrs R to
pay - dinner June 14

Tell ^{Mr} Talley where
she arrives —

Wi 6136

BESS FURMAN ARMSTRONG
313 GODDARD ROAD
BETHESDA, MD.

100

Dear E.R.:

Sunday, June 3

These flowers are from Mary Margaret.

Please read her letter to me, so you will know her intent. But it was the week-end, and I could not go downtown for my press of homework---and so I give you not Washington's best but Bethesda's best.

I hope the spirit will take up for anything that doesn't quite come up to her sweeping specifications!

All I can add is that I agree with her on her conclusions about you.

With love,

Bess

July 10, 1944

My dear Bess:

I was terribly pleased to get your letter and the report on Bob's new job. It sounds perfectly wonderful and I am glad he is near you and you can be together for lunch.

You are quite right that we must do more to get women doing things and I have sent your letter on to the President. Your idea of Martha Eliot's going to Russia strikes me as good. Of course, the trouble with getting women over is always the transportation question. They are apt to think men can be more useful.

I do not know Mrs. Hobart at all, but will make it a point to meet her when I am back in the autumn. She might be a very useful person to send across. Perhaps you and Bob can get away for a holiday. I think it is good to leave one's children now and then.

Affectionately,

Miss Bess Furman
New York Times Bureau
Albee Bldg. Washington

The New York Times

WASHINGTON BUREAU
ALBEE BLDG. WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 6, 1944

Dear E.R.:

Tother night I had one of my pleasanter dreams. I dreamed I settled down for a nice long talk with you. This obviously being on the fantastic side in life as it runs at the moment, I decided to do what has become almost as impossible---write you a letter.

My personal news is that Bob has now become Chief Correspondent of that one-man Bureau at the moment, the St. Louis Globe Democrat which has offices next door to the Times and takes the full New York Times service. It was however none of my doing---I didn't even know that the place was vacant. The Post froze him and he was three weeks getting loose, but now he is apparently all set on a \$100 a week job plus expense account which he may have a real opportunity to build up.

It certainly seems almost too good to be true to be popping out of my office door into my husband's, where I can lock the door and eat a picnic lunch to the benefit of digestion and family economics.

The twins are out getting a good sun tan and I hope the resistance to give them a good school year next year.

Lucile is working half time with Hick and Virginia Rishel. She enjoys them no end.

This is about as good a report as I've made in some time, and I pause to knock wood.

My mind has been mulling the meeting at the White House. It seems to me that to get women on the various peace-setting-up groups is the merest drop in a new ocean of either opportunity or else just the opposite.

Probably because my brother has fared so ill at the hands of the A.M.A. as an osteopath, I shudder to see the very ruthless man who ruined the liberal-mindedness of my native state of Nebraska, which put out a George Norris and a Grace Abbott, waxing more and more publicity-wise here in Washington. I refer to Rep. Miller, the nominator of McArthur, the author of the bill to turn the Children's Bureau over to the Public Health Service (With the fond hope that the AMA will get back its strangle hold there). President Hoover fell for that one, and it was no small part in his defeat. Now here is Miller again, rating a column on a letter interchange with none other than the President on deferment of the medical lads. Now if the back of the AMA could be properly broken, we could have some medical lasses and some sort of a chance on health and happiness in this country. The rate of 7000 women doctors in this country to 160,000 in Russia is simply too fantastic. But of course the girls are too apathetic to even want to enter medical schools. They have to be educated. And it would take some first hand stuff to educate them. I recall the great impetus we got in this country from the early first hand stories about what women are doing in England.

Why can't we send some women over to find out and tell us about Russia as we did about England? Why must our word come from Eric Johnson exclusively? When Dr. Martha Elliot of the Children's Bureau went to

England she got some gorgeous stuff I thought. Why not send her to Russia to report back to us on women in medicine there? What would be the way of going at it?

In my work lately I have been in touch quite a bit with Mrs. Lowell Fletcher Hobart, women's Personnel advisor to the War Department---on the civilian women in the plants, not the Wacs. I think she is far-seeing. Do you happen to know her well? I'd like to see her do a study on Russian women in the factories.

Well, I find I have to dash out on an assignment. Maybe I can continue this so-called conversation sometime. If not just know that I can at least sort of feel that I see you sometimes by reading the column.

As always,

Bess

For the President

E.R.

selective service regulation barring draft deferments for pre-medical students after July 1.

In responding to a letter from the Representative, who stirred up a political furor last April when he made public correspondence he had had with General Douglas MacArthur, Mr. Roosevelt said he had given careful thought to Representative Miller's proposals. He said, however, that after reviewing the facts he had decided not to override the recommendation of the Inter-Agency Committee on Deferments or to instruct Major General Lewis B. Hershey, director of selective service, to rescind the ruling which he based on the committee's recommendation in regard to pre-medical students.

Mr. Roosevelt pointed out to Representative Miller, who is a physician and former State Health Director in Nebraska, that the decision to draft able-bodied pre-medical students who had not reached the medical school stage by July 1 was based on the urgent need of the armed forces for young, vigorous men. The committee, he said, also took into account the fact that present pre-medical students could not be of service in the practice of medicine before 1948, that many of them would never practice medicine, and that young men who do not come up to the physical standards of the armed forces and men who have served and have been discharged as well young men, are still available for pre-medical training.

Text of Letter
At the Representative's office it was said that he had not received the letter, which was made public at the White House as follows: "I have given careful thought to your letter of June 18, in which you asked that I review the Selective Service order which does not permit the deferment of pre-medical students beyond July 1. "No one is more keenly conscious that I am of the need of maintaining the health of the nation and of making sure that we have an adequate supply of doctors. But in this war the needs of the armed forces for young, vigorous men must also be given thorough consideration. The Army and Navy have presented that need in urgent terms as essential to the winning of the war."

Cites Recommendation
The inter-agency committee on deferments, which was formed some months ago to advise the Director of Selective Service on deferment of men under twenty-six, gave careful consideration to the case of pre-medical students. The committee included representatives of all governmental agencies interested in man power. I am told that this committee recommended that there be no deferment for pre-medical students who are not in medical school by July 1 of this year.

The committee, I am advised, took into account the fact that none of these pre-medical students could be of service in the practice of medicine prior to 1948, and that many of them would never practice medicine. The committee also gave attention to the fact that young men who do not come up to the exacting physical standards of the armed forces, as well as young women, are available to become pre-medical students.

Needs of Ex-Service Men
"As for the future supply of doctors, we must always bear in mind the ex-service men, a considerable number of whom will unquestionably desire to begin the study of medicine. As you know, there are many young men who have served their country in the armed forces and have already been discharged from further service. These men, and the far larger number later to me demobilized, must be given every opportunity in the way of education and training. I am told that the medical colleges are particularly interested in promoting medical education of well-qualified ex-service men. This plan by the medical colleges in behalf of ex-service men has my hearty support."

For these reasons, after thorough consideration, I am unwilling to override the recommendation of the inter-agency committee on deferments in regard to pre-medical students or to instruct the director of selective service to rescind the ruling that he made when he

adopted the committee's recommendation.

"I fully appreciate your interest in this important subject."

A. M. A. Sees Shortage

CHICAGO, July 2 (AP).—The present policies of the armed forces and selective service will result in an annual deficit of 2,000 doctors each year after the war, the "Journal of the American Medical Association" declared today.

Termining the predicted shortage of physicians an "alarming situation," the "Journal" asserted: "The responsibility must rest with the armed forces, the selective system, the President and the Congress of the United States."

"Although schools will continue the accelerated program, they will admit classes only once annually instead of every nine months. This of itself will reduce the number of graduates from the present annual average of 7,000 to 3,000," the editorial said.

"If classes can be only half filled, this number will be reduced to 2,500 graduates per year. Hence 2,500 to 3,000 physicians die each year, there will result an annual and cumulative deficit of 2,000 doctors a year."

The editorial urged the medical profession to send protests "against the blind disregard for medical care in the future" to the Senate and House Military Affairs Committees. It also recommended "the support" of a bill by Representative Miller proposing deferment of at least 4,000 medical students and 4,000 dental students in each calendar year.

New Service 7-1111

TI

Change Barred In Pre-Medical Student Draft

President Won't Rescind Hershey's Order Ending Deferments After July 1

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 5.—President Roosevelt, replying to a protest from Representative A. L. Miller, Republican, of Nebraska, refused today to overrule the selective service regulation barring draft deferments for pre-medical students after July 1.

In responding to a letter from the Representative, who stirred up a political furor last April when he made public correspondence he had had with General Douglas MacArthur, Mr. Roosevelt said he had given careful thought to Representative Miller's proposals. He said, however, that after reviewing the facts he had decided not to overrule the recommendation of the Inter-Agency Committee on Deferments or to instruct Major General Lewis B. Hershey, director of selective service, to rescind the ruling which he based on the committee's recommendation in regard to pre-medical students.

Mr. Roosevelt pointed out to Representative Miller, who is a physician and former State Health Director in Nebraska, that the decision to draft able-bodied pre-medical students who had not reached the medical school stage by July 1 was based on the urgent need of the armed forces for young, vigorous men. The committee, he said, also took into account the fact that present pre-medical students could not be of service in the practice of medicine before 1948, that many of them would never practice medicine, and that young men who do not come up to the physical standards of the armed forces and men who have served and have been discharged as well young men, are still available for pre-medical training.

Text of Letter

At the Representative's office it was said that he had not received the letter, which was made public at the White House as follows:

"I have given careful thought to your letter of June 16, in which you asked that I review the Selective Service order which does not permit the deferment of pre-medical students beyond July 1.

"No one is more keenly conscious that I am of the need of maintaining the health of the nation and of making sure that we have an adequate supply of doctors. But in this war the needs of the armed forces for young, vigorous men must also be given thorough consideration. The Army and Navy have presented that need in urgent terms as essential to the winning of the war.

Cites Recommendation

"The inter-agency committee on deferments," which was formed

adopted the committee's recommendation.

"I fully appreciate your interest in this important subject."

A. M. A. Sees Shortage

CHICAGO, July 5 (AP).—The present policies of the armed forces and selective service will result in an annual deficit of 2,000 doctors each year after the war, the "Journal" of the American Medical Association declared today.

Terming the predicted shortage of physicians an "alarming situation," the "Journal" asserted: "The responsibility must rest with the armed forces, the selective system, the President, and the Congress of the United States."

"Although schools will continue the accelerated program, they will admit classes only once annually instead of every nine months. This of itself will reduce the number of graduates from the present annual average of 7,000 to 5,000," the editorial said.

"If classes can be only half filled, this number will be reduced to 2,500 graduates per year. Since 3,300 to 3,500 physicians die each year, there will result an annual and cumulative deficit of 2,000 doctors a year."

The editorial urged the medical profession to send protests "against the blind disregard for medical care in the future" to the Senate and House Military Affairs Committees. It also recommended "full support" of a bill by Representative Miller proposing deferment of at least 6,000 medical students

CLASS OF SERVICE
 This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1220

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
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SJ

A. N. WILLIAMS
 PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

611 WEST 4TH ST
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TDW BETHESDA MD 1031A JUL 12 1944

MR FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT, ATT MISS MALVINA THOMPSON

100 file

FWD PHONE HYDE PARK NY
 (IF UNDL 29 WASHINGTON SQ WEST NYK)

X MARY MARGARET MCBRIDE WHO WILL BE RUNNING RADIO NBS CONVENTION SIDE SHOW AT CHICAGO NATIONAL HOOK UP WOULD LIKE TO PICK YOU UP WHEREVER YOU ARE PREFERABLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT BUT ANY CONVENTION NIGHT 630 TO 640 PM EST. WOULD INTRODUCE YOU AS APPEARING NOT FOR ANY POLITICAL REASON BUT AS ONE REGARDED BY MARY MARGARET AS A GREAT HUMAN BEING. SHE MADE NO SUGGESTION ON MESSAGE BUT I PERSONALLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU CONGRATULATE DEMOCRATIC WOMEN ON ACTUALLY ACHIEVING FULL 50-50 STATUS AT THIS CONVENTION WHEREAS YOU REMEMBER WHEN WOMEN SAT OUTSIDE CLOSED DOOR. PLEASE WIRE OR PHONE ME YOUR DECISION TODAY AT NEW YORK TIMES WASHINGTON BUREAU

BESS FURMAN

1204P

July 31, 1944

Dear Bess:

Furman

I am not going back to Washington this summer, as far as I know.

I hope you and the children enjoy your trip to New York. Would you like to come up here for a night and a day?

Affectionately,

0

100

The New York Times

Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 28

Dear E.R.:

Mrs. Hobart, of whom I spoke to you, put ~~across~~ this pregnancy program in the War Department's industrial plants and covering their civilian personnel practically single-handed. It just goes to show what one courageous, forward-thinking woman can do in a real policy making position.

You of course saw that Harvard is going to take in some women medical students---a year ~~from~~ now the way that Harvard moves. However, it's a sign, and a darned good one, that now is a good time to put some steam behind that front.

I'm having a week's vacation next week, Bob gets none this year, and I am, by request and urgent request, going to show the kids New York for a day or two. We shall see the Statue of Liberty. You don't know how eagerly I am looking forward to it.

If you do come into Washington any time this summer after next week, could you come out and see the kids. The house needs redecorating so horribly I hate to look at it, but we can't get it done without plain feeding inflation till the war's over, and I have struck on paying treble price. But you can just look at us and not at the house, and maybe I'll take another streak of slinging cold water paint.

As always,

Bess

Will be glad to see you & family whenever you like for a night.

September 16, 1944

Dear Bess:

Your letter came just as I was leaving for Quebec. I read the newspaper story and also the article which you sent me and was very much interested.

I will write a column mentioning Dr. Elliot's idea and I will do what I can about Mrs. Hobart.

It is good to be back here in the country to enjoy what time I shall be able to spend here from now on.

I shall look forward to seeing you when I get back to Washington.

Affectionately,

Bessie Coleman

... of the dress. Both at Villa-Zigmund.

... the jacket is faced with

The New York Times Studio

IRE

Woman for Foreign Affairs Post Urged to Give Voice on the Peace

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

... to

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Women whose life interest has been international affairs say that as a matter of practical procedure the only possible opportunity they see for a woman to take any policy-making part at this late date in conversations now going on at Dumbarton Oaks, and in subsequent parleys on world organization, would be for a woman to be appointed to the post of vice chairman of the Advisory Council on Post-War Foreign Policy which was left vacant by the death of Norman H. Davis in July.

Mr. Davis was one of three vice-chairmen of this advisory council which was provided for in the State Department reorganization of last January. If the council itself were ever appointed, the names have not been announced, and the forming of the council might provide more opportunity for women to aid in forming the peace.

But the immediately important point is that the three vice chairmen who were duly appointed are, by virtue of their positions under the State Department organization set up in January, full members of the important Committee on Post-War Programs, which consists of the Secretary of State, as chairman; the Under-Secretary as vice chairman; the special assistant to the Secretary, Leo Pasvolisky, as executive director; the

vice chairman of the advisory council; the assistant secretaries, and the legal adviser. This committee is charged with "assisting the Secretary in the formulation of post-war foreign policies and the execution of such policies by means of appropriate international arrangements."

The two present vice chairmen are Myron C. Taylor, the President's envoy to the Vatican, and Isaiah Bowman, president of Johns Hopkins University, who went to London as adviser to Under-Secretary Stettinius for the post-war discussions there last March.

Women who have worked in the international field say that such a post as Advisory Council vice chairman presupposes qualifications of the highest order, but did not hesitate today to make several "for instance" suggestions, such as Dr. Sarah Wambaugh of Cambridge, Mass., member of the League of Nations Committee which guided the Saar Plebiscite; Ruth Bryan Owen Rohde, former Minister to Denmark; Dean Virginia Gildersleeve of Barnard College, Columbia University, and Dr. Ada Comstock, retired president of Radcliffe College. It was emphasized that these were women of valuable experience in international affairs. A name mentioned as of outstanding experience in that field was Anne O'Hare McCormick of THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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The New York Times

Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 6, 1944

Dear E.R.:

I know you read the Times but there are several items of recent date I'd like to call especially to your attention. They are attached. You will note that we have had two more articles on woman doctors. I was especially struck by Dr. Eliot's idea that they would go into the rural areas where men doctors won't go. I am sure that is true. Twice recently I have heard Dr. Parran testify that the attempt to send men doctors into these areas failed because of the restrictions put about it, so that acutally only 6 or 7 doctors were resettled.

It seems to me that without waiting for the slow workings of government, which could come later, some philanthropist might be interested in this plan, as Mr. Baruch has become interested in physiotherapy, so that scholarships could be offered with the string attached that the women using them should go into rural areas ~~now~~ suffering a doctor shortage (and you can bet your bottom dollar most of them now in that state still will be when these gals are through school because they have been that way for at least twenty years). These scholarships, as many as could be scraped up could be used now at the moment when the medical schools jolly well admit their classes aren't filled and no doubt would be glad to take the money---glad enough to let the women in.

If you agree with me, I think it would be perfectly swell, and would spread the idea hither and yon if you would (a) write a column mentioning Dr. Eliot's idea as a good one and commenting further as your conscience is your guide; (b) when next you happen to be making a radio speech mention same.

I am also calling specifically to your attention the one possibility for a woman to get in on the main peace parleys. That's what you once mentioned that the press could do a public service by finding out---and that's about all I can do. I hope that the women's organizations will move in.

You will recall that I spoke to you about Mrs. Warwick B. Hobart in the War Department as a valuable person to send abroad and bring something ~~back~~ that would really do us good. Well, one of England's foremost, Caroline Haslett, talked with her here and later wrote her a note saying that ~~she would be invited over by the British Government.~~ she would be invited over by the British Government. She had told her orally that her ideas were so valuable she must come to Britain. The catch on it is that she works for the War Department, and anyone who works for the War Department has to be invited into that area by General Eisenhower. If Eisenhower won't invite her, which he might not, how might it be explained to him that the project is worth while?

Handwritten note on left margin:
I am sure that is true. Twice recently I have heard Dr. Parran testify that the attempt to send men doctors into these areas failed because of the restrictions put about it, so that acutally only 6 or 7 doctors were resettled.

The New York Times

Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

In the October issue of Mademoiselle Magazine I shall have an article entitled "Leave of Absence Babies." Under separate cover I'm sending that along too. For the simple reason that knowing my whole background, I sorta think it would amuse you.

I think your tribute yesterday to Senator Norris not only is one of the best columns you ever wrote, but also is the best of the current tributes about him. It means a tremendous amount to me that a man as great as he is came out of my own immediate native environment, so barren to the eye in the days when I climbed off a tall type stool to go out and hear him campaign in the dusty street.

As always and forever,

Bess

Bess Furman Armstrong

URGES MORE WOMEN BECOME DOCTORS

Children's Bureau Aide Says They Are Needed to Offset the Great Shortage of Men

FOREASING QUOTAS SYSTEMS

Dr. Elliot Stresses Scholarship Aid—Asserts Rural Areas Would Benefit

Special to The New York Times.
WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—Medical schools and colleges should engage immediately in a recruiting campaign to get women students enrolled to help fill short classes, Dr. Martha Elliot, assistant chief of the Children's Bureau, urged today in an official statement. Dr. Elliot administers two programs which would be hampered by a scarcity of doctors: the emergency maternity and infancy care program caring for service men's wives and infants and the maternal and child health services under the Social Security Act.

"With the induction of many prospective students into the armed forces and the discontinuance of Army support for medical education, the number of men in the medical schools will be drastically cut," she said. "Admission of an increasing number of women would help bridge this gap in the supply of physicians."

Greater Needs, Fewer Doctors

"In the post-war period a great expansion in public health work is likely to take place, and we can hope that ways will be found of bringing good medical care increasingly to all the people of the nation. In a time when the need for doctors will be greater than ever before, we shall have fewer of them."

Dr. Elliot said that during the war period many of the old prejudices against women physicians had broken down and that the medical schools should fall in line with the generally greater acceptance of the woman doctor.

"For the first time women doctors have been accepted into the Medical Corps of the armed forces," she said. "At home they have taken over much work formerly carried on by physicians who have entered the service. Many people have had a 'woman doctor' for the first time and have found her services fully satisfactory."

Dr. Elliot asserted that in some medical schools the quota systems which had limited the number of women accepted to a certain proportion of the men students admitted, had been eliminated. She recommended that all schools modify their admission requirements in such a way as to erase the quotas, which often had provided for a very small percentage of women students.

Urges Scholarships for Women

"Furthermore, scholarships should be offered to women," she said. "It was considered a good investment to send young men to medical school at public expense; this was done by the armed services until the military needs became so urgent that they had to withdraw these students. Is there any reason why financial help should not be extended to our young women?"

In the woman doctor Dr. Elliot said there was also hope for the rural areas, which now are to a large extent without physicians because young men graduates want the advantages of working with the greater medical facilities in the cities.

"I believe that many women would be willing to go into the rural areas where doctors are so badly needed," she added. "A woman who chooses medicine has had much of the courage of the pioneer, and courage of that sort is needed in the professions today if we are to push our service to the farthest reaches of American life."

16 L MEDICAL SCHOOLS GAIN FEW WOMEN

Survey Shows Slight Rise in Feminine Enrollment at 9 of 15 Institutions

PREJUDICE SEEN LESSENING

Deans Deny Discrimination, but Show No Intention of Encouraging Women

At a time when the American Medical Association protests in its Journal a three-per cent reduction of 23 to 30 per cent in 1945 of students entering classes at medical schools, a survey of fifteen leading medical colleges in seven cities shows only a slight increase in enrollment of women at nine schools. The other six report enrollment at the level of previous years.

Judging from statements made by deans of the schools surveyed, prejudice against women as medical students is lessening, but obstacles—such as difficulty in getting internships and residence for graduate training—were pointed out as holding down their chances for top success in the field. Deans interviewed, while denying for the most part that any discrimination was shown against accepting women students, showed no intention of encouraging women to take medical training.

Tufts Medical School in Boston, the first co-educational school in New England to admit women in medicine, was the exception. With eighteen women medical students in an enrollment of 414 and seven women dental students in a total of 322—figures which show little change over previous years—a spokesman for the school declared he would like to see more women medical students, and believed a process of education to acquaint women with the opportunities of medicine would help bring this about. Tufts is now carrying out such a program, he said, regarding opportunities for women in dentistry.

At the Boston University Medical School, the first female medical school in the country, which admitted no men until 1913, Dean Franklin Branch foresees a tendency toward an increase in women students. Prior to this year the medical school had five to ten women in each class, now it has fifteen to twenty. Dean Branch said the one reason for the lack of women students was that advance courses in girls' schools were "not set up to prepare girls for medicine."

In San Francisco, the medical schools at both Stanford University and the University of California show increases in female enrollment. More than 11 per cent of the incoming January medical class at Stanford will be women, compared with the usual 4 or 5 per cent. This upward trend, according to the office of Dr. Loren R. Chandler, dean, is the result of the war and the unavailability of qualified men students. The University of California Medical School, which for years has had a good percentage of women students, has at present twenty-four women in the student body of 290, or 8.3 per cent. Dean Francis R. Smyth asserted that State schools and Western schools generally have "always given more recognition to women medical students." He feels that although a trend toward an increase of women students is evident, "it is difficult in the face of military contracts to say what this increase would be in ordinary times."

More at Johns Hopkins

More women students than ever before have enrolled for the coming term in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the University of Maryland School of Medicine, in Baltimore. Dr. H. R. Spencer, Professor of Pathology at the University of Maryland, declared that enrollment of women was 100 per cent above normal for the term beginning in October. "Medical schools operating in connection with hospitals know they must depend largely upon women for internships and residencies in the near future," he said. "We have had a tendency to hold down the number of women medical students, according to an unwritten agreement. Previously the maximum was 5 per cent; it has now been doubled."

A spokesman for Johns Hopkins revealed that among eighty new students about to enter training at the medical school, ten were women, an unusually high average. He insisted, however, that the number "awful and recedes and this is not conclusive." He said the Johns Hopkins has never limited the proportion of female students.

In Chicago, two of the four medical schools reported increases in enrollment of women; two reported "no change." At the University of Illinois School of Medicine the number of women enrolled in the number of freshmen class is "somewhat larger than has been taken for a great many years." At the Northwestern University's Medical School ten women "probably will be admitted" this year. This compares with about four women accepted each year in normal times. The University of Chicago and Loyola University show "no increase in the number of women seeking admission" into the medical schools.

The School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College, in Philadelphia, show slight increases in registration of women students but the Temple University School of Medicine expects such enrollment to remain constant. The Yale Medical School in New Haven, reports that "because of the increase of the armed forces the normal quota of the entering class for all students will be below par in numbers. A material increase in women students is not expected unless a large number of women qualify for enrollment." A spokesman for the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, in New York, made a similar statement.

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October 12, 1944.

Dear Bess:

I loved your card. You are always so original and amusing. But you should not spend your money on me, such as I appreciate your thought.

We'll surely have a party but I'm afraid I won't have any free time until after election.

Many thanks.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Road
Bethesda, Maryland.

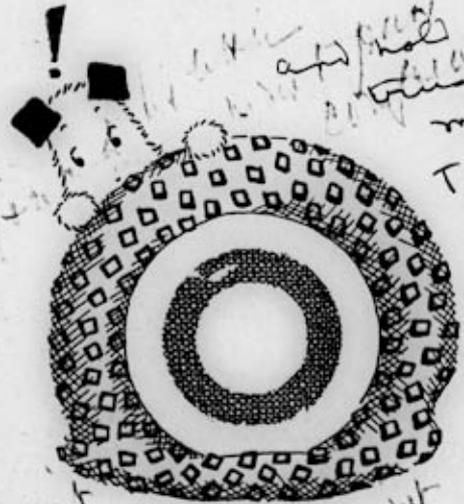
VDS



but -

The thing that I
about you that I
most admire
is that you're
so gosh-darned
useful that you
can't retire
Love
Bess

just have a little
BLOW-OUT



and hold the in
me heartily
Till we
can
throw
another
party!

Bess

So -
many
happy
returns

Thank
you for
all the
fun by
the thought

*Booklet "Half a Million Forgotten People" returned as requested.

October 31, 1944.

Dear Bess:

Many thanks for your letter
of the 30th.

I think your idea excellent.

Affectionately,

Miss Bess Furman
New York Times
717 Albee Building
Washington, D. C.

VDS

100

The New York Times

Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

sub
10/31/44

October 30

Dear E.R.:

*Thank you
for the
mail*

It seems to me that the awfulness of the present clothing situation offers an excellent opportunity to dig into an old blot on our national record---the well-known case of the textile workers.

After the election, win, lose or draw, couldn't we plan trips to a Southern textile mill and a New England textile mill, combining the best features of a White Top Mountain tour and a GO-SEE trip for the democrats in Washington---like in the good old days?

I have sounded out our editor in New York, and she would send me on such a trip.

If the word is Go---I'd get right to work with CIO and others on the background.

Bess Furman

1070
November 11, 1944

Dear Bess:

X The information you give me about the
textile situation and what you are doing is
O.K. How long a trip would it be?

Affectionately,

Mrs. Robert Armstrong
513 Goddard Rd.
Bethesda, Md.

Dear E.R.

I had a chance to talk to Cap Krug. I asked him if raising the pay of the textile workers would help the textile situation. He said it would be no cure-all, since high-paying war industries are in some of the same communities as the textile mills, but that it would help. He is having some cases worked up to present to the War Labor Board. So such a trip as we are thinking of would be in line with a trend, I believe.

This afternoon I am going to talk to some Textile people with an idea of finding out about various mills and their situations. I will let you know what I find out.

Bess

W

The New York Times

100

Albee Building
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 23, 1944

Dear E.R.:

X There was one mill mentioned by both X Dr. Murchison, head of the X Cotton Textile Association, and by the two labor representatives, unbeknownst to each other, as being outstanding as trying to do the best possible under existing circumstances. It was:

The Amandale Mills: Hugh Comber and Donald Comber, Birmingham, Alabama.

The rest of the list that Mrs. Darnton was given by Dr Murchison follows:

Proximity Mills, Greensboro, N.C.

Calloway Mills, (which he said was run by Fuller a good friend of the President, La Grange, Georgia.

Mr. Fred Steele, head of the New Bedford, Mass. Cotton Manufacturing Association.

Robert Armory, Nashua, N.H. Mills.

Mr. Lewis Morley, Secretary Fall River Cotton Manufacturing Association, Fall River, Mass.

You might say eeny, meenie, miney mo to these things and mark with an X the one or two you'd like to try and I'll find out the answer to your question about how much time it will take.

Bess Furman
Bess