Leviton Workers Have a Hard Time

Wages Are Too Low to Support a Family in Decency and Comfort

This is the third of a series of articles entitled The Case History of a Labor Dispute, concerning the current strike of 1700 employees of Leviton Manufacturing Co., Brooklyn, makers of electrical appliances. The striking union is Local 3 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL.

By Leo Ruberman

When Peter O'Brien's five-room flat at 74 Oakland St., Greenpoint, is renovated, the rent will be increased $5 a month. That doesn't sound like a lot of money. But for the O'Briens it is a 25 per cent increase. Their rent today is $30 a month.

That's low, of course. Yet when Peter started working in the screw department at Leviton's last October, his rent bill was about one-third of his monthly income. His wages then averaged $13 to $14 a week. On this amount he had to feed, cloth and shelter his wife and child, his 52-year-old ailing mother, and a 15-year-old sister.

I asked him how he did it.

They Starved

"We paid our bills and starved on the table. We can't afford cow's milk for our 7-month-old son. We buy him condensed milk and add water to it. In all the months I've worked for Leviton I couldn't buy shoes for my wife. Everything we had is in hock.

"When my mother was sick; we couldn't afford to get a doctor. An ambulance took her to Kings County Hospital."

Mrs. O'Brien is pregnant. From the strike committee she has received baby clothes, a coat and some dresses contributed by the other workers. Pete was touched by this. The family has found some friends.

Everybody Afraid

"Before the strike," he told me, "Leviton's was a peculiar place. You just couldn't make friends. Everybody was afraid to talk to anyone else."

The De Lugo family is better off than the O'Briens because both husband and wife have jobs at Leviton's. He is a foreman in the press room, wages $18. She does work on a front press, capping the cords that go on icons, toasters, etc., wages about $15 a week. They have six-year-old twins.

The day I talked to Dominick De Lugo, his electricity had just been shut off. He has a loan at a branch of the National City Bank on which he still owes $45. He has been in the National Guard for nine years and was supposed to go away for three weeks in August for maneuvers.

"I couldn't go because I needed the money.
I might have gotten off from the plant, but what about the money?"

About three years ago a needle went through Sally De Lugo's left thumb while she was working on an eyelet machine. She showed me the scar.

The nurse bandaged the finger and she went back to work on the same machine. She remembers the superintendent coming over, putting her on the back and saying:

"Good girl, got nerve enough to go back on the same job."

According to Sally, praise was all she got.

Greenpoint's 'Third of a Nation'
This Is the Scene of Disaster...

Photo by Wide World

[Image of a scene of disaster in Keasveil, N. J., including an aerial view of a plant and a group of people standing in front of a building with signs.

Text: The scene of disaster was at the Powder Co. in Keasveil, N. J., where a huge U.S. naval munitions contract was being rushed orders. The plant had been making powder for the British. The disaster struck yesterday, causing many workers to be injured and taken to ambulances by medics.]

Photo by Leo Lach, PM Staff
Mr. Leviton Talks to PM’s Labor Editor... But Not Very Much

By LEO HERRMANN

I asked Mr. Leviton, president of the Leviton Manufacturing Co., firmly grated into his office along with his lawyer, William L. Sch灣, and several other gentlemen.

It has been Mr. Leviton’s feeling that the series of articles on the strike in his factory has been under my name, but I never knew why. He must have had his lawyer in the room, but I do not know why.

I asked him if he preferred to give me a statement or answer questions. He chose to answer questions. What follows is the gist of the conversation as I have it.

Q. What is your answer to the workers’ charge that the guards on the factory are armed with guns?

Mr. Leviton: That is absolutely true. We have a guard on the line, and he has a gun. I never knew why.

Q. Why do you have an armed guard on the line?

Mr. Leviton: We have a high velocity alarm. We have more guards than we are required to have.

Q. May I go through the plant to see them?

Mr. Leviton: Yes, if you wish. Not now. Maybe later.

Q. What is your answer to the complaint of abuse of power by your guards?

Mr. Leviton: A. Why wouldn’t you be satisfied with the guards?

Q. What about the frequent borrowing of money from the workers by the guards?

Mr. Leviton: I have never had a complaint about that.

Q. What about the superintendent’s walking into the women’s toilets without knocking?

Mr. Leviton: I have over 60. All these complaints are matters of human dignity. They are not plant policy.

Q. Is there any truth in the charge that workers are put at a “shot in the head” basis while they wait until their machines are repaired? That they lose money through their fault of their own?

Mr. Leviton: We have a high velocity alarm. We have more guards than we are required to have.

Q. Your employees may have wanted to do something about it. Is that the reason?

Mr. Leviton: I would like to hear your answer.

Q. Do you want me to answer the question, Mr. Leviton? A. (By Schwartz.) Absolutely.

Q. No, it is not necessary. Your answer, A. (By Leviton.) I would like to hear your answers.

Q. Do you want me to answer the question, Mr. Leviton? A. (By Schwartz.) Absolutely.

Q. No, it is not necessary. Your answer, A. (By Leviton.) I would like to hear your answers.

Q. Are you concerned about the workers’ right to organize?

Mr. Leviton: I have no concern. A. (By Schwartz.) I am interested.

Q. Your employees may have wanted to do something about it. Is that the reason?

Mr. Leviton: I would like to hear your answers.

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Mr. Leviton: I have no concern.

Q. Your employees may have wanted to do something about it. Is that the reason?

Mr. Leviton: I would like to hear your answers.
This Is the House That Leviton Built...

Mr. Leviton is leeward in his contributions to many worthy causes, but, his employers charge, not so leeward when it comes to paying them. They say one result of all this is their poverty (see opposite page). Some of them must be helped by public or private charity.

Isidor Leviton, 54, is a leader in Brooklyn charities and social services. Born in Russia, he came here at 18.

In the heart of well-to-do, middle-class Flatbush, at 2202 Ave J., lives Isidor Leviton, president of the Leviton Manufacturing Co., whose 1700 employees are on strike. The house is modest, considering Mr. Leviton's considerable wealth. It is owned by his wife, Lina, whom he married in 1913. Assured valuation: $25,000.

Vice-president of the Leviton firm, which makes wiring devices for five-and-dime stores, is the boss's son, Bernard, 38, who lives comfortably with his wife in another section of Flatbush, at 2306 Ave. S. For a young fellow, Bernard is getting along nicely. PM's photographer reports that his house, like his father's, is by far the biggest, most luxurious, and most costly in its neighborhood. Assured valuation: $30,000. Photos by Lou Lieb, PM staff.
A typical Leviton striker, Raymond Jacobs, 38, lives in a tiny tenement a block from the Leviton factory with his father, wife, and three children. He worked in the screw machine department one and a half years, earned $17.88, then $20.52 for a 43-hour week. All they had for supper when this picture was taken was sauerkraut and potatoes, but, Mr. Jacobs says, "sometimes my mother-in-law sends me up a pot of goulash."

Raymond, Jr., 8, finds nothing extraordinary about this picture. He’s never seen anything better. Since facilities are not precisely modern in the Jacobs house, the family sometime bathes at the home of friends. We’re sorry we can’t show you Mr. Leviton in the tub, but we have it on what the newspapers like to call unimpeachable authority, that the Leviton bathtubs (or lack-thubs) are not in the kitchen.
FOREIGN NEWS IN PICTURES

Proud London, Madrid Prove Cities That Won't Quit Can't Be Bombed Into Defeat

Writer Who Covered Spanish War Describes Impact of Bombs on Civilian Life

By Alexander H. Ure

There was grimness, rage, resignation, boredom during the 29-month siege of Madrid. These pictures of those months show the impact of war on civilians living under modern siege by bomb and shell.

The story is told by Alexander H. Ure, one of PM's foreign news editors, who went through the siege of Madrid as a member of the Associated Press bureau there.

...after one major air raid. Warsaw and Vi
era, if battered more frequently, fell faster. Changsha, though battered by Japanese bombers whenever weather permitted, was spared direct shelling by land guns. Yet Madrid held out for more than two years, until the war was lost on other fronts.

Now it was our turn. "If I must die," they'd say, when urged to go, "I want to die at home." They were close to their children, "We'll all die together.

During bombing or shelling, they took to their cellars. As soon as it was over, they were abroad their business again just as they were now in London. Despite everything, life went on. I knew men and women who didn't lose a day's work through the entire siege.

First comes terror. These Spaniards were the Ministry of War. Must soon learn planes appeared. Bombs disorganized to break its spirit. London, too, has si...
Mrs. FDR Warns Pullman Porters
They Need Courage and Wisdom

Get's Ovation at Union's Convention in Harlem...
"Negro Delegates Fight Jim Crow Laws in Army and Labor Groups"

To a $250-a-plate convention dinner of the only Negro international union in the world, Mrs. F.D.R. paid many pithy compliments and prescribed "great courage, wisdom and patience" because "you're going to need them."

There were but few weeks left not only for the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, whose members are Negroes, but to join the war effort in any many ways seems, in the person of the speaker of the platform, Mrs. Roosevelt, the brotherhood had "stolen great new power to fight the Pullman porter's job a decent one."

"During the last few years we have come a long way," she braved near, "we are near at the end courage doesn't come overnight."

Business sessions of the convention are concerned "with great change," the Negro people which they seek and have been asking much longer for than overnight. Members of the union have been prepared for several weeks for the convention, which includes the clearing of a federal anti-trust bill, unionization of the Pullman train, and enforcement of the union's right to the recognition of the union.

The convention also will have before it resolutions deploring Communism, National Fascist, and Fascist, urging assistance to British workers against Germany, and expressing support to F.D.R.'s preparedness program.

Phillip Randolph, the eloquent Oxford, announced president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, strongly denounced Communism and Fascism, and stressed the importance of the union's right to recognition and the need for unity.

Mrs. Roosevelt, in her address, "urged the Negro people to face the situation, clean up their acts, remove their names from the list of the 'depressed classes,' and work for the betterment of their race."

Petrella-Tibbetts Fund in Court

James C. Petrella's American Federation of Musicians and Lawrence Tibbetts' American Guild of Musical Artists go to court to-day to battle out their jurisdiction dispute over solo instrumentalists. Justice Anson C. Brown will hear the Guild's plea for an injunction to stop Petrella from forcing certain soloists to become members.

Wall Street Pickets

The leaders of a Wall Street movement to form a union yesterday at 50 members of the Wall Street movement, led by George H. C. Bucquet, and 50 members of the movement, led by W. H. L. Steiner, filed a complaint yesterday at 50 members of the Wall Street movement, led by W. H. L. Steiner, filed a complaint yesterday at 50 members of the Wall Street movement, led by W. H. L. Steiner, filed a complaint yesterday at 50 members of the Wall Street movement, led by W. H. L. Steiner, filed a complaint yesterday at 50 members of the Wall Street movement, led by W. H. L. Steiner.

The union may do a great deal for the Leviton workers, but there's a job in Greenpoint for the U.S. Housing Authority.

Photo by Buck Johnson, F.M. Staff
May 22: ‘Organize’... August 28: ‘Strike’

Henry Van Arsdale, Jr., business manager of
Local 5, is one of the most militant union
leaders in the U.S.A. His men respect him
because he never asks them to do anything
he won't do himself.

This cartoon appeared on the back of No. 11 of a series
of 25 leaflets distributed by the union to Leviton
workers. The remaining leaflets carried the union's
message in simple direct language. Hamilton Brough
of the union planned and wrote them.

Howard Hamilton Brough, educational director
of Local 5, is head of the drive against Levit-
on. He joined the union in 1909, became in-
ternational president in 1929, resigned in
1933.

Photos by Martin Harris, Mary Harris, Alex Fisher, Pat Staff

Mac Katlin, Club A union member, earns as much in a
day as many Leviton workers get in a week. In spare
time, he helps Brough organize, no compensation.
 Takes his glasses off on organizing job.

This 20-foot truck all lighted up is something to see and hear as neighbors of Iraide and Bernard
Leviton will testify. Every night the truck filled with shouting strikers rides up and down in
front of their houses. When they tell the driver to move on, he always develops engine trouble
which delays him a half hour.
NLRB Issues Complaint Against Leviton

The regional office of the National Labor Relations Board filed a complaint against the Leviton Manufacturing Co. of Brooklyn today. It charged a series of anti-union acts, gave Leviton ten days to answer, set hearings for Sept. 30. Anti-union practices in the Leviton plant have been the subject of a series of articles by Leo Huberman, PM labor editor.
October 18, 1940

Dear Miss Schneiderman:

Mrs. Roosevelt has set aside Friday, December 20, at 3 o'clock for the usual Christmas party at the Women's Trade Union League.

Will you let me know if that is a convenient date for you, and will you as you did last year, order the toys, the fruit and a sweater or some such gift for each child and the ice cream and the tree.

We will order the cornucopias and the entertainer.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Rose Schneiderman
q/c Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Hyde Park, N.Y.

Dearest Eleanor:

I will be more than happy to look after the toys, fruit, ice cream, and sweaters for the Christmas party which you have set for Friday, December 20th.

I saw Pastor Hall. You were superb in the foreword. It is a heart rending story and it leaves a bitter taste in one's mouth. I am sure it is doing no end of good.

The President was wonderful last night. He was in great form. I am sure his speech will help make up the minds of a lot of those sitting on the fence. There is no better campaigner than the President. I am glad that there are other speeches to follow.

I thought of you all day on your birthday, but didn't know where to send the message. I assure you that my thoughts were with you nevertheless. The best of everything is none too good for you and that is always my wish.

With heart's best love, I am,

Affectionately yours,

Rose Schneiderman.
November 22, 1940

My dear Miss Schneiderman:

I wonder if you would have someone in your office send me the list of the children’s names and addresses for the Christmas party so that the letters can be written?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Women’s Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
Miss Thompson—
They were checked off the
list. Shall we send
another? Evidently
some one else got them!

Mrs. W.G.
December 13, 1940

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Thompson:

We have been informed that two children on the list for the Christmas Party on Friday, December 20th, have not received their invitations. They are:

Mary La Gallo
246 Fourth Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

and

Joseph La Gallo
246 Fourth Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

If invitations have not already been sent them, will you please send them off?

Thank you. 

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Burke
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### GIRLS

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## List of Girls' Names for Roosevelt Christmas Party

**December 29, 1940**

247 Lexington Avenue, New York

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**ADDITIONAL NAMES FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 20, 1940**

**BOYS**

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8 years old
December 19, 1940

Dear Rose:

I deeply regret that I cannot accept the cordial invitation to attend the New York Urban-Rural conference at Cornell in March. I fear I will be away the middle of the month, when the conference is to be held.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
NYC
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dearest Eleanor:

The New York Urban-Rural conference will be held on the 14th and 15th of March at Cornell and we extend to you a warm and cordial invitation to be present at the conference. If you cannot spare both days, could you come for the first and take part in our deliberations, and speak at the dinner in the evening.

The subject for discussion will be "The Well Being of the Home -- The First Line of Defense," and Mr. Drummond Jones will lead the discussion. We are going to do our level best to get a real representation of all the rural groups. We want to especially make sure that the lower income farmers are represented. We are also asking Mrs. Sayer of Iowa to come and we will try to get a young woman from one of the defense industries to be present.

Your party was delightful. It is a long time since I enjoyed an evening so much. You were dear to think of me.

May I hear from you as to whether you can attend the conference? With fondest love, I am,

Affectionately,

Rose Schneiderman.
December 30, 1940

Dear Rose:

The gloves you sent to me are very, very nice and they are something which I am always so pleased to receive. I know I shall enjoy wearing them and it was so kind of you to send them to me.

Many, many thanks and I hope the New Year will be a very happy one for you.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
NYC
NEW YORK WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE
247 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK
ESTABLISHED 1903
TEL. CALEDONIA 5-0664

ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN, PRESIDENT
MARY E. DREIER, VICE-PRESIDENT
PAULINE M. NEWMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
HELEN BLANCHARD, VICE-PRESIDENT
MRS. MONROE GOLDWATER, TREASURER
CARA COOK, SECRETARY
NORA PIORRE, EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

January 3, 1941

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

We are glad to report that though the League has had a trying year financially, we are closing our books without a deficit. We are hoping that during these crucial days our friends will still feel that the League's services to wage-earning women are vital and should be continued. Therefore, I am taking the liberty of asking you to be so kind as to again remember the Women's Trade Union League when you make up your budget for 1941. Last year you generously gave us $100.

Our educational program continues to be outstanding in the field of workers' education. Minimum wage boards, industrial committees and legislative hearings require a forthright exposition by labor representatives of the economic and human factors in their industries. Women workers must be equipped to discuss their industrial problems intelligently before public tribunals. The bill to bring domestic employees under the accident compensation law will again be introduced, and we are hoping that we may get it enacted into law during the coming year.

We know of the many appeals coming to you these days, and we hesitate to add to your burden. However, we do feel this work is valuable, and in order to continue it, we are counting heavily upon your help for 1941. We are everlastingly grateful to you for all you have done in the past, and we hope you will believe our efforts worthy of your renewed support.

If you cannot see your way clear to making a donation at this time, perhaps you would pledge an amount payable later in the year.

With all good wishes to you for a Happy New Year, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Rose Schneiderman
President

[Signature]
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Make checks payable to
New York Women's Trade Union League
Miss Rose Schneiderman
The New York Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Not having heard anything more definite about banquet on January twenty fourth
find now cannot go on that date.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

January 7, 1941
September 13, 1940
Hyde Park, New York

Dear Rose:

The date of January 24 would be a good one for Mrs. Roosevelt to attend the banquet. I shall put it on the calendar at once.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
The New York Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
TELEGRAM

9FO. RA. 28-11:40 a.m.
Mr. New York, N.Y., January 8, 1941
Miss Malvina Thompson.

Thank you deeply for telegram. Don't know what we would have done if the word had been different. Will mail you today all information on dinner.

Rose Schneiderman.
Miss Malvina Thompson  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Thompson:

With regard to the proposed banquet for Mrs. Roosevelt, we are finding some difficulty in making a reservation at a hotel large enough to accommodate the guests we expect, on a Saturday soon after Jan. 20th, which was the time she suggested.

All the large hotels have their Saturdays booked a year or more in advance, by groups having annual affairs, and to date we have not been able to reserve a Saturday any evening in late January or February, unless, of course some reservation would be cancelled.

We are holding Friday January 24th at the Commodore. Will you see if that would be a possible date for Mrs. Roosevelt. We could then save it tentatively, being on the lookout meanwhile for a Saturday which we should also prefer.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Rose Schneiderman

President
January 13, 1941

Dear Rose:

I have your letter in which you say you are counting on me for January 20. I'm sure this is a typographical error because January 20 is a busy day here. I have your dinner down for the 24th.

Do you think it a good idea to have the dinner a rally for me as per the clipping you enclosed?

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
80 Centre St. NYC
Labor Plans
Dinner for
Mrs. Roosevelt
By Mary Tabin

In the book, "This Is My Story," by Eleanor Roosevelt, are these few sentences concerning her association with the Women's Trade Union League:

"Mrs. James Lee Laddie asked me to attend a luncheon at the Women's Trade Union League, and become an associate member. I went to the luncheon, listened attentively to the speakers, joined the organization, and have been a member ever since. I never lost touch with the group."

This incident occurred in 1921.

Eleanor Roosevelt has never "lost touch" with the Women's Trade Union League. And the League hasn't and couldn't forget her.

Stand Up and Cheer

On Friday evening, Jan. 26, there's to be a dinner at the Commodore in honor of Mrs. Roosevelt, given under the sponsorship of the League. What the dinner really will be is a rally for "that woman in the White House"—with representatives of 600 local trade union, C.I.O. and A.F. of L. boys and girls clapping hands together for one.

Tickets are selling like extra-hot sausages. Six dollars the ticket—three of these dollars to go to the Educational Fund of the League. The committee talks mysteriously of some pretty smart things in the way of entertainment by the Labor Stage Actors—Needles boys and girls. The committee won't let us get into this show. Ticket reservations are made by calling the Women's Trade Union League—20 Georgia.

All Together

The Women's Trade Union League is made up of labor, honest-to-God workers—waitresses who can line up six sauerkraut, six salad plates, and an ash tray between waiters and other workers from hundreds of other fields—plus "friends of labor"—straightshooting friends, friends you can count on when there is a Wages and Hours legislative fight on.

To get back to that understanding in Mrs. Roosevelt's biography—"I never lost touch with this group." You have to sit and gossip with the red-headed, virile president of the League, Rose Schindelman, to get the real wisdom.

Before the禺, Mrs. Roosevelt lived in New York; she gave one night a week to the League—used to arrive with a huge thermos bottle of her choicest under her arm. She met with a group of girls, read, talked—and served the hot chowder," says Miss Schindelman. "Then there was that little matter of the mortgages on our headquarters at 247 Lexington Ave. Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Thomas W. Lamont raised $30,000—and we had a home."

Mike Would!

So, though you'll read no word of it in her biography, this is how Mrs. Roosevelt "kept in touch" with the League. Somehow, it's not hard to picture her coming around a corner with a thermos bottle under her arm, and a mortgage release in her pockets.

David Dobrinsky is chairman of the dinner. Among the sponsors are Governor and Mrs. Lehman, Mayor and Mrs. La Guardia. Miss Mary Dever is chairman of the arrangements committee, Mrs. Dorothy Schott Becker, cochairman. Serving on this committee are: Mrs. Eliza C. Beden, Mrs. Dorothy Schott Becker, Miss Schindelman, Miss Paula M. Cohen, Miss Mary Cole, Miss Dorothy Cook, Miss Mary Coyle, Mrs. Monroe Godshalk, Mrs. Henry Goodman, Miss Bella Laub, Miss Nelly Lasek, Miss Joan Lavin, Miss Paula M. Novak, Mrs. Harry Oppenheim, Miss Rose Schwartz, Mrs. Charles S. Whitney.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dearest Eleanor:

A thousand thanks to you for the delicious basket of candied fruits. It warms my heart to have you think of me with all the millions of things that you have to do at Christmas time.

I am delighted that you like the gloves. They were made especially for you in a union shop and the man who made them was as proud as punch.

I want to tell you something about this Mr. William R. Davis, who is now in the limelight, that will interest you. Two weeks before John Lewis came out for Willkie, I had a telephone call from Vera Whitehouse, asking me whether I knew a C.I.O. man by this name. I said I didn't. The only Davis I knew was a colored man. She told me that this man was the go-between Willkie and Lewis, that he was being wined and dined by the rich Republicans, and that he was a born fascist. I called up Petofsky of the Amalgamated and he confirmed my own thinking that there was no one by that name in the C.I.O. I now can see why Lewis called upon his 52,000,000 people to stand by him and vote for Mr. Willkie. He must have sold Lewis a bill of goods on the possibility of him becoming the "Fuehrer" of the United States. I hope that the Dies Committee puts him through a thorough gruelling.

I almost passed out when Malvina Thompson's telegram came yesterday that you had made another appoint-
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  

2 - Jan. 8, 1941

It is all a part of my not being at the League office to keep an eye on what is being done. I had asked Cara Cook to write you on the day of the Christmas party at the League. I had no idea that it hadn't been done until yesterday. Cara is a very casual person. She is a splendid secretary. I don't know that we can have anybody better than her, but sometimes I wish she would get more excited about things and react more quickly to urgent matters. Well, you just saved our lives by cancelling the other engagement and I can't begin to tell you how eternally grateful I am to you. There will be an official letter going to you today, giving you concrete information about the dinner. In the meantime, I am enclosing a clipping which was in last week's evening Post, which I know will interest you.

The President's message to Congress was an unforgettable one and will live forever.

With fondest love,

Devotedly yours,

Rose Schneiderman.
January 14, 1941

Dear Rose:

We have tried to find a job for Captain Calder but, unfortunately, have not been successful. I have done all I can think of to do, and unless he has a chance in some government department where I might write asking for consideration of his application, I do not know anything else to suggest.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
80 Centre St., NYC

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

Dearest Eleanor:

In my letter yesterday, I had meant to write you about Capt. Franklin S. Calder. He came in to see me not long ago. He is out of a job and is very anxious to get in to any of the defense industries. Alas, he has no particular skill, and all I could do was to call up the Placement office and ask them to see whether they could get him a job. He is living at 120 East 34th St. New York.

He told me that three years ago he took out his first papers, but of course has to wait another two years before he becomes a citizen. Did you know that he was engaged to be married and is only waiting to get a job so that he can settle down and marry the young lady he is engaged to.

I don't know that there is anything you can do from Washington, but he asked me to write you so I am doing his bidding for old time's sake.

With fonder love,

Rose Schneiderman,
Secretary.
January 18, 1941

Dear Rose:

I think everything is all settled now for the 24th. Mrs. Roosevelt will try to be at the Commodore at eight o'clock and she will not want a room at the hotel to dress.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
80 Centre Street
New York, New York
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
White House  
Washington, D. C.  

Dearest Eleanor:  

I am so ashamed that we should have made an error in the date of the meeting. Of course it is the 24th. We have been sorely handicapped at the office. Both our stenographers have had colds and have had to stay out. Of course the 20th is the red letter day for the country and I guess we all have it in our hearts and minds.  

The dinner is not going to be a rally. It will be a gathering of labor and friends of labor and we hope to make it as intimate a party as we know how. For that reason we have decided not to ask for any broadcasting time. Pines and Needles cast is preparing to sing some songs for us and we have asked Mr. Irving Berlin, who is coming to the dinner with Mrs. Berlin, to lead in the singing of "God Bless America" at the end of the dinner.  

We are limiting the speeches of the speakers to five minutes. That of course does not hold for you. You are to have all the time you want.  

Dinner is called for 7:30, but I am sure we will not begin before 8:15. Do you think you could manage to get to the hotel by 8 o'clock, as there will be a small reception at that time.  

Mr. Sweeney of the Commodore wants to know if you want to dress at the hotel and he will be more than happy to set aside a room for you. He
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  

Jan. 15, 1941

also wants the exact time of your arrival, so he can be at the door to greet you.

I feel so ashamed that we have caused you trouble and hope that you will forgive our shortcomings.

I look forward with joyous anticipation to Monday.

With fondest love,

Rose Schneiderman.

RS:G
January 30, 1941

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt says that she would like to know how to get out to where the Levitan strikers are and how long it takes. She hopes she could do it February 5, immediately after breakfast on her way to Amherst, Massachusetts. She will have her own car.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose-Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
80 Centre St.
NYC
January 27, 1941

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

Dearest Eleanor:

May I again express my deepest appreciation for doing us the honor of giving you a testimonial dinner.

You are wrong in thinking that the dinner was tendered to you because you are the wife of the President. I know of no woman in the country that is admired and loved by the people as you are, and of course as far as the Women’s Trade Union League is concerned, we all love you dearly and tried to show it in our humble way the other night. We all loved your speech. It was one of the best. So many people have called up and have told me personally how much they enjoyed the party. I hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did.

We are sending the lovely confection presented to you by the Bakers Union to a children’s hospital for consumption.

May I remind you of your very generous promise to speak to the Levitan strikers in the near future. If you will be so good as to let me know the time and day when you will be able to do that, I will have a car for you and will be very glad to go along, if you will have me.

With deepest appreciation and fondest love,

I am,

Devotedly yours,

Rose Schneiderman.

RS:G  P.S. There is no actual plan of the President in this makes her Republic.
February 10, 1941

Dear Rose:

I don't think your suggestion would work, but if a regular mediator from the Labor Department could be brought in and it would soothe Mr. Leviton's feelings to have a plea from me, I would make one.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
NYC
MRS. ROOSEVELT AT A MEETING OF STRIKERS

She is greeted by H. H. Broach, union leader, at the New National Hall in Brooklyn, where she addressed the employees of the Leviton Manufacturing Company, who have been on strike for six months.

Times Wide World

FIRST LADY BACKS LEVITON STRIKERS

Continued From Page One

organizers Mrs. Roosevelt said the ideals of the trade union movement were “high ideals.”

“They mean,” she said. “”
FIRST LADY BACKS LEVITON STRIKERS

Continued From Page One

organization Mrs. Roosevelt said the ideals of the trade union movement were "high ideals."

"They mean," she said, "that we are not selfish in our desires—that we stand for the good of the group as a whole. This is something which we in the United States are learning every day and must be the attitude of every citizen. We must all of us come to look upon our citizenship as a trust, something that we exercise in the interest of the whole people."

"Only if we cooperate and really make life worth living and battle to make this country a real democracy where the interests of all the people are considered, only when each one of us does this, will genuine democracy be achieved. Then we can face the real battle which is before us today—the battle of democracy against dictatorship."

Mrs. Roosevelt evoked fresh applause when she suggested that employers would benefit from additional schooling. She said some persons regarded workers' education as "a very dangerous project," but that it did not seem dangerous to her.

"I often wish we had employers' education projects, too," she added. She wore a black seal coat over a blue plaid dress. When she finished her talk, one of the strikers, Miss Evelyn Biers, pressed a bouquet of roses into her hands. Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Morgenthau left the meeting after the presentation.

Miss Schneiderman, who stayed on, assured the Leviton workers that "victory is yours no matter how long you stay out," and that they would look back on the strike as "something holy and inspiring."

If Mrs. Roosevelt's project for employer education went through, Miss Schneiderman said, the Leviton management would have to start "in the primary grades" because it knew so little.

H. H. Broach, general organizer for Local I, said in introducing Mrs. Roosevelt that it was well that "after twenty-four weeks of bitter hardship and in many cases extreme privation we are still able to sing 'God Bless America' with meaning and feeling."

"It is well for America," he added, "that she has a First Lady who will come to such simple meetings of humble people. She, too, is modest, plain, humble, sympathetic and understanding. Perhaps she will be able to help in this tragic situation. Let us ask that God bless this truly remarkable woman, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt."

Before Mrs. Roosevelt's arrival Mr. Broach asked the uniformed police to withdraw from the hall, which was filled to capacity. He said their presence tended to stir feeling and that order would be maintained without them.

Neither Idriss Leviton, president of the Leviton Manufacturing Company, nor Jacob H. Goets, his attorney, had any comment to make on Mrs. Roosevelt's intervention in the strike situation. The union, which won a National Labor Relations Board election by a margin of more than eighteen to one last October is seeking a minimum weekly wage of $16, a blanket wage increase of $4 for all employees receiving more than the minimum, a forty-hour week, a union shop and improved working and sanitary conditions.
FIRST LADY BACKS

LEVITON STRIKERS

At Brooklyn Rally She Urges
Unions for All Employees

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
held a rally in Brooklyn for
unemployed employees

of the Leviton Mfg. Co.,
with the personal attention
of the First Lady. The crowd
was estimated at over 10,000

people, and the Municipal
Auditorium was packed.

Mrs. Roosevelt, speaking
in a strong voice, said:

"I want to thank you for
your support. It is very

important to the people
of the country that we
keep alive the spirit of
solidarity that has

been demonstrated in this

city. The striking workers

are fighting for their

rights, and we must

support them.

Mr. Leviton, the owner of

the company, has refused

to negotiate with the

unions, and this is a

matter of concern to all

of us.

I urge you to support

the unions and to demand

fair treatment for everyone.

Thank you for your

attendance today."
February 8, 1941

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

Dearest Eleanor:

The Leviton strikers were most grateful to you for speaking to them. You have no idea how you inspired them to continue the fight until it is won.

I have an idea from something the employer told one of the people applying for work, that if you were willing to intervene in the strike at this time, a settlement might be gotten. Mr. Leviton told this person who applied for a job that he needn't worry about the strike, "that Mrs. Roosevelt was going to settle it." What would you think of writing to him and offering your services as a mediator? The address is the Leviton Manufacturing Company, 236 Greenpoint Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

The strikers were willing to accept an offer made by the firm's lawyer, that out of the 1600 strikers, 1000 of them received a raise of one dollar a week, and those getting less than $15 a week, be brought up to a minimum of $15 a week. The union was ready to accept that last Friday, but Mr. Leviton went back on his word and said he would only raise 800 of them. It is crazy of him to keep the plant idle, when it is only a question of an increase of $200 a week on the payroll.

Your speech was given excellent publicity and I am enclosing some of the clippings. The Post picture of you is the best one I have seen yet.
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt

Feb. 6, 1941

I spoke to the strikers after you left and then they all formed a line, two abreast, Mr. Broach and I leading, and we walked all around the plant. They maintain a lunch place where they serve sandwiches and coffee all day for the strikers. They also pay the strikers $7 a week. Some of them are now receiving Unemployment Insurance. You know when one is out on strike, they have to wait ten weeks before they apply and then there is an additional three week waiting period. Local 3 has so far spent $160,000 on the strike. For this purpose, the men working assess themselves ten cents an hour for the support of the strike. That is pretty decent of them I think. Another nice thing the union has done is that while the strikers picket during the day, at 5 o'clock the men who belong to local 3, class A, take their chance on the picket line from 5 o'clock on until the factory is closed.

I hope Mrs. Morgenthau found the meeting interesting.

Blessing on your head.

Fondest love,

Devotedly yours,

Rose Schneiderman.
Mrs. Roosevelt Encourages
1500 Leviton Strikers

"I'm Afraid I Agree With You,"
She Says, Stirring Cheers

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt made a speech of encouragement and support today to the 1500 striking employees of the Leviton Manufacturing Co. The strikers, mostly women, are members of Local 3, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, an A.F. of L. union.

Mrs. Roosevelt said there are a lot of things in the United States she would like to see changed and that only as this country is made a real democracy can it have hope for the great battle of democracy versus dictatorship.

"In spite of that," she said, "I hope that the mere fact that we can meet and talk together about what organization and democracy mean to us is in itself something to be extremely thankful for. So in spite of everything I think we can still sing, 'God Bless America' and feel that we are moving forward slowly, sometimes haltingly, always in the interest of all the people of the country."

Hit by Train, Asks for Hat
By the United Press.

SALEM, N. H., Feb. 5.—A Boston & Maine Railroad train was in collision with the automobile of George McGibbons and hurled it along the tracks. Suffering severe cuts and bruises,

Mrs. Roosevelt said the strikers that she was interested in their struggle because they were interested in getting a better life.

"I'm afraid I agree with you," she added.

WE'RE OPEN
TOMORROW
'TIL 9 P.M.

... in both our, New York and Brooklyn Stores!

RUSSEKS
MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT addresses 1,500 employees of the Leviton Manufacturing Co., who have been on strike since Aug. 28, at their headquarters in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, today. "Only if we co-operate," she said, "can we win the great battle that is before us."

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt went to Greenpoint, Brooklyn, today and addressed an enthusiastic meeting of strikers.

Her speech to 1,500 employees of the Leviton Manufacturing Co., who have been on strike since Aug. 28, dealt only with generalities concerning trade unions, and Mrs. Roosevelt carefully avoided any specific reference to the strike.

The strikers, however, obviously felt that her appearance gave them moral support in their fight to force the company to sign a contract with Local 3 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and she received a tumultuous welcome.

Mrs. Roosevelt was persuaded to address the meeting during a testimonial dinner given to her almost two weeks ago by the Women's Trade Union League. Two Leviton strikers, Evelyn and Margaret Mitchell, went to the dinner and told her about the strike, and Mrs. Rose Schneiderman, president of the league, added her persuasions.

New National Hall at Driggs Av. and Eckford St., the strike headquarters, was packed by the strikers, most of them young women, when Mrs. Roosevelt arrived in her car with Mrs. Schneiderman and another woman companion.

The crowd stood up and cheered as she entered; Miss May Knott, a striker, sang "God Bless America" and Hamilton H. Broach, the union organizer, introduced Mrs. Roosevelt.

He praised Mrs. Roosevelt for coming to "such humble and simple surroundings" and said, "Let us also ask that God bless this truly remarkable woman, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt."

When the cheering had subsided, Mrs. Roosevelt told the strikers she had always been interested in unions and had always felt that all workers should join them.

"Only as we co-operate and really make life worth living and make this country a real democracy, only if each one of us does that, can we win the great battle that is before us today, that of democracy versus dictatorship," she said.

Her only reference to employers was, "I wish we had an employers' educational project, just as we have workers' educational projects."

Kissed on Cheek.

As she left the platform, Mrs. Schneiderman kissed her on the cheek. A crowd of 300 outside the hall cheered her as she drove away.

The strike was called at the Leviton plant, which manufactures electrical appliances, to force the company to sign a union contract providing a $15-a-week minimum wage, reduction of working hours from 44 to 40 a week, a union shop and vacations with pay.

Last September, charges that the company had violated the Wagner act were filed with the National Labor Board. They were withdrawn when the company consented to a NLRB election. Local 3 won the election, but last month filed new charges, accusing the company of refusing to bargain genuinely.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

End Place S.

2 at J

Special Delivery
Miss Thompson-

These tickets came to my
desk today - too late to send.

Mollie
February 20, 1941

Dear Rose:

I am enclosing a letter from the manager of "Ruth Merson" and asking if you have any further information on their labor conditions. Mrs. Roosevelt liked the things they made and would be willing to go back to them if everything is satisfactory.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
80 Centre Street
New York, N.Y.
March 3, 1941

Dear Miss Schneiderman:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send you this check as her 1941 contribution to the New York Women's Trade Union League.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Rose Schneiderman, President
New York Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, N. Y.
March 3, 1941

Dear Ross:

Tommy gave me your letter and I shall wait until you get the full report from Miss Christenson on Ruth Merson before I do anything.

Many thanks for sending the editorial from the "Hat Workers." I feel that it is much too nice but I am grateful.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Dept. of Labor
80 Centre St.
NYC
February 26, 1941

Miss Malvina Thompson
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Malvina:

On receipt of your note, I called the Wages and Hours Division to find out what the Merzon situation was like. Edith Christenson, to whom I spoke, told me that things were not running very smoothly and that there are two court actions against Ruth Merzon for back pay and there are other complications besides. She promised to send me a detailed report on it within the next few days. Can Mrs. Roosevelt wait until I can send you that report?

I am enclosing an editorial which appeared in the "Hat Worker", which I thought Mrs. Roosevelt might like to see.

I have had wonderful reports from the Boston League of the marvelous luncheon they had and at which Mrs. Roosevelt spoke. I don't know what in the world we would all do without her.

Did you get the Electrical Workers' Journal, which had pictures of Mrs. Roosevelt in it and quite an article about her speech before the Leviton strikers. If not, I have a copy here and I can send it to you.

I was disappointed at not seeing you at the dinner. I thought you were coming and were going to sit at Nancy's table. It was a lovely party and everybody had the best time ever. I hope you are well.

Affectionately,

Rose Schneiderman.
A UNION MEMBER

"FELLOW Trade Unions," said Eleanor Roosevelt, and she might have said, "Sisters and Brothers." She was addressing a trade union gathering and she considered herself one with the other members of unions.

The occasion was the dinner tendered to Mrs. Roosevelt by the Women's Trade Union League. The West Side Pagoda and other exponents of organized labor worked themselves into a lather of fury because Mrs. Roosevelt made no secret of her sympathy for working people in general and working women in particular. Yet how refreshing it is, how inspiring and elevating it is to find the wife of the head of our nation conversing with the people, living and experiencing their problems, and giving them all her generous heart and mind and spirit.

Mrs. Roosevelt believes in unionism with a faith that comes of profound understanding. She has seen the suffering of working people, the injustices and misery visited on them when they are unorganized, weak and defenseless. She has seen Americans deprived of bread, deprived of the most necessary essentials of life, deprived of hope and opportunity to live the American way of life by forces whose only conception of Americanism is the measure of wealth they can grab for themselves at the expense of their fellow beings. Mrs. Roosevelt has seen these things, seen them now and considers them evil and unclean.

How easy it would be for her to pass them from her sight sitting in the White House. How easy it would be for her, a daughter of our American aristocracy, raised in comparative luxury, to ignore these things, these evils. None would have resented it; none would have expected anything else from a member of her social set. Instead she made the lot of the common people her consuming concern. She did so, not merely as First Lady of the land, but long before she or her husband reached high station.

It is not since President Roosevelt was inducted into office in 1933 that Mrs. Roosevelt joined hands with the working men and women of the country. Her belief in unionism is not a matter of political convenience as the boast of the Biggins-Howard newspapers has charged. Only the mean and selfish who cannot understand self-sacrificing idealism will impugn this motive. Mrs. Roosevelt has been not merely a "friend" of labor, but a part of it all her adult life. A desire to help, to work with and to serve working girls, working men and women is part of her character, of her innermost being.

It is thrilling to see Mrs. Roosevelt addressing a gathering of trade unionists, a meeting of strikers. It is thrilling to the observer, but to her it is a matter of course. To her it seems entirely fitting that she should do so and she wishes only that she could manage it more often.

A discerning observer will find inspiration at any gathering at which Mrs. Roosevelt is present. The flow of affection that surges between her and her audience becomes almost physically tangible. It is an affection that engulfs both audience and speaker. Mrs. Roosevelt gives of her time and energy to working people because she loves them.
March 22, 1941

Dear Rose:

Thank you for the report on Ruth Merson. I shall not buy anything further from her.

I am sorry you have been ill and had an accident in addition, and I hope you are entirely recovered by now.

We had a good time in Florida, pleasant weather and rest and relaxation. However, once back here the usual routine soon caught up with us.

Affectionately,

Miss Jose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
NYC

Copy signed Alice Hughes
Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
White House  
Washington, D.C.  

Dearest Eleanor:  

I am enclosing the report on Ruth Merzon. Mrs. Merzon is now complying with the law and very likely just pays the bare legal minimum.  

I would have written to you long before this, had I not been laid up with bronchitis, and then during one of our snow storms, two weeks ago, I was thrown by a taxi. However, I got away merely with bruises.  

You were a perfect dear to speak to the League luncheon at Boston. I would have been there, had I not been laid up. It has given them the lift that they needed very badly. Every once in a while, I almost despair of our local leagues. We can't always find the leadership that they need and the result is that not much is done. Where there is no program, you can't get any money, so it is a vicious circle.  

I am glad that you liked the editorial in the "Hat Worker" (that is my own union, you know.) What the editorial says is absolutely true. Deservedly, you are the best loved woman in the country.  

What a relief to have the Lend-Lease bill finally passed and signed. The President now has a free hand to go ahead and give the help that Britain needs so desperately.  

How nice that you are having a much deserved vacation and hope that you will allow yourself to be as lazy as can be and enjoy the beauties of Florida.  

With warmest love, I am,  
Faithfully yours,  

Rose Schneiderman.
March 10, 1941.

Miss Rose Schneiderman,
Secretary, N.Y. State Department of Labor,
80 Centre Street,
New York, New York.

Dear Rose:

Re: Ruth Merzon,
45 West 57th Street,
New York, N.Y.

Edith Christenson turned over to me the letter which you sent her addressed to Alice Hughes by Ruth Merzon. For your information, without commenting on the letter, I am sending you a summary of the case after our inspection of the concern.

After the complaint was filed in this office through you an inspection was started on December 12, 1939. The last contact with the establishment was on April 3, 1940. The inspection took account of the question of coverage and the provisions of the act. It disclosed that the firm was covered by the act and established violations of the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the act to the extent of $2520.03 due to 105 employees.

The inspection revealed a large labor turnover due to the fact that the firm employed girls at $5.00 for a 48-hour week "to learn the trade" and laid them off after a few weeks or as soon as the girls asked for an increase. Interviews with employees indicated that these so-called "learners" were in many cases experienced operators.

When Miss Merzon and her attorney were called to this office for a conference on the case they took the position that the firm was not covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act. Our attorneys made it clear to Miss Merzon and her attorney that we considered the establishment covered by this act and expected the amount of restitution calculated to be paid to the employees involved. Miss Merzon stated that she was not in a financial condition to pay restitution but agreed to come into immediate compliance. An examination of the financial condition of the firm showed it to be unsound.
On April 13, 1940 when an inspection was made to check present compliance, it was discovered that in order to comply with the minimum provisions of the Act, the firm had discharged four employees; three receiving $7.00 for a 48 hour week, and the fourth receiving $8.00 for a 48 hour week.

In view of the fact that the firm insisted it was not in a position to pay the back pay a consent decree was accepted by the firm on August 1, 1940. We called the attention of the complainants to Section 16(b) of the Act which permits them to sue for double back wages and court costs. One of the former employees was interested in such a suit and she was referred to the Legal Aid Society. We have recently been informed that the Legal Aid Society has gone carefully into the case and expects to take it to court within the next few days. As soon as I hear from the Society as to the disposition of the case I shall let you know.

For your information there is nothing in our act which gives us a legal basis for collecting restitution other than criminal prosecution and the elements in this case did not lend themselves to such prosecution.

I am returning herewith the letter addressed to Alice Hughes and trust that our record clarifies the situation for you.

Very truly yours,

Beatrice Bisno,
Assistant Regional Director.
March 24, 1941

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

Dearest Eleanor:

One of the girls from our office has been away all month due to illness, and so we were rather shorthanded; please do forgive therefore this belated acknowledgment of your very generous gift of $100 to the work of the League. We are most grateful to you for coming to our rescue, for money seems harder and harder to get, due, I suppose, to a lot of reasons. Of course the money raised ($2700) on the Dinner has been a god-send, and we are eternally indebted to you for giving us the opportunity of honoring you.

I look forward to the Dinner of the Common Council on the third, when I hope to get a glimpse of you.

Thanking you again, and with fondest love, I am,

Devotedly yours,

Rose Schneiderman
President
April 8, 1941

Dear Rose:

Of course I will send a letter to Mary Dreier. I doubt if I can be at the dinner but if I am invited I can let you know definitely.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Office of the Secretary
Department of Labor
80 Centre St. NYC
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dearest Eleanor:

Blessings on your lovely head for your statement in yesterday's and today's Times, opposing legislation that would bar strikes and pleading for a fuller life of the people who make up our great army of workers. The panic of course, is a manufactured one, and stems from the diehard employers and the hostile newspapers, who have as yet not accepted the law establishing labor's right of collective bargaining.

I do wish the U. S. Department of Labor had a good public relations secretary that would interpret its statistics to the public. The real story, of course is that strikes were fewer in 1940 and early 1941. The most recent available data from the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the month of January 1941 shows that the average days of duration per strike was 9.6 as compared with an average of 16.6 duration in the five years from 1935 to 1939 inclusive and that strikes in defense industries in 1940 resulted in lost time equal only to 1/4 of one per cent of our total defense effort. Most people forget that the employer is as much to blame, if not more, when the strike happens, as the strikers. In New York State for instance, we have very few strikes. This is largely due to the fact that trade unionism is strong in the State and that employers are used to dealing collectively with their employees.

Now for a bit of happy news———
The League is going to give Mary Dreier a dinner party. It is to be at the Roosevelt, Thursday evening May 15th. It is to be very informal, no speeches. We will have skits and lantern slides which will mark Mary's outstanding record of service to the women in the labor movement. We are asking Mary's friends to write Mary a letter and send it to the League. We will bind them nicely and present them to her at the dinner. I know Mary would love having a letter from you above anybody else if you could see your way of doing it.

With fondest love,

Affectionately,

Rose Schneiderman, Secretary.
8314                                    January 16, 1941

To  Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

       White House, Washington, D.C.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of Thirty-three and 82/100- Dollars
for Transfer - Christmas party purchases Dec. 20, 1940

Women's Trade Union League

Mrs. Monroe Goldwater

Treasurer

$ 33.82
March 12, 1941

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

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of One hundred and no/100--Dollars
for Renewal of contribution for 1941

WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE

$ 100.00

MRS. MONROE GOLDBATER Treasurer
April 17, 1941

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send you the enclosed letter from Miss Dache, which she received in response to her inquiry about a strike of her employees.

Mrs. Roosevelt would appreciate it if you could have an impartial investigation made in the whole matter and let her know just what the situation is.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Office of the Secretary
Department of Labor
80 Centre Street
New York, New York
LABOR DEPARTMENT GIVES HAT ADVICE

Issued Bulletin on Problems of Employer and Employer in Military Business

Read today by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor Describing the conditions of a "Pension of Problems in the Military Business". The bulletin notes the growing importance of such women's bureaus in the conduct of industrial affairs. The bulletin notes the importance of women's bureaus in the conduct of industrial affairs.

Problems of Participation

Women are well-qualified to perform official duties in the military business. The bulletin notes the importance of women's bureaus in the conduct of industrial affairs.

Marble Park in 1938 to make a survey of women's work. Because two out of every three workers who do women's work are women, the bulletin notes the importance of women's bureaus in the conduct of industrial affairs.

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April 30, 1941

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to express her deep regret that her garden party at White House prevents her attending dinner on May 15.

R. W. Magee
Administrative Officer Social Correspondence
NEW YORK WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE
247 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK
ESTABLISHED 1903
TEL. CALEDONIA 5-0884

April 17, 1941

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

Dearest Eleanor:

On behalf of the Women's Trade Union League, I invite you most cordially to be our guest at the dinner being given for Mary Dreier, May 15th, at the Hendrick Hudson room of the Hotel Roosevelt. We would deem it a great honor and privilege to have you with us on that occasion and Mary would be pleased tremendously. You are a darling to have sent so sweet a letter to Mary. She will appreciate it very much.

Congratulations on Jimmy's marriage. From the pictures in the newspapers, she seems to be a very lovely young woman and I wish for them a full measure of happiness.

With fondest love,

Affectionately,

Rose Schneiderman,
President.

RS:G
April 30, 1941

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

Dearest Eleanor:

Fannie Hurst, Mrs. Irving Berlin, and I, have been deeply concerned over the Dache strike and we are trying to do something about it, but so far have not been very successful.

Fannie Hurst went to see Madame Dache, had a long talk with her and then suggested that she and I see her the next day. Madame Dache thought that would be a fine thing, but the next morning, she cancelled the appointment. Her clientele consists largely of women of the stage and screen. The union has been contacting this group, but so far they have not shown any understanding of the problem. Therefore, when Malvina Thompson's note came that you would like to have a report on the strike, I was more than glad.

I am enclosing the report from the union. By the way, the Millinery workers belong to my own organization, the United Hatters, Cloth, Cap & Millinery Workers International Union. I know the officers of this union very well and no union has any able and more sincere leaders than this particular organization.

I am amused at Madame Dache's crocodile tears. She is the type of economic royalist that is hard to beat.

As the report will disclose to you, the union has been willing to leave every item of complaint even as to whether there is to be a union shop or not, to arbitration. Madame Dache takes the position that
she will not allow an outsider like Professor Paul Hayes for instance, to tell her how to run her business. During the N.R.A. days we had trouble with Madame Dache. At that time, she was unwilling to pay the minimum set by the code, and told us that most of her workers were learners, as she claims today. All in all, there are 113 milliners and 50 in the executive department, and she includes these high priced executives in figuring her labor cost.

If you can possibly do anything with Madame Dache to bring her to her senses, it will be deeply appreciated by the strikers and by the organization. The union has lodged a complaint with the National Labor Relations Board against Madame Dache that she is fostering a company union. You will be interested in the enclosed clipping and statement.

Last night, Elinore Herrick and Dorothy Kenyon had a dinner party at Elinore's house. Miss Craig McGeecky, Lady Marley and Madame Palensia were there. There were about 20 of us present including Mrs. Ogden Reid, Mrs. Arthur Hays Sulzberger and Dorothy Backer. After, Craig McGeecky and Madame Palensia spoke. A vote was taken as to how many of us believe that we ought to have convoys accompany the defense material to Britain, and the vote was unanimous. At the meeting of the Cause and Cure of War leaders conference, which was held at Princeton, one of the speakers, a Mrs. Graham from California, suggested that the isolationists in holding that the ocean will save us from invasion, are following the same line of reasoning that France had when it thought that the Maginot line was impregnable.

You no doubt have received notice of the cancellation of Mary's dinner. We did that to please Mary. She was very miserable about having to go through with it and we decided that there was no use in having it if it would result in Mary's unhappiness. The letters,
however, we will present to her very likely at some informal party at the League before she leaves for her vacation.

I am so glad that your trip to the Coast had some relaxing and pleasant moments.

With fondest love,

Affectionately,

Rose Schneiderman.
Dear Miss Schneiderman:

In accordance with your request, we are presenting herewith the essential and material facts concerning the Lilly Dache strike.

Our effort to organize the employees of the Lilly Dache establishment occurred several years ago. We entered negotiations at that time and thought that she was acting in good faith. In the midst of the negotiations she gave some of the employees a wage increase, and circulated among them a pledge that they would not join or be a member of the Union. It was what is popularly known as the "yellow dog" contract. However, the increase had the effect she desired, and our efforts were temporarily nullified.

Recently, and in spite of Lilly Dache's anti-union activities, 72 out of her 113 millinery workers joined the Union and designated the Union to be their representative in collective bargaining negotiations. Other millinery workers, also in so-called exclusive establishments, have joined the Union and now operate under contracts with the Union. They have gotten many improvements, in wages, in hours, in the right to representation when prices are fixed. That includes such establishments as Jay Thorpe. Also Hattie Carnegie. Also a group of higher priced makers, the National Association of Ladies' Hatters, of which G. Howard Hodge is the leader. What these other millinery workers in the same field have achieved the Lilly Dache workers also want.

In Union shops the work week consists of 35 hours. In Lilly Dache's it is 40 hours. In Union shops the minimum wage is $36 a week for milliners. In Lilly Dacho's the wage ranges from $16 a week to $22 a week for many workers. She claims that these workers are learners. But some of these "learners" have been there 5 years, others for 10 years, and some even longer. If it is a school she is operating, it is a school from which many of the workers never graduate, and whose wages seldom rise. The fact of the matter is that these workers of hers are exploited worse than any other group in the industry.

From the very beginning, at any stage of our efforts, we were willing to present the data to an arbitrator, have Lilly Dache do likewise, and let such arbitrator decide whether her claims, or ours, are meritorious. That she has consistently refused, except once, when she reneged, as we shall show later.

Anyway, 72 of them joined the Union. She states she employs 169 workers. But they are not all millinery workers. They include sales girls, executives, designers, receptionists, glove workers, hand bag workers, bookkeepers, stenographers, maids, maintenance workers. There are only 113 millinery workers.

The sole question from the very outset was whether she would comply with the law. Instead she has done everything to circumvent and violate the law.

After we had 72 of her employees in the Union, we asked for a conference. Mr. Des Pres, her husband, and a vice-president of the corporation, met with us. He stated that his wife was ill and that he and she were planning to leave for a three weeks' vacation. He asked us to delay action until
their return. He did not want anything done that would disturb her. We had one unfortunate experience with her once before, when she circulated among the employees the "yellow dog" contract. Because of that experience we were suspicious. However, we agreed to await their return three weeks later.

Our suspicions were confirmed. While the Union deferred action, pressure was put on the employees to leave the Union. This time her stunt did not work. The employees stuck to the Union.

Mr. Des Pres returned on February 24. We presented our demands. He promised to take them up with his wife. We met again on February 28. He asked for more time.

The very following day two circulars were distributed among the employees, one of them pledging loyalty to the firm, the other containing a refusal to join the Union. They also contained the announcement of the formation of an Association to be known as "The Employees' Benefit Association of Lilly Dache."

I enclose copies of those circulars. The Association has since been held by the National Labor Relations Board to be a company union. Thus, while pretending to be negotiating with us, Lilly Dache was conspiring to violate the law.

As soon as these circulars appeared the members of the Union demanded action. They were afraid that the effect of them would be to frighten off some of the workers. They wanted to strike immediately. On March 3 they met and decided unanimously to strike.

Yet we hoped to avert a strike. We still sought a peaceable settlement. The Union representatives got in touch with the firm. A conference was held, but it was clear the firm was determined to provoke a strike rather than reach a peaceable agreement.

During that conference the vice-president of the International Union pointed out that a strike would hurt the firm and the employees, and urged that it be averted. Lilly Dache has since sought to distort this statement into a charge that the Union officer threatened to hurt the workers in case a strike occurred. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are sure she knows this is a distortion of the actual fact and statement.

One of the first things the Union did when the strike was called was to file a petition with the National Labor Relations Board requesting the Board to certify the Union as the collective bargaining agent of the workers, and to consider our charges of unfair labor practices. We have submitted our membership cards showing that we have 72 of her employees in the Union. The petition for certification is still before the Board.

On the charges the Board has already acted. It has directed Lilly Dache to post notices advising the employees they can join the Union of their own. After investigation, the Board has also found that the Association which Lilly Dache created was a company union, and designed to circumvent the law. The Board has directed this fact to be included in the notice that Lilly Dache must post for the information of her employees. That gives you an idea of how law-abiding Lilly Dache has been in this situation.
Since the strike began, the Union has accepted, and Lilly Dache has rejected, every proposal that has been made by disinterested citizens as well as mediation authorities, for a settlement of the strike. Here are some of them:

1. Mayor LaGuardia's office called a conference. The Union representative appeared. She did not. Her attorney appeared, but only to say that he had no authority to act for her. All he could do was to receive suggestions. Mrs. Epstein, the Mayor's labor secretary, who presided, made the suggestion that she visit Lilly Dache to discuss the strike. The attorney said he would arrange an appointment. He never did.

2. Her attorney subsequently suggested that the case be transferred from the N.L.R.B. to the State Mediation Board. The Union agreed. Prof. Paul Hays, of Columbia University, was proposed as mediator. The Union agreed. The firm suggested that Professor Hays be not only the mediator, but also the arbitrator. The Union agreed. The firm asked that the question as to whether the Union represents a majority of her employees be left to arbitration. It was an unprecedented request, since the Union had always offered to submit, and did submit, its membership cards. Yet the Union agreed also to this.

This was on a Friday. Professor Hays thereupon tried to arrange a conference to go through with the procedure the firm itself had proposed. He failed. Instead, on the following Thursday Lilly Dache withdrew her own offer, every part of which the Union had accepted. This is not only the Union's version of what occurred. It is the version of the State Mediation Board. I enclose a clipping from Women's Wear of March 21, in which the Board confirms the Union's statement as to this.

Incidentally, at the conference before the State Mediation Board, in the presence of Professor Hays, her attorney stated that she would not have any Union in her place even if 90 per cent of her employees selected a Union to represent them in collective bargaining.

She has deliberated and flagrantly violated the law. She has defied the Government agencies. She has rejected every effort to permit an impartial person to sift the facts and make a decision. She has repudiated what promises she has made, and reneged on her own offers.

You ask about strike violence. There were a few minor disturbances. Feeling ran high, and strikers and strikebreakers clashed. That was more or less inevitable. No one was seriously hurt. You ask whether someone was scarred for life. That is a deliberate falsehood if it is made by her. We challenge her to produce any such person so scarred. Much of the violence is a figment of her imagination.

We repeat, we are ready to submit our claim on any phase of this strike to an impartial person or agency. We are ready to abide by the decision of any such person or agency, on any phase of the strike. Is she? If so, an amicable settlement may yet be achieved. Of course, such examination of the facts must carry with it an understanding that the decision reached would be respected. We are ready to promise that. Is she?

With kind personal regards, and thanking you for the opportunity your inquiry has afforded of presenting these facts, we are

Sincerely yours,
Lilly Dache, Union
Arbitration 'Unlikely'

Negotiations between Lilly Dache, Inc., and the Millinery Workers Union have reached an impasse and settlement by arbitration seems unlikely, it was stated today by a spokesman for the State Mediation Board.

Representatives of the firm and the union have been meeting for about two weeks with Dr. Paul H. of Columbia University, who has been acting for the State Mediation Board, in an effort to settle a strike at the millinery firm.

The board spokesman said hope for an immediate settlement through arbitration was abandoned following the last conference held yesterday.

The union claimed this morning that the firm had offered to arbitrate all questions in dispute, including representation and the writing of the contract last Saturday. The union accepted the offer on Monday and the firm withdrew it on Wednesday, union officials charged. This statement was confirmed by the Mediation Board spokesman.

A representative of the firm said today that in making an offer to arbitrate, the company had no idea it involved all questions relative to the writing of the contract. This official said the firm was anxious to determine through arbitration whether the union represented a majority of the workers before any discussion of a labor contract.
We, the employees of Lilly Dache, of our own free will desire to inform all who wish to know, that we do not desire to join a union, nor do we want to be forced to join any union, and hereby express loyalty to the present management of Lilly Dache, Inc.

Signed:
THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY CONSTITUTE AND ORGANIZE AN ASSOCIATION
TO BE KNOWN AS "THE EMPLOYEES BENEFIT ASSOCIATION OF LILLY DACHE".
THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE TO FOSTER BETTER
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EMPLOYER, LILLY DACHE, INC., AND THE
EMPLOYEES OF LILLY DACHE, INC., WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THIS ASSOCIATION.

THE ASSOCIATION SHALL HAVE THREE DELEGATES WHO SHALL BE ELECTED
BY BALLOT VOTE AT ANY REGULAR MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION.
THESE DELEGATES SHALL BE IN OFFICE FOR ONE YEAR OR UNTIL
THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE ELECTED BY A MAJORITY VOTE CAST BY
BALLOT AT ANY REGULAR MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION.

REGULAR MEETINGS SHALL BE HELD AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH AT
WHICH ANY BUSINESS SHALL BE DISCUSSED AND ACTED UPON.
Letter from Ruth Lerman, 45 W. 57th St., NYC - saying their difficulties have been adjusted and asking for a word of recognition from Mrs. R. and some business.

May 14, 1941

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt says to ask you about this before she answers it. Will you return it to me and let me have your opinion in the matter?

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Office of the Secretary of Labor
80 Centre Street
New York, New York
Letter from Lilly Dache, dated June 9, 1941, relative to strike. Also enclosers with Dache letter as follows: New York State Supreme Court decision in favor of Dache. Reprint of newspaper accounts of attack on Clara Cuoci. Photograph of Clara Cuoci.

Claims that investigation of strike was not impartial.

June 10, 1941.

Dear Rose:

I am enclosing a letter and other papers which have just been received from Lilly Dache. Mrs. Roosevelt will appreciate it if you will give her a report on the present status of the Dache negotiations.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Office of the Secretary of Labor
30 Canton Street
New York, New York.
GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
DOMINION OF CANADA

The following message was received by the Government, for transmission, subject to the terms and conditions printed on the blank form No. 1, which terms and conditions have been agreed to by the sender.

F. G. SIMS, General Superintendent.

TELEPHONED FROM ST. STEPHEN N.B.
NO 3 9.30 A.M. 441.L. 100

NEW YORK N.Y. JUNE 29

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, OALFORDO N.B.

ANXIOUS TO KNOW IF YOU ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT HONORARY CHAIRMAN DOROTHY MAYNOR
BENEFIT CONCERT FOR LEAGUE NEXT WINTER AS PER MY LETTER OF JUNE SEVENTEENTH
STEP COULD YOU WRITE REPLY ON THIS AS WE ARE READY TO SEND TO FIRST PATRON LETTERS:

AFFECTIONATELY, ROSS SHERIDAN.

[Handwritten note: "acc pet of"]
June 25, 1941

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt is glad to accept the Honorary Chairmanship for the concert on December 5th.

Will you let Mrs. Roosevelt know the prices for boxes?

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
New York Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y.
June 17, 1941

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

Dear Eleanor:

Our annual benefit for the educational work in 1941 will be a
concert at Carnegie Hall with Dorothy Maynor as the guest artist.
It is to be on Wednesday, December 3rd.

This is to ask if you will again serve as Honorary Chairman
for this benefit, which will be promoted by our regular Benefit
Committee of which Mrs. Harold M. Lehman is now Chairman. It is
three years since we have had a concert, -- the ballet and the
"phantom benefit" being our recent ventures, and we are rather
glad to be returning to the old custom of a nice concert.

We are writing now to former patrons, and it would be helpful
if we might hear from you soon about the honorary chairmanship.
You are a dear to help us in this way.

Affectionately yours,

Rose Schneiderman
President
July 9, 1941

Dear Rose:

Many thanks for your letter. The story that Dorothy Bellanca told you is very interesting and I will do what I can.

I am so sorry about your brother and hope that he will soon find something else.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of "abor
80 Center St.
NYC
Dearest Eleanor:

Thank you very much indeed for consenting to be Honorary Chairman of the Benefit Committee. It is dear of you to lend your name to our undertaking.

I also want to thank you most deeply for your doing something about my brother, even though so far he unfortunately missed the boat, so to speak.

The R.F.C. office called his house Monday morning after he had left for the day's rounds and his wife was unable to reach him until about 4:30 in the afternoon. He called Washington then and was told that there was a possible opening at $4,200, but that he would have to be engaged that day due to the fact that all employees of the R.F.C. were going to come under Civil Service the first of July. However, before they could definitely engage him they had to have an interview. He tried to fly down but, unfortunately, he was unable to get a place on the plane and so telegraphed the man whom he was to meet. He had a return telegram from him that his name would be kept on the active list.

While the salary was not what he had hoped to get, he would have been glad to have taken the position because he feels that in time his ability would have gotten recognition, and that he would have been in line for promotion.

It is too bad that he did not know about it on Saturday so that he could have gotten down there in due time.

You are a saint to have acted so promptly and I am everlastingly grateful to you.

/ I met Dorothy Bellanca at the meeting of the
Women's Committee of the U.S.O. yesterday morning. We had lunch together later and she told me to tell you that she found out that the Highland School is definitely left wing, and that you were right when you told her that the school was controlled by the communists.

She also told me of a very disquieting coincidence. She was having dinner in a restaurant in a small town in New England, which was nearby one of the big military camps. At the table next to her sat a man with three men dressed in uniform. Dorothy overheard this man telling the boys what fools they were to be in the army and to sacrifice their good jobs. He also raved about the President being a Jew and about Frances Perkins being a Polish Jewess, etc. Whereupon, one of the boys spoke and said "yes, I guess we are damn fools to give a year out of our lives to the army." When they were ready to pay their check Dorothy followed them out of the restaurant and then asked the lad if he didn't remember that he had taken an oath of allegiance, and told him that it was not very wise of him to make the remark that he did. She also went after the man. She found that the man had a barber shop in the community and evidently makes it his business to undermine the morale of the enlisted men when he can.

I told Dorothy to report this man to the F.B.I. Of course Dorothy's question was, what is the army doing to make the men realize that they must shun fifth columnists and give the boys an idea why conscription was necessary, and why they must be prepared to defend democracy? I suggested to her that very likely the army has plenty to do in getting the boys into shape and give them the necessary instruction and training.

Later in the afternoon I spoke to a group of men and women who are preparing to speak throughout the country for the Fight for Freedom Movement and told them about this. It seems to me it is up to the private
agencies to do the educational job.

I am very much interested in your turning Campobello into a summer school for forty young people. I am sure it will be a fascinating experience for them. I shall always remember the heavenly time Maude Swartz and I had with you as your guests in 1925. I do hope that it won't be too taxing upon you because the fall and next winter will be a very strenuous time for you and all of us very likely.

Hope you will have a very nice summer, with fondest love

Devotedly yours,

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park
New York.
July 11, 1941
Hyde Park, New York

Dear Rose:

I am sending you the letter which Mrs. Roosevelt has received regarding the possibility of placing your brother in the Treasury Department. It appears that with the Civil Service rating required, he is not eligible for a job there.

Would your brother be interested in the suggestion made in the last paragraph? If so, and he will file his application and let Mrs. Roosevelt know for what job he has applied, she will be glad to write to the Director of the Farm Security Administration in his behalf. Mrs. Roosevelt has also written the R.F.C. about him and there may possibly be something for him there.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
60 Centre Street
New York, New York

[Signature]

Charles Treaton

DD
Dear Eleanor:

I have your note with reference to the possibility of placing Charles Taylor in some position in the Treasury.

With the beginning of the present fiscal year on July 1st our non-civil service positions were brought under civil service and it would not be possible therefore to appoint Mr. Taylor in the Treasury unless he should acquire civil service eligibility.

I am told that in a provision in the current Agriculture Appropriation Act positions in the Farm Security Administration were left outside of civil service. Perhaps that agency might be helpful in this instance.

Affectionately,

(SGD) Henry
Charles Taylor

In orphan asylum from 5 to 15 - worked as errand boy. Went to work in stock exchange as errand boy and page at 16, took art course at Cooper Union in evenings.

Started at 21 to prepare for college, went to prep school at night - made all high school credits in nine months and entered NYU - studied accountancy in the evening.

Worked with a firm of accountants because he could not get CPA unless he could show that he had been doing actual accountant work. Graduated at 26 and passed CPA exam. with high average.

Salary only $25 a week so he took on teaching in City College - worked for several firms since.

52 years old. Good executive ability. He wrote a text book for the NYU but with his partner's name, as his was not known as well. Has written pamphlets on taxation, etc. During the NRA set up a cost accounting system in the cotton industry for the Agriculture Department, with which they were highly pleased.

Has had all round experience in the business and financial field.
Letter from Miss Cecile Arden, Magnolia Studios, 56 West 68th St., New York City. Wants to know why Mrs. Roosevelt patronizes Arnold Constable which is one of the most unfair and slave-driving stores in all New York, etc etc.

August 28, 1941.

Dear Rose:

I will appreciate it if you will investigate the charges made in the enclosed letter and let me know what you find out.

Affectionately,

VDS

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
80 Center Street
New York, New York.
September 11, 1941

Dear Rose:

I have received the enclosed report from Farm Security and am sorry the outlook is somewhat discouraging.

I know you must be worried about your brother's situation and I hope he soon will be able to locate the sort of position he desires.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
80 Centre Street
New York, New York
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt  
The White House  

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Mr. Baldwin is out of town on a field trip, and in his absence your letter of August 26 to him about Mr. Charles R. Taylor has come to my attention.

Mr. Taylor wrote us during the latter part of July about his interest in being considered for employment with the Farm Security Administration. On his application he indicated that he would not be interested in a position paying less than $4300 a year. We have relatively few positions in the field Mr. Taylor is interested in which carry such a salary rate, and when vacancies of that type occur first consideration is given to promoting persons already on our staff.

While it seems rather doubtful that an opportunity will develop to use Mr. Taylor's services, you may be sure that we will get in touch with him in the event a position should become available in which he might be interested.

Sincerely yours,

George S. Mitchell  
Assistant Administrator
September 19, 1941.

Dear Rose:

Thank you for your report on Arnold Constable. I have written the President of Arnold Constable and hope he will see the light and work with the unions.

I have been hoping to set a date when I could see you, but life has been especially difficult. At the moment, my brother is very seriously ill, and I am not making any engagements which take me away from Washington, until I know the outcome.

I did know Jo Coffin was very ill, and have sent flowers a few times. Her friends in Washington keep me informed. I am terribly sorry, because Jo is such a fine person.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
80 Center Street
New York, New York.
Dearest Eleanor:

So far I haven't been able to get much information on Arnold Constable. The Department here has no data. As soon as we start investigating the retail stores for the purposes of getting a minimum wage board established, we will, of course, have a lot of information. But that won't happen for quite some time.

I called the union and they promised to send me whatever information there is. I will relay it to you just as soon as I get it. Discharge without notice, of course, is the custom where no union agreement exists. No employer thinks of giving notice unless he is made to and there never is any opportunity for a hearing where there is no organization. The union has tried from time to time to get the Arnold Constable employees interested in organizing, but they have not been very successful. After something happens then the girls come to the union, but the union is unable to do anything about it.

Do you know that Jo Coffin is very, very ill? She has been in the Georgetown Hospital for the past two months and I am afraid there is very little that can be done for her other than alleviate her pain. It is the old trouble. She has been getting blood transfusions and other injections, but she is failing very rapidly. I am just heartbroken about it because there is nothing anybody can do but to let her know of our love and affection.

The President's Labor Day speech was wonderful. I had a lump in my throat when I thought of the progress that labor has made -- largely in
the last ten years. Major part is due to the President -- his devotion to social justice and determination that working people are part of the nation and must be given their rights as citizens and workers.

Some day when you are in New York and have a few minutes to spare, I should be very grateful if you could see me. I am greatly troubled about the League and need your advice.

I am returning the letter sent to you by Miss Cecil Arden, which you may want for your files.

Much, much love to you darling,

Devotedly yours,

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.
September 22, 1941.

Dear Rose:

Thank you for your letter. I am sorry your brother didn't get what he wanted, but perhaps it is better to start a business, as government work would not be very permanent.

It is good of him to offer to help me with my income tax, but Elizabeth Read, who is a lawyer, has been making my return for years, and I would not like to change.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schnurman
Secretary of Labor
90 Centre Street
New York, New York.
Dearest Eleanor:

Thank you so much for your note and the enclosure from George S. Mitchell, Assistant Administrator of the Agriculture Department. I don't know how to thank you for your interest and all that you have tried to do for my brother. In a way it may be all for the best that he was unable to get an appointment with a government agency. He has decided, and I think rightly, to set up business for himself. After all, whatever appointment he may have gotten would have been a temporary one, and while going in for himself will be hard for a couple of years, nevertheless, it will be more permanent than a position with the government.

Early in the summer I saw Leon Henderson when I was in Washington. I felt that my brother's experience would have fitted in with the OPAC administration very well. He was asked to make his application and he took it down in person. After six weeks of dilly-dallying by Leon Henderson's assistant, Dr. Taggart, he received a letter telling him that his experiences were too good for that bureau. From that my brother concluded that the salary he asked ($5600) was too high. He, of course, would have taken less had they said so. But in view of recent publicity, I find that any number of people get that amount or more from OPAC.

Things do happen to one in life and we have to take it all philosophically.

My brother wants me to offer his services to you in connection with income tax re-
turns. He would be delighted to do them for you should you want him to, as a token of his appreciation for all the trouble you have taken in his behalf.

With fondest regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.
September 29, 1941

Dear Rose:

I am sending you a copy of the report
I have had from Arnold Constable. It looks rather
good to me.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
NYC

See Isaac Silberman
9/17/41
October 8, 1941.

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to thank you for your telegram of October 7, and tell you she is really very sorry that she will not be able to attend the rally to be held by the Culinary Council for War Relief. She has engagements for October 22, which prevent her from accepting this invitation.

Mrs. Roosevelt received a telegraphic invitation from Mr. David Siegal, and she has just written him expressing her regret that she cannot attend.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
80 Centre Street,
New York, New York.
TELEGRAM

The White House
Washington

GM New York NY 335PM Oct 7 1941

Mrs. Franklin D Roosevelt
The White House

I hope so much you will accept the invitation of the New York City local joint executive board of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance to address their mass conference on October 22nd. There are fifty thousand within this industry in New York state alone and I know they are very anxious to hear you.

Rose Schneiderman
November 10, 1941

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

Dearest Eleanor:

Please forgive the delay in acknowledging our great debt to you for speaking to our delegates at the nineteenth fall conference of the League. I was disappointed in the attendance because it should have been larger, but we had a great deal of competition that day, including the weather. However, those present were responsible trade union delegates, and I am sure that they took back with them reports of all that you said; and your message will have good results.

The League is opening a training class in first aid on the 18th, and we have very good enrollment for it. I am flirting with the idea of taking the course myself. The Mayor has asked me to be a member of the City Civilian Defense Council, but so far we have had no meeting of any kind.

We are thinking of organizing a consumers' group made up of women's auxiliaries and the wives of trade union men. The League staff isn't large enough to undertake such an important job, and I am hoping to get help from the WPA. There is no doubt that prices are rising continually, and I agree with you entirely that unless there is organized pressure nothing will be done about it.

You were in splendid form last night, and it was grand hearing you. Everybody was delighted with your presence. It must have been very fatiguing to sit through all those speeches, but I guess you are used to it by now. I will call your office on the 13th with the hope that you may be able to see me for a few minutes.

With a great deal of appreciation and affectionate greetings,

I am,

Devotedly yours,

Rose Schneiderman
President
November 12, 1941

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt would like to know who the artists will be on the December 3 concert.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Rose Schneiderman
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
Memorandum
from the Desk of

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

I think I'd like to
know what W.J.G. C.
comer. I guess I
ought to give away some
of the money I raised with that
friend there.

FR.
Write Judge know of parties
Copies all turn off when
DC. Nov. 18, Saturday
November 22, 1941

Dear Rose:

I have your letter of November 19th and I could go to a session of the National Board Meeting here in Washington, on December 9th in the afternoon.

I think Dorothy Bellanca is a fine suggestion for the group going to England.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
80 Center St., NYC
Dearest Eleanor:

I didn't want to take any of your time on Thursday the 13th when you were so good as to invite me to luncheon at the White House because I knew how terribly busy you were. I had wanted to speak to you about the National Women's Trade Union League and our own local situation.

We are up a tree. The National is very badly off financially. In fact, we have debts of about $1000. Money is very hard to get both locally and, even harder, for the National. We feel that most people are not as interested as they were years ago in what is happening in the community, and are taken up entirely by the situation abroad. I, of course, understand that very well. If I had no immediate obligations I would like to give my whole talent to this problem myself. However, it may point to another factor and that is, perhaps we ought to revise our whole program and purpose.

On December the 8th, 9th and 10th we are having a National Board Meeting in Washington to take up this question, and I wonder whether you would be free during any one of those days to sit in with us for an hour or so and help to advise us on the course we should follow. Do you think you will be able to come? I hope with all my heart that you will find time to do this because we are in a very serious situation. On Tuesday, the afternoon of the 9th we will have a report from our Educational Committee. We would love to have you then if possible. If not, any time Wednesday the 10th would do.

Now as to the women that are to go as guests to England. Having told you our financial standing
November 28, 1941

Dear Rose:

I am very glad to send you this check to use as you think wise.

I will, therefore, not give the usual Christmas party this year.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
December 2, 1941.

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt wishes me to thank you for your letter of November 26. She is glad to have the information about the Abraham Kahn Testimonial Dinner, and has written to Mrs. Simeon Strunsky accepting her invitation to be a patroness for the dinner.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
80 Centura Street
New York, New York.
Dearest Eleanor:

Thank you so much for your letter of the 22nd. You're a dear to be willing to sit in with us on Tuesday afternoon the 9th. We will send you a reminder and call your secretary in the morning to make sure that there is no hitch. I am most grateful to you for being willing to give the time to us.

I am glad you approve of Dorothy Bellanca. I am sure she will make an excellent addition to the delegation when it does go.

Mrs. Simeon Strunsky called me and asked me to use my good offices with you in connection with giving your name as Sponsor for the Abraham Kahn Testimonial Dinner. I told Mrs. Strunsky that I just can't bear to ask you to do one more thing. However, she had a feeling that you turned her down because she is the wife of Simeon Strunsky, who is known to everybody to be an anti-New Dealer. Mrs. Strunsky, on the other hand, does not share her husband's convictions and has been, and is today, wholeheartedly in back of the President and the things he is doing.

I know exactly how you feel these days when you are asked to sponsor anything. I have had to ask that my name be dropped from at least two organizations which I had first given my name to, because I find now that the Communists are using perfectly fine and public spirited people for their own ends and one gets taken in that way. However, this group is not of that kind, and I know that none of the sponsors will be connected with the Communist Party.

Mr. Kahn has been all these years an outspoken anti-Communist. As editor of the Daily
Forward for the past sixty years, Mr. Kahn has done much for the Jewish population throughout the country in helping to improve their outlook, culturally and economically. He is an American citizen without any reservations whatsoever -- he is devoted to the President and to the New Deal, and the Forward, which is published not only in New York but in Philadelphia, the middle west and on the coast, has, of course, reflected his leadership and thought.

If you could possibly lend your name to this undertaking I know that many people who have already signified their willingness to sponsor this, and who you know, will be very happy to have you lend your name.

What a relief to have the coal strike off the map. I really felt that a load had gone off my own personal shoulders when I heard the news over the radio Saturday night. I am happy that the President's patience and forbearance were finally rewarded.

With hearts best love to you, I am,

Affectionately,

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.
December 17, 1941

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

This year the League is suffering from "appeal priorities," priorities which the emergency situation has brought about. We realize how many heart-rending calls for help are reaching you these days, yet we hope very much that our appeal for renewal of your contribution for 1942 will not go unheeded.

It is our hope to divert or extend part of our work immediately into some field of service to the industrial women now being drawn into the defense program. This is where we belong now, and, given the necessary minimum funds, we are confident of doing a useful and efficient job. For one thing, we hope to be a center to which industrial women will turn in undertaking their share of civilian defense work. We are already running a first-aid course.

For the first time in many years, I grieve to say, the League is faced with a $3,000 deficit. The proceeds of the Maynor benefit fell short by two thousand dollars of the amount necessary to carry the educational program for 1942. Whether we can continue the work we have been doing, to say nothing of adding work which the war emergency brings to our doors, will depend entirely on our friends' generosity.

Will you renew your gift of $100, and if you can possibly tuck in a little extra contribution, we shall be everlastingly grateful to you.

With cordial holiday greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Rose Schneiderman
President
December 5, 1941

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

Dearest Eleanor:

You are a dear to send the $75 special Christmas contribution. I am going to see that some of it at least gets to the Helena Rubinstein strikers, whose morale is badly in need of a boost just now. And you may be sure we shall put it all to very worthwhile use.

The benefit was a most successful affair musically -- Dorothy Maynor captivated everyone, including the critics. Financially it was a fair success -- rather better than we thought it would be a week ago, though not as much as we need at the present -- $3300 profit.

We were ever so sorry you couldn't be there, but of course understand.

Affectionately,

Rose Schneiderman
President
January 10, 1942

Dear Rose:

Thank you for your congratulations on the new grandsons.

The picture of the Christmas party is very nice and I am so glad the party was so successful.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
80 Center Street, NYC
Dearest Eleanor:

Congratulations on your two new grandsons! I am so glad that Franklin got home for a spell. I hope he had time to see his new son. Here's hoping they will grow up to be fine and splendid men in the fine Roosevelt tradition.

Now, may I thank you most warmly for the box of goodies which you sent me for Christmas. It is amazing with all the calls that are made upon you, that you should remember me.

I am enclosing a picture of the Christmas Party which was given fifty-five children of the Helena Rubinstein strikers. These were brothers and sisters of the girls that are out and children belonging to some of the married women strikers. They had the grandest time you could imagine. We were able to get them toys from the Toy Workers' Union, and they each got a sweater and some of the little ones even were given snow suits which Bessie picked up at a bazaar very reasonable. There was candy, fruit and ice cream, and they were able to get a volunteer magician who delighted them all.

It was grand of you to make this party possible. We did not know whether you wanted the children to know that you gave the money for the party and so we didn't say anything to them, but the union officials know and I am sure that you will hear from them.

Bessie told some touching stories how one of the girls had never had a doll before in her life and she was nine years old, and how amazed she was to find one in her Christmas package. They evidently are children of very poor families and Christmas at best isn't a very jolly affair for them.

Blessings on your head for all the good deeds that you accomplish.
I went to a meeting of the State Federation of Labor yesterday, called for the purpose of organizing the unions for civilian defense and for the sale of Bonds and Stamps. It was a most enthusiastic meeting. By resolution, they pledged themselves to buy fifty million dollars worth of Bonds within the next six months. They asked the Governor, who spoke at the meeting, to proclaim a Labor Bond Week. They felt that would intensify the buying of the Bonds and Stamps. They pledged their unwavering support to the President and to unstinted production for the duration.

I was sorry I was not able to listen in on the President's speech yesterday. I heard only the end of it as I got in to the Ten Eyck Hotel and was unable to stay up for the rebroadcast, but I have the Times this morning and shall read every word of it.

Tom Lyons, President of the State Federation appointed me vice-chairman of the Women's Committee on Civilian Defense and Mrs. Hawley, the chairman. Our first meeting will be held next Monday afternoon. I have offered the League House as the headquarters for the work of this committee and I am sure that we can do a lot, with the married women especially. The unions are all setting up training courses in their own quarters and the interest everywhere is tremendous. There is no hardship in getting recruits for first aid and air wardens, etc.

I am delighted that you like the gloves I sent you. I assure you that with them went all my love and devotion.

Affectionately,

RS/h
February 12, 1942

Dear Rose:

Thank you for your recent letter.
I will be delighted to serve with you on the Sponsoring Committee for the Women’s American ORT luncheon.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
New York Women’s Trad’Union League
247 Lexington
New York, New York
February 7, 1942

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have just undertaken a task for one of my favorite organizations, Women's American ORT, and I am turning to you for a little help. I have accepted the chairmanship of the Sponsoring Committee for the annual $1b. Donor Luncheon, and would like to have you serve with me. This, of course, would entail no activity on your part.

I am especially interested in the Luncheon this year because it is tied in with our national victory program, the proceeds going for the purchase of defense bonds and the maintenance of ORT projects in allied countries.

The Luncheon is only one phase of a four-point program, "DEFENSE THROUGH ORT", which has just been adopted for 1942 by Women's ORT. The Luncheon will attract about 1,500 guests, and will be held Wednesday, May 13, at the Hotel Astor.

As you know, ORT— which stands for Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training— was formed in 1880 to train European Jews for self-support in skilled labor and farming. Today this work goes on in the allied countries and South America and is of particular value because ORT-trained people directly contribute to the production of war and defense material so vitally needed by the democracies.

Because of my life-long concern for the welfare of the industrial workers of our country, both as a private citizen and as a public official, I have been deeply interested in ORT ever since I first became familiar with its program and philosophy.

I am sure you will feel as I do and for that reason I earnestly urge you to accept membership on the Sponsoring Committee.

Hoping to hear from you in the affirmative,

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

MISS ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN
Chairman, Sponsoring Committee

Devoted to the Creation of a New Occupational Existence for Refugees and the Muses of European Jews Through Trade-Schools, Farm Colonies, Industrial Workshops.
February 16, 1942

Dear Rose:

I have given your recommendation of
Dorothy Bryant to Mr. MacLeish, and was glad
to do so.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
80 Center St., NYC
Miss Malvina Thompson,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Malvina:

Would you be a darling and see that Mrs. Roosevelt sees the enclosed letter? When you read it you will see how pitiful a case this is. Of course, we all know that Mrs. Roosevelt cannot take sides, but perhaps here and there she may be able to use her good offices indirectly where possible.

Mr. Ehrlich's son was in to see me and a more forlorn and sad human being it would be hard to find.

I hope you are well, dear Malvina, and that you had a very happy holiday. With kindest regards and all good wishes for the New Year, I am,

Faithfully yours,

RS/SH
enc.  
10 or phone me in appearance at 10 o'clock
January 15, 1942

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

Dearest Eleanor:

You are a saint to increase your yearly gift by $50 -- I don't know how to thank you adequately for your generosity.

I am glad to report that quite a number of contributors have renewed their gifts for this year and some of our friends gave additional small amounts which will help us, for we especially need the support of our members and contributors.

We are reducing our budget as much as we can for this year. Bessie Engelman has taken a leave of absence for six months, and it's doubtful whether we will be able to take her back when the six months are up. We are starting the new year with a deficit of $1300, but if we can renew the gifts of last year and get some new donations we may be able to make ends meet without further cutting the personnel.

Did you know that the New York Consumers' League has folded up? The National Consumers' League, having its headquarters in New York, has taken over. I hope very much that we can keep the League afloat, and that we won't have to close our doors.

With a great deal of appreciation and affection, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Rose Schneiderman
President
No. 79

January 9, 1942

To Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

The White House, Washington, D.C.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of One hundred fifty and no/100 dollars for Contribution renewal 1942 ($50 increase)

NEW YORK WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE

$150.00

MRS. MONROE GOLDWATER

Treasurer
March 3, 1942

Dear Rose:

Many thanks for your letter of February 25. The President is better, and Franklin Jr. is in very good condition. Anna, too, had to have her appendix out, and I went out to Seattle to be with her family. We are having our share of operations.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
80 Center Street
New York, New York
State of New York  
Department of Labor  
Office of the Secretary  
80 Center St., New York City  
February 25, 1942

Dearest Eleanor:

First, may I thank you warmly for relaying my recommendation of Dorothy Bryant to Mr. MacLeish. Also, for your acceptance as a member of the Sponsor Committee of the Women's American Ort. You are an angel to lend your name towards this effort.

I listened to you Sunday evening and I was thrilled by your speech. I am so glad you landed on Westbrook Pegler and paid your respects to the 'very vocal group of unenlightened men.' Boondoggling seems all right for those that can afford it evidently. No one questions that, but as soon as there is an attempt to make it possible for the underprivileged to know what joy and beauty is, then we are boondoggling.

We all know what a grand job you did on the OCD. Had it not been for you the volunteer participation would still be in a very chaotic state. Please don't mind too much these nincompoops of congressmen who first of all resent seeing women active in a fundamental way, especially when it is the wife of the President of the United States. Then, of course, they hate the Administration and everything connected with it.

I, of course, listened to the President Monday night and am worried about his cold. I hope it is better. His speech was forthright and to the point, and I am sure did us all a lot of good.

The article in the Times this morning on the Lend Lease agreement is the most heartening thing that has happened in a long time.

I do hope Franklin Jr. is recovering from his operation and that he is on the way to complete health.

With fondest love, I am,

Affectionately,
April 24, 1942

Dear Rose:

I am so appreciative of your letter. Many thanks to you for writing.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schmeiderman
60 Center St., NYC
April 23, 1942

Dearest Eleanor:

I had hoped so much that I would have had a minute to say "hello" to you before the Russian Relief luncheon. I wanted to tell you then how much I enjoyed your final broadcast on the coffee hour. It was constructive and a telling speech. I wish it could be reprinted and distributed widely among service men, as well as our trade unions.

You also made a swell speech at the luncheon. I must say that I was disappointed in Madam Litvinoff. It seems to me that she missed a great opportunity to tell the twenty-five hundred men and women that were there of the fight that Russia was making. Perhaps she should have said what Miss Webster did.

You may be glad to know that due to your remarks to Mary Dreier about the adverse sentiment against labor amongst the service men, the AFL and CIO have embarked upon a public relations program. I wrote Mr. Green immediately thereafter and told him what you said, asking him, of course, to keep it confidential, and then I made a few suggestions to him. I had a letter from him in return saying how grateful he was to you for the information and that he realized that something drastic had to be done. Shortly after that there was a full page advertisement in the Times, followed by the statement from the Automobile Workers' Union and now the weekly broadcast sponsored by him and Murray. So you see, darling, you are responsible for the AFL and CIO jointly going in for public relations -- something which the labor movement needed, but failed to do all these years.

With fondest love, I am,

Affectionately,

RS/h
Letter from Mrs. M. Dubinsky, 1425 Franklin Avenue, Bronx, New York. Is one of some older women who work as cooks in summer resorts. Says hours are atrocious. Work at least 100 hours a week and wages are small. The season is from Decoration Day to Labor Day and this nets her $375.00. That is her pay for the year and the balance of the years she must recuperate, etc.

April 28, 1942.

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed letter for your information and whatever action you may want to take.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
80 Center Street
New York, New York.
July 16, 1942

Miss Malvina Thompson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.  

Dear Malvina:

I have been in contact with the furrier's union. They are looking up their records to see whether Mr. Kretchman had ever made application for membership there.

My own hunch is that the man must be quite old. According to his letter he has been here fifteen years, and if he had worked for the Czar's relative as he claims, that must have been before the First World War. He might do well working in a place where they do custom made furs but I doubt very much whether he could keep up the pace with the modern factory.

However, Mr. Begoon, the secretary of the union, is going to let me know the results of his investigation and I will write you accordingly.

I hope you are having a restful summer.  

Affectionately,

Rosa Schneiderman

rs: eb
May 8, 1942.

Dear Rose:

Thank you so much for your letter of May 6, advising what you had done in the case of Mrs. Dubinsky.

Mrs. Roosevelt is appreciative of your kindness in writing Mrs. Dubinsky and was interested to know of the suggestion you made to her.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Department of Labor
80 Center Street
New York, New York.
Dear Malvina:

I wrote Mrs. Dubinsky and had her come in to see me on Monday. While we have a forty-eight hours’ law in the State of New York for hotel and restaurant workers, the law does not affect women working in resort districts where there is a population of less than fifteen thousand. Mrs. Dubinsky and others like her, who hire out as cooks, chambermaids and waitresses for the summer in the different hotel and boarding houses, therefore do not come under this law.

I suggested to Mrs. Dubinsky that she get the women together and form an organization, and then protect themselves as far as hours are concerned through collective bargaining and by an agreement with the employer. There is nothing else that can be done about it.

With kindest greetings to you, I am,

Faithfully yours,

P.S.

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D. C.
June 16, 1942

Dear Rose:

I have your telegram and am glad, of course, to be Honorary Chairman for the benefit concert on December 1st.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
247 Lexington Avenue, NYC
MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC

WOULD YOU AGAIN LEND PRESTIGE TO OUR CONCERT BY CONSENTING TO BE HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF THE BENEFIT ON DECEMBER FIRST

ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN 247 LEXINGTON AVE NEW YORK CITY.
Wants Mrs. R. to interest herself in his case. If furrier and ladies tailor by trade and has been in U.S. 15 years. Has family to support. Says he has been refused admittance to the union because his work is so good no one can compete with him. Offers proof of what he says. Wants appointment to see Mrs. R. and show his work.

July 8, 1942.

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed letter from Mr. Morris Kritchman, 1821 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, New York. She will appreciate it if you will look into Mr. Kritchman's complaint and advise her as to how she should reply.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
Office of the Secretary
80 Centre Street
New York, New York.
September 23, 1942.

Dear Rose:

Many thanks for your letter about Mr. Morris Kretchman. Mrs. Roosevelt will write and explain the situation to him.

Very sincerely,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
State of New York
Department of Labor
80 Center Street
New York, New York.
Dear Malvina:-

You remember you wrote me a letter regarding a Mr. Morris Kritchman who complained to Mrs. Roosevelt about his inability to get into the union. I was in touch with the union immediately, but only received a reply to my query on September 4th. The letter was sent to the League and it did not reach me until last week. I am enclosing this letter to you so you will see for yourself the situation.

It is quite true that the fur season is a very bad one. In spite of the supposedly high wages of the workers, it seems that not many women are buying furs, with the result that they have a large number of their members unemployed.

I hope, dear Malvina, that you had a restful summer. With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Rose Schneiderman

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D.C.
September 4th, 1942

Miss Rose Schneideman
247 Lexington Avenue,
New York, New York.

Dear Miss Schneideman:

With regard to the letter which you sent me that you received from Mrs. Roosevelt's secretary, the following are the facts in the matter.

Morris Kritchman made an application in our union for a book on October 5th, 1937. As that was the slowest part of our season, nothing was done for him at that time. The beginning of 1938 we entered into a strike which lasted for four months. During all this period we did not see or hear from Mr. Kritchman until I received your letter.

A few weeks ago he called at my office and tried to show me that he was a mechanic by bringing a sample of his work. I explained to him that the Union decided not to issue permits or Union books to any worker who was never a member of the Union before during this season, because of the severe unemployment in the industry.

The Executive Committee of the fur finishers since the middle of June, postponed action on applications of ex-members who for some reason did not pay dues for several years.

As I said, even these were not given consideration, because the finishing branch of the industry has been about more than 50% unemployed.

A check up on Mr. Kritchman by the officers of the said Executive reported to the office that he was a former member of the Ladies' Tailors' Union, and they claimed that it was no more than right that he should try to get back in the trade that he was formerly employed.

I hope that this will in brief explain this case.

Fraternally yours,

[Signature]

H. Begun, Secretary-Treasurer

FURRIERS JOINT COUNCIL OF NEW YORK
October 6, 1942

Dear Rose:

In view of the fact that there was no need for a Christmas party last year, I assume there will be no need this year.

Affectionately,
October 27, 1942

My dear Miss Schneiderman;

Before Mrs. Roosevelt left she asked me to tell you that she will give the usual party for the children, but she did not set any definite day. Instead of presents, she wishes to give each child a one dollar war stamp and an small inexpensive toy.

Mrs. Roosevelt will order the candy and fruit and will help dress the tree.

As soon as possible after Mrs. Roosevelt's return I will bring this correspondence to her attention so that she may let you know the date for the party.

Very sincerely yours,

Administrative Officer
Social Correspondence

Miss Rose Schneiderman
The Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
Dearest Eleanor:

This year we will be very happy indeed to have you give the Christmas Party. There is quite a bit of unemployment and a lot of good will be accomplished by having the party. If you want me to do the shopping for the presents, I will be more than happy to do that.

Our Autumn Conference this year promises to be a very interesting one, and we especially look forward to Walter Reuther's speech on "The Quality of Sacrifice Labor is Making in the War."

Our classes are just about to start and there, too we think our program is a timely one, and one we hope that will give the girls the information they need to have. It has been hard sledding due to decrease in staff, but we are doing the best we can. For the second semester we are planning a Forum on post-war problems, in which I hope you will be able to take part. We will write you soon about the date that we should like you to make your contribution and hope that you will have the time free to talk to our girls.

I was so glad to have seen you at the reception the other day. With fondest love, I am,

Affectionately,

[Signature]

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.
November 19, 1942.

Dear Rose:

Many thanks for your message of welcome on my return from England. It was so good of you to send it and I want you to know how deeply appreciative I am of your thoughtfulness.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
80 Centre Street
New York, New York.
The White House  
Washington  

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HRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
WHUITE HOUSE
WELCOME HOME. ITS GRAND TO KNOW YOURE BACK IN OUR OWN BELOVED
COUNTRY LOVE
ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN
Dearest Eleanor:

I am thrilled that you are going to England. It will be wonderful for them to see our beloved First Lady, and I am sure that you will have a most interesting time. Do take care of yourself darling and come back to us safe and sound.

With all kinds of good wishes for a safe trip, I am

Devotedly,

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.
November 23, 1942.

Dear Rose:

I am so sorry I cannot attend the conference of trade union women as I will be in Maine on December 12th.

Affectionately,

[Address]

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary of Labor
Department of Labor
80 Center Street
New York, New York.
Dearest Eleanor:

On October 24th the League held a very successful conference of trade union women. At the close of the conference the delegates, by unanimous vote, asked the League to hold another conference where special problems of women workers in wartime could be discussed.

We are now calling this conference for Saturday, December 12th, 10:30 a.m. at the Hotel Roosevelt. The plan is to have a panel discussion in the morning on labor standards, child care, training and re-training, the employment of young women on night shifts, etc. The trade union women themselves will participate in this panel discussion. This is to be followed by a luncheon with two or three speakers.

We very much would like you to speak at the luncheon meeting. Confidently, there seems to be so much confusion and reluctance about giving up labor standards that I am sure it would do us the world of good to hear of the sacrifices the British working women are making. It would be wonderful to have you with us, and if you possibly can, I hope you will let me know by return mail.

The report of your trip is fascinating and I know it would make a tremendous contribution to the thinking of our women, if you can see your way to accepting our invitation.

You must be very tired and I hope you will have some time to rest up from the arduousness of your trip. With fondest love,

Affectionately,

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.
November 23, 1942

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt can have the Christmas party on December 21st, at 4:00 p.m. Will you send me the list of names as soon as possible so that we can get invitations out?

Will you also order the tree, apples, oranges, ice-cream, etc?

Mrs. Roosevelt will trim the tree and we will have some small toys and a Red Cross Stamp for each child.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
New York Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
November 2, 1942

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

Dear Mr. Magee:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 27th advising me that Mrs. Roosevelt will give the Christmas Party for children at the Women's Trade Union League.

I will expect to hear from you as to the date some time after Mrs. Roosevelt returns to this country.

Sincerely yours,

[Rose Schneiderman, President]
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 17, 1942

Miss Thompson:

Will Mrs. Roosevelt set the date for this party?

Should the usual entertainer from Dean's be ordered?

Perhaps Mrs. Roosevelt might wish to use some of the small toys which are still upstairs. Her note said she would give them $1. war stamp and a small toy. 

Ernest to get the lists and send out the invitations as before?

[Signature]
W10 25

MF NEW YORK NY NOV 24 1942 506PM

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
WHITE HOUSE WASH NDC

VERY EAGER TO KNOW IF YOU CAN SPEAK AT LUNCHEON OF LEAGUES
CONFERENCE ON DECEMBER TWELFTH STOP ANXIOUS TO RELEASE
PUBLICITY PLEASE WIRE REPLY COLLECT.

ROSE SCHNIEDERMAN.
December 8, 1942

Dearest Eleanor:

I am so sorry that you are unable to speak at our Conference on the 12th due to another engagement. We would have loved having you. May we ask you again for some meeting during the late Winter or early Spring? I know the girls would be delighted to hear you. Very fortunately, Frances Perkins has agreed to speak and we hope a lot of good will result from this Conference.

As far as the Christmas Party is concerned, you will be interested to know that I have asked the unions to give us the names of children whose father are in the Service. We know that it will please you to make their Christmas more cheerful.

Mr. Ravich, who was friendly for years and gave us toys gratis, is no longer with the union. I have tried for three days to contact the present officer, without success. I doubt whether we will be able to get toys through him. What shall we do about it?

For a long time I have felt that we should have a compulsory National registration of women. While I am not speaking for the National Women's Trade Union League, as we have not polled our Board, I am sure that all of us would go along with that. As a matter of fact, the New York League, through its officers, is going to recommend that at our next Board meeting.

It is ridiculous for the Government not to know what skills and aptitudes women have so that they could be put to the best use in their own communities or wherever needed. I am amused at the Business and Professional Women who are on record for the Equal Rights Amendment and opposed to a compulsory registration. To say the least, it is most inconsistent.

Thank you a thousand times for your box which you
turned over to us. We made very good use of it. The benefit didn't go over so well this year, even though we had a very eminent artist. That no doubt is due to the fact that people have so many new calls made upon their purses. First of all, we sold very few upper tier boxes and didn't fill all the lower tier. Orchestra seats were also hard to sell even though we had most of them at regular box office price. We netted about $2500, which is $900 less than we made last year.

We will have to concentrate next year more and more on the unions, getting them to support us more generously than they have done until now.

Unfortunately, I have not been able to listen to most of your broadcasts. I did hear the first one after your return from England and it was wonderful. I am sure that the mothers and wives of the servicemen listening to you you must have had a great deal of comfort from your speech describing how the men are living.

With deepest love, I am,

Faithfully yours,

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

How are the boys? Mrs. R.

She says buy some 25c toys. Don’t you know jacks or anything like this? A real Santa

Choccie came from a Xmas

Stocking — Miss. Mrs. Schneiderman

agreed to get tangerines,

apples ice cream or cakes?

Did you write Deans to

change date for entertainment?

Met
TELEGRAM
OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

The White House
Washington

December 17, 1942

MISS ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN
Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Can you give us rest of names for party by Friday.

Malvina C. Thompson
Miss Rose Schneiderman
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Mrs. Roosevelt will come to 247 Lexington Avenue about 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 23d to see if everything is in order.

Maivina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
January 9, 1943

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt says she would like to have you come to breakfast on January 17th, at 8:30 a.m. at her apartment, 29 Washington Square West, New York.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
233 East 22nd Street
New York, New York
Dear Eleanor;

Thank you very much indeed for the delicious fruit you sent me for Christmas. The fruit came in a nice wooden plate which will come in handy. With all the million things you have on your mind and heart, you are a darling to think of me.

The children and their mothers enjoyed the party in a great way. It was a real lesson they will carry in their lives and will have something to remember in years to come.

Blanche Freedman Wanting
to preserve the books you autographed
for little because bought him
another just like it. But the
client sometimes can see
there is something special about
the one he received from your
hands and mind on the key
Promenade Hotel.

I am terribly worried about
the League and planned approach
made of it even possible for
me to see you some day here
in the city if you could spend
ten or fifteen minutes. Please
decide not to stand for
reelection next spring. I am
no longer stand the strain and
worry that it takes to keep the
League going and feel that
we need new going blood.
Congratulations on Elliot's receiving a decoration for bravery. I trust he bears witness to you and the President. I can imagine how sincere you must be about your fine boys and pray that God grant their return to you and their families welcomed by the ordinances of the War.

With heartfelt wishes for the New Year to you and your Commander in Chief and all your loved ones, Gram

Lovingly, Gram
January 11, 1943.

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to tell you she will be glad to serve with you on the Sponsoring Committee for the Donor Luncheon for the Women's American Orts. Her time is so definitely crowded it will not be possible for her to take an active part.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Sponsoring Committee
Women's American Orts
212 Fifth Avenue,
WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT
212 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

January 4, 1943

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Would you do me the honor of serving with me on the Sponsoring Committee of which I am Chairman for the $20.00 Donor Luncheon for the Women's American ORT, one of my favorite organizations. This, of course, would entail no activity on your part. The Luncheon will be attended by over 1500 guests and will be held on Wednesday, May 12, 1945, at the Hotel Astor.

I am interested in this effort because it is tied in with our national victory program, part of the proceeds of this Luncheon going for the purchase of war bonds to be used for the reconstruction period of ORT after the Victory is ours.

The ORT which stands for Organization for Rehabilitation through Training -- was formed in 1880 to train European Jews for self support in skilled labor and farming. Today this work goes on in the Allied countries, Canada, South America, Mexico, in New York City, and is of particular value because ORT trained people directly contribute to the production of war and defense material so vitally needed by the United Nations.

Because of my life-long concern for the welfare of the industrial workers of our country, both as a trade unionist and as a public official, I have been deeply interested in ORT ever since I first became familiar with its program and philosophy.

I am sure you will feel as I do and for that reason I earnestly urge you to accept membership on the Sponsoring Committee. May I hear you say "Yes"?

Sincerely yours,

MISS ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN, Chairman
Sponsoring Committee
January 15, 1943

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am deeply grateful to you for joining with me on the Sponsoring Committee of the $20.00 Annual Donor Luncheon of the Women's American Ort. It is indeed encouraging and heartening to know that you share in our efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Miss Rose Schneiderman, Chairman
Sponsoring Committee
DEMOCRATS URGED TO PUT UP LIBERAL

Any Other Presidential Nomination Would Bring Threat of Third Party, Rose Says

RICKENBACKER IS SCORED

A. L. P. State Secretary and Dean Alfange Speak on First of Party Radio Forums

Alex Ross, State secretary of the American Labor party, declared last night that the Democratic party is in a state of helplessness and that it is far too easy to permit a national third party movement and a third party ticket, "regardless of the consequences to government and disposed political situations."

Mr. Ross and Dean Alfange, former candidate for Governor, spoke from their home radio stations during the seven o'clock hour broadcast from station WIP, under the title "Our National Forum of the Air." Mr. Alfange called these "an insult" to the American Labor party and declared that the latter was doing immense harm to national unity and access by his platform.

Although neither speaker mentioned President Roosevelt in connection with the 1944 Presidential nomination, it is known thatLabor party leaders expect him to run again and are preparing to oppose the party of New York and possibly to organize to that end.

"The world's present conflict for political power foretold a great political conflict within our own nation which will decide our role in the peace formula in post-war relation, Mr. Ross said. "The outcome of this conflict will determine whether or not we are to wage a victorious battle against poverty and fascism unlimittedly.

"Recent years have already made deep inroads in the high and middle classes of both of our major parties. The selection of Mr. Dalke, arch reactionary and anti-New Dealer, as National chairman manifests the Republican party sentiment."

Mr. Alfange, according to CBS National Democratic chairman, is solidifying all conservative elements within the Democratic party. The present Congress clearly indicates that party labels have lost their meaning. In fact, it seemed greater unity exists among reactionary Republicans and Democrats than among the "true" Republicans and Democrats. Evidently, the threat of both parties is to crush labor, and its ideals, and give full sway to reaction throughout the nation.

"With this in mind, they are striving for the 1944 nomination of conservative Pro-"oral candidates by both parties," Mr. Alfange said.

And that the nation's political future lies for the next forty years in the hands of the New Deal party. At the same time, it was said that the party at the time of speaking was more than a minority party and that a national third party is the only solution.

"The American Labor party has already proved itself a third party of the future, and is the only one with a future," Mr. Alfange added. "We have helped maintain our present and official New York City administration. We helped maintain a progressive New York State government. And we shall do everything in our power to make the next Governor a Democrat, a national administration in 1944 in opposition of Captain Rickenbacker."

Mr. Alfange said:

"I should like to cancel Captain Rickenbacker's order stating his salary as $5,000 per annum. While labor has mounted a protest against wages, the arbitrary of labor will not be even remembered by the public."

"And I should like to cancel the order stating that the contract is not to be paid to laborers.
January 16, 1943

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send you this letter from Marion Pasco, 426 West 147th Street, as it concerns the State Labor Department.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Secretary, New York State Labor Department
State Office Building
New York, New York

Injured at City Hospital - reported to compensation com. - after ten mos. without adequate medical attention was given "illegal" hearings by the Labor Dept. - on relief and ill.
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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Mr. Julius Hochman</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>218 West 40th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Luigi Antonini</td>
<td>Local #89</td>
<td>218 West 40th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Benjamin Kaplan</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>242 West 36th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Israel Feinberg</td>
<td>General Manager</td>
<td>131 West 33rd Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Samuel Shore</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>873 Broadway ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Charles Zimmerman</td>
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<td>Mr. Abraham Snyder</td>
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<td>Mr. Louis Nelson</td>
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<td>General Manager</td>
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<td>Mr. Murray Weinstein</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>22 East 16th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. William Galvin</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>245 West 14th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Joseph Breslaw</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>60 West 35th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Martin T. Lacey</td>
<td>Exec. Secy.</td>
<td>176 Madison Avenue ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Nathan Wertheimer</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
<td>250 West 57th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Mike Omermeier</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>11 West 42nd Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Jay Rubin</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>226 West 47th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Miguel Garriga</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>701 Eighth Avenue ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. John Blackburn</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>205 West 14th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Alex Rose</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
<td>31 West 37th Street ILGWU</td>
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<td>Mr. Joseph Kessler</td>
<td>Manager</td>
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</tbody>
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Mr. James J. McGrath, Secretary-Treasurer
Typographical Union #6
653 Broadway
NYC

Mr. Harry Van Arsdale, Business Manager
International Brotherhood Electrical Wks. Union #3
130 East 25th Street
NYC

Mr. George Heller, Executive Secretary
American Federation of Radio Artists
2 West 45th Street
NYC

Mr. Louis Simon, Secretary-Treasurer
Laundry Workers Joint Board
150 Fifth Avenue
NYC

Mr. James Quinn, Secretary
Central Trades and Labor Council
295 West 14th Street
NYC

Mr. Thomas Murtha, Business Representative
Theatrical Stage Hands Union #4
554 Atlantic Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

Mr. Alex Kahn, Editor
Jewish Daily Forward
175 East Broadway
NYC

Mr. Joseph Ryan, President
International Longshoremen’s Union
285 West 14th Street
New York City

Mr. Hyman Shanker, Business Agent
Bakery & Confectionery Wks. Int. Union of America
792 Broadway #60
NYC

Mr. Max Kralstein, Secretary-Treasurer
Bakery & Confectionery Int. Union #679
427 Fulton Street
Brooklyn, New York

Building Service Employees Int. Union Local 32 B
David Sullivan, President
570 Seventh Avenue
NYC

Mr. Thomas Murry, President
Building & Construction Trades Council
176 Madison Avenue
NYC

Mr. Vincent Ferris
Allied Printing Trades Council
63 Park Row
NYC

Mr. William Feinberg, Secy
Musicians Union of Greater NY #602
1267 Sixth Avenue
NYC

Mr. Alfred Peabody, Business Rep.
Intl. Assn. of Machinists Union
265 W. 14th Street Dist. 15
NYC

Mr. Samuel Wolchok, President
United Retail Wholesale & Dept.
Store Employees Union
100 West 42nd Street
NYC

Mr. Jack Altman, Business Mgr.
United Retail Wholesale & Department Store Employees’
Joint Council
100 West 42nd Street
New York City

Mr. Saul Mills, Secretary
Greater New York Industrial Council
1133 Broadway
NYC

January 28, 1943

afoe
January 25, 1945

Dear Rose:

Will you let Mrs. Roosevelt know whether the meeting of labor men which you are planning is to be in Washington or New York? She has forgotten.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schniederma
Secretary, Department of Labor
80 Center Street
New York, New York
Dearest Eleanor:

I am working on the list of names of the labor men to be invited and will try and have it in your hands by the middle of next week the very latest.

Do you think it would be worthwhile to have Frieda Miller there, who could speak on the value of the League as an outside agency in the legislative effort as far as women are concerned? For instance, the League has done yeoman service in pressing for money for the Minimum Wage Division so that wage boards could be set up and enforced properly. Also preventing the emasculation of the labor laws already on the statute books.

It was grand having a visit with you last Friday. I can't begin to tell you how grateful I am to you for your willingness to undertake this meeting, as well as for your suggestion that you may get a group of young women to meet on the problems of the League in the hope of getting them interested in our work.

With deep appreciation, and with fondest love to you, I am,

Affectionately,
January 11, 1943

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You very kindly in the past sent us a contribution of $100. I wonder whether it would be possible for you to renew your gift? I should be most grateful to you if you could stand by us again for we do need your help now more than ever.

Our Benefit, alas, was not as successful as we had hoped. We made $900 less than last year, and that is quite a sum to make up in renewals and new gifts.

You have always taken an interest in our work, and we look to you for the continued support that we need. If we are to live through this period of stress and strain it will be because of the kindness of friends like you.

With a great deal of appreciation, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rose Schneiderman
President

P.S. Contributions to the League are tax-exempt.
January 11, 1943

Dear Tommy:

I will be very happy indeed to take breakfast with Mrs. Roosevelt on Friday, January 15th at 8:30 a.m. at her apartment. It is awfully good of her to spare me that time.

Thank you so much for letting me know.

With all good wishes and fondest regards,

Affectionately,

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D.C.
January 28, 1943

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt still hasn't definitely settled her plans for going west and may not go until the middle of March.

Do you want the labor meeting in the afternoon or evening and will you send me a list of names?

I will send you word as soon as Mrs. Roosevelt can make a definite date.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
80 Center Street
New York, New York
January 26, 1943

Dear Tommy:

The meeting of the labor men was to be held at Mrs. Roosevelt’s New York apartment. Will you be an angel and let me know what date the meeting is likely to be held? I should prefer it, if possible, around the middle of February, or later, if that is good for her.

Affectionately,

[Handwritten note:]

Tell Miss Malvina Thompson that I have heard from her and I will send for her. Let me know if you think it is all right. I want to see her later.

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D.C.
January 29, 1943.

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt could never get 40 people in the apartment so suggests having the meeting at the Cosmopolitan Club.

I wrote yesterday asking whether you want an afternoon or evening meeting. When I get answers to all of these questions I can tell you what date can be set.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
State of New York
Department of Labor
60 Center Street
New York, New York.
January 28, 1943

Dearest Eleanor:

I am sorry to be late with the list, but here it is. I hope you won't feel that the list is too long. The reason we are asking Alex Kahn of the Forward is because he thinks very highly of the League and I feel it is good to have one person there to speak up for us when necessary.

May I tell you again what a darling you are to do this for us. I am sure that a great deal will be accomplished by this meeting.

I hope to hear from you when the date is set. Very likely Mary Dreier will be back by the middle of February.

How thrilling to learn of the President's Casablanca conference and to know that he is back with us, thank God! I am sure that this meeting will bring untold good for the cause of the United Nations.

I look forward to seeing you next Tuesday the 2nd of February at the meeting. Until then, with fondest love,

Devotedly yours,

Rose

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.
January 29, 1943

Dear Malvina:

By now you will have received the list of names of the men to be invited. I think an afternoon meeting would be swell. If it could start around 3 o'clock it would be just right. They could come after luncheon and a little business at their office.

I will await the date set by Mrs. Roosevelt.

Affectionately,

[Signature]

Miss Malvina Thompson
The White House
Washington, D.C.
February 2, 1943

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt says she can have the meeting on February 26th, at 5 p.m. at the apartment, 29 Washington Square West.

Mrs. Roosevelt can have no more than twenty people. Will you please send a revised list of the people to be invited?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Rose Schneiderman
267 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
Has the date been set?

N.Y. - Feb 25 at 5 P.M. at 39 W. 47th St. Can you have no more than 20. Please send revised list...
FEB 16 1933

MF NEW YORK NY 1 340P

MISS MALVINA THOMPSON

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC

PREFER HOLDING MEETING IN MRS ROOSEVELT HOME IN AFTERNOON WILL CUT NUMBER TO BE INVITED ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT

ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN 247 LEXINGTON AVENUE NEW YORK CITY.
MF NEW YORK NY 11 1943 1220P
MISS MALVINA C THOMPSON
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC
BELIEVE INVITATIONS TO MEETING TO BE EFFECTIVE MUST BE ISSUED OUT OF WHITE HOUSE STOP PURPOSE OF MEETING IS TO CONSIDER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRADE UNIONS AND WOMENS TRADE UNION LEAGUE
ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN
MISS MALVINA C THOMPSON

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON, DC

HOLDING TENTATIVE RESERVATION FOR MEETING FEBRUARY TWENTY FIFTH FOR FORTY TO FIFTY PEOPLE FROM 3:00 TO 4:30 PM TWENTY DOLLARS RENTAL

THE COSMOPOLITAN CLUB.
only I have avoid
accept
refuses -
February 10, 1943

Miss Rose Schneiderman
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

February twenty fifth 3:00 p.m. Cosmopolitan Club chosen as time and place for meeting.

MALVINA C. THOMPSON
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt
MISS MALVINA THOMPSON
SECRETARY TO MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
THE WHITE HOUSE
DISCUSSED UNION MEETING WITH MRS ROOSEVELT ON TUESDAY AND NOW
AGREE SUGGESTION TO HOLD IT AT COSMOPOLITAN CLUB WOULD BE
BETTER STOP THIS WILL PERMIT ALL NAMED ON THE LIST TO BE
INVITED STOP MEETING SHOULD BE HELD ON AN AFTERNOON STOP
PLEASE ADVISE ME OF DATE.
ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN.
February 11, 1943

MISS ROSE SCHNEIDERMAN
WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE
11247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Should Mrs. Roosevelt issue invitations for meeting and what
shall we say is purpose of meeting.

Malvina C. Thompson
What shall I say to people we inviting them to join S Meeting at
Cornub Club? 7

Do you want me to ask if Mrs. P should
issue invitations to
meeting + what shall
we say is purpose of
meeting.  

[Note: The handwriting is difficult to read, and some parts are underlined or crossed out.]
February 12, 1945

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to thank you for sending her the "League History". She is very glad to have it.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
New York Women's Trade Union League
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
No. 750

January 28, 1943

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

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of $100.00
for renewal of contribution for 1943

New York Women's Trade Union League

MRS. MONROE GOLDWATER
Treasurer

247 Lexington Avenue, New York
Cal. 5-0484
February 4, 1943

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

Dearest Eleanor:

To the enclosed receipt I want to add a word of personal thanks for the renewal of your annual gift to the League. Words cannot express to you our gratefulness not only for your financial assistance but for your readiness to help us at all times in other ways that mean so much to the League.

We telegraphed Malvina that inasmuch as your living room can accommodate only twenty people, perhaps it would be better to hold the meeting at the Cosmopolitan Club as you yourself suggested. Mary Dreier is due back from Florida on the twelfth or thirteenth; I am very glad about this because she will be able to be at the meeting.

It was grand being with you the other night, and your talk to the girls was wonderful. I know we all went away renewed with new courage and a desire to help with the civilian defense work that must be done.

I was horrified on Sunday when I was going over my book shelves (in order to make selections for those in the Armed Forces) to discover that the "League History" had never been mailed to you. When I left for the hospital early last summer I asked my brother to do that for me, but he evidently forgot all about it. Will you please forgive me? I will surely mail it to you tomorrow. Even though the book gives only a bird's eye view of the work of the National and Local Leagues, I do so much want you to read it so that you will have an idea of the background of our national work, and the contribution we made to the trade union movement.

With fondest love, I am

Devotedly yours,

[Signature]

Rose Schneiderman
President
February 22, 1943

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt hopes you can bring Miss Drier to breakfast at the apartment on Thursday, the 25th, at 8:15.

Mrs. Roosevelt has to leave at 9 o'clock and is not sure of having much free time before 3 p.m.

Affectonately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
80 Centre Street
New York, New York
Dearest Eleanor,

Would it be possible for us to meet a few minutes before 3 next Wednesday the 25th, for the purpose of lining up the campaign, so to speak?

Mary Dreier is back and I wonder whether she could come, as well as the other officers? They each know some of the men who will be there and have a certain amount of influence with them, and perhaps they could take part in the discussion. However, if you feel that it would be too much to have them, I will understand.

I look forward to seeing you on the 25th.

With much love,

Affectionately,
Dearest Eleanor,

You were marvelous yesterday afternoon. The way you got those men interested, and your forthright statement about the situation as you see it, was just the thing we needed and needed it very badly. Some of them called me up this morning and told me how wonderful it was for you to take an interest in the League and to give of your busy time to help us. Of course, we echo that sentiment a hundredfold.

I have already forwarded to Mr. Greenberg a list of the unions affiliated with the League, as well as the contributions they made last year. He is going to call a meeting the early part of next week.

Harry Greenberg I know will do a wonderful job on this. He is interested and he believes in the League. Also, I don't think we will have a hard time getting money if we are going to set up a public relations division. I told Harry that I was sure you would like to have reports of the work of his committee so as to be in touch with the progress that it will make.

If and when the money is pledged, I have in mind setting up a committee to plan the campaign, and I hope very much that you might be able to attend the initial meeting. I will, of course, let you know way ahead of time when the committee is to meet. I have in mind asking Mrs. Elliot Pratt to be a member of the committee. Do you feel that she would be the person to head the campaign?

You're wonderful to want to do the same sort of job for the National. I am writing Elisabeth right this minute telling her to get busy on it and to communicate with you so that a date may be set.

With everlasting gratitude and deep appreciation,
I am, with fondest love,

Affectionately yours,

P.S. The customs department may relieve you. I do hope that the President is better.

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

Forgive me for breaking into your vacation, but I feel that I had to tell you how very, very grateful I am to you for calling our labor brothers together.

Tobin always gives me a pain in the neck when he recalls Mrs. Robbins campaigning for Mr. Hughes in 1916 and forgetting all about Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Woll and Mr. Lewis campaigning for the same gentleman, not only then, but for Harding, Coolidge and Hoover as well. Then he also riles me when he talks about the drivers being the laundry workers. I know from bitter experience that in New York City we were unable to organize the laundry workers, which way outnumber the drivers in any establishment, because the drivers were always able to get their increases at the expense of the inside workers and were never willing to do anything for them. It is only since 1935-36 that we were able to establish a permanent organization under the C.I.O., so that no one in the industry can better himself without the whole group getting a like advantage.

However, I do believe that something good will come of this. Elisabeth Christman is working hard on the memorandum and will mail you a copy as soon as it is ready. Perhaps you have already received it by this time.

I was disappointed at the War Labor Board not being able to resolve the portal to portal question. The excuse that no flat sum can be decided upon because some miners spend an hour in getting to their job and others only twenty minutes is fallacious. It would have been the easiest thing in the world to say that miners be paid pro-rata of their hourly wage for time spent in getting to and from the mines. At least, it would appear to my simple brain that that kind of a
decision would have taken away the onus of spite from the War Labor Board and would have been a unanimous decision.

I am glad the President has spoken his mind on the miners' leadership. From the point of view of public relations Lewis' action has alienated a section of the public which ordinarily would be sympathetic with the improvement of miners' conditions. It is clear to everyone that there's animosity to the President and his administration in the situation as far as Lewis is concerned. It was outrageous to place on the President's shoulders this terrific burden at a time when all his thoughts must be devoted to the pursuance of the war.

You were a perfect darling to honor me with your presence at my surprise party, and it will be a memory that I shall cherish for the rest of my life. Next winter sometime, when you are in town, you will have to come and take tea with me from the very beautiful silver service.

You give me way too much credit for having a part in your understanding of the labor movement. When I hear you speak and read your column, I always marvel at your basic understanding of social and economic situations, and I must say that you were a very, very apt pupil, and sometimes I feel that you have gone way beyond any knowledge that I may have imparted to you.

Blessings on your head, dear friend, and I hope that you will have a real restful vacation. With fondest love, I am,

Devotedly yours,

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
New York
July 20, 1945

Dear Rose:

Mrs. Roosevelt has your letter of July 9 and she is glad to be Honorary Chairman of the Committee for the theatre party this year, for the Women's Trade Union League.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
247 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York
July 9, 1943

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

Dearest Eleanor:

The League is again planning to have a benefit though this year we are foregoing the usual custom of a concert. The Benefit Committee voted that a theatre party would be more in order. I am writing to ask if you would be so kind as to again accept the Honorary Chairmanship of the Committee as you have so generously done for a number of years. I'd be ever so grateful to you.

We are planning letterheads, etc. and just as soon as we have your reply we shall place our order for the printing.

We don't as yet have a Chairman though we are hoping to have an answer from Mrs. Hugh De Haven very soon.

With affectionate greetings to you, I am

Devotedly yours

[Signature]

Rose Schneiderman  
President
July 24, 1945

Dear Rose:

I am so glad to have the good news about the results of the luncheon.

I wish I could have been with you at the meeting at Hudson Shore Labor School. I enjoyed it so much last year.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
80 Centre St. NYC
Dearest Eleanor,

I want you to know some very, very good news. As a result of the luncheon which you had for us with the labor men. I had word this morning from Elisabeth Christman that on Friday two checks came from Mr. Murray. One for $1,000 from the CIO Steel Workers and another for the same amount contributed by the CIO Executive Board. The Steel Workers had previously given $250, so it is all the more wonderful of them to be so generous.

Elisabeth tells me that Mr. Murray was sure that they can raise more money. I don't know how we can get this word passed around to the AFL boys so that they will realize that if they don't do something it just won't look so well.

During the weekend the New York Women's Trade Union League sponsored a meeting of AFL and CIO Auxiliary Women at the Hudson Shore Labor School and we all recalled with pleasure last year's meeting when you were our honored and beloved guest. They were all very happy that the Subsidy Bill finally went over, and passed a resolution supporting the President's wage and price stabilization program, and expressed themselves in no uncertain terms about sabotaging of the home-front program by Congress.

We had the following speakers: Dr. Paul Leonard, director of OPA's group services; Mr. Donald Montgomery, director of the consumers' council of the United Automobile Workers of America. He is a very intelligent young man and is doing a swell job. He impressed upon the women there how important it is for us to see our congressmen during the recess, and especially those who are on the fence, and see whether we can help them change their mind so that when they get back to Congress they will be more cooperative. The slogan that they have adopted is, "Keeping Score for '44."
Then we had Edith Christensen, of the labor advisory service, and Miss Elizabeth Herring spoke on the rural interests division of the National Board of the YWCA. Mary Dingman made an impassioned speech on winning the peace. She's really wonderful. I smuggled her in because I felt that the group ought to know something about what is likely to happen and how vigilant we must be in the selection of our congressmen and senators next year.

The news from the fighting front is most encouraging. Let us hope it will continue to be so.

I am so happy you are taking a real vacation, and hope you are having a grand time. With fondest love,

Affectionately,

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.
October 15, 1943.

Dear Rose:

Thank you so much for your letter.

I am so sorry about your nephew but glad he came through the operation all right and hope he will recover rapidly.

I count on seeing you in Philadelphia.

Affectionately,

Miss Rose Schneiderman
Department of Labor
80 Centre Street
New York, New York.
Dearest Eleanor,

I want you to know how happy and glad I am that you returned safely to our beloved United States. I followed your trip to Australia and the South Pacific and all the places you went to from day to day in your column. How wonderful that you could accomplish so much in so little time, and what a joy it must have been to our boys to see someone so entirely sympathetic and so deeply concerned for their welfare as you are, my darling. I am sure the trip was very exhausting and hope you are going to take it easy for a while.

This letter has been delayed because we have had a lot of anguish in our family. For the past weeks, my oldest nephew (I have three in the Army and one in the Navy), who was in the Army, received a medical discharge because he had been taken ill with kidney trouble. He had had a kidney condition for some time, but like a good many young men he didn't do anything about it. He was anxious to get into the Army so he said nothing about it to the Draft Board and, evidently, his physical examination could not have been very thorough or they would have discovered it. Well, the result is that he was laid up seven weeks in the Army Base Hospital in Georgia and they told him that he needed to have the kidney out, but they could not perform the operation for another six months to come. So we all thought the best thing for him to do was to come home and have his operation done here.

The operation, which was a very serious one because of all kinds of complications, was performed by a very eminent surgeon and he is doing well. However, his convalescence will take about six months and you can imagine how hard that will be on him.

Last week I went down to the A.F. of L. Convention as a fraternal delegate of the National. The first