CHARLES TAUSSIG
1935 - 1944
April 24, 1935.

Mrs. Malvina T. Scheider,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Scheider:

Thank you for your note in reference to Mrs. Roosevelt's invitation to Mr. Owen D. Young. I trust that he will be able to attend.

Cordially yours,

CWT:WB

CWT:WB
October 31, 1935

Dear Mr. Taussig:

Would it be convenient for you to dine with the President and me, together with Mr. Owen D. Young, Mr. Aubrey Williams and Miss Josephine Roche, on the night of Sunday, November 10, at 7:45, when we can discuss the situation as concerns the Youth Administration?

Very cordially yours,

Mr. Charles William Taussig
111 Wall Street
New York
November 5, 1935.

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I thank you for your kind invitation to dine with the President and you at the White House on the night of Sunday, November 10th, at 7:45. I shall be very happy to be there.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

CHARLES WILLIAM TAUSSIG
120 WALL STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.
October 17, 1935.

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am enclosing a copy of a short address that I made at the Convention of the American Federation of Labor. My impression was that it had a good reception.

There was a little background to the general situation there which will probably interest you and of which I will tell you the next time I see you.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

CWT: WBJ
Enclos.
I appreciate your invitation to address you this afternoon, not merely because of the pleasure it affords me but as an evidence of your interest in the problem of Youth. As a product of the New York public schools myself, I am keenly aware that we touch but the surface of the youth problem if we confine our efforts to those under-privileged boys and girls who have had the advantage of at least some years in college. It is difficult to assist youths to adjust themselves to a social order that seems to have grown away from them. For a number of years, some slight attention has been given to the problems of the university groups and now we are devoting much more attention to these youths. Their problem is far from easy of solution but it is not comparable in difficulties to that of the great mass of youth, the sons and daughters of your membership to whom we must intelligently direct much of our effort.

There are two phrases which we have become accustomed to use rather loosely and without fully recognizing their significance. They are "youth movement" and "youth problem". In a social order which, for one reason or another, has been unable to provide employment for all of its employables, danger signals are first to be seen at two strategic points, one, among the comparatively old, and, two, among the comparatively young. A major Federal attack on the first problem has been made through the Security Act just passed. There is much to be said for pensioning the old. A person who has done his or her work in the world has a right to look forward to leisure and security. Here there is no undermining of the morale. A subsidy or pension will not accomplish the same thing for youth. Youth demands and has a right to participate in the work of the Nation. A partial, but only a partial, answer to this problem of Youth is a longer period of education and a temporary removal from competitive labor markets.

The effort of the National Youth Administration is divided into two major divisions, one, student aid, which is to render emergency financial assistance in
order that high school and college youth may complete their education, and, two, collateral youth activities, which consist of job finding and recreational aid. The first division, having to do with formal education, has been turned over to state and municipal educational boards, the Federal Government acting only as fiscal agent. The second division, job finding and recreational aid, has become a joint endeavor of Federal, state, municipal and private agencies.

Let me briefly review the principles under which the administration tackles this important problem.

1) We are unalterably opposed to child labor. Children should be kept in school and out of factory, field and shop.

2) We are aware that we solve no problem if, by putting youth to work, we merely replace adult labor. The National Youth Administration will guard against this at all hazards.

3) To permit the wage scale to be lowered under a broad and careless use of the term "apprentice" is not in the interest of either Youth or Labor. We will diligently guard against this abuse.

4) We regard as secondary only to the major problems of finding jobs for youth and education, the opportunity for youth in their leisure time to enjoy useful and stimulating mental and physical recreation.

The function of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration is to consider such long range problems of Youth and to counsel with and advise the administrative branch of the Youth Administration. The Advisory Committee is fortunate in having distinguished representatives of the American Federation of Labor as members, who have devoted much of their time and energy to the business of the Committee.

Notwithstanding the able assistance we get from these members, we need more aid from organized labor. It is true we know labor's interests in the Youth problem and we shall protect them, but on the other hand, we have surprisingly
little information what the Youth from the ranks of labor desire. They want jobs, to be sure, but what kind of jobs? They want education, but along what lines; and a multitude of other questions which the more highly organized college Youth are now answering for themselves.

We have information concerning high school students and information regarding Youth who were once employed but are jobless now, but of the unfortunately growing numbers of Youth who have almost reached their adult years without ever having had the thrill of a job, we know little or nothing. It is among such groups that we naturally find the most discontent and unrest.

These problems of Youth and more are very definitely the concern of organized labor. Speaking for the National Advisory Committee, I would welcome the closest kind of cooperation from the American Federation of Labor. We must not permit a good idea to die. We not only want your aid in developing a long range program but we welcome your criticism of the way it actually works in your own home town.

Let us not forget that our trade unions, our industries, in fact all of our institutions, both public and private, will in a few years be constituted of and run by that group of young people whom today we call Youth. If we neglect them, if we exploit them, if we fail to make them a part of our social and economic life, we need not be surprised if they blast from under our feet the very foundations of our society. We have heard much in the past of that mythical partnership consisting of capital and labor. Today I ask that we add to the firm a third member and admit as junior partner, the Youth of America.
November 11, 1935

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I think this might be worth while, and I wonder if you could refer it to some of the youth organizations with whom you have contact.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Chas. Wm. Taussig

111 Wall Street

Kerr Eby, Westport Conn.
Exhibition of war prints.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have your letter of November 11th in reference to the exhibit of war etchings of Kerr Eby. I have taken the matter up with Mr. Thomas Neblatt of the National Student Federation and he tells me that he will get in touch with Mr. Eby with a view to the possible arrangement to exhibit these etchings in various universities. It seems to me that that might accomplish a very useful purpose.

I have heard splendid reports concerning the effect of the President’s reception to the representatives of the Committee of the Students Mobilization for Peace on November 11th. You may not know it but, after the President made a short formal reply to their petition, he talked to them for at least a half-hour, explaining the problems concerning the Chief Executive in matters relating to peace, giving a detailed account of the Cuban crisis of 1933 and how we kept the marines out, and then going into considerable detail concerning the Canadian Trade Agreement and the philosophy behind it and its tie-up with the general movement for peace. One of the most radical of the delegates said, after he left the White House, "The President was certainly gracious and he seems to understand our point of view." A complete report of the visit to the White House, and other matters pertaining to the mobilization, is being prepared by the Committee and will be circulated in practically every school and university in the country. I am extremely grateful to the President for having given this matter so much time and attention and I feel that it was well worthwhile.

The matter which was discussed last Sunday evening at the White House seems to be making progress, the details of which progress I prefer to reserve until I next see you; but, in the meantime, may I thank you for a very pleasant evening.

Cordially yours,
April 20, 1937

Mr. Charles Taussig
120 Wall St.
New York, N. Y.

Terribly sorry Mrs. Roosevelt's time completely filled until after May 14.

Malvina T. Scheider
May 22, 1937.

Mrs. Malvina T. Scheider,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Scheider:

Mrs. Taussig has asked me to write and express her regret at not being able to attend the Garden Party of Mrs. Roosevelt on Saturday afternoon, May the fifteenth. Mrs. Taussig was out of town and the invitation did not reach her until several days ago.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Secretary
January 21, 1938

Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall Street
New York, New York

Would four to six on February ninth be agreeable for meeting. We would have tea first and proceed with the meeting and President could come at five. Will you let me know.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT.
January 31, 1938

My dear Mr. Taussig:

I would appreciate it very much if you would invite Commissioner Muldooney to attend the meetings of the Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration on February 9. I think he is chairman of the Advisory Committee for New York State and I know he is very much interested, not only in helping youth, but in the crime prevention aspects. I think it would be courteous to ask him as he comes from New York State. In any case, I am inviting him to stay with us that day, but I thought that an invitation from you would make him feel more comfortable.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall St., NYC
My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Mr. Taussig has asked me to call to your attention that there are two Negro members of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration who will be present at the meeting on February 8th and 9th.

Inasmuch as you will entertain the members of the Committee at tea at four o'clock on February 9th, Mr. Taussig was uncertain as to whether the Negro members, Dr. Mordecai Johnson and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, should be asked to attend the tea.

He has absolutely no objection himself and is merely calling this to your attention for determination of the matter, if there is any question whatsoever.

Sincerely yours,

Thelma McKelvey, Secretary
National Advisory Committee

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MRS. SCHEIDER

All done. Betty and Ernest are on the program and will be here; will come in the front door.

Mollie

Case James's Play

stay the next week

Mr. Gardner at 5. Think he is not in it meeting twice be фотографий of his

Mr. James

Lend us now to her present - phone better

Helen
New York, N.Y.
February 2, 1938.

NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
1734 NEW YORK AVENUE NW.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have your letter of January 31st in reference to Commissioner Mulrooney. I have not only asked him to join with us at the meeting at the White House as you suggested, but also have urged him to attend all of our meetings at the Willard Hotel, commencing with the morning of February 5th. I think it will be advantageous to have him with us.

You may recall that you raised a question at our Hyde Park meeting as to the scholastic standing of the National Youth Administration youth receiving student aid and you expressed agreeable surprise to learn that N.Y.A. students rank in the top third in their respective classes at college. In view of the question that was raised at that time, also the recent speech of President Conant of Harvard advocating tightening the academic requirements for admission to college, I think it important that we stress at our meeting next week the high caliber of young people who receive student aid. With this in mind, I have invited Leigh Gerdin, a National Youth Administration student of the University of North Dakota, who received a Rhodes scholarship, to attend our meeting. I think it would be beneficial to the National Youth Administration if he could be received by the President, with some publicity. This could either be done by having him join us at the White House conference or possibly having the President receive him at the Executive Office, which would attract a little more publicity, or perhaps you would recommend both. I hesitate, in these times, to add to the burdens of either the President or you. If you feel that we should relieve the President of this and you care to add one more service to the many that you have rendered to the National Youth Administration, it might be arranged for you personally to receive Mr. Gerdin and possibly be photographed with him. You will probably agree with me that recognition of the attainment of a Rhodes scholarship by a National Youth Administration student is permissible and desirable publicity.

Would you have any objection if I asked Mrs. Taussig to join us at the White House conference? She has recently been acting as a voluntary assistant to me in N.Y.A. work, visiting many of our projects which I have been unable to see for myself. She recently made a trip...
To Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

February 2, 1938.

to Upstate New York with Betty Lindley. Her reports to me have been very helpful in evaluating some of our projects.

Cordially yours,

Charles N. Taussig,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I feel that the conference of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration held in Washington last week was a great success and that much was accomplished. The members of the Committee were really enthusiastic.

The enclosed copy of a letter that I have written the President makes it unnecessary for me to repeat to you how much both of you contributed to our work and how grateful I am to you for all you have done.

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Fauss
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.
New York, N.Y.
February 14, 1938.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President:

Just a note to thank you for the time you devoted last week to the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration.

Much of the success of the Youth Administration is due to the personal attention which you have given us. The meeting of the Advisory Committee with you a little over a year ago, the conference of the State Directors at Hyde Park last fall and the recent conference gave a tremendous lift to the entire personnel. Because of these contacts with our key men and women, your personal interest in the welfare of youth is made known even in the smallest community. I think this has a great deal to do with the efficiency and the enthusiasm of all those who participate in the work of the Youth Administration. When you add to this the fact that Mrs. Roosevelt actually gets into these small communities and participates in our work, you put a human touch and a sense of your personal leadership into a large and complicated piece of government machinery, which I believe is unique in statecraft.

In short, the National Youth Administration is definitely a success and you and Mrs. Roosevelt have done much to make it so.

Respectfully yours,

Charles W. Taussig,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.
July 21, 1938

My dear Mr. Taussig:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of the report to the President. It looks grand and I will read it at once.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Chas. W. Taussig
Chairman, National Advisory Committee
NYA
1734 New York Avenue
Washington, D.C.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

As you may recall, the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration decided to render its report to the President in the form of a book. Betty and Ernest Lindley were delegated to do the writing. It was the belief of the Committee that this unusual form of report to the President would serve a dual purpose; one, it would inform the President of the progress of the Youth Administration as accurately as a more formal report would, and two, it would be available for the information of the general public.

I think Betty and Ernest did a magnificent job.

I am sending you a copy of the book with my best wishes.

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Taft
Chairman, National Advisory Committee
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.
October 25, 1938

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
National Advisory Committee
National Youth Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Deeply regret other engagements prevent my attending national meeting in St. Paul.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
First of series of national meetings of national advisory committee of national youth administration being held at St. Paul, Minnesota, Lowry Hotel, October 31 November 1 and 2. Believe this will be an important step toward familiarizing national advisory committee members with local problems. I would be most appreciative if you would arrange to attend this first meeting.

Charles W. Taussig Chairman National Advisory Committee National Youth Administration.
CONFIRMATION

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC

MR CHARLES W TAUSSIG CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS ALREADY ISSUED TO YOU AN INVITATION TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD IN ST PAUL MINNESOTA AT THE LOEY HOTEL ON OCTOBER 21ST NOVEMBER 1ST AND END STOP THE NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION OF MINNESOTA AND THE MIDWESTERN REGION WISH TO EXTEND TO YOU OUR CORDIAL INVITATION TO BE PRESENT STOP WE WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE IF YOU COULD ARRANGE TO ATTEND.

C B LUND
REGIONAL DIRECTOR
December 15, 1938

Dear Mr. Taussig:

How long an article should I write and what aspect of the Youth question would you like me to cover?

I am returning the letter from Mr. Ward, which I was interested to see.

Very sincerely yours,


Mr. Charles W. Taussig
NYA
1732 NY Ave.
Washington
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am enclosing a letter that I received from the National Union of Students in London. It explains itself. If you could do a short article for them, I think it would be extremely useful.

Three characteristics of the Youth Administration seemed to impress our British friends when they were over here. The first is that the national government could undertake a program as extensive as that of the Youth Administration and avoid any intrusion of the military. The second is the development of the Youth Administration activities and projects in the communities without rigid control of the federal government, and the third your active and intimate participation in our work.

Cordially yours,

Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.

P.S. Please return the enclosed letter.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Of course, it is undoubtedly just a coincidence that practically everything I wrote you about in my letter of December 19th has come to pass. I received from the President two very encouraging letters, both dated January 5th.

I want to thank you sincerely for the "coincidence".

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Taussig
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.
RSW/NG

24th February, 1939.

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Thank you very much indeed for the article you have so kindly written for our magazine, "The New University", which Mr. Taussig has forwarded to me. We have been greatly interested in this country in the work being done in the States for youth by the National Youth Administration. It was, I think, one of the most striking things that our delegation to the World Youth Congress saw whilst in America.

I will, of course, send you a copy of the magazine when it is published.

May I on behalf of the Editor of the magazine and the National Union of Students thank you for so graciously writing this article for the students of England.

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

President.
January 30, 1939

My dear Mr. Taussig:

I am sending you a copy of a plan which I have received, and also a copy of the letter which Secretary Hopkins wrote me about it.

Would you be good enough to let me know what you think about it?

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles Taussig
Chairman, National Advisory Committee
National Youth Administration
Wash., D.C.
January 31, 1939

My dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt is sending you the enclosed article and hopes that it is what you want.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
Chairman, National Advisory Committee
National—Youth Administration
Washington, D.C.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

In reference to the article for the "NEW UNIVERSITY", I would suggest that the length should be from 1500 to 2000 words. My suggestion for the subject matter would be to start the article with a comment which I believe Lady Lindsey made to you some time ago to the effect that there were a great many youth in England who had reached the age of twenty-five and over who had never had a job. You might point out that youth were in a similar danger in this country. This situation became the concern of the government and so the National Youth Administration was formed. Some comments on your personal observations of the effectiveness of the Youth Administration would be in order, including the psychic and economic effect on youth. I am sure that there are a great many other things that you will want to say but this is just a suggestion in accordance with your request.

With best wishes to you and the President for Christmas and the New Year, I am

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Faussing,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.
A friend of mine told me in 1933 that in certain parts of Wales there were young people who had grown up in families without ever having seen their fathers gainfully employed, or without having employment themselves. The dole was their only source of income.

This situation was one which seemed to us appalling and we wanted if possible to prevent it from becoming a part of the lives of our young people.

In 1933, however, in our own country also the situation of our young people was extremely serious. At the same time there was need in this country for work to be done which could only be done by young and vigorous men. So the first thing established for our youth was the Civilian Conservation Corps which began to function in April, 1933.

The army established these camps because it was the one government agency which had the necessary equipment. An army officer was put in charge of the camp with a civilian to supervise the work of the young men. Since their establishment 2,122,118 different young men have found work over varying periods from six months to one year in these camps which have been set up all over the United States wherever suitable work could be found.

Certain educational programs were inaugurated and opportunities for recreation and physical development were
given to the boys. All of them have benefitted in health and many of them have learned a trade during their period in camp which has enabled them to find work at the end of their enlistment period.

However, even this was not enough to absorb the great number of young people who were unemployed and out of school. In June, 1935, the National Youth Administration was created and some fear was expressed that this would be considered a move to regiment our youth in the way in which they have been regimented in some other countries, but when the new agency was set up, the President said:

"I have determined that we shall do something for the Nation's unemployed youth, because we can ill afford to lose the skill and energy of these young men and women. They must have their chance in school, their turn as apprentices, and their opportunity for jobs - a chance to work and earn for themselves... I believe that the National Youth Program will serve the most pressing and immediate need of that portion of unemployed youth most seriously affected at the present time... The yield on this investment should be high."

The N.Y.A. Program divides itself into two categories. One which is primarily to help the younger group to remain in school or college and complete their education. The financial assistance to these young people is extremely small, but it does pay carfare, school lunches, and some
clothing without which it perhaps would not be possible for them to attend school. In every case they earn what they receive by working for something connected with school life. For instance, they assist the professors in laboratories, or in research or surveys, they work in community services such as playgrounds and libraries. They assist the government agencies or quasi-public organizations such as the Red Cross and local charitable institutions. They work on school grounds or buildings and it is carefully stipulated that they shall not replace a regular employee of the educational institution.

It is estimated that 800,000 different American youth in high schools and colleges have been helped by this work-scholarship plan since 1935. Each school or college receives a grant of money and makes its own plans so that there is no question of a central group controlling the educational system in any way.

The other program for young people between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five is a work program. Over 600,000 young men and women have been employed on N.Y.A. projects since this program was started. They work approximately one-third of the time and earn an average of $17.00 a month. They are unmarried and come from relief families and the range of work is limited only by the imagination of the people in charge of the program. They have helped construct rural school buildings, they have repaired toys for the W.P.A.
schools, and by and large they have had a great deal of practical experience along different lines which has made it possible for many of them to fit themselves for some kind of employment.

A Junior Placement agency has been developed in connection with the United States Reemployment Service, in certain places which has helped to find jobs for many of the N.Y.A. young people. No statistics are available as to the exact number who have come from these projects into private industry, but between March 1, 1937 and March 1, 1938, over one-third of all the out-of-school N.Y.A. youth found work in private industry.

Resident projects are now being developed. These have been started to meet the needs in rural communities where homes were so scattered that it was difficult for young people to reach a center where training opportunities could be provided. In these new projects the young people can live in some central point near an existing educational institution. They work a hundred hours a month, earn $25.00 a month; pay their own way, do all the work in connection with their residence and attend special classes taking up studies in which they are interested. The combination of the work and the studies is planned to give them an opportunity for better preparation on some job at the end of their period of residence.
On these projects they may remain for about a year and they can fit themselves either for agricultural life or for industry.

It is quite evident that this program even though 600,000 young people have passed through the various work projects, in addition to those who have been on a student aid program, does not meet the needs of unemployed youth as a whole. However, like many other things developed by the federal government, it should point the way for work which can be done by communities to meet the problem of their youth.

As I go about the country and meet young people, I realize what tragedy they face when they find themselves at a point where they can not continue their education, or where they have finished what is considered an adequate amount of education in the place where they live. Many find themselves unable to get a job with the equipment which they have acquired. Every community should have a group of its leading citizens survey the possibilities for employment; make sure that the schools of the community are giving adequate training along lines which will fit these youngsters for the probable employment which will be open to them.

In all countries of the world the same problem is before the young people, but in certain totalitarian countries they are coping with it by guiding young people into state controlled preparation and state controlled
jobs. This leaves little free choice and as yet does not seem necessary or desirable in a democracy. But more intelligent planning does seem necessary and an awareness on the part of communities as a whole that they have an obligation to solve their own adult problems and help youth to solve theirs.

Eleanor Roosevelt
(Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt)
(In 1933, in our country, the situation of our young people was extremely serious.) A friend of mine told me that in certain parts of Wales there were young people who had grown up in families without ever having seen their fathers employed or without having employment themselves. The dole was their only source of income.

This situation was one which seemed to us, appalling and we wanted if possible to prevent it from becoming a part of the lives of our young people. At the same time there had been needs in this country for work which could only be done by young and vigorous men. So the first thing established for our youth was the Conservation (Civilian) Corps which began to function in April, 1933.

The army established these camps because it was the one government agency which had the necessary equipment. An army officer was put in charge of the camp with a civilian to supervise the work of the young men. Since their establishment 2,122,118 different young men have found work over varying periods from six months to one year in these camps which have been set up all over the United States wherever suitable work could be found.

Certain educational programs were inaugurated and opportunities for recreation and physical development were given to the boys. All of them have benefitted in health and many of them have learned a trade during this experience which has enabled them to find work at the end of their civilian service.

However even this was not enough to absorb the great
number of young people who were unemployed and out of school, created.

In June, 1935 the National Youth Administration was established, and fear was expressed that this would be considered a move to regiment our youth in the way in which they have been regimented in some other countries, but when the new agency was set up the President said:

"I have determined that we shall do something for the Nation's unemployed youth, because we can ill afford to lose the skill and energy of these young men and women. They must have their chance in school, their turn as apprentices, and their opportunity for jobs - a chance to work and earn for themselves... I believe that the National Youth Program will serve the most pressing and immediate need of that portion of unemployed youth most seriously affected at the present time. The yield on this investment should be high."

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Institution.

It is estimated that 300,000 different American youth in high schools and colleges have been helped by this work-scholarship plan since 1933. Each school or college receives a grant of money and makes its own plans so that there is no question of a central group controlling the educational system in any way.

The other program for young people between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five is a work program. Over 300,000 young men and women have been employed on N.Y.A. projects since this program was started. They work approximately one-third of the time and earn an average of $17. a month. They are unmarried and come from relief families and the range of work is limited only by the imagination of the people in charge of the program. They have helped construct rural school buildings, they have repaired toys for the WPA nursery schools, and by and large they have had a great deal of practical experience along different lines which has made it possible for many of them to fit themselves for some kind of employment.

Junior Placement agency has been developed in connection with the United States Reemployment Service, and has helped find jobs for many of the NYA young people. No statistics are available as to the exact number who have come from these projects into private industry, but between March 1, 1937 and March 1, 1938, over one-third of all the out-of-school NYA youth found work in private industry.

Resident projects are now being developed. These have been started to meet the needs in rural communities where homes were so scattered that it was difficult for young people to
reach a center where training opportunities could be provided. In these new projects the young people can live in some central point near the existing educational institution. They work a hundred hours a month, earn $25.00, pay their own way, do all the work in connection with their residence and attend special classes taking up studies in which they are interested. The combination of the work and the studies is planned to give them for an opportunity is better preparation on some real job at the end of their period of residence. On these projects they may remain for about a year and they can fit themselves either for agricultural life or for industry.

It is quite evident that this program even though 600,000 young people have passed through the various work projects, in addition to those who have been on a student aid program, does not meet the needs of unemployed youth as a whole. Federal However, like many other things developed by the government, it should point the way for work which can be done by communities to meet the problems of their youth.

As I go about the country I meet young people I realize what tragedy they face when they find themselves at a point where they can not continue their education or where they have finished what is considered an adequate amount of education in the place where they live, and find themselves unable to get a job with the equipment which they have acquired. Every community should have a group of its leading citizens survey the possibilities for employment; make sure that the schools of the community are giving adequate training lines which will fit these youngsters for the probable employment which
will be open to them.

In all the countries of the world this same problem is before the young people, but in certain states (they are coping with it by guiding young people into state-controlled preparation for work). This leaves little free choice and as yet does not seem necessary or desirable in a democracy. But, more intelligent planning does seem necessary and an awareness on the part of communities as a whole that they have an obligation to solve their own adult problems and help youth to solve theirs.
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

When I saw Mr. Charles Taussig in New York Tuesday of Christmas week, he said that you had written him for some data concerning NYA for use in an English publication. He gave me an outline of what he had in mind, asked me to elaborate on it for him, and to send you and him a copy. I hope the enclosed may be of some help. I checked the latest NYA figures in these notes with Miss Mc Kelvey at NYA.

It was nice to see you yesterday, and I enjoyed my cup of tea.

Affectionately,

Betty Lindley

January 4, 1939.
Dear Tommy,

Here are the NYA notes about which I spoke yesterday. I hope they're what Mrs. Roosevelt wanted when she wrote Mr. Tussig. If not, the waste-basket!

You know, Ernest and I consider ourselves expert movers, so just give us a call if we can help you get into that new apartment.

Affectionately,

[Signature]

January 4, 1939.
Notes on NYA (Outline from Mr. Taussig)

(Mr. Taussig said he had heard Mrs. Roosevelt tell an impressive story about unemployment among youth in England — of groups of young people 25, 26, and 27 years old who had grown up without ever having first-hand knowledge of what it means to work. Mr. Taussig thought it would be very interesting if Mrs. Roosevelt would tell this story, from whom it came, etc., if she cares to.)

In the United States, too, the problems of unemployment fall heavily on the shoulders of young people. In October, 1937, the Census Bureau estimated that there were in this country approximately 21,000,000 youth between the ages of 16 and 24. According to the best available statistics, about 5,200,000 of these young people were enrolled in high school or college. 3,200,000 more of them, mostly girls, were either occupied as homemakers or for some reason did not need and want work. 7,100,000 had jobs. 1,800,000 were working part-time, and undoubtedly many of this group would have liked to find full-time work. 3,900,000 were looking for work, wanted it, and could not find it.

Even with this disturbing picture, we, in the United States do not feel we have yet reached the state in which we have a distinct and large class of youth who are set apart because they have never had the experience of having a job. In the deepest days of the depression
we were fast approaching this critical condition. Thoughtful citizens in private life and in official positions realized that the government has a responsibility to youth who, through no fault of their own, can find no place in the industrial and educational world which they grew up to believe would welcome them. Particularly does government, it seemed to these citizens, have a duty toward young people in the lowest income groups.

Perhaps they might be boys and girls who wanted to stay in high school or college and who could profit by continuing their educations but whose parents could not afford to keep them in school. Or they might be young men and women who were seeking earnestly and vainly to get a toehold in the industrial world, so that they might have a chance to learn a trade, to know the routines of the working world, and to have some sense of economic independence.

Since this was a new problem to the United States, there was little actual knowledge of how the government might most intelligently, economically, and humanly help youth with their difficulties. The Works Progress Administration, of course, has employed hundreds of thousands of young people who are married and are primary family wage earners. In April, 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps was established, and 2,122,118 different young men have found work, and have benefited from educational, recreational, and health opportunities in these CCC camps. But these camps include no girls. Furthermore, there was still a large residue of unemployed young men from less privileged families who were
not adapted to CCC camps, valuable as they are.

In June, 1935, after much study of the problems and needs of youth, the National Youth Administration was established as a special branch of the Works Progress Administration. When this new agency was set up, the President stated:

"I have determined that we shall do something for the Nation's unemployed youth, because we can ill afford to lose the skill and energy of these young men and women. They must have their chance in school, their turn as apprentices, and their opportunity for jobs — a chance to work and earn for themselves...I believe that the National Youth Program will serve the most pressing and immediate needs of that portion of unemployed youth most seriously affected at the present time...The yield on this investment should be high."

There are two distinctly separate NYA programs today, one of student aid for young men and women 16 to 25 years old in high schools and colleges, and the other of part-time employment on government projects for youth 18 to 25 years of age who are neither in school nor have work. These two programs must be discussed separately, although the same philosophy motivates each. This philosophy is based on a fundamental belief in American youth — a belief that they sincerely want the chance to stay in school, to work, and to become useful citizens of their own communities. There is absolutely no segmentation in NYA — no uniforms, no banners, no buttons. As far as possible, the needs and desires of each individual youth are met. The administration of the program is highly decentralized, with a Director and organization for each State and a small coordinating Federal office in Washington.
In the college and high school programs, each individual school administers its own program, selecting its own youth and organizing and supervising the types of work which these students are to do to earn their government paychecks. In high schools, the average earning is $4.40 a month. This may seem a small sum, but it means money for transportation, for clothes, and for other essentials without which boys and girls from the lowest income groups could not attend school. Undergraduates in college earn an average of $11 a month, and a small number of graduate students average wages of $17.24 monthly. To earn this money paid by the NYA, students assist professors in laboratories or in research or surveys, work in community services such as playgrounds or libraries, or assist in government agencies or quasi-public agencies such as the Red Cross and local charitable organizations. Many earn their paychecks by labor on school grounds and buildings, although there is a strict stipulation that their work must nor replace that of any regular employee of an educational institution. Since the NYA was set up in 1935, it is estimated that 300,000 different American youth in high schools and colleges have been helped by this NYA work-scholarship plan. The majority of colleges report that, on the whole, NYA students stand somewhat higher scholastically than the average student body.

The NYA program for out-of-school and out-of-work youth has developed rapidly since its inception. NYA did not pretend that it knew the answers to the difficulties of young people handicapped by enforced idleness. To be honest and to be democratic, this program of necessity has
been experimental. Today, from its almost three years of experience, it has a sound basis on which to continue and to develop. Over 600,000 different young men and women, 18 to 25 years old, have been employed on these NYA projects. They work approximately one-third time and earn an average of $17 a month. They are unmarried and come from relief families. They earn their money on literally hundreds of different types of projects for government agencies, which range all the way from the construction of rural school buildings to the repair of toys for WPA nursery schools.

Boys and girls are assigned to projects as nearly as possible according to their particular work adaptabilities and to possible future chances for employment in private industry. Usually the projects are small. For example in a middle-western town twenty boys are making or repairing furniture for schools whose budgets cannot cover this needed equipment. Many girls are on homemaking projects, working and learning essentials for sound family living. There are clerical, library, agricultural, and other types of work for NYA youth. Hand in hand with work, these young people are given the opportunity, on their own free time, to continue their educations, even though they are out-of-school. Wherever possible, special classes are given in subjects related to the actual work they are doing. Many thousands take advantage of classes in hygiene, spelling, arithmetic, and other subjects which can help them to be of value in the world of employment. Although complete statistics concerning the turn-over of NYA youth into private industry are not available, it has been surprisingly large. Between March 1, 1937, and March 1, 1938, over one-third of all the out-of-school NYA youth found work in private industry. This seems
to attest that they have profited by the work experience and the training which their NYA jobs have offered them.

The newest development in NYA is called the Resident Project. It grew out of the difficulties in rural communities of establishing sound work projects and training opportunities for scattered youth. In a Resident Project, groups of out-of-school youth from relief families are selected to come to some central point, usually an existing educational institution. Here they work 100 hours a month, earn $25, have special classes and studies, and live cooperatively, paying their own way and doing their own maintenance work. In some cases they build their own dormitories. There are no formal scholastic requirements for entrance into a Resident Project, no credits for studies, no diplomas. The young people stay in a Resident Project on an average of one year in which time, with intensive work and study, they can fit themselves to be able to earn their livings in agriculture or in industry. Today there are approximately 20,000 NYA youth in 400 different Resident projects.

NYA also is developing specialized Junior Employment services, in cooperation with the State Employment Bureaus. These Junior offices concentrate on the particular employment difficulties of youth seeking their first jobs, and bring employer and potential employee together. Today bureaus of this type have been established by NYA in 114 different cities in the United States.

The total budget for NYA is $75,000,000 a year. Local communities have contributed generously for materials and for supervision of projects. There is little question that NYA work has added to the wealth of the
nation. And who can compute the values which youth on NYA have received? Someone has been interested in them, has wanted them, has made a place for them. Someone has given them the chance to show that they want to work and to learn. The investment which the United States is making in its youth should bring inestimable dividends, as the destiny of democracy depends on the citizens of tomorrow who are the youth of today.
February 10, 1939

My dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt asked me to thank you for your letter of February 7 and to say that it is agreeable to her to wait until you have made the further studies mentioned, to have your reaction to the plan submitted by Mr. John F. Riley.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
Chairman, National Advisory Committee
National Youth Administration
120 Wall Street
New York
N.Y.
May 18, 1939

My dear Mr. Taussig:

The American Youth Congress has gotten Mrs. Richard Storrs Childs of 901 Lexington Avenue, New York City, to try to help them on the Congress at the World's Fair. They are very much in need of money and they would like me to call together a small group which might help them raise a small amount of money each year. I think $10,000 would do and it seems to me that we ought to be able to get that in annual subscriptions.

I do not like to call a meeting because it puts people in a difficult position. If you were interested, would you be willing to call it? I would come to it and I have marked on the accompanying list people I think would be willing to come and you could add to it. I could come.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles Taussig
120 Wall St.
NYC
There should be a list accompanying this marked as stated -- Also the last sentence has to be filled in.

Eudora Janet Feder's letter

[Signature]
May 31, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I spoke to the President about asking Mr. Taylor to serve and I told him that you would like to have a meeting with him to talk over some points in the near future. He said he would like very much to see you and would, of course, be glad to have you bring Mr. Taylor and Mr. Young if you wished, but he wanted to talk to you in any case.

He asked me to send him a memorandum so that he could communicate with you, which I did, and the memorandum was also to remind him to write to Mr. Taylor. I do not know if he has done either, but I think it is quite all right for you to telephone his office and say you had word he was willing to see you and that you would be glad to come whenever he desired, and that you were waiting for word before asking the other people.

As I remember our discussion about the luncheon, you were going to mention that we wish to raise funds in your letter, but you want to gain the interest of people; and we are not to make any effort to pledge people at the luncheon, though we hope they will be sufficiently interested to give support financially as well as in other ways.

Janet Yeder has written me something of your idea of a voluntary service project for youth, and while I think it is good in certain ways, I do not think it should be broached until I have had an opportunity to talk to you again on a bigger plan which
I would like you to help work on; but nothing could be done until it was cleared with the labor unions.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall Street
New York, N.Y.
June 1, 1939

My dear Mr. Taussig:

Thank you for sending the copy
of your letter, which I think is perfectly
all right. I wish that you had added one
more topic, and that would be "Adequate
Financing"!

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles H. Taussig
120 Wall Street
NYC
May 29, 1939

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am enclosing a copy of the invitation I have sent out for the luncheon on June 6th.

As soon as I have received replies, I will send you the names of those who have accepted the invitation.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.
June 14, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I think it was grand of you to give the lunch and I am so glad that you feel that it had good results.

I can be in New York for dinner with Father Moore on Tuesday, the 20th, but I would like it to be an early dinner and very informal so that I would not have to dress, as I expect to motor down in time for dinner and then to motor back here to Hyde Park after dinner, and I would not want to change.

I have the copy of your letter to Mr. Sarnoff and I think it is excellent.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles William Taussig
120 Wall St., N.Y.C.
June 10, 1939

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

At the luncheon at India House, you may recall I told you that I had asked Father Moore to discuss with Archbishop Spellman the various controversial questions that have arisen through the cooperation of the National Youth Administration and some of us personally with the American Youth Congress. Father Moore has telephoned me that he and Monseigneur Keegan and the Archbishop have had a conference on the subject and they have designated him, as Director of the Catholic Youth Organization in the Archdiocese of New York, to explore the whole problem.

Father Moore has asked me to find out if you would be willing to accept an invitation from him for a small informal dinner in the Rectory of his church in downtown New York any evening from the 19th of June to the 26th inclusive, whichever date is convenient to you. He proposes to have a few Catholic laymen interested in the youth problem present. He will also invite Bill Campbell of Chicago and Jo Cadden.

Father Moore has on many occasions attempted to remedy the unreasonable attitude of certain groups in the church toward our work. Some time ago he wrote a very sympathetic article about the National Youth Administration, which was syndicated in the Catholic Press. He has repeatedly expressed to me his personal chagrin at the attitude that certain groups in the church have taken toward you.

I hope that you will find yourself able to accept this invitation. If you will so advise me, Father Moore will write to you. Such a conference coming just before the Congress of Youth in New York should be very helpful indeed.

Cordially yours,

CWT: WEJ
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

There is considerable evidence that our luncheon at India House was successful. How much money the American Youth Congress will be able to get as a result of the luncheon I do not know but some of our guests have already indicated that they will make contributions. I have received a number of letters from our guests telling me how much impressed they were by the discussion.

After you left, both David Sarnoff of The Radio Corporation and James D. Mooney of General Motors spoke at considerable length. They both indicated that they would like to pursue the problem of employment of youth in private industry further and are willing to carry on further discussions and conversations. I am following this up at once.

As far as those who attended our luncheon are concerned, I think that we successfully laid the ghost of Communism. Your remarks particularly were most helpful.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me the letter of introduction to Mr. Harting.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

C WT: WBJ
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am enclosing copy of a letter that I sent to David Sarnoff. I have written to James D. Mooney and to Owen D. Young along the same lines.

If we can follow through on these series of conferences which I have suggested, we may arrive at some positive results. At the worst, we will have explored many of our problems and at least will know along what lines we cannot proceed further.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

CWT: WBJ
Encs.
June 10, 1959

Mr. David Sarnoff,
30 Rockefeller Plaza,
New York City.

Dear David:

Your remarks the other day at the luncheon to Mrs. Roosevelt were very much to the point and extremely interesting. This applies as well to what James D. Mooney had to say. They served to stimulate the thinking of the representatives of the youth groups who were present at the luncheon. I was fortunate enough to have an opportunity to mention what you said to the President.

Some time ago, Adolf Berle and Rexford Tugwell lunched with me and we discussed what we regarded as the basic problem of youth, which, as you said the other day, is "jobs". We agreed that, although the problems confronting youth cannot be divorced from the entire economic picture, there are many reasons why at the present time the difficulties of young people must be tackled separately. We felt that it might be necessary to attempt to segregate some particular area of our economy which would at least temporarily become the exclusive domain of youth.

I am in agreement with you that one of the most promising fields in which the opportunities that youth once had might be restored to them, is in the area of inventions and the production of new articles of commerce. The thought occurs to me that it might be possible in such industries as yours to embark on a series of research projects with a view to producing new products and turn that field over to youth exclusively for a certain number of years. For instance, if The Radio Corporation were to carry on some development work not directly tied up with any of its present operations, under the supervision of qualified adults, using young people as the workers, any commercial developments resulting from this endeavor could be carried on entirely by young people. In order to do this, of course, there would have to be an understanding with the labor unions. It might be that the youth who participated in such projects would independently organize and, after reaching a certain age, automatically join the existing labor unions.

I would like to arrange within the next few weeks a small conference with a few industrialists to explore this and other possible approaches to the youth problem. If we arrived at any basis for further discussions, I would arrange for a subsequent meeting with some labor leaders and representatives of organized youth.
June 15, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to the President. I have no suggestions to make.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Chas. W. Taussig
120 Wall St.
NYC
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am enclosing copy of a letter which I sent to the President following my talk with him last week. The names suggested for membership in the National Advisory Committee were mutually agreed upon. Possibly you have some suggestions to make as substitutes or additions to the list.

Sincerely yours,

Charles W. Taussig,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

CWT: WBJ
Encls.
The President,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President:

Following up our conversation of June 7th, I am submitting the following names as suggestions for you to appoint as new members of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration:

1) James G. Patton, President, State Farmers Union, Denver, Colorado. He is 40 years of age, an able speaker and a fine personality. He has a good record as a conciliator in agricultural labor disputes. He is deeply interested in the junior work of the National Farmers Union. He was suggested by M.W. Thacker of St. Paul, a member of the National Advisory Committee.

2) Dexter Keezer, President of Reed College. President Keezer has been recommended enthusiastically by a score or more people, including many members of the National Advisory Committee.

3) Myron Taylor
   When head of the U.S. Steel Corporation, Mr. Taylor made a very practical contribution to the problem of the employment of youth in industry and, for that reason and many others, would be a valuable addition to our Committee.

4) Mervin Rathborne, 10 Bridge Street, New York. President, American Radio Telegraphers' Association, a C.I.O. affiliate. He was suggested by Miss Julia O'Connor Parker, President of the Telephone Girls' Union, an A.F. of L. affiliate. I do not know Rathborne but have heard well of him. National Youth Administration has a number of radio projects and there is very much more I believe that can be done in this field if we have the cooperation of the labor unions.

5) Henry R. Luce, Editor, LIFE, Time & Life Building, New York City. We have no publishers on the National Advisory Committee and you will recall that, after discussing several publishers, you favored Mr. Luce.
It would be very helpful if you could make the appointments now so that the new members of the Committee could attend our annual meeting. I am planning tentatively to hold the meeting the latter part of August, the exact date to be decided upon when you can give me the date that is most satisfactory for meeting with you at Hyde Park.

It had been my original plan to suggest to you the names of several additional representatives of industry. However, I would prefer to hold this in abeyance until after we have had the conference which I propose to call of selected industrialists, labor representatives and youth for the purpose of exploring the possibility of finding more places for young people in private industry. It is my intention to have some preliminary conferences before we meet with you in Hyde Park so that we may discuss intelligently the possibilities in this field and prepare for an important conference of these groups in the Fall.

Respectfully yours,

Charles W. Taussig,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

CWT:WEJ
Dear Mr. Taussig:

I had a meeting with eight of the young people up here in preparation for their Congress. They tell me that they need $6,500 to go on working through the year. They will practically be at the end of their resources by the time the National Congress meets.

$6,500 doesn't seem a very large sum, but apparently it is colossal for them. I wonder if you think there are any people who came to the luncheon would could give a part of this sum. I do not want to ask people because it puts them in an uncomfortable position, but I thought perhaps you would be willing to sound some of them out.

I thought the dinner with Father Moore was decidedly helpful in getting out into the open exactly what people thought and felt. I think they were all surprised at that declaration written by the young people themselves. It certainly is a fine piece of work.

Many thanks for all of your interest.

Very cordially yours,
July 5, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 29 about the Youth Congress. I am glad you are going to be able to do something as a result of the luncheon.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles William Taussig
120 Wall Street, NYC
June 29, 1939

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have your letter of June 25th in reference to the Youth Congress.

I have personally followed up a number of the guests we had at our luncheon and I am inclined to think that the Youth Congress will get some funds. However, frankly, I do not believe that we will even approach $6,500. Unfortunately, because of the work in preparing for the Congress of Youth, neither Joe Cadden nor Janet Feder was able to follow up personally many people. Both of them made a great impression, particularly Joe, and he could accomplish a great deal more than anyone else. I am afraid that, before we can get appreciable sums of money for the Youth Congress, a great deal more educational work will have to be done with potential contributors. I know of several contributions that will be made as a result of the luncheon in sums ranging around $100. These are from people who formerly were antagonistic to the American Youth Congress and who are now convinced that perhaps it is a needful and useful organization. However, the transition from opposition to a large contributor takes some little time. As rapidly as possible I am following up our guests personally and then arranging for Joe Cadden to see them.

I am glad that you thought the dinner with Father Moore was helpful. He expressed similar sentiments to me. The declaration as written by the American Youth Congress, to which you refer in your letter, will undoubtedly be of great help, both in making friends and in raising money.

This afternoon I spoke to Joe and he told me that, as soon as the Congress is over, he will vigorously follow up these prospective contributors.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

CWT:WEB
July 31, 1939

My dear Mr. Taussig:

The President and I will be able to meet with the National Advisory Committee the latter part of August, and I would be very glad to see you in New York or here at Hyde Park. Will you let me know which would be better for you so we can arrange a satisfactory time?

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
National Advisory Committee
NYA – Washington, D.C.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 27, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR
MRS. ROOSEVELT

Yes, after I get back from
my cruise.

F. D. R.
For the President

F.D.R.

Could we have meeting where you are in August?

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I should imagine that, within a very short time now, the date for the adjournment of Congress will be known and the President will have definitely completed his schedule for the western trip. I would appreciate it if you could let me know as soon as possible when it will be convenient to you and the President to meet with the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration, so that I can give our members as much advance notice as possible.

Since our dinner with Father Moore, I have had further conversations with him and some time in the near future, when it is convenient to you, I would like the opportunity to discuss at some length some of the problems with which we are confronted.

You, no doubt, read the article that appeared on July 8th in LIBERTY Magazine regarding the Youth Administration. I have written an answer to that article, which I believe will appear in the next issue of LIBERTY. If you have a chance to read it, I should be very much interested in your comments.

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Taussig,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee, NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.
August 15, 1939

My dear Mr. Taussig:

I am sorry I did not get around to sending you this memorandum before, but, as usual, things piled up. The date set for the meeting of the Advisory Committee of the N.Y.A. is September 7 at the big house.

It was agreed at the Hyde Park Committee meeting that:

A report would be made to the President as to the thoughts about the conference with the youth serving agencies.

There would be a report of the Advisory Committee.

There would be about 30 at the meeting and that some of the state NYA directors would be invited at Mr. Aubrey Williams' suggestion. The state directors selected by Mr. Williams will report to the President and then swim and have a picnic luncheon at the cottage.

It was thought that it would be advisable to ask one or two of the American Youth Congress people and also someone from the Southern Council of Young People and Howard Lee.

It was suggested that Jim Carey of the C.I.O. be invited and Josiah Bartlett and Matthew Joll if it is considered advisable, as well as Mr. Sidney Hillman if he will come.

I am to find out if Myron Taylor will be back.
and willing to come and also to ask Mr. Newton of the Firestone Tire Company if he would like to come.

I am enclosing a letter from Janet Feder. I wonder if you know of Mr. Fowler and if you think he ought to be invited from the C.I.O. for the conference.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Chas. W. Taussig
120 Wall St.
NYC
August 20, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I have a request to see some of the Youth Congress people and it has occurred to me that a number of them might come to the Advisory Committee meeting up here on the 7th. I would suggest Abbot Simon, who is just back from abroad, Jack Hekimian, Jo Cadden, Frances Williams, and Janet Feder.

If they are here for the meeting I will keep them here and let them have a swim and talk to me about whatever they have to say, but I just thought I would find out from you if you thought it wise to have them.

Cordially yours,

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall Street
NYC
August 27, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I sent your memorandum to the President, asking him to put his ideas in a memorandum so that I can send them to you.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Chas. M. Taussig
120 Wall St.
NYC
August 27, 1939

Memorandum for the President

Will you send me a memorandum of
your ideas, so that I can forward it
to Mr. Taussig at once?

E.R.
August 31, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I am enclosing the memorandum
that I have had from the President.

Very sincerely yours,

Memo.

Tell Charlie Taussig that the time is not yet ripe to discuss this but that I have rather definite plans. If it looks as if we would get into a war, that will be time enough. If the war is confined to Europe, the NYA and the National Advisory Committee should go on just as they are today.

F.D.R.
August 27, 1939

Memorandum for the President

Will you send me a memorandum of your ideas, so that I can forward it to Mr. Taussig at once?

E.R.
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
2734 NEW YORK AVENUE NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

New York, N.Y.
August 25, 1930

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Unfortunately, just after Aubrey Williams' plane took off from Glen Cove today, fog set in and the rest of the planes were grounded.

I had hoped to discuss with you the ideas set forth in the enclosed memorandum. I would appreciate it very much if you would let me know your ideas concerning this matter.

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Tenney,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

CWT:WBJ
Encls.
Memorandum to MRS. F.D. ROOSEVELT

August 24, 1939

In the event of the outbreak of war in Europe prior to the meeting of the National Advisory Committee, the question might well be brought up at our conference as to what part, if any, the National Youth Administration or the National Advisory Committee itself would take in the general mobilization of war resources in the United States. Irrespective of whether this subject were brought up by the chair or from the floor at our meeting, it would be advisable for me to have some general idea as to the wishes of the President in the matter.

My own thought on the matter is that it should be a definite policy of the Youth Administration, both in times of peace and war, to keep out of any matters of a military nature. However, we could be of considerable service to the country in directing the activities of young people not actually called for military service or in training. The National Advisory Committee in particular, operating through the 30,000 local advisory committees, might be extremely useful in effecting a mobilization of young people for non-military war services. It is more likely that such a group as the National Advisory Committee would take into consideration in any war-time activity of youth the ultimate transition from war-time activities to peace-time activities and possibly be of assistance in mitigating somewhat the usual disruption of all social and civil organization due to war.

With all the tragedy to youth involved in putting the country on a war footing, one situation would arise that might be handled so as ultimately to be to youth's advantage and that is, the increase in youth employment. There undoubtedly would be a more tolerant attitude on the part of organized labor toward young people getting jobs and, handled properly, this might lead to a permanent improvement in peace times in the relationship between youth and organized labor.

In conjunction with this, it might even be advisable for the National Advisory Committee to be represented on the War Resources Board.

The reason I stress in this memorandum the National Advisory Committee rather than the administrative end of the N.Y.A. is that it seems to me any work in this field would be more in the nature of advisory and consultative rather than straight administration of youths' non-military activities.

Charles W. Taussig,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.

CWT:EBJ
September 1, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I have your letter of August 23 and I would much rather be guided by your judgment as to who should be invited. The young people have asked me and I shall probably try to arrange a meeting with them in New York.

There is, however, a question, with this later turn of events in Europe, that the President may not be able to be here on the 7th, in which case I wonder if you would prefer that I come to New York, or if you would prefer going to Washington to see the President. I could not go to Washington, as I am leaving on a lecture trip on the 10th, but I could go to New York. Will you let me know?

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Chas. Taussig
120 Wall St NYC
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
1734 NEW YORK AVENUE NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

New York, N.Y.
August 23, 1939

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have your letter of August 20th.

I should like very much to have Abbott Simon, Jack McMichael, Jo Cadden, Frances Williams and Janet Feder at the Advisory Committee meeting, but I wonder if possibly the members of the Committee might not feel that we have asked too many people from one organization. Until I received your letter my thought was this: that we would invite to the New York meeting a representative of the Southern Council of Young People, also a representative of the American Youth Congress, probably the new chairman, Jack McMichael; that we would ask the member of the Southern Council of Young People who attends the New York meeting to go to Hyde Park and that we would substitute for McMichael at Hyde Park Abbott Simon, who could give us some very valuable information concerning youth organizations in Europe. In view of the fact that we are not inviting representatives of various youth organizations in general, I wonder if it is advisable to have too many representatives of the American Youth Congress. I will be guided entirely by your judgment in the matter.

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Taussig,
Chairman, National Advisory Committee,
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.
My dear Mr. Taussig:

I was delighted with your telegram which I received on my birthday. Many thanks for sending it to me.

I am sorry that I was so busy when you were here. These days seem to be unusually full.

Very cordially yours,

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall St., NYC
NEW YORK, N.Y., October 11, 1939.

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

My congratulations to all the young people of the United States on your birthday.

CHARLES W. TAUSSIG.
December 6, 1939

Dear Mr. Taussig,

I asked Mervyn Rathborne about the rumor of his being paid by the Standard Oil Company.

It happens that the former head of the American Communications Association, when he ceased to be the head, went to the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey at a salary of $5200 a year as labor relations man. They have evidently lost confidence in him, because in January he resigns.

Mervyn Rathborne himself has never received anything from him or them.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Mr. Chas. Wm. Taussig
120 Wall St.
NYC
December 11, 1939

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I was indeed pleased to receive your letter of December 6th regarding Terryn Rathborne.

As I told you at the time, I had considerable doubt as to the reliability of the report that I received but felt that it was worth looking into.

I feel somewhat guilty in having burdened you with checking this matter, which I should have taken care of myself. I am afraid that all of us have burdened you with the position of a sort of unofficial one-man Department of Justice. The way you handled the Dies Committee was magnificent.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

[Redacted]

CWT: WBJ
January 11, 1940

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I am sending this note to confirm the time Mrs. Roosevelt gave you. It is January 19, from 2:00 to 3:30.

We shall expect a list of those who will be here, as soon as you know.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles Wm. Taussig
120 Wall Street
New York
N.Y.
Miss Thompson,

Do you have the list of
new girls?
Dear Mr. Taussig:

As I read those reports which I have had sent back to you, I felt it would be a mistake to send them to all the members of the advisory committee of the NYA.

It seems to me it is hardly the place of the NYA to enter into any activity to discredit anything done by youth led organizations. You may, as individuals, disapprove and say so, but a branch of the government, which is supposed to be attempting to face youth's problems helpfully, to discredit a group of young people, seems to me a trifle unwise. You must, however, use your own judgment.

Secondly, I want to tell you that I am a little disturbed by the meetings which we are holding between youth led organizations and youth serving agencies. My interest in those meetings is entirely based on an effort to bring youth led organizations together so that they may cooperate on whatever lines they can to help work out some of the problems facing youth. As far as the youth serving agencies are concerned, the only value I can see is that they should have an opportunity to better understand the objectives of the youth led organizations.

I would be totally opposed to any effort to dominate either the objectives or the methods, but I am not opposed to frank discussion and persuasion, but opposed to coercion. Such for instance, as having a group of the youth serving agencies say that because of certain differences of opinion, they would go out and back some split in the youth forces. To that I would be completely opposed.
I think it is good for us to understand the objectives, to know how young people think and feel, and why they do. It is wrong for us to try to keep them from trying their own experiments and come to their own conclusions. I think it is especially bad for us to try to use force of any kind to do this, whether that force is the withholding of financial assistance or the threatening to uphold some group or groups.

I am telling you this because I am a little afraid that some of the people in the older groups will attempt to do this, and if they do I want you prepared before hand of my attitude.

I have sent Dr. Reeves the dates which are the earliest ones on which I can hold a meeting. After that meeting, I think it might be well to alternate between New York City and Washington.

I am also telling Dr. Reeves that my choice for the morning discussion is how to increase jobs for youth. This will include so many angles I think it will fill the morning. My choice for the afternoon could be what are the threats to civil liberties in this country today. If enough people send in as a subject the discussion of communism in the youth groups, I hope we can limit it to an hour because to me it has become a fruitless discussion.

I told the President that you wished to see him and he said he would be delighted to see you. I left a memo with General Watson asking him to get in touch with you and give you a date, but I think it would be well for you to write to remind him.

Very sincerely yours,
April 30, 1940

My dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt is sorry that she will not have any free time in New York on this trip. Could you lunch here in Washington on Tuesday, May 7, or see Mrs. Roosevelt in New York at her apartment at 4:00 p.m. on May 8?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall Street
New York, New York
Mr. Charles Wm. Taussig
120 Wall Street
New York, N. Y.

May 7, 1940

Mrs. Roosevelt hopes you can change appointment to three-thirty instead of four at appartment tomorrow.

Malvina C. Thompson
June 18, 1940

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I gave Mrs. Roosevelt your message about the meeting of the National Advisory Board of the NYA. She asked me to say that if you want a meeting in New York City, she can go on Tuesday the 25th or Thursday the 27th, whichever is more convenient for you.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles William Taussig
120 Wall Street
New York, N.Y.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Miss Thompson has advised me that either the 25th or the 27th of June will be convenient to you for a meeting of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration.

I had a long talk yesterday in Washington with Sidney Hillman and he feels that it would be well to postpone any meeting of the Advisory Committee for a week or two at least. My talk with him was most satisfactory.

I also discussed several matters pertaining to the new youth set-up with Floyd Reeves.

If you plan to be in New York on Tuesday, the 25th, irrespective of a meeting of the National Advisory Committee, I should like to see you and go over a number of things pertaining to the new developments. If the 27th would be more convenient to you, I could make it then, although I had planned to be in Washington.

Cordially yours,
July 12, 1940

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I talked to the President and he says it is quite all right for you to have a subcommittee to cooperate with the defense committee, but it must be cleared with Aubrey Williams. He will be glad to see you at any time you have anything definite.

Very sincerely yours,
July 24, 1940

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I was glad to have your letter and to hear that everything is working out the way you wanted it to.

Very sincerely yours,
My Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Since receiving your letter of July 12, I have talked to Aubrey Williams, Dr. Floyd Reeves, Dr. Will Alexander and Mr. Hillman. We seem to be in pretty general agreement as to how to proceed with the matter of the status of the National Advisory Committee, without creating any embarrassment, and I think we will work along the lines of a subcommittee to cooperate with the Defense Committee.

Thank you very much for having given this matter your attention.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

CWT: RDG
September 16, 1940

My dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to thank you for your letter of the 18th and the copy of the memorandum which you enclosed.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles William Taussig
180 Wall Street
New York
New York
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
New York.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I want to thank you for the very pleasant supper that I had at Hyde Park last Sunday. Both you and the President were most gracious about my being late but, as you know, I followed instructions given me by Steve Early.

I have already had preliminary talks with Aubrey Williams, Floyd Reeves, Ernest Lindley and Betty Lindley regarding the book to be written, "Youth and Total Defense." I have been assured cooperation and unless something unforeseen intervenes, I am hopeful that, within a week or two, it will be under way.

Enclosed is a copy of the memorandum which the President asked me to prepare concerning the Caribbean situation. I have already mailed the memorandum to the President.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]
MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE CARIBBEAN AREA

In view of the recent acquisition by the United States of America of naval and air bases in certain British islands in the Caribbean, it seems to me that our government should make a study of the social, economic and political conditions on the islands where we are to have our bases, as well as on the neighboring islands.

For a period of years there has been considerable unrest in most of these islands, culminating within the past three years in a series of riots and uprisings in Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados and several other places. These were put down after some bloodshed. The uprisings in Trinidad and Barbados were sufficiently violent to warrant the respective governments in holding official hearings, which revealed an extremely serious economic and social condition which apparently had much to do with causing the disturbances.

The riots in the Trinidad oil fields occurred in June, 1937, and resulted in fourteen people being killed and fifty-nine wounded. A commission to investigate the riots was appointed by the Secretary of State for the colonies. The commission took evidence in Trinidad in August, 1937, and their report was issued on February 2, 1938. The report stated in part: "The true origin of the disturbances must be traced to the more or less general sense of dissatisfaction, for which there was no adequate means of articulation through recognized machinery of collective bargaining. This sense of dissatisfaction reached its culminating point when, the cost of living having risen, the earnings of the work people were not adjusted with sufficient promptitude to offset its effect. The immediate cause of the outbreaks was the activities of Butler, a fanatical negro, who delivered speeches of an inflammatory nature, and the unruly element of which his following was mainly composed. Once the disturbances had broken out, the general
sense of dissatisfaction, combined with a hesitant policy on the part of the government in dealing with the hooligan element, resulted in the spread of the trouble over a wide area."

Later, the Government of Great Britain sent a Royal Commission to study the problems of all the British possessions in the Caribbean, the report of which commission has already been made.

The social and economic conditions in each of the several islands vary considerably, although one can generalize to the extent of saying that they are highly unsatisfactory on all of them. As an example, consider Barbados, which depends principally on the export of sugar. Barbados has a population of about 190,000, which must live off a total area of 166 square miles. In the hearing after the Barbados riots in 1937, there was unrefuted testimony that two-thirds of the labor in the sugar cane fields were women and children who received wages ranging from four to eight pence per day, and received these wages only during the limited crop season. The people are dependent almost entirely on imported food and with their extremely limited incomes, malnutrition verging on starvation is a problem of serious proportions on the island.

The Negroes tremendously outnumber the whites on all the islands. There has been some evidence of organized agitation among the Negroes on various islands emanating primarily from a group with headquarters in Trinidad. Well-organized seditious activities, such as might originate in Europe at this time, might be effective in stirring up serious disturbances. Whereas the islands are policed sufficiently to take care of minor disturbances, it is questionable whether a movement that would approach revolutionary proportions, such as has occurred many times in the history of the Caribbean Islands
could be handled by the present meagre police force.

CONCLUSION

(1) It seems to me essential that this government have an understanding with the Government of Great Britain that they maintain adequate protection against possible serious disturbances. The fact that the United States had armed forces stationed in various islands might give the British such a sense of security that, in the event of an uprising of the native population, we would be forced to intervene with our own armed forces. It is indeed possible that certain European countries might deliberately foment trouble in order to necessitate our armed intervention with its consequent unfavorable repercussions in South America.

(2) As long as the Caribbean Islands continue to exist with such an impoverished economy, the danger of serious uprisings will remain. To rely entirely on force to subdue them is unsound. Now that Great Britain and the United States jointly have such an important stake in the Caribbean, it would seem to me that a joint study might well be made with a view to improving the economic and social conditions of the islands. I would suggest that a commission be appointed by the President to make a parallel study to that of the Royal Commission of the economics of the entire Caribbean, to be followed by joint discussions between the two countries as to possible methods of improving the basic economic conditions of the islands.
Dear Mr. Taussig:

I have gone over with Aubrey the memo which he and the school people signed.

In some ways I think it clarifies the situation and it does put the educational institutions in a position where they will find it difficult to refuse to give related training.

Aubrey tells me in some places is has been hard to make them take the responsibility.

I hope you will talk to Aubrey about it because I am not really troubled about it any longer.

I am sorry that Dr. Judd is resigning, but Aubrey tells me his interest is primarily in the reform of secondary school systems. He hoped very much to use the NYA for that purpose and on one or two occasions before he has resigned and been talked out of it. On this occasion Aubrey could not persuade him to stay. I can quite understand for I feel that this does make it impossible for him to use the NYA as a lever in the work which he has at heart and which of course, should be carried on.

There is, however, a safe-guarding clause so that wherever educational facilities are not satisfactory, they
can be carried on by the NYA under the advisory committee. The emphasis of course, in NYA is on production which shall give training for work and that is as it should be.

I hope we can all talk this over again if you are still troubled.

Very cordially yours,
Miss Malvina C. Thompson  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.  

Dear Miss Thompson:  

Mr. Taussig has been out of town  
since receiving Mrs. Roosevelt's recent letter.  
He has asked me to acknowledge this and tell you  
that he will get in touch with Mrs. Roosevelt  
when he returns the beginning of the week.  

Very truly yours,  

[Signature]  

Secretary

WBJ: H
October 7, 1940

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

At Mr. Taussig's request, I am sending you the enclosed copy of the letter which he has recently addressed to members of the National Advisory Committee.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Thacher Winslow
Administrative Assistant
Copy of letter sent to all members of the National Advisory Committee

September 27, 1940

My dear:-

The present emergency seems to call for closer coordination with the defense program of the activities of both the National Youth Administration and its national as well as state and local committees. I am therefore planning to call a meeting of the National Advisory Committee very soon to discuss a number of important matters that have arisen in this connection.

Before setting a definite date, I would like to advise you of some of the most recent developments related to the work of the advisory committees, so that you may be giving some thought to the questions that are to be discussed.

First of all, there seems to be a need for revision in the functions, and hence the membership, of the state and local committees. A survey is now being completed showing the present membership and activities of these committees, the results of which will be presented to the National Advisory Committee. A preliminary tabulation of the results indicates, to my mind at least, the necessity of changes - particularly if the work of these committees is to be geared into the work of the local and state defense councils. At the same time, we should consider the role of our own committee and the National Youth Administration as it relates to the National Defense Program.

You will hear from me within the next two weeks as to the date of the meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Charles W. Taussig, Chairman
National Advisory Committee
National Youth Administration
October 16, 1940

Dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt read your letter before she left for the West Coast.

In November, Mrs. Roosevelt will be in Washington on the 6th and 7th. On the 9th she starts on a lecture trip and expects to get back on Wednesday before Thanksgiving, and until we know the President's plans, she is not sure where she will spend Thanksgiving.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall Street
New York, N.Y.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have your letter of September 26th, which arrived while I was away.

Since I talked to you about the agreement that Aubrey Williams made with the school people, I have had an opportunity to read and study it. I have had an opportunity also to discuss the matter with Aubrey. If the agreement works out as he hopes it will, which in effect would put a real responsibility on the secondary school system to do the sort of thing that N.Y.A. has been pioneering in for the last five years, it will be, in my estimation, a great contribution toward the improvement of education in this country, and I hope to be agreeably surprised that this will happen.

I think you might be interested to learn of the progress we have made along certain other lines which I discussed with the President and you:

1) Substantially all of the questionnaires that we sent out to the state directors pertaining to the status of the state and local advisory committees have been returned, filled in. The tabulation is not quite finished. However, I have gone over a number of them and have been surprised how active a good many of these committees have been. I am very much encouraged as to the possibilities of having them make a valuable contribution toward intelligently organizing local communities throughout the United States. Even a casual glance at these questionnaires indicated a decided lack of youth representation; as a matter of fact, the number of youth belonging to these local and state committees has decreased in the last few years. This, of course, is a matter that will be given vigorous attention and it is my purpose very considerably to augment the youth participating on N.Y.A. advisory committees.
2) Aubrey has agreed to transfer S. Burns Weston from his present position as director of the Ohio State Youth Administration to Washington, where he will be attached to the National Advisory Committee and give full-time attention to the proper organization of state and local advisory committees. Weston has met with Aubrey and me and aside from a few details, the entire matter has been settled. I am thoroughly satisfied that Burns Weston is the type of man to handle this work.

3) Aubrey and I have discussed the matter of the proposed book, "YOUTH AND TOTAL DEFENCE," with the Lindleys and have arrived at an agreement. Shortly after Election, Betty will go on the staff of N.Y.A. on the same basis as she did when we prepared "A NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH." Ernest is already at work on a sample chapter of the book so that he can begin to discuss the matter with several publishers.

It is my intention to pursue both of these projects vigorously.

I am having the Washington office send you a copy of a letter that I sent to the members of the National Advisory Committee regarding a meeting that I expect to call shortly. I think this meeting can well be an important and constructive one. My idea is for it to extend over two days at least. I would have the meeting discuss problems of youth arising out of the defence program. We would dwell primarily on finding ways and means for youth to participate in the total defence picture -- health, employment, training, community organizing, morale, etc. I expect the conferences to develop at least an outline of a specific program rather than deal entirely in broad generalities. To effect this, I would like during the meeting to have one joint conference with members of the Defence Commission; also, if possible, I think it would be advisable to have the next meeting of the group of youth serving agencies and youth organizations correspond to the meeting of the National Advisory Committee, so that we could confer together. If this general outline of an agenda meets with your approval, I would be grateful if you would suggest some dates convenient to you. I believe we can develop at such a conference a program of sufficient definiteness to make it worth while, after our deliberations, to present the results to the President.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  

October 4, 1940

I think it would be well to have the meeting, if possible, after Election and before Thanksgiving.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

CWT:WBJ
"YOUTH AND TOTAL DEFENSE"

ADDRESS

OF

CHARLES WILLIAM TAUSSIG
Chairman of the National Advisory Committee
of the
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
at
Opening Session
THE CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

Stratfield Hotel
Bridgeport, Conn.
October 16, 1940.

Release:
October 16, 1940
After 10 A.M.
Many weeks ago I was complimented by being invited to address this meeting. The date set was October 16th. A glance at my calendar assured me of no previous engagement. In other respects the day was suitable --- no immediate holidays before or after; in the middle of the week, and with only the remotest possibility that the date would turn out to be Thanksgiving Day. In short, except for the importance of your gathering here in Bridgeport, it was a day totally devoid of distinction. But the roulette wheel of history spun by the mad croupier of Berlin deposited the little ball of destiny in the compartment bearing today's date. Even as I speak, 16 million young Americans are registering their availability to fight, to suffer and to die for their country. October 16, 1940, has become a day of great distinction; a day of solemnity and momentous decision. It is fitting then for us to consider the significance of what is occurring and to discuss in all candor the broad problem of our American youth and the total defense of our country.

Obviously the induction of our youth into our military forces is a vital part of national defense, but as we survey the world and take heed from what has happened in Europe and Asia, we become increasingly aware that there is much more to the defense of a democracy than guns, tanks, ships and airplanes. Total defense comprises all of the varied functions of our national life which have or should have been carried on in peace-
time, but which in this national emergency must be pursued with the utmost fervor and efficiency.

Before becoming more specific on this subject, let me briefly review the attitude of young Americans toward the current defense problem.

Many people express surprise at the indifference or, in many cases, the antagonism on the part of American youth to our defense program. That part of youth which is vocal has in considerable measure expressed skepticism of our efforts to prepare the nation against the fate that has befallen the European democracies. This group of youth say we are in no danger, or, if we are, it is a hazard which the government's attitude and activities are in themselves creating. They point to our alleged physical isolation from Europe and Asia; to the two great intervening oceans. They protest against our aid to Great Britain. Great Britain, they say, is a degenerating empire, a false democracy, and they object to the United States having any part in retarding its natural decay. They say our domestic policy has been weak, feeble and insincere, that the government is not unmindful of a temporary increase in employment due to armament activity, which may be used to camouflage its failure adequately to relieve unemployment in peacetimes.

Who are the youth that say and think these things? What part do they represent of some 20 million young people in the United States? According to the American Youth Commission,
85% of all our youth are apathetic. They have no interest in or knowledge of what is going on either domestically or in the world. It is not from this large group that we get criticism. Of the 15% of young people who do consider our national problems, there are a few who are voluble. It is from them that we hear the many objections to our defense program, to our entire national policy, both domestic and foreign. There is no question that of this latter group some are Communists and many of them make no effort to conceal this fact. The Young Communist League, for instance, openly assumes leadership among some of the dissident young people. There is little doubt that the direction of some activities of the young Communists has its origin outside the borders of the United States, but we should remember that only a small percentage of the 15% of public-minded young people are Communists or Communist sympathizers. The critical attitude of the non-Communists toward our present policies warrants analysis.

I think it fair to assume that most of us assembled in this room are Liberals, people who do not necessarily subscribe to the status quo, who critically analyze our institutions and who usually are active in constructive reforms. Is it not a fact that we Liberals had a great part in teaching our young people to be cynical, to be constantly alert to detect ulterior motives in the programs launched by their elders; and is this not particularly true in matters pertaining to prepared-
ness and national defense?

Many of us served in the last war when we were crusading "to make the world safe for democracy." After the Treaty of Versailles we felt "let down." We had to find scapegoats. That was easy -- the munition-makers, the bankers, the statesmen with Wall Street connections, and a host of other vulnerable and suspect institutions were chosen. I do not propose to say that we were altogether wrong. Indeed, we were entirely human in our efforts to place blame far away from our individual selves as was possible. What we failed to recognize, or if we did recognize it failed to condemn, was the part we played in the iniquities and inequities of the last war and subsequent peace. We marched into battle carrying the waving banner of democracy, but with only a sophomoric conception of what democracy meant. Then, as now, democracy, freedom, liberty, the American way, and other patriotic phrases meant different things to different people. We yielded to the temptation to relate these terms to historical tradition and it was at that point that we made our mistake.

It would be interesting if we could get men like Washington and Jefferson and other great names of early American history to re-define some of the things they said and wrote in terms of the world as it is today. I am convinced that every one of them would instantly revise his pronouncements in the
light of modern conditions. Is it not true that the liberty and freedom of the American Revolutionary patriots were negative things? They were primarily concerned with preserving the rights and liberties which Englishmen over a long period of time had obtained through a process of conflict with absolutist authority. Their conception was not primarily the freedom of the individual but rather limiting the authority of the sovereign. In early American history, there was relatively little occasion for people to consider what freedom meant, as it concerned their relations with their fellow men. If a man then did not like the segment of society in which he happened to be living, he was always free to move somewhere else. He frequently did. The problem of freedom of the individual today is different. The limitations upon the individual’s liberty to develop his own life are much more likely to come from social and economic organization, particularly the latter, than from anything which the government imposes upon him. When history scans without emotion the events of the past decade, it is doubtful whether Hitler, the man, will be the villain of the period. He is more likely to fill the role of a bungling victim of overwhelming social and economic forces which he had little part in creating.

How difficult it is to consider such terms as freedom, liberty and democracy, as words with static and definitive meaning! One realizes this by reading the list of grievances which Thomas Jefferson wrote into the Declaration of Independence.
How startlingly few of them have any pertinence to modern conditions, and yet, we revere the Declaration of Independence as a kind of Magna Charta for all times. In so doing, of course, we forget that it is essentially the spiritual quality of the men who signed that document which is the important thing for Americans, and not the specific things which they said.

No; if we are to preserve ourselves, our individualism and, in general, our way of life, we must stop thinking of democracy as a negative force. Democracy must not be a protest against a list of grievances. Democracy must not be the antithesis of autocracy. Democracy must not be a subterranean bombproof shelter in which we huddle to escape the totalitarian terror. It may include all of these things but primarily it must be a weapon of attack, a dynamic instrumentality for attaining a just, orderly and secure society in which all men are free to develop their own individuality and voluntarily to make their contribution for the benefit of their fellow men.

Liberty of the individual is an essential ingredient of democracy. His ability to limit delegation of authority to government is dependent on the restraint he exercises over his own anti-social tendencies. The conflict between liberty and authority in a democracy is the personal problem of every citizen. Its consideration should be a part of our public education. It should be discussed in the secondary schools as well as in the Supreme Court.
Not long ago, a friend of mine was discussing with an eminent psychiatrist the basis for Hitler's power over the German people. The doctor expressed it with great simplicity when he said that each German identified himself with Hitler and that in doing so he immeasurably expanded his own sense of self-importance, even though the particular function that he was called upon and permitted to do was infinitesimal and even menial. This principle of identification of the individual with something larger and outside himself is essential when dealing with masses of people. More than that, it is a source of tremendous energy and power to a nation and to the individuals comprising it. Out of it grows a burning zeal and loyalty capable of tremendous accomplishment.

In the field of religion, of course, we have seen this over and over again. Christianity owes its widespread acceptance to this very thing; as a matter of fact, you find the identification of the individual Christian with Jesus accomplished through the Holy Sacrament. In Jesus' own teaching, one of the most powerful things that He did was to point out: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." In that respect, His followers could feel themselves actually identified with the Master when even in the smallest way they had applied some one of His precepts. This is a simple truth known by each dictator who perverts it by substituting himself for the Deity. We have never quite learned how to identify the individual with the fabric of democracy. If
we do not learn it at once, we may never again have that opportunity.

However, in the last few years, we have witnessed a robust tendency in this direction. I do not hold with some people that the relief activity of the government, WPA, NYA and other agencies have tended to make the individual dependent on the government and to destroy his ambition to maintain himself as an individual; to the contrary, it has been my observation, and I speak with first-hand experience when I refer to NYA, that the employment of men, women and youth on socially useful projects has materially helped them in identifying themselves with their government and with the common effort of the people of the United States. The experience of a visitor to one of our NYA projects, the building of a rural school house, was not unusual. The young boy showing her around took her to one corner of the foundation and, with much pride and enthusiasm, pointed to it and said, "I poured that cement." Some of us in NYA feel that this identification of the individual, with the national or community purpose of our program transcends in importance even the relief elements of the projects. We are now embarking on a program that should stimulate even further this important element of democratic procedure and be a source of great strength to the whole program of defense.

In the past five years, over 2500 state and local
advisory committees of the National Youth Administration have been created. These committees are made up of citizens who have an interest in the youth of their communities. We have just completed a survey of all of these committees. We find that the committees comprise over 30,000 individuals, adults and youth. Most of them have been extremely active, some of them having met from fifteen to twenty times a year. Many of them have been sponsors of NYA projects, which have definite community value.

In some sections of the country, these volunteer citizens have so merged themselves with the local administrative agency of NYA that they have become an integral part of it. It is our purpose now to encourage the organization of many more such committees and to suggest specific problems for them to work on. The first task we will present to them will be to survey the social and economic conditions in their own communities, particularly as they relate to youth. A technique for such surveys has been developed by the American Youth Commission under the leadership of Mr. Owen D. Young and Dr. Floyd Reeves. The latter has been temporarily loaned to the National Defense Commission in Washington. NYA has already cooperated in some experimental surveys of this nature. One of the most successful was completed last Spring in the Five Towns on Long Island. The Five Towns comprise the communities of Lawrence, Cedarhurst, Hewlett, Woodmere and Inwood. Outside of some professional aid given by NYA, the entire survey was conducted by volunteers. The total cost was about $250. Questionnaires were prepared
along the lines suggested by the American Youth Commission. Over 1300 young people volunteered to make the house-to-house canvass. The result revealed to the community some serious shortcomings in the social, economic and educational life of the towns. Had some outside individual, group or arm of the federal or state government called their attention to these shortcomings, they might have been ignored or resented, but the fact that they themselves had made the study gave them the zeal to do something about it. An interesting practical result from this survey was the speed with which they were able to participate in the defense program. In answer to several questions, the young people of the community had indicated that one of the reasons they were unable to find employment even when employment was available was their lack of vocational training. Within a few weeks after the defense program got under way late last Spring, the community on its own initiative arranged to keep open the schools that had vocational training facilities during the summer and, as a consequence, they are now well on their way toward turning over trained workers to defense industries.

NYA proposes to carry this whole idea much further than has been developed to date. We are recommending to our local administrators and to the communities in which they operate that the young people who will participate in these surveys be made a part of the local committees. In this way, we propose
to identify these youth with their government and with the democratic program upon which we are embarked. Naturally, the survey will be only a beginning. The results of these summaries will suggest local work that can be done in conjunction with health, recreation, training, housing, education, job-finding, and a myriad of other activities that go to make up the warp and woof of our national existence and our national defense. Wherever possible, we propose officially to recognize the participation of the young people in this work.

The work that NYA is now carrying on in training young people for defense industries is too well known to require much elaboration. The training which has been going on for the past five years and which merely had to be amplified and speeded up when the emergency came upon us, is primarily through work experience. We do not maintain formal schools. Already hundreds of thousands of young people who have had actual experience in production on NYA projects are being inducted into the important work of producing the physical means of our defense.

The world has grown small through improved communication. It has grown devastatingly interdependent through economics. It has been completely thrown off balance by the possession of scientific and machine power out of all proportion to human comprehension as to its wise employment. Our task then in a world new and strange is to re-define individual liberty
in terms not of the individual but in terms of the individual as part of an interdependent social group. An interdependent social group must not be confused with the dictator's conception of "the masses." In the philosophy of Communism and Fascism, "the masses" become an abstract conception totally devoid of the humanity of the individuals who comprise it. An interdependent social group consists of you and me and the rest of our fellow beings, each endowed with his own individuality but joined together in a common striving for the welfare of the many. If we can achieve the identification of the individual with the welfare of the many, we will have created that dynamic democracy which alone can save our society. It is in fact this process of identification with one's American fellow-man, yes, with the government itself, that must be the immediate objective of our entire defense program. It is the one thing that can dislodge our youth from their apathy and unite them in defense of our liberties.
My dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt says she would be very glad to lunch with you and Mr. Judd but she could not do so until November 6 unless you would be willing to come to Hyde Park on November 2 or 4.

Will you let me know which arrangements would be most convenient for you?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
National Youth Administration
National Advisory Committee
Washington Building
Washington, D.C.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I had Dr. Judd for luncheon in Washington on Friday. He has sent in a letter of resignation from the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration. I urged him to reconsider his resignation. He feels he should resign because of his differences with Aubrey and also because he is now in a private capacity preparing to forward his ideas in education and he feels possibly that any connection with the government would be a hindrance rather than an asset. My own feeling is that his contribution to the National Advisory Committee has been great. Had it not been for him, I am inclined to believe that we would have had to capitulate to the reactionary forces in the N.E.A. five years ago instead of only recently. I found no trace of bitterness in his attitude and I certainly see no embarrassment to us if he remains on the Advisory Committee.

Would it be possible for you some time in the near future to have luncheon with Dr. Judd and me at any place that would be convenient to you? I think it would be most useful, irrespective of whether he resigns or not.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

CWT: WBJ
MISS HALVINA C. THOMPSON

Referring to your letter October 16th., have arranged to call meeting of National Advisory Committee in Washington November 7th., 8th., and 9th. Has there been any change in Mrs. Roosevelt's plans that would prevent her from being with us on the 7th. Would appreciate it if you would wire reply to Bay Shore, Long Island.

Charles W. Taussig.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I want to thank you for your contribution in making the meeting of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration a success. Everyone seemed to feel that we really accomplished something.

If you have not already seen it, I think you will be interested in the statement which I read to the President on behalf of the Committee. The statement was prepared by a sub-committee consisting of Owen D. Young, Father Moore, Adolf Berle and myself, and was unanimously adopted by the Conference.

I am sailing tonight on the S.S. BRAZIL on the mission to the British West Indies to study the economic and social conditions in these Islands. Colonel Kibler and Commander Campbell are accompanying me. We will spend a few days in Barbados where the Destroyer SAMSON will meet us and then proceed through the entire Caribbean area. We expect to return to Washington just before Christmas.

Cordially yours,

C.W.T.

Enclos.
STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration is glad to show you some of the productive work which American youth is doing in the interest of national defense.

Happy as we are to make this demonstration, the Committee would like to present the defense work in its proper place as part of a larger view.

The only reason for having a defense program at all is to protect youth and its right to grow up, grow strong, and make its contribution to the country in its own way. In one sense, the national defense is primarily the defense not of this generation, but of the next generation.

Properly conceived, a program for youth in national defense must do more than merely make use of young men and women for protection against external danger. It must also assist in developing a youth equipped to use, develop and improve the national heritage which is being preserved for them by this defense.

A youth so equipped is entitled of right to be provided with three great assets.

The first is good health, in the largest sense of that term: health which builds body, and mind; which gives to young people not only freedom from disease, but reasonable opportunity for recreation, for physical development, and for making the human contacts which lead to sound relationship with the community.

The second great asset is education, again in the largest sense. Education must mean not only the training of the mind and familiarity with school books; but also the training of skills and of habits and the discipline and self-restraint which makes each young man and woman able to make the most of his capacities for himself, for those around him, and for the country.

The third great asset which must be provided is a ready path by which youth, as it comes to maturity, can find prompt access to a place in the economic and community life of the country. It is neither right nor safe to ask young men and young women, as they grow up, to wander aimlessly for months or years before they can find employment, sound opportunity, and a chance to take up the tasks for which they are fitted. Unplaced youth is the greatest threat to national, and to individual life.

It is the belief of the Committee that the training of youth in connection with the national defense must fit into this conception. There is no "youth problem" apart from the problem of the country; for children are constantly being born, constantly growing older, constantly coming to maturity, constantly becoming mature citizens. It is impossible to have sound citizenship either for defense or for peace, if the work of equipping youth in health, in education, and in economics is not begun early and carried forward continuously.

It is the belief of the Committee that we have already in existence a wealth of mechanism which can be adapted to these ends. The health program nationally and locally can be guided...
so that it safeguards children, strengthens adolescents, and gives youth full equipment.

The schools and the colleges have unrivaled facilities for handling the problem of education and general training.

These can be integrated with the employment agencies, with the personnel offices of industry, and with other similar offices, so that young people may more readily find employment, and may be more readily placed in positions in which they will succeed.

Finally, the registration of men for national service will provide a wealth of material and knowledge enabling us to work more effectively on all of these problems.

In conceiving the national defense program for youth thus broadly, the National Advisory Committee emphasizes once more that the problem of youth is in very great measure the individual responsibility of older people: parents, teachers, employers, friends. No generation lives to itself, or dies to itself. It is always in the presence of a generation which has gone before and of a generation which is still to come. The greatest defense for civilization must therefore be not the isolation of youth, as has occurred in other parts of the world, but the relating of youth to the society which we hold dear and are resolved to protect.
My dear Mr. Taussig:

Your statement to the President is excellent. I wish you had been able to go one step further and say that you felt a program touching youth should be so enlarged as to serve all youth not finding places either in the draft or in private industry on leaving school. I feel that is the way we must drive for legislation this coming January. I think it will need the backing of every one we can touch to get it through.

I hope you are enjoying your trip as well as finding that you can contribute some real solution to the Caribbean Island question.

We shall look forward to seeing you either before or after Christmas.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles J. Taussig
120 Wall St.
NYC
November 26, 1940

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

My dear Miss Thompson:

The letter which Mrs. Roosevelt addressed to Mr. Taussig under date of November 20th, in which she commented on the statement which he read to the President on behalf of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration at their recent meeting in Washington, was received here a day or two ago.

I will hold this and see that it is brought to Mr. Taussig's attention when he returns to New York.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
Secretary
Jancing:

Your statement to the
Press is excellent. I wish
you had been able to go one
step further and that you
felt a program touching,
your showed by so
enlarged as to earn acc.
your not finding placed
in the drafts or in
private industry, or having
school. I feel that is the
way we must drive for
legislation this coming Jan.
I think it will need the
backing of every one or
how tough to get it there.
I hope you are enjoying your trip as well as finding that you can contribute some real solution to the Caribbean Island question.

We shall look forward to seeing you either before or after Xmas.

E.R.
May 24, 1941

My dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 21st and to thank you for your thoughtfulness in letting her see the letter you addressed to Mayor LaGuardia regarding the reorganization of the local National Youth Administration advisory committees.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
Chairman
National Youth Administration
National Advisory Committee
Washington Building
Washington, D.C.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You may recall the conversation we had with the President last September at Hyde Park at which it was decided to reorganize our local advisory committees with the thought in mind that they should be ready to meet any emergency.

We have made considerable progress along these lines under the direction of Burne Weston. I am enclosing a copy of a letter sent to Mayor LaGuardia which will give you in the briefest form what our set-up is as of the present.

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Taussig  
Chairman
May 21, 1941

The Honorable
Fiorella H. LaGuardia
Mayor
New York City, New York

My dear Mr. Mayor:

Referring to our conversation at City Hall on May 20th I want to confirm what I told you, that the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration is at the service of the Office of Civilian Defense if you care to use us.

Functioning with the National Advisory Committee are the state and local advisory committees. We have forty-nine state advisory committees which, of course, includes the committee of the City of New York, one committee for Hawaii and one for the District of Columbia.

In the memorandum sent to the governors of the forty-eight states last August by Mr. Frank Bane he suggested to them that if they saw fit they should make use of the National Youth Administration organization. In many states there is already a working relationship. As of this month we have 987 active local advisory committees reporting directly to the state advisory committee. In addition to the active committees we have at least 1,000 committees which are being resurrected into activity, but we list these as inactive because their work to date has not been satisfactory. The total membership of the 987 committees is 7,088. The committees are composed of representatives of local government, schools, health authorities, business, social welfare agencies, labor, youth and racial minorities. We even have a few mayors on the committees. I don't think I exaggerate when I say that within twenty-four hours we could put the 987 committees to work on almost any project of training community youth for civilian defense that you might have in mind. Within thirty days our so-called inactive committees could probably be put into motion. We have available a detailed breakdown of all
the committees which can be made available to you or anyone you designate.

We have in Washington a full time staff and five field workers devoting all of their time to the work of the National Advisory Committee and local committees. In addition to the field workers from the federal office each state has at least one field worker.

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Taussig
Chairman

P.S.
I am enclosing a copy of our first bulletin which may be of assistance to you also. It has an initial circulation of 20,000 and you will be interested to know that the work was done on an NYA project.
YOUTH AND THE COMMUNITY

This is the first issue of YOUTH and the COMMUNITY, bulletin of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration.

Through this publication we hope to provide you with information on the development of advisory committee organization, on activities of state and local NYA advisory committees, on the NYA programs, and on the general social and economic problems of our young people.

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YOUTH and the COMMUNITY will be published monthly. It is our hope that it will serve as a guide and a stimulant to effective community action.

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We should like to hear from our readers as to types of information they want carried in YOUTH and the COMMUNITY which would make this publication most useful.

NYA AND NBC IN MUSICAL DUET

Starting Sunday, May 18, 1941, and continuing for six consecutive weeks, the National Broadcasting Company will present a half-hour NYA musical program over the Blue Network, at 6:30 P.M., Eastern Daylight Saving Time. The music of various nationalities that make up America will be played by NYA youth orchestras from many different cities. Local advisory committees might help to stimulate interest in these programs by contacting community Little Theatre groups, choral societies, or talented NYA youth, and organizing brief programs to follow the scheduled nationwide broadcasts with local entertainment.

PLANS OF ACTION FOR YOUTH

Youth are asked to help solve their own problems in New Hampshire and New Jersey by entering into working partnerships with state and local NYA advisory committees.

In New Hampshire, NYA out-of-school project workers form "youth councils", which meet to discuss the adjustment of young people to the complex civilization in which they find themselves, and methods for easing the transition from school life to the adult workaday world.

These "youth councils", to be set up in every community where NYA projects exist, elect delegates to a statewide youth advisory committee, which functions side by side with the adult NYA advisory committee.

Interaction of the youth and adults is assured by the delegation of two members of the youth committee to meet with the adult NYA state advisory committee.

A parallel program has been inaugurated in New Jersey, largely through the efforts of Dr. Alice Kelihor of New York City. Further details of the New Jersey plan will be discussed in a forthcoming issue of YOUTH and the COMMUNITY.

FLORIDA ACTIVITY

Since February 1941, NYA advisory committees in many states have been reorganized for greater effectiveness.

Among the first to report results of the reorganization was Florida. Within one month - April - 41 completely new committees with a total membership of 335 were set up and activated, and 26 meetings were held, resulting in the passage of several concrete recommendations for closer integration of the NYA programs with national defense activity.
NYA YOUTH TAKE PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT

Over 70,000 young men and women left NYA work projects for private industry jobs, a large proportion of them in defense industries, during the three-month period from December 1, 1940 to March 1, 1941. Commenting on this, NYA administrator Aubrey Williams says, "The NYA is not only helping young people get a start in life but is also helping to meet the needs of defense industries for experienced workers."

From the Program for Advisory Committees

"Democracy becomes secure to the extent that individual citizens join hands and participate with their government in meeting common problems. Equally, government must take increasing care not to become insulated from the opinions and needs of the community. To this joint end, to the end of a more active partnership between citizens and an agency of government, advisory committees are one of the most effective of all instruments."

Temporary committees were set up to work for the improvement of the "social, cultural, and economic status of youth", and a full time director was employed to put the Council's program into action.

SOLICITED GOVERNMENT AID

The support of government organizations and educational groups was solicited by the Community Council of Dowagiac.

The result?

Within a year there was established:

- A job placement service for unemployed youth.
- A citywide recreation program for youth.
- Revision in the school programs, with increased emphasis on vocational guidance.
- A program of adult education in which 500 out-of-school youth took part.
- Service of meals to undernourished school children.
- A county-wide health program.

Dowagiac rolled up its sleeves and went to work on its youth problem. It has come a long way on the road to solving that problem.
Youth Sense Their Communities’ Problems

“WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR YOUR COMMUNITY TO STRENGTHEN THE PROGRAM OF NATIONAL DEFENSE?”

On March 17, 1941, the National Advisory Committee office issued AC Letter No. 2 requesting advisory committees to conduct an informal poll of youth’s opinions, based upon the above question. Responses have poured in from various sections of the country, from employed and unemployed youth, from youth in NYA, WPA, CCC, and other government employment, from youth in churches, schools, and in civic, social, and sport organizations. These answers point out the fields in which advisory committees can work—health, vocational opportunities for youth, etc. Advisory committees which have not yet conducted these polls are urged to do so, as an aid in determining the needs of their communities’ youth.

SOME OF THE ANSWERS ARE SPECIFIC:

“I can help raise food for the army”.
“I can raise machinery”.
“I can help aid departments to carry on the drives they have made to care for the homeless and starving in the war zones”.
“I can do my part towards preserving the health of the community by keeping physically fit”.

SOME STRESS COOPERATION OF VARIOUS TYPES:

“Cooperation is needed in a community more than anything else. I would work to keep all the young boys at home. Work them for uses over here”.
“Help cooperate in putting over defense jobs”.
“Help cooperate wholeheartedly with other people in strengthening the program of national defense”.

SOME ARE TRAGIC-COMIC:

“Kill Hitler”.
“I would do everything I could for the program of national defense if I knew what to do!”
“Educate our children more and train them to march and keep time in early age”.

SOME ARE SOMBER:

“I will do everything except one thing and this is: I don’t believe in Selective Service. Let the one that is willing take interest in it, serve but not be selected without wanting to”.
“I’m sorry that I cannot do anything because I don’t have money, and food, clothing and shelter is what the people need”.

A large number stress the need for health education and for corrective treatment to raise the level of physical well-being in the communities. Some say parents should receive instruction in health practices that they may raise healthier children!

Some express specific sentiments; others are warlike in tone. Some are shallow, some profound.

ALL ARE INTERESTING, IMPORTANT. THEY ARE THE FEELINGS OF TODAY’S AMERICAN YOUTH.
NYA AND NATIONAL DEFENSE

Before the United States' recent entrance upon the greatest armament drive in history, the National Youth Administration had been operating two major programs for youth: (1) to assist needy young people to remain in school, and (2) to provide work and work experience for needy out-of-school and unemployed youth.

These programs continue to operate during the present period, but the out-of-school work projects have been geared more and more into the machinery of national defense.

MECHANICAL PROJECTS INCREASED

Since the middle of 1940 the NYA has increased the emphasis on mechanical and technical workshop projects. The number of youth employed in workshop projects increased from 40,000 during July 1940 to 138,000 during the last week of April 1941. Employment on all types of NYA projects had increased by 111 percent during this period; on workshop projects the increase was 166 percent.

PRODUCTION STRESSED

The NYA projects have been aimed more and more at the production of goods for use of public bodies, ranging from local school and park boards to establishments of the armed forces of the United States.

YOUNG WOMEN GIVEN TECHNICAL WORK

Several thousand young women have been placed in technical and mechanical projects to prepare them for possible emergencies in production of national defense goods.

RELATED TRAINING

The responsibility for providing classroom training for NYA youth which relates to the work performed by them on NYA projects has been delegated to local schools. These schools provide courses such as shop arithmetic, blueprint reading, properties of metals, and other technical training courses to supplement

NYA YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

403,337 young men and women were employed on NYA out-of-school work projects on April 16, 1941.

HEALTH, YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES JOIN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

A health expert and two youth representatives recently were added to the National Advisory Committee by President Roosevelt.

Miss Louise Morley, daughter of the novelist, has been chosen to represent NYA student youth, and James R. Herrington, Jr., an NYA project worker, has been selected as out-of-school NYA youth representative. The third appointee, Dr. William Freeman Snow, is special consultant of the United States Public Health Service, and is a well-known authority on health.

Miss Morley graduated from Bryn Mawr in June 1940. She is conference secretary for the International Student Service.

Mr. Herrington, a project employee at the NYA resident center of Chapman Springs, Ga., is vice-president of the center's self-governing group.

Dr. Snow has a long record of service in social hygiene and health education. He is a Fellow of the American Medical Association and the American Public Health Association.

HEALTH OF NYA YOUTH

Last autumn the NYA embarked upon a nationwide campaign for the improvement of the health of all NYA youth workers. This involves physical examinations for all youth, treatment for resident center youth, and directing young persons to health services available in their communities. This campaign is being carried on with the cooperation of the recognized medical associations.

Readers: Please let us know what specific types of information you wish to have appear in this bulletin. Suggestions and contributions will be most welcome.
Mr. President:

This morning, at the opening session of the meeting of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration, we were informed, confidentially, by your Federal Security Administrator, Governor McNutt, that you had issued instructions to draft legislation looking toward the amalgamation of the National Youth Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps, the transfer of the functions of the Civilian Conservation Corps, now performed by the War Department, to the Federal Security Agency, and that the legislation would be permanent—

The National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration wholeheartedly approves the action you have taken. The Advisory Committee is convinced that the major services rendered by both the National Youth Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps are needed now, will continue to be needed throughout the present defense period, and will be needed after the emergency has passed.

The Committee feels it most important that in this amalgamation, the values inherent in both organizations be preserved.

It is important that the youth program be flexible in character. One means of securing flexibility is through the operation of advisory committees at the federal, state, and local level, such as now operate in the program of the National Youth Administration, so that the basically democratic character of this national service for youth be preserved.
Only a multiple purpose program can meet the need of out-of-school unemployed youth. This program must at least have the following elements:

A. Employment for a wage for youth
B. An opportunity for youth to render valuable service through production, conservation, and service activities
C. Preparation for youth through training and work experience.
D. Provision for the guidance and adjustment of youth.
E. Provision for adequate health service and physical education.

Both the National Youth Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps have rendered service of great value to the American youth. This committee is mostly concerned with the preservation of the values of the work done by both organizations. Those values must not be lost.

Respectfully submitted,
National Advisory Committee
National Youth Administration
Charles W. Taussig, Chairman
This is perhaps the most important meeting we have held of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration. Previous meetings of the whole committee and of sub-committees have had to do largely with suggesting policies and objectives for NYA. These recommendations, sometimes in the form of resolutions, other times in the form of verbal presentations, were made to the President, to the Federal Security Administrator, Paul V. McNutt, and to the National Youth Administrator, Aubrey Williams. We have expressed opinions on many subjects, among them education, health, labor, Negro youth, rural youth, and recreation. At least once a year we have stressed the necessity of keeping NYA decentralized; and in keeping with this, we have emphasized the importance of community advisory committees. Last year the work of organizing these state and local committees was turned over to us. Generally speaking, the broad objectives which we have recommended from time to time for NYA have been followed.
During the past year, the economy of the United States has undergone a great change. I need not go into any details. It is too well known to all of us here. These new conditions have raised certain questions concerning NYA upon which it is our duty to confer and then to advise the President; in fact a few weeks ago, I received from the President a memorandum asking me when the committee was going to meet. Our presence here this morning is our answer to the President.

Here are some of the questions I think we should consider at this meeting:

1. Does increased employment, due to the defense program, make NYA unnecessary?

2. Should NYA confine its efforts to training young people to participate in the defense program?

3. Should NYA and CCC be merged?

4. Should the functions of NYA be transferred to the Office of Education?
5. Is the NYA simply a relief organization or should it be charged with the duty of helping to solve the more general problems of young people not otherwise being met?

Before we enter upon our discussion, I hope you will bear with me for a few moments while I briefly outline the background of our American youth problem as I see it.

In the years between the end of the last war and the present war, American youth has passed through three stages of development. These might be called briefly the sensual, the cynical, and the sensible.

The sensual we all remember; the period of so-called "flaming youth"; the emotional, exuberant reaction to the end of four years of terrible carnage, aided and abetted by the lawlessness and hypocrisy of prohibition and the excesses of the post-war economic boom.

The cynical was a "morning after the night before" affair and was ushered in with the depression. For youth
the world had not been made safe for democracy; the pursuit of happiness had become blind man's buff in a nation-wide blackout, and the road of ambition was blocked with a sign bearing the legend "no help wanted." To many disheartened young people, parents had become synonymous with fools, teachers with morons; priests with opiates, and government with decadence. The pied piper of demagogery grinned, tuned his pipes, and glanced at a score composed in Moscow, Berlin, and Rome.

To the ears of President Roosevelt came these wierd and sinister notes. Well did he know their meaning. If he could help it, there would be no "march on Rome", no Beer Hall Putsch", no "Hitler Jugend".

Like the Psalmist, the President must have said:

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help."

And to the hills he sent hundreds of thousands of American youth armed to the teeth - with pick and shovel -
there to commence the physical rebuilding of America. There were forests to be replanted; forests that had been up-rooted blindly by a thoughtless people. There were rivers and streams to be diverted back to their ancient courses; rivers and streams that had lost their way and were robbing the nation of its farm lands. And there were the seared souls of what we were pleased to call the "lost generation" to be healed and mended by sun, rain, wind, and human sweat. Thus did the CCC tear down one of the "no help wanted" signs.

But there was much more to be done for youth than to give them an opportunity to change the topography of the United States. There was other important public work to be done which would lead ultimately to private employment. To do this required training. There was, at that time, no public agency that could offer work experience with related instruction nor was there any way for our public educational institutions to provide paid work opportunities in the secondary schools and colleges to aid young people to finance their way through
school; nor was there any federal or local government administration properly organized to carry out a new responsibility recognized by the government which had as a goal to give every employable youth an opportunity to find gainful employment. For these purposes, and for the broad purpose of improving the general morale of youth, the National Youth Administration was created.

From the beginning NYA had a marked effect on the attitude of young people. The cynical age began to make way for the sensible age in the metamorphosis of youth attitudes. The Oxford Oath was thrown into the discard. Young people, individually and through their own youth organizations, began to work with government instead of against it. In a recent survey made by this committee, covering nearly every state in the Union, on the attitude of young people toward participating in national defense, we found that more than 95% of the youth of the country want to play a part in defense activities. Now that youth is getting from their government
some of the attention to which they are entitled they are reciprocating by asking "What can we contribute to our country?"

In the past six years, NYA has touched the lives of millions of American boys and girls through its highly decentralized program. It has been subjected to analysis and criticism yet at no time has the charge been made that we have regimented youth. We have developed a democratic technique of national service to youth which I feel must become a permanent part of our American institutions. When the defense crisis came upon the country, NYA was there to do its part. From January through August, 1941, 208,000 youth went from NYA work experience projects into private industry, many of them taking jobs in aircraft, machine tool, shipbuilding, chemical, and other defense activities.

And when the defense program tapers off and the country faces another crisis, it is my opinion that an NYA must still be there doing its part in helping another generation of young American boys and girls to weather the storm.
MEETING OF THE
NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
of the
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

October 27 - 28
MAYFLOWER HOTEL

A REPORT ON THE NYA PROGRAM
for
ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Prepared by the
Office of the National Advisory Committee

Federal Security Agency
National Youth Administration
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<th>Page</th>
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FOREWORD

Democracy can act! When it does, no human activity is more dramatic. When democracy is not in action it stops growing, begins to rot, dies.

The following information covers advisory committee activities from February of this year, when actual field work was begun. There is a large gain in the number of active committees, improvement in developing well-rounded representative membership, and a growing quality in committee activity.

The record is a beginning — only a beginning — but one which demonstrates the potentialities of democracy in action. Specifically it indicates:

1. That advisory committees can be an effective technique through which a Federal agency and citizens of the local communities can bring about a partnership of mutual responsibility to deal with common problems; that this is essential if Federal agencies are to be administered democratically.

2. That citizens in local communities are ready, willing and able to accept responsibility, which brings about a growing appreciation of the current needs of young people, plus an insistence that post-defense conditions be anticipated insofar as possible, if post-defense problems are to be met adequately and intelligently.

Much remains to be done. Constant emphasis is needed upon the principle that local citizens have responsibility for national problems, and that public officials must recognize that national problems are rooted in the local community.

S. Burns Weston
Director
Office of the National Advisory Committee
### Statistics of State and Local NYA Advisory Committees

Covering the period from February 1, through October 15, 1941:

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<tr>
<th>STATES</th>
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- **TOTALS**: 35
- **Active State Committees**: 60
- **No. State Committee Meetings**: 836
- **No. Members on State Committees**: 1,213
- **No. Active Local Committee Meetings**: 1,800
- **No. Local Committee Meetings**: 11,176
Throughout the country, membership on State and Local Advisory Committees in relation to the Interest Groups that are represented shows the following:

**TOTAL STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Members</th>
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<td>Labor Representatives</td>
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<td>Agriculture Representatives</td>
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<td>Education Representatives</td>
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<td>Social Welfare and Employment</td>
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<td>Service Representatives</td>
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<td>Civic Representatives</td>
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<td>Racial Minority Representatives</td>
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<td>Health Representatives</td>
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**TOTAL LOCAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

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<td>Health Representatives</td>
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* Statistics incomplete on this Interest Group
State and local NYA advisory committees have engaged in a variety of activities. A partial listing of these activities and the number of states in which they have occurred appear below:

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITIES (See below for guide)</th>
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<td>Building Facilities</td>
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<td>Canning Surplus Goods</td>
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<td>Citizenship</td>
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<td>Coordination with Other Agencies</td>
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<td>Furnishing of Materials</td>
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<td>Health</td>
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**GUIDE TO CLASSIFICATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

Under "Public Relations": Arranging for project tours, open house programs, and radio programs; and furnishing information to the press and other public relations activities.

Under "Production Orders Secured": Securing orders for finished products produced by NYA youth in project work.

Under "Transportation": Providing for transportation of youth to and from rural districts to work centers.

Under "Materials Furnished": Furnishing actual materials, or giving assistance in securing co-sponsors.

Under "NYA Youth Employment": Recommending standards for hours, ages, wages, and placement; and referring youth to NYA.

Under "Building Facilities": Securing assistance of city or county officials in needed housing or other buildings for projects.

* This report supplements the report covering period from Feb. 1 - June 15, 1941.
THE YOUTH SURVEY
WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR YOUR COMMUNITY TO STRENGTHEN THE PROGRAM OF NATIONAL DEFENSE?

On March 17, 1941, the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration requested state and local advisory committees to conduct an informal poll of youth's opinions, based upon this question.

Replies were received from young people in all parts of the country—from employed and unemployed youth, from youth working for NYA, WPA, and CCC, from youth in church organizations, schools, and in civic, social and sports clubs.

A preliminary analysis was made of the youth replies. This analysis was forwarded to the President early in July. The President responded with a letter which expressed gratification at the eagerness shown by the youth replies to cooperate in the program of national defense.

A more detailed analysis of the youth replies was undertaken by the Youth Section of the Post-Defense Study Division of the National Resources Planning Board, a section now planning for conservation of the nation's greatest single resource—its youth—in the anticipated post-war readjustment period.

Mr. Dudley L. Harley, Research Technician of the Board, analyzed a large number of replies; a summary of his findings is presented in the following pages.
The 3,000 questionnaires examined and analyzed by Mr. Harley yielded nearly 7,000 separate responses, many of the youth suggesting two or more different ways to strengthen national defense.

The separate responses—totalling 6,934—fall into three broad categories.

(a) Nearly half of them (3,345 or 48 percent of the total) consist simply of mention of some trade or occupation. Most of these responses shed no light on whether the youth was prepared to follow the occupation and thought it would be helpful to defense; whether it was simply the only kind of work he could do; whether it was an occupation he would be willing to prepare himself for as an aid to defense; or whether it was just something he wanted to do anyway. Nevertheless, the youth showed considerable imagination in thinking of the most specific contributions they could make to defense. Some of the most frequently mentioned occupations have obvious defense value—nursing and mechanics, for example.

(b) About one-fifth (1,471 or 21 percent) consist of suggestions or statements contributing to defense on the home front, such as organizing a home guard, selling savings bonds, or keeping up morale.

(c) The third group (2,118 or 31 percent of the total) consisted largely of responses which have a very real contribution to make to defense, but this contribution is of the nature of a by-product. The suggestions in this group are primarily for general improvement—either personal improvement for the youth himself, or improvement of his community (as through health, housing, and education), or improvement to society through matters of public policy, such as the abolition of unemployment.
SUMMARY OF 3,000 QUESTIONNAIRES

The specific responses contained in the 3,000 questionnaires can be classified as follows:

| II | General Improvement for Self, Community, or Society | 2,118 | 31 |
| III | Occupational Skills | 3,345 | 48 |

In addition:

- 68 of the youth whose questionnaires were among the 3,000 simply said they would do "anything"
- 20 simply wrote down "cooperate"
- 1 said he didn't know what he could do
- 2 said they could do nothing
- 1 wrote, "I rather not say"
- 1 wrote something that was undecipherable
- 1 wrote something that was unintelligible
## SUGGESTIONS DIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH DEFENSE

### SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total, Civilian Defense Services</td>
<td>429</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Community Participation, General</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Economy</td>
<td>185</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Education</td>
<td>76</td>
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<td>Total, Employment</td>
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<td>Total, Finance</td>
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<td>Total, Leisure and Recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Military Service</td>
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<td>Total, Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Personal Characteristics</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Public Relations</td>
<td>127</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Religion</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, Social Welfare</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total, Suggestions Directly Connected With Defense**

1,471
Some examples of the responses directly connected with defense on the home front:

"Have all youth register for defense work."
"Help build shelters for air-raid protection."
"Can roll bandages."
"Encourage one's parents to join a home guard."
"Help protect all government property."
"Collect goods the government has asked for."
"Cut down on luxuries."
"Use less power."
"Encourage others to be thrifty."
"Give more courses in school which will help strengthen national defense."
"Airplane factories should have vocational schools for youth."
"Register all idle persons for vocational training."
"Find the defense work for which one is best suited."
"Forego strikes in defense industries."
"Prevent inflation."
"Help raise funds for defense."
"Sponsor a dance, admission to be a defense stamp or piece of scrap aluminum or iron."
"Federal government should take measures to prevent the diseases likely to result from the war."

"Be an army hostess or recreational adviser."
"Lower the draft age to 18."
"Track down fifth-columnists."
"All war equipment should be camouflaged now."
"Join an organization (or form one) to promote defense."
"Be patriotic."
"Why doesn't someone educate us by movies, talks, and rallies about taking responsibility and learning about the national defense program and how we can contribute our share to it?"
"Could be means of emphasizing the significance of living in America."
"Invite service men to attend church."
"Better houses needed for defense workers."
## GENERAL IMPROVEMENT FOR
### SELF, COMMUNITY, OR SOCIETY

### SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total, Citizenship</td>
<td>175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Conservation</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, Economic Conditions</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Education</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, Employment</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, General Social or Community Improvement</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, Health</td>
<td>505</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Home</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Leisure and Recreation</td>
<td>895</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, Personal Qualities</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, Religion</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, Social Welfare</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, General Improvement for Self, Community, or Society</td>
<td>2,118</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some examples of responses concerned with general improvement for self, community, or society:

"Increase the population."
"Learn to be a better citizen."
"Make democracy work here."
"Learn to share the responsibilities as well as the rights and privileges of democracy."
"Fight intolerance."
"Keep informed about one's community responsibilities."
"Young people should be given a chance to work and help in the community."
"Conserve natural resources."
"Give farms a marginal profit on staple goods produced."
"Make high school education compulsory."
"Promote consumer education."
"Teach illiterate people to read and write."
"Should be more aptitude testing in connection with choice of vocation."
"Vocational training should be available to all youth who need to earn a living."
"Jobs for everyone."
"Support and extend wages and hours legislation."
"Refrain from joining outlaw strikes."
"Defend the rights of labor."
"See that all people have an adequate job, proper housing, health facilities for all, more justice, and a lot more freedom of speech."
"Give everyone a sufficient stake in our democracy to make it worth fighting for."
"Young people should organize to discuss social improvement and then work towards this end."
"Keep in good health."
"Do away with drinks."
"Free physical examinations."
"Teach cleanliness."
"Prepare more nourishing meals, utilize food better, eat wisely."
"See what needs to be done and do it without being told."
"Uphold the values for which Christianity and the Church stand."
"Engage in charitable activities."

---
OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS

That Youth Are Ready To Place At Their Country's
Service Or That They Wish Or Are Willing To
Acquire To Aid National Defense

SUMMARY

Total, Agriculture, Forestry, and Mining _______________ 153
Total, Business and Commercial _________________________ 1031
Total, Construction __________________________________ 182
Total, Manufacturing and Mechanical Industries ___________ 616
Total, Professional and Semi-Professional ________________ 414
Total, Service Occupations ______________________________ 306
Total, Transportation and Communication ________________ 437
Total, Unskilled Labor __________________________________ 186
Total, Not Otherwise Classified ___________________________ 20

Total, Occupational Skills _____________________________ 3,345
After tabulating the responses according to the three major breakdowns shown in the preceding tables, Mr. Harley re-grouped them according to the frequency with which certain responses appeared in the youth replies.

He discovered that over three-fifths of the responses readily grouped themselves into 17 categories.

These categories and the number of responses falling into each of them are presented on the following page.
## RESPONSES OCCURRING MOST FREQUENTLY IN THE ANALYSIS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL RESPONSES</td>
<td>6,934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Work (various kinds)</td>
<td>966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work in Manufacturing and Mechanical Industries (various kinds)</td>
<td>616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Machinist — 134  Metal work — 124)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needlework (Chiefly sewing)</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drive car or Truck</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooking</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Work (various kinds)</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work for Better Health Conditions (various responses)</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Work (various kinds)</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raise Food Products</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form Some Sort of Relationship (various kinds) to Organizations that Promote National Defense (various specified)</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Aid (various responses)</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furnish Recreation Leadership (various kinds)</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be a Good Citizen (various responses)</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housework</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take Better Care of Own Health (various responses)</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Others</td>
<td>2,714</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXAMPLES OF OUTSTANDING ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEES

The following are specific activities taken from the Monthly Reports of state and local advisory committees:

HEALTH:

The Health sub-committee of the IDAHO State Advisory Committee recommended that projects be diversified so that physically handicapped youth might also participate in the program. The members of the committee, in cooperation with the health administrator, will aid in obtaining the necessary help from service clubs and other sources to provide medical care, which, at the present time, neither the youth nor the administrator can provide and without which the youth may not participate in the program.

Members of the LEFLORE COUNTY advisory committee in MISSISSIPPI, will commence a program of health among the local NYA workers at once. The first phase of the work will be to secure corrections of dental maladjustments. The committee chairman is to interview local dentists in an effort to secure their cooperation, and another member will prepare the necessary information to get the program under way.

NEGRO YOUTH:

The LINCOLN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI Negro Committee is making plans for an all-out campaign for better nutrition, which, this committee feels, is an integral part of our national defense effort for wartime emergency.

Members of the Negro Committee of the ORLEANS PARISH in LOUISIANA are concerning themselves with the inclusion of Negro youth in the national defense training program. They voted to make plans for the setting up of a girls' nursing project. A sub-committee was named to contact a possible sponsor for this project.

NYA YOUTH EMPLOYMENT:

The state advisory committee for ILLINOIS made a recommendation to the effect that "It is recommended by this committee that the Illinois State Employment Service and NYA make a study of the need for additional work concerning NYA jobs under the defense program." This committee further suggested that the youth be put on a 6-hour shift—18 1/2 days month—instead of the days now worked. This cut in hours will make it possible for the girls on the night shift to finish their work by 8:00 P.M.
NYA YOUTH EMPLOYMENT (Cont.):

In OLIVET, MICHIGAN, the local advisory committee set up plans for making a survey of youth in this area to determine if there are enough youth available to make local defense shops practical. If the survey shows that there are not enough local youth for a project, plans will be made to transport the youth who wish to take this training to the nearby city of Charlotte. It has been suggested that school buses or privately owned cars may be used for this purpose.

PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT:

Members of the FESSENDEN, NORTH DAKOTA, local advisory committee have been active in placing young people in private employment during the harvest season.

* * *

The TRAVIS COUNTY Committee in TEXAS interested itself in the work of the Texas State Employment Service in making private placement of NYA youth in the domestic service field.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS:

The members of the BURLINGHAM, ALABAMA, committee sponsored a dance and also a party for over 400 girls on the girls' NYA Resident Center project.

* * *

In BERLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE, male members of the local advisory committee will get together with NYA young men for a stag party and the women members of the committee are to meet with NYA girls.

* * *

Members of the PALO PINTO, CALIFORNIA, committee made plans to provide entertainment for the soldiers at nearby Camp Walters.

TRANSPORTATION:

Sub-committees of the Eastern SUFFOLK COUNTY committee in LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK, and FREDERICK COUNTY committee in MARYLAND were appointed to study transportation facilities for youth living at remote distances so that they might attend the nearby NYA work centers.
PUBLIC RELATIONS:

In MODESTO, CALIFORNIA, the local NYA advisory committee attacked the problem of acquainting the community with the fact that the "NYA was not disbanding." Certain members of this committee are to address local service clubs, after studying material available in the county office. Further than this, the committee has had a short resume of the program mimeographed for public distribution.

At a meeting of the GLEN COVE City Youth Service Commission (the NYA advisory committee for Glen Cove, Long Island) it was unanimously decided that the recent criticisms in the newspapers were extremely unfair to the local NYA and accordingly a resolution was passed to send a letter to congressmen and senators from the Long Island area.

PRODUCTION ORDERS SECURED:

The BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA, Advisory Committee appointed a sub-committee composed of the County Engineer and the City Manager to work with the NYA Superintendent in order to plan and schedule production to be done in the NYA shops for the county and the city.

Members of the TAMA COUNTY, IOWA, committee secured production orders from local public agencies for the local NYA work shops.

YOUTH DEFENSE REPLIES:

A special project, undertaken by advisory committees in 38 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, was a survey of youth's opinions based on the question "What Can You Do for Your Community to Strengthen the Program of National Defense?" This question was asked of young people between the ages of 16 and 24, youth in NYA projects, church groups, local clubs, scout troops and other youth organizations: 17,768 replies were received.

HOUSING:

Members of the GALLUP, NEW MEXICO, committee are trying to find a home or homes for home management training for young women.

A sub-committee of the TOPEKA, KANSAS, advisory committee is concerned with providing additional housing facilities for youth assigned to the NYA shop.
BREAKDOWN OF FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND THE FURNISHING
OF MATERIALS BY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Monthly Reports sent in by the states indicate that advisory committees
have secured financial contributions and materials used in connection with
local programs of the National Youth Administration.

In some instances committees have donated these funds and materials
to themselves. In other instances they have been secured by NYA advisory com-
mittee members in cooperation with other local civic organizations and
interested private citizens.

It can be estimated conservatively from the state records that approxi-
mately $75,000 have been raised by advisory committees to further the program
of the National Youth Administration. Materials furnished and services
rendered cannot be counted in dollars and cents, but they must be considered
as one of the most outstanding examples of advisory committee work.

Illustrations show that:

- Washing machines, American flags, books, trees, flowers and shrubs,
a concrete mixer, eyeglasses, cinders for grading purposes, over
40,000 yards of material for a sewing project, and other raw materials
for NYA work shops were secured by advisory committees.
- Loan funds for needy youth to be used for the purchase of eyeglasses,
equipment needed for jobs in private industry, as well as for dental
work and remedial health care were established.
- Buildings, space in buildings, and grounds for NYA projects were
secured.
- Transportation to and from the project sites, as well as airplane
rides were offered to youth by advisory committees.
- Free radio time for information use on the policies and aims of
the National Youth Administration was secured by advisory committees.
- Remedial health services, such as x-rays, inoculations, and dental
care were secured.
- A saving to the National Youth Administration by the reduction of the
bid and contract price for a resident center building was effected by
an advisory committee.
- Funds were donated for rental fees of project sites, public utilities
such as heat, lighting and coal, and for supervisory salaries.
In November 1940 the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration, meeting at Washington, D. C., adopted a resolution calling for the representation of youth in the National, State, and local committees.

Since then:

Four young people have been appointed by the President to serve on the NYA National Advisory Committee.

In each of over 40 states an average of two young people sit as members of the NYA state advisory committees.

Over 1,000 youth are members of local NYA advisory committees.

To broaden and deepen the role of youth in their democracy is one of the major tasks facing the NYA National Advisory Committee during the year ahead.

The Youth Sub-Committee of the National Advisory Committee already has fired the opening gun in this campaign. Meeting with Mrs. Roosevelt at Hyde Park on August 28, 1941, the Youth Sub-Committee called for extension of youth's participation in NYA advisory committees, and for the formation of sub-committees of youth in each of the state and local committees.

These sub-committees are to consist not only of youth members of the NYA advisory committees, but also of representatives of youth councils at NYA projects and of young people drawn from youth organizations and from the community at large. These sub-committees, chaired by a youth member of the NYA advisory committee, will bring representative youth views to committee considerations and at the same time encourage youth to recognize and attempt to meet their own problems.

There already exist many NYA "youth councils" throughout the country, doing yeoman service in behalf of the members of their own generation. The Canton, Ohio, Youth Council and the New Jersey Youth Councils have been discussed in the pages of "YOUTH and the COMMUNITY." In Michigan; the Allegan County Youth Council has been conducting research on job opportunities, the community agencies which could be called upon for assistance, and the establishment of guidance services for youth. In many other communities throughout the country, youth are awakening to their responsibilities, and are rolling up their sleeves in preparation for the work ahead.
COMMENTS ON "YOUTH and the COMMUNITY"

At the last meeting of the National Advisory Committee a recommendation was made that an official bulletin be circulated to members of all NYA advisory committees throughout the country, for educational purposes of interchanging workable, proven techniques for activity.

The first task of the Office of the National Advisory Committee was to expand and stimulate the advisory committee program in the states. As soon as this was under way it was possible to obtain information for the publication. On May 15, 1941, the bulletin, "YOUTH and the COMMUNITY" was first issued. Eighteen thousand copies are circulated monthly.

While the bulletin has recognized limitations, the following are a few of the comments received:

"...These issues of YOUTH and the COMMUNITY are objective, informative, and most readable, and in a word adult...."
- Miss Amelia Sears, Illinois State Advisory Committee member.

"...We have found the little paper an inspiration to our advisory committee and very helpful to the many youth clubs we sponsor...."
- Mrs. Alyce P. Datrieullle, local Advisory Committee member of Clinton, Connecticut.

"...YOUTH and the COMMUNITY is rendering a fine service. The interchange of ideas and information are especially of value and importance to local groups. I have found in many instances that the local committees are not awake to their opportunities, and through this bulletin they are now given a challenge which should result in increased activity and benefit...."
- John Lang, State Youth Administrator for North Carolina.

"...These bulletins are a tremendous help to us in our advisory committee work...."
- Eleanor R. Bayley, Administrative Assistant for Advisory Committee work in Vermont

"...Please send....additional copies....We have found Tennessee's suggestions particularly helpful and are incorporating some of them into the Maryland Program...."
- Glen D. Brown, State Youth Administrator for Maryland
May 26, 1941

Dear Mr. Taussig,

I have asked Mr. and Mrs. Cramer to dine here on Tuesday, June 10th.

I spoke to the President about the Caribbean division and he says what you suggest would not do, because of Secretary Ike's feeling. So perhaps you will try to think up someone else.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall St. NYC
June 5, 1941

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 26th telling me that you have asked the Cramers to dine at the White House on June 10th.

I also note what the President said about the Caribbean division.

Many thanks for giving this matter your attention.

Cordially yours,

CWT: WBJ

CHARLES WILLIAM TAUSSIG
120 WALL STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.
August 14, 1941

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have advised Mr. Taussig of your letter of August 8th and I believe he will communicate with you. We are planning to hold the meeting on August 26th. Mr. Taussig has offered to have the group at his home at Key Shore.

We are delighted that you will be able to meet with the youth members of the National Advisory Committee.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

S. Parish Sessions, Director
Office of the National Advisory Committee
September 18, 1941.

My dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed photograph, which she has been more than glad to autograph.

With Mrs. Roosevelt's best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
120 Wall Street
New York, New York.
MISS THOMPSON:

THEY PLAN TO MOTOR UP TO HYDE PARK
FROM NYC. AND WANT TO KNOW WHAT TIME OF
DAY MRS. ROOSEVELT WILL EXPECT THEM.

[Signature]
September 22, 1941

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Ruth and I are deeply grateful to you for having sent us your photograph with an inscription. It is a splendid picture and we will treasure it.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

CWT:RDG
October 2, 1941

Dear Mr. Taussig:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to thank you for your letter, seconding the invitation extended to her by Mr. John E. Bryan, to attend the dedication ceremonies at the resident center at Fayette, Alabama.

Mrs. Roosevelt is sorry that it was necessary to decline Mr. Bryan's invitation. She will be in Alabama at the time of the dedication, but on a paid lecture trip, which fact prevents her making any other engagements in the vicinity.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
Chairman, National Advisory Committee
National Youth Administration
Washington, D.C.
September 24, 1941

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Mr. John E. Bryan, State Youth Administrator for Alabama, tells me that he has invited you to attend the dedication ceremony at the new resident center at Fayette, Alabama. I should like to second Mr. Bryan's invitation and express the hope that you will find it possible to attend.

They have been developing a genuinely active advisory committee program in that state and your presence would lend much impetus to their work and, of course, to the NYA program generally.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles W. Taussig
Chairman
January 12, 1942

Dear Mr. Taussig:

I presented the situation on NTA and left the memorandum with Mr. Smith, Director of the Budget.

Much to my surprise, they were in complete sympathy and took, as did Mr. McNutt, a very satisfactory stand. They felt that it is the Secretary of the Treasury's recommendation which has given impetus to Senator Byrd's economy resolution.

I think they mean to work out something. I will keep after it and try to get more information.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Chas. W. Taussig
120 Wall St., NYC
New York, N.Y.
January 19, 1942

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am glad indeed to learn from your letter of January 12th that Mr. Smith, Director of the Budget, and Mr. McNutt took kindly to the memorandum concerning NYA. Thanks to your efforts, I think the prospects of the National Youth Administration are brighter than they have been for some months past.

Cordially yours,

Chairman

CWT: WBJ
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

In accordance with our conversation this morning, I have revised the next to last paragraph to read in part as follows:

"... transferred to the Executive Office of the President, and possibly to work in conjunction with the National Resources Planning Board, and the committees assigned specific responsibilities in regard to present and future problems of youth, in cooperation with the various federal agencies concerned. . . ."

I appreciate very much your offer to hand this letter to the President.

Cordially,

Charles W. Taussig
Chairman
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 13, 1942

MISS THOMPSON:

Mr. Taussig would like to see Mrs. Roosevelt.

He will be here all week and can be reached at the State Department branch 2612 or 2620.

Mr.
Miss Thompson:

Mr. Taussig left for New York today. His daughter is being married on Saturday.
July 30, 1943.

Dear Mr. Taussig:

Thank you so much for your letter. I was interested to see the copies of the President's letter to you and your letter to the members of the National Advisory Committee.

It was good of you to write and I am deeply appreciative of your very kind expressions about me.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Mr. Charles W. Taussig
Chairman of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration
Washington, D. C.
My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You will be interested, I am sure, in the letter the President sent me concerning the National Youth Administration and the letter I have sent to all members of the National Advisory Committee.

I feel that the eclipse of the National Youth Administration is temporary and that at the proper time its successor will emerge strong and sturdy from the experience we have accumulated during our eight years of existence.

The young people of the United States have so frequently expressed to you their appreciation of all that you have done for them, that it would be repetitious for me to add my own gratitude. My thanks to you is strictly personal; greatfulness for the assistance and the support that I have always had from you in my efforts to make the Advisory Committee useful. It has been a great privilege to work with you in this field.

Cordially,

Enclosures

Charles W. Taussig, Chairman

Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
My dear

The recent act of Congress terminates the activities of the National Youth Administration. Until about a year ago, the National Advisory Committee took an active part in the affairs of the National Youth Administration and advised the President on matters generally affecting the welfare of young Americans. In retrospect, the members of the Committee can view with satisfaction the part they played in helping to pilot the youth of the country through a difficult period.

We are too close to the era of the National Youth Administration accurately to assay its total impact on the youth of our country. Tunis, Sicily and Guadalcanal is sufficient answer to those who claim we pampered our young people and made them soft. My own viewpoint is that through the National Youth Administration a technique was developed for assisting youth through a depressed economic period in a manner consistent with the principles of democracy.

Your participation in the work of the Committee is appreciated by your chairman, and, far more important, by your President. His letter to us, of which I enclose a photostat, speaks for itself.

Hoping that I may again have the opportunity of being associated with you in public work, I am

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Taussig
Chairman

Enclosure
My dear Mr. Taussig:

On June 29, 1935, I appointed you as Chairman of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration, together with a group of outstanding citizens as members of the Committee. On many occasions you and the Committee met with me to discuss ways and means of assisting young Americans to meet the serious problems confronting them due to lack of employment opportunities and other matters pertaining to their welfare.

The recent act of Congress ends for the present the activities of the National Youth Administration and the National Advisory Committee. Will you please convey for me to all of the members of the Committee my appreciation of the patriotic service they have rendered both to me and to the youth of our country.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Honorable Charles W. Taussig,
Chairman of the National Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration,
Washington, D. C.
October 16, 1944.

Dear Mr. Taussig:

The President thinks all of your ideas are enormously interesting and agrees with you. He really wants to be brought up to date on everything but thinks your memorandum is all he needs before election. After that, he will make an appointment with you and in the meantime thanks you very much for your memorandum.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Mr. Charles A. Taussig,
120 Wall Street
New York, New York.