

REXFORD TUGWELL

1933 - 1944

100

July 6, 1933

Dear Dr. Tugwell:

Many thanks for the book. I
deeply appreciate your sending it to
me and I know that it will fill many
needs as I can look for innumerable
things in it.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. Rexford C. Tugwell
Cosmos Club
Washington, D.C.

100
November 8, 1931

Dear Professor Tugwell:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 26th with the list of manufacturers and also your letter of October 27th. I will keep what you sent me for my personal information.

Very sincerely yours,

Professor R. G. Tugwell
Department of Agriculture
Washington
DC



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 27, 1933

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt

Thank you very much for your letter of the 27th

I have been hearing such encouraging reports of your recent activities in support of the pending Copeland Food and Drugs Bill, that I am taking this opportunity to send you a word of appreciation and to tell you how very grateful we are for your efforts.

It has occurred to me that you might like to know the general trend of the opposition so that you may be somewhat armoured against attack.

The opposition to the bill is, of course, intense. Cosmetic manufacturers have made no objections and the opposition of the food manufacturers has been sporadic and unorganized. The proprietary-remedy people, however, have organized and are launching a campaign against the new bill. They are publishing clever and misleading statements about the bill and are using their influence with advertising agencies handling their accounts, thus reaching a great number of editors and publishers.

The most common charge is that the bill will stop all self-medication.

The real issue is whether drug products shall be advertised honestly or dishonestly. The bill seeks merely to give the consumer, who does not have scientific knowledge of disease and its treatment, the opportunity to know the whole truth about the medicine he takes by forcing manufacturers to be strictly truthful in their labeling and advertising. He will not be urged to treat himself for incurable ailments and will not be misled by exorbitant therapeutic claims in treating curable ones. In fact, the bill will tend to increase self-medication since, if dishonest products are removed from the market, consumers will have more confidence in the honest products remaining.

Another strong argument made to publishers is that advertising revenues will decrease.

For a time, it is true, there is likely to be a downward trend in returns but as the character of advertising improves and the public regains confidence in it, the practical certainty is that the volume of advertising by legitimate interests will increase much more than enough to replace the loss of the questionable and fraudulent advertising now in existence.

A third argument, that the present law, plus the Federal Trade Commission Act and the postal laws, gives the government ample authority to protect the public, ignores entirely the weaknesses of the present food and drugs act in its failure to prohibit the sale of drugs which are dangerous to health under the conditions of use prescribed in the labeling, the absence of any provision to control false and misleading advertising, and the inadequacies of the present law in dealing with false therapeutic claims. The postal laws have been effective only in the limited field of mail order businesses, and the Federal Trade Commission Act is not an effective instrument for the protection of consumers since any action under that law must show unfair commercial competition.

Objection is taken to the language in which the definition of false advertising is couched. The claim is that no one knows what is meant by the phrase "which by ambiguity or inference creates a misleading impression" and that the fate of an advertiser depends upon the construction that the Administration officials put upon the words.

This language was taken from a decision of the Supreme Court which has served as the standard in enforcement for statements on the label under the existing act and every medical manufacturer in the country knows exactly what it means. The courts, not the administrative officials, will continue to have the final interpretation of these words and of every other phrase and provision of the bill.

As to the claim that the bill would set up a censorship, it is true that the government must reserve the right to draw the line between mere exaggeration and dangerous, fraudulent claims, but reputable manufacturers should be the first to support this censorship which will drive out the fakirs and quacks and encourage confidence in the legitimate food and drug manufacturers.

These few points constitute the highlights of the opposition. I hope that you will let us give you any assistance you may need in your very worthy campaign, and that you will accept our very sincere thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

R. G. Truwell
Assistant Secretary

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

October 26, 1933

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Pursuant to your recent request, I am sending you herewith a list of outstanding cosmetic manufacturers whose cosmetics have been approved from the standpoint of their healthfulness.

Because of government limitations, we are unable to submit this as an official list and it will be necessary, therefore, that you use it in your personal contacts only. These recommendations are made solely from the point of view of safety and healthfulness; the question of price has not been considered.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

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

Elizabeth Arden

Harriet Hubbard Ayer, Inc.*

Cheramy, Inc.

Coty, Inc.

Denny & Denny

Eugene, Ltd.

Martha Matilda Harper, Inc.

Houbigant, Inc.

The Jergens-Woodbury Sales Corp.

Marion Lambert, Inc.

Lehn & Fink, Inc.

- also distributors for: Dorothy Gray Co., Ltd. and
Lesquendieu, Inc.

Mello-Glo Company

Pinaud, Inc.

The Pompeian Co., Inc.

Pond's Extract Company

Princess Pat, Ltd.

Yardley & Co. Ltd.

* The depilatory manufactured by this company has been found to
be dangerous.

700

November 11, 1933

Dear Professor Tugwell:

I am very much interested in going out to Beltsville and will telephone you as soon as I see a chance of getting away for an afternoon.

Very sincerely yours,

Prof. R. G. Tugwell
Assistant Secretary of Agriculture

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

November 7, 1933

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Mr. M. L. Wilson tells me that he has spoken to you about the possibility of a subsistence homestead project at Beltsville.

I have taken a good deal of interest in this project from its beginning and nothing would give me greater pleasure than to have you interest yourself in its development. Beltsville is only twelve miles from Washington. We are spending some three million dollars in improvements to our farms and laboratories, and if you could find the time, I should very much like to have you go out there with me some afternoon at your convenience and size up the project for yourself. I am sure you would find it very interesting.

Respectfully,

Handwritten notes:
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901

Signature: R. G. Truwell
Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

November 14, 1933

Free

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I shall plan to take you out to Beltsville
on the afternoon of December sixth. Please plan
to reserve three hours for the trip.

Sincerely yours,

R. G. Tringwood

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

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December 7, 1933

Dear Professor Tugwell:

ought anything to be
done about this?

Very sincerely,

Prof. Rex Tugwell
Dept. of Agriculture

Let. from Dr. Alexander S. Horovits
1860 Broadway, New York
about "Narcosan"

2

Postal Telegraph

(THE MACKEY SYSTEM)

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK-END CABLE LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired, otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.



ALL AMERICA
CABLES

COMMERCIAL
CABLES

Receiver's Number
CHECK
TIME FILED
STANDARD TIME

Send the following Message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Form 2

HON R G TUGWELL
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON D C

TELEGRAM RECEIVED REGRET NOT BEING ABLE TO DO AS YOU ASK
BUT PARAMOUNT NEWS SAYS IT WILL TAKE ABOUT AN HOUR THEY DID
NOT WANT TO DO IT LAST NIGHT IN ANY CASE AND I AM AFRAID I
COULD NOT SPARE THAT MUCH TIME AT PRESENT

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

Elo

TELEGRAM

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
New York.

AS YOU KNOW A NEW FOOD AND DRUG BILL DRAFTED IN AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT AND APPROVED BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WAS INTRODUCED BY SENATOR COPELAND IN LAST SESSION OF CONGRESS AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR PRESENT ANTIQUATED PURE FOOD LAW stop OUR FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION HAS PREPARED SOME VERY GRAPHIC EXHIBITS DEMONSTRATING THE NEED OF A REVISED LAW AND ONE SET OF THESE IS ON EXHIBITION AT WOMEN'S INDUSTRIES ARTS EXPOSITION ASTOR HOTEL, NEW YORK stop I HAVE LEARNED THAT YOU EXPECT TO VISIT THE EXPOSITION SEPTEMBER TWENTY-EIGHTH AND THAT PARAMOUNT NEWS REEL PEOPLE WISH TO MAKE MOVIE TONE SHOWING YOU INSPECTING FOOD AND DRUG EXHIBIT AND, IF YOU WILL, SAYING A FEW WORDS INDORSING THE NEW BILL stop I HOPE YOU CAN FIND IT POSSIBLE TO DO SO stop YOUR INDORSEMENT WOULD BE INVALUABLE stop WE ARE CONVINCED THAT PUBLIC WELFARE ABSOLUTELY DEMANDS A NEW LAW TO COPE WITH PRESENT DAY CONDITIONS stop PRESENT LAW WAS REASONABLY ADAPTED TO CONDITIONS OF A GENERATION AGO AND INSOFAR AS IT GOES, HAS BEEN EFFECTIVE, BUT SCOPE IS EXTREMELY LIMITED stop IT REQUIRES TRUTHFUL LABELS BUT HAS NO JURISDICTION OVER ADVERTISING, WHICH IS SO OFTEN FLAGRANTLY FALSE stop IT HAS NO CONTROL OVER POISONOUS COSMETICS, SLENDERIZING DEVICES, AND THE LIKE, ALL OF WHICH SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT CONTROL AS AN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURE stop THE DEPARTMENT BILL, SENATE NINETEEN FORTY -FOUR WILL GIVE THE PUBLIC HIGHLY DESIRABLE PROTECTION ON THESE AND MANY OTHER PHASES ON FOOD, DRUG AND COSMETIC TRAFFIC AND DO NO DAMAGE TO HONEST MANUFACTURERS

(signed) R. G. TUGWELL
Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

copy

(This telegram was sent from Washington, D.C. this morning to Mrs. Roosevelt at Hyde Park, N.Y., by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Dr. Tugwell.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

EASTERN DISTRICT
ROOM 1200, U. S. APPRAISER'S STORES
201 VARICK STREET

TELEPHONE: WALKER 5-2828-2829-2862

IN REPLY REFER TO

New York, N. Y.,

September 28, 1933.

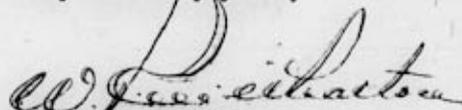
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
49 East 65th Street,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am sending by messenger copy of a telegram, which was sent to you at Hyde Park, N.Y., by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Dr. R.G. Tugwell, from Washington this morning.

I am sending this copy to insure that this telegram reaches you in New York.

Very cordially yours,



W. R. M. WHARTON,
Chief, Eastern District.

encl:

(copy of telegram to
Mrs. Roosevelt from
Dr. R.G. Tugwell.)

110
February 22, 1934

Dear Mr. Tugwell:

I hate to ask you to bother to read this letter, but the suggestion being made that the place might possibly be used as a model farm home makes me think that it would have to come under your department. The fact that the place has an historical interest might be of value, but I hardly think that any of the historical societies have the money to undertake anything. Therefore, it would be more apt to have possibilities for use along the line of a model farm. Will you let me know if you think there is any chance of doing anything with it? I have simply told the woman I am trying to find some information for her.

Very sincerely yours,

Professor R.G. Tugwell
Department of Agriculture

let from
Mrs. M.R. Stone
Port Tobacco
Maryland

February 24, 1934

Dear Mr. Tugwell:

I haven't read the enclosed pamphlet. I am afraid I could not understand it. Will you let me know if there is anything in it, or is the woman just furious because the Department has not used her?

Very sincerely yours,

Hon. R. G. Tugwell
Department of Agriculture
Letter from Florence E. Wall
255 E. 22d St.
New York

February 27, 1934

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Dear Professor Tugwell:

Do you think it would be possible to act quickly through something which would make it possible for this man to have a loan, if there is some technical way in which he could comply with the regulations?

Very sincerely yours,

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Hon. R. G. Tugwell
Department of Agriculture

Let. from B. F. Metcalf
Chittenango
New York

February 28, 1934

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Dear Professor Tugwell:

Please look into these things and
let me know if there is anything in what
this man writes.

Very sincerely yours,

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Hon. R. G. Tugwell
Department of Agriculture

Let. from Walter B. Simons
36 LaSalle St.
Buffalo
N.Y.

SEE

May 5, 1934

My dear Dr. Tugwell:

I am much interested in both of your speeches but how could you for a minute think that the Methodists would not expire over the title of "Wine, Women and the New Deal"? I am surprised you are not flooded from every single part of the country with letters from the W.C.T.U. I had that experience myself.

But laughing aside, I think you did a swell job in both of these speeches. However, I think I would be a little more conservative in my use of words and titles at other times. Your sense of humor does lead you into traps I am afraid.

I wish I could do as well in my speeches to young women as you did in your Dartmouth speech. It was a grand challenge and full of suggestions that ought to help their imaginations. My hat is always off to your courage.

Very sincerely yours,

Honorable Rexford G. Tugwell
Assistant Secretary of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

S:DD

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

act.
5/3/34

May 1, 1934.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Dr. Tugwell thinks you might be interested in seeing the attached copies of two speeches he has made recently - especially the speech which is drawing so much fire from the Methodists.

Sincerely,

Grace E. Falk

Assistant to the
Assistant Secretary.

Mrs. Roosevelt,

The White House

WINE, WOMEN AND THE NEW DEAL

Address of Rexford G. Tagwell, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, before the Women's National Democratic Club, at its luncheon, February 5.

I find that there is a pretty general attitude that the men who are engaged in administering the policies of the New Deal are a pretty grim lot, that we are painfully serious and so ferociously in earnest that we take no vacation from the eternal verities. Exception is always made, in this generalization, for cheerful good temper of the President but the rest of us are usually portrayed as cadaverous fanatics or haggard heroes wrestling with stupendous problems in a spirit of humorless ferocity.

Our problems are, of course, very large and must be dealt with in a serious temper but it would be treason to the entire spirit of the New Deal to lose sight of the fact that its objective, as stated by President Roosevelt himself, is to make possible a more abundant life for the American people. A more abundant life implies a happier and perhaps a less hectic type of existence for the average man and woman, it implies the enjoyment of the good things of life in security and contentment, and the cultivation, through such enjoyment, of the good things of the spirit: reflection, philosophy, conversation and leisure.

Instead of people arguing that we are too grim, we might justifiably contend that the Old Order has made people too grim, that the presence of physical abundance in the increasing variety, hitherto associated only with the tropics, should not imply an increasing struggle for existence among the heirs and assigns of this abundance. We see that our task is fundamentally the spiritual task of calling a halt on the intemperate national tradition of going places and doing things and labelling the result pleasure. Our political dedication to the pursuit of happiness, as one of the fundamental

rights of humanity, has been too rigidly interpreted as a species of buffalo hunt or a riding to hounds, in which we either exterminated our quarry or risked brecking our own necks.

Happiness is a shy creature and can be pursued in other ways than in organizing a posse or imposing a cover-charge on those who would capture it. It must be approached delicately or, better still, encouraged to approach its pursuer, or else it takes flight and then, if captured by swift and resolute pursuit, is swiftly slain. You may hang the trophy on your wall, but it is apt to stay there, and not again to afford you pleasure.

One of the oldest and quietest roads to contentment lies through that traditional trinity of wine, woman and song. If either bathtub gin or three-weeks whisky is substituted for the first element in this combination, the result is best characterized by the associations we have with the word "jazz." We all know what this led to in the pre-war saloon era and we all know that the excesses of the bootleg decade produced the revulsion of national feeling which has brought back legalized alcoholic beverages. While youth and high spirits must be served, there is no sense in converting them into a moral servitude which dictates that drunkenness is the chief end of drinking or confuses intoxication with happiness. We have a chance, now that the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment is an accomplished fact, to clamp down on these lusty juvenalia and to substitute a tradition of greater maturity.

This is the tradition of wine, used as a mild social stimulant, together with good food, good talk and good company and, let me add, good song. "Sweet Adeline" may serve to blow off steam, but that is all it does, and it is, to my mind, an unfortunate survival of the old saloon tradition which implied that men desired to escape from the company of their womenfolk and raise the roof in each other's company. I am frank to admit that I am partial to the European tradition of open air cafes and beer-gardens, where

decent men and women can drink quietly in the open air under the eyes of their neighbors and where the two sexes can exert on each other the discipline of each other's presence. Covert drinking is akin to segregated drinking and segregated drinking is akin to secret drinking and secret drinking is the mark of the drunkard. I prefer that anything so natural as the result of the natural process of fermentation should be treated naturally and not, through moralistic regulations, converted into a clandestine and hence artificially exciting form of sinful self-indulgence.

The women of this country have a great opportunity to establish and maintain a civilized attitude towards wine, now that we have all seen what comes of not cultivating such a civilized attitude. It is within their power to shape and direct their own social attitude and that of their men toward this good thing in life. If they follow the old line, they can drive back their men to the bar-room and the short stiff drinks which go with the bar-room. If they follow a new and more civilized line, they can accompany their men to the cafes and beer-gardens and consume at leisure the long, slow drinks which are appropriate to pleasant conversations and mature social relationships.

You may wonder why I, as an official in the Department of Agriculture, should concern myself with the drinking habits of the American people, when there already exist other Governmental and police agencies for dealing with these problems. The answer is very simple. Wine and beer are made from agricultural produce and the consumption of American wine and beer can not only serve the broader purposes of the New Deal in making for a calmer and happier type of existence, but will help the American farmer to find a better market for his produce.

The repeal of Prohibition found the American wine-industry totally unprepared to meet the new demand for its produce. Twelve years of home-brewing, of grape bricks and grape concentrates, of bootlegged "red ink"

and occasional bottles of smuggled foreign vintages, with a small continuing output of sacramental and invalid types of wine, had almost completely destroyed the old American vintages. The new stuff is coming on the market but it is, as yet, far too young, and the new companies and new producers have yet to make their reputations.

I think that the best lead which American women can follow is that which has been given by Mrs. Roosevelt herself. To serve wine in their own homes, to favor American wines as much as possible, to choose them with discrimination, and to assimilate their use to the habit of food. The best way in which this can be done is to try out all the varieties of American wine which are coming on the market, sparingly, and to judge them with reference to flavor, bouquet and price, rather than with reference to their ability to produce the recognizable symptoms of intoxication in the shortest possible time. For the alcoholic content of a wine is a matter of balance and its social importance should be measured by its power of gentle stimulation in the realm of social relaxation. The price of good wine must be measured by the demand for good wine, rather than by the producers' desire to obtain a fat profit. Excellent table-wines should be sold at between fifty and seventy-five cents a bottle, at the present level of prices, and should yield a fair profit at that price. Rare and delicate vintages will always cost more. So, I urge those of you who buy wine, to try American wines, without reference to the misleading labels which indicate that the produce of California is Burgundy or the produce of Northern New York is champagne. Those wines which are not good or not worth the money, should not be purchased again and you can help if you will inform your wine-merchant of the fact that such-and-such a brand is terrible or that this-or-that vintage is good for ordinary table-use but is far too dear at \$1.50 a bottle. In that way you can carry your preferences and sense of values back to the wine-industry and thereby

stimulate and direct the improvement of American vintages.

I mentioned a little while ago the importance of not paying attention to labels which defined our native American wines as Burgundy, Champagne and the like. This is because it is both stupid and unnecessary for our wines to sail under false colors. Our California vine-yards are stocked with Mediterranean vines and have been, in the main, cultivated by European immigrants, but the California wines are not only quite good enough to stand on their own merits, but are, in many cases, superior to the European product. The little canyons of the San Francisco Bay region are especially adapted to the production of delicate dry wines, while the great irrigated stretches of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys can produce excellent table-wines in volumes which would rapidly outdistance the Valleys of the Rhone, the Rhine and the Loire.

Nor should you forget that the Eastern and Southern wine produced from the native American wildgrape stocks, which our horticulturalists have tamed and cross-bred for generations, is another distinctive American product. The Eastern grape belt stretches from the Finger Lake district in Northern New York, to Southern New Jersey, crosses Northern Ohio and reaches into Central Missouri. The dry gallized wine produced in this region is admirably adapted for table purposes. Then, again, there is the Southern Scuppernong grape belt, extending along the Southern coastal plain from Virginia to Texas. The Florida orchardists are producing admirable cordials from their citrus fruits and the old rum industry of the Virgin Islands, which once made Santa Cruz rum famous for its excellence throughout the world, is being reestablished, for the benefit of those who like liqueurs.

To return to my point, however, I should like to see the names of San Joaquin, Sacramento, Sonoma, Chautauqua, Niagara, Seneca, Erie, Finger Lake, Roanoke, Scuppernong, Missouri, North Carolina, Florida and such mean exactly as much - and perhaps more - on the world's wine-lists, as Burgundy, Bordeaux,

Rhine wine, Chianti, Tokay, Oporto, and the other glorious names of viticulture. And I should like to see these great American commercial subdivisions supplemented by the widest possible variety of small local vintages, that wine of the country which can be obtained in almost any European province and which rarely if ever reaches the metropolitan markets.

This is particularly because the cultivation of good wines is an art, a handicraft which has proved hitherto invulnerable to the advance of the machine age. We are seeking a more diversified agriculture and are endeavoring to solve some of our industrial problems by the decentralization of industry into rural regions and the establishment of industrial workers on small subsistence homesteads, where they can supplement their receipts from the industrial payroll by the production of their own food-stuffs. This means that the average farmer and the average industrial worker will have greater leisure and greater incentive to experiment with new forms of agricultural production. Since soil adapted to the production of high-quality grapes and high-quality wines is found in small pockets--I do not overlook the fact that the supposed output in the last forty years of the few acreages of the Veuve Cliquot would have filled a large lake--good wine implies careful and skillful cultivation of a kind which is foreign to the methods of mass-production. We have seen how the Appalachian mountaineers for the last hundred and fifty years have developed and maintained a high degree of individual skill in the production of potable whiskey, and have resisted and frustrated every effort of the public authorities to suppress their traditional handicraft.

I foresee the possibility of supplementing this tradition of handicraft hard liquor with a new and a better tradition of handicraft wines. I foresee a plethora of small local vintages, some good, some mediocre, some perfectly dreadful, out of which will arise in future some great names and great traditions of American wine. I foresee the day when the Average American home

will be able to enjoy good beer and good wine produced in the neighborhood at moderate prices, leaving to the huge commercial vintners the task of supplying the metropolitan centers and serving our export markets. And better still, I foresee that, with this change in the drinking habits of our people may come a change of temper and of temperament, a less furious striving for happiness at the bottom of the whiskey-barrel. I foresee fewer deaths from heart-failure, fewer nervous breakdowns, far fewer of the myriad ailments brought about by overwork and over-worry. In their place, I anticipate a calmer and more leisurely type of civilization, in which there will be time for friendly conversation, philosophical speculation, gaiety and substantial happiness.

For today we have in our possession all the elements which are necessary to that more abundant life which is the real objective of all of us. We have foods and factories, we have a highly efficient system of communication and transport, we have, above all, a patient, hard-working and self-respecting people, who are distinguished for their social good-will and for their political self-control. All we need is to find the way to the enjoyment of that heritage which lies at our hands.

It is here that the women of America can make their most vital contribution. They have it in their power to define our moral objectives and to lead us into channels of good taste and good judgment. We can find a sufficient salvation here at home; it is not necessary to blame Europe or Asia for our failure to solve our own problems. The New Deal has, therefore, adopted a policy which its critics and some of its friends describe as economic nationalism, but the fundamental purpose of which is to solve our own problems in terms of our own traditions and our own resources. Such a policy in purely masculine hands has too often in the past led straight to international greed, imperialism and armed conflict. It is for the women to

see that the same canons of deportment which permit a member of society to conduct his own business without destroying his neighbor shall permeate our national attitude towards other countries. Too often, we regard the welfare of another as our loss and his discomfiture as our gain, in world affairs.

The more civilized attitude is to recognize that we are all members of each other's group and that the good of one may be the good of all, unless it is achieved at the direct expense of another.

Historically, wine has been, I think, a genuinely civilizing influence in that portion of the world which stems from Europe. Historically again, women have been the custodians and transmitters of culture. Song, also, has been the spontaneous expression of civilized happiness. In thinking together of wine, of women, and of song, we can lay the foundation for a deep and enduring social attitude of mutual forbearance and friendly toleration. Without such an attitude, I am convinced, it will not be easy, if indeed it is possible, for the American people to enter upon the more abundant life which is rightfully theirs.

Address of Rexford G. Tugwell, Assistant Secretary
of Agriculture, Dartmouth College, 8:30 P.M.,
April 26, 1934

For this visit to Dartmouth, I am indebted to a young man whose memory is dear to you all.

Late in winter, the invitation came to me from Robert Michelet. It was relayed to me by his father, who is a Washington attorney, reaching me through close friends in the Department. The suggestion was that I might talk about the New Deal's meaning to the college men of this country. The idea appealed to me. The Roosevelt Administration's activities should be especially significant to the young men and women. The future belongs to them.

The invitation also had a particular appeal, coming from Robert Michelet. In his 22 years, he had attained remarkable success. Head of your student council, outstanding in athletics, Phi Beta Kappa and Rhodes Scholar, he seemed to combine in himself the mental and physical power of American youth.

I think I had a right to feel proud that such a young man should have a personal interest in his Government. His wish for more information seemed a good omen. I thought I should tell him, and all of you here, about the Government's activities. But now Robert Michelet is dead. So this talk is partly a memorial.

There is no man among us who does not have moments when he questions the future both as it affects himself and as it affects others. These are the quiet, the introspective interludes which all our ingenuity cannot entirely banish from experience. They come, oftener, perhaps, to our generation than they have to any other. So much is done for us in a physical way that our busyness is more limited than it was for our fathers and our

grandfathers. We make strenuous attempts to fill in the gaps. We invent sports and spend vast sums in their promotion; we devise amusements and give ourselves to them with an avidity which in itself is revealing. We desire to escape, but we are often unsuccessful. And to each of us soon or late, often or seldom, there come times when we must look out on the world with nothing between the mind and reality and with no alternative but to face fate and consider its consequence.

My favorite philosopher made a deep record on my mind with a passage in one of his now-forgotten books: "Life," he said, "is a long-time enterprise." Of course it may not be. He was as well aware as you or I that chance may cut it short. And there have been men, philosophers, who have counseled humanity to act as though each day were to be the last. I have never forgot the experience I had as a young boy one summer day, driving along a lazy country road with horse and buggy. We came around a bend and I saw in staring letters on a boulder: "Prepare to meet thy God!" There used to be a mendicant few in this country who went about painting scriptural quotations on roadside objects, and this was the work of one of them. It was their belief and it has been the belief of many sects that since this world is only preparatory to the next, this particular passage of time ought to be used in avoiding any chance of being unfavorably noticed by a jealous deity's recorders. The trouble with this as a social doctrine is that it centers attention on the individual's relationship to the world in such a way that the world is accepted, even neglected in favor of a life to come. Now no man could be important enough in the eyes of the God of this concept to spend a lifetime studying the avoidance of disrespectful activity. But there is a psychological appeal

in this attitude to which all of us are exposed; and it has been used to good effect by those who would like to keep the world as it is for one reason or another. Besides, it exaggerates the importance of the individual. It says that I, myself, am the center of my necessary regard. I must attend to my own salvation. It is, you see, the antithesis of saying that each of us is his brother's keeper.

I did not comprehend all of this, of course, as I went on along the road on that summer day. But, as I remember, it was a long and lonely drive and I went a certain way. I think young people are more afraid of death than older people are. Perhaps this is a kind provision of nature that, as we ripen toward harvest, we should incline toward its consummation. And the very old cross the threshold into the unknown with what seems to their grandchildren incredible fortitude. It is probably not so much that as merely being gathered home, and no doubt they have been made ready for it. To the young there is sheer terror in the thought that tonight or tomorrow the great adventure may have to be entered on. And the idea is rejected with an energy which betrays the unnatural element it contains. To you, to each of you, life has got to be a long-time enterprise. To regard it as such, in those interludes when you face the abstractions which invade life everywhere, is to go as far as it is in your natures to go in preparing to meet your God. I was frightened on the day when I was first brought up against the ultimate dictum. It was an experience which sunk deep; it was hard to think it out of my system. I know, from what I went through, that it ought not to be printed, in that fashion, on young minds. Nature has set plenty of lessons by the roadside; and none of us is so blind that he cannot come gradually without shock, to their understanding. Life is, indeed, a long-time enterprise, and it is right, irrespective of

the chance there is that it may not come to completion, that it should be undertaken in that way without the hindrance of intrusive horror. If something happens, that is tragedy; but in the racial experience tragedy is accepted unwillingly. This is also right; our purpose is, and always has been, set toward its circumvention. Why otherwise do we fight disease, poverty and the other causes which contribute to it? One who serves has taken no contract of performance. He has undertaken the job in that spirit, but if he should be cut off, his contract is there completed. He did not prepare to meet his God this side of his appointed years; but there is where he was required to fasten his regard. We sometimes, for fertility, plow under a field of growing grain. It was not in the nature of that grain to do otherwise than move toward the ripeness of its seed. It is not required of us that we should do other than move, with assurance of rightness, toward the consummation of life in appropriately-timed death.

There is, therefore, set for us a long-time enterprise. But, as it is regarded, we come to see also that it is an enterprise which we do not undertake either alone, or without regard to the past. You and your fellows in your generation, as I and my fellows in mine, stand on an accumulation of experience. You are not asked to go forward from where Adam did, or from where those ancestors of yours did, who had no fire, no levers and no wheels. The enterprise you are in is the more serious and the more demanding because of this. Physically and mentally it is doubtful if your equipment is much better than man's ever was. You, perhaps, have a right to be a little resentful because you are asked to use it more vigorously, even to make it perform tasks for which you may think it unsuited. You can be resentful, if you like, but there is no one on whom your displeasure

can have effect. They are gone. And you are inexorably alone with your task.

The generation which went before you was alone with its task too. It was so resentful that it failed in certain respects. It did some things well; it changed the world considerably. But it made one momentous error. It missed the appropriate moment of history for accepting the consequence of its own creations. The Western World approached uncomfortably close to disaster a few years ago; and it is now struggling desperately to find the means for reconstruction. This is at once your burden and your opportunity. We, who are older, were not wholly persuaded either that life is a long-time enterprise, or that we stood intermingled, one life with another, with the duty of shaping future experience. We prepared daily to meet our God - only our God was what we loosely call money. Each of us regarded his own salvation as an individual matter. We tried to get all the evidences of salvation we could gather together and inclined toward measuring our success in life by their sheer quantity.

Everything else was incidental to this grand passion. We did perfect numerous devices for accumulation. The men we hired to help us were ineffective in turning out the goods we coveted and so we invented machines, perfected factories, devised new financial and commercial processes, and even made something like an exact science of management. But we were intent on a purpose which, although we did not understand it so, was suicidal.

It is not to be supposed that a generation which made so colossal a failure of social management, will succeed much better in reconstruction. It is true that governmental affairs are now intrusted to others who always had misgivings concerning the old acquisitive ideas. But where

there is everything to be learned about so complicated a business, and where new attitudes are not shared by a powerful minority, it is doubtful whether the gains will be very rapid or very complete. It is not true that we shall be able to offer your generation of University men a wholly new deal when you emerge as graduates. You will confront the same old system with some few changes. It will depend on the same motives; it will operate almost as inefficiently and with too much of the same injustice. There will have been some protestants, there will even have been some challenging of complacency. Perhaps these will have been of enough importance to furnish the opportunity you need for greater improvement in your time. You cannot count on much more than this. But this is what makes it so important that you should examine, with critical freshness, your contemporary relationship to the world. While you are here, and before you are asked to assume the responsibilities of leadership, you ought to use this time for examination and for decision. If you will really regard your lives as long-time enterprises and ask yourselves not what you must do today or tomorrow but what you would like to look back upon a half century from now, you will come nearer, much nearer, your desire than we are able to do who have to spend most of our time and energy defending our objectives.

There are some superb tools ready to your hands. I have perhaps made too much of the disabilities of human nature. After all these are mostly matters of choice, of reaction to immediate environment. We have at least discredited the worse qualities of the environment you will share with us. It will not be orthodox to respond in the old way. And so you will have gained a certain freedom. ✓ With this freedom and with the tools we shall give you there is nothing you might not do. You will have a knowledge

of things and forces which is the product of thousands of years of scientific accomplishment. There will even be much of the physical equipment around you which represents these years of effort. Factories, communication systems, devices and processes for making things efficiently—these will be at hand. With them you can, in your generation, see the consummation of many racial longings which have hitherto been unattainable but for which men have never ceased to struggle. You can free this whole land of undesired labor; you can supply every individual in it a good life; you can bring ease, freedom and security to with all those material things which are necessary to every individual, and such assurance of happiness as is furnished by access to wealth.

I do not prophesy that you will accomplish any of this. I merely point out the obvious opportunity. Perhaps the desirability of these achievements will not seem so great to you as it does to us who have had to walk with fear and misery all our lives. Perhaps you will determine on other purposes. And yet it is impossible for me, modest as I feel about pointing out duties to others, to believe that you also will not see these as the first objectives to be gained. Mankind has waited for them so long, and with such infinite patience in the midst of suffering, generation after generation, undergoing the living torture of slavery to things and forces, that I cannot believe you will turn aside to further purposes until these are established beyond the possibility of jeopardy. And I regard it as established that the possibility exists, and with challenging obviousness.

Obvious as the challenge is, however, I know in my heart that there is the gravest danger that you will not choose. Perhaps not enough has yet been done to clear the way, to make such a choice an inescapable

one. Those who have gone before you have found escape easy enough and perhaps you too will find it easier than I think. For you will be caught up in a system which will require of you, inexorably, service to quite other institutions. You will have to make a living, to provide for a future which includes that of those you love and for whom you feel an individual responsibility. It will still be hard for you to set other achievements above those of money-getting even though you may be aware that other activities are more worth-while. There will be the temptation not to modify institutions which exist even though you have convincing knowledge of abuses : grave as to dictate modification. You should, of course; even the institutions of what we call the New Deal may soon outlive their usefulness; and their survival should depend upon your independent judgment of their value rather than upon a tradition of existence.

Being caught up in the system in all ways which befall men as they go about the ordinary business of life, it will be nearly as easy for you as it has been for your predecessors to spend your waking hours in collecting things and amusing yourselves; and only sometimes in the interludes of business or sport, or when you are wakeful in the night, turning over in your minds the questions I have forecast as challenging ones. Even in your university life it is difficult. So much of the educational apparatus is designed to turn your minds backward to other times; and so much else devotes itself to the accumulation of the knowledge necessary to the individual who would compete successfully, under the going rules, with his fellows; very little time or care is left for considering the future or for speculations concerning better criteria of living.

Sometimes it seems almost as though we had designed the whole of modern life so that important decisions might have no consideration. If you will allow yourselves to be kept comfortable and secure; if you will believe that you are a favored few whose superior abilities and whose equipment gained in

these seductive surroundings, will ensure good lives for yourselves; if you are not made aware that grievous injustices are chargeable to your irresponsibility; if it fails to come home to you that a man's work in this world awaits his own judgment in the time of his departure - you will do no more and no less than most of your elders expect of you, and you will have passed through life but not have lived it.

To have lived - in the definition you will sometime formulate for yourselves - you must have participated livingly in the decisions of your time which matter. You must have done even more than that - you must have set your race forward in some positive way by a contribution which only you could possibly have made. You will become dust soon enough; the line of your descendants will disappear with astonishing enough completeness; your chance of survival in the eyes and mouths of men, or in their written records, will be slim enough. And perhaps you are one of those who can use this temporalness for excuse, saying: "It does not matter then. No one will know in a hundred years, or a thousand. I may as well make sure of comfort here." Or, perhaps, if you are a believer in immortality of some sort: "I had better make my peace with the rules for getting into heaven, and after that be careful not to be offensive."

To the inclination toward these attitudes I would object merely that, in your judgment, when you are old and living largely on a diet of recollection, these will not seem sufficient. You will say then that you could have lived differently and better. You will have become mellow, benevolent, and unafraid, rather than active, self-regardful and cautious. You will say that you have not done what you should have done; that the world is not better for your having been in it; that in living for selfish

certainities and an assured supply of things, you sacrificed the chance that the race to which you belong might once for all come into the promise which was set in its mind from its first appearance on this earth. You will hate yourselves and die unregretted and full of remonstrance.

If I had the power I should not scruple now to disturb you young men mightily. Too much depends on your participation in the real work there is to be done. I have not the necessary mental affiliations to threaten you with some sort of catastrophe if you fail to waken. It seems perfectly clear to me that you can go through existence serenely and comfortably, making money, playing games, marrying and begetting. There might be disaster close to you and for many other people; you would probably escape it. You would not like yourselves very well in age; but you might, almost until the last, find distraction in senile amusements which would usually stifle any uncomfortable recollections. It would not be easy; but it might be done. No, there is no legitimate threat I know of.

But there is the tremendous challenge of opportunity which, once it has been seen by men, has never yet failed to stir their blood. There is something deep in us which responds to the growing challenge of the tyranny of things and calls out efforts which no other reward could possibly evoke.

The incentive, I suppose, which has changed the world most, is exactly this. And I have no desire to appeal to any other, believing any other to be superfluous. I simply say to you that when our generation has done what it could, the world will be in your hands as it has never been in young men's hands before, to make of it what you will. I simply point out that we have come within a very short way indeed from economic

abundance and security; and that is within your power to carry your people, your fellow-countrymen, into the future which has been so long and patiently awaited. If you will not do it with this simple motive and with the clear opportunity I know you have there is no further resort for appeal. But I have some faith that this will prove enough.

Man is distinguished among the animals by his ability to learn from the experience of others. Few of us realize the extent of our dependence on previous learning. It is communicated to us in such casual and subtle ways that its entry into our own systems of action is frequently unnoticed. We accept many of the fundamental forces of civilization, and act with them, without inquiring into their origins. Only a few have any knowledge of chemistry, of physics or any of the other branches of learning; but we ride in motor cars, listen to the radio and do numerous other things, which depend on qualities and forces utterly mysterious to all but the highly-trained expert. This is never a source of worry. We depend, with a kind of sublime faith, on the perpetuation of expertness by the attractions it holds out to singularly gifted minds. The upshot is that we delegate to a certain few in each generation the tasks of learning from others' experience and accept, by a kind of tacit arrangement, the contrast of doing a few things knowingly and most things on faith.

There have been numerous suggestions that the fields of government and economics ought to be likewise specialized. There has been more resistance here. Abdication has seemed more dangerous, the sciences less exact, and men have felt that the basic decisions ought not to be by other than general consent. This, I think, is sound. And yet there is a problem here which becomes more clear with respect to all social decisions

as time goes on, We did not allow people to vote for the acceptance of the vacuum tube or the internal combustion engine; we have not consulted public opinion concerning the reconstruction of railway equipment which will follow the streamline train. Yet these things affect the common life as widely and as deeply as any legislative change could possibly do.

Evidently there is need for definition of the fields within which expertness may be trusted and of those within which a more democratic procedure is necessary. We have developed rather carelessly, in our generation, a policy of autocratic decision about matters which have momentous social effects; and perhaps we may have kept democratic some decisions in which a degree of expertness would be desirable. I think it would be impossible for me to point out to you a more pressing task, among those which lie before you, than this determination of the sphere within which freedom should be given to the expert. You will have a good deal of experience to learn from. Some of our departures from tradition have done great harm because they were not discussed and thoroughly understood beforehand. Each great technical and industrial change has had effects for which society was totally unprepared. An intelligent approach to them would have required adjustment in all the institutions and situations they affected. But our autocratic theory in one field and our democratic theory in the other have prevented this.

You are well aware, of course, that the New Deal involves some of these decisions. You are well aware, also, I suppose, that the balance of weight tends to fall on the side of democracy. This is not, I think, merely because those who have administrative responsibility are prejudiced in favor of democracy; it is at least partly because of a belief that in the

long run the democratic method works best. Many of our past troubles seem to us to have resulted from ill-considered change in certain places without regard to the effects they might have in other places. It seems absurd to modern minds used to our customary procedures to think of popular referenda regarding the use of certain scientific devices, certain new processes and the like. But the moment we admit their wide effects and the right of the individual to have a say concerning their intrusion into his life, the question of how they shall be chosen becomes a pressing one. But then there arises the question of conformance. Consent is never quite complete; but social devices usually will not work without complete cooperation. What shall be done with the recalcitrant minority? Administrators in Washington have faced these problems with a good deal of reluctance. They have been inclined to interpret the classic majority as meaning ninety percent rather than fifty-one. That is to say, they have stayed well within the limits of the democratic definition.

Even so there have been bitter complaints of "regimentation" and of "compulsion." So that a kind of dilemma has arisen. Shall the few regiment the many into non-cooperation; or shall the many require the few to conform? I have been speaking of learning from experience. You will be able to learn a great deal from the experiences now being had in which you have not participated. Perhaps, as a result, your generation will be able to work out new forms and procedures for democracy which will combine the use of expertness with popular decision concerning
/the desirability of the processes which are recommended.

I cite this question of democracy for illustrative purposes. It is not more important, perhaps, than many others. But it does serve to show the kind of challenge which is certain to face you. The issues will not

always appear clear; they will be complex, confused; they will arise, as they are arising now, on matters which at first seem remote, to be only of specific or local interest. But if they are settled without reference to a view, an attitude, a philosophical conception of life, they will not do more than postpone the issue; and they cannot possibly contribute to the gaining of the better life I hope you may succeed in establishing. I am not suggesting that each of you ought to be a philosopher nor that you should meet practical problems with hampering preconception; but rather that you should always ask concerning them how does this contribute to those aims which Americans hold in common. This may seem to you an indefinite criterion. If you will use some of your free hours now to explore the American character, the development of our traditions, our background of thinking, it will seem less so.

Besides you will need to experiment and you will learn from that. One of the methods which the New Deal has borrowed from science, in its attack on our present ills is just this experimental approach. You ought to find it easier to use in public affairs because of the pioneering which is ^{done} being/now.

Armed with a personal conviction of rightness in regarding life as a genuine long-time enterprise; with an apprehension of the problems you must meet; with an awareness of the American way of meeting situations, your lives ought to be lived through in one of the most interesting periods of all history. Your generation ought to come to its reward of recollection feeling that something unique has been accomplished and that the world is really better for your having lived. I commend you to your future with the confidence of one who has spent most of his mature life working with young men and who has sensed something of the need there is in these years for the strength and intelligence which resides in you.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

May 24, 1934.

*Acceptance
of the hour - Mrs. D. White
has in want.*

100

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

We are delighted to know that you can give a message to farm home makers on the occasion of inaugurating the new Home Demonstration Radio Hour on June 6. Farm women generally and home demonstration agents will be very appreciative of your interest. Arrangements can be made with the National Broadcasting Company to permit you to speak from their studio in New York City if you happen to be in New York at that time.

Sincerely,

R. H. Tugwell
Acting Secretary.

*Scheduled for
1.06 p.m.
will advise of full details*

June 18, 1934

file 100

Dear Dr. Tugwell:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of my broadcast. I would be very glad indeed to have you mimeograph this manuscript and send it to whomever you feel would be interested in having it. May I have a few copies? We have had several requests for it.

Very sincerely yours,

Honorable Rexford G. Tugwell
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

S:DD



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

24
June 6/1934

June 8, 1934.

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

We want to express to you our appreciation for the splendid talk which you gave on June 6 during the initial broadcast of the new home demonstration radio series. We know that thousands of farm women and extension workers throughout the country listened to your talk and enjoyed it thoroughly.

I am enclosing a copy of the manuscript of your talk transcribed from shorthand notes taken down as it came in over the radio. We would like to have your permission to mimeograph this manuscript and have copies of it sent to the home demonstration staff in each of the States. If this distribution is satisfactory to you we would appreciate your reviewing the manuscript and indicating any revision that you may desire to make.

Sincerely,

R. G. Truwell
Acting Secretary.

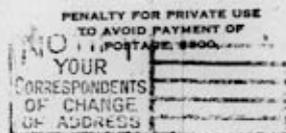
Inclosure.

Yes Thank

Truwell

10-10-34

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.
—
OFFICIAL BUSINESS.



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



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

June 23, 1934.

100
file

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

We appreciate very much your approval of our plan to distribute copies of the radio talk you gave on the occasion of broadcasting the first regular home demonstration radio program. We are now having the manuscript of your talk mimeographed and will send copies to extension directors, extension editors, home economics specialists, and State and county home demonstration workers. We shall also send to you twenty-five copies for your use. If you require a larger quantity, please let me know.

I would like also to take this occasion to send you a copy of the May issue of the Extension Service Review. This is a special number devoted primarily to home demonstration work. You will note that the inside of the back cover page contains the statement made by you at the dedication of Martha Van Rensselaer Hall at Ithaca in February. We want to thank you for the approval you gave to us to publish this significant statement. You may also be interested in the account of the farm housing survey by Dr. Louise Stanley and other articles appearing in this issue.

Sincerely,

R. G. Tugwell

Under Secretary.

Mrs. Tagwell

August 13, 1934

100

Dear Mrs. Tagwell:

The President and I are hoping -
Very much that you and Mr. Tagwell
will come to Hyde Park on Friday,
August 31st, and stay over Labor Day.
We shall look forward with much pleasure
to having you with us.

Very cordially yours,

Mrs. Rexford G. Tagwell
1511 33d Street
Washington
D.C.

S:O

Also Mrs. Hopkins,

Tugwell

100

September 15, 1934

My dear Miss Bailey:

Mrs. Roosevelt has received the enclosed press release from the Institute of American Fats and Oils, Washington, D.C., and before she makes use of the statement, she would like to know the status of this work in the Department of Agriculture. Would you be good enough to let me know just what there is to this?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

0

Miss Faye Bailey
Secretary to Hon. R. G. Tugwell
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

See Ruth A. West

September 15, 1934

My dear Miss West:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of August 31st together with the enclosure, which I shall bring to Mrs. Roosevelt's attention when she returns to Washington. In the meantime I know that she would wish me to thank you for sending her this material.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

0

Miss Ruth A. West
Institute of American Fats and Oils
Woodward Building
Washington
D.C.

all 9-15-34

INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN FATS AND OILS

WOODWARD BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF
LOIS DOWDLE COBB
DIRECTOR OF HOME ECONOMICS

Secret
Mr. J. J. ...
to ...
August 31, 1934

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

In Lois Dowdle Cobb's absence from the office I am taking the liberty of forwarding you a release which I think will be of interest to you.

It has to do with the program of the Institute of American Fats and Oils in the use of home grown animal and vegetable fats in the diet, particularly of under-nourished children and under-privileged adults.

You are at liberty to use this statement in any way you may see fit to do so.

We shall be interested in your reaction to the purposes of the Institute and invite your correspondence to that end.

Very sincerely yours,
Keith A. West
Secretary to Mrs. Cobb

December 14, 1934

100

Dear Mr. Tugwell:

Mrs. Roosevelt would greatly appreciate your checking this list and letting her know which of these wines you have sampled and which you can recommend. She will have to order at once in order to have a sufficient supply for all of the dinners.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

S:O

Hon. R. G. Tugwell
Assistant Secretary of Agriculture
Washington
D.C.

January 26, 1935

100

Dear Rex:

I read your letter about Dr. Sheets with interest and I still think that it is pretty hard lines to have sent them all to Florida. Will the Department pay for his return and is there any possibility of helping him to get some kind of a job? I have great sympathy with any one who has made mistakes through trying to get things done!

In the meantime, I have heard rumors that the Department of Agriculture is encouraging people and in some way arranging to lend the money for putting up factories for preserving soy beans. Can you tell me if this tale is true, and if so, can one find out if the land in certain places is suitable? I am trying to think out something for Hyde Park and its vicinity.

Very sincerely yours,

S O

+ Dr. E. W. Sheets

Hon. R. G. Tugwell

See Mary Kline

ain
1-26

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 25, 1935.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am returning to you Miss Dreier's letter concerning Dr. Sheets.

I have given his case a great deal of thought but, although I regret the necessity for asking him to resign, the circumstances surrounding his activities at Beltsville have pretty largely taken the matter out of my hands. He has indeed been unusually zealous and has given more to his work than might have been expected. In fact, his zeal has been responsible to some extent for his difficulties, for it has led him to disregard altogether the rules and regulations of government procedure in his desire to get his job done.

I agree that sending him to Florida and then asking him to resign after he has settled his family there was a rather clumsy method of handling his case. However, when it was first discovered that things were in bad shape at Beltsville an investigation was undertaken so that a report might be made to the Administrator of Public Works, from whom the funds have been obtained for the work. As a result of this investigation, it was felt that the disciplinary measure of sending Dr. Sheets to Florida would be sufficient and just. Subsequently, in an effort to adjust the Beltsville situation, and get it running smoothly again, a more thorough investigation was made and it became clear that Dr. Sheets was much more deeply implicated than had at first been apparent, and that the only course open would be to ask him for his resignation.

I have delayed answering your letter because it had not been definitely settled what action would be taken by the Department, but it now seems that Dr. Sheets' conduct of the Division of Animal Husbandry has ended his usefulness to the Department.

Sincerely,

R. G. Truway
Under Secretary

June 3, 1935

Dear Mr. Tugwell:

I told Miss Falke my reactions to ~~Bob Straus and Joe Swope~~, both nice boys, but I think they need an older head with them and someone who has a little more background or they will miss some of the important social implications of the things that you are trying to do.

Now, as to Arthurdale itself - I think things seem to be going on very well there, but the architect tells me that if some means could be devised by which materials could be expedited, much money could be saved. He says that requests sit for ages on a desk in Washington. If only, in reorganization, you would either make it possible for them to order at the project, or if the central organization can arrange to have them come through quickly, it would mean a great deal. In the meantime, the school is held up because of lack of materials. So - whoever is in charge - could you hurry them up?

Also, for months they have been searching titles to the Edwards tract and several things in the project cannot be done until that is finally settled. Could you get that hurried up too?

Sixty-five new houses have been built and others are in process or in prospect, but no barns. These barns can be done for \$400 apiece.

It was recognized, when the budget was passed, that these houses would have to have barns, because the people grow crops and have no cellars under these new houses. It was thought that some arrangement could be later devised by which FERA could buy the material and under supervision the homesteaders could build their own barns. Nothing, however, has been decided and the architect thinks it would be cheaper to have the barns built. The people themselves are terribly excited because they see crops planted and no way of preserving them when they are harvested, so that it really requires immediate decision. The architect is most anxious to find out what can be done. Will you take it up as soon as possible?

If you possibly can, will you plan to go down sometime with me, either before the conference or afterwards, and take Mr. Baruch along? I would like to go with you, and possibly Miss Falke also, so as to point out what I actually think can be done and will be of value, not only to all the other rural projects but to rural education throughout the country.

Forgive me if I sound a bit ambitious, but I really have hopes for something big in the future.

Very sincerely yours,

S O

Hon. R. G. Tugwell

70
June 14, 1935

Dear Rex:

I have a note from Miss Clapp, who tells me that Mr. Straus has asked Mr. Flynn and herself to come in on Friday.

I think things will go on pretty well down there if authority can be given them to go on with the work and complete their plans which have already been approved. I think delays and changes at this stage will mean more waste and I hope, if you feel the same way after talking with them, that you will help them at least to move along, though I do appreciate all of your many difficulties and know that your situation at present must be vastly complicated by trying to get a final clear understanding with Mr. McCarl.

I am delighted to hear from Miss Clapp that Arthurdale school is to be used as a training place for the personnel of the various homesteads. This seems to me a very good thing to do.

I am also enclosing a letter from someone whom I do not know, but who was in the old set-up. I simply thanked him and told him I was passing the letter along. I do think what he says is fairly true.

Very cordially yours,

S:O

Hon. R. G. Tugwell

Enc. letter from Laurance E. Wilkinson
X ~~Carlyn Spring Road~~
Ballston Va

Inference

Hyde Park, N.Y.
June 12, 1935.

Dear Rex:

I am of course, this has nothing to do with you to do over the property, and I do not know the rights and wrongs of it, but perhaps you could find out from Mr. Pyncheon what it is all about and see if it is possible to say what they evidently are due.

This boy's name is Frank Bradsky, is a member of a very poor Jewish family in Brooklyn. They are evidently nice and well brought up children who have this very hard to get educations. The father has a little apartment and that is about all they have to live on. I met them through the little girl who was badly crippled and when I sent to the Orthopedic Hospital. She is completely cured but still has to have a good deal of care. They are the family I rate to you about before asking if there was any chance of getting them a homestead.

This boy is particularly anxious to get some kind of a position in the housing division and would probably work as the Jews do when they work to improve themselves constantly.

I hope you will be able to find something for him.

Cordially yours,

Hyde Park, N.Y.
June 17, 1938.

Dear Rex:

I don't know along what lines you have been thinking, but I have come to the conclusion that if we are going to get industries for the homesteads, we will have to get a small committee of three or four business men who are really interested in small industries, and who will not only give us the benefit of their advice, but will actually try to get them and start them in the communities.

I have a feeling Mr. Levy would make a good member of this committee, but my real interest at the moment is if you think well of the idea, and will appoint a committee, could I have their advice for Hyde Park? I can see that this group hasn't enough initiative and business knowledge to ever get anything started. Yet with \$50,000 to offer to an industry as capital, it seems to me that they should be able to attract something which will help the unemployment situation in the township.

Will you let me know when you think it over?

Cordially yours,

Toquell
70

July 8, 1935.

Dear Rex:

I am not, of course, entirely sure that I quite understand your financial plan because I did not get much chance to get a clear picture of it in my mind when you were talking at Arthurdale, but this is what I understood you to say.

You are planning to put the homesteads on a basis of not buying the land, but of forming community corporations which would lease the land from the government and in turn lease to each individual homesteader (that would mean that the homesteaders own shares in the corporation, I suppose), and that your community corporation would lease from the government on a twenty-one year basis, with renewal assurance, and in turn lease to homesteaders on that basis.

It is a very good plan and will safe guard the land on the homesteads, but I am afraid that you are going to find it extremely difficult to get this across to those who were accepted and in good faith, made their contracts with the government. Now I know that these contracts are not legal but they think they are and have accepted the word of the people on the spot who were supposed to be responsible government agents. A long while ago it was supposed to have been settled.

In the case of Reedsville and other communities where the cost has grown beyond the original agreement with the people on their ability to pay, it was decided that the cost in excess was to be written off as overhead. I thought the whole plan had been worked out

Evidently from what you say, this is not so.

I talked to Franklin about this this morning and he says that with these communities as far as the people go who are already on the land and in the houses, (and I feel sure this will hold good of Crossville as well as Reedsville and a number of other places) that they can not only pay the \$7,500 or \$8,000, which would really mean that they paid for what had gone into the place, but that their cost must be set at what they can pay and the monthly payments must be according to what they can pay. Somehow or other this will have to be worked out.

From now on, the other plan, and everywhere where you can get it across on a voluntary basis, I think would be grand, but I feel that to do it in any other way would destroy the faith of these people in the government's good faith.

I am afraid I am complicating your life very much and I do not mean to do that but I thought I ought to tell you that I had told Franklin about it as I think he will be discussing it with you.

Remember if anything brings you or any one else up to Maine between August 27th and August 16th that across from Lubec, Maine, there will be a warm welcome. Wire me at Eastport but come to Lubec if you are coming from the south, or to Eastport if you are coming from the north. A boat can meet you at any time.

I will be back here on the 23rd of July and can be reached meanwhile through the White House at any time.

Cordially yours,

July 25, 1935

7/10

Dear Dr. Tugwell:

I should think these people would be perfectly grand on a homestead and really have a contribution to give, besides the fact that it would save the whole family, probably, from tuberculosis. Do let me know if you think you can do anything for them.

Very sincerely yours,

S O

Dr. R. G. Tugwell
Resettlement Administration

Mrs. D. L. Turnbough
Ashburn, Missouri - July 10

July 25, 1935

100

My dear Mrs. Turnbough:

I will send your letter over
to the Resettlement Administration
and see if it is possible to get you
on one of the homesteads.

Very sincerely yours,

S O

Mrs. D. L. Turnbough
Ashburn
Missouri

Sic Foyall



Delbert L. Turnbough

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON

file

AUG 10 1935

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

This will acknowledge receipt of your note of July 25, enclosing a letter from Mrs. Allene B. Turnbough of Ashburn, Missouri.

The tone of this letter suggests that the Ashburn family would try hard to make good on a homestead and that they need to be resettled for the sake of their health.

It is not possible to say just what could be done under our program, but I am asking the Division of Rural Resettlement of the Resettlement Administration, to make me a report on this case.

As soon as I have heard from them, I shall advise you. I am returning herewith Mrs. Turnbough's letter.

Sincerely yours,

R. Y. V.
Administrator.

Enclosure-1

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON

AUG 10 1935

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

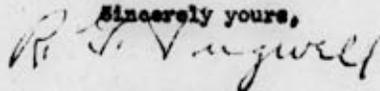
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As soon as I have heard from them, I shall advise you. I am returning herewith Mrs. Turnbough's letter.

Sincerely yours,



Administrator.

Enclosure-1

Ashburn, Missouri
July 10, 1938

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

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Please do not consider this an insult. It is the best our little town affords at present and as I am anxious for this to reach you I cannot wait until I can go to a larger place to purchase it. (*paper*)

The White House these four years seems to be the only source of advice and help to a tired and bewildered people. I admire the intellect of the Roosevelt families. I think Theodore Roosevelt had a greater vision of a better United States than he was ever able to get his helpers to see. I admire our present president, your husband. He cannot be the great man now that he will be later in history for he is starting the revolution of ideas that will be scoffed at and ridiculed, but will eventually be put into practice. I, however as a Christian, first and a patriot second, disagree with him on the stand he took about prohibition.

We are a family of four. My husband who is thirty-eight years old; our two adopted daughters who are twelve and thirteen years old (they are sisters and are not our relatives) and I who am thirty-four years old. We were married when we were eighteen and twenty-two years old. This is just to show to you that we have been useful citizens. When we were married my husband had had only one year of high school and I had finished my high school work. What have we done those six years? We kept an orphaned nephew six years. My husband has preached seven years for small town and country churches. His salary never being over five-hundred dollars. He completed his high school work, and now has about three years of college work completed. I completed my four years college work, graduating in June 1929 from University of Missouri. We kept a cleaning shop to pay our way through school. Two years we spent working in Kansas City in cleaning shops and two years as manager of a shop in Columbia, Missouri. Then my husband has taught one year (last year, sixth and eighth grades) at Osgood, Missouri. I have taught five years in third class high schools in communities in which my husband preached. Then we have our two adopted girls to show for a family. Our boy is now married and has a home of his own. I have a school for this year (\$560 for the year) It is a river town and is damp. My husband

will not be able to live with us here. For just what is our problem and why am I anxious for you to receive this? I need advice before I start my school.

Four out of eight children of my husband's family have died of tuberculosis. All the older children, and now the next one has a positive test. My husband is next on the list in age. The mother of our girls died with tuberculosis. So tuberculosis in my family but I have always had throat trouble and this last year almost lost my voice. I moved from the community to this one to get relief. Now since the death of my husband's brother three weeks ago I have been thinking. If we wish to keep our home we are going to have to fight. Do you not agree with me? Missouri has too many damp cool days for tuberculosis. Since we moved to this community three months ago there have been two deaths of tuberculosis. It is alarming. Now we must go to a warmer dryer climate if we wish to live. But since we have served this missionary circuits for so little we have to little to venture alone on. We cannot like Abraham of old start out for our little in these uncertain times could not see us through.

Now I have another duty and worry (unless my father gets work). My mother is sorely afflicted with arthritis and needs much medicine and care also a change to a dryer climate. As there are just two children and I am the only girl, I feel a duty to my mother.

We need a suburban home, close to school s to educate these lovely children, a job adequate to keep us and the children in day school and for their musical education. (They have great native musical ability, both for singing and playing. One sings soprano and the other alto. Their voices are clear. They have been asked to sing for State Sunday School Convention) We could keep a cow, raise our own chickens and my father could truck garden, raise fruit or chickens while my husband or I could work. If I worked the first year or two my husband could finish his college education. This is a dream of security, and seems so impossible, but what will we do, we shall be separated by death unless my husband is an exception to the rest. And he is the most slender one of them all, weighing 140 lbs.

My husband has no knowledge of this letter, but I've spent hours lately trying to find a solution. So I am making a desperate effort to save our home, throwing away pride and appealing to you or someone for advice. I know you are a business woman and have judgment, and as such I appeal to you for a practical course to follow. Sometimes when we are worried we cannot think straight. Possibly, and most likely I shall be ashamed of writing this letter, but at the moment I know I must do something and do not know where to turn.

Others have left Missouri and have gained strength and health. A friend here since we came went to Southern California. In three weeks she wrote she had lost her cough and had gained eight pounds. My husband and girls are not in her condition at all. The children are well. They weigh eighty and eighty-five pounds which is normal for their height. My husband is not strong but he has always been able to work.

School will start in about six weeks here. As wife to wife and mother to mother what would you do? Dare we spend another winter here and take a chance of losing a member of our family and I take a chance of losing my voice which my become tubercular? It is an awful risk and I am afraid.

I do not want publicity. It is a private problem. We cannot afford to let this be known. If we did some one might be afraid of us, with no work and improper food we could not make it. Nourishment is an important factor. Then publicity of any kind especially in small communities is never good for children. They would be marked. They would be ruined. I want to protect them from all unpleasantness. And if we moved I'd rather they never knew why we changed. For they would worry about their condition. So please let this be strictly confidential.

132 1/2 hrs
95 hrs

Forgive me for adding another problem to your own busy life but it means life, health and an unbroken family to me. Are there Indian schools in good climate in which I might teach this next year or that my husband might teach? I have a life certificate from the Missouri University and my husband has a sixty-hour certificate in elementary work. I have taught first or ninth year algebra five years, geometry five years, ninth and tenth English five years, Citizenship three years, World History two years, American History one year, eleventh year English Literature one year. Geography two years and General Science one year. My husband enlisted in the navy in 1918 and served three months but his foot was broken and he was discharged April 7, 1918. He was not accepted then for the army.

I think I have told you enough about us. My name is listed in a Missouri school directory as follows Millersburg 1929-31 Ashburn 1931-33 Osgood 1934-35 and then Ashburn 1935-36. Please give me your advice on what to do? Again please keep it confidential. I appreciate your interest and kindly reading of this one of you admirers, and please do not think I am asking for charity, but a chance to keep our home secure and safe.

Most respectfully,
Allene B. Turnbough

Allene B. Turnbough

We have our furniture and our cow and with a truck could take everything.

Eastport, Maine
July 30, 1935.

Dear Rex:

There is one thing I forgot to mention after our last visit to Readsville. I think it would be a grand idea to remodel the Arthur Mansion to house whatever people are going to be there for teachers' training, as well as the teachers and to have a wing which could make it possible to have rooms for transients. A real inn there seems to me impracticable. In the first place there are not enough amusements and in winter it is far too cold for people to come. Your guests, in any case, would be people who were interested in what is being done and I doubt very much if you can count on an inn doing more than use the surplus products of some of the homesteaders which in itself will be valuable.

Of course, if you find that eventually they develop there certain amusements which will draw in enough visitors, such as a swimming pool, a golf course, tennis courts and winter sports of various kinds, you might be able to build a real inn later on, and you might choose a site, but at the present time it seems to me that to scrap the Arthur Mansion would be a waste of good material.

I realize that all this was being considered so long ago that you may have made your decision, but I thought I ought to write you how I felt.

I am going to try to see Mr. Baruch as soon as he gets back and get his contribution for the school for the coming year.

I am also still concerned about the contracts for the homesteads, and the payments to the men. Has anything been settled yet?

As long as you were not able to come up here, could n't you all plan when we finally do know when Franklin is to get away, to come for a week end to Hyde Park? We want to get some more movies of you and Harry. I feel terribly sorry for you all in Washington, it is cool and delicious here and marvelous sailing.

Cordially yours,

Weymouth

Eastport, Maine
August 2, 1935.

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Dear Rex:

I am very much interested in this letter from Miss Clapp. I quite realize that what has been done, is necessary, but I think it ought to have been done in each of the homesteads not by a mere notice, but by some one who really understood the reason and who could put it to the people.

I also think that this wage reduction will have to carry an equal reduction in their payments as it is quite obvious that only an increased income could make it possible to pay for the extra cost. This is the thing I have been afraid of for so long, and the reason why I have been so insistent that in some way it be made possible to write off the extra cost either as an experiment of the government or a government expense of some kind.

Would it be possible to at least relieve the Arthurdale people of the two weeks or ten days lay off? It will come as such an unexpected blow not to have their costs adjusted to their incomes. I am afraid they will feel that the government is about as uncertain and as unfair as the mining bosses were in the past.

Would it not be possible at the same time to develop some occupations for older sons who can not at present be thrown out of their homes to seek employment elsewhere? They will be a menace in any community unless they are employed. How about asking the Youth Administration to take this up immediately? I think too that where the older son or a woman is the main support, they should remain employed.

I have marked the last paragraph of Miss Clapp's letter. I know it is impossible for you to go

to all these places and I do not think that Bobby Straus has the personality or understanding. Have you developed any one in the organization, no has? It seems to me that some such person should be developed. I am glad to see that you are cutting down your personnel. I think it is a grand move but I hope those you keep will be top-notchers and some one with this ability is sorely needed.

I can imagine that your problems are so many that what may happen to the people in one homestead does not seem very large, but after all this is the first and the one most criticized and under the public eye. I hope you will not think me an interfering old hen.

Cordially yours, "

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Sept. 18, 1935.

Dear Rex: *Tugwell*

I understand that your gentleman in charge of personnel on homesteads is questioning some of the people who have been accepted at Reedsville and who have been living there for some time. In fact, four of the people now questioned, have been there since the very beginning and are making good in spite of the fact that the young social worker Alice Davis assigned to look into their records, seems to think they were not such promising material at the start.

It seems to me fairly obvious that these people who were taken from Scott's Run could not be expected to be angels. The fact that they are making good should be taken into consideration, particularly since they were accepted and have been on the project.

I am afraid a move of this kind will create fearful uncertainty if four such good men actually living there all of this time, are now thrown out. The fifth one is not living there, but is living under very poor conditions and works there daily. His record as a workman is good.

I think this is probably a case of over-zealousness and not quite understanding the status of the people's former condition as well as their present one. I hope you can calm your gentleman down a little.

Cordially yours,

October 22, 1935

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TURNBOUGH

My dear Mr. Tugwell:

On July 25 1935, Mrs. Roosevelt sent you a letter from Mrs. D. L. Turnbough of Ashburn, Missouri. You reported on August 10 that you would have the Resettlement Administration look into the matter of placing the family on a homestead and make a report to you in the case. Would you let Mrs. Roosevelt know what has been decided as she has received another letter from Mrs. Turnbough and it seems urgent that something be done for them.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Honorable Rexford G. Tugwell
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

DD

Ad. 10-22-35

Ashburn, Missouri
October 14, 1935

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am the woman from Missouri who wrote you this past summer; whose family has a tubercular background.

I suppose my letter sounded as if I were begging, especially after I received your reply. I have planned to answer but I have been busy canning. I have taught school six weeks and since late summer I have canned about four hundred quarts of fruits and vegetables. As I do my laundry work, my house work, and care for the milk from our one cow and teach I am busy. Of course the girls help but they are too young to assume very much responsibility. This all sounds as if we are very prosperous but most all has been given us or we have raised it. But we are not begging.

I wrote our circumstances for I thought you would be the better able to advise me. I am very much anxious at this time. My husband seemed to be very well through the summer but as fall begins he is showing some very unfavorable signs. He has thought he had fever several evenings.

You stated you were sending my letter to the re-settlement administration. As yet we have heard nothing. I do not know just what possibilities that might mean. Such matters progress so slowly and I know he should not spend another winter here and then be able to work. If only some way could be provided for him this winter. I could care for the girls, but I could not pay his way there and keep him. We would have no way of providing for ourselves next summer unless I can save enough of my salary to care for us. It is difficult leaving your own state and going into another and receive any attention.

Are there homesteads which we might be able to get in a climate that would be dry enough and yet be irrigated or receive enough moisture so we could pay our way and pay for our home. We are not begging. No member of my family as far back as I know ever received any public help. I only do this to save my home if possible. Our girls need a father to help care for them and educate them. I almost become frantic when I think they might grow up in some out of the way place, no education, and their musical talent undevelopped. Since they are adopted my responsibility is the greater and I can afford to humble myself to see them given the training they should have.

I read an article this summer in a magazine of your special interest in homesteads. That was encouraging. I know there is a current of opposition and ridicule of the new program our president has started but to me it is only the progressiveness we have had in our country in years. I am heartily in favor of it all but the repeal of prohibition as I stated before.

I do not say this to win favor either. I was too young to understand Theodore Roosevelt only as I studied about him and I had a good Republican professor in school but I always considered him as one of our "All-Americans". There is a wave of adverse criticism here in Missouri and unless things are in a better condition it is my belief the next campaign will be harder. Mr. Farley is criticised very much. Much of it is being advanced to defeat Mr. Roosevelt. These are only things I hear each day and I believe a personal visit of the president to Missouri will help. I am not a politician, but I do want to see security, prosperity and happiness such as we have not know before become a part of ^{the} nation so we will not have such a struggle again and I am not expecting an Utopia either. I believe this can only become true too if the present program can be carried out. Defeat would be disaster now as I see it.

Back to my subject. I am only an ordinary woman but I am fighting for my home and my country. If you could tell us something definite to do. I know your are busy and I am ashamed to ask you to take your time, but who knows what it might amount too in the future. Do you see anyway our for us ? I am making seventy dollars a month. Rent is \$5.00 , lights are high and are about \$2.50. Coal is \$6.00 a ton and it takes more than a tona month. We have our cow and that means about \$5.00 a month for feed. We are in debt and I have a fifty dollar note to pay in January. Clothes, groceries and \$25.00 a month saved to carry us through the summer with insurance, doctor bills, dentist bills and other small items more than take it. Our school is only a eight months school so that is only \$560 for the year.

We would pay back what we receive by the way of a home if it would be a worth while place. My husband farmed when a young man, but he has preached, taught and drycleaned since we have been married. He has had about 90 college hours and could do light work of different kinds. I'd think it ought to be out door work.

I've made so many mistakes, but I am in such a hurry. I have so much to do. I have made four pints of sandwich spread since ^{school} was out this afternoon Besides cook the evening meal. If I take time to recopy it I will not have time to finish it. I trust you to understand. Then I have not used my typewrite since I wrote before.

I hope I am not asking too much. But I do not want him to have to stay here this winter.

Sincerely,
Allene B. Turnbough
 Allene B. Turnbough

I have not made myself clear again. Could you advise us, put us in touch with persons who might help us get located and suggest a suitable place. I want to say again we want to make our way but we need help to get located in the proper place and a way to care for ourselves after we get located. Some how I feel like depending on your advice. I admire a woman who makes her own place in the world, and does not depend upon her husband's honor. A.B.T.

December 31, 1935.

Dear Rex:

I am planning to go down to Reedsville on the twentieth of January to meet Mr. Newton Baker and another gentleman who may be interested in carrying out some experiments in the school for the General Education Fund.

I am also planning to take Mr. Myron Taylor and Harry Hooker of New York, largely as a suggestion to Mr. Taylor of what he might do in some of his steel plants. I am keeping this absolutely quiet as we does not want any publicity, but I thought I would like to tell you.

When I was last there, the homesteaders asked that we have a meeting, so I am staying until ten o'clock, so I am staying for that. I thought possibly you might have some one whom you would like to send who is more conversant with the various developments.

I am particularly anxious, before I go down, that we get the questions of lower rental, factory operation and any other pending arrangements settled. Is this likely to be the case?

There is also a chance that some business men may want to go down the following week in which case I will do my best to go down with them. Do come in to see me when you have the time. You were awfully good to talk to Franklin, junior and Professor Boldyreff and they are most grateful.

Very cordially yours,

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

file
June 4/35

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

This is a very moving little story. I don't see how there could be any objection to its publication. Certainly I have none. I want to talk with you sometime soon about financial arrangements for these communities. I am very much in favor of long-time leases where no real commitment otherwise has been made. The reasons for this seem to me powerful. I hope you will be patient with us for a month or two. We are having to liquidate competely & fly in over - McC Paul's orders.

W. H. August

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON

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JAN 27 1936
Tugwell

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

The President has told me of your concern about the bad effect of keeping Red House on security wages and has asked me to try to straighten the matter out with Harry Hopkins.

I am unhappily aware of the truly sorry condition which exists at Red House and I assure you that every effort is being made to relieve it. As you perhaps know, the Economic Development Section of the Management Division, Resettlement Administration, has been making a study for some months of conditions at Red House with a view to working out their economic salvation. This plan is about complete and ready to be put into operation.

In the meantime we made an effort to secure work for the homesteaders on a dam which is being built nearby. Unfortunately, at this time of the year very little work is being done because of weather conditions and few homesteaders are now employed. However, the construction engineers on the dam promised that as fast as work can be continued a sizable number of our homesteaders will be employed. The economic plan calls for additional construction and as soon as the program is in full swing there will be additional employment for the homesteaders.

I am taking up the matter of an exemption from security wage rate with Harry and I hope we can work out an agreement on it.

Sincerely,

R. T.
Administrator

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House.

✓ Mrs. Harry Beier, 326 Walnut St., Chillicothe, Missouri.

June 2, 1936

My dear Dr. Tugwell:

Mrs. Roosevelt would appreciate it very much if you would have some one investigate this case and see if anything can be done by the Resettlement Administration to help the family.

Very sincerely yours,

Melvina T. Scheider
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Honorable Rexford G. Tugwell
Resettlement Administration
Washington, D. C.

DD

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON

110
JUL 1 1936

file
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

This will acknowledge a letter from your office, dated June 2nd, to which was attached a communication from Mrs. Harry Beier of 326 Walnut St., Chillicothe, Missouri, regarding her need for assistance.

Mr. Joseph L. Dailey, Assistant Administrator, has written a letter to Mrs. Beier, requesting that she secure detailed information from our county supervisor.

Our representative for the region which includes the State of Missouri, is being instructed to give Mrs. Beier's request for assistance every consideration possible under the limitations of our program.

Mrs. Beier's letter is returned herewith for your files.

Sincerely yours,

R. G. Traywell
Administrator.

(2) Attachments

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON

JUL 1 1936

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The White House.

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Sincerely yours,

Administrator.

(2) Attachments

In reply refer to: RR-PVM

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON

JUL 1 1936

Mrs. Harry Beier,
326 Walnut Street,
Chillicothe, Missouri.

Dear Mrs. Beier:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to answer your letter to her under the date of May 20. I note that you have lost your farm through foreclosure, that you have had very little work since moving to town and that you are concerned as to what the future holds in store for you and your family.

Answering your specific questions, I can assure you that the Administration has no intention of pauperizing victims of the depression by what you refer to as meager hand-outs. The Resettlement Administration was created for the very purpose of avoiding such a policy. In fact it is designed to give farm people who are willing to work their way out a chance to do so.

I shall not attempt in this letter to give you the particulars about the Rehabilitation Program. It will be much more satisfactory for you to talk directly with the Rural Rehabilitation Supervisor in your county. If you have difficulty in locating him or securing adequate information, I suggest that you write to Mr. John Nicholson, State Director of Rural Rehabilitation, who is located in the Thilo Building in Columbia, Missouri. You should know, however, that before a Rehabilitation loan can be made to you it will be necessary for you to lease or otherwise obtain a farm upon which you will have a chance to make a living and to repay the loan.

I am sending a copy of this letter to our representative in the region which includes Missouri. It will serve as evidence of our desire that every consideration possible within the limitations of our program be given if you request our assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph L. Dailey
Assistant Administrator

324 Walnut St.,
Chillicothe Missouri
May 20, 1936.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.
Washington D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I hope I may bring a little message to you from a middle state - thanking you and your husband for the many efforts you have tried to put forth for the betterment of all; altho you have not been successful in each effort you have tried and I do not believe a number of the projects are carried out as you have planned them.

We were forced to give our farm over to the mortgage holder March 1st. A republican and very much against us and our stand for the Roosevelt administration. After paying all debts we did not have enough to go to farming any where. Therefore we came to town.

We have had very little work as all public work goes to those on relief. Now this is what I wish to know before I cast my vote

again. Is it your intention to make paupers out of us all then hand out a meager living to us? We are willing to work and will work at anything if given a chance. Our food supply which we brought from the farm will soon be gone so will our money-then what? We have two boys to keep in grade school this fall and winter but where are the clothes and food to come from? Of course our case is just one but there are thousands just the same.

How can we make useful educated citizens of our boys under such conditions?

I hope this does not find the waste paper basket until you have given it a little thought for this is a serious question here in Missouri; only a few are given the priviledge to work for a decent living.

I again thank you and hope some plan can be worked out so I can continue my confidence in the democratic party as the Roosevelt administration.

Yours truly,

Mr. Harry Reier.

August 27, 1936.

Dear Rex:

The State Committee office in New York is being swamped with complaints from upstate committeemen on resettlement being entirely Republican.

This does not surprise me as naturally political organizations are assailed by their political henchmen anywhere when they can not obtain every job in sight. This is not only resettlement, the Department of Agriculture comes in for its share.

I thought, however, I would send you the enclosed and tell you that the women have worked out a rather interesting solution. In the W.P.A. when complaints come in there is a woman appointed by Mrs. Woodward. She takes these complaints and goes quietly without any beating of drums and investigates the case and acts as seems best.

Will you return all these various things to me, as they were simply given to me for my information, but I decided it would be more satisfactory to you to see them yourself.

Very cordially yours,

December 3, 1936

Dear Rex:

I spent yesterday at Arthurdale, and I think it is quite remarkable how the community has come along in its independence and ability to stand on its own feet.

The principal of the school is apparently a very fine person and very good. He said, however, that if it were possible for the Raleigh office to have their recreational and educational directors come to see him and make their plans mutually ahead of time, it would increase his efficiency. They apparently arrive and insist on having their plans carried out in spite of the fact that the school has already made its own plans and has even gone to some expense to carry them out. I feel sure that the Raleigh office does not intend that to be the case, but the men in the field do not differentiate between those projects where people can go ahead under their own initiative and those which need complete guidance.

Arthurdale should have cooperation and suggestions, but it is now in a position to carry itself forward. I can give you instances if you need them.

Also, the appeal for allowing a certain house to be turned over to Mrs. Robey has been turned down, I think, without proper consideration of the special situation.

-2-

She is the whole support of the family and is acting as Mr. Flynn's secretary. Her husband was a lineman and very badly injured. He is slowly struggling back to the use of his legs, and if they have the house for which she has made an application, there is level ground in the back where he could work in a garden. If they have to take one of the small houses where the ground is on a hill, he will not be able to work at all, he will not be able to contribute anything to their living nor to his own recovery. Don't you think this is rather a special case?

The Home Economics advisor seems to be a problem, according to the principal of the school. She is good, but apparently has little tact with the women. Therefore they do not like her. She tries to impose her own menus and her own ideas of living on them, without giving them any opportunity to express themselves. It seems to be a case of tactlessness rather than inefficiency. Her ideas are good if she only knew how to put them over. Whoever is in charge of Home Economics should talk it over with her and see if she can be improved. If she cannot, she had better be changed to some place where more autocratic methods are needed than at Arthur Dale.

On the whole, everything is going well and I feel tremendously encouraged.

Very sincerely yours,

SO

September 13, 1937

100

Dear Rex:

I was so glad to get your note
but sorry to hear about the hay fever.
I hope you will enjoy your trip.

I will write to Mr. Alexander
about the movie you suggest and tell him
we would like to see it when we return to
Washington.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rexford G. Tugwell
c/o American Molasses Company
120 Wall Street
NYC

DD



San Francisco
Sept 6 1937
A. A. Rosenthal
Chicago

Dear Mrs Roosevelt

asked
9-13-37
May I at last join
millions of others and
ask a favor? you
will perhaps remember
the movie we made
in N.A. called "The
Plow That Broke the
Plains." you were
good enough to run it
off at the White House.
well, Pare Lorentz
the director has com-
pleted another called
"The River" which I

Chicago & North Western · Union Pacific · Southern Pacific

think is interesting
too. I wonder if you
would invite him to
show it to you? You
will only have to
indicate your interest
to Will Alexander.

I'm going West on
business for a few
weeks — also to
escape hay fever.

Respectfully,

Rex Ingwell

100
January 29, 1940

Dear Grace:

Hick will be here for a few days in February and she is terribly anxious to see you and Rex, so I hope you can both dine here, informally, on Tuesday, February 6, at 7:30.

Looking forward to seeing you, I am

Cordially yours,

Mrs. Rex Tugwell
10 Norton Court
Alexandria
Va.

0

A

file

February 3, 1940

Miss [unclear]
MEMO FOR ~~MR. CRIM~~

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Tugwell

have accepted for dinner on February
5th. at 7:30 p.m.

M.T.L.

GRACE FALKE TUGWELL • POST OFFICE ALLEY • ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Mrs. Roosevelt

February 3, 1940

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt

R

We will be delighted to come to dinner on Tuesday, February 6th. It will be fun seeing Dick again.

Rex loved your flowers and asks me to thank you for him. He is much better and looking forward, as am I, to seeing you.

Sincerely

Grace Tugwell

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

100

April 19, 1940

Sent to Mr. Tugwell "Dear Rex: Is there any way to speed this case?"
Arrowhead Inn, Benn Riley - re FHA Riverside Arrowhead Housing Project

100
February 13, 1943.

Dear Governor Tugwell:

A young friend of mine, Ensign
James S. Lanigan, expects to be in Puerto
Rico for several days and I hope if he
asks to see you you will have time to do
so.

I am enclosing a note to him
which I hope you will be kind enough to
give him if he turns up.

Best wishes to you and Grace.

Very cordially,

Hon. Rex Tugwell
Governor of Puerto Rico
San Juan
Puerto Rico.

VDS

April 5, 1944.

100

My dear Governor Tugwell:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to
send you the enclosed letter addressed to

X Mr. Gonzalo Diago.

Mrs. Roosevelt will appreciate
it so much if you will be good enough to
deliver it to Mr. Diago.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Governor Rexford G. Tugwell
San Juan
Puerto Rico.

VDS

GOVERNMENT OF THE CAPITAL
SAN JUAN, P. R.
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

and
4/15/44

March 10, 1944.

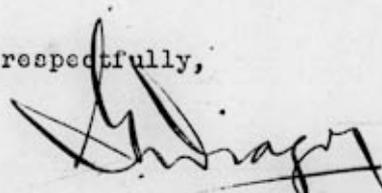
(Account Gen. Department)
del. (del. in)

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt,
c/o "La Fortaleza",
San Juan, P. R.

Dear Madam:-

The Government of the Capital heartily welcomes you to this island and expresses its most sincere wishes for a happy and fruitful stay in Puerto Rico.

Yours very respectfully,



GONZALO DIAGO
City Manager

BRV/ain