

Granette, Ark.
Nov. 6, 1936

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt

I am writing to you for some of your old soiled dresses if you have any. As I am a poor girl who has to stay out of school. On account of dresses & slips and a coat. I am in the seventh grade but I have to stay out of school because I have no books or clothes to ware. I am in need of dresses & slips and a coat very bad. If you have any soiled clothes that you don't want to ware I would be very glad to get them. But please do not let the news paper reporters get hold of this in any way and I will keep it from geting out here so there will be no one else to get hold of it. But do not let my name get out in the paper. I am thirteen years old.

Yours Truly,
Miss L. H.
Gravette, Ark.
R #3
c/o A. H.

Star Route One
Alberville, Ala.
January 1, 1936

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

For some time I have wished to be acquainted with you. Or merely to receive a letter from you. I have wish much to see you, but as I am a poor girl and have never been out of our state that will be impossible I guess.

Mrs. Roosevelt since I have been in high school I have been studying modern things and conveniences. I took your family for my study. I have found the study to be the most interesting subjects I could have found. In the study I, at all times know where you are, by reading all papers I find at school and elsewhere. I find what you are doing. You may never had given this a thought, but to think over our daily lives there is a good story to it.

My life has been a story to me and most of the time a miserable one. When I was 7 years old my father left for a law school and never returned. This leaving my mother and 4 children. He left us a small farm, but it could not keep us up. For when we went back to mother's people the renters would not give us part. and we were still dependent. I have been shaved to pillow to past that I feel very relieved to get off to my self.

I am now 15 years old and in the 10th grade. I have always been smart but I never had a chance as all of us is so poor. I hope to complete my education, but I will have to quit school I guess if there is no clothes can be bought. (Don't think that we are on the relief.) Mother has been a faithful servant for us to keep us to gather. I don't see how she has made it.

Mrs Roosevelt, don't think I am just begging, but that is all you can call it I guess. There is no harm in asking I guess eather. Do you have any old clothes you have throwed back. You don't realize how honored I would feel to be wearing your clothes. I don't have a coat at all to wear. The clothes may be too large but I can cut them down so I can wear them. Not only clothes but old shoes, hats, hose, and under wear would be appreciated so much. I have three brothers that would appreciate any old clothes of your boys or husband. I wish you could see the part of North Alabama now. The trees, groves, and every thing is covered with ice and snow. It is a very pretty scene. But Oh, how cold it is here. People can hardly stay comfortable.

I will close now as it is about mail time. I hope to hear from you soon. (ans real soon)

Your friend,
M. I.

March 29 - 1935

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt. I am writing you a little letter this morning. Are you glad it is spring I am. For so many poor people can raise some more to eat. You no what I am writing this letter for. Mother said Mrs. Roosevelt is a God mother to the world and I thought mabe you had some old clothes You no Mother is a good sewer and all the little girls are getting Easter dresses. And I thought you had some you no. papa could wear Mr. Roosevelt shirts and cloth I no. My papa like Mr. Roosevelt and Mother said Mr. Roosevelt carry his worries with a smile You no he is always happy. You no we are not living on the relief we live on a little farm. papa did have a job And got laid on 5 yrs ago so we save and got two horses and 2 cows and a hog so we can all the food stuff we can ever thing to eat some time we don't have eni thing but we live. But you no it so hard to get cloth. So I thought mabe you had some. You no what you thought was no good Mother can make over for me I am 11 yr old. I have 2 brother and a sister 14 yr old. I wish I could see you. I no I would like you both. And shoes Mother wears 6 or 6 1/2. And papa wear 9. We have no car or no phone or Radio papa he would like to have a radio but he said there is other thing he need more. papa is worried about his seed oats. And one horse is not very good. But ever one has't to worrie, I am send this letter with the pennie I get to take to Sunday school Mother give me one So it took 3 week. Cause mother would think I better not ask for things from the the first Lady. But mother said you was an angle for doing so much for the poor. And I thought that would be all rite this is some paper my teacher gave for Xmas. My add is

C.O.B.

Rushsylvania, Ohio

Port Morris N.J.
March 20, 1934

My Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Do you realize that "Easter" is at hand? Do you realize how many hearts are broken on this account? Do you realize how hard its going to be for most people? Like me, for instance, I am a young girl of fifeteen and I need a coat, so bad I have no money, nor any means of getting any. My father has been out of work for two years.

My brother works on the C.W.A. but he is, or rather has been, insane in an asylum and has taken most of our money. My mother gets 'fits' when I ask her to buy me something new. Poor mother, I sypathize with her because it has been very hard on her, this depression, and having no money at all but debts piling up on us. I want to tell you something: We were once the richest people in our town but now, we are the lowest, considered, the worst people of Port Morris.

For Easter some friends of mine are thinking of getting new out-fits and I just have to listen to them. How I wish I could have a least a coat. That would cost about \$5.00 at least. I need a dress. I want one and it only cost \$.79 cents. Dear Eleanor how I wish I had this coat and dress for Easter I would be the happiest girl. I love you so much.

Please send me about \$6.00
I thank you so much.

A. C.
Port Morris
N.J.

Bangor, Mich.,
April 27, 1935.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am appealing to you because I know you might be able to help me. I graduate this year and I haven't enough money to buy a dress. I give all I earn for food for the family.

I have been worried and this is the only solution I could come to. I need a light dress and as I am quite little I would need about size 14 or 15 in dresses. I would think it was the grace of God if I received just a plain little graduation dress.

I'll have to get along without white shoes although I've always craved a pair of pumps size 5 1/2 or 5's that I never will get until I get a job which I will work very hard to get.

If I had a lot of money I would take up a nurses course and work for charity. Just to get the pleasure of healing people.

Graduate May 28, "35"

P.S. It's only because I hate to go on the stage with the other girls in my shabby dress. My father works when he is able.

Your Pleaing Friend
Miss E.B.
Bangor, Michigan

Anderson County Schools
Clinton, Tennessee
January 26, 1936

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

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

You may think I am a very insignificant person to be writing to a person of your standing and ability but by reading your article and hearing your talks I know you are real and have an interest in people even my dear little needy boys and girls of the mountain schools.

I am Rural Supervisor of schools in my county. I have forty schools to supervise. Due to insufficient clothing and food many are unable to attend schools.

I wish it were possible for you to see some of the conditions. It is not uncommon for a child to have but one dress or one shirt. They have to stay at home the day the mother laundries them.

I am just wishing that in some of your groups that it would be possible to interest them in our needs. The Save the Children Fund, with headquarters in New York, has helped me some. Many children of my schools would be unable to attend school had it not been for this organization.

I hope you will not consider me rude for writing. I have my heart in the work. I realize a hungry or a cold child cannot learn too much.

Yours very truly,
C. B. S.

March 25, 1935

My dearest President and Mrs Roosevelt;

Just a few lines to let you know, I am in good health, wishing this letter will find you all well.

Mrs and Pres. Roosevelt, in the first place I must tell you my name, O.C. - 14 years old.

I am writing to you Pres. and Mrs Roosevelt, to ask if I may ask one question, but I must first tell you my story.

Well you see Pres. and Mrs Roosevelt, I was doctoring for a while, with out my Mother and Dad knowing it, in fact they don't know it yet, & I owe Dr. Forney, \$7.50. I haven't any idea how to earn this amount, I was doctoring for an infected arm. Every time I went the Dr. charged me \$1.50, & I went 5 times.

Could you kindly please help me Pres. and Mrs Roosevelt. Please don't write to my parents about me owing this money. But if you will kindly help me I will greatly, & certainly appreciate it. If you help me Pres. and Mrs Roosevelt, send my note or your letter, to this address.

O. C.
Milltown Public School
Milltown, N.J.

I will certinally appreate your help.

Let me tell you one more thing, Pres. and Mrs Roosevelt, this summer aunt Joan, is going to take me on a vacation down at West Virginia, & while were going, I'll stop in and visit you, and then you can see who I am. Hows that?

Pres. and Mrs Roosevelt, could you please send this amount by April 5. I'd like to pay this out, before my parents receive a bill from the Docters office. O.K. Please.

Sincerely, yours,
O. C.

Centerdale R.I
April 17, 1938

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt

I am writing to you to ask a big favor, the biggest favor anybody can ask. I would like to know if you would pay my way to Hollywood. You may think me crazy but I not. I mean every word I say. I know you may write back and say, lots of people ask you to pay their way to Hollywood or for some other reason, but this is different honest it is you've just got to believe in me your the only one that can help. Or you may say what can I do child. Well you could tell them that you sent me and you know I can act, I'm sure they would believe you, because you tell no fibes. Just think wouldn't you be proud if I became a great movie Star and you would say to your friends, She's the little girl who wrote to me and asked if she could go to Hollywood. And I've helped to make her a great Star. I would like to tell you all this in person and then you could see me, but I have no money for carfare and I don't want you to bother to give it to me. My Little mother is a sickly lady, she is lovely so small and sweet I love my little mother dearly and I want to help her all I can so this is why I am writing to you, It will also give me a future and bring proudness to my relatives. My Little mother has something wrong with her heart which these small Doctors dont know although they do try their best. So I thought if I went to Hollywood and earned enough money I would be able to give my Little mother the best Doctors and proper care. I am not writing this letter to Mr. Roosevelt because men don't understand things like us laides do, so I am writing to you because I know you understand. I have read and heard so many nice [missing text]

I know I can act because I make little plays which I get out of story books and act them out. Please tell Mr. Roosevelt that I'm terribly sorry he lost that Bill. I think Mr. Roosevelt is doing wonders. Please be sure and tell him this, it will make him feel much better. I told some of my friends about my idea but they only laugh at me, and I get discouraged but when I look at my Little mother I run upstairs in my room and cry. I have Mr. Roosevelt's picture in my room and his name in big red and blue letters. And when I looked at his picture it gave me an idea and my idea was writing to you. Please Mrs. Roosevelt answer my letter, and please oh please say yes that you'll try your hardest. God will never forget you in the next world. And what you do for your father and mother will never be forgotton. My father is also a sickly man, he had two nervous breakdowns but never got over the second one. But I am a healthy child. I am fourteen years old. blue eyes, about sixty in. tall, weigh 105 1/2 pds, hair is long and curly sort of natural the color is light brown my complexion is very white. I have big eyes. Please trust in me with all your heart and I will trust in you with all my heart. Please just for my Little mother. (That's what I call her because she is so small.)

If you the Secretary should open this letter Before Mrs. Roosevelt please give it to her. Thank you.

A Little Girl who is still Unknown and Just Became Your Friend
J. I. A.

Greensboro N.C.
February 12, 1938

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Washington D.C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt

On January 1st I was layed off from my work leaving my father the whole support of our family. just recently he was cut down to three days a week with a cut in salary. With seven of us in the family it is just about impossible for us to live on this amount.

My mother has been sick for over two months having had a nervous breakdown and we are unable to buy or furnish her with the medicine required for her recovery.

I am 18 years of age the oldest girl in the family, and it just seems impossible for me to get a job any where. I have been to Mills, Stores and Firms of all sorts. I am willing and able to work. Can furnish excellent references but at this time of the year it just seems impossible to find work.

We are so in debt and each week the bills are piling higher and higher that it just seems as if there was no way out.

We must make a pay ment on our furniture bill. And if it isn't paid soon they will be out any day for our furniture. And on top of this we are behind in our rent.

It would be a big help if we could get some of our bills paid on as they are already impatient for their money.

If you could help us out with from \$35.00 to \$50.00 I believe we would be the happiest family in the world.

We have a good respectable family, none of us have ever been in any trouble, and our characters are above reproach.

Just as soon as I get back to work and the family on their feet again I will pay you back as much a week as possible until your kind favor has been fully repaid.

My father's work has been very poor for the past year. He is an advertising salesman, and his work right now is practically nothing; and as he has had kidney trouble for some time, taking more than he could make, for medicine. He has been improving recently, since he had his teeth extracted, and is looking forward to a job but which will not be available for a month or more. We went through the depression without asking for relief. I registered January 14th for unemployment compensation, and although promised \$6.25 a week, have not received a cent as yet.

Won't you please grant me the afore mentioned favor, please make it a personal favor, Mrs. Roosevelt, for if you would refer it to a local agency, I would suffer untold delay and embarrassment.

Although we are poor, we try to hold off embarrassment, for you know it is "hard to be broke, and harder to admit it."

Please grant me this favor and I will ever be

*Gratefully yours,
D.B.*

This is not intended for publication

Old Saybrook, Conn.
July 27, 1938

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am a poor colored girl who thinks quite a lot of you and your family, and I know you have done a lot for my race and we appreciate it immensely.

Now I am going to ask you two personal favors which I hope you can do. The first is: will you find my daddy a job as caretaker and gardener on an estate or as a janitor of a club or theater? He can't find one and we can't afford to put an advertisement in the papers. He has sixteen years experience.

The second thing I want to ask you to do for me is a big favor but I do hope and pray you will do it. My situation is as follows: I am a girl who lives in this small town called Old Saybrook. I was born here and have lived here all of my life. In June of 1935, I was graduated from the Old Saybrook High School and in June of 1936, I was post graduated from the same high school. Now I desire to continue my education by studying "theology" at the "Moody Theological College" in Chicago. Upon graduation from Moody College I would like to become a foreign Missionary or professional choir singer or teacher.

I am ambitious and determined to succeed, and because I am determined to succeed and ambitious I am writing to ask you if you will and could please finance my expenses for me. You don't know what it would mean to me if you would do it for me. You see, I couldn't bring my self to ask just any body to do this. I had to ask some one who has money and some one who is good and kind to colored people and does not hate them. You know as well as I do that a lot of the white people hate the colored people, so I couldn't ask just anybody like a white girl could. Therefore I was doomed until I thought if you. I hope you won't think I am bold in asking you to do this for me.

I would try to complete my course in about 2 1/2 years. There is no charge for tuition. But I must pay for my room and board which would be about seven (7) dollars a week. Then I must pay for incidentals etc. I figure that if you would allow me ten (10) dollars a week I could make my ends meet. We go to school from setember to the first week in August. Negros are not allowed to stay at the dormitories so I would have to room and boad outside. The superintendent said that he would find me a suitable place to stay. Then I would need about eight dollars (\$8) extra to have four of my teeth fixed before I can get my doctors certificate in and checked by Moody College.

I would like to go this fall in September so I wish you would let me hear from you right away. I have been out of school 2 years already and would not like to keep waiting. I tried to get a job but none of the people wanted me because I have no experience in house work. Now it is too late for me to get a job because August is here and it will soon be September. I don't feel smart enough to work my way through and keep up with my studies at the same time. Therefore, now that it's so late I am asking you for help. I want you to understand that I would be willing and glad to pay you back after I had been graduated and received a position. I would like to pay you so much at a time until I had it all paid up.

I beg and implore you please do not give my name to the newspapermen and please do not give them this letter to print. I would be very hurt and embarrassed; this is a personal matter between you and me. I do not want my name in the papers because I live in a small town and everyone knows me, and they would make fun of me, I know. So, once again I beg you do not let the newspapermen hear of this. Thank you very much.

Hoping you will get my daddy a job so that he can pay his bills and hoping that you will lend me the money for my schooling so that I may go in September, I am,

*Yours affectionately,
W. B.*

P.S.

I have tried to get a loaning concern to lend me the money, but they don't want to wait, until I have been graduated, for their money. I have been trying to get work or some means to get to Moody ever since I was graduated and because my future looked black I have come to you in desperation. I hope you will lend a hand to a poor colored girl who would appreciate it and I will endeavor to make myself worthy of your extended hand and kindness. You understand that I would like to pay it back and would like about ten (10) dollars a week and eight dollars extra in advance. I want to go in September. Once more I will beg you not to give my name and this letter to the newspapermen or any officials. Thanking you for what you will do for me, I remain

*Yours respectfully,
W. B.*

Indian Bayou, Louisiana

April 3, 1935

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I am a senior in high school this year and expect to graduate may the thirty-first. My daddy is sixty-five years old, a poor farmer and isn't able to supply the necessary articles which graduation calls for. I am determined to get an education, so that I can help him in the very near future. I am asking you to send me, out of your personal funds thirty-five dollars (\$35) to purchase these things such as invitations, class ring, graduation dress and shoes and other small articles.

In September I'll be prepared for College and will need some help in financial conditions as well as suggestions as to which college a poor girl should attend. Send only enough in September for my freshman year in College, and maybe the next year times will be better.

If you will take notice of my letter and answer as soon as possible, it will be highly appreciated, for without help I can go no further into the step of education, nor can I reach the requirements of a high school graduate. I thank you.

For reference you may refer to Rev. J. Knight, pastor of the Indian Bayou Methodist Church, Indian Bayou, Louisiana.

Sincerely yours,

J. R. D.

Sikeston, Missouri
January 20, 1938

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I am writing this letter in hopes that you will answer in my favor.

My father H. C. has been in bed from a stroke for almost a year. We have no money and my brother works but makes \$3.00 a week and there are eight in our family.

My step-mother is very good to me and I try to help her. She takes in washings and I have to walk for six or eight blocks and then carry the washings home. I have to go of a morning before school and it has been very cold here. If you could send me a bicycle to ride when I go after washings for her I shall appreciate it. I am in eighth grade at school and work very hard to make passing grades. The Principal of the school bought two of my sisters and me a pair of slippers so we would not have to stay at home. If you would do this for me I shall be able to help my step-mother more. If you send me one I would like a girls bicycle. I am about 4 feet 3 inches tall so if you send me one you can judge as to what size.

Loving and appreciating-
A. L. C.

Metheun, Mass.

Mar. 31, 1935

Dear President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

The favor I am about to ask you is one which I consider a great one. I am asking if you could possibly send me a girl's bicycle. The school which I attend is very far and I am not very healthy I often get pains in my sides. My father only works two days a week and there are six in my family, it is impossible in almost every way that I can get a bicycle! I am in the eighth grade and am very fond of school. Sometimes I have to miss school on account of the walk so far. I have often thought things would pick up and father might be able to get me a bicycle, but instead they have grown worse. I assure you that the bicycle shall not be used as a pleasure but as a necessity.

I shall be waiting patiently, for my greatest wish to be granted, as I feel sure that you cannot and will not turn me down. Please try to send it to me.

I shall remain

Sincerely yours,

M. B.

Columbus, Ohio
Sept. 2, 1935

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I am a little girl 12 years old. I would like to have a bicycle so much.

My Daddy has been out of work for such a long time and now he is only working 2 + 3 days a week and cannot afford to buy one for me.

So I am working hard to earn one, by selling 9, 3 year subscriptions for the "Ladies Home Journal or The Saturday Evening Post.

I know you are a wonderful lady. I always read all I can about you. I love to read about great people so much. I wonder if you would subscribe for these magazine, and help me earn a bicycle, I surely will appreciate your kindness.

I will be waiting to hear from you.

I am E. E.

STANTONVILLE TENN

DEAR MRS. PRESIDENT

I AM A LITTLE GIRL 5 YEARS OLD I HAVE A
LITTLE BROTHER HE CALLS ME SISTIE I CALL HIM
BUZZIE. AFTER YOUR LITTLE GRAND CHILDREN. I
WISH I HAD A SHIRLEY TEMPLE DOLL. DADY CANT
NOT BUY ONE

I LOVE YOU
P. A. C.

Mason, Wisconsin

January 9, 1934

Dear Mrs. F. Roosevelt,

I suppose you'll be kind of surprised to hear from a poor little girl. I am ten years old. On Christmas eve I had wished for Santa Clause to come but my mama said the chimney was blocked & he couldn't come, so I had a poor Christmas. I was expecting Santa to bring me some things.

I lost my daddy when I was two years old.

I have read in the papers how good you are to the poor and thought maybe you can help me some. I will appreciate it all my life.

To-day we have started school from our Christmas vacation & all the children talk about how many presants Santa has brought them & I felt so bad cause I had nothing to say. I guess that is all. My address is

R#2, Box 7

Mason, Wisconsin

Yours truly,

M. A.

42-06 159 Street
Flushing, New York
Mar. 22, 1934

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Please excuse the paper. I have never asked anybody for anything before and I feel kind of awkward writing this so please excuse any mistakes.

I am in the second term in Flushing High School and have managed to buy notebooks and pad so far. This being the spring term spring football is in session. This being my favorite sport I am trying out for the team. I managed to loan from a boy friend shoulder pad, helmet, and football pants but he didn't have any luck in securing a pair of football shoes. Practise started yesterday. I wore sneakers and had my ankle cut by a fellow with shoe's on. I came home last night and spoke to my parents about getting a pair of shoes.

I'm sure they would like me to have these but my father, who works three days a week makes only \$13.44 on the Long Island State Park Commission said we could not afford them.

I thought one of your sons may have an old pair of football shoes they do not use now. I wear size eight.

Please answer even if you can't do anything for me.

Thanking you in advance,
C. K.

Brownsville, Penn.
May 25, 1934

Honorable Mrs. Roosevelt,

My uncle has been telling me of the help you have been giving to the miners and their family's and I am a miners daughter. Age 18. I never finished school Because I was ill. My heart was bad. It has been well for the past two years. But I cant afford to go to school as my father is unable to work But draws a government pension which is enough to support us but as we have a large family it is not enough to dress us. I have earned my tuition for Business College working for a lady in our town. I visited a girls club in California and one of the Subjects was the Description of the White House and it was said the attic of the White House was over flowing with discarded clothing if this is true and you would send me some I am rather...clever with a needle and I would be forever grateful.

A.E.

Barboursville, W. Va.
August, 23, 1934

Dear President & Wife;

This is the first time I or Any of my people wrote Any president. And I am here to ask you for \$8.00 to get me a winter coat. This may seem very strange for a girl 12 years old to do but my father is a poor honest working Laundry man and he works on a percentage a week we have 10 in our family and my father does not have enough money to get him a bottle of Beer. His is a democrat and did all he could to have you voted. The N. R. A. [National Recovery Administration] is coming along fine. As little as I am I know just as much about depression as a grown person. I'm 12 years old and am in the 8th grade curly hair Brunette & brown eyes & fair complexion & weigh 76 lbs. Hoping to hear from you soon I remain your true Democrat

J. A. G.

P. S. We would have loved if Mrs. Roosevelt when she was visiting Logan to come around to our small town she was only about 60 miles from here.

Birmingham, Ala.
July 27, 1938

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt.

I'm writing you in regard to this W.P.A. work which my Father works on. He did make \$36 per month but I think he will get a raise of \$4.80 on the month. But he has five to support. Three children and I'm the oldest one fifteen years of age but too young to hold a job. I can't go to Church or Sunday School any more for the need of clothes.

Mother and daddy don't go either because their clothes are too bad.

If you have any clothes that you don't want, mother can make them fit us. Please Mrs. Roosevelt don't mention this over the radio or in the papers. My school mates would nag me to death. But if you think it's false, call or write Relief Headquarters Birmingham.

Thanking you I am

Salida Colo.
May 7 - 1935

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I was wondering, if you could do something, so I can graduate from the Eight grade. It will take about \$10.00 and then I got to make my confirmation and there is three of my other brothers, too, and one sister, beside me. The work relief don't do right here, they give those girls in the relief office \$20 a week, and they only support theirself and they give a man with, a family of seven, \$48.00 a month, last month they gave us \$46.00, when he should get \$58 at least. How much do you think a family of seven should get? Mother hadn't no light, now because we didn't have enough money to paid for them...and we are way far back in rent. Some men here get \$6.00 a day, and they only got two or three in a family, because they are the boss or timekeeper. I think if Mr. Roosevelt get the *old-age Pension [i.e. Social Security]* in it will be a lot better than the relief work. Every week we go tot bed one or two days without anything to eat. My brother and I go down to the railroad track to pick up coal to keep warm. If only the Railroad Pension go through daddy will have steady work on the railroad. We hardly get enough to wear, we have to wash our clothes and put them back on. Gosh! Mother can't get a haircut, her hair looked terrible.

If the Old Age Pension go in these girls got to go out and do something else, beside working on the relief. Gosh! I used to be able to take care of baby but not eh big girls get the job, we used to only get .10 cent, to take care of a little girl, but the girls, that take care of her, now get .50 a day and .50 cents a night. I read a lot a about you in the papers we get from the neighbors. My mother and Dad don't know I am writing to you. Please answer as soon as possible. Gosh! May 15th we have to try to make our confirmation if we can get some clothes and a dollar each too. I hope mother or dad wont find out I writing to you, because they don't want to let anyone, know how hard-up we are.

Please Please write immediately. I heard you help the poor peoples. I wish God blessed you, and let you luck. Please answer as soon as you received this letter.

Your's Very Truly,
Miss A.M.

Nov. 30, 1937
Springfield Mass

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am a girl sixteen years old. Last May I beg my father to buy an electric refrigerator for mother on Mother's day. We had talked about buying one with her. She thought it was not a very wise thing to do, because we could not afford to pay cash. I wanted it so very bad that my father bought it. He agreed to pay monthly payments of seven dollars and twenty two cents. What mother had said proved to be right. For two weeks after we bought the refrigerator I took sick with a serious kidney ailment which confined me to my bed from May twenty until Nov. twenty-second. I am just recovering from a delicate operation. I came home from the hospital Nov. eighth and my father was layed off after working for the railroad fifteen years. Many a girl of my age is hoping that on Christmas morn they will find a wrist watch, a handbag, or even a fur coat. But my one and only wish is to have father and mother spend a happy Christmas. Mrs. Roosevelt I am asking of you a favor which can make this wish come true. I am asking you to keep up our payments until my father gets back to work as a Christmas gift to me. Though father worked part time for quite a while we never lost anything for the lack of payments. If the refrigerator was taken away from us father and mother would think it a disgrace.

I close hoping with all my heart that my letter will be consider. Mrs. Roosevelt you may rest assure that I have learnt my lesson.

I am respectfully yours

J.B.

Springfield, Mass

Denver, Colo.

9-11-41

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Mother and I are grieved so much about daddy that I am writing you to see if you will so good and kind to help us a little so we can see daddy one more time our in come is four dollars and fifty cents a week so you see we can't do much.

My daddy went away one day to look for work. He was killed in Reno Nevada by a Southern Pacific freight train Aug. the 11^h was buried Aug. the 18th. Mother and I didn't get the word until Aug. the 22nd. We didn't get to see daddy. They didn't know daddy had mother and I. So they buried daddy in Reno Nevada. We are almost dead with grief. We can't sleep or eat very much. The undertaker there wrote us we could see daddy. They would open the grave for us to see daddy for the last time. but the cost will be fifty dollars and we have'nt the money to pay. Mother cries all the time she said she couldn't live if she couldn't see daddy one more time. It don't seem like daddy is dead daddy was a good man. He and mother loved me. I love my daddy. Mrs. Roosevelt I am asking you with all my heart will you please help us will you please help us to see my daddy please don't turn us down. I pray to God to help us in the darkest hours of our trouble. You can write to Reno Nevada and you will know this is the truth. I will close for this time praying to hear from you at once with good news. I am a little boy and I go to school every day and I sell papers after school is out.

A Friend

S.P.

P.S. My daddy's name is A.J.P.

Brooklyn, New York
May 14, 1934

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I trust you will not misunderstand the writer and please help him out of the rest. I am an admitted freshmen student to the University of Wisconsin but have not enough funds with which to matriculate. I need about two hundred and fifty dollars. Now, I've been reading a great deal of your activities on the radio and heard you on the radio. My parents haven't the money because my father does not earn enough on the C.W.A. [Civil Works Administration] Before he had the position he holds now with the C.W.A. he had a position with a big welfare organization. We had some money saved up for my education. I am ambitious to, and want to study medicine. My father was hurt in an automobile accident about ten months ago and was incapacitated as a result of it....I had a position but the salary was so little I just barely got along on it....Before the C.W.A. job my father had a position and with a little part of each of our earnings we were able to put aside a few dollars. Of course, this entailed a great deal of self denial and scrimping. Recently the old injury was reopened in a n unfortunate incident and we paid the doctor some of the money. We don't like charity. I was wondering if would care to help a young man get started on his educational desire by giving him a helping hand? The proceeds of your money from the radio talks are to be used for education purposes? Why not an Franklin D. Roosevelt scholarship for a needy student? Surely, the President deserves that! Or, better still, and further, why not, as the R.F.C. [Reconstruction Finance Corporation] has loaned money to industry (we construe it as education) an R.F.C. Student Aid Loan Fund as a dedicatory measure to the President of the united States? It can be designated as the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Fund for needy students. Leaving the rest to your discretion and looking forward to spending the year 1934 at the University of Wisconsin,

Yours Very Truly,
L.L.

P.S. I have been in Washington before, but have never seen a President or First Lady. R.S.V.P.

Jersey City, N.J.
Dec. 14, 1933

Our good Friend Mrs. & Mr. Roosevelt:

Hope this reach you & your good husband Mr. Roosevelt in the best of health. Well Mrs. Roosevelt I am a little girl 12 years old. My mother has 7 small children and my father just started on to work in one of those job your good Husband started for the poor people and we were sure glad to see him working as he did not work in year he is only making \$15 a week. But thank God he is getting that so my Good Friend you see he will recived he first cheack. Just the time our rent is due so my poor mother will not be able to get my little sisters & Brother a little doll or a toy for Christmas so if your little grandchildren have any little things from last year I will be thankful to see you send them to us Hope God send you Plenty luck & Hope you have a Happy Christmas & New Year.

C.H.

St Paul Minn

Jan 20 1957

Dear Mrs. Lady

Please don't be mad at me for writing to you. But I have been reading how good you are to every body so I thought maybe you can help me out. My mother can't get no winter coat and it is awful cold here. She works so hard to get us kids clothes and eats that there is nothing left for her so I thought maybe that you having to have new coats for the winter fashion ball and things that you might have one of your old ones you don't need and you would send it to my ma. I ask Santa Claus to bring her one but there is no such person because she did not get one. Please don't tell any one I wrote to you as the kids would laugh at me I will have to stop writing as my ma is coming home and I don't want her to see this but if you got a coat you don't want I will pray for you all my life no fooling if you make my ma happy it don't have to be so swell just so its warm. I go to the blind school as I can't see very good but maybe someday my eyes will get better. I want you to know that I love you and our president.

Your Friend

D.R.

I am 11 years old only in the 4th grade because my eyes are not good. So please excuse this letter.

Keltner Missouri
January 1, 1938

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Franklin d. Roosevelt:

I am writing to you to see if you will buy me a new car or pick-up. Here is what I want with it. I want to drive to high school . As, for I live in the country where the school busses does not come. They will not come to my home where I live. I am a poor boy and if you will buy me a new pick-up. Then I can earn some of my money to buy some of the gasoline with. If you will buy me a new pick-up it will mean and education to me. If, I had money enough to buy it I wouldn't be writing to you. For you to buy me one. If you will buy me one may be some day I will be president. And if you both are living I will buy you one. If you will buy me one to help get me through high school. For I love school

I will never forget you if you will buy me one.

I will close.

Yours truly,

O.M.

The kind I want is a Dodge

P.S. I am only fifteen years old.

The pickups cost **\$677.00**

The cars cost **\$875.00**

Buffalo, New York
November 11, 1940

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am a Negro girl 19 years of age who saw your article in the paper relative to what you do with the money you make from writing.

I have been looking for someone to help me out in my problem of higher education. I see, from reading your article, that you have helped some boys and girls go to school through your scholarship fund. I wonder would you consider me as eligible for the next scholarship you give.

My family consists of three children myself included, and also my mother. My mother is a widow and it takes all she can make to feed and cloth us. I have a NYA Job, but do to the fact that my mother is not able to help me I can not go to school. On this NYA job I get \$18.48 a mo, the place is located at 243 Washington, Buffalo, N. Y. My work is to take dictation from the head Supervisor and the counselors. I have received many compliments on my work. Some of the girls have received government positions on this job but they have not been able to place any of the Negro girls because they can't find anyone who wants a colore secretary. I feel fully capable of handling any secretarial position. I have had 2 1/2 yrs, of experience in this line of work under the NYA. First two years was while I was in high school the next was the Personnel Office of the NYA.

Mrs. Roosevelt I have been very despondent over the fact that I have been trying any and every means to go to college, but to no avail. I have competed in oratorical contests in which they offered as first prize a scholarship. The first time I tried I received first place in the state of New York, second time 2nd in New York, and 3rd time 2nd place again at which time I graduated from high school which automatically eliminated me because after you graduate you can no longer compete. I wrote stories, poems, songs, & titles, but only received small prizes, but however I saved this.

What I would like to do Mrs Roosevelt is to go to some school to take business administration to study higher in my secretarial work. I would like to go to Harvard Uni., or the University of Buffalo because these schools offer the complete course. I you help me got to college Mrs. Roosevelt, I will work and pay you back.

When I saw your article I thought maybe you would aid me, that is if you consider me worthy, which I hope you will. If you can not help me in my school problem please help me get a job, I am willing to leave the city. I am also willing to work while I go tot school. I take 96 words in shorthand, type 50 words a min.

I hope that you will see fit to aid me, I await your speedy answer.

Sincerely
Mrs. M.C.

Kismet, Kansas

Nov. 3, 1937

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am 13 years old and will be 14 the 27 of this month. I am a victim of a shut in. I have been sick ever since the 12 of July. And have a very lonely place to stay. My parence's are very poor people. I cant even go to school yet with the other kids. And doubt if I can this year. I have nothing I can do but set around and I get so lonely I don't know what to do. And if you want to cheer me up and make me one of the happies boys in the world just send me some money to get a cheap radio. I have got proof by the neighbors that I am sick and have nothing to do. My parence names is Mr. + Mrs. A. J. M. My name is F. M. I live at Kismet. Many, many thanks if you would cheer me up that way I wouldn't spend it for nothing but a radio. It would pass my lonely time a way so much faster. I only ask for a cheep one.

F. M.

Kismet, Kansas

P.S. If I had any thing to do I wouldnt ask you of it. It will be highly appreached.

I am in the dust bowl. We didn't raise any crop this year. And we have to live off of the releif and theres no injoyment out of that. But were thankful for it. My mother is sick and under the doctor's care most of the time and my Grandma that lives with me is very poorly. And that keeps my heart broken all the time. And nothing to amuse myself with.

thanks alot