

March 18, 1949

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Best wishes to my friends of the Nationality Communities Committee

You have all done so much to make the Newark Y. W. C. A. an Association of all the kinds of people in Newark, and I know you will continue to do that.

Life can be very rich and exciting in Newark because there are so many kinds of people. Whenever we set up any barriers and want to know only people like ourselves, life becomes narrow and cramped, whether it is in Newark or anywhere else.

Whatever are the definite responsibilities you assume as you enter a new period in the life of your committee, I know you will continue to work for the goals which have always been yours:

1. To increase acquaintance and friendship between people from the various groups in Newark.
2. To draw leadership from all groups into leadership in such organizations as the Y. W. C. A. and into leadership in the whole life of the city.
3. To make the life of the city richer by bringing the arts, the ideas and the life experience of each group into the Community as a whole.
4. To try to understand the problems of those young people who are living in two worlds, the old world of their parents and the new world of their school and work life and of their social contacts with other young people. I do not know what responsibility your committee can take for regular contact with the groups of young people in the Y. W. C. A., with a definite nationality background. But it will be very important for you as a committee to know what the problems and needs are, and to try always to interpret these problems to the Board and to the Staff. In this connection, I hope that one or more of the new professional staff members--whether executive director or young adult or teen-age program director--will be a person, who by training or experience, is well equipped to understand Newark's varied population.
5. To build a greater understanding of world problems and strengthen the support of the United Nations. You each have knowledge and experience that is important. As you bring this knowledge and experience into your study of the United Nations your group will mean a great deal, not only to your committee, but to other people who hear what you are doing. The influence of your group will spread far beyond the group itself. Through this group you will help to build one world.

I hope to see each one of you very soon; in fact, why not make a date for the evening of April 1!

Loads of affection and good wishes,

Elizabeth S. Rogers