

Anyja helyett Pallavicini Györgyné válaszolt Olchinának, s miután tőle megkapta húga, Károlyiné angliai címét, többször is írt neki. Először 1945 végén, mikor arra kérte Károlyiékát a család nevében, tegyenek valamit Károlyi szovjet fogságba esett unokaöccsére, Batthyány Bálint (a festő B. Gyula fia) kiszabadítása érdekében (PIL 704. f. 218. ó. e.).

#### 47. KÁROLYI MIHÁLY TÁVIRATA BÖLÖNI GYÖRGYHÖZ

(London, 1946. március 25.)

Április végén...<sup>1</sup> Budapesten lennem. Szeretnék látni. Mielőtt hazamegyek. Párizsban nem állok meg.

OSZK K 127. f. 244. ó. e. (távirat)

<sup>1</sup> Itt a távirtda egy szót (valószínűleg „kell”) nem tudott elolvasni.

#### 48. KÁROLYI MIHÁLY BÉDY-SCHWIMMER RÓZSÁHOZ

(London, 1946. április 29.)

Dear Miss Schwimmer,

We received your letter with great delay as it was reforwarded several times. We had been away for several months owing to my wife's illness. And now, upon our return, I had the visit a few days ago of Mrs Rawnsley, who to my amazement, declared that the purpose of her visit was to give us 25 pounds on your behalf! And this at the moment when it was really badly needed.<sup>1</sup>

I must say I was deeply moved by the kind thought and generous gift of the anonymous donor. I do wish I knew who it is so that might personally express my heartfelt gratitude. Anyway please do tell that unknown friend that, should he ever need my help, I would be happy to reciprocate with anything which lies in my power.

I of course understand that it was your influence which prompted the gift, and so our thanks equally go to you with our sincerest friendship. We may not always have followed the same political line, but I have always highly appreciated your diplomatic work at the time when you were the envoy of the Hungarian Republic in Berne and I always deeply resented the outrageous attacks to which you were subjected. Although these attacks were directed against you, they were actually aimed at me. Nevertheless, I am proud that I was one of the first European prime-ministers to entrust a woman, and such an able woman as yourself, with so responsible a diplomatic mission.<sup>2</sup>

We must admit that both of us - I as appointer and you as appointed - failed because we were unable to overcome the anti-feminist prejudice. Having once again backed the wrong horse - the Germans - Hungary has brought upon herself the second catastrophe. But the tide has now turned for, as you know, the National Assembly has recognized my services to the Nation. This, however, applies not alone to me, but to my collaborators as well, and therefore to you. Although we all have, since then, followed different paths, I feel a retrospective solidarity with our entire October team.

Although I have no official authority at the present time, I shall certainly try upon my return to Hungary, to make it understood that the wrong done to you ought to be repaired.<sup>3</sup>

Catherine is taking a great risk by accompanying me to Hungary as her doctors disapprove of her travelling, but as she always has been by my side through all these