My Dear Governor,

Many thanks for your letter of April 10th, with which you sent me a copy of your speech at Columbia University. I was very glad to have the text since I missed any reference to it in the press.

Your emphasis on the absence in the United Nations of any enforcement or operational machinery is a point which I could wish more people would give attention to and more governments consider a responsibility which they have not yet clearly met. It is very hard to see what useful work can be done, for example, in our own field of economic stability when the only instruments available are resolutions recommending member governments to take actions which too often conflict with the policies which those governments have to adopt if they are to remain solvent. In these circumstances there is inevitably frustration and impotence generated which it will take us a long time to overcome. As to the control of armaments or atomic energy or relief operations, it is ten times more serious that in these fields there is no possibility of any action being taken except that which appeals to the self-interest of the member governments concerned.

I feel the only thing one can do, however, is not to overstress these weaknesses at this stage for, as you say, this only leads to the charge that we have set ourselves an impossible goal, but I wish more members of the Delegations to the United Nations thought of the problem as you present it and were working for the objectives you describe rather than those which their national policy dictates.

For the present, however, there is no lack of enthusiasm on the part of the governments for meetings in the economic field and, as a consequence, we are inundated with work for which, unfortunately, we have not as yet got adequate staff. We are still endeavouring to give some shape to the relief programmes which the various member governments within the United States are considering and several meetings are being held with a view to encouraging these
governments to state the goods they are prepared to give. Perhaps the most encouraging sign was the notification of small but important contributions from Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Italy, but in the absence of a sufficiently strong organization to canalize these gifts and direct them where they are most needed, the maximum benefit may well not be obtained.

Sheila Collins came to stay with us recently and Alf Katzin joined us for part of the time. It was very pleasant to see them both again and to hear news of the UNRRA staff.

I wrote to you recently thanking you for the book recording your resignation from UNRRA. You were at the time, I believe, on a speaking tour and I am not sure whether my letter reached you. In case it did not, I would just like to say that I was very grateful for the book and for the inscription you were kind enough to add to it. I shall value it very greatly.

Kathleen and the children are well and are hoping to return for a two months' visit to England this summer. We have not yet got any confirmation of a passage but hope this may arrive soon. If we are able to arrange this, it will help to solve our accommodation problem which remains unsolved and which the United Nations (despite the publicity given to its housing projects) is unable to settle!

With kind regards from us both to Mrs. Lehman and yourself.

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

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