Hon. Herbert H. Lehman
Executive Mansion
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Governor:

I am preparing, for publication this fall by Coward-McCann, a volume to be titled, "A Treasury of Democracy." The aim is to collect the outstanding documents and writings on democracy from early Greece to the present. The work will be divided into three parts: first, documents, historical and contemporary; second, selections from historical writings and orations; third, a section devoted to contributions from contemporary thinkers.

I wonder if you would do me the honor of preparing, or selecting from something you have already written, a passage or several passages of any length up to 500 words. Such a brief statement or statements should embrace one or more of the following aspects of democracy:

1. Your conception or your definition of it.
2. Its place in the world of today and tomorrow.
3. What its loss would mean to America.
4. What it has meant to you.
5. The "We or They" issue.

Won't you let me know if I can count on your cooperation? I should appreciate receiving your statement by June 24 if possible.

Sincerely,

Norman Cousins