Dear Governor Lehman:

The need for leadership is certainly the great lesson of the post-war period. And the eagerness of the public to accept leadership has again been demonstrated the last few weeks, as Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson proved it in their day. What T.R. and Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt demonstrated is that leadership does not have to wait upon public opinion, but that public opinion, necessary to support wise measures, is created by forthrightness on the part of leaders in sponsoring such measures.

It is in this mood of rejoicing that I have just finished reading the full text of your message yesterday to the New York Legislature. By such action you will, I am sure, not only arouse the requisite support for your sound views on the Beer Bill; you will generate confidence and strength for your entire program of wise and courageous direction for New York's affairs.

With good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Herbert H. Lehman