Dear Herbert:

Not only because spiritually, as it were, I still live in New York, do I rejoice that you have consented to continue to serve the people of New York as their Governor. Precisely because I care so passionately about the highest standards in the administration of criminal justice I deem the defeat of Dewey a matter of profound national importance. A striking lesson should be taught to ambitious prosecutors who use the priestly office of the prosecutor as a means for advancing their political fortunes. Running for Governor, in the context of the present circumstances and before he had hardly begun the duties of office for which he was elected last fall, is at bottom really dereliction of duty on Dewey's part. In addition to all the other gains to good government that will come from your continuance at Albany, you will powerfully enhance the highest principles of law enforcement by turning such overweening ambition as Dewey's into a warning rather than a stimulus to others.

I know you have had to forego your personal preference in taking up Dewey's challenge. But I venture to prophecy that before very long you will find real satisfaction in having done so.

With all good wishes,

Faithfully yours,

Hon. Herbert H. Lehman