July 16, 1938.

Hon. Herbert H. Lehman,
Governor of the State of New York,
Albany, New York.

Dear Governor Lehman:

The United States, true to its traditional policy, assumed a strong position upon a great humane and international issue when, under the inspiring leadership of President Roosevelt, the nations of the world were asked to send representatives to a Conference for the purpose of formulating plans designed to alleviate the sufferings of oppressed people who had been forced to leave their native land because of race, religion or political beliefs. Included in these oppressed peoples are Protestants, Catholics, Labor representatives, liberal-minded people, and thousands of Jews, who, because of their racial status, were made victims of Nazi intolerance and Nazi cruelty. The rulers of Nazi Germany have made it clear that the only hope of the Jewish population to escape cruel, mediaeval persecution is to leave Germany and seek new homes, shelter and protection in other places throughout the world.

In order to meet this pressing need, a substantial group of prominent Americans decided to sponsor the establishment of a Colony in Palestine where these refugees may find it possible to establish new homes and to begin life anew under the protection of democratic nations. This Colony will bear the name of the great French Statesman, former Prime Minister of France, Leon Blum. Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Professor Albert Einstein have given their approval to this project.

A Founders’ Dinner has been arranged for November thirtieth at the Grand Ball Room of the Hotel Astor, New York, and Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt has graciously accepted an invitation to be the Guest of Honor.

It is publicly known that the American Federation of Labor has, on many occasions, pledged its full support toward the essential and idealistic upbuilding of Palestine. I have accepted the Chairmanship of the Committee of Patrons and I am extending you an invitation to serve with me upon the Committee. Please accept this sincere invitation. I will appreciate very greatly having the weight of your name and your influence attached to this noble and inspiring project. Please advise me that I may add your name to the list of distinguished Patrons of the Committee.

Thanking you for a favorable reply to this very kind and sincere invitation, I beg to remain,

Sincerely yours,

Chairman,
Committee of Patrons.