September 28, 1944

Honorable Herbert H. Lehman
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration
Washington, D. C.

My dear Governor:

You doubtless know about the feeling of uneasiness which prevails among Italians in this country concerning the present economic situation in Italy. In order to help allay this feeling of dissatisfaction on the part of Italian-Americans, we are arranging a dinner which is to take place on October 12 (Columbus Day) at the Roosevelt Hotel. Mr. Baldanzi, who has just returned from a visit to Italy as a representative of the CIO, will report upon conditions as he found them.

It would greatly enhance the effectiveness of this effort if you would address the gathering which will be attended by about one thousand representatives of the Italian-American community. I know how great are the demands upon your time but I would esteem it a personal favor if you would help us to make this occasion a success.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Sidney Hillman
Chairman