Hon. Herbert H. Lehman  
Wardman Park Hotel  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Herbert:

I realized after I hung up the receiver this morning, that you thought that I was upset. Actually, I was only short of breath having run from another room to answer the telephone. As I have inherited from my father the bad habit of being nervous at early and late telephone calls and telegrams and as Larry is in the hospital with the chickenpox, it took me a few minutes to realize that there was nothing in the phone call to be agitated about. I may say that when I realized it was you on the phone it didn't calm me down any as I am always pleased and excited when I talk to you. (In case you didn't know it, I'm one of your fans.)

To reiterate what I told you on the phone this morning, Mr. Lasky's accusation is quite untrue and we have been wracking our brains to think where he could have obtained such false information. We do know that copies of the letters were made available by Mr. James Shotwell, the Acting President of the Carnegie Endowment, to the members of the board of the Endowment. However, members of the board are not taking part in any fund raising activities and while we are sure that there must be some people who are doing the fund raising who are not under our control, none of these people would have access to the letters. However, Mr. William Marshall Bullit, one of the members of the board has been quite active against Alger and it is possible that he has turned over a copy of your letter to Victor Lasky. We have been most careful not to ask anybody to do any fund raising for us and have refused to allow the formation of a Hiss Defense Committee feeling that we could not control the actions of people who might get on such a committee.

Thanks for calling me to inquire.

My love to Edith and to you.

Sincerely,

HLB:MSB