August 31, 1935.

My dear Governor Lehman:

I have received your personal letter of August 28, 1935, regarding Dr. Julius Altschul, an uncle of Mrs. Lehman, who resides in Berlin. You inquire whether Dr. Altschul, who was formerly an American citizen but who was naturalized as a German citizen in 1926, could regain his American citizenship and whether in an emergency Dr. Altschul could communicate with Mrs. Lehman through the American Embassy by means of the courier post.

The explanations given in your letter enable me to understand fully your solicitude regarding Dr. Altschul. Unfortunately, however, there is no way in which an American who has voluntarily obtained foreign naturalization may resume his American citizenship without residing in the United States for a period of five years. Unless, therefore, Dr. Altschul should return to

The Honorable
Herbert H. Lehman,
Governor of New York,
Albany.
to the United States for residence, there would appear to be no way for him to resume his American citizenship.

If he desires to return to this country with his family, I shall be very glad to request the American Consul General at Berlin to extend to him and to them every consideration when they apply for visas.

As regards the possible transmission of letters from Dr. Altschul by the diplomatic pouch, I regret that this is not practicable under international practice which requires that such facilities shall be restricted to official matter.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]