I cannot overemphasize the urgent importance of complete success for your campaign for funds which opens tonight. I am afraid that with the focusing of Government and other efforts on unemployment relief, many of our fellow citizens have lost sight of the vital part which our regular private philanthropic activities are playing and must play if we are to deal adequately with our distress problems.

I have no hesitancy in saying that the relief activities fostered by Government aid and emergency committees would be seriously handicapped if there were any breakdown in the work done by institutions such as the ninety-one affiliated with your Federation.

I am confident that the Jewish community will respond to your appeal as it always has in the past, and wish your drive every success.

Franklin D. Roosevelt.