Honorable Herbert H. Lehman
Governor of New York
Executive Chamber
Albany, New York

Dear Governor:

You will no doubt recall that on April 30 last, on the occasion of the ceremony of the celebration of the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of the Inauguration of Washington, held at the Sub-Treasury, announcement was made through the Secretary of the Interior, that the Sub-Treasury Building — as the site of the original "Federal Hall" — would be dedicated in perpetuity as a National Historic Site, under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. On May 26, a Governmental Order was issued, confirming this dedication.

A little later, steps were taken, at the request of the National Park Service, to organize a custodial board to cooperate with the Government, in the development of a National Museum within the Building, and in whatever other ways the use of the Building for memorial purposes may suggest.

This board has been organized and incorporated, and held its first meeting at the Chamber of Commerce a few days ago. Its first act was to ask the President of the United States, the Governor of the State of New York, and the Mayor of the City of New York, to serve as ex-officio members of the Corporation, and of the board itself. Its second act was to provide for the unveiling of an appropriate bronze tablet, to be set in the stone of the Sub-Treasury Building, on the Wall Street side, this ceremony to be conducted on the steps of the Sub-Treasury, at noon on February 21, the day preceding Washington's Birthday.

It is, of course, true that for quite a number of years the old Federal Hall housed the governments not only of the nation, but of the State and of the City — in the case of the State, up to 1797, when the capitol was removed to Albany. This bit of history will be appropriately proclaimed and we wish heartily that it were practicable to have you present. Assuming, however, that it would be quite impracticable for you to be away from Albany at this stage, I have hoped that you might be inclined to send me some telegraphic
message that might be read to the audience, which, we believe, will measure somewhere in the thousands. If you can do this, as an evidence of your sympathetic interest in the memorial project, of which we are certain, I am sure that we should all be deeply appreciative.

The Mayor is to perform the act of unveiling, and the other speakers will include representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, the Sons of the Revolution, and of the Federal Government. Dr. Fleming of Trinity Church is to read the Invocation; and the proceedings, generally, are to be broadcasted over a national network.

If will give me great pleasure if at some time when you are in the City, and can conveniently do so, you will let me show you at the Sub-Treasury Building the plans for the memorial development, as well as the nucleus of the projected Museum, which has been opened in the basement rooms of the Building, and already includes several hundred relics of Washington and of the period generally, of the residence of the Federal Government in New York.

Always sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Chairman