April 5, 1937

Hon. Jas M. Mead,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jim:

As you doubtless know, I represent Gettysburg, one of our great National Shrines. Each May 30th (Memorial Day) memorial exercises are held on the Battlefield near the spot where Lincoln delivered his famous address. Almost all of our great Presidents have delivered addresses there on Memorial Day since the days of Lincoln, as well as many other outstanding Americans.

This year the committee having charge of the memorial exercises have unanimously agreed to extend an invitation to Governor Lehman of your state. As you doubtless know, New York State had more men engaged in the Battle of Gettysburg than any other state. Your state has also erected more memorials than any other state, and probably at a greater expense. I am advised that New York State has never been represented with a speaker on Memorial Day at this sacred spot, and for this reason I want to ask of you that you urge your Governor to accept the invitation that is coming to him. I certainly will appreciate your courtesy, and with kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

(S) Harry L. Haines.