October 29, 1932

Hon. Herbert H. Lehman,
Albany, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lehman:

It was very nice of you to write me your letter of the 19th. Since I saw you I spent a little time up-state and nearly ran into you at Troy, where I made an address against the immediate payment of the bonus. I spent three days at Buffalo, during which time I attended the reunion of the 27th Division. I expected Bill Donovan to show up there, but he did not. It may be that my partisanship deterred him. I do not know. I had an opportunity, however, to talk to many of the veterans, mostly from cities and towns north of New York City. The view was quite general that you would carry the State.

So far as the people in Buffalo are concerned, my time was spent largely with people who are Republicans. At the Hunt Club on Saturday afternoon I met an old friend, Chauncey Hamlin. His wife is a tremendous "rooter" of yours on account of your past work in relation to crime, etc. Apparently she is something of authority in that field. She said she had only a slight acquaintance with you. You might like to know her.

Of course, you know the strong feeling on the part of many members of the Saturn Club against Bill Donovan. Just how many others they would influence to vote against him (I put it that way), I do not know. I do not think very many, because they are not given to discussing the matter of the raid outside of intimate friends. On the other hand, I gathered that it is the general opinion you will carry the State, and that is my own conviction.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

JOHN F. O'RYAN