Hon. Herbert H. Lehman,
Lieutenant-Governor,
State of New York,
Albany, N. Y.

Dear Col. Lehman:

As I told you the other night the Department is giving at the Workhouse each Sunday afternoon, a talk to the prisoners by some nationally distinguished speaker on a topic of general interest. Our desire is to broaden the vision and outlook of the prisoners and germinate within their minds and hearts a feeling that a man can lead a law-abiding and upright life and still "have a lot of fun". We have had for our first speakers Professor John Erskine, Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews, David Sarnoff, and others of a similar calibre.

We do not want the inmates preached to or preached at. What we do want is to have them told about some interesting or unusual phase of life or living, in order that they may glimpse the large number of human activities which satisfy the desire for accomplishment, adventure or romance which all of us have in varying degrees. We plan to have talks, in other words, which will be a stimulus to better living.

I am writing to ask, therefore, if you would honor us by giving a talk on any subject you may select to the prisoners at the Workhouse on Welfare Island at 3:30 P.M. on Sunday, March 13, 1932. If you can do this I will be glad, to escort you to and from the Island.

Trusting that your engagements will permit you to give this talk, I am

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD C. PATTERSON, Jr.
Commissioner.