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111 El Camino Real
Berkeley 5, California
February 8, 1959

Attorney-General Stanley Mosk
Sacramento, California

Dear Sir:

As I am sure you know, the California Democratic Council is holding an Issues Conference in Fresno in March, at which seven major topics will be considered, one of which is Human Rights. As chairman of the section on Human Rights, I would like to invite you to be one of our principal speakers on Saturday morning, March 14.

Tentatively speaking, the following subjects will be under consideration in the Human Rights section: Human Rights for California's Agricultural Workers, the Rights of Individuals in Relation to Organized Groups, and Minority Rights and Housing. Problems contained within the first and last topics are probably self-evident. Under the middle heading, I hope we can consider the implications of the following: 1) that much of our public policy is in effect made by voluntary or quasi-public associations (the CMA, the State Bar, the organized truckers, the research foundations, etc.); 2) that the power of private associations may be increasing, not decreasing, in relation to that of government (cf. Drucker's article in the January Harpers); 3) that often these associations enjoy a monopoly of power which is in effect reinforced by the personnel makeup and policies of state administrative agencies; 4) that we should give more thought to ways of introducing the lay or public interest in technical matters now in effect legislated largely by the special groups affected; 5) and that, considering the size, power and bureaucratic structure of today's giant "private" organizations, including those for agricultural production, the most important questions of human rights and civil liberties pertain to employee or member vs. the organization. Assuming all this is true, what can or should be done about it? All this is still, as you can see, somewhat vague and unspecific. Within a week, I hope to have reduced it to a series of concrete and manageable questions which can begin to lay the groundwork for specific legislative proposals.

We would very much like to have you speak on any phase of the above which interests you most. There will be one or two other speakers. If you do not wish to tackle the substance of any of the above, in any case we would like to have you give a brief speech. Will you let me know your wishes in this matter? We expect an audience of from 250 to 300 people. Following the initial speeches, this audience will break up into small discussion groups to testify and debate on the questions put to them. The final report will not be in the form of resolutions but a statement of the questions considered, majority and minority opinions on the questions, and suggestions for further study and action.

Very truly yours,

(Mrs.) Corinne L. Gilb