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Speech of the Hon. Jaroslav Novak, Consul General of Czechoslovakia.
Chairman, Friends, and Honored Guests:

I have received a letter from Prague this morning entrusting me to bring to you the most sincere greetings and good wishes of Tomas G. Masaryk, President of the Czechoslovak Republic. President Masaryk has followed with great interest Professor Roerich's endeavors since the first Roerich Expedition in Prague, in 1906; and he is interested in the work of the Roerich Museum since its inception. Dr. Benesh, Czechoslovakian Foreign Minister, has given his hearty endorsement to the Roerich Movement for the protection of treasures of art.

And may I say a few words in my own behalf? I have been deeply touched by what Mr. Battle and Miss Grant emphasized in their addresses. For me it is fact that when Love becomes inventive and aggressive when it stops being suffering and passive, and this incarnation in Professor Roerich's work I think is a new beginning in this our work.

The words of Mr. Battle particularly impressed me that he spoke about Siberia. It seems really that there something is going on which we don't know, and which probably not even the people know who live there;-- this amalgamation of spirit that some day may show us how the offensive of Love has to be begun. Because until now we have been living in the defensive, and in the suffering of Love of Mankind. This has to be changed, otherwise hate and destruction, being always in the offensive, may prevail. And I think we may take home these ideas.

Taking into consideration this question of time, I was reminded this evening by Dean Ackerman, who is one of the speakers tonight, that thirteen years ago he got the first passport for going

as a Czechoslovakian into Siberia. At that time the Czechoslovakian State was not yet existing. Though, in fact, it was existing in the heads and hearts of foreign countries. I was at home then, and Mr. Ackerman, I want to tell you that I have signed the first Czechoslovakian passport at home. This was the beginning thirteen years ago of the Czechoslovakian State, and ten years ago this great Museum was started. But were these really the beginnings? These things existed in the vision of the Masters many, many years ago, just as the Dome of St. Petersburg as you can convince yourselves in the Museum in Florence, existed in the eye and the head of its builder before the first man started to work on it. (to make it).

Therefore let us hope that time will work with us, if we dare to be inventive in new means for the offensive in Love amongst nations.