

COPY

115 Central Park West  
New York, N.Y.  
February 8, 1936

The Riverside Drive and 103rd Street Corporation,  
Care of the Manufacturers' Trust Co.,  
55 Broad Street,  
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Having learned that you are to hold a Directors' meeting shortly, I am writing in protest over the recent actions surrounding the Roerich Museum Building. My fellow-members of the Corbett Bondholders' Committee will remember that at the last meeting, I expressed great apprehensions over the actions of Mr. Horch. Because already on the pretext of great concern over the "tax exemption" -- which I subsequently learned was unfounded--- he was even then attempting to change the name of the property. The recent activities of Mr. Horch indicate that my fears were too-well grounded and I am shocked at what has taken place.

Not only as a member of the Corbett Committee, but as a friend and patron of the Roerich Museum since its foundation, I regard the present attempt on Mr. Horch's part to oust the founders Prof. and Mme. Roerich, as well as the original trustees, Mr. and Mrs. Lichtmann and Miss Grant, as an overt act of the most reprehensible kind. The legal aspects of this act are under the review of the Court, but I can assert that certainly these acts are a betrayal of the spirit of the foundation of the Master Institute and the Roerich Museum, which were intended to be self-perpetuating non-profit institutions. My numerous contributions to the Institutions --even very recently--were solicited from me by Mr. Horch on the grounds that they were to be used to perpetuate the name of the Roerich Museum. Certainly, neither as a member of the Corbett Bondholders' Committee, or as a patron of the Roerich Museum, did I dream of bolstering up Mr. Horch's proprietary interests--or rather, Mrs. Horch's, since I understand that Mr. Horch claims to have turned over the total stock of the institute to her name, which in itself I feel can only be open to the greatest criticism. Surely, I would never have served on the Corbett Committee had I even surmised such a result.

I regard Mr. Horch's present acts as a defiance of the work of our Committee, and as the surest means calculated to bring disgrace and derision on our work and the Building which we strove to save in its time of stress.

I therefore ask this Board to take formal action on my letter and to censure Mr. Horch for these actions which are damaging the name of the property beyond measure. I also ask this Board to take such action as will arrest Mr. Horch from any further invasions of the rights of his fellow-trustees and permit the work of the building and Institution to proceed in the manner defined by the Reorganization Plan--that of an educational corporation under the control of the Roerich Museum interests. This Mr. Horch is apparently attempting to defy, and I therefore request your Board to investigate the situation and to prevent Mr. Horch from ousting the original founders and trustees as he is now attempting.

Very truly yours,

Florentine S. Sutro

POSTAL TELEGRAPH

Feb. 18, 1936

To Riverside Drive & 103rd Street Corp.  
c/o Manufacturers Trust Co. 55 Broad St., N.Y.C.

AS FRIEND ROERICH MUSEUM AND MEMBER FORMER CORBETT BONDHOLDERS COMMITTEE  
AM MUCH DISTURBED BY PRESS REPORTS OF EFFORTS TO OUST PROFESSOR AND MADAM  
ROERICH AND OTHER TRUSTEES AND CHANGE NAME AND FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF  
INSTITUTION STOP URGENTLY REQUEST NO ACTION BE TAKEN INTERFERE WITH INTENT  
AND PURPOSES FOR WHICH THIS INSTITUTION WAS FOUNDED AND TO FURTHER WHICH  
THE CORBETT COMMITTEE GAVE ITS SERVICES.

Wilbur F. Holt.