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August 6th, 1931

Mr. Herbert C. Hoover
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:-

Cognizant of the great contribution that you are making to World Peace and of your interest in all movements consecrated to this universally-desired consummation, we wish to bring to your attention the fact that an International Conference - "Union Internationale pour le Pa cte Roerich" - is to be convened in the City of Bruges from September 13th to September 20th, dedicated to "Peace through Culture" and aiming to further the world-wide adoption of the Roerich Peace Pact and the Roerich Banner of Peace.

The plan of the Roerich Peace Pact and the Roerich Banner of Peace was promulgated in America by Professor Nicholas Roerich in 1929. Briefly, it provides that "educational, artistic and scientific institutions, artistic and scientific missions shall be deemed neutral and as such shall be protected and respected by belligerents. Protection and respect shall be due to the aforesaid institutions and missions, in all places, subject to the sovereignty of the high contracting parties, without any discrimination as to the State allegiance of any particular institution or mission."

To insure this protection, a Banner was designed by Professor Roerich to be flown over cultural monuments - universities, cathedrals, museums, etc. - to proclaim their inviolability during war and peace. The Roerich Peace Pact has already been endorsed by the International Museums' Office of the League of Nations.

Accompanying this letter we are sending to you the Translation of the Project of the Roerich Peace Pact and the Translation of the Official Invitation issued from Bruges

The Conference will be held under the protectorate of His Excellency Dr. Adatci, President of the Permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague, while M. Camille Tulpinck, member of the Royal Acaemy of Archaeology of Belgium is President. Among those attending the Conference are: M. Jules Destree, President of the International Museums' Office of the League of Nations; a representative of the Law Section of the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations; His Excellency Baron Michel de Taube, Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration; Count and

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Countess Carton de Wiart; the Prince de Ligne and others equally eminent in the questions of International Peace.

We feel that a Message from you, Mr. President, as Leader of world -peace, would contribute vastly to the success of this significant occasion. It is the hope of the Trustees of the Roerich Museum, as well as that of the distinguished workers for culture who are convening the Conference, that the Conference may be inaugurated with your word of greeting - as the voice of the people of America, the country in which this movement for "Peace through Culture" was born.

Anticipating your reply and expressing the deep esteem of the Trustees of the Roerich Museum, believe me

Respectfully,

Louis L. Horch, President