

To The Council of Trustees
of Roerich Museum
310 Riverside

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Report N-1

1

Bruges August 6 th 1932

*All annexes and photographs
follow per ordinary mail
[To Nuggar]*

Gentlemen

I have the honor to report that I have arrived at Bruges on Thursday August 4 th. after a formal call at the Governor's palace, we had a number of conferences with the chief local organizers of the Art Cities Exhibition and of the second assembly of the " Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich", i.e. Mr Camille Tulpinck, Président and Mr Fraeijs de Veubeke, Commisary General, Chairman of the Bar Association of Bruges, who both have done admirable work on behalf of the Roerich Pact.

The Belgian authorities, the Diplomatic Corps of Brussels and the Belgian and foreign Press have been invited to attend the assembly. On my side I have sent out from Paris twenty five communiqués for the newspapers, including the New York Times, the New York Herald, the Chicago Tribune, the United Press group, the Associated Press group, the Daily Mail etc. I have invited His Grace the Duke of Argyll, a grand nephew of Queen Victoria, to attend the assembly.

As previously reported, I have obtained official participation of the French Government and of the City of Paris in the assembly, respectively represented by the Hon. Leon Guermontez, consul of France and Councillor Brunessaux, member of the Paris Municipal Council. I have also obtained a message to the assembly from His Excellency Marshal Lyautey, of France.

As regards the contribution of various European Governments to the Exhibition, you have been informed through my regular reports of the

course and of the outcome of my negotiations. I have also seen to it that our various groups connected with the Center of Paris should forward messages to the Assembly.

There are altogether 100 messages which have been addressed to the Assembly. A list of these messages is annexed to the present report (annex I)

Twenty two Nations are represented at the Exhibition, sixteen of these by collections of photographs sent by their Governments, Cities or official organisations, and the six others by private collections.

The Nations officially represented are (in alphabetical order)

Austria
Belgium
Czechoslovakia
Denmark
Estonia
France
Germany
Great Britain
Greece
Italy
Luxemburg (the Grand duchy of)
Netherlands (The)
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Yugoslavia

The six Nations represented by private collections are:

America (United States of)
Porto Rico
India
Poland
Russia
Tibet

I will describe a little further the arrangement of the Exhibition. I would like first to give you a few details about the assembly.

The Assembly will meet at 2.30 p m. at the Governor's palace of West Flanders, on Sunday August 7 th. It will be opened by a speech of

Mr Camille Tulpinck. Then I will have the Honor of reading Professor de Roerich's message and to deliver a short address. There will be speeches also of Baron de Taube, of Councillor Brunessaux on behalf of the City of Paris, and of the Deputy- Burgomaster of Bruges (the Burgomaster being absent)

Then the members will visit the Exhibition and at 4.30 p.m. a reception will be given by the Roerich delegation at the Grand Hotel.

The Grand Hotel is an old historical mansion of Bruges and has been for centuries the residence of Spanish Envoys to Flanders. During the time when it has become the seat of the Roerich Delegation, a Roerich Banner is flown on the top of the main portal of the hotel.

On Monday morning August 8 th , at 10.00 a.m. a business meeting will be held at the Governor's Palace, when resolutions and various proposals will be examined and voted. A second visit to the Exhibition will take place in the afternoon when short lectures will be delivered in the various sections concerning the cultural treasures of the participating countries. at 4.30 p.m. a reception will be given by His Excellency Baron Janssens de Bisthoven, Governor of West Flanders, in honor of the members of the assembly.

It is proposed to establish permanently at Bruges a Foundation to be known as " The Roerich Foundation of Bruges for Peace, art and Science " (Fondation Roerich de Bruges pro Pacem, artem et Scientiam) of which the 18 beautiful paintings graciously sent to Bruges by Professor de Roerich will constitute the basis. The Foundation, an outgrowth of the " Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich ", will be a permanent home for objects of art and also a Center for the expansion of all the activities connected with the creative spirit of Nicolas

de Roerich.

His Excellency Professor de Roerich's cable addressed to Their Majesties the King and Queen of the Belgians has been transmitted through the medium of Mons. Camille Tulpinck. The King who is away in Switzerland has ordered his A.D.C. in Brussels to convey his thanks (see annex II to the present Report)

the Prime Minister of Belgium, His Excellency Monsieur Renkin Minister of State, has sent a message of greetings to the Roerich Pact Assembly.

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The Exhibition of Historical Monuments and Sites organised by " l' Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich" is located in the Belfry of Bruges, the City's most renowned landmark, overlooking the Grand'place from a height of 220 ft. The Belfry is a beautiful piece of Gothic architecture dating from 1248 and has since that time always been the civic center of the Burghers of Bruges. Its chiming bells, 49 in number, constitute a " carillon" of world renown. These bells of total weight of 56.166 pd were cast in 1741 ; the mighty " Bell of Triumph " alone weighs 19.000pd and requires eight men to set it in motion. The " carillon" will be played in honor of the Roerich Pact Assembly.

Through a monumental porch you enter the " Cour d'Honneur " from which wide stone steps lead to the first floor. In the entrance hall are hung up posters of the participating countries; many of these posters have a real artistic value.

The Entrance to the Exhibition itself is adorned with the flags of the various nations, a big Belgian flag overhanging them all. Above the National Emblems is placed a Roerich banner of Peace, and in front ^{of it is} a beautiful sculptural group—the work of a Belgian artist, Octave

Rotseert, symbolising Peace. On the sides are placed very pretty medalions or crests with laurel wreaths bearing the inscription " Progez le pacte Roerich".

Then comes the succession of halls dedicated to the various countries, separated from each other by low " cloisons" or partitions at the top of which are inscribed the names of the countries. Each section is adorned with one or two ancient pieces of furniture, musical instruments, tools, laces, ship-models etc, etc, suggestive of the culture and history of the lands. The high Gothic windows, six to eight meters high, are ^{adorned} by Roerich banners of Peace.

The Exhibition has more than 6.000 photographs covering a surface of over 15.000 square meters. I will sent to you a plan of the Exhibition prepared by the town Engineer. The Exhibition Hall is about 180 meters long and 32 meters broad.

A " Salon d'honneur", ^{adorned with} a marvelous collection of antique furniture, tapestries and paintings, has been arranged; there, on an ancient oak table, lies the Golden book of the exhibition to be signed by ~~the~~ distinguished visitors.

On the sides of the entrance of the salon d'honneur are placed bronze busts of Their Majesties King Albert and Queen Elizabeth.

Professor de Roerich's paintings are hung up all on one wall in accordance with the plan devised by our Leader Himself. The Madonna Oriflamme is in the center. High above the Madonna is unfurled the big Roerich banner of Peace; the banner is surmounted by the ribbons given by the City of Bruges

In front of Professor de Roerich's pictures is an immense glass- case in which are displayed portraits and photographs of our Leader, coloured reproductions of His works, postcards and copies of all the publications of the Roerich Museum Press and ^{the} branches of

our institutions.

Photographs of the Exhibition will be forwarded to you.

The Governor of West Flanders has just called at the hotel to return me my visit.

Believe me, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully

/signed/ G. George of Chklaver

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Report n° 2

7

To The Council of Trustees
of Roerich Museum
310, Riverside Drive
New- York

Bruges, August 7 th 1932

*All annexes and
photographs follow per
ordinary mail [to Haggan]*

Gentlemen,

The City of Bruges is gay with flags and banners
On Sunday August 7 th, at 2.30 p.m. the second
Assembly of the Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich has been
solely inaugurated at the Governor's Palace of Bruges. The great
Council Hall, which has been the scene of the First Assembly in 1931,
and which is beautifully decorated with ancient tapestries and
coats-of-arms of the Flemish Cities, was filled with Delegates and
distinguished guests. A few of the persons who attended the Meeting
are enumerated in the list attached to the present Report (see Annex
I). The Roerich Banner of Peace (the one which has been kindly
given by the Roerich Museum) had been brought in state from the Belfry
and was held by a standart - bearer on the platform. The central seat
in the first row was occupied by His Excellency the Governor of
West- Flanders (Baron Janssens de Bisthoven), Representative of the
King for the Province, with, on his right and left, the Representatives
of the Foreign Powers, including His Grace the Duke of Argyll and
Mr. Murray (Great- Britain), the Hon. Léon Guérmonprez (France),
Their Excellencies the Ministers Plenipotentiaries of Czekhoslovakia
and Greece, the Delegates of Holland, Luxembourg and Portugal, the
Representatives of the Ecclesiastical authorities and of the
High Judiciary etc. etc.

On the platform took their seats M. Camille Tulpinck, President

8

of the Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich, Madame de Vaux-
Phalipez^u, Baron de Taube and Dr. George Chsklaver, respectively
President, Delegate General and Secretary General of the European
Center of Roerich Museum, Councillor Brunessaux, Syndic and special
Delegate of the City of Paris, the honorable Louis Ryelandt, First
Alderman of the City of Bruges, and M. Van den Berghe, Secretary,
President Tulpinck opened the proceedings and delivered his inaugural
speech, a copy of which is herewith enclosed (see Annex II).

Then Dr. George Chsklaver had the honor of reading the Message
graciously sent by His Excellency Professor Nicholas de Roerich
Honorary President of the assembly and Initiator of the Pact. On that
occasion the name of our beloved Master was enthusiastically cheered
by the audience.

Dr. George Chsklaver read also Marshal ^{Lyautey} ~~Munier~~'s Message
which made a deep impression on all those present, and delivered a
speech (see annex III).

M. Tulpinck announced the establishment at Bruges of a
Foundation to be known as " Fondation Roerich de Bruges pour la Paix,
l'Art et la Science " and of which the " royal donation" of Professor
de Roerich- His eighteen beautiful paintings sent to Bruges- will
constitute the basis (loud applause)

Mr. Murray, in the name of Great- Britain (and also of the
Council for the Preservation of Rural England) delivered a speech
of which you will find a copy herewith enclosed (annex IV).

Councillor Brunessaux conveys the tribute of the City of
Paris and voices the unrestricted adhesion of the Capital City of
France to the Roerich Pact (see annex V).

~~His Excellency Baron de Taube delivers an eloquent address on which~~
His Excellency Baron de Taube delivers an eloquent address
showing the international and spiritual significance of the Roerich Pact
(Annex VI)

9

First Alderman Louis Ryelandt brings the tribute
of the City of Bruges (loud applause).

President Tulpinck reads a cable received from His Excellency
Monsieur ~~Ataci~~, President of the Permanent Court of International
Justice, Honorary Protector of the Union Internationale pour le Pacte
Roerich (see annex VII and also a ~~note~~ ^{letter} from His Excellency Prime
Minister Renkin, of Belgium.

Dr. George Ch~~k~~slaver proposes to send addresses to His Excellency
Professor de Roerich and to the Trustees of the Roerich Museum. The
draft cables submitted by Dr. Ch~~k~~slaver are approved by the Assembly
amidst loud applause.

From the Governor's Palace the Members of the Assembly and the
guests proceeded to the Belfry ^{2/} where they greatly admired Professor
de Roerich's paintings and also the splendid collections of photographs
sent by so many States and Cities to the Exhibition organized by the
Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich.

At 5 p.m. a reception arranged by the Roerich Museum Delegation
was held at the Grand Hôtel for the Members of the Assembly and guests

The reception ably superintended by Madame de Vaux-Phalipau
has been attended by all the important personalities present at Bruges
on the occasion of the assembly.

Yours faithfully

Dr. George J. Chslaver

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10

Report n° 3

To The Council of Trustees
of Roerich Museum
310, Riverside Drive
New- York

Bruges, August 8 th 1932

*All Annexes and
photographs follow per
ordinary mail [to Kaygar]*

Gentlemen,

The business session of the Second Assembly of the Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich opened at 10 a.m. on Monday August 8 th, in the Committee Room of the Governor's Palace of Bruges.

M. Camille Tulpinck (Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich, Président) reports on the work done since the First Assembly, dwelling especially on the " Fondation Roerich de Bruges pour la Paix, l'Art et la Science " He says that he has asked the military and the educational authorities to organize visits of soldiers and school-children to the Exhibition. Lectures on the Roerich Pact should be given in the schools.

Dr. George Chklaver (Roerich Delegation) reads the message just received from the Trustees of Roerich Museum. It is decided that the Trustees' cable will be communicated to Their Majesties the King and Queen of the Belgians through the mediam of Count de Patoul, Marshal of the Court.

Dr. George Chklaver reports on the ~~news~~ Messages of good - will received from various parts of the world. He shows that the movement in favor of the Roerich Pact has really become a world- movement.

Dr Chk~~l~~aver, mentions specially the Messages from American Womens' organizations, from United States Senators and from such men as Rabindranath Tagore and Sir J. Bose (see annex I to Report N° I) of August 6th a c.)

Dr Chk~~l~~aver gives a general survey of his negotiations with the different ^Governments, with the League of Nations, the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments etc. on behalf of the Pact . He expresses the hope that the Royal Government of Belgium will cooperate at Geneva in the diplomatic " démarches " aiming at the universal adoption of the Roerich Pact.

Baron van Zuylen de Nyevelde (Belgium) reports on the poor condition of namerous Churches and Temples. He thinks that the Roerich Pact will be extremely precious also in time of peace, as it will promote a general ^{mouvement} ~~movement~~ for a better maintainance of the buildings dedicated to Religion and Culture.

M. Fraeys de Veubeke, Commissary General of the Exhibition of the Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich, (Bruges) emphasizes the role of the Roerich Pact in peace as in war .

Strictly confidential

M. Rey de Villette (France) submits proposals as to the next diplomatic moves in connection with the adoption of the Roerich Pact by the Powers.

His Excellency Baron de Taube (Roerich Delegation) and ^{van} M. Re~~yn~~ghe de Voxvrie (Brussels) express their views on the same subject.

Dr George Chk~~l~~aver (Roerich Delegation) gives a résumé of the conclusions arrived at.

Madame de Vaux-Phalipau (Roerich Delegation President) outlines the rôle to be played by the Roerich Fondation at Bruges: the Fondation should, on the one hand, serve purely educational purposes (to teach the younger generations respect and love for objects of Beauty) and, on the other hand, it should contribute to the scientific study of folk-lore by constituting collections illustrative of the history and culture of the various lands.

Councillor Brunessaux (Paris) says that the City of Paris is ready to contribute to the formation of these collections and hails the new Roerich Foundation.

The Delegates express their feelings of gratitude towards the City of Paris.

M. ^{van}Reynghé de Voxvrie (Brussels) mentions that he will bring the Roerich Pact to the cognizance of the Congress of the Middle classes which is to be held at Ghent in September.

M. Kieffer (Luxemburg) says that he will cooperate in spreading knowledge of the Roerich Pact in the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg.

Dr George ~~Chick~~laver proposes a vote of thanks to be addressed to several eminent personalities who have aided him in ensuring the success of the Exhibition organized by the Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich, namely Their Excellencies Count Ehrenswärd, M.R.C. Pusta and M. Stephen Ossusky, respectively Ministers Plenipotentiaries of Sweden, Estonia and Czekhoslovakia in Paris, M. Oldenburg, Chargé d'Affaires of Denmark in Paris, M. Mistler Under-Secretary of State for Fine-Arts, of France, and M. de Fontenay, President of the Municipal Council of Paris.

The proposal is approved by the assembly.

Further, Dr ~~Chick~~laver proposes to convey the thanks of the

Assembly to the Royal Government of Belgium. The proposal is also adopted.

The draft resolutions of the first Assembly are ratified.

The Meeting rises at 12.30 p.m.

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At 2.30 p.m. the Delegates and Guests proceeded to the Belfry^{e/} where they visited in detail the Exhibition organized by the Union Internationale pour le Pacte Roerich and which has been described in Report n° I of August 6th a c.

M. Fraeys de Veubeke, Commissary General, delivered an illuminating speech about the purposes and constructive principles of the Exhibition.

Count de Rochefort (Russian Section of the European Center of Roerich Museum) delivered a most interesting lecture commenting the unic collection of Russian photographs and engravings which he kindly contributed to the Exhibition.

M. Rey de Villette, Representing the " Commission des Monuments Historiques" du Gouvernement Français, conducted the Visitors through the french Section which is the biggest of the whole Exhibition.

Dr. George Ch^klaver gave explanations regarding Professor de Roerichs paintings.

The Visitors signed the golden book of the Exhibition

At 4.30 p.m, His Excellency the Governor of West Flanders and Baroness Janssens de Bisthoven offered a brilliant reception at their beautiful private residence in honor of the Members of the Assembly

I have the honor to report that, in reply to my letter addressed to the Rt. Hon. Arthur Henderson, President of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments, I have received from him a Message of which you will find a copy herewith enclosed (annex I)

The Union of Women's Organizations of Latvia has addressed a Message to the Bruges Assembly (see annex II).

Yours faithfully

Dr. George G. Chelavon