

ROERICH MUSEUM

310 Riverside Drive  
New York, N. Y.

November 3, 1933.

Mr. L. V. Coleman, Director  
American Association of Museums  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Coleman:

I am in receipt of your letter dated November 2nd and I am greatly astonished at the statements expressed therein.

You mention that "some of your statements to the press are said to be inaccurate by organizations ...". We consider this statement a very serious matter, especially since it is directed against the integrity of an institution which serves the cause of education and culture, and which has won the recognition of cultural leaders and institutions throughout the world.

In reply to your statement that the International Museums Office in Paris has expressed only "general sympathy" for the Pact, I beg herewith to inform you that the International Museums Office of the League of Nations in Geneva has unanimously endorsed the Roerich Pact in 1930. I am also enclosing herewith a copy of a letter received from the League of Nations, Geneva, dated October 16, 1933, in which you may see that the Secretaire general-adjoint writes us, wishing full success to the Third International Roerich Peace Banner Convention.

Our institution is ready at all times to substantiate any statement which it gives to the press or in any other announcements to the public. We therefore ask you in all sense of justice to inform us what are the "inaccuracies" of which we have been accused beside the one which you mention and which we consider entirely undounded. Likewise, we will appreciate your informing us which organizations have made these statements, so that we may have the opportunity of clarifying the matter and removing these false accusations. We cannot, of course, accept or respect any statements which are concealed under anonymity.

As requested, we shall remove your name from the Honorary Committee, thus cancelling your previous acceptance of October 14th, and in the next printing of programs and stationery, your name will be omitted.

Very truly yours,

Louis L. Horch, President.



THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

Washington, D. C.

November 6, 1933.

Mr. Louis L. Horch, President,  
Roerich Museum  
310 Riverside Drive  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Horch:

Your letter of November 7 takes me too seriously. I was speaking entirely for myself and was asking you to excuse me from a committee so that I would not need to think of such questions as you now urge upon me.

Sincerely yours,

L. V. Coleman  
Director.

LVC:b



ROERICH MUSEUM  
310 Riverside Drive  
New York, N.Y.

November 28, 1933.

Mr. L. V. Coleman  
Director, The American Association of Museums  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Coleman,

In reply to your letter of November 6th, it is but fitting that we take a letter received from the Director of the American Association of Museums seriously. In addition, I must remind you that your letter contained statements which undermine the integrity of our Institution, and such false accusations, as inaccuracies in the Press, can not be taken lightmindedly, and without the due retraction. Moreover, you must have accepted the remarks concerning our "inaccuracies" quite seriously, otherwise you would not have requested that your name be taken off the honorary list after you had previously given your consent. You mention that you have certain responsibilities to the members of your organization, and thereupon take definite procedure. We presume that you will give the same consideration to our Institution, which is likewise a member of your organization, and investigate the accuracy of accusations against us, before accepting and acting upon them.

It is impossible for us to treat this matter lightly, as it is but natural that we guard our integrity. We cannot permit any false accusations to spread without duly counteracting them. I am certain that you will understand our attitude in this matter, and that you undoubtedly will want to see that due justice is given in this matter.

We have investigated your statement that the Museums' Committee has changed its attitude, and the reply received from abroad indicates their continued friendliness.

Very truly yours,

Louis L. Horch, President.