

NAGGAR, March 15th, 1933

Mrs Lionel Sutro,
115 Central Park West
New-York City, U.S.A.

Dear Mrs Sutro,

In a few days from now I shall send you the third volume of our JOURNAL, a list of contents of which is herewith enclosed. I am glad to be able to tell you that since publishing our Volume II we have succeeded in securing the co-operation of several foremost savants in our work. Prof. Shiv Ram Kashyap is the President of the Indian Scientific Congress and is one of the leading and most active botanists of this country. Prof. Metelnikoff of the Pasteur Institute in Paris is an eminent biologist and author of a remarkable book on the Problem of Immortality. Volume IV is in preparation and we were fortunate again to secure fine articles, as for instance by Prof. de Hevesy, the discoverer of the remarkable similarity between the unknown script discovered at the ruined site of Mohenjodaro and the script found on the Eastern Island, off the Chilean coast. We also hope to receive an article written by an eminent authority on the cancer problem in India. Our Annual Reports which our friends in New-York no doubt have given you, contain an account of our various activities since the inauguration of the Institute's field work in 1930.

Since your particular interest lies in the field of pharmacological and medical research, I take the opportunity to give you some details of the work on Tibetan materia medica, which is now being carried out here. Prior to the great war investigations conducted at the first military hospital of St. Petersburg with Mongol and Tibetan lama doctors, proved that these native medicine men were in possession of potent cures for malignant tumours, including cancer, as well as tuberculosis. Unfortunately this important research conducted under the supervision of well known physicians, had to be stopped during the war and the subsequent events did not permit the continuation of it. While in Mongolia in 1926, I was able to observe the work of Mongol and Tibetan medicine men and the results of this observation once more stressed the urgent necessity of a thorough investigation of the materia medica of higher Asia. The existing European works on the Tibetan-Mongolian pharmacopoeia are hardly adequate and the whole work of identification of the material and its study scientifically has to be started anew. Since the inauguration of this work at the Institute, we have been busy gathering a representative collection of the local materia medica with the help of native medicine men. At present this work is well under way and the collection will form a basis for future investigation in the laboratories of the Institute. Besides the collection of materia medica, we have started a medicinal plant record in which are entered the latin and native names of plants, their economic and medicinal usages, their habitat and environment, as well as information as to how the plant should be used, what as a rule requires a thorough knowledge of the Tibetan language. This record has at present over a thousand entries and serves to supplement

the Institute's collection of materia medica. We also hope that conditions will permit us to start a collection of Ayurvedic materia medica for the comparative study of ancient Indian medical science and its sister branch the medical science of Tibet is essential for their proper understanding.

We have also collected Tibetan medical texts, most of which are yet not translated into any of the European languages. During the past year I have prepared a translation of one of these medical texts, which I hope to publish as a future volume of our Series Tibetica. These works on pathology and native pharmacognosy contain interesting facts on the treatment of the various diseases and we have made special effort to secure every possible information on native treatment of cancer. All this rich material will have to be studied with the assistance of specialists, who will investigate the active principles of the various remedies prescribed in the native medical science. You know that the material will have to be studied locally since it deteriorates while in transit and even seeds of deodar that grow to such a magnificent size in the Himalayas, deteriorate during the long voyage to Europe and yield only very poor results. In view of this the erection of the Laboratory for this Institute, acquires a special significance. Vol. of our JOURNAL contains an illustrated article and plan (a copy of which is enclosed herewith) by the Secretary of the Institute on the medical laboratory building and it is our sincere hope that conditions will permit to equip this building and erect the indispensable hydro-electric plant and electric installation.

Besides the above medical work, the Philological Department of the Institute has been active along its own lines. The work on a large Tibetan-English Dictionary is well under way and you will have seen particulars of it from our Dictionary leaflet. A whole section of the Dictionary will be devoted to Tibetan materia medica and Tibetan medicinal terms so essential for the proper understanding of medical texts. In this respect it will be the first work in this particular field. Our subscription for the Dictionary yields gratifying results in the way of enquiries from scientific bodies, although the present depression unfortunately does not contribute towards securing sufficient subscriptions to cover the cost of printing of this work. Besides the Dictionary, the Institute has inaugurated a linguistic survey of Tibet and the first volume on the Dialect of Lhalu is being published now and will also be sent to you as soon as ready.

I close this letter, dear Mrs Sutro, with expressing once more the Institute's gratefulness for your generous assistance and enlightened interest in furthering the Institute's scientific research.

Prof. and Madame Roerich desire me to convey to you their heartiest greetings.

With cordial wishes, believe me to be,

Yours very sincerely,

2

NAGGAR, KULU, PUNJAB, Br. India

June * 8 * 1933

Dear Mrs Sutro,

I gratefully acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23rd of April enclosing a cheque for Rs:339/8/6 which will be turned over to our Dept. of Pharmacology as you direct.

We value greatly your interest in our work, the more so at a moment of general depression, when human minds seem to be distracted from cultural values.

The Journal of our Institute has been sent on the 16th of April and I trust that it has reached by now. With the summer approaching we prepare ourselves for field work and hope that this year will bring new interesting finds and additions to the collections of the Institute. We of course shall keep you informed of all the developments in our work here.

With heartiest greetings from us all

Cordially yours,

Director.

40141 ^B

January 23rd 1934.

Dear Mrs Sutro,

Miss E.J.Lichtmann has transmitted to the Institute your gracious contribution of \$1000 (equivalent Rs:2,617/12/10) towards medical research work of this Institute. I take this opportunity to express to you on behalf of the Institute our sincere gratitude for your constant and enlightened furthering of scientific work in this vital field of research. It is fervent hope that the difficult time of depression will pass at last and that we shall be able to develop our research according to our basic program. You will be glad to know that the work on the Dictionary has been completed and that we are now busily engaged in copying it into manuscript form, up to now more than 2000 pages foolscap size have been copied by hand. We are also continuing to prepare a translation of an important medical treatise.

I will be glad to bring to you on behalf of the Institute a collection of photos illustrating some of the aspects of the Institute's activity .

Prof.and Madame de Roerich and the members of the Institute wish me to transmit to you their best greetings and wishes for a fruitful year.

Cordially yours,

Feb.14th 1936.

Dear Mrs Sutro,

On completion of the report on explorations in the Gobi desert on behalf of the U.S.Dept.of Agriculture, I have resumed my duties as Director of the Himalayan Research Institute. In view of the situation in New-York of which you are aware, we are endeavouring to elucidate the various amounts of donations which up to now have not been transferred to the Institute by Mr.L.L.Horch, then President of the Roerich Museum and it seems were temporarily directed by him to other purposes. Our records here show that a donation of \$1000 of December 10th 1933 by yourself had been received in Naggar on Jan.11th 1934. Your last donation of \$1000 to the Institute had been received here as our records show, on May 21st 1934. It appears that your previous donation to the Institute of Sept.18th 1931, amounting to \$2500, which was announced to us by cable in the end of Sept.1931 and acknowledged with thanks in our Minutes of Sept.25th 1931, however was never transferred to the Institute in Naggar, being apparently diverted by Mr.Horch for some other urgent needs.

Since the Roerich Museum transfers, made by Mr.Horch,were not always specified and were frequently transferred in parts under item "Museum Grant", it is rather difficult for us to ascertain,without access to the New-York books in custody of Mr.Horch, the real origin of these transfers. We therefore would feel very grateful if you could kindly send us any particulars as to the receipt for your donation which you had at the time received from Mr.Horch.

Our Institute is continuing its scientific activity according to present

870800

505

circumstances on a skeleton basis. We are endeavouring to find a publisher for the Tibetan-English Dictionary for which we have received over ninety subscriptions so far. Dr. Merrill informs us that he is completing his manuscript on the flora of Western Tibet, based on our botanical collections. We hope to be able to publish this valuable contribution either as part V of our Journal or as a separate monograph.

Volume IV of the JOURNAL, though assembled, could also not appear so far for lack of funds and we are trying to find ways by enlarging our membership to publish it.

The medicinal collections has considerably increased due to the efforts of Mr. S.N. Roerich, who took over this work after my departure to the Far-East. I believe that at present the Institute has one of the largest Collections of Tibetan Materia Medica in existence, and you will remember that we feel honoured to have given it your name.

We were delighted to read the fine review of your book in the recent issue of the Sunday Times and we would greatly appreciate to receive a copy for our Library here.

With heartiest greetings from Prof. and Mme de Roerich and all members of the Institute's Staff, and thanking you once more for your constant and enlightened interest in the furthering of scientific work, I remain

Yours very sincerely,

Director .

5
604023

April 6, 1936.

Kulu, Punjab, Brit. India.

My dear Mrs Sutro,

I hasten to acknowledge your letter of March 14th in reply to my letter of February 14th. The sum of \$1769 given by you on April 11th 1934, was duly received by the Roerich Museum in New-York for transmission to the Institute's Headquarters, in India. Of this sum \$1000.- as stated in my previous letter had been received by the Institute on May 21, 1934. The balance of \$769 was apparently kept in New-York and our records here show that it has not been transferred here. With regard to the \$2000.- donated by you in September 1934, I have to state that the Institute has no records of this donation, however I think Mrs S.G. Lichtmann could probably give you information on this point. I am deeply sorry that the recent events in the Museum have handicapped the continuation of the Museum's cultural and scientific activities. In the normal course such questions could never have arisen and we would have been informed of all actions taken in New-York.

We are however trying our best to maintain a skeleton organization of this Institute thanks to the help of friends, to keep up our collections in order to be able to start with new energies as soon as the deplorable conditions in New-York will be fully straightened out. There is quite an interest in the scientific activities of the Institute locally and during the summer months we usually receive quite a number of visitors from scientific institutions in India who come to view our collections and research Library. You will be also interested to know that we have established an exchange of botanical material with the Universities in China and the Cademia Sinica in Nanking, who are sending us collections from Eastern Tibet and Western China, which are particularly welcome to us.

With heartiest greetings from Profand Mme de Roerich and all members of the Institute's staff and thanking you again you again for your constant interest in the furthering of scientific researeg, I remain

Yours very sincerely,

604100

Apr. 22, 1936.

My dear Mrs S u t r o ,

Many thanks for your kind letter of Apr. 2nd. Indeed we all like your book very much and I am positive that some nice review could be received here in India in local monthly magazines, if we can get some copies to send to them. Without sending a book to the reviewer they cannot of course publish any review. I on my part believe that such review because of the large number of readers of local magazines would be received very cordially by the public.

The details which you write about your case are indeed shocking. Verily when people step onto the path of injustice and lies, then they loose even their human aspect. But we see that the name of your attorney is Miss Rock, and this name sounds most encouraging as she will no doubt be as firm as a rock.

It was joy for us to see your signature on the beautiful letter of March 24th. As we write in our reply addressed to all dear friends, such cordial gatherings strengthen the united thought for Good and constructiveness.

001900

If even the attacks of the dark forces are ever so treacherous, we know that Light conquers darkness. The evidences of deep cordial feelings from friends, which come with every mail, show how much just indignation is rising against the malefactors, whoe have committed such a horrible crime as breach of trust.

I regret I cannot tell you anything better about Mme de Roerich's health, but you understand that for herhaaztt such treason and breach of trust are most painful. It is strange to see the numerous writings of the trio filled for fourteen years with such hypocritical superlatives. But justice exists and finally is unconquerable.

From all letters we see that the attorneys have already instituted strong actions and we hope that before long this ghastly episode will be closed.

We all are sending you our best wishes

Most cordially yours,

7
606110

June 11, 1936.

Bentley Mack

My dear Mrs Sutro,

Your very kind letter of the 15th ult. reach us and we all in the innermost of our hearts perceived your valued friendship, witnessing how strongly you stand up for the defence of truth and cultural activities.

It is indeed most gratifying to see how all our best friends are with us in this battle.

We sincerely rejoiced hearing of your participation at the Convention of the Women's International League for Peace and at the Ethical Society's Anniversary. Indeed these great conceptions of Peace and Ethics are inseparably connected with yourself and your untiring beneficial humanitarian work. All world events to-day indicate how imperative is the guarding of these high principles. Many in-explainable things take place - for example our case. It would seem that it is so simple, and yet evil forces complicate matters to an absurdity. Everyone knows that we together with Mr and Mrs Lichtmann and Miss Grant founded the Master Institute of United Arts. Everyone knows that

913302

we all were shareholders and trustees of it. And to every-
one it should be clear that Mr.Horch alone could not exclude
all others and misappropriate all our shares. This is clear
to every layman without special legal erudition. And yet
there takes place a mysterious conspiracy and someone, con-
trary to all evidence and logic, misrepresents that white
- is black and vice versa. Indeed in the history of art
and culture this case has no parallel. And this page be-
comes the more abhorrent because of the treacherous premedi-
tated breach of trust. We all trusted Mr.H. and he had my
power of attorney since '23. How horrible to witness! And
how much energy, patience, time and means have to be spent!

Mme de Roerich's health has lately improved just a
little after six weeks of painful sickness. We pray that
this improvement may last and may not be but temporary.
We cannot find words to thank you for your cordial atti-
tude to our best friends. We always rejoice to read how
enthusiastically they admire your noble active spirit.

As soon as your books will be received, we shall send
them out for review and will send you clippings.

Once more many thanks. Heartiest wishes from Mme de
Roerich, myself and my two sons,

Most cordially yours,

8
607210

July 17, 1936.

Dear Mrs Sutro ,

Every letter from New York speaks of your constant assistance in such beautiful terms, that we wish to send you again our deepest gratitude for all your noble defence of the righteous cause.

Indeed in our days it is rare to see such an ardent desire to help which you manifest at every opportunity. Your authoritative words based upon sixteen years of friendship, are indeed a strong defence of the cause.

Our friends write us of the unheard of vandalism, when usurpers intrude upon the premises of the School and try to arrest such respectable citizens - the founders of the works, who gave to it fifteen best years of their incessant labour and all their experience. Could anyone imagine that the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the School would be marked by this inhuman atrocity?!

Such valiant defenders of Truth as yourself and Major Stokes inscribe upon the pages of history beautiful lines of human efforts to build a better world.

1305

014708

Immediately the rainy season will be over, I shall be happy to send you a token of our best feelings - a sketch of the Himalayas, which please accept in memory of the gallant fight for Truth and Culture.

We expect shortly in the August issues of Indian magazines reviews of your splendid book, about which we have already received from editors highly appreciative acknowledgments.

Every line from you is cherished by us. With kindest regards and best wishes from us all,

Most cordially yours,