

member of Phila. group,
I am planning to visit the
group middle of February.

6733 Emlen Street,
Germantown, Pa
Jan 26, 1935

Dear Mrs Horch,

I hope that you may
forgive the tardiness of my thanks
to you for your hospitality to me
as a member of the Philadelphia group
which recently visited you at the
Museum. I have several times
started to write you, but I had
understood from Mrs Schoonmaker
that she wished the letter to
contain some record of the
deepest experience which came
to us on the visit, and for me, at
least these experiences were so
deep and at the same time so
beautiful, that while I have made
several attempts, I have heretofore
found it impossible to put the
record down on paper.

I do not know what the
trip meant to others of the
group, but for me it was the

culmination of many years of
seeking for the highest truth, at
least five of which have been
devoted to the study of Yoga. This,
I realize, is only a beginning.

Unfortunately my approach
to Yoga came thru Hatha Yoga
which was taught me from 1928-
1930 by one who claimed to be
under the guidance of a Yogi
of the Tantrik order, operating a
club near New York. I lived at
and visited this club for an
extended period of time, and learned
to perfect myself in many of the
very difficult physical exercises
which Hatha Yoga demands. I
knew of no other approach to
Yoga, as I had no other contacts,
and had no way of knowing of
the dangers to which I was
committing myself. In 1932
my health broke rather completely
and thru a series of circum-

stances difficult to understand, I came to live in the home of Mrs Schoonmaker. Except for intermittent periods of time when I have left her to attempt work in other localities, always with disastrous results to my health, I have lived in her home since August 1933, and have faithfully tried to follow her teachings and way of life.

In November of 1934, I returned to her again broken in health after having attempted a teaching position, and it was not until then that I learned of Agni Yoga. In fact it was on the very day that Mr. + Mrs Schoonmaker visited you on Nov 11th that I returned with them to their home. I had had no contact with Theosophy, and have tried since that time to sit as a pupil, learning the

meaning and results of certain
types of occult literature and
experiences, and of the supreme
importance of Agni Yoga. I have
learned for the first time of the
existence of the masters, of the
White Brotherhood, and of the
way and means by which one
is tested as a means of preparation.
The tests have been severe, and
are so especially now since this
trip to New York, but as far as
I am concerned, the die is cast,
and I have committed myself
irrevocably to the Path, and hope
that in some humble way
I may prove worthy to serve as
an instrument in the hands of
the masters.

Now as to the experiences
in New York. I may only hint
it feebly into words. As I
looked at the pictures in the
galleries, and as I listened to

Madame Roerich's letter which you read to us on Saturday evening, it came over me in a flood, that at least for a moment the gates had been opened, and that I was at last in contact with that which I had sought for so long. I could feel the waves of power beating in, and it seemed as if my body and mind were being carried along by oceans of love, which came straight thru the chain of hierarchy from the sources of all power. I do not know that I can fully understand as yet what happened, or what is happening to me now as I find myself being healed, bodily and spiritually and there seem to be mighty forces at work against us to disrupt our attempts

to open up a center here, but
as the limit of strength seems to
be reached, I am led to see that
there is sufficient strength for
all from the proper source, but
that one must strive constantly
and without ceasing, to keep the
thinking pure, and the desire
for selfless service paramount

Since I am living with
Chanka, I have tried to make
it part of my duty to help her
get around and to guard her
in what ways I might against the
subtle forces which are drawing
her, but here again I realize that
the fervent intensity of ones desire
must yield to higher guidance,
and I accept the difficult
experiences with joy.

There is much more that
there is in my heart to say,
but I realize that ones

consecration must be shown in
action as well as words
and that perhaps at some later
time I may have the privilege
of asking you some questions
which arise in my mind as
the development of the Center.

Again may I thank you
for the privilege of listening to
Madame Roerich's letters. I would
feel happy to think that you
might care to send this letter
on to her.

I shall hope to meet you
again on your visit to Phila-
delphia.

Very truly yours,
Robert S. Cornish