

Copy

November 228, 1932.

Baron M. de Taube
18 Rue Wilhem,
Paris 16^a
France.

Dear Baron de Taube:

Many thanks for your kind note of November 4th. We were very sorry to hear that Mme de Taube was so critically ill, and did not as yet recover completely. I can vividly imagine how trying these weeks were for you, and hope heartily that the worst is over now, and that Mme de Taube's health is completely restored. Please convey to Mme de Taube my best wishes and thoughts.

Now that your mind is more at peace, we should love to hear from you about all the developments in Belgium, Italy, France and Sweden. With your wonderful international connections in all diplomatic and cultural circles, it would be of great value for the future, if you could bring before the proper authorities the matter of the Nobel Prize Award for Peace. I am certain you will give it a deep thought.

As to our battle here, we are gaining victory upon victory, and although the strain is great, we all feel uplifted in spirit to fight the dark forces of ignorance. As you know the ruthless attack of the enemies of Culture, which took place on April 1st, was thrown out as "Illegal", from all the courts, finishing with the highest court of the United States - The Court of Appeals. Needless to tell you that nothing shall stop us in our fight for Culture, and we know that we shall attain victory to the very end.

All the developments which have taken place recently in Europe in connection with our works, rejoice us greatly. You are right in pursuing the aim to obtain the support of all the governments for the Pact. It is so timely now. We are also greatly interested to know about the establishment of the museum branch in Bruges. Where are the paintings located? We shall all greatly appreciate hearing from you in detail about your work and you.

With kindest greetings, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Esther J. Lichtmann

December 14, 1932.

Baron M. de Taube
18 Rue Wilhem
Paris 16^e
France.

Dear Baron de Taube:

I am enclosing herewith a reprint of the New York Times which will be of great interest to you. As you see, all the attempts of the forces of destruction, in spite of all the millions *of dollars* which back them, have a hard time to destroy an endeavor aiming to spread Culture. We can write volumes on this case, and describe unscrupulous means and ways applied by our opposition. But justice is prevailing, and we are confident that in spite of all attacks and attempts of the opposition we shall win. Naturally, the first thing that our opposition is aiming to get hold of are our funds, which they tie up; in spite of every victory won on our side in connection with the litigation, our opposition runs from court to court to tie up the funds. But as our Beloved Professor Rocrich says,

"Geld verloren, nichts verloren
Mut verloren alles verloren".

We abide by this and we proceed powerfully and confidently in spite of all the attempts. Well, what shall we say if entire countries, not only institutions are in a situation of not being able to pay their debts, or to give work to their men. The long rows of our unemployed and the bread-lines are heart-breaking, but libraries are over-filled with those eager to learn and seeking a new understanding of life.

You will understand dear Friend, why there were certain delays in the sendings. Delays are sometimes unavoidable, and I know that you fully understand and you feel how eager we are that the work of the European Center were developed and continue in its full glory with perhaps a still greater enthusiasm because of the hard times and because of the pressure of time. Morally and spiritually, this long battle and most interesting battle has made us stronger and much more aware of the Ideal we serve. I know you are of the same great legion, which, in Professor Rocrich's wonderful terminology one can name "Resistance to Evil". Those who share the hardships are destined to share the joys, and we are happy to count you in our legion.

We are greatly interested in the Oriental Institute

Baron M. de Taube

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which was always your great idea. Please let us know about this development.

Our dear Friend, Mme de Vaux seemed to be a little alarmed because of the strenuous times. I know of nobody better than you to convey to her that any endeavor which was started and developed with love, care and enthusiasm must and will live, despite all obstacles and perturbations. Temporary difficulties mean nothing.

I hope that Mme de Taube has completely recovered from her illness, and I am sending to you and Mme de Taube my heartiest greetings.

Yours most sincerely,

Esther J. Dichtmann

EJL:JS

P.S. Dec. 15th

We have telegraphed you \$100.- for January.

Best greetings!

E. J. L.

January 9, 1933.

Baron M. de Taube,
18 Rue Wilhem,
Paris 16^e
France.

Dear Baron de Taube:

Many thanks for all your kind thoughts sent to me for the coming year. I was so glad to hear that Mme de Taube feels better and hope that she is completely recuperated from her illness.

We are eagerly awaiting the report announced by you of the European activities for all developments are of such vital importance.

A Russian painter of note told me that Benois continues to be consumed by envy and jealousy and puts his whole heart and energy into scattering slander and trying to throw dust on something so high and beautiful as the Name, so dear to all of us. It would be interesting if a very frank conversation could be had with the man, pointing out to him that by doing so he undermines his own standing, because all the people with whom he speaks, once aware of the true motives, which impel Benois to act as a gossip and slanderer, cease to respect him. This painter of note told me how contaminated he became himself in the milieu of people similar to Benois' mentality, in Paris. Such nests ought to be verily uncovered. I know that you will do your very best in this direction.

I am enclosing herewith a draft for \$100.00 for January.

Anticipating the pleasure of hearing from you;
with best greetings,

Cordially yours,

Vice President.

EJE:JS

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February 15, 1933.

Baron M. de Taube,
18 Rue Wilhem
Paris 16^e
France.

Dear Baron de Taube:

Many thanks for your kind letter of December 31st. It was indeed a great pleasure to hear of all the good news and I deeply appreciate your account of all the recent developments. I have read them before our President, Mr. Horch and the Board of Trustees at our meeting. We all wish to express to you our appreciation for the fine work you are doing to foster deeper understanding between our institutions and the cultural bodies in Europe. We were exceedingly happy to hear that Germany has adhered to the Pact, and the good news you are giving us about the possibility of having the beautiful home in Bruges for the Roerich Foundation, fill our hearts with joy.

Your thoughts about the great improvement with the coming rulership of President Roosevelt, is correct. Our contacts with President and Mrs. Roosevelt have been most pleasant, and have given us the true conception of their genuine and fine characters. They will both be true representatives of our nation, and having a progressive mind, our coming President will no doubt surround himself with people who will work with him along the same progressive lines.

Mr. Horch and myself had recently visited Washington, where I gave a lecture. On this occasion we visited representatives of the Diplomatic Corps, as well as our own representatives of the State Department. We had a most pleasant visit with the Chief of the European Division. He was greatly interested in our works, and stated that Professor Roerich's book *Altai Himalaya* was read by him with delight, for he enjoyed not only the description of the remote parts of the world, but he especially enjoyed the thoughts of Professor Roerich expressed therein. We have found also cordiality and interest in our work in the Far Eastern Department. As to the representatives of foreign countries, we have met with the highest consideration, and we have heard in every Embassy and Ministry, deepest respect expressed for Professor Roerich's great Art, Personality and Activity. Mr. Horch and myself were highly gratified with the results of our visit to Washington.

Baron M. de Taube

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As to the World League of Culture, this endeavor has met with great enthusiasm and response in all cultural circles of America as well as in other parts of the world. Of course ideas of peace have been dwelt upon by many societies, organizations, etc. The League of Nations has tried its very best to bring the idea of peace into life, but - alas - all the peace foundations have not as yet arrived to establish the proper balance in the world; hence, as long as there is need for this great balance in the world, so long it is the duty of every human being to seek for it. Thus, the World League of Culture was inaugurated, and being that it has at the base, the great and noble idea of our Beloved N.E. "Peace through Culture", it will live and gradually develop along the proper channels. We naturally agree with you that such an endeavor has to grow through the natural processes - which it will do.

I am enclosing herewith check for \$100.00 for the month of February.

In our battle for our rights against the black racketeering forces who wanted to destroy our institutions, we are gaining out steadily and firmly. At the end they will be sorry for having dared to raise their hand to destroy a cultural institution. In fact they already are sorry - not because of any humanitarian grounds, but because of selfish grounds - But Their Malevolent Actions Have Been Disclosed and are Gradually coming Before the Public Eye. So you see that we were justified in our unbreakable faith in the ultimate victory. If times are tight and difficult - it does not matter. The whole world is in convulsions, and if entire countries cannot adjust their affairs with ease, and hundreds of thousands of banks are closing, it is a natural thing that educational institutions will suffer first of all. But we keep our spirit joyous in labor and battle.

Hoping that Mme de Taube has recuperated completely and that you yourself feel well, I am with heartiest greetings and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Vice President

HJT:JS

March 7, 1933.

Prof. Baron de Taube
18 Wilhem
Paris, France.

Dear Baron de Taube,

Many thanks for your letter of February 15th, with the enclosed memorandum of your activities for the year 1932 which we all read with great interest. I have laid the memorandum before the Trustees. I shall be delighted to receive your new work "Les Origines de l'Arbitrage, International" when it comes out.

In a month we shall conclude the year of our greatest battle for Culture against the dark forces of destruction. How times have changed for our enemies since then. The banks have tried to strangle Culture, and have wrecked havoc upon themselves. But unfortunately it is not only they who suffer, but our entire national prosperity is reduced to nothing. This was to be expected if procedures such as those taken against us were permitted to take place. Today we stand on a great moral height, vindicated and gratified in our struggle for Culture. But, alas, we are also the victims of the great national calamity which ends Hoover's presidency, and begins Roosevelt's struggle for readjustment.

You have no doubt seen in the papers the most recent events which reduce our American financial status to the emergency measures of war-time. The banks are closed, money can not be drawn, and no foreign valuta is exchangeable. Besides, there are great restrictions upon the sending of monies to foreign countries. Because of these rigid measures we shall not be able to forward to you from March, on, more than \$60.00. This, of course, does not imply a reduction of salary, for the rest will be forwarded to you when times improve and the restrictions are lifted. It will be very difficult for us to supply ^{in full} our foreign work under these stringent rulings. You, who have gone through war and the calamities of revolutions, you know what periods of great stress impose upon one. However we remain as courageous and optimistic as we always were, for we know that all these calamities are only temporary, and that at the end we will win out regardless. Hence, no panic affects us, and we shall go on as we always did, constructing in the name of our beloved Leader, Roerich. Nothing can stop us in our Cause and nothing frightens us. Thus dear Friend, I know that the temporary adjustment of the salary will be taken by you in the same spirit as I am writing to you.

I was so glad to hear that Madame de Taube feels better. Please convey to her my best regards.

With my best greetings to you,

Yours very sincerely,
signed E.J.L.
Vice President.

P.S. On which day name of person in paragraph above was proposed? Baron was present at party in Bakinye - the same day. J.L. ...

C O P Y

7.AUG.1933

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June 7th, 1933

Baron M. A. Taube
18 rue Wilhelm
Paris XVI, France

My dear Baron de Taube:

It gives me great pleasure to announce to you that the Roerich Museum will hold a Convention in Washington dedicated to the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace, on November 17th and 18th, 1933. Following the Convention, the Committee designated by them will present a resolution to the President for governmental recognition.

On May 23rd and 24th, Mr. Horch and myself were in Washington, and we approached various officials, including representatives of the State Department, Senators and Congressmen as well as Mr. Wallace - Secretary of Agriculture, and Miss Perkins - Secretary of Labor. We have met everywhere with great encouragement in regard to the Convention, and were delighted to find in all these high officials so much appreciation for the epoch making idea of the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace. We shall send you all further details about it, and we ask you for your cooperation in bringing this Convention to the knowledge of all representatives of the European countries, so that they may empower their representatives in Washington to voice their support or endorsement of the Roerich Pact. We know that with our united labor, the Convention will prove to be of greatest value and success.

I am enclosing herewith a check for \$100.
for June.

Hoping that you are well, and that Madame de Taube has completely recovered, I am with best greetings

Yours most sincerely,

(Signed) Esther J. Lichtmann