

Copy of letter sent to Mr. Phailke

Sept. 29th 1930

H. L. Phailke, Esq.
M. B. S.
S. D. O. Naggar, Kulu

Dear Sir,

Referring to the offer of the Government to submit Madame Roerich to a medical examination, I beg you to lay before the authorities that I am not prepared to speak about it to M-me Roerich, as a measure of this kind may be fatal for M-me Roerich who, suffering from heart disease, greatly endangered by the last few months of great worry, is not in a condition to withstand any such offensive measures as a medical examination, after all submitted proofs of the necessity for Professor Roerich's urgent return.

As one carrying the whole burden of responsibility for M-me Roerich's life in Prof. Roerich's absence, I therefore cannot even mention this proposition of the Government to M-me Roerich, as having witnessed for so long her condition and knowing of all warnings of the physicians, who treated her for years, to guard her from any great and sudden worries and news, which are apt to kill her, I will not assume this responsibility and implore you, as the Representative of the Government to keep away these news from her.

As one qualified to judge the condition of M-me Roerich

taking in consideration my medical training in Europe and America. I beg you to submit to the authorities my testimony about M-me Roerich's health, which, I am certain, the authorities will take in consideration.

M-me Roerich's heart action is sustained by stimulants and drugs like: Ethere campher oil, Strophantus, spermin, Adonis vernalis, prescribed and given to her by her family physician and Dr. Lapeyre in Paris, who have treated her. These medicines are sent to us from Paris by airmail.

M-me Roerich's pulse ranges during the attacks from 135 to 145 beats. In a more or less normal condition the heart beats are most irregular with stops between the beats.

No one in her closest family lived longer than 55 years, M-me Roerich being 52 years of age now suffers much from this fact.

M-me Roerich's father died from the same chronic heart disease as M-me Roerich is afflicted with now. A few days before his death he had a severe heart attack, recuperated from it, was proclaimed by one of the greatest physicians to be in very good condition and as "strong as an oak" and 3 days later he died.

The torturing anguish of the separation from her husband and sons ^{which} lasts over 16 months has greatly aggravated the condition of M-me Roerich's heart. The least worry gives her attacks and the constant anxiety devours her strength.

The moral depression prevents her from getting well for any length of time, therefore are the heart attacks so frequent and the sleepless nights which she spends almost in a sitting position on account of the difficulty to breathe and bad blood circulation.

Her present condition gives me much alarm, as the change of altitude reacts so strongly on her heart and I pray for Prof. Roerich's return before too late

Thanking you for the submission of my statement,

Yours truly
Esther J. Lichtman

Wall Estate,

Naggar, Kulu