

Law Offices

HILL, LOCKWOOD & REDFIELD,
165 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Nov. 17, 1944.

Mrs. Dudley Fosdick,
200 West 57 Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Fosdick:

Your letter of November 16th has just reached me. The circumstances surrounding the reproduction of Prof. Roerich's paintings are not only complicated but must unfortunately from your point of view. If Prof. Roerich never copyrighted his paintings, either here or abroad, his works belong to the public and may be copied without penalty. In that case you would have no remedy by injunction or otherwise against anyone reproducing his pictures.

If Mr. Yaremenko has taken out a copyright of his monograph and the postcards he designed, he has of course protected himself respecting them. Unless therefore you find that a copyright was taken out by Prof. Roerich and that he has also given you the right to exhibit and exploit his paintings, I feel that it would be exceedingly inadvisable and a useless expense to institute any legal proceedings to restrain the sale and distribution of the cards to which your letter has reference. I think, however, you should at least cable or write Prof. Roerich respecting any copyright he may have taken out.

My best personal regards to you.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) R. L. Redfield

RLR:MEF

P. S. Answering your P. S. regarding Agni Yoga, the \$40.00 was all the disbursement of money we made. I did not send a bill for professional services as I regarded the work you are doing in connecting the Society as charitable in nature.

Nov. 14, 1944.

To whom it may concern:

I, Stephen Sikorski, the undersigned, visited the Central Book Trading and Art Store at 47 E. 8th St. at about 3:20 this date where I saw a number of facsimilies of the "Roerich" paintings made up as picture post cards.

Mr. Yaremenko the proprietor and a Miss Williams waited upon me. During my stay there I was shown a Monograph of Prof. Roerich's paintings which Mr. Yaremenko said he had published at an expense of, "2 years of my life and \$10,000". I asked him whether he was the sole possessor of the Monograph and if he had the copyright to it. To this he told me he had both the Monograph and the post cards under copyright and that this year he had made up some of the cards for a gallery on 57th St. When asked if they could be obtained for another store he said that he is making them up for the above gallery exclusively but he can make up a few for me if I am interested in any particular card.

He then brought out a book of sample cards. I noted there were places for 128 Roerich cards-3 of which were unfilled.

Miss Williams told me they have been making up the cards for various people for many years and when I pressed her for an exact time, she said, "anyway as long as I have been here and I have been here 4 years".

The cards will now be sold for 50¢ for large colored, 35¢ small, colored, 30¢ for large-2 tone, 25¢ for small-2 tone.

Mr. Yaremenko stated that his sole object was to spread Prof. Roerich's works. I asked him why they had been mutilated but he ignored that question busying himself with other matters.

(signed) Stephen W. Sikorski