

I have mailed these to the  
flaming one with the suggestion  
that Prof. Roelich  
when he comes could give  
further light.

Yunnan - May 13, 1933.

My dear Mr. Ryerson, (our new Chief of Plant Industry)

Some years ago I think in 1930 I bought from a publisher in Vienna, Springer, two books, Symbolae Sinicae, part IV and part VI, a work published by Handel Masetti on the plants collected by him in Yunnan in 1914-1918. For these I paid 14 dollars gold. I have however never received them. Handel Masetti looked into the matter for me and found that Springer had sent them by registered bookpost to the Dept. of Agriculture in Washington, and he had the registry receipts which he showed Handel Masetti. The books one on (moss) the other on (Pteridophyta) have never been forwarded to me and are apparently still held in your office for that is where they were sent. I should not like to lose these books as I have subscribed to the whole set. I would greatly appreciate if you would kindly see if they can be located and if so please send them to me out here.

I presume you have received the seeds of lilies, etc. in poor condition. I have sent to Goodspeed over 1250 packages of seeds representing as many (plants) species and some 25,000 herbarium specimens.

There is little news save that the Tibetans are again on the warpath trying to conquer LW, and west Szechuan and the Kokonor, they are well supplied with English Enfield rifles. It is interesting to see how the British on maps of Tibet always include the entire Kokonor and even Tatsienlu into Tibet, although Tatsienlu was never Tibetan territory but always under Tussu or petty kings, the Chiala King whose territory extended to Litang. The idea being now to encourage the Tibetans to take all that territory for sooner or later, at any rate after the death of the present Dalai Lama, they will annex Tibet and the larger the territory the better, for the Kokonor has the large wool trade and the Tatsienlu side the tea, fur, musk, etc. trade, and with these hearts in their hands they control everything. The present Panchen Lama who hates the Dalai Lama, and the British, and who is fearfully pro-Chinese, is a refugee in China, I saw him last fall in Peking, and if the British tarry too long Tibet will revert to China, should the Dalai Lama, who is getting on in years die, for the Panchen Lama a much younger man will swoop down with Chinese help, and take charge of Tibet. Furthermore, a Tibetan prophecy says that Tibet will have 13 Dalai Lamas and no more, and the present Dalai Lama is the 13th, so it is very likely that the present pontif will be the last one, and the British will have another excuse in that prophecy to extend their political in-

fluence ere the Chinese take a hand in the affairs. China, in spite of what Britain says, has never relinquished her authority over Tibet and she is no doubt anxiously waiting for the death of the Dalai Lama to push the Panchen Lama who is the spiritual father of the Dalai Lama, and much better liked than the latter, to the fore and with his anti-British attitude he can swing the majority of the Nomads and other Tibetans of the more oppressed classes to his side, although the Tibetans as a whole can't love the Chinese who are all but colonizers, looking down on everyone who is not a son of Homs-a dog-barbarian and treat them accordingly. It will be interesting to see what the next 10 years will bring. Someday I may write a political treatise on that part of the world from first hand observations and experiences. It may be better for me then to stay away from this part of the world. With kindest regards.

Always cordially yours,

Joseph P. Rock

P.S. I hope you can get me another passport.

J.P.R.