

November 11, 1935

Mr. M.M. Lichtmann  
310 Riverside Drive  
New York City

Dear Mr. Lichtmann:

Since you have brought very grave accusations against your sister, Miss Esther J. Lichtmann and ourselves in your letter of October 25th, 1935, Mrs. Horch and myself feel compelled to reply.

You wrote in your letter to Miss Esther Lichtmann, the following:

"Through your influence Mr. and Mrs. Horch have deprived themselves of the greatest blessings and spiritual treasures.... You manifest real hostility not only to our Leaders, who have done so much for you, but also to Mr. and Mrs. Horch, for due to your influence they have turned against their Leaders."

In this letter you have made of your sister the scapegoat, blaming her for a situation which in reality is the outcome of the failures, intrigues, and injustice against us by our co-workers over a period of thirteen years. You wish intentionally to evade the real truth, by shifting the blame on your sister. However, the true causes of the present situation were created by the difficult characters of Mrs. S. Lichtmann, Miss F.R. Grant, & Mrs. Schafran, and the conditions under which we were obliged to work, under the leadership of the ~~Rosenblum~~. Already in 1922, we were shocked at the bossyness, crudeness and usurpation of power by these co-workers. Do you think it was a pleasure to work under the dynasty of Miss F.R. Grant, Mrs. S. Lichtmann and Mrs. Schafran? We have never concealed our dissatisfaction from you or from the ~~Rosenblum~~. Again when ~~Professor Rosenblum~~ was here in 1929 and in 1934, we told him of the impossibility of working with Mrs. Lichtmann and Miss Grant. At these times ~~Professor Rosenblum~~ did not deny to us the shortcomings of their characters.

My dear Mr. Lichtmann, is it possible that we must remind you how repeatedly you have told us about the actions of Mrs. Lichtmann and Miss Grant, and of which you complained so bitterly? Please do not overlook the fact that your sister was away for four years from New York, at which time the most unfortunate conditions prevailed here.

Why did you not revolt when Miss Grant made most derogative statements against ~~Professor Rosenblum~~ and Mr. George Rosenblum, at Trustees' Meetings in regard to the expedition of 1934-35?

Even though you were fully aware of Mrs. Lichtmann and Miss Grant's action during all these years, you suddenly assumed a hypocritical attitude in stating that Mrs. Lichtmann and Miss Grant tried to be good to Miss Esther J. Lichtmann.

In answer to your accusation, let me assure you that no influence was necessary upon us to make us see and judge the actions of ~~Professor Rosenblum~~ and ~~Mrs. Rosenblum~~, ~~Sv Rosenblum~~, & ~~George Rosenblum~~, Mrs. S. Lichtmann, Miss F.R. Grant, and Mrs. Schafran. Life has revealed the reality and unfolded the true values to us.

How did you permit yourself to become the tool to an extent as to denounce

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the one who in service to the L., has been our only true friend, and the one who has stood up constantly for justice and for the highest principles. I refer to Miss Esther J. Lichtmann, whose loyalty and devotion to the Highest has been inspiring and who has shown deepest feeling of devotion to you.

You mention that we are "deprived of the greatest blessings" through this present situation. Let me advise you that we were never more deeply devoted to the Highest Source of Light, and never were we happier since we have freed our spirit from the yoke of servility which was imposed upon us by the R ~~Roerichs~~, under the guise of spirituality. Let me also inform you that it was most difficult to associate the mediumistic visions of Mrs. Sch ~~Schroeder~~, which were imposed upon us by the R ~~Roerichs~~, with the High Source of Light.

In one of the recent letters, ~~William W. Roerich~~ proclaimed that all channels through which Indications were received, were primitive, - except her own method of clair-audience. This statement of ~~William W. Roerich~~ made us ponder deeply and evaluate the Indications which were also imposed upon us by the R ~~Roerichs~~ as law. Through this statement, ~~William W. Roerich~~ has been the one to shake the faith and destroy those foundations upon which the R ~~Roerichs~~ have built.

In reply to your statement about the "Three Shields" it seems that if there was true reverence to the Highest Source, neither you nor the R ~~Roerichs~~ could proclaim this formula, placing the two earthly shields on the same plan with the one great, Supreme Shield. Where is the ~~under-~~standing of Hierarchy?

We had expected that the Roerichs, who assumed spiritual leadership, would act in life and in their human relationships in a manner befitting this position. We regret to say that we did not witness this in reality, and there are an abundance of facts to substantiate this statement.

In regard to the finding of the Source of Light, history has proven that there exists no exclusiveness, and seekers of Light have come to the great Source by many paths and through many channels. You know that the Source of Light had its representatives all over the world long before the R ~~Roerichs~~ appeared on the horizon.

In regard to your statements about the extolling of the R ~~Roerichs~~, I wish to remind you, that in their letters to us it was constantly demanded of us to extol the name of the "focus". It was even necessary to ascribe to them the credit of our own accomplishments. If a disciple dared to voice a different opinion and dared to question certain policies, he was at once condemned as being obsessed, - or of diminishing the Shields.

You also write in your letter, "Apparently history repeats itself...the Coulomb case is still alive, when a similar case is coming up upon the darkened horizon of human injustice." You are thus comparing us to mere servants, who distorted facts and betrayed their employer. You apparently wish to conceal the true facts, that we have given generously, and it is you and your associates, and the R ~~Roerichs~~ who have received. All of you have greatly benefitted from our generosity. We have made it possible that since 1923 you, Mrs. L ~~Lichtmann~~ and your mother-in-law had free quarters to live in. We also paid for your extensive foreign trips. Who has paid the salary for Miss G ~~Grove~~ for many years? Who has financed some of her trips?

How could you have become Trustees and Officers of the Institutions, if I would not have given my capital to finance and save these Institutions? However, during thirteen years your associates constantly undermined me; hence, Mr. Lichtmann, you can convey to the originator of the "Coulomb formula", that this formula applies to those whom you represent.

How can those who today are undermining and slandering me reconcile in their conscience the facts that they have accepted many benefits from my contributions and are still living on the ground paid for by me?

Should you entertain the belief that your work has been to my benefit, let me inform you that you have worked for the glorification of the R ~~egime~~. As for me, I have received burdens and heart-aches, and for the rest of my days I will have to slave to pay off heavy debts and settle lawsuits, all due to the R ~~egime~~ regime.

Also, do not have the mistaken idea that I have gained international standing in the last thirteen years. Let me tell you that prior to coming here I did enjoy the highest standing in the international world of finance. Now I find myself faced with bankruptcy.

In your fanaticism, Mr. Lichtmann do not overlook one basic factor, we are living in a century, where religious freedom is respected and where religious and spiritual persecution are regarded as the highest form of barbarism. Every one is free to chose the channels which he thinks will bring him closest to the realization of the Highest. We prefer to serve the Source of Light through channels, which most uplift the spirit and not through channels which oppress. You and others can worship in any way you choose, but we demand the same freedom for ourselves.

There will come a day, when you will realize that you never had better friends than your sister, Mrs. Horch and myself -- Bitter realities will teach you this lesson.

Very truly yours

(signed) Louis L. Horch