

397, rue de Vaugirard, PARIS XV

May 21st 1948

Mrs. Sina Fosdick
200 W. 57 Street
New York 19, N.Y., U.S.A.

C O P Y

Dear Mrs. Fosdick:

I am in receipt of your letter of April 21st and I am glad of the opportunity to give you some information about the state of affairs here. As you quite rightly foresaw, the general situation in France, as elsewhere, does not permit at present any far-reaching activities. My own work is very exacting and strenuous, so that the utmost that I can do regarding the ROERICH Committee, is to keep in touch with our friends, a few of whom show a touching devotion to the ideals of our lamented MASTER. But so many have departed or are in such a bad health, as a consequence of growing age and of the terrible ordeals of these dark years, that they have had to renounce any social activity.

As you know, the premises of the Paris ROERICH Museum have been brutally requisitioned during the enemy occupation of Paris, and only thanks to the energy of M. Justin Peyronnet (at the time I was otherwise engaged as you are well aware!) most of the things have been rescued. As it has not been possible, owing to lack of means, to secure other premises (the housing problem in Paris is still very far from being solved), the paintings and furniture are kept, at M. Peyronnet's expense and on his responsibility, in two places we call here "garde-meubles" (storage places), situated respectively: 10, rue Alibert, Paris X, and 23, rue de la Bienfaisance, Paris VIII. There are all the belongings of our cherished Paris ROERICH Museum, viz. sixteen big and middle sized paintings, twelve small ones, one drawing and seventeen reproductions (colored), and also one big cupboard, one smaller cupboard, one "vitrine" (all these very valuable pieces of furniture bequeathed to the Museum by the late Princess Marie), one arm-chair with a cushion, one book-shelf ("classeur"), one writing table, and one type-writer (damaged). That is all that could be saved.

With cordial greetings, in which my Mother joins, and with best wishes to you, to Mr. Fosdick and to all our friends in New York, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

GEORGE G. CHKLAVER