

## URUSVATI HIMALAYAN AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC STATION

## REPORT 1934-1935

During the year 1934-1935 the Urusvati Himalayan American Scientific Station has actively continued its broad program despite the limitations brought about by the general economic depression.

For the greater part of the period in review Prof. Nicholas Roerich, President-Founder, and Dr. Geo. N. Roerich, Director of the Institute, were in Central Asia on an expedition in search of drought-resisting grasses organized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Prof. Roerich, being a renowned authority on Central Asia, was invited by the United States Government to head this expedition.

The activities at the Himalayan American Scientific Station in India have continued in the fields of archaeology, medicine, natural science and allied research.

In New York, Urusvati Institute has been engaged in correspondence and cooperation with individuals and institutions in the scientific world, preparing a study collection of Himalayan birds for the use of visiting student groups, and organizing an event of paramount interest, the Memorial Program in honor of Madame Marie Curie. Notable patrons who sent messages for this occasion included Einstein, Millikan, Compton, Mayo, Chief Justice Hughes, the Smithsonian Institution, and many others.



DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY,  
RELATED SCIENCES AND ARTS.

The work on the Tibetan--English Dictionary which has proceeded steadily during the past years has now been practically completed, and publication awaits only the return of the Director, Dr. Geo. N. Roerich, from the Central Asian Expedition. Orders are continually coming in for the Dictionary, showing a wide growing interest in this work.

While in the Far East recently the Director delivered a series of lectures at universities in Tokyo, Harbin, etc. on Central Asia and the Institute. Numerous press notices commented on the scope of Dr. Roerich's archaeological and ethnographical material and the wide spread interest aroused by his lectures.

Addresses of the President-Founder, Prof. Nicholas Roerich, and the Director, Dr. Geo. N. Roerich, entitled respectively: "Glaives graves sur les rochers pres de Kyelang et a Karga", and "La medicine au Thibet et les lamas guerisseurs", were read before the Ethnographical Society of Paris by Mme. M. de Vaux Phalipau, and were published in the "Bulletin Semestriel" of the Society.

The Ethnographical collections have been enriched by further interesting specimens of local folk art. Some specimens of Tibetan animal style have been secured, and the Institute's paleontological collection was greatly augmented by new specimens from Spiti, Lahul, Tibet, and the local Kulu valley. Previous to this Urusvati had no specimens from Kulu Valley.

Upon request of Prof. Montell of Stockholm, who is preparing a monograph on weaving in Asia, eight of the Secretary Mr. Shibayev's photographs of this handicraft in the Himalayan Hills were sent to him by the Institute.



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCE,  
ALLIED RESEARCH.

Dr. E.D. Merrill, Director of the New York Botanical Garden, submitted to Urusvati headquarters a part of his manuscript on the enumeration and identification of the Himalayan Plant Collection which was presented to the New York Botanical Garden by the Urusvati Himalayan American Scientific Station. Dr. Merrill's completed paper will constitute approximately 350 pages, and is being prepared for publication in volume 4 of the Journal of Urusvati.

The Institute has sent to Dr. Merrill some botanical specimens of the *Saussurea* genus for comparative studies. Several expeditions for the gathering of material have been sent out during the year under the direction of Mr. Svetoslav Roerich, and have covered an extensive field of the upper alpine region.

All the folders of the Urusvati Herbarium have been numerically classified by Mr. Svetoslav Roerich and Mr. V. Shibayev.

Many visitors viewed the Institute's collections during the year.



## DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINAL RESEARCH.

Under the direction of Mr. Svetoslav Roerich, who has taken over the work since the departure of the Director, the 76 substances remaining still unidentified in the Materia Medica of Tibet, as recorded by Prof. Pozdneyeff, have all been gathered and identified. Lama Mingyur Dorje and the local practitioner, Zla-ba-Tan-'dzin, collaborated with Mr. S. Roerich in this work.

Cultivation of medicinal plants has been further extended, and some very gratifying results have been obtained in the culture of high alpine plants.

An article on the medicinal research of the Institute was written by Mr. S. Roerich for the Ethnographical Society of Paris and was delivered as an address by Mme. de Vaux Phalipau at the Sorbonne.



## RESEARCH LIBRARY

Exchange material has been continuously coming in to the Research Library at Naggar during the year, and new contacts were established through the Director with important University Libraries and Institutions in the Far East, - also new exchanges established with scientific institutions in India. To all these, complete sets of the Institute's Journals were sent in exchange for their material.

Urusvati regrets to record the death of two of its corresponding members: - Dr. Felix Lukins of Riga, and Prof. Shiv Ram Kashyap, of the Punjab University, Lahore.

The Institute sent greetings to the Pan American Union on the occasion of the Signing of the Roerich Pact for the Protection of Cultural Treasures by all the American Governments at the White House on Pan American Day.

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Urusvati's General Secretary at Naggar, India, Mr. V. Shibayev, made a four days' expedition into the upper alpine regions in order to secure meteorological readings and photographic material of the upper glaciers for a future article.

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A chapter on the Institute and its activities, illustrated by photographs, appeared in a Latvian Monograph written by Mr. Rudzitis, of Riga, Latvia.



## ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK

The exchange of publications with universities and scientific institutions in America continued, as is indicated in the list attached hereto.

An important addition to the Library of Urusvati was two large volumes constituting A Complete Catalogue of the Tibetan Buddhist Canons, Bksh-hgyur and Bstan-hgyur, published by the Tohoku Imperial University, Sendai, Japan, and presented to the Institute by the President of Tohoku University, Mr. K. Honda.

Upon the request of the Librarian of Congress, a description of Urusvati Institute's Kanjur-Tanjur Collection was sent to Washington for inclusion into a forthcoming survey. The Library of Congress, in collaboration with the American Council of Learned Societies, is preparing a comprehensive list of all old and rare Indic manuscripts in the U.S. and Canada. The Kanjur-Tanjur Collection comprises 333 volumes in Tibetan, - 108 volumes of Kanjur and 225 volumes of Tanjur, - one of the most complete, extensive, and unique collections in America. It was brought to the United States by Prof. Nicholas Roerich, President-Founder of Urusvati and head of the Roerich American Expedition to Central Asia, - 1923-1929. It is placed in a special Hall of the East, which is a replica of a Tibetan Monastery Library, and is known both in this country and abroad. Mr. E.B. Emeneau, of Yale, representing the American Council of Learned Societies, was shown personally the collection, and Mr. Horace Poleman, of the Library of Congress, is arranging to visit the Institute in August for the purpose of viewing the collection.

The ornithological department completed during the year the establishing of a permanent collection out of the original shipment from India of over 3000 Himalayan bird skins, comprising some 300 species. The work of selecting, listing and arranging this collection for display was carried out under the supervision of Mr. Charles H. Rogers, Curator of the Princeton Museum of Zoology. The American Museum of Natural History, through Mr. John T. Zimmer, presented to the Institute 6 special bird cans in addition to the 4 previously received.



## ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK

(continued)

In this cooperative intercourse 45 bird skins were presented to the American Museum of Natural History, in addition to the 22 previously sent, and, similarly, 32 additional specimens were sent to the Princeton Museum. Letters of mutual appreciation were exchanged.

In the Fall of 1935 the ornithological department of Urusvati will open its special study collection of Himalayan birds to visiting groups and students from American schools and elsewhere.

In New York, on January 23rd, Urusvati Institute held the Curie Memorial Program, special report of which is attached hereto.



## REVIEWS.

Excellent reviews of the Director's monograph on: -  
 "The Tibetan Dialect of Lahul" appeared during the  
 year in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society,  
 Orientalische Literaturzeitung, Artibus Asiae, An-  
 thropos, and many other scientific periodicals in  
 France, etc.

Prof. Alexander Kirilloff, Ingenieur-Radio E.S.E.,  
 corresponding member in Paris, has been sent scien-  
 tific publications of the General Electric Company  
 for review in electricity and radio publications in  
 France. Prof Kirilloff's recent work, "Theorie et  
 Pratique des Lampes de T.S.F.", was sent to New York  
 for review in scientific publications of the U.S.  
 The next issue of "Radio Engineering" will contain the  
 first of these.

In Europe reviews of Dr. Geo. N. Roerich's "Sur les Pistes  
 de L'Asie Centrale" appeared in the following:

La Revue du Pacifique	---	August 1934
Revue Mabillon	---	September 1934
Il Mondo Classico	---	April 1935
Orientalistische Literaturzeitung	---	1935
La Revue Benedictine	---	1935



## EXCHANGE LIST

The following is a list of Institutions in the United States cooperating with Urusvati Himalayan American Scientific Station in the exchange of publications:

Agriculture Experiment Station, Univ. of Pennsylvania.  
 Agriculture Experiment Station, Univ. of North Dakota.  
 Agriculture Experiment Station, New Jersey State.  
 Agriculture Experiment Station, Pennsylvania State College.  
 American Nature Association, Washington, D.C.  
 Agricultural History Society, Washington, D.C.  
 American Council of Learned Societies, Washington, D.C.  
 Academy of Science of St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo.  
 American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 American Midland Naturalist, University of Notre Dame.  
 American School of Prehistoric Research, Yale University.  
 American Oriental Society, Yale University.  
 Academy of Medicine of Cleveland, Cleveland, O.  
 Association of American Medical Colleges, Chicago, Ill.  
 American Medical Association, Chicago, Ill.  
 Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.  
 American Library Association, Chicago, Ill.  
 American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Boston, Mass.  
 Aurora Public Library, Aurora, Ill.  
 American Society for the Control of Cancer, New York City.  
 Albany Public Library, Albany, N.Y.  
 Archaeological Institute of America, New York, N.Y.  
 American Ethnological Society, New York, N.Y.  
 American Museum of Natural History, New York, N.Y.  
 American Institute of Chemists, New York, N.Y.  
 American Geographical Society, New York, N.Y.  
 Brown University, Providence, R.I.  
 Buffalo Public Library, Buffalo, N.Y.  
 Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
 Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
 Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass.  
 California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, Cal.  
 Carnegie Institution of Washington, Cold Spring Harbor, L.I.  
 Carnegie Institution of Washington, Washington, D.C.  
 Colgate Rochester Divinity School, Rochester, N.Y.  
 Carnegie Museum, Pittsburg, Pa.  
 Colorado Scientific Society, Denver, Col.  
 Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Col.  
 Colorado Medicine, Denver, Col.



## Exchange List Cont.

Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Col.  
Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, O.  
Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland, O.  
Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Ill.  
Cornell University Medical College, New York, N.Y.  
College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, N.Y.C.  
College of Pharmacy, Columbia University, N.Y.C.  
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, New York City.  
Duke University, Durham, N.C.  
Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Ill.  
Geo. W. Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, Univ. of Cal.  
Geological Survey, U.S. Dept. of Interior, Washington, D.C.  
General Electric Company Research Laboratory, Schenectady, N.Y.  
Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.  
Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, O.  
Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.  
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.  
Kansas Academy of Science, Univ. of Kansas.  
Laboratoire de Pharmacologie, Inc., Paris and New York.  
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa.  
Los Angeles Museum of History, Science and Art, and Otis Art Inst.  
Linguistic Society of America, Yale University.  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass.  
Marquette University School of Medicine, Milwaukee, Wis.  
Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wis.  
Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, Rochester, Min.  
Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo.  
National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C.  
Natural History Museum, San Diego, Cal.  
New York Academy of Medicine, New York City.  
New York Academy of Sciences, New York City.  
New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, New York.  
New York Public Library, New York City.  
New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse University.  
New York State Library, Albany, N.Y.  
Newark Public Library, Newark, N.J.  
Oberlin College, Oberlin, O.



## EXCHANGE LIST

continued

Ohio Academy of Science, Ohio State University, Columbus, O.  
 Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, Columbus, O.  
 Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.  
 The Panama Canal Zone Experiment Gardens, Summit, Canal Zone.  
 Philadelphia Museum of Art and Science, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.  
 Rhode Island Medical Journal, Providence, R.I.  
 Russell Sage Foundation, New York N.Y.  
 Russian Medical Society, New York City.  
 Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.  
 San Diego Zoological Society, San Diego, Cal.  
 School of American Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico.  
 Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.  
 Southern California Academy of Sciences, Los Angeles, Cal.  
 Stanford University, Stanford, Cal.  
 State Educational Department, Albany, N.Y.  
 Tennessee Academy of Science, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Union of American Biological Societies, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.  
 United States Department of Interior, Washington, D.C.  
 United States National Museum, Washington, D.C.  
 University of California, Berkeley, Cal.  
 University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.  
 University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, O.  
 University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.  
 University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.  
 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.  
 University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.  
 University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri.  
 University of Nebraska, Lincoln Neb.  
 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N.M.  
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C.  
 University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla.  
 University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.  
 University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 University of Pittsburg, Pittsburg, Pa.  
 University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Cal.  
 University of State of New York, Albany, N.Y.  
 University of Texas, Austin, Tex.  
 University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.  
 University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.  
 Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Western Reserve University, Cleveland, O.  
 Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters, Madison, Wis.  
 Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Mass.  
 Yale University, New Haven, Conn.  
 Zoological Society, Philadelphia, Pa.