

R E P O R T

Frances R. Grant --Visit to Washington, June 12 - 17, 1933

Since receiving the Minutes from the Trustees of Urusvati regarding the desirability of speaking to the Secretary of Agriculture, in regard to possible cooperation with the Medicinal Research of Urusvati, as well as the necessity of recognition of the Roerich Peace Banner, Miss Grant has felt that a personal conversation with Mr. Wallace would be most necessary. She therefore wrote to the Secretary of Agriculture, asking an appointment, and the latter suggested her coming for lunch on Monday, June 12th. On that occasion Miss Grant outlined to the Secretary the two plans, and in line with the instantaneous response of the Secretary to any thought of Prof. Roerich, as command, the latter immediately made several decisive suggestions. The first was that Miss Grant together with him visit the President and speak to him personally of the Banner. ~~xxxx~~ Although the Secretary realized the agitation of the last days before the adjournment of congress, he nevertheless felt that such a personal and intimate interview could be arranged. He therefore proceeded immediately on this possibility.

Secretary Wallace was equally responsive to the second plan, and after deep consideration decided to arrange a meeting in his office with his medical experts, in regard to the possibilities which the Department of Agriculture provided for such united work.

Before proceeding further Miss Grant would like to express her profoundest appreciation of the attitude of the Secretary. His reverence, love and comprehension of the Work of Professor Roerich and his mission, his immediate readiness to fulfill with all his forces every suggestion and wish coming from this Source, have been unparalleled in any other person Miss Grant has met outside of the Trustees. Despite the fact that this past week has been unprecedented in its demands of the Secretary of Agriculture, the latter gave every available free moment before and after his office hours to the consideration of the plans and problems which Miss Grant brought him. This attitude has been further evidenced in the Secretary's conversations in which his constant concern for the success of the Work ~~stirred her profoundly~~ of Professor Roerich stirred her profoundly.

In regard to the question of cooperation with Urusvati, ~~Miss~~ the Secretary arranged a conference with his three leading experts, a fourth member of the department, ^{the} the Secretary and Miss Grant when the question of possible cooperation was broached. The experts showed tremendous interest, and a very enlightened attitude towards this subjects, and were especially enthusiastic about the matter of ephedra and other similar plants. After an exhaustive discussion of the possibilities of such cooperation, the Secretary dismissed his experts, staying with Miss Grant and the other member of the department, who is a mutual friend, until his departure for a Cabinet meeting with the President. Before leaving, however, the Secretary said to Miss Grant, "The Department of Agriculture may undertake ~~only~~ one part of the cooperation, as I see it, but other people will have to be brought into the picture. I think that I will arrange to take you to Secretary Wooding right after the Cabinet meeting, be ready at four."

At four, however, the Secretary called for her and informed her that the meeting had been arranged for the next morning at 9.30 A.M. for the Secretary and Miss Grant, ~~and~~
~~and also~~. At the meeting with Secretary Wooding, Miss Grant was delighted at the
high presentation of her friend to the Secretary of the Treasury regarding the possibi-
lities of the work of Urusvati. The Secretary of the Treasury expressed the greatest
response, and since the Bureau of public health comes under his own Department, he im-
mediately suggested that ways be thought out by himself and Secretary Wallace for
cooperation, as well as interesting some foundation --perhaps the Rockefeller Founda-
tion --in this plan. He turned to Miss Grant requesting a plan which the two Secretaries
could work over together. Secretary Wooding showed much interest in Asia, having also
met Tagore and citing his belief that Asia had such vast things to offer us. This
point of view was greatly valued by Secretary Wallace, who afterwards discussed the sig-
nificance of Professor Roerich's knowledge in this field, and his Sesame to this ideal.
The next morning before his office hours, Mr Wallace met Miss Grant and suggested the
general ideas of making out the plan, which he thought need not be in great detail. On
its completion, it was thought best by him, that Miss Grant go over the plans with him
and then present it to the Secretary of the Treasury; he suggested that this be done
on his return from a speaking trip in the west ~~at the beginning of July.~~
To this end, Miss Grant will prepare his suggestions and with the Trustees set
up the necessary outline. Secretary Wallace also expressed the belief that if one de-
partment would not cooperate he would find others who could.

Miss Grant also visited Dr. LeomRowe director of the Pan American Union, who said he would speak if he did not have to leave for the Pan American Congress in Uruguay. We were to confirm this in September. She saw other members of the Pan American Union as well, with whom we have closest relationships

Miss Grant also visited the Chief of the Latin American Division of the State Department, Mr. Wilson who expressed interest in learning of all progress in the Latin American fields of the work. In view of his constant participation in the Appropriations Bill, Senator Cutting was not seen --although the Senator's secretary mentioned Mr. Cutting's anxiety to see Miss Grant and asked her to return following the adjournment of Congress, Miss Grant was unable to arrange it and deferred the appointment until her next visit. Senator Cutting is the Senator of New Mexico and an old friend of her father, and at present an important member of the administration.

Miss Grant feels that the moment offers the most brilliant possibilities, that the name of Professor Roerich holds the greatest veneration throughout the administration and embassies. As the minister from Honduras said, President Roosevelt is bringing the 'New Deal' to this country; this plan of Professor Roerich promises a new deal to us all in the ~~AMERICAN~~ relationships between nations, the old must be wiped away."

Miss Grant wishes to say that this feeling of the imperative need of the Roerich Pact and of the urgency of its endorsement was the consistent feeling of all the twenty embassies and legations which she saw; all expressed their profound respect for Professor Roerich as the creator of a plan, which would wipe away the past, and permit the nations, as they expressed it, to begin relationships upon a new basis, with new larger American unities founded upon the broad and lasting bonds of culture.