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SOME CONSIDERATIONS UPON MY COLLABORATION WITH URUSVATI.

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Being in complete agreement with the leading idea of the Roerich Organisation, of uniting people on the base of art and science, I look back with pleasure upon the gratifying invitation of Prof. Nicolas Roerich which enabled me to give my first lecture in America under the auspices of Himalayan Research Institute "Urusvati". I cannot help mentioning the extraordinary kindness and attention which surrounded me in the Roerich Museum and which rendered my sojourn there extremely agreeable. My lecture in which I exposed the biological bases of a new conception of life, met a sympathetic response in the audience, and was followed by a very interesting discussion. I heard afterwards many complimentary remarks from the leading personalities of the Roerich Museum which showed their sympathy with my ideas. Thus sympathy was manifested once more, on my second staying in New-York, through organization of a tea in my honour.

Before my leaving America, I was invited to the Roerich Museum, and here I understood that a closer collaboration between myself and "Urusvati" was foreseen by the authorities of the Roerich Museum. At that moment, I did not give any definite answer, not being able to take any decision before my coming to Europe. In Paris, the subject was discussed with the local representative of the Roerich Museum and submitted by him to the attention of the Headquarters at Naggar, and the authorities of the Roerich Museum in New-York. As the replies obtained were favorable to the idea of my coöperation I was asked by Dr. G. Schkliaver to present my considerations upon proposed organization. Without entering in details, which might

be developed later, I venture to suggest that a Medico-Biological Department of "Urusvati" would be next organized. As the name shows, I presume two general lines of investigations in this Department :
I) medical and 2^o biological one.

I MEDICAL part might be started with research concerning cancer. There are two ways in studying cancer, a) experimental one and b) clinical one.

a) For experimental investigations I suppose to utilise my cancerous strains of mice, the breeders of which have to be brought to Urusvati and multiplied there, through unbreeding, to form a sufficient stock. Two particular lines of research on these animals may be traced already now: 1^o investigation upon the influence of local climatic conditions on cancer production and 2^o testing of all kinds of possible cures.

b) From clinical point of view, it would be interesting to investigate cancer cases in natives; a small hospital or, at least, a dispensary might eventually prove to be desirable.

II-BIOLOGICAL research may be focused on the problem of species. As material, I propose to utilise different tail mutations in mice, which I obtained during my study in heredity. Many interesting problems concerning the origin of new forms on earth may be investigated in connection with special local conditions and through crossing these animals with wild representatives of the same and related species. (')

(') This preliminary plan of scientific research work presents a great degree of elasticity, and it may be considerably changed depending on funds and local conditions.

The realisation of this scheme supposes sufficient room for the animals and a laboratory with histological equipment for microscopical examination of tumors, and other connected investigations; besides, some medico-chemical equipment may be necessary in connection with clinical work.

It is advisable to be ready not to have much result before two or three years because it will be necessary to develop first a sufficient stock of mice, and then because cancer in animals, as well as in human, is a disease of advanced age.

As my work in the Radium Institute of the University of Paris cannot be concluded before one or three years, I shall not be available earlier than 1932. In the meantime, if my scheme were adopted, I could perhaps help in gathering the necessary funds by placing the Medico-Biological Department of Himalayan Research Institute under the auspices of some leading American organizations interested in cancer research and the problem of species, and by endeavouring to interest in "Urusvati" the people who know me in America.

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