Dear Liz, Or Urusvati

the Institutions of Roerich Museum are interested as you know in the promotion of a universal cooperation of (art) and of Science and in the search for ~~underlying~~ fundamental laws, which underlie all phenomena of the Universe. For these two purposes we arranged the questionnaire attached herewith, which contains 12 questions on fundamental laws of ~~the~~ nature. ~~and~~. This questionnaire we sent to various leading representatives of Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Sociology etc. kindly asking them to send us back as soon as possible (in course of two months) their answers. These answers will be published in one of our periodical issues. As this is one of the first attempts to bring together various branches of Science, ~~which~~ some of which hardly ever come in touch one with another, and as our questionnaire deals with general laws of and tendencies of ~~the~~ Evolution, in which, we realize, will

A.

Representatives of Physical and Chemical sciences.

Questions:

I. Can any physical or chemical process or phenomenon be repeated in the absolutely identical way, or will it have every time some individual features?

If every phenomenon is in its whole an unrepeatable individuality, should not scientists broaden their conception of the phenomenon, taking into consideration: 1) the individual ~~intrinsic~~ nature of the phenomenon; 2) its individual position in Space; 3) the fact, that every phenomenon is originated in a certain environment ~~with which~~ (in a large sense of the word) with which it forms a unity; 4) a psychological factor ~~if the~~ observation, etc.?

II. How do you explain, The~~t~~ fact, that a chemical substance possesses certain characteristic ~~affinities~~ affinities to other substances? Is an affinity (or potentiality, or relation) an intrinsic property of the substance, or is originated by substance's (~~individual position in space and~~ its) individual charge of energy?

III. Do you think, that in every physical or chemical process, or in a series of processes or substances (p.e. like that ~~of~~ of chemical elements) can be detected laws of rhythm, periodicity, symmetry, progression ~~etc.~~ economy, inertia, fatigue, resistence etc.!? ~~unify and characterize this process or series.~~?

What would be the cause and the meaning of such laws?

IV. Do you think, that there could be established various types of relationship between mutually connected and influencing physical or chemical processes or phenomena (like catalysis, synergism, chemical combination ~~etc~~ etc.)?
What types will you recognize? Can these types be arranged ~~into~~ in a scale according to the degree of connection or affinity between various processes or phenomena?

V. Do you Think, That an intensification of a physical or chemical process or phenomenon will change in some way its original affinity (properties and its) to other phenomena? What explanation would you give to this fact?

VI. Are the properties of a physical mixture (Hedley) limited to the sum of properties of its ingredients, or the mixture ~~acquires~~ has its additional properties as the whole, or looses some properties of the ingredients? Then, what is the explanation of this enrichment or loss?

VII. Do you think, that various physical and chemical phenomena and laws could be changed with ~~the~~ evolution of the Universe, or with a change of correspondent Space-Time value?

VIII What processes: constructive or distructive prevail, ~~according~~ to the actual knowledge, ~~prevail~~ in the physical and chemical life of our planet? ~~constructive or distructive~~ Then, how is the Energy ~~is~~ balanced?

IX. Do you think, that the physical body can exist, under certain conditions, in a meta-material state, where all its physical properties and spacial relations ~~will be~~ are different from those, known to the modern Physics?

Can, ~~was~~ psychic phenomena be explained from the mechanistic point of view, as movements and positions of physical particles?

X. If a mental process can induce by means of the nervous apparatus, our organism to do a certain amount of physical work, may the so called „psychic energy" be regarded ~~as a part of the physical energy subject to the law of conservation of energy with all its properties~~ as a sort of physical energy subject to the law of conservation of energy?

May we speak of the action of a concentrated thought upon the matter (p.e. of an influence of experimentator's personality upon the course of an experiment

XI. In what way electro-magnetic forces in ~~the~~ nature influence the plant, animal and human life?

XII. Do you think, that our empiric Science can be affected in some way by the results of a philosophical study of the following questions: The nature of Space and of ~~the~~ Movement, The laws of Processes, the ~~po~~possibility of Free Will, ~~the~~ subjective and objective values of scientific observations etc.?
Do you think, that all known phenomena, physical, ~~and~~ biological and sociological, have common bases and must, obey ones and the same fundamental laws? And ~~that~~ according to your opinion a cooperation and a periodical exchange of views on ~~are~~ desirable ~~desirable~~ these laws ~~that~~ desirable between representatives of all branches of Science from physicist to sociologists?

B

Representatives of Biological Sciences.

Questions:

I. Can any biological process or phenomenon be repeated in the absolutely identical way, or will it have every time some individual features? If every phenomenon is in its whole an unrepeatable individuality, should not scientists broaden their conception of the phenomenon, taking into consideration its individual intrinsic nature and the fact, That every phenomenon is originated in a certain environment (in a large sense of the word) with which forms a unity?

II. Can the phenomena of affinity, potentiality, tendency, inclination, will etc. in living cells, organs and organisms be reduced to purely chemical affinities or not? What explanation will you suggest in the latter case?

III. Do you think, that in every biological process or in a series of processes or phenomena (p.e. like that of the chemical elements or biological species) can be detected laws of rhythm (periodicity), symmetry, progression, ~~etc. which unify~~ economy, inertia, fatique, resistence etc.?, ~~and characterize this process or series?~~ What would be the cause and the meaning of such laws?

IV. Do you think, that there could be established various Types of relationship between mutually connected and influencing biological processes or phenomena (~~like~~ p.e. fermentative action, synergism, symbiosis, direct struggle etc)? What types will you recognize? Can they be arranged in scale according to the degree of connection or affinity between various processes or phenomena?

V. Do you think, that an intensification of a biological process or phenomenon will change in some way its original properties and its affinity (or relations, tendencies etc.) to other phenomena? What explanation would you give to this fact?

VI Does the living organism represent simply a complex of physico-chemical processes, or something more than that?

VII. Do you think, that various biological fundamental laws could be changed with the evolution of the world?

VIII. What processes: constructive or distructive, prevail, according to the actual knowledge, in the plant and animal life? What would be the result of this prevailment?

IX. ~~What is, according to you, a Thought, feeling, volition etc.~~:
Are a Thought, feeling, volition etc. according to you, purely physico-chemical phenomena, or do they represent psychic phenomena which cannot be explained in physical terms? How do understand in the latter case connection between psychic and physiological phenomena?

X. What explanation would you suggest for the phenomena of telepathy, presentiment, mediumism, hypnotism etc. in cases of ~~humans~~ men and animals?

XI. What influence have electro-magnetic forces in ~~the~~ nature upon the plant, animal and human life?

XII. Do you think, That our empiric Science can be affected in some way by the results of a philosophical study of the following questions: The nature of Space and of Movement, The laws of Processes, the possibility of Free Will, subjective and objective values of scientific observations etc.?

Do you think, That The all known physical, and sociological biological phenomena have common basis and must obey ones, and the same fundamental laws? And all are according to your opinion, a cooperation and a periodical exchange of views on these laws are desirable between representatives of all branches of Science from physicists and biologists to sociologists?

C

13

Representatives of humanitarian sciences.

Questions:

I. Can any historical or sociological process or phenomenon be repeated in the absolutely identical way, or will it have every time some individual features? If every phenomenon is in its whole an unrepeatable individuality, should not scientists broaden their conception of the phenomena, taking into consideration its individual intrinsic nature and the fact, that every phenomenon is originated in a certain environment (in a large sense of the word) with which it forms a unity?

II. Can the phenomena of tendency, political movements, migration etc. in human society be regarded as purely biological phenomena, or they must be considered as evidence of free will?

14

III. Do you think, that in every sociological or historical process, or in a series of such processes or phenomena (like that of political parties, of human races etc.) can be detected laws of rhythm, periodicity, symmetry, progression, ~~economy, inertia,~~ fatigue, resistence etc.? ~~characterize this process or series?~~

IV Do you think, that there could be established various types of relationship between mutually connected and influencing sociological processes or phenomena (like symbiosis, direct struggle, leadership etc.)? What types will you recognize? Can they be arranged in scale according to the degree of connection or affinity between various processes or phenomena?

V. Do you think, that an identification of a sociological process or phenomenon will change in some way its original relations, Tendencies, connection etc. to other sociological phenomena?

VI. Does a human society (crowd, association, etc.) represent a simple mixture of individuals, or does it represent a real compound where individuals acquire some new psychic qualities as long as they are forming part of this compound?

VII. Do you think, that various sociological fundamental laws and firmly established phenomena could be changed with the evolution of humanity?

VIII. What processes: constructive or destructive prevail in ~~the~~ the life of ~~the~~ humanity? Does the cause of ~~this~~ such a fact lie in ~~elementary~~ biological ~~factors~~ of man's evolution, or in his free creative power?

IX. Do you believe in Free Will of man, or, according to you, all his activities are entirely conditioned reactions to various physiological impulses?

X. Do you believe in a direct action of thought (like that in hipnotic suggestion) upon individual and human masses, or the action is always indirect - through persuasion? What is the ~~role of~~ importance of individual leadership in the creation of historical events?

XI. What influence may have electro-magnetic and other elementary forces in ~~the~~ nature upon the human life and man's psychology?

XII. Do you think, that our empiric science can be affected in some way by the results of a philosophical study of the following questions: The nature of Space and of movement, the laws of Processes, the prostility of Free Will, subjective and objective values of scientific observations etc.?

Do you think, That the all known physical, biological and sociological phenomena (have common basis and) must obey ones and the same fundamental laws? And ~~are~~ according to your opinion, a cooperation and a periodical exchange of views on these laws ~~were~~ desirable between representatives of all branches of Science from physicists to sociologists?