



# FLAMMA

INC.

ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF CULTURE

PHONE: RIVERSIDE 9-0278  
CABLE: FLAMMA NEWYORK

PROF. NICHOLAS ROERICH  
*Hon. President*

227 RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

January 1, 1938

Ida M. Tarbell  
120 East 19th St.,  
New York City, N.Y.

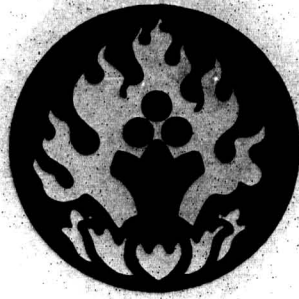
My dear Mrs. Tarbell:

Following your suggestion over the telephone I am hastening to place before you a brief outline of the matter which we are most anxious to bring to your attention.

You, no doubt, know of the Roerich Museum and the great artist whose name it bears. It is the home of over one thousand paintings by this renowned master, and was erected in his honor in 1929 at the completion of the five-year Roerich-American Central Asian Expedition. The scientific fruits of this expedition benefited the world at large, but America received also a magnificent treasure in works of art. The Institution has among its honorary advisors Tagore, Jagadis Bose, Einstein, Millikan, Compton, Zuloaga and others. This free public Museum, having been declared by Professor Roerich and the Trustees as a perpetual gift to the American people, now finds itself confronting a most unjust and unprecedented situation.

Three former Trustees have formed a conspiracy, performing the most astounding acts of vandalism and slander in an attempt to seize for selfish profit the entire cultural project conceived by Nicholas Roerich. This group, resorting to the darkest and most vicious machinations attempts to steal the results of the labors of the founder, his loyal co-workers and trustees. In their attack they are being aided and shielded by certain persons who do not hesitate to exert the most sinister pressure in the thwarting of justice while hiding under the mantle of high public office.

We are appealing to you because this matter has proceeded far beyond a legal status, which is in the process of evolvment through the regular courts. You have spoken so truly: "We have forgotten our ethics, and when a man of wealth bestows benefactions we laud it because we substitute humanitarianism for ethics." And again: "I believe that there is a growing realization



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that ethical and humanitarian considerations have a vital relation to economics. Failure to observe them results in a menace to social stability." These words prompt our deep conviction that only you who have always stood on the watch of justice and who have defended public ethics so courageously can render us advice in this case which cries to Heaven and which is destined, in the not too distant future, to become known on the pages of the history of culture.

We, as friends and supporters of the Roerich Museum, beseech you as Zola was beseeched in the Dreyfuss case, feeling that your great heart, which has already done so much for this country in the name of the most high principles, will prompt you to extend to us the opportunity of seeing you and presenting to you in person the details of this desperate situation.

Very sincerely yours,

Gene Fosdick, President.

Dudley Fosdick, Vice-President.