

February 9, 1938

Dear Mr. Rosdick:

As I promised I have gone over the three volumes of the Record on Appeal in the case of Roerich and associates against Louis and Mattie Horon. My hope is to be able to discuss it with you.

I am convinced from the examination I have given the records that the case is so involved that it would take me six months to form an opinion of its merits. The cultural aims of the Roerich undertaking in the fifteen years or thereabouts of their life have become so tangled with financial and legal matters that an outsider is lost without close study. Moreover, one should know much more of the personalities involved than I do before forming a judgment.

You will, of course, have to accept the Appellate Court's decision. I shall be interested to have a copy of that decision. I told you when I met you at tea at the Arts Club, and I tell you now, it is quite impossible for me to give any opinion on the matter without a long study, but I am interested enough to want to know what the Appellate Court decides.

I must say that Mr. Horon's apparently sudden change of mind and heart about the enterprise and its founder requires a more convincing explanation than the testimony I have looked over gives. After so long, ardent and generous support of the Roerich ideas to become suddenly and completely contemptuous of them requires explanation.

I sympathize thoroughly with the cultural aims of the undertaking. The complete devotion to these aims which the early correspondence seems to show is heartening in a world so materialistic as ours. But realizing such aims requires long patience and co-operation of all concerned. Practically everybody's patience seems to have broken down along about 1935. Why, I do not understand.

I am leaving town tomorrow for a little time, but as I say I shall be glad to have a copy of the Court's decision when it comes.

This letter is entirely confidential,
my dear Mr. Fossdick. Under no circumstances is my
name to be used in connection with your suit.

Please believe that you and your friends have my sympathy in this involved affair.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Dudley Fossdick
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