

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
NEW YORK

THE MEDICAL SCIENCES
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Paris, Oct. 18. 1939

Dear Dr. Gregg,

Thank you so much for "Table d'Hôte". What a nice way you have of keeping in touch with friends! When shall we get the second series? That is to say the part beginning September 3rd, — your "war" diary?

Things are becoming less wild and disorganized than they were at the beginning, and this makes my job here naturally easier, although we are still extremely busy, with no Sundays and no week-end rests. I don't mind it at all, however, especially when I see to what extent all the Foundation does is appreciated by the French, the British, the Swiss — in other words by all those with whom we have to deal and with whom I have tried to maintain contact. All the officers from la Baume have now been here; some of them for a day or

two - like Mr. Grun; others, like TBK and Melville,
for longer periods of time; you will have received,
before this letter reaches you, their impressions,
suggestions and comments. The appreciation of
the Foundation's work on the part of everyone is
so vivid, that I can foresee the disappointment
which would accompany any decision of the
AF to withdraw from Europe; and I feel that
if such a decision were taken, or if the permanent
and close contact which we have had - and are
still having - were to be interrupted, it would
mean that all of our efforts of the past 20
years to establish friendships and to gain
the confidence of local people (some of which it
took almost 20 years to build up) would be
entirely wasted. The Foundation means to European
scientists much more than just a cheque at
the end of the month; and this I realize
now more than ever before. In their eyes
we have a distinct moral value; keeping in
touch with us gives them a feeling of
confidence which it is hard to express in
this brief note to you; and in to-day's
wild world the presence of the Foundation

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is a proof to them that everything has not yet gone to pieces, and that there is still something stable and permanent left untouched, upon which one can build some day a constructive basis for future generations.

But my letter is getting too long, and I must stop, as the mail closes in a few minutes.

With kindest regards to you and to Mrs. Gregg.

Very sincerely,
Alexander Makinsey

Please remember me to Dr. Lambert.