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National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc.
232 Madison Avenue
New York 16, New York

October 16, 1944

Mr. E. Michael Czaja
Art Faculty
Bennington College
Bennington, Vermont

Dear Mr. Czaja,

We were very much interested in your letter of the fifth, both to know that you participated in some of the work on the exhibit and that you should like to have it at Bennington. I think it will please you to know that the exhibit has been well received both at Cornell and the University of California and that it is scheduled to be shown this season at the University of Oregon, Harvard and Hobart College.

The first available date we have open is the third week in May, 1945. The minimum period it is rented for is two weeks. As yet we have not committed ourselves to any showings for May and June. Therefore you may have the exhibit for as long as you like, providing you let us know very shortly so that we may plan our schedule accordingly.

The fee for the exhibit is \$7.50 per week and the borrower is expected to pay the express charges both ways. The cost of shipping one way, with insurance at \$500, is \$2.93. The entire cost both ways would stand you about \$6 or a little less. If there is any additional information you would like please do not hesitate to write again.

We shall await your reply and look forward to serving you.

Sincerely yours,

May Marcus
Exhibit Department

October 25, 1944

Memorandum

To: General Meetings Committee

From: E. Michael Czaja

Enclosed is a reply from the Exhibit Department of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship to my inquiry regarding an exhibit of Russian architecture.

The exhibit consists of 40 panels 30" x 40" on which are mounted photographs, texts, plans, and maps. The exhibit was planned and made in New York City by a group of young American architects.

If arrangements to secure the exhibit are made, I would like to suggest that Elsa Gidoni, Chairman of the Exhibit Committee, and Hans Blumenfeld, city planner with years of experience in Russia, be invited at the same time. I know both these people very well and am sure they would like to come.

The total cost of the exhibit would be:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Exhibit, 2 weeks | \$15.00 |
| Shipping | 6.00 |
| Round trip R.R. for Gidoni and Blumenfeld | <u>20.00</u> |
| TOTAL | \$41.00 |

Arrangements could be made for one or two extra seminars to be conducted by Miss Gidoni and Mr. Blumenfeld.

Mr. Knaths

October 30, 1944

Mr. Brockway

exhibit of Russian architecture

This sounds like a good exhibition. If you can find a place to nail up 40 panels 30" x 40", I believe the Evening Meetings fund would allow as much as \$20 for carfare for these two persons on the understanding that we get one lecture of general interest out of their visit. If more money is needed, the Meetings Committee would have to make a formal decision on the basis of the proposed subject and the rest of the meetings program for the term.

ok'd by Mr. Knaths

2 wks
beginning 3d wk
in Nov
June 4-18

December 14, 1944

Mr. Mendershausen

Marjorie Beebe

meetings schedule, second term

The dates for the Russian architecture exhibit have been changed to June 21st-July 3rd. This would affect the visit of Elsa Gidoni and Hans Blumenfeld, who will give talks in connection with the exhibit.

ND

March 21, 1945

Mr. Czaja

Marjorie Beebe

exhibit of Russian architecture

Do you have any idea when Elsa Gidoni and Hans Blumenfeld will be here in connection with the exhibit of Russian architecture scheduled for June 21st to July 3rd? I am working on the Meetings schedule and would like to pin down the date when one or the other of them will give the general lecture to the community.

Tuesdays are usually reserved for music and Wednesdays for community meetings. Mondays and Fridays are sometimes bad from the point of view of getting an audience, but possible.

MS

cc: Agnes Marr

Friday = June 29 Intertown

INTEROFFICE MEMO

Bennington College

Date 17 June 95

To Margorie Beale

From Craja

Re: Arrangement for Planning Lecture
for me

1. It would be much easier, if Mr Blumfeld could be housed on campus.
2. How does the College make payments for traveling expenses?
3. Will Student Lounge in Commons be available for seminar on Sat.
Planning - Mr Blumfeld.
Architecture. Mrs Gironi at Brooker
4. Will there be any social function after the Lecture on Friday? If so
I would like political & sociology people there - also Russian language;
faculty & students.
5. Can the exhibit of Russian War Posters be hung in the Theatre.
The Arch exhibit will be hung in the carriage barn.

Bennington College
June 19, 1945

Memorandum

To: Mr. Czaja
From: Marjorie Beebe

Re: your memo of June 17th

(1) I am sorry that it will be impossible to house Mr. Blumenfeld on campus. The guest suite will not be available Friday night and it has not been customary to put men up in the student houses. (We use vacant rooms occasionally for women guests.) Will Miss Gidoni be staying with you? Please let me know if you would like me to call Overlea. The dancers seem to be taking up every available bit of space.

(2) You should ask Miss Gidoni and Mr. Blumenfeld to submit a statement showing their traveling expenses. I o.k. it and ask the Comptroller's Office to send them a check.

(3) Gladys Steven has jurisdiction over the Student Lounge. If they don't have an exhibit in there I'm pretty sure it would be available.

(4) The Entertainment Committee wonder if you would be willing to have the party at your house after the lecture Friday evening. If you are willing and will send me a list of people whom you'd like to invite I'd be glad to send out the invitations and to take care of ordering the refreshments. Usually 16-18 people are invited.

(5) The Russian War Posters may be hung in the Theatre. Miss Hill hopes that they won't be put up before Martha Graham's concert on the 23rd and 24th. (They might prove to be distracting.) Had you thought of having the lecture in the Carriage Barn instead of the Theatre? Some people think a larger audience would turn out for it if it were held over there.

(6) Will you please let me know what the topic of the lecture is? It should be announced in next week's College Week.

MJB

Bennington College
June 26, 1945

To:

From:

You are cordially invited to meet Mrs. Gidoni and Mr. Blumenfeld at the Czaja's house after their lecture on Friday evening. Will you please let Miss Beebe know whether or not you can accept?

Elsa Gidoni
113 East 39th str
New York 16

July 2d 45

Miss Beebe
c/o Bennington Collage , Vt.

Dear Miss Beebe,

Mr. Czaja had advised me to write you an account of my expenses in connection with my trip to your college for a lecture on Russian Architecture.

As Mr. Czaja had been so kind as to take me to Albany on Sunday morning, from where it was possible to go back to New York by boat, the amount reads like this:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Train trip to Bennington | 4, 50 |
| Boat trip back to New York | 2, 60 |
| Meals | 2, 50 |
| Taxis | 1, 20 |
| | <u>=====10=====</u> |
| Total | 10, 80 |

Very truly yours

Elsa Gidoni

Hans Blumenfeld
5740 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia 44, Pa.
July 3, 1945

Miss Marjorie Beebe
Secretary to the President
Bennington College
Bennington, Vermont

Dear Miss Beebe:

I am herewith submitting a statement of expenses incurred in connection with my lectures on city planning at Bennington College on June 29th and 30th.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Railroad and Boat fares | \$ 12.00 |
| Meals and Incidentals en route | \$ 3.50 |
| 3 Slides made for lecture | <u>\$ 4.50</u> |
| Total | \$ 20.00 |

Very truly yours

Hans Blumenfeld

Hans Blumenfeld