

ROIA

WAVERLY, W. VA., U. S. A.

September 23 1924

My dear Dr. Peano:

Perhaps you misunderstood my proposition, but it seems to me that you are not getting as much good out of Roia as it was my intention for you to receive.

My offer was to let you have space in Roia to the extent of at least a column a month, if you desired that much, which you were entitled to use in any way that you desired for the purpose of making propaganda for Interlingua, either by way of advertisement or exemplification, or in any way that seemed to you best. You were to be the judge of that. I did not intend to write the articles in Interlingua. In the first place, they would not be official if I should attempt to employ the language in that way. There would be no guarantee to the reader that my style of Interlingua correctly represented your ideas, or that it was as good as could be written. There is always a prestige and confidence given to one who speaks or writes with authority that does not go to any substitute. Besides I do not want to turn away from Ro to try to write Esperanto, or Ido or any other artificial language. If I gave my time to practise and learn any other language Ro must suffer to that extent.

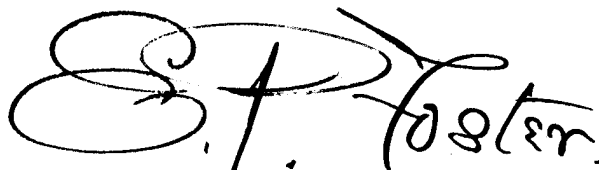
But my idea was to give to you a clear field in the use of space in Roia for you to teach Interlingua in any way that you might please or to advocate it as strongly as you saw fit as the best form of international language. I should not interfere with you in that, for it would be understood by everybody that it was from you as the fountain head of authority in Interlingua. My benefit would come from the fact that you could not circulate Interlingua in Roia, without at the same time giving circulation to Ro. Your recompense for your time and expense of circulating Ro in Europe would be that I could not teach Ro through Roia in the United States without at the same time putting Interlingua alongside of it and giving every reader the opportunity to judge and decide between them. The Post office laws in the United States allow me to circulate Roia here at a very small expense comparatively for postage. I lose that advantage in other nations and under their laws. But when you write for Roia in Interlingua, you get the advantage of reaching all Roia's readers in the United States at no expense whatever to you for postage or addressing. I intended to give you that privilege as recompense to you for your circulating of Ro in Europe. I meant that you should have the right to edit a department of Interlingua in Roia, and that I would become the distributor of what you wrote when I mailed my papers.

Of course if you do not wish to do so, I have no complaint to make. But I feared that you might have misunderstood my proposition. If any of Roia's correspondents should criticize Interlingua adversely,

you have full scope and a clear field to reply in any way you please.

With best wishes and sincere admiration, I am

Yours very cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "S. T. Foster". The initials "S. T." are written in a large, cursive, looped style, followed by the name "Foster" in a more standard cursive script.