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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
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Graves, Stella 1938

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0923

The Roger Williams^{DD}
28 E. 31st

New York, N.Y.

Jan. 29, 1938

(ack. 2/1/38)
by postcard

My dear Miss Giest,

According to
your request I have carefully
gone over the papers of
Miss Stella Graves. It does
seem that she would be
a most valuable person
at Guling at this time, and
unless you receive contrary
word from Dr. Wu or Miss
Vantrien I should think

0924

JAN 29 1938

it most reasonable to let⁵²⁷ her go back as soon as possible. The whole thing, it would seem to me, hinges on her ability to get along with people, as in these tense times much must depend on tact and calmness and diplomacy. If she can interpret Gurling's real spirit to the Japanese, then she would be of invaluable help.

I don't know why my old brain works so slowly. The minute I

0925

JAN 29 1938 [37]

hung up the telephone receiver after talking with you yesterday I was so vexed with myself not to have expressed again my personal and the church's appreciation of your coming to us on Wed. evening. I just can't tell you how much we really did appreciate it. You did such a splendid job of it. So many have spoken of how it made them understand better than ever before. It was a real service for China. Heaps of thanks!

0926

JAN 29 1938 [47]

And for the luncheon date
is the future. I shall look
forward to that immensely.

Things do tighten in our
relations in the East. One
wonders whether it leads
to eventual peace, we hope,
for the world. I'm afraid
it would be hard to be
an utter pacifist in Nanking
today.

I'll see you a week from
Tuesday, and in the words
of our African "Mbote mingi",
many thanks.
Devotedly - Myrtle Ross

0927

Re Miss Graves

2/2/38

Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
January 31, 1938

My dear Miss MacKinnon:

Thank you for your prompt reply to the papers of Miss Stella Graves. Miss Tyler has made an appointment for her with Dr. Dodd for a thorough medical examination within a week after her arrival in New York. Mrs. Thurston asked me if she was frank about her family health record, and I told Mrs. Thurston that she was. This, I think Dr. Dodd should know, at the time he makes his examination.

In regard to her immediate return, we have had no response from the field. It may be that they have not gotten the request. If they have, and want her to come immediately, I think they would have answered by this time.

I think Miss Graves would have stayed in Paris longer had her money been sufficient for her to continue her study. As it is, if she does not go back, she is hoping to find some part time job here to help with her expenses. She is apparently quite dependent on herself and our furlough salary is inadequate. It might be that under such circumstances, she would have more peace of mind if she were back on the field than if she were here.

Sincerely yours,

RWG:am

Rebecca W. Griest

Miss Sallie Lou MacKinnon
Doctors Building
Nashville, Tennessee

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4/3/38 Ans. Approve your letters.

State G. C. meeting? Sent my Feb. dates, you & Tyler decide.

GINLING COLLEGE

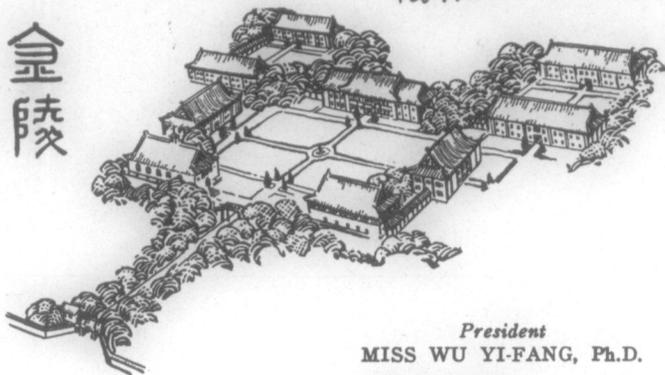
NANKING, CHINA

Re Miss Graves

BOARD OF FOUNDERS

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MRS. T. D. MACMILLAN

金陵



President
MISS WU YI-FANG, Ph.D.

Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
January 31, 1938

COOPERATING UNITS

WOMEN'S AMERICAN BAPTIST
FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN
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PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL
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EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH
WOMEN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY
SOCIETY, METHODIST
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS,
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U.S.A.
BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS,
REFORMED CHURCH IN THE
U.S.
UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY
SOCIETY
FACULTY, ALUMNAE, AND
UNDERGRADUATES OF
SMITH COLLEGE

2/2/38

My dear Miss Hodge:

Miss Tyler and Professor Harlow have both voted favorably on Miss Graves. I am enclosing a copy of Miss MacKinnon's letter and a copy of my answer to her and to Mrs. Sears.

Mrs. Sears telephoned me Friday very much disturbed because she had heard the night before the story of Miss Graves' intimate friendship with Miss Hwang, the principal of the school in Foochow in which Miss Graves taught.

I think that you will want to re-read probably when you come to New York, Dr. Fairfield's correspondence with Miss Tyler. It is in Miss Tyler's folder on Miss Graves, in Miss Tyler's office. I haven't yet had time to go over the material which came from your office. I was sorry not to see you on Thursday. The most important thing is Dr. Wu's anxiety about an answer to her letter to you in which she raised a number of questions, as you will recall, about the future of the College.

Sincerely yours,

Rebecca W. Grist

RWG:am

Miss Margaret E. Hodge
112 West Gravers Lane
Chestnut Hill
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

0929

Re Miss Graves

(17)

2/2/38

Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
January 31, 1938

My dear Mrs. Sears:

Thank you very much for ^{Graybill} talking with me about Miss Graves. At the time the field appointed her, Miss Grable, who had been in the Ginling Music Department, and who knew Miss Graves' history because of her sister-in-law's connection with the American Board (Miss Grable was living at the time with this sister-in-law) wrote me in great distress about this appointment. She felt it completely unsuitable and that we should cable the field at once that it would be a calamity. It was, however, a field appointment, and I did not feel that we had authority to do that. In addition, at the time we received Miss Grable's letter, all the arrangements had been completed on the field. I have followed Miss Graves' career at Ginling with some interest, and have not been able in the conversations I have had with people returning from Ginling, to find any indication that she has not been a completely satisfactory teacher there. I have asked a rather varied group of people about her.

I know quite well the Ginling girl, who was principal of the school in Foochow at which Miss Graves taught. She was a terrific problem to me the last time she was in New York. She would persist in coming to my room at nine, ten and eleven o'clock at night (I was then doing graduate work at Columbia) and it was almost impossible to get rid of her, and I could not make any move with any Chinese person that winter without having difficulties with her. I felt that I was completely innocent of any encouragement of this situation. I am therefore, inclined to think that Miss Graves may have been a victim of circumstances. She herself indicates in her biographic sketch, that she learned better how to handle herself during the years that she was at Ginling. I have found no indication that there has been a repetition of this kind of experience during her years there.

I am also concerned about her interest in the Oxford Movement, and about the insanity which she states her father had. We are having Doctor Dodd give her a complete medical examination within a week after her arrival in New York, so I am hoping the most satisfactory things that we know can be done in relation to the physical and nervous check up.

As to the Oxford Movement interest, that, I judge from

0930

JAN 31 1938

- 2 -

talking with Mrs. Thurston, has not been a problem. There is no question but that she is personally convinced of the power which has come to her through it.

I recall, at the meeting at which we discussed Miss Graves this spring, that you felt then that we should interview her as soon as she returned, and it seems to me that is a reasonable thing to carry out. Professor Harlow and Miss Tyler have sent in favorable votes both on her reappointment and on her immediate return to the field if the field requested it. Miss MacKinnon is in favor of her reappointment, provided that the physical history is thoroughly investigated here; but she is not in favor of her immediate return to the field unless there is real pressure for her to return.

I am sending a summary of these votes to Miss Hodge and suggesting to her that we have a particularly careful check up after Miss Graves arrives. Would you be willing to interview her? You were for so long the chairman of the Personnel Committee that I should like you to do it. I think also Miss Hodge should see her, but she is in New York so irregularly that it seems easier, possibly for someone here to do it. I hope that you will be willing to do so.

Miss Graves arrives on the 2nd of February on the Normandie. She asked for an inexpensive place at which to stay and I have arranged for her to stay at the National Y.W.C.A. building on Lexington Avenue. She has her appointment with Dr. Dodd on February 10th. He could not give her an earlier appointment. Her plans are to be in New York for about ten days.

RWG:am

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Charles H. Sears
152 Madison Avenue
New York, New York

R. W. Grise

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
February 2, 1938

My dear Dr. Dodd:

Miss Tyler, the secretary of the Ginling College Board of Founders, has, I understand, talked to you about a medical examination for Miss Stella Marie Graves, who is returning on February 3rd to America, after three years service at Ginling College.

Some members of the Personnel Committee have raised the question in regard to the inheritance in Miss Graves' family. In the light of this question, it has occurred to me that it might be well for you to see her full papers previous to your examination on February 10th. I am sending you the copies from my office folder and should like to have them returned after you have had time to go over them. The reference is to insanity at times in her father, and you will find it in the first paragraph of her personal sketch.

As far as I can learn, Miss Graves has served very acceptably for three years at Ginling College. She was secured on the field at a time when certain adjustments were being made in the Congregational Board. Both her work and she herself, I understand, have been completely acceptably in the three years she has been at Ginling College. The College wishes her now to be put on a permanent basis. The Board of Founders is anxious to act on this soon. It is of course, unnecessary to say that these papers are completely confidential.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Dr. E. M. Dodd
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Rebecca W. Griest
Chairman of Personnel Committee
Ginling College Board of Founders

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OVER
GINLING COLLEGE
NANKING, CHINA

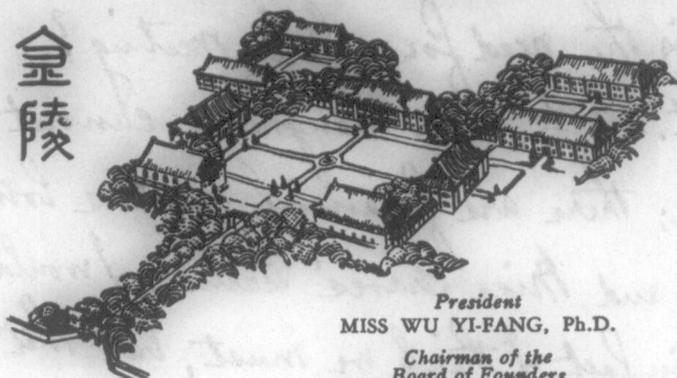
Hodge

(17)
over

Smith College Members on the
Board of Founders

Professor S. Ralph Harlow
Vera Scott Cushman, 1898
Eva Adams Macmillan, 1915
Katharine Richards Rockwell, 1913
Mabel Milham Roys, 1900
Ruth Cowing Scott, 1907

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Smith Alumnae Committee
for Ginling College

Marjorie Browning Leavens, 1910
Chairman
Helen A. Choate, 1904
Alice Wellington Lyman, 1905
Agnes Woodhull Raudenbush, 1928
Mary V. Thayer, 1890
Lucy W. Titcomb, 1913

President
MISS WU YI-FANG, Ph.D.
Chairman of the
Board of Founders
MISS MARGARET E. HODGE

Feb. 3, 1938

Dear Miss Griest,

I received your letter of Jan. 31st yesterday on my return from meetings out of town; it probably arrived in the morning. I think you are handling the Graves matter nicely and sympathetically and I hope that word can come from Dr. Wu while Miss Graves is in New York. I am to be in N.Y. on Monday the 7th and as that meeting was for only a half-day I thought I might see her then. But a notice has come of another meeting that will take the rest of the day and keep me overnight. So I planned for all of Tues. in N.Y. and time to see her. A study of my engagements reminds me that Tuesday is our church mission meeting and that the speaker lunches with us! So while it is not essential for me to come back I ought to if possible, especially as Lydia is away still and we are "on our own" as my brother puts it. Do you suppose she could meet ^{me} either at the Prince George or at the Penna. station in time for me to take the 10.00 train, or the 10.30 at latest? Perhaps we could breakfast together. And could you come too? I would not be of much use, but the psychological effect on all three of us would be good! I will leave the arrangements in your hands, and I am to be hostess at breakfast.

Did you notice two typographical mistakes in your letter to Mrs. Sears? You will want to correct them in the file copy. Ada Graybill's name is

8:15
Prince
George

0933

spelled Grable, and it is Miss Graves' mother not father who had the attack of [27]
insanity.

How pressing is the need for a G.C. meeting? We should answer
Dr. Wier's letter of Oct. 23rd, even though we cannot come to any
definite conclusions; there are financial matters both on the field and
here to be considered; and Miss Graves' status. I would like to hear from
Dr. Wier before acting; ^{on her} in fact I think we must, but that need not delay our
meeting, for we can vote subject to Dr. Wier's approval. Word has just come
from Mrs. McConnell that she will not return before Mar. 1st and I do
not think we should hold up matters too long for her. I enclose my Feb.
schedule; will you and Miss Tyler see if you can settle on a date when
people can be there? And then call the meeting?

Have you thought of asking Anna Scott in the Presby Bd N.M. and
also people in the other Boards of Home Missions in regard to possible
openings for work in the southwest for Gratia?

Yours cordially,
Margaret E. Hodge

FEB 3 1938

0934

Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

18TH FLOOR
152 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.
CABLE ADDRESS, "TAVOYAM, NEW YORK"

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT
MRS. CHARLES H. SEARS,
VICE-PRESIDENT
MRS. J. CHARLES HUMPHREYS,
SECRETARY

PRESIDENT
MRS. HOWARD WAYNE SMITH
ARDMORE, PA.
TREASURER AND BUDGET SECRETARY
MISS FRANCES K. BURR

HOME BASE DEPARTMENT
MRS. LESLIE E. SWAIN,
VICE-PRESIDENT
MISS JANET S. MCKAY,
SECRETARY

February 4, 1938.

(Dic. Feb. 2, 1938)

Miss Rebecca W. Griest,
Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Miss Griest:

Thank you for your letter of January 31 about Miss Graves. I am quite satisfied to agree to her going to Ginling if other members of the committee also vote for it. I am in the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week as a rule. Occasionally, I do change the days. I am willing to see Miss Graves and talk with her if you wish me to, during the time she is in New York although I do not feel that it is necessary for me to do this since you have gone into the case so thoroughly.

Very sincerely yours,

Miriam S. Sears
Foreign Vice-President.

MSS/

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
February 5, 1938

My dear Mrs. Sears:

Thank you for your note this morning in regard to Miss Graves. I am wondering if you could see her on Monday or Wednesday. I should be happy to have you both for lunch on either of those days, but I think possibly it would be more satisfactory for you to see her without me. Miss Hodge is having her for breakfast at the Prince George on Tuesday morning. That seems to be the only time that fits Miss Hodge's schedule.

Will you telephone to me Monday morning, Watkins 9-8703, and let me know what hour will be convenient for you and what day? Miss Graves is staying at the National Y.W.C.A. at 52nd and Lexington, Plaza 3-4700.

RWG: am

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Charles H. Sears
152 Madison Avenue
New York, New York

0936

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
February 5, 1938

My dear Miss Hodges:

I have your letter this morning and also a second letter from Mrs. Sears. She is withdrawing her objections on the basis of a thorough investigation, and she will be willing to see Miss Graves this week.

You are quite right about the error in the spelling of Miss Grabill's name. I corrected it in Mrs. Sears' letter but not in yours. The correct spelling is Grabill. I have re-read Miss Graves' biography account, and realize that I possibly misinterpreted the parent who had insanity. It probably is her mother and not her father.

Miss Graves will be coming into the office in a few minutes, and I will tell her about your plan for breakfast on Tuesday morning, the 8th. Shall I say 8:15 at the Prince George? If that hour doesn't suit you, you can let me know on Monday.

Miss Tyler is not in her office today. I will ask her about the dates for a meeting, on Monday. It does seem that we should do something before March 1st.

I have not done anything about the Board of Home Missions in relation to an opening in the southwest for Miss Sharp. I have hesitated a little bit about going ahead with that, without consulting her, but I will get in touch with the Home Missions next week.

We have sent a full set of Miss Graves' papers to Dr. Dodd, so that he will have complete information about her background before he makes his examination of her on February 10th.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Miss Margaret E. Hodges
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

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THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

CLASS OF SERVICE

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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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1938 FEB 12 AM 2 43.8

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LC GRIEST= GRIEST C/O ASSOCIATED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA

ABCHICOL NYK= 150 FIFTH AVE

MSS

IMPOSSIBLE RETURN NANKING GRAVES CONTINUE FURLOUGH.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

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0938

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
E. M. DODD, M. D.

February 14, 1938

Miss Rebecca W. Griest
Rm. 903 - 150 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Griest:

My recent examination of Miss Stella Graves, helped by the back-ground data you sent me, was prevailingly favorable, though with some qualification and some check-ups to be cleared, before I would feel able to approve sailing. I might enumerate some of the points pro and con.

1. She has had an unusual early history, with its various effects presumably of both strength and damage to her emotional health. On the whole, it would seem to be that she has surmounted this remarkably successfully and is richer thereby through suffering.

2. The fact that she has already carried on well in China is of course one of the most important items in the whole appraisal. I take it that Mrs. Thurston and others who know her there, would have no special health question (particularly nervous-emotional question). If I am wrong in this assumption, please check me up.

3. Her special religious experience of about four years ago, which seems to have stood up well, seems to me a real asset. That isn't always the case with the particular group I have in mind, but seems to have done a great deal for her.

4. Her attitude toward both Chinese and Japanese seems to be excellent. The fact that she knows and loves the Japanese, as well as the Chinese, in these trying days ahead is no small advantage. She has thought things through well and is keen to resume.

On the debit side:-

1. There is moderate secondary anemia - 72% Hemoglobin which should respond well to treatment (prescribed) and should be checked up again before she is cleared.

2. On account of some digestive history - now quite improved - we are doing some laboratory work for parasites.

3. It would be well for her to see a good gynecologist for pelvic examination. Referred here. — *OK. cleared 2/14/38*

4. Routine eye examination and dental work should be attended to. This was discussed with her.

5. If it were not for the points 1 - 4 above, I would want to know more about her nervously. She has some little mannerisms, shall I say, in connection with giving her history, which would make me raise a little question. But I think that the consensus of observation on her in China should be the determining factor on this point.

If the various check-ups mentioned are cleared soon, I should think she could go back in a month or two.

Sincerely,

E. M. Dodd

0939

Y.W.C.A., 135 E. 52nd St.,
New York City,
Feb. 15th, 1938.

Dear Miss Griest,-

You asked me to tell you what seemed to me the place where I should continue my music studies and the probable expense provided that the funds needed for such study could be found. Considering the generosity of the Ginling College Board in its provision for my study up to the present time and under such grave difficulties both here and in China it had not occurred to me that it would be right to ask for any further study allowance, and even now I am not at all sure that it is right to do so. However the efforts I have made to find a job thru ~~the~~ three friends who should know of possibilities if they exist so far have proved fruitless. And if one can forget, if it is right to do so, how many days and months that same money would feed a given number of refugees, then it ~~is~~ may be possible perhaps to say that another semester spent in music study would be of great value for my next term's work in Ginling if it is possible for the College to open next autumn on anything like a normal basis. Also, if that should be impossible, and if it should become necessary for me to seek a position here a full year of study seems to me to be essential after seven years away, ~~if~~ in order to make it possible for me to secure and hold the kind of a position that I ought to be able to hold. And if that is true for work here it is not less true for a return to China where the opportunities for keeping up with my profession are ~~is~~ likely to be more limited than before I left. But whatever you may decide to do I shall be most grateful for your consideration and will be able to understand perfectly any decision you may find necessary to make.

In the few days that I have been considering this and after talking with Mrs. Clarence Dickinson it would seem to me to be good to continue my study of harmony, counterpoint and composition by taking the course in composition in the School of Sacred Music in Union Theological Seminary, a one credit course, and one other course in singing or chorus methods. It might be wise to audit one or ~~more~~ two other courses but that at present does not seem to me to be essential. The cost of this program in tuition would be exactly \$25.00 I believe. Audited courses would not bring the total to more than fifty dollars. The use of a piano and occasional concerts should be added. I would be glad to do everything in my power to keep living expenses as low as possible. It seems logical also ~~that~~ since I got my Masters degree in this School of Sacred Music, to continue my study here where I am known and have so many friends.

Sincerely yours

Stella Marie Graves.
P. S. Tuition needs for work here or in Boston should not exceed sixty dollars. The use of a piano and living expenses are still uncertain.

0940

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
E. M. DODD, M. D.

February 18, 1938

Miss Rebecca W. Griest
Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Griest:

It would be just as well for Miss Graves to have a little more time in this country, as I see is going to be necessary from your word from ^{Franking}anking. I mentioned a month or two because she was pushing to get back, and I was thinking in terms of the minimum.

It will not be necessary for Miss Graves to see me again, as I think she has the further procedures in mind. In any case, I am writing her about the pelvic examination and will mention the other points.

I am enclosing a charge from Dr. Seymour for the pelvic examination.

For the general examination, I presume Dr. Vaughan's office, in which we collaborate, will be sending you a bill. As far as I am personally concerned, I would be glad enough to do these occasional examinations for you and other people. But we are jointly set up now among the various Boards to do this cooperatively and we have to charge in order to make our budget.

Very sincerely,



FMD:MM

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
February 17, 1938

My dear Dr. Dodds:

Thank you very much for the report which you sent to me for Miss Stella Graves. Since her examination, we have had a cable from China, saying that it is impossible to get back into Nanking, and asking her to finish her furlough here in America. This will give time for the final check-ups which your letter mentions. Should she see you again, or if she is not in New York, should she see some other physician before she sails in the summer?

I do not know the arrangements for charges for this service which you so kindly gave us. Whatever bill there is may be sent to me or to Mr. C. A. Evans, the treasurer of the Ginling College Board. His address is Room 903, 150 Fifth Avenue.

I sent to you my file copy of Miss Graves' papers, and I would appreciate it if they could be returned to me.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Dr. E. M. Dodd
Board of Foreign Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

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FEB 1938

Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

My dear Dr. Dodd:

Thank you for returning so promptly Miss Graves' papers, and for enclosing Dr. Seymour's bill for her. I have given this bill to Mr. Evans, the treasurer of the Ginling College Board, and he will attend to its payment.

I too am very content that Miss Graves is not to go back immediately. She seems to me quite tired, and to need probably, the rest and change which some months here should give her. A cable from Miss Vautrin from Nanking reached us on Saturday. This cable urges Miss Graves to complete her furlough.

I appreciate very much indeed your interest and your courtesy in this matter.

RWG: am

Sincerely yours,

Dr. E. M. Dodd
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
February 23, 1938

My dear Mrs. Scott:

Miss Hodge wrote me that she had written you about Miss Graves going to one of the furlough cottages in Ventnor for a rest. Miss Hodge asked me to open the letter when it arrived and to answer it.

I feel sure that the Mooring's cottage would be too large. The apartment in the Rosemont cottage, which you say will be free about the middle of April, seems more possible, but even that would be large for one person. I shall take this matter up with both Miss Hodge and Miss Graves and will let you know as soon as possible, what their wishes are and their opinion is. It hardly seems fair to me to ask even for the Rosemont cottage apartment for one person.

We appreciate very much your prompt answer to Miss Hodge's inquiry.

RWG:am

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. William Maxwell Scott
King of Prussia Road
Radnor, Pennsylvania

0944

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144 Hancock St., Auburndale, Mass.,
Feb. 25th, 1938.

Dear Miss Griest,-

You asked me to make out a statement of what I studied in Paris. At last here it is.

I attended two hour classes every week in counterpoint, ~~the~~ and in the analysis of Mozart String Quartets. Following the counterpoint class the class including myself went from the Ecole Normale de Musique to the home of Mlle. Nadia Boulanger where she conducted a chorus class in the study and singing of Bach cantatas, some music by Palestrina and other musicians down to modern writers like Stravinsky and Jean Francaix. Then I had one private lesson a week in her home. In this lesson she gave me valuable criticisms of compositions I had written while in China, and I did some work in harmonic analysis, a little writing of Bach chorales, and began a review of harmony. Before I went to Paris I had one month of private lessons with her in her summer home in Gargenville, the lessons began just at the end of August.

Of course I have done six years of theory work in Oberlin and two in New York but I am very glad for the way she has helped me to see that my chief need is a very thorough knowledge of these foundation subjects.

Sincerely yours,

Stella Marie Graves.

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2/26/38. ach --

[over]

Gloria fa decem
Told her about 144 Hancock St.,
Cumberland, Mass.,
Mrs. Yeh and
Scholarship Feb. 25th, 38.
at Princeton.

Dear "Aunt" Rebecca, -

At last it is settled for
here! I succeeded in talking with
Mlle. Boulanger over the phone,
and tho I know her time is
full to overflowing she answered
without a second's hesitation that
of course (!) she would find time, and
would let me know so she could
see me once before returning to
France for her three weeks off - one
week in Paris. she goes for the
annual mass for her dead sister!

I heard a concert given by her
at Wellesley on Wednesday night
at Miss Trudeley's invitation to
Mrs. Thurston and me. And
I am invited for tea at Mrs. Macmillan's
and dinner and ~~at~~ the big flea club
contest affair to-night in Boston,
also for the organphony to-morrow
night by Mrs. Marcy! I had a

FEB 25 1938

grand time visiting Wellesley classes yesterday. Radcliffe on Monday, and a concert next Thursday. The Deary Shepherds are here and of course many Japan folks and China whom I know. An invitation from Prof. Harlowe came to-day for March 9, 10, 11 - so Mount Holyoke and Smith are planned.

Here it is grand - only "10.00" a week - board, room and piano. Another five for lessons and a little for stamps and such - carfare; really life is thrilling, thanks to you and to the grace of our Lord. Surely He will make it possible for me to repay my enormous debt of gratitude to you and to all my friends who are making life so joyful - in some real way. I shall be doing my best to make these opportunities and hours of study count.

You asked for a statement of what I did in Paris - since it seems to be for the "records" so to speak, I'll do it on the typewriter. Much love to you,
Stella Marie.

0948

3/7/38. acls

MAR 8 9 AM

144 Hancock St.,
Auburn, Mass.,
March 3rd, 38,

[13]
over

Dear "Aunt" Rebecca, -

Yes, I am living at the "Home"
at the above address, so if you'll have my mail
forwarded to this house it will be fine.

I had my first lesson with Mlle. Boulanger
to-day, and will have a second next Monday, because
~~it~~ and before her return to France for three weeks
away from here. She came on the condition that
she might be gone at this time to attend a mass
on the anniversary of her sister's death.

Mrs. Macmillan gave me the "once-over" as to
what on clothes and told me a few things I ought
to add to my wardrobe before going to Smith.
She was wonderfully good to me and added to
her kindness a lovely gold evening dress (long
sleeved blouse, skirt variety with a touch of
brown velvet in a bow) which she insisted she
had been unable to wear and would not wear,
so I am feeling now much more nearly up-to-date.
I have a new hat, shoes, blouse, scarf, gloves,
and a few other things, - oh, and velvet to make
a skirt ^{short-length} for the gold blouse & so that I have, or will
have a tea gown as well for this grand
occasion, and my purchases have not
exceeded thirty dollars, if that. I bought "Japan
over Asia" also, so that I may be as intelligent as
is possible for me!! But inasmuch as she
insisted I should do this buying I feel sure you
would "second the motion".

The floods in Southern California trouble me
for the safety of my niece and a number of dear friends.

0949

MAR 3 1938

[27]

Do you have many friends there also? Or any relatives.
I am sending an air mail letter to them asking for
a speedy reply. I sent a long letter a week ago to them,
my first since reaching the U. S. A.

Thanks for forwarding the Ginkgo material, &
recognized your writing!

I am very happy to be studying with Ullé.
Boulanger again. I am sure this is exactly
right, whether for China - or here. I do thank
you with all my heart for your part in making
this possible, whatever that may be.

I go to Smith next Wednesday to Friday,
and will be the guest of Prof. and Mrs. Harlow.

May God give you - and all of us - good cheer in
all you do for Ginkgo and China these days
so whole-heartedly!

Please give my love to Edith and Kathleen and
Emily - when you see them.

Please don't think you should answer this note;
I understand perfectly when you do not write
and you ought not to try.
My love to you,
Stella Maria.

P.S. It looks as if I could earn a little money
here by teaching piano or the likes. Of course
I shall not do very much of that, but it would
be fun and quite possible to do a little
without hurting my own study. Clipperton
Mr. Shephard goes on the China Clipper to
China March 23rd, ^{arriving Hong Kong the 25th.} and would be willing I think
to take letters written on thin paper. He is taking
some for people here including myself - you could
send them to 14 Beacon St.

MAR 3 1938

I have just seen Mrs. Thurston, and she agreed with me that it would be wise to say that from the standpoint of study it would be better to arrive next September, but if for other reasons there she feels she should come now that also is possible - and from your letter I judge that she could begin her study now.

I am sorry this letter has been so held up, - just too many social engagements plus study, - am going to try to go a bit slower the next few weeks if possible.

Lovingly

Stella Marie

Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
March 9, 1938

My dear Stella:

Miss Hodge has written again to some of the Missionary Rest homes, one of which is not far from Northampton, and one of which is in Ventnor, New Jersey. Ventnor, as you probably know, is a suburb of Atlantic City.

We realize since this correspondence was started, that you have made quite different plans for your time, but I thought possibly that you might wish to consider resting in one or the other of these places, sometime before you start west. If this idea appeals to you, will you please let me know.

I am sending the information about the two places to you, so you can know the details concerning them. I shall be happy to have this material returned to me, and with it any reaction which you have to offer to the idea.

I hope that you are having a most happy time in Northampton and that you are enjoying the new hat and dress.

RWG:am

Affectionately yours,

Miss Stella Marie Graves
144 Hancock Street
Auburndale, Massachusetts

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144 Hancock St.,
Auburndale, Mass.,
March 17th, '38.

Dear Rebecca, -

I do thank you for your kind letters of March 7th and 9th. I thank you for your continued thought for my health. I feel sure I do not need to leave here to rest, - here I am free to do as little or as much as seems wise. If Dr. Wood or anyone should insist on my taking a complete rest before returning - this would be a grand place to do so; I can see no reason for incurring the expense of going elsewhere. Of course I have many friends here, - but if I neglect to go to see them they will doubtless return the complement! I have too much study to do to spend as much time as I'd like to getting reacquainted with Japan and China friends. However knowing they are here and that, as opportunity comes, I may see them is a real joy, and as all in all, I'd rather stay right here than go anywhere else until it is necessary to start once again westward. Then I shall want to return to N.Y.C. - for I would like to see you again.

And at last I am getting in touch with my cousin and, to my surprise and delight, with her mother! I am third,^a cousin whom I had completely lost track of,

MAR 17

1938

[2]

who have made the effort to find me, I had a letter which said ^{she} they had sent my ~~letter~~ address to Edith Austin and her mother. I did not dream that her mother - my Aunt Mary could be living. Her husband, who was my mother's brother, died several years ago, as I feared. Aunt Mary, the letter said, is totally blind, but her daughter is living with her and keeping house I judge for her. They are living in Washington, D.C., but the letter does not give her address, alas. However I think I'll write first and send a letter to Aunt Mary in care of this ^{friend} cousin who lives in Mount Vernon, N.Y. It is good to discover that I have a little more of a family than I thought - and if I can meet them - you see I'll want to go to Washington! that will be grand.

I had a very happy time at Smith. Prof. and Mrs. Harlow were very kind to me - before I left she insisted that I should call them "Ralph and Marian". That is a bit difficult when I have known them so long a time, but I appreciate their kindness. I had a glimpse of Mount Holyoke College - a very good time there - meeting two people from Union Seminary - one from my School of Sacred Music. Mrs. Harlow entertained Li Hwan-yuen and Hsu Ya-fen at lunch one day for me, and for breakfast ^{the} last Friday she entertained Mrs. Macmillan and her lovely mother.

I return the information you sent me - of Ventura and Mountain Rest. I do thank you for all your that for me.

Gratefully and lovingly
Stella Marie.

0954

144 Hancock St., Auburndale, Mass.,
March 22nd, '38.

Dear Rebecca,-

There are so many things that I want to talk with you about, and I think I'd like a copy of this letter, so please forgive my answering your kind letter all in long hand in this fashion. First I do want to thank you for your letter and for the way in which you have been thinking into my problems. Yes, I enjoyed the production of Gluck's "Alceste" very much. The chorus work was very good, with excellent attacks, releases, and real verve in the tempo and rhythms. They knew the music and sang it with real freedom as a result. The costumes and scenery were lovely and effective too. "What study is needed for excellent x chorus leading?" One could write a thesis on that. Your analysis is excellent. A person can be taught much about the technic of that art. I have studied conducting both in Oberlin and in New York, and I love to do conducting. Memory is necessary, for rhythms and tempi as well as notes; feeling of course enters in, good taste, a correct feeling for the balance of slight increases in tempo and decreases in speed; a sure sense of climax but without exaggeration; a feeling for what can be accomplished using all that singers can give but yet with perfect understanding of the limitations of the group vocally; and a plan carried out progressively each rehearsal so that their ability to give vocally and accurately, with increasing musicianship ~~these are a few of the things~~ and love and understanding grows steadily; these are a few of the things a conductor must think of, as well as getting programs ready by the date promised. Then there is the ~~problem~~ problem of the music itself. Its selection and the making of programs that will please and educate the audience as well, and that is another side to my job. It takes all the qualities you suggest, much can be taught, and much learned, but there must also be some degree of native talent, and a background of knowing music and hearing it, and of course, real intelligence. To a certain extent it is possible to imitate, but that always lacks vitality, and one must be able to interpret music which one has not ~~been~~ studied. Have I passed your little test?! No, I know you are interested both in the answer and in my answer! My typing is abominable to-night. I know that is not passing any x test. I only hope you'll be able to understand what I am trying to say. And I hope you will not be too critical of my English! I know I should have to re-write if this were for publication. Someday I should like to have you see my Min River Boat Songs, and the anthem which Dr. Clarence Dickinson got published for me by H.W.Gray, and which was sung fully four years in succession by the Brick Church Choir and at Union. And there's a dance drama, too!

But now for my own problem in relation to all this that I know I need to be able to do to the best of my ability! I am doing all I can to increase my own musicianship, and I think I have determined to do all I can to learn ideas on the vocal training side of chorus work, but probably without any voice work myself. Voice was x my major study in Oberlin. I gave a senior program in voice. But singing has always been second in my interests, or not even second perhaps. My major interest has been in theory and composition. And I have always liked teaching very much; but I have been too much a jack of all trades and master of none; so that this furlo I have wanted to specialize in the thing I love the best ~~public~~ public school music ~~or~~ teaching methods. I am greatly interested in Church music also, and used to study and play the pipe organ a little but that, except for trying to discover all the usable choir music that seems absolutely first class, I have shoved into the background of my thinking. But as I look forward perhaps to work in Nanking in Minnie's ~~school~~ school for widows, or indeed to Shanghai or Chengtu where in the next year or more I may have to do all of the work with voices that is done, I realize that I ~~may~~ do need all the information I can get on

MAR 22 1938

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vocal methods. Also it has been clear to me that I must restore and advance my own pianistic abilities so far as possible, ~~and that is why~~ for purely practical reasons. I am very glad for the new light on piano technic that my tiny month of study in Paris gave me; it is speeding up my own regaining of speed and skill tremendously. But you see this all again emphasizes the jack of all trades approach. I am spending an hour, or two if possible, on piano every day. I had a profitable hour of discussion of harmony and then two hours, I think, on singing with one of the Felt boys, a senior from the Westminster Choir School, just yesterday. I have met Miss Sleeper and shall get an introduction to Dr. Greene, and I shall talk this over with Mlle. Boulanger also as soon as she returns. *Yes she is in France now.*

Something of that should be possible as I go west to observe music ~~te~~ teaching in schools there. And that brings me to my next big problem; when to start west, that is, how much time I should allow for observation of school music in California. A letter from Professor Gehrrens of Oberlin ~~x~~ confirms Mr. Heacox's advice saying that the best work in public school music is being done in the far West, Southern California. So if I am to see work there I should leave Auburndale not later than May 4th I think now. I would like to put that date ~~as far forward~~ as possible, but in order to see people on the way and get there in time to see music teaching before their exam periods begin, that seems necessary. On the ~~other~~ other hand, if it should become impossible for me to return to China next fall then being that far west would be a distinct disadvantage probably. Should I continue to make all my plans toward returning? I do so hope that the Board will feel it right, and that the people in China also will think it wise, if it is, so that I may return to do any kind of work that may open up, in Shanghai at first, if ~~x~~ it is impossible to go farther, or anywhere our College is carrying on work even if it is chiefly work for refugees. On the other hand unless someone or some organization can succeed in pushing the Red Cross into a real drive for ~~the~~ relief funds, I shall feel positively ashamed to go back. Is there nothing that can be done? All that suffering over there without us doing all we can for relief, if it is impossible for us to do anything to help to stop the war in some more active way; hurts so, I'd give a lot to find some way to help make an appeal! While I have not yet heard from my Aunt Mary Austin, I do have her address now and an invitation from my mother's cousin's family who live in Mt. Vernon, N.Y. to come to see them when I stop in New York.

For the trip itself I chiefly don't know how to combine going to see Esther Rhodes and also I hope for a chance to see my Aunt and Cousin in Washington. If I were to go to Washington that would give me a chance to stop in Philadelphia if it should become advisable to see if I can do anything to speed up the acceptance and publication of my ~~Min~~ River Boat Songs ~~which~~ which are in the hands of Presser at present. Then I want to stop to see friends in Ann Arbor, ^{Royal Oak} Jackson, Hillsdale, Charlotte, Oak Park, (I forgot to mention Oberlin and Lakewood) and Catharine Sutherland's parents in St. Louis, after that no stops until I reach California. But just counting one day to a place, except two days in New York, Washington, and Charlotte, Mich., the total in days mounts up to sixteen days! That includes a day to try to see Esther Rhodes, and no estimate for travelling time included. Have you any suggestion you would like to make? Should this be paired down? (I do thank you for telling me of Esther Rhodes' loss of her father. I wrote to her at once.) I would so much like to meet her. The Ohio, Michigan part of the trip is simple, tho it does involve time; I don't see that there is any problem there, my only question to you is not how to arrange to go to these places, but whether you think I should try to see Esther Rhodes or not, how important that may seem to you; perhaps that means how probable you think her going and mine is!--to China, I mean.

*I am sorry for this wretched typing: Lovingly
Stella Marie Graves*

*MR. I trust I am not going
too fast or far in advising in
this way. Just let me know,
of Dan.*

March 22, 1938

Ed Dodd.

Miss Stella M. Graves
144 Hancock Street
Auburndale, Massachusetts

My dear Miss Graves:

I was glad to get your letter a few days ago and to be brought up to date on your medical procedures.

For dentist and an oculist, I believe that the best plan would be to consult Dr. Ward of the American Board, as you have in mind, and to see whom he would advise. As a matter of fact, he lives out in Newton somewhere, and might have someone to suggest locally as well as in Boston.

In the same connection, you might ask him how to have your hemoglobin and blood count checked up again, to see how that is getting along. It will be better to do that after you have been able to carry on regularly with the Bland pills for at least two or three weeks so as to have the full benefit of a start at least on that.

If you are being pushed pretty hard on speaking and other engagements, I think I would try to slow up and get more rest.

If you do not get relief with the prescription which you are going to try, won't you let me know. It might be advisable to have you check up with a good gastroenterologist with x-ray, etc.

I am sending a copy of this to the Ginling Office so that they can keep in touch with what we are doing. With all best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

EMD:ES

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
March 25, 1938

Dear Dr. Dodds:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your letter to Miss Graves. We are very glad to have you give her any advice that you feel she should have. I have written her that you have sent me a copy of your letter, and that I hoped that she would carry out your medical suggestions, and that she would give heed to your suggestion for rest.

The Ginling Board assumes responsibility for the medical expenses which are advised by you, but not as I understand it, for the dental and oculist expenses.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Dr. E. M. Dodd
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
March 25, 1938

Dear Stella:

Yesterday's mail brought me your good long letter, and a copy of Dr. Dodd's letter to you. I do not know exactly what is back of Dr. Dodd's letter, but I hope that you will follow all his advice, including his matter of rest. Any further medical check-ups that he advises, the Ginling Board will be responsible for, but I am not certain however that they are responsible for dentist and oculist bills. I will have to find out about that.

I do not think it is really necessary for you to see Esther Rhodes, but if you are passing through Albany, it might be possible for her to meet you there. She has a car, and it might be that on a weekend she might be able to drive over to Auburndale to see you. You might suggest that to her. She is a frightfully busy person, and between her work and her home problems I imagine she has no extra energy or time in these recent months. She might really enjoy the change of getting away for a few days.

Thank you for all the trouble you took to answer my letter. The most essential thing is for you to get rest enough, and mental stimulation enough so that you will have new ideas, or reinforced ideas when you return to China. Your schedule however, is something you will have to work out in the way which seems best to you. I should hope that you would get as much from Mlle Boulanger, as it is possible to get before you start west.

I should like you to secure for me, if you can, an estimate of the Westminster Choir School. I, of course, know what Kathleen feels about it, and I personally know with what respect it is held in my section of Pennsylvania, for we have two of their men in Lancaster. Lancaster, with its German inheritance of good music, is not as poor a criterion as some of the other Pennsylvania towns would be. I should like to have some first class opinion that is outside of Kathleen's and local opinion.

Catharine writes, assuming that you will be returning this summer, and with the hope that Esther Rhodes will be coming out with you. She says, however, that she does not have Dr. Wu's opinion.

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I have written to Dr. Wu by China Clipper this week, asking her to let us know, if she can, what her opinion is on all of the staff who are here on furlough, or under appointment in this country. It is difficult, I know, for her to come to a decision under the conditions in China, but it will be well for us to have something on her part, if we can, by the time of our Annual meeting.

That reminds me, that in relation to your schedule, you may be interested to take into consideration the fact that the Associated Boards Annual meetings fall on the 2nd and 3rd of May in New York, and the Ginling College Annual meeting on May 5th. I assume that you will be invited to attend both of these meetings. It may not seem of value to you to do so, in the light of your other plans, but I thought that you ought to know that there is the probability that you will have these invitations.

RWB:am

Affectionately yours,

Miss Stella M. Graves
144 Hancock Street
Auburndale, Massachusetts

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144 Hancock St.,
 Auburndale, Mass.,
 March 27th, '38.

Dear Rebecca, -

Thank you for your good letter. It came to me this morning to ask you to send a copy of Minnie Vautrin's letter diary and perhaps Lin En. Lan's travel story-letter to Rev. Leslie Weatherhead. I quote from his secretary's letter of Jan. 27th: "Mr. Weatherhead has asked me to thank you very sincerely for your letter of the twenty-fourth instant, and to say that we will most certainly remember Miss Vautrin and her helpers in prayer at the City Temple." I will enclose one of my cards so that you may put it into the letter to him. His address is the City Temple, London, E.C. 4.

How wonderful for me that the Board meetings are at the time I was planning to be in N.Y.C.! I would surely like to attend the N.C. Board meeting at least.

I will try to find out about the Westminster Choir School and I can.

I shall write to Esther Rhodes again in the near future and hope either that she can come here or I go via Albany.

As for what I wrote to Dr. Dodd, it was merely that I have been having a

MAR 27 1938

recurrence of a small difficulty, but Dr. Whitting who lives there in the house agreed with me that what I needed was a bit of a vacation with much sleep and that I took the last two days, and thanks to her I am learning to relax anore and for a while will try resting before lunch and dinner for half an hour and since I ~~do~~ feel better already, I believe this may be a real and permanent solution of this difficulty. I am even learning to relax in my prayers! - not stop praying, or no, but really believe God wants to give me and all of us what we ask for more than we want to receive. I believe I shall hear His voice more clearly as I learn to listen very quietly. Han-bu-han?!

I was so pleased at one sentence from my third cousin's letter - here it is, speaking of my hope of returning to Hanking - "If ever the Chinese need evidence of our friendship and of the meaning of Christianity, it is now. I am glad that you can go." - I did not say I could - only I hoped to go, - might this not be an argument for sending even some new people out if the funds are available even if they cannot do what they would ordinarily expect to do, but have to engage in refugee work or something akin to that? - some new people like Esther Rhodes? By the way wouldn't Ruth and Minnie be ones to consult on 7 who should be returned almost as much as Dr. War?! I forgive me please for this suggestion, only they are nearer to the places where we might reasonably be expected

MAR 27 1938

to work. Of course Agochuan is not
 impossible I suppose. Personally I
 wonder very much how Catharine and
 Dr. Reeves, let alone Dr. Wu, can
 get back to Shanghai or Hongkong
 except by flying. thru India?

Lovingly yours,

Stella Maris Graves.

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
March 29, 1938

Dear Stella:

I am enclosing for you a copy of my letter to Mr. Weatherhead. I am very glad to send this material to him, and I am certainly grateful for their interest in the college.

I am glad that you are finding time for rest and sleep. That was one reason for the suggestions about the vacation places. It doesn't matter so much where you do it, as long as you do it.

The scattered units of Ginling and the varied conditions under which they have to live, make it extremely difficult for one person to make an intelligent decision about staff. At least this is my humble opinion. From this end I quite agree with you, that the return of useful members of the foreign staff, or of members who can adjust themselves to the refugee problems, seems most advisable. We shall, however, in the way we are organized, have to wait for field decisions. In the case of your return this spring, we of course have a decision, both from Nanking and from Chengtu.

The recent letter which has gone to China about staff for next year, has gone both to Chengtu and to Shanghai. Miss Tyler has also written officially as the secretary of the Board. I have not as yet, however, seen her letter, so I do not really know how inclusive it was. I think we will have to let this situation rest somewhat in the hands of providence. So far, certainly, Ginling has been well guided and well cared for, in the midst of great difficulties which are China's today.

RWG:am

Affectionately yours,

Miss Stella M. Graves;
144 Hancock Street
Auburndale, Massachusetts

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Room 903
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York
March 29, 1938

My dear Mr. Weatherhead:

Miss Stella Marie Graves has asked me to send to you a few letters from Nanking, and a few other letters, all written by members of the staff of Ginling College. Among them you will find letters from Miss Vautrin, who has been in charge of the very large number of refugees, which the Ginling campus has sheltered since the fall of Nanking; one letter from the president of the college, Miss Yi-fang Wu; and one letter from Miss Liu, an alumna and now chairman of the Department of Geography. These letters we are mailing to you under separate cover.

Miss Graves told me of her request for prayer for Ginling, which she asked when she was in London late in January. She is very appreciative that this request has been granted, as your secretary wrote to her on January 27th, and for the assurance that those at City Temple would be remembering Miss Vautrin and her tremendous problem in their prayers.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Leslie Weatherhead
The City Temple
London, E.C.4, England

Rebecca W. Grist
Ginling College Board of Founders

CC: Miss Stella Marie Graves
144 Hancock Street
Auburndale, Massachusetts

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C O P Y

April 6, 1938

Dear Dr. Dodd:

In answer to your letter I just want to say that I have not been speaking anywhere and have been doing only a very moderate program of study, in fact about half what I feel I ought to be able to do. I have only pills enough for today and tomorrow; but by Dr. Shepherd's advice (Mrs. George Shepherd from China) who is here in the house, I have temporarily given up sleeping on our sleeping porch because I do not have enough energy to warm up the bed. The other night I ached in every muscle - all night - and thought I must be getting rheumatism or arthritis. But the aches passed away in the day and last night I slept inside and had no trouble. And when I am out a little late, to eleven o'clock say, I am far too tired the next day. Have you any suggestions, for I do want to get a little more "pep"? As soon as I finish the Blaud's pills I will have the blood test you asked for.

Have you received the receipted bill and report from Dr. Chandler through Dr. Ward for my eye examination? That was very pleasant to discover no charge is needed in glasses now.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Stella Marie Graves.

P.S. The indigestion continues the same, not bad at all but not as good as might be desired. Personally I find that when I have rested a good deal, say an hour in the morning and another hour in the afternoon and had eight hours of sleep at night, I have little or no gas or other trouble. But that program isn't conducive to getting much study done.

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
E. M. DODD, M. D.

April 12, 1938

Miss Rebecca W. Griest
Room 903-150 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Griest:

May I send you a copy of my last letter from Miss Graves and also my reply to her which you can either send on or refer back to me with suggestions. I don't know just how far to go when it comes to special examinations like this, which may cost as much as \$25. or \$35..

I think I will have to revise my impression of her condition. She seemed to be better when I saw her than she does now. So I think it is fortunate that she isn't planning to leave for the field immediately. And if she were one of our people, we would, of course, want to have a definite medical clearance on her before she does go. In other words, my previous report is superseded.

Please be free to do anything with this that you wish.

Very sincerely,

E. M. Dodd

EMD:MM

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April 12, 1938

Miss Stella M. Graves
c/o Miss R. W. Greist
Room 903 - 150 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Graves:

I am sorry to hear that you are not progressing as fast as might be both as to your general vigor and as to your digestive condition.

It rather seems to me that this latter condition had better be checked up further since it has recurred and is resisting. When you were here it seemed to be clearing up, so we tabled any further special attention to it. Now it would seem to me worthwhile to see a good gastro-intestinal man and see what he would advise in the way of x-ray or other laboratory investigations.

For advice on whom to see, you could consult Dr. Mark Ward, unless you have some other approach.

I will send this through the Ginling office so that they can make any comment or suggestion in passing it on or in referring it back to me.

You really should have more margin of strength than you seem to have. And we should at least take up the digestive angle and see what that leads to.

Very sincerely,

EMD:MM
P.S.

Your letter of the 10th has just come in and I will add this further word to another letter which I dictated yesterday.

Dr. Ufford has also written me confirming the negative x-ray findings of the teeth which I was glad to see.

I will be glad to see Dr. Godfrey's blood examination report.

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Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
April 13, 1938.

My dear Dr. Dodd:

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness and courtesy in sending me copies of Miss Graves' letter to you of April 6th, and your reply to her on April 12th. I have consulted this morning with Miss Tyler, the secretary of the Ginling Board, and with Mr. Evans, the treasurer. Our rules for medical treatment apparently are not ironclad. It is Mr. Evans' opinion that any X-ray examinations which you consider necessary for Miss Graves, would be a legitimate charge against the Ginling Board.

I am sorry that Miss Graves is not feeling better. You know, I suppose, that she did observe, as a deeply convinced member of the Oxford group, the early morning meditation period. I gather from a letter from one of our staff that in China this began for Miss Graves at five o'clock and extended to seven. I feel quite sure that Miss Graves has received a great deal of help and balance from this movement, but it is always a problem adjusting one's physical limitations to the routine of any religious observation. She may not, of course, be following these hours in Auburndale. It seems very important that she get just as much sleep and rest as possible.

I have wondered also, with a special grant made to her for study, she may be worrying for fear she is not doing enough studying, and that this in turn may aggravate her physical condition. I shall write to her, and also to Mrs. Thurston, who lives next door, assuring her that Ginling, that is the Ginling Board, feel that her most important duty is to make a good physical adjustment while she is at home.

There is no plan at present for her to return to the field before summer, but she is planning to leave Auburndale early in May and begin a series of visits, which will take her across the country and into the home of a step-niece in California. The husband of this niece is a mental problem and lives in the home. I feel concerned as to whether this plan for visits and living for a month or more with her niece, is wise under the present conditions. We should be happy if you would give her your most frank advice. We are sorry that this case is giving you so much correspondence.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Dr. E. M. Dodd,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

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Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
April 13, 1938.

My dear Stella:

Dr. Dodd has written me this morning of his advice to you to have a gastro-intestinal examination. He was uncertain as to whether the Ginling Board bear the expense of this type of examination. I have discussed it this morning with Miss Tyler, and with Mr. Evans, and Mr. Evans without any hesitancy says that it is an expense which the Board should bear. Miss Tyler believed that we should talk it over with Mrs. Thurston. In the light of Mr. Evans' reaction, and more especially from Dr. Dodd's suggestion, it seems to me that you should go ahead and have it done.

I am writing quite frankly as usual. I feel possibly that you are worrying because you are not able to do as much study as you feel you should, and because you feel a special obligation to the Board and to Ginling to do as much as you can this spring. I want to assure you that our feeling is here, that your physical condition is of first importance, and that you should do everything that you are advised to do in order to get this digestion into good working order. So do not worry if you cannot make use of all the opportunities offered to you. You have had a very rich year.

I am wondering also whether it would be possible for you to plan your period of meditation at some time other than the early morning hours. I have had a number of experiences with fatigue and digestive upheavals, and I find that not only the getting of eight hours of sleep, but the sleeping through the early morning hours, without the sense of a program, even a devotional program, at the moment of awaking, has helped.

Also I am wondering if you have had a good heart examination. The circulation problem in not being able to get warm at night, may also be at the root of the digestive problem. Will you take that up with the doctor with whom you are conferring?

If you are not better, is it wise for you to start west on an intensive series of visits, for pleasant as they are, they are also tiring?

RWC:am
Stella Graves, Miss
144 Hancock Street, Auburndale, Mass.

Sincerely yours,

0972

144 Hancock St.,
Auburndale, Mass.,
April 19th, 1935.

Dear Rebecca, -

Last week I started a note, hoping to get it to you in time for Easter. Then suddenly, when it was too late I realized you probably would be at your own home over Easter. And so all I can do now is to tell you that I did think of you often during Holy Week and I hope you had enough leisure to get some real rest and refreshing. How much Holy Week and Easter do mean in these difficult days! You know - I wonder if with the mounting costs of war in every way - if it may not be that our human race will realize more rapidly than we now can possibly anticipate the utter folly and stupidity of war!

I do thank you for your good letter and its advice. You are a real mind-reader! However I have good news for both you and Dr. Dodd. - I have not yet seen the doctor to whom Dr. Ward is sending me because he is out of town; but I am feeling distinctly better. I know you would say I look better - I've gained seven pounds. Eight to nine even ten hours of sleep occasionally out of the twenty-four does help! And truly I have been loafing most of the time - ^{two} not really working hard at all for the last months. Just now Mlle. Boulanger is here and I am working more as in Paris; however not as many hours as you put in by any means. I am doing my best to be good and obey the doctor!

APR 19 1938

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I do want to thank you with all my heart for all the thought and consideration you have given to my health problem. I believe it will soon vanish into thin air. However I shall see Dr. Hall on Saturday and shall obey instructions fully. About starting west and all that question!

Any thought here will depend of course on the doctor and also on what word you may have from China. If it should be favorable I would want very much, ^{if possible} to get to California. To be able to see public school music teaching there - as well as my friends along the way. If the doctor should ~~be~~ consider that unwise, I could spend the time here in observation - only in a way I'd love to have a quiet - non-travelling summer before starting back; I've been banking on those summer months in California for doing nothing but vegetate, so to speak.

On the other hand, if it is impossible for me to return as we had all hoped ~~now~~ in the fall or looks impossible - and it surely does not look very hopeful now from the newspaper accounts, my plan is to try to get some kind of a job by the first of June at the latest, - I have an idea or two - not music temporarily - just earn enough to release the Board from my salary until I can get a better music job in the fall. And in this case, also, I would feel that I probably ought not to "squander my living on a riotous"

0974

APR 19 1938

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31 trips to New York even to attend a Hinkley College Board meeting! - I remember very happily my first summer after going to Hinkley which I spent with two friends in Japan. We rented a cottage by Lake Uojiri and did all our house-work. I thought I was very tired, - I was ^{tired} at the beginning of the summer, - in every way. But with no special time for rest, - one of our trio sprained an ankle right off - in no time just the regular sleep and exercise - house work - walking, rowing and swimming - I was feeling fine, all my fatigue vanished. So I'm wishing soon now to be working chiefly with my hands.

I am sorry this letter is so full of my affairs. However my thoughts are full of gratitude for all your kindness, all you are and do for so many people, - and a prayer that you may be given the strength and wisdom you need to carry your share of the heavy load these days are bringing to you. And may you find that our Lord is making even this burden light!

With much love,

Stella Marie Graves.

P.S. Have just asked Mr. Robinson about possibility of a job here ^{in this home} during the summer months can have it practically certain \$40.00 a month at least plus room, board and laundry for three months. Only he would like to know surely if I want it within one week!

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APR 19 1938

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One person goes on her holiday in a week or ten days, then another person the following month, they go ^{Robinsons} in July. What shall I tell him. Here is a job, just what I'd like - can surely find some leisure for practice, and time for out-of-doors, and would not need to move. And perhaps if I can find no music job I could stay here ^{next year.} But in the meantime I can start writing for a music job by letter. He said he would be very happy if I could take the job. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson are the managers of the Home. What do you think about this?

0976

144 Hancock St.,
Auburndale, Mass.,
April 21st, 1938.

Dear Rebecca,-

This is a postscript to yesterday's letter! I think I have not told you that thru meeting a friend, ^{here whom} I used to know and see often when I lived in New York on my previous furlough I decided to take some voice lessons with her teacher. She has been studying voice for a number of years and feels she had found the right teacher at last. The expense is not great only twenty-five dollars a month for two lessons a week. I decided to try a lesson or two; yesterday I had my third lesson, and now I am very glad I started this experiment. For while I have studied voice six years and spent much money in this way I have been forced to realize the last few years in China that the methods I had learned did not work for myself and so of course were not much help to anyone else. I was so really discouraged that I had given up trying to sing and realized also that my handling of a chorus or singing classed was hampered in that way.

But now, I also think I have found

the right teacher and right method, one that is producing amazing results in my own voice rapidly. It is a very simple method, agrees with work I had heard of being done by one of the best New York teachers, and already I feel I know how to apply it. I am learning to sing with a relaxation I never had dreamed of before and can sing softly and with good tone (the test) where I never was able to sing before. I am quite thrilled with it all. And this I believe is my greatest need professionally. As for teaching and the mechanics - or psychology of teaching, that never has been difficult for me, - but this is different.

Now my thought has been growing. It seems to me that it would be a fine plan for me definitely to decide to stay here for the next two months, taking the job I suggested in ~~and~~ my last letter. I could easily arrange my practice and lesson time I feel sure! Two months of lessons would work a miracle for my voice I feel sure, and for my skill with choruses and singing classes. The physical labor would complete my nervous come-back; and I have plenty of friends here as you know. It might

APR 21 1938

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be well to plan to stay thru July, three months of work in this house. And now I am suggesting this even if I should return to China! That would relieve the Board of three months of my salary, enough money to repay the full amount of the gift of the very kind mysterious donor. And on the salary I would get here I could pay for my lessons without further ^{financial} aid. If I should return to China and stay here thru July I would need to ask to have my present sailing date postponed to September first. That would give me one month to spend with friends crossing the country and in California.

Please tell me just what you think of this plan. It looks fine to me!

Lovingly,

Stella Marie.

P.S. Also there are some young people here whom I believe I could help a bit in their personal problems!

0979

OVER

Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
April 22, 1938.

My dear Stella:

Your letter of the 19th reached me yesterday and of the 21st today. I talked with Miss Tyler and Mr. Evans about the first letter, and with Mr. Evans about the second. I sent by Clipper mail early in March, a request to Dr. Wu to let us know by the time of the annual meeting her judgement on all staff here in this country. We know of course, that a judgement given at this time cannot be final, but it would help you and Mrs. Thurston, Esther Rhodes and Ye-lan, as well as Louise, to know what she is thinking. She has written, as you know, to Helen, telling her not to come back next year, but so far as I know ~~no~~ else has had any direct information.

It was the joint judgement of Miss Tyler, Mr. Evans and me yesterday, that if you felt happy about the arrangements for work at the missionary home in Auburndale, that you should accept it with the understanding that you would not hold yourself bound after the first of September. Our thought was that conditions would probably be pretty uncertain in China, and that schools which could open might not open any more promptly than they did last fall, and that if you wished to accept a position throughout the summer, it would be possible for you to make your visits in September and sail about October 1st, if the College wants you this fall. Under normal conditions this would mean that you would be late, which is a principle which I have steadfastly avoided in sending out our staff, but under these conditions it would seem reasonable, and possibly not too upsetting to the field to have you arrive about mid-October.

Your letter this morning, suggesting that you take the position through July is certainly a very simple solution, and a better one than our tentative plan of yesterday. Of course, you realize that we are "going blind" in making any plan until we hear from Dr. Wu. I shall let you know the first moment that we get any word which involves you, but I should think there could be no question as to the idea of you taking the position up to the first of August, provided you wish to do so.

There are definite advantages in that you will be able to test yourself out as to your strength in the environment which has begun to know you, and with a medical oversight which is approved by Dr. Dodd.

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Mr. Evans and I were very much interested in what you wrote us about your vocal work. I hope that it will continue to give you all the satisfaction and help which you are finding now in it.

When you finally decide, you can take up any financial arrangements which you wish with Mr. Evans. I do not handle those. I suppose this means that you probably will not be here for the annual meeting, which will be a personal disappointment to me, but I may have an opportunity to see you later in the summer.

Your letter this morning refers to a postponement of your present sailing date. Does this mean that you have a definite reservation and if so on what boat? Did you make this reservation yourself or was it made through this office? This will be a matter for Mr. Evans records. He will be glad also to render any assistance which he can in making reservations for you.

I am going up to Northampton on Tuesday the 26th, and will meet students that evening informally, and will speak to the student body in assembly on the morning of the 27th. Miss Li and I are to present Ginning. I hope that you will pray for my good sense in preparation for this, and for a gift beyond my native ones in presenting it.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Miss Stella Marie Graves,
144 Hancock Street,
Auburndale, Massachusetts.

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**AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS**

INCORPORATED 1812

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April 24, 1937

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MARK H. WARD, M. D.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HERBERT E. B. CASE

CONFIDENTIAL

Miss Florence G. Tyler,
Secretary for Ginling College,
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Tyler:

I am very glad to hear from you that Stella Graves has "made good" in Ginling College, as she seemed to be doing when I visited there in 1935, and there is nothing in her American Board record that seems to me to raise any question about the desirability of her full appointment. However, that you may have the record to judge for yourself, I am writing it here.

Miss Graves was appointed to the faculty of Kobe College, Kobe, Japan, by our Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior in 1922, and remained there five years. Owing to some sort of misunderstanding between the Board and the College, she was appointed by the Board to be "head of the Music Department", whereas the College had already had a capable and able Japanese woman who had carried main responsibility though she may not have had the title. It was an embarrassing situation, and as a consequence of the misunderstanding, Miss Graves "got off on the wrong foot", and a situation developed which ultimately made it seem wise in the interests of complete harmony for her not to continue in the department. For a year, the rest of her term, she more or less marked time in another station taking part in its general program, and trying to see her future more clearly.

One of the Japanese pastors was interested in having her act as choir director for several of the larger churches in the Kobe-Osaka-Kyoto region, and the Mission explored that possibility, but finally invited her back for the general evangelistic work in the station where she had been. Her main interest and ability lay in music, and during her furlough, she got her M.A. in sacred music at Union Seminary, taking a second year of furlough in order to do it and also in the hope that work in music would open up in Japan. As it did not, she accepted the suggestion of the American Board that she go to Foochow for a three-year term as Music Teacher at the Wenshan Girls School.

At Foochow, although quite handicapped in the beginning with language difficulties, she made a satisfactory contribution in her teaching work. There was a feeling that she had a "crush" on the Chinese principal, and the Foochow missionary community had had a

0982

Miss Tyler-2

APR 24 1937

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rather bad overdose of that sort of thing in another mission, so that they were perhaps over-sensitive on the subject. Her Japan record was entirely clear on such matters and I judge that her record at St. Mary's and Ginling has been similarly clear. However, by the end of her three-year term in 1933, when we were already in the process of major reductions and the Foochow synod did not seem disposed to invite her to continue for another term, she was included among those whose withdrawal from the missionary force was suggested. Fortunately, the Shanghai position opened up and then your Ginling position, in which so far as I can judge she has been happy and very useful. There is no unfavorable official action on the records except for her inclusion in an altogether too long list of withdrawees under reduction conditions. It seems to me that you are perfectly justified in going on the basis of her record at Ginling and giving her permanent appointment. I am quite sure that there would be no unfavorable criticism at Foochow, but only rejoicing that in another environment she had made unqualifiedly good.

The American Board did not pay her a sum equivalent to her travel expense back to America, but as in other cases assured her "that if other service opens to her in China, the Board will if necessary pay her travelling expenses to America at a later date". I find that Mrs. Lee in interpreting the vote wrote:

"Our thought is that the obligation of the American Board to provide traveling expenses will depend upon the type of work you may secure and the terms of the contract made. If, for instance, you should work under another mission board for a period of three years, the natural thing would be for that Board to bear the cost of your homeward journey in consideration of the fact that the American Board had paid your way out and your length of service was the same in each case..... the vote reads that the American Board will pay return travel later 'if necessary', and we do not wish this to stand in the way of your securing work."

We hope, therefore, that Ginling College will find it possible, in consideration of her three years of satisfactory service, to meet the expense of her return to this country.

Hoping that everything may go smoothly and that Stella's real abilities can continue to be used in constructive Christian service,

Sincerely yours,

Wynn C. Fairfield
Wynn C. Fairfield

My stenographer is laid up with a cold and I decided to write this with mine own hand and pen system, which accounts for its unprofessional appearance.

0983

C O P Y

372 Marlborough Street
Boston, Massachusetts
April 25, 1938

Dr. Mark H. Ward
14 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Ward:

This is a preliminary report on Miss Stella M. Graves. I took a very careful history, but did not get time to look her over physically. I got the story of an intestinal disturbance, better the last week or so, and due I think to chronic catharsis. It is interesting that she has been better this last week or so, and due I think to chronic catharsis. It is interesting that she has been better this last week when she stopped it of her own accord. I don't believe it is an emotional thing as she seems to be much better off emotionally than she was some years ago. This has been due apparently to the help of the Oxford Group.

There did not seem to me any indication that the indigestion was of a character associated with a duodenal ulcer. She has put on rather than lost weight. Therefore there seemed to me to be no reason for urging immediate gastrointestinal studies unless you wish them. I thought we could tell in about a week or ten days whether she needs further study by seeing what the effect of omitting bowel irritants may be. It is interesting that some of the gastrointestinal symptoms that were studied in Paris led the doctor to prescribing roughage and also avoidance of certain foods. The chronic hives which she had had at that time disappeared with omission of eggs, fish, chocolate, etc.

She thinks she tires more easily than she should, but I am not even certain of this. She gets up quite early in the morning, at quarter of six, and gets to bed at ten or later. I feel therefore that until she has made sure that she doesn't need more sleep - by taking more sleep - this question cannot be settled.

The diet is fair but might be improved. My suggestions at the moment were that she add at least two more hours in bed in twenty-four, and take more of the vitamin tablets which she was already taking; more milk, etc.; that she also avoid cathartics, and report in ten days or two weeks, at which time I can look her over more carefully.

While she is forty-three, I don't feel as yet like urging any glandular medication. As far as thyroid deficiency is concerned, the metabolism is practically normal, - 7, and she has no stigmata of thyroid deficiency. While she is going through the menopause, and going as long as six months without menstruation, she is having none of the menopause symptoms at all. I have seen an occasional person with less energy at this time relieved by progynon, but generally if progynon is of value, it is of value in those patients who have flashes and sweats. Inasmuch as there are such exceptions, my suggestion would be that if she is not strikingly better in two weeks, I will give her a

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APR 25 1938 [27]

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therapeutic test of progynon in order to see if she is better for it.

Cordially yours,

S/ Francis C. Hall

April 26, 1938

Miss Graves came in today to complete the physical examination. I found nothing important. She pronates her feet a little bit, but that is all. She has been getting twelve hours in bed for the last few days, and feels let down from it, and this makes me wonder whether she hasn't really been doing more than she realized and was generally tired from this. However, she protests that this should not be so.

She was rather anxious to have a trial of progynon, and so I gave an injection of 10,000 international units today with the idea of repeating this within a week. This therapeutic test should determine whether she will be better for this material or not.

F.C. Hall

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April 28, 1928

Copied

Miss Stella Graves
144 Hancock St.
Auburndale, Mass.

Dear Miss Graves:

I have your letters before ~~me~~ after seeing Dr. Hall to whom you were referred by Dr. Mark Ward, and also Dr. Chandler's report, which indicates simply a case for vision correction.

I was much interested in Dr. Hall's opinion and also in the normal basal metabolism test. It is fine to know that your digestive symptoms are again clearing up and that you are responding so well to rest. Under the circumstances, it looks as though this latter were the regime to follow out. If you keep on the way you are going, you may still be able to carry out your threat of walking to China! It looks as though we could table any further or more elaborate examinations.

I hope you are getting sufficient sleep as well as adequate rest during the day. I would just make a business of resting up thoroughly.

Since you will not be going back before summer, I trust that this regime will bring things up in good shape by then.

With all best wishes.

Very sincerely,

W.D.H.

EMD:MM

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April 29, 1938.

My dear Stella:

Dr. Dodd has sent me a
copy of his letter of April 28th to you.
I am enclosing a copy of my reply to him.
We have had a letter from Dr. Wu this week,
dated April 3rd, in which she says:

"Stella Graves will be needed if
we should carry on again our college
program. But I should add right away
that she will be of help too, if we
go in for a special project; for she can
put Chinese tunes into music and we
may be able to get out simple songs
for the country people."

RWG:am

Affectionately yours,

Miss Stella M. Graves,
144 Hancock Street,
Auburndale, Mass.

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Roma 505,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
April 29, 1938.

My dear Dr. Dodd:

The copy of your letter of April 28th to Miss Graves reached me this morning. Thank you very much for sending me this letter. I trust that Miss Graves has discovered how to rest and that if she carries out a simple regime she will have no further difficulty. She is planning to carry a part time job at the Missionary Home in Auburndale beginning, I think, the first of May and lasting through July. If you think that this is unwise, I wish that you would write to her.

We have heard from Miss Wu this week that she would like to have Miss Graves back in China this fall.

RWG:sm

Sincerely yours,

Dr. E. M. Dodd,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
E. M. DODD, M. D.

May 4, 1938

Miss Rebecca Greist
Ginling College Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Miss Greist:

I am sending on to you a copy of this report on
Miss Stella Graves, from Dr. Hall in Boston, ^{to} whom
Dr. Ward of the American Board referred her.

She is in good hands with Dr. Hall and we can
follow along on that basis.

Sincerely yours, *Seward*.

EMD:ES
Enc.

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1945
Hester Conn

Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
May 7, 1938.

My dear Dr. Dodd:

Thank you very much for sending me the copy of Dr. Hall's report on Miss Stella Graves. It would seem to the lay mind that all she needs now is to develop some good sense about securing sufficient rest.

The Ginling College Board of Founders held their annual meeting on Thursday, and it was voted in relation to Miss Graves, "that provided Dr. Dodd is satisfied with her physical condition, Miss Graves return to the field at the end of the summer 1938".

President Wu has sent us a report of the Board of Directors meeting, held on April 9th in Shanghai. At that meeting they asked for Miss Graves' return.

You will, I know, keep us informed of this health problem and will give us a clearance on her when you are satisfied.

RWD:am

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. E. M. Dodd,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

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144 Hancock St.,
Auburndale, Mass.,
May 12th, '38.

Dear Rebecca,-

Miss Calder has given me a few scraps of information about the Board meeting on Friday, but I shall have to wait for Mrs. Thurston's return and a letter from you to satisfy my desire for news.

In your letter you spoke of the job I had undertaken here as a part time or half time job. I have been discovering it is a full time job, & that it would take eight hours a day, it takes as a minimum nine and a half and occasionally more. One hour of that is answering telephone & bells - the rest is some of the too hard, but it means being on one's feet doing this or that most of the time! Yesterday was an easier day, perhaps I've gotten the swing of it. But when I saw your letter and knew the chances were fair of getting back to China I asked Dr. Hall and he said he would not approve of my keeping this job for three months if I were expecting to return to China, but because I had promised to take the job he saw no reason why I should not take it for a few weeks or a month until the people here in the Walker Missionary Home could find some one else to do it. They have found a good person more quickly than they had expected so I finish them next Monday night - exactly two weeks. I have managed to get in an hour's practice at least and yesterday $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

0991

MAY 12 1938

But I'd prefer not trying to keep it up for three months! I hope I have acted in this as you and Dr. Dodd would approve.

The job was rather much at first, and a mean head cold for five days but that has cleared up thanks to much sleep - nine to ten hours - and I am feeling fine now, have gained in weight and Dr. Hall remarked on that the other day - can go slow on starches!

I hope you are not too tired with all the Board meetings and extra business and important decisions.

I have been remembering you and the meetings. I will write to Mr. Evans about my passport and sailing date which I got in Shanghai.

Lovingly yours

Stella Marie Graves

P.S. I plan to stay on here one week after I finish my job, and will start for New York on the 21st of this month. I'd like to do some intensive vocal study for that one week.

0992

Infructum [7]
Society Friends
144 Hancock St.,
Auburndale, Mass.,
May 15th, '38.

Dear Rebecca,-

It occurred to me that you might be trying to arrange a place for me to stay, and so I thought I ought to tell you that I am writing ahead to ask for a place to stay at Calvary House for those two or three days in N.Y.C. That seemed to me to be what I would most like to do this time. I would be very near you, and also entirely free to see ^{people} and go as seems best. I will not send my letter to Calvary to ask for the room until I hear from you the Board's official word that I should be planning to start towards China. I will hold this letter to you also until I have received a letter from you.

I would like to tell you that I have had two very good letters from my cousin, Edith Dean Austin. I'd be glad if you would put her on your publicity list - she doesn't have much cash, but I'm sure she will be interested. Her address is 1669 Columbia Rd., N.W.,

Washington D.C. My other cousin (a second cousin) does have money, and will be interested - has enough to go to Europe or anyway, this summer - so I have missed seeing her. You might add her name to your publicity list. Mrs. Nelson W. McCombs, 11 Greendale Ave., Mount Vernon, New York. Mr. McCombs is continuing

APR 15 1938

[27]

to work and has not gone to Europe, and I hope to see him while in N.Y.C.

By the way, have you my niece's name and address? If you have not - here it is,

Mrs. W. C. Gibson, 1724 Stillman Ave., Long Beach, Cal.

My niece - and now, my cousin, should be notified if ever anything should happen to me. I'm sure my niece would be very grateful for information about D.C., especially if and after I return.

May 10th, - Still no word from you, but I understand perfectly how busy you are. Also I have seen Mrs. Thurston and some of the reports she has brot of China and of the Board meeting.

I am liking my vocal teacher so much that I am deciding to stay here until the last possible minute perhaps until the sixth of June.

Lovingly

Netta Main

0994

May 17, 1938

Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

My dear Stella:

You certainly found yourself in a more than a full time job. I am glad that you are getting released from it as soon as possible, and I hope you will use the very best judgement about getting as fully rested as possible before you go back. It will not be easy to live without both physical and emotional strain in China at the present time. Are you sure that you should not go to one of these quiet places and rest for a period of two weeks before you start west?

I should write Mr. Evans as soon as possible about sailing plans, if I were you. I understand that the Dollar Line is a bit uncertain in its future schedule and as far as one can make out from the mail schedule, they go directly from Japan to the Philippines and back to Hongkong, skipping Shanghai. It would be more direct for you to go on an Express boat, whether you are going to land in Shanghai or in Hongkong. Are you thinking of trying to stop off in Japan en route?

RWG:am

Affectionately yours,

Miss Stella Marie Graves,
144 Hancock Street,
Auburndale, Massachusetts.

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OVER

Room 905,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
May 20, 1938.

My dear Stella:

Technically I should not send out recommendations until the minutes are out, and the minutes of the Board meeting have not yet reached me. The recommendation of the promotional committee in relation to you was, "That Miss Graves return to the field in the summer of 1938, provided Dr. Dodd is satisfied with her physical condition." This recommendation was approved by the Board. You know that Dr. Dodd has not given us a final health clearance. When you were here, he felt that you were all right, but he wrote me in April that he would like to reserve opinion, and he has not yet given consent.

I am quoting for you here an excerpt from a letter from Dr. Wu, dated April 15th in Shanghai:- "I shall be consulting Miss Sutherland to find out from her and see whether she would like Stella to go to Nanking; if not, we would be glad to have her with our group in Chengtu. I have in mind especially the possibility of her getting the Chinese folk tunes set to music, for the use of social workers in country places. At West China University, they offer a music Minor, but so far as I can tell, they have not a single full time person and most teaching is done by professors from all departments and faculty wives. So I am sure if Stella is there, she will be able to help greatly."

Mr. Evans has your letter of the 18th, and I understand is writing to you in regard to passport application and steamer reservation.

It is not clear to us whether Dr. Wu wishes you to go to Chengtu or to Nanking. Mr. Evans and I feel that you should make your passport application for Chengtu, and that the sailing dates should be arranged so that you could get to Chengtu in time for a possible opening early in September.

The University of Nanking and Ginling are planning Commencement in Chengtu on July 13th. Ginling has not given us any dates

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[2]

for the arrival of faculty, but the University of Nanking and Yenching have sent very precise instructions asking that their furloughed staff who are returning, be on the spot on September 1st. This would be in accord with the Government attitude regarding the opening of schools fairly early in September. We are assuming, if Nanking University wishes its staff on the field by September 1st, that Ginling staff should also arrive at that time. This would mean sailing in July.

I have raised with Mr. Evans the question of the type of transportation from Hongkong to Chengtu, if that is your ultimate destination. He doesn't feel prepared to answer whether it can be by air. We shall have to write to the field about your return and your ultimate destination, and the method of arrival after reaching China, but we wish to impress upon you in applying for the passport to state Chengtu as your destination.

If you are going to Chengtu would it not be wise to start your trunks ahead? I do not know, however, what arrangements Mr. Evans could make about getting them out of Hongkong, but it seems to me that we ought to be able to do something about them from this end as to their transportation into West China. Also might it not be wise to leave somethings in storage in Hongkong, and arrange to take only a minimum to Chengtu.

We shall welcome you in New York whenever you come. I hope you will be able to stay at Calvary House, for I know you will enjoy it there.

Thank you very much for giving me your relatives addresses. We shall be very glad to put them on our family mailing list. I am assuming that it is Miss Edith D. Austin,

I am sorry that I have caused your anxiety about your appointment. I have informed Dr. Dodd of what the Board of Directors and the Board of Founders action was in relation to your return, and have asked him to give us a clearance on you, when he is satisfied.

RWG:am

Affectionately yours,

Miss Stella Marie Graves,
144 Hancock Street,
Auburndale, Massachusetts.

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File 01
Graves

144 Hancock St.,
Auburndale, Mass.,
May 21st, '38.

Dear Rebecca, -

I do thank you for
your letter and for your
constant thought for my
good health. It really
is excellent. Dr. Hall was
very facetious the other
day suggesting that I
should have a picture
taken and sent to my
friends and labelled
"still going to see the doctor"
Really if you could see
my color and the evident

2. MAY 21 1938 [2]

added pounds I think you
would vote to send me to China
at once!! Dr. Hall suggested
that I telephone him once
more - get an a little more
extra sleep - but aside
from a few pills he
can see nothing more to do
for me.

You suggest two weeks
for rest! I ended my job
last Monday night - really,
while it was strenuous, I
think the physical exercise
it was distinctly good
for me. - I have just
received a grand invitation
to attend the general team
meeting and house-party
of the Oxford Group at
Stochbridge, ^{Mass.} in the Berkshires

[3.7] from May 27th to June 3rd
(for the team training) and
3rd to 6th for the house-party
itself. Somehow I have failed
to tell you - as I have wanted
to - that it is the grace of our
Lord shown me thru the instrumentality
of the Oxford Group that saved me
for the mission field at the time
of my greatest spiritual needs
when I was in Shanghai.
It was my own deep sense of need,
the freshness of the Episcopal Holy
Communion Service and a few
books of the Oxford Group whose
names I do not now remember
that resulted in a new vision
of the Cross of Christ one day
in February, '34. ~~that~~ And
then after going to Kienling
it was the growth of a group
there among the faculty

[47]

MAY 21 1938

and students, which gave me the
fellowship and the training
and discipline as well as
opportunity to learn how to
help students and certain of
the faculty at that time. I
just the thought of the
house-party sets into relief
those remaining undisciplined
places in my own life, and I
see clearly - what I must do
to ~~be~~ learn - as well as to be of
any service there - and in
the remaining months in our
own dear country - let alone
China. This seems to me to
be an opportunity for
spiritual training and vision,
the real mountain peak of
this year of rest, study, and
travel - in preparation for
all God has ahead for me
to do.

MAY 21 1938

[3.] The chief problem is that of expense. I am hoping to be able to find a place to stay that would be less expensive - the regular rate is \$4.00 a day. I do not know just what can be discovered here. Would the very kind benefactor feel it right and good to let me have for my further spiritual education the extra funds I would need for this purpose? Could you find out about this for me?

When I was considering staying here longer, seeing

[6]

MAY 21 1938

the added expense of lessons
I regretfully asked for
an added fifty dollars
bringing the gift total
to two hundred dollars.

To make this eleven days
at Stockbridge possible
an added fifty would
probably be necessary
though I have big hopes
of being able to do it on
twenty-five - but to
last until my next
salary check thru my
trip to N. Y. C. and until
my next salary check should
come I suppose fifty is
safer! Please tell me

[7.] 1880 THE IS YAM

very honestly what you
think of this and what
the wishes of the very
kind benefactor may be.
I have written saying that
I would go to Stockbridge
depending ^{on} your decision.
If I am asking too much
please tell me very frankly.

With much love and
gratitude

Stella Marie

P.S. If this plan seems good
I will leave here the 27th,
Stockbridge until June 6th,
and then at once to N. Y. C.
Your letter and Mr. Evans's
letter have just arrived. I

[87]

shall be writing to him at
once. I doubt if I should
send any baggage ahead
until I know whether I
should go to Chengtu or
to ~~Hongkong~~ Hanking. As for
dates - if it is via Hongkong
then I vote for the 29th on
the least Dollar boat as
cheaper for the board and
giving me a little more time
here; - I have been thinking
much about baggage, and
as soon as I can know where
to head for Mrs. Hurston's
advice seems good to send
books and music by
mail.

If I should sail at a date
earlier than July 29th it
may be better to cut off a day
or perhaps two from the
end of the house-party ^{lovingly} ~~sadly~~ ~~reluctantly~~

Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
June 4, 1938.

Dear Dr. Dodd:

Miss Stella Graves expects to be in New York next week, the 6th, 7th and 8th probably. The Ginling College Board of Directors on the field has asked for her return and the Board of Founders has approved it provided you are satisfied with her physical condition.

She has a round the world ticket on the Dollar Line and a tentative sailing for July 29th, which is the last of their boats at present scheduled. Also, since she probably will go to the Ginling unit in Chengtu she should start no later than that date.

She, I suppose, will be starting west from New York next week as she has a large number of visits she wishes to make.

I trust you can see her while she is here and that there can be a discussion one way or another about her.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Dr. E. M. Dodd,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

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Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
June 20, 1938.

My dear Stella:

An air mail letter from Dr. Wu, dated June 6th, arrived on Friday. We were extremely busy getting ready for the annual Smith-Ginling meeting at Northampton on June 19th, and this has been my first opportunity to send this word to you. This is what Dr. Wu writes of you:

"Let me answer your questions. We shall need Stella in Chengtu. Please have her plan to reach Hongkong to allow time enough to be in Chengtu by September 15th (fifteenth). Please let us know the boat and we will have letters in Hongkong giving instructions about the trip to Chengtu. Perhaps it will be necessary for her to travel by air, but conditions are changing so rapidly these days that we do not feel we can give a definite answer today. We will have word in Hongkong - it may be best for her to go by Indo-China to Kunning and then to Chengtu, but in any case she would have to disembark at Hongkong."

In the light of Dr. Wu's wish that you be in Chengtu by September 15th, do you not think that you should try to sail on an earlier boat from California. I think Mr. Evans has already written to you about the Manly sisters, who are sailing on July 15th. It seems to me that it would be well for you, if you can be happy about doing it, to go on the July 15th boat. If this is your decision, you should let Mr. Evans know at once in order to make the change in reservations.

RWG:am

Sincerely yours,

Miss Stella M. Graves,
c/o Miss Mina Courtright,
West Shepard Street,
Charlotte, Michigan.

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File - Grass [1]



Leaving Chicago,
June 28th, '38.

Dear Rebecca,-

This is not the long planned letter to tell you more of the details of Stockbridge, but a long delayed note of thanks for all your goodness to me those last days in New York and in Washington. It does not quite seem possible that I have known you only really since February. You could not have been kinder or more thoughtful if you had known me all my life. Of course you have had reason to know me far better than I to know you. But I am so very very grateful for the ways you have let me come to know you. You have given me so much of music and how I did enjoy that last evening in New York with you seeing "White Oaks". That was a perfect evening even if it did rain. But you gave so much more than these priviliges, priviliges I shall remember as long as I shall remember music itself; but it was the love and yourself that went with the gift which has made the memory of those days so very precious, beyond words to say. It is like the surprise part of Christmas, this part of my home-coming, so utterly unexpected, one of the dearest parts of this amazing year. The gift of your friendship, knowing me as you knew me, before I could know you save by the words of those who knew you and who love and admire you as I now do, is God's own gift.

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JUN 28

1938 [2]

I want to tell you a little about the very happy times I have had all along the way. In Oberlin I found among many other friends, classmates, and teachers, Prof. and Mrs. Heacox. He told me that he had taken \$500.00 worth of music, and that Harriett Whitmer had taken it on to Shanghai. He ~~xx~~ said that \$400.00 worth of it was the cream of one of the vocal professors' libraries! Doubtless you knew that, but this was all news to me. In Ann Arbor it was such a joy to see Mrs. Rhead, and she is seriously thinking of writing to you some of these days if she can get her property affairs settled, because she would like to return, anywhere she said to Ginling, Chengtu or Nanking, if she were needed. It was such good fortune to see Louise Shoup and Merib Mossman as well as Yang Chia-ren and Djao Hwa-guen, both my students. It was a real thrill to find Mr. Yang doing so well in his graduate work, he is a very gifted boy. I believe Miss Djao will measure up better in the future months as a person ~~xx~~ as well as do the fine work she can do and is doing in music. In Charlotte I did my first speaking, Friday night, Saturday afternoon and twice on Sunday. And such a welcome. You know I first belonged to the small Baptist Church there, and such an unforgettable welcome they did give me, and a gift of ten dollars from the Sunday School for my own use. The Congregational Church was very warm in its welcome also, I spoke for the Ladies Auxiliary and at the morning service, the full time. At the Baptist Sunday School I was given the full hour and had everyone, down to the littlest toddlers to speak to. The Church was full, and no one knew surely of my arrival until I arrived on the previous Wednesday. My dearest friend in that town, Miss Mina Courtright, had arranged a picnic supper and got together some ~~thirty~~ twenty-nine old classmates and neighbors, all Baptist Church people, on one day's notice. You see, I have no relatives there anymore. But I honestly did not suspect how much real interest in me and in my work ~~xx~~ is there in that town.

I would like to suggest that you put Miss Mina Courtright's name on your publicity list as the best person to whom to send Ginling College material, for the Baptist Church does support Ginling. Her address is West Shaw St., Charlotte, Mich. She will see that the information gets to the right people. The church could give very little perhaps directly to Ginling, but I feel sure such information would help to keep up ~~x~~ their giving to their maximum ability. It is a small and poor church financially, conservative, but ~~x~~ perhaps the friendliest church in town. And there is no question about the interest in Ginling now, and also in China Relief. I am not clear about the Congregational Church, the pastor's name is Rev. Russell Mc Connell, 219 W. Lawrence St. The people in that church do have more ~~money~~ ^{money} than in the Baptist Church. The Baptist pastor's name is Rev. R.J. Fields, 607 S. Main St. However the Congregational Church is interested in me because

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JUN 28 1938

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my membership is there, some people in ~~th~~ that church are very much interested in me. I think I am their only missionary member.

I have just now left the Sutherlands' home in Webster Groves, Mo.; That was such a joy and privilege. Have you had word as to whether she is coming home or not? Unless her boat should happen to be in Honolulu at the same time as mine, that is ended, my chance of seeing her.

I would be very grateful if you would tell me what you decide for the next months in relation to your work for Ginling. Just now I am asking that God will give you such a quietness of mind and soul and such a deep love of His perfect will for you and Ginling that He may be able day by day to show you what His ~~is~~ desire is in relation to each decision you must make both for yourself and for Ginling. I don't believe there are ever any conflicts in His plans. At least most of the conflicts in my mind have been tied up with some desire of my own. But it surely is not always easy to ferret out the bit of self that gets in my way, or rather in God's way. I hope all of that problem is well settled already! I do not know of any one whose faith and spiritual insight and love I trust more than your own. I only wish you were a multi-millionaire!! You ought to be, it seems to me, for you have such spiritual wealth also. I am so grateful that God is so richly with you.

With deep gratitude and love,

Stella Marie

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Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
July 6, 1938.

My dear Stella:

You write very beautiful letters, and they are very heart warming, for you have a gift of warm appreciation for anything that is done for you. I was so happy to have your letter of June 28th. I knew nothing of the music which Harriet took to Shanghai. It certainly is a splendid gift and I hope that it will suffer no damage en route.

Mr. Evans sent you word of the cable which arrived Saturday morning. It was from Chengtu, July 2nd, and said, "Opening College November first. Inform Graves Tsui." Your telegram came in yesterday morning, and I am assuming that this is in answer to Mr. Evans letter. It is a pretty quick trip for a letter to the coast and an answer between Saturday morning and Tuesday morning. Ya-lan has also telegraphed that she wants to go on the Coolidge. Mr. Evans will write you. I understand that he has been able by good luck to secure reservations for both you and Ya-lan on the Coolidge. I understand too, that Dr. Fenn of the English Department of the University of Nanking is going on the Coolidge and will go through to Chengtu.

A letter from Florence Kirk indicates that the trip by Yunnanfu is likely to take a good bit more time than the China Travel Bureau schedules. They schedule four days, and the actual bus trip from Kuming to Chengtu has been known to take ten or eleven days. I think it would probably be well if you all could go together as far as the railroad takes you, which as far as I know, is Yunnanfu, and then if you and Ya-lan could fly from there to Chengtu, it would certainly be the better arrangement. I am giving Mr. Evans all the information I have about costs from letters from China. I am hoping that arrangements can be made for the women faculty at least to do part of this trip by air. Of course, I suppose those from America should have no better care taken of them than those who have spent the year in Shanghai. Physically, I do not think you should make the trip by bus, nor should Ya-lan. I am hoping that I can find out from some of the West China people what it will cost to fly from Kuming to Chengtu.

Dr. Liljestrand of West China is sailing on August 16th, and is not believing that he will get into Chengtu before October. This makes it seem quite reasonable to take the July 29th boat, especially as it is the last boat scheduled at the moment for the Dollar Line. What I am sending you are merely my own thoughts. You will receive instructions from Mr. Evans.

RWG:am
Miss Stella M. Graves,
1092 Rhea Street, Long Beach, California.

Affectionately yours,

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GINLING COLLEGE

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Graves (17)
JUL 11 1938

I accept appointment to Ginling College, Nanking, China, for a term of five years on the following schedule of salary, allowances and duties.

1. A basic salary of \$864.00 U.S. per annum to be paid by the college; the salary to begin upon arrival at Nanking and to cease at departure therefrom.

N.B. This basic salary shall be subject to the rules for the adjustment of exchange recorded in the Ginling College Committee minutes of April 25, 1934, and to such cuts as have been agreed upon by the field.

2. Necessary travel to Nanking and return by the shortest route to be paid by the college, the necessary items of expense incident to travel to be a non-personal charge and an allowance of \$1.50 per day to be granted for personal expenses.

3. Outfit allowance of \$200.00 for personal use to be paid upon appointment.

4. A furlough salary at the rate of \$984.00 per year to be paid for the furlough period to those who have been invited to return by the Board of Directors and the Ginling College Committee, and expect to continue service; three months salary to be given to those who after a five year term do not expect to return to the college. Furlough salary to begin on arrival home by the most direct route.

5. An educational allowance not to exceed \$200.00 may be granted during furlough on the recommendation of the Board of Directors and with the approval of the Ginling College Committee, it being understood that the applicant for such allowance is returning to Ginling for a five year term.

6. Medical and surgical expenses to be cared for as follows:

(a) In China: to be paid by the college when incurred according to college regulations.

(b) On furlough: when incurred by prior advice of the medical advisor of the Ginling College Committee, four-fifths of the balance of bills in excess of \$25.00 for medical, surgical, oculist and one-half dental charges to be met, upon request, by the Committee. In the case of hospital bills, \$1.00 per day towards the charges, in addition to the regular quota of \$25.00, to be considered a personal item.

7. A furnished room to be provided by the college.

8. A period of one full year or more for language study to be allowed at the discretion of the Board of Directors in China.

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JUL 11 1938

9. In case of resignation before the completion of the full term of the agreement for reasons other than ill health, certified to by the college physician and one other missionary physician, the appointee agrees to bear the full expense of her return travel to America.

10. In case of resignation before the expiration of one-half the term of this agreement for reasons other than ill health, certified to by the college physician and one other missionary physician, the appointee agrees to refund to the college such proportion of the expenses to China as the time of actual service bears to one-half the full term specified in this agreement.

11. Assignment of work to be made by the faculty, all of whom share in the extra-curriculum activities of the college.

Ginling College, upon due notice in writing, may terminate this contract at any time, upon the payment of a sum equal to three months' salary from the date of said termination and full travel expenses by the most direct route home.

Name *Stella Marie Graves* Date *July 1st, 1938*

The Ginling College Board of Founders appoints *Stella M. Graves* . . .

to Ginling College for a term of five years on the above basis.

Chairman. *Margaret E. Hodge* Date *July 11, 1938*

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Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
July 13, 1938.

My dear Stella:

It occurred to me about a week ago that in our regularizing of your appointment to Ginling, we had never had you sign the employment agreement. I raised the question with Miss Hodge, that under the present circumstances you should sign them, and she feels that you should. We are sending them to you in triplicate, one copy you keep yourself, one is sent to the field to Miss Priest or Dr. Wu, and the third is kept in the secretary's files here.

Word this morning from China indicates that Catharine will not be coming home. This is a very great pity, I think, because America needs her badly to interpret China.

Dr. Reeves writes a most interesting letter about conditions in Chengtu, and mentions the need for winter woollens such as we used in my time in Nanking. If I can get home this week end I am going to send to you a package of my Nanking woollens, which I am far too large now to wear, and they would certainly be of some use to someone. I hope that you will find that you can carry the things with you. They are all used garments and therefore, should not require any duty. Dr. Reeves, I feel sure, could use them, and even you may be able to do so, for I was very thin in those years. Please distribute them among our Ginling foreign staff as seems best to you.

Affectionately yours,

RWH:am

Miss Stella M. Graves,
c/o Mrs. W. C. Gibson,
1092 Rhea Street,
Long Beach, California.

Rebecca W. Griest.

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OVER

*Stella's letter
sent 2 min
of [unclear]
[unclear]*

Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
July 21, 1938.

My dear Stella:

Thank you so much for sharing with me the letter from Catharine. Catharine has had this problem for many years of underestimating herself. I remember it when I was at Ginling, and we had a hard time when she was home the last time. Her family has apparently cabled her permitting her to stay. This I get in a letter from Hankow, dated July 5th. She typed it for Dr. Wu and added a brief postscript about Mrs. Yeh and this cable.

I had promised her family in Montclair, that I would let them know when I heard, and had quite a talk with her sister-in-law last week. The brother there feels very strongly that she should come home. He wrote her sometime ago and sent her money, which they now feel she hasn't received. They apparently think the parents will never ask her to come, feeling that she should be left to make her own decisions, but that it is a great strain now than her mother should be asked to bear.

I think allowing her to stay because of fear that she will not return to Ginling is the worst possible reason for letting her stay. I don't believe in yielding to fear in making decisions, although I am human enough to do so at times. The need for her on the Ginling campus next year is of such importance, that it seems to be flying in the face of all good sense for her not to take her leave of absence this year. I understand so well the pull to stay, but it is an emotional pull, and one in which good reasoning seems to be subordinated.

Dr. Reeves has written me also about the music situation and the need of pianos. Catharine may be right about Dr. Reeves' reasoning, but I thought from her letters that she really was troubled about the number of music teachers and the small number of pianos. She did not see how good work could possibly be done.

I have wondered about a baby organ. Lydia Brown did marvelous work at the old Ginling with the use of that medium. She did it purposely because she felt that it would be years before many Chinese families and churches could or should afford pianos. That reason has now been multiplied a hundred fold. Also the transportation charges are tremendous. I have been wondering if I could help you finance a baby organ, which probably you could buy in Hongkong. Have you any idea how much it would cost. I suppose you know what I mean by "Baby Organ".

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Ya-lan started West on Monday night. I fear that China will be a frightful shock to her and I hope she can be protected as much as possible. I have given her as a commencement gift enough money to allow her to fly into Chengtu. I hope that she will not be "ku-chi" and not do it, just because others in the party are not doing it.

Letters from the field indicate that the Freshman class work will begin on October 1st. Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors are to take military training, first aid etc., from August 20 to October 20, by government order. Ginling may have to house the Ginling girls on the Ginling campus during this period, as the hospitals will be crowded.

The Shanghai group is expecting to leave Shanghai about the 15th of July, and are to go by Yunnanfu(Kunming). Siao-sung writes that they do not anticipate that they will arrive in Chengtu until August 20th, and perhaps they will be very tired from their hard trip. She says that after a week or two of rest, they will then work on the new Freshman program. It is their hope to devote September to working out this experimental program.

It has just occurred to me that we had a gift last year from the Worcester Smith College Club group, which was to be used for a projector. Harriet was to take it out with her, but finally decided that she didn't want to do so until she had investigated the situation on the field. This fall the Worcester Club released this money and told us that we could use it for anything that seemed most necessary. We could use it for a baby organ. Mr. Evans is going to investigate costs, but would you not like to find out also, whether you could get one on the cost and take it with you? Mr. Evans thinks there would be no advantage in buying an organ in Hongkong. He realizes that there is advantage in buying pianos in the Far East, but he thinks that does not apply to organs. It might be that he could place the order here, thus getting the advantage of the discount, and having it delivered to you on the Coolidge. If you approve this, please send me word at once.

RWG:am

Affectionately yours,

Miss Stella Marie Graves,
c/o Mrs. W. C. Gibson,
1092 Rhea Street,
Long Beach, California.

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[over]

Room 903,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.
July 25, 1938.

My dear Stella:

Mr. Evans and I talked over your letter of July 23rd in regard to the organ, just as soon as I received it this morning. In order to get the reduced rates, the organ has to be ordered from the factory, which makes it impossible for it to reach the Coolidge. We have decided to have it sent by freight to Yunnanfu, in care of Mrs. Paul Meyer (Harriet Cogswell Meyer, formerly of the English Department at Ginling). Harriet is the wife of the consul at Yunnanfu, and while this will be a nuisance to her, I think she will be willing to see that it is sent on to Chengtu in the best way possible after it reaches her. It of course may be some months before it reaches you.

The organ is a Bilhorn, which the Methodist Board Purchasing Department believes is the best one, (I hope it is). It is a five octave, and is \$98.50 F.O.B. Chicago. The reduction which the Methodist Board can get is 20% which brings the cost to \$78.80 F.O.B.

This organ is being bought with a gift made last year by the Worcester Smith Club. This gift was allocated for a projector, which Harriet Whitmer was to take out last summer. She did not take it, and this fall the club released the money and told us we could use it for anything we wished to use it for. They very much want the gift marked with their name as donor. If the organ ever reaches Chengtu, would you see please, that some kind of a permanent marking is put on it? It seems the least that we can do for donors of special gifts. Their gift is sufficient, I feel sure, to cover all freight charges. The five octave is the largest that they make.

I agree with everything you say about Catherine.

I sent you a night letter on Saturday night, urging you to have typhoid inoculations before leaving, if you had not already had them, or if your immunity was uncertain. I know that it will be very difficult for you to get three in before you leave, but I thought possible you could get two and have the doctor give you the tube for the third, and have the ship doctor give you that one. Since you stop at Manila first, it may be better to have your Cholera inoculations there. It is of course, a little thoughtless possibly, for people just out from the states to be using up precious cholera serum, either in Manila or Hongkong, but

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the double dose of typhoid and cholera inoculations would be too severe taken together here, and besides, Dr. Dodd told me last summer it would be more effective to have the cholera inoculations close to the spot where you expect to meet the cholera. I meant by sending the bill to New York, that it be the typhoid bill, for any inoculations you have done here.

I also wired Margaret Andrews suggesting that Ya-lan have typhoid inoculations in Los Angeles. I would imagine that she would be more susceptible even than you, for she has been away from China for two years, but please do not either of you neglect these important inoculations. See that Ya-lan has her cholera inoculations when you have yours.

RWG:am

With love,

Miss Stella Marie Graves,
c/o S. S. President Coolidge,
Dollar Line,
Sailing from San Francisco,
California on July 29, 1938.

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8/11/38 - aus. to Cherystu

Felt Graves

DOLLAR STEAMSHIP LINES (1)

New York · California · Orient · Round the World

on board
President Coolidge
Aug. 2nd, '38,

Dear Rebecca, -

Thank you so much
for your letters. I haven't
yet discovered whether
your trunk is on board
but I have your keys
and will let you know
from Manila if I don't
find it.

There are seven on
board going to Cherystu
including Dr. ^{Marion} and
Miss Grace Mauley. We
are having a grand time.
I had my shots the last
minute in d. a. and

AUG 2 1938 (2)

Doni Yo. lan has begun
hers.

It is time for the
P.O. to close on board
so I'll have to just
say another big thank
you and promise you
a longer letter from
Manila,

Much love to you,

Stella Marie.

Have had a grand time
all the way!

FROM MISS STELLA GRAVESReturning from FurloughLAST STAGE OF JOURNEY: INDO-CHINA TO CHENGTU

September 7, 1938

We have had a perfect journey so far, weather, travel companions, kind seas, and beautiful, wonderful scenery. The only fly in the ointment, flies, rather, were the French hotels through French Indo-China, and up to the end of the French Railway line here at Kuming. But here we are being entertained in the home of some grand English missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Evans, seven of us guests and two others in a neighboring home, and it is a heavenly experience, while we wait for our baggage to catch up with us and try to make arrangements for the next most difficult part of our journey.

But I must tell you who we are! Miss Tsui Ya-lan of my own college, and five of the Methodist Mission, two sisters, Dr. and Miss Grace Manly, Miss Dorothy Jones, Miss Lena Nelson, Miss Maud Parsons, were all on the Coolidge together, and all headed for Szechuan, and most of us for the city of Chengtu. Later at Hongkong, Dr. and Mrs. Lenox, both doctors, who had come on the Empress of Asia, joined us, so too a Chinese amah, travelling ahead of the family for which she is working.

From our first glimpse of the rocky coast of Indo-China until we reached the border of China we were fascinated by all we saw of the people and the life. It was truly tropical. All business was closed down from eleven to two o'clock. We had wired ahead to M. Brochard to meet us. He got all of the baggage we could possibly count as hand luggage through without any one looking at it. We are hoping that our baggage will get through soon, but are a bit doubtful. We went on to Hanoi, the capital, where we spent the night. It is a beautiful small French city and a much larger city of mostly straw-thatched, mud houses. There was a lovely lake just at the edge of the city, beyond fairly large zoological gardens. The contrasts between the foreign French standards of living and the native standards seemed as great, if not greater than what we are accustomed to see in China, but in China in the big cities at least, we often see plenty of evidence of great wealth among at least some of the Chinese. Of course our glimpses of life in Indo-China was too brief to know, but the tropical climate would not tend to make the people very ambitious, at least I know I would find it very much more difficult to accomplish much in that damp heat. But it was very beautiful country. Ireland could not be greener. Then we took the slow train that travels only by day up and up, and that day from Hanoi to the Chinese border we saw plenty of the tropical jungles, hills and low mountains covered with bamboo, palms, banana trees, dense with all kinds of tropical trees and thick underbrush. There were surprisingly few signs of life; villages or individual huts were very rare. In several places the French were evidently trying to clear out the jungle and begin settlements, but these all looked very new. The railroad was a single narrow gauge track with a double track only at towns where trains may pass. One slow passenger train a day comes up that long tortuous mountain railway, and one express train twice a week. I do not know how often freight trains go, but certainly not very many. I am sure we did not pass more than one or two a day. This French line extends up to this city, the capital of Yunnan

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Provinces. So the second and third days we were travelling in Chinese territory. At night we stayed at small and rather poor French hotels, but run by no visible French person, save in the first one at Hanoi. We took food with us from Hongkong and bought bananas and other fruits along the way, eggs too, and walnuts, and chestnuts.

As soon as we reached Chinese territory, the mountains increased in height, there were more tunnels, one hundred seventy-five in all. We were to climb to over six thousand feet, the height of this city above sea level. But also the trees in some places grew fewer, far less jungle, and never have I seen such industry of farmers, planting and growing hemp or kaoliang, a grain that looks very much like a very tall corn up the steep mountain sides and clear on the very top of mountains, and apparently miles from any dwelling or tiny village, on mountain sides so steep you would scarcely believe a man could climb let alone plant anything and care for it. I had seen terraced crops up steep mountain sides in Japan, but never so much of seemingly untillable land tilled. And here we saw also the gradual change from the people of Annam, with their hair arrangement circular and special costumes, to the tribes people, the aborigines of this section of China. They look Chinese, but we were told they are not Chinese, and their dress is very different. Their houses were much simpler in style, none of the curved Chinese roofs, much more primitive. We were told that people travelling in certain sections in this province must carry their own food as the people will not sell anything, because they have only just enough for themselves. And then in the better towns we found the Chinese, and began to see the first train-loads of soldiers. Indeed, the third day, we had three or four cars of soldiers attached to our own train. There were many beautiful waterfalls, steep towering cliffs, sharp gorges. We would go for miles up one side of a gorge only to cross over some marvellous bridge to the other side and turn back again on the opposite side, going higher and then turn up some other river bed. We followed well up to its source a river that finds its outlet near Canton. We went above sheer precipices where landslides had taken place very recently, and where we had to go very slowly because the repairs were not yet fully completed. There had just been flood waters, the rainy season was nearly over, many fields in the lower valleys of Indo-China were flooded as we came through. The second day there was a freshness in the air, and the third day, just before we reached Kuming there was a brief shower just at sunset, and the heat of the sunshine was changed to almost cold mountain air. We put on wool coats very briefly, some of us, and they felt good. It was a gorgeous trip, not quite as imposing as that section of the Austrian Tyrol near Innsbruck which I saw a year ago, but it was surely far more varied, from tropical jungles, up through pine-clad mountains, or those cultivated to the top, or to those coverly only with grass, very similar Dr. Lenox said, to the grassy mountains of Tibet, the lower grass lands of that country.

Here, at over six thousand feet, there are still palms as well as eucalyptus and fir; but no bananas grow here. The temperature in winter is rather cold, but being so near the tropics, if the sun shines it is hot, or warm at least. Chengtu is nearly two thousand feet, so it will be hotter than here. There are mountains still above this big beautiful plain. On Friday we took a trip to some famous hot springs, past a beautiful lake, up to approximately eight thousand feet. I almost forgot to tell of the great varieties of color in the soil, from sand color, gray, brown, even black in some places where we saw streaks of coal at the surface, to a brilliant lacquer red, colors that reminded us of the Canyon of the Yellowstone or even of the Grand Canyon. One place we saw a small lake that was a deep reddish copper in hue, and many streams were red! Just beyond

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this surprising copper-colored lake was a larger deep blue one. There were high rolling grass-covered mountains around it. The country village life, markets, for it seemed to be a perpetual market day in Yunnan, were no less interesting, and were often quite colorful. There were places near Kunming where the Central Government is building laboratories and where private Chinese concerns from the occupied area are putting up factories, very new and modern ones. We felt we had really reached a destination when we saw the curving temple roofs, and pagodas, the beautiful sky line of this big old city. At present we are just waiting for our baggage to catch up with us. It may take two weeks! Then for those of us who do not fly, it may take another two or three weeks of travel on buses or by truck, and waiting to get to Chengtu. It will be far more difficult from here on but we are hopeful! In the meantime we are having a good rest here.

September 18th. We are still having an excellent rest here in Kunming. We do hope the baggage will arrive soon. In the meantime we are finding friends here, people like us who are on their way inland or home. I am going to see Mrs. Rose Wang of our Ginling faculty, (Music Department) of a year ago. I will see her baby too. God has been making this trip full of rich experiences. May we all keep our minds and hearts open to His perfect plan for each day for each of us.

Postscript: Chengtu. When it became clear that I should fly it seemed better to me to send this on to you only after I had arrived safely. At last we did arrange for two trucks to take our baggage on to Chungking, from there it will have to be put on other two trucks to come the rest of the way to Chengtu. In a month I hope it will all be with me. We had waited so long that we all found it necessary for the sake of the schools or institutions we are serving to fly. But the day before I flew came the first real air raid on Kunming. The warning blew just as we were finishing a late breakfast. In less than half-an-hour came the second warning. We went to the trench or dugout as quickly as we could, and very soon we heard the planes. The Chinese planes had gone out to meet them. There was a great noise of many planes flying over our heads and loud machine-gunning, then a minute or two later, in the distance two or three dull heavy thuds of bombs being dropped. We were in the trench about an hour before the release sounded and the last sound of enemy planes died away. Our trench was covered with iron and earth piled on top of it, so we saw nothing, but we heard plenty! Less than a block away Dr. and Mrs. Lenox and Mr. Smith remained in the house because their trench was not yet completed, so they saw the nine Japanese planes. The enemy had bombed the government normal school demolishing it, killing two students and wounding about a hundred, according to the report of some of the students who came for tea in the afternoon to the Evans home. They also bombed the aerodrome and killed and wounded around a hundred of the poor people who had tried to get out of the city just flocking out. It was a frightening experience, so I was doubly glad when word came that night that the plane would leave early the next morning. I had breakfast on that Thursday morning at 4:15, was at the office by 5:00. Thirty pounds of baggage was the limit, but excess was permitted at two Shanghai dollars a kilo, so I did have a little overweight, eight pounds. By seven we were in the air. It was a great experience, flying! It seemed both perfectly natural, because we had such good weather, and it was so smooth, and also it was thrilling to see the land, mountains, valleys, rivers, fields so far below. To be above the clouds suggested the thought to me that it is possible and indeed very necessary to live above the war clouds in this land. As thrilling as that all was, the nearly four hours of the flight seemed too long because I was so eager to reach Chengtu.

Ettie Chin met me at the city office. There had been heavy rains and it really was impossible to get clear out to the air field without boats. I was so

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glad I had decided to wear galoshes to save the space in my baggage, we had to walk through sticky mud for a long distance because no bus could get across the field. Dr. Wu was the second person I saw as we entered the campus of West China Union University. I found Catharine Sutherland in bed with a sprained right wrist of about two days before. She had had malaria in the summer so is quite thin but thinks she will be all right soon. Eva Spicer and Florence Kirk seem very well, Dr. Reeves seems well also. Dr. Wu seems well but rather worn and tired, not exactly strange. It was so good to see the other members of the Chinese faculty looking so well, a few a bit thinner, but not dispirited. It has been the greatest joy to see my former students. In some ways just from a personal standpoint that day was perhaps the happiest day of my life, save for the thought of those who are not here, and the fact that we are not in Ginling in Nanking. Just to be able to return to share the life, work, and difficulties of the present time is a privilege for which I am most deeply grateful. It is beautiful here - but more of the life and work here later.

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