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GINLING COLLEGE
Nanking, China

American Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.

417 West 120th Street
New York 27, N. Y.
January 4, 1945

Dear Members of the
Ginling College Board:

My letter sent to you more than a month ago does not have much meaning without the now enclosed reprint. I am sorry that several things delayed both getting and sending to you this reprint. But I am also glad, because now I can add the initial copy of "New World News". I hope each of you may find it interesting and valuable enough to want to subscribe to it. Personally it is good to find a paper bringing positive news that may be the seed of a great creative Christian force in our world.

Sincerely yours,

Stella Marie Graves

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BERNARD WAGENAAR
450 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY

January 6th,
1945

*ack by cae.
1/11/45*

Mrs. Plummer Mills
Sec'y Ginling College Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mrs. Mills, -

Miss Stella Marie Graves has been studying Composition with me since the beginning of this season and, as she told me when she came to me for advice, hoped to continue her work with me until the middle of May. In view of such a satisfactory arrangement I told her that I would be willing to reduce my lesson price from fifteen to ten dollars, in case she would finish the year.

She now tells me that the money allotted to her for the completion of her musical education during her stay here is almost gone. That is a great pity; for Miss Graves is an excellent student indeed and is doing outstanding work with me. I therefore appeal to you to finance her studies for the remainder of the season, and for the following reasons:

Not only does Miss Graves' talent warrant it, but she is an instructor of our art at your college in China where she is responsible for the education of her students. What, considering the future and culture of those coming generations, could be more important?! And Miss Graves is uncommonly well suited for such a position, as I can testify from observation of her gifts and personality coupled with experience in years past. Dean Wedge of the Institute of Musical Art is of the same opinion, as he told me when he recommended her to me.

Hence, and in view of the fact that Miss Graves is a very unassuming and

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BERNARD WAGENAAR
450 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY

JAN 6
1945

modest person, I repeat that I must urge you to come to her assistance; for, speaking as an educator, I feel that it would be imprudently wasteful to neglect the proper preparation, academically speaking, of a person of Miss Graves' potentialities and position.

Hoping to hear from you that your organization will enable Miss Graves to complete her studies, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Bernard Wagenaar

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January 11, 1945

Dr. Bernard Wagenaar
450 Riverside Drive
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Wagenaar:

I am Treasurer of the Board of Founders of Ginling College and Mrs. Mills has discussed with me your letter of January 6th regarding Miss Stella Marie Graves.

We have known Miss Graves for a long time and are familiar with her musical talent, but it gives us great pleasure to receive your hearty endorsement of her work and capabilities. She is all that you say and more.

The Board of Founders of Ginling College is incorporated under the Regents of the State of New York and exists for the sole purpose of carrying on Christian education in China. Our duties are to assemble funds for the use of the College and make them available for the field budget. The expenditure, therefore, is entirely in the hands of the Board of Managers in China. Our duties, therefore, are limited to such authorizations as are given by the authorities in China. Our normal procedure would be to forward Miss Graves request for an additional \$100.00 educational allowance to China and await the decision. These are abnormal times, however, and it is quite possible that this amount of money can be raised in America aside from the regular budget, although we are definitely restricted by the National War Fund from soliciting money for such purpose. Of course, eventually this must have the approval of the Board of Managers in China, but we are taking the temporary responsibility of assuring you that Miss Graves will be able to have the extra \$100 which she requests.

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

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POST CARD

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills,
150 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

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1089

Mrs. Horace H. Hunt 14 Lee Avenue White Plains, New York

(27)

My Dear Mrs. Melan Feb. 24 -

Perhaps you heard that I phoned you from N.Y.C. the other day. It was just to say that Miss Graves was our World Day of Prayer speaker, and most acceptable.

Her message was well delivered - and well received - a fine spirit. She came to our home for dinner that evening and we all had a lovely visit.

As ever yours -
Harriet H. Hunt

JUN 27 [7]
10 & E. College St.,
O Berlin, Ohio,
June 27th, '45.

Dear Mrs. Mills, -

you will be receiving
at the office five
packages of music
marked for G. C. They
are from Prof. F. J. Lehmann,
retired professor of theory,
my teacher. They contain
nearly fifty cantatas
or oratorios, also a
little piano music -
solo and duets.

I did not know what
to do - but decided
to follow Dr. Y. P. Mei's
advice and send them
to you - because - while

- 2 -

JUN 27

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1945

I hope to sail from California, I cannot know - and why send it to Cal. and then back again. And you have many books to send. I need now of this until I reach Chengtu. So here it is.

It would be very nice if you also would send a note of thanks for this large share of his personal library given to Hsinling - and if also you would put him on your mailing list for S. C.

1092

He is in Oberlin summers only - goes to Florida in November - but his mail is forwarded.

Prof. F. J. Lehmann,
29 D. Prospect St.,
Oberlin, O.

Mrs. Beng Chang Ping-i
(Catherine) is coming to N. Y. to study in Teachers College for summer school only. She will call to see you.

I go to Ann Arbor tomorrow. My next address until my travels are out - for July - and please give this to Mr. Evans so he can send my salary check

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-4-

there will be
c/o Dr. Ruth Wagner
201 W. First St.
Royal Oak, Mich.

I've had a wonderful
time all the way.
Bishop Roots presented
me with a lovely big new
suitcase and a white
hat - bought & chosen
with and by Frances
Roots. She gave me her
music case feeling mine
too small for me!!

Thank you for all you
have done to help me.
My best to Mr. Evans
and the smiling telephone
girl, and my love to you,
Stella Marie

1094

July 2, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
c/o Dr. Ruth Wagner
201 W. First Street
Royal Oak, Michigan

Dear Stella:

I was very glad to get your letter of June 27th and to know where we could reach you. If you had given me an address, I forgot it, so that I did not know where to send your letters and Mr. Evans did not know where to send your check. We have that all straight now, and I hope that mail will go to you without delay. We forwarded some last week and some more this morning.

The packages of music came on Friday. This is indeed a grand gift for Ginling's music library and I know how thrilled you were to receive it. We will write to Dr. Lehmann, as you suggest, and express our appreciation for his generosity. The packages will be kept here, along with all the other books we have for Ginling, until such time as they can be gotten out to the College.

Dr. Wu is back in New York now and of course just as busy as she can be. We were all delighted to see her looking so well. The Conference was strenuous, but she seems to have come through without paying too high a price in strength and energy. I am afraid the hot weather of New York is going to take a greater toll than the United Nations Security Conference.

I had a nice note from Hung Dah-ling, written from the Sutherland home in Montclair. She is very happily settled there and speaks most appreciatively of their kindness to her.

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Miss Stella Marie Graves

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July 2, 1945

[27]

After a final conference with Mr. Sutherland about his offer to give Hu Shih-tsang a home while she is in America, we sent a cable to Ruth Chester, informing her that board and tuition amounting to U.S.\$1,000 are available for Miss Hu. I have also written to Catherine quite fully about the whole thing, and now we can only wait to hear what success Miss Hu has in getting a passport. I have talked it over with Dr. Wu and she seems to feel that there is a real chance that this application will be given special consideration by the Ministry of Education. Dr. Wu had made a rather definite request to the Minister in this case, and she feels that he will make it possible for Miss Hu to get a passport.

I am delighted to know that you are having such a good trip, and I hope that your plans are going to work out satisfactorily right along. We will be thinking of you in July when the tonsils come out. I hope it isn't as hot where you are as it is here. Let us know how things go with you. We want to keep in touch with your plans. We, in turn, will keep you informed of any news in the matter of passports or sailings. I must say that just now it doesn't look too hopeful for anybody.

With all best wishes,

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef

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c/o Dr. Ruth Wagner,
Royal Oak, Mich.,
July 7th, '45.

Dear Mrs. Mills, -

Thank you much for forwarding my mail to me here, - for the news of Dr. Wu. I shall be looking for an answer from her fairly soon, but I'm sure she has much to do besides writing letters. I only hope she will take time off for real rest.

I hope you have seen Chang Tsing-i (Mrs. Tsung) by now. Her address is 609 W. 115th St. I'm so glad for the Sutherlands' promise for Hu Shih-tsang and I do hope it will fill the bill. I received a letter via her soldier friend - written by him thanking us for the Guilliard scholarship but asking us to investigate other possibilities such as Smith. But I believe it would be wise to let this ride until we know what she can do with this offer.

This is a heavenly spot - wonderful flowers - in the country - and all kinds of fresh vegetables which I help pick. - Yesterday by telegram news came that Louise Hammond is critically ill - by long distance from her nephew said it seems the cancer has generalised and it is a matter of only a few days - four at the outside, - but he added "with Aunt Lou you never can tell" She was ^{a little} better yesterday p.m.; Oxygen is keeping her alive. She had asked her nephew to telegraph me ~~me~~ to wire ~~to~~ Ruth Phillips, which I have done.

I was delighted to know that Bah-ling accepted our advice and is with the Sutherlands for the summer.

July 8th Will you please report to Dr. Foreman that I am to have my tonsils out on Wednesday - probably - of this week. Dr. Wagner

7-7-45

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is going to do the job. First I would have you know she will hear to nothing but that I am her guest in her lovely country home for as long as I wish to stay. and second she is operating and refuses to charge a penny! she wants me to put the money for that into an extra long hospitalization, which she feels is best. I am to have a private room in the Royal Oak Hospital (she arranged it all without consulting me) says fifty dollars is the grand total necessary for four or five days. and this is right, ~~for~~ (I don't need the luxury of a private room) but, tho she has a housekeeper here, it is a big house, a large garden - & her old father who works many hours in the garden - and it would be wrong for me to add caring for me to all the is giving. - My thought is this, - that what the Board would pay and I should pay (my share of the fifty dollars) I suggest I shall pay and use for buying vitamins to take back to our college staff. - so she can feel she is making a real gift to Girdling. would you - if you feel this is right - work this out in this way, please, and let me know my share, ~~and~~ I will pay the fifty here, to the hospital. - I feel sure the actual prices must be higher. twenty ~~for~~ for the tonsilectomy and certainly ~~twenty five~~ thirty for ^{nursing} five days and medicines is pretty low. I wonder how much she is adding ^{out} of her own purse to this, - the medicines I feel pretty sure, - how much more I don't know. She wants me to stay a full ten days after leaving the hospital.

1098

7-7-45

She works early and late rarely comes home until midnight, has an office in town and four or five assistants. Her home used to be in A Berlin, but she is not an A Berlin graduate, but we have A Berlin friends in common. I wish you would also write to thank her for all she is doing for me. Wonderful food here, and she is so thoughtful - brought tickets for Joe and me for a symphony concert last night, always doing such kind, generous things. I don't know how to thank her. I do think we want to do all we can to build up her natural interest in Stirling by information about it.

I do want to know what kind of a vacation you will be able to arrange for yourself and Harriet and Angie. Please give them my best wishes.

My brain thinks a little more clearly - if the Board will pay twenty-five I will add a second twenty-five - to be labelled as her gift to ~~the~~ Stirling faculty - for vitamins and medicines, - I will pay the fifty here, - I will have few other expenses for this month. Will that seem right to you and Mr. Evans? If so, ask him I deduct my twenty-five from my next month's salary - add the Board's twenty-five and buy the ~~med~~ vitamins and medicines and ask Dr. Wu to take them back with her. Isn't that a good plan?

My love to her and to you,

Stella Marie.

July 13, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
c/o Dr. Ruth Wagner
201 West First Street
Royal Oak, Michigan

Dear Stella:

I was very glad indeed to get your good letter of July 7th and to know that you are in so delightful a spot. I have been thinking of you especially this last day or two and hoping that all goes well with you. Having your tonsils out is not a very serious performance, but it isn't very comfortable either, and I am glad to know that you are to have several days of complete rest after the operation. I am writing to your wonderful friend, Dr. Wagner, to express to her our appreciation for all she is doing for you.

Now about the \$50.00 for hospital expenses. Of course, the Board will gladly pay its share, which would seem to be \$25.00, since the contract stipulates that you pay the first \$25.00 yourself. That much is clear. What I do not understand from your letter is just exactly how much you expect to pay personally for the hospital and the vitamins you propose to send out to Ginling. If you pay the \$50.00 to the hospital, and then in addition we deduct \$25.00 from your salary to be added to the \$25.00 which the Board will pay for medical expenses, it will mean that you are personally paying out \$75.00. Is this what you intend? If it is, may I suggest that you are being too generous for your own best good. I wonder if I make myself clear. It looks this way to me:

\$50.00 Paid to hospital
\$50.00 Used for vitamins

\$100.00

Of this amount, the Board's share is \$25.00, which certainly leaves you paying \$75.00.

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July 13, 1945

A further word on the matter of vitamins. After talking with Miss Boynton and Dr. Wu herself, I am coming to the conclusion that there are probably plenty of vitamins out there, and that a cash gift is better. Furthermore, even \$50.00 worth of vitamins would be a larger and heavier package than Dr. Wu feels she could guarantee to take back with her. She feels that it is better to put the money into the Faculty Aid Fund, which she uses to meet the most urgent needs that arise, as you know.

I therefore think that the best way to handle this would be for me to have the \$25.00 from the Board placed to the credit of your salary, and you can then use it in any way you like. Is this clear to you?

I am sorry to hear about Louise Hammond, and yet I must say that I cannot be too sad. She has lived gloriously and triumphantly, and I am sure that she herself would be the first to concede that this last year has been like an extra grant of time to her - time that she has used to good purpose in making life worth while for others.

Now that the end has come we can only rejoice in what she was and did, and remember her with gratitude and be thankful for her life.

I have not yet gotten in touch with Mrs. Feng, but will try to do so soon. You know my position on using the admission from one school to get a passport to America and then going to some other school, so I will not say anything more about it. I do hope, however, that Hu Shih-tsang will realize that the offer of full board and room is only if she studied in or near New York, since the Sutherlands live in Montclair. It is not a money grant, only a place in a home. I think that I can get an extra \$500 cash grant from a special source for her, which would take care of her running expenses for a year. Her only problem therefore would seem to be getting here, which of course involves not only a passport, but the passage money and a place on a boat. I hope it works out.

Please keep me posted on how things go with you, your next address, and any other information about yourself. Dr. Wu is here now, but her plans for the next few weeks are not very definite.

My love and best wishes to you always.

Cordially yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

CSM:ef

July 13, 1945

Dr. Ruth Wagner
201 West First Street
Royal Oak, Michigan

Dear Dr. Wagner:

Stella Graves has written to me about your wonderful hospitality to her and your generous arrangements for her medical care in Royal Oak.

May I express to you the appreciation of the Ginling Board for these great kindnesses to Miss Graves. It means much to us, as well as to her, to know that she has such friends. I do not need to tell you anything about Stella's gifts, her sweetness of personality and the joy that she has in her personal relationships. She is a gift to Ginling, and we are very proud of her accomplishments and happy to have her as part of our Ginling family.

Your interest in the work in China through your friendship for her is deeply appreciated, and again I say thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

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July 24, 1945

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Mr. John C. Vincent

over

I fully realize that at this time of preparation for the offensive against the Japanese, civilians have little chance to travel unless they are definitely connected with the war effort. May I say that our Music Department is doing its bit by entertaining American forces, by giving concerts at the Air Bases and by going to the Hospital to sing for the sick and wounded soldiers.

July 24, 1945

I assure you that anything you can do to expedite Miss Graves' return to China will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. John C. Vincent
 State Department
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vincent:

After you left San Francisco I telephoned to a member of the State Department whose name I do not recall, asking about the possibility of getting Ginling faculty members now in America back to China. We are so greatly in need of help on the faculty to replace teachers who must leave for health reasons, that I am raising the question again with you.

The particular case I have in mind is that of Miss Stella Marie Graves. She is a member of the Ginling music faculty and has been in America for the past year. She is now ready to return to China and is most anxious to go in order that Miss Sutherland, another member of the Music Department, can come home on furlough. Miss Sutherland had hoped to come this summer because her mother, who is past eighty, is in failing health and is expecting her daughter to return soon. I have just had a cable from the College, saying that Miss Sutherland's own health now makes it imperative that she have a furlough at once.

I am therefore writing to ask if you can see that special consideration be given to the request that Miss Graves be allowed to return.

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Mr. John C. Vincent

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July 24, 1945

I fully realize that at this time of preparation for the big offensive against the Japanese, civilians have little chance to travel unless they are definitely connected with the war effort. May I say that our Music Department is doing its bit by entertaining American forces, by giving concerts at the Air Bases and by going to the Hospital to sing for the sick and wounded soldiers.

I assure you that anything you can do to expedite Miss Graves' return to China will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Yi-fang Wu

Mr. John C. Vincent
State Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vincent:

After you left San Francisco I telephoned to a member of the State Department whose name I do not recall, asking about the possibility of getting Giling faculty members now in America back to China. We are so greatly in need of help on the faculty to replace teachers who must leave for health reasons, that I am raising the question again with you.

The particular case I have in mind is that of Miss Stella Marie Graves. She is a member of the Giling music faculty and has been in America for the past year. She is now ready to return to China and is most anxious to go in order that Miss Sutherland, another member of the Music Department, can come home on furlough. Miss Sutherland had hoped to come this summer because her mother, who is past eighty, is in failing health and is expecting her daughter to return soon. I have just had a cable from the College, saying that Miss Sutherland's own health now makes it imperative that she have a furlough at once.

I am therefore writing to ask if you can see that special consideration be given to the request that Miss Graves be allowed to return.

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July 25, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
c/o Dr. Ruth Wagner
201 West First Street
Royal Oak, Mich.

Dear Stella:

I had hoped to hear from you before this, telling me that you were completely well again and enjoying life more than ever without your tonsils. I also hope that you understood my last letter about the adjustment on your medical expenses and do not feel cross with me about the position I took in the matter. Please write me frankly how you feel about it.

For your information I would like to say that I have just had a Nanking Newsletter, in which Margaret Turner says that United China Relief has provided "generous amounts" of vitamins in powder form which is being made into tablets and distributed among those who need it on the campus. Margaret goes on to say that the cost is practically nothing and that all who need it can get it by applying for it through the relief committee of their own institution. She went on to outline the method in which this aid was being distributed, and from her account, it would seem that there is no very urgent need at the moment for extra supplies of vitamins. Of course, Claude Thomson is also taking in a large amount, which will be available for all of the institutions, not just the University of Nanking. All of this would seem to strengthen my position that a cash contribution is better now than a contribution of vitamins.

A day or two ago we received an express package for you from Mrs. John Magee, in Washington, insured for \$500. Anything with that high a value on it inspires me with respect and I would like to treat it accordingly. What do you want me to do with it. You doubtless know its contents.

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July 25, 1945

I also have a ring that belongs to you which you left at Dr. Clara Sargent Shepard's. She and Mr. Shepard were in New York not long ago, and she brought the ring to the office, saying she found it under the pillow of the bed in which you had slept. Shall I forward it to you?

We have just had a cable from Ruth, saying that it is inadvisable to postpone Catherine's furlough any longer. Naturally Ruth was anxious for you to get back as fast as possible and her cable raised the question of the possibility of your early return. I know that you, too, are eager to go as soon as you can, and that leads me to ask if you have had any favorable reply from the State Department. I will have to confess that all that we hear is very discouraging, but we are not giving up hope.

Dr. Wu is making splendid progress and will probably go home in another day or two. I am most thankful that this is all behind her, as I am sure that she will be far better off because of this operation.

All best wishes,

Affectionately yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

CSM:ef

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Royal Oak, Mich.,
July 27th, '45.

Dear Mrs. Mills, -

I had already sent
you a letter, ^{this morning} when your
second letter reached me
tonight. But I hesitated -
for fear my enigmatic
reply to your suggestion
about the money to go to
China should worry you.
I understood perfectly.
And when I wrote I had
a pretty good idea of what
I wanted to do but had
not settled exactly how
much or how. But - when I
receive the Board's credit of
twenty-five then I do want
to add to it - because I've had
to pay almost no board bill
for three out of four weeks.
Of course - I may not send
all of it to Dr. W. but

7-27-45

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pending latest war news of
travel to China, I may use
some of it to buy the things
here our faculty members
would love. I will surely
accept your suggestion
for the twenty-five and let
that go as a cash gift thru
Dr. Wu for faculty - student
relief. This is very near my heart.
But it is things they need and
if I can take them in - the money
held and used here - so far as
I know now - please keep me
informed on Chinese exchange
will buy many more of what
they are crazy to get. If I
could take in things when I
go it might pay to hold
all of it and use it on
this side for that purpose
- only how much import
duty there I don't know,
but probably little for
what I would take. Do
please suggest how

best to use this. You see
I want to take things, my
own gift and this
freedom from a board
bill means the chance
to do it.

I'm afraid my letter
seemed at this point
a straight evasion - if
evasions can ever be
straight! - But now
you know my thoughts
and all of it. - I just
hadn't thought it all
out clearly - but I shall
add, to that twenty-five.
Thank you for your concern.

My love to you,

Hilla Marie

P. P. Yes, indeed, please send
the package - the texts she and I
together chose for a possible
cantata I began work on two
years ago with her and Catherine's
suggestion - send it to me to Charlotte
~~Charlotte Street~~

c/o Dr. Ruth Wagner,
201 W. First St.
Royal Oak, Mich.
July 10th '45.

Dear Mr. Mills -

Thanks for your very good letter. Yes, I understand my mathematics looked queer, - but you see I'm getting board and liver and ^{intravenous} iron shots and other pain pills of some kind all free for nothing. But you send me the twenty-five credit and I have a good plan. By the way I enclose the receipt, so you will see the Board owes me ^{a little} more than the twenty-five.

By the way I've just ordered and trust two books - one just out - will be on their way to you in the very near future. They are so good, I believe you will like them. I think you may like ^{to read} them best "Our Fighting Faith" - first and then "Ideas have legs" second. I don't mean that I think the second named book less good than the first - only you may prefer to read them in that order.

July 21st. - I do want to say I am already feeling a good deal better than before the operation - ought to with all the shots I've had, sometimes three at a time! And I weigh more - up to 140. She has made me eat and eat! I feel most like a stuffed pig, but really fine, much better than when

I left New York. The counts were badly diseased - so that the blood count at the hospital showed so high white cells that there was no question of the need for the operation. Doctor is sending you her report which I wish you would kindly turn over to Dr. Foreman. I was in the hospital five days - one day before the operation, in which she gave me a basic metabolism and several other tests. Both before and since she has been giving me iron intravenously 10 cc. each week and ~~leaves~~ shots three times a week - more than she ever has given any patient (before) and vitamins, and she has insisted on my eating till I feel like a stuffed pig - two eggs daily and cereal for breakfast, and loads of green vegetables - wonderful meals.

She has a big practice - sixty to eighty patients a day plus house calls. She said she had helped bring into the world nearly 2000 babies in the first eighteen years of her practice - she has stopped doing that branch of medicine now.

I've had a grand time here - very lazy - also finishing my final work at my manuscripts for the John Day Co.

JUL 10 1945

July 20th. Thank you so much for your word of Dr. Wu, I'd like so much to know what the operation was, and if she has recovered, as well as could be expected up to the present. I shall write her a wee note and send it thru you to her soon.

The son of a childhood friend of mine is in the Air Force and is stationed in Kunning. The letter you forwarded to me from him dated July 14th from Kunning tells of going to Chengde and visiting Dingling. I quote part of his letter. Speaking of Catharine Butcherland whom he saw July 5th he said "Do you know she is not at all well. The doctor has ordered her home but she doesn't want to go. She even broke down and cried while she was talking with me. She is so sweet, she wouldn't want me to say anything to you, but see if there isn't someone who can come over and replace her. Her health is very low." - He speaks of liking her so much and of having sent for music for her - which he can get - and asks me to write thru him to her, - much quicker. I thought it may be wise to let you know my friend's impression of her. Of course her thinness would shock anyone - but doctor's

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7-10-42 - 4 - JUL 10 1945

order - what does it mean? He added that she was going on leave the next Thursday. Was that for a summer vacation? - or could it be furlough? - I can't believe the second because she would not be ordering music from America then. - I know you will be doing your best in this matter - I only wish there might be a piano teacher ready to go with me when I go - I can do none of that you know - I suppose, perhaps, she is requesting me to take over her job ~~of~~ acting head of the department in her absence. Only I do hope she will come - be persuaded to come before she breaks so badly she might not ever be able to return. I don't believe that would happen - but the food she has lived on these last years I know is not enough.

Last tests - white cell count has gone down nearly to normal - hemoglobin just won't improve!! - queer animal, me!! I have a feeling it will soon improve and rapidly.

I will leave ^{Monday} here and spend possibly a week in ^{and around} Charlotte - then unless I let you know to the contrary - I will be heading west a week from Monday or Tuesday at the latest. Will spend over

4-10-45

a day in Chicago ordering music - I wish
I knew how much money Dr. W. would
approve my using. I feel I
could take all I could buy as for a
India with me - and then if necessary
it could wait there till it could be
shipped in. But I need to know
- I wrote asking her this - before
I reach Chicago: Can you find
out for me? - For a victrola - and
music - possibly another organ etc. -
she has my list of I will order for Catherine too)
as per her request,

My address will be:

July 30 - Aug 6th
c/o Miss Mina Courtwright,
West Shaw St,
Charlotte Mich,

Will see Mrs. Futherland in St. Louis
on the way. After Aug. 6th - unless
I send further word to the contrary

c/o Mrs. Hazel H. Gibson
~~137~~ 1353 A Lemon Ave. Long Beach, Cal.

Have you found a vacation spot to
go to? Please give my best wishes
to Harriett and Angie

Sincerely yours,
Stella Marie

RUTH E. WAGNER, M. D.
201 WEST FIRST STREET
ROYAL OAK, MICH.

7-28-45.

Mrs W. P. Mills
150 Fifth Ave. New York.

Dear Mrs Mills: you will find enclosed
our report on Miss Stella Graves. She
had her tonsils removed 7-12-45.
I think that the blood counts taken
7-11 and 7-26 show that she is rid of
a source of chronic infection. I am
not at all satisfied with her red count
and hemoglobin. There is very little
improvement in spite of numerous
shots of liver, and iron intravenously.
Perhaps she will do better now that the
tonsils are gone. They were filled with pus.
I know that Miss Graves is very anxious
to return to China but I hope she can
be in much better condition before
she leaves the States.
It has been a real pleasure to have
Miss Graves with us - Sincerely
Ruth Wagner M.D.

1116

August 1, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
c/o Miss Mina Courtright
West Shaw Street
Charlotte, Mich.

Dear Stella:

Your two letters, running over the period of July 18th to 27th, reached me the same day. I was delighted to hear from you and to know of your improvement. I am sure that you have been in the best of hands and that you are going to be much better without your tonsils. I also had a note from Dr. Wagner, enclosing your medical report, which I have passed on to the Medical Office.

We have credited your salary account with the difference between \$58.80 and \$25.00, that is \$33.80. You do not need to explain to me all of your generous impulses and how you expect to use the money. My concern was only that you should not be more generous than you can afford to be, and also that your generosity be expressed in the most practical way. I was a little afraid that an attempt to send vitamins would not prove to be the most practical way. I know what a joy it is to you to feel that you are doing something for that gallant group in Ginling and I have no suggestions whatsoever to offer about how you send your aid to them. I see you smile when you think that I have already told you definitely what I thought was the best way, that is a cash gift; but the object of this letter is to say that I want you to use your gift to Ginling in the way that will make you happiest.

Dr. Wu talked with me some time ago about your letter to her on the matter of supplies for the Music Department. You know, of course, that she has been in the hospital for some time and has not been able to write many letters. I am afraid that I had not realized that there was a time limit on the questions

August 1, 1945

you asked, and so I had not gotten Dr. Wu's thought on that matter to pass on to you. I have now talked it over with her, and she asks me to say to you that the question is not one of money. The College would gladly appropriate the \$500 you suggest for the purchase of the music and other things you want for the department. The main problem is getting them out there. It is really impossible to get an organ and a victrola sent to China now, and so it does not seem to Dr. Wu a particularly wise plan to buy them now. Music, of course, is a little more easily sent, but we have had no great success with the packages we have started during the past year. Of course, when you start back you could take supplies with you, as far as India anyway, whether you could get them all the way into China along with you or not. Since the date of your own departure is so uncertain, Dr. Wu suggests that you leave any large purchasing until nearer the time that you go. If, however, you think it wisest to place some orders while you are in Chicago, that will be perfectly all right. I wouldn't consider buying an organ or victrola now, but a limited amount of music could be purchased and kept until it is practical to take or send it. Dr. Wu raises the question of the advisability of doing nothing about it now and ordering by letter from the Chicago houses nearer the time of your departure. What do you think of this plan?

Yesterday we mailed you two packages, one your manuscript from Mrs. Magee and the other a small package that came to you in the morning mail. We sent them both to California, where they will probably be waiting for you when you arrive.

Dr. Wu is improving, though not as rapidly as we had hoped immediately after the operation. She is still in the hospital and the doctor says she should stay a few days longer. She is still quite weak and really needs the care that the hospital can give her. She is going to need a long rest after she leaves, and I feel quite certain that she will not start to China as early as the middle of September. Of course, the main thing is to get her completely well again and other things will have to fall in place. I will keep you posted of any major developments in her plans.

I am more than distressed to have the news that you sent me about Catherine. We had had a cable from Ruth along the same line. I think I wrote you that Catherine's furlough should not be postponed. I am greatly distressed about her condition, and hope that it is going to be possible for her to get home before serious damage is done. I do wonder, however, what possibilities there are of getting her here, regardless of the situation at the College. Is it possible to get passage for her?

Miss Stella Marie Graves

-3-

August 1, 1945

It is indeed sweet of you to think of sending me books, and I greatly appreciate your thought. The books have not yet arrived, but I am sure I shall enjoy them when they come. Would you like me to put them with those I am saving for Ginling after I have read them? I think that a gift from you used twice in that way would give the greatest possible amount of pleasure and I know that many at Ginling would want to read these books, too.

Let me say again how delighted I am that you are making progress toward complete recovery. I hope that you are really well by the time this letter reaches you.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef

Special Delivery

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2401 10 August

over

His Excellency
Ambassador Wei Tao-ming

Dear Dr. Wei:
Perhaps Mr. T. L. Tsui has told you that because of my recent operation I had to give up the plan of visiting England early in August on my way back to China.
Now, owing to the slow recovery after the operation, the doctor has definitely advised me to take several months' rest before taking the long trip homeward.
A cable has come from College, asking me to do my utmost in helping Miss Stella Graves to return to Chengtu. She is a member of our faculty and has been on furlough here during the past school year. Our college office in New York has been trying to secure passage for her, but has been told by the State Department that civilians cannot have the priority.
However, because of the following new factors, I take the liberty of writing for your help. I just heard that the boat S.S. Gripsholm will start back on August 24th. It seems to me that such a boat very likely will take civilian passengers. Another factor is that the recent cable from College mentioned the urgency of the return of Miss Stella Graves to replace a faculty member who is now ill in Chengtu. Could you kindly present a special request to the State Department to take Miss Graves' application for passage as a special case?

August 9, 1945

His Excellency
Ambassador Wei Tao-ming
Twin Oaks
3225 Woodley Road
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Wei:

Perhaps Mr. T. L. Tsui has told you that because of my recent operation I had to give up the plan of visiting England early in August on my way back to China.

Now, owing to the slow recovery after the operation, the doctor has definitely advised me to take several months' rest before taking the long trip homeward.

A cable has come from College, asking me to do my utmost in helping Miss Stella Graves to return to Chengtu. She is a member of our faculty and has been on furlough here during the past school year. Our college office in New York has been trying to secure passage for her, but has been told by the State Department that civilians cannot have the priority.

However, because of the following new factors, I take the liberty of writing for your help. I just heard that the boat S.S. Gripsholm will start back on August 24th. It seems to me that such a boat very likely will take civilian passengers. Another factor is that the recent cable from College mentioned the urgency of the return of Miss Stella Graves to replace a faculty member who is now ill in Chengtu. Could you kindly present a special request to the State Department to take Miss Graves' application for passage as a special case?

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His Excellency
Ambassador Wei Tao-ming

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August 9, 1945

I shall be very grateful to you for your kind efforts
in exerting your good influence in facilitating Miss Graves'
early return to Ginling College.

With kind regards to you and Madame Wei, and awaiting
your favorable reply, I am

Respectfully yours,

August 9, 1945

Yi-fang Wu

YFW:ef

Special Delivery

His Excellency
Ambassador Wei Tao-ming
Tsin Oaka
2225 Woodley Road
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wei:

Perhaps Mr. L. L. Tsai has told you that because of
my recent operation I had to give up the plan of visiting England
early in August on my way back to China.

Now, owing to the slow recovery after the operation,
the doctor has definitely advised me to take several months' rest
before taking the long trip homeward.

A cable has come from College, asking me to do my ut-
most in helping Miss Stella Graves to return to Chongku. She is
a member of our faculty and has been on furlough here during the
past school year. Our college office in New York has been trying
to secure passage for her, but has been told by the State Depart-
ment that civilians cannot have the priority.

However, because of the following new factors, I take
the liberty of writing for your help. I just heard that the
U.S. Consulate will start back on August 24th. It seems to
me that such a boat very likely will take civilian passengers.
Another factor is that the recent cable from College mentioned
the urgency of the return of Miss Stella Graves to replace a
faculty member who is now ill in Chongku. Could you kindly
present a special request to the State Department to take Miss
Graves' application for passage as a special case?

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CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

ZA684 NL PD=MACKINAC ISLAND MICH 15

1945 AUG 15 PM 4 36

MRS PLUMER MILLS, GINLING COLLEGE OFFICE

150 5 AVE NYK

THANK GOD PEACE AT LAST. DELAY TWO OR MORE WEEKS ESSENTIAL
TO LEARN HOW TO FIGHT TO BUILD LASTING PEACE.

PLEASE FORWARD LETTERS TO ME, ISLAND HOUSE, MACKINAC. LOVE

STELLA MARIE.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1122

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Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

Charge to the account of

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION

1206

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CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

FOR VICTORY
BUY
WAR BONDS
TODAY

(August 17, 1945)

Miss Stella Grages
Island House
Mackinac Island, Mich.

ENDEAVORED SECURING PASSAGE GRIPSHOLM SAILING AUGUST 24 BUT
IMPRACTICAL. SHIPPING OPENING UP. SUGGEST GETTING VACATION
CALIFORNIA IF INTERESTED.

C. A. Evans

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Island House
Mackinac
August 20, 1945

Dear Mrs. Mills and Mr. Evans:

It is great that shipping is opening up. Have you checked with Dr. Foreman concerning Dr. Ruth Wagner's report and the hope she expressed that I would not need to return to China too quickly? It has been only three weeks since my blood count despite all kinds of liver and iron injections begun in May was still only 66%. As you know, I expected to go to California within a week's time, so I asked to have all my letters sent to California, therefore I don't know about my passport. Do you know whether that is granted yet or not, and what inoculations are required? No statement on the passport blanks was to be found on that subject. My niece's letter quoted you, Mr. Evans, as saying that Catharine Sutherland is still waiting my return. Is that true? Didn't the cable say that it was inadvisable for her to wait longer? Have you had word to the contrary?

My own feeling is that if my actual sailing date could be delayed until the 25th of September or October 1st, that probably my blood condition would be much improved, and that a few extra weeks of good American food now might be the very best insurance of continuing health in China. One added reason for staying here is that August in Mackinac seems a better place for health than southern California. I do very much want some time - the more the better within what is possible - with my niece. But I feel Ginling and China are going to need much more of me than just my ability to teach or write music, and that the training I am getting here can be the basis of both a new physical health and spiritual power - far beyond what I have ever had before, based on guided living - and I mean really guided living and thinking and feeling. Up to now guidance has been frequent perhaps, but far from constant, and of course the reason is in me.

May I hope to take out with me any new people? My plan, what seems best now, unless you with Dr. Foreman feel that I should go at once, is to remain here over Labor Day and then start by Wednesday of that week for California. Then I would have two to three weeks with my niece hoping to be in the best health by October 1st, ready, already for China and the years ahead.

Sincerely yours,

Stella Marie Graves

P.S. If there are any new people to go with me I would like to suggest some time here with me and this amazing team of people who surely are finding how to fight for building a new world - the world we all want - by beginning with themselves.

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CLASS OF SERVICE

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744

WESTERN UNION

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

- DL = Day Letter
- NL = Night Letter
- C = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

ZB243 NL PD=MACKINAC ISLAND MICH AUG 21 1945 AUG 22 AM 9 W

C A EVANS GINLING COLLEGE OFFICE=
150 5 AVE NYK=

HAVE YOU CHECKED WITH DOCTOR FOREMAN THE REPORT FROM DOCTOR WAGNER? ARE PASSPORTS BEING GRANTED TO CHINA NOW? MACKINAC IN AUGUST SEEMS BETTER FOR HEALTH THAN LONGBEACH LETTER FOLLOWS DO I SAIL FROM THE WEST COAST? FOR HONKONG OR INDIA?=
STELLA MARIE GRAVES.

GINLING.

TO CAC @ 1007 HWAT 9-8703
OPR 507 TO BE MAILED

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

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Graves

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Forman so she will know the exact conditions.

Very sincerely yours,

W. A. TAMM

August 24, 1945

Dear Miss Graves:

Enclosure: set of inoculation papers

Carbon copies to: Dr. Forman
Dr. Wagner

Miss Stella Marie Graves
Island House
Mackinac Island, Mich.

Dear Miss Graves:

I am in the office for a day to attend a special meeting and find your telegram of the 21st. Your letter of the 20th is also at hand. There has been such an urgent call for you to get back to China and so much groundwork has been done toward getting your military permit that it seemed advisable to urge preparation for your return at the earliest possible moment.

Your telegram calls attention to the report from Dr. Ruth Wagner. By this time you have received word from Dr. Forman regarding this. In order to bring things to a focus, I had a conference with Dr. Forman this morning, and on the strength of information available, he is saying definitely that you should postpone thought of sailing until the latter part of October.

This will give you ample time to carry out your plans for visiting your niece at Long Beach. There is no telling where sailings will be made from. Up to the present, they have all been from the east coast. It is quite possible, however, that there will be some opening later on from the Pacific Coast. Meanwhile it would seem in order to follow out the recommendations of the Medical Department, as even your sailing in October will be dependent upon your physical progress in the meantime. We are enclosing another set of inoculation papers.

Things are not enough advanced to know who will be going out about the time you will sail, and quite naturally the Moral Rearmament Conference will be over before that time.

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Miss Stella Marie Graves

-2-

August 24, 1945

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Wu, so she will know the existent conditions.

Most sincerely yours,

C. A. EVANS

August 24, 1945

CAE:ef

Enclosure: Set of inoculation papers

Carbon copies to: Dr. Wu
Dr. Forman

Miss Stella Marie Graves
Island House
Machine Island, Mich.

Dear Miss Graves:

I am in the office for a day to attend a special meeting and find your telegram of the 21st. Your letter of the 20th is also at hand. There has been such an urgent call for you to get back to China and so much groundwork has been done toward getting your military permit that it seemed advisable to urge preparation for your return at the earliest possible moment.

Your telegram calls attention to the report from Dr. Forman regarding this time you have received word from Dr. Forman regarding this. In order to bring things to a focus, I had a conference with Dr. Forman this morning, and on the strength of information available, he is saying definitely that you should postpone thought of sailing until the latter part of October.

This will give you ample time to carry out your plans for visiting your niece at Long Beach. There is no telling where sailings will be made from. Up to the present, they have all been from the east coast. It is quite possible, however, that there will be some opening later on from the Pacific Coast. Meanwhile it would seem in order to follow out the recommendations of the Medical Department, as even your sailing in October will be dependent upon your physical progress in the meantime. We are enclosing another set of inoculation papers.

I think you are not enough advised to know who will be going out about the time you will sail, and quite naturally the more information (conference will be over before that time.

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September 8, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
Island House
Mackinac Island, Michigan

Dear Stella:

Your letter of August 21st should have been acknowledged before this, also your other letters and telegrams which arrived while I was away on vacation. I believe that Mr. Evans has written to you and also wired you about the efforts he has made to secure your passport and passage. I have just returned to the office and am now in the process of finding out all that has happened while I was away.

I understand that you have had a letter from the State Department refusing to grant your passport immediately, and saying that your request will be considered in its turn. This may not be as discouraging as it sounds, since things change very rapidly and passports may be forthcoming in the near future. In the meantime, it seems highly important to me that as promptly as possible you complete all arrangements for your departure, including your visit to your niece, and all inoculations.

It seems to me that the probability that Ginling will not be in Chengtu more than one more academic year, and that any large things, such as a radio, victrola or organ, would hardly reach West China before the college would be packing up to move, has a very direct bearing on what you plan to take out with you. In addition, it would seem wise to delay purchasing such mechanical equipment long enough to insure our getting articles with the very great improvements that will certainly be offered as soon as new models are on sale. This is especially true of the radio. I would therefore suggest that you select the music the Department needs, and plan to take as much as you

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September 8, 1945

think best with you, but that the other things be sent direct to Nanking, thus saving a great deal of expense in shipping, not to mention wear and tear involved in the long journey to West China and back. Of course, we would want the benefit of your judgment on these purchases, whether they are made before or after you leave.

We will forward the ring to your niece's address in California, as you request. I think that I will hold the music from Oberlin a little longer, until we know whether you sail from the east or the west. If you leave from the east coast, it hardly seems advisable to send these large packages all the way to California and have them sent back again.

I am delighted to know that your stay at Mackinac has meant so much to you, and I greatly appreciate your invitation to me to join you there. I know that great spiritual forces are at work in that group, and I also know that I need the strength that could come to me from contact with these forces, but it has not been possible for me to include a trip to Mackinac in my plans for the summer. It gives me great joy to know that you have had this experience before starting back to China. Anything that will send you back to the difficult days that lie ahead with a surer sense of purpose and guidance toward the accomplishment of that purpose is to be received with gratitude.

I shall look forward with interest to hearing your plans for the next few weeks. I hope that it is going to be possible for you to have a satisfactorily long visit with your niece in California. She has been expecting you for so many months that I hate to think of either of you being disappointed.

I had a cable from Ruth a day or two ago, confirming your word about Hu Shih-tsang. Ruth says that she will not be able to arrive in America by the fall semester. I have written this to Dr. Wedge and said that I hoped the scholarship would be available to her for the second semester. I believe you have also written him about this.

We have no word at all about Catherine's return. Ruth's cable did not mention her and I have had only one letter from the college within the last month. In that, dated July 27th, Ruth says that Catherine was then visiting Dr. Gale and everyone hoped that she would have a really good rest and return much stronger. Ruth was very anxious that she get to America as fast as possible, as she feared that even a good rest in the summer would not be sufficient to give Catherine the strength she needs to go through another year. I will keep you informed of any news that comes.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef

1129

CLASS OF SERVICE
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WESTERN UNION

1220

SYMBOLS	
DL	Day Letter
NL	Night Letter
LC	Deferred Cable
NLT	Cable Night Letter
	Ship Radiogram

SEP 11 AM
 FIFTH AVE N.Y.
 GRAMERCY 7/5238

A. N. WILLIAMS
 PRESIDENT

(36)
MS

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

LONG ZD6 NL PD=MACKINAC ISLAND MICH SEPT 10
 MRS PLUMMER MILLSZ.CARE GINLING COLLEGE OFFICE SEP 11 AM 10 36
 :150 FIFTH AVE NYK:

YOUR LETTER RECEIVED TODAY. HAVE JUST WIRED DR. WU URGING HER IF POSSIBLE TO COME HERE FOR A SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND OVER SEPTEMBER 15TH SUGGESTING SHE MIGHT BRING YOU ALONG. FULLY REALIZE HER RECENT CONVALESCENCE BUT FEEL SHE WOULD BE SO ENCOURAGED BY HER TIME HERE THAT IT WOULD HELP IN HER RECOVERY AND SEND HER BACK TO CHINA WITH REAL HOPE FOR FUTURE. FULLY CONFIDENT YOU WILL SERIOUSLY CONSIDER POSSIBILITIES OF YOUR COMING WITH DR. WU AS OUR GUEST. GINLING HAS MANY FRIENDS HERE AND WE WILL GIVE YOU A WARM WELCOME. REPLY ISLAND HOUSE, MACKINAC ISLAND:

:BISHOP ROOTS FRANCES STELLA GRAVES.

DR. WU 15 DR. WU.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

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September 14, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
Island House
Mackinac Island, Mich.

Dear Stella:

I greatly appreciate your telegram and the cordial invitation to come to Island House for the weekend of September 15th. I am sure that it would be most delightful and I wish that it were possible, but I cannot get away from the accumulation of work for that length of time. I forwarded the telegram to Dr. Wu, and I am sure that you have heard from her directly. I hope that you got my wire promptly so that you were not expecting me.

I am afraid that I failed to mention in my last letter to you the fact that the books you sent me have been duly received. I thank you for thinking of me and sending me this material, and I shall read it with great pleasure.

We have forwarded your ring to you at your niece's address in California and I hope that it will arrive safely. Please keep us posted about your movements. I assume that you will soon be with her. I know that she has been looking forward to your coming for a long time.

I saw Ruth Phillips briefly a few nights ago. I think she looks very well and she seems to be full of energy. Rosemary was with her and said that she would be here until she returns to school. Miss Phillips was glad that she had the apartment to return to, but also said that she hoped to find a place with more light and air if she is going to stay in New York. Apartments are just about as hard to get as ever, but I hope that she will be successful.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef

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Charge to the account of

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

ASSOCIATED BOARDS FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES IN CHINA
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

WESTERN UNION

1206

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

FOR VICTORY
BUY
WAR BONDS
TODAY

(September 12, 1945)

Miss Stella Marie Graves
Island House
Mackinac Island, Mich.

GREATLY APPRECIATE INVITATION. REGRET CANNOT ACCEPT. DOCTOR
WU REPLYING DIRECTLY.

Cornelia Mills

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CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

1201

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NC = Cable Night Letter

SR = Ship Radiogram

1945 SEP 16

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ZA368 NL PD=MACKINAC ISLAND MICH 16

MRS PLUMER MILLS GINLING COLLEGE OFFICE

=150 5 AVE NYK=

THANKS FOR YOUR TELEGRAM I AM LEAVING MACKINAC FOR CHICAGO
ST LOUIS AND LONG BEACH NEXT MONDAY SEPTEMBER 17 MY LOVE
TO YOU=

STELLA MARIE.

17.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

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EDUCATIONAL MUSIC BUREAU, INC.

PHONE FRANKLIN 0221

A Consolidated Music Publishers Supply Service

MUSIC • EQUIPMENT • INSTRUMENTS

30 EAST ADAMS • CHICAGO 3, ILLINOIS

September 19, 1945

Ginling College Office
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, New York

Gentlemen:

Attention - Mr. Evans

Miss Stella M. Graves was in our office and ordered a quantity of books, etc. for use in her work in the Mission in China to which she is going, and tells us that payment for her purchase will be made through your office.

Will you kindly tell us just how the invoice should be rendered so that it may prove satisfactory to you? Your early response will be appreciated so that the matter can be handled just as promptly as possible.

Yours truly,

EDUCATIONAL MUSIC BUREAU, INC.

W. R. Parker

W. R. Parker, Credit Manager

WRP:P

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September 21, 1945

Mr. W. R. Parker, Credit Manager
Educational Music Bureau, Inc.
30 East Adams
Chicago 3, Ill.

Dear Mr. Parker:

Thank you for your letter of September 19th
informing us that Miss Stella M. Graves has ordered
a quantity of books for her work in China.

Will you please render the invoice to
Ginling College and mail it to the above address.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. W. Plumer Mills

CSM:ef

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WELK

c/o Mrs. Hazel Gibson,
1353-A Lemon Ave.,
Long Beach, Cal.,
Sept. 28th '45.

Dear Mrs. Mills:-

This is to acknowledge your good letter. Thank you for your news of Dr. Wu. I just received - after your letter - a long letter from her. She urged me to come east in October to do my best to get a passage. Of this is necessary of course I will come; - I would like to wait until about the tenth of October but I realize that that may ^{not} be ~~not~~ right. It seems as if it ought to be possible to sail from the West Coast. I wrote Mr. Evans of my hope to be able to sail with the Leonard Allen, (the Voice of China) ^{also to Seattle} going to Burma ^{and Borneo} on the Skiptonholm the middle of October and from the East Coast. That would be ideal. I would need to leave here I suppose by the seventh - or even the fifth, perhaps.

I failed to tell you that five dollars of the fifty sent to Dr. Wu was a gift from Mrs. Merle Denick, 700 N. Park St., Jackson, Mich. It is her son who flew to Chengtu from Kunning and saw Catharine and who so kindly offered to get music then to her - I sent the packages - two, because one would have been too heavy - one from St. Louis and the other from Long Beach. I bought the music in Chicago but had to rush to the train so had not a minute to mail the same. I had to present it at the P.O. with his letter each time. I think Mrs. Denick, who

is an early childhood friend of mine would appreciate a brief note of thanks from you. She may like to give further small - perhaps not always so small gifts. They are not wealthy but are very hard workers, and loyal friends.

So I see I may be seeing you all again - you - and Dr. Wu - and Ruth Phillips. Ruth mentioned how much she appreciated your calling to see her this fall. - I am having a wonderful time here - am finding a home and a family - my family as I never had known them before, and am so grateful. My ^{two} nephews are both over seas, but my niece - their mother - and the charming wife of the eldest nephew and her two darling children are true treasure. - Do you see I am a great - great aunt!! It makes me feel ancient - the actual relationship - but they have a very different effect on me.

Oh - I've just mailed a letter to Dr. Evans - I'm sure he will realize - if I am to come east again I will need additional travel funds! Any news on the passport question?

Lovingly yours,

Stella Marie.

P.S. Ace Thih-Trang's letter just reached me I enclose it - date Aug. 26th - tells of Catharine. It may be wise if you would inform Dr. Wedge of her problem. It would be tragic for her to miss the opportunity; maybe wise to suggest to him probability of a year's delay in her coming.

October 4, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
c/o Mrs. Hazel Gibson
1353 A Lemon Avenue
Long Beach 6, Calif.

Dear Stella:

I was very happy to get your letter of September 27th written from Long Beach. It is good to know that you are finding such joy in being with your own family. I know that it will give you renewed strength and happiness and enable you to store up memories that will go with you in your next term of service in China.

We do expect you to go back to China, you see, although I must confess that I haven't anything definite to say right now. They simply are not taking women. Dr. Mary Cheng went all the way out to the West Coast to get on a boat scheduled to leave today, only to find that they would not take any women, Chinese or American. That really is as much as I have to say on this subject now. Mr. Evans has doubtless written to you and told you, as he has told me, that there is no possibility at all of your getting on the Gripsholm. He hopes that when shipping does open up more freely, it may be possible for you to sail from the West Coast, but it is no use to talk about this now as we have no assurance of the time that you will be able to go.

Thank you for sending me Hu Shih-tsang's letter. Some time ago I wrote to Dr. Wedge of Juilliard, telling him that she could not get here before the beginning of the second semester and asking that the scholarship be made available to her at that time. He has never replied. Have you had anything from him on the subject? I rather hate to approach him again until I know his reaction to this first delay. There is still no definiteness

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October 4, 1945

about Miss Hu's arrival and we could not blame Dr. Wedge for taking the position that he would consider giving her a scholarship when he knows absolutely that she can get here.

I am glad to know that you were able to get the music off to Catharine through Mr. Denick. I am sure that it will be most helpful to her. We have not yet gotten the bill from the Chicago house for it, though we did have an inquiry as to how this bill should be rendered. I suppose they will collect in due time.

Dr. Wu is now in New York and apparently she is pretty well. Of course, she will not talk much about her condition and insists that she feels fine. She is seeing the doctor this afternoon for a check-up, and after that we may know more definitely what she can plan about her return.

I had a letter from Mrs. Sutherland a day or two ago in which she expressed great concern for Catharine's health. I wonder if you have had any recent word from Catharine. I am sure you will share it with Mrs. Sutherland if you have.

I have not seen Ruth Phillips for some days, but it is good to know that she is nearby. I hope to see her soon.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef

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November 16, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
c/o Mrs. Hazel Gibson
1353 A Lemon Avenue
Long Beach 6, Calif.

Dear Stella:

It has been a long time since I wrote you, but I have thought of you often and wished you were near enough for a visit.

Did you ever write to Dr. Wedge about Miss Hu Shih-tsang? I wrote him once and told him of her delay and said that I hoped a scholarship would be available for her when it was possible for her to come. Quite naturally, he has not written to me, as the time of Miss Hu's arrival seems so uncertain, and he would not be able to make any blind promises. In the meantime, word from China seems to indicate that they think Ann Arbor would be better for her than Juilliard, and Dr. Wu was going to see what she could do about getting a scholarship there.

Dr. Wu has spent the last ten days in Ann Arbor, Detroit and Chicago, and got back in New York day before yesterday. She has done some speaking and met with a number of groups of Ginling friends, and I hope had a good time. I am anxious to see her and hear all about it, especially what scholarships she has secured for our girls.

I am afraid I haven't much to say about the passport situation. A few people have gone by boat to Shanghai and eastern ports in China, and the Presbyterian Board at least is trying to get some women out that way. Up to the present, however, I have not heard of any great success in that direction. You may be sure Mr. Evans is doing what he can.

Horton Daniels is starting back on Sunday, leaving here by a boat that goes through the Panama Canal and thence to Shanghai. He is going up to Nanking as promptly as possible. The Hospital

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Miss Stalla Marie Graves

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November 16, 1945

there has been run by the Japanese and is still functioning, but needs reinforcement badly. As you know, Searle and Albert Steward are now in Nanking, and Plumer got to Shanghai on November 7th. I had only a cable in which he did not give any details of his plans, so I am eager for a letter.

All of the music from Chicago has come, and will be sent out as soon as possible. I enclose a letter that came. The bill has been paid. We have just received a bill for \$19.62 from C. Schirmer Music Company in Los Angeles, addressed to Mr. Evans. We suppose that it is something you ordered, but we had heard nothing from you about it. Please let me know what it is.

You will be interested in this paragraph from a letter from Ruth Chester, dated October 13th:

"Our latest news from Nanking is that the buildings have been turned over to us and Mrs. Tsen and Blanche Wu were planning to move in and probably have already done so. We haven't very much detail yet about the condition of the property, but it is not as bad as it might have been. There is almost none of our furniture left, but evidently a fair amount of Japanese things, rough benches, tables, etc., which can be used temporarily. They have gathered up about 30,000 of our library books, which is roughly half of the original lot, but we do not know what they are. They are planning to open a middle school of some sort right away, in order to have the buildings in use and make sure they don't get borrowed again. I hope one of us can go down from here soon, but there is no definite information to give on that yet."

We are all most anxious for more details about Nanking, so hope Ruth can get there soon.

I hope all goes well with you.

Affectionately,

CSM:EF

Enc - letter L Educational Music Bureau, Chic

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Graves

1353-A Lemon Ave.,
Long Beach, Cal.,
Nov. 23rd, '45.

Dear Mrs. Mills, -

Your letter of the 15th
arrived today. Thank you for
all its good news.

I did write to you or to Mr.
Evans saying that I planned
to buy some records to take
back to Hsiung, planning
to take them with me. And
I have the records. Catharine
gave me a list of all the
records we have. That
list, plus what I have
bought added to it
I will send to you to
give to her so that she
may know what I am
taking back. I asked the
store, W. Behrmer, to
send you a duplicate
list of the records.

11-23-45

[27]

And would not it be wiser
to send all the music with
me - let me take it in?
Can you send things
by mail now? I thought
to take everything just as
far as I could, at least
to India - or Hongkong, and
then if I had to fly, arrange
for them to be sent the best
way I could. Or are you
having any luck sending
things by mail?

I surely am glad of the
better news from Nanking.

I did write to Dr. Wedge
and I feel sure I sent
you a letter with his
reply saying the scholarship
would be postponed and
given her the second
semester. But if she is
not to arrive even for the
second semester, would
you please inform him

as soon as you deem wise.
I understood so clearly that
the reason why Miss An
was not given a scholarship
at the U. of M. before is
because of her grades in
D.C. - so that despite Dr.
Wu's recommendations
some one else was given the
scholarship. This could
continue to happen
indefinitely, and at such
a distance this would be
a tragedy. Dr. Wedge has
promised this scholarship
and I feel the chance to
study in New York would
mean more to her - the name -
as well as richer opportunities.
Of course money may be
the reason, but she has
served thinking long and
well and she sure deserves
a break! Hung Wah-ling

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11-23-75

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in the Institute

could help her, and so would
 Ruth Phillips, - not to
 mention your honorable self!
 Of course she can learn much
 at the U. of M., but I'm
 just remembering all that
 study in N. Y. has meant
 to me!

Are there any smiling friends
 who may wish to send things
 by me to Smiling?

My love to you. How
 are Angie and Harriet these
 days?

Patla Marie,

ppk

DEC 3 1945
Dec. 3rd, '45,

Graves

Dear Mrs. Mills, -

As I think of the journey ahead and present conditions in China, ^{and moving to Nanjing,} there are a few things I think I will surely need, and I don't see how I can finance them. Perhaps you may have some Guling friends in mind who would care to help in this. You know the difficulties these days.

One is a cot bed and mattress. We used to be able to buy them in China but two I bought broke in no time, and now would be out of sight in cost and also no good.

Second is a bicycle. ^{Trishka} travel is so expensive now. A friend has told me that the Elgin Co. of Elgin (Indiana?) sometimes gives bicycles to people. This second is very second,

DEC 31 1945

but I believe it would
help tremendously, in
speed and expense. And
I do know how to ride.

Hopefully!! and gratefully.

Stella Marie

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

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December 12, 1945

Miss Stella Marie Graves
c/o Mrs. Hazel Gibson
1353 A - Lemon Avenue
Long Beach 6, Calif.

Dear Stella:

Your letters of November 23rd and December 3rd both arrived quite promptly and should have been acknowledged before this. I shall now try to answer all the questions you raise.

First about the records from Schirmer. The bill has been paid, but as far as I can find out we have never received a list of the records. If you can supply such a list, we can have it here for Catharine's information when she arrives.

If you go by way of Shanghai, I think it would be wise for you to take as much as possible with you. On the other hand, if you go by way of India, I doubt the wisdom of taking much with you. Shipping is opening up now and we are planning to get a number of boxes off to Shanghai in the early spring. They will then be in Nanking by the time the College needs them. As you know, getting things in from India to Chengtu is slow and uncertain, and since it is now well into December, we could not hope to have anything which is sent that way reach the campus in time to be of much service to them before the College closes the middle of April. This date was given in a recent letter from Eva Spicer. We still have heard nothing from packages sent by mail well over a year ago, so are not sending anything more that way. Since the problem of moving is going to be a very real one, it does not seem wise to take anything more than is absolutely necessary to Chengtu. I have just talked this over with Dr. Wu and she strongly supports this view. Of course, if you go to Shanghai, then you will want to take as much as possible with you.

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Miss Stella Marie Graves

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December 12, 1945

We have had a cable from Chengtu saying definitely that Hu Shih-tsang wants to go to Michigan. Dr. Wu has been to Ann Arbor and talked over the matter of a scholarship for her with Dr. Rufus and has his virtual promise that Miss Hu will be given a Barbour Scholarship for the coming year. We are therefore informing Juilliard that she will not claim the one offered her there. This may or may not be the wisest decision, but it is what she wants, and Dr. Wu is happy about it.

Dr. Wu is now planning to start back before the end of December, going by way of Shanghai and Nanking. She will fly, of course, so will not be able to take much with her. She seems quite well, and is eager to get back.

I am enclosing the check which you sent to Dr. Wu and which she asked me to return to you. She thinks that you can use it more easily than she to get things to take back, since you will be going by boat and she by plane.

I am afraid that as yet I have no encouraging word about a cot or a bicycle for you. I realize that both are most useful - necessary, in fact - but I have not found anyone who wants to buy these. What were the conditions on this \$50.00 check? Could it be used that way?

Harriet Whitmer is making plans to start to Nanking as soon as passport and passage are available. She will be a tower of strength to Mrs. Tsen and Blanche Wu and the others who are getting the campus ready for use in the fall.

This will bring you my love and all good wishes for Christmas and the coming year.

Cordially yours,

M

CSM:ef

Enclosure: Return of check

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