

April 29, 1949

Dear Mrs Brack,

I do want to thank you most sincerely for your letter of April 19 and especially for your very stimulating "resume of my own thoughts." It is highly gratifying to learn that Miss Dines may be induced to tackle the 1908 - 1949 period and I shall hopefully await a favorable decision on her part.

I still feel that a single-volume two-authors book might turn out satisfactorily and in this connection I am particularly interested in the ideas which you yourself have put forward in paragraph 3, page 4, of your typed manuscript, beginning with the words: "Have a study or evaluation of these years...etc." The approach you suggest would, of course, be in marked contrast with the strictly historical handling of the 1867 - 1907 period but would not necessarily be in direct conflict with it. The inevitable lack of uniformity in literary style need not be displeasing and might even be stimulating.

I am inclined to think that this treatment of the later period would be acceptable to the Board of Trustees of the Hospital as well as to the authorities of the School of Nursing. I am also fairly certain that it would be approved by the influential older members of the Alumnae Association (such as Mrs Cullen) because it would not involve the revival of personal animosities or hurt the feelings of persons still living who, whatever their failings may have been, have nevertheless rendered real service to the School and the Hospital. If a strictly historical approach were to be used (as it has been used for the earlier period) it would not be possible to avoid either of these contingencies.

