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September 13, 1946

Dear Martha:

I returned from my vacation to find your letter of August 30 awaiting my attention. I also found a copy of your letter to Schumann and the script which you prepared for his consideration. I have just finished talking with William Schumann on the telephone and everything is settled satisfactorily. I explained to him that I am not as hard-boiled as he seemed to think and if he needed an extra instrument or two this would not hold up the performance. I told him that I had made Aaron Copland promise to write for eight instruments, but we produced it with many more. There was, however, one question which I could not answer, and that related to the orchestra which would be used in Cambridge. Had you planned to use your regular orchestra which you take on tour? Would it not be better to gather a group of musicians in Boston? If you prefer the former plan won't this involve us in union difficulties? I wish you would discuss this with Louis Horst at your earliest convenience and let me know what he thinks will be the preferable plan.

It now seems quite definite that the work by William Schumann will be the only novelty at this performance. I think you should repeat the work by Chavez. Even if the music is not satisfactory, I think the choreography was marvelous. After the New York performance I thought it one of your best works. The program, however, will require a third work but I suggest that we do not make an immediate decision about this until you know more about what the new work will be like. I do not recommend performing the Copland again at this concert because it will undoubtedly cause the audience to draw comparisons which may prove embarrassing one way or another. I thought of doing the Hindemith but then again your new work may be in the same style. My only purpose in mentioning it is to start you thinking about it since we may be asked for the final program earlier than I expect.

I had a whole month vacation - the first one in five years - and really feel much better for it. I hope you enjoyed your rest.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Harold Spivacke  
Chief, Music Division

Miss Martha Graham  
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