

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

**Walter Alexander Groves** was born in Germantown, Pennsylvania on March 10, 1898, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Groves. He attended Lafayette College for three years, enlisted in the army and served as a second lieutenant with the field artillery in World War I, then returned to Lafayette, earning an AB in 1919. Undergraduate activities at Lafayette included the Franklin Literary Society, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, the Track team (on which he served as captain), the Cross Country Team, and Phi Beta Kappa. He received an AM from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1922 and was ordained minister by the Presbytery of Philadelphia in 1923. In 1925, Groves earned a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. Groves was a member of the faculty at Lafayette from 1922-1924, teaching history and the Bible, and further served as secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the U. from 1924-1925

**Estelle Crawford Groves** was born in 1905. She attended the University of Pennsylvania. Her family lived in Norristown, PA at the time of her marriage and correspondence home.

On February 28, 1925 Walter and Estelle were married and departed almost immediately for Teheran, Persia to serve as missionaries teaching at the American School of Teheran, also known as the American High School for Boys, latter renamed Alborz College. Referred to at Lafayette as "Lafayette in Persia," the American School was founded and run by Samuel Martin Jordan, Lafayette Class of 1895, under the auspices of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the USA. The two institutions cemented their relationship in 1906 (when Jordan returned to the USA on furlough and centered his promotional efforts for fundraising support for the school in Easton) and formalized in 1923 by the Board of Trustees of Lafayette College.

The couple served as missionaries in Teheran until 1940 (with at least one furlough in 1930), during which time Walter held increasing levels of responsibility at the American School. He was registrar from 1925-1931 during which time he also taught religion, ethics, and philosophy, as well as starting and running the school's library. He became dean in 1931 in addition to his previous responsibilities.

The Groveses arrived in Teheran after Reza Shah took control of the state in 1921, but several months before he was named Shah of Iran in December 1925. Because of their status as Americans, the Groveses interacted with diplomatic personnel of the United States and Britain, attending both private events and those held in public venues, such as the coronation of Reza Shah in 1925 and a party celebrating the shah's four years in office in April 1930.

During the period of these letters (1925-1930), two sons were born to Walter and Estelle. Walter Craig Groves, Lafayette College class of 1949, was born in Teheran on February 6, 1927. Warren Olley Groves, Lafayette College class of 1948, was born in Teheran on November 8, 1928. A third son, Robert H. Groves, was born in August 1930 in the States while the family was home on furlough.

Upon returning to the States, in 1940, Walter served on the faculty at Centre College in Kentucky, teaching philosophy and religion from 1940-1942 and then serving as professor of

theology at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary from 1942-1946. Lafayette College awarded him an honorary doctorate of divinity in 1945. In 1947, he returned to Centre to take the position of President of the College, which he held until 1956. In 1956, he resigned this office to return to the Middle East, and become the president of the new engineering college at Abadan, Iran. He remained there until 1961, when he became provost and vice-chancellor of Pahlavi University in Shiraz.

After retiring in 1964, Walter and Estelle moved to Albany, Georgia. In 1966, the Groveses returned to Persia, where Walter served as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Abadan for 18 months. During this time he helped establish Damavand College in Teheran. Upon returning to Georgia, Walter served at Covenant Church, where he was named pastor emeritus. Walter died on September 22, 1983, followed by Estelle on December 4, 1987.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Walter A. and Estelle Crawford Groves Papers comprise of one cubic foot, about 700 pieces of correspondence. The papers, primarily letters, were written by the couple to their families in Pennsylvania during their first missionary term in Teheran, Persia (Iran). Other items include letters from Ralph and Harriet Hutchison to the Crawford family; copies of published letters written individually by the Groveses and Hutchisons to home parishes; letters from Walter A. Groves to the alumni of Lafayette College; and telegrams from the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the USA.

Primary recipients of the letters include Estelle Groves' parents Estelle Hamilton Crawford and James Craig Crawford, her sister Julia Loomis Crawford, and Walter's mother. Estelle frequently employs informal nicknames in place of familial pronouns. Early on, Walter makes two copies of the letters he writes, sending one to the Crawfords and one to the Groveses. As a result, some duplication persists throughout the collection, although in many cases, Walter and Estelle add personalized addenda to each letter.

Letters begin with an in-depth description of the Groveses' and Hutchisons' trip from New York to Teheran beginning with the ocean voyage from New York to Beirut upon the SS *Canada* and continuing on land, with details given of travel methods and cities and stops along the way. Once the Groveses arrive in Teheran, topics turn to settling into the city, notices of cultural and societal differences, their relationship with the Mission in Teheran, and Walter's early work at the American School of Teheran.

Due to warm summer temperatures and the increased chance of illness, Walter Groves and Ralph Hutchison ran an extension of American School as a summer camp in the mountains near Aveen. The Groveses, then, spent the summers of 1925-1929 at the rustic site. The Groveses first relocate to Aveen in June 1925 and stay until the end of August. Letters discuss the difference between city and rural life, setting up the household and campsite, the activities of the students.

At the end of August 1925, the camp closes and the Groveses return to Teheran, where they have found a permanent residence. Over the course of the school year, the house is settled, Estelle begins to teach history at the American School of Teheran Girls' School, Walter's role in

the teaching and administration of the American School grows, and both Groveses struggle with their study of the Persian language. By the end of the spring term in May 1926, Estelle has also begun teaching Sunday school. Throughout the term, the Groveses discuss Persian politics, Persian cultural mores, and their thoughts on the Islamic religion and the Christian missionary's role in Islamic society.

The summer 1926 stay in Aven sees a number of changes for the camp, including an increase in enrollment as well as courses offered for credit. Perhaps due to the Groveses feeling settled after a year in Persia, the letters describe the camp's administration in more detail as well as some of the individual converts. Apart from making annual reports to the Board of Foreign Missions, Walter and Ralph Hutchison begin work on an educational program for all missions in Persia, and Teddy begins teaching English at the camp.

The 1926-1927 school year begins with a renewed search for a permanent residence for the Groveses. In addition, letters describe Walter's additional duty of registrar of the American School, and by the end of the spring 1927 term, Walter has also become the de facto Physical Education teacher. The school year sees Estelle announce her pregnancy in October 1926, as well as the birth of the Groveses' first child, Walter Craig, in February 1927. Due to the pregnancy and birth, Estelle ceases teaching in the spring 1927 term. Letters throughout the spring frequently dwell on topics related to Walter Craig's development. In addition to family news, letters from the 1926-1927 school year discuss both Groveses' missionary work, the larger complications of the Presbyterian Mission throughout the world, and periodic reports of the political situation in Persia.

The Groveses repair to the camp near Aven in June 1927. In addition to routine remarks on the camp and the changes imposed this summer the letters include discussions of the continuing political situation in Persia, which begins to affect the activities of the American School directly. Some discussion of the such developments remains on the surface level, however, because incoming mail to the Groveses is frequently opened. New regulations from the government's ministry of education are discussed as well.

The academic year beginning in September 1927 opens with a discussion of the political situation in Persia. Arthur Millsbaugh has resigned as economic minister, and the American economic mission has closed. Once classes begin, Estelle begins to teach an introductory drawing course, while Walter trains student assistants to help his growing administrative duties at the college. By the end of the spring 1928 semester, Walter has hired an assistant for the registrar's office. Estelle announces her second pregnancy in April 1928. Problems posed by the Ministry of Education receive attention throughout the academic year in Walter's letters. Estelle's letters devote time to Walter Craig's development and her reflections on faith.

The annual journey to Aven begins in June 1928. In addition to a discussion of set up of the boys' camp, letters home discuss the Groveses' worsening financial situation. Inadequate salaries and the growth of their family are among the causes. Additional topics written about during the summer include Walter's work on the educational committee, planning the curriculum for students at all Persian schools run by the Presbyterian Mission, and a field trip Walter took with a number of students to Meshed.

The 1928-1929 academic year begins after the Groveses return to Teheran in September. Furloughs are frequently discussed throughout the fall of 1928. Per the Mission's regulations, missionaries take a yearlong furlough every five years. This presents a problem for the College, as it threatens to disrupt it's development through depriving the college of multiple staff members. As such, these letters highlight the College's administrative relationship with the Mission board. Letters also frequently discuss Walter's health, as he comes down with an infection that is difficult to diagnose, as well as the Groveses' financial situation. Estelle gives birth in November 1928 to a second boy, named Warren. After the birth, many of Estelle's letters discuss life with two young children. In January 1929, the controversy of furloughs is more or less solved when the Hutchisons are ordered home due to a long running illness of Harriet Hutchison's. By the end of the school year, Walter's infection has waxed and waned. Because of this, the Groveses hand over administration of the camp in Aveen to others. In early June 1929, word comes that money has been raised for the Groveses and Hutchisons to build houses on the college campus.

Thus, the beginning of the summer break 1929 is notable because first Walter's illness and then Craig contracting dysentery precludes the Groveses' departure from Teheran. The family arrives in Aveen in mid-July 1929. Letters are infrequent during this period, as Walter goes to Hamadan for three weeks to work with the Annual Mission meeting of the East Persian Mission. In addition to the trip to Hamadan, other developments of note include a staffing shortage brought on by the rapid growth in infrastructure in Persia.

The 1929-1930 academic year begins with a boom in enrollment. The president of the college is on furlough, in addition to the Hutchison's medical leave. This brings Walter's duties at the college to an all-time high. The construction of houses on the college campus is delayed and then added to the list of ambitious construction projects the college has planned, discussions of which deal with bureaucratic red tape as well as relations with architects and engineers. Issues related to the politics of education in Persian government, as well as administrative issues are discussed most often in Walter's letters. Estelle's letters discuss plans for the furlough, which is slated to begin in June 1930, as well as the announcement in February of a third pregnancy. By May 1930, the itinerary for the voyage to the United States has been finalized, as well as an apartment for the year in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Throughout the letters, there are descriptions of Persian culture and society, as well as the Islamic religion and Christian spiritual reflection. Of particular interest are the Groveses' comments regarding the role and treatment of women in Persian and Islamic culture, empathizing with the difficulties of both traditional and converted Christians, and chronicles of journeys to historical or religious landmarks within Persia.

In addition to the letters, there are also three photographic prints and additional published material.

**INVENTORY**

**Box 1**

*Folder 1: October 4, 1918*

Letter dated October 4, 1918 from Walter A. Groves to his mother, written from the Field Artillery Central Officers Training School at Camp Zachary Taylor, Kentucky.

*Folders 2 – 4: March 14 – May 2, 1925*

Letters detail the Groveses' voyage from Boston, Massachusetts to Teheran, Persia. Along with descriptions of daily routines, letter writing, and reading, the letters describe cities and sites throughout Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. Of particular interest in Estelle's letters are a comparison (April 5) of mosques in Cairo to churches in the United States and a description of the final leg of the trip to Teheran via an automobile over the desert. Also of note are two separate letters, one each written by Estelle (April 13) and Walter (April 21), offering differing perspectives on Easter spent in Jerusalem.

*Folders 4 – 5: May 6 – June 14, 1925*

Letters describe the Groveses' initial impressions of Teheran, the Presbyterian Church and Mission, and the American School of Teheran. Walter and Estelle meet the head and assistant head of the school, Dr. Samuel Martin Jordan and his wife Mary Wood Park Jordan, and Arthur Clifton Boyce and his wife Annie Woodman Stocking Boyce. The Groveses devote themselves almost immediately to work. Estelle begins sermonizing to the girls both at the Church's Sunday school and at the American Girls' School, while Walter begins writing sermons to deliver at Sunday services. The letters also describe the Groveses' search for a permanent residence, and the setting up of a household. Regarding these matters, furniture is described and purchased, servants are hired and servant culture is described, and several potential houses are described.

Both Walter and Estelle describe Teheran's environs, culture, and daily life. In a letter dated May 6, Walter describes the differences between American and Persian, culture, the social norms expected of missionaries and diplomatic westerners. In two other letters, Walter describes Teheran's (May 11) wealthier section and the poorer, Old Quarter (May 20). Both Estelle and Walter describe the gardens around which houses in Persia are often built. Estelle describes the home lives of women in Persia (May 9), as well as bridal dress customs (June 4).

*Folders 5 – 7: June 17 – August 31, 1925*

Letters describe the American School's Summer Camp at Aveen, the administration of which is handled by Walter and Ralph Hutchison. Along these lines, Walter also describes the difficult balance between educational and missionary duties with the students. Comparison of the rustic life in Aveen to that of Teheran is included. Estelle also discusses her daily routine (August 22), the cuisine of Persia (June 22), and continued efforts to prepare a permanent

household in Teheran. Toward the end of the summer, the Groveses settle on a house for the coming academic year.

Of particular interest are both Walter and Estelle's discussion of the 10th of Moharam (Muharram), a holy day celebrated by the predominantly Shia population in Persia. Estelle touches on the holiday (July 30) briefly, while Walter describes its background commemorating the martyrdom of Hussein ibn Ali (August 1). In order to explain the significance to Shia Muslims, Walter compares the 10th of Moharam to Easter Sunday, though he is unable to fully commit to the comparison, due perhaps to his unerring faith as a Christian missionary.

*Folders 7 – 17: September 3, 1925 – June 13, 1926*

Letters from the 1926-1927 academic year describe the Groveses settling into their new home in Teheran. A description on September 10 marks the first in a long string of difficulties the Groveses have finding suitable help for their home. Language lessons, which began soon after the Groveses arrived in May, continue in earnest. Walter writes of day trips to such locations as the previous shah's hunting lodge (October 8) and the Crown Prince's summer home (November 15). Due to slow mail delivery, as winter approaches Walter and Estelle have to send Christmas packages early and run into difficulty throughout the fall sending items out of the country (November 21). In the new year, Walter writes of a Kurdish friend he met while they were both students at Lafayette. The man, a wealthy Kurd, is interested in marrying a female student of the American School. Later in the spring, the Groveses are given a week off from school for the Persian new year. Walter ascribes his trip to Verameen (April 2). Of note in the letter is a description of the oral storytelling and literary tradition in Persia. As summer approaches, the Groveses prepare for the upcoming move to the summer camp in Aveen. After commencement in mid-June, the academic year ends and the Groveses move upcountry.

Estelle begins to teach biblical history to the female students of the American School, which prompts some disagreement from Dr. Jordan, who had wanted her to teach the college-age male students. Estelle's description of this disagreement, as well as her and Walter's different reactions to it (September 8) are of interest. Walter discusses (September 13 and 24) various delays and administrative issues with the American School. A long-running theme throughout the academic year details both Walter and Estelle's thoughts toward missionary work. Walter pessimistically writes (October 12) of the level of penetration Christian missionaries have made in Teheran. Walter also begins preaching biweekly sermons. By December, Walter has a significant disagreement with Dr. Jordan regarding the state of religious education at the American School, with Walter desiring a larger religious presence. This discussion (December 7) reveals the motivations behind the various actors in the American School. In early May, low attendance of English services lead to their cancellation, leading to further disappointment by Walter. Despite these conflicts, both Walter and Estelle find inspiration in the religious education they offer, with Estelle reaching out individually with female students by making house calls (May 2).

The current events reported by Walter and Estelle during this period are of interest as well. Both Walter and Estelle address local and regional events, such as the Arab uprisings in the Syrian desert and Ibn Saud's capture of Mecca (September 13), protests and rioting against

Ahmad Shah Qajar (September 27), the overthrow of Qajar and installation of Reza Khan as shah (November 12 and 15, December 15 and 20, April 2 and 28), Russian grain embargo (February 7, 20, and 28), and the public deterioration of Christian-Islamic relations (February 28). Many of these events are not witnessed first hand, although Walter and Estelle were present at several events in the public coronation of Reza Shah.

*Folders 17 – 19: June 18 – August 29, 1926*

Letters from the summer months of 1926 highlight differences from the previous summer campsite. Domestically, the Groveses have a better house in Aveen. Regarding the camp and summer school, enrollment is up, Estelle begins teaching English language courses, and course credit will be awarded to students. Of particular note in these letters are a description (June 27) of the makeup of camp leadership, which includes Persian Christians, Armenian Christians, and converts from Islam, as well as a description of the individual converts. It is further stated (August 7) that the American College has the highest number of converts in Persia. Additionally, Walter and Ralph Hutchison embark on a camping trip to scout out a different site for future years. Walter's description of the trip (August 13) features an encounter with Persia's nomadic culture.

*Folders 20 – 29: September 12, 1926 – June 11, 1927*

Letters from the 1926-1927 academic year begin when the Groveses' return to Teheran in mid-September. The largest development in the Groveses' personal lives is the pregnancy announcement (October 31) and subsequent birth of Walter Craig (February 6). Letters throughout this period also dwell on continuing trouble with servants. Of particular interest are two letters discussing Persian culture. Estelle describes Persian bridal customs (January 30). Over the Persian New Year's holiday, Walter travels to Isphaham, where he visits mosques and madrasahs (March 29).

Regarding education and missionary work, Estelle resumes teaching in September, but ends her teaching duties in January 1927 because of the baby's impending birth. In addition to teaching, Walter describes the registrar duties he takes on (September 20). Movement in the Persian government starts to cause problems for the American College. The earliest hints at trouble to come (December 5) are that the school may have to teach Islamic law in the coming term. Later in the winter, Walter begins offering a Sunday morning class for Muslim students interested in converting, and this prompts reflection by Estelle regarding the frequency with which some converts backslide (February 20, March 7). By the end of the academic year, Walter has taken on even more duties at the school (May 21).

*Folders 29 – 32: June 18 – September 3, 1927*

Letters from the summer campsite in Aveen are characterized by changes at the boys' camp, chiefly that no student may leave the camp more than once every three weeks in order to keep students upcountry on Sundays (July 2). News of Lafayette College's fundraising campaign reaches the Groveses as well (June 25). The campaign is to send short term teachers in order to enable college growth. Walter describes (July 23) a long hiking trip he takes with students that

visits the Shia shrine Imam Zadeh Davood as well as the Jaje River, Valley of Ahar, and villages along the way. Walter and Estelle take an extended trip together to Sohenak (August 18 & 19), their first alone since their honeymoon. Letters frequently comment on the developing political situation, which include both the ousting of the American finance minister, Millspaugh (July 24), and a list of new rules all Persian schools must follow (August 27). These new rules are specifically aimed, according to Walter, at reducing Christianity's influence.

*Folders 32 – 41: September 9, 1927 – June 16, 1928*

Because Estelle's duties at the school and mission have scaled back since Walter Craig's birth, many of her letters from the 1927-1928 academic year detail the baby's development. Apart from discussing Walter Craig's first words in Persian, Armenian, and English (March 3), as well as worries over the future of his religious development (October 21), Estelle talks of teaching an introductory drawing course at the American School (September 14). She also continues her outreach to Persian women and girls regarding child rearing, although she complains of making little headway (February 9). Early on in the year, however, Estelle discusses how she misses teaching history for it allowed her to stimulate her mind (October 2). In a letter dated April 13, Estelle announces her second pregnancy in a letter to her mother.

Walter spends much of his letters describing the long-running, complicated dealings with the Persian Ministry of Education and the edicts issued in August. Letters frequently dwell on what Walter believes to be political bluffs. The American School receives concessions (September 18) allowing them to teach the Bible in ethics courses, for instance. Other components of these dealings include provincial schools being treated more harshly than Teheran-based schools (October 8, November 4), compulsory military service for non-students (October 8), a possible compromise (November 4), and the minister's resignation (December 16). The troubles, though seemingly unresolved, receive less attention after January 1928. Other letters from Walter include a transcript of a sermon (April 14) and the news that the state of New York grants the American College recognition as an institution of higher learning, allowing it to confer Bachelors of Arts and Sciences degrees (May 5). Before the Groveses return to Aven for the summer, an Afghani king arrives in Teheran (June 10). The event prompts a description of the history of Persian-Arab-Afghani relations, specifically discussing the Sunni and Shia schism in the Islamic faith.

*Folders 41 – 43: June 22 – August 31, 1928*

In a letter dated June 22, the Groveses describe their return to Aven. Although life has become more comfortable since 1925, so has their material possessions: in 1925, six donkeys carried to the Groveses' items; 1928's trip used 17 donkeys. The letters from this period discuss several notable developments. Later in June (June 27), the Groveses describe a passion play of Shia Islam. In July, both Walter and Estelle discuss their financial situation, which is exacerbated by low missionary incomes, the growing family, and traveling in diplomatic social circles. Also in July, Walter describes the annual educational committee meeting, which covers the agreement reached with the Persian Ministry of Education (July 13). In a letter dated August 2, Walter describes at length his trip to Meshed, as well as a six day hike with students.

*Folders 44 – 50: September 7, 1928 – June 9, 1929*

Although the Groveses' furloughs are not scheduled to start until 1930, the complexities involved with scheduling furloughs for them, the Hutchisons, and the Jordans means that the debate takes up much of the letters from September and October 1928. Warren Groves is born on November 8, 1928, and a description of life with two young children follows. In January 1929, the debate over furloughs is settled when the Hutchisons are ordered home early, as Harriet has suffered from an undiagnosed illness for some time. The abrupt departure of the Hutchisons leaves Walter with more duties, which he enumerates in a letter dated January 26. In April, Walter comes down with an infection of the foot, causing a fever that disables him until June.

In a letter dated December 22, Walter describes the modernization that Persia has seen since the Groveses' arrival in 1925. Also in December is another sermon of Walter's. Cultural differences and political developments also appear throughout letters from the 1928-1929 academic year. During Ramadan, Walter complains of their cook's difficulty arriving at the Groveses' house in the morning after celebrating each night (March 2). Similarly, while Prohibition is still in full swing in the United States, a movement is starting in Persia as well. A letter (March 9) remarks that public drunkenness is already uncommon in Persia due to Islam's barring of alcohol. In May, word of a tribal rebellion in the southwest of Persia is described (May 25). Twice during the year, Walter comments on economic issues. In the fall, Walter surmises that the economic peak is not based on solid ground (October 13), while in the Spring, he remarks the arrival of a representative from the US Commerce Department regarding a trade dispute between US auto companies and Persian auto dealers (June 1).

*Folders 50 – 51: June 19 – August 30, 1929*

Letters from the summer break 1929 begin by describing that the students have left for Aven. Walter's infection has kept them in Teheran, and the administration of the camp has fallen to other American School faculty. Because of this, Walter and Estelle initially decide to go to Hamadan instead of Aven once Walter convalesces. By July, they have decided against Hamadan due to its lack of swimming or tennis nearby. In a letter dated July 12, the Groveses have arrived in Aven. Letters often discuss the troubled funding of campus construction projects. Of particular note are details from Walter summarizing a trip to Hamadan for the East Persian Mission annual meeting (August 5 and 26), which also include descriptions of Dolatabad, Zenjan, and monuments carved by ancient Persian emperors.

*Folders 52 – 55: September 14, 1929 – May 22, 1930*

Letters from the 1929-1930 academic year often chronicle the evolution of plans for the Groveses' first furlough. Despite the complexity involved in making such plans, as of March 1930, ongoing construction projects keep their departure in flux. Estelle announces her third pregnancy in a letter dated February 17, 1930. Lost letters throughout the winter and spring of 1930 frequently interrupt communication. Preparations for leaving Teheran include finding examples of Persian clothing (April 11), settling on an itinerary (May 5), and securing an apartment in Atlantic City, New Jersey (May 22).

Due to the Hutchisons and Jordans absences, Walter's duties at the American School are ever-expanding (September 23) and are compounded by his further responsibilities with the architects and construction officials involved in the construction project (February 26, March 10). As opposed to the previous year, enrollment in both the school and the college is high, with the dormitories reaching capacity in the fall. Other matters discussed related to the administration of the School and College include Estelle's renewed drawing course (September 14), problems with American faculty from Lafayette College (February 26), and ongoing negotiations with the Persian government regarding property claims and recognition of the higher education curriculum (February 26).

Of particular interest are Walter's comments regarding the economic situation in Persia during the spring of 1930 (March 10 and 14). While the *toman* falling against the dollar grants the Groveses higher purchasing power, trade has ground to a halt in the country. Parliament attempts to move from silver to gold standard. Walter describes it as the worst economic situation in 20 years, and mentions that the problems in the United States economy is affecting that of Persia such that newspapers are printing appeals to boycott American products.

*Folders 56 – 57 and oversized: Photographs and Miscellaneous, 1926 – 1929, 1940 and undated*

Items include photographs and published materials. The photographs consist of three images and a printed list. The dated image is from June 1929, and is of the American College faculty members in full regalia on graduation day. The other two of the images are undated, one of Mr. and Mrs. Boyce, including a handwritten description on the back. The image and caption have also been photocopied on interleaving paper. The other undated photo is an image of American College and School faculty members with some students. A caption is included listing the subjects. The printed list does not appear to be related to the images, instead describes images that are not present. The second photograph referred to in the list may correspond to the American College and School faculty image, although this is uncertain.

Miscellaneous items consist of an article clipped from the August 1926 *Reader's Digest*, a photocopied excerpt from Dr. Jordan's "The Report of Alborz College of Teheran, 1939-1940", and the February 1926 inaugural issue of *Persian Youth*. *Persian Youth* is made up of four pages, three in English and one in Persian and is of note for it's publication by students and for its submissions by Dr. Jordan and Walter. Jordan's annual report summarizes his efforts to keep the college open after Reza Shah nationalizes education This account is dated ten years after the collection's letters and by this time, Persia is referred to as Iran, the American College is known as Alborz College, and Jordan describes the Shah as a dictator, which would have been unheard of during the time the letters cover.

## **NOTE ON PROVENANCE AND ACCESS**

The Walter A. and Estelle Crawford Groves papers were received by Lafayette College in June of 2010 as a gift from their second son, Warren O. Groves, Lafayette Class of 1948. A gift from Warren O. Groves in 2012 makes up an addition. The addition covers the same time period and is made up of letters written to Walter Groves' mother. As such, the addition has been integrated into the original accession.

Access to this collection by qualified researchers is without restriction. Reproduction and publishing from the collection are allowed, subject to the guidelines of the repository and the laws of copyright

## **RESOURCES**

Centre College

Walter A. Groves Papers. Finding Aid available at

[http://www.centre.edu/web/library/sc/records/cc002\\_3.html](http://www.centre.edu/web/library/sc/records/cc002_3.html)

Lafayette College

Boyce, Arthur C. *Alborz College of Teheran and Dr. Samuel Martin Jordan Founder and President*. Durate, California: Westminster Gardens, 1954. (X1907 B78)