Arthur Rushmore

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COPY

8-26-54

Dear Mr. Dorr:

Thanks for your pleasant note of 23rd. Do what you wish with anything I ever wrote -- and I shall feel flattered and think you a bit crazy, but that's a nice wholesome way to be and those that are so take life in their stride with an easier grace than the common run of shad. I have watched with interest the instinctive reactions of folk who have been here and casually picked up "Mother and Child" from the library table. Some read the title and put it down - what could be new in that title. Some leaf through it; cannot get beyond the grim fact that Queen Anne's Lace is just wild carrot (and a damn nuisance!) -- put it down.

Then there are two more kinds of people: those who know life, its ecstacy and its agony; and the others are those who are emotionally geared for the good life but missed it through happenstances. Both these groups love the book, lingering through it page by page.

Has it sold? I wonder. If Gilbert Highet of Oxford University Press and Columbia does his 15 minute speeches on the air this Fall what a job he could do with it. Call him at Oxford and ask him. He's the most sensitive, erudite and articulate speaker on the air. Anyhow, good success to whatever you do with it.

Enclosed a quote I liked. Seems an expression of a state of mind that is disappearing from the American scene. Too many people are selling their freedom for comfort and protection.

Warmest regards to Mrs. Dorr. You must be pretty fine to have so rare a person for your wife.

Yours truly, Arthur Rushmore