

Dr. M. A. VERKADE
Vinkenbuis 3
SANTPOORT (station)
HOLLAND

Santpoort, August 5, 1950

Dear Mrs. Dove

May be it is not so unusual to you to get a letter from a perfect stranger, but in the note "from the author to the reader" in your "Mother and Child," which your husband so kindly sent me, together with a booklet about the Pie College Science Centre at the Loomis Marshfield, you asked me if perhaps I could tell you something of my home.

To my great regret I have no home of my own. But the house where I live with my Mother is a lovely one. Not very large but comfortable and with a beautiful garden, kept in perfect condition by our faithful gardener, who has been with us for over 25 years already. If you care for antiques I think you too would love our house as much as I do, for with the exception of a few minor bits, all furniture is at least two hundred years old. Either family heirlooms, or bought by my father, who would have been 83 years old if still with us, and who started collecting at a very young age when he was still a young man, when beautiful pieces could be picked up for a song.

Coming from an old industrial center, where my ancestors owned industry, windmills and where we now have modern factories, I have chosen economic history as my subject, to

which I can devote practically all my time.
Being single, I never had children and no house-
hold of my own to ask all my attention. That
is why I'll probably never be able to under-
stand all you have wanted to say with your
book, although I think I nevertheless grasp
some of its meaning.

I am glad I did meet your husband and
Miss Everhard when flying from New York to
Mexico City in the middle of May. In witness
that I would never have had the opportunity
to see, and so much enjoy, your "Mother and
Child" or the pleasure of writing you this
letter.

Sincerely yours
Margaretta A. Verhade