

I have one friend with whom I can discuss your letters. She was a college classmate of Ursula's - and was brought up in the same sort of environment as I. She made the observation, with which I agree, that you are missing the tempo of the background of 1919 and 20. I have asked her to write her description and

I am glad you like what I write. Sometimes I can, some- she says she will try. I like the way you write, too. I feel your eye is more sophisticated.

I find answering your questions rather fun. No. I you have talked to too many people who didn't know him in person, but are influenced by what they have heard about him. So many suspects are better pictures. In fact, I'm not too much and never discussed it. I did not drink, knew the rules. He did not drink, at least habitually, and I never drank. Had a small case made.

These first stories were at a sophisticated dinner party in California. One of the young (quite drunk) decided I was him. In a conversation I told him I had been married only once and had been to bed with my husband. He said "How could he?" "How could he?" I still say he was the most

thoroughly fine young man I could want to meet.

M.

Life in the small town of the
Middle West in the early 1900's was
circumspect and extremely
simple. In the Middle West, in the
life of middle class people there was
little music and what there was, was
after church music. Only the few
went on to college; high school
for the average person was the end
of formal education. Transportation
was difficult (as we know it today)
Children walked to school, to
social events; horses were used
for trips to the country, trains for
any trip away from one's town.

To me, the above had a great
influence on the lives of people.
At this period I felt that children
were not a part of parents' lives -
there was no being pals with

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one's parents. Decisions of conduct and actions were taken by the parent, and most children obeyed without discussion - protests, no doubt, but not discussion.

Boy-girl relationships were natural and not complex - based on co-educational high schools, yearly school dances and an occasional movie. There were no dancing schools. Few boys could borrow the family car. I recall groups of girls going for walks on Sunday, seeing groups of boys, which was exciting enough for the day.

It should be remembered that the parents of this era were

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Slightly removed from pioneers
and were of Puritan beliefs. These
mores led them to ambition for
their children & then came WWI
which changed their children for
ever more. Young men went to
war and to Europe who never
would have travelled so far
nor seen so much, had it not
been for American involvement in
W.W.I.

Helen B. Barker