

711 The Alameda
Berkeley, California

August 27, 1940

Mr. Otto K. Dorn
500 Prospect Avenue
Mount Vernon, New York

Dear Mr. Dorn:

In the New York Times (which we have taken during the past two years here) I learned with concern this week of the passing of Mr. Frederic Cyrus Leibuscher. I am sure it was sad news for many connected with the school and the movement, as well as for his near relatives. I believe it was he who influenced John Dewey to become Honorary President of the school when that counted for much, as it still does.

I will no doubt soon be necessary to make a new appointment to the Board of Trustees following this event. I should like to think that amongst the names the Board will soon be considering will be that of Charles Joseph Smith, who seems to me admirably qualified to serve with that body. Because of this, I am sending a copy of this letter to all its members and to Mr. Frank Chodorov, Director of the School.

Mr. Smith was esteemed and trusted by Mr. Geiger, who looked upon him as a future leader. He enjoyed the confidence and friendship of Mr. Joseph Dana Miller to a high degree. His service for the school, in the early days and later was noteworthy: keeping the books, teaching classes, and drafting the report needed for securing the school's permanent charter so urgently desired by Mr. Leibuscher.

In many other ways, I believe, his legal experience and reasoned judgment has been of help to the school. It would be desirable again to have a lawyer, as was Mr. Leibuscher, on the Board of Trustees. His strength of character, calm poise, judgment, and thorough knowledge of the school, its history and aims, together with the esteem and confidence he inspires in all who know him, would be of inestimable value in this new place of service to the school.

I would say, in closing, that Mr. Smith knows nothing of this letter which I feel impelled to send at such a serious time as this when something vital to the school is to the fore.

Faithfully yours,

Helen S. Dewright