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Thomas H. Riley Jr. Correspondence

Thomas H. Riley Jr., 1880-

Hilda McLeod Jacob Maine State Library

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RILEY, THOMAS H., JR.

Brunswick, November 19, 1880.

For biographical sketch, see Mr. Riley's letter of December 6, 1944.

March 25, 1944

Mr. Thomas H. Riley, Jr. 46 Pleasant Street Brunswick, Maine

Dear Mr. Riley:

Recent notices of your book, MUTUAL SAVINGS BANKS, have interested us, not only because of the usefulness of such material, but also because of the Maine connection. We trust that this informative handbook will reach many people.

Possibly you know of the Maine Author Collection, which is an exhibit of inscribed presentation copies of books written by those born in Maine, resident here or writing of the state. The inscriptions are varied and distinctive, tributes to Maine, bits of original verse, autobiographical anecdotes, penand-ink sketches, paragraphs on how the book came to be written -- all original and adding much of interest and value to the collection. gather all available biographical, critical and photographic material on our authors, and preserve their correspondence. We are thus accumulating an important store of reference data for future students, as well as providing a facinating exhibit for present visitors.

We hope you will want to inscribe and present for inclusion in the collection a copy of MUTUAL SAVINGS BANKS. Please accept our good wishes for the handbook, and our cordial invitation to visit the library and see the Maine Author Collection when you are again in Augusta.

Sincerely yours

hmj Encls. Secretary





THOS. H. RILEY, JR., TREASURER

LAWRENCE A. BROWN, ASST. TREAS.

BRUNSWICK SAVINGS INSTITUTION

INCORPORATED 1858

BRUNSWICK, MAINE December 6, 1944

Mrs. Hilda MacLeod Jacobs, Secretary Maine State Library Augusta, Maine

Dear Mrs. Jacobs:

Several months ago you wrote me in regard to a book on mutual savings banks that was published not long ago under the auspicious of the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks.

I cannot take credit for the authorship of the book as it was the work of a group of mutual savings bankers, but I happened to be chairman of the committee and so had the privilege of editing the manuscript and writing many of the passages.

The book is intended for a general reference book, and as such it might be advisable for the Maine State Library to have several copies, so I am enclosing the same herewith.

I donot know whether you are on the mailing list of the National Association, but we get out various publications of public interest, and Maine people have been liberal contributors in the form of reports and articles. I, myself, have contributed articles for their annual publication, and also to publications of the American Bankers Association.

In your letter you stated that you wished some biographical material on Maine writers. In reply to this request for information, will state that I was born in Brunswick on November 19, 1880; graduated from the Brunswick High School in 1899, Bowdoin

Mrs. Hilda MacLeod Jacobs

December 6, 1944

College in 1903. At Bowdoin I was a member of the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity. In civic life I belong to the Odd Fellows and Knights of Phythias; I am an officer of the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks. In my early life I had various careers, trolley motorman, telephone lineman, steamboat purser, etc. before entering the newspaper profession where I was for about twenty years a free lance correspondent for the Lewiston Sun and Journal, Kennebec Journal, Bangor News, Portland Argus, Portland Advertiser, Portland Press Herald, Portland Express, Boston Globe, Boston Herald, New York Sun, New York Times, New York Herald Tribune, and various other papers, also serving as correspondent for many years for the Associated Press. In the latter capacity I had the privilege of carrying the news to Mrs. Robert P. Perry that her husband Admiral Perry had reached the North Pole. I was the first of many newspaper men assigned to take that news to Eagle Island to reach Mrs. Perry, and credit for my visit is attested to by Marie Stafford in one of her numerous books. I was employed by the Brunswick Savings Institution July 1, 1918, became Assistant Treasurer January 1, 1919, and Treasurer in the spring of 1930.

As a banker, I have for many years been an officer of the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks, served on the Council of Administration, the committee on economic welfare, a committee on small savings banks, and for the past four or five years have been chairman of the committee on Methods and Services. In the American Bankers Association I served two years as State Vice President of Maine, and at the convention held in Chicago in in 1943 was elected Regional Vice President for the six New England States and New York. I was re-elected to that position again this fall. I am also a member of a committee on mortgages for the American Bankers Association. I have served the Savings Banks Association of Maine in many capacities including that of Fresident, which position I held for two years.

I am married and have three daughters all of whom are married; also four grandchildren. I now live and have lived for sixty-four years on the same street having been born at house number 54 Pleasant Street, and from the time I was one until I was married in 1903 I lived at 46 Pleasant Street, from 1903 Mrs. Riley and I resided at 48 Pleasant Street until 1937, and now we are back at 46 Pleasant Street.

I hope I have answered all the questions and furnished all the information that you desire.

Yours very truly,

Thos. H. Riley, Jr.

Treasurer

December 9, 1944

Mr. Thomas H. Riley, Jr. 46 Pleasant Street Brunswick, Maine

Dear Mr. Riley:

The copies of the booklet on savings banks have been received, and we are very glad to have the extra ones for use in the lending section of the library. One copy is being placed in the Maine Author Collection.

The biographical material which you were so kind as to send is exactly the sort of thing we like to have about Maine authors. It is so much more personal and revealing and interesting than the bare dates of a Who's Who paragraph.

We hope some day when you are in Augusta that you will find it possible to call at the library and see the Maine Author Collection. Please accept our thanks for your gift of MUTUAL SAVINGS BANKS... to the collection and to the library.

Sincerely yours

hmj

Secretary