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Maine Writers Correspondence

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November 2015

Philip B. Shaw Correspondence

Philip B. Shaw 1934-

Maine State Library

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Recommended Citation

Shaw, Philip B. 1934- and Maine State Library, "Philip B. Shaw Correspondence" (2015). *Maine Writers Correspondence*. 516.
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SHAW, PHILIP B.

Gorham, Maine - b.1934

January 5, 1971

Mr. Philip Shaw
P O Box
Bridgton, Maine 04009

Dear Mr. Shaw:

Recently is was called to our attention that you have edited a book on Maine poets and their poems. Maine books and writers are of course of great interest to us, and we like to have as much information as possible about all Maine literature.

You may be interested in the Maine Author Collection, too. This is a permanent exhibit collection of books by Maine writers, and books about Maine. Most of the over three thousand volumes are inscribed presentation copies, which lends them special distinction. We try to have on file biographical and critical material about Maine authors, and in general be as knowledgeable as possible in this field.

Would you not like to inscribe and present a copy of your book to be included in this collection? We should also be glad of any biographical material which you are willing to let us have.

Our good wished go to you for the success of the Maine book, and we look forward to seeing a copy.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

The Maine Society of Poets

A NON PROFIT ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 51
BRIDGTON, MAINE
04009

March 15, 1970

Mrs Flo Jacob
Maine Author Collection
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine
04330

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

Thank you for your letter of January 5, 1971.

Enclosed is a copy of our book, MAINE POETS AND
THIER POEMS.

Beliveing that poetry is the best way to preserve
our past and maintain our future, this book is simply
that. A book of feeling about Maine by it's people.

As to biographical material I was born in Gorham,
Maine in 1934. Married and the father of four children.
I have been a member of organized crime for fifteen
years and am now appealing a 2 1/2 to 5 year prison
sentance in Thomaston for conspiracy. This appeal has
been pending in the courts for over three years. During
this three year period I have been a full time student
at the University of Maine Portland CED, majoring in
English. I am now a junoir. I felt that if I had to go
to prison, maybe I could write a book and little did
I think I would have my book before I went.... If the
State keeps taking thier time I may be the first person
in the county to get a collage degree waiting to go to
jail. Any-way I love poetry so I guess there's a little
bit of good in the worse of us. I have been published
in some magazines and many newspapers. The latest being
the front page of North Country last week and the editorial
page of the Tampa times. The portland Press Herald also
has published my works. I was employed for LEATHERNECK
magazine in Washington D. C. for four years when I was
in the Marine Corps.

Thank you for your interest. I am,

Sincerely yours,


PHILIP B. SHAW

P.S. I may not be Maines best poet, but I'll bet
I'm it's most unusual.

March 26, 1971

Mr. Philip B. Shaw
P. O. Box 51
Bridgeton, Maine 04009

Dear Mr. Shaw:

Thank you very much for your kindness in sending an inscribed copy of MAINE POETS AND THEIR POEMS for inclusion in the Maine Author Collection, and also for the candid autobiographical sketch.

This is a most attractive book, and we applaud your enterprise in gathering together so many Maine poems. Perhaps there will be future editions, keeping abreast of the output. Poetry is usually its own reward, rather than a commercial success. You must have a sense of satisfaction that you have been able to bring out this book.

We appreciate your interest in the Maine Author Collection, and the opportunity of including this copy of MAINE POETS AND THEIR POEMS.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

The Maine Society of Poets

P. O. BOX 51
BRIDGTON, MAINE
04009

Dear Maine Poets,

At long last, we now have our book! To all of you who were more than understanding of our problems, I sincerely thank you. I pray that the book more than meets with your approval. I would be most interested in your comments.

There isn't enough paper in the world to list the problems incurred in getting our book completed but I feel you deserve an explanation as to the delay. Our covers got caught up in the U.P.I. strike and there we died. Each day I was assured we were only a few days away from completion. Therefore to save us the money of an extra mailing I very unwisely chose to wait, and wait, and wait. As time has proven it was the wrong decision, but as you all too well know, that is nothing new for me. To you who really began to wonder, be assured you were not alone.

Your book is what is commonly referred to as a "First edition" book. Only members will govern who will have ownership of our first edition books. The general market will be offered second edition books. There are a few very good reasons for this. It allows us all the last chance to make corrections. If there are any misspelled words, wrong lines, or whatever, just send me a letter of correction. We are all sharing in this joint adventure of opportunity. If any one of our poems or poets were to receive National acclaim, then a first edition book could very well become a collectors item. May I urge you all to retain your books.

Anticipating a large demand of books for Christmas, we did print a few more books than was actually needed. If you would like to order extra first edition books for gifts, we will be able to fill your orders and have them back to you in time for Christmas. Just mail your order and check (\$5.95 plus 50¢ for mailing - per book) to P.O. Box 51, Bridgton, Maine, 04009.

Thank you again for being the great people you are. It has been a pleasure to serve you all. Now, perhaps I can start answering my personal mail.

My warmest regards,

Philip B. Shaw

Philip B. Shaw
President