September 2015

F. Van Wyck Mason Correspondence

Francis van Wyck Mason 1901-1978

Hilda McLeod Jacob
Maine State Library

Maine State Library

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MASON, F. Van Wyck

b. Boston, November 11, 1897
November 17, 1954

Mr. F. Van Wyck Mason
920 St. Paul Street
Baltimore 2, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mason:

It was a delight and a surprise to see the State of Maine in your new novel, BLUE HURRICANE. We ordered copies at once for our bookmobile and traveling libraries, being especially interested, of course, in good stories with Maine settings. Quite aside from your use of this state, it is a rousing story which is swiftly earning a merited popularity.

We write at present regarding the Maine Author Collection. We know that you were not born in Maine, and are not trying to claim you as a native; but this permanent exhibit includes books that have Maine as a background, and books by people closely connected with the state, as well as those volumes produced by people born in Maine. For this reason, we think BLUE HURRICANE would be a most fitting addition.

The collection includes about two thousand volumes at present, most of them inscribed presentation copies. It is constantly growing, and attracts visitors and students as an unusual and valuable collection. It is always a happy day when we can add another book to the exhibit shelves, and we should consider ourselves fortunate indeed if we might claim BLUE HURRICANE as a Maine book.

We hope you share our feeling. Meanwhile, our very good wishes for its success.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
November 26, 1954

Mrs. F. W. Jacob
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

You were very kind indeed to write in such enthusiastic terms concerning BLUE HURRICANE. I should be less than appreciative of your obvious interest in the book if I did not accede to your request and forward an autographed copy for your Maine author collection.

I am glad to say that the book is doing very well indeed and I hope will interest a good many people.

Thanking you again for your kind sentiments,

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

F. Van Wyck Mason
December 27, 1954

Mr. F. Van Wyck Mason
1020 North Calvert Street
Baltimore 2, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mason:

It is certainly kind of you to promise a copy of BLUE HURRICANE for the Maine Author Collection, and we look forward to placing the book in the exhibit. Inasmuch as it was a month ago that you wrote to us, we think perhaps we should let you know that the book has not yet been received. We do hope that it is only delayed in the holiday mail.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
January 10, 1955

Mr. F. Van Wyck Mason
1020 North Calvert Street
Baltimore 2, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mason:

BLUE HURRICANE has arrived, and we are deeply appreciative of your interest and generosity in making it possible to add this book to the Maine Author Collection. It helps to make the collection complete when we can include novels which have something to do with the state, and we are especially happy that one of the caliber of BLUE HURRICANE may be claimed.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj