January 2016

Harold Vinal Correspondence

Harold L. Vinal 1891-1965

Maine State Library

Elizabeth Shaw Montgomery

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VINAL, Harold

Born at Vinalhaven, October 17, 1891.

Died at Vinalhaven, March 9, 1965.

PORTLAND EVENING EXPRESS
March 10, 1965

HAROLD L. VINAL

VINALHAVEN — Harold L. Vinal, 73, editor and poet, died yesterday at his home here after a long illness.

Vinal's best known work was "Hurricane," which he published in 1936 and reissued in 1957 with a group of other sea poems under the title "Hurricane and Other Poems."

His family was "among the early settlers and owned for many years the outlying island named "Hurricane."

Mr. Vinal founded the poetry quarterly "Voices" in 1921 and had been its editor since then. He was secretary of the Poetry Society of America from 1938-54.

At one time he conducted private classes in poetry in New York City and Rochester, N.Y.

He was born here Oct. 17, 1891, son of George and Evie Lane Vinal.

Only survivors are cousins.
Harold Vinal of Vinalhaven and New York City, secretary of the Poetry Society of America, is editor of the poetry magazine, "Voices," writes: "Poetry has flown out of the window for the time being, in my concern over a mere roof over my head." He also explains that fifty odd Manhattan hotels and countless apartment agents seem helpless to assist in the pursuit of a shelter in the Metropolis. At present he is at 129 East 74th St.
Dear Mr. Vinal:

I am making a collection of books written by persons born in Maine. The enclosed clipping will give you some idea of my purpose.

I am asking each author to autograph his books, writing in each one if possible, anything that explains where or how he came to write it.

These books are to be kept in a special room, called the Maine Authors room. They will not be put into circulation, but will be kept so that visitors and students may be able to see the books written by Maine authors.

I am not asking that these books be given to the State, therefore, I will be under great obligation to you if you can send me White April and any other publications you may have written, together with the bill.

Will you please enter our subscription for "Voices", and it will be a great favor if you can send us the book numbers.

I am,

Sincerely yours,

Henry E. Dunnask.

Mr. Harold Vinal, Librarian.

Boston, Mass.
December 4th, 1922

Dear Mr. Dunnack:

I do appreciate your letter and am only too glad to have a copy of "White April" go to you, also a copy of "Voices". They will reach you shortly.

It is splendid to know one's own State has some appreciation of one's labors.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Vinal
November 22, 1927

Harold Vinal, Ltd.
562 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Sir:

Will you please send us one copy of "A Stranger in Heaven." We would appreciate it if you would autograph this copy for our special Maine Author collection.

Make your bill in duplicate to the Maine State Library.

Very truly yours,

HED
ME

Henry E. Dunnack,
State Librarian.
December 5, 1927

Harold Vinal
562 Fifth Avenue
New York City
Dear Sir:

We have just received "A Stranger in Heaven", with your autograph. We thank you for your courtesy in this matter.

Very truly yours,

HED
ME

Henry E. Dunnack,
State Librarian.
December 4, 1931

State Library,
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Sirs: -

Under separate cover, I am mailing you a copy of my new volume of Verse - Hymn to Chaos. I want very much to have it in the State Library. Will you let me know that it has reached you.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]

New address: 111, East 56th Street, N Y C
December 15, 1931

Mr. Harold Vinal,
111 East 56th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Vinal;-

We have just received the autographed copy of your new volume of verse, Hymn to Chaos. We are very grateful for this gift and send you our sincere thanks.

Very truly yours

State Librarian

HED/mlh.
December 17, 1931

Mr. Harold Vinal,
111 East 56th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Vinal:

The Maine State Library issues a quarterly bulletin in which mention is made of the work of Maine authors and books about Maine. We shall wish to mention your new collection of verse, *Hymn to Chaos*, in the April issue. Will you send us biographical data about yourself to be used both for the Bulletin article and to be kept in our permanent files? We find that our librarians and other persons depend on the Bulletin for biographical material about Maine authors and we try to make it accurate and complete and such notes as are at present available about you and your work are rather fragmentary.

We are delighted to have *Hymn to Chaos* in the Maine Author Collection and we appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending the book to the collection.

I had recently read your beautiful sonnet *Frosty Days* in the November Fortnightly but I had not heard that a new collection of verse by you had been published. I am always interested in your work and have read *Hymn to Chaos* with great pleasure.
Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I was called to Boston suddenly because of illness in the family or I would have answered your very kind letter before this. I hardly know what to write you for inclusion in the Bulletin but here are a few salient facts about myself:

1. **Birth place.** Vinalhaven, Maine.
2. **Birth.** October 17, 1891.
3. **Books of Poetry.**
   - *White April.* Yale University Press. 1922
   - *Voyage.* Harold Vinal. 1923
   - *Nor Youth Nor Age.* Harold Vinal. 1925
   - *A Stranger in Heaven.* Harold Vinal. 1927
   - *Hymn to Chaos.* Stephen Daye Press. 1931
4. **Marriage.** June 24, 1931.

Will this help at all. Its just a few facts. Thank you for your praise of Frosty Groves in the Saturday Review. Greetings and best wishes for the New Year.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]
March 9, 1932

Mr. Harold Vinal,

111 East 56th Street

New York City.

Dear Mr. Vinal:—

Thank you for your letter with the biographical data. Sometime will you write me about your connection with *Voices*; also, tell me the name of the lady whom you married? It is very evident that you do not enjoy talking about yourself!

I have just read the March issue of *Voices*, which is the real reason for this note. Have you ever done anything finer than *Coral and Dulse*? I like it so very much! Better, I think, than anything by you which I have seen, even the very lovely *Frosty Gröves*.

Very truly yours,

(Signed by MCP)
March 10, 1932

Dear Miss Fuller:

How kind of you to write me relative to my group Coral and Dulse in the current VOICES. They are my first poems, two of them, in blank verse and I am much elated that several have found them interesting. I had definitely dropped the theme of the sea, which governed the outcry of my early poetry but I find myself drifting back to it after all. Vinalhaven as a background seems to be forever assailing me. You are right I am not one to write about myself. I simply cannot. So far as VOICES is concerned I have edited it for ten years. As for matrimonial news I married Elizabeth Shaw Montgomery, who has two books of verse to her credit, one of which I published when I was in the publishing business. Last November she brought out under the signature of the Dial Press a really fine travel book - Painted Maps, which you should have in your library. We are going to Maine in late May. I want very much to give several readings in Maine this summer. Do you think one would be at all possible in Augusta? The woman's Club there might be interested. Thank you again for your very kind letter.

Most sincerely,

HAROLD VINAL
Dear Miss Fuller:

Vinalhaven finally after a hectic and disturbing winter in Manhattan, its blessed to be here. This bleak wave of depression has made me rather serious about Voices from a financial angle. Therefore while I am in Maine this summer I am hoping to arrange a few readings of my poems to sustain the magazine another season. Do you think one in Augusta would be at all possible? Under the auspices of the Library perhaps or a woman's club. Several of these readings at fifty dollars each would help the magazine to a longer life. Do you think there would be fifty people in Augusta who would care to squander a dollar each on a reading. You can write me quite frankly about it. I am desperate about the magazine really and I must do something in behalf of it at once. I will greatly, greatly appreciate your co-operation.

Most sincerely,

HAROLD VINAL
Vinalhaven,
Maine.
July 12, 1932

Dear Miss Fuller:

I rather imagined these would be dubious times for possible reading. Were it not that I am so disturbed about Voices and its future I would not have thought of them. But several of them while I am in Maine this summer would have helped out a trifle at least. Thank you for writing to the Lewiston Librarian and the President of the Maine Library Association. Something may come of that; I hope so.

I am grateful for your kindness.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]

HAROLD VINAL
Dear Miss Fuller:

How very kind of you to write me of VOICES. These are rather frantic days for the little Journal and to know a few are enjoying it makes the struggle to keep it alive not quite as heart-breaking. I am so grateful for your kind letter concerning the current issue. Do speak a good word for it when you can. Again thanks.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]
Mr. Harold Vinal,
687 Lexington Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Vinal;

I am glad that my note about "Voices" pleased you. Whenever a copy has come I have been greatly interested in it and have always intended to write to you about it. I should like to mention it in the Bulletin sometime; since you are a Maine poet your success in editing and maintaining a periodical such as "Voices", makes it an item of special Maine interest and I should like to have our readers know something about what you have accomplished. Some time, when you have a little time to spare (I am always apologetic about asking a poet to do extra writing!) will you tell me a little about "Voices"—just how it started, how many numbers there have been and (especially) how you started it? I use "Voices" a great deal in answering requests for examples of the work of modern poets and criticisms of their work; the excellent articles on the Pulitzer poets have been especially useful (I hope you don't mind that adjective!) and every time I send out a copy of Voices I hope that it may lead someone to be interested enough in it to buy it!
Dear Miss Fuller:

For the moment I am the morbid victim of the New York weather, so forgive this hectic note in reply to your generous and kind letter. I appreciate your interest in Voices more than I can say. At the nonce, I am greatly concerned about the magazine, trying almost vainly to save it from the Limbo that overtakes all things. As for data concerning it, there is alas little to regale you with. This is its eleventh year, the current issue being Number 68. Its editorial policy has been deliberately traditional, for I have clung to poetry of the old order having an almost disturbing fondness for rhyme. Free Verse has found no room in its pages to speak of. Such poets as the following have contributed: Elinor Wylie, William Rose Benet, Leonora Speyer, Winifred Pellew, Amanda Benjamin Hall, Genevieve Taggard, L.A. G. Strong, John Erskine, George Dillon, Walter de la Mare, Joseph Auslander, etc.

This between sneezes. Do you think it would do any good to try and induce the Maine Libraries to subscribe. Such libraries as the Harvard, the Yale and those in the large cities have been constant subscribers for some time. Is there an available list you could send me? Do forgive this impossible letter.

Weakly,
Mrs. Harold Vinal,
687 Lexington Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Thank you for your letter. I hope that you are well again. It is too bad to have taxed you with correspondence when you were ill!

I am sending you a list of the libraries in Maine. Most of them are very small, with infinitesimal appropriations, so I imagine it would not be worth the postage to write to them about Voices. The larger libraries, Portland, Bangor, Lewiston, etc, should take it. As I wrote you, I consider it a valuable reference tool on contemporary poetry.

I was pleased to see Mr. Benet's comment on Voices, in the current issue of the Saturday Review of Literature. I have clipped the item to add to the information in your letter.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

By MCF
Dear Miss Puller:

It is tremendously kind of you to send me this list of Maine Libraries. I shall certainly make use of it. At the moment I am preparing to leave for Richmond, where I have a reading engagement. So Voices affairs are in a temporary state of suspension. However, the magazine is never very far from my thoughts. When I return from the South I shall make a renewed effort to increase our subscribers. It seems ironical that now, just when Voices was never more excellent or receiving more commendatory notice, the magazine should be at its lowest ebb financially. One more sign of the times, I suppose. But I assure you we are going to make a stubborn fight to continue. With thanks for your interest and support, I am

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Dear Miss Fuller:

I will see that the change is made on the subscription list and that Voices hereafter goes direct to the library. Thank you for your praise of my Tribute to Sara Teasdale. What a fine and sensitive poet she was! This in frantic haste as my New York reading is to-day as you will see by the inclosed. Perturbations assail me this morning. I will never, being by nature a timid creature, adjust myself to the platform. But it seemed one way of taking care of an issue of Voices. Its been a fearful winter for the magazine. I move up the map to Maine (thank heaven) in mid-June. Thereafter, there will be three months of tranquility at Vinalhaven and a chance to turn to some writing finally. Perhaps a few readings in Maine will be possible this summer. I hope so. Best wishes.

Most sincerely,
October 19, 1933

Dear Marion Cobb Fuller:

Thank you for your praise of Hurricane. It means a great deal to me. Not the poem but your praise! I hope the burden of Voices does not keep me grimly at the grindstone this winter. I hope to finish it. This being only the prelude and the poem in my mind a book length affair. This hastily in the forlorn midst of settling in new quarters.

Again thanks,

Most sincerely,
January 9, 1935

Mr. Harold Vinal
559 Madison Ave.
New York City

Dear Mr. Vinal:

We have noticed with pleasure the announcement of your latest book, Attic for the Nightingale. Of course we are hoping that this book, inscribed by its author, may find the way to our Maine Author Collection, as have your former books.

We look forward to each Vinal volume with anticipation, as the previous books have taught us to expect something particularly fine, which we are proud to acknowledge as the work of a Maine author.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
By

hm Secretary
February Seventh  
Nineteen Thirty-four

Dear Miss Fuller:

It was mighty nice of you to send me the postcard, and I appreciate your praise of my poem, Mistress of the Swan. You have been so consistently friendly toward Voices—I only wish the magazine had more supporters like your good self. This coming Summer I expect to re-visit my Island, and perhaps it will be possible for us to meet. I hope so. With kindest regards always, I am

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Mr. Harold Vinal
559 Madison Ave.
New York City

Dear Mr. Vinal:

ATTIC FOR THE NIGHTINGALE has arrived, and it has been accorded a royal welcome! What a delightful collection sketches are here compiled: especially the charming bit on islands, the lovely pen-pictures of dusk, the whimsical dissertation on the immortal Alice, and of course the title essay.

Thank you for contributing so generously to our Maine Author Collection, and for autographing the volume, too. We are indeed pleased to add this work to the collection. And we do hope that when Flower Without Root and Hurricane (what intriguing titles!) are completed, you will not forget us.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
By

Secretary
April 28, 1936

Harold Vinal
559 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Vinal:

With delight we notice that HURRICANE is being published by the Stephen Daye Press. We are eager to read the new book, and we hope that you will continue your kind generosity by presenting to the Maine Author Collection an inscribed copy of this latest of your poetical works.

As yet we have seen no reviews of the volume, but we know from experience that a Vinal book merits pleasurable anticipation and enthusiastic reading.

Very truly yours

Maine State Library

hm Secretary
June 5, 1936

Harold Vinal
Vinalhaven
Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Now that HURRICANE has been published, and we have had the opportunity of reading its stirring portraits, and exulting in the fact that the poet is a Maine man, we are more anxious than ever to include an inscribed copy of the volume in the Maine Author Collection.

We are indeed proud in your recent achievement; HURRICANE is the finest piece of writing you have done, and we extend sincere congratulations, hoping that we may add the book to the Collection in the near future.

Very truly yours

Maine State Library

HM

Secretary
Vinalhaven, Me.
June 7, 1936

Miss Hilda McLeod,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Me.

My dear Miss McLeod:

Thank you for your very kind letter about Hurricane. I am very glad to forward a copy of the book, autographed to the Library. At the moment life is hectic for I am turning this old house on The Moors into an Inn. This is being slowly accomplished in a cloud of dust and falling plaster. A slow metamorphosis—certainly. Forgive this brevity. Again thanks for your kind letter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
August 17, 1936

Harold Vinal
Vinalhaven
Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Please accept our apology for the negligence in sending a grateful acknowledgement for HURRICANE, which you so kindly inscribed for the Maine Author Collection.

We do appreciate your continued interest and generosity, and we are particularly proud of the splendid work in your latest book.

We trust the clouds of dust and falling plaster have long been swept away, and that the Inn is enjoying many pleasant and profitable visitors, and also that its host is enjoying the summer in such a delightful locality.

Very truly yours

hm
MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY
SECRETARY
April 4, 1944

Mr. Harold Vinal
687 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Vinal:

It is very good news indeed that we are to have another book from your pen, and we congratulate you upon THE COMPASS EYE, which we anticipate with great interest.

The book has been added to our order list, but we also hope that an inscribed presentation copy may be added to your other work in the Maine Author Collection. Our good wishes for the success of the book go to you.

Sincerely yours

hmj

Secretary
Dear Mrs. Jacob:

Thank you very much for your friendly and heartening letter about my forthcoming collection of poems, The Compass Eye. It is kind of you to order a copy for the Library. The volume should be out around the first of May, and you will receive yours promptly thereafter. Of course, I shall be happy to present an inscribed copy to the Maine Author Collection.

I am wondering if you could suggest a few Maine Libraries to which I might mail announcement of the book. Possibly some of them would care to order. This would be of real service to me. Note that all orders should come to me personally. I am enclosing a circular for your interest and convenience.

Again, my thanks for your cordial letter.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

[Signature]
The Comet Press Announces

THE

COMPASS EYE

By

Harold Vinal
NOT since the appearance of Hurricane in 1936 has a volume of poems by Harold Vinal been available to the public. The Compass Eye is a collection of poems written since that time, all of which have been published in magazines and newspapers. There is a rich variety of material in this present volume. It is divided into sections, comprising groups of Sonnets, Lyrics, Sea Poems, War Poems and several sections devoted to the more modern trend in contemporary style.

Readers of widely divergent taste will find much of interest here, evidence of a sound appreciation of traditional values, as well as an awareness of new forms and interpretation. Vigor and sensitivity, lyric spontaneity and a sharp intellectual candor have gone into the making of this volume.

Besides being a creator in his own right, Mr. Vinal has contributed long and untiringly to the encouragement of poetry in America. Since its establishment in 1921, he has published and edited Voices, a Journal of Poetry, opening its pages to the work of many writers who have later received general recognition. Voices is one of the oldest and most distinguished magazines of its kind in the country.

Mr. Vinal is Secretary of the Poetry Society of America, a member of the Craftsman Group and has given readings and conducted classes in verse technique in many eastern and middle western cities.
ORDER BLANK

Please send me, post paid, a copy of The Compass Eye, by Harold Vinal, for which I enclose check or money order in the sum of $2.50. Remittance should be made direct to the author.

Name .................................

Address .................................

Harold Vinal, 687 Lexington Ave., New York City
April 11, 1944

Mr. Harold Vinal
687 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Thank you for the promised Maine Author Collection copy of THE COMPASS EYE.

As for libraries to which you might profitably send an announcement of the book, we suggest: Belfast Free Library; Bangor Public Library; Auburn Public Library; Jesup Memorial Library, Bar Harbor; Patten Free Library, Bath; McArthur Library, Biddeford; Ladies Social Library, Blue Hill; Captain John Curtis Memorial Library, Brunswick; Millinocket Memorial Library; Newport Public Library; Lewiston Public Library; Portland Public Library; Norway Memorial Library; Lincoln Memorial Library; Pittsfield Public Library; Rockland Public Library; Camden Public Library; Waterville Public Library; Southwest Harbor Library. Probably others will occur to you, those near the coast, who might not have a large appropriation, but would want the book because of its Maine author and background -- such as Deer Isle, Phippsburg, Cape Elizabeth, Brooklin, East Machias, Calais, Castine, Damariscotta Mills, Jonesport, Hancock, Winter Harbor and Wiscasset.

Because of budgetary restrictions, it now seems that we shall be obliged to wait until July 1 (our new fiscal year) before ordering THE COMPASS EYE. We deeply regret this, especially since your books are so infrequent; but we are noting that the order should be sent directly to you. The best of luck to the new volume.

Sincerely yours

hmj
Secretary
April 13, 1944

Mrs. J. W. Jacob,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Me.

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

I am very grateful for the list of libraries and I have sent them circulars. I am hoping there will be a copy left of the special limited edition of one hundred copies I may send you for your collection, rather than the trade edition. I will be glad to send the trade edition you plan to order in July in May if you care to have me do so and payment wait until later.

I expect to reach Vinal Haven for the summer the final week in May. I have a reading here that month as well as an appearance before the Poetry Society of America. Once I reach the island I am hoping to arrange a few Maine readings in different cities. If you have any ideas along this line I will appreciate your co-operation. My best to you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
April 17, 1944

Mr. Harold Vinal
687 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Thank you for offering to send our library copy of THE COMPASS EYE before July; this seems scarcely 'fair to you,' however, so we believe we had better wait. Our suggestions about readings in Maine cities would be inadequate in helpful information; probably the most satisfactory thing to do would be to write to Rev. Sheldon Christian, Brunswick, who, as you know, is editor of THE WINGED WORD, and active in the Maine Poetry Fellowship. It is likely that Mr. Christian might have suggestions, as also might Mrs. Jessie Freeman, Gardiner, who is president of the Fellowship.

Sincerely yours

hmj

Secretary
May 12, 1944

Mr. Harold Vinal
687 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Vinal:

An inscribed copy of your lovely new volume of poems, THE COMPASS EYE, has reached us; but we are a little perplexed. We wonder whether or not it is meant for us, bearing, as it does, an inscription "for Bonaro Overstreet."

We have dared, however, to glance into its pages, and we are delighted with what we find. The unfortunately long lapses of time between your books seem to afford opportunity for the polishing and perfecting of each word and phrase that is so evident in your work.

Please accept our congratulations upon the latest witness to your skill and gift, and our good wishes for the success of THE COMPASS EYE.

Sincerely yours

hmj

Secretary
Dear Mrs. Jacob:

Apparently my publisher misdirected the copy of *The Compass Eye* which reached you. I am wondering if you would be so kind as to forward the copy you have to Bonaro W. Overstreet, 145 Riverside Drive, New York City 27, N. Y. I'll ask Mrs. Overstreet if she received the copy intended for you, and will suggest that she forward her own copy to the library, if she has it. Enclosed is a four-cent stamp to cover postage. Should your proper copy not reach you, please let me know and I'll see that the matter is rectified.

Thank you for your good words about the book. I appreciate your friendly interest. All good wishes.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
May 16, 1944

Mr. Harold Vinal
687 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Vinal:

The errant copy of THE COMPASS EYE is being sent to Mr. Overstreet, and we appreciate your kindness in trying to locate ours. When it arrives, we shall let you know.

Sincerely yours

hmj

Secretary
Dear Mrs. Jacob:

So many thanks for forwarding the copy of Compass Eye to Mrs. Overstreet. I have asked her if she received the library copy, but apparently not. Possibly, in the course of the next few days, you will receive the wandering book. However, won't you let me know if it does not show up, so that I can see that you receive one. The end of next week I am leaving for Vinal Haven, where I can be reached for the rest of the summer. Again, my thanks and best wishes.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Mr. Harold Vinal  
Vinalhaven  
Maine  

Dear Mr. Vinal:

THE COMPASS EYE for the Maine Author Collection has not reached us yet. We have delayed writing to you, knowing that although the tempo of some things has accelerated in wartime, the tempo of others -- such as recovery of lost parcels -- has assuredly not! We think it best, however, to let you know about the matter, for we are naturally anxious that the collection be complete in your writing.

Enclosed is our order for a lending copy.

We hope the summer has been pleasant, and that your readings in Maine were successful.

Sincerely yours

hmj

Secretary

Encl—1
Dear Mrs. Jacob:

I will send The Compass Eye (both copies) Tuesday when the holidays are over. Too late to-day with the final boat off to the mainland. I wish you had let me know sooner about the missing copy. I thought that perhaps it has showed up after all. I enclose invoice in Duplicate with this letter, so that little utilitarian matter is taken care of now.

The summer has been very busy at The Moors and it looks as if guests would be here until the end of September. What with rationing life is not exactly too happy but I am grateful for the sea near at hand and my liberation will come later for a fortnight at least before another Manhattan winter.

There were no Maine readings. I wish it had been otherwise. My best to you.

Most cordially,
September 8, 1944

Mr. Harold Vinal
Vinal Haven
Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

THE COMPASS EYE has arrived, and we add the gift copy to the Maine Author Collection with pride. Please accept our thanks for the book.

Your observations anent summer guests and rationing are interesting. It is true that, despite shortages, people get around!

Our good wishes for the coming season, and again our thanks for and congratulations on THE COMPASS EYE.

Sincerely yours

hmj

Encl—9¢ postal refund

Secretary
Harold Vinal of Vinalhaven and New York City, secretary of the Poetry Society of America, is editor of the poetry magazine, "Voices," writes: "Poetry has flown out of the window for the time being, in my concern over a mere roof over my head." He also explains that fifty odd Manhattan hotels and countless apartment agents seem helpless to assist in the pursuit of a shelter in the Metropolis. At present he is at 129 East 74th St.

Lewiston Evening Journal
August 25, 1945
July 22, 1948

Mr. Harold Vinal
Vinalhaven
Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

It is to be hoped that the salt breezes are affording you a pleasant relief from the current weather! We delayed writing to you about your new book of poems until we were reasonably sure that you were back in Maine, with possibly a little leisure to enjoy.

You have been unfailingly kind and interested in the Maine Author Collection, which has all your previous books, graciously inscribed by you. We buy books by Maine authors for the general lending section of the library, but we dare to hope that you will want to inscribe a copy of the new volume and present it to the collection.

Our good wishes for the book, and for your vacation.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
July 26, 1948

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

It will give me much pleasure to give a copy of my Selected Poems autographed to the Maine State Library. I will send them along to you within a few days.

Cordially,

[Signature]
July 29, 1948

Mr. Harold Vinal
Vinalhaven
Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Thank you very much for so promptly breaking into your summer days and inscribing the new volume of poems. We add it to the Maine Author Collection with the same pride that your previous books have stimulated. It is a fine idea to have a collection such as this, and we are pleased that the newer poems are also included.

Your books seem too far apart, but we know it must be in some measure due to this infrequency that we can enjoy the perfection of each line, and the enduring quality which you build into your poetry.

Please accept our thanks again for SELECTED POEMS.

Sincerely yours

hmj
Encl--7¢ postal refund

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
April 9, 1958

Mr. Harold Vinal
Vinalhaven
Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Your new edition of HURRICANE ISLAND should have had notice from us sooner. We added it to our order list, of course, and we do hope that the Maine Author Collection, to which you have been generously inclined in previous years, will have the privilege of including an inscribed copy.

HURRICANE ISLAND was always one of our favorites among your books, and we can't think of one more worth the affectionate attention which prompts a new edition.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
April 24, 1958

Mr. Harold Vinal
Vinalhaven
Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Thank you very much for the Maine Author Collection copy of your book HURRICANE. It is with an enduring pride that we add it to your other books in this Maine exhibit, and with an enduring gratitude, too, for your interest.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
June 25, 1959

Mr. Harold Vinal
Vinalhaven
Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

What about ISLAND BORN? We have been asked about it, and cannot answer properly, finding no information. Of course we shall want to buy the book -- is it autobiography, poetry? -- and we hope of course the Maine Author Collection will be privileged to include a copy.

Best wishes to it, anyway, and do send us information.

Sincerely yours,

hmj

In Charge of Maine Author Collection

"Island Born" was not a book but a small brochure published years ago and no longer available.

Harold Vinal
June 30, 1959

Mr. Harold Vinal
Box C
Vinalhaven, Maine

Dear Mr. Vinal:

Thank you for the information about ISLAND BORN. It is strange that we did not get it when it was published. Perhaps some day we shall come upon a copy.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection