10-31-2014

George N. Barrett Correspondence

George N. Barrett

Gertrude E. Robson
Newport Public Library

Hilda McLeod Jacob
Maine State Library

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BARRETT, George N
b. Lisbon, New Hampshire
March 4, 1964

Mrs. Gertrude E. Robson, Librarian  
Newport Public Library  
Newport, Maine

Dear Mrs. Robson:

A patron has inquired about a book entitled CROSSROADS, and says that it is "about the Jones Inn, Newport."

Do you know the book? Can you give us information as to date, publisher and price? And author? Is it a new book, or an old one? Or is it perhaps a prospective publication?

We shall appreciate any information you can give us.

Very truly yours

hmj

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
Newport Public Library
Newport, Maine

March 10, 1964

Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine

In reply to your letter of March 4 asking about "The Inn at the Crossroads" by George N. Barrett, the book was published in New York, Vantage Press, 1960. Mr. Barrett has copies for sale at the Inn here in Newport for $3.00.

We do not have a copy in the library. I gather from what I have heard it is something like "Paton Place." It does not mention names but people are easily identified. Evidently they thought it was best not to put it in. I haven't seen a copy since I've been here.

I'm sure if they wrote Mr. Barrett at the Inn they could secure a copy.

Very sincerely yours,
Gertrude E. Robie
Librarian.

Mr. George N. Barrett
The Jones Inn
Newport, Maine

Dear Mr. Barrett:

Recently we had an inquiry about your book, THE INN AT THE CROSSROADS, and were chagrined to have to admit that we did not know the novel. We are, of course, interested in all Maine writing, and Maine writers, and we cannot think how we missed seeing announcements of the book's publication.

We are especially interested because of the Maine Author Collection, which is a permanent exhibit of books by Maine people, and books about the state. There are now about three thousand volumes in the collection, most of them inscribed presentation copies. There are novels and poetry, history and children's stories, cookbooks and biographies -- a remarkable variety of literary fare -- and the inscriptions are varied and original, too. We also gather biographical and critical material about Maine authors, so that we may have complete information about the writers of the state.

We hope that we shall have such information about you, and we hope that you may want to inscribe a copy of THE INN AT THE CROSSROADS for the Maine Author Collection.

Sincerely yours

hmj
In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
November 28th, L964.

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

Dear Mrs Jacob:

I am sorry to be so late in sending you an inscribed copy of my book "THE INN AT THE CROSSROADS".

This is not a Sunday school story. It sold very well but did not make the Best Seller list.

You will note on the back fly leaf the history of the author. You will note that he is also a poet, having written four books of poems and has in his possession enough to publish four books more.

I am very glad to add this to your list of Maine author's novels.

Please do not judge a book by its cover or an author by what he writes. This book was written to sell and in all fairness to the author it has a moral, namely to clean up the immorality, prostitution, illegitimate children and divorces, not only in this state but in every state in the Union.

Very truly yours,

George N. Barrett
Jones Inn
Newport, Maine.

P. S. I have a few copies, first edition, on hand should you have inquiries as to where they can be found.

G. N. B.

"Where the Moosehead Trail Begins"
March 30, 1965

Mr. George N. Barrett
The Jones Inn
Newport, Maine

Dear Mr. Barrett:

Some time ago you very kindly inscribed and sent to us a copy of your book THE INN AT THE CROSS ROADS. This copy we are placing in the Maine Author Collection, with appreciation of your interest.

Inevitably, we suppose, readers will attempt to identify characters and situations in the book, despite your statement about the fictitiousness. It is, of course, quite uncomfortably true that most small towns have a share in unsavory history; and the home towns of the reading public differ in only degree, probably, from the Mados of which you write.

Please accept our thanks for the collection copy of your novel, and our good wishes for the future.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection