September 2015

Inez M. Farrington Correspondence

Inez McAllister Farrington 1904-1981

Hilda McLeod Jacob

Maine State Library

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FARRINGTON, Inez M (Mrs. Harold)
b. East Stoneham
Writing's nothing new for Mrs. Inez M. Farrington, East Stoneham housewife. She's been writing for years — pieces for the paper, free lance articles for magazines, poetry — reams of poetry.

But writing a book's a new venture. She has completed one about life in her neck of the woods. It's now in the hands of her publisher. The presses await a few more orders, she says. It's entitled So Goes The Nation.

People who have read the book in the rough hail it a charming picture of life in Maine. Among them is Ruth Weller Nelson of Iowa City, who provided Inez with photographs from the Nelson collection of Maine negatives with which to illustrate the book. Miss Nelson's a summer resident of Oxford County. So Goes The Nation isn't just a book for Maine people, she says. It's a must with people who Summer in Maine.

"It was fun for me to learn what goes on in Maine during those long months while I am back in Iowa looking forward to my next season in Maine. No summer resident should miss seeing himself as the natives see him. For, in her homespun style, Inez spills the beans and lets us know what Maine folks mean when they say of us summer people, 'We like to see 'em come and we like to see 'em go.'"

"I enjoyed following the Farringtons through 12 months of the year—deep snow in January, berry-picking in July, family jaunts in the mountains in August, banking the house in November."
Mrs. Inez Farrington  
East Stoneham  
Maine  

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Congratulations on your book, *SO GOES THE NATION*. Maine's families and ways are always rich in material, and we are delighted whenever we meet a new book interpreting the state to its friends and its own people.

The book is on our order list, but it is in behalf of another part of the library that we now write. Do you know of the Maine Author Collection? It is a permanent exhibit of books written by Maine people or about Maine subjects. The volumes are almost all inscribed presentation copies, and make a fine display of Maine literature, attracting visitors and students throughout the year. We are always happy to welcome a new book to the shelves, and we hope that you will want to inscribe and present a copy of *SO GOES THE NATION* for inclusion.

We also gather all available biographical data on our writers, but we have been unsuccessful in finding facts about you. We like to have on file the birthplace, birthdate, and a few facts -- a sort of Who's Who item. Could you help us by letting us have a paragraph or two of this sort of information?

Our warm good wishes go to you for the success of your book.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection

hmj
East Stoneham, Me.
Sept. 16, 1903

Thank you for your congratulations on my book. I am unable to tell you just when it will be published, but I surely will be pleased to send you a copy.

As to my life's story it is a common one. Married to Harald Harrington.
five children; youngest age 13. Born
sired and educated in East Storham
Member J Minnehaha Temple, Python
States, Maine Poetry Fellowship,
State Democrat Committee.
I have been writing a weekly report
article for years. Was the first
President of the State's first stock
car Association Auxiliary. Very fond
stock car and motorcycle racing.

General poems read on radio, one
in England during WW II, my first
from but several more nearly complete.
' finish' gave me realy complete
Chin up said mum Augusta
station. Like people, speedy cars
and hillbilly music. Dislike
thunderstorms and snakes and this
is my true life story.
I am proud, and pleased to have you
use it in any way in your library.
I think you will like the story.
September 24, 1953

Mrs. Harold Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you for the information, disappointing though it is, about your book. We are certainly sorry to hear that it is delayed. It sounds like a most entertaining and informative story. We shall look forward to the day when it is available. Good luck to you in ironing out those last problems of publication.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
June 8, 1954

Mrs. Harold Farrington
East Stonehamp
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Is it true? We read in the paper recently that your book (under a new title, MAINE IS FOREVER) is really to be available soon. We certainly hope this is correct. You must be anxious to see the finished product, and we are eager to have it, too.

Do you remember that you promised the Maine Author Collection an inscribed copy? We look forward to its arrival; and just as soon as we know that MAINE IS FOREVER is actually published, we will of course send an order to a bookseller, so that the lending section of the library will have this new Maine book.

Congratulations, and good luck to it.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj
East Stoneham, Maine.
June 11, 1954.

Maine State Library.
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mrs Jacob, Many thanks for your kind letter and interest in my book. I certainly have not-forgotten my promise to send the Library one. The title has been changed but the book is the same. I really am going to be proud of it and am very happy about it.

The date was set for June 14th but it will be a little later, but by the last of the month.

If you would care to have me I would be very glad to make a personal visit to the Library when the book is out. Although I have never visited it I have called on its help many times and have always been treated wonderful.

With out bragging I think you will like the book. It is a simple story but it can not offend anyone and to me it is really Maine as I see it and love it.

I will be on TV and will let you know the date if I know in time.

Thank you for your interest and I do hope it will do its small part in helping to advertise the beauty of our State.

Sincerely Yours,

[Signature]

M. Harrington.
June 16, 1954

Mrs. Harold Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you for the information about your book. We shall watch for it, and for the reviews.

We have no staff photographers, or other real publicity channels, so we doubt that your visiting the library would in itself benefit sales, but we certainly hope that some day you will call in person. Thank you for your appreciative words. We hope we may continue to help you whenever you have need of our service. If you should be making personal appearances in this vicinity, at bookstores, or for interviews, do let us know.

It will be a wonderful day for you, we know, when the book is really published. Good luck to it.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
Mrs. Harold Farrington  
East Stoneham  
Maine  

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Congratulations upon the publication of your fine and entertaining and perceptive book, MAINE IS FOREVER. It is delightful, and we anticipate a popular career for it.

We are proud that the Maine Author Collection may so promptly boast the inclusion of this latest Maine book. Thank you very much indeed.

And don't stop with this one book!

Sincerely yours

In Charge of  

hmj  

Maine Author Collection
Augusta State Library.
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Sirs,

You may have heard that my second book MY MAINE FOLKS will be published soon. I would be delighted to have it added to Maine Is Forever in your library. Price two dollars until May 15, after that date two fifty. Publishing date set for the last of May.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely Yours,

[Signature]

Inez M. Farrington.
April 24, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

It is the best kind of news to learn of your new book, MY MAINE FOLKS. We shall certainly need it in the library, and we shall be able to place an order when we know more about it: that is, is it fiction or non-fiction? Do you prefer that it be ordered directly from you?

Publication is a little too late for MY MAINE FOLKS to be included in the Maine in Print column for the May Bulletin of the Maine Library Association, but we will have it in the August issue, in time for fall buying, we trust.

We hope that you will want to inscribe and present a copy for the Maine Author Collection, so that your writing may be completely represented in this Maine exhibit.

Good luck to the new book, which we look forward to seeing soon.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj
June 7, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Because we know that MY MAINE FOLKS is due soon, we are a little concerned that we do not have information about ordering it. Perhaps our letter of April 24 failed to reach you. In it, we inquired whether the book is fiction or non-fiction. We should like to have gotten our order in at the pre-publication prices, but the number we order depends upon the book. If it is a novel, for instance, we shall want it for traveling libraries and bookmobile; if it is non-fiction, we shall need additional copies for the main library. Could you let us know about this, and also whether the orders should be placed directly with you or with a book dealer.

We shall hope to see the new volume soon.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
hmj

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

Dear Mrs Jacob, I am very sorry that I neglected to answer your first letter. It has been a busy time and I am afraid I overlooked it in the rush.

My Maine Folks is non fiction something like Maine Is Forever. In it I went back to the year 1832 and used both history of this town and the State up to the present time. I think it will be perfectly all right if you place your orders with me and if you do it can be obtained for the pre publication price of two dollars. I would advise you doing this at once, before the book is out which should be any time now. I would like to present the Maine Authors collection with one free copy.

It would be all right too, to place your orders with Bond Wheelwright, Freeport, Me.

This is a great summer resort and if you happen to be one of the many who will be up this way this summer please call on me. The State Library is one of my pet hobbies and would be delighted to see any one from there.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

East Stoneham, Maine.
June 8, 1956
June 15, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you for your letter about the new book. Enclosed is our order for several copies.

Thank you, too, for the pleasant invitation. If any of us are in your vicinity, we shall be sure to take advantage of the opportunity.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
hmj
Maine Author Collection
July 20, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you very much for the Maine Author Collection copy of your new book, MY MAINE FOLKS, which arrived today. Is it likely that you will be in this vicinity soon? If you are, we should like to have you inscribe the book. If you are not, may we send it to you for that distinguishing touch?

It is a warm and friendly book, and we expect it to be popular. Our copies have come for the bookmobile and traveling library sections, too, and for the main library.

You have our good wishes for its success.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
East Stoneham, Maine.
July, 21, 1956.

Dear Mrs Jacob,

Thank you for your nice letter about my new book. I doubt if I will be in Augusta for some time as I am working after noons now but if you will mail the book to me I will be very glad to autograph it. I had planned to do so and did not know that Mr Wheelwright had all ready sent it. It is selling very well in Norway and So. Paris but of course the real test is in other Towns. Thank you for your good wishes.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lucy M. Tarleton
August 1, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you for the privilege of sending the Maine Author Collection copy of your new book to you for an inscription.

We are doing so today, and enclosing a label and return postage for your convenience.

Sincerely yours

hmj
In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

Encls.
Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

The inscribed copy of MY MAINE FOLKS for the Maine Author Collection has arrived, and we thank you for the kindness of adding this special touch to the collection copy.

We hope that the book is doing well.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
Place of birth: East Stoneham, Maine
Date of birth: June 1, 1904
Home address: Judge Reid Memorial Home, West Paris, Maine.
Publications: My Maine Poets, Maine Is Forever. Blown Memory Lane, Bless This House.

Biographical information

My first two books were hard covers and in the Maine State Library. There are no more copies available. My last book, which is at the printer now, and 17 poems, Bless This House, will be glad to send you a copy and one of Blown Memory when I receive it.

I am a patient in this nursing home, Widow with five children. Some sold to Redbook and 8 at evening Post. One poem read on radio in England.

My Prayer, one of my poems set to music and on tape. My books are in libraries in San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Heston, where I spent our winters. I get many letters from Texas people in regard to these. Am an Honorary Member of Corpus Christi. I have had a busy life and did so many things I would not want to brag about them but I have always kept writing. Thank you for including me in your list of authors. Yours Truly, Ing Mr Farrington