October 2015

Katharine E. O'Brien Correspondence

Katharine E. O'Brien 1901-

Hilda McLeod Jacob

Maine State Library

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O'BRIEN, KATHARINE
b. Amesbury, Mass
September 25, 1969

Miss Katharine O'Brien
130 Hartley Street
Portland, Maine 04103

Dear Miss O'Brien:

No, we do not have your book EXCAVATION AND OTHER VERSE in the Maine Author Collection. May we be so fortunate as to anticipate a copy?

As you probably know, the exhibit contains inscribed presentation copies, and we also make an effort to collect biographical information about our Maine writers. Would you be willing to let us have a few paragraphs of this nature?

You are indeed kind to think of the collection and we shall hope to have a copy of your book to add to the other Maine writings.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
130 Hartley Street
Portland, Maine 04103
September 8, 1969

Librarian
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

Dear Madam:

I am writing to inquire if there is a copy of my book "Excavation and other verse", Anthoensen Press, 1967, in the Maine Writers' Collection at the Maine State Library.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Katharine O'Brien

Katharine O'Brien
October 8, 1969

Dr. Katharine E. O'Brien
130 Hartley Street
Portland, Maine 04103

Dear Dr. O'Brien:

Thank you so very much for both books. Such varied intellectual gifts! Are we reminded of Marsden Hartley because of your address or because of his dual talents?

At any rate, we are grateful for your calling our attention to these publications, for your gracious response, and for the presence of a mind which encompasses such rollicking verses and such abstruse mathematical problems. (I do hope you sent a copy of Reflections on a lower level to the Bowery!)

Sincerely yours

hmj

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

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

I am sending under separate cover a copy of "Excavation and other verse" and a copy of "Sequences", both for the Maine Author Collection. Biographical data is enclosed herewith, as you suggest.

With good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Katharine E. O'Brien

P.S. I do not use the middle initial "E" in poetry publications.

October 3, 1969
Katharine E. O'Brien

Born Amesbury, Mass., daughter of Martin W. and Catherine Higgins O'Brien.

Deering High School, Portland, Maine, class valedictorian.
A.B., Bates college, with Double Honors.
A.M., Cornell University, in mathematics.
Ph.D., Brown University, in mathematics.

Taught at College of New Rochelle, instructor, associate professor, professor and chairman of mathematics department, eleven years.
Is head of mathematics department, Deering High School (30th year) and lecturer in mathematics, University of Maine, Portland (9th year).
For several recent summer sessions (1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, and 1967) has been lecturer in mathematics at Brown University.

Member of:

Phi Beta Kappa (Bates)
Sigma Xi (Cornell)
New York Academy of Sciences
Mathematical Association of America
Poetry Society of America
International Platform Association
Bates Key
Society of Bowdoin Women.

Has served as:

Speaker at meetings of The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and The Association of Teachers of Mathematics in New England.
Book reviewer for The American Mathematical Monthly.
Referee and book reviewer for The Mathematics Teacher.
Maine representative to The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.
Member of the board of governors of Mu Alpha Theta, national mathematics club.

Listed in:

American Men of Science
Dictionary of International Biography

Publications:

Papers in Bulletin of The American Mathematical Society and other journals.

The class of 1964, Deering High School, established the "Dr. Katharine E. O'Brien Mathematics Award", to be awarded annually to a senior in recognition of excellence in mathematics.