March 2016

Wilbert Snow Correspondence

Wilbert Snow 1884-

Maine State Library

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalmaine.com/maine_writers_correspondence

Recommended Citation

Snow, Wilbert 1884- and Maine State Library, "Wilbert Snow Correspondence" (2016). Maine Writers Correspondence. 769.
http://digitalmaine.com/maine_writers_correspondence/769

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the Maine State Library Special Collections at Maine State Documents. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Writers Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Maine State Documents. For more information, please contact statedocs@maine.gov.
SNOW, Wilbert

Born at St. George, April 6, 1884.
Dear Mr. Snow:-

It will interest you to know that I am collecting for the State Library, books written by Maine authors. This collection will constitute a permanent department in the State Library. The books will not be loaned from this collection.

I am sending you a copy of the Library Bulletin for July, 1922, with a marked article referring to this collection.

We hope the new State Library building will have a special room set apart for this collection, and that it will contain facilities for students and be a place of study for former residents and visitors of Maine, who are interested in literary and historical matters.

I am asking each Maine author to send me a presentation copy of each book they have written and so far as possible to write in each book anything that might explain the origin of the book, or any interesting item in connection with it. This will add to the value of the collection as the years pass.

I am meeting with a favorable and generous response from everyone. It will be a great favor if you will cooperate with us in this matter to the extent of preparing and sending a copy of each of your books for this collection.

I will be very glad to pay any expenses in connection with this project.

Please accept my thanks in advance for anything you can do to assist us in making the collection complete. I am,

Sincerely yours,

Henry L. Dunnack
Librarian
Sept. 12, 1923.

Dear Mr. Snow:-

The summer is fast departing, up in my country the chill of the North is in the air, all of which reminds me that you soon will have escaped the snare of the fowler and my Maine collection will be minus Wilbert Snow's autographed book. Please, sir, take your pen in hand and do your best for me right now.

You will be very glad to know that we are using your poems not only in our general library but in our traveling libraries.

Your "Poet Knowledge" and "In a Paris Church" are altogether wonderful. I have made copies of these two and am sending them in my letters. "More power to you."

By the way, if you have finished with that Saine Michel Chatref by Henry Adams, which we borrowed from Bowdoin College for you, please send it up. I wonder if there is anything you want to look over in the book line, before you return, if so I should be very glad to send you any other items. I am,

Sincerely yours,

Henry E. Dunnack.
Librarian.

Mr. Wilbert Snow,
Rockland,
Maine.
37 High Street,
Middletown, Conn.
10 Dec. 1923.

Dear Mr. Linnick,

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of Maine Coast, properly inscribed and autographed. You should have been attended to long ago, but the business of furnishing a
from room apartment, and
the attention demanded by
a ten minutes' old boy
have kept me away
from correspondence &
together.

Be assured that I
appreciate your good
urds about Poet Know-
ledge and I'm a Paris
Church. The Forum
has taken another one,
Morning World, which
will be published in the Spring. And the Century has taken the recently called Bob Kinney, our College Professor, which, I think, will be able to give you a hearty laugh. At least I hope so. If I were a debbit what a wonderful catch she thinks of a college professor. Another of mine called Impressions will be published soon in the Nation. It would be a good one to paste in the cover of my presentation copy, inasmuch as it summarizes my kind impressions. You see I am taking your advice and keeping my hand in.

Thank heartily for Went, Saint Michael and Charles. Reading it was one of the events of my summer. What a marvellous mind that an old cynic had! I doubt if America ever produces just such another.
April four 1924

Dear Mr. Snow:-

Mrs. Puller called to my attention this morning our correspondence. There was no question in my mind but what I had answered your letter, however in looking the letter up I find it was filed in the book dealing with Maine authors and writers, rather that in the regular correspondence and I think this explains how I happened to overlook it.

We have secured the Nation of Dec. 26, 1923 and February 27, 1924. The Century of February 1924 and I am looking forward with keen anticipation to securing a copy of the Forum containing your "Morning World." These magazines contain your recent verse with the exception of the poem you and Esther Bird are doing together, which I understand is coming out in the May Forum.

I greatly appreciate the notes you added to the Maine Coast. These make the book invaluable. I will appreciate it if you will keep me in touch with any of your publications or write-ups that my Maine collection may be complete. I am,

Sincerely yours,

Henry E. Dunnack.

Prof. Wilbert Snow
Middletown, Conn.
March 12, 1930

Professor Wilbert Snow
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Bill;-

I find that through some oversight on our part there is not a Maine Author Collection copy of the Inner Harbor, although we have it in the general library. Will you please send us, as soon as is convenient, a copy of it, duly autographed and inscribed, making your bill for the book in duplicate to the Maine State Library?

I liked your fog poem very much. I meant to write and tell you so, at once, and possible I did, but the chances are that I didn't. Anyhow, the poem is good enough to be twice commended!

I hope that the boys and their marvellous mother are well. It won't be long now before you will be starting for Spruce Head. I hope that I shall have better luck about seeing you than I did last year!
On September 19th, Gotham House, Inc. will publish Wilbert Snow's new book of poems, "Down East." Mr. Snow won the praise of leading critics with his earlier books, "Maine Coast," and "The Inner Harbor," and the appearance of his new work is a literary event of some importance. Wilbert Snow has contributed to Harriet Monroe's Poetry Magazine, The Saturday Review of Literature, The Forum, The Nation and many other magazines. He was born in Maine, of old Yankee sea-captain stock, grew up in the sea-coast villages, studied at Bowdoin and has taught in Alaska, Oregon and Indiana. He is Professor of English Literature at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., where he has been a member of the faculty for the last ten years.

"Down East" presents authentic interpretation of New England in many moods; there are powerful narratives in his ballads; he captures the beauty of sea and people in his lyrics and sonnets. Much of Mr. Snow's earlier work has found a permanent place in anthologies, and there is a strong demand for "Down East," — the first edition is nearly sold out in advance of publication.

"Down East" will be published at $2.00.
October 14, 1932

Prof. Wilbert Snow,
Wesleyan University,
Middletown, Connecticut.

Dear Professor Snow:

Will you please send us two copies of your recent book "Down East"? Please enclose bill with the books. The reason I am writing directly to you is because we hope you will autograph one of the books for our Maine Author Collection.

Very truly yours

State Librarian

PC
Middletown, Conn.
25 Jan., 1933.

Dear Marion,

I detected your fine Italian hand in the Down East appreciation appearing in the last number of your Maine Library Bulletin — especially did I detect you in your references to the Snow menage and in the reference to the "orange-colored rocks." I wish I were able to live up to all the fine things you say about my poetry. I live in the hope that I may some day be able to write a book worthy of the praise you have lavished on this one — Down East. That will give me something always to look forward to.

You came down to Rockland and visited your sister without ever coming down to our "orange colored rocks" at all. Do you think this quite a fair procedure? Think it over.

We are back again at the old stand, regretting the loss of freedom that was ours so recently.

Ever yours,

[Signature]

Bill Smith
Wilbert Snow's new book

MAINE COAST

Wilbert Snow's volume of poems "Maine Coast" will be one of the most widely discussed books of the spring. It pictures the actual and spiritual life of a small neglected village on Penobscot Bay—the author's boyhood home. Throughout, as a persistent background, one sees the rich beauty and color of the Maine Coast. Those of the poems which have appeared in such magazines as Scribner's and The Nation have created an unusual stir. Mr. Snow is a self-styled academic tramp, who has made warm friends among the students and faculties of seven American colleges from Maine to Oregon where he was taught. He has varied his academic career by excursions on the trails of the Seward Peninsula, Alaska, by a summer in the Navy as a "gob," by travel over the Rocky Mountains and by service as an artillery officer in the World War.

Just published, $1.75; by mail $1.82. Order from your bookseller or the publishers.

HARCOURT, BRACE & CO. 1 WEST 47TH STREET NEW YORK
Rev. Henry E. Dunnack
State Library
Augusta
Maine
WILBERT SNOW

Author of:
Maine Coast
Zeb Kinney on Professors

Inscription:
Maine Coast

Presented to the Maine State Library, with the best wishes of the author.

The Author was born on the island of White Head at the eastern entrance of Penobscot Bay with the Atlantic Ocean. At the age of seven his family moved to Spruce Head, a village on the mainland. Out of that environment — with its fishermen, lobster catchers, stone cutters, paving cutters, and sailors — he has fashioned this book. He tried for realism, but has evidently achieved a blend of realism and idealism.

Wilbert Snow

Zeb Kinney on Professors

Taken from the Century, February, 1924
May 20, 1936

Professor Wilbert Snow
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Mr. Snow:

We are delighted that once again we may anticipate the pleasure of a volume of your poems. The advance notices are complimentary, and we feel certain that they should be!

We hope you will want to inscribe a copy of this new book for the Maine Author Collection, in continuation of your past kind interest. You are assured, as always, of our sincere appreciation for your generosity, and of our pride in being able to claim you as a Maine man.

Very truly yours

Maine State Library

hm

Secretary
May 21, 1936

Miss Hilda McCleod
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

Dear Miss McCleod:

Thank you for your delightful letter of May 20th. In accordance with your suggestion, I am sending you a copy of my Selected Poems for the Maine authors' collection. Please remember me to Marion Fuller, Theresa Stuart, and Mr. Dunnack.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

WS:HH

Wilbert Sunw.
May 25, 1956

Professor Wilbert Snow  
Wesleyan University  
Middletown, Conn.

Dear Mr. Snow:

Your recent volume, SELECTED POEMS, has reached the library, and we send you our sincere thanks for the gift and also your kindness in writing an inscription. We appreciate your continued interest in the Maine Author Collection, and only regret that we have no copy of THE INNER HARBOR. Perhaps one day we will be able to add this volume to your books.

Your remembrances have been given to Marion Fuller, Theresa Stuart and Mr. Dunneck, and they join in sending best wishes and congratulations to you.

Very truly yours

Maine State Library

Imm Secretary
January 20, 1939

Professor Wilbert Snow
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Professor Snow:

Congratulations on your new volume of poems! Our copy has been ordered for lending, but has not yet arrived. We are looking forward with our customary eagerness to seeing it, especially since it has been receiving favorable reviews.

We hope you will want to continue your generosity toward the Maine Author Collection by presenting an inscribed copy for this exhibit. Should you ever be successful in locating a copy of THE INNER HARBOR, which we unfortunately lack in the collection, we would be very glad to have it. It is regrettable that your works should not be complete, and we trust that one day THE INNER HARBOR may join the other volumes.

You have our best wishes for the success of BEFORE THE WIND.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm

SECRETARY
November 10, 1939

Professor Wilbert Snow
19 Newfield Street
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Professor Snow:

Since your volume, BEFORE THE WIND, has not come to us for the Maine Author Collection, we assume that our letter of January 20, 1939, did not reach you or that you do not wish to present an inscribed copy to the exhibit.

We feel that the book is so distinctive, however, that we should include it, and we are accordingly requesting the Personal Book Shop of Boston to forward you a copy, which we trust you will be so kind as to inscribe for us.

We are still searching for THE INNER HARBOR, and hope some day to find a copy for the collection.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm

SECRETARY
Miss Hilda McLeod
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

My dear Miss McLeod:

I shall be very happy to inscribe *Before the Wind* for the Maine Author Collection and shall return it to you as soon as the Personal Book Shop sends it to me.

You may secure a copy of *The Inner Harbor* at The A. J. Houston Book Shop in Portland, Maine. A former student of mine told me he saw a copy of it exhibited in the window of that store not long ago.

Very sincerely yours,

Wilbert Snow

WS/s
Dear Professor Snow:

The Maine Author Collection inscribed copy of BEFORE THE WIND has been received, and we are delighted to add this lovely volume to the exhibit. Please accept our thanks for your cooperation.

We endeavored to secure Mr. Huston's copy of THE INNER HARBOR, but he reported that he did not at the time have one. We still hope that one day we may discover it.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj

SECRETARY
Mr. C. Wilbert Snow  
19 Newfield Street  
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Snow:

Congratulations upon MAINE TIDES! We had been, of course, anticipating it with pleasure; and we were fortunate in seeing a copy at the recent convention of librarians held in Waterville.

The book itself is rich with that charm and humor which you have taught us to expect from your pen; and we hope soon to have the opportunity of enjoying further its enticing pages.

We are adding the title to our order list, so that our patrons may be able to borrow a copy. At present we write to you, hoping that your generous interest in the Maine Author Collection may suggest an inscribed presentation copy of MAINE TIDES to add to your other volumes.

Our constant awareness of our deficiency in not possessing THE INNER HARBOR is equalled only by our constant pride in the other distinctive volumes; and it is with sincerity that we send you our best wishes for the success of the latest book.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY

SECRETARY

hmj
Mr. C. Wilbert Snow  
19 Newfield Street  
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Snow:

It is usually we who congratulate you, but we are so elated at the moment that we think we should be congratulated! The reason for our exuberance is that we finally discovered a copy of THE INNER HARBOR, in good condition; and we immediately purchased it.

We have not heard from you in answer to our letter of September 16, and we hope that does not mean that the Maine Author Collection is not to be enriched by an inscribed copy of your lovely MAINE TIDES. We still hope for a copy, so that the representation of your writings may not lack this latest expression of your talent.

May we send THE INNER HARBOR for your inscription? We enclose an envelope for your convenience in replying, and we shall not send the book until we receive your permission.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj
Encl--1

SECRETARY
Dear Mrs. Jacob,

I am glad to hear that you have picked up a copy of "The Summer Palace." If you will read it along I shall be pleased to autograph it for you. As for my new book, "Maine Tides," I am sorry to say that I have no copy of the volume around the premises. Henry Holt, the publisher, gave me only six copies altogether, and these six were not enough for my own immediate family.

Please remember me to Marian Cobb Fuller. With all good wishes I am

Sincerely, Wilbur F. SM.
January 31, 1941

Mr. Wilbert Snow
19 Newfield Street
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Snow:

Thank you for permission to send THE INNER HARBOR for your inscription. The book is going forward to you under separate cover, and we enclose return postage and label.

Since we feel that the lack of MAINE TIDES from the collection would be too regrettable, we are requesting that a copy be forwarded from Mr. A. J. Huston of Portland, Maine. When it comes, perhaps you will be so kind as to add an inscription and return it to us for the exhibit. Sufficient postage and a label for this purpose are enclosed.

Your remembrances have been conveyed to Mrs. Fuller, who was of course pleased, and added that she "must write."

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY

hmj

SECRETARY
February 5, 1941

Mr. Wilbert Snow
19 Newfield Street
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Snow:

With appreciation, we acknowledge the receipt of THE INNER HARBOR, autographed for inclusion in the Maine Author Collection. We look forward to having MAINE TIDES among these exhibit volumes, and presume that it will reach you shortly.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj

SECRETARY
February 11, 1941

Mr. Wilbert Snow
19 Newfield Street
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Snow:

Thank you for inscribing MAINE TIDES for the Maine Author Collection. The book has been received at the library, and we shall take pleasure in placing it with your other work.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj

SECRETARY
Wilbert Snow, Maine Native, Wins Connecticut Nomination

Defeats Bowles In Gubernatorial Race

Hartford, Conn., Sept. 17—(AP)—Lieutenant Governor Wilbert Snow, gray-haired 62-year-old English professor and poet, won the Democratic nomination for governor today after a last ditch battle put on by Chester Bowles, wartime OPA head, and three other candidates.

Snow's Republican opponent in the November elections will be his one-time boss, former President James L. McConaughy of Wesleyan University. McConaughy, nominated by the Republicans last week, was lieutenant governor in 1939-40.

Bowles made a close race of it, receiving 455 votes from the 1,246 tense, excited delegates at the State Convention. Snow polled 528 votes, 99 less than the necessary majority, but leader after leader immediately swung to him as the result was announced.

Bowles ended the fight by taking the platform and presenting the motion that made Snow's nomination unanimous.

After the feverish gubernatorial fight, the unopposed nomination of Joseph M. Tone of New Haven, former state labor commissioner, for U. S. Senator came as somewhat of an anti-climax. Tone, a U. S. labor consultant, will oppose Republican Governor Raymond E. Baldwin.

During his campaign for the nomination, Bowles, an Essex resident, promised "all-out support" to the successful candidate in the event of his own defeat.

Snow's support came mainly from the rural districts, most big city delegations favoring Bowles.

Snow, who had predicted he would win if he didn't become the victim of "any star-chamber, smoke filled room stuff," said in his acceptance speech that last week's Republican convention, at which contests were eliminated before the balloting began, was a "gathering of automatons" and was "stamped with the image and superscription of the Kremlin."

The other candidates were Thomas J. Dodd of Lebanon, American prosecutor at the Nurnberg war crimes trial, 108 votes in the unofficial tabulation; Mayor John S. Monagan of Waterbury, 96, and Alfred N. Phillips, Jr., former mayor of Stamford and former Congressman, 31.
July 25, 1957

Dr. Wilbert Snow
19 Newfield Street
Middletown, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Snow:

Last month I heard you read your poem written for your fiftieth anniversary at Bowdoin. It occurred to me that this should be added to your writings in the Maine Author Collection. Don't you think so?

If there is a possibility of our having a copy, we should very much appreciate it.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
Dear Mrs. Jacobs,

I enclose the 50th Anniversary poem for your Maine Collection. If you think best, you can put President Hyde's "The Offer of the College" as a footnote to page 4. (It is only one sentence.)

If you do, please put it in smaller type than that used in the poem.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
August 1, 1957

Dr. Wilbert Snow
Spruce Head
Maine

Dear Dr. Snow:

Thank you very much indeed for letting the Maine Author Collection have a copy of your Fiftieth Anniversary Poem.

It says so much so well, and yet so simply: we are glad to be able to add it to your books.

You are in the best possible place for such weather. We hope you are enjoying the summer.

Sincerely yours

hmj
In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
June 10, 1958

Dr. Wilbert Snow
Spruce Head
Maine

Dear Dr. Snow:

Presumably the school year is over, and you and Ricker have bade one another farewell, and you are now in the land of salt and fog (maybe the sun will shine this summer, but it's reluctant as yet).

Do you think it possible that the Maine Author Collection will have an inscribed copy of your SONNETS TO STEVE, to place with your other books? We hope so, because of course we'd like to know that your work in the collection is complete.

Best wishes for a happy summer.

Sincerely yours

HMJ

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
Shinice Head Me.
15th June, 1968

Dear Mrs. Jacob,

Thanks for your letter of June 10. As soon as I get back to Middleburg I will send you a presentation copy of "Sonnets to Steve" for your Maine Author Collection. I hope to see many Maine authors at Ocean Park on Aug. 22-23.

Sincerely,
Wilbert Smith
Mrs. Hilda M. Jacob,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Maine.
June 20, 1958

Dr. Wilbert Snow  
Spruce Head  
Maine

Dear Dr. Snow:

Thank you for the promise of an inscribed copy of SONNETS TO STEVE. We shall watch for it, and let you know when it arrives.

No copies at Spruce Head? -- a real vacation!

Sincerely yours

hmj  
In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection
June 25, 1958

Dr. Wilbert Snow  
Spruce Head  
Maine

Dear Dr. Snow:

Here is the lovely SONNETS TO STEVE. How very nice of you to find a copy for the collection, and to inscribe it for us. We are extraordinarily pleased, with the felicity and strength of the poems, and with the kind interest you have shown over the years in the Maine Author Collection.

Again, accept our thanks, and our very good wishes for an undisturbed and refreshing vacation.

Sincerely yours

hmj  
In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection
Dear Mrs. Jacob:

We've taken pleasure in sending you by separate package an inscribed copy of Bill Snow's SPRUCE HEAD for the Maine Author Collection. We are proud of our part in making this collection of fine poetry available.

I'm sorry to say we don't have any catalog, because we only publish books occasionally as they come along. We'll let you know whenever we do.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Mrs. F. W. Jacob
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine
September 23, 1960

Mr. Seth Low
Seth Low Press
Rockland, Maine

Dear Mr. Low:

For your generous part in making SPRUCE HEAD available for the Maine Author Collection, accept our thank. It is a beautiful book, and we are proud to have it with Dr. Snow's other books. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

September 23, 1960

Dr. Wilbert Snow
Spruce Head
Maine

Dear Dr. Snow:

The copy of SPRUCE HEAD for the Maine Author Collection has arrived, and we are grateful to you and Mr. Low for making the addition possible.

What a lovely book it is! Thank you for writing it.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
March 26, 1975

Dr. Wilbert Snow
19 Newfield Street
Middletown, Conn 06457

Dear Dr. Snow:

We have copies of your recent autobiography, CODLINE'S CHILD, in our lending collection and it is constantly in circulation.

We hope you will want to continue your generosity and present an inscribed copy of this book for the Maine Author Collection. You are already well represented in this exhibit of books as you were one of the first Maine authors who responded to Henry Dannack's request for presentation copies of your works when he instituted this permanent collection in 1923 and you sent your first book of poems, THE MAINE COAST.

In our new modern library building which was opened in 1971, we now have a Maine Room in which the Maine Author Collection is on permanent display in glass front bookcases. Here readers and researchers may use this collection in pleasant, comfortable surroundings.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Shirley Thayer
Reference Librarian