

Sourdough Jack Mabee Returns

Sourdough Jack Mabee is returning to Alaska.

The onetime riverboater-roust-about-trader arrives at Anchorage airport tomorrow afternoon on a mission of love. He will be here to dedicate a collection of Alaskan artifacts as a memorial to his mother, Clara Mabee, herself a favorite of Alaskans during her career as a trading post keeper in Fairbanks.

According to officials of the Anchorage Historical and Fine Arts Museum, where the Jack and Clara Mabee Collection will be housed, Mabee's gift contains a number of notable items, among them unusual Eskimo & Indian woodcraft carvings, bead work & artifacts, particularly strong on Athabascan Culture.

Presented to the museum on permanent loan at a museum banquet Nov. 19, the collection will remain the property of the donor until his death, at which time it is deeded to the museum. A portion of the collection is now on display.

Mabee will also be visiting the Alaska Treatment Center for Crippled Children and Adults whose charitable work he has been aiding for more than 20 years through proceeds from the sale of the only sourdough cookbook now in print, "Sourdough Jack's Cookery and Other Things".

Jack will be introducing the latest edition of his internationally acclaimed "Cookery". The 1971 edition, advance reports state, contains color illustrations of Alaska scenes, together with old prints from State archives, as well as many of the famous legends of Gold Rush and other pioneer Alaskans.

New recipes for Alaska King Crab are also featured for the first time.

The career of Sourdough Jack Mabee is a measure of the mounting outside interest in Alaska. When the author-cook first broached his idea of a Sourdough cookbook, he found little interest among San Francisco publishers or financiers.

Consequently, he decided to publish the unique book himself, which he still does, after some fourteen printings and international acceptance.

The present completely revised edition, issued only last month, is outstripping previous editions by a wide margin, and a second printing is being scheduled for early 1971.

With the new revised edition the number of Sourdough Jack's Cookery cookbooks will amount to a quarter of a million copies.