5th July 1928

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL,
LONDON, W. C.

My dear Mr. Eastman,

Pray accept my congratulations on the anniversary of your birthday and my feelings on that occasion.

Lord Riddell has been kind enough to let me have for your information the extract from the New York Times of 21st July in which

?, Reginald; ALS to George Eastman (1929-07-05)
Reference is made to his own supplicant offers. It is
inexcusable in the office to
omit Flattery. I think you are honored by this
act of personal recommendation by which the world gain
through your friendship.

I amincerely,

Reginald

[Signature]
?, Reginald; Verso of ALS to George Eastman (1929-07-05)
Mystic, S. Dak. July 5, 1929

Mr. George Eastman,
Rochester, N.Y.

My Dear Mr. Eastman:

May I upon the occasion of your seventy-fifth anniversary extend to you my sincerest congratulations.

Your contributions to the science of photography are without parallel on either continent. What this has meant to the sum total of human progress and happiness is immeasurable.

It is with the utmost pleasure that I recall your visit to the Sand Hills of Nebraska when we had a hunt together. My only criticism was that you "wiped my eye" on two or three shots.

May you live long to enjoy the fruits of your labors.

Sincerely yours,

Sam R. McKelvie
July 7, 1929.

Dear Mr. Eastman,

When I join in the multitude of congratulations and best wishes which will come to you from the ends of the earth upon the occasion of your coming anniversary, I read today the admirable article about you in the New York Times, and saw your photo. You have earned much not merely five years, and they have been good years. I am sure your name is known, and is held in honor, about the circle of the globe. Such is a great life record, and, with all your work, you must feel a certain measure of satisfaction.

Wishing happy returns of the day!

I suppose that an essay may not cross the 36 days to come, for I am writing my book to Princeton next Wednesday. Why write or Princeton University has already begun. It will seem strange and a bit homesick to live in any
July 7, 1929

Prince George Hotel
Fifth Avenue and 28th Street
New York City

ALBURN M. GUTTERSON, Managing Director

To A Home In The Heart Of Things

Dear Mr. Eastman,

I came as a young man and I go with the realization that the many working years remain to me, as the longer I want to make them count.

Your friendship has meant much to me, and I thank you for it.

Very sincerely yours,

Clarence A. Barbour

I am spending so
New York today,
returning tonight.

Barbour, Clarence A.; ALS to George Eastman (1929-07-07)
Broadway Central Hotel,  
New York, N.Y.,  
July 7, 1929.

Mr. George Eastman,  
Rochester, New York.

My dear Mr. Eastman:

I have just read the article in to-day's New York Times in which Diana Rice states that next Friday will be your seventy-fifth birthday.

Though scarcely known to you, I can not let the day pass without sending to you my felicitations at so happy an event. May you continue to enjoy health and happiness for many more years!

My work during the Summer of 1925 will always remain a significant experience. This was really made possible by your generous interest in the City Manager Movement.

One thing that I then discovered was that the citizens of Rochester have a genuine appreciation of the many distinguished services which you have rendered to our City. This must be a great satisfaction to you since such appreciation frequently is not present.

And so, permit me to join the host of your fellow citizens who wish you well!

Most respectfully yours,

[Signature]

Nathaniel G. West.
July 8th, 1929

My dear Mr. Eastman:

Miss Diana Rice, who is a staff writer on the NEW YORK TIMES, of which my very good friend Dr. John H. Finley is the editor, wrote a bully good story about your seventy-fifth birthday in the TIMES yesterday. I read it with more than usual interest because of my personal acquaintance with you in the days gone by when I was connected with the Motion Picture Board of Trade.

I had not realized, Mr. Eastman, that you were beating me by a dozen years. I sincerely hope that when I reach the age of seventy-five, I will be as much alive and as wide awake as you are today.

You, of course, recall our mutual friend, Colonel House. The Colonel is not very well. He underwent a rather severe operation a little while ago from which he apparently recovered physically but he has not gotten back to his normal stage of vitality as yet. He is just a year younger than you will be on Friday next.

A year ago when my birthday came around, I wrote what I have been told, is a rather unique birthday greeting. I sent it to some friends of mine. Their responses I have had bound up in a book which I prize more highly than any volume in my library. I enclose a copy.

With kindest personal regards and hoping that the years ahead of you continue to be happy and contented, I am,

Very truly yours,

J. W. BINDER
SPECIAL SEASON

To
Mr. George Eastman
Rochester, New York

J. W. BINDER
SECRETARY
A Birthday Greeting

This, August 21st, 1928, is my birthday.
I anticipate the very natural question you will now ask.
To answer it, I have done a little sum in subtraction.
I put down 1866, the year I was born in that humble Pennsylvania Dutch home near Pottstown. Over this date, I wrote 1928.
Then I subtracted.
Gosh! The answer is 62!
Well, what of it?
Why, friends, age is entirely relative. No one is “old” until he, himself, admits it. So long as his vision is to the front and he keeps working and playing; so long as he keeps his heart young; so long as little children smile at his approach and run eagerly to meet him—no man is old!
And that’s the way I feel today.
I am working just as hard and, I think, more effectively, today than I ever have in the past.
Objectives that seemed impossible of attainment have been and are being reached daily. Wider opportunities for larger service open out ahead.
The rare privilege of friendship with men of affairs in the State, Nation and indeed, throughout the world, is mine.
I have a wife who has “stood by” loyalty when the sea of life rolled less smoothly than it does today; I have two splendid sons, who are making their way on their own “power”; I have five fine grandsons and two handsome granddaughters.
Looks as if I, too, might truthfully say: “My cup runneth over.”
So may I not, on this birthday, assured of your good wishes and friendship, tighten up the old belt a notch, thank God, and push right on?
All right. Let’s go!

J. W. BINDER

Hackensack, N. J.
August 21st, 1928
July 8, 1929

Dear George,—

Congratulations on your birthday. “A thoughtful gift is worth a thousand words.”

So, please accept this enclosed instead of flowers or jewels. Let us smile and keep cheerful — even unto the end.

Achilles, Gertrude Strong; ALS to George Eastman (1929-07-08)
Father dear, did and so did your blessed mother and so can you and it.

Thank you for your honest reply to my letter and to my request. I feel now that it can help Mr. Pilsbury in other ways than in the one he thought best. With kinder thoughts ever your sincere friend

Gertrude S. Achilles
Preus, J.A.O.; TLS to George Eastman (1929-07-08)

W. A. ALEXANDER & CO.
INSURANCE
134 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET
TELEPHONE FRANKLIN 7200
CHICAGO

July 8, 1929

George Eastman, Esq.
Eastman Kodak Company
Rochester, New York

Dear Mr. Eastman:

The other day I read in the newspapers that you will reach the modest age of seventy-five years on July 12. Permit me on your birth anniversary to wish you long and continued health and happiness. You have been one of the most useful citizens civilization has ever known and as a grateful and humble admirer I wish to be one of those who remembers you.

We have two little boys, nine and four, respectively. We are trying to teach them "That the teachers of humanity are the lives of worthy men." If you could spare the time to send me an autographed photograph of yourself I should like to hang it on one of our walls as an inspiration to these boys.

With every good wish, I remain

Yours very truly,

J A O Preus

Preus, J.A.O.; TLS to George Eastman (1929-07-08)
July 9, 1929

Mr. George Eastman
Rochester, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Eastman:

I hear that you are to celebrate your seventy fifth birthday this Friday and I should like to add my congratulations to the many others you will receive. A realization of your many contributions to pleasure and recreation and to the industrial development of our country should make this a very happy occasion indeed.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Herbert Hoover
July 9, 1929.

My dear Mr. Eastman:

It is a pleasure to join with your many friends all over the world in extending congratulations and best wishes to you on your seventy-fifth birthday.

Your life has been so full of signal service to the world, in industrial, educational and philanthropic fields, that I can only hope you may have the satisfaction of realizing, on this anniversary day, something of the important and far-reaching significance of these achievements.

May the years which lie ahead bring you continued good health and increasing gratification, as you review the constantly expanding results of your long and successful life.

Very sincerely,

[Signature]

Mr. George Eastman,
Rochester, N.Y.
DRYDEN RUBBER COMPANY
1014 SO. KILDALE AVENUE

CHICAGO, ILL.

July 10th,

1 9 2 9

Mr. George Eastman,
Rochester, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Eastman:

Next Friday, July 12th, will be your birthday.

After thirty years of association with you, I realize what a privilege it has been to have you as a friend.

You have done and are doing a world of good for humanity. Your generosity, thoughtful giving, and living ethics will be a model for future generations.

There is no man for whom I hold a higher regard. I sincerely hope that you will have many more birthday anniversaries, and that each one at its appointed time may find you in continuing good health and filled with a will to keep on with the game.

My best to you always.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dryden, George; TLS to George Eastman (1929-07-10)
Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America
Washington, D.C.

July 10, 1929.

Dear Mr. Eastman:

As President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, and likewise as a strong personal admirer of your great accomplishments in business and in the community life of this country, I want to extend to you my heartiest congratulations on your seventy-fifth birthday. In the National Chamber this year at our Seventeenth Annual Meeting we were happy at having the opportunity to do honor to you at our table of honor guests, where we had so many of the leaders of American business. All of us were greatly pleased at having you in attendance at our meeting, and I am sure you cannot but have been deeply impressed yourself by the splendid ovation given you by that large gathering.

You have made material contributions not only to the joy of living for the millions of people at home and abroad who have benefited from the products of the Eastman Kodak Company in their daily life, but likewise in your contributions to science, to business management, and to business ethics. You should take great satisfaction in looking back over a bright past, and I hope you may look forward to many further years of equally bright future.

As I dictate this letter I am looking at your autographed picture on my wall which you, as one of the Pioneers of Industry, were kind enough to send to me.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

President.

Mr. George Eastman,
Eastman Kodak Company,
Rochester, N.Y.

WE/485
Dryden Rubber Company

1014 S. Kilgore Ave.

Chicago, Ill.

July 10, 1929

Mr. George Eastman
900 East Avenue
Rochester, New York

Dear Mr. Eastman:

Both Dorothy and I wish you many happy returns of the day on your seventy-fifth birthday.

We are looking forward to seeing you this summer at Northport.

With lots of love,

Sincerely,

Eastman Dryden
July 10, 1929

My dear Mr. Eastman,

In glancing through the paper tonight I read of your approaching birthday. It recalled to my mind a drawing my son had among his drawings of an Art Memorial Museum for you, which he had pictured in his mind and on paper. Had he lived, possibly his idea might have taken another form, who knows? His great ambition was to be an architect.

At any rate it is a young boy’s expression of what he thought should be appropriate and was done without suggestion of any kind. Now that he is gone, surely you cannot feel it is being given you in any thought except to be below a boy’s admiration for you and what you have done. Will you accept it as one of your birthday gifts? I know there can be no duplicate, and feel you might be glad to...
Know what is in the minds of some of Rochester's youth concerning you, if by themselves would refrain from telling you.

We are glad for 75 years such as you have given that are an inspiration to our youth.

The inscription on the drawing, as in Kennett's own handwriting, but he placed no date upon it. I think it was done in 1737. We feel he gave great promise for a lad of fifteen, but he was taken from us in January with pneumonia.

May your birthday be most happy, and if this work of our boy can add one bit of joy to your day, I shall be so glad the thought came to send it. Should it prove one more thing you would rather be without, it would still be cherished here, for sure you will not misunderstand me.

Wills' sincerest congratulations and best wishes,

Clara D. Beers

Beers, Clara D.; ALS to George Eastman (1929-07-10)
Pencil Drawings by son of Clara Beers; Art memorial concept in honor of George Eastman (1929-07)
Pencil Drawings by son of Clara Beers; Art memorial concept in honor of George Eastman (1929-07)