

Colonel Gilbert
and HARBORD

ROOM 5322
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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April 29, 1940.

Mr. F. W. Lovejoy,
Eastman Kodak Company,
Rochester,
New York.

Dear Mr. Lovejoy:

I have your letter of April 24th about your plan of bringing out a biography of the late George Eastman which would emphasize his interesting human qualities to a greater extent than a biography which has already appeared. *MS*

I am sorry that I am not able to contribute much in the way of information. Practically my only contact with Mr. Eastman was as his guest for a day when a very interesting group of us met at his home in Rochester on the occasion of the first demonstration of moving pictures in color. It was a very delightful day to which, with a group of several hundred people, Mr. Eastman gave his personal interest and charming hospitality - a very individual pleasure for all of us. I well recall the pealing of the great organ when I arrived for breakfast, and the perfectly beautiful day we had; the beautiful grounds highly colored with spring flowers, and worth remembering more than for anything else because of the high character of the people that his wide acquaintance had brought together that day. I remained with a smaller group for dinner in the evening, and these few words are my only personal reminiscence of Mr. Eastman.

I know, of course, in a hundred ways but not at first-hand, of his fine character, humor and human qualities. Of the fact that he was one of the great men of his generation there can be no possible doubt.

Some time ago in going over some old pictures I found one of a small group taken that day which showed Mr. Eastman, Mr. Thomas A. Edison, Mr. Adolph

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Ochs and one other whose face I did not recognize. It was just an ordinary outdoor picture, of which I presume hundreds were made that day. Because of Mr. Ochs presence in it, I sent it some time ago to Mrs. Arthur H. Sulzberger, Mr. Och's daughter.

I am sorry not to be more helpful in the way of real recollections of Mr. Eastman. I have enjoyed the privilege of acquaintance with his niece, Mrs. George Dryden, and her husband and, of course, have heard through them a great deal of the substance that any such book as you contemplate would contain.

Sincerely yours,

J. G. Harbord

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