

Goldwyn Producing Corporation

 Goldwyn Pictures
 Studios
 Culver City, California

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

To MR. WILLIAM TOPKIS

From MR. GOLDWYN

Subject

Date January 12th, 1921

My dear Mr. Topkis:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 7th which I enjoyed very much and I want to thank you for your good wishes for the New Year.

I note that you are intending to leave for Florida on the 25th, and regret very much that this may prevent my seeing you on my return.

When I left New York, I had no idea that I would be out here so long, but on my arrival I found the conditions worse than you or Lehr had given me to understand. Since I have been here I have come to the full realization of what our disruption in New York not only cost the Company - but the damage it has done to the progress of the studio. We have been working here harder than ever to make up for that lost period, and now it is not only a question of trying to catch up - but we also must plan well in advance on account of my contemplated trip to Europe.

I personally do not feel that the hostility of our Executive Committee or our Directors toward the Studio will ever end until then appoint a Committee (that they have more confidence in than they have in you, Gudger, Hilder or myself, or any one else who has ever given a report on the Studio) to come out here and spend sufficient time in order to investigate our condition and also see how we compare with other studios that are being operated here. As you know, this has been our chief bone of contention and it is heart-rending to me, especially when I know that we are producing better quality of pictures for less money than any producing company in this business, but I suppose this subject is too far reaching to settled by correspondence.

You have worked so closely with me that you are going to understand the above statements, but in view of the possibility of my comments being misunderstood by others it would, perhaps, be just as well for you to treat this letter confidentially.

While it has been very difficult for us to eliminate any people from our organization on account of our having anticipated the present condition for some time past - we are, however, making radical reductions in salaries

Mr. Wm. Topkis

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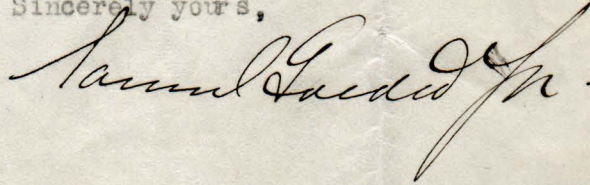
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and costs are being cut at every corner where possible to do so without affecting the quality of our productions.

I hope that your Florida trip is going to do you a lot of good and that when you get back north you will be in fine robust health.

Kindly give my regards to Mrs. Topkis, and with all good wishes to yourself I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Samuel G. Ladd". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Samuel G. Ladd".

SG:AH

P. S. Please remember me to Charlie and your brother-in-law.