

Letter from Gilbert Grosvenor to Jason S. Joy, January 6, 1939, with transcript

P Sent by air-mail Special delivery January 6, 1939 Colonel Jason Joy, # Twentieth Century-Fox Studios, Beverly Hills, California Dear Colonel Joy:

We are looking forward to our visit with you and Twentieth Century-Fox Studios.

For such use as you may desire, I enclose notes about myself, Mrs. Grosvenor and my son. I am sending you these in advance, as such an arrangement I find saves the time of all concerned.

I have long wished to visit Sequoia National Park in winter, having been there twice in summer, and my old friend, Colonel John R. White, for a long time superintendent, has arranged for me to motor there next week.

I am listing below several changes in phraseology which I am venturing to suggest as rather important:

Section 198, page 109: Change the word “the telephone” to “my telephone” in the sentence “He says he has heard about the telephone.”

Section 200, page 113: after “elocution teacher”, omit the words “who admits he does not know the first thing about electricity.” The omission will shorten the sentence, thus making it easier to say and also eliminates an untruth.

Section 218: At the end of the letter omit the words “with some reason”.

Section 240, top of page 139: change “BELL: I didn't keep records” to “BELL: I lost my records.” The text will then conform to the truth.

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2 Mr. Bell kept many records, but whenever he made an improvement recorded the same in a letter or otherwise.

Perhaps the most important correction, and one that is imperative, is to alter the phrasing of the sentence in Section 80, page 50, which now reads: "For the first time in the history of the world, we've sent sound through a wire." The author here takes a liberty that will bring down on him the condemnation of everyone who knows anything about the development of the telephone. As I explained to Mr. Trotti when he was here, sounds, that is musical notes, had been transmitted over the wire by several people before Dr. Bell's invention of the speaking telephone, but none of the instruments that transmitted musical notes could transmit vocal notes or speech. Because the aerial vibrations made by the voice are entirely different from the vibrations made by music, an absolutely different device had to be invented by Mr. Bell for a speaking telephone .

Yours very sincerely, (signed) GILBERT GROSVENOR (postscript added on original by Dr. Grosvenor; as he took with him to Calif. also the carbon of this letter, we have not the phraseology of the said postscript. sp.) closure:copy(on one sheet)of telegram from Advertising Women of California, and Dr. Grosvenor's reply