

Collection #  
SC 2788

**GEORGE ADE  
LETTER, 6 MAY 1923**

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**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 1 letter

COLLECTION  
DATES: May 6, 1923

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RESTRICTIONS: None

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NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

George Ade was born in Kentland, Indiana, to John and Adaline (Bush) Ade. He was the second youngest of seven children. Lacking enthusiasm for manual labor, especially farming, Ade could usually be found with his nose buried in a book. He graduated from Purdue University in 1887, worked as a reporter for the *Lafayette Call*, and wrote testimonials for a patent medicine company's tobacco-habit cure.

In 1890 he joined the staff of the *Chicago Morning News*, which later became the *Chicago Record*. After proving his worth as a reporter, Ade was put in charge of the column, "Stories of the Streets and of the Town," which John T. McCutcheon, whom Ade had met at Purdue, illustrated. Ade captured the hustle and bustle of Chicago through vivid characters, and the column introduced the work that would make him famous— fables. His well-known "Fables in Slang" made their first appearance in the column.

Ade was a playwright as well, penning such stage works as *Artie*, *The Sultan of Sulu* (a musical comedy), *The Fair Co-ed*, *The County Chairman*, and *The College Widow*, a comedy about college life and football set on Crawfordsville, Indiana's Wabash College campus.

After twelve years in [Chicago](#), he built a home near the town of [Brook, Indiana](#). On wooded land in Newton County, Ade built an impressive home called Hazelden Farm. Financially secure through his writings, Ade turned to other amusements later in life, traveling frequently throughout the world and contributing to his two favorite charities-- Sigma Chi fraternity and Purdue University. Along with fellow Purdue alumnus David Ross, Ade offered financial support to enable the university to build a new football stadium, which the college named Ross-Ade Stadium in their honor. After many months of illness, Ade died on 16 May 1944 in Brook. He is buried in Fairlawn Cemetery in Kentland.

Sources:

Our Land, Our Literature. Muncie, IN: Virginia B. Ball Center for Creative Inquiry, 2006 [cited 5 July 2006]. (<http://www.bsu.edu/ourlandourlit/Literature/Authors/adeg.html>)

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is a letter by George Ade in Brook, Indiana, to the editor of the *Literary Digest*, in New York. It is a one page TLS, written on 6 May 1923. The letter is regarding censorship in movies and state governments which are taking it upon themselves to censor the movies.

## CATALOGING INFORMATION

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