

20 HALIBURTON STREET
CANTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28716 Tuesday, the 7th of May, 2002

Mr. Christian Ansel, Chairman
Board of Directors
Galatoire's Restaurant
209 Bourbon Street
New Orleans La. 70130

Dear Mr. Ansel:

About four days ago, I happened to call my friend and colleague, the Dr. Kenneth Holditch. And before I could start to speak, Kenneth blurted out, "Robert, do you know that Gilbert was fired by Galatoire's!"

"No!" I answered back, "What the hell is going on?" Kenneth explained. Well, to be truthful, I was greatly shocked. But, now I recall that I had heard rumors that Galatoire's was trying to "change the system": get rid of some old-time experienced waiters (THE backbone for me - a long-time patron of Galatoire's, going back to 1947 and my Tulane days) and go after the 'Tourist Trade', try to cut 'dining time' to 45 minutes!! A rush-rush act! Egads, and I'm sure, get rid of old-time patrons such as myself.

Gone will be the splendid service of old! The memorable times I've enjoyed likewhen Tennessee Williams and I used to come for a gracious two or three hour lunch. No hurry at all! We knew virtually the whole Staff - All the Galatoire "Family". Fun. Real New Orleans Dining! At its best. The way I was brought-up on the Gulf Coast.

As then, it was Galatoire's, Antoine's and Arnaud's!

As a kid, I liked Morrison's Cafeteria, too. And Kolb's.

Guess now, you will cancel my Galatoire's Charge Account!

Also, I guess, I'll have to stop recommending Galatoire's to so many friends and strangers on our Globe?

Now, I have to call-up a lady-Doctor friend of mine, and tell her to cancel her planned dinner-party for ten, next September during a convention, she will be a part of.

Yours in Disappointment,

Robert L. Hines, Please excuse my haste and typing -
Robert L. Hines, writer, also for The New York Times, reporting.

cc's: Messrs Gary Matus, Dan Sheehan
Dr. Kenneth Holditch
Dr. J. Taylor Rooks
Dr. Ramon Arango
Dr. Sara Blankenstein
Writer Gore Vidal
and others, various

Dr. Julian Glanton
Lannis Kircus, Atty.
Capt. Clarke Hawley
Dakin Williams
Executors, Tennessee Williams Estate
Jim Hawkins, gourmet