

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 1039, Pages 31141 - 31170

This series of the Rolla Clymer collection includes sent and received correspondence arranged chronologically beginning in 1909. With few exceptions, the correspondence provides a continuous and very complete view of his activities. Much of the earliest correspondence in the Clymer collection pertains to information about the College of Emporia for the period Clymer was a student there. Scattered throughout the remainder of the correspondence is information about Emporia athletics and alumni activities and letters with former classmates. From 1914 to 1918, Clymer was editor and manager of the Olathe, Kansas, Register. In 1918, Rolla Clymer moved his young family to El Dorado, Kansas, where he became editor and manager of the El Dorado Republican. Except for a six month hiatus in 1937 as editor and manager of the Santa Fe New Mexican in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Clymer served the remainder of his professional career in El Dorado.

In his later years, Clymer devoted much of his time to efforts to preserve the Kansas Flint Hills region which he dearly loved. In addition to newspaper editorials, he wrote and published numerous widely circulated articles and poems about the Flint Hills. Perhaps his best known tribute was his poem "Majesty of the Hills," which helped earn him the designation as Poet Laureate of the Flint Hills. Rolla Clymer died on June 4, 1977, having been the editor of the El Dorado Times for fifty-nine years. For a complete contents list of the Rolla Clymer collection, see the External Links below.

Date: 1909-1977

Callnumber: Rolla Clymer Coll. #9, Box 1 - 49

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 229011

Item Identifier: 229011

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dear Mr. Clymer:

mentions it.

day he died.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 1954 Thank you for those kind words in The Listening Post. It is more than I ever hoped for. Winning anything is such a rare experience that I feel embarrassed when anyone As you said, I've dug it all out by myself over the past twenty years. At times I wonder why I keep on, but deep down I know I'll never give up, even though I never reach the top. My crazy Irish temperment keeps me hanging on. With me, writing is like my father's wild impossible dream to work out perpetual motion, something he worked on until the If I ever succeed, even in a small measure in what I hope for, I'll never forget the wonderful help and encouragement you and dear Old Bill Feder gave me. Mrs. Harold Offen

Sincerely,



Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 20, 1954

Hon. Dwight D. Eisenhower The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

The writer attended the American National Cattlemen's Association convention in Colorado Springs last week.

Secretary Benson's speech was one of the highlights of the convention. The Secretary's speech, outlining in some detail your farm program, was enthusiastically received and endorsed by a jam packed audience-in the Municipal Auditorium-by stockmen and farmers from all parts of the United States.

Cattlemen are happy that, due to a free market, there is not a huge surplus of meat hanging over their heads such as exists with wheat, cotton and corn.

I am writing Senators and Congressmen, with whom I am personally acquainted, that they can support your farm program with the firm conviction that they are helping to stop the creation of increasingly large surpluses of agricultural commodities and perhaps the ultimate collapse of our agricultural economy.

Enclosed are paragraphs from two speeches made at this convention which received the most applause of any statements made on that occasion.

Sincerely yours,

RWR:mm Encl. RICHARD W. ROBBINS

cc; Hon. Ezra Taft Benson Secretary of Agriculture U. S. Dept. of Agriculture Washington, D. C.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

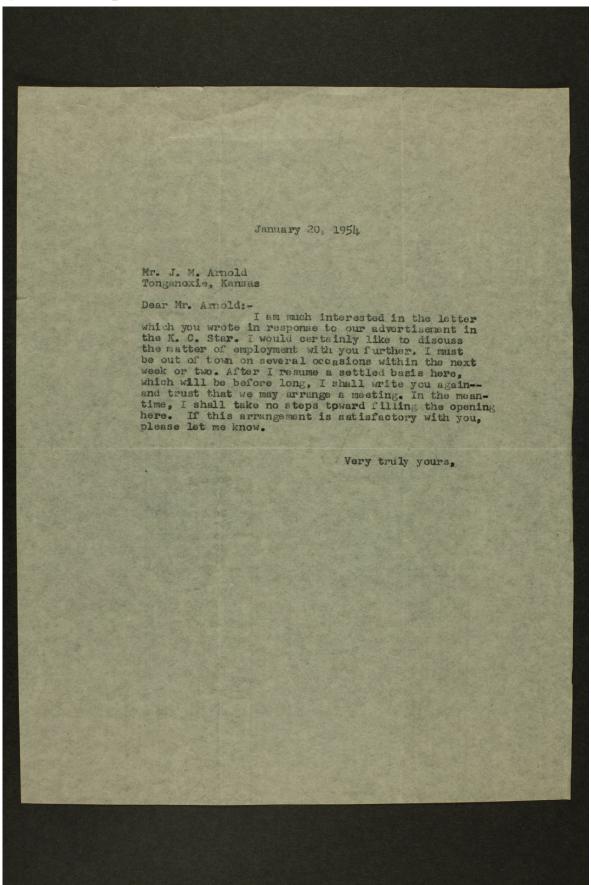
EXCERPT FROM: Address by SAM C. HYATT, PRESIDENT, American National Cattlemen's Association convention at Colorado Springs, Colo., January 12, 1954.

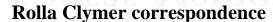
"As an example, last spring, summer and fall saw the opening guns in a politically inspired clamor for price supports and controls—a clamor which would have had the nation and the government believe that the cowman was abandoning his birthright of freedom for a few dollars. In the face of all this clamor, I called a meeting of the American National's Executive Committee in April and another in October. Although the committee had very short notice for either meeting, members of the committee came from border to border and coast to coast at their own time and expense. They pondered the problem from all angles—and they assured the nation that the cattlemen they represented—the true producers of the nation—had reaffirmed their belief in the heritage of freedom. And they denied the pitfalls of "easy dollars" to stand firm against price supports and controls. They declared in no uncertain terms that "Free markets make free men".

History proves beyond argument that when free enterprise is destroyed, free men go with it and that goes for free labor. And you cannot expect progress under an ironclad government monopoly as to private enterprise. I am getting tired of a farm program that requires management by a bureaucracy that exists fat and strong only when taxes are fat and strong, and a program that politicians ride to power on by using it as a dole system. No government, federal or state, can give you anything which it has not first taken from you. Furthermore, through government waste and extravagance you get back much less than what it takes from you. Knowing the government is the people, how far can we go in guaranteeing things to ourselves?

The Executive Committee knew more was at stake than just the controversy over supports. They knew that this minority group was aiming for much bigger stakes, aiming at high price supports for all farm products and with them the way would be paved for complete socialization of American Agriculture and in the end would inevitably control everything a farmer sells or does".











SKELLY OIL COMPANY

MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT

EL DORADO REFINERY
JUSTUS O'REILLY, SUPERINTENDENT
R. L. CREAGER, ASST. SUPERINTENDENT
W. L. PURSELL
E. A. TODD
C. A. CHALFANT

EL DORADO, KANSAS

January 20, 1954

Mr. R.A. Clymer, Editor El Dorado Times

Dear R.A.C.:

Just read the Listening Post and am deeply concerned about the

When Ted Wilson "turned the entire haul to you", he was smart, not just big hearted.

Doubtless Mr. Wilson is aware of the deadly effects of Black Walnut Meats on aging livers, hearts and creaking joints of the genus homo!

There is enough of one ingredient alone in ONE black walnut to start a chain of boils that could cause an editor to write standing

My uncle once ate a cupfull of walnut meats and developed a siege of boils that lasted 7 years - he was never the same again. Forgetting he was an inveterate pipe smoker he took up the cigarette habit and finally died from cancer of the lungs at 81. It has been said that every boil is worth \$5.00 to the system but uncle told me that he would have sold his entire crop for \$1.98.

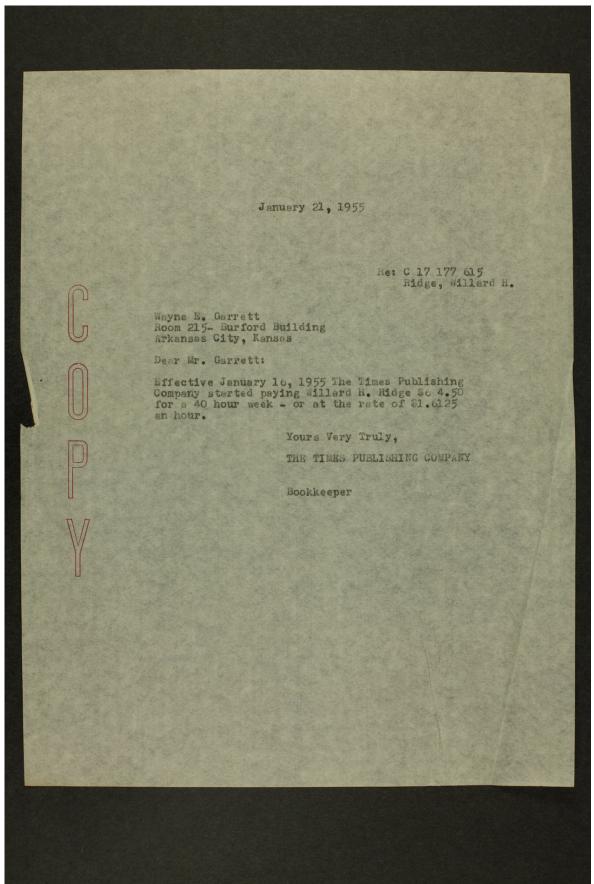
Why don't you, as a measure of self-preservation, do as Mr. Wilson did and turn "the entire haul" to some delinquent subscriber or other varmint you long have wanted to torture? We want our Favorite Editor to go thru life without wirecut or blemish - not marked with craters all over his body from Black Walnut Boils.

Morriedly Yours,
Barry Tilos

BDT:SW

P.S. Don't send the walnuts to me - I wouldn't eat a single Black Walnut for a free lifetime subscription to the "Rag-O-Freedom".

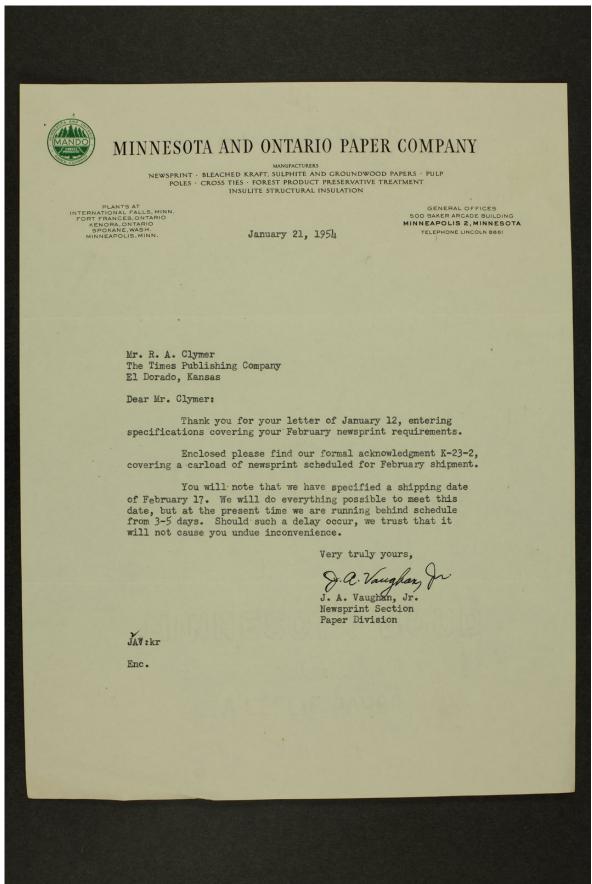




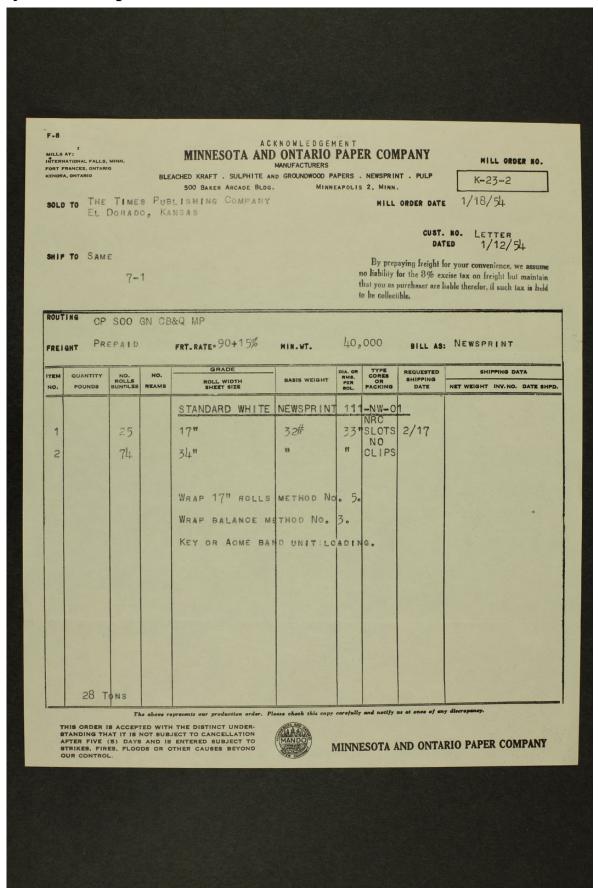


Inganagu, Kans Jan- 21-54
Mr. R. a. Clymer Eletar + Manager The El Darado Jimis El Darado, Kaus.
Dear Mr. Clymer: Thanks for your letter of Jan. 20 th.
I find your arrangement very satisfactory. It seems your and my availability will dovetail nicely. I can be available for an
Juesday, Jan. 26 th. From Wadnesday, Jan 27 th through Thursday, Feb 4th I could only meet with
you here in Inganoxle as that is my collecting seriod. From Friday, Feb 5th on I can again make arrangements for a meeting elsewhere.
I trust there dates will make it easier for you to make your places and will be looking forward to hearing from
you again. Very toly your
P.S. Include Sundays in the above dates.
Janua.

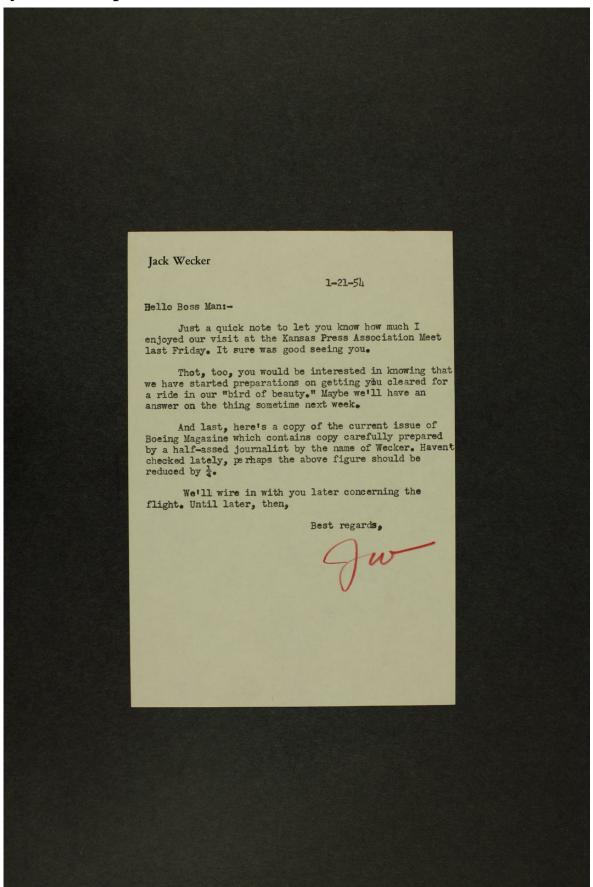




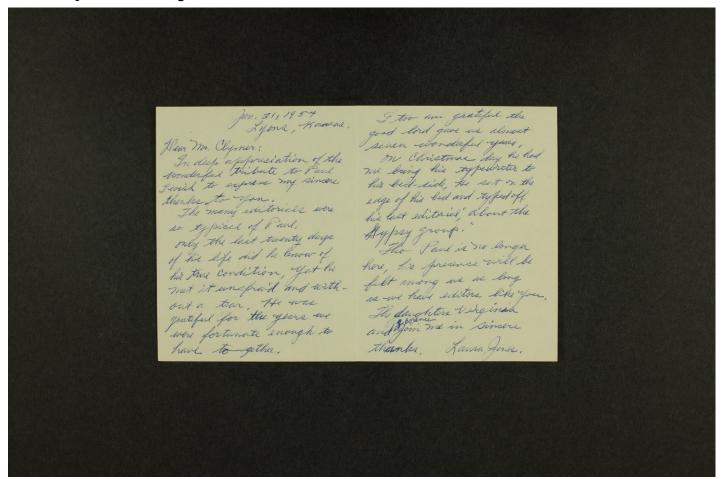




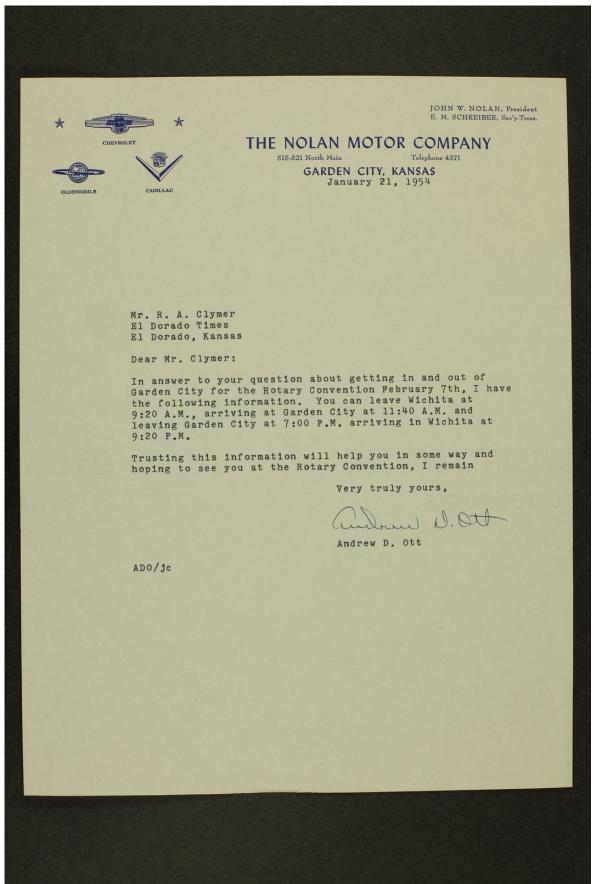














Rolla Clymer correspondence

Law Offices

W. H. COUTTS, JR.

Citizens State Bank Building

ElDorado, Kansas

January 22, 1954

Arthur L. Vermillion 912 North Broadway Wichita, Kansas

Re: Spurgeon Fussell d/b/a Russell's Food Market Our File No. R-269-A

Dear Mr. Vermillion:

Your letter as of January 21, received today. I have given this matter considerable thought, however, have not come to a definite decision.

As we have been all along, we are still handicapped because we do not have all of the facts, and it is very difficult to obtain these facts, for this reason that most of them are in the hands of the opposition, and they will not disclose them.

Without doubt, Russell and his son entered into a conspiracy to defraud his creditors. Russell says that his son loaned him \$5,000.00 or more to keep the business open. Why would anyone running a two by four grocery and going in debt all the time borrow money on a losing venture? We cannot disprove these figures, however. We can prove that Russell made payments upon this real estate contract, and doubtless can prove that the money with which he paid came out of the business.

To prepare a suit of this kind and file it will take a considerable amount of time. It is not like a case in which you already have the evidence where all one needs to do is prepare the petition and file it. In this case, we will have to dig up much of the evidence, as there is no one else here to dig it up. As a minimum, a reasonable attorney's fee would be \$250.00. The court deposit would be \$15.00. If we had to try the case, a reasonable and ordinary per diem trial fee would prevail.

It is, of course, possible that once such a suit is filed, perhaps it would never have to be tried. Perhaps they would come into court and make a settlement. Things like this just cannot be determined. They are pure speculation.

As to the accounts which were turned over to us, let me say that they are the worst batch of accounts that I have ever seen. Most of the debtors are people who were practically in destitute circumstances, many on the county, widows, and notorious nare-do-wells. Many of them



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Arthur L. Vermillion

January 22, 1954

- 2 -

without addresses, all of them worked previously by high-powered collection agencies away from here, some by attorneys, etc., etc.. All in all, we may recover two or three hundred dollars out of all of them, which frankly, isn't enough to pay for the expense of working them.

In your letter of December 7, you advised that the common creditors had been paid approximately \$.50 on a dollar. I do not know what amount this estate will end up short. It appears to me that the problem for the creditors to determine, and for you as trustee to pass upon is, what will the deficiency be, if substantial, perhaps it would be wise in taking the chance upon filing the law suit to set aside the deed in question. The creditors could not be much worse off, and perhaps such action might make them whole.

If, on the other hand, the shortage is not great, maybe the game would not be worth the powder.

As you know, it is difficult to cover a matter like this in a letter, however, I trust from this information it will give you some idea as to the true situation.

With best regards, and awaiting your direction, I am,

Very truly yours,

/s/ W. H. COUTTS, JR.

WHC:rh



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Kansas City, Kansas 22 January 54 Mr. R. A. Clymer El Dorado Times El Dorado, Kansas Dear Mr. Clymer -Thanks for your prompt consideration of my telegraphic application for your position as Circulation Manager. I am listing below information I believe you would want -PERSONAL: Born - March 13, 1898, Leavenworth, Kansas Height - 5' 9" Nationality - Irish-Swedish Marital Status - Single, divorced 1935 Health - Good Weight - 175# Religion - Protestant Dependents - None EDUCATION: Graduate Staunton Military Academy, two years University of Virginia - one year Cornell University. BUSINESS EXPERIENCE: Started working as office boy for Kansas City Star at age ten, worked continuously, with exception of school and army until 1923, when I transferred to the Curtis Publishing Company. At start had charge of solicitors, routes, street sales and promotion of increased circu-At Curtis I first had charge of single copy sales through Dealers and Boy Salesmen in the states of Kansas and Missouri. In 1926 I was sent to Chicago to double the circulation of the Saturday Evening Post, which I did by increasing the number of regular boy salesmen from seven, only, to over four thousand - along with new dealers. I was then given charge of all big city operations and traveled the United States and Canada. During the depression I was forced to resign due to internal politics. To verify this record, contact Mr. Ben Allen, Circulation Director of Curtis and Mr. Richard Darnell, now retired, with the Kansas City Star.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Mr. R. A. Clymer Page 2.

I am proud of my record as a circulator, because it was always clean, solid and permanent.

Since then I have had sales jobs with Socony-Vacuum, Tide Water, and Pacific Oil Sales, and am presently selling advertising ideas for one of the large specialty companies.

As you well know, circulation is an important part in all publishing - made up of few big worries but many countless small headaches. If you wish to be relieved of these small details and will lay out a policy, I will see to it that it is enforced to the letter under your complete control as "water at a water tap".

You will wonder, no doubt, why I am interested in El Dorado. First, it is within easy hailing distance of my Mother's home in Kansas City, Kansas, which is important because she is eighty three years old. Secondly, it is a place where I can make my past experience pay off. Third, I am definitely no office man, but a field operator and enjoy contacts with humans on the firing line.

My training was under William Kelly, Jr., Kansas City Star, and my next door neighbor. He taught me that no detail was insignificant if it would do a better job from actual delivery until the money was in the cash register, which requires personal supervision constantly.

I will be at your service twenty-four hours a day, and there will be no financial, alcoholic, gambling or sex worries with my personal life.

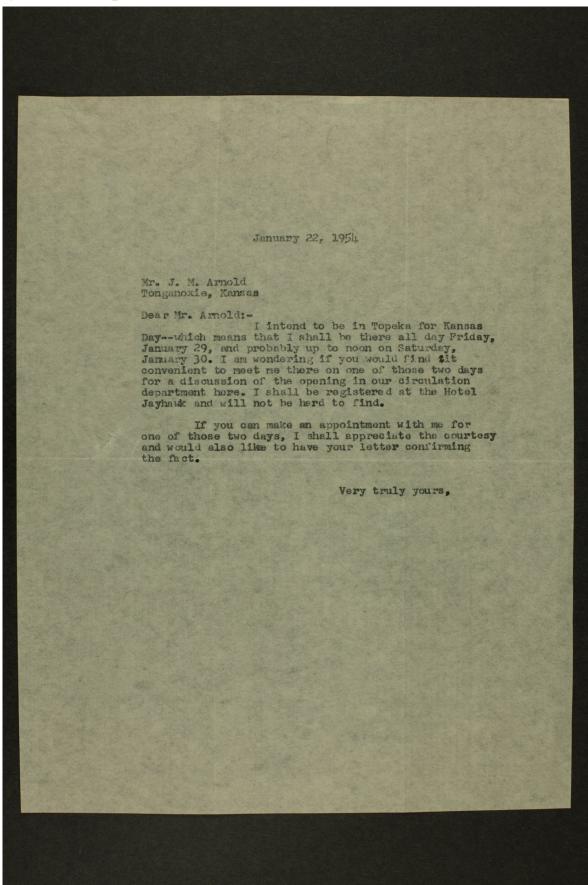
Although I have never been known as a "cheap operator", I am an economical operator and my experience and enthusiasm may be bought at a reasonable figure.

Thanks again for your valued consideration.

Sincerely yours,

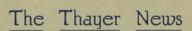
J. A. Sheahan 910 Barnett







Rolla Clymer correspondence



Thauer, Kansas

January 22, 1954

El Dorado Times El Dorado, Kansas

Att: R. A. Clymer

Friend Rolla:

Just wanted to add my congratulations to the many you have already received for a job well done at the banquet at Topeka.

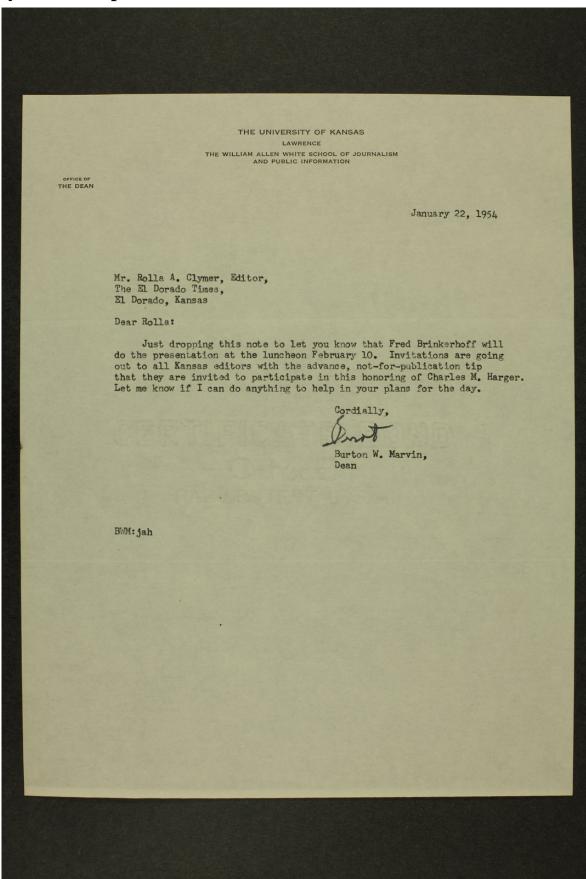
I started up to congratualte you that evening but so many others had the same idea that I decided to write you instead. I thought you did a masterful job, with just the proper amount of humor. Enjoyed your few remarks far more than the following speedh.

Has been quite cold here the past week with several mornings just barely above zero. Had about 3 or 4 inches of snow yesterday which will put a little moisture in the ground and we sure need it. Business has been average good for January and we're still short of help. Who isn't? Trouble is in a small operation like this one doesn't have the gross volume to keep high priced help busy, so we have to try to get by married women and the like. like.

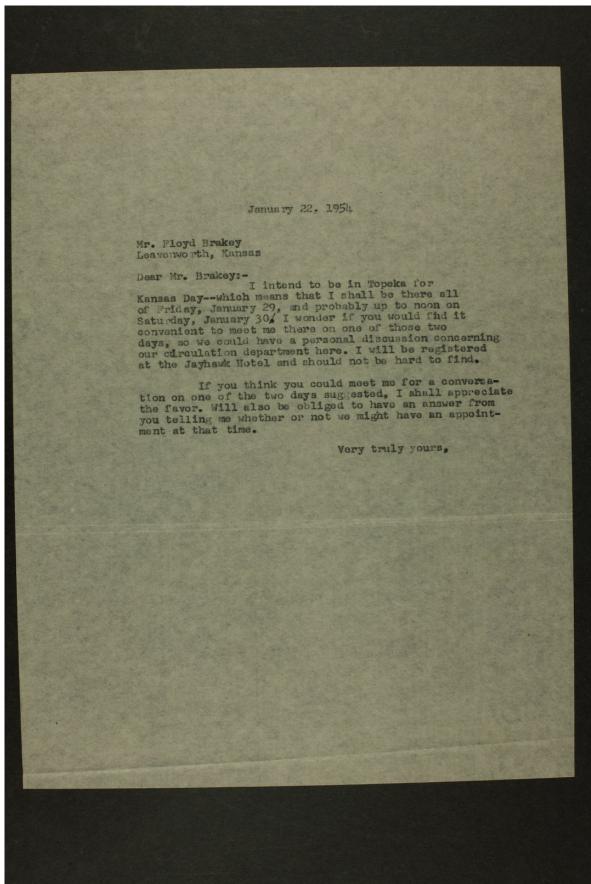
I gather that Dave is doing quite well, altho I didn't get to talk to him at Topeka. Hope everything is going well with you.

Sincerely Powers

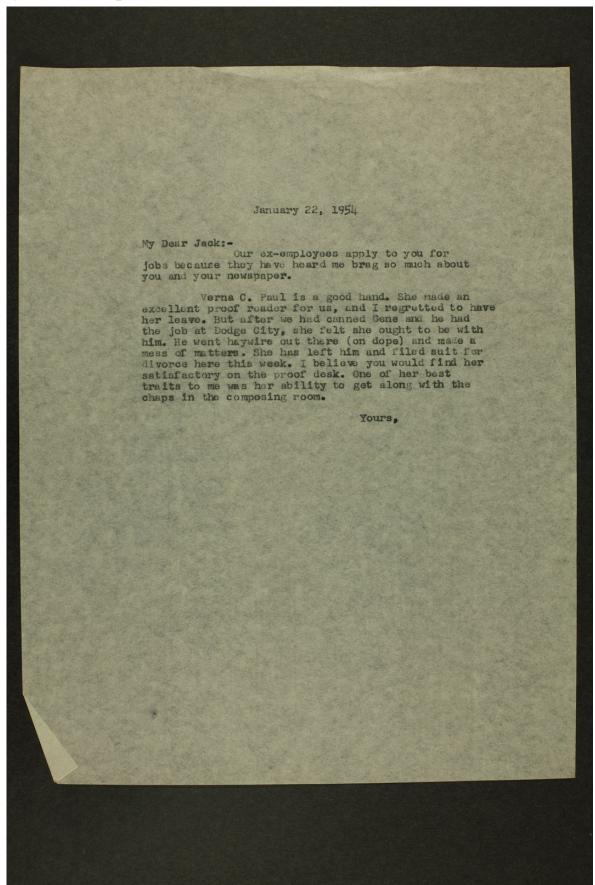




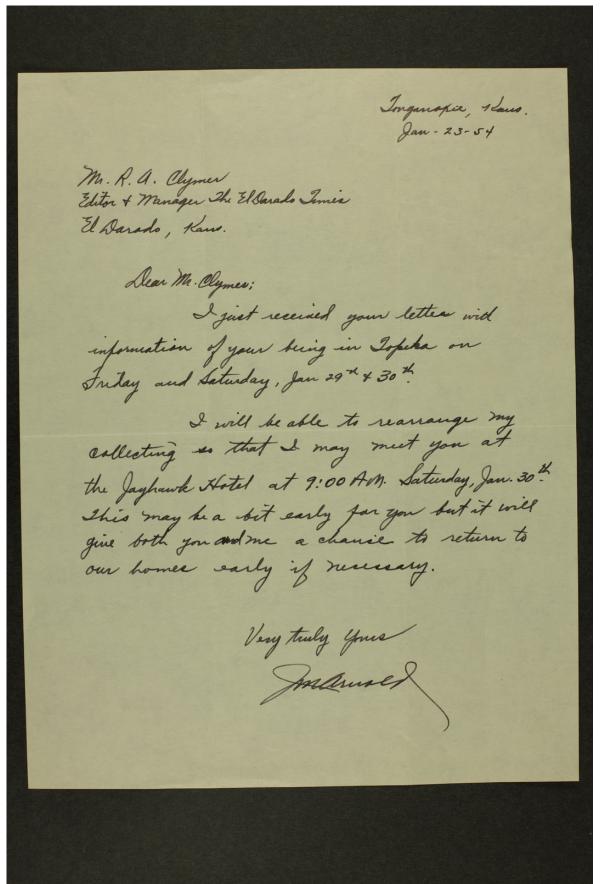






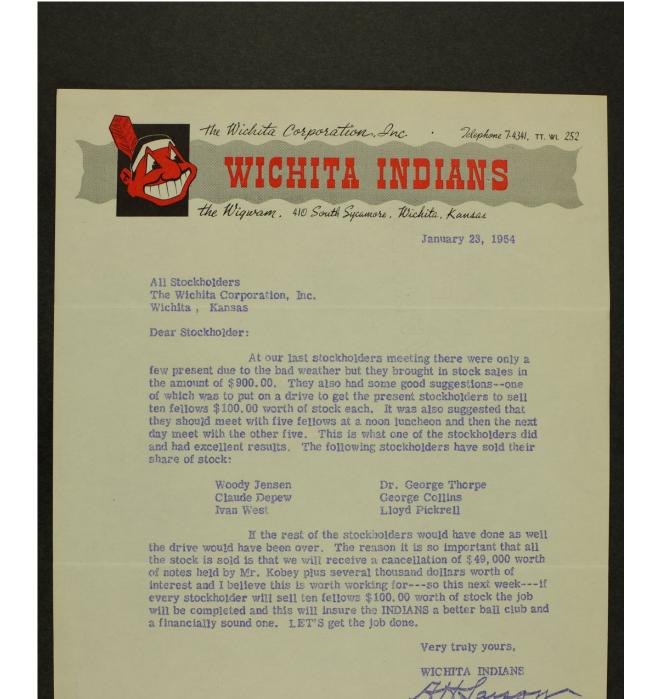








Rolla Clymer correspondence



P.S. If you do not have a Stock Sales book available, please call at the Wigwam for one.

General Manager



Rolla Clymer correspondence

NED SHEPLER BILL F, BENTLEY W. R. RICE

The LAWTON PUBLISHING COMPANY

"PUBLISHERS OF"

the lawton constitution \bullet the lawton morning press \bullet the sunday constitution.press Lawton. Oklahoma $Jan.23\,,1954$

Mr. R.A. Clymer, The Times, ElDorado, Kans.,

Dear Mr. Clymer:

We have just signed a contract for the purchase of a 32-page Goss Universal. Our present 16-page Duplex tubular is being traded in on the deal, so its disposal will be up to the Goss company.

However, it will probably be 12 to 18 months before it is available as we are planning a new building and the other press cannot be delivered before January of next year.

This is an excellent press; Standard type, 16-page capacity, General Electric push button control, 40 and 5 H.P. motors with chain drive, two color fountains. It has been well cared for and is practically the equivalent of a new press so far as operation and results are concerned.

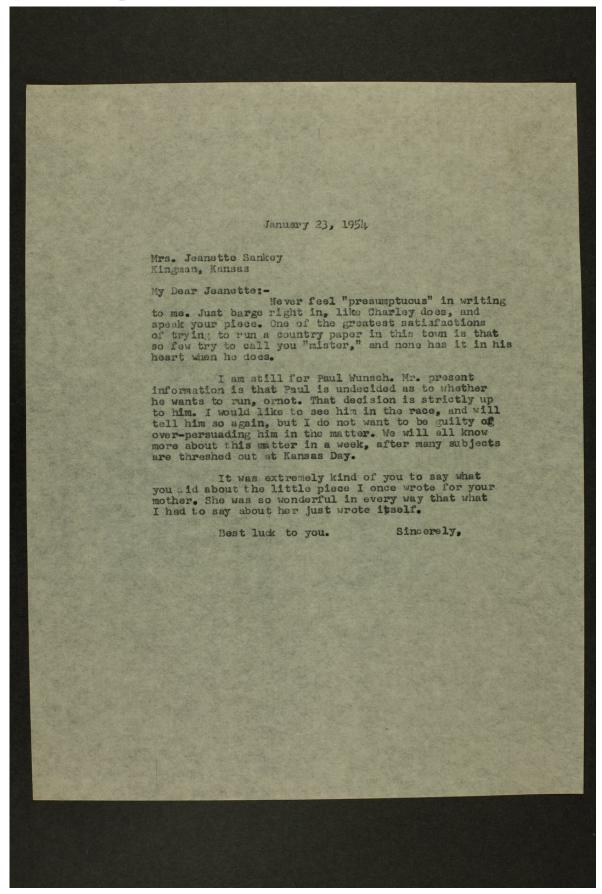
For any further information I suggest you contact Edwin J. Yagow,6450 Llano, Dallas, 14, Texas, the Goss representative forthis territory.

Thanking you for the inquiry, I am,

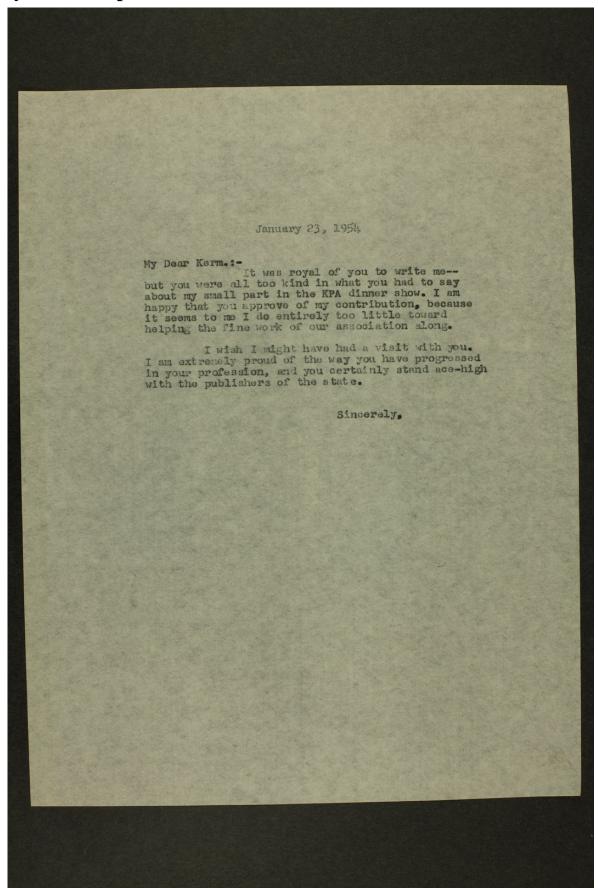
Sincerely,

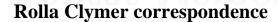
Ned Shepler















KANSAS TERRITORIAL CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Appointed by Executive Order of GOVERNOR EDWARD F. ARN

ROBERT TAFT, Chairman

CHARLES M. CORRELL, Vice-Chairman Manhattan

ROBERT VOSPER, Secretary Lawrence

George L. Anderson Lawrence

Mrs. Orville Burtis Manhattan

ROLLA A. CLYMER El Dorado

JEROME CUSHMAN Salina

HARRY DARBY Kansas City

KENNETH DAVIS Manhattan

EVERETT E. ERHART Stafford

Maurice Fager Topeka

JOHN M. FELLER Leavenworth

Mrs. Frank Haucke Florence

RT. REV. CUTHBERT McDonald, O.S.B.
Atchison

Don McNeal Council Grove

LARRY MILLER Topeka

Nyle Miller Topeka

Mrs. Howard N. Moses Salina

TED L. SEXTON Leavenworth

DOLPH SIMONS Lawrence

FRED W. STEIN Atchison

REV. MILTON R. VOGEL Topeka

HARRY W. WOODS Topeka

Miss Vivian Woody Douglass

L. D. Wooster Hays

To Members of the Governor's Centennial Committee:

January 25, 1954

You will recall that this Committee was instrumental in arrangements for the Library of Congress to prepare a major display in Washington celebrating the Kansas -Nebraska Centennial. The formal opening of this exhibition will take place on February 3, and Senator Schoeppel will give the main address, with Senator Butler of Nebraska presiding.

Professor Taft, as Chairman of this Committee, has received a formal invitation to the opening ceremony, and it seems to me particularly important that our Committee be officially represented at this level. Because I knew that Professor Taft would feel hesitant about raising this matter, I took it on myself to speak to all members of the Executive Committee (Messrs. Simons, Correll and N. Miller) and all agreeed with me that it is important for the Committee to be represented by the Chairman, and that it would be appropriate that his expenses be paid from Committee

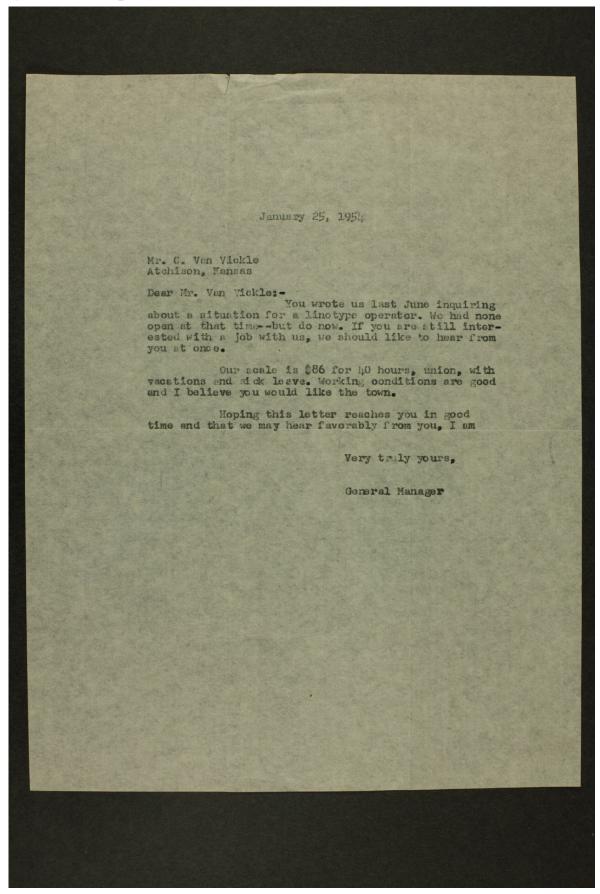
In further deference to Professor Taft's hesitation, it seemed that I should report to the full Committee membership on this action. I trust that it meets with the approval of the Committee membership. Because of the shortage of time, it did not seem feasible to with-hold a decision until the next meeting of the full Committee.

Yours Very truly,

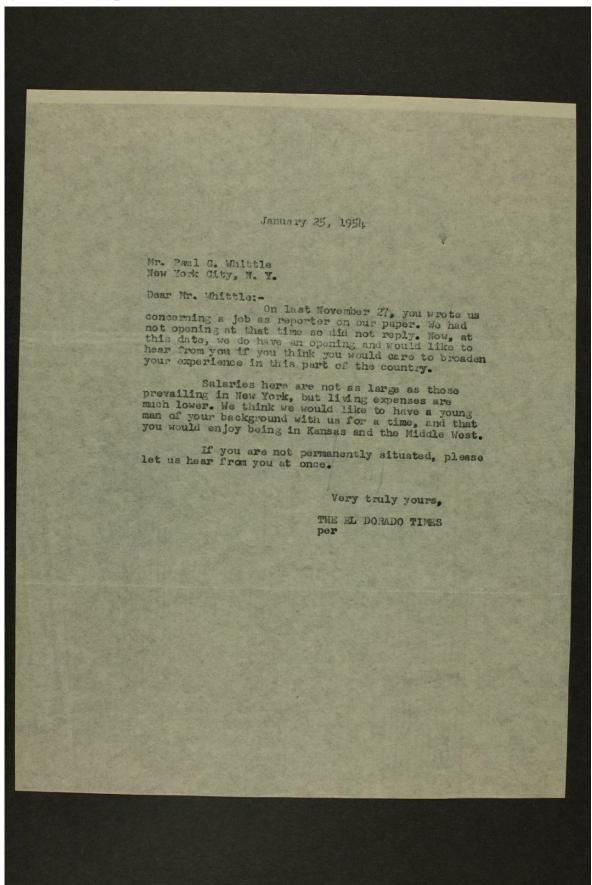
Robert Vosper Secretary

RV/al











Rolla Clymer correspondence

The Pittsburg Readlight

EVENINGS EXCEPT SUNDAY

Established 1887

THE PITTSBURG SUN

MORNINGS EXCEPT MONDA

Established 1915

THE PITTSBURG PUBLISHING COMPANY

F. W. BRINKERHOFF

Pittsburg, Kansas Jan. 25, 1954

R. A. Clymer The Times El Dorado, Kas.

Dear Rolla:

I will not be able to be in Topeka for Kansas Day. Pearl met with a misfortune Thursday night and broke her right arm. She is in the hospital where they had to insert a plate. She is making it all right but obviously I do not want to be away overnight. I will make a day trip to Topeka Saturday for Mr. Arn's commission meeting. So I will have to wait until some other time to talk things out with you.

The only break the Kansas Republicans have had for a long time was the announcement of Lynn Brodrick that he would not run. I assume you noted the slap that Mr. Anderson took at him when he said something about Brodrick deciding not to lead his party's cause.

Sincerely yours,

F. Brinkerhoff

FWB:1s