

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 1066, Pages 31951 - 31980

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

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Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 12, 1955

Mr. Howard T. Fleeson
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Mr. Fleeson:-

I received today your letter regarding the possible sale of the building we occupy here to our company. Within a few days, I shall arrange to get in touch with Mrs. Adams and discuss the subject thoroughly. In case we arrive at any conclusions, I shall let you know at once.

Business has not been too brisk the past two weeks but we are going along. I would feel much better about the year's prospects if we could have some rain. The farm front is fairly well down and farmers are blue because most of them are convinced we are now in the grip of the drouth for the fourth straight year. This is the only depressive factor in the local picture that I know about, as affecting the business outlook for this year.

Very truly yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

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Jan. 13, 1955.

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Nyle tells me he sent you some of my notes--Big type on yellow paper--, and he thinks you may be through with them. I have to talk to the Riley Co. Historical Society Jan. 31, and may need them. In fact, I'm always standing in need when I get into a spot where I can't get out of trying to make a talk. So if you will send the notes to me, I'll be much obliged.

Thank you,

Rolla Clymer



January 13, 1955

Mrs. F. E. Davis
Latham, Kansas

My Dear Mrs. Davis:-

I have read your letter with interest--and some shame--and have passed it along for the men in the news room to read. I truly regret that the nature of our work, and the manner in which we seem impelled to handle our news, makes us seem callous on occasion. So many distressing events occur every day that we cannot always show the sympathy we truly feel. At any rate, your letter has had the effect of making us want to be more careful in this regard, and we thank you for the neighborly impulse which caused you to write us.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE FOUNDATION

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

LAWRENCE

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January 15, 1955

Mr. Rolla A. Clymer
Editor
The El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

The annual meeting of the William Allen White Foundation and the sixth annual William Allen White Lecture will be held on Thursday, February 10. I hope that you, as a trustee of the Foundation, will be able to be with us.

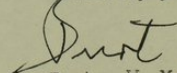
Norman E. Isaacs, managing editor of the Louisville (Ky.) Times and 1953 president of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association, will deliver the lecture.

Here is the schedule of events:

1. Meeting of the board, Reading Room, Journalism Building -- 10 a.m.
2. Luncheon, Kansas Room, Memorial Union Building -- 12:30 p.m. The second annual Certificate of Journalistic Merit will be conferred upon a Kansas editor for service to his profession and his community.
3. William Allen White Lecture, Strong Auditorium, Strong Hall -- 3:00 p.m.

Please let me know by February 1 whether you can be with us and whether you will have guests with you.

Sincerely yours,


Burton W. Marvin,
Director.

BWM:s

Rolla Clymer correspondence

GARLAND P. FERRELL
FERRELL RANCH
BEAUMONT, KANSAS

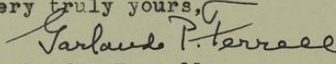
15 January 1955

The Times Publishing Co
El Dorado Kansas
Gentlemen:

We have been missing receiving daily The El Dorado Times for which I have subscribed regularly for many years. The margin on the first page was marked that my subscription would expire on Dec 29. But long in advance I received notice by letter to which I responded by mailing my check for \$7.00 renewal.

When the paper stopped coming I did not at once complain because my renewal check might have miscarried in the mail. But today I have received my monthly bank statement enclosing the cancelled check. This check dated Dec 13, 1954 was stamped for deposit by your company at Citizens State Bank, El Dorado, and was paid by the Fourth National Bank, Wichita, on Dec 16.

Will you kindly advise me why my subscription has stopped.

very truly yours,

Garland P. Ferrell
Box 58
Beaumont Kansas



Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 17, 1955

Rotary International
Evanston, Illinois

Attention Mr. Spencer Hagen,
Head Public Relations Department

Dear Sirs:-

We have received from you the
mats for several advertisements for Rotary's
Golden Anniversary observance, for which we thank
you.

We requested a number of Rotary emblems
in mat form, but these were not included in the
shipment. We can find use for many of these in
various sizes, if you can supply them, and will
greatly appreciate your aid in this particular.

It is our intention to publish a
special Rotary section in our paper on February
23. We think we can see ten pages at this time--
and perhaps twelve. Therefore, we will need
considerable material in order to dress up that
issue properly.

We shall be grateful for any help
you may extend--and are specially in need of a
lot of the emblems mentioned in the second para-
graph above.

Very truly yours,



Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 17, 1955

Miss Jennie S. Owen
Topeka, Kansas

My Dear Jennie:-

I thank you more than I can tell for the use of the enclosed. These helped me a lot. I have already used two or three of the items and will use more in my Native Sons and Daughters speech--all, thanks to you. I intended to bring these back when I go to Topeka the last of this month, but am forwarding them now so you will have them for your own purposes. I owe you a day in harvest--and hope you will collect. Many, many thanks again.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer



January 17, 1955

Mr. W. L. Bunten, President
Goodland State Bank
Goodland, Kansas

My Dear Bill:-

It was good to hear from you, even if you had to be blasted out of your long silence with something akin to an atomic bomb. I have often wondered about you, but have adopted a rule never to lie awake nights worrying about you getting along. I know full well you will do all right in that regard.

Our town is in good condition, considering that we have suffered heavily from drouth and water shortage here for the past three years--and are now in the grip of the fourth. We all know that our business volume will never attain the peak it should until our farm front gets its head up again. Lack of our average share of rain is all that has been the matter with us, and still is.

I hope I shall manage to get a look at your friendly face again before long. Too much time has passed since we last met. At any rate, I wish you well.

Sincerely your friend,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

El Dorado, Kansas
January 17, 1955

Mrs. J. E. Peyer
Sabetha, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Peyer:-

I regret that your son-in-law has not received his membership card, and will try to see that he does. The secretary of the Native Sons resigned about the middle of last year, and I suppose the trouble lies in the fact that the work of that office has not been kept up.

I now propose to take your letter with me when I go to Topeka for our annual meeting on January 28, and will try then to get the details of membership straightened out for both your daughter and son-in-law. I wish you would please tell them to come right along to the meeting. In your son-in-law's case, it will make no difference if he doesn't have a card at the time. Some of you might see me during the Topeka gathering, and we will endeavor to get this matter entirely cleared. I am sorry that the lapse has occurred.

Very truly yours,

President Native Sons

Rolla Clymer correspondence

HUGO T. WEDELL
JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
TOPEKA, KANSAS

[1-17-55]
Friday PM

My dear Rolla:

You're one in millions! How I appreciate it, coming from you, you will never know. I'd recognize your individual charm if the article were labeled "author unknown".

Of course I know its far more than I deserve. In it, however, is the expression of an unabated friendship. So I just blush and love it.

A. H. Conth Jr. sent it to me. If it is possible to get about ten copies for members of my family I surely would appreciate it. In so far as I'm concerned they can read it at my funeral - - which I hope is far away - - before the ceremony.

I hope to see and hear you here during the Kansas day activities -

Most gratefully yours.
"Dutch"

Mailed copies
1-17-55



January 19, 1955

Mr. Garland P. Ferrell
Beaumont, Kansas

My Dear Mr. Ferrell:-

I saw your letter to the circulation department. Our circulation manager had to have his appendix out right quick--and I feel sure that operation and his consequent absence has disrupted some of the detail work of his department. Your paper is back on the list, where it should have been ~~xx~~ all the time, and I hope you get it regularly. If not, please let me know.

I wish I could see you, and I surely send the warmest of good wishes to you and Mrs. Ferrell, as well as all others of your flourishing tribe.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Enterprise, Kansas.
January 20, 1955.

Mr. R. Q. Clymer,
El Dorado, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Clymer - Several weeks ago, our daughter-in-law, the former Betty Jane Reeves of El Dorado, mentioned rather casually, in a letter, that Kenneth had received the Bronze Star. She added, "I was awfully glad he got it for I think he deserved it. He has worked hard, and has put a lot of thought into his work." Naturally, we wanted to know more about it, as my husband and I are both pretty ignorant about army affairs, so I asked for more information. Finally, after considerable nagging, we received a letter from Kenneth which said, "Since you asked for it, I'll enclose the citation and order that accompanied my Bronze Star. That's about all there is to it."

Of course Mrs. Downey and I are extremely proud of Kenneth's success in army life - all the more so since we know he would never have chosen such a career - and I think you and Mrs. Clymer might like to see a copy of the citation. The order awards, "By direction of the President" I'll not enclose. Kenneth was the only one, with rank of Major, who received a medal. The others were Colonels or Lt. Colonels. Also Kenneth was the only one from Kansas.

I think you recognized Kenneth's good qualities, even when he first began to work for you just out of high school. I still think he would have been a better newspaper man than soldier - but am proud that he is doing his best.

Sincerely, Mrs. T. M. Downey.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

P.S. I really felt I owed you this, since I always send Kenneth clippings concerning anything I read that you have said or done. A pleasant note in H.D.'s letter is: "Did we tell you that our dog is being trained now? He can even wave goodbye, so that's one more to slow down my Dagwood starts of a morning."
Well, he and Betty and the three children are due home in May or June - the 3 yrs. tour of duty being over then. Then - what will be next?
Best regards to you and Mrs. Clymer

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Jan. 20, 1955

Mr. Harry Valentine;
Clay Center, Kansas.

My dear Harry:

I am assuming that Larry Miller informed you of the reason why I was unable to attend the annual Press Association meeting at Hutchinson. I wired him Wednesday of last week when it became evident that it would be unwise for me to go as I had been unable to break down a heavy cold with which I had been battling for a full week.

Nowadays, nothing gives me more pleasure than to associate with the active members of the newspaper fraternity and I regretted my disability very much. Moreover, I had passed my word that I would be there.

I have received no acknowledgement from Larry that my telegram was received; nor have I heard from any one else.

Consequently, I would appreciate a word from you as to how you got along at the Pas GAP luncheon.

Sincerely yours,

Glick Fockele

Dear Rolla:

Had an idea that I should send you a copy of this letter so you would know what happened in case no one took the trouble to tell you.

G

Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 20, 1955

Rotary International
1600 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, Illinois

Gentlemen:

The El Dorado Times is going to print a special Rotary edition on February 23. Its editor, R. A. Clymer, is a charter member of the El Dorado Club. He advises me that he heretofore requested you to send him a number of Rotary emblems in mat form, and that you complied with his request, but in order to have enough for a ten page edition, he needs at least 50 more such emblems. I would appreciate it if you will send them to him.

Yours very truly,

JBM:MFL



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Service Above Self - He Profits Most Who Serves Best

1600 RIDGE AVENUE • EVANSTON, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.

20 January, 1955

Mr. R. A. Clymer
The El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

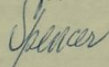
Dear Rotarian Clymer:

A special Rotary section of ten or twelve pages on February 23rd certainly will give the non-Rotarians in your community an increased understanding of Rotary.

✓ Won't you please send me two copies of that issue of the El Dorado Times?

The mats of the emblem you requested were sent to you early this week, and undoubtedly crossed your letter in the mails. However, here are some additional mats which may be useful.

Sincerely,

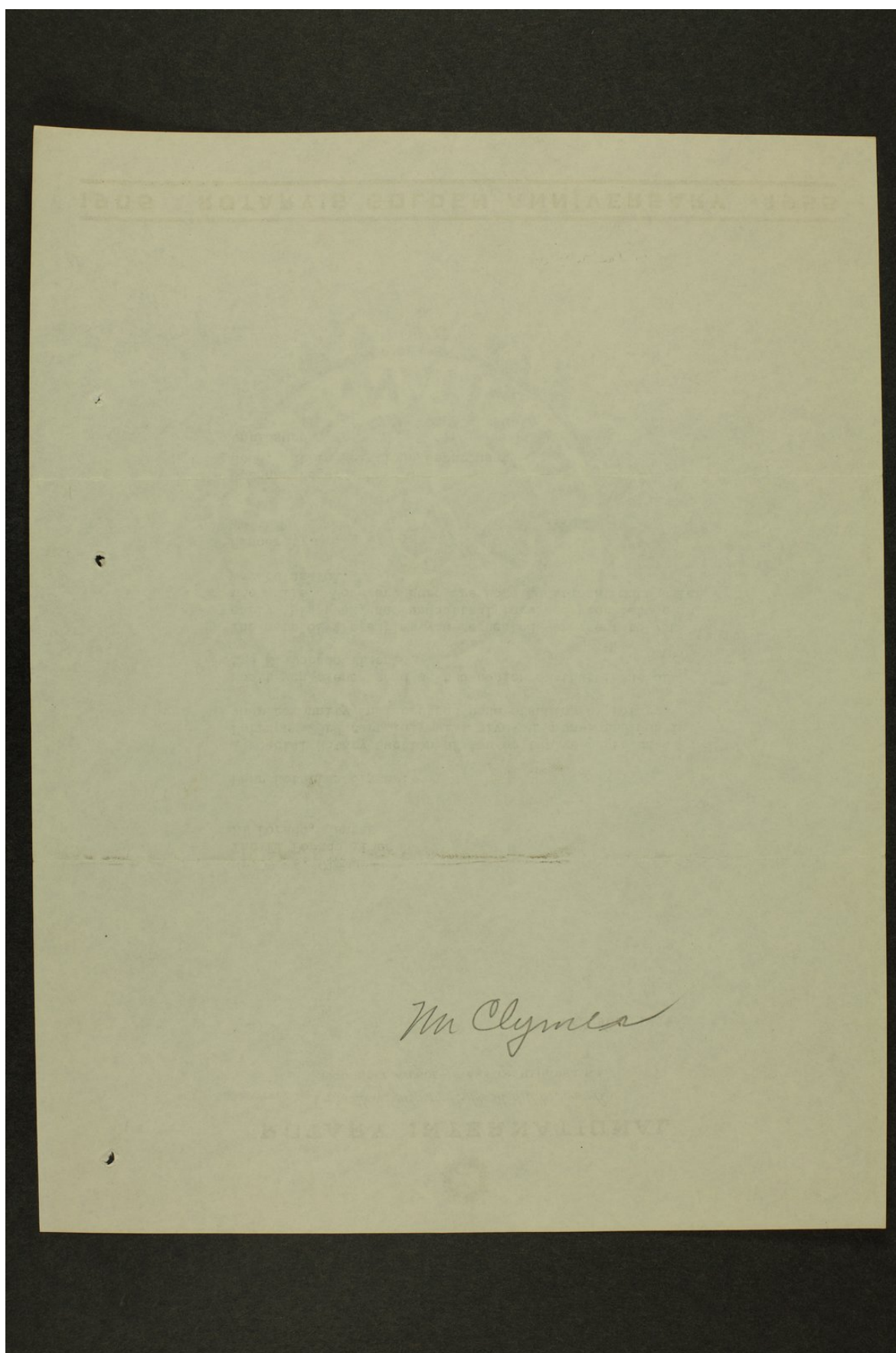


Spencer Hagen
Head, Public Relations Department

* enclosures

*Mailed 2 copies flat
2-25-55
Juni*

1905 ROTARY'S GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY 1955





Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 20, 1955

Rotary International
Evanston, Illinois

Gentlemen:-

In order to help with the preparation of an address I have engaged to make at the Rotary Golden Anniversary district conference at Liberal in March, I would appreciate receiving the following material at as early a date as possible:

Famphlet No. 15-A, "Know Your Community."
Paper No. 602-B, "Corporate or Individual Action."
Paper No. 607, "Working With Others."
Community Service section of "Mr. President's" folder.

I shall be greatly obliged for your kindness in sending me these manuscripts soon.

Very truly yours,

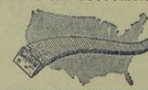


BURKE, KUIPERS & MAHONEY, INC.
PUBLISHERS' REPRESENTATIVES

420 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

TELEPHONE
MURRAY HILL 9-1315

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION



OF NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVES

January 21, 1955

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

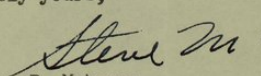
Dear Rolla:

In connection with the AP Board of Directors' proxies, it seems that all old members are finishing out their terms next year and it is therefore expected that there will be no contests whatever in the elections this April.

Sometime, however, in February or March of this year proxies will go out, and unless you have definitely something else in mind, we would appreciate your forwarding any to us, as is quite often done. We may get requests. Naturally if you have any wishes they will be carried out.

Thanking you very much, I am with kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,


Stephen P. Mahoney

SPM/dm

*Enjoyed very much meeting
& talking with you.*

NEW YORK

CHICAGO

ATLANTA

CHARLOTTE

DALLAS

OKLAHOMA CITY

SAN FRANCISCO

Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 21, 1955

Re: C 17 177 615
Ridge, Willard H.

C
O
P
Y
Veterans Administration Center
5500 East Kellogg
Wichita 8, Kansas

Attn: Educational Benefits Section

Gentlemen:

Effective January 16, 1955 The Times Publishing Company started paying Willard H. Ridge \$64.50 for a 40 hour week - or at the rate of \$1.6125 an hour.

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY

Bookkeeper



The Kansas *Transporter*

SPOKESMAN FOR MOTOR TRANSPORTATION IN KANSAS

PUBLISHING OFFICE: 503 NEW ENGLAND BUILDING, TOPEKA, KANSAS

January 21, 1955

Mr. Rolla Clymer
El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

The Kansas Newspaper Women are holding their annual shindig at the Hotel Jayhawk Roof Garden in Topeka on Sunday, January 30th following Kansas Day. The food will be served at 10 a.m. and the program promises to be short, sweet and spicy.

As a former "alumni" of the speaking chores at this sedate breakfast, we wish to invite you to attend this year. Rest assured that you will be bolstered by your fellow alumni and by Mr. Nyle Miller, Secretary of the State Historical Society, who will be the lecture victim this year.

It is extremely important that you attend in that this organization wishes to grant you an honorary degree. We're not sure you will want to hang this one on the wall but you would spoil our fun if you weren't there to get it. We'll even buy your breakfast and the only bargain we have to make with you in return is that you be able to tell one good story either on yourself or someone else or a mythical character who you might care to create. Bert Shore always blames all of her good stories on the Larned Tiller and Toiler.

Seriously, we do want you to attend; we promise not to keep you too long nor to make you work too hard for your breakfast. We've already had confirmation from some of the guys so don't feel like you're going to be stranded if you accept. Drop me a note or give me a call at 3-9641 here in Topeka so that we'll know how many plates to put on the table for breakfast Sunday morning, January 30th.

Best regards,

Mary T.
MARY TURKINGTON

mt/sak

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS MOTOR CARRIERS ASSOCIATION, INC.



Reed Nevada
Jan 21, 1955.
PO Box 790

Dear Rolla.

Words can't express
my deep appreciation for the
beautiful article you wrote
concerning "the one I loved."

So many of Murray's
relatives ^{and} close friends have
requested copies of the editorial
that I'm wondering if any
more are available. If so,
would you please mail
them to me ^{and} bill me.

As yet I don't know
to whom I'm indebted for
the papers sent me although
I do know they came from
P.O. Box 27 at El Dorado. If
not you, then perhaps Leah
Smith, who so thoughtfully
called me and whom I told

Rolla Clymer correspondence

I would like any article in
the paper concerning Murray.

Believe me to be deeply
grateful for your kind thoughts
of Murray - To me ^{and to his}
children ^{and} grandchildren he
was the dearest, kindest
and most generous man
in the world and I guess
its only human for us
to want others to think
kindly of the ones we love.
Its heart warming and con-
soling when we find this
to be true.

My sister, Mary Bell Toews
is here for a month's visit
with me and its so nice
having her.

With fondest regards
to you and Betty and my
sincere gratitude -

Most Sincerely
Ellen.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

P.S. Pat had such a nice letter
from David which she
appreciated very much.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 24, 1955

My Dear Clyde:-

I received a letter today from Stephen P. Mahoney asking that I send my Associated Press proxies to B., K. & M. for handling.

This struck me as odd. It's the first time I ever knew of an advertising representative having anything to do with the election of A. directors.

Maybe you can bring me up to date on such procedure. I shall appreciate it, if you can. The way I feel now I shall make my own disposal of my proxies, as I have always done.

Next time you and FNB get lost in Butler county, I shall send out Saint Bernard dogs loaded with all necessary medicines and supplies.

Wonder if you will be at Kansas Day. I am leaving Thursday p. m.

Yours,



January 24, 1955

My Dear Henry:-

Thanks for your nice letter of
January 21.

I plan to be on hand for your breakfast
on January 30, and am deeply grateful that you
would think of me. Will try to dig up some kind
of a story as a response, though the Good Lord
only knows what that will be.

After I get through talking to the
Native Lads and Gals on Friday night, I shall
probably be wrung dry. But I shall try to do
my part--and many thanks again.

Yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 24, 1955

My Dear Mrs. Bodin:-

Yes, I will invite Senators Carlson and Schoepfel to our dinner--but God knows when. Carlson is on the road somewhere between Washington and Concordia and Topeka, and I don't know where Andy is. But I will get word to them some way, even if I have to wait until after I arrive in Topeka Thursday afternoon.

I am disturbed over the prospect of no speech contest. I have been receiving copies of Mrs. Boyd's letters to you--and have believed that everything was well set. If we fall down on that, however, it will just have to be that way--and let's you and I not worry too much about it.

Our job foreman will send you several copies of the programs and I will bring the rest with me to Topeka. In your seating arrangements, please do not include a space for Mrs. Clymer. She is not able to travel and will not be present. The rest of it is okay, in my view, barring any last-minute changes which you may have to make.

I regret that I cannot help you more in all these matters.

Sincerely,



January 24, 1955

Sam'l Bingham's Son Mfg. Co
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sirs:-

The form rollers for our rotary press which were damaged in transit were returned to you several weeks ago. Will you not please expedite their processing and get them back to us, as we are in need of them?

Very truly yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence



KANSAS VETERANS' COMMISSION

ROOM 217, BURFORD BUILDING
ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS

COMMISSION MEMBERS

ROBERT F. GALLOWAY, MARYSVILLE, CHAIRMAN
WAYNE E. RICHARDS, ARKANSAS CITY
T. V. (JACK) REID, ULYSSES

NORMAN D. JONES
DIRECTOR

R. M. COLLINS
DIRECTOR OF CLAIMS SERVICE

Jan. 24, 1955

Lara E. Taylor
Bookkeeper
The Times Publishing Company
ElDorado, Kansas

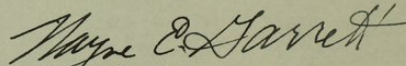
Dear Miss Taylor:

Thank you for your letter of Jan. 21, 1955 regarding the wage increase of Willard H. Ridge.

This increase appears to be right on the scheduled training agreement and therefore is very much in order for our purposes.

Should you have any difficulty with the training program please advise this office so we can assist you.

Yours truly,



Wayne E. Garrett
Field Representative.



January 24, 1955

Mr. Burton W. Marvin, Director
The William Allen White Foundation
Lawrence, Kansas

My Dear Burt:-

We are having a special city election here on Thursday, February 10. I suppose the only way I can get to Lawrence on that day is to vote early, and then make the round trip up there and back--all in one day. But I plan to be present at your meetings, even though late, because I surely don't want to miss them.

Yours,