

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 1137, Pages 34081 - 34110

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

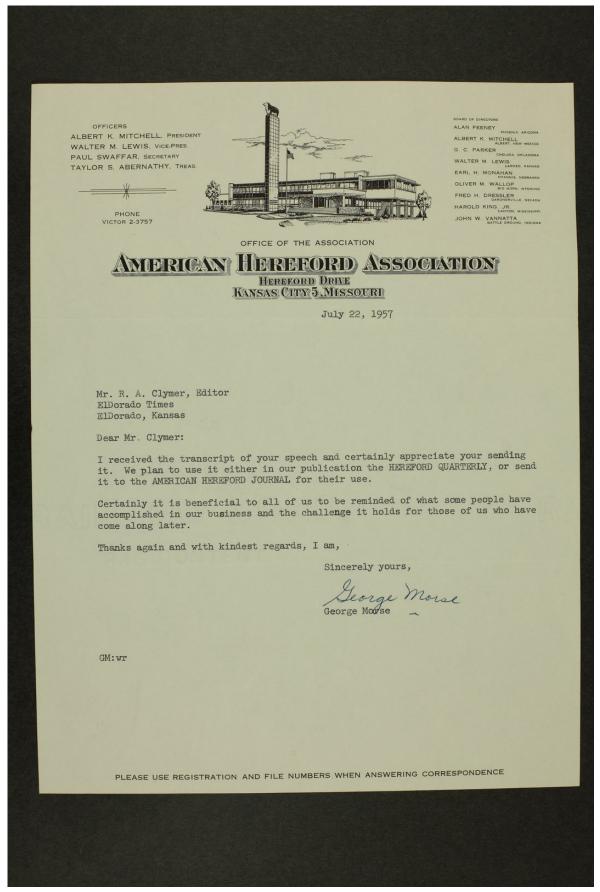
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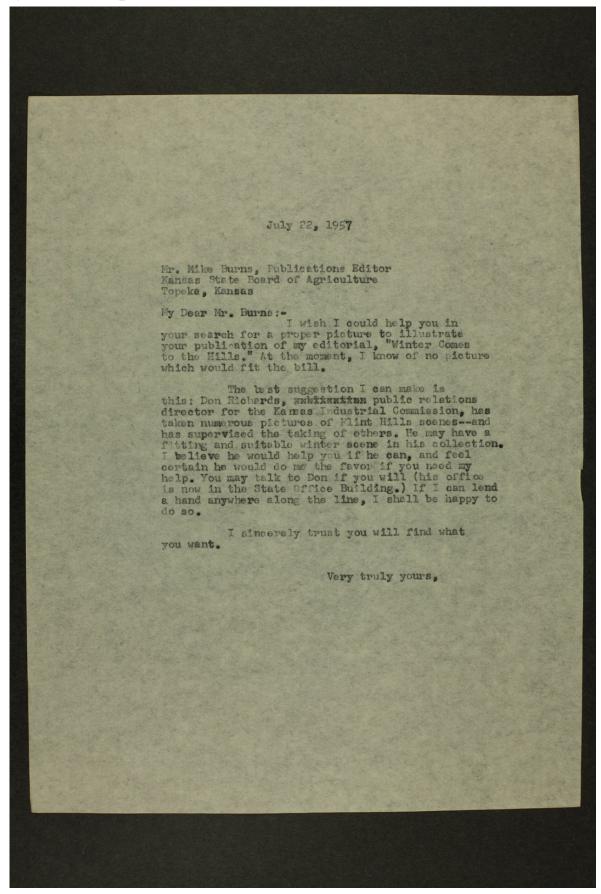
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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

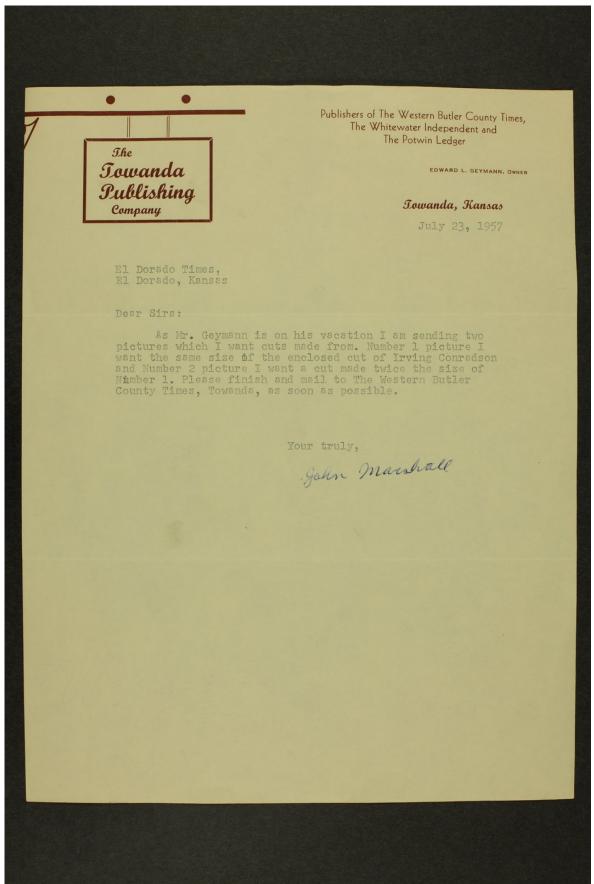














Rolla Clymer correspondence



BURGESS CELLULOSE COMPANY

FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

Mr. David H. Clymer, The Eldorado Times Eldorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Clymer:

We received your letter of July 20th, explaining that you are gdng to continue to use the 17" and 34" rolls with your new 9-column format. You stated your column widths will be 11 ems with 6-pt. rules, if the mat shrinkage will allow it.

According to your figures, if you are going to use a 6-pt. rule, you will have a form approximately 17-1/16" wide. If you are going to accept minimum margins of, let us say, 3/8", this would mean that for margins on each side of one page you would have a total of 3/4" or 12/16". Therefore, your page, including margins, would total approximately 17-13/16". This means you will have to get this much shrinkage in order to get on a roll 17 inches wide.

We can give you a mat which will easily give you 13/16" shrinkage; however, without a Master Former, we are afraid that with this much shrinkage you will run into difficulty handling this mat.

In accordance with your request, we are getting off to you today, via parcel post, special delivery, at no charge, 10 sample mats with 17% moisture content. Should you decide to go to 4-point column rules we believe this moisture content should give you approximately the desired shrinkage.

We are also getting off to you 15 sample mats with 22% moisture content, which is normally required for 13/16" shrinkage. We agree, furthermore, that if you are going to use 3-point rules you can probably get by with your present mat.

After you have received and tried these sample mats, we will look forward to hearing from you as to what you wish us to send. With regard to mats of the old specification, which you may have left over, should you make a change in mat specifications, if you will return these to us via freight, prepaid, we will be more than happy to give you credit for them.

Sincerely,

B. E. Fishburn

BURGESS MATS - BURGESS SPONGES

BEFishburn/bw



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Post Office Department
WICHITA REGIONAL OFFICE
MAIN POST OFFICE BUILDING
WHICHITA 2, Kansas

July 23, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I want to acknowledge your nice letter of July 20 in regard to the possibility of taking the mail off the Santa Fe "Little Ranger."

You can be very sure I will be delighted to visit with your group any time you would like to come over. In fact, I will be happy to come over and visit with you over there if you would like to have me do so.

There is nothing in this situation at all except the matter of saving a number of dollars in the Post Office operating expenses coupled with the ability to provide you with better mail service than you are now getting. I will be very happy to present the facts to you and let you see just what our thinking has been. You can be sure we would most certainly take into consideration any ideas or opinions you might have about the matter.

You know, I am sure, what my feeling is toward El Dorado. I most certainly would not want to do anything that would discriminate against the town or hurt the community. At the same time we, of course, have the responsibility of operating the postal service in an efficient manner. That also has to be given consideration. I am sure you are aware of the fact that Congress in making the appropriations very definitely pointed out the necessity for our taking advantage of all the economies of operation that we could possibly make.

Please let me know what you would like to have me do. I will be delighted to do it.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Barr Regional Director



Rolla Clymer correspondence

MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

LEAPER & GILBERT
ARCHITECTS
511½ NORTH HILLSIDE AVE.
WICHITA 6, KANSAS
TELEPHONE MURRAY 2-7061

ARTHUR E. LEAPER

July 25, 1957

Mr. R. A. Clymer Times Publishing Company 118 East Central El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I would like to thank you for giving me several minutes of your busy day last Tuesday to discuss the matter of the proposed addition to your City Library.

As I mentioned to you, we would deem it a privilege to be afforded the opportunity of serving your board in the capacity of Architects for this project.

Your thought of employing a Library Consultant to outline requirements and operation I believe is a wise one, and it would be a great help to an Architect in planning a successful addition to your building.

Mr. Gilbert and I have a background of over thirty years experience, which has taken us through many years of work in traditional, as well as modern architecture.

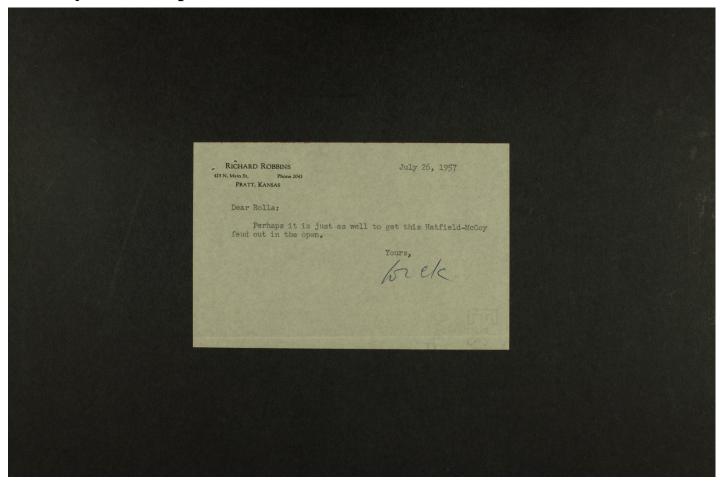
For this reason, I believe we could approach your problem with a sympathetic understanding for what you are trying to achieve in planning an addition which, along with your present structure will produce a unified and pleasing whole.

I trust that we may be invited to meet with your board, and hope that we may ultimately have the opportunity of serving you.

Yours truly,

Arthur E. Leaper





Rolla Clymer correspondence



THE EMPORIA GAZETTE July 19, 1957

CIVIL WAR

So now comes the Honorable E. T. Anderson, who respectfully sets forth that The Gazette's recent admiring editorial on its old friends, the Robbins Brothers, "calls for an answer and further explanation." Mr. Anderson asks:

How can you honestly refer to the long delayed investigation of the drouth feed program as a Democratic move when as you well know the chairman of this investigating committee is a Republican?

Have you acquainted yourself with the regulations under which this drouth feed can lawfully be had? Have you made an effort to find out how much drouth feed the Robbinses have applied for and received during the existence of the drouth feed program? Evidently not, inasmuch as you refer in your editorial as \$4,500 being the amount of feed that the Robbinses availed themselves of, when, according to carefully checked records they, up to the first part of February 1934, in Chase County alone availed themselves of enough government feed if based on regular market prices would cost \$16,950.40, for which they paid the government \$9,992.50, a saving to the Robbinses of \$6,957.90, and this at a time when no drouth conditions existed where the Robbins Ranch is located in Chase County.

As to evidence of wrong doing what has been done must speak for itself, but it must be admitted that it looks like a case bordering on collusion between the committee and the Robbinses with the intent of defrauding the taxpayers.

If the Robbinses feel that they

If the Robbinses feel that they are being persecuted by the Senate Sub-committee in Washington, why could it not be well for them to put the cards on the table showing their financial condition, also showing a complete list of drouth feed ordered and received at the various places where they have operated, also the number of cows they owned at these various locations.

locations.

As to the pauper's oath referred to will say that when it pertains to personal property that an oath is not necessary when real men, especially cattlemen, do business with one another an ordinary agreement is considered sufficient.

Now a final question, do you advocate a philosophy giving big taxpayers automatically free access to property belonging to our government and appropriating it to his own use? If so where do you draw the line as to who is entitled to rebates and in what amounts? In advocating a policy of this kind you are striking at the very roots of good government.

The Andersons and the Robbins Brothers are both cattlemen; beyond this, they are on opposite sides of a number of fences. The Andersons are passionate Democrats; the Robbins Brothers, dedicated Republicans. The Robbins Brothers specialize in cow herds whose calves are sold to feeders like the Andersons, with inevitable disagreements between buyer and seller — over what should be a fair price.

In its drouth relief program the government in its wisdom provided that its surplus feed should be sold, not to commercial steer feeders like the Andersons, but largely to owners of breeding herds, like the Robbins, to help them carry their cows through the drouth.

Now whatever you may think of such a law, you can be sure that steer feeders would feel they had been rudely booted off the gravy train by legislation which outrageously favored their mortal enemies, the cow men.

However, Mr. Anderson in his letter brings into this civil war among cattlemen entirely new charges, based on this Chase County situation. And on the basis of his figures, The Gazette would quickly agree that the Robbins Brothers are the greatest rascals unhung, and that Chase County committee swinish varlets, toadying to the wicked rich, and undermining the Foundations of the Republic were it true, as Mr.

Anderson charges above, that the Robbins Brothers "up to the first part of February 1954" had been allowed to buy this government surplus feed for their cow herds "at a time when no drouth conditions existed where the Robbins Ranch is located in Chase County."

The trouble is, however, that it is untrue. And our source for this denial is not Mr. Robbins, nor any other cow herd owner whose word might be suspect. It is the Agricultural Stabilization Conservation office in Cottonwood Falls, which in that period was handling this distribution of feed, and which now reports that "all of Chase County was in the Drouth Disaster Area in the winter of 1953-1954, including the early February '54 period."

Now for that Chase County Committee which in 1953-54 apportioned this surplus feed. Up to now they have been men of unquestioned character—even among cattle-feeders. Three served because of the other offices they held—Sam Richardson (Democrat) for the Farm Home Administration, Fred Pracht (Democrat) as chairman of P.M.A., Lee Brewer tpolitics in doubt) as head of the Chase County Extension Service, L. C. Bookman (Democrat) represented the ranchers, and Clyde Littler (Republican) the bankers.

To Mr. Anderson this "looks like a case bordering on collusion between the Committee and the Robbinses, with the intent of defrauding the taxpayers."

Since none of these hard-working and honorable men has, up to now, been charged even with petty larceny, Mr. Anderson may find, the next time he crosses the Chase County line, an entirely different view of their characters.

As for the Robbins Brothers true, they are Republicans; true, they sell steer calves; true, they have been solvent and respected for many decades; true, Brother Dick was recently elected president of the Kansas Livestock Assocition.

Yet The Gazette cannot see that they need further defense in these columns.—W. L. W.



Rolla Clymer correspondence



THE EL DORADO REFINING COMPANY

July 29, 1957

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

Dear Rolla:

All of us with The El Dorado Refining Company certainly wish to express our appreciation to you for the fine way that you handled the publicity concerning our recent management changes. It was handled as only you could, and we certainly intend to try to live up to all the nice things you said about us and our company.

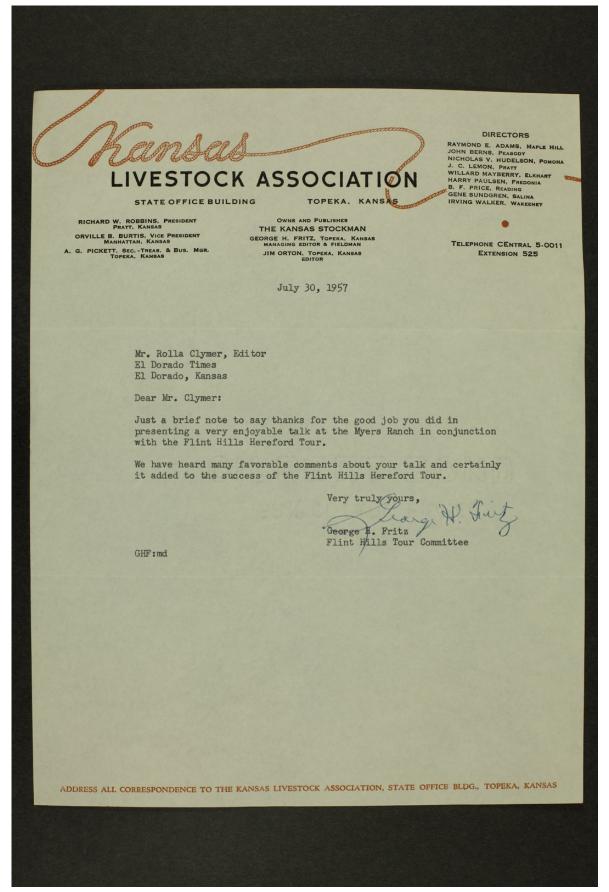
We will carry forward our policy of keeping you informed on anything concerning our company that may be of interest to the people of El Dorado.

Yours very truly,

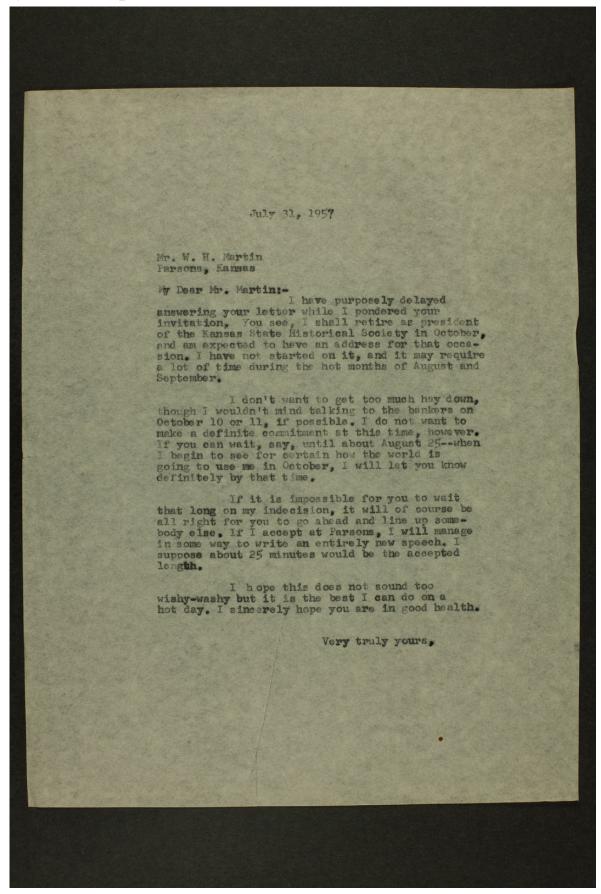
Sam L. Roberson

SLR:VA











Rolla Clymer correspondence

The Pittsburg Headlight

EVENINGS
EXCEPT SUNDAY

Established 1887

THE PITTSBURG SUN

MORNINGS EXCEPT MONDA

Established 1915

THE PITTSBURG PUBLISHING COMPANY

F. W. BRINKERHOFF

Pittsburg, Kansas Aug. 1, 1957

Rolla A. Clymer The Times El Dorado, Kas.

Dear Rolla:

Your name was on the top of my list here for correspondence. That you have not received a kindly word indicates the amount of stuff that was piled up on me here when I got back.

We had a nice time up in Canada. But attending any convention is a hard job and I was very tired when we left Frisco. We had a nice train ride on the coast, more than 100 miles of it with Mount Shasta in sight. We were at Victoria a day and went on to Vancouver and at night ran into the honorable J. P. Harris and Mrs. Harris window shopping in Vancouver. Jack had rented a car at Portland or Seattle and was driving up through the tall woods of British Columbia. Probably you noted he was held up at the border because he did not have proper driving credentials.

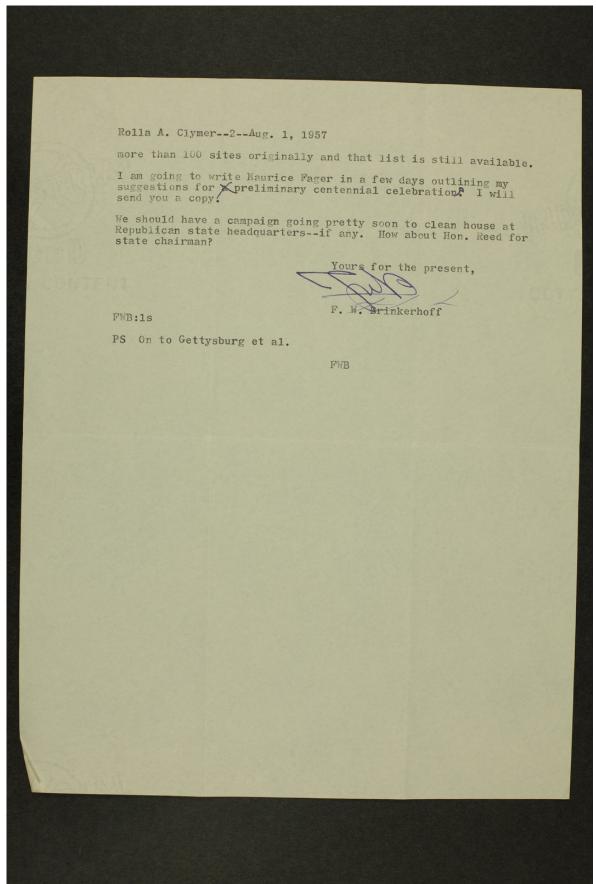
We went on east with a beautiful Canadian Pacific train ride and spent four days trying to forget everything around Lake Louise and Banff. We took half a day's look at Winnipeg and then came on home through St. Paul. I have been on a few fishing trips for a few days but the little jaunt into Canada was the first real vacation I have had in nearly 30 years. I have made innumerable trips East to Washington and New York in that period but it is no vacation to attend meetings in those cities or to transact AP nominating committee business as I did for nine years.

It will not surprise you to read that I was tremendously glad to get back to this office. Home sweet home, be it ever so hot.

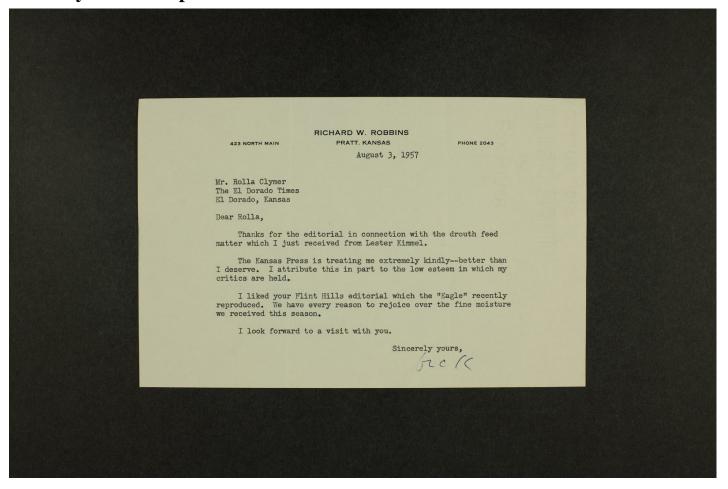
Hon. Reed and eight or nine other southeastern Kansas newspaper guys are here today at noon as my luncheon guests. We are trying to organization home publicity for MidAmerica.

I have a letter from Nyle Miller following up my editorial on resuming the marking of historical places. Nyle says that we do not want to give much publicity to any resumption because they will run the historical office and the highway department officials mad. As you know we selected something

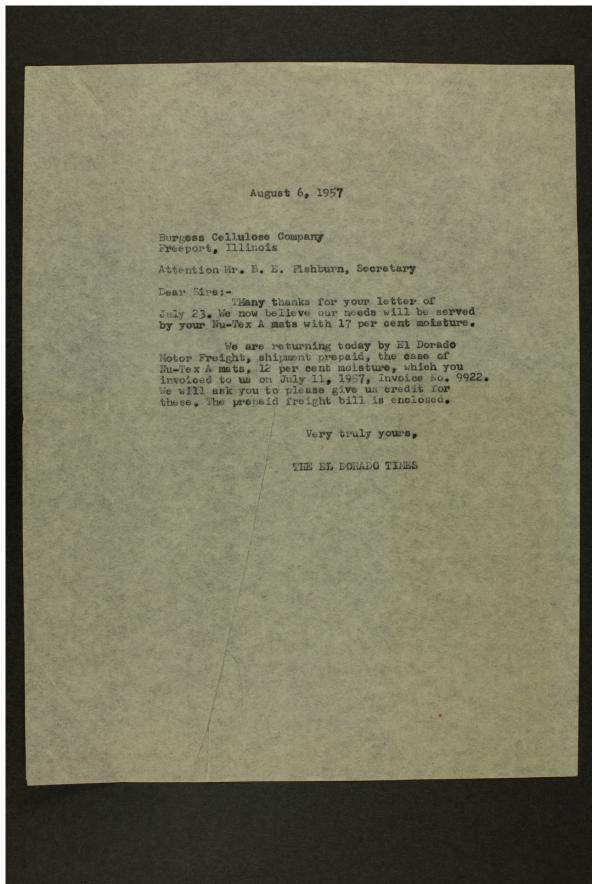














Rolla Clymer correspondence

R.*.E.*. WILLIAM H. MARTIN, Chairman, Parsons
R.*.E.*. FLOYD A. PALMER, Secretary and Treasurer, Box 1349, Topeka

R. . E. . OTTO R. SOUDERS

R.*.E.*. THEODORE P. PERRY, Coffeyville R.*.E.*. RICHARD W. EVANS, Dodge City



Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Kansas

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND

August 6, 1957

Mr. R. A. Clymer ElDorado Times ElDorado, Kansas.

Dear Rolla:

I have your letter of July 31st relative to your speaking to the bankers of the 3rd Congressional District in Parsons, Friday, October 11th at 6:30 p.m.

We have granted you a stay of execution at your request until August 25th or for good measure September 1st. Between now and then please let us know definitely your decision. We sincerely hope you can plan to be with us on that occasion and judging from the type of speech you are in the habit of making, it should be not less than 30 minutes in length. However this is a detail for you to decide.

Please write or telephone me definitely sometime between the dates mentioned and oblidge.

Sincerely yours,

WHM/ds

W. H. Martin

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SECRETARY OR CHAIRMAN



Rolla Clymer correspondence

KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NYLE H. MILLER, SECRETARY
EDGAR LANGSDORF, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MRS. LELA BARNES, TREASURER
STANLEY D. SOHL, MUSEUM DIRECTOR
ALBERTA PANTLE, LIBRARIAN
ROBERT W. RICHMOND, STATE ARCHIVIST
KIRKE MECHEM, EDITOR

ROLLA CLYMER, EL DORADO, PRESIDENT ALAN W. FARLEY, KANSAS CITY, VICE-PRESIDENT RICHARD M. LONG, WICHITA, VICE-PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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T. M. LILLARD, TOPEKA

TOPEKA

August 7, 1957

Mr. Rolla Clymer, Publisher El Dorado Times El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

Our annual meeting will be Tuesday, October 15, beginning at 10 a.m.

I have intended writing to ask for the title of your talk which should run a half hour, or longer if you wish, and to inquire if you needed any information from our files. As I recall, you had in mind discussing some of the greater and lesser newspaper brethren in Kansas, which should make a wonderful talk for I know the master who will package it.

I have several ideas about the meeting which I'll give you in detail in a letter late next week. Then you can yea or nay the items and I'll start the wheels churning.

I've known for a long time that I was missing some good reading by not keeping up with some of the editorials produced in this great state so, lately, I've made it a point to look at some of our newspapers. I agree with you on Dick Robbins. Among the many things I've enjoyed in your sparkling columns have been the exchanges with Rex Woods on which community had the mostest of sin, and your late benediction on the feuding dastards at Emporia. Keep it up, Rolla, there's no one like you. Fred Brinkerhoff also is good, but he doesn't quite get them wrapped as beautifully as you.

You'll be hearing from me again within a few days.

Meanwhile, with kindest personal regards and good wishes, I am

Cordially,

Secretary

NHM:erw



Rolla Clymer correspondence

TRUSLER-BEHYMER GRAIN COMPANY EMPORIA, KANSAS

August 8, 1957

Mr. Rolla Clymer Eldorado KANSAS

Dear Rolla:

I have just enjoyed reading in the Yates Center News the reprint of your editorial concerning the woman from Chicago who found such great difference between the drivers of cars bearing Kansas and Missouri plates.

Since you are in the trade, you can probably know why such an idiotic piece would be put on the frontpage of the Sunday Kansas City Star. An outsider wouldn't know.

The lady apparently does not understand the drives and yearnings of Missourians. When the sons and daughters of Little Dixie get enough money they move from Independence and the east side of Kansas City over to High Drive, Mission Drive, and the area around the Kansas City Country Club. Naturally they have Johnson County plates on their cars. I have several friends, graduates of Missouri University, who have done just this. Their homes are nice; the food and liquor excellent.

The great majority of the Kansas cars on the streets of Kansas City carry Johnson County plates.

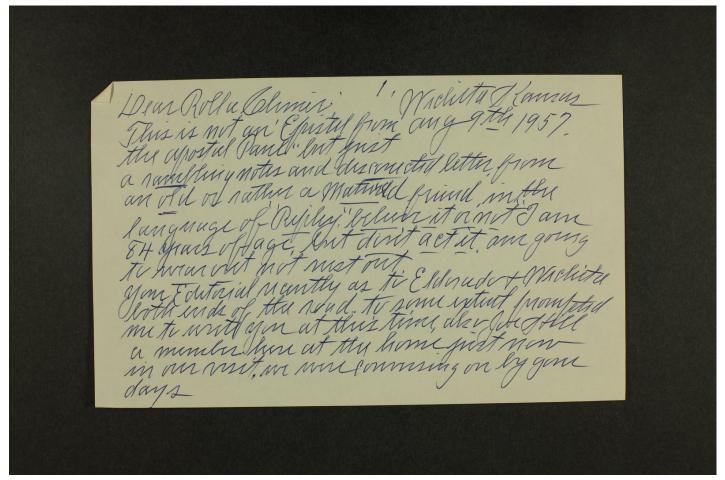
Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

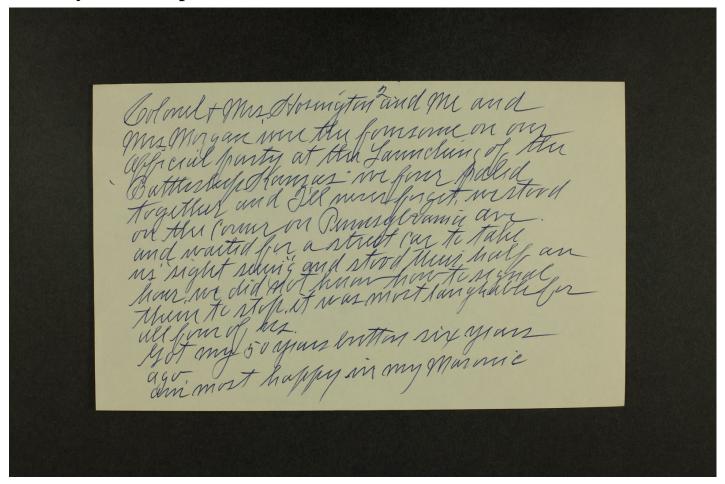
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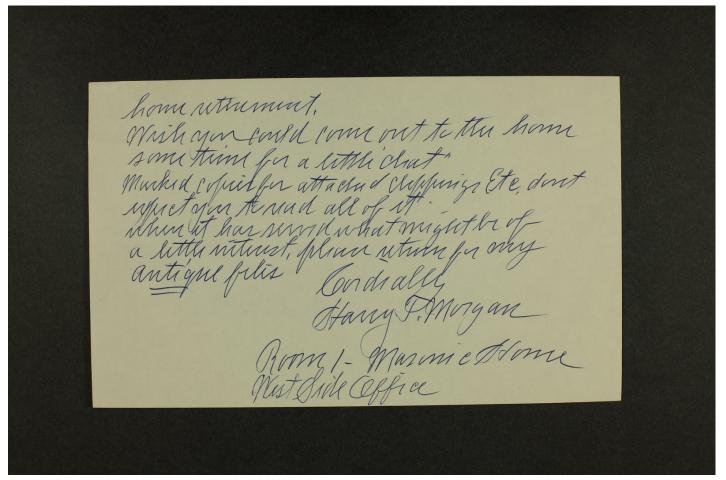




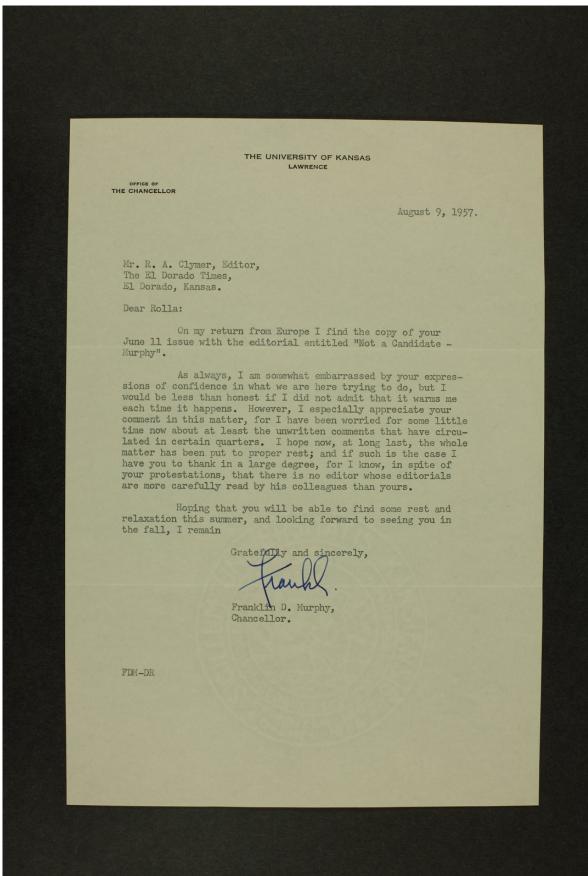




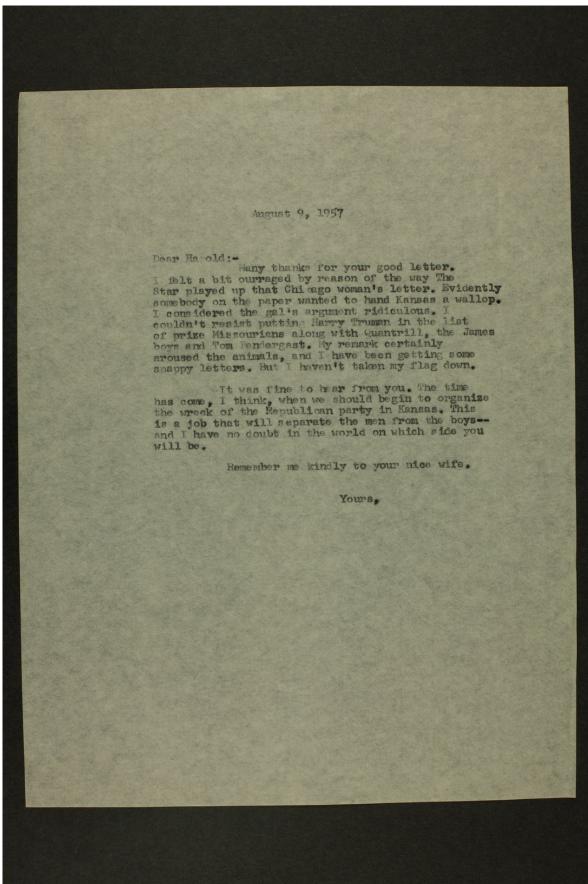














Rolla Clymer correspondence

TRUSLER-BEHYMER GRAIN COMPANY EMPORIA, KANSAS

August 12, 1957

Mr. R. A. Clymer, c/o El Dorado Times, El Dorado, KANSAS.

Dear Rolla:

I don't know why I failed to mention your inclusion of Harry Truman in the Missouri quartet. It was certainly one of your truest and funniest remarks and the one which probably struck the most fire.

I am ready to assist the Republican Party in Kansas if someone will only show the way. Several Republicans have mentioned you as the man to do this and with them I heartily agree.

The progressive branch of the Republican Party was mostly the product of half a dozen prominent Kansas editors. They are now mostly gone, but I think there remains for us a good lesson.

If the responsible Republican editors of Kansas could themselves agree on a reasonable candidate for Governor (preferably an editor) I believe most everyone would go along with that choice. Granted, there would be differing degrees of enthusiasm. That is bound to be true in a primary. The main thing is that the resulting nominee will not have offended and alienated a considerable number of Republicans.

This is the best hope I can see for 1958. It seems to me that we can win on this plan. Perhaps your journalistic friends will not agree, feeling rather that we should lose by default in 1958 with eyes only for 1960.



