

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 1163, Pages 34861 - 34890

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

www.kansasmemory.org/item/229011

Rolla Clymer correspondence

[Mar. 1958]

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Thanks for writing to me. I did not get enough information, however, from several queries I made, to get a story. Or else I failed to see the story. So changed my aim to WAW--boys, dogs and flowers. Sent it to Dwight Pennington who is always snowed. Hard market for me to make, but most compensating when I do, and I don't mean just money.

I am turning your letter, Gene's and others into the Historical Society where they have a collection of my letters--mostly from Mr. White. Small collection, but they seem glad to get them. Another birthday this month--so I'm redding out things my family wont care for.

I was happy to hear that David is home again.

Sincerely,



THE LAWRENCE DAILY JOURNAL-WORLD

DOLPH SIMONS, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

April 1, 1958

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

Dear Rolla:

Thanks very much for sending me your AP
proxy which I will be pleased to vote at the
annual meeting on April 21st.

All best wishes.

Sincerely,

Dolph
Dolph Simons

DS:df



Rolla Clymer correspondence

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

823 QUINCY, TOPEKA, KANSAS

CENTRAL 4-9911

WILLIAM T. BAILEY
AREA INFORMATION MANAGER

April 1, 1958

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

We've just been reading with great interest the recent issues of the El Dorado Times Ed Sorensen sent us and I want you to know how much all of us appreciate the outstanding coverage you gave the conversion of the El Dorado telephone system to dial operation. I've been in on publicizing lots of dial cutovers but the treatment you accorded us tops not only everything I've seen, but everything I ever heard about.

The special Friday night four-page insert was truly a graphic spread. And your kind words about our company and Mr. Sorensen in both your news and editorial columns make us glow with pride. I hope we can always continue to merit your praise.

To sum it up I think the whole coverage you provided was most outstanding. Every possible news and feature angle of the many steps in bringing dial to a city have been covered. It was a job of which you and your staff can be justly proud. I've showed the papers to J. Hardin Smith, Vice President and General Manager for Kansas, and he certainly is impressed.

Again many thanks to you, The Times, and the fine people on your staff.

Sincerely

Wm T. Bailey

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April 2, 1958

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

Dear Rolla:

I was just going to drop you a line when your welcome note arrived this morning. At the moment I'm debating whether to call the executive committee into special session to consider this golden opportunity to become identified with the Golden Gloves.

But, like Docking in this one respect, I find myself hesitant about calling a special, for the boys might want to take up other matters. Maybe they'd even want a new secretary and by golly I'd veto that.

Seriously, your notes and letters are eagerly read, and it's always a delight to hear from you. In fact I've been trying to keep up with you through the Times' editorial columns and I can attest that My Friend hasn't lost any of his fire or gentleness--depending on the situation. Keep it up, Rolla.

Our Forrest Blackburn has sent you proofs of your annual meeting talk which will appear in our Spring number. The articles are now being paged and we hope the magazine will be out by early May. We're ordering reprints of your talk for the Society's use and we want to send you as many as you'll need. Please jot down the number on the attached postal card and I'll see that you get them.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes, I am

Cordially

Nyle
Secretary

P. S. Forrest tells me that he neglected to copy the corrections on our proofs of your article, so if you have those yellow galley sheets still lying around fire them back--just in case they carry a correction that we don't have marked here.

NHM:erw

Rolla Clymer correspondence

341½ Monroe Street
Allegan, Michigan
April 2, 1958

Mr. Rollo A. Clymer, Editor
El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Sir:

Recently, I read the November 2, 1957 Saturday
Evening Post article on the Flint Hills District
of Kansas.

Several paragraphs of this article was devoted to
you and your narrative "Majesty of the Hills" (the
coming of the "Big Beef Steer"). Would it be possible
to get a copy of this narration. A stamped, addressed
envelope is enclosed for the convenience of a reply.

Yours very truly,

Patricia Flynn
(Miss) Patricia Flynn

enc.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

823 QUINCY, TOPEKA, KANSAS

CENTRAL 4-9911

J. HARDIN SMITH
VICE PRESIDENT
AND GENERAL MANAGER

April 2, 1958

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

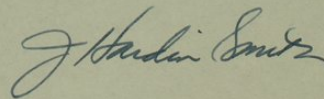
Dear Mr. Clymer:

Bill Bailey showed me the copies of the El Dorado Times which told about the conversion of our telephone system from manual to dial operation and I want you to know how much I personally appreciate the excellent coverage you gave us. Certainly the citizenry of El Dorado should be a well informed group. You presented the entire story graphically and in complete detail.

The job of customer education is always a big one in any undertaking such as a dial conversion. Asking people to change their telephone habits overnight presents a big challenge. But when we get the kind of cooperation and wholehearted support that you gave us in El Dorado it makes the task much easier. The coverage you gave us is the finest and most complete I've seen in my more than thirty years in the telephone business.

I also want to thank you for the kind words you said about us in your editorial columns. I know we'll all do our best to merit your praise now, and in the years to come.

Sincerely



Rolla Clymer correspondence

April 3, 1958

Mr. William T. Bailey,
Area Information Manager
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Bailey:-

Both your letter and one from Mr. Smith reached us in the same mail today--and fairly took our breath. The warmly kind manner in which you have expressed your approval over our handling of the telephone cutover to dials here has made us deeply grateful.

Of course, we looked upon this event as a historic one for this community--and tried to treat it in that light. We have enjoyed the most friendly relations with the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for many years. So the situation simply resolved itself thus: A friend had achieved an accomplishment of exceeding worth--and it was our privilege to make that plain to our public.

I am happy to know that you think we succeeded--and your opinion means much to us. Your kindness in saying so has given us a definite lift. And now we hope that the town and the Bell and this newspaper will march along together, as partners, to a larger dimension of usefulness for all--and I firmly believe they will.

Many thanks again for the cordial courtesy of your letter.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

April 3, 1958

Mr. J. Hardin Smith,
Vice President and General Manager
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Smith:-

I am more grateful than I can tell
for the extremely kind letter you wrote to me.
Your warm words of approval made us all happy
here.

We have sincerely felt that the coming
of the dials gave added distinction and stature to
our town--and we tried to treat the event through
our newspaper with that view uppermost.

We feel amply repaid for any effort
we may have extended if the result has pleased
you. We hold no glorified opinion of ourselves,
but we do like to help our friends. We have been
long privileged to enjoy a cordial relationship
with the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
and its representatives. It is our earnest hope
that such relationship may be maintained--and
that the bond will grow even stronger.

Surely you must know that we seldom
receive messages of such hearty commendation
as yours, and for this exceptional kindness again
extend our deepest appreciation.

Sincerely,



April 3, 1958

Mr. F. E. Blackburn, Research Director
Kansas State Historical Society
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Blackburn:-

I am heartily ashamed of myself. The day the galley proofs came with my address at the Society's meeting, I intended to go over them at once. What I did was to shove them back into a safe spot--and there they have laid. Not until Nyle's letter came this morning did I remember this task and the need for immediate attention to it.

I have now read the proofs, and have found only one needed correction in addition to the ones you have marked. This is on Gally Eleven, about two-thirds of the way down where reference is made to Jessie P. Straford. Please removed the "the" before "El Dorado," as marked. It seems to me that an excellent job of composition has been done on this work.

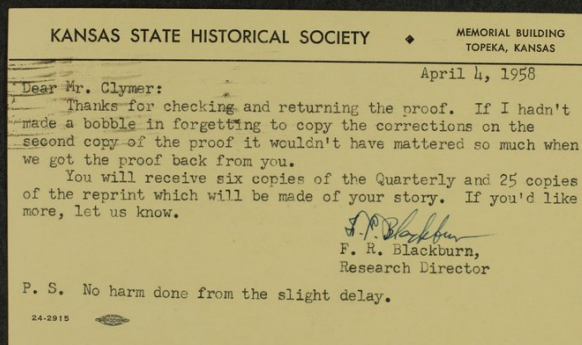
Please accept my apologies for treating you so shabbily. I have no sound alibi whatever--even if the hounds have been breathing hotly on my heels all the time the past few weeks.

I am returning these proofs herewith.

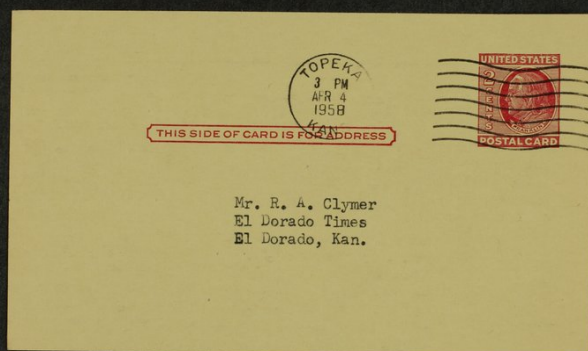
Sincerely,

Please tell Nyle that I would like at least a dozen copies of this speech. It may be that I could use a few more.

Rolla Clymer correspondence



Rolla Clymer correspondence



Rolla Clymer correspondence

April 5, 1958

Mergenthaler Linotype Company
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sirs:-

Referring to your invoice No. 05003, dated April 2, 1958, as the third item on the list, we ordered a collection of springs, No. 1034. Instead, you sent us a collection of screws.

We have no use for these screws, so are returning them today by parcels post. Please adjust your accounts, giving us due credit for the returned parts, and send us the collection of springs which is what we want.

Your immediate attention to this request will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY
per

Rolla Clymer correspondence

April 5, 1958

Mr. Horace S. Moses
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Moses:-

I received your letter of March 27, written at Cleveland. I note that you intend to be back in Topeka by April 10, and that your only definite date is for the meeting of your board on April 16.

This schedule will fit into our plans, as we will hold our regular monthly board meeting on Tuesday, April 15, at 4 p. m. Mr. Caton will be here with his plans finished as nearly as possible at that time, and we would certainly like to have you also present. We may hold the meeting at city hall, as we did once before, but you can ascertain that fact from me after you reach El Dorado.

To bring you up to date--the contract for razing the old Washington school building, which will be removed to make way for our new library, has been awarded by the city commission to Kansas Asphalt company, a local construction firm. This firm's bid was low at \$1,745. We had also asked for bids to purchase a small frame structure standing on the old school property. None was received. George M. Myers, the Kansas Asphalt president, made us a verbal offer of \$500 for the building and will remove it at his own expense. His offer was accepted. This will cut down our net cost of razing the old building to \$1,245--which we consider somewhat of a bargain.

If possible, I would like to have the plans approved, bids received and the contract for the new building let as early as possible in June, so that we may get an early start on construction during summer working weather.

I shall be pleased to have your assurances that you can attend our meeting April 15.

Very truly yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

EDWARD H. REES
4TH DISTRICT, KANSAS

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

April 5, 1958


Dear Mr. Pepper:

We are enclosing a copy of a letter from the
Bureau of Naval Personnel, Department of the Navy.

We regret the Department has taken an adverse
position to our request on your son's behalf.

With kind regards, we are

Sincerely,



Mr. P. L. Pepper
El Dorado, Kansas

cc: R. A. Clymer
The El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

enclosure



Rolla Clymer correspondence

723 Medford
Topeka, Kan.
April 7 - 1908

Rolla Clymer
Eldorado, Kan.

Dear Mr. Clymer-

Some weeks ago, I wrote
a request - to which you did not reply.
Possibly you considered it an ephemeral
thing - a will o' the wisp.

Actually, it was no such
thing. We have on hand nearly
40 wonderful letters, of which
the Daily Capital printed seven -
my own was the only one they
tampered with - deleting a rather
powerful "bridge sentence" - &
re-writing the latter bit in their
fashion - weakening it by ascribing
the quote to a person who had

(over)

Rolla Clymer correspondence

not said it! I wrote, asking that an
errata be printed - Now has -

Meanwhile, we are having the letters
micrographed - When the work is done,
I'll send you a copy. I believe your
interest, Rev. by, will be quickened -

Dr. McLean, Manhattan, considers
a small book of them would be good for
libraries over the state - Scholastic & town -

Charles Van Doren - Columbia Un. - wrote
that what we have done is in praise -
"Don't stop. There are those who care!"
he concluded -

Our goal is one hundred letters -
at least that many - The distaff
side ^{to be} balanced by the masculine
Letters from all walks & conditions,
welded together by the common interest
of good reading -

Sincerely
(Miss) Sarah Shorer



JESS DENIOUS, JR.
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER



TROHMAN ROBINSON
BUSINESS MANAGER

DODGE CITY, KANSAS
TELEPHONE HU 3-4151

7 April 1958

R. A. Clymer
The Times
Eldorado,
KANSAS

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Just a note to assure you we still anticipate the 30 minutes inspiration April 21. The airplane is ready and I'll call you April 20.

Respectfully,

Jess C. Denious, Jr.

JDJr:je

GLOBE EXPRESS
RADIO STATION KGNO



[1958]

Bekaert Steel Wire Corporation

655 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

TELEPHONE 8-3665

April 7, 1958

THE SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS
Economic Development Council
Arkansas City, Kansas

Attn: Mr. Donald Hickman, Chairman

Dear Mr. Hickman:

Thank you for your letter of March 28. It is true that we are interested in examining various plant location sites in your general area. On the other hand, we plan to do very little work on this for the next few months.

Some of our customers in the United States have been engaged in development work and had expected to increase business placed with our firm when their own production of these items increases. The present business conditions have slowed down to the contrary the expected upturn in sales of these customers. Consequently, there is no point in our doing much research on plant location sites within the near future.

We appreciate your interest, and shall be in touch with you when we actively reopen this project. Should you want to write to us again, we suggest you do not do so before the middle of the second quarter of this year.

Sincerely yours,

EM:rm

E. Moore,
Secretary-Treasurer

Ark City Apr 10th

Directors, SCKEDC

2he above for your information.

Don



PRESS ASSOCIATION

A Non-Profit Trade Organization Founded in 1892, Representing 99.47/100% of All Kansas Newspapers.

LARRY MILLER,
General Manager

PHONE CENTRAL 3-6206
701 JACKSON ST., TOPEKA

April 8, 1958

Mr. Rolla Clymer
El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

Thanks so much for sending me the
story regarding changes in the business staff of the Times.

It does very much interest me and I
am relaying it on to Forrest Inks for the proper treatment.

With every good wish.

Cordially yours,

Larry
LARRY MILLER.

LMrb

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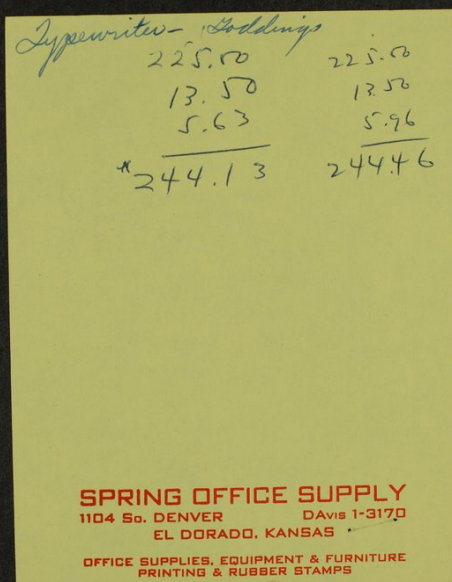
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Junction City Union

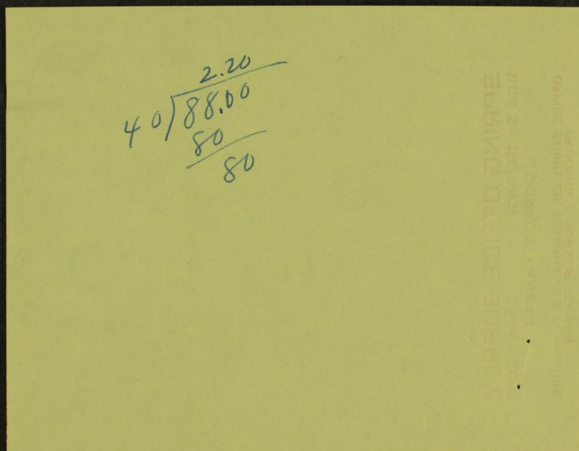
PAST-PRESIDENT

ELTON CARTER
Norton Daily Telegram

Rolla Clymer correspondence



Rolla Clymer correspondence



Rolla Clymer correspondence

DUPLICATE INVOICE

Royal McBee Corporation

CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE
633 EAST 63rd STREET
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

C 21549

DIST. CODE	DISTRICT	DATE	SALESMAN'S NUMBER	SALESMAN	CODE
	WICHITA	1-22-58		GODDING C	6000

(SAME AS "SOLD TO" UNLESS SHOWN)

S O L D T O	TIMES PUBLISHING CO. 118 EAST CENTRAL EL DORADO, KANSAS	S H I P T O
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QUANTITY	TYPEWRITERS	PORTABLES	ROYTYPE	UNIT PRICE	NET PRICE	TOTAL
1	FP 11 6284119		FET KANS.T LESS CK #9977	225.00 13.50 4.57		
					-10.00	
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Rolla Clymer correspondence

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C-21549

Royal McBee Corporation

CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE
633 EAST 63rd STREET KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

DIST. CODE	DISTRICT WICHITA	DATE 1-22-58	SALESMAN'S NUMBER	SALESMAN GODDING C	CODE 6000	
S O L D T O TIMES PUBLISHING CO. 118 EAST CENTRAL EL DORADO, KANSAS			(SAME AS "SOLD TO" UNLESS SHOWN)			
			S. H I P T O			
CUSTOMER ORDER NUMBER LIST		COUNTRY CODE 14-015	TERMS: NET CASH ON RECEIPT OF INVOICE			

QUANTITY	TYPEWRITERS	PORTABLES	ROYTYPE	UNIT PRICE	NET PRICE	TOTAL
1	FP 11 6284119		FET KANS.T LESS CK	225.00 13.50 4.57		
	PAID CHECK NO. <u>3113</u> DATE <u>3/8/58</u>			#9977		-10.00
						233.07
						10000
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The SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS
Economic Development Council

300 MILLER BUILDING
WICHITA, KANSAS
PHONE FOREST 3-1247
H. W. KRATZER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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April 9, 1958

To: Board of Directors

I have just received word today from Mr. Kratzer
in New York City that the correct address of the Bekaert
Steel Wire Corporation is 655 Madison Avenue, New York,
New York.

I hope this will assist you in forwarding inform-
ation to this firm.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Anderson
(Mrs.) Phyllis Anderson
Secretary to Mr. Kratzer

PA

BUTLER COWLEY HARPER HARVEY KINGMAN MARION MCPHERSON RENO SEDGWICK SUMNER

Rolla Clymer correspondence

April 10, 1958

Mr. H. P. Caldwell, Superintendent
Socony-Mobil Company
Augusta, Kansas

My Dear Mr. Caldwell:-

We are going to have a refinery appreciation event here in El Dorado within a couple of weeks, and I have been asked to ~~give~~ give a short talk on the refineries of Butler county.

I would like to have my account factually correct. Therefore, I am asking you to please give some information about your plant in Augusta--when it was founded, changes of ownership, if any; its capacity, payroll and any other items of interest which may occur to you.

I shall greatly appreciate your help in this matter and, if possible, I should like to have your reply within a few days.

Thanking you in advance for your kindness in helping me out, I am

Sincerely,



Phone WE 63101

THE PLYMOUTH PILOT-NEWS

THE PILOT COMPANY, Publisher
113 - 115 West Garro Street
PLYMOUTH, INDIANA
April 10, 1958

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

Dear Fellow Editor:

This is to tell you how much I enjoyed and profited by my short visit with you that day on our way home. Thank you for the visit to the Rotary, and I have thought since (thought too late coming) that I should have told your club that the people of El Dorado should be very thankful that they have so good an editor of so good a paper. Very many cities are not so fortunate.

Please remember me to Howard. You are very fortunate that you have such a son to gradually take over the heavy work. We had a wonderful son who took over all the heavy work -- but now we do not have him here.

Mrs. Boys and our daughter, Mrs. Blank, enjoyed their visit with Mrs. Clymer. If any or all of you ever come this way, we shall hope you can stop to see us. We have a very well equipped shop, a very fine force in office and shop, and very good relations with our people. Am sending some copies of our paper to you.

Fraternally yours,

Samuel E. Boys
Samuel E. Boys



April 10, 1958

Lewis & West
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Sirs:-

Mrs. Clymer's check for half of the sidewalk improvement in front of The Times and Gas Company buildings is enclosed. That portion for which The Times is obligated will be paid later.

Very truly yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

TOPEKA • PUBLIC • LIBRARY

HORACE S. MOSES, LIBRARIAN

1515 W. 10TH ST., TOPEKA, KANSAS

April 10, 1958

Mr. Rolla Clymer
El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I shall be very happy to meet with the Board on Tuesday,
April 15th.

I have received Mr. Caton's sketch plan, which I will go
over. I am writing Mr. Caton and suggesting to him that he and
I meet in El Dorado prior to the Board meeting, in the hope that
we can have things ready for you.

I hope that the haste with which you are moving forward
will not in any way affect the quality or completeness of your
library situation as regards the future. Mr. Caton's plan
looks, from first glance, to be very practical. I will give it
more study immediately.

Very truly yours,

Horace S. Moses
Horace S. Moses, Librarian

ENM

Rolla Clymer correspondence

April 10, 1958

Vickers Petroleum Company, Inc.
Wichita, Kansas

Gentlemen:-

We are going to hold a refinery appreciation day here within a couple of weeks, and I have been asked to make a short talk about the Butler county refineries.

I need some facts about your company and its plant at Potwin. I have been familiar with it in a general way for many years. I know about your installation of the catalytic cracker and more recently of the Udex unit. But I do not know the date when the plant was established, or any of the facts about its subsequent development. I am now asking you to supply this information.

If you will pass this letter along to someone of your ~~xxx~~ staff who will provide me with a rather complete picture of the Potwin plant in brief form--capacity, number of workers, size of payroll and other pertinent items--I shall consider it a distinct favor.

I shall need this information in a few days and it can be of brief form. But I surely want to sing the glories of Vickers along with the other refineries of the county.

Thanking you in advance for your kindness, I am

Sincerely,



Rolla Clymer correspondence

The Pittsburg Headlight

EVENINGS
EXCEPT SUNDAY

Established 1887

THE PITTSBURG SUN

MORNINGS
EXCEPT MONDAY

Established 1915

THE PITTSBURG PUBLISHING COMPANY

F. W. BRINKERHOFF
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Rolla A. Clymer
The Times
El Dorado, Kas.

Dear Rolla:

I have not found a single person here who is for Hall. None of the fellows that took an active part in the previous campaigns will touch him. I cannot believe that he can do anything except talk and shout and he will not be able to do that if the newspapers will give him the proper kind of treatment. I sent you the tearout to call your attention to the way The Headlight dealt with his original announcement. My notion was that Reed is the leading candidate, far out in front, and that anybody else getting in is running against Reed. I think that is good psychology as well as the truth.

The boy has been criticized for not getting vocal on issues. In my judgment he has laid the ground work for specific stuff. Certainly his speech at Sedan Saturday night was a constructive one which dealt straight out with one Docking administration weakness.

I notice that the newspaper fellows out in the Fourth and Sixth are to have a meeting at Salina and that Hall and Reed are both on the program. I notice further that Milo Sutton, candidate for the Democrat nomination for Congress, is president of the Sixth District organization. That accounts for the Hall invitation. The Democrats are strong for Hall--for the nomination.

If you want to know my idea, it is this: The fellow is out for money. Campaign money is just as good as any. He needs it badly. If the boys of various types put in the dough, you know where it will go.

I am leaving late today for Washington and New York. Next Monday noon the annual luncheon of the AP will be held. The luncheon will be devoted to Robert McLean--to honor him. They asked me to make the presentation of a resolution which the membership will adopt. And that I am going to do. Somebody said the luncheon will be broadcast, I do not know. At any rate it is a nice little honor that was given to me and I appreciate it.

I will be in Washington until next Sunday and then on to New York Sunday afternoon. If you feel like advising me on any developments, you might to do--the Statler in Washington and Waldorf in New York.