

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 1256, Pages 37651 - 37680

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

Extracts from a letter issued
July 1, 1960 by Kansas Department of Revenue
Signed by J. E. Kirchner, Director of Revenue

On June 15, 1960, the District Court of Shawnee County, Kansas, in a case entitled Garnett Publishing Company, Inc., et al, v. Kirchner, No. 85,504, rendered this final judgment:

(1) "A sale of a newspaper at retail is the sale of tangible personal property * * * and such sales are subject to Kansas sales tax."

(2) "A newspaper publisher is engaged in the business of producing, manufacturing or compounding for sale * * * and the sale of paper and ink and other items to a newspaper publisher, which items become an ingredient or component part of the newspaper, is a wholesale sale and exempt from Kansas sales or compensating use tax, and that any lawful tax imposed must be upon the sale of the newspaper * * * to the ultimate purchaser of the newspaper."

(3) "Regulation 92-6-34 is invalid and of no force and effect."

In an effort to be of assistance in implementing a smooth and efficient administration, the following regulations are called to your attention:

(g) In following the theory that a newspaper publisher is a manufacturer or processor, all purchases by the publisher of newsprint and ink which will become an integral and component part of the end product are exempt from Kansas sales and use tax. (See Regulation 92-6-72.) But publishers will continue to pay taxes on presses, machinery, office equipment and supplies which are purchased and used in their business. Regulation 92-6-72 was not disturbed by the court's decision.

(h) Also exempt would be all purchases of electricity made by the publishers and used for the producing or manufacturing of newspapers. (See Regulation 92-6-75.) A copy of this letter is being sent to all public utilities selling electricity for their information.

(i) Regulation 92-6-31, pertaining to printers, has not been altered and remains in full force and effect.



PRESS ASSOCIATION

A NON-PROFIT TRADE ORGANIZATION FOUNDED IN 1892, 100% MEMBERSHIP IN 1958—EVERY NEWSPAPER IN KANSAS.

LARRY MILLER,
General Manager

Phone Central 3-6206
701 Jackson St., Topeka

July 1, 1960

Mr. John Roberts, Publisher
Oskaloosa Independent
Oskaloosa, Kansas

Dear John:

If my informant tells me correctly, July 10th will mark the Centennial for the Oskaloosa Independent, published by the Roberts family.

This is unique, and we want to wish you well on the 100th Anniversary of the Oskaloosa Independent.

With every good wish,

Cordially yours,

LARRY MILLER
General Manager

LM:ms

BLIND COPIES TO: Rolla Clymer, El Dorado Times
Fred Brinkerhoff, Pittsburg Headlight & Sun
Dan Anthony, Leavenworth Times
Dolph Simons, Sr., Lawrence Journal-World

Rolla Clymer correspondence

423 NORTH MAIN

RICHARD W. ROBBINS

PRATT, KANSAS

GREENWOOD 2-3215

July 1, 1960

Mr. Rolla Clymer
El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

Are you by chance sending a representative to cover the Republican National Convention? If not, would you be good enough to write a letter to the Arrangements Committee, Republican National Committee, Chicago, Illinois, designating Jane Hann and Henry Rea as your correspondents?

The above individuals are friends of mine from the East and we may have trouble getting tickets. If I can get press badges for these two people at least we can get into the Hall and worry about seats after we get in.

I have had newspapers Editors give me similar letters on other occasions for similar purposes and it occurred to me you might be willing to help me out also.

A somewhat dull convention is predicted because of Nixon being so far out in front.

At Los Angeles however, I understand you can't get a room within fifty miles of City Hall for the Democratic Convention. A dull convention there is not predicted.

Rumors out of Washington are that organized labor is pushing for Kennedy for President and Humphrey for Vice President. I can see the reasons why that ticket would suit Walter Reuther and the labor leaders generally.

If I am "out of line" in the above request, don't hesitate to say so and I will still hold you in high esteem and deep affection.

Sincerely yours,

Dick

RWR:peb

*I hope you are attending
the convention yourself*

Rolla Clymer correspondence



LOGAN PASS

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

July 2nd., 1960.

The Bradford Memorial Library,
Eldorado, Kansas.

Dear sirs:

My husband and I have been trying to decide on a Memorial gift, in lieu of flowers, in memory of the late Harley E. McMillen, husband of our niece.

My first thought was a beautiful book for the library, knowing his interest there, but that is a bit difficult for us since we have no idea of what you have or what you might like best to have - hence this check - for you to use to purchase a book or perhaps you have a Memorial Fund such as we have in our Miles City library to be used to buy a lovely painting or some piece of furniture when it is needed - use your own good judgment.

The inscription on this gift to read "In Memory of Harley E. McMillen by Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Sawtell, Miles City, Montana", and please send a card to his family.

Very sincerely,

Winifred Powers Sawtell
(Mrs. Henry J. Sawtell)

Address:
24 South Merriam Avenue,
Miles City, Montana.

GLACIER PARK HOTELS

GLACIER PARK - LAKE McDONALD - MANY GLACIER - AND PRINCE OF WALES HOTELS
AND RISING SUN AND SWIFTCURRENT MOTELS



Rolla Clymer correspondence

July 2, 1960

Office Division Engineer
State Highway Commission
Hutchinson, Kansas

Dear Sirs:-

We have been instructed by the State Highway Commission to start legal publication of a notice on July 7, advising the public that construction work on State Highway K 13 is to begin soon at the Twelfth Avenue point in El Dorado.

It would help us, and doubtless also would be of benefit to the public, if your office will please send us some detailed information concerning this proposed improvement. Thus would be enabled to publish a news story, setting forth a clear outline of the project, at about the same time the legal notice starts publication.

Any aid you can give us in this respect will be deeply appreciated, and we thank you in advance.

Very truly yours,



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Pioneer Bluffs Farm
HENRY ROGLER
MATFIELD GREEN, KANSAS

Apr. 4/5/60

My dear Mr. Clymer:

Mr. Pundy & his friends are
welcome to come up and fish a day or two.
If they have a boat convenient it would
be easier to get around, as weeds and brush
as well as high banks, make it difficult to
reach in many places.

Fishing has been rather poor lately, so tell them
to bring their luck along.

Kind regards from Mr. Rogers.
Henry Rogers.



EDWARD H. REES
4TH DISTRICT, KANSAS

MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

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

July 5, 1960

Dear Rolla:

Enclosed is a copy of the editorial from the Washington Post and Times Herald of July 2nd. Ordinarily the Washington Post is a New Deal publication. Although I do not want to be quoted, this editorial states the facts.

We'll be seeing you one of these days.

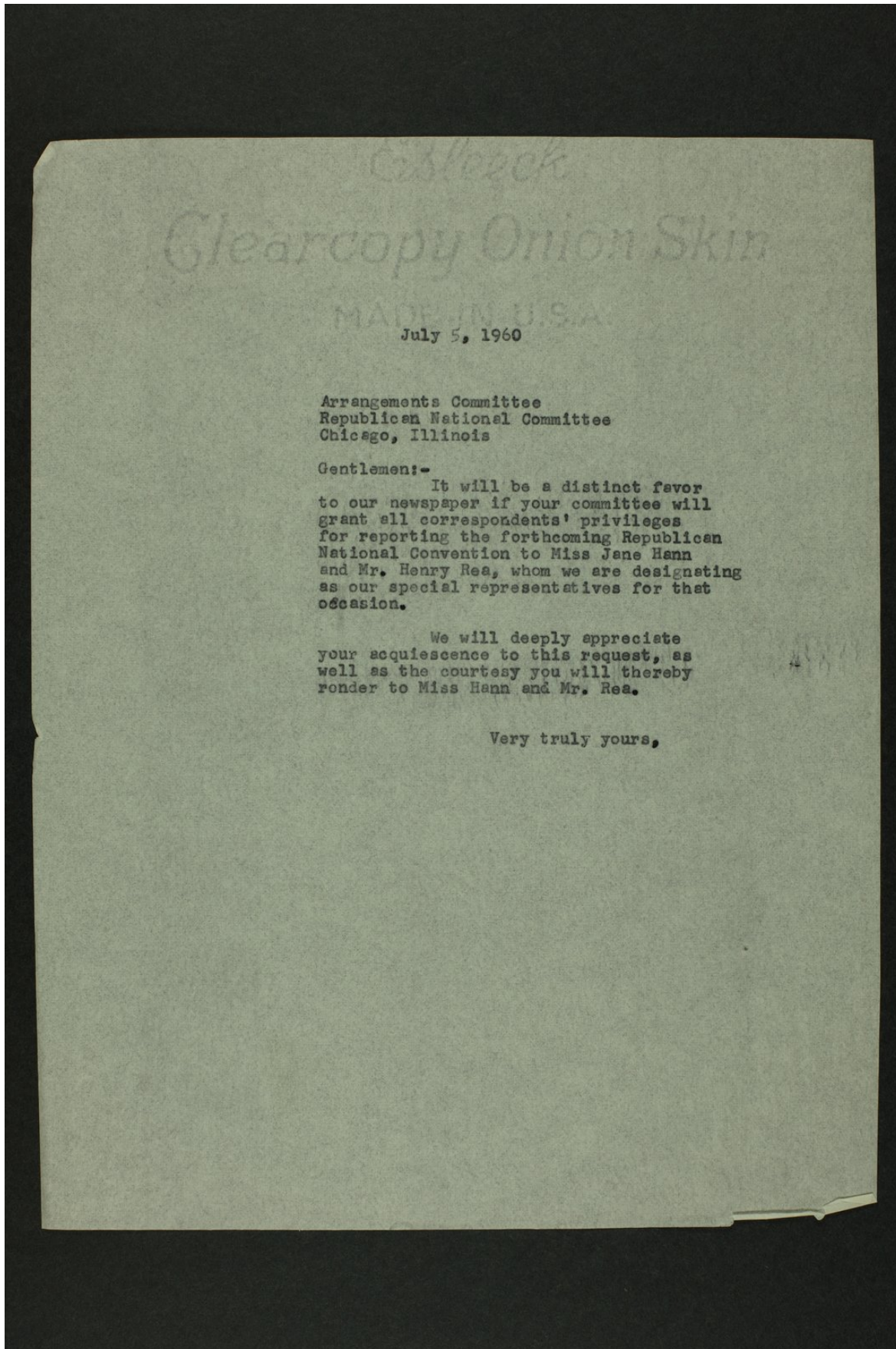
Sincerely,

Ed H. Rees

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

Enc.

Rolla Clymer correspondence



Rolla Clymer correspondence

July 5, 1960

Mr. Henry Rogler
Matfield Green, Kansas

Dear Mr. Rogler:-

Ivan Purdy, one of our most valued employees, would like to have your permission to fish on your place next Saturday, July 9. There will be three in his party.

Mr. Purdy has been in our employ for almost forty years, and is a reliable and trustworthy man. I am certain he and his companions will treat your premises with the utmost consideration.

It was most pleasant to see you and Mrs. Rogler again a couple of weeks ago. Miss Ellet greatly enjoyed her visit at your home, and several times expressed her gratitude at being able to meet you both.

I trust you and Mrs. Rogler are well. We are having a glorious summer in Kansas, for which all of us need to feel thankful.

If you can allow Mr. Purdy and his associates to fish on your place, I shall be deeply grateful.

Sincerely your friend,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

LAW OFFICE OF
MCGINNIS & MCGINNIS
210½ WEST CENTRAL
EL DORADO, KANSAS
TELEPHONE 498

WALTER F. MCGINNIS
ALLYN M. MCGINNIS

July 6, 1960

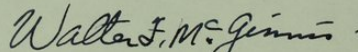
R. A. Clymer
Editor
El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Ham:

Thanks for the free publicity starting out my campaign. I know of no one who could write an article as well as you do it and naturally it was used practically verbatim by the other newspapers as is always the case in such announcements. I assure you that I appreciate your support and will be continuing to look to you for advise during the campaign.

Yours for a Republican Year,

Sincerely yours,



WALTER F. MCGINNIS
Republican Candidate
for State Senator



July 6, 1960

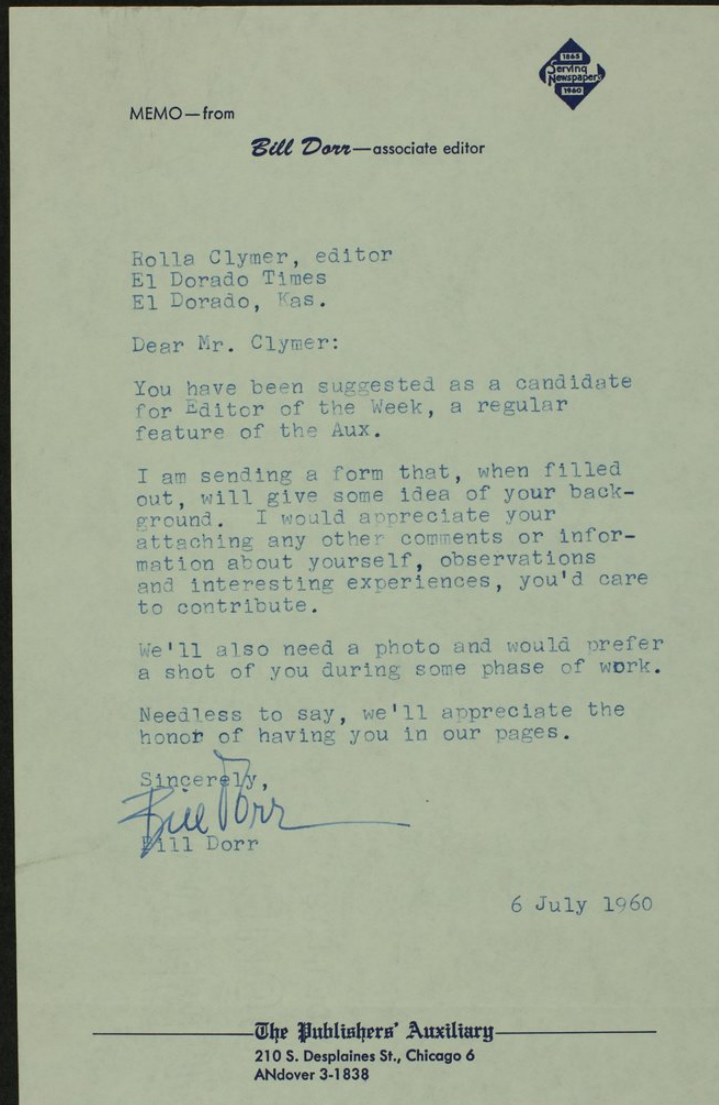
Mrs. Dora Griffith
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Griffith:-

I thank you for your letter of suggestion. No doubt, you have noticed that we publish a daily Bible thought immediately below the "mast head" on our editorial page. This has been our custom and practice for many years. Numerous of our readers have told us that they appreciate this daily Bible verse in our paper.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer correspondence





Rolla Clymer correspondence

Lyon County Farm Bureau Association

P. O. Box 161

417 Merchant Street

Telephone DI 2-4714

EMPORIA, KANSAS

July 6, 1960

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JOHN REDEKER, Vice-Pres.
ORREN KARR, Sec.-Treas.

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MAURICE KANIPER	FRANK SCHLAGETER
J. W. SHELLENBERGER	

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

Dear Sir:

You, or your representative, are invited to attend a "meet the candidate" meeting for the five candidates for Representative of the Fourth Congressional District. This meeting is to be held in the Broadview Hotel, Emporia, Kansas, on July 14, 1960.

Farm Bureau leaders in most of the 15 counties in the Fourth Congressional District have expressed a desire to meet with all the candidates at one time, and to get acquainted with them. We anticipate an attendance of near one hundred farm leaders from this District.

The meeting will start with a noon meal in the Grill Room of the Broadview Hotel. We will have a plate set for you, or your representative. The Lyon Co. Farm Bureau will be your host county and furnish your lunch.

The plan for the afternoon meeting, which will run until 3:30 P. M., is as follows: Each candidate will be given an opportunity of making a short five minute statement, then the meeting will be open to a question and answer session. We will have a moderator so that each candidate will have equal time to answer questions.

Farm people are interested in not only farm programs, but in subjects such as government spending, water policy, highways, taxation, labor-management relations, education, foreign trade and other issues.

There will be a press table and press room for your convenience in getting your story. Please ask for Ray Wyatt, our field representative, to help with orientation.

We sincerely hope you can be with us on the 14th.

Sincerely yours,
Frank Schlageter
Frank Schlageter, Pres.
Lyon Co. Farm Bureau

P. S. We, as host county, do not wish advance publicity, since this meeting is not open to the general public, but by invitation only. In fact counties participating are being limited to six persons in order not to overtax our facilities.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

7 July 1960

Mr. Clymer,

Museum pieces? There are a few Kansas Democrats in this state, who feel and think that Eleanor Roosevelt, Harry Truman and Sam Rayburn are fine people. They have had experiences which enable them to advise younger politicians.

I am in my twenties, and have been taught by my parents to respect my elders, no matter what party they are connected with.

I respect you for your political beliefs, please respect mine.

Jane I Adams

Rolla Clymer correspondence

July 7, 1960

Mr. Frank Schlageter, President
Lyon County Farm Bureau
Emporia, Kansas

Dear Mr. Schlageter:-

I really regret that I cannot attend the gathering to which you have invited me on July 14. My schedule will not permit my absence at that time, and I have no representative to send.

Our paper has been a contributing member to the Farm Bureau for forty years, and I greatly respect the solid sense and progressive qualities of its members. I think what you are doing in your "meet the candidate" assembly is excellent procedure, and am truly sorry I cannot be present.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Concordia

July 9

Dear Rolla:

I was glad to get your letter but I'm sorry you and Mrs. Clymer have worried about me. You shouldn't. I'm a hardy variety. That day's tour through the Hills did me good.

That was the way I toured through England and Scotland for two months. Only it was rougher because I hopped buses, and the roads are not as good as ours. I usually road all day and made one of the little country inns at night. Sometimes I'd stop for a couple of days to rest and write. It was strenuous. But I ~~was~~ saw rural England ~~and~~ and Scotland - the wild moors, the lake country, the rugged coasts and the little thatched-roof villages as few tourists ever see ^(them) ~~the~~ And now, thanks to you, that's the way I've seen the Flint Hills. And ~~now~~ they are part of the store of wonderful and beautiful things in my mind.

After the drive with you and the drive home with Catherine, I slept well, got up the next morning and started antiquing the dining room woodwork. That's hard work, but I can't get anyone to do it ~~xxx~~ for me. That night I could neither sit nor stand nor bend. But I soaked in a hot bath for an hour, took some Asperin and was all right the next day.

No, you can't scare me away from the Flint Hills. And one of these days when I have more leisure and more freedom I want to see the Hills in the late autumn. That's one of my favorite seasons

Rolla Clymer correspondence

in Kansas. I love the burnt, muted colors, and I love to see the prairies falling asleep.

That trip may be far distant. But in the meantime I hope you and Mrs. Clymer will drive to Concordia. I'd love to have you. As Catherine probably told you, I keep the rambling old house partly because it is Home to me, and dear to me, and partly because there is always room in it for my friends.

There is just one thing about the Eldorado trip which wasn't quite complete. I thought I would see you again after the drive and I had intended to ask you a few questions for my records - facts and figures. I may send you a questionnaire one of these days. It won't be long, and you can take your time about it.

And thanks again for everything,

Marion Elst



KANSAS CENTENNIAL

1861-1961

July 11, 1960

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GOVERNOR

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Please notice that I had to change the per diem amount on your travel voucher for June 21 from \$3.00 to \$1.50. The time of arrival home would have justified the \$3.00 charge for that day, but since your lunch was paid for it would have made a double charge against the State.

Sorry I didn't catch it when I made up the voucher so you wouldn't be thinking you'd receive more than the check shows.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Louise A. Thompson
Secretary to Mr. Kirkwood

Enc. State of Kansas warrant # 703486
Travel Voucher General Expense

601 HARRISON
TOPEKA, KANSAS

TELEPHONE:
CE 5-0011 EXT. 1961

Rolla Clymer correspondence

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

140 N. STAR

EL DORADO, KANSAS

TELEPHONE NO. DAVIS 1-2500

B. H. CHRISTIAN
MANAGER

July 11, 1960

Mr Rolla Clymer
Chairman-Bradford Memorial Library Board
118 E Central
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

I am writing in regard to our conversation of last week about a telephone directory library for the Bradford Memorial Library.

The telephone company will be very happy to establish and maintain a telephone directory library consisting of 50 or more different telephone directories of both surrounding and distant cities. We will also be glad to furnish hard covers for these directories so they will be easy to use and store. Each year as new directories are published for the various towns which are in the directory library, we will furnish a new copy of each directory.

Should this idea meet with your approval, we will start ordering directories immediately.

If the library board or librarian should desire any particular directory, we will be happy to order that specific book.

I think a telephone directory library would provide an additional service by the Bradford Memorial Library to the citizens of El Dorado.

If this meets with the library board's approval, please give me a call and I'll start ordering the directories.

Yours truly,

Bernie
Manager

Rolla Clymer correspondence

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY LIBRARY - BRADFORD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company will furnish the directories on the attached list.

In addition, a hard cover will be furnished for each directory to provide for easy reference and storage.

Each year, as a new telephone directory is published for the towns on the attached list, it will be automatically sent to the Bradford Memorial Library where the old directory will be replaced with the new directory.

The directories on the attached list comprise a cross section of neighboring cities, distant trade cities, vacation spots, and cities of general interest.

Rolla - it will be up to the librarian to decide the best way to administer the use of these directories at the library.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Mon July 11

Dear Sir:

Good for Jane Adams. only reason you didn't get letter from me when I looked for article I couldn't find it.

You and every one else knows if they would admit it that ^{Miss Roosevelt} she has been most beloved woman for years & years and to day as old as she is she can talk with best of them.

As for our president today He has been the proudest excuse of a leader we have ever had. He thinks his saintly smile is all we need. all he's done that I can see is take trips and vacations. He not only takes him self but his family Vice president & wife and so they will be comfortable take U.S. fleet, several cars planes who pays for it we poor tax payers we could use that money at home. What good has any of it done?

I have been real proud of you you have kept your politics real clean. Lets keep it that way after all Dem. help you to make a living as well as Rep. over

Rolla Clymer correspondence

This isn't for publication just personal to you.

Mrs Art Sandstrom
Atlanta Kans.

You are some thing like Rep. distance relative of
mine I like her so I raised a family of Dem.
She told me not to vote for Kennedy I'd have to have
app. ^{before} to see him. I told her as good Dem as I was
I'd probably be invited to white house every wk
end.



*Saw Schabinger recently and
told him what you said about
dropping in to see you.*

KANSAS CENTENNIAL

1861-1961

July 11, 1960

GEORGE DOCKING
GOVERNOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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GEO. W. STANLEY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROGER D. KIRKWOOD

801 HARRISON
TOPEKA, KANSAS

TELEPHONE:
CE 5-0011 EXT. 1961

*Rolla Clymer, Publisher
Eldorado Times
Eldorado, Kansas*

Dear Rolla:

*I was appointed Chairman of the Centennial
Committee on Promotional Events and Hall
of Fame.*

*I would like to have a short conference with
you as soon as convenient for you. If you will
be available I can come to Eldorado on Friday
of this week.*

*Some preliminary work on a Kansas Sports
Hall of Fame was started two years ago. We
have some problems and a lot of work to do if
a beginning Hall of Fame panel is selected by
Spring of 1961, as they wish, and need your advice
and counsel.*

*I'll appreciate it if you will let me hear from
you at once. If Friday isn't convenient for
you, please select a date and I'll try to make it.*

Cordially,

*We lost a valuable committee
member and sports writer when
Pete Lightner lost his life.
E. A.*

*E. A. Thomas
1255 Topeka Blvd
Topeka, Kansas*



E. A. Thomas

Centennial Sports Sub-committees

Promotional Events and Hall of Fame

E. A. Thomas, Topeka, chairman
Don Pierce, Lawrence (KU)
Paul DeWeese, Manhattan (KSU)
Dick Snider, Topeka
Pete Lightner, Wichita (Eagle)
Fred Mendell, Hutchinson (News)
Elen Torrence, Topeka (AP)
Ray Dumont, Wichita

Parade of Champions Recognition Dinner

Hugo Wedell, Wichita, Chairman
Wm. H. "Tippy" Dye, Wichita (WU)
Joe Gilmartin, Wichita (Beacon)
Bill Hodge, Wichita (Eagle)
Dutch Lonberg, Lawrence (KU)
Bebe Lee, Manhattan (KSU)
E. A. Thomas, Topeka
Ray Dumont, Wichita

All-Star Semi-Pro or Pro Baseball

Ray Dumont, Wichita, chairman

Golf

Clancy Miller, Atchison, chairman
Gene Zuspahn, Goodland; and Dr. E. O. Markham, Wichita
J. S.

Hunting-Fishing-Water Sports

Gordon Eliot, Topeka, chairman

Tennis

John Woodhams, Wichita, chairman
Delmar Curry, Topeka

Track

Ward Haylet, Manhattan, chairman (KSU)
Fran Welch, Emporia
Doc Weed, Pittsburg (KST)
Fritz Snedgrass, Wichita (WU)
Bill Easton, Lawrence (KU)
Dr. John Davis, Topeka
Carl Kopelk, Topeka

Bowling

Paul Fair, Wichita, chairman
(Goldsmiths—116 S. Topeka)

Horseshoe Pitching

P. P. Pepple, Topeka, chairman



July 12, 1960

Mr. E. A. Thomas
Topeka, Kansas.

My Dear E. A.:—

For you, I would almost postpone a date with an advertiser coddling a page adv to his bosom. You come right along Friday afternoon, say about 2, and we shall make the welkin ring as long as you wish.

I shall be delighted to see you, as always, and to hear your plans for the centennially-important committee you are heading.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

July 12, 1960

Mrs. Art Sandstrom
Atlanta, Kansas

My Dear Mrs. Sandstrom:-

I thank you for your good letter. I am always glad to hear from you. Generally you give me a good wiggling, and get me straightened out in the way I should go.

Democrat and Republican differences politically don't worry me much. I feel that most of us aren't far apart fundamentally. What does worry me is the eternal and infernal public spending--no let up in any direction. As a boy who grew up in a family governed by Pennsylvania Dutch thrift, I fear that one day we will spend ourselves out of the prosperity with which the Lord has blessed us. I should certainly hate to see that happen, and fully believe that friends like you would also be troubled by it.

We are going to have a hot political campaign this fall--and I shall try to be calm. If I don't, please write me another letter. It is always good to have someone like you always "spak right out" in meeting.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

<p>CLASS OF SERVICE This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.</p>	<h3>WESTERN UNION</h3> <h3>TELEGRAM</h3> <p><small>W. P. MARSHALL, President</small></p>	<p>SYMBOLS DL=Day Letter NL=Night Letter LT=International Letter Telegram</p>
<p><small>The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination</small></p>		
<p>WUB009 DL PD=TOPEKA KANS JULY 13 NTF=</p> <p>R A CLYMER EL DORADO TIMES=</p> <p>EL DORADO KANS=</p> <p>KPA CIRCULATION MEETING CALLED NINE FORTY-FIVE AM TOPEKA</p> <p>SUNDAY JULY 17 FLORENTINE ROOM JAYHAWK HOTEL FOR</p> <p>DISCUSSION OF NEW SALES TAX ON NEWSPAPERS WHICH GOES</p> <p>INTO EFFECT AUGUST ONE-URGE YOU TO SEND YOUR CIRCULATION</p> <p>MANAGER AND ATTEND YOURSELF- ADVISE=</p> <p>LARRY MILLER KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION=</p>		
<p><small>THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE</small></p>		



PHONE 1144

P. O. BOX 657

LAW OFFICE OF

L. H. RUPPENTHAL

Warren Hotel Building

McPHERSON, KANSAS

Memo to:

Rolla Clymer

7-13-60

*We talked about this at one
time. Now I am laying the
groundwork to get a proper
amendment drawn.*

Any suggestions?

Best regards.

LHR

Rolla Clymer correspondence

LAW OFFICE
L. H. RUPPENTHAL
WARREN HOTEL BLDG.
MC PHERSON, KANSAS
PHONE 1144

July 13, 1960

Mr. Franklin Corrick
Revisor of Statutes
State House
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Franklin:

GS 25-221 (Supp.) needs some revision to make party organization more effective and I propose to present amendments to the elections committees of the 1961 legislature to accomplish the following:

In subsections (2) (5) (6) and (7) thereof, the various committees each shall organize by electing from its own membership a chairman, etc.

1. I propose to amend the subsections so that the respective committees shall organize within thirty (30) days following the next ensuing general (November) election. (omitting the requirement as to membership of officers. See. 2 below)

PURPOSE: At present, the new committees by custom are organized between primary and party council dates. They have a useful life of the 9 weeks between party council meeting (last Tuesday in August) and the date of the general election. Thereafter, they are as useful to the Party in preparing for winning the next election as the vermiform appendix is to homo sapiens. Anything proposed to be done is anti-climatic and the next 21 months, when a great deal of planning should be done by those who will be responsible for conduct of the next campaign, is a period of relative inaction in party organization.

Under present law, the committee officers can lay plans for better organization and election campaign but cannot or will not carry out those plans because they and their members know that both they and their committee's members may not be in the succeeding committee and the new organization often has and likely will disregard the groundwork done and attempt to start on another tack, or do nothing about it for want of time in the short period before the general election.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Mr. Franklin Corrick
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2. I propose to eliminate the requirement in the same subsections that the chairman and vice-chairman (or any officers, for that matter) be selected from the membership of the respective committees.

PURPOSE: To make unnecessary that a State Chairman also be County Chairman and precinct committeeman, to the neglect of his county and precinct. Likewise, to permit election of county chairmen who are not also precinct committeemen.

This change would permit election of the best qualified person available, who now might be ineligible because a friend occupies the committeeman's position from his precinct or other subdivision.

As changed, the committees would have 23 months to lay and execute plans for electing their party's ticket at the next general election and permit the election of best-qualified persons to committee office, rather than limiting eligibility to members of the respective committees.

The mechanics of preparing an amending bill appear to be relatively simple. I would like to have your views on that and on the general idea of these changes which, I believe, would strengthen party organization.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,

L. H. RUPPENTHAL

LHR: aj