

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 1258, Pages 37711 - 37740

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

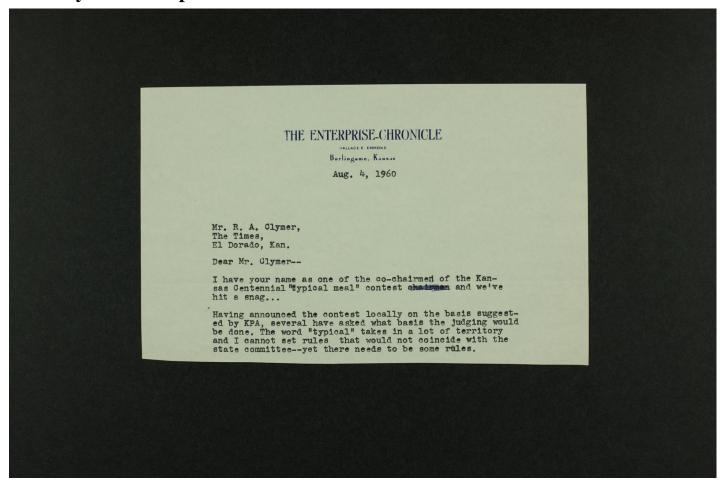
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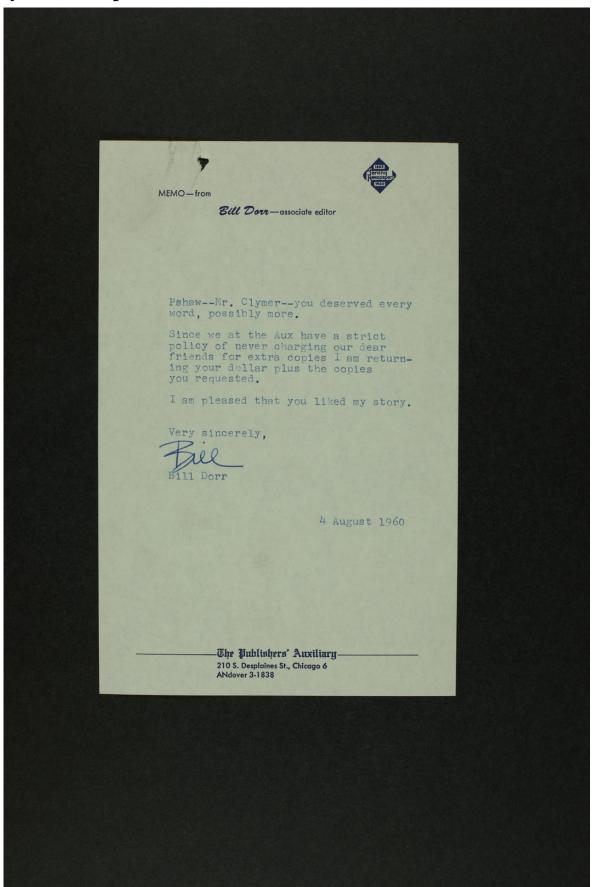
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HISTORICAL SOCIETY











Rolla Clymer correspondence

Kansas State University
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

Manhattan, Kansas

Division of Extension Department of Information Umberger Hall

August 4, 1960

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

Dear Rolla:

In writing a story about the changes in the Flint Hills, I used a quotation of yours as the basis of the changes.

I have enjoyed reading your articles on the Flint Hills area. It was also a thrill to me to read William Allen White's descriptive editorials on the region.

Attached is a copy of the story we have sent to numerous livestock publications and to a few newspapers in Kansas. Most of them will not have the story for use before Tuesday of next week.

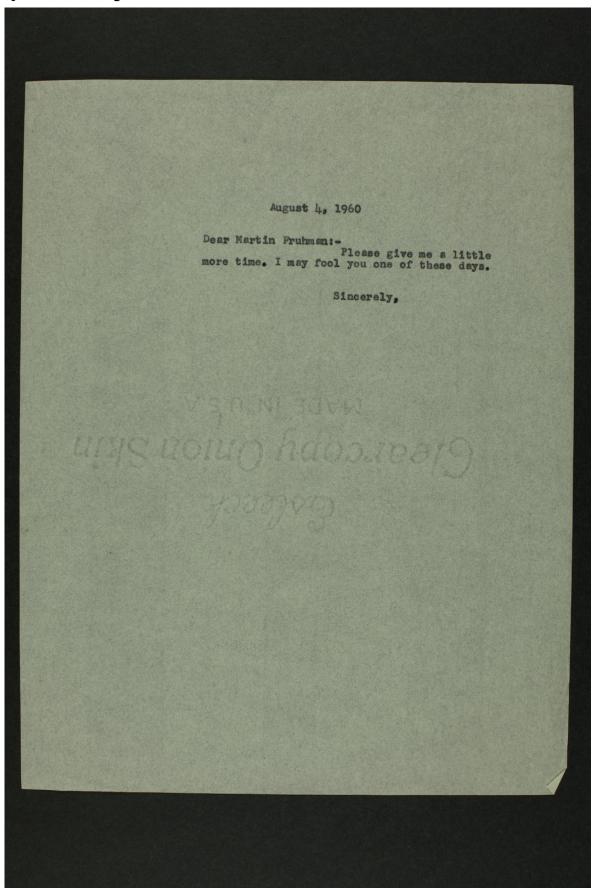
Sincerely yours,

Harold Shankland

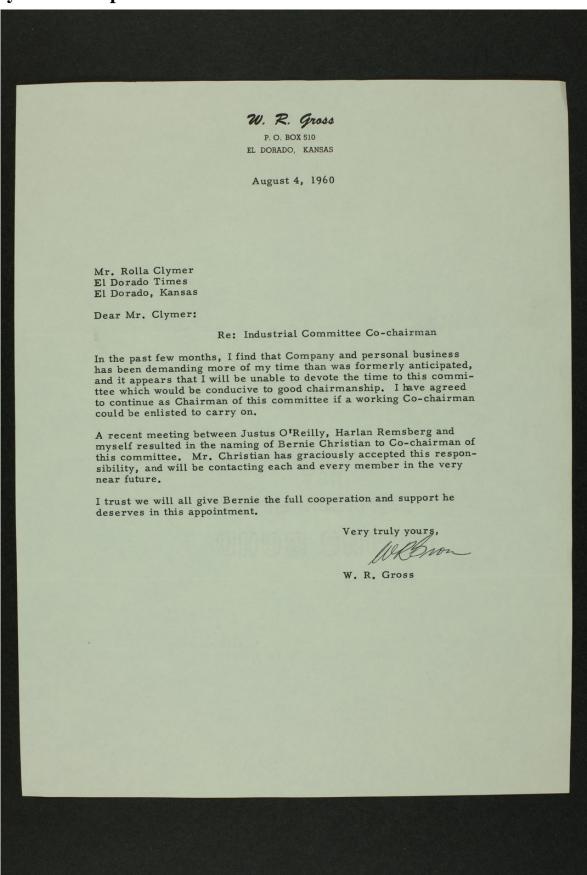
Associate Extension Editor

HS:gmd











Rolla Clymer correspondence

BRADFORD MEMORIAL LIBRARY EL DORADO, KANSAS

August 4, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I should very much like for Mrs. Robert H. Bradford to be named an Outstanding Trustee by the Kansas Library Association at its annual meeting the first part of October.

It is necessary for two persons (one must live outside of El Dorado) to write Miss Oneita Johnson, President of the Kansas Library Association, Pratt Public Library, Pratt, Kansas, recommending Mrs. Bradford for this designation. The letter should also give reasons or qualifications of the person.

I should greatly appreciate it if you would write this letter so it will reach Miss Johnson by the first of September.

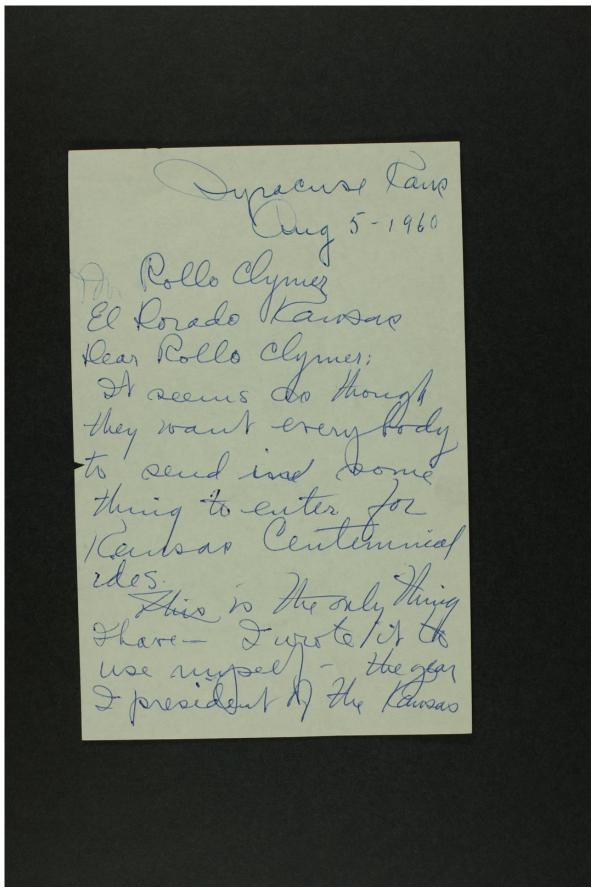
Will you please let me know when you have written the letter?

Very truly yours,

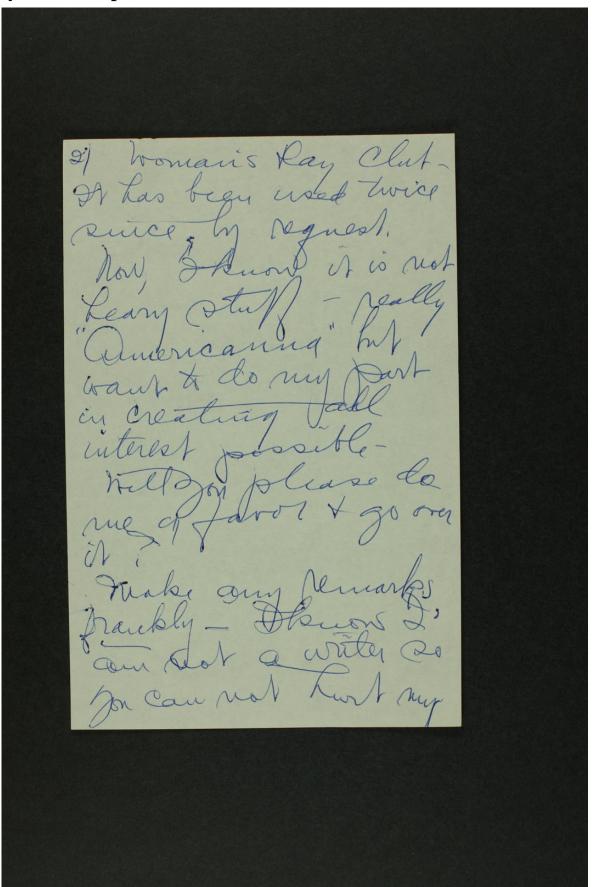
Anna Louise Borger Librarian

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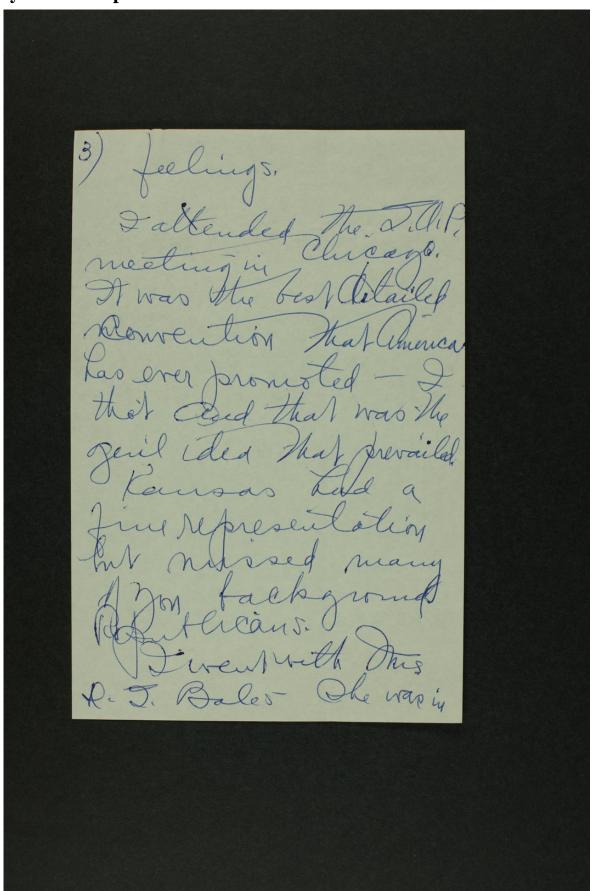




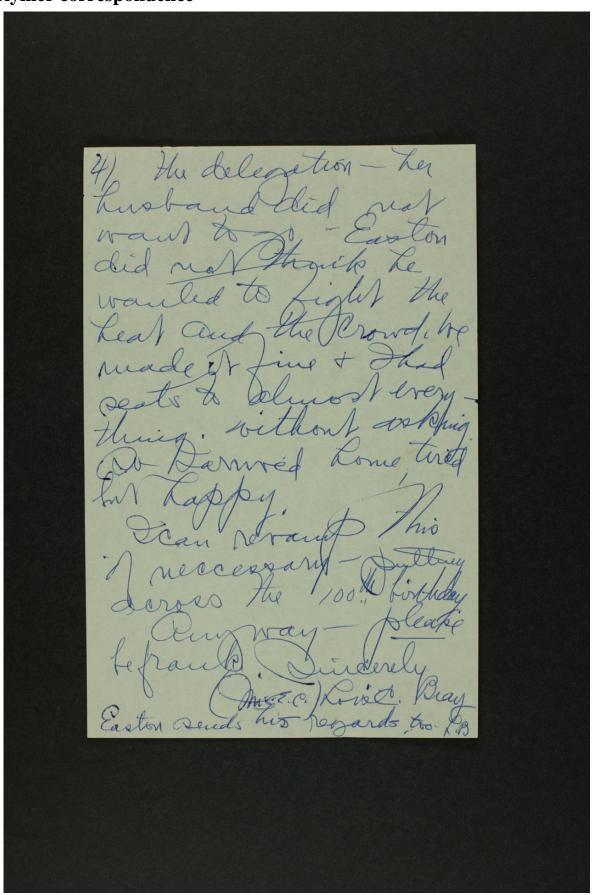




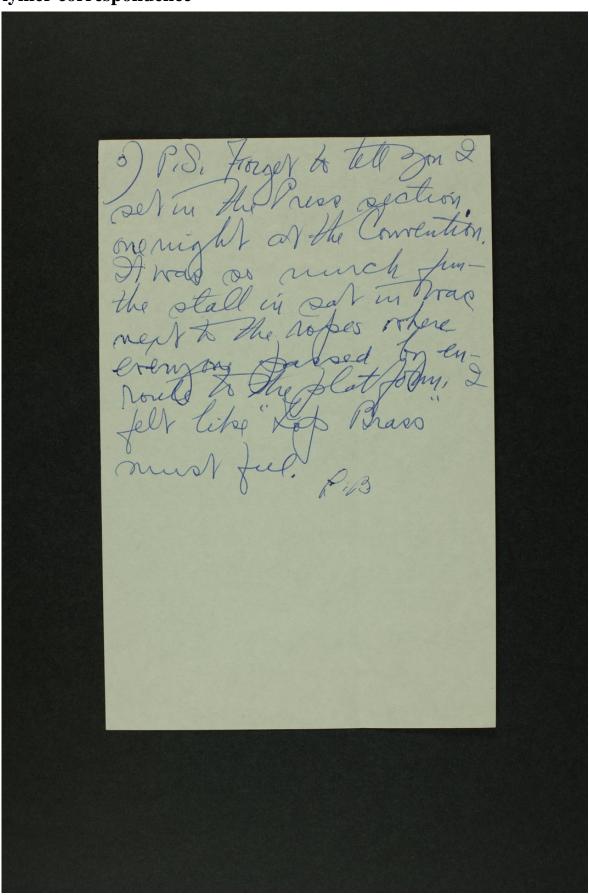














Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 5, 1960

Mr. Andrew J. Gray Richland, Kansas

My Dear Mr. Gray:-

Sister Bertha Shore has written me that she prefers to go to
Richlend on Sunday, August 14, so that seems
to be the program. It's about the best
time for a couple of busy newspaper buffs.
Of course, that causes us to intrude upon
your homecoming picnic, but if you have no other objection we can bring our bit in a shoe box.

I assume that we will reach there about noon of that day.

I have been publishing some of the Fair releases, and will have an editorial reference tomorrow. Hope to be able to give your event another editorial shot in the arm next week.

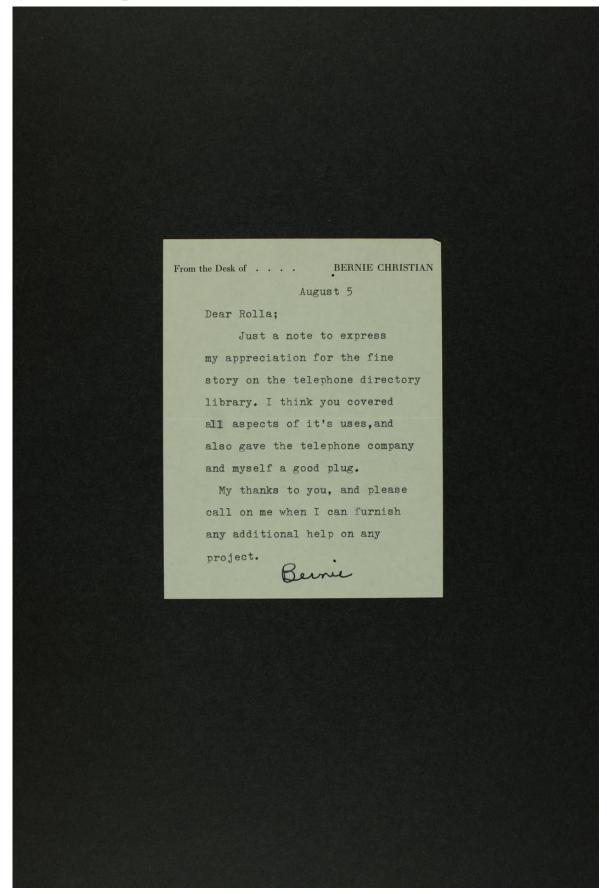
Now I have taken a rather pretentious liberty. During the past day or two, at odd times, I have benged off a little piece which I call "Small Town Soliloquy" and a carbon of which I am enclosing. I have had Richland in mind as I wrote, and I would like to dedicate it to Richland, as indicated--if that meets with your approval.

I could present it at the picnic, or at some other time, or not at all--depending solely upon what you and Mrs. Gray decide about it. I have no pride of authorship and it can be eliminated, if desirable. I have only wished to contribute a smell bit to the success of your brightly unique occasion--and this, I suppose, is about the best I can do.

I shall probably publish this in our paper--but only after Richland has received it, if that's acceptable to you.

Iz shall appreciate hearing from you soon, andoasaurpapearItenybaskingnfoStandfyly,









Rolla Clymer correspondence



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 5, 1960

Mr. Rolla Clymer El Dorado Times El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

Here are photostats of copy prepared for the page ad to go to newspapers.

It has been suggested to us that we roll it in page mats, with the two proofs so that they can run it as is, or cut and rearrange it a bit to get in their local copy if they want to do it.

There have been 125 dailies and weeklies (including most of the dailies) responding, saying they would use it. It is our feeling that we should go ahead and send to all dailies and weeklies, regardless of their response, together with a letter on why they should use it. We should send it out over the name of you two co-chairmen as before, and can redo that letter, unless you would like to submit a new appeal yourself. If you like this layout and arrangement of contact, please give us a quick word and we will go ahead and get it in mats.

Cordially yours,

Obger D. Kirkwood et Executive Director

RDK:ps Enc.



KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Rolla Clymer correspondence

215 Termino Avenue Long Beach 3, California August 5, 1960

Dear Ham,

Greetings! We had quite a percel of new about all of the Clymers when Cackie and Ed. came down for dinner with us last week. They both seemed to have had a wonderful time in Kansss and Ed. spoke particularly about his trip to the Flint Hills with you as guide, and he told us about going to the Rotary Club with you. You all must have gone all out to see that they had a good time. You certainly succeeded!

I'm writing to ask if you will do something for the "cause". You may have heard from either Betty or Catherine that Grace Hoisington Brompton, our father's youngest sister, has written the story of the Hoisington family as she saw it as a child growing up, and there are some observations from her more mature point of view. She has written interesting material in a kind of chatty style which we weel will be of interest to all of the Hoisington tribe. I took on the original job of typing it and now am in charge of having it reproduced so that all members of the family can have copies.

As the youngest in the family, she did not know her older brother, Perry, very well and she has written practically nothing about his achievements and those of us who have read it feel that this is a distinct weakness of the story especially so far as Greg's kids are concerned. We feel that it would be good to adda chapter written by someone else (and Grace has agreed that this would please her) so that the grandchildren and great grandchildren can see their grandfather as he was in his mature years.

Because you had done such a good job, we had thought at first of just copying the material that you wrote at the time of his death for publication in the papers. However, without editing this does not meem quite to fill the bill and none of us feels capable of editing your material.

We can supply you with the newstories you wrote at the time of his death and which gave such a good picture of him. I am writing to ask if you would let me send you this material and if you would write that chapter for us. It should be written of course in your style and should be introduced by a sheet that tells that you wrate it and why.

On the intpoduction of the story Grace has written:

"This family sbory is dedicated to my neices, Margaret Hoisington and Maude Walker, and to my grand neices, Elizabeth Hoisington and Catherine Clymer who, by their encouragement and enthusiasm have given stimulus for its completion."

Grace has told us that she hopes others will add to her story but none of us is a writer and we really could not do it. If you are willing to do this for us I will send you the newspaper clippings and we will all be eternally grateful to you.

Yours cordially,

Peq.

Margaret Hoisington



Rolla Clymer correspondence

The Pittsburg Headlight

EVENINGS
EXCEPT SUNDAY
Established 1887

THE PITTSBURG SUN

MORNINGS EXCEPT MONDA

THE PITTSBURG PUBLISHING COMPANY

F. W. BRINKERHOFF EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

> Pittsburg, Kansas Aug. 6, 1960

Brinkerhoff

Rolla A. Clymer The Times El Dorado, Kas.

Dear Rolla:

Things are about the same with us. The pain which Pearl suffered from her break has been gradually diminishing. We will have some weeks to decide whether to have an operation in the hope that she would be benefited. The doctors, including my old friend, Dr. Claud Young of Fort Scott, secretary general of the Scottish Rite at Washington, do not believe there is much risk in an operation. Young believes that an operation can be of benefit.

I was intrigued yesterday by the dog story from El Dorado--the delinquent dog that hopped into a car and caused a wreck. I called Hon. Reed's attention to it and told him I thought I would discuss the misbehavior of dogs in El Dorado.

You have received a copy of the proposed ad. Kirkwood said they were considering sending mats to all newspapers. At the moment I am opposed to that. More than 125 Kansas publishers were interested enough to answer our letter. These cover almost every important newspaper. I do not believe we would gain anything by begging in this manner from those who did not do us the courtesy of answering our letter. I have not had time to go over the copy to see whether it meets the test such as our friend Jack Harris suggested. However, I will have to be guided by my own judgment—and yours—in appraising the type of advertising.

FWB:1s





Rolla Clymer correspondence

El Dorado, Kansas August 6, 1960

Mr. Roger D. Kirkwood, Executive Director Kensas Centennal Commission Topeka, Kansas

Dear Roger:I have carefully examined the package you sent me regarding the page advertisements to go to Kansas papers this month. I have been wondering for several days what had become of this project.

I have always been against the idea of sending out rolled mats-and still am-because of the wide variety in the formats of our papers. Most dailies in Kansas have 8-column, 12-em pages; some papers, dailies or weeklies, have 9 columns-as we do, while others go down to 6 or 7 columns, with accompaning differences in column depths. For example, neither the Augusta Gazette or the Olste News could possibly use page mats of the size you have submitted. the size you have submitted.

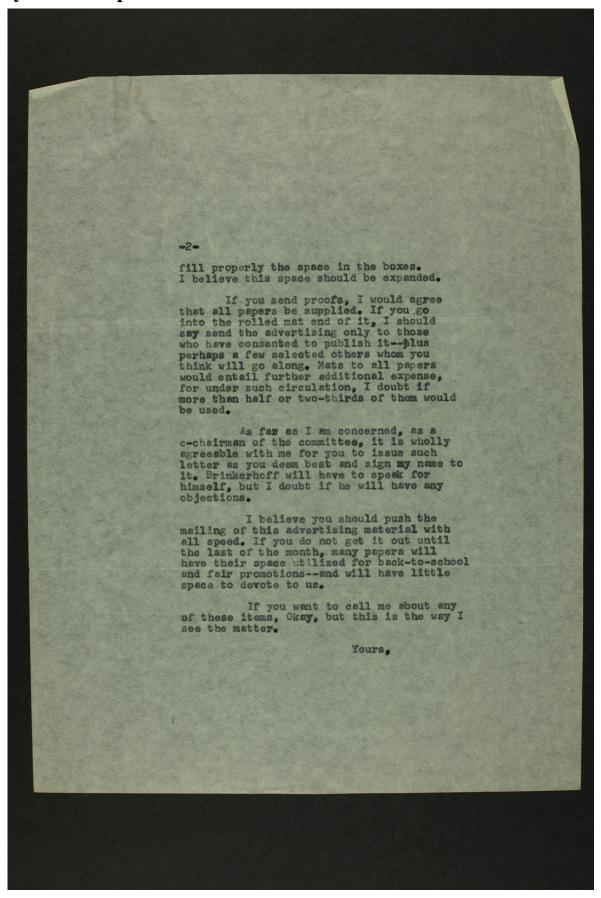
I think rolling mats and distributing them is a needless expense. I would print up page proofs, send mats of illustrations and logotypes, thus allowing different publishers to adapt the layouts to their own specifications.

I hardly see the advisability of sending two page proofs. For my part, I prefer the copy which leaves no space for local centennial message. Few papers will have any particular message for the home folk just now. The main idea is to get the imminence of the centennial home to the state generally.

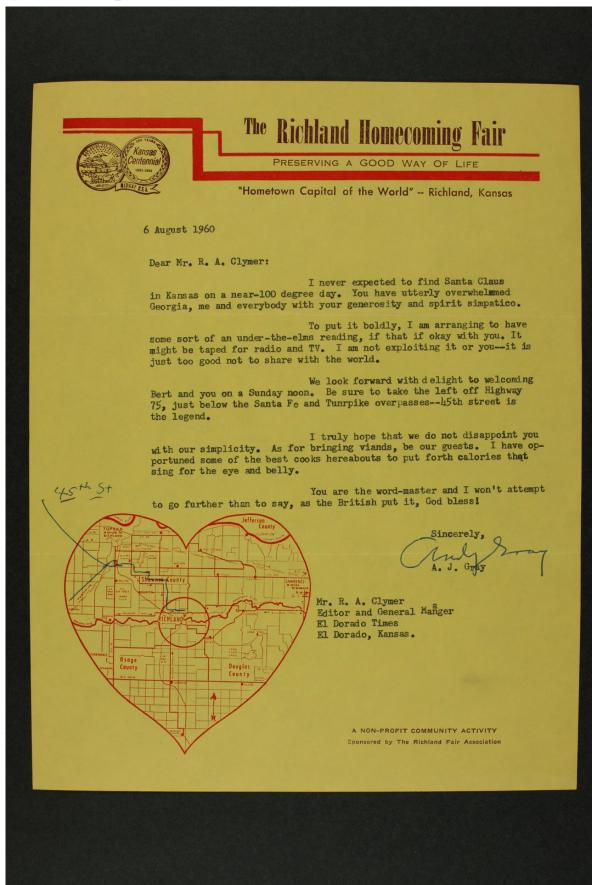
If proofs are printed and distributed, instead of rolled mats, it might be all right to send the two and allow publishers their choices. If you decide to send mats, I think only the one should be used.

I might say here that I don't think you have listed enough special attractions to

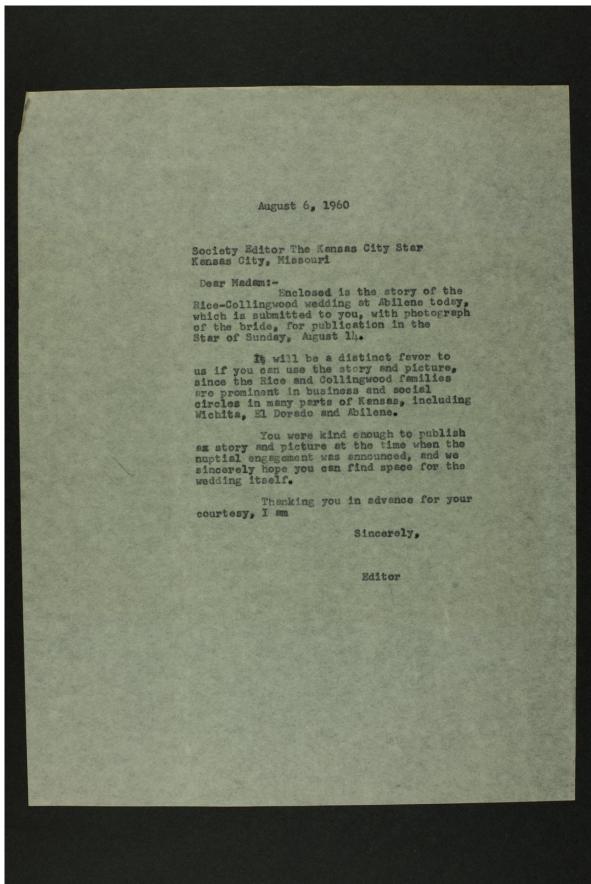




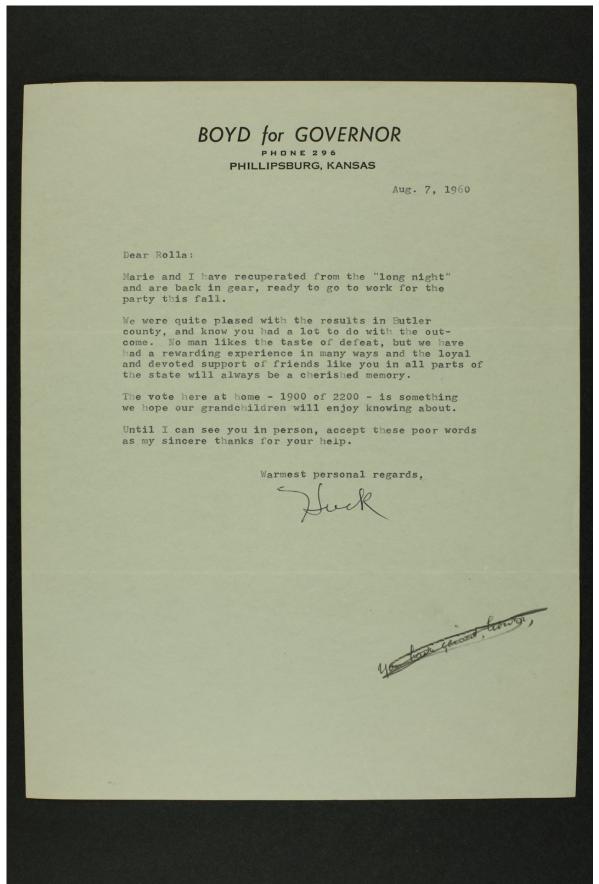




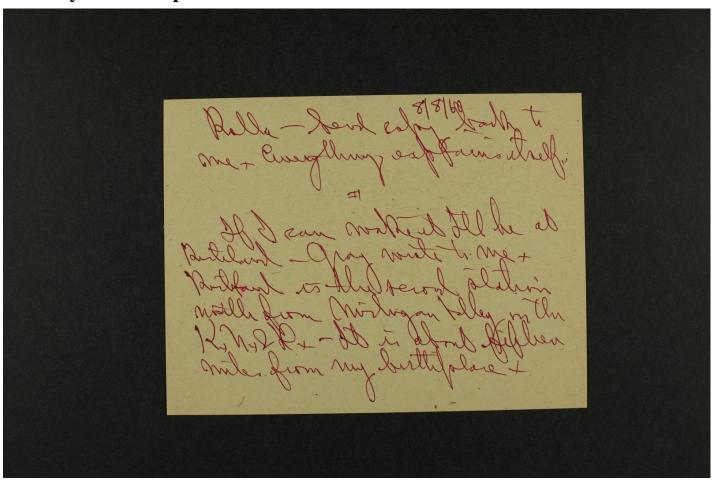






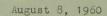








Rolla Clymer correspondence



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

Our dear friend

You are William Allen White, Everett Dirkson, and James Whitcomb Riley rolled into one. The reason you were called to do Abraham Lincoln, well, who else.

Our gratitude to you is unbounded. Few people have the privilege of reading their own obituary while still very much alive. Now, coming from the twilight zone, we thank you for all the kind things you said about us in such convincing Clymer logic. You almost had us believing some of them.

Eight months now, we have been in retirement from Cities Service and the oil business. We live in a land of sunshine, spring weather, flowers, lakes, beaches --- a land of leasure and industry --- a land that, each year, is visited by nine million people who leave one and a half billinon dollars. George Berry gave us two Spinning rods and reels that have not been used near enough. My new golf clubs have for too little paint knocked off. Retirement has been only the transfer of responsibilities. A transfer from Oil and people to Citrus and people.

Since February, I have been taking six hours of formal Citrus study in Florida Southern. This is supplemented with field trips to the State Experiment Station, the Citrus nurseries -- to learn soils, root-stock, grafting, and Citrus varieties; to the groves to study plant deficiency symptoms, predatory insects, scales, and viruses. I am just a farmer at heart.

Along with this angle of interest is the little item of \$40,000 to be paid off on 25 A..of groves in six years. So you can see my work is cut out for me.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

If Charlie Driscoll thought the lot of the Kansas farmer was hard he should hear of the brials and tribulations of the Florida Citrus grower. Florida soil (Everglades excepted) is 95% Kansas Wilcox sand. Its only function is to hold up the tree. It is a soil deficient in humus, manganese, magnesium, zinc, iron, copper, nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, molybdenum, boron, and seven other elements essential to Citrus growth.

Thenthere are a few predators of Citrus fruit and trees: rust mite, red mite, six-spotted mite, Texas mite, mealy

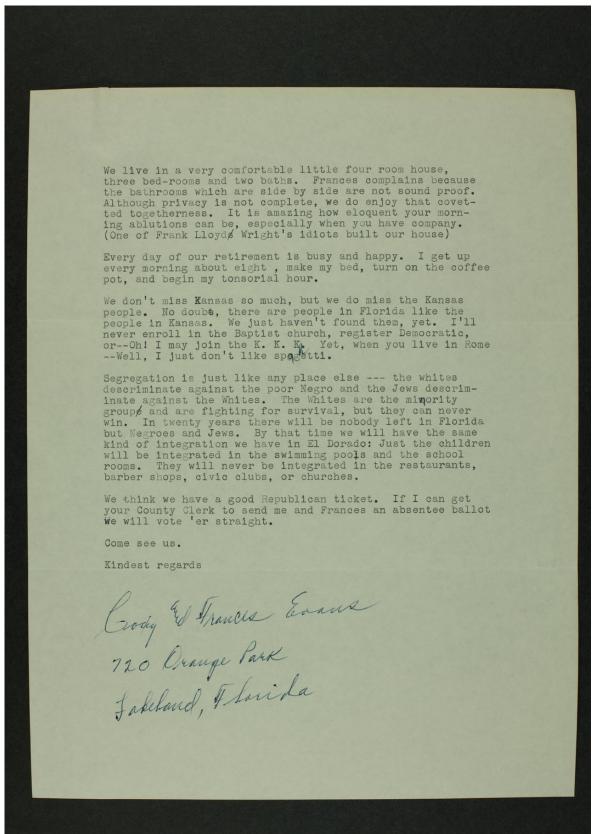
Thenthere are a few predators of Citrus fruit and trees:
rust mite, red mite, six-spotted mite, Texas mite, mealy
bug cottony cushion scale, soft scale, white fly, black fly,
aphids, black scale, Fborida wax scale, red scale, chaff
scale, plant bugs, Kansas grass hoppers, orange dog,
Mediterranean Rruit Fly, yellow vein chlorosis, arsenic
toxicity, perchlorate toxicity, biuret toxicity, salt burn,
sunburn, fertilizer burn, sulphur burn, star melanose,
sooty blotch, felt fungus, Citrus canker, mesaphill collapse,
hail damage, styler end russetting, tresteza, xyloporosis,
exocortis, greasy spot, sooty mold, green mold, Citrus
blight, gummosis, clitocybe, root rot, stem-end rot, brown
rot, black rot, green rot, lime bark disease, Citrus scab,
anthracnose, leprosis, alga spot, sphaeropsis knot, lightening,
freeze damage, drought, and hurricanes.

It costs \$150 per acre per year to have a grove maintained. Service cannot always be obtained promptly. A destructive insect can move in and devour half the grove before a spray machine arrives. The trick is to spray for every predator just before it arrives. However, spraying must not be done in April and November. These are drought months. Spraying must not be done in February and March while the trees are in bloom. Spraying must not be done within 30 days before picking. And every insect knows the schedule.

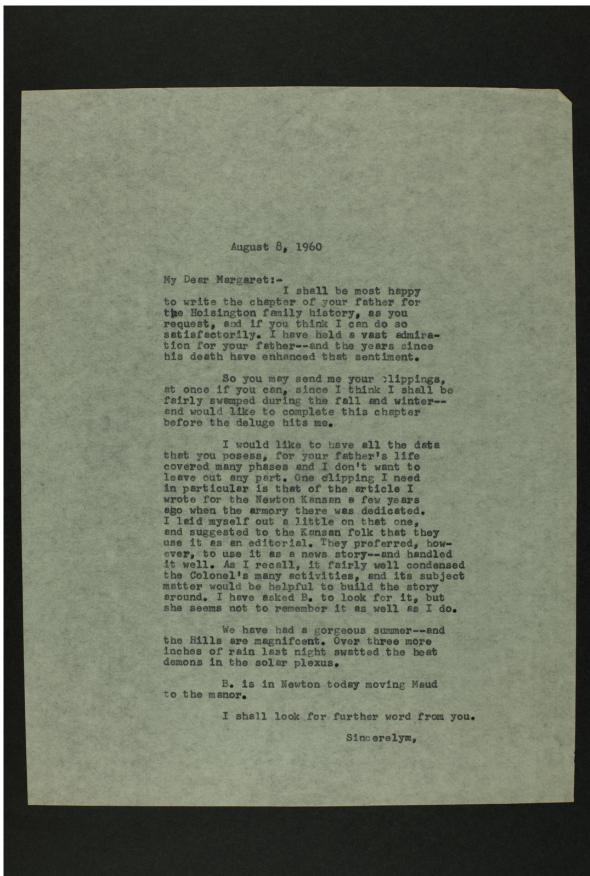
About time the crop is ready to pick the Citrus Commission announces that there has been a price drop --- oranges from \$2.00 to \$1.50 and grape fruit from \$1.50 to \$1.00 per box (box is 1 3/5 Bu.) So, it is decided to delay picking until the price gets better. The insects get the announcement and move in. If the natural drop and the insects leave any fruit on the tree, a freeze may come along and take the rest.

Inspite of it all we sold enough fruit to pay the maintenance cost and the interest on the note, and the good banker forewent the annual payment.

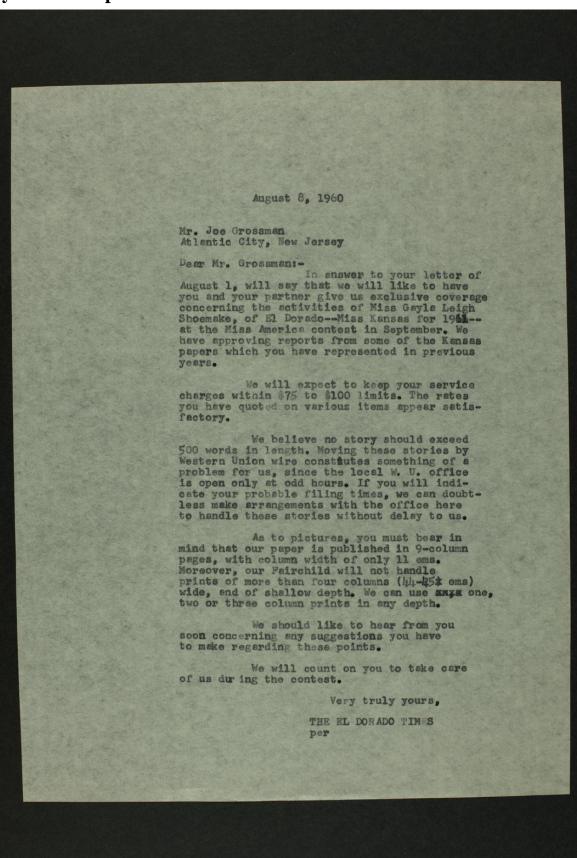




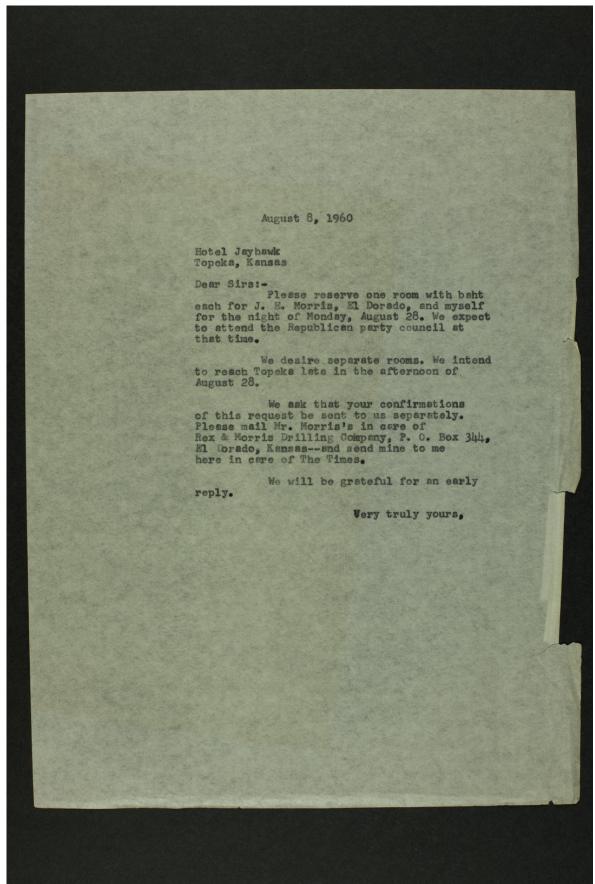














Rolla Clymer correspondence

8-8-60 Parsons

Dear Ham:

Another three inches! Gad, how do you do it? I suppose this was was in celebration of Rinni's arrival and what do you plan to hang the next one on, while poor parched Parsonians are going around with tongues dragging? We had

to settle for a mere three-quarters of an inch or so last night.

I caught that picture of Rinni in Friday's times. He doesn't look so fierce to me. I suggest we match him against Independence's finest, Texas rules, three falls to a finish. Of course we want Billy Martin on our side, too, just in case the Independence entry turns out to be not true Balkan character.

For a campaign that was as quiet as this one, the finish certainly left one breathless, didn't it? I didn't anticipate quite as close a finish. I hope John reads the returns correctly and starts to hustle. I think he will need to do that, particularly in western Kansas whose votes are not many, but still count.

The right to work people flooded the mails in Johnson and Wyandotte counties a days before the primary with that mailing piece which couples articles by W. L. White and Charles Tucker. Our Emporia friend should be proud of that company. They sent it to every registered Republican in the two counties and caused quite a flurry. I wish they (the right to workers) would cease and desist, crawl in their holes and generally stay out of sight. I fail to understand what all their shouting at this late date is about.

I suppose you heard the one about how the Democrats will raise their campaign funds--they'll freeze holy water and sell Pope-sicles. Or their campaign slogan--Hail Mary, you ah-ll.

Our business in July was just so-so and August is starting out same way. But we did set an all-time record (for any month) with July collections, after a rip-roaring June, so I guess we can't complain too much.

Give four regards to Old Nosey, Rinni and all the other characters thereabouts. If your rains keep up, we'll have to get Fred Hall back and run a pipeline to Butler. No need to go to the creat Lakes when you're getting it all.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

El Dorado, Kensas August 9, 1960

My Dear Huck:
I was more than glad to hear from you. I know that your defeat hurt some, but you have taken it like the man you are--and that's the real test. That yote at home--1900 out of 2200--is truly remarkable, and should give you a satisfaction which is worth more than bales of money.

Ernie Shawver has figured that you lost by a 2 per cent margin. Considering your initial handicap, this is a most extraordinary showing. It's too bed that you could not have closed that small gap. The big gain for you, however, lies in the friendship and high esteem you have piled up for yourself all over the state. This is definitely a most precious asset—of untold value—which none can ever take away from you.

I say again that I have never seen a candidate work as hard as you did--so that what you have accomplished represents an earned run in your storehouse of achievement.

It was altogether like you when, with a rare degree of sportsmanship, you said you will do all you can for John. I think the help he needs most lies in the realm of personal contacts--where you are superb. In spite of all our handicaps, I think we have a real chance to win this election. If we do, we can credit a large part of it to the seed you sowed so effectively in your own primary camapaign.

Eddie Morris and I intend to be at the party council, August 29 and 30, and I sincerely trust we will see you there.

Ever your friend,