

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 300, Pages 8971 - 9000

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

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Rolla Clymer correspondence

-2-

In considering this matter, suppose the situation was reversed and that Mr. Reed had been renominated at the primary and you had championed his cause, as you did do, then of course you would feel that you were justly entitled to the chairmanship, and that it would be out of place on the part of Mr. Calkins to ask it.

I am writing you this letter in all frankness, and as your friend, but I believe that you owe it to Mr. Calkins and I think you owe it to the Party to yield to him in this matter and to endorse him for the chairmanship, and I do not believe that under the conditions that you can ask the chairmanship again with propriety.

With personal regards, I am

Yours truly,

KSG:fs

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Ivan Mt. Hall Solo

Aug 16/30

My dear Rolla

The most delightful
surprise in bank had
in many months was
that letter with the slip
inclosed. While in bank
not spent any of the
money deposited by you
yet it gives in such a
sense of security not
equaled by any other thing
I believe. In an so care + concern
even that it is a joy. Your
family are looking wonderful
"Cathy" just came + went.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

home again as she often
 does. She brought in the
 star. The children have quite
 entertained themselves in
 our hearts & an hundred
 ways is not hard to
 deliver. Peggy expected any
 time today. Kate is visiting
 Ellie Patterson in the Springs.
 Doubtless Betty has told
 you we will tie up together
 to go home some time
 after the first, in which we
 can see each other through
 so you want her to come
 after them. I will thank you
 to have George deposit the rent
 to Murdock's estate on the first of
 Sept or hold it till my arrival.
 either way will be alright.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

and again thanking
you most sincerely for
your noble efforts
in keeping the ball
rolling in high. Ken-
goni me in much
gratitude. Will
see you in a little
over two weeks but
believe me you have
done well to send
your family out. They
look so wonderful.
With love
Alice.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

CLOTHES FOR YOUNG MEN AND MEN
Fashioned by LORD ROCHESTER *Tailored by* MICHAELS~STERN



HABERLEIN'S
SALINA, KANSAS

Aug. 16, 1930

R. A. Clymer
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Ham:

No doubt you have received my invitation to the opening of our store August 22nd and I am planning on the bunch coming up from El Dorado.

It certainly has been quite a job to get everything lined up but think that we will be in fine shape by next Friday evening. I am very much pleased with my lay-out here in Salina and both my family and myself like Salina very much.

We receive the "Times" each morning and all try to get it first as the old home paper looks mighty good to us.

Hoping to see you next Friday,
I remain

Yours truly,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 18, 1930

Mr. S. Sumpter Smith,
Medford, Oregon

My Dear Sumpter:-

The colorgravure section that we recently ran came to us primarily through the Kansas Gas & Electric Company, which handles Majestic radios. The deal was that we were to charge them for a double page spread and they were to charge us for the printed sections, but as it was a stand-off anyway, we simply made no book record of it and just ~~put~~ issued the section as a special feature. It might have swelled our advertising lineage record a bit, but we take no joy in business that is not represented by coin of the realm. We thought it was a good novelty and were glad to do it, having had some favorable reaction.

The section was handled through Grigsby-Grunow Company, 5801 Dickens Avenue, Chicago, and an inquiry directed to Mr. M. W. Thompson, assistant director of advertising, doubtless will prove effective in your case. They furnished us 5250 copies of the section for that issue, and also supplied sections for The Eagle in the Sunday edition of next day and for the Augusta Gazette the same day.

I hope this information is what you want. We are getting along well here and recent rains seem~~xx~~ to have squelched the drouth.

Sincerely yours,

27 YEARS IN THE PRINTING BUSINESS

PRIMARY ELECTION AUGUST 5, 1930



R. C. JOHNSON

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
FOR
STATE PRINTER

MERRIAM, KANSAS

8-18-30

Mr. Rolla Clymer,
Eldorado Times
Eldorado, Kans.

Dear Mr. Clymer:-

I take this opportunity of thanking you and the good people of Butler County for the excellent vote accorded me there, and I hope they will now get behind my opponent Mr. Walker and give him the same support.

Furthermore I trust they will line up for Shanks for Governor and the entire State ticket.

I carried some precinct in Johnson County by a large majority and Wyandotte County by 5,000 and I think I done very well considering my first attempt.

Now that I am out of the picture I want to use all the influence I have for the entire ticket.

Thanking you very kindly for past favors I am

Sincerely yours
R. C. Johnson

P.S. Give my regards to Mr. W. Collins.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 18, 1930

Mr. H. J. Haberlein,
Salina, Kansas

Dear Old Scout:-

Well Harry, it's plain hell and no pitch hot. I have been intending with firm purpose to come to your opening. I recalled that you said it would be the fifteenth, so a week ago looked up Roy and found that you had postponed it. Today came your letter, following closely on the heels on the announcement. Now get this. Jessie is gone, Maysel is gone, Bill will be gone the last three days of this week, and two boys are out of the ~~big~~ back room. With five off the force, and especially Bill and Jessie, there is nothing for Papa to do but stay by the ship. I simply can't get away next Friday; there isn't any use thinking about it. This is the only week of the month that would catch me so, and I am sorely ~~xxxxxx~~ disappointed. I have been counting on it a lot. Vic Ammann and some of the lads are working up a ~~xxxxxx~~ crowd, but I will have to be absent and I hate it more than I can tell. Please forgive me, and you know why. I hope everything will start off auspiciously and that you will make a million. Best luck to you always.

Yours,



August 13, 1930

Mr. J. D. M. Hamilton,
Topeka, Kansas

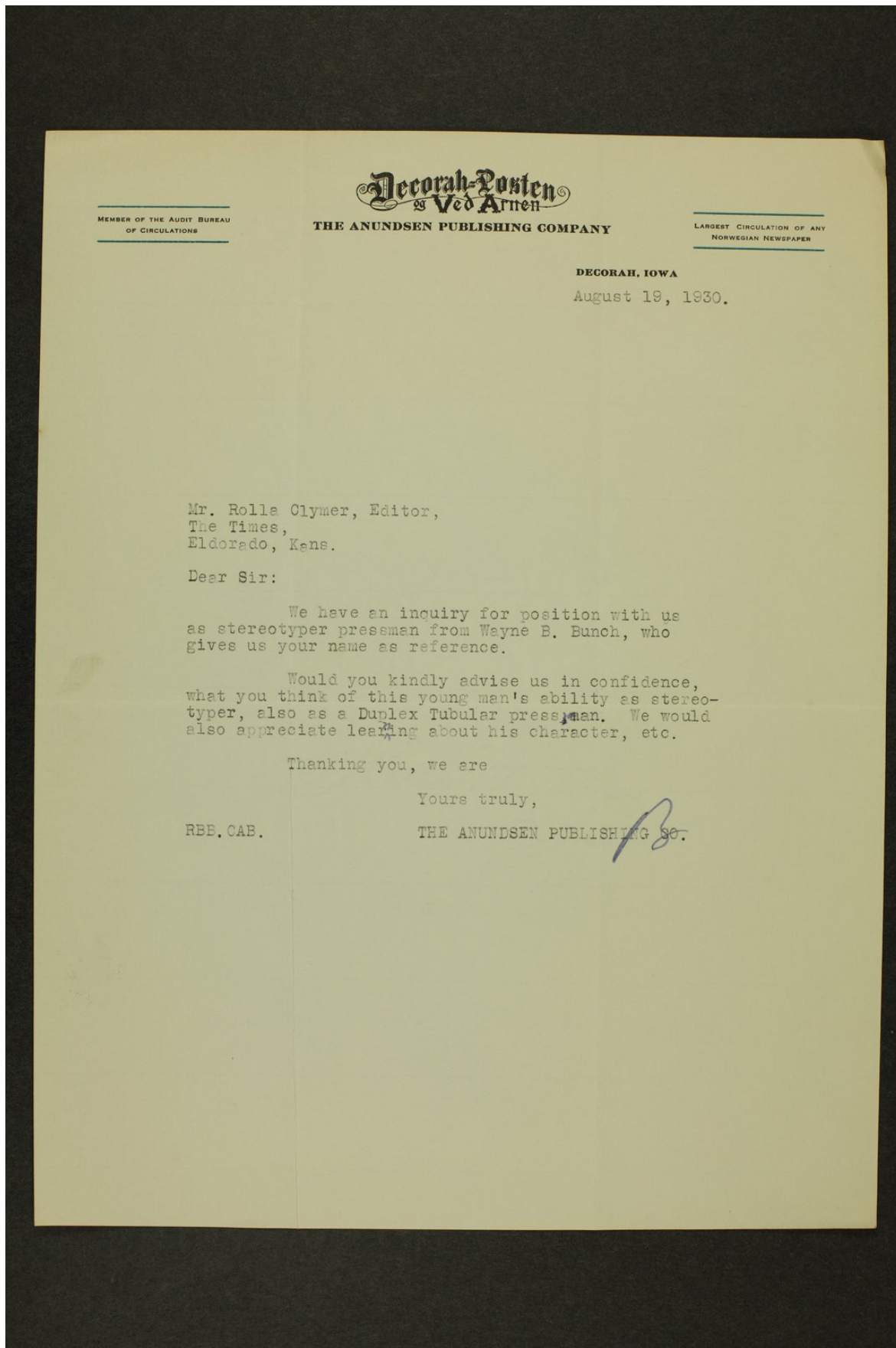
My Dear John:-

I received your letter today from Echo Lodge and was glad to have you say what you did in just the way you did. I am fully in accord with you. I have given the matter the most careful study, and am now ready to say that I will be glad to take over the publicity work in connection with the coming campaign. This will be my initial venture of such sort and I will have to feel my way and, of course, will welcome suggestions and counsel. It will be a pleasure to be associated closely with you, as well as some of the other men in the party for whom I hold high admiration and regard. I will have to divide my time to some extent, for my paper here will command a certain amount of my attention in spite of a reliable and proved organization. But I am going to try to do so without slighting the work at either place. I would like to talk with you and others; if I cannot be in Topeka on the day of the party council, I shall come there soon thereafter.

Please acquaint Chief Haucke, John Breyfogle and others with my decision, as you are the only one I am notifying. If you get time, I shall be pleased to have you outline your ideas of where would be the best place to start.

Sincerely yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence



Decorah-Posten
of Ved Arnen

MEMBER OF THE AUDIT BUREAU
OF CIRCULATIONS

THE ANUNDSEN PUBLISHING COMPANY

LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY
NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPER

DECORAH, IOWA

August 19, 1930.

Mr. Rolla Clymer, Editor,
The Times,
Eldorado, Kans.

Dear Sir:

We have an inquiry for position with us
as stereotyper pressman from Wayne B. Bunch, who
gives us your name as reference.

Would you kindly advise us in confidence,
what you think of this young man's ability as stereo-
typer, also as a Duplex Tubular pressman. We would
also appreciate learning about his character, etc.

Thanking you, we are

Yours truly,

RBB.CAB.

THE ANUNDSEN PUBLISHING CO.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

RALPH N. MILLER

Topeka, Kansas,
August 19, 1930.

Publisher,
El Dorado Times,
El Dorado, Kans.

Dear sir:

Please accept my application for work on the Times staff. My experience includes five years of street and desk work on such papers as the Manhattan Chronicle and Mercury, Kansas City Kansan and Colorado Springs Gazette and Telegraph. I was police and city hall reporter for three and a half years on the Kansan and Gazette. I became publicity director for the Alexander Aircraft company of Colorado Springs two years ago, learned to fly, and graduated into airplane sales promotion. Business depression last spring forced the company to lay off most of its personnel.

I was telegraph editor of the Manhattan Mercury for a long time after leaving the journalism school at Kansas State Agricultural college. Mr. Fay N. Seaton, the publisher, would be glad to endorse my work, I am sure. As other references, I can give you T. W. Ross, news director, Colorado Springs Gazette and Telegraph, and C. H. Nohe, city editor, Kansas City Kansan.

I am 24, accustomed to hard work, and well grounded in sports and aviation in addition to general news and desk work. Please grant me your consideration.

Cordially yours,

Ralph N. Miller,
1325 Topeka Ave.,
Topeka, Kansas.



August 20, 1930

Geo. H. Morrill Co.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sirs:-

Please ship us one drum of F-68 News Ink for our tubular press, under contract price of 4 cents. Get the drum to moving promptly by freight. We should have enough ink on hand to take care of our needs until it arrives, provided shipment is not delayed.

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY
per

August 20, 1930

C. F. Burgess Laboratories, Inc.
Freeport, Ill.

Dear Sirs:-

 Please ship us at once one case of Nu-Tex B
Mats, humidified. Please acknowledge receipt of this order.
Mats may come by freight, if they are shipped promptly, as
we have enough on hand to last two weeks, possibly longer.

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY
per

August 21, 1930

Mr. Clyde W. Speer,
c/o The Eagle,
Wichita, Kansas

My Dear Clyde:-

It was mighty kind of you to offer a prize for our golf tournament, to be given in the name of the Wichita Eagle Engraving Service. I certainly shall accept on behalf of the association and will put it in a good flight. Is it your intention for me to buy the prize and send you a bill? Please drop me a line covering this point.

Sincerely,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 21, 1930


The Anundsen Publishing Company,
Decorah, Iowa

Attention Mr. R. B. Bergeson

Dear Sirs:-

With reference to your inquiry concerning Wayne Bunch, will say that he worked for us about five months as stereotyper and pressman for our Duplex Tubular and that we had a high opinion of his ability. His character is of the best. We let him go only because in the interests of economy we had to cut down our press crew, and as he was the last man in he had to be the first to go.

Very truly yours,



Rolla Clymer correspondence

RUSSELL PUBLISHING COMPANY
CATALOGUES & PUBLICATIONS
Commercial Printing

August 23, 1930

2014 Quindaro Blvd.
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

R.A. Clymer,
El Dorado,
Kansas

Dear Sir:

Your letter of August 8 arrived in my absence. Hence the delay in answering.

Since getting home I have checked up on the matter of the motor and the expense of overhauling, and find that the motor switch had entirely given way, and necessitated rebuilding. The winding was also injured, but was repaired without rewinding. The electrician advised me this might only be temporary, and that I might expect to have the armature rewound in the near future. The loss of time on the machine was quite an item, as a result of the break-down. The total cost of repairing, which included the temporary arrangement on the armature is \$6.50. With the loss of time and the possibility of additional expense in the near future I thought perhaps you would allow \$5.00 or more on the account.

Thanking you very kindly for your courtesy and your spirit of fairness, I am

Yours very truly,

R. C. Russell

RCR:RM

THE HOME OF CHURCH AND SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

HAUCKE FOR GOVERNOR HEADQUARTERS

New England Building

TOPEKA, KANSAS

JOHN W. BREYFOGLE, Chairman

August 23, 1930.

Mr. Rolla A. Clymer,
c/o The El Dorado Times,
El Dorado, Kansas.

My dear Rolla:

Just got in from Wisconsin and found
your letter of the 18th, and I am most happy over
your decision.

I hope you will be able to spare a
couple of days within the next week or two, as
there are two or three editors who supported Reed
during the Primary whom we should call upon at
the very earliest opportunity.

I shall be glad to take my car, and
we should be able to make the rounds so that it
will not be necessary for you to be away from the
office but a very short time, three or four days
at the most, I would think.

Hoping that I shall see you at the
Party Council, and with kindest personal regards,
I am

Yours very truly,

JDMH:y



STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION
JOHN V. ABRAHAMS, TOPEKA
R. B. FEGAN, JUNCTION CITY
C. M. WANN, HAYS
J. T. MOORE, PITTSBURG
W. G. ANDERSON, WINFIELD
CLAUD M. CAVE, SUBLETTE

R. W. DOLE, DIRECTOR
GERTRUDE WHITCOMB, SECRETARY

STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION
OF KANSAS
TOPEKA

August 23, 1930.

W. V. BUCK, STATE HIGHWAY ENGINEER
H. D. BARNES, ENGINEER OF CONSTRUCTION
O. J. EIDMANN, ENGINEER OF DESIGN
I. E. TAYLOR, MAINTENANCE ENGINEER
W. L. DYATT, OFFICE ENGINEER
ROLAND BOYNTON, ATTORNEY
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY-GENERAL
O. C. CANARY, AUDITOR

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I am writing you in regards to the execution next month of Carl Panzran at Leavenworth, by the Federal authorities.

I understand that only the authorities and one newspaper man from each publisher making formal application will be allowed to witness the hanging. I was wondering if the Times is going to have such a representative present, and, if not, if you would do me the favor of allowing me to represent your paper.

I feel that the experience of witnessing such an execution, which happens so seldom in Kansas, would be of benefit to me in the practice of Law of which I am about to enter and would certainly appreciate anything you would feel like doing in helping me to obtain admission at Leavenworth for the execution.

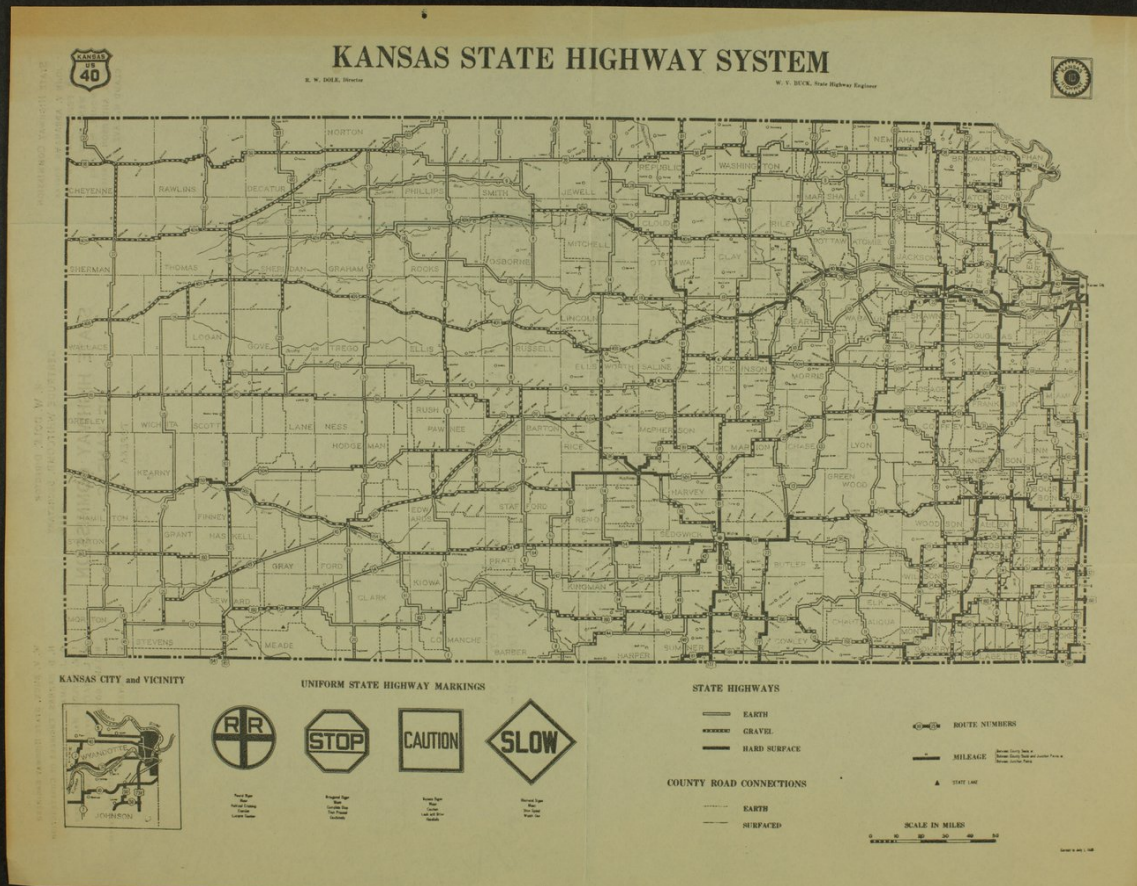
I would make my best effort to furnish you with a story on the event, if you so desired.

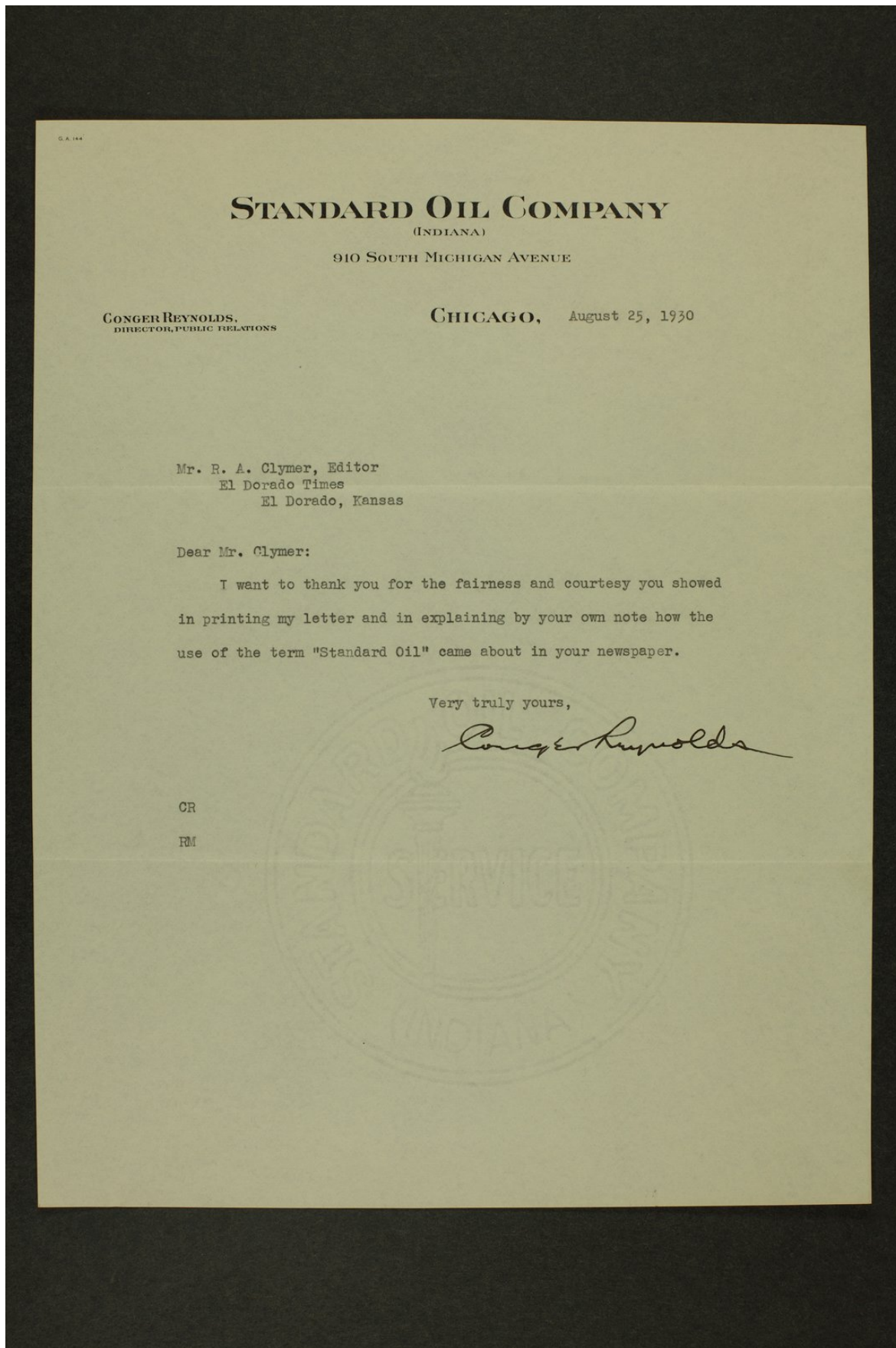
Truly yours,

Gale Moss

Gale Moss,
1350 Mulvane,
Topeka, Kansas.

Rolla Clymer correspondence







CAPTAIN EDGAR DALE POST No. 81

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Memorial Building

EL DORADO, KANSAS

August 25, 1930.

The Times Publishing Co.,
El Dorado, Kansas.

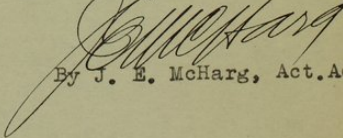
Attention Mr. R.A. Clymer.

Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Post and our Golf Committee,
I want to extend to you our thanks for the cup which you
so kindly donated as first prize in the fifth flight of our
Annual Butler County tournament. Your contribution
aid materially in the success of the tourney and was appre-
ciated by all of us.

Yours very truly,

CAPTAIN EDGAR DALE POST #81,
THE AMERICAN LEGION.


By J. E. McHarg, Act. Adjt.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

ROLAND BOYNTON
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
EMPORIA, KANSAS

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 25, 1930

Mr. Rolla Clymer,
ElDorado Times,
ElDorado, Kansas.

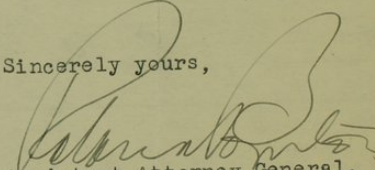
Dear Mr. Clymer:

Mr. White of Emporia tells me that he sent an advertisement and some editorial matter about my candidacy to you for use before the primary and that you were kind enough to use it.

I want you to know that I greatly appreciate this and want to thank you for helping me in this way. I know that this publicity had a great deal to do with my nomination.

With best wishes and kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Assistant Attorney General.

RB:W

Rolla Clymer correspondence

The College of Emporia

EMPORIA, KANSAS

August 26, 1930

BUSINESS OFFICE

Eldorado Times
Eldorado, Kansas

Attention: Rolla Clymer

Gentlemen:

Under separate cover we are sending you copy
for the financial bulleting to be printed for the College
of Emporia. We are also sending you a sample of last year's
financial statement for your convenience.

Very truly yours,

A. Robinson
Treasurer and Business Manager

FLR*NJ

Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 27, 1930

Mr. R. C. Russell,
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Mr. Russell:-

If a \$5.00 reduction will be satisfactory to you in the motor matter, we will be agreeable and you can deduct that sum from your next remittance. I am indeed sorry that you have had any trouble.

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY
per

Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 27, 1930

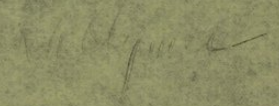
Mr. F. L. Robinson,
Business Manager The College of Emporia,
Emporia, Kansas

Dear Mr. Robinson:-

The copy for the financial bulletins has been recieved and will go to the machines today. We wish to thank you for according us this work again. Will you please indicate how many of the bulletins you will need? I don't believe you have stated the number in previous correspondence. Also, may I ask if you will wish to read the proof? It has been the custom, I think, for your office to O. K. the final revises. We shall try to get this work out by September 15, if possible.

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY
per





Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE PENN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA

AGENCY DEPARTMENT

August 27, 1930.

Dear Mr. Glymer:

Regardless of other securities one may own, he is to be congratulated if he possesses a full-paid piece of first class life insurance property. And so it is a pleasure for us to offer our congratulations to you, and to remind you that you have made all of the premium deposits called for by your Policy No. 539824, and that the policy year for which your last premium was paid will end in September, 1930.

We highly appreciate the relationship which you have maintained throughout all these years as a member of the Penn Mutual. The confidence that members like you have thus shown has given us ever-increasing strength and contributed very materially to the growth of this old institution.

Dependable insurance protection and superior service are assured to all who become members of our mutual organization. If, therefore, your dependents are not fully covered, or, through change in circumstances, there is need of rearrangement as to beneficiary or amount, our representatives are available to you for consultation without obligation on your part. This is a valuable part of Penn Mutual service, - we desire to help our members to extract the last full measure of protection from their policies. A request from you will meet with prompt response.

Very truly yours,

Assistant to Vice President.

Mr. Rolla A. Glymer,
El Dorado, Kansas.

O'NEIL & HAMILTON
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS
NEW ENGLAND BLDG.
TOPEKA, KANSAS

RALPH T. O'NEIL
JOHN D. M. HAMILTON
BARTON E. GRIFFITH

August 27, 1930.

Mr. Rolla Clymer,
El Dorado,
Kansas.

My dear Rolla:

I know that I have told you of my deep gratification of your acceptance of the publicity work, at the same time now that the committee is formed and we are about to get under way, I want to write it to you formally.

I am sure that you will find Cloyd Bailey a splendid fellow to get along with and I am today attempting to get George F. Beezley of Girard to accept a place on our staff, as the head of the Speakers' Bureau. If he does, it will, in my opinion, work out a splendid organization.

I expect to have a meeting of the officers of the committee very shortly; and possibly will hold it at Wichita due to the fact that it will be more convenient for you and Bailey and Senator Stewart.

We are confronted with the very delicate task of appointing a lady Vice-Chairman, and in my opinion, the sooner it is gotten out of the way the better it will be.

I shall get in touch with you as soon as I can arrange the meeting.

Yours very truly,

John Hamilton

JDMH:y



Rolla Clymer correspondence

FRANK A. MILNE, PRESIDENT, PRATT
PERCY S. WALKER, TREASURER,
201 WEST SIXTH, TOPEKA

MAC CHILDS, SECRETARY, EL DORADO

T. V. CAMPBELL, TOPEKA
ROY M. RILEY,
110 E. DOUGLAS, WICHITA

STATE OF KANSAS
KANSAS STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
EL DORADO, KANSAS

August 27, 1930

R. A. Clymer
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

Inclosed you will find a reprint of the Journal
of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

I thought perhaps you would be interested in
looking this over more carefully and having it
for your files.

I wish to thank you personally for the kind-
ness that you have shown in the publicity rend-
ered the Pharmacy Corps, and I am sure that you
can see the necessity of additional publicity
for the sake of public health.

Yours very truly

Mac Childs, Sec'y.

WMC:imj

Rolla Clymer correspondence

AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION
10 W. CHASE ST., BALTIMORE, MD.

Bulletin No. 6 - 1930

August 21, 1930.

✓ To the Secretaries of State Pharmaceutical Associations:
To the Secretaries of State Boards of Pharmacy:
To the Deans of Schools and Colleges of Pharmacy:
To the Pharmaceutical Publications:

PHARMACY CORPS IN THE U. S. ARMY

The attached reprint of editorials and news articles will give all the information that is now available in reference to the fatal accident at Fort Leavenworth as the result of an incorrectly filled prescription. It is requested that this information, which clearly illustrates the danger of the present system, be given publicity and that it be brought to the attention of those who can promote the passage of the legislation now before Congress to provide for a Pharmacy Corps in the Army. Identical bills were introduced in the House by Congressman Reece of Tennessee, H. R. 8743, and in the Senate by Senator Copeland of New York, S. 3211, and were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs in both Houses.

The Committee of the House is as follows:

W. Frank James, Michigan, Chm.
Harry C. Ransley, Pennsylvania
Harry M. Wurzbach, Texas
B. Carroll Reece, Tennessee
John C. Speaks, Ohio
J. Mayhew Wainwright, New York
William R. Johnson, Illinois
Harold G. Hoffman, New Jersey
Florence P. Kahn, California
Thomas C. Cochran, Pennsylvania
William H. Stafford, Wisconsin

Geo. M. Pritchard, North Carolina
John M. Wolverton, West Virginia
Percy E. Quin, Mississippi
Hubert F. Fisher, Tennessee
Daniel E. Garrett, Texas
John J. McSwain, South Carolina
Lister Hill, Alabama
Lewis W. Douglas, Arizona
Wm. J. Granfield, Massachusetts
Victor S. K. Houston, Hawaii

and of the Senate is as follows:

David A. Reed, Pennsylvania, Chm.
Frank L. Greene, Vermont
Wm. K. McMaster, South Dakota
Bronson M. Cutting, New Mexico
Henry D. Hatfield, West Virginia
Roscoe C. Patterson, Missouri
Roscoe C. McCulloch, Ohio
David Baird, Jr., New Jersey
Patrick J. Sullivan, Wyoming

John M. Robsion, Kentucky
Duncan U. Fletcher, Florida
Morris Sheppard, Texas
Cole L. Blease, South Carolina
Daniel F. Steck, Iowa
Hugo L. Black, Alabama
W. E. Brock, Tennessee
Wm. J. Harris, Georgia

It is planned to secure hearings, if necessary, before these committees early in the coming session and to have the bill reported out by them for action by Congress.

NARCOTIC CONFERENCE

Attached is a report of the conference held in Washington on August 12, 1930 at the invitation of the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service. Later bulletins on the work of the Conference will be sent you.

E. F. Kelly
Secretary.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

[Preprinted from the Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association,
Vol. XIX, No. 8. August, 1930.]

THE UNJUSTIFIABLE ARMY SYSTEM OF DISPENSING.

THE conditions surrounding the deaths of William Cornett and Frank Canki are such as to demand a searching, competent and impartial investigation. William Cornett and Frank Canki were children of enlisted men serving in the United States Army at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.¹ In April the children became ill of measles and were treated by army physicians. A prescription was written for atropine sulphate. The prescription was dispensed by an army employee in an army dispensary. The prescription was improperly filled. In an hour both children were dead.

The tragic circumstances aroused an intense interest throughout Kansas. The newspapers gave much space to the case. The public became indignant and severely critical of those in authority. It became known that there was a vast difference between the Kansas and army systems. In Kansas, a person must satisfy stringent state requirements before he is permitted to practice pharmacy in the compounding of physicians' prescriptions and in the dispensing of drugs and poisons. It became known that the army does not consider such requirements necessary for persons who deal with deadly poisons. The public learned that frequently the practice of pharmacy in the army is officially entrusted to persons not having the necessary competency and skill. The public sensed the fundamental idea that the official system was itself responsible for the double tragedy.

In due course Corporal Ralph E. Hawkins, who had dispensed the prescription, was tried by court-martial and acquitted. Military autocracy had at least gone through the form! The system had spoken for the system and given it a clean bill! This military fiat should not stand in the way of a full and complete investigation. It is a fact that the hospital corps at Fort Leavenworth did not include a registered or graduate pharmacist. It is quite obvious that Corporal Hawkins was not a competent person to assume the responsibility of prescription pharmacist. He had had no training and no experience such as would qualify him for the exacting task of dispensing a deadly poison to sick children. Corporal Hawkins appears to have been no more than a helper who had done odd jobs around the dispensary. He was a part of an arbitrary military system which ran true to form! The whole case demands an investigation by competent and fair-minded people who are concerned only with the facts. The court martial represented the authority which created the system under which Hawkins was controlled. There should be an investigation by persons not interested in the verdict.

The Journal-World, Lawrence, Kansas, in speaking through its editorial columns says, "The children's deaths were traceable directly to the lack of graduate pharmacists in the army medical organization. A member of the medical department made an error in compounding a prescription, which a graduate pharmacist would not have made, with fatal results in two families. A court martial

¹ See pages following "Committee Reports" this issue of the JOURNAL.