

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

### Section 314, Pages 9391 - 9420

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

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## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-4-

of their own little orbits, but all held together by the great forces that emanate from the center.

In off years, they fight among themselves in a bitter internecine warfare that bids fair to extinguish them all, but that really causes ~~that~~ little damage. And then when campaign time rolls around, some how and in some way they get together and vote 'er straight, and so the Republican majorities pile up in massed millions--and the world rolls merrily on.

We all get angry when the other fellow does not agree with us and we all hold strongly and persistently to our own opinions as to party policy. We may even go so far as to take various and sundry falls out of our party and to predict that it will come to a dire end if our particular panacea or pet policy is not adopted. The ~~Borah~~ Fraziers and the Norbecks and the Nyes damn the minions of big business; the Borahs tear their hair and thunder even at the gates of the White House; the Smoots and the Hawleys frame an iniquitous tariff and try to cram it down the throats of the unsuspecting yokels; the Norrises fling handfuls of slimy Nebraska mud on the white ermine of such sainted figures as Charles Evans Hughes; the Brookharts kiss and tell, or worse, go to wet dinners and blab; the Moseses throw barbed shafts of wit into the

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-5-

shrinking hides of the agricultural contingent; the Longworths make social war on the pretenders to the throne, but Dolly still sits at the head of the table.

And so it goes, but we all can say with Marse Henry Watterson:

"Things have come to the heluva pass,  
If a man can't cudgel his own jackass."

We Republicans fight and fume and rave and tear against each other three years out of four, we shed blood in great, glory gobs, we shriek and exclaim and dramatize and imagine vain things, but in the fourth year, we get together for a few months at least, and trample over the spiny thorns of Democratic carcasses to greater and nobler political glory.

Thus, it has gone with few breaks for nearly three-quarters of a century. But what of the future! The cuntry has changed vastly in the thirty years since the turn of the century. New and alien influences have made themselves felt. There is a vast difference of thought between those who live upon the Atlantic seaboard and those who dwell on the mid<sup>^</sup>continental plains, between the people of the new South and those whose homes are in the far Northwest. Does the Republican Party have within itself the character, the



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-6-

strength and the dominance to hold all its varied elements in fealty? Can it surmount the tendency toward the bloc system of Europe? Can it harmonize the viewpoint of the industrial Easterner with that of the agricultural Westerner and Southerner? Can it be a party of leadership and challenge, a party of all things to all people in the majority of a nation of 120 millions?

These are fair questions and are well worth fairly considering.

We have demonstrated in this country in a century and a half that the two-party system is not only feasible but preferable. that it contributes ~~less~~ <sup>more</sup> to the administration of a republic than a system of innumerable factions and movements, changing with rapidly shifting moods of public sentiment. The reason, of course, is that where only two parties are concerned, it is possible to center and fix responsibility. The judgments of the people are generally just, and certainly sure. The party that fails to minister capably and intelligently to the wants and needs of the public pays the penalty of enforced absence from the public trough. This is a mighty corrective. It has the penitentiary system beat all hollow.

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-7-

The Republican party, through the years and in all its works, has generally been the liberal party. It has responded more directly, more promptly and with a better appreciation of human needs to changing public issues than any other. It has remained and endured as the dominant party because it was more ~~humanitarian~~ <sup>responsive</sup> to humanity's call. Many of us ~~are~~ <sup>sometimes</sup> feel that its destinies ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> be directed from the citadel of privilege, that its affairs ~~have~~ <sup>have</sup> fallen into the hands of those who are in politics for ~~revenue~~ <sup>revenue</sup> only. And still, and notwithstanding, its mass is so charged with the yeast of ~~humanity~~ <sup>humanity</sup> human understanding that the whole lump is leavened.

The truth is that if the Republican Party is to endure and is to maintain its proud position in American life, it must be both conservative and liberal, with so nice a blend of the two that rich and poor, bond and free, high and low, white and black, male and female, <sup>home town and foreigner</sup> baron and bolshevik may find in it an always admittedly imperfect, but nevertheless practical, instrument for working out the dictums of destiny.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-8-

*To have our party fill this role*

This is a difficult assignment, but it can be accomplished. It will mean a new understanding of Republicanism cast in the modern mould, it will mean a reconsecration by those of Republican faith to the principles of Republicanism, but these things must come to pass if the party ~~must endure~~ is to endure.

You and I, as common and ordinary, garden variety of citizens, are going to ask and demand certain things of our party, *in order to maintain it*

We are going to insist that it be broad and liberal in its scope, but not veering with every wind that turns the cock on the weather vane.

We are going to demand that it trans<sup>form</sup>~~late~~ into actual practise more of the rosy promises that it writes into its platforms.

We are going to make sure that it presents as candidates for office only men of character and intelligence whose public and private lives can withstand the pitiless glare of the search-light.

We shall insist that the men whom we honor with the high offices in our favor shall be men of their word, to whom the

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-9-

spoken pledge shall be as binding as the signed bond.

We shall demand loyalty for our party, loyalty from the rank and file, loyalty from the men in public positions. We shall expect that if they march beneath the Republican banner and profit by its organization, ~~the~~ name and prestige that they shall be Republicans in action as well and, that with all due respect for their <sup>own</sup> private opinions <sup>and their public responsibilities</sup> they shall not ~~be~~ be false to their party's precepts or principles.

We shall urge among ourselves and others an enthusiasm for party and for party lines. We shall try to discourage wherever feasible the rather loose practise of "voting for the man." We shall attempt to show that party organization means also party responsibility and party discipline, and that the man allied with Republicans <sup>party</sup> shall be of type and calibre fit to share its bounty and its allegiance. In other words, we will try to make the Republican vehicle a service car for the benefit of the public and not merely a chariot in which ~~one or more~~ recipients of public favor may ride to glory.

We shall try to make the Republican party a living entity and not an empty name. We shall try to make it stand for deeds and not for painted words. We shall make of Republicanism a civic



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-10-

religion, in which our patriotism is put to practical test, and by ~~this~~ and through which we will attempt to leave this ~~world~~ ~~and~~ government better for succeeding generations than we found it.

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,  
And God fulfills himself in many ways,  
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

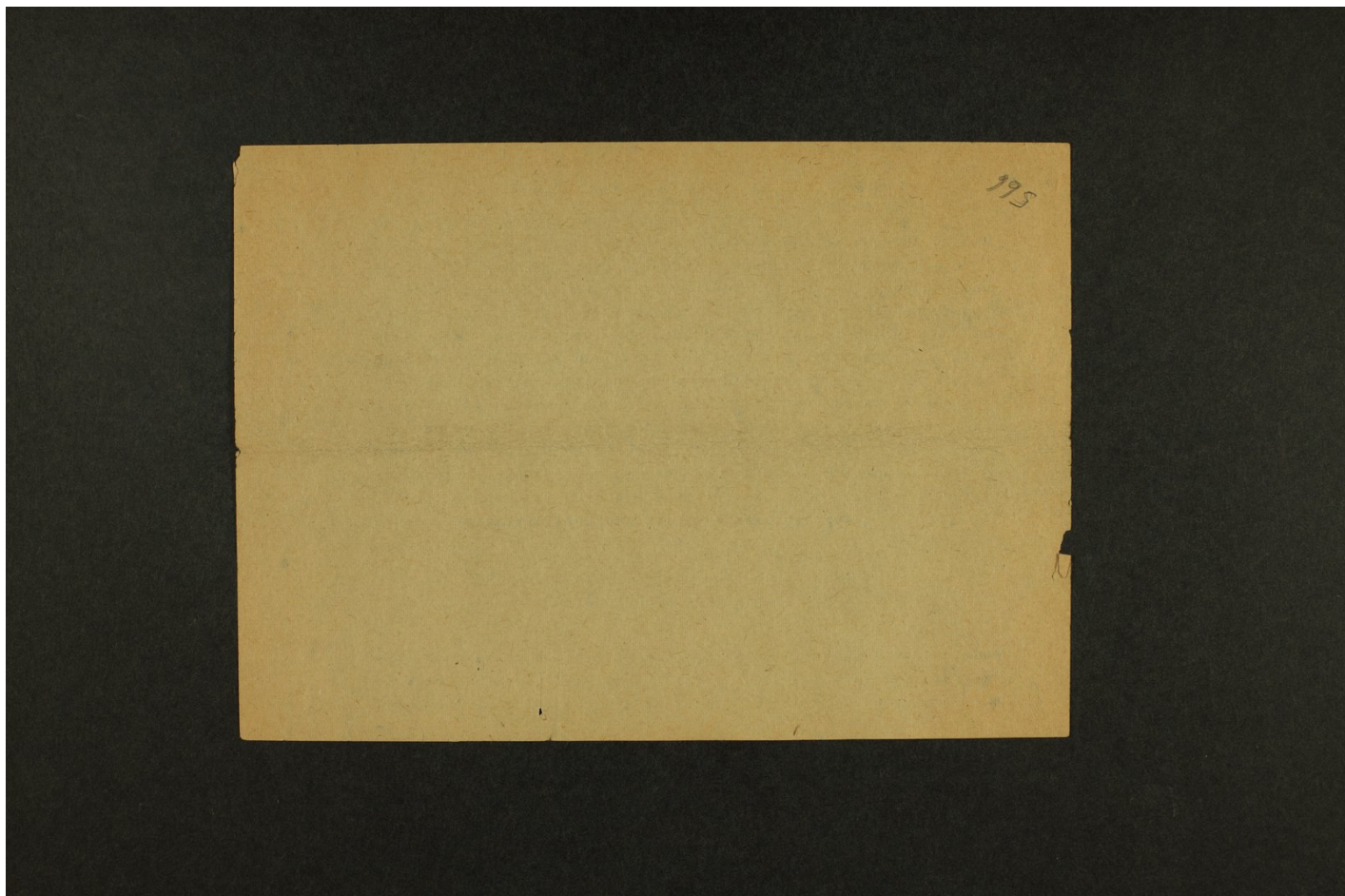
~~The Republican party of the next decade~~

There are those who would change Hoover for a Mussolini, who would cause the red flag of communism to wave over the broad acres of the United States, who would ~~replace~~ <sup>parties</sup> ~~pieces~~ with ~~parties~~ <sup>pieces</sup> with factions, with the chaos of individual leadership and expression. But their views will not prevail. The good ship America will forge ~~forward~~ <sup>forward</sup> surmounting the ~~x~~ waves of passing <sup>and temporary</sup> opinion. The two-party system will prevail, if we who have found it good and sufficient, will give of our manhood and intelligence to ~~the~~ <sup>its</sup> vital needs. And running through our public life, as strands of vari-colored wool make up the warp and woof of fabric, will be found the broad, enduring principles of Republicanism <sup>resilient to the pressure of time</sup> that have ~~made~~ <sup>made</sup> and will ~~keep~~ <sup>write</sup> us a free, happy, progressive, enlightened people.

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## Rolla Clymer correspondence



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Dear Jack:-

Enclosed find the letter you requested. I hope it is what you want. I am glad to do this, as I can give an unqualified testimonial with a clear conscience. After taking three bottles of your medicine, I have felt like a new woman-- and how!

Please get the shipping department to fire us out a couple of empty drums pronto. We have some accumulated dross and want to get it moving.

I shall be glad to see you at any time for a visit. Remember, if you possibly can, I want you to be at my golf ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ tournament in May. I shall see that you are informed of the dates when they are selected. We are going to have a big and giddy crowd and it wouldn't be complete without you.

Yours,





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

### The Associated Press.

HERE IS THE LIST FOR SMALLER PAPERS.

#### Daily Strips:

GLORIA, romance, art, fashions.

HOMER HOOPEE, humorous phases of family life.

SCORCHY SMITH, a boy strip, aviation and adventure.

ROLLO ROLLINGSTONE, the slapstick experiences of a chap  
to whom monotony is unknown.

#### Panel:

COLONEL GILFEATHER, the experiences of a small town  
bachelor in love and politics.

MODEST MAIDENS, quips, charms, styles.

Oscar Hitt's panel of village life.

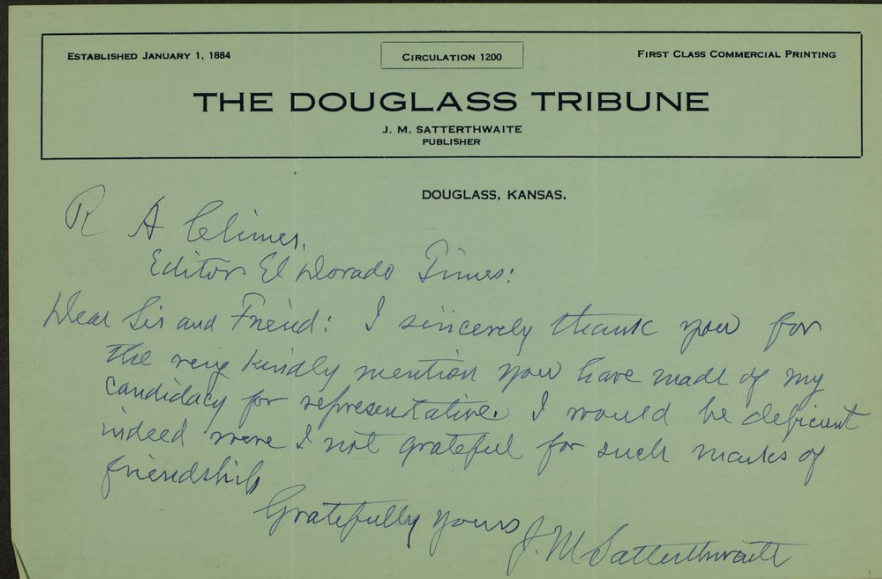
Aleyn Burtis' panel of life's faults and foibles.

News Cartoon, by a prominent artist, name to be announced later.

Your assessment will be \$10 weekly. If this figure,  
arrived at after careful study of populations, etc., seems  
unreasonable to you, please let us know the situation.

D.

## Rolla Clymer correspondence





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

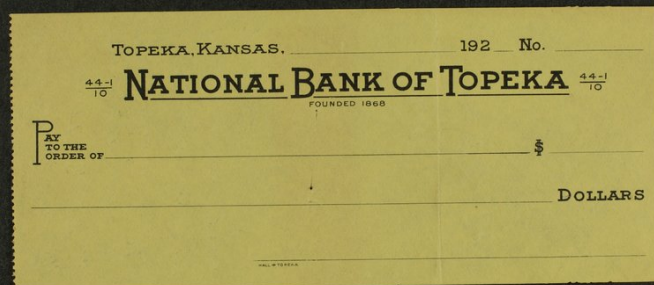
Roll Clymer: What is the correct  
answer when one hasn't been to  
church if the minister asks: "How  
did you like the anthem this morn-  
ing?"

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Plugs Save Hearing.  
New York drug stores now carry  
in stock a patented ear plug of soft  
rubber that is being sold in large  
numbers to persons who cannot



## Rolla Clymer correspondence



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

hear Rolla - tell them  
the truth. Tell them  
you enjoyed it  
very much that  
it came in very  
clear over your  
radio.

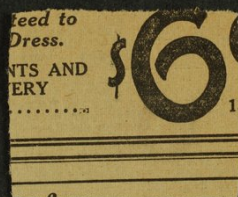
Mrs.  
Swallow



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

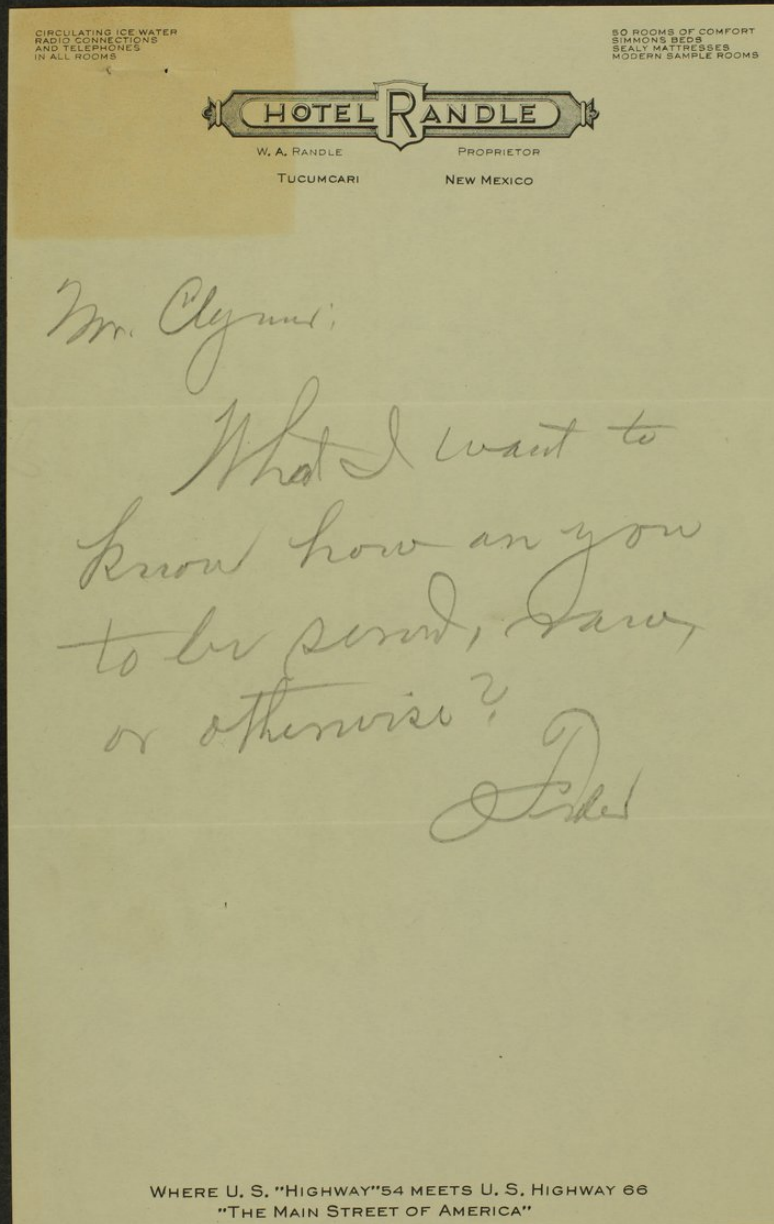
*Lyon G. O. P. to Dine—EMPORIA,*  
March 26.—The pig will be fat for  
Lyon County Republicans Saturday  
night when they stage an old-fash-  
ioned barbecue and rally. Guests  
will be served barbecued pig, a roast  
lamb, Editor Rolla Clymer of El Do-  
rado and Arthur J. Ericsson, warden  
of the state reformatory at Hutchin-  
son. Ericsson is chairman of the  
county central committee. Clymer  
will give the address of the evening.  
State Senator Bert Barrier of Eureka  
may be a guest.

## Rolla Clymer correspondence





## Rolla Clymer correspondence



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

*May 12*

Elliott Belden, Abilene, one room  
Drew McLaughlin, Paola, one room  
Claire Morris,  
E. F. Seibel, Wichita, one room, 2 single beds  
R. G. R. Tuttle, Kansas City  
suite rooms on one floor and single room on another  
Norris Bushnell, Kansas City, one room  
W. A. Bradley, Cunningham, one room  
L. G. Hixon, Pawnee Rock, one room  
H. M. Sydney, Anthony, one room  
Warren Zimmerman and Mrs., Liberal, one room  
Harold Fayman, Fredonia, one room  
Ralph Hemingway, Minneapolis, one room.  
L. D. Huff, Morganville, one room.  
O. W. Kelley, Topeka, one room  
W. N. Peck, Osawatomie, one room.  
Bale A. Resing, Wichita, one room  
Oscar Stauffer, Arkansas City, one room.  
L. W. Colburn, Topeka--(in with Hinson or Merrillat.)



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

### Hotel Reservations

Kansas Editorial Golf Association Tournament in Eldorado  
May 23 and 24, 1930

Date--April 26.

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J. L. Bauman, Chicago, one room with bath (\$2.50 rate)  
R. W. Turner, Norton Dowd, Ralph Rauscher, Wichita, 2 rooms,  
or 2 rooms with twin ~~beds~~ beds, connecting bath.  
A. L. Shultz, Topeka, large double room.  
J. C. Mohler, Topeka, one room and bath.  
W. C. Austin, Cottonwood Falls, 1 room, bath.  
Will Townsley, Great Bend, 1 room, bath.  
Dan Anthony, Leavenworth, 1 room, bath.  
Karl E. Kilby, Wichita, 1 room, bath.  
Floyd S. Eeord, Burlington, 1 room, bath.  
L. D. Merillat, Topeka, 1 room, bath.  
Charles P. Beebe, Topeka, 1 room, bath.  
Bert Harris, Herington, 1 room, bath.  
George Hausam, Hutchinson, 1 room, bath.  
C. J. McKinley, Wichita, 2 rooms or 1 double room, bath.  
C. F. and Angelo C. Scott, Iola, 1 room, bath. (2 beds)  
Paul Jones, Lyons, 1 room, bath.  
Harry E. Montgomery, Junction City, 1 room, bath.  
W. G. Clugston, Topeka, 1 room, bath.  
Roy F. Bailey, Salina, 1 room, bath.  
Glyde Speer, Wichita, 1 room, bath.  
✓O. W. Little, Alma, 1 room, bath.  
F. W. Brinkerhoff, <sup>Pittsburg</sup> 1 room, bath.  
W. R. Kercher, Topeka, 1 room, bath.  
W. L. Hinson, Topeka, 1 room, bath.  
John W. Breyfogle, Olathe, 1 room, bath.  
Roy R. Moore, Topeka, 1 room, bath.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-2-

W. E. Hughes, Emporia, 1 room, bath.

O. F. McKittrick, McCracken, 1 room, bath.

H. Lee Jones, Wichita, 1 room, bath.

~~xxxxxx Briles, x Stafford, x xxxxxxxx bath xxx~~

W. B. Drennan, Hutchinson, 1 room, bath.

Fred Cornell, Kansas City, 1 room, bath.

Ask to be isolated

2 rooms, bath, for F. R. Taggart, Wichita  
E. A. Briles, Stafford.  
H. J. Cornwell, St. John  
C. P. Rich, Pratt

1 room, bath, J. L. Thacker, Wichita

Already reserved      1 room, Wilfred Cavaness, Chanute  
John Gilmore, Fredonia



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that I have known Charles Richard Mann for the past eight years, and for the greater part of the last three years he has been working under my supervision. His honesty and integrity are above question and his character is the best. He has an enviable reputation, not only in the office, but throughout the town where he has made his home for the past eight years. The undersigned will be only too glad to answer any specific questions concerning Mr. Mann.

L. F. Burkholder

Foreman Osborne County Farmer

(Now foreman Belleville Telescope)

(Above letter written May 20, 1928)

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To whom it may concern:

I have known Richard Mann all his life. He has had practical and technical experience in the news and editorial part of the newspaper business, besides a course in journalism in one of the best schools in the country, the State Agricultural College at Manhattan, Kansas. He is thoroughly versed in the game and capable of holding down any position in the reportorial and writing line. In addition he is a young man of exemplary character and habits. He comes of good stock, his father being one of the best newspaper men in Kansas, Hon. Charles E. Mann, of Osborne, Kan., a member of the Kansas legislature for many years and a ex-speaker of the house of that body. Richard Mann is trustworthy and honest, and any responsibility reposed in him will never be disregarded. I am only too glad to give these lines of commendation to a most worthy young man.

B. P. Walker

State Printer of Kansas

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To whom it may concern:

I have become acquainted with Charles R. Mann through his enrolment in my classes in Journalism and Reporting, and have found him to be conscientious and industrious. His background and training should fit him for editorial work or advertising.

F. E. Charles

Professor of Journalism

Manhattan, Kansas

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To whom it may concern:

I have known Richard Mann for the last seven years and can say that he is a fine young man, of good character, clean habits and in every way dependable. He can be counted on to fill his place whatever that may be.

C. O. Robertson

Sec. Treas. School Board

Mgr. Gillette Dry Goods Co.

Osborne, Kansas

(Originals for above on request)

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

VICTORIA MURDOCK ESTATE, Owners

VICTOR MURDOCK, Editor

MARCELLUS M. MURDOCK, Publisher

### The Wichita Eagle

Morning, Evening and Sunday

WICHITA, KANSAS

Mr. Rollo Clymer,  
El Dorado, Kan.

Dear Friend:

The little - I should say clever little - stunt of putting down another man's groove on the green, witnessed by you Saturday was only the fourth time that had come to pass that day by the same lad. And that was not all. I pulled up a post and held the fence three feet out of line so he could shoot a ball lacking six inches of being out of bounds on No. 4. That cost me the hole without doubt. He cried because he had a bad lie 4 inches off the green on very next hole and I let him move it in on the sand. We halved that. All the time I was trying to be decent to a chap I thought was O.K. After you told me what you did on No. 4 I decided I was merely con -



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

VICTORIA MURDOCK ESTATE, Owners

VICTOR MURDOCK, Editor

MARCELLUS M. MURDOCK, Publisher

### The Wichita Eagle

Morning, Evening and Sunday

WICHITA, KANSAS

tributing to the delinquency of a badly spoiled child and decided I must clean his flow. It was this keen desire that caused me to foot off the match on No. 5. I rather think, however, please don't get me wrong, I don't mean to alibi the match on your saying what you did. I had already come to the conclusion myself.

From now on I'm in training for his hide. Next spring I'll point for him like K. U. does for Missouri around Thanksgiving time. My ambition in golf has been to be able to trim K. Kilby. It still is - plus. I can beat Kilby now muzzled but my gawd that mouth of his is <sup>an</sup> insurmountable hazard to me. And thus endeth the first epistle after which the choir will sing "What the Hell Do We Care Now?" Come over some Sunday and play runt golf in my back yard with me and my boy Bill. I solemnly Urn Cecil



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Eldorado, Kansas

Mr. John P. Harris,  
Chanute, Kansas

My Dear Jack:-

Some of the brothers are worried lest the Tribune and the Herald at Ottawa will leave the reservation and go out on the warpath for Woodring. Personally, I haven't taken any stock in the report, for I know you and Sid and feel sure that you boys will do as the rest of us try to do--support the candidate of your choice at the primary and the party nominee thereafter. You and I had a visit on shipboard, if you will remember last June, and I felt we understood each other very well at that time. Nevertheless I should like to have your assurances, if you can take the time to write me soon. I have had the publicity job handed me and am going to do my best for the entire state ticket, though this sort of task is a new one for me and I don't feel too sure about it.

I should have written you at the time of your dear father's death, but poured out my heart in a little piece for our paper and let it go at that. I think you must know that I really loved him--ever since the days when I struggled at Olathe and when he was so kind to me. I shall never cease to miss him. His loss is a great one, indeed, and your mother and you boys have had my full sympathy.

Sincerely yours,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Dear Rolla:

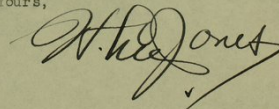
Not in my own behalf, but in the interests of my friend, T. S. Ansel, who is succeeding me as advertising manager of Kansas Gas and Electric Company, do I bespeak your consideration of his cut and a paragraph of copy which Harry Cox will bring to you for use in Wednesday's paper if you so desire.

I've known Tracy Ansel for a number of years. His work heretofore has kept him confined pretty closely to the general office. Since that will no longer be true, I felt that I wanted to help him get acquainted over the territory.

He's a damn fine chap and it is my earnest hope that your contacts with him may be as pleasant as your association and mine has always been.

I've talked him into going to Herington with me for the golf tournament. We'll see you there.

Yours,



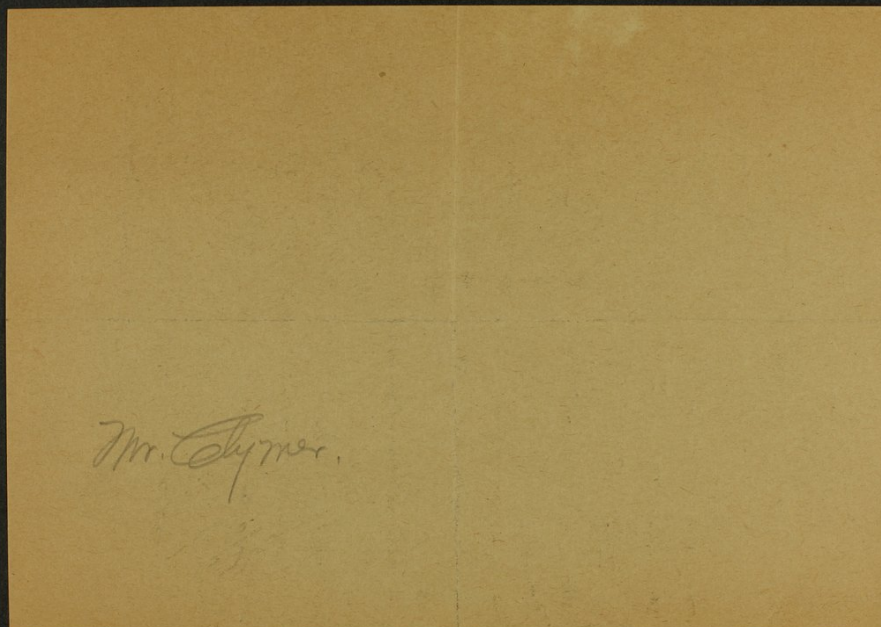
HLJ:j



Dear Mr. Clymer:-  
I would appreciate some  
writing material - especially  
envelopes. I have a little paper  
yet. I want to take this oppor-  
tunity to tell you that I enjoy  
your editorials. I look for them  
just after looking over the first  
page. I find myself thinking  
about as you do on so many  
important questions. The press  
and "Radio" does much to shape  
opinions - doesn't it? We found  
out through the Brinkley vote  
that radio seems to take the  
lead. What a calamity, should he  
have been elected.  
Kind personal regards  
Mrs. C. D. Fennell.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

1350 Mulvane,  
Topeka, Kansas.

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I recieved your letter this morning and am certainly grateful for the favor you will be doing me.

The application for permission to attend should be sent to the U. S. Marshal, Mr. Don McIvor, Wichita, Kansas. He made announcement thru the newspapers that every paper making formal application would be allowed to have a representative at the execution. I suppose that this could be a little far fetched but I think that all newspapers in Kansas would surely be accorded that privilege upon formal application.

There is some talk to the effect that since the execution is to take place in Kansas, where there is no capital punishment for offenses against the State, and where the sentiment of the people is against it, the President will commute the sentence to one of life imprisonment. This is probably the grounds upon which Mr. Feder bases his opinion.

I was present at parts of Panzrans' trial here last spring and I will certainly feel no remorse at seeing him hanged. Whether or not he is mentally balanced I do not know but he is certainly a menace to society and should be eliminated.

I will certainly do the best I am capable of in furnishing you with the stories or story that you want on this and further thank you very much for your favor.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain,

Truly yours,

*Gale Mose*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Dear Mr. Clymer:-  
In days past you "paged" the  
in coming Chairman of the board of  
County Commissioners. Every one liked  
the idea - I particularly. Many would  
enjoy a write up about our Commis-  
sioner, George Hughes, who is being  
elected to that office this week.  
Mr. Hughes undoubtedly has done  
much to reduce expenses in the  
running of the county's business. Two  
or three years ago it took around  
\$10,000 a month now it is cut in  
about half. If he has helped do this  
we would be glad to know it. Mr.  
Hughes is being discredited in  
various ways. He has been given no  
credit for the completion of the highway  
running east from Pickersville corner to  
Thighley school house - no 96. This is  
a political scheme to defeat him at  
the next election. Mr. Baker served two  
terms from this district. Mr. Hughes should  
be so honored - if deserving. This is  
not intended for any one else but you,  
Mr. Clymer. Please protect my confidence  
Mrs. Kinneel.