

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

**Section 447, Pages 13381 - 13410**

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

Page No. 3

you intelligent Kansas publishers signed a contract whose meaning to you was not absolutely clear and uninvolved.

If you wish I will write about this matter to all of your Kansas associates. There is no reason why you should bear the burden or why you should feel there is any blame attached to you. I feel perfectly guiltless and I was not at all aware of any misunderstanding on your part, or any other publisher, until your letter of November 6th arrived.

You are mistaken in what you say was a common understanding arrived at in Wichita for there was no such understanding on my part, and I cannot see how or why you fellows could ask us, or expect us, to forego commissions that had to do with the past and were earned under a valid contract.

No, Mr. Beck's letter is absolutely correct. Clarence Moody and you are mistaken. The 12½% applies on all new business written from the date the new contract begins, and the old business that we wrote under the old contract runs merrily on until its expiration and on it we are entitled to the commission that you publishers all agreed to pay us -- 15%, which we did not agree to forego either by word or by implication.

Jack, you have just gotten this thing twisted in your own mind and I am sorry.

Sincerely,

G. R. Katz.

grk:lg





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

HAROLD MCGUGIN  
3D DISTRICT KANSAS

HOME ADDRESS  
COFFEYVILLE, KANSAS

COMMITTEES:  
MINES AND MINING  
COINAGE, WEIGHTS, AND  
MEASURES

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

Coffeyville, Kansas,  
November 9, 1934.

Subject: Election Post Mortem

In the first place, I want to express my deep appreciation to you, in common with the rest of the editors of the district, for the most exceptional help and assistance which you extended to me and to the principles which I advocated in this last campaign. We simply could not win our case because a goodly part of the jury had been packed against us. There simply is not a question but that relief funds have been used for dual purposes; first, to extend relief; and second, to use these funds as practical political funds. All over the United States, relief workers were thrown into this election in mass first against Republican candidates for Congress and the Senate and then against the Republican ticket as a whole. This is a fact which can easily be ascertained upon the examination of the election returns. Whenever we reached precincts or cities in which there was a heavy relief vote, the vote was particularly against me and then against many Republicans.

Whenever we could get away from relief sections, I had no trouble in rolling up a good vote. This statement is illustrated by the fact that while I lost the district as a whole by 2,200, I lost the five large industrial cities of Pittsburg, Coffeyville, Arkansas City, Galena and Parsons by 3,268 votes. Put it another way, I lost the east eight or nine miles of the district by more votes than I lost the district as a whole. I lost Pittsburg, Mulberry, Galena, Frontenac, Arma and Arcadia by 2,243 votes which is as much as I lost the district by.

The Pittsburg vote does not represent a home town majority for Patterson. It represents a majority made possible by the mixing of politics with relief. This is proved by the fact that I carried two precincts in Pittsburg and came within three votes of carrying another precinct. It is also proved by the fact that I lost the first three wards of Pittsburg by only 258 votes and lost the fourth ward by 980 votes. By comparison between the Coffeyville vote and the Pittsburg



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-2-

vote, you could not tell which town I lived in and which one Patterson lived in. The principal difference is, that there has been a greater demand for relief in Pittsburg than in Coffeyville. Of course, both Patterson and I got some votes in our respective towns on the basis of a home town vote. I lost Coffeyville, a normally Republican town, by 350 votes while Governor Landon lost it by 850 votes and the Republican ticket on the average lost it by 1,000 votes.

Under the circumstances, we were politically fortunate to do as well as we did in gathering 49% of the votes of the district. The vote in Kansas demonstrates that the farmer, as he has been throughout the centuries, is society's most dependable citizen.

This election demonstrates that the Republican party is sunk so long as the Democratic party from a voting standpoint is composed of partisan-voting Democrats and a great bloc of voters, who have no partisan affiliation, and are only interested in what they think that the government is going to pay them. If this government is going to survive, we are going to have to have some kind of a political re-alignment. No government can long endure with a political party buying elections with public money and with a bloc of voters controlling elections which bloc of voters are primarily interested in the amount of public money which will be paid over to them. We are not going to do away with relief and no one wants to do away with needed relief but somehow and somehow, relief must be divorced from politics if we are going to retain representative government.

This letter is purely confidential and is not for publication. I know that you will understand the spirit in which it is written. I also know that any of it in print would be interpreted entirely different from the spirit in which it is written.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

HM:NJ

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

### COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

El Dorado, Kansas

November 9, 1934

John Bailey Kelly,  
President the College of Emporia,  
Emporia, Kansas

Regret impossible to act as toastmaster November sixteenth.

R. A. CLYMER

prepay and charge Times



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,  
BUSINESS MANAGER  
CURTIS W. MYERS,  
ASST. BUSINESS MANAGER

STATE OF KANSAS

ALF M. LANDON,  
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF  
STATE BUSINESS MANAGER  
STATE HOUSE  
TOPEKA

November 9, 1934.

Mr. Rolla Clymer,  
State Republican Headquarters,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Rolla:

I want to express my own personal appreciation of the splendid publicity you put out during the campaign recently closed. I think you did an elegant job of it and feel that the party owes you a vote of thanks, which you may not get, but on which I can express my feelings.

Sincerely yours,

*Ben Franklin*  
Benj. Franklin

F-s

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

November 12, 1934

Mr. Wesley I. Nunn,  
Advertising Manager  
Continental Oil Company,  
Ponca City, Okla.

Dear Mr. Nunn:-

We shall be glad to use four of your \$10.00 coupon books. Please mail them to us and bill us for them in the regular way for first of next month payment. We greatly appreciate the regular schedules of your company and are pleased to reciprocate in this way. The writer has made a practice of giving considerable of his regular trade to your local stations, paying cash as he went.

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

November 12, 1934

Mr. Lee Cowden,  
Reading, Kansas

My Dear Mr. Cowden:-

I should like very much to see you chosen speaker of the house and feel that the stockmen of Kansas are entitled to this representation. However, during the recent campaign, I was closely identified with the State Republican Committee as director of publicity and feel that I should not line up definitely for any candidate. It is always the attitude of the State Committee to be non-partisan in its relations toward contests strictly within the party, and I feel I should play no favorites regardless of my personal opinions and feelings. So, if you will excuse me on this ground, I shall be obliged; you will know that I hope you make the grade, anyway. I anticipate some lively times in the next legislature and would like to see you sitting on the lid.

Feeling sure that you will understand my reasons in this instance, I remain as always

Your friend,

*Rolla Clymer*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

November 13, 1934.

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

1526 West 5th St.,  
Hastings, Nebraska.

Dear Mr. Clymer:

If you have an immediate opening in your editorial or advertising department, or if you anticipate a vacancy soon, please give my application consideration.

I'll give you a brief resume of my qualifications to date and then, if you feel that I merit consideration, I shall be glad to furnish references, a photograph and complete information.

I am a 1929 graduate of the University of Nebraska School of Journalism and in my student days I was editor of the humor magazine, managing editor of the Ag College magazine, an editorial for the school daily, and for two years I was in charge of publicity for the College of Agriculture. Moreover, I am a member of Sigma Delta Chi and was elected to membership in the Innocents Society, senior men's honorary.

Following this I accepted the position of assistant advertising manager of Poultry Tribune and Hatchery Tribune, the leading magazines in their respective fields. These papers are published in Mount Morris, Illinois by the owner of Outdoor Life and Hunting and Fishing.

My duties for this organization consisted chiefly of travel in twenty states selling advertising contracts, the supervision of office detail, and the writing of news items, features and business letters. Car mileage and living expenses were paid when I was on the road and the first three years I earned \$2,700 a year; the last year and a half the work was not steady and the salary was reduced to \$100 a month, due to conditions beyond my control.

I resigned this job last spring to work for my father who is in ill health and who has real estate here. Since this work is now completed I seek a new connection, and I prefer a job on a newspaper.

I am 28 years old, single, six feet tall, weigh 180 pounds and am in good health. I have no illusions about high salaries and will accept any task.

Therefore, if you feel that my experience is such that you can use me, kindly let me hear from you.

Sincerely yours,  
*K. G. Anderson*  
K. G. Anderson.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

November 13, 1934

Mr. A. L. Shultz,  
Topeka, Kansas

Dearest Sweetheart:-

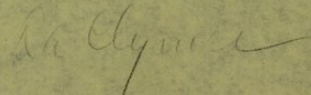
You made very generous mention of the G. O. P. publicity department in your column for last week, notice of which has been directed to me from many sources. I realize you made it entirely too strong, but appreciated it more than I can tell, anyway. You have always been kindness itself to me and I can never get even with you in a thousand years. But I shall keep on trying.

Mainly the election went as I guessed and, under the circumstances, suited me. I think we must be thankful for small favors these days.

It's over for me, except the business of interviewing all the job-hunters now, who think I can get them something swell on the payroll. So far I haven't let them worry me much.

Thanks again, old dear, for all your wise counsel and kind words. And come to see us here often.

Sincerely,







## Rolla Clymer correspondence

November 13, 1934

Mr. Benjamin Franklin,  
State Business Manager,  
Topeka, Kansas

My Dear Mr. Franklin:-

Many thanks for your kind message,  
addressed to State Headquarters, which has reached me here.  
You are generous in giving our department praise, when as  
a matter of fact our task was made exceptionally easy and  
effective by the most whole-hearted support on the part of  
the Republican press of the state I have ever seen. Whatever  
I have done has been a pleasure and the results justify the  
efforts put forth. I am sorry only that the rush of the  
campaign made it impossible for me to get better acquainted  
with many members of the state family, including yourself.  
But I hope we can make up that delinquency in future years.

Again thanking you for your kindness in writing me,  
I remain

Sincerely yours,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

November 13, 1934

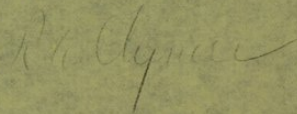
Mr. Harold McGugin,  
Coffeyville, Kansas

My Dear Harold:-

I am tremendously sorry about you. Your defeat took the ~~edge~~ off the whole election for me. I kept getting word all through the campaign that you were safe; it was only the Saturday before election that John Hamilton told me you had cause to fear. Even then, I was not prepared. Your absence from Washington will be a great loss to the party. But you will come back some day. You have the brains and the courage. Whenever you do, I want you to enroll me forthwith as one of your strongest supporters. I only wish I were in your district where I could render you more direct support.

I want now to acknowledge many of your gracious kindnesses to me. Please remember me cordially to Mrs. McGugin.

Sincerely,





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

November 13, 1934

Mr. C. Glenn Morris,  
County Attorney-elect,  
El Dorado, Kansas

My Dear Glenn:-

I am acquainted with Mrs. H. W. McMillen, who seeks a job with you as your secretary when you take over the office of county attorney. Mrs. McMillen is a competent stenographer and office woman and, I believe, would make you a valuable assistant. If you can find it possible to give her employment in this capacity, I shall greatly appreciate it.

Very truly yours,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

HAROLD MCGUGIN  
3D DISTRICT KANSAS

HOME ADDRESS  
COFFEYVILLE, KANSAS

COMMITTEES:  
MINES AND MINING  
COINAGE, WEIGHTS, AND  
MEASURES

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

Coffeyville, Kansas,  
November 14, 1934.

Mr. R. A. Clymer,  
El Dorado, Kan.

Dear Rolla:

In the light of events, there was a more determined effort on the part of the administration to single out specific Congressional districts, including this one, than I had suspected during the campaign. This morning I received a letter from Chester Bolton, Chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee. Two paragraphs of his letter are as follows:

"The result of the election, particularly in your district, is most discouraging, and I cannot begin to tell you how much we are going to miss your services during the next session of Congress.

"As a matter of fact, you were one of the few that the President and his satellites were most anxious to upset and on whom they centered their fire. I learned rather confidentially that you, Bob Luce, Fred Britten and even myself were targets for the administrative activities in various ways, and they came mighty near accomplishing their desires, en toto. My majority was terrifically cut and for a while it looked as if I was one of the many who were unsuccessful. However, I was fortunate enough to squeeze through."

The contents of this letter are confidential and are not for publication. I want you and your close, intimate friends to have the truth. If this statement of Bolton were to be published as a part of a letter to me, it would be misunderstood by the public and accepted as the showing of a sore thumb.

The facts involved in this matter constitute something which the public in the fullness of time must under-



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-2-

stand if we are going to preserve free government. If an administration is to use public relief funds by setting out to defeat and destroy every member of Congress who might offer any criticism, then it is a deadly blow to freedom of speech and to the criticism from a minority party which is so necessary to preserve free government. This thing has developed into a form of cruel censorship practiced upon all opposition. About all that is left is freedom of the press, and if this thing can go on, in the fullness of time, a way will be found to silence the press, just as criticism on the floor of Congress and over the radio has been very largely silenced.

Senator Borah is about the only person left in Congress who will be able to say a word against anything that is being done. He would probably have been defeated if he had been a candidate for reelection this year. Reports are that he supported the Republican candidate for Governor and the two Republican candidates for Congress in Idaho, and in spite of his support, they were all three defeated.

With sincere best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

HM:H

*Harold M. Eugin*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

HAROLD MCGUGIN  
3D DISTRICT KANSAS

HOME ADDRESS  
COFFEYVILLE, KANSAS

COMMITTEES:  
MINES AND MINING  
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## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-2--

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With sincere best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

HM:H

*Harold McEugene*

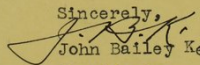
## Rolla Clymer correspondence

College of Emporia  
Emporia, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Clymer:

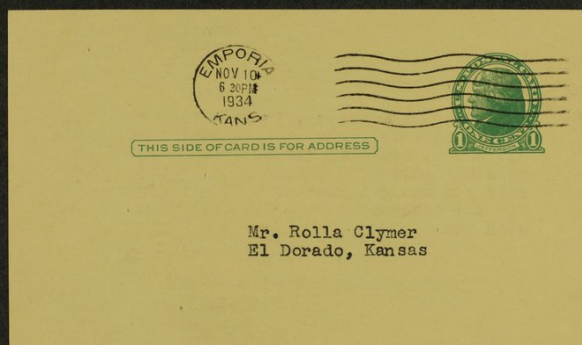
I am sorry, indeed, that you will not be here to serve as toastmaster next Friday night, but I appreciate your letting me know promptly of the situation. If you find that you can get away at the last minute come for the banquet any way and bring Mrs. Clymer with you.

Sincerely,

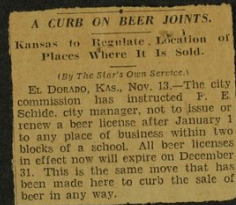
  
John Bailey Kelly  
President.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence



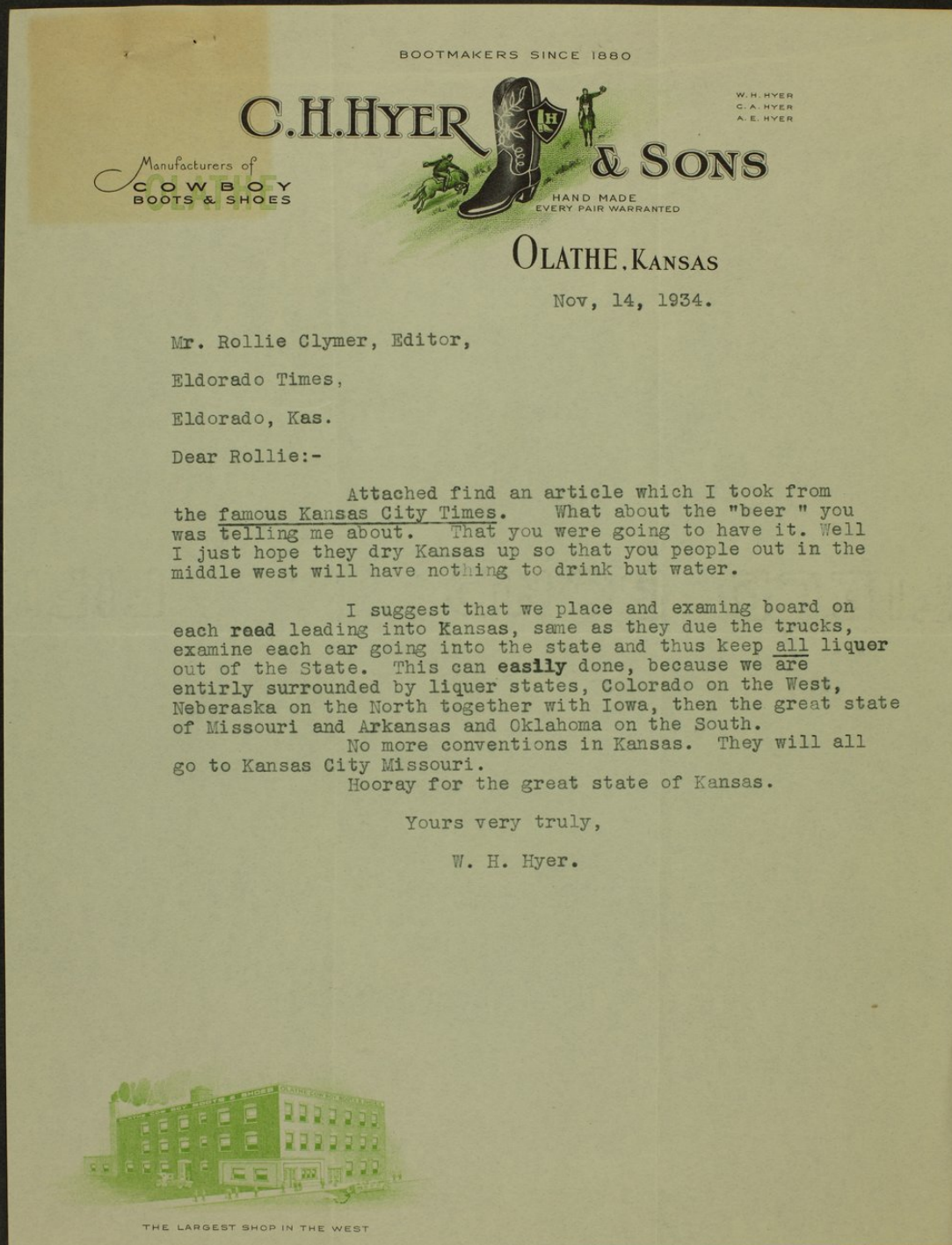
## Rolla Clymer correspondence





## Rolla Clymer correspondence







## Rolla Clymer correspondence

USE TELEGRAMS TO HAVE THE WAY FOR SALESMEN  
STANDARD  
GIVE THE POWER FROM HERE AND THERE  
CANNOT MISS

Y WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

# WESTERN UNION (08)

W. C. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS  
DL = Day Letter  
NM = Night Message  
NL = Night Letter  
LC = Deferred Cable  
NLT = Cable Night Letter  
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is Standard Time at point of origin. Time of receipt is Standard Time at point of destination.

Received at 209 West Pine St., El Dorado, Kansas. Telephone 900

WZ19 32 DL=TOPEKA KANS NOV 14 1024A

ROLLA A CLYMER=

DAILY TIMES ELDORADO KANS=

AM HAVING INFORMAL DINNER PARTY FOR WALTER HARRISON AT KANSAN  
HOTEL SIX THIRTY FRIDAY EVENING AND WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE  
YOUR PRESENCE STOP SINCERELY HOPE YOU CAN BE WITH US STOP  
PLEASE WIRE=

A L SHULTZ.

MINUTES IN TRANSIT  
FULL-RATE DAY LETTER

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

### COPY OF WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

El Dorado, Kansas

November 14, 1934

Mr. A. L. Shultz,  
c/o Hotel Kansan,  
Topeka, Kansas

Business deal prevents attendance your dinner mighty sorry  
thanks invitation.

R. A. CLYMER

prepay and charge Times



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

November 15, 1934

Miss Ellina C. Murdock,  
3162 Warner Drive,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

My Dear Lena:-

Here is some more confidential stuff.

The first regards the check. We have taken out another 3 per cent dividend, making 12 per cent for the year. I am well pleased with this accomplishment, for I doubt if many businesses are making 1 per cent a month, and don't know that we can keep it up. Anyway, we can try. Please handle this check as you usually do and keep any word of it from getting back to El Dorado.

The second is this: Thompson Brothers are broke and facing foreclosure. We have made them an offer of \$15,000 for their plant and business. It is probably worth twice that. While the deal is not closed, I think they will take it. We need not put up any money on the main amount at this time, for the El Dorado National Bank and Bob Bradford hold the notes and our credit is good with them. We shall doubtless need some money to repair machinery, buy stock, etc., but believe we have enough on hand to do that in a moderate way. I think maybe we can take this plant over and perhaps do \$25,000 a year business with it. If so, we can make a profit. If we find the venture a losing one, we can junk the plant and probably get out without any loss. I am trying to play it safe. We can absorb the new acquisition into



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

-2-

our business without increasing the stock issue or disturbing the capital structure. Mr. Frazier and the Adamses think the deal a good one. I believe you will approve; if not, let me know at once. One compelling reason for wanting to take over this plant is that if it should fall into unfriendly hands it might mean some bitter competition in the way of printing, and possibly another newspaper, so we want to control it. This insurance feature is a valuable one for us, I believe.

I wanted to acquaint you with these things and hope you will have no objection. We are trying hard to take care of our situation here. If we can drag in more printing from the outside and make a profit doing it, it should help us to get by in the remaining years of the depression.

Please write me as soon as you can. I am always glad to hear from you. In addition to running this paper, I was director of publicity for the State Republican Central Committee during the campaign, and spent about half of my time at Topeka. It meant a strenuous eight weeks but I came through all right, with the satisfaction of having the business run along well here with a loyal staff, and also of keeping Kansas Republican. The latter is no mean feat these New Deal days.

Cordially yours,





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

HAROLD MCGUGIN  
3D DISTRICT KANSAS

HOME ADDRESS  
COFFEYVILLE, KANSAS

COMMITTEES:  
MINES AND MINING  
COINAGE, WEIGHTS, AND  
MEASURES

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

Coffeyville, Kansas,  
November 15, 1934.

Mr. R. A. Clymer,  
ElDorado Times,  
ElDorado, Kansas.

My dear Rolla:

I have your fine letter of the 13th. I deeply appreciate your kind statements. I did suffer the political liability in the campaign of being wholly unable to make my friends believe that I was in trouble. They just did not and could not believe it. They found no trouble with the people with whom they would talk. There was no trouble from such sources.

I carried all the rural sections. I probably carried the main street of every town in the district. They played the relief funds on such a big scale that I could not over-come the effect of such expenditures.

I am inclosing two confidential letters which I have written to my Republican editor friends in the district. If you have time you might read them over. They will give you the whole story.

I am not so sure that I am particularly sorry that I was defeated. The next session of Congress is going to be hell. Wild appropriations are going to be presented which will turn money over to the President in blank. I know that the money will be used to carry out all kinds of socialistic schemes. Appropriations will be made under the guise of relief but a goodly part of the money will be used to carry out socialistic hobbies. They will be brought in under gag rules and one must either vote for them in their entirety or turn them down in their entirety. Voting against them means voting against any relief. No one really wants to take that course. To vote for them in order to obtain any relief means that one has made his record of placing his stamp of approval on the whole socialistic program of the New Deal.

If we could have elected 170 or 180 Republicans

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

R. A. Clymer, Page 2.

to the Congress, I should have been sorry to have been de-  
reated. With that number we could have blocked the gag  
rules and could have made the record of voting for reason-  
able relief and at the same time voting against the socialism.  
With only 107 Republicans elected, I am just as well satis-  
fied as if there had been 108 and I was the 108th.

I want you to know that I more than appreciate what  
you have to say pertaining to me and my possible future poli-  
tical ambitions. Just at this time, I do not know what they  
are or will be. Time and fate will have to take care of that.

With best wishes from Mrs. McGugin and me, I am

Very truly yours,

HM:NJ  
Inc 2

*Harold McGugin*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

OFFICE OF  
COUNTY ATTORNEY  
LYON COUNTY  
EMPORIA, KANSAS

November 15, 1934.

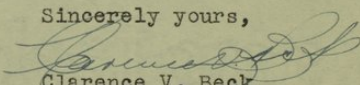
Mr. Rolla Clymer,  
Eldorado, Kansas.

Dear Rolla:

Again let me thank you for the work you did for me during the primary and general campaigns. As a candidate I appreciate the work you did for the Central Committee during the campaign, and I think you ought to feel proud of the result of your efforts.

Please call on me whenever I can be of any service to you and drop in to see me when you are in Topeka,

Sincerely yours,

  
Clarence V. Beck

CVB:BFM

*District Court Convenes First Tuesday of February, May, and October*



### CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY

REGISTERED MAIL

Ponca City, Oklahoma  
November 15, 1934

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

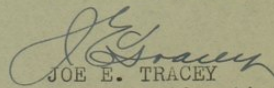
Many thanks for your generous response to Mr.  
Nunn's coupon book solicitation of November 1. Here are the  
books, numbers as follows:

58961  
58962  
58963  
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We are sure you will be highly pleased with the  
convenience of Conoco coupon books and the high quality of  
Conoco products. At the same time your cooperation goes far  
toward helping this department make a creditable showing.

Best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



JOE E. TRACEY  
Asst. to Advertising Manager

JET:b

Enc 4



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

C O P Y

Hutchinson, Kansas  
November 15, 1934.

Mr. George Katz,  
E. Katz Special Adv. Agency,  
500 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Katz:

It seems incomprehensible in view of the long conversations we had at Hutchinson and Wichita a few months ago that such a misunderstanding as the one existing over our present contract could have developed, but obviously it has.

The last thing in the world I would suggest was any conscious trickery on your part. You should know I have too high an opinion of you for that.

At the same time, however, I cannot see how you did not appreciate that the understanding I and all of the publishers had at our conference was that 12½% commission should be effective on all advertising after October 1 of this year.

I have not seen any of the other publishers since this matter came up. I did send a copy of the first letter I wrote you to Oscar Stauffer. His reply was this:

"Our understanding was that the 12½ per cent commission was on all business effective October 1st and there was no joker to the effect that contracts holding over would continue at 15 per cent, according to my understanding. It seems to me that is very far fetched. I can't believe that he will try to invoke such a ruling against us and seems to me that George Katz is too smart for that."

I am confident that his opinion is that of the other Kansas publishers involved.

Unfortunately, there was no stenographic record of our Wichita conference. Neither you nor I can say definitely what either of us or the others said at that time. I recall very clearly, however, the gist of many parts of the conference. At one time someone suggested that the 12½% become effective immediately. You replied substantially that that was asking too much, and that you needed a few months to clear your decks.

You said that it would become effective October 1, but I am certain you did not add that it would be effective only on