

#### **Rolla Clymer correspondence**

Section 456, Pages 13651 - 13680

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

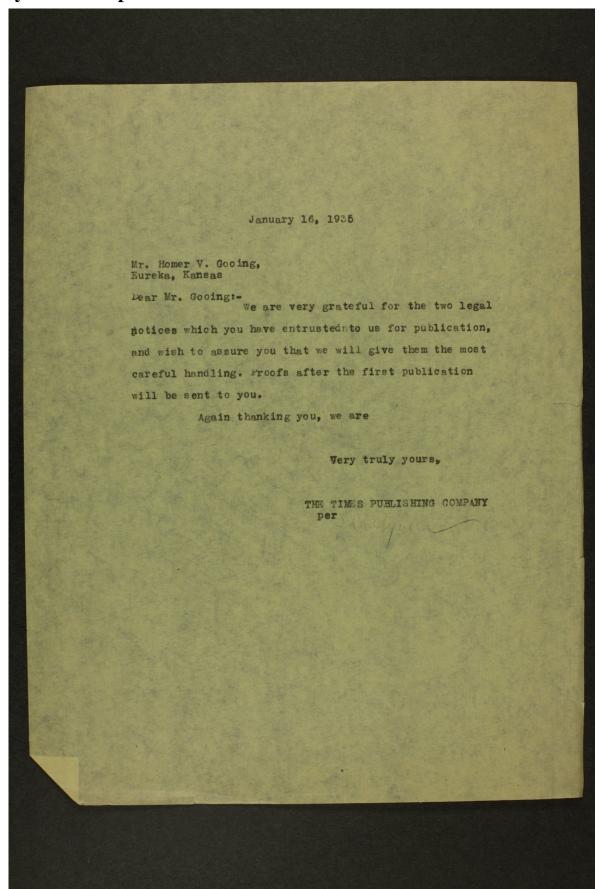
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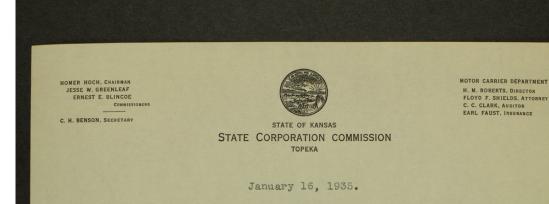
# HISTORICAL SOCIETY







#### Rolla Clymer correspondence



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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Mr. Lee sent me a copy of your editorial on oil proration, which defended the position of the Commission. We appreciate most thoroughly your article in upholding Mr. Ritchie!s standing and supporting the standing of the Commission.

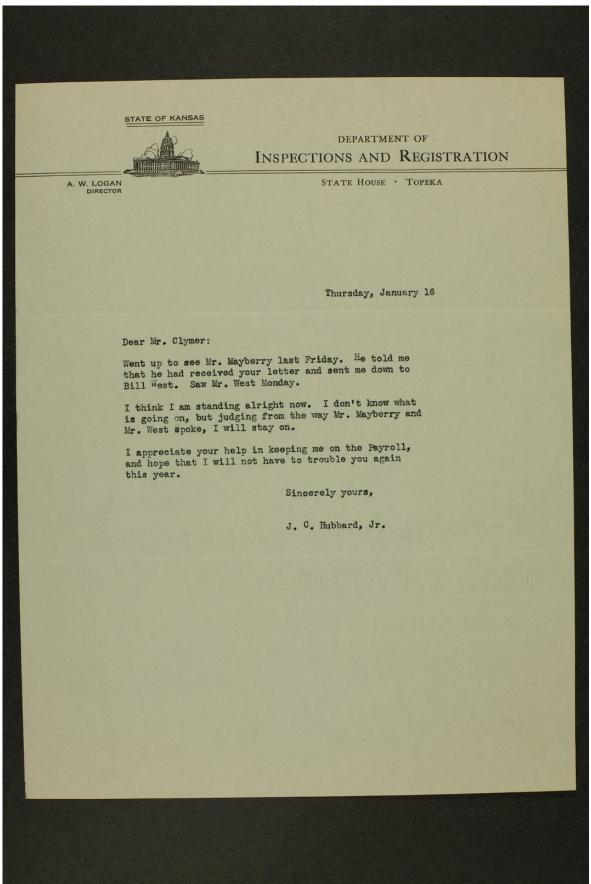
We have tried to be fair in the allocation orders and as you know, have taken out a great deal of the human element therein, and have tried to be fair to all of the operators. I am unable to understand the adverse criticism of the small operators as we have given them a very large percentage, and in the lower bracket I am satisfied that we have given them an allocation which is in many instances a hundred percent of what they can actually produce for the month.

Yours very truly,

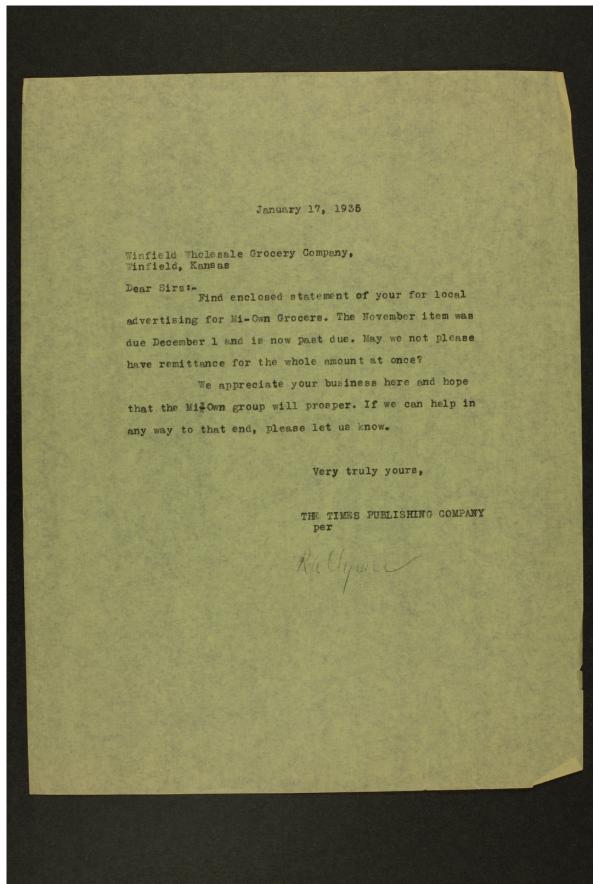
COMMISSIONER.

EEB: MMM



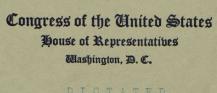








#### Rolla Clymer correspondence



DICTATED January 17, 1935

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

Dear Rolla:

Received your letter of January 15, in which you acknowledge receipt of various communications which I have sent you and also containing your thanks for being placed on the Congressional Record list. I was very happy to put you on this list and believe you will get more good out of the Record by reading it than listening in person to some of the asinine debates.

I was very amused at your statement, and agreeably so, that you were not hide-bound politically. I knew this, Rolla, and have always appreciated the way you have presented your political thoughts. I wish you had the job of determining who should have the El Dorado Post Office. I believe you are the only outstanding citizen of your community who has not endorsed one or more of the four candidates. I say one or more because I have letters from various citizens there who have endorsed at least two. They seem perfectly willing to "put the lily on me". However, whatever decision is finally reached and the appointment made, it will be with the thought in mind that it will be for the best interests of the Post Office Department and the citizens of El Dorado.

If I can be of service at any time, kindly let me know and I will gladly do so. With best wishes, I remain

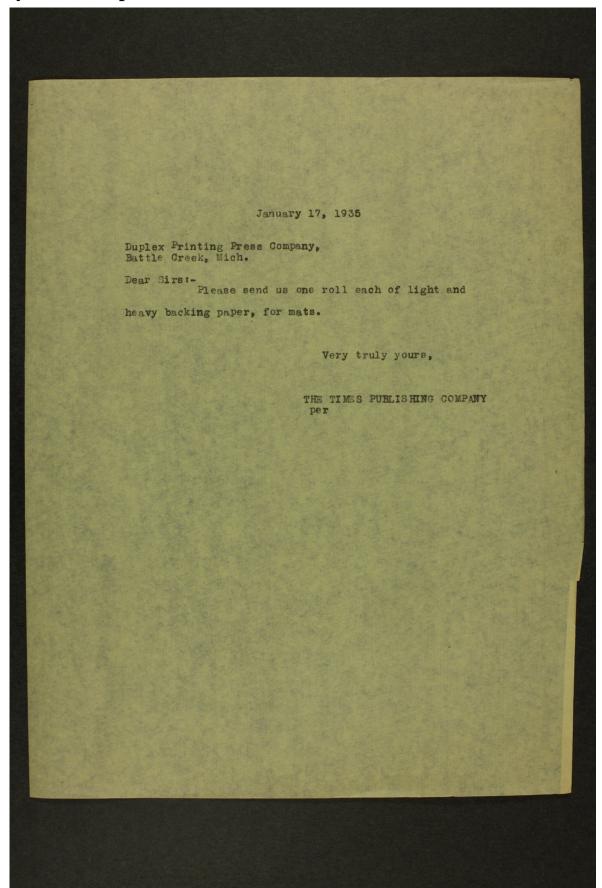
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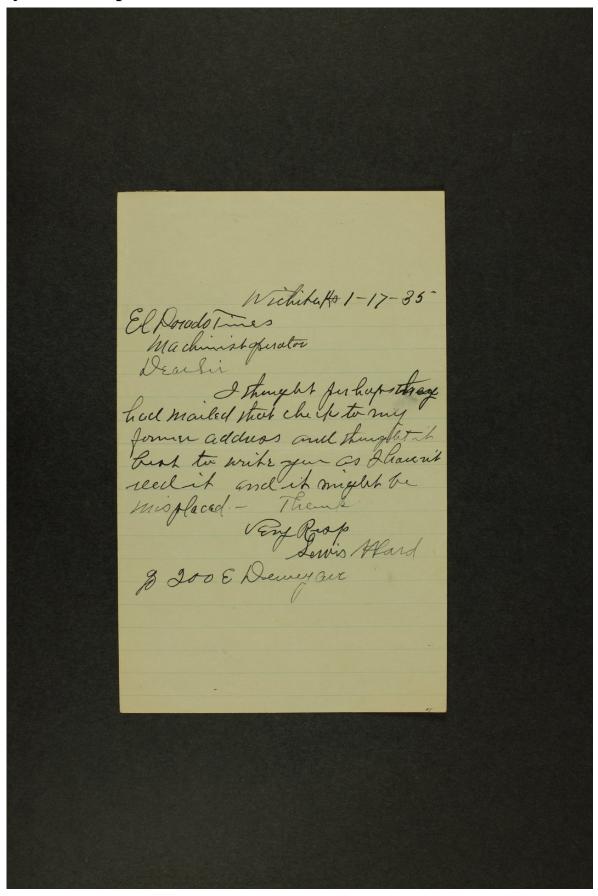
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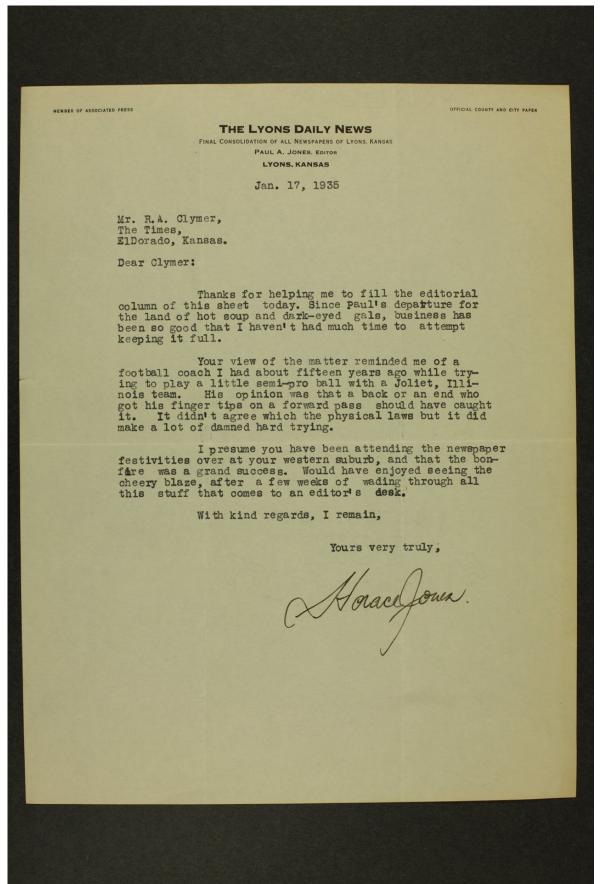




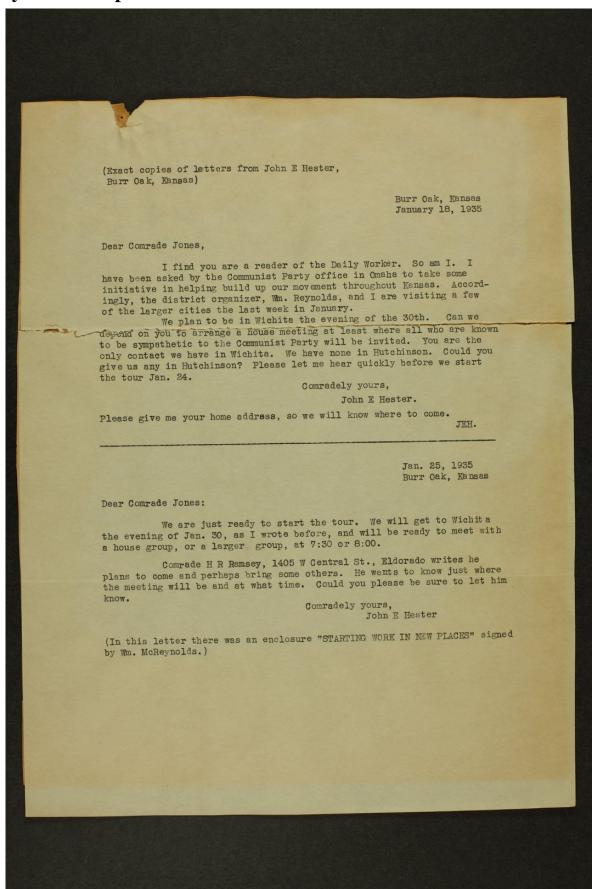




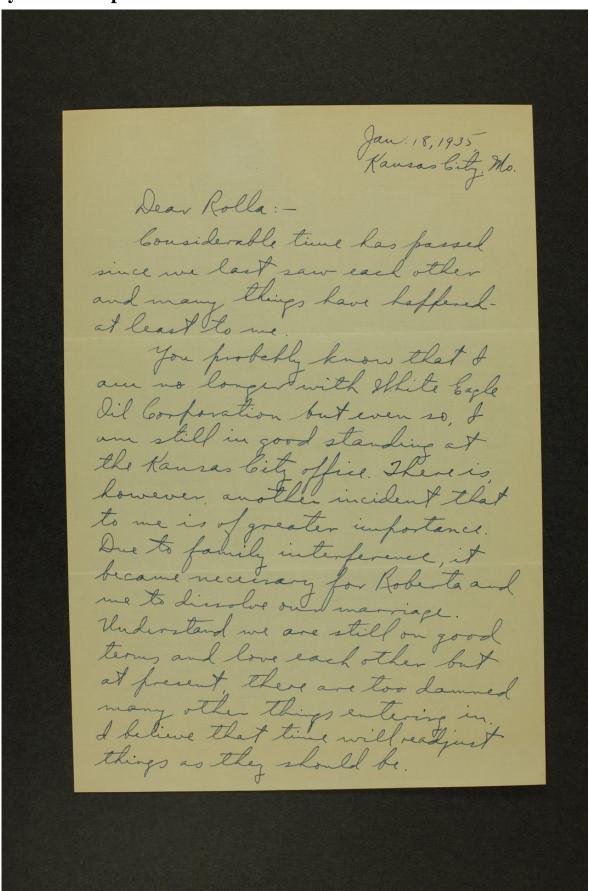




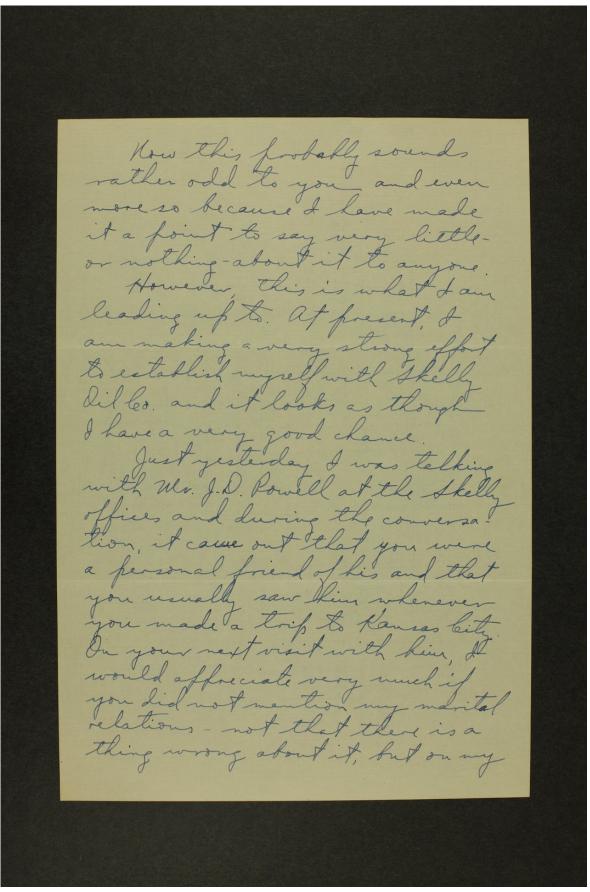




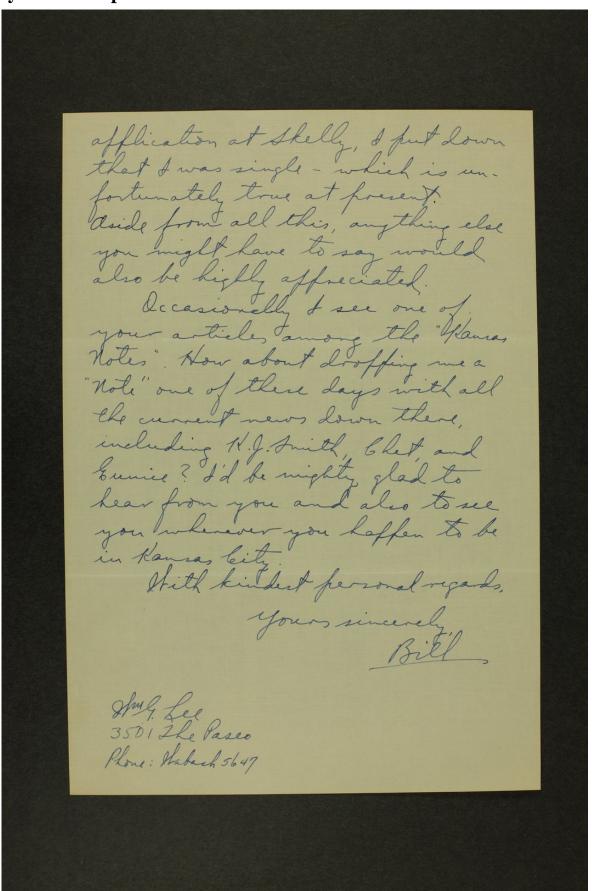




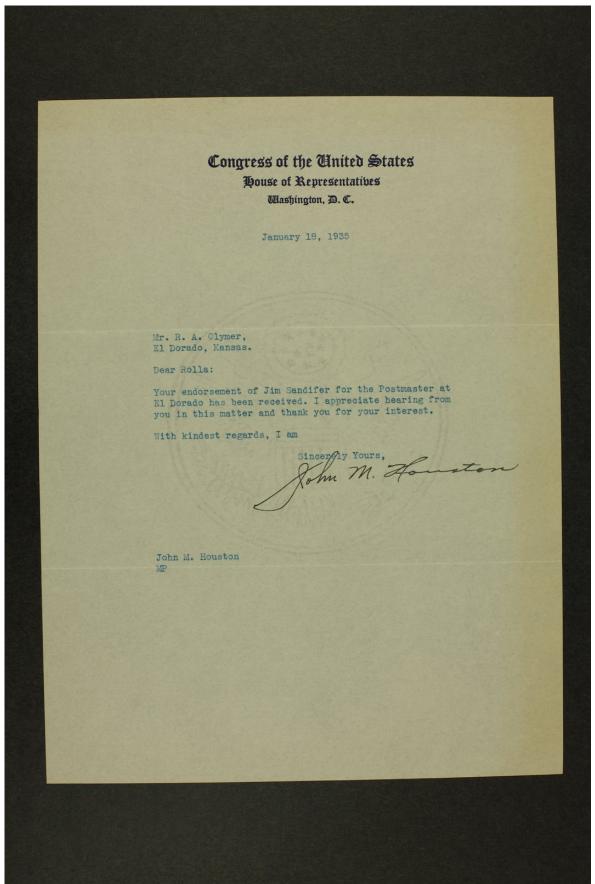




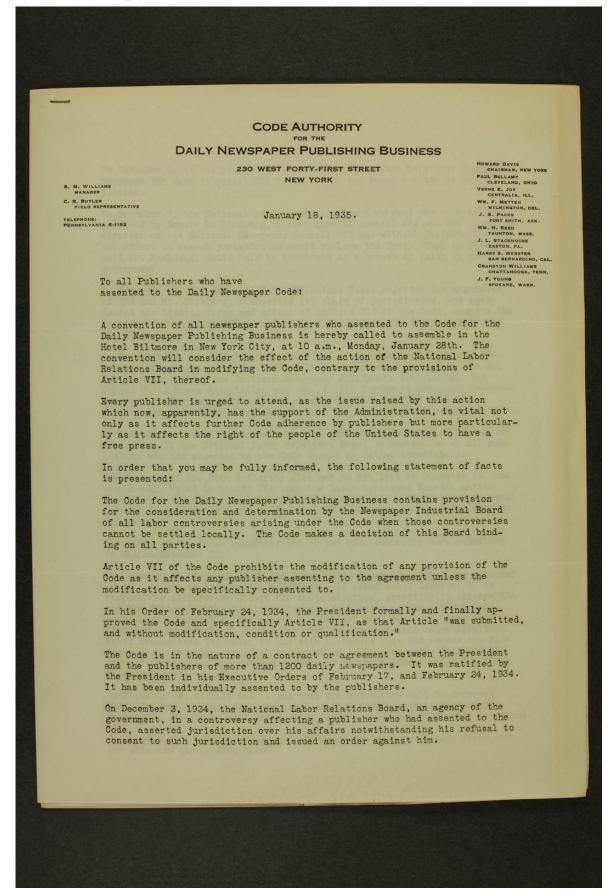














#### **Rolla Clymer correspondence**

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On December 4, at the request of NRA the National Labor Relations Board reopened the case to permit NRA to object to the Board's claim to jurisdiction.

On December 7, the National Labor Relations Board reheard the case and was informed by Donald R. Richberg, former general counsel NRA and now executive director of the National Emergency Council, it was without jurisdiction and any effort to assert jurisdiction would violate the Code. Such an attempt, said Mr. Richberg, could only be construed as a breach of faith by the government.

On December 12, the National Labor Relations Board rejected the arguments of NRA and Mr. Richberg, reasserted its claim of jurisdiction, and again denied the binding force and effect of Article VII of the Code, despite the President's unqualified approval of that Article in his Order of February 24, 1334.

On December 17, and 18, the Code Committee of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, the New England Daily Newspaper Association, the Del Mar Va Association, the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association, the Inland Daily Press Association and the Pacific Northwest Newspaper Association met in New York. This is the Committee which in 1033 and 1934 handled the negotiations incident to both the temporary and permanent Codes.

This Committee voted unanimously that if the government refused to rescind the action of the National Labor Relations Board, a convention of all publishers who had assented to the Code should be called immediately.

The members of the Code Authority also met in New York on December 18, and unanimously voted to notify NRA that the Labor Relations Board's action constituted a violation of the Code which, unless promptly rescinded, would make in their opinion further adherence by publishers to the agreement impossible.

The views of the large committee and of the Code Authority were submitted to NRA on December 20.

On December 21, Colonel Howe, the President's secretary, asked our attorney to call on him to discuss the situation. He asked until December 27 to compose the differences within the Administration, specifically between NRA and the National Labor Relations Board. He assured us the Labor Board would take no action in the meantame. Colonel Howe went away over the holidays. Nevertheless, during his absence, the National Labor Relations Board transmitted its order to NRA with a request that NRA remove the Blue Eagle from the newspaper which had stood on its rights under Articles VI and VII of the Code and refused to consent to the National Labor Relations Board's jurisdiction.

On December 28, Colonel Howe asked that the convention call be deferred until January 2. Then again he asked another week's postponement until January 9. Meanwhile he had requested certain memoranda which were furnished.

On January 2, a Committee composed of Howard Davis, John Stewart Bryan and our attorney saw Colonel Howe.



#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

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On January 9, the same Committee, with the addition of Roy W. Howard, called on him at his request. On this occasion Colonel Howe presented a proposed compromise settlement, under the terms of which the National Labor Relations Board would be given supervisory jurisdiction over the Newspaper Industrial Board.

On January 10, the Committee rejected this proposal in writing and again informed Colonel Howe that the only issue to be decided is whether the government wished to maintain the Code which it asked for and which the President approved.

On January 11, Colonel Howe asked that our attorney confer with Mr. Richberg to see if they could agree on a solution. The conference was held. A solution agreeable to the conferees was reached. It was presented to our Committee and to Colonel Howe.

This solution was agreeable to our Committee. Colonel Howe asked for a few hours to enable him to discuss it with the Secretary of Labor before accepting or rejecting the proposal.

On January 12, Colonel Howe again left Washington for the week-end.

On January 14, Colonel Howe, while in New York, communicated with the Committee. He said he had not yet seen the Secretary of Labor but would do so on January 15 and give the Administration's decision not later than noon, January 16.

At ll a.m., January 16, Colonel Howe at Washington called our attorney, who was in New York. Miss Perkins, Secretary of Labor, was with Colonel Howe at the time. She came to the telephone and asked our attorney to call on her at her office on January 17. Our attorney explained that he would do so, but that under the instructions of the Committee the Labor Board's claim to jurisdiction had to be withdrawn or there was no alternative to calling the convention. An appointment was made for our attorney to meet her at her office in Washington at 10 a.m., January 17. Colonel Howe then requested the attorney to call on him immediately after that meeting.

The meeting with Secretary Perkins failed to bring about an agreement by the Administration to observe the Code provisions. The form of settlement approved by Mr. Richberg and our attorney was rejected.

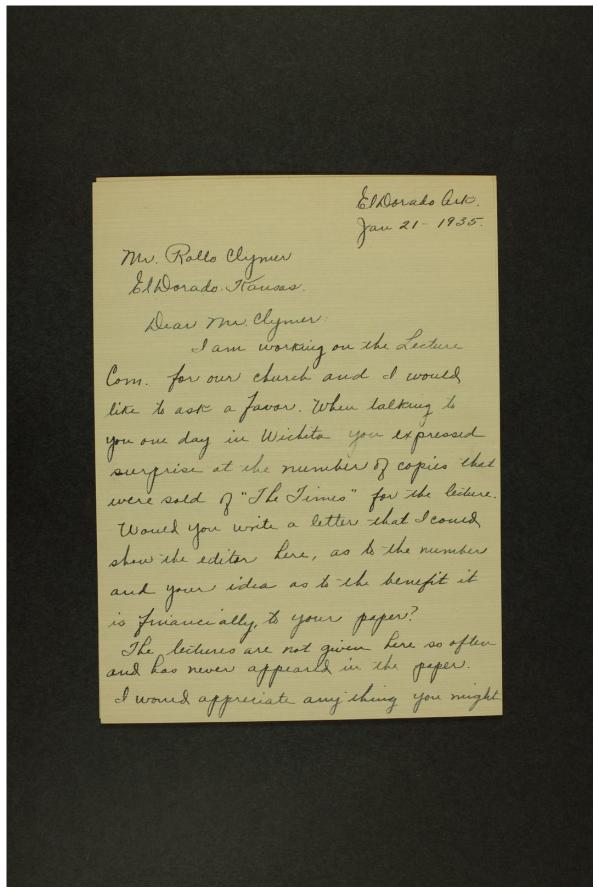
Under the circumstances, the Committee representing the Publishers' Associations has no alternative other than to comply with the instructions given it on December 18 last. The Administration has failed to set aside the Labor Board's claim to jurisdiction over our Code affairs and in effect thereby seeks to modify the Code contrary to the provisions of Article VII.

The convention will be held in the Hotel Biltmore, New York, at 10 a.m., Monday, January 28th and will probably continue through the next day.

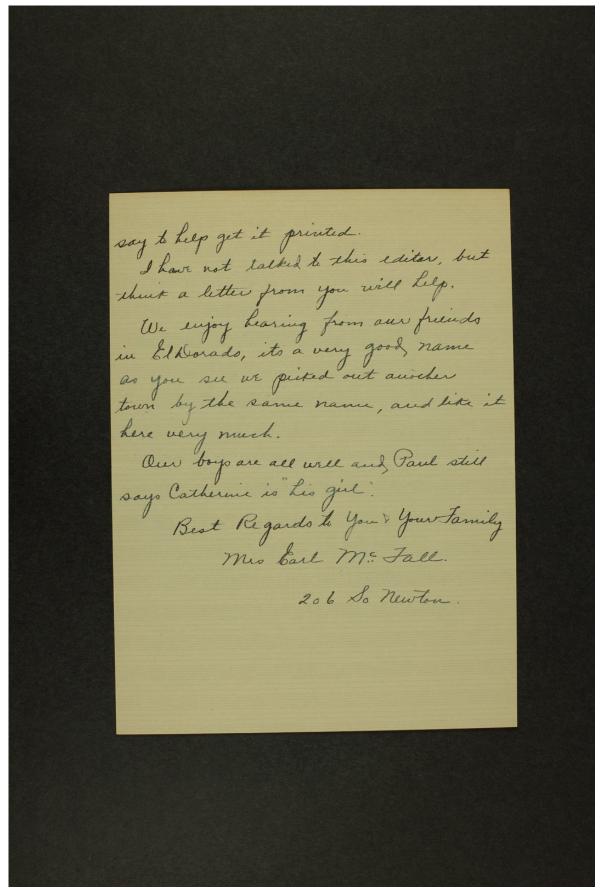
Every publisher who has assented to the Code is urged to attend. Each must bear in mind that if this action of the Labor Relations Board is consented to, even by silence, Article VII, which was designed to protect the right of the people of the United States to have a free press, has been nullified.

Howard Davis
John Stewart Bryan - Verne E. Joy
Sub-Committee of the
Daily Newspaper National Code Committee.

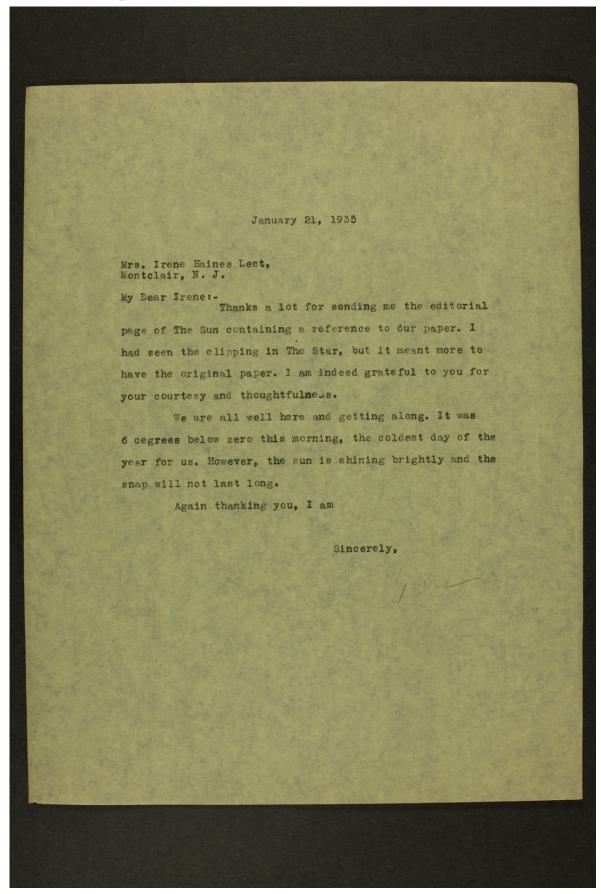














Rolla Clymer correspondence

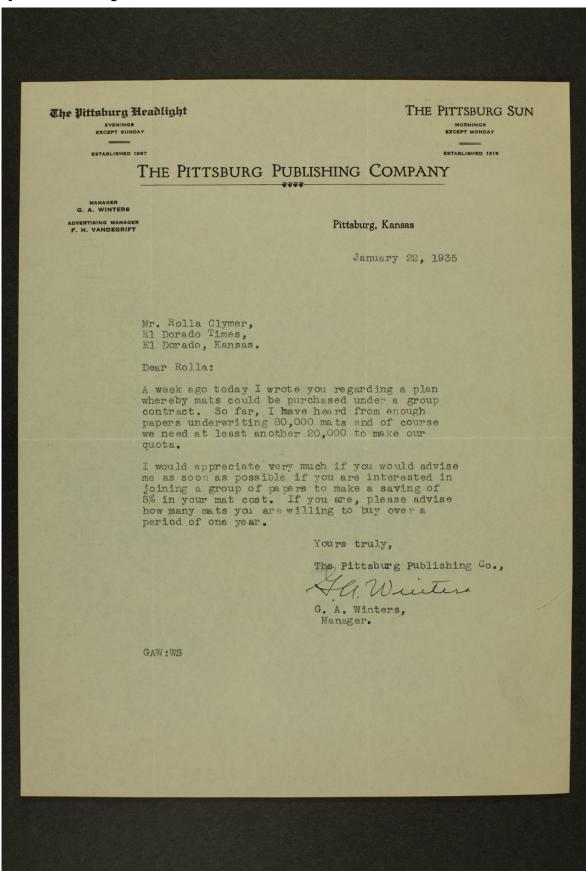
January 22, 1935

Mr. Crville Nichols, Winfred, South Dak.

Dear SirsThis is to acknowledge receipt of your proxy and that of Mr. L. F. Hartwich for use at the annual meeting of the Diana Oil Company yesterday. There isn't much to tell about the commany. It is rocking along with an income of about \$700 a year and expenses of probably \$300. Thus there is always something in the treasury. The same officers and directors were re-elected. While conditions in the oil industry are improving steadily and will get better, in my opinion, provided Congress passes some essential legislation to control "hot oil," there is nothing to indicate right now that Diana interests will expand this year. One thing, it is losing no money; all we can do is to sit tight. If we get a play, it probably will come without advance warning and as development spreads apace our chances are better. I hope this rambling statement will be of some informative value. At any rate, write me personally any time you seek news.

Sincerely,









#### **Rolla Clymer correspondence**

#### INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OR AMERICA

WIRT FRANKLIN

C. E. BUCHNER

T. J. STEUART

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

REPORT NO. 60

RUSSELL B. BROWN

January 23, 1935

To Mr. Wirt Franklin, President Independent Petroleum Association of America

The attitude of the administration and of many members of Congress on any proposed general oil legislation may be determined when the President and the various members of both branches of Congress learn from those interested just what is needed and wanted. Today there is much confusion here as to what measures are really being supported by the industry at large. As one leading member of Congress stated: "It is unfortunate that the oil industry has so disintegrated that it is unable to present a program." Just as one coyote at night may sound as if there were a hundred of his tribe far off from the campaign of the company of the fire, so some small groups are today making so much clamor that it is hard for Washington to estimate their relative strength and importance in the industry. This makes it highly desirable that those who have definite programs to propose should as early as possible telegraph and write to the President and to their Senators and their member of Congress just what they believe should be done for the benefit of the whole industry.

This Association is actively supporting the proposal to replace section 9(c) of the NIRA. The Connally Bill, which does this, was passed by the Senate Tuesday, January 22, with an amendment substituting the Attorney General for the "duly authorized agent or agency" of the President as the officer to institute court action.

Senator Connally, discussing the Bill on the floor of the Senate, characterized the hot oil operator as "a man who illegally produces oil that does not belong to him, that belongs to his neighbor," and several times referred to hot oil as "the product of theft" and "the product of a violated law". Senator Connally closed his debate of the bill with the following statement. "There is no effort on my new to forestore any future action that might ment, "There is no effort on my part to foreclose any future action that might be suggested in either House of the Congress with respect to more comprehensive legislation."

The Connally Bill, which has gone to the House, has not yet reached the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. This Committee is scheduled to meet Friday. It is rumored without any basis in official statements, that the Committee may defer action upon the Bill awaiting action by the states. Since there is no way of determining how soon various oil states may act, it would be difficult to forecast the time when the Bill would come before Congress for action should this rumor be wellfounded.



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While recognizing the importance of the early passage of a separate bill to replace 9(c) of the NIRA, this Association feels that the general problems of the industry should also be met by a more detailed measure which would provide for scientific determination by a non-sectional, impartial, unprejudiced board or commission of the amount of crude petroleum necessary to supply demand for consumption in this country and for exportation, the same board also being directed to make a scientific and impartial determination of the just and equitable share of that production which should belong to each oil producing state. A measure of this character would make possible balancing supply with demand. Necessarily, the limitation of imports of crude petroleum and its products and the regulation of withdrawals of oil from storage would belong in the same measure. None of these proposals involve any "control". They are merely designed to bring order into the industry, to prevent needless waste, and to protect the industry from the raiding element in any state or group of states which might, be unethical and economically unsound production, demoralize the industry and completely ruin those individuals or those companies and corporations who do not have large financial reserves.

The Connally Bill will not meet the most serious problems of the industry. As Senator Connally stated, "This Bill is intended simply to supply the gap in the law." To use a far-fetched, if not extreme, illustration, the insufficiency of any mere substitute for 9(c) of the NIRA would be evident if the hot oil crowd in any state got control of the state government by any means, secured the appointment of a commission favorable to their cause, and put at the head of that commission a man who was opposed to the establishment of any order in the industry, and then set an unreasonably large allowable production for that state. This would then be the legal production for that state. Any substitute for 9(c) of the NIRA which has thus far been proposed would not prevent but would legalize any shipments of oil from that state which did not exceed such an allowable. While no one is forecasting such an event, its possibility, if not its probability, points to the necessity of serious and adequate legislation which will be genuinely helpful to the whole domestic industry in attempting a balance of supply with demand. Thus the substitute for 9(c), if left alone and unsupported by other federal legislation would leave the oil industry and all the other oil states at the mercy of any one state with large potential production.

The continuation and possible increase of the excise taxes are being supported by this Association with the hope that these taxes may continue until the adoption of an adequate tariff.

The Bill introduced by Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas, providing for repeal of the federal sales tax on gasoline has been referred to the Committee on Finance.

"He who Sups with the Devil Needs a Long Spoon."

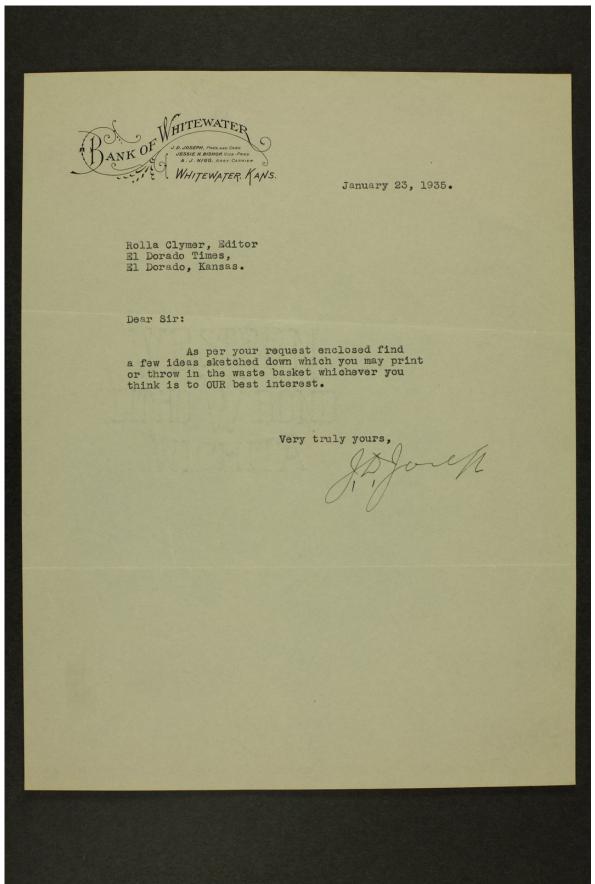
Some elements in the oil industry are getting into curious company, to say the least, in their unwillingness to accept legislation which would authorize protection of the oil states or the interests within an oil state from the racketeer. Whether they believe they can later disassociate themselves from their present allies or whether they believe that their present partnership will not be noted by the industry is not clear. They may forget



#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

that they cannot expect to receive advantages, help, and reinforcement without giving something in return. It is easy to get into a lion's den but it is not always so easy to get out again and there are not too many Daniels in the oil fraternity. On the other hand, there are those who cymically suggest that the present union merely uncovers a relationship which has long existed clandestinely. The refiners who have not been helped as much as producers by the operations under the Code, have an opportunity to present, through the general oil bill, such proposals as they believe will be an advantage to their branch of the industry. It is pointed out in Washington that if the refiners can offer practical proposals, they can expect to share in whatever benefits come to the industry from this measure. Both the President and Congress are anxious to pass the most helpful kind of legislation and early letters and telegrams reaching both the President and the members of both branches of Congress, setting forth the legislative program favored by those interested in the recovery of the petroleum industry, will be helpful to the President in determining his policy and to the members of Congress by aiding them in deciding upon measures which they may either propose or support. Very truly yours, RBB: AG







#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

#### CODE AUTHORITY FOR THE DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING BUSINESS

230 WEST FORTY-FIRST STREET
NEW YORK

New York, January 24th, 1935.

TO ALL PUBLISHERS ASSENTING TO THE CODE FOR THE DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING BUSINESS:

Your Code Authority, in cooperation with the Daily Newspaper. National Code Committee, having protested against the National Labor Relations Board assuming jurisdiction over labor controversies arising under the Code, the President of the United States has addressed to Francis Biddle, chairman of that Board, the following letter:

My dear Mr. Chairman:

Washington, January 22, 1935.

It has come to my attention that out of a total number of approximately 550 different codes which have been approved and are now in effect, a very small number—probably less than five—contain a provision for the consideration and final adjudication of complaints of violation of labor provisions.

The existence of this provision in this handful of codes was due to the evolutionary process of code making during the first year of NRA. I understand that since those days no provision for final adjudication has entered into any of the later codes.

It is, of course, clear to me that it is reasonable that some provision for appeal should be a part of government policy. Nevertheless, the fact that government has approved this provision in these very few codes, makes it imperative that government should live up to the letter of the agreement as long as these codes remain in effect.

I, therefore, request that the National Labor Relations Board conform to the following principles in cases arising under these few codes until such time as the codes themselves may be altered, either by executive action or by the passage of new laws.

- 1. Whenever, in an approved code of fair competition, provision is made for the consideration and adjudication of complaints of violation of the labor provisions of the code, and where a committee, board, or other tribunal has been established under the code to which an appeal can be taken and which is empowered to make a final and enforceable decision of such complaints, the National Labor Relations Board will refuse to entertain any such complaint, or to review the record of a hearing thereon, or to take any other action thereon.
- 2. Whenever a complaint shall be made to the National Labor Relations Board that the tribunal of appeal established under an approved code of fair competition for the final adjudication of labor controversies has not been constituted or is not qualified in accordance with the requirements of such code, the National Labor Relations Board may investigate the merits of such a complaint and submit its recommendations thereon to the President.
- 3. Whenever in the case of the type of code referred to in paragraph one, a complaint shall be made to the National Labor Relations Board by either party to a case before the tribunal of appeal that the decision of the tribunal of appeal is contrary to existing interpretations of the law and specifically of Section 7-A of the National Industrial Recovery Act, the Labor Relations Board may, in its discretion, report to the President as to whether in its judgment the interpretations referred to are contrary to law.

I am inclined to think that as a matter of practice these three rules cover the situation affecting these few special codes and I call your special attention to Rule Number Three, which should serve to avoid conflicting interpretations of Section 7-A.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

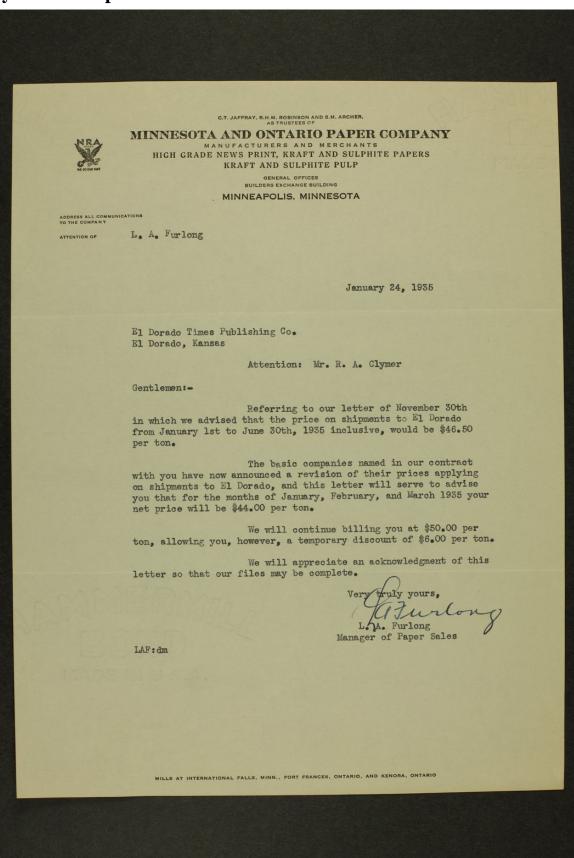
As a result of the President's letter, the call previously issued for a convention of publishers assenting to the Code to convene in New York, January 28th, is cancelled.

HOWARD DAVIS, Chairman Code Authority.

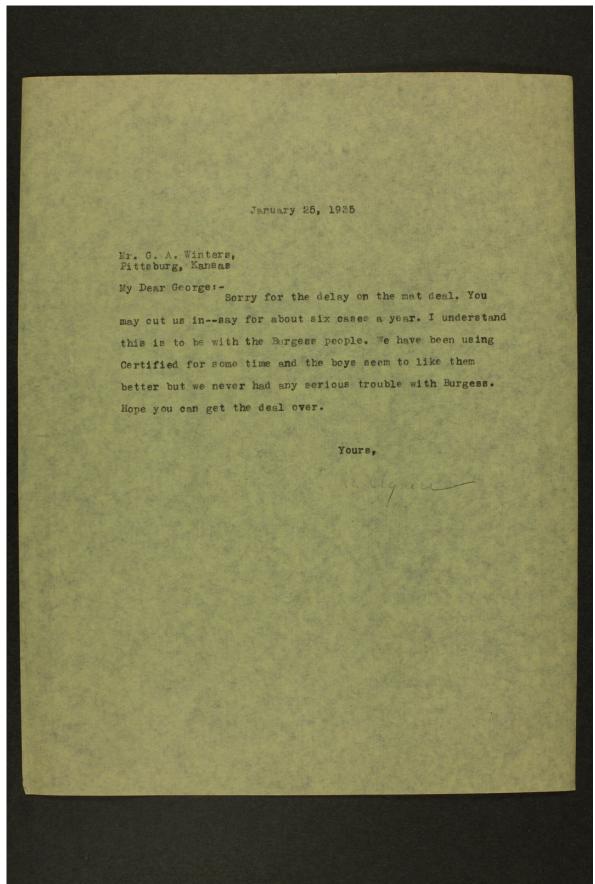
S. M. WILLIAMS

Secretary.

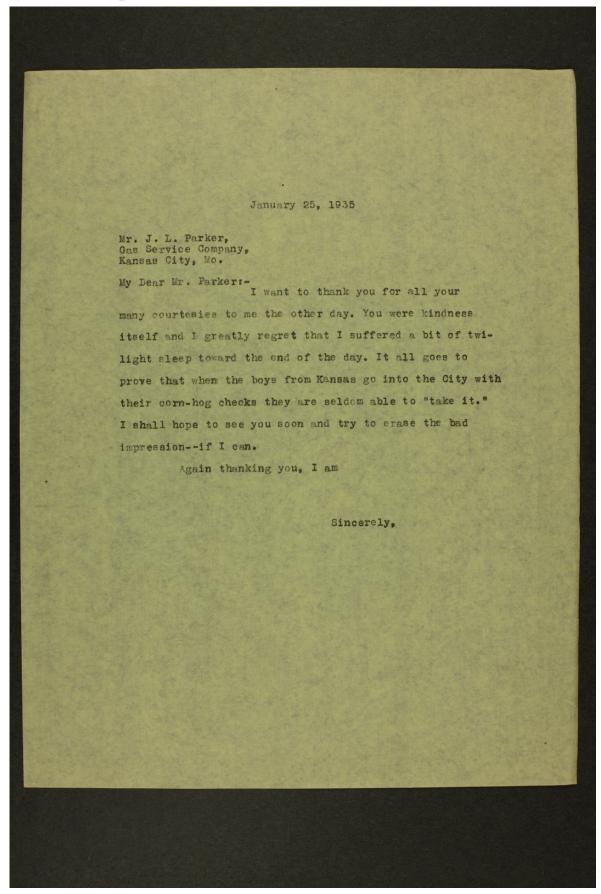














#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

LUNSFORD, BARNES & COMPANY
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

WHEELER, KELLY, HAGNY BLDG.

WICHITA, KANSAS

KANSAS CITY
21 WEST IOD STREET
TULSA
NATIONAL BANK OF TULSA BLDG.
NEW YORK
80 BROAD STREET

Morning that the

January 25, 1935

Mr. Rolla Clymer, The Times Publishing Company, El Dorado, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Our representative, who was in your office recently preparing Federal and State Income Tax Returns, has advised us that on October 13, 1933 the Company paid dividends in the aggregate amount of \$3,000.00 but that dividend tax was not withheld therefrom and returned to the Treasury Department.

It is imperative that this tax should be paid at once, and we enclose herewith, in duplicate, monthly return of tax to be paid at source on dividends indicating tax due in the amount of \$150.00, plus penalty of \$37.50 and interest of \$21.00, or a total of \$208.50. This return should be duly signed, notarized and forwarded to the Collector of Internal Revenue, Wichita, Kansas, together with your check in the amount of \$208.50.

It should be borne in mind that this tax is one which should have been withheld from the dividends paid and that the recipients thereof are the actual taxpayers but the paying Corporation is the Agent of the Treasury Department authorized to withhold the tax from the individuals' dividend and transmit it to the Collector. The Company is, therefore, within its rights in requesting the return from the recipients of the dividend of the principal amount of the tax due. The amounts to be returned to the Company by the individual, based upon the dividends received, are as follows:

R. A. Clymer E. F. Adams, Executor Ellina C. Murdock \$ 65.62 65.63 18.75

Total

\$150.00

Should you have any questions in regard to the above, please get in touch with us at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly, Kunsford, Banco & Congray

WHM:ck