

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 469, Pages 14041 - 14070

This series of the Rolla Clymer collection includes sent and received correspondence arranged chronologically beginning in 1909. With few exceptions, the correspondence provides a continuous and very complete view of his activities. Much of the earliest correspondence in the Clymer collection pertains to information about the College of Emporia for the period Clymer was a student there. Scattered throughout the remainder of the correspondence is information about Emporia athletics and alumni activities and letters with former classmates. From 1914 to 1918, Clymer was editor and manager of the Olathe, Kansas, Register. In 1918, Rolla Clymer moved his young family to El Dorado, Kansas, where he became editor and manager of the El Dorado Republican. Except for a six month hiatus in 1937 as editor and manager of the Santa Fe New Mexican in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Clymer served the remainder of his professional career in El Dorado.

In his later years, Clymer devoted much of his time to efforts to preserve the Kansas Flint Hills region which he dearly loved. In addition to newspaper editorials, he wrote and published numerous widely circulated articles and poems about the Flint Hills. Perhaps his best known tribute was his poem "Majesty of the Hills," which helped earn him the designation as Poet Laureate of the Flint Hills. Rolla Clymer died on June 4, 1977, having been the editor of the El Dorado Times for fifty-nine years. For a complete contents list of the Rolla Clymer collection, see the External Links below.

Date: 1909-1977

Callnumber: Rolla Clymer Coll. #9, Box 1 - 49

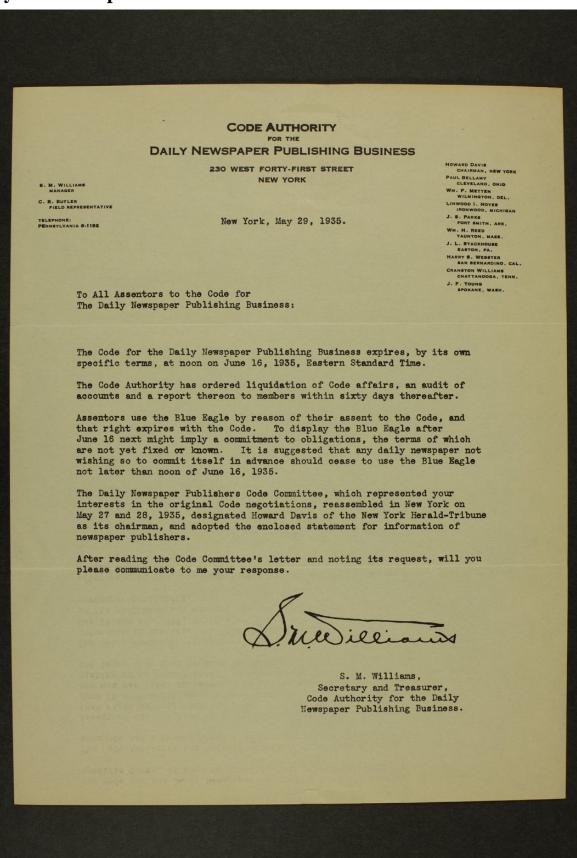
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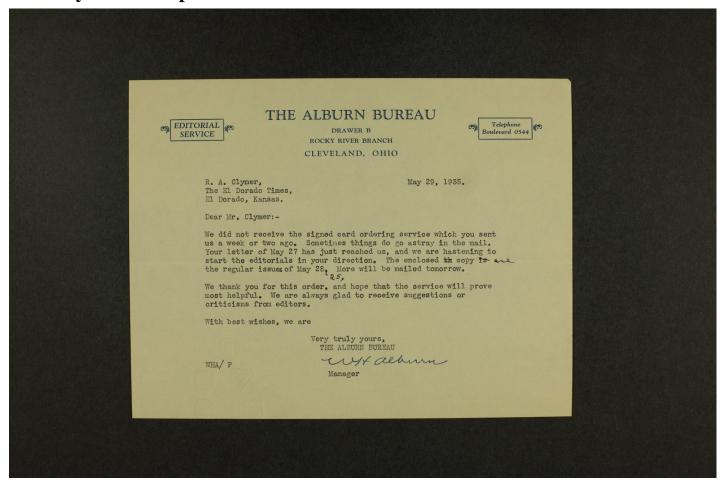
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HISTORICAL SOCIETY











Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE EUREKA HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1868

GEO, G. WOOD, EDITOR AND OWNER

EUREKA, KANSAS

May 29, '35.

Mr. R. A. Clymer,

El Dorado, Kansas,

My dear Rolla:-

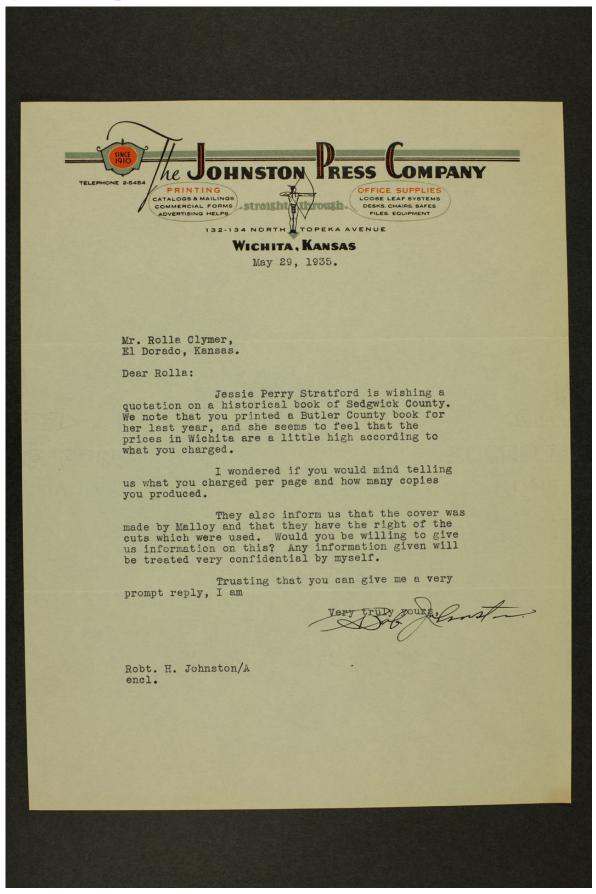
The week after we left out the advertisement of Mi-Own grocers we received pay in full from the Winfield Wholesale Crocery Co., with letter apologizing for delay and request to continue the advs as usual. Said the Wichita office did not know the arrangement we had and supposed the retailers in Eureka were paying their own advertising. That is the bunk, as we mailed a bill each month, first to Winfield, later to Wichita and wrote Mr. Brady a personal letter.

When we left out the advertisement it stirred up the local dealers. One of them had the traveling salesman call Brady and notify him to cancel order for goods, if we were not paid at once and advertising resumed. Brady replied that check to us was in the mail. Don't know whether it was or not, but it came that night and everything is lovely.

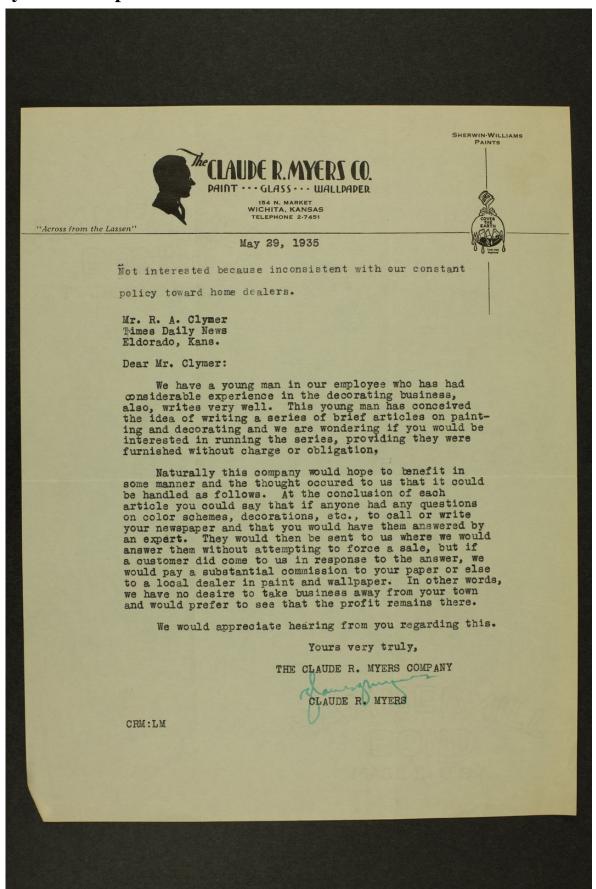
They are a queer bunch, but it seems possible to bring them to time. Hope you have good luck in making them crash through.

Sincerely George hood

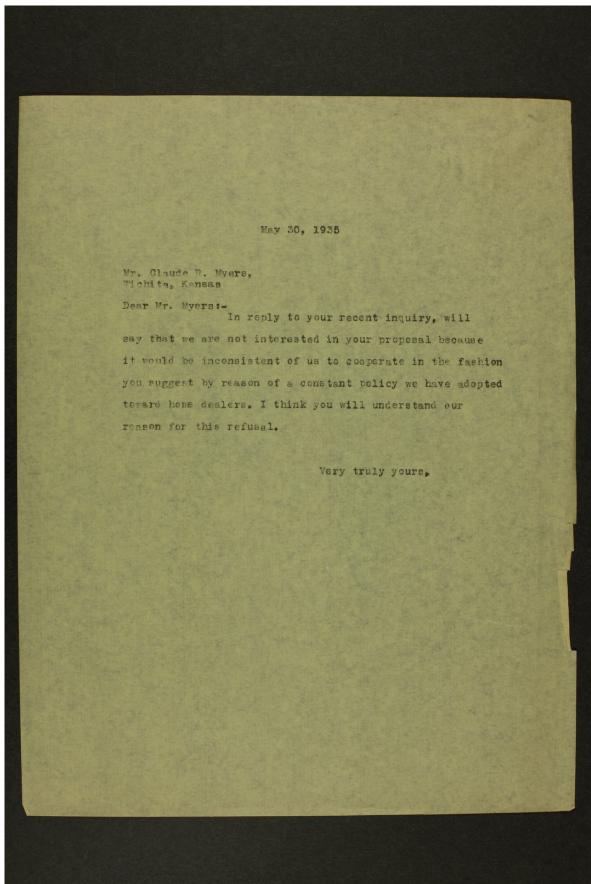




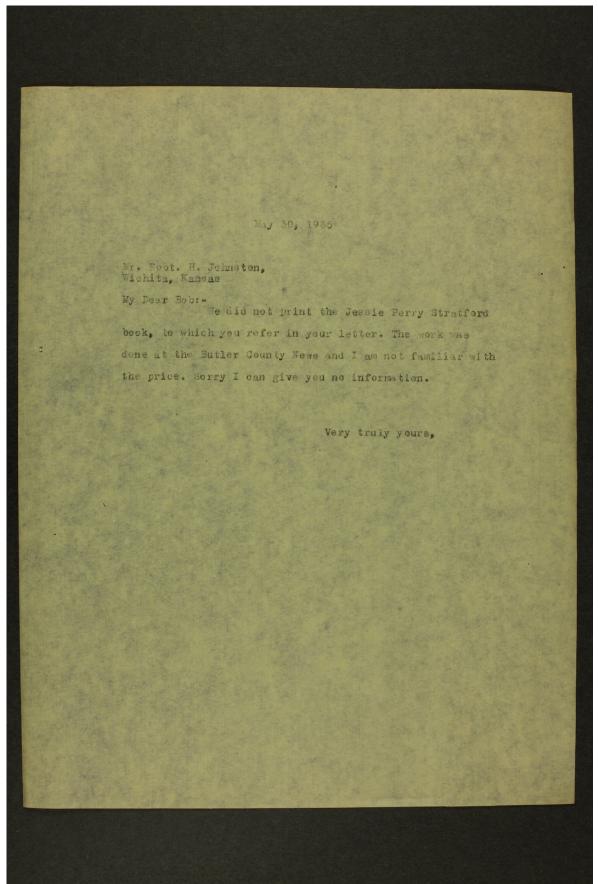




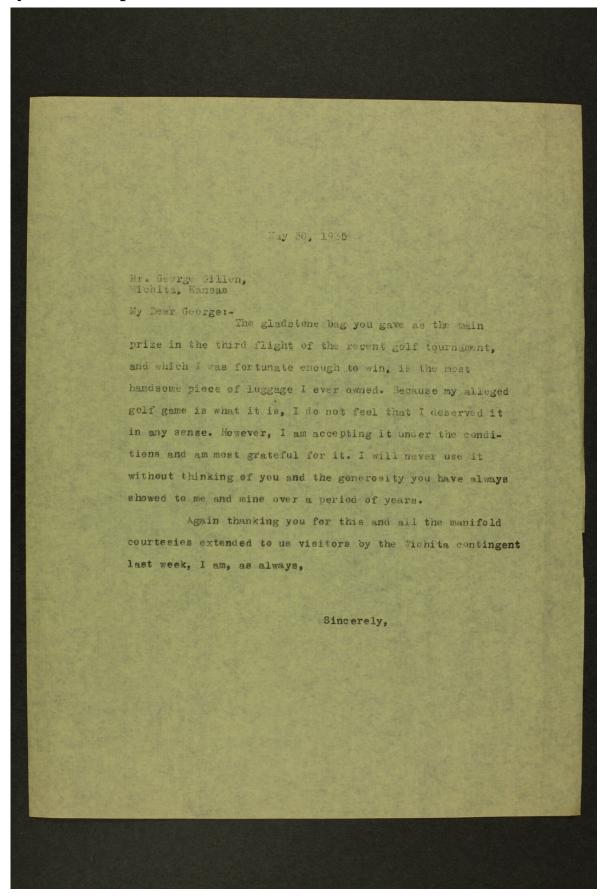














Rolla Clymer correspondence

May 31, 1936

Mr. R. C. Howard, Arkansas City, Kansas

I fear that you and Harry, with all good intentions, are trying to get me into trouble. I have read today with great appreciation of your kindness the references in your good paper to me as a possible candidate for governor. But the idea is out of the question. I have no aspirations for that office. Even if I did, I couldn't afford to leave my business. And it seems to me that a man with a business that gets along trades it for a mess of pottage if he enters politics. I have been somewhat behind the scenes in the past few years and feel certain today that I do not want any office-holding in my life.

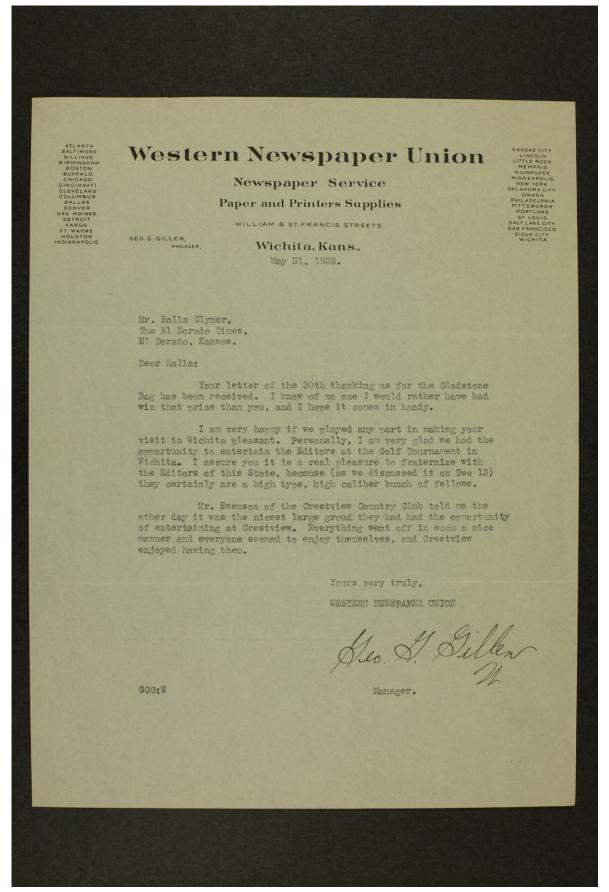
It was extremely generous of you to refer to me as you have done, and I am grateful for it, but I do not intend to be a candidate. There will be plenty of available timber, much of it good, by next January.

I enjoyed seeing Harry and his fine son at Wichita last week. They make a handsome and effective pair. I only wish I might see you more often.

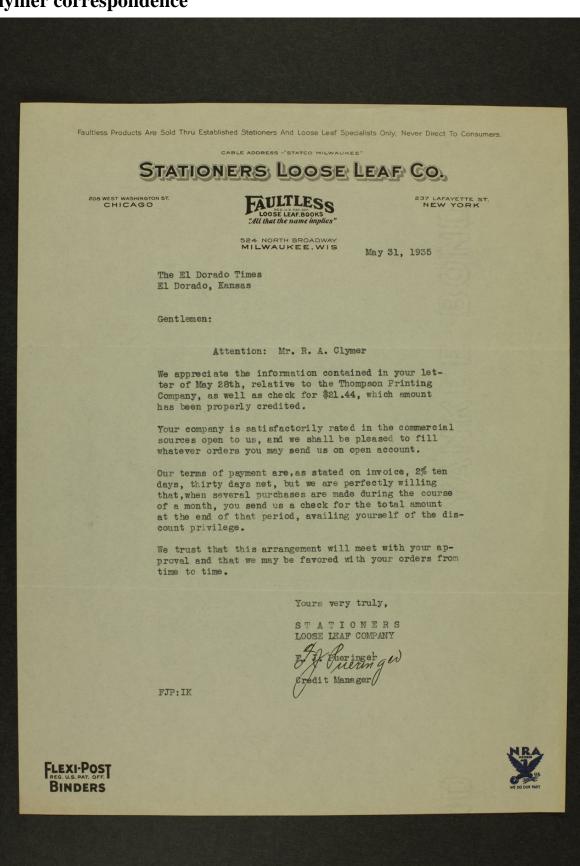
Again thanking you and with best wishes for your continued health and prosperity, I am

Sincerely your friend,













Rolla Clymer correspondence

VICTORIA MURDOCK ESTATE, Owners

VICTOR MURDOCK, Editor

MARCELLUS M. MURDOCK, Publisher

The Wichita Eagle

Morning, Evening and Sunday WICHITA, KANSAS

June 1, 1935.

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

Dear Rolla:

Arrangements have been made to pay a tribute to Dave Leahy-The Dean Of Kansas Newspapermen-in recognition of his many years of service to Kansas and The Southwest.

An engraving is now being prepared which will be reproduced on parchment (size 16x21 inches) to be handsomely framed and which will be presented to him at an early date.

At the top the headlines-

"A TRIBUTE TO DAVID D. LEAHY-THE DEAN OF KANSAS NEWSPAPERMEN"

Followed by an excellent photo likeness.

Below the photo will appear the Tribute-Which will be written by one of Kansas formost writers.

Underneath this message will be inscribed the names of his many friends and admirers.

A fac-simile of this Tribute will be prepared in newspaper mat form and sent to all newspapers in the state for release on the day of presentation.

The Wichita Eagle will reproduce this Tribute in the columns of the paper to its full size.

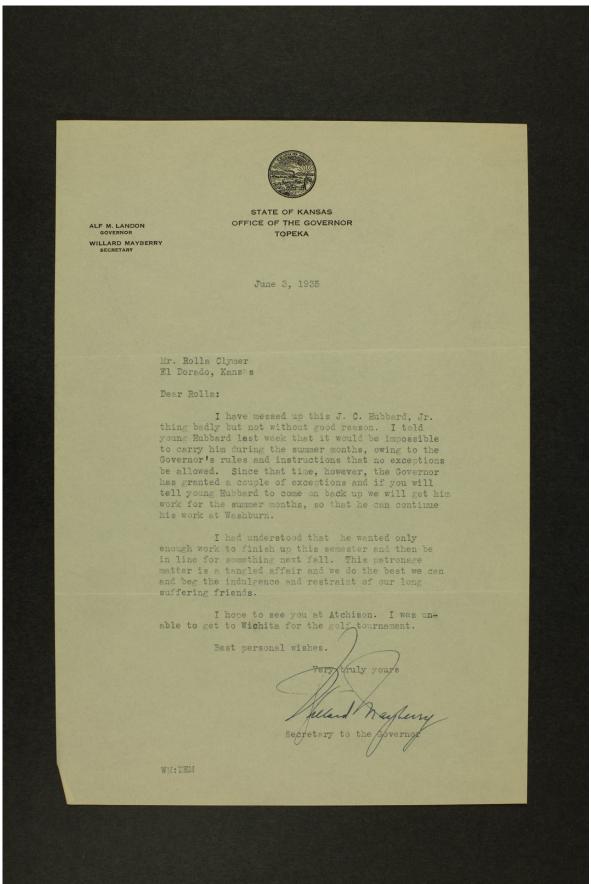
You are invited to participate and to have your name inscribed on the scroll. With your acceptance, your check please to the amount of five dollars to assist in defraying the cost.

Reply by an early mail requested.

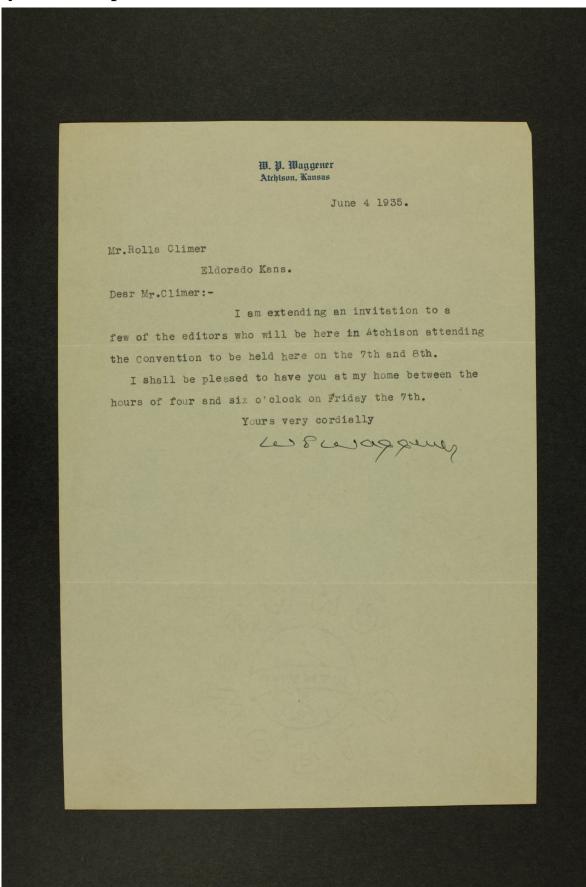
Yours sincerely THE WICHITA EAGLE

Please make your check payable to-Marcellus M. Murdock.

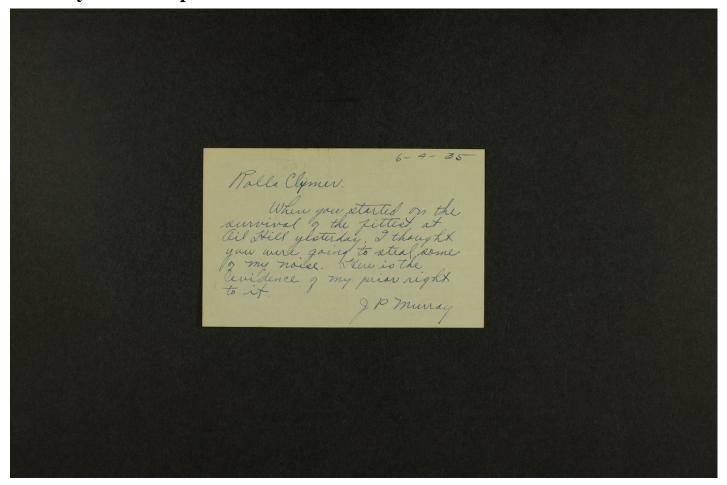














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Rolla Clymer correspondence

(For Use In Safety Meetings)

A THOUGHT ON ACCIDENT PREVENTION

Ву

J. P. MURRAY

The subject of Accident Prevention has been discussed before, being an old subject, in fact being as old as the ages. This being so I want to give you a thought on Accident Prevention that has been running through my mind, and though it may seem far fetched from the subject, it is very definitely connected with it. If I say anything that is contrary to your beliefs do not take offense because it is my own reasoning and you may take it for what it is worth.

In the far dim past, ages before the beginning of written history, the surface of the earth was still pretty steamy and warm, and man had probably not yet made his appearance, but the warm tropical waters contained simple forms of life of many kinds. Gradually some of these began to come out on the shores, which at that time were probably covered with a dense growth of tropical vegetation. As time went on they developed lungs to breath with, feet to walk around on, and finally, some of them wings to fly with.

These first little land animals probably fared very well under their new environment, with plenty of air to breathe and plenty of food to eat.

But this could not, under one of the most grim laws of nature, last. In the little family, or animal circles, occasionally one of the members, maybe sometimes one of the grown ups, probably more often one of the children, would fail to return. These little unnoticed tragedies may have gone on for thousands of years.

Finally some of the older animals, more wise than the rest, began to realize that there were unseen hazards to be guarded against, certain perils to life itself to be combatted, certain precautions that must be taken while on the trail and while in the home. While life had here: for been one continual round of natural events now a new principle was being born into their lives, the principle of self preservation. They were beginning to learn that other animals, larger and more powerful than they, were diminishing their numbers. That they could no longer follow their careless and carefree mode of existance. That time had gone forever. If their species were to continue, a very definite code of self preservation or accident Prevention must be formed.

In the course of further thousands of years their habits gradually changed to conform with this code. Their homes were built differently and in different places, their hunting and feeding habits were made to conform with their Safety Code. They developed a high sense of alertness to danger and accidental injury.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Down through the ages their system of self preservation has been so highly developed that it is a part of them, or as we would say, a nutural instinct. Each little animal knows and recognozes its hazards and is always on the alert to guard against them. Those that did not observe this principle, or develop this trait, long ago passed from the face of the earth. Or to name the result of that law I referred to a minute ago, only the fit survived.

Now let us take a look at this same world at the beginning of the twentieth century. Man was now, and had been for thousands of years the principal character. His mind was highly developed and specialized. He was aware of, and well understood the principle of self preservation. His hands were well trained in all the various arts. Down through the centuries he had been developing them until he considered them well nigh perfect. He understood the hazards of his profession and accident prevention to him was not a serious problem.

However, as if over-night, considering the total time that man has been developing his faculities, he was thrown into an entirely different situation. No longer were a few articles made by hand and distributed likewise. He had entered a new age - the machine age. Articles and products were manufactured so rapidly, perfectly, and cheaply that they were available to everyone. Peoples wants increased as the available supply increased, until now the most humble class of people live in a luxury not even known to kings a few centuries ago. This increased production and improved standard of living have gone forward hand in hand

However, as a result of this we are now confronted with a green eyed monster, that we as men had not had to cope with before in anything like its present seriousness - The Industrial Accident. In the past few years this monster has come to be known and recognized and steps taken to defeat him. This monster that takes away our hands and feet, our eyes, and other parts of our body. That robs us of our health, and the pleasures that are ours, even to life itself. That robs our families of their husbands and fathers, and the luxuries that are rightfully theirs. Even takes from them their sole means of support and sends them to the poorhouse - The Industrial Accident.

It took the animals of long ago ages of time to perfect their system of Accident Prevention. If we should be as long in recognizing our industrial hazards and taking steps to prevent them, none of us would survive, but our minds are much more highly developed and we have been able to accomplish in a few years what took them many times as long. However, we are only in the beginning of our campaign against Industrial Accidents and have a long and rocky road ahead of us before we will be as perfect in protecting ourselves against our own modern machinery, as the little animals are in guarding against their hazards. It must mean continuous teaching, and continuous learning and continuous cooperation between all the units of an industry. Each man must train his mind and set up an eternal vigilance, day by day, and year after year, in order to develop that instinct to be ever on guard against that arch enemy of every working man - The Industrial Accident.

Even then he will not be perfect, for who is there among you who has not seen the hawk swoop down and grab up the unsuspecting creature, who just for the minute has let down and was off his guard.

This, men, is the same old thought just presented to you in a little different way, but still means - take your Accident Prevention work seriously.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

June 4, 1935

Mr. Herbert Hickman, Florence, Kansas

My Lear Herb.:- The Franklin list prices for the two jobs

we printed for you are:

100 window cards, \$6.00

700 4-page programs, \$15.00

There were items of 25 cents each on these jobs for delivery.

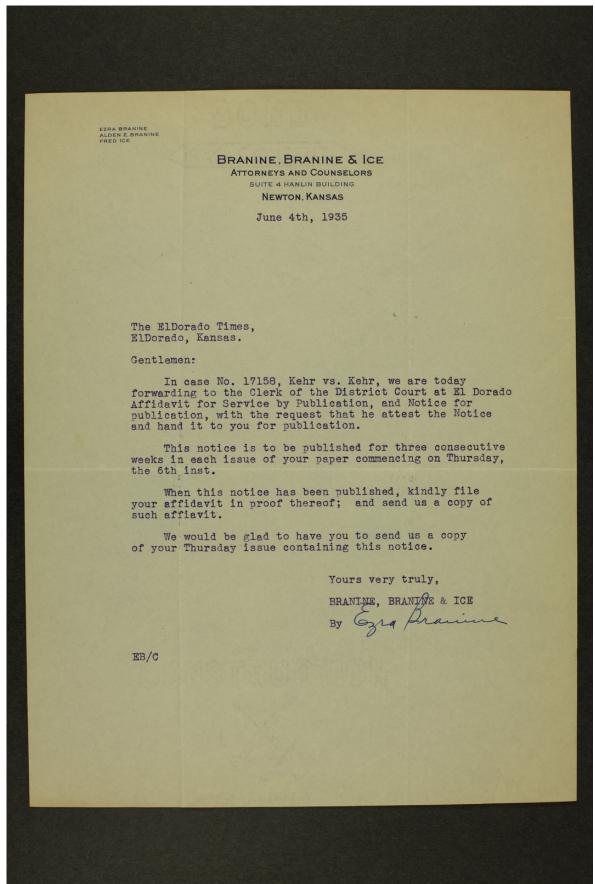
My idea is this, as I told you. Charge your people the code prices, take out whatever whack you wish for yourself -- I am willing to leave that to you -- and send us the balance. We are making no charges for the two items on our books and will merely carry them as cash items, to be filled out whenever you are able to collect from your friends.

I hope you will think this a fair arrangement. I am always glad to help you out in any way, at any time. Any other work of this sort you send along we will be glad to take care of it.

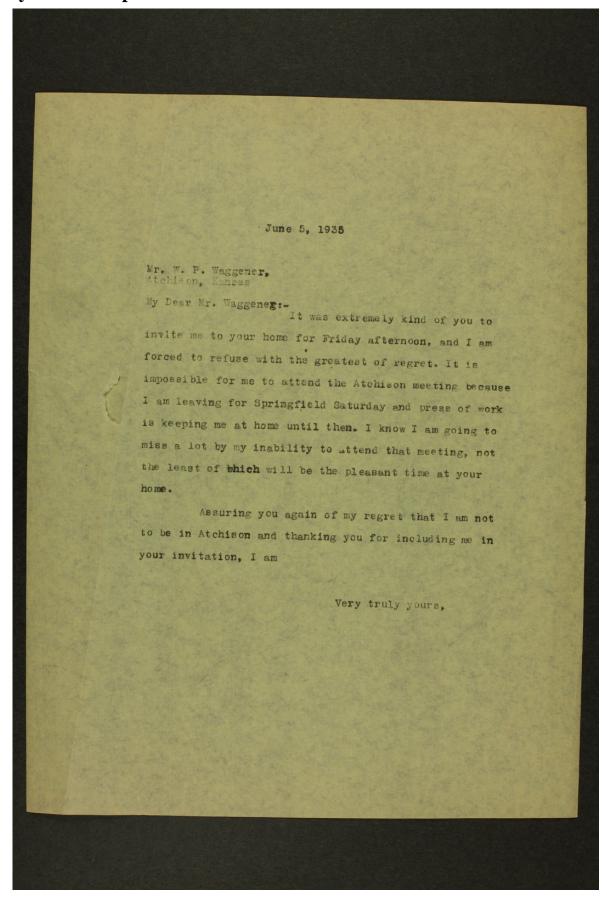
I didn't get enough visiting with you at Wichita -never do, in fact. You and I must get together for an old-fashioned gabble-fest some of these days.

Sincerely your friend,

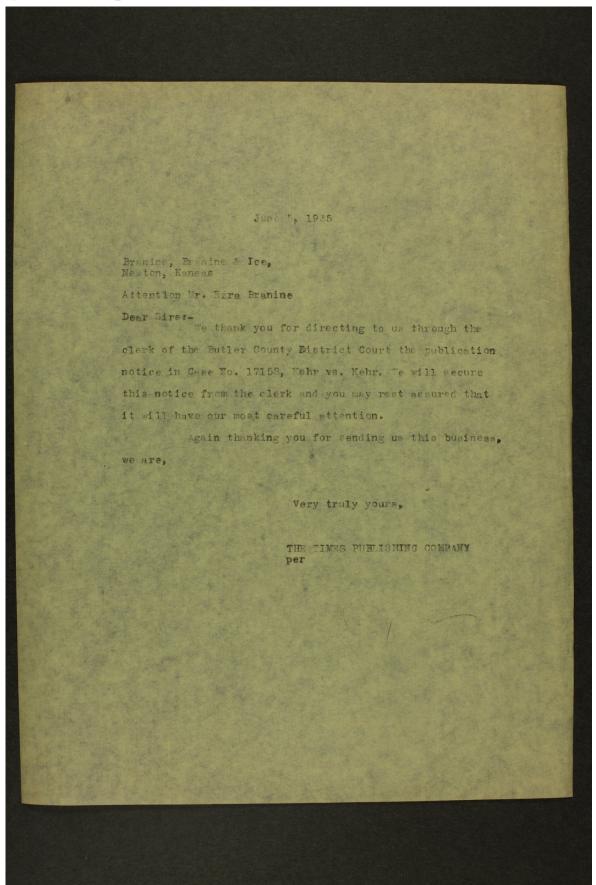














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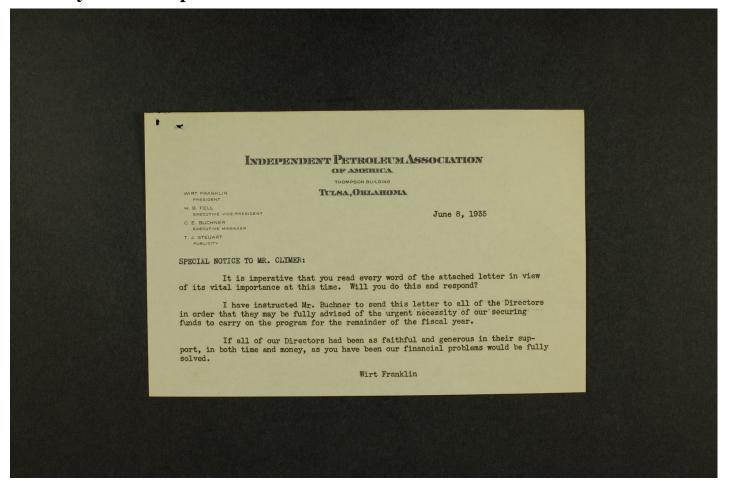
June 7, 1935

Mr. R. J. Alander, Director Advertising Contracts Montgomery Ward, Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Mr. Alander:- We are herewith return the new advertising contract forms in triplicate, which we have signed. Mainly we have been well satisfied with the arrangement starting last July 1, and feel it probably would have worked better if because of illness and for other reasons your company had not had to change managers so often at the local store. The fourth manager is now on the job since the contract went into force. We would make only one request for a change in the wording of the contracts and this is it -- that we be required to make only four orders of reprints during the year. In the eleven months that have elapsed since the first contract was signed, we have printed seven batches of 6-page bills ranging from 6800 to 7000 for each batch. We have felt this was a little more bill printing than was first expected of us. If you can limit this in some way, we shall appreciate that much relief. We have got along excellently with the regular newspaper advertising. We make this as a request and will abide by your decision.

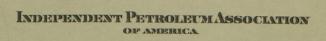
With kindest personal regards for yourself and the hope for better business for us all, I am
Sincerely yours,







Rolla Clymer correspondence



WIRT FRANKLIN

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

H. B. FELL EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

June 8, 1935

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS 214 THOMPSON BUILDING TULSA, OKLAHOMA

T. J. STEUART
ASS'T. TO THE PRESIDENT

o une 0, 1900

WASHINGTON OFFICE 942 INVESTMENT BUILDING WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. R. A. Clymer, Director Independent Petroleum Association of America El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Do you want the independents represented in determining the program for the oil industry in the future?

During the years 1931-1933 the three-year weighted average price for Mid-Continent crude petroleum, as shown in the Preliminary Report on a Survey of Crude Petroleum, as prepared by the Petroleum Administrative Board, was 66.4 cents per barrol. You all remember very well when the price for crude petroleum, during the period referred to, dropped to 10 cents per barrel and there is no one still living who was engaged in the industry during that period who fails to remember the terrific financial losses that occurred.

Since September, 1933, a stable price of \$1.00 per barrel for 36 gravity Mid-Continent crude has existed. While the \$1.00 price is not sufficiently high to return a reasonable profit, it has been most beneficial and helpful. Every effort should be continued to endeavor to bring about a price for crude petroleum sufficiently high to bring a reasonable return to the producer. It is also essential that we concentrate in supporting every constructive move that will prevent a reduction in the price of crude petroleum and a return to the chaotic conditions that previously existed. We must not, under any condition, turn back, but must prepare to move ahead.

Imports are increasing. Unless new legislation is passed by June 30, the only federal legislation in effect pertaining to the petroleum industry will be the Connally Bill prohibiting shipments in interstate commerce of crude petroleum or its products produced in excess of state allowables. With the Petroleum Code gone, every element in the industry is considering what policies and program for the future will best serve the industry as a whole. It is imperative that the independents in the industry be adequately represented in determining such policies and program if they want proper protection. The Independent Petroleum Association of America, as the only national organization representing all branches of independents in the industry, should take a leading part in such work.

It will be impossible for this Association to properly continue this task unless the balance of the budget for the fiscal year ending November 15, 1935, is raised immediately. The Board of Directors of this Association has two definite functions: 1, to supervise the carrying out of the program and policies, and, 2, to see that the funds are raised to meet the budget that they have approved. Nearly seven months of the fiscal year have expired and only one-fourth of the budget



Rolla Clymer correspondence

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has been paid in cash. Less than one-half of the budget has been subscribed. Through every possible economy we will be able to complete the year's work at an expenditure within the approved budget, but it is imperative that \$60,000 be raised now in order that funds be available to meet our financial requirements.

I have been pleased, during the past six years, to give of my time and energy, even at a great sacrifice to my own business and health, in order to endea-endeavor to consolidate the independents engaged in the petroleum industry into one organization that could, through eternal vigilance and constructive effort, prevent the occurrence of those things that would be detrimental to them and secure such things as would be beneficial to them. As President of the Association I am unwilling to continue to permit the incurring of obligations by the Association where the funds are not available to meet them. I do not believe the Directors expect me to do so.

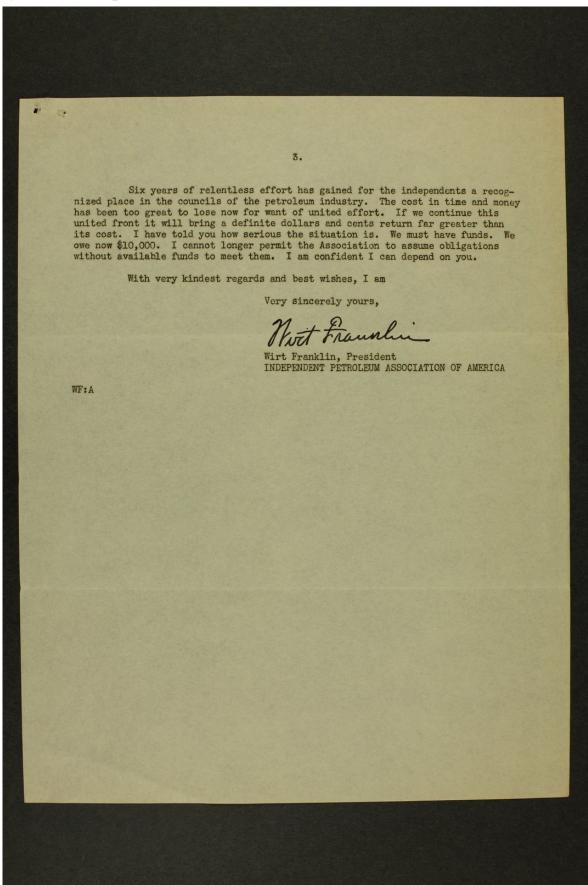
I appreciate the loyal and splendid support that the Association has received from those who have realized the necessity of such an organization. Many of the Directors of the Association have been most generous in making subscriptions toward its financial support and in securing generous subscriptions from others. To them I desire to express my sincere thanks.

The question now is whether the Board of Directors as a whole believe that this Association serves a useful purpose and is worth the cost. If you think it is worth the cost, then it is the obligation of each member of the Board to see that we secure from each community and each state its full quota to meet the budget requirements for this fiscal year. This must be done within the next fifteen days. You, no doubt, have summer plans. Many other workers and subscribers will be away for longer or shorter periods and it will be impossible to see them. Informed observers believe Congress will be in session all summer. We must have money to continue to fight for our program and avoid creating an impossible deficit in our finances by September 1. Kansas' share of the budget allocation is \$10,000 To complete the budget requirements I must count on each Director in your State securing subscriptions on an average of \$250 by June 25, the major part of these subscriptions to be paid in cash. Please tell me by return mail what you can and will do.

Your response to this presentation will indicate to me your desires. If this money is raised we can go ahead; if not, it will indicate to me that you do not believe that it is worth while to continue to fight and work to maintain stabilized conditions in the industry which will result in a reasonable return to the independents from their operations but feel on the other hand that it is better to drop everything and permit each independent to battle for himself in a period of "keen, unrelenting competition" under which we would have "the survival of the fittest".

I had considered calling a meeting of the Board of Directors to present this personally, but realized it would be impossible to reach each member of the Board in that manner, so decided I would submit this statement in writing. The future welfare of the independents in the petroleum industry rests in your hands. The responsibilities and obligations of this Association are yours as much as they are mine. I believe that having brought this matter to your attention you will agree with me that we must not fail and will, as individuals, each do your part within the next fifteen days in seeing that the cash necessary to carry on this work is made available.







Rolla Clymer correspondence

OFFICERS

Albert Faulconer . . President Arkansas City

John S. Dawson . Vice President Hill City

W. E. Stanley . . . Secretary Wichita

Jas. G. Norton . . Treasurer Wichita

BAR ASSOCIATION of the STATE OF KANSAS

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Eustace Smith Hutchinson
Austin M. Cowan Unicition City
R. T. O'Nell Topeka

Bernard L. Sheridan Paola

Bernard L. Sheridan Paola

Coffeyville
E. C. Flood Hays

Arkansas City, Kansas, June 10, 1935.

Mr. Editor:

The Kansas State Bar Association and its members as individual lawyers are desirous of co-operating with the Press, Chambers of Commerce, and civic organizations throughout the state in constructing and carrying on a vital program of public education, in what, for a better name, is called "Citizenship" under the Constitution of the United States.

This subject embraces many aspects of thought and attitudes of educated people. Responsibility for the character and well-being of business and social institutions of Kansas does not rest on a single group. Duty is in direct ratio to ability and opportunity -- opportunity to build and maintain the morale of the citizens of the state comes to judges, lawyers, witnesses, jurymen, editors, reporters, and many other classes of persons, and the character of each will be measured by his response to best impulses.

With these things in mind, and sincerely inviting your constructive suggestions, I am enclosing herewith a questionnaire which I hope you will immediately consider, answer, and return with any additional suggestions.

Sincerely yours

Albert Faulconer, President, Kansas State Bar Association 205 Home National Bank Building, Arkansas City, Kansas.



	QUESTIONNAIRE
Mr. Edit	tor, please answer each question.
	Give name, post office address, and business affiliation?
	Name in order of importance three questions in which publishers and lawyers should join in public discussion?
Answer:	(a)
	(b)
No. 3:	Is there a necessity for public discussion of the Federal Constitution and American Citizenship?
	Is there necessity for discussing the duty of the business man to render jury service?
	Do you believe that such subjects of the law as sales, negotiable instruments, corporations, divorce, vehicle regulation and traffic laws should be uniform in the several states?
Answer:	:
	What do you suggest as the most worthwhile program in which you and Kansas lawyers may join for the good of the state?
Answer	:
No. 7:	In what ways may the Bar and Press work together on some worthy program?
Answer	25
	Signed



Rolla Clymer correspondence

NEW YORK
CHICAGO..
DETROIT..
ATLANTA..
PHILADELPHIA
KANSAS CITY
SAN FRANCISCO
DALLAS....

E. KATZ SPECIAL ADVERTISING AGENCY

NEW YORK 500 Fifth Avenue

June 11th, 1935.

Mr. Rolla A. Clymer, EL DORADO TIMES, El Dorado, Kansas

My dear Rolla:

Perhaps I am suggesting herein that you monkey with dynamite. However, the well known Steve Brody took a chance and though his demise has been recorded it was not because of that particular chance that he took.

Here it is — why don't you Kansas publishers get together and try to have a liberal statute on your books that will permit the sale of spiritous liquors to adults? O, yes, I know.

But I recall the time when your fellow Kansans revolted at the thought of selling cigarettes to the citizenry. A little investigation showed that their prejudices were not too deep-seated and as a result of cooperation among publishers a law, practically a dead letter, was repealed and in its stead a sensible statute was enacted that permitted the sale of cigarettes to adults.

Now, I may be all wet but this is the situation as I see it. With only one exception, all of the Kansans I know enjoy at least an occasional drink. It is reasonable to assume that the situation among those whom I do not know is something in the same proportion. Now, these Kansans are exposed to the advertising of all kinds of liquors which filter into your state through the columns of the neighboring newspapers and such popular magazines as Time, Red Book, Cosmopolitan and similar publications of more or less wide distribution.

So you see your fellow citizenry are not immund to the blandishments of the distiller nor are they totally unfamiliar with the names of the popular brands. And since it seems that they do like liquor and that they are slapped in the face quite frequently by liquor advertisements from outside territory, it is quite too bad that your local publishers cannot get some of this revenue for themselves. A reasonable expectation of 100,000 lines of liquor advertising would result for many of the Kansas newspapers were it possible to sell liquor locally in your state. The method doesn't matter, whether state-owned stores or private outlets all under a liquor commission.

We have seen what a difference it makes in states that have opened up as wet. Very recently both South Carolina and West Virginia repealed their prohibition