

#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 534, Pages 15991 - 16020

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

Dear Boss:

You may be sure it gives me more pleasure than it does you that I am able at last to give you half of what I owe your estate. I hope the remaining half will not be too long in accumulating—and will you believe me when I say that it has been more than kind of you not to hurry me about this? But then, you've always been kind to me—except on one rare occasion occasion when you made me cry!

Many are the times I think about you and wonder how things are going. It seems to me your editorials get meatier all the time--or maybe I'm just weary of the wishy-washy scribblings of the metropolitan fence-straddlers. You've got virility in your writing, and drive and rhythm. If I haven't told you already, I should have long since mentioned that I enjoyed your yarn about ice hockey as much as anything you've ever done--except the Cassel piece, of course, which now happily is deathless. I cannot yet read that piece without clouding up--and tears are the sincerest compliment, you know.

I'm going to see the Blackhawks and the Red Wings play one night soon. I so much wish you might go. It's ## such grand fun. I wisely steer clear of any journalistic expression regarding my puny thoughts about this lightning-fast sport. You've done so good a job--what more is there to be said?

I have a feeling Spume is weakening. I am so tired--work like the devil and love it, of course--that I think my tiredness somehow gets between the lines. I want people to like it or I'd rather not write it--you know, Boss, I love doing that little piece, and if it falls to pieces, I want it to fall in a heap--not die a lingering and cancerous death! Let me know if people are kicking, will you please? all kinds of honorable love,

more



#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

#### Dage

Dear Boss:

I've had to move again. Scarlet fever in the Irish household. So I haven't seen The Times-(god bless er) for a week. I am lonely without it, of course, and wish I might tell you to have it sent to my new address--but I haven't got one as yet. Just now I'm living in a cockroach peastle over here on the West Side. Will be there only until Sunday--and then I don 't know where I'll be.

But when I do get fixed, you'll have Vic ########### send the paper to me, won't you? Will let you know where I'm going to be, because I still have hopes you'll come up this way, and give me a call.

Because I haven't seen the paper, I may have repeated something in Thissen That. Seems I mentioned the Roosevelt Road beggars last week--don't know. If I did, will you please ### delete any repetition in this week's offering? A rather poor one, I'm afraid.

I'm very busy, like my job, but hate the location. I've

asked to be transferred to the Los Angeles store--but don't know when it'll come, if ever.

love,

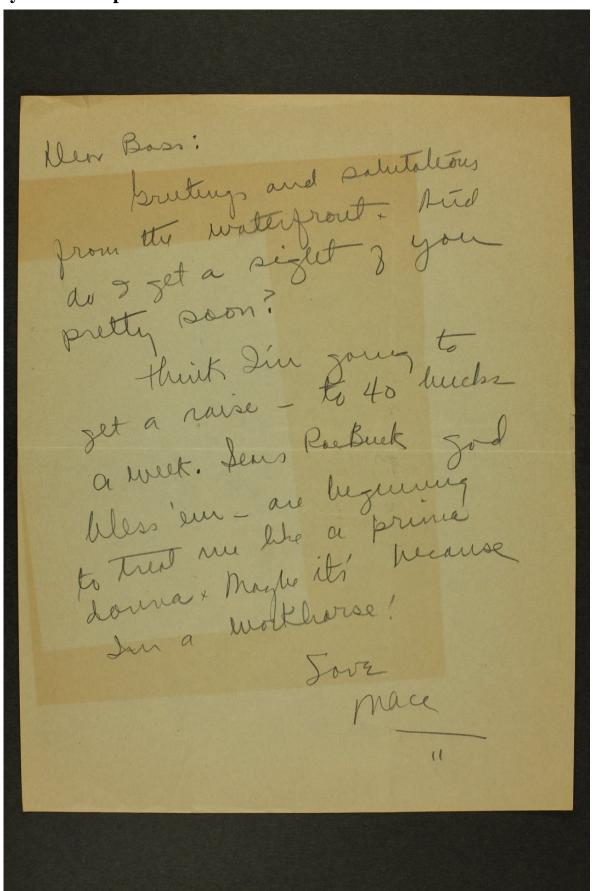
mace



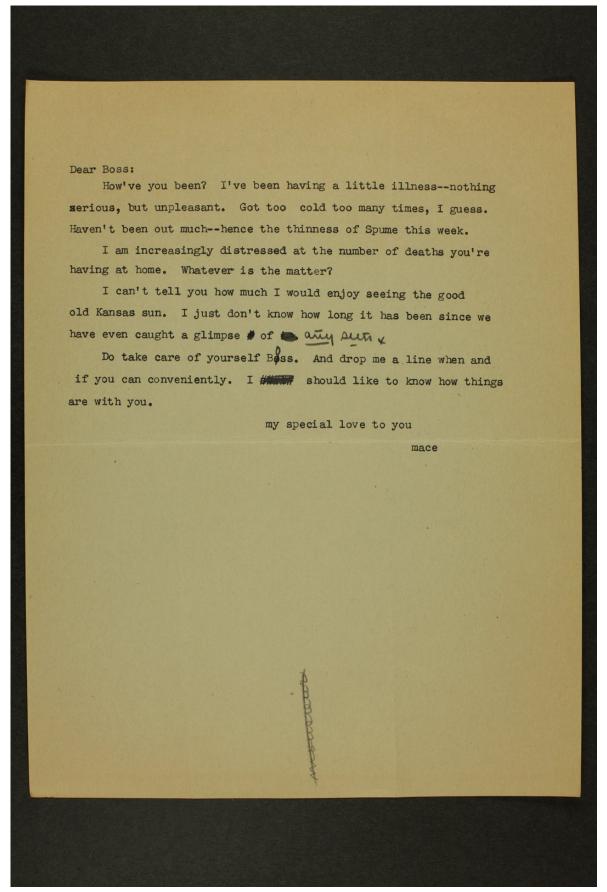
#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

Sunday Dear Boss: Enjoyed your Whimseys more than I can say. I'm sure your trip was extremely interesting and worth-while. I am not going to ask if you came through here; if you did and I missed seeing you, it would he too disappointing. Have moved back to Evanston; couldn't quite stand the smoke and slime and grime and grayness of the West Side, what with spring about to come. It's still quite cold here. Keep thinking I'll get home, but don't know when. I know you're head and ears deep in campaign dope, but let me know how you are. Always am interested, you know. And will you have Vic send me my favorite newspaper to: 2040 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Ill. I swear it's the last time I'll ask you to change it. I'm never going to move again. love, mace











#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

Dear Boss:

Thanks so much for your note. Will look forward to your visit. I can't think it won't materialize. It might be that I will try to get home about Easter. Don't know of course, so don't mention the possibility to anybody.

I haven't got the raise as yet--it seems the mills of the gods grind very slowly. However, I'm "In" as far as acceptance goes. Get increasingly more important jobs and the time. Have just finished a book ( fifty pages) about Venetian Blinds. They've found out I'm a work horse, and give me the things that require very careful attention. Seem amazed that I can turn out jobs without typographical that blunders in them. They don't know my schooling under your eagle eye. I've never yet ceased to be grateful that you were particular.

I notice with regret that Spume gets more personal all the time. I am sorry of for that--even if my friends do eat it up. I'm afraid it's degenerating--and it just can't be helped. I have so little time for leisurely poking around--which is my dish, and something I'll always love to do, not matter where I'm put down.

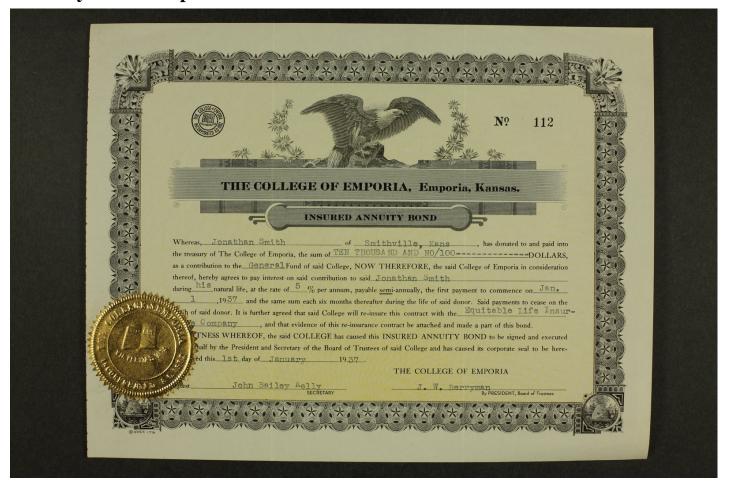
I shall watch Landon's progress with all the more interest, knowing your close connection with it. Write me another note when you can.

I doubt if you know how much a letter helps.

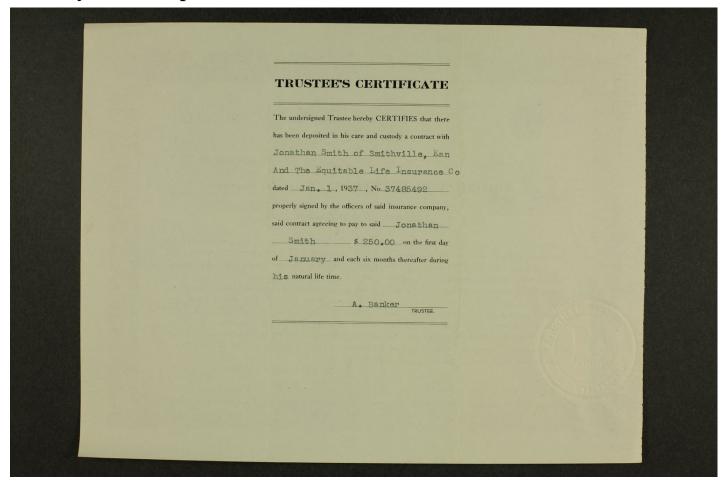
love,

mace











Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 2, 1937

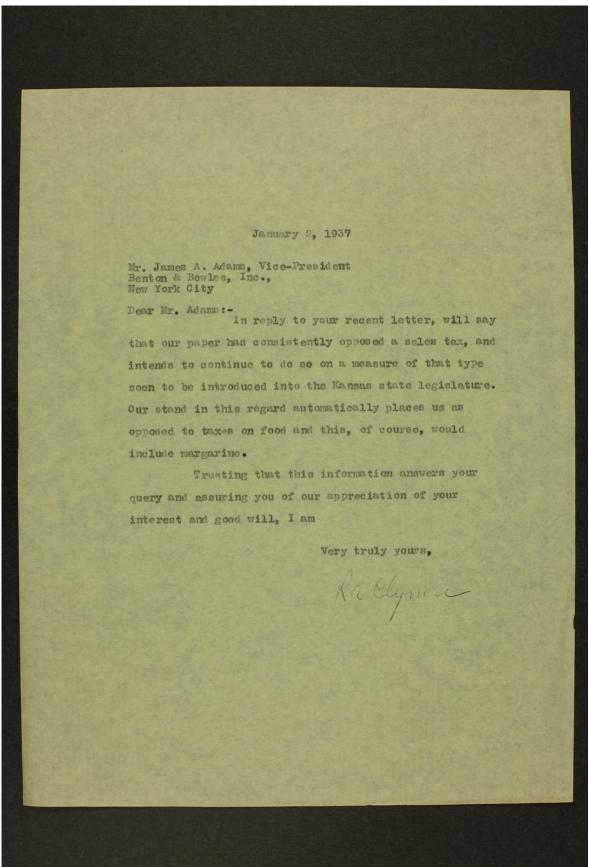
Mr. Karl Kennedy, Publisher Kansas Business, Topeka, Kansas

I am extremely grateful to you for your kind mention of The Times and me in your January issue. While it was mainly undeserved, I am frank to say that I like it-and am in your debt, as usual. Please do not forget me when the time comes to open guns on the gross production tax on oil. I am ready to go any time.

Will hope that I may see you at the time of the Press Association in two weeks. In the meantime, please again accept my thanks and my wishes for a wholly happy and prosperous year for you. And please remember me kindly to the Missus.

Sincerely,







Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 2, 1937

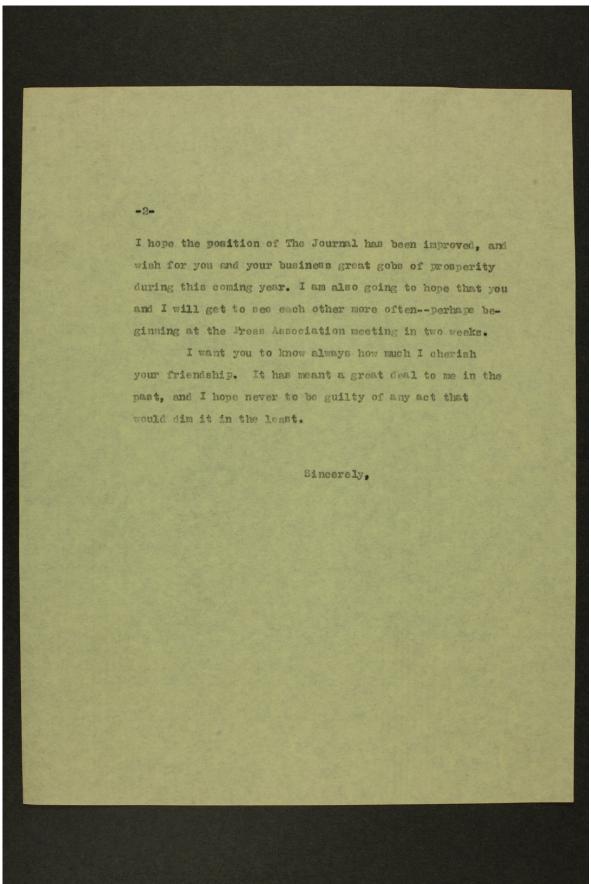
Mr. Roy F. Bailey, Salina, Kansas

My Dear Roy:Of course, I remember your fine services as
chairman of the resolutions committee at the Republican
State Convention in 1930. You held the gate for those who
favored an oil tariff plank at that time. We could have
arrived nowhere without you. And all our efforts went for
naught later on when the National Convention "sterlized"
our plank there.

As I recall, your paper took no particular part in the oil tariff fight, and justly so, because you were not then in the oil territory. My piece the other day was misleading, in that I did not get over the fact that neither of the two Wichita papers—and Wichita profiting more from oil than any other town in Kansas—ever came out flatfootedly and fought on our side. I merely meant to indicate that the progress of oil development has been so wides pread in the past few years that many of the influenti papers now can be counted on to take up cudgels in behalf of the industry. I certainly intended no offense toward you; please be assured that your fine help in a time of need has not been forgotten by me—and never will be.

The past year has not been too good for us -- and I am still waiting for the "Roosevelt prosperity" to hit.







#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

January 4, 1937

Major John W. Thomason jr., Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

My Dear Major Thomason:

I noted in a sketch of yourself

published in the Saturday Evening Post, issue of November

14, 1936, that you say you have one more book on the

Southern Confederacy in your system. I hope you get it

out. I think I have enjoyed your book on "Jeb Stuart"

more than any other single historical volume I have ever

read. It has been on my reading table for several years.

I feel certain I have been through it a dozen times. I,

as one of your admirers, would welcome all such biography

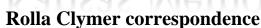
you could produce.

I am a country editor who would doubtless have been a "damnyank" seventy-five years ago, but whose hobby now is Civil War history with impartial admiration for the heroes on both sides in that conflict.

I have also read your World War books and just want you to know how sincerely I appreciate the high quality of your work.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,





January 4, 1937

Mr. C. F. Back, President The Home State Bank, Kansas City, Kansas

My Dear Mr. Pack:Well, here it is. I am sorry for the delay in getting this copy to you. Some of it has been my fault; some has not. I worked on it all day yesterday.

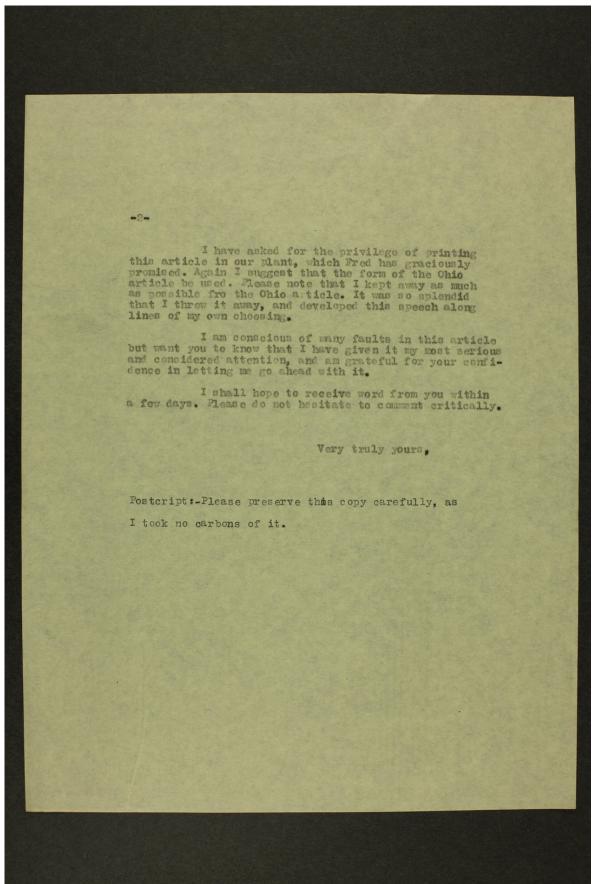
As I said before, I want you to feel free to edit it in any way you see fit. I realize my shortcomings in preparing an article of this kind, but have worked at the matter faithfully. I have tried to make it as simple as possible. I claim little originality for much of the matter, but have taken freely from many sources. Banking literature is full of comment on these various related subjects, and much of it is so similar in centent that I do not feel guilty of plagiarism.

Perhaps I have not stressed sufficiently the fact that banks are chartered institutions, nor the part both federal and state governments play in their supervision. The article was growing long, however, so I have referred to these influences only in passing. I had in mind always that this copy was to go into the hands of men wholly familiar with the banking business, and who could adapt its statements to their own processes of thought and choice of expression.

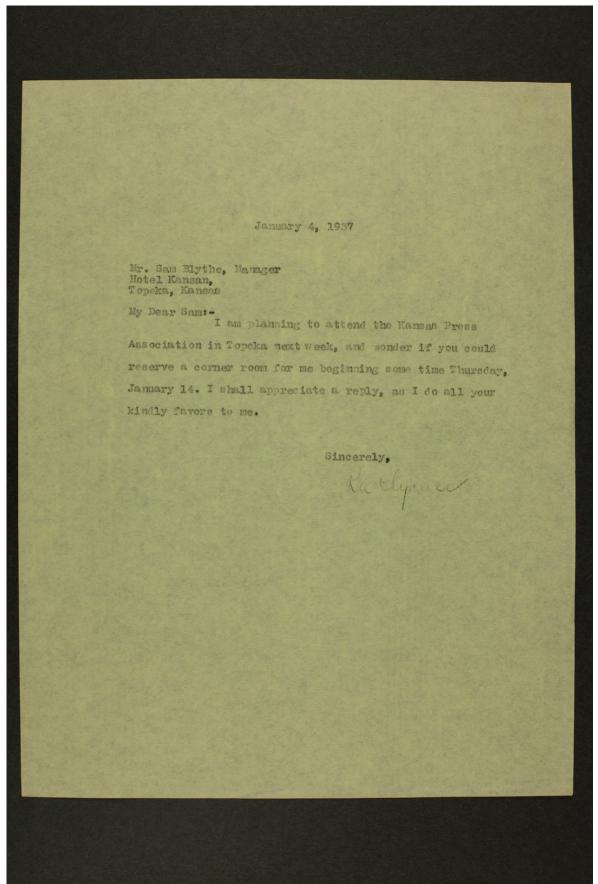
You will note that, in the final pages, I have quoted from Mr. Campbell's article. I believed that his statement was a fitting finale to an address of this kind. I note that you may feel obliged to use his whole article in some separate matticle manuscript form. It would be necessary then to eliminate the sections that are his from this composition. I suggest that in case you print his separately, it might be done under some such heading as "The Tale of a Country Banker." However, the portion included in this main address is most fitting and gives it strength, in my opinion.

I should like to know, as soon as you have had a chance to study it, your reactions to the copy I am herewith sending you. I expect to be in Topeka on January 15 and 16 to attend the meeting of the State Press Association. If you and Fred would like to have a personal discussion with me at that time, I shall be glad to oblige.

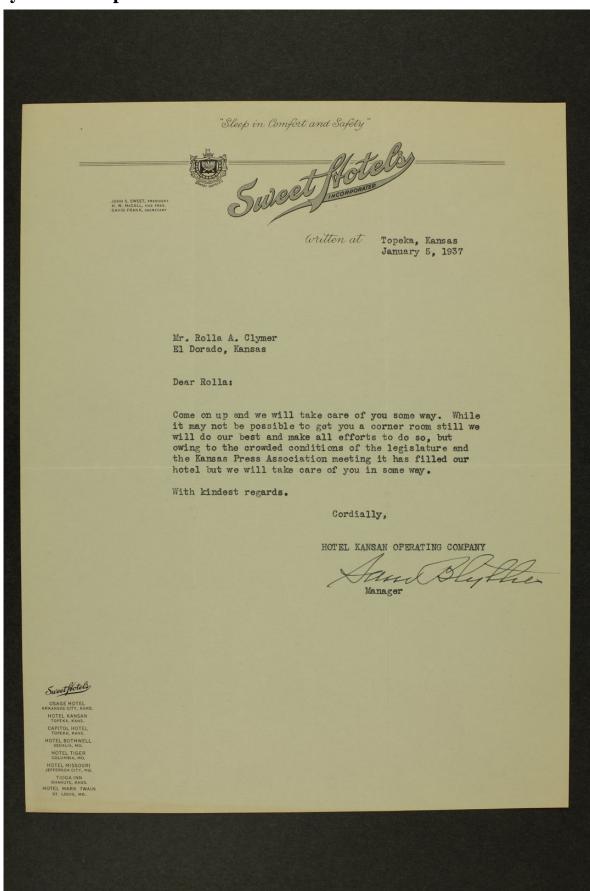




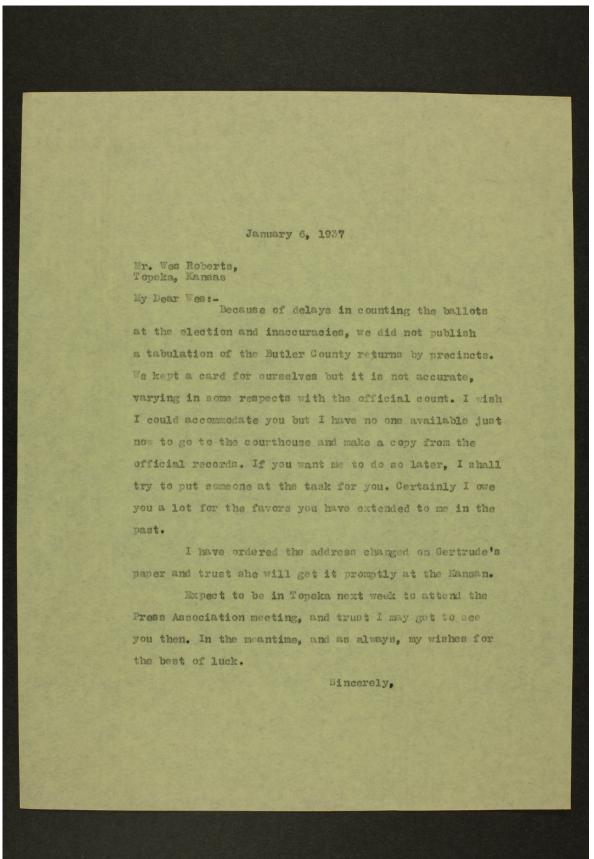






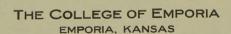








#### Rolla Clymer correspondence



January 6, 1937.

DEGREES OFFERED

BACHELOR OF ARTS

BACHELOR OF MUSIC EDUCATE



Mr. Rollo Clymer, Eldorado, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Clymer:

For some time we have been working out a plan that will enable us to write annuities without jeopardizing the financial position of the College or the annuitant. Our plain annuities as you know have not worked out satisfactory especially during the depression.

The enclosed bond is a sample of the new plan we have now worked out. It protects both the College and the investor as the responsibility for payment rests entirely on a legal reserve life insurance company. The individual who purchases the annuity may choose his own company if he has a preference. If they have no preference, I will write them in my own company which is required to deposit the full amount with the State Department of Iowa. (At the present time there is \$130,000,000.00 so deposited which will pay out dollar for dollar if anything should happen to the company.) There is no possible way for any one to lose unless the entire government structure goes to pieces.

What I need now is prospects. Last year you may recall I wrote one of these annuities for \$13,500.00. We know it will work if we can just find the individuals who are in the right frame of mind and who want to help further the cause of Christian education. We can give them 4%, 5%, and on up, depending on the age of the donor. This means they will receive interest on their donation as long as they live. They can, of course, deduct this donation from their income tax report and will only have to treat the income thereafter, and a large percent of this will be exempt. I hope you will be able to think of some prospects for my files. Your name will not be used in any way.

Dr. Templeton has just received a contribution of \$1500.00 from a man in Garden City. Mr. Denton has just paid his \$1000.00 contribution that he promised me last year. This is a good start for 1937 and maybe if we tall pull together we can put this College on the map yet.

Sincerely yours

Treasurer

FLR:VES Encl.



#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

ARKANSAS CITY TRIBUNE

R. C. HOWARD, Owner

ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS

Jan. 6, 1937

Mr. Rolla Clymer El Dorado Times, El Dorado, Kans.

Dear Sir:

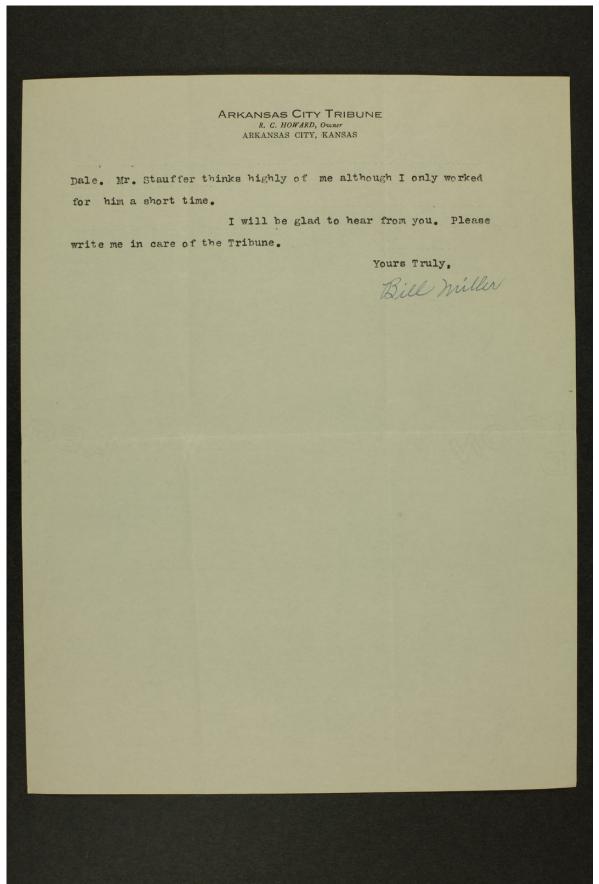
I was informed by Mr. Stauffer's secretary yesterday that he had written you and that you wanted me to write also. I have had 10-years' experience on the Tribune as a reporter and I am listed in the city directory as it's city editor. During the last 10 years I have written practically all of the news in the paper-covering everything from personals to murders.

Mr. Howard says I am the best reporter he has ever had. You know he established the Traveler and ran it for nearly 50 years. I like Mr. Howard and the Tribune, but I am ambitious and want to get on a paper where there is a chance for advancement.

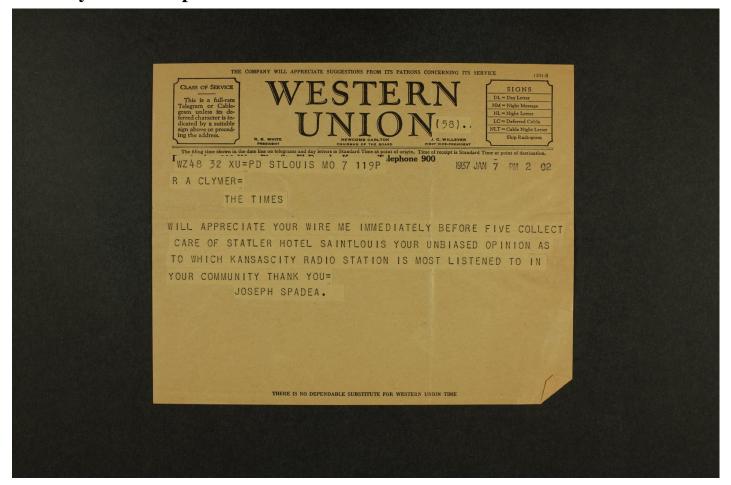
I am now getting \$25 a week and would like to get more.

I was graduated from high school
here and attended the junior college one semester. I was
an average student, but outstanding in extra-curricular
activities. I am single, but expect to get married as soon
as I have saved a few hundred dollars. I am a member of the
Episcopal church, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the
International DeMolay Alumni Association and the national
intermediate fraternity of Pi Delta Koppa. I am a member of
the Republican party and the Young Republicans' club of Kansas.
Among my best friends are Rep. George Templar and Sen. Kirke W.

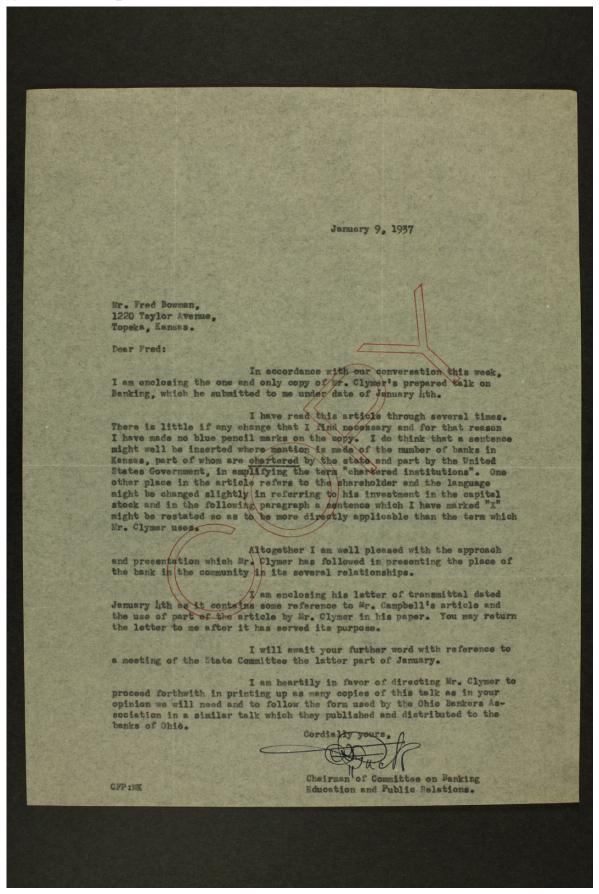














#### Rolla Clymer correspondence

\_THE SALINA JOURNAL.
SALINA ... KANSAS

January 9, 1937

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

BOY F BAILEY, EDITOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

Dear Rolla

That was a swell reply to my letter and I always shall be glad that I took exception to your remarks regarding the newspapers of Kansas that are friendly to the oil industry.

Naturally we do not declare ourselves as often as you do in the heart of the oil fields, but we always have been friendly to the oil men as a leading Kansas institution. During recent years our interest has been more than platonic because of the developments in McPherson, Ellsworth, Russell and Ellis county.

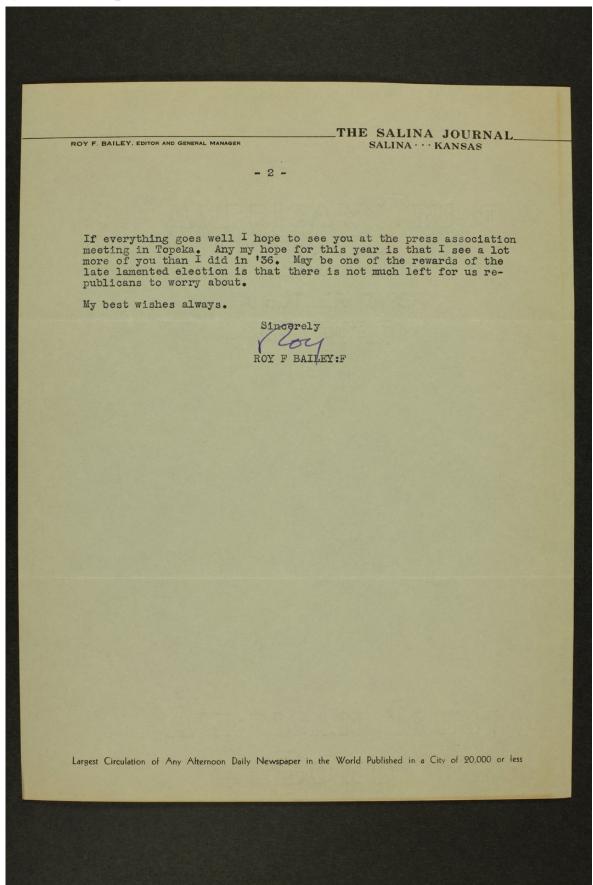
Of course, I did want to remind you that I thought for a time I was going to lose the friendship of Dave Mulvane over the oil plank in the Kansas republican platform. You may or may not know that we had a half hour private conference in his room at which he told me quite frankly that the national convention would not recognize the oil plank and that he had been asked to keep down agitation in Kansas if it were possible. After I pointed out to him the importance of the industry to the state and my own feeling that the Kansas senators and congressmen should have the backing of the republicans in their demands upon congress, he came across very gracefully and went the whole way. Because of his attitude this is not meant to be critical of Dave Mulvane, for originally he merely tried to do what he had been asked to do by the national committee, but without very much thought about its effect in Kansas.

About all I want to do is to make it plain that we are enough interested in the oil industry so that you can tell us if we can be of any help. Some times we may not follow your suggestions but they always will be given every consideration and we probably will lean backward to get on your side.

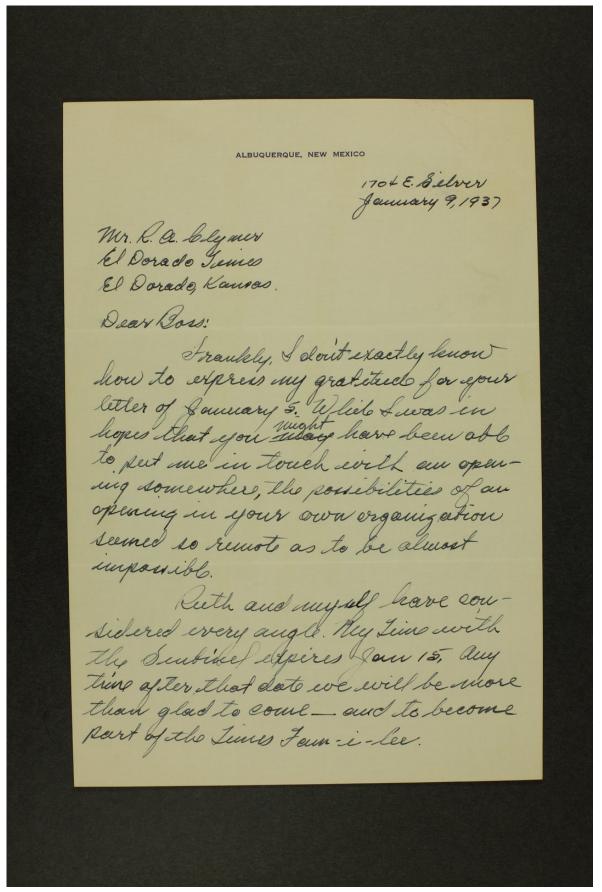
Like you, business has been none too good druing 1936 but we always have great hopes for the future. Some of these days I hope you make it a point to pass through Salina on some of your numerous jaunts and see our new office. It is the reason we think prosperity is much further away than around the corner, but it is a beautiful thing to contemplate. As the bills begin to roll in we have began to realize that we are in the same shape as a chap who marries a beautiful girl. It is not the first cost but the upkeep.

Largest Circulation of Any Afternoon Daily Newspaper in the World Published in a City of 20,000 or less

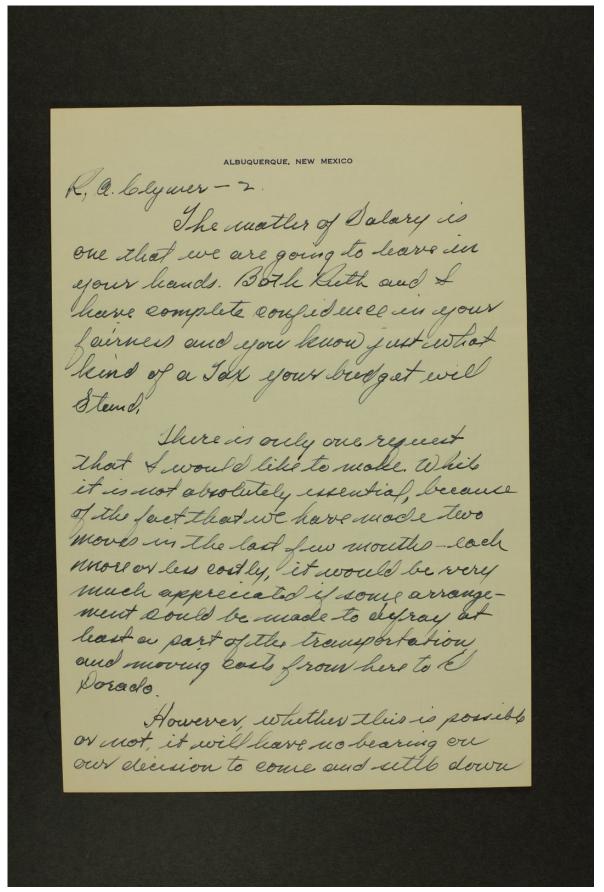




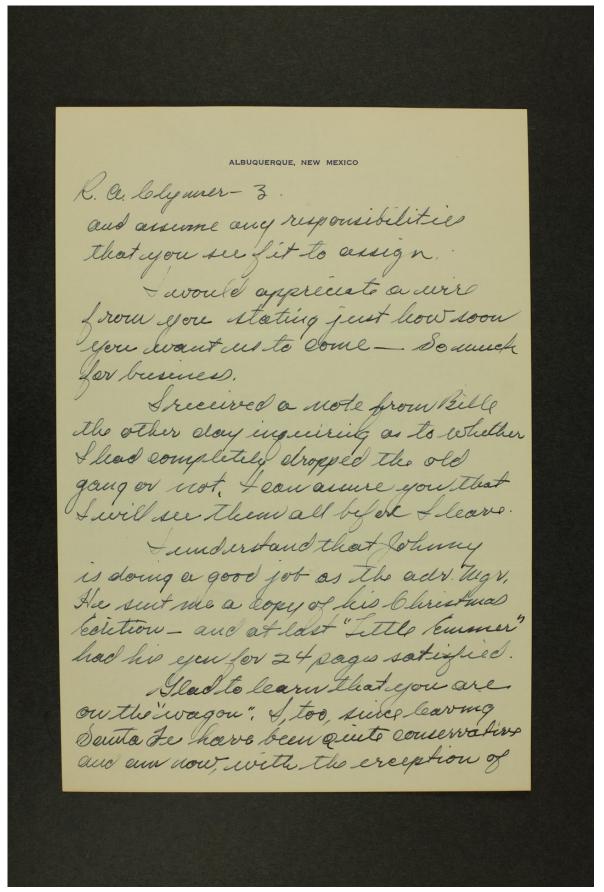














ALBUQ	JERQUE, NEW MEXICO
	no glass of "suchs".
Kith au	Mother both send spersonal regards.
word from you	orward to enclarly a soul a long encel
	ely and appreceatively
P.S. I write ate.	rible hand so I hope you
have no trouble in	making it out.



