

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 612, Pages 18331 - 18360

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

KANSAS INDEPENDENT **OIL AND GAS ASSOCIATION**

ELLIS-SINGLETON BUILDING WICHITA, KANSAS



February 20, 1939.

The following editorial from the El Dorado Times of February 17, 1939, is quoted for your information.

It definitely brings home to all the imperative need for amending the present proration law so that the adverse effects resulting from the granting of special allowables in allocating the market for Kansas oil will be eliminated.

Two measures are pending in the state legislature - - - Senate Bill 185 and House Bill 233 - - - which, if enacted into law, will permit the State Corporation Commission to deny the granting of unreasonable allowables.

YOU ARE URGED TO SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF THESE BILLS:

TO ABOLISH SPECIAL PRIVILEGE

Companion bills have been introduced into both houses of the state legislature which provide amendments to the law governing regulation of the production of crude petroleum within the state.

The purpose of these bills, stripped of legal verbiage and free from minor considerations, would establish firmly the principle of ratable taking among pools, as well as within pools. In other words, the State Corporation Commission which is vested with jurisdiction and authorty to administer the act would be freed from any necessity of granting special allowables where there was ratable taking and no underground waste.

Special allowables have been the source of much controversy among oil interests the past year. Probably ninety per cent of oil producers in Kansas—both majors and independents—are against special allowables as a practice tending to break down the entire proration structure.

The present law regulating production of oil and gas is based upon the principle of conservation of natural resources and against waste. The word "waste," in addition to its ordinary meaning, is extended to include economic waste, underground waste, surface waste, waste of reservoir energy and waste incident to the production of oil and gas in excess of transportation or marketing facilities or reasonable market demands.

The old commission ruled that under existing laws it had no alternative other than to grant special allowables where there was ratable taking and no underground waste.

One can imagine, considering the fine points that occur to lawyers, how closely debated the matter has been. There is still much lack of agreement among the parties of the controversy.

controversy.

But this reflection seems clear. Proration has been a successful working principle. The commission fixes the daily allowables each month. The accepted theory is that they be based solely on adjusted field percentages with market distributed under the log-log curve. Special allowables in various pools tend to upset this basis. Thus, one producer in a certain area may be allowed to run a large portion of his oil under special permission, while in other fields the producers are held down rigidly to a low volume of production—in many instances 2 per cent of potential, or less. (It should be remembered that wells whose average daily production is 15 barrels, or less, have been permitted to run all their oil.)

Extreme conditions may arise of course where special allowables seem reasonable and

average daily production is 15 barrels, or less, have been permitted to run all their oil.)

Extreme conditions may arise, of course, where special allowables seem reasonable and should be granted. But the special allowable practice has grown to the point where it has almost upset the proration principle. A great majority of producers, as has been said, hold selective buying in disfavor. If proration is to be continued, and it has proved its worth, the special allowables must be eliminated in general. Special allowables simply mean, in most cases, special privilege to some producers granted over the rank and file. They are not fair, on any share-and-share alike program, undoubtedly create discrimination and work to the injury of the industry as a whole.

The amended law would tend to rule them out—regardless of the injury they might cause in certain individual cases. But the larger good of the Kansas oil industry dictates their passing as a general practice.

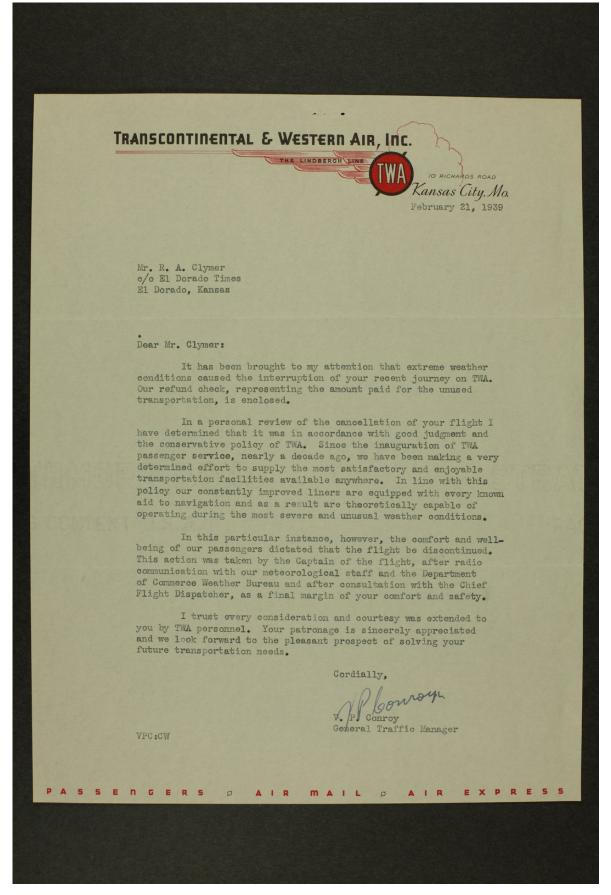
It is hard to amend any law on some point, without disturbing related matters. But

It is hard to amend any law on some point, without disturbing related matters. But all the Kansas producers are asking in the suggested changes of the oil law is that the proration principle be clearly established, that the commission be given full power to enforce it, and that special favors and privileges be abolished. It is up to the lawmakers to work out the act itself so that this objective may be reached. The oil men will be satisfied to get along on as little law as is necessary for orderly production and marketing, but they want enough teeth in their law to enable them to avoid such discrimination as has been seen in the past year or two seen in the past year or two.

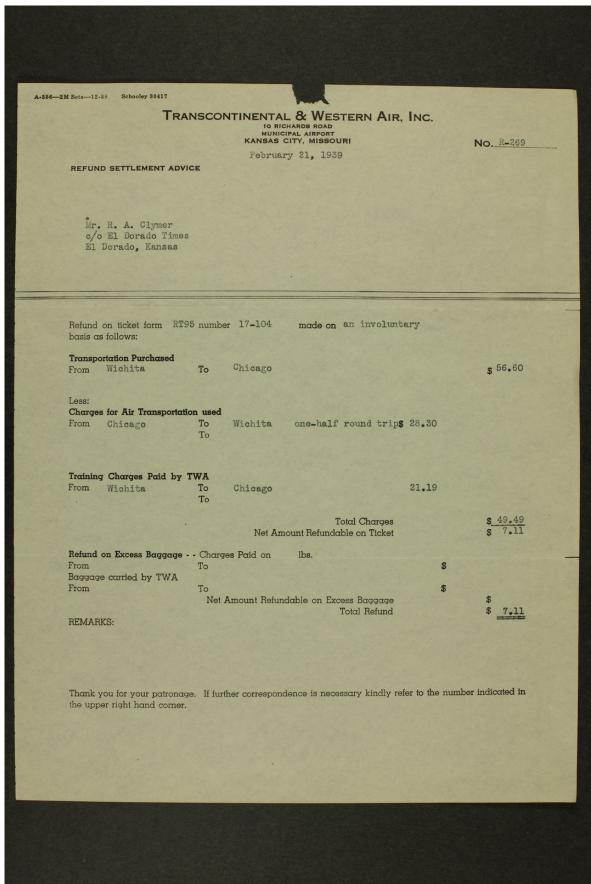
The main trouble with the oil industry, now and in past years, is that too many of those engaged in it are purely selfish—and have no regard for the other fellow's welfare. It is up to the law and the courts to see that such selfishness and demand for special favors is eliminated.

The bills now before the legislature, which were carefully drawn by those who have the long-range welfare of the oil industry at heart, should be passed in a form close to that wherein they have been presented.







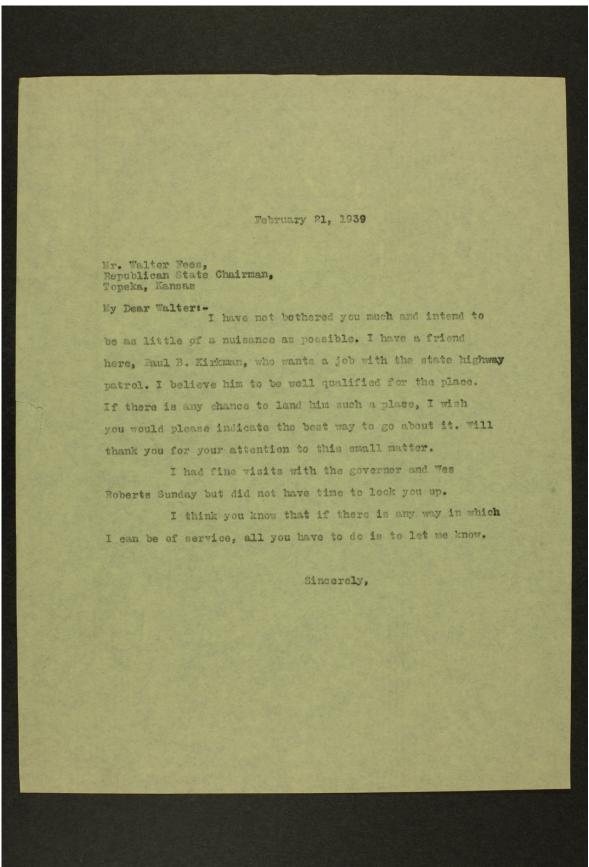




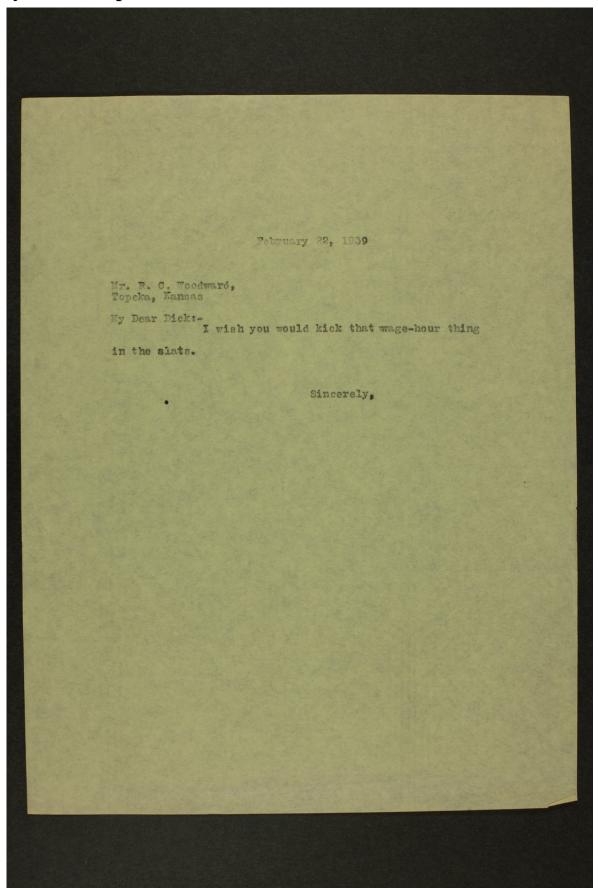
Rolla Clymer correspondence

LAW OFFICES OF LIGHT & LIGHT LIBERAL, KANSAS February Twenty-first, 19 Mr. R. A. Clymer, C/o El Dorado Times, El Dorado, Kansas. Dear Rolla: Replying to yours of the 20th, we have not been inconvenienced in the least by reason of your delay in coming out. In fact, I am rather glad for the delay, as we do not have complete details brought together since the merger. Our Auditor is on the job now and may not have the report to us by the last of this week; hence, let me suggest that you further postpone your trip to next weekend, March 3rd or 4th. I am confident we can be in better position by that time, and furthermore I want you to choose your most convenient time as there is no particular rush on my part, but I am rather anxious for the visit. Father is not feeling nearly so well; seems to be failing quite rapidly the past several weeks, but is still up and around most of the time. Yours very truly, Of LIGHT & LIGHT GLL*T

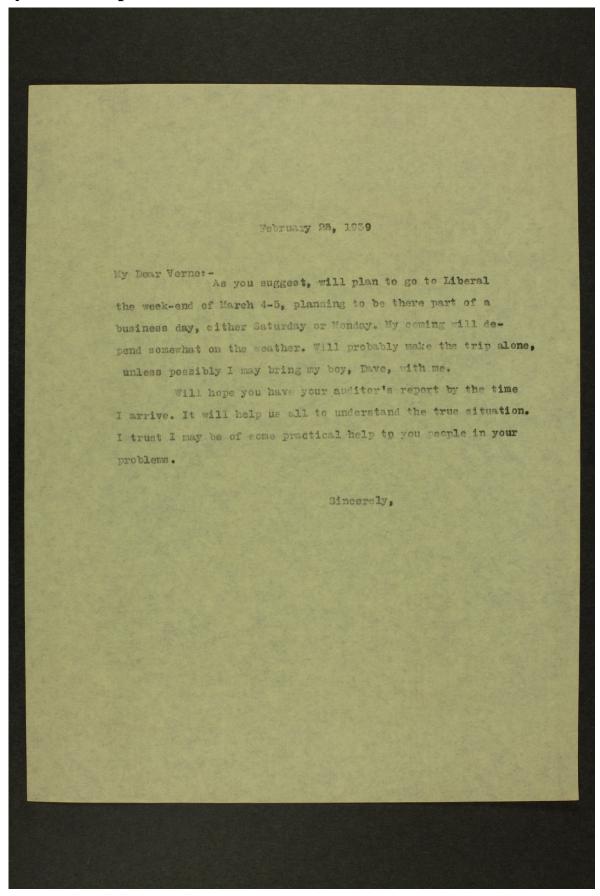














Rolla Clymer correspondence

1108 Walnut Street, Emporia, Kansas, February 24,1939.

Mr. Rolla A. Clymer, Editor, Eldorado Times, Eldorado, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Several of us from Kansas motored to a national gathering of the Oxford Group at French Lick, Indiana February 10-14th. About a thousand people from 31 states were there to consider Moral Rearmament for the nation.

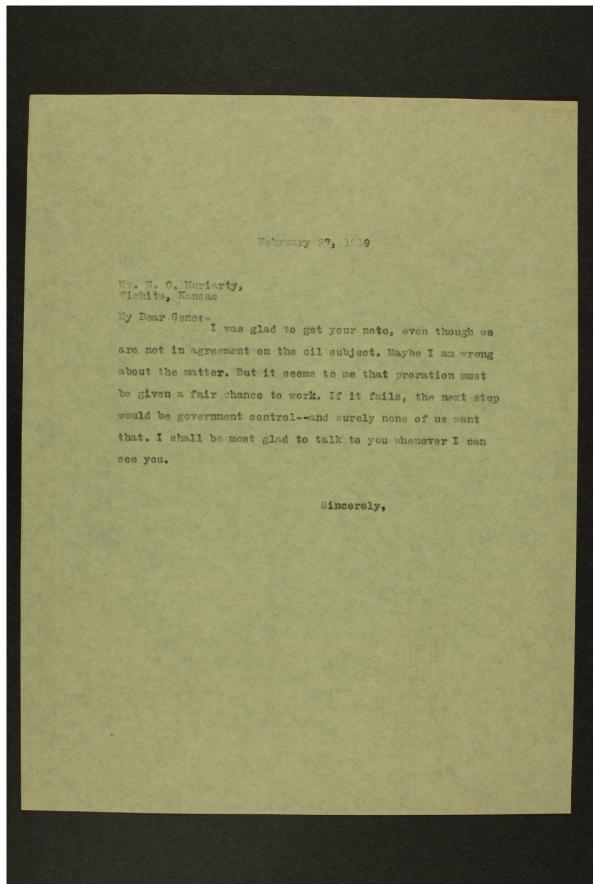
Among those there were: H. Alexander Smith on the national program committee of the Republican party; Emily Newell Blair, Vice-chairman of the Democratic party; Colonel Mark McKee (who is said to have nominated the last five heads of the American Legion); C.G. Bennett a former Kansan now head of the Farmers Union of Imperial Valley California; Mrs Sieberling of Akron Ohio; Mrs Cordelia Britten wife of former head of New York Stock Exchange; General Erle Luce of Minneapolis; Fred M. Carter, president of Carter Lead Co., of New York; and many others.

Under separate cover is coming a booklet on Moral Rearmament compiled by "Bunny" Austin, England's Davis Cup Tennis star.It contains statements by Statesmen of Europe and others on the pressing need for moral and spiritual awakening. I believe you will be interested in Austins foreword, and in the statement by Lord Baldwin and sixteen others on page 9, in the statement by the Earl of Athlone on page 26, in Austin Reed's statement on page 55 and in Hoover's word on page 60.

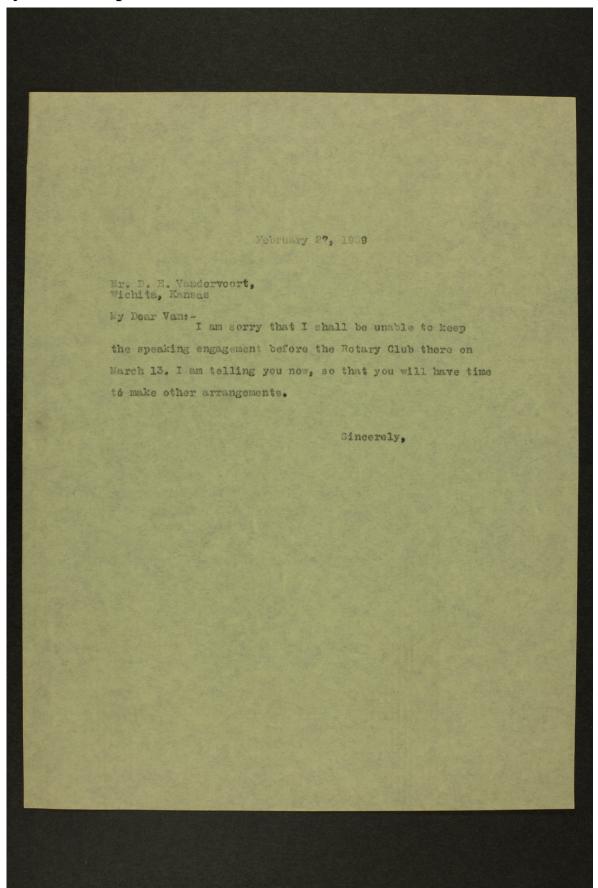
Sincerely,

Rev. C.Lewis Irwin.











Rolla Clymer correspondence



LEO R. PRICE, SECRETARY INNIS D. HARRIS, ATTORNEY

PHONES 2-0488-L. D. 78

E. G. DAHLGREN, DIRECTOR, WICHITA



STATE OF KANSAS STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION CONSERVATION DIVISION 800 BITTING BUILDING

WICHITA, KANSAS

Russell, Kansas, Feb. 27, 1939. REFER TO THIS SUBJECT

Mr. Rolla H. Clymer, El Dorado, Kansas.

Dear Ham:

In conversation with Thee Morgan last week, he told me that while he had been offered the job as Director, it had not been on terms acceptable to him; and that he did not feel he could afford to take it. I believe he is sincere in this.

In Sunday's Wichita papers, it appears that one or two others are now being advanced by their friends for the place. While it is true that the oil industry does not want this Department made a political foot-ball, this does not mean it should be left an important cog in the Kansas Tammany organization.

Personally, I feel that if Morgan wants the place, and they can make the salary and other conditions satisfactory, he is clearly entitled to it; and I will be glad of the oppurtunity to work for him and with him. If it is a question of someone else getting the place, I would like to be considered. I am not in touch with the crowd in Wichita, but I believe you would find that out in the field I have my fair share of friends who would support me.

My position is now Field Supervisor, and for two years previously was State Plugging Supervisor. Have also been in charge of gas, and have looked after salt-water and pollution troubles. Have probably had more general experience with these affairs than any one else in the State.

I do not think it advisable to attempt to push myself on the attention of the Advisory Board, the Commission, nor the Governor; but if you feel so inclined, a friendly shove by you would be very helpful.

HCS.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSERVATION DIVISION

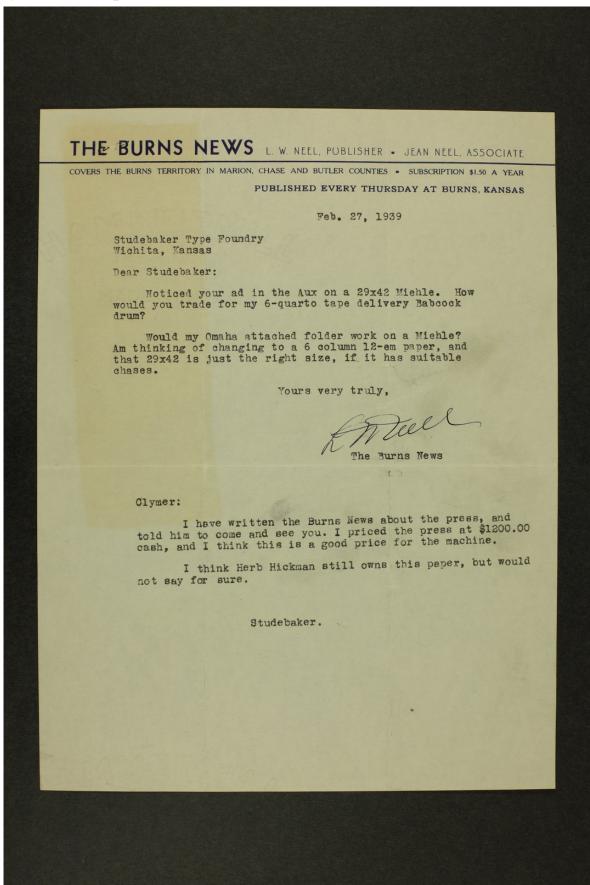




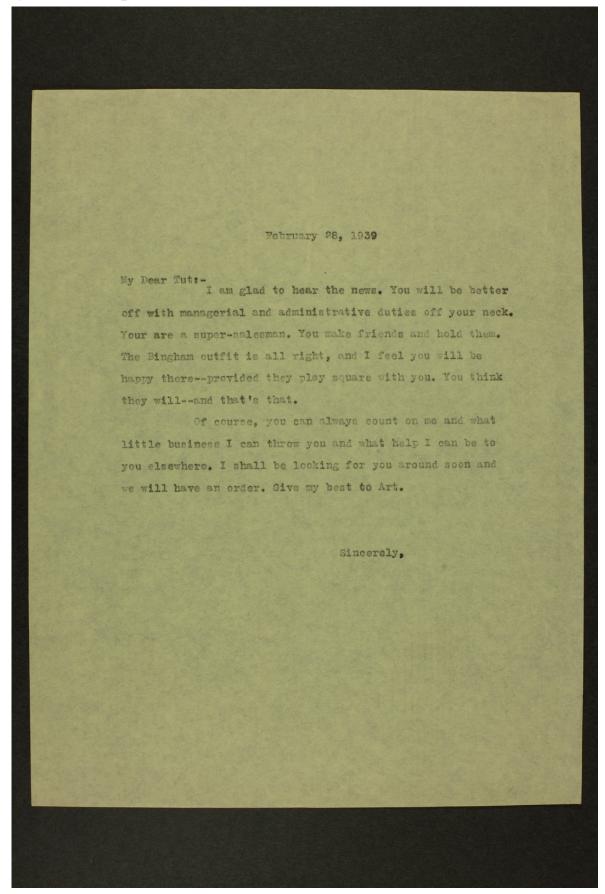




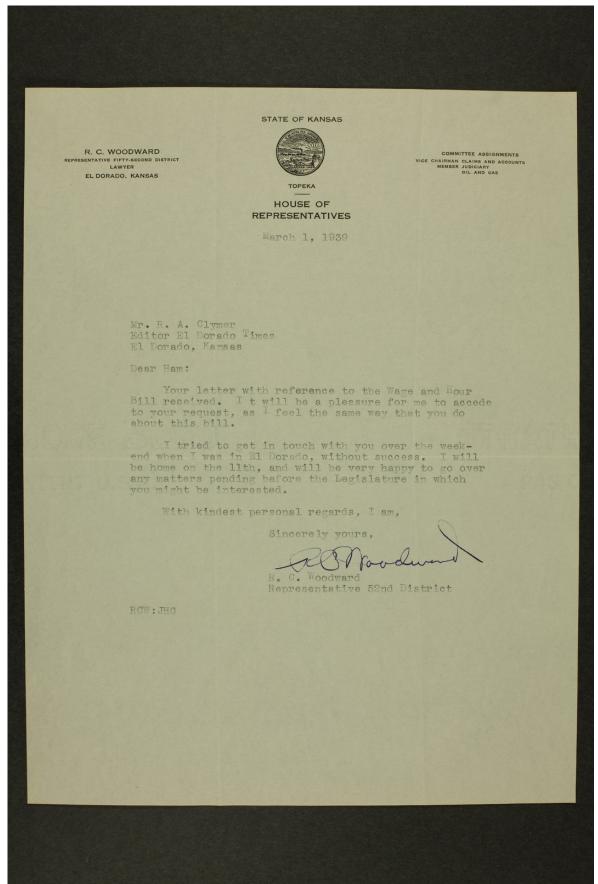










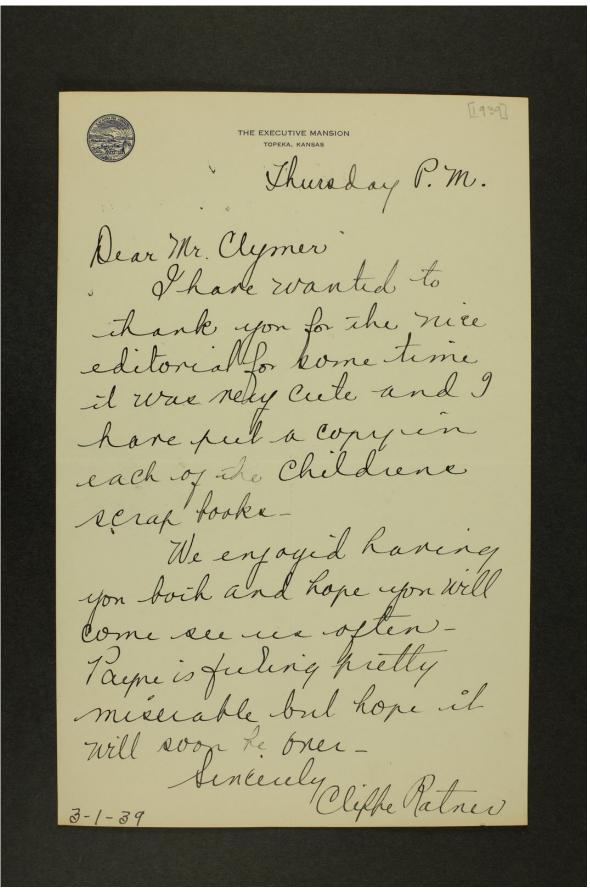




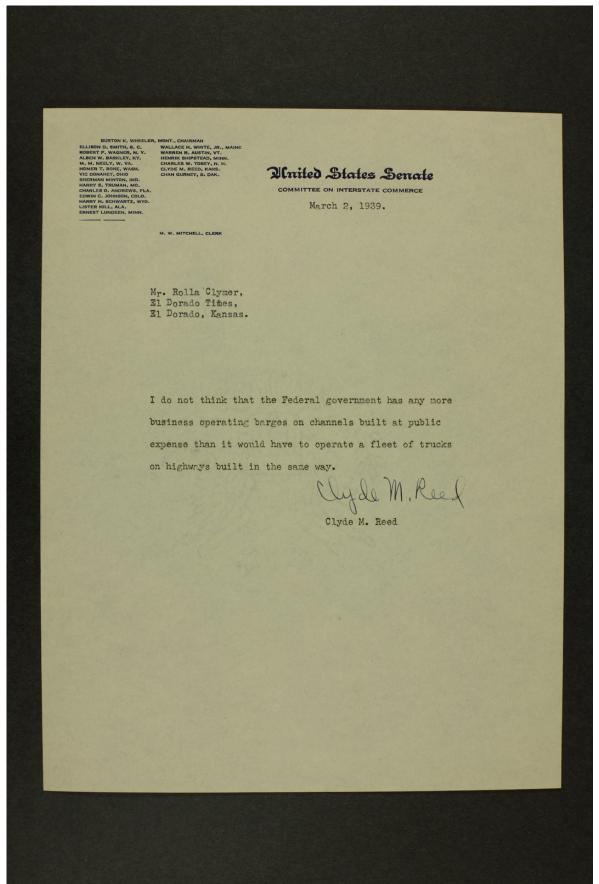
Rolla Clymer correspondence

TELEPHONE 7518 KEITH CLEVENGER Temporary Address -PUBLIC RELATIONS COUNSEL ADVERTISING - PUBLICITY c/o Illinois-Indiana Petroleum Association, 332 NATIONAL BANK OF TULBA BLDG.
TULBA, OKLAHOMA Robinson, Illinois March 1, 1939 Mr. Rolla Clymer, Publisher ElDorado Times ElDorado, Kansas Dear Rolla: I am sorry to have caused you any undue effort in the search for a picture of the Empire-Enyart Field. I believe, however, that I will be able to secure one from a photographer at Bartlesville, Oklahoma. I am up here for several weeks of special work and investigation. In the mean time, work on the publication of my story is going ahead in good Thanking you for your kind interest and helpfulness, I am Yours very truly, With Clerrya Keith Clevenger KC: vms











Rolla Clymer correspondence

March 2, 1939

Mr. T. A. Morgan, Director Conservation Division State Corporation Commission, Wichita, Kansas

My Dear Theo:I don't want to see you subject to "political influence." This is not "political influence." But if you can continue to use Hal Smith as field supervisor, or in some equally important capacity, I don't believe you could get a better man.

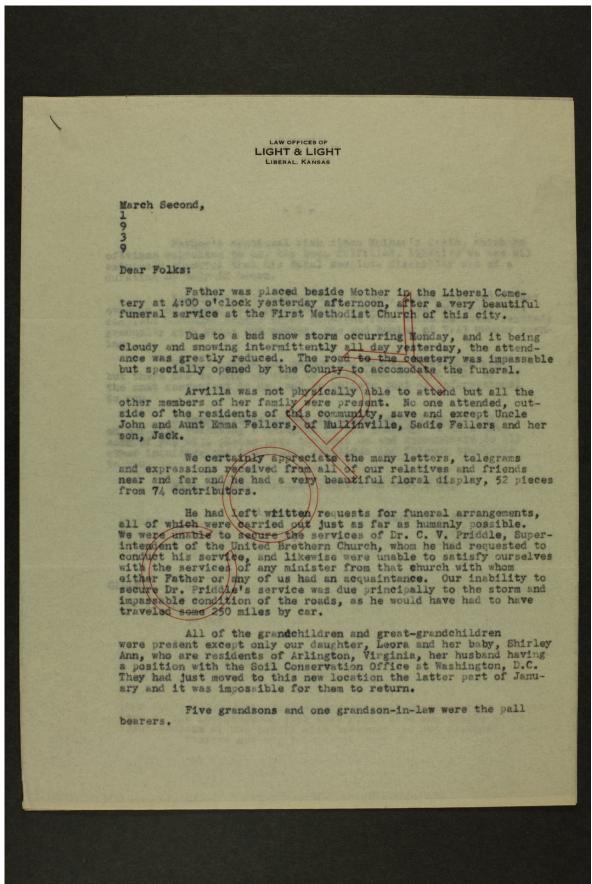
I hope you will be given a free hand in picking your men. I know you cannot clean up the mess there in a few days or weeks, but I am going to believe that you will begin to bring order out of chaos before long.

I wrote a "piece" about you yesterday and sent you a copy. Trust that it suited. It expresses my idea as to the way I think the state should handle affairs of the oil industry under this administration.

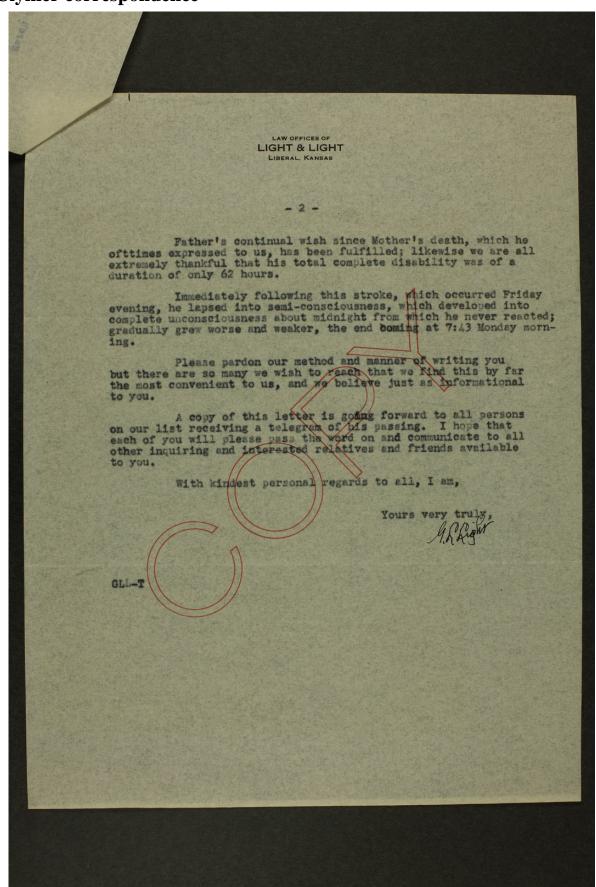
Please know that you may count on me for any service within my power at any time you wish. Don't ask; just tell me.

Sincerely,











Rolla Clymer correspondence

INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Tulsa, Oklahoma

CHAS. F. ROESER, PRESIDENT
H. B. FELL, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
RUSSELL B. BROWN, GENERAL COUNSEL
T. J. STEUDATT, ASST. TO THE PRESIDENT
C. E. BUCHNER, EXECUTIVE MANAGER
LAWRENCE E. SMITH, RESEARCH
CHAS. VAN VLECK, FIELD MANAGER

March 2, 1939

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS 704 THOMPSON BUILDING TULSA, OKLAHOMA TELEPHONE L. D. 737

WASHINGTON OFFICE 942 INVESTMENT BUILDING WASHINGTON, D. C.

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

In connection with the Essay Contest which is being conducted in the oil producing states by this Association, we are establishing a Committee to make the awards of the nineteen cash prizes.

Will you serve on that Committee?

Mr. Burdette Blue will be Chairman, as he is the Chairman of the Association's Committee on Petroleum Research. Other members who have accepted are Mrs. Roberta Campbell Lawson, past president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and Mr. E. L. DeGolyer, Dallas, former president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

The contest closes June 30 and it is hoped that the Committee on Award can meet at a place convenient to all sometime in July or early August. All routine work will have been done in this office prior to the meeting.

I enclose copy of the folder which gives the full information concerning the contest. This has attracted wide attention and we expect a large number of entries.

I hope that you will give us your acceptance within a few days. We want to make an announcement soon as to the Committee's Personnel

Very truly yours,

Laurence

Lawrence E. Smith, Director PETROLEUM RESEARCH BUREAU

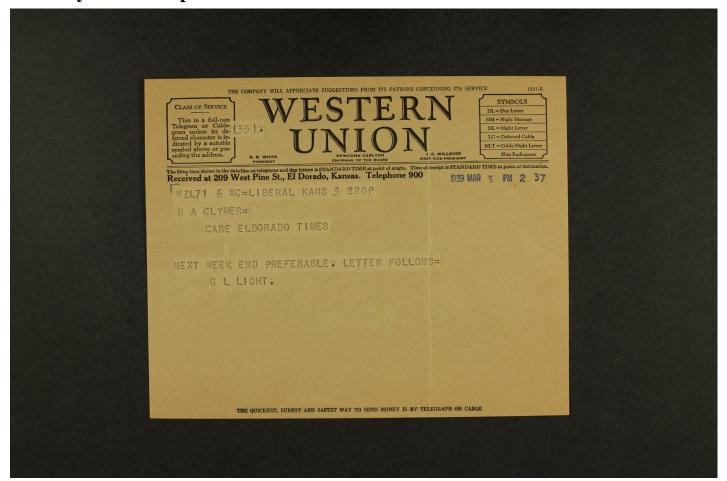
LES:M



Rolla Clymer correspondence

(C O P X) March 5, 1989 Willia Wiles White I sm disturbed by reports in the press regarding the bill which has just been reported out of the judiciary committee of the lower house of the Kausas Legislature which purports to outless sit-down strikes and impose penalties for acts of syndicelism. According to the report in this morning's paper, criminal syndicalism is defined as the teaching of any change in political or industrial control by force, or siding an act of sabotage. If the report is correct, this is a press and school gag law. If left to a court to determine what constituted criminal syndicalism such a statute night conceivably ban the publication of Eirke Machem's play, John Brown, for the here of that play taught (and by his martyrdom still teachem) change in political and industrial control by force. Many students of the life of Jesus believe that he teught sebotage: "Render unto Caesar etc." This is an entering wedge of authoritarian government in Kanzes, if I read the description of the proposed act correctly. I still think there is only one way to preserve freedom for any people; that is, to protect the right of freedom of thought, of speech, and of the press. I don't believe you can fight faccism with the instruments of fescion, or communism with repression. I don't like these philosophies, of course: I like freedom. The proposed provision benning the sit-down strike today is an snachron-ism. The sit-down strike has been outlamed by the Supreme Court of the United States. To my mind it is here employed exclusively as a clock to cover up the real purpose of the bill. It looks to me like red bill in white panties. Am I right? If so, do you think the organized professors of the college should take action by resolution? It is the only weapon we have. I am sure a substantial group is prepared to go out on a fascist limb deliberately, for if the bill is what it seems to be, we shall be out on one anyway when and if it becomes law. Please advise me. Sincerely, Crol C. E. Regers Head of the Department of Industrial Journalism



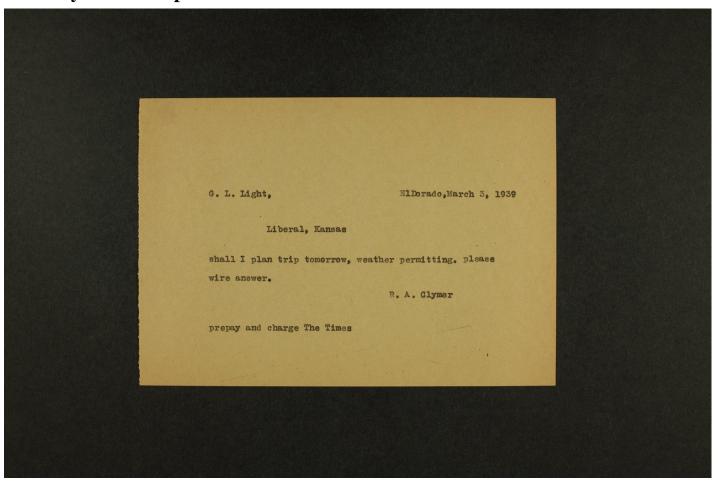




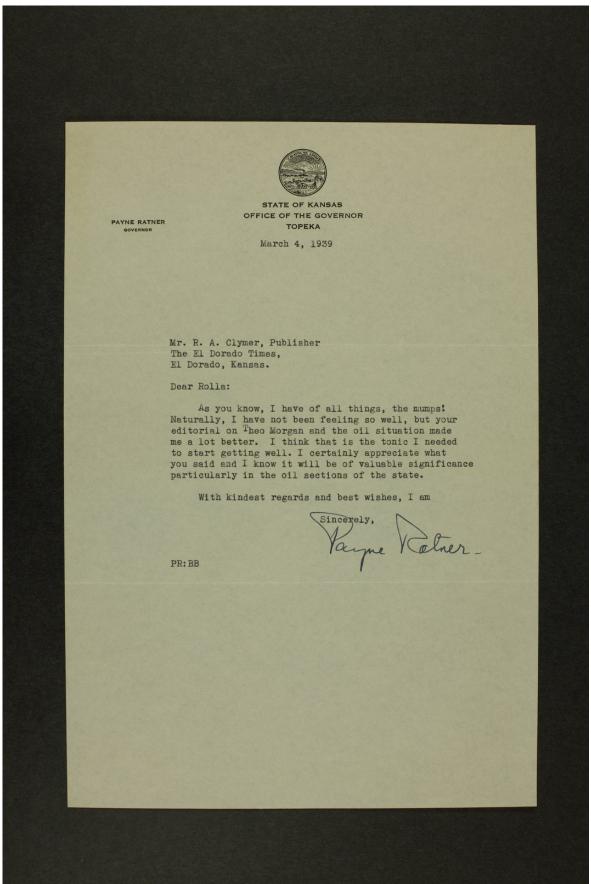
Rolla Clymer correspondence

LIGHT & LIGHT LIBERAL, KANSAS March Third, Mr. R. A. Clymer, C/o El Dorado Times, El Dorado, Kansas. Dear Rolla: Replying to your telegram, I just wired you as follows: "Next week end preferable. Letter follows." This is the second day I have been able to be in the office for approximately a week, and have be in the office for approximately a week, and have some emergency new matters pressing me, hence have not had any time to give attention to the newspaper business in any way. Just talked to our manager and he advises that the auditors final report has not reached him but he expects to receive it this week end. It would not arrive in sufficient time for me to go over it before wishing to talk with you. Furthermore, the children are home, having come for the funeral, and they have some demands upon my time. I would like very much, if it would be possible, for you to arrange to come out Friday, the 10th, going back Sunday, or if you do not come until Saturday, the 11th, hope you will not have to return before Monday, as I want to have a little time to entertain you as well as to do the other things that we have in mind. I hope this will be agreeable. Yours very truly, GLL*T













Rolla Clymer correspondence

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LYONS, KANSAS

March 4, 1939

Mr. Roldre Claimer, Editor Eldorado Times Eldorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Cloimer:

Will you address our organization at a general meeting on March 14? I have heard much comment relative to your speaking ability and believe that a talk such as you would give would fit perfectly into the picture.

Here is the situation. We have recently had a very substantial increase in membership in this organization. This naturally presents an immediate problem of membership conservation, and as one means of securing and maintaining the interest, we are bringing good speakers to address regular meetings of the organization at least once every two months.

Our mutual friend, Paul Jones, has promised to make your visit here a pleasant one, and I honestly believe that he is as anxious to have you come as I am.

Our budget for this purpose, of course, is limited as it is in any organization of this size. Putting it bluntly, however, will you come, and if so at what terms.

I shall look forward to receiving your answer in the affirmative.

Very truly yours,

R. K. Baker, Sec't Lyons Chamber of Commerce

RKB/PJR



