

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 697, Pages 20881 - 20910

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

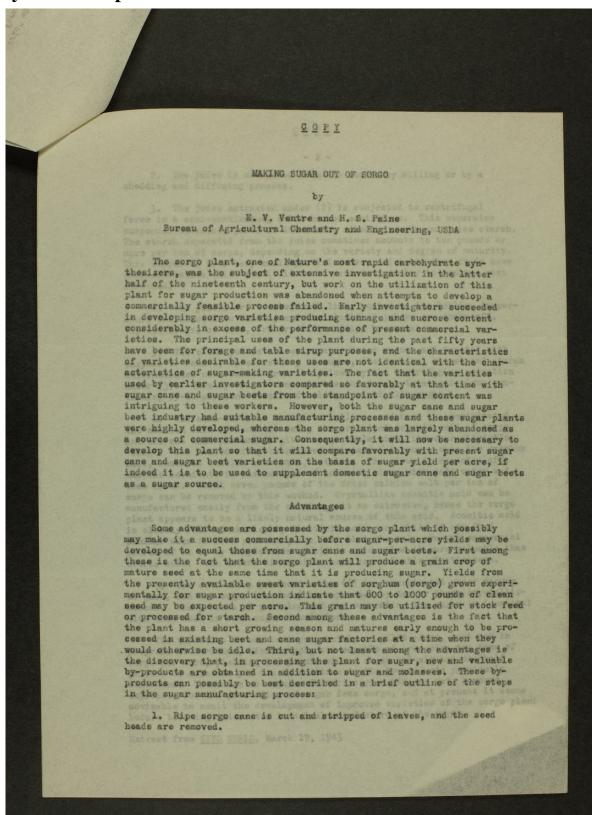
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Rolla Clymer correspondence



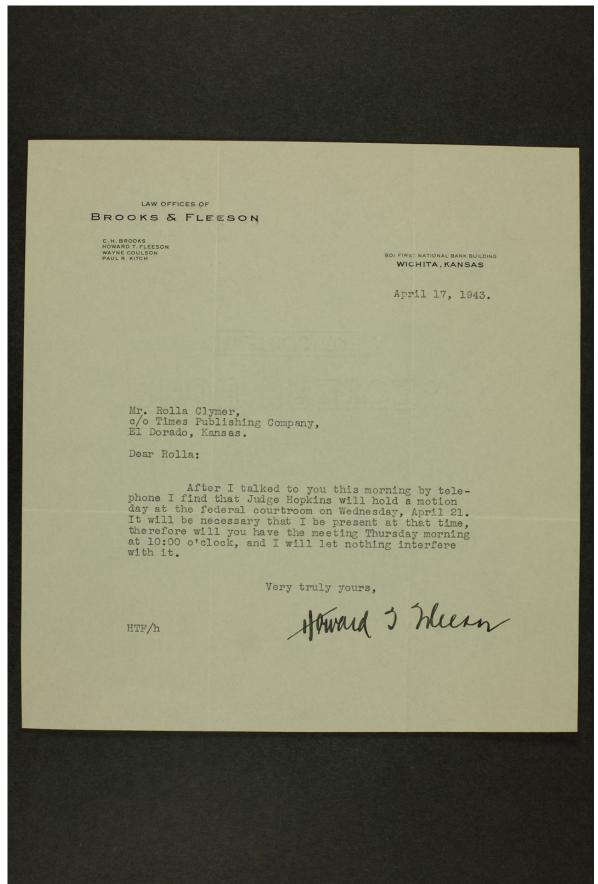
- 2 -

- 2. The juice is extracted from the stalks by milling or by a shedding and diffusing process.
- 3. The juice extracted under (2) is subjected to centrifugal force in a semi-continuous, solid-basket centrifuge. This separates suspended material, parts of the stalk, adhering earth and juice starch. The starch separated from the juice sometimes amounts to ten pounds or more per ton of sorge, depending on the variety and degree of maturity. This starch is of a very small particle size, and tests show it to have characteristics which permit it to be used in industry to replace root starches.
- 4. The juices are treated with lime, heated to the boiling temperature and allowed to settle, and the clarified juices are drawn off. The settlings, or muds, are freed from juice by pressing.
- 5. The clear juices are evaporated under vacuum and treated with enzymes to remove, by converting to sugar, the residual starch and starch intermediates not removed from the juices by the centrifuging operation under (3). This operation concentrates the juices to a semi-sirup containing 55-60 per cent dissolved solids, principally sugar.
- 6. The semi-sirup is heated to boiling, and here is precipitated the calcium salt of aconitic acid, the principal organic acid of sorgo and the one that presumably gives sorgo table sirup its characteristic "tang". The heated sirup is allowed to stand 5-6 hours, when the calcium salt, known as calcium aconitate, settles. The sirup is decanted off, and the aconitate is washed free of adhering sirup with cold water and then dried. About seven pounds of the dried calcium salt per ton of sorgo can be removed by this method. Crystalline aconitic acid can be manufactured easily from the calcium salt so extracted, hence the sorgo plant appears to be a likely natural source of this acid. Aconitic acid is closely related chemically to citric acid, and while it may find similar uses in food products, the fact that the only present commercial source of it is by dehydration of citric acid makes it more valuable than citric acid. The esters of aconitic acid are valuable plasticizers.
- 7. The semi-sirup produced under (6) is concentrated under vacuum to gain, and the sugar (sucrose) is separated by two or three crystallizations. The process of graining and the separating the sugar is identical with that used in case sugar manufacture.

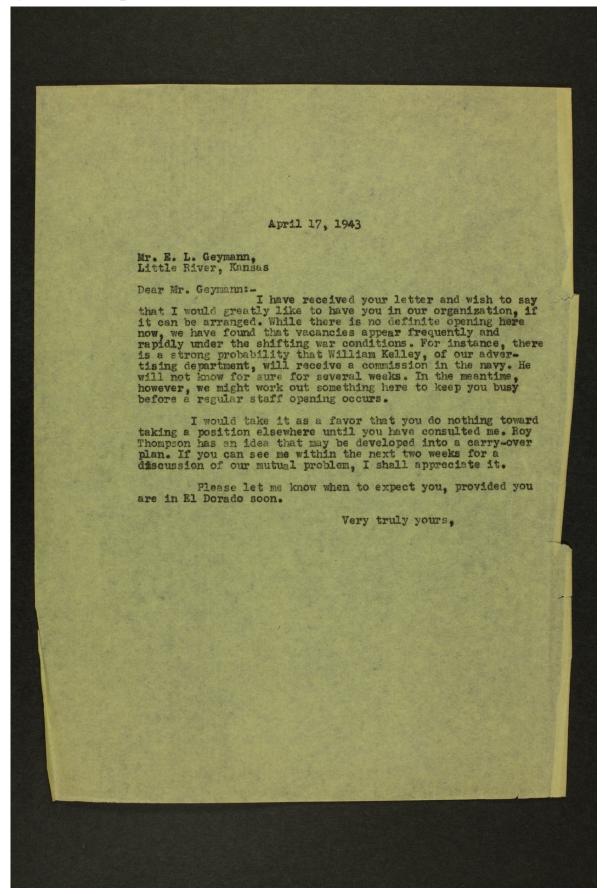
The varieties in use in experimental, or pilot plant, work now in progress at Meridian, Mississippi, are capable of producing ten toms of sorgo per acre, yielding 165 pounds of raw sugar and six and one-half gallons of molesses per ton in addition to the by-products previously mentioned. There are no regular factories operating as yet, however, expressly for the production of sugar from sorgo, and at present it seems advisable to await the development of improved varieties of the sorgo plant before becoming interested in actual manufacture of the sugar.

Extract from SEED WORLD, March 19, 1943

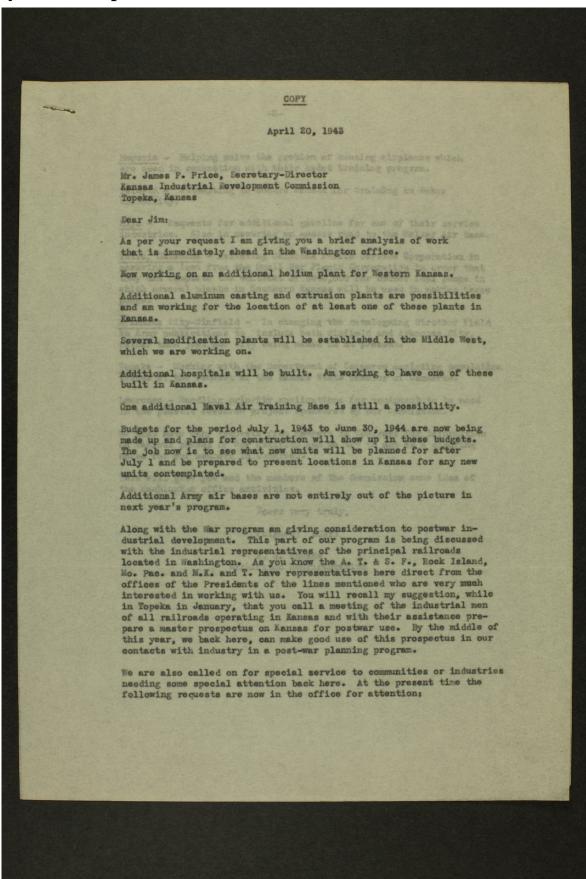




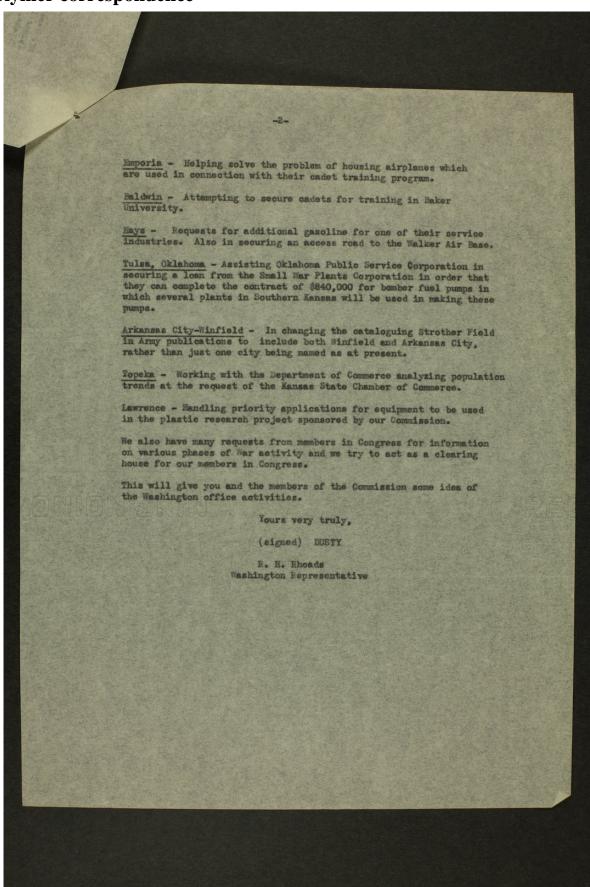














Rolla Clymer correspondence

C. M. HARGER, Editor C. W. WHEELER, Business Manager

ASSOCIATED PRESS UNITED PRESS

ABILENE DAILY REFLECTOR-CHRONICLE ABILENE, KANSAS

April 21 1943

Mr. Rolla Clymer

Eldorado Times

Eldorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:-

In a letter from the KPA office this morning, Mrs Rusco passed on to me your suggestion that the time should be approaching when the Editorial Ass'n and the Kansas Press Ass'n should be merged into one organization. I agree with you that it is the logical and reasonable thing to do and if you care to do a little work on it I am sure that it would be fine.

If you think it adviseable I will contact Henry Stitcher, or perhaps it would be better for you to do that he is now located at Junction City as manager of the Junction City Republic, Charley Manley's paper, and as far as I know the secertary of the Editorial Ass'n.

Perhaps it maight be wiser to wait until after your article appears in the Jayhawker press. I will leave that to your judgement.

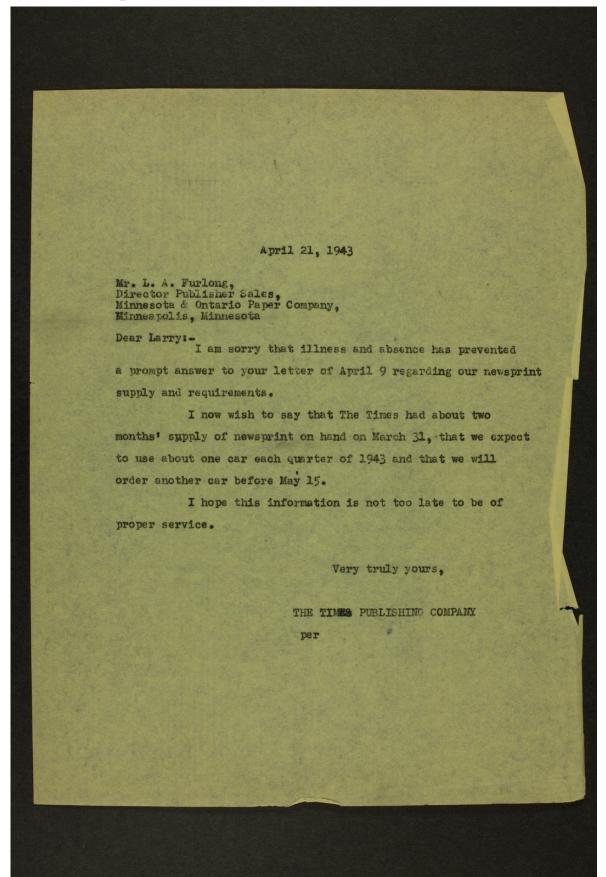
With the establishment of the Clipping bureau starting the first of May I would divide the work of the KPA into three groups, the KPA which should speak for the papers both from an editorial, news and writing side; second the Clearing Hosue which functions largely for the national advertising problem of the weeklies and a few small dailies; third thru the Clipping burues which will enable the Ass'n to have office space of its own, and maintian a larger office staff so that the secretary can be of greater service to the Ass'n and not be tied with all the clerical work.

Any suggestions you can give me as to making the Ass&n more effective for the papers of Lansas will be appreciated. We are holding our own despite the restrictions and the problems raised by the war and I persume tat is all we have any right to expect until the war is won. Stop in and see us if you ever get gas to make a trip anymore.

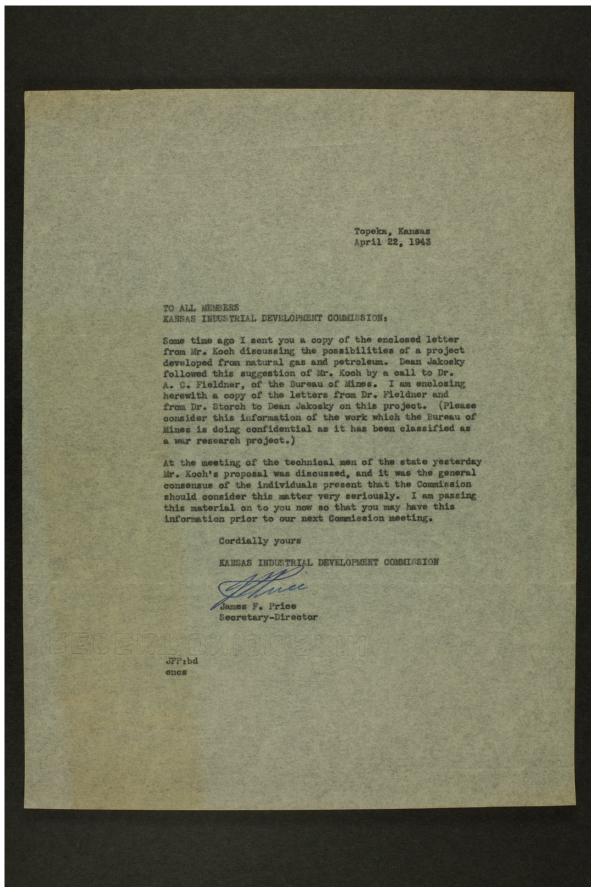
Sincerely

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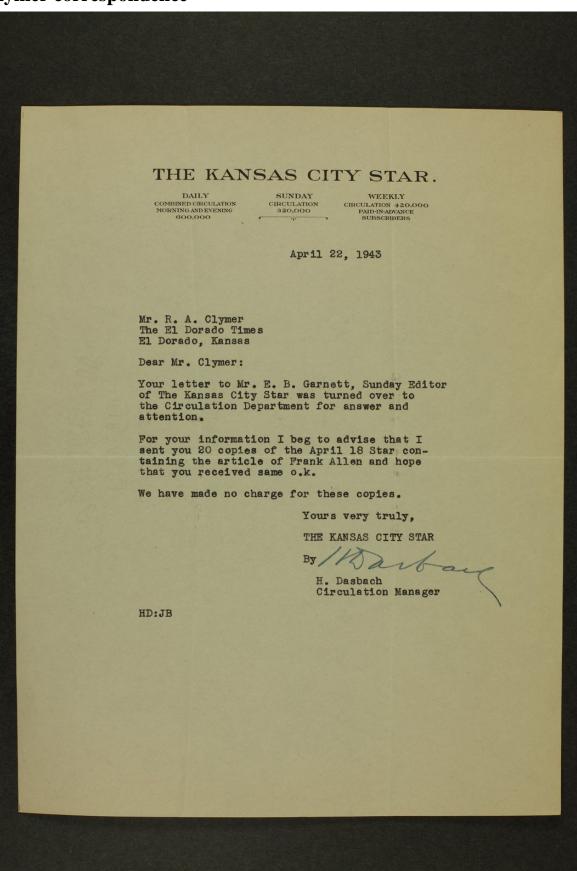






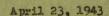








Rolla Clymer correspondence



Mr. C. W. Wheeler Abilene, Kansas

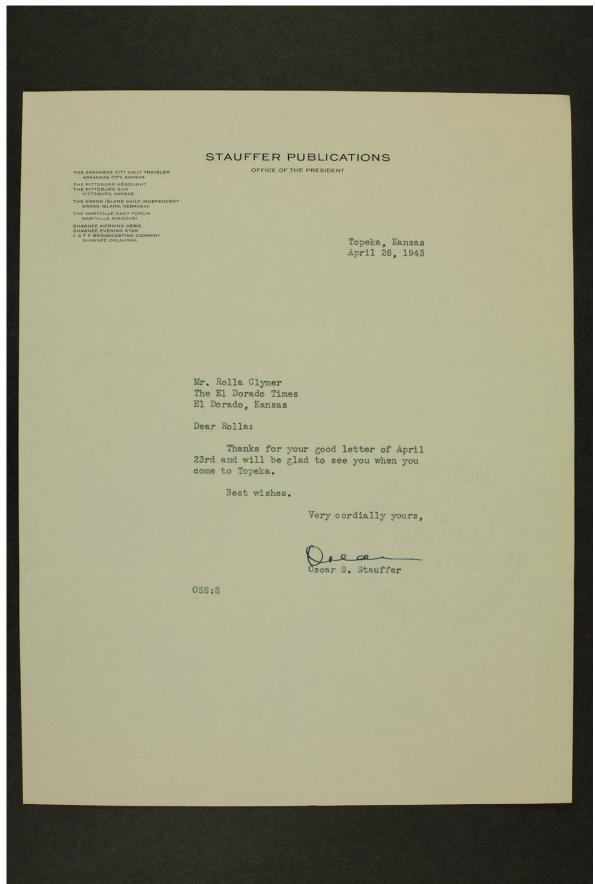
My Dear "Red":
I greatly appreciate your letter. What started all this was my suggestion that the proper Kansas newspaper agency supervise the awarding of a list of annual "Pulitzer Prizes" to Kansas newspaper men-including best editorial, best news coverage, best community service, and so on. These prizes could be given by outstanding publishers to be known as the "Arthur Capper Award," the "William Allen White" award, the "Oscar S. Stauffer" award, and the like. They could be entirely inexpensive. For instance, a \$25 war bond today would suffice. This is all set out in my editorial, which from what you said in your letter is to be published in the Jayhawk Press. I really think it is an idea worth promoting. Our Kansas newspaper chaps would thrive on such an incentive, where the honor would be worth far more than the prize itself; and the state would profit by preservation of some of the genuinely fine work that is always being done by the newspaper tribe.

Incidentally, I mentioned that Kansas needs only one newspaper association. That, of course, is the Kansas Press Association. I was one of the organizers of this association, and it was the firm purpose of that group to create one body which would serve the entire newspaper clientele. The old Kansas Editorial Association went to seed on editorial, news and feature coverage. I fear that the KPA has swung too far in the other direction with major emphais upon the business side. Surely we can have a single association which will maintain a nice balance between the two. I think the outline in the fourth paragraph of your letter will entirely fill the bill. We are chumps in Kansas to have two associations for newspapers. The Editorial Association is moribund. I never go any more, as much as a matter of protest as anything else. Many others, I am sure, feel as I do.

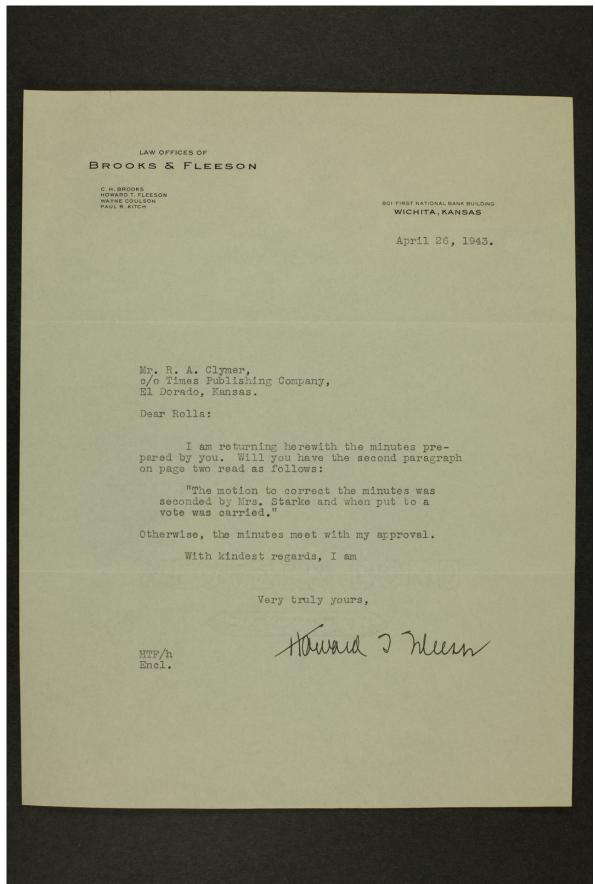
You are nearer to Henry Sticher than I am, so I suggest you see him and talk the subject over. Some of the old wire die-hards who had to have an editorial association or bust have passed on. This is an excellent time to get all our activities concentrated in one body where they belong. I will help in any way I can, and ask only that you let me know how. Will see you as soon as possible and, in the meantime, will want to hear from you.

Sincerely,

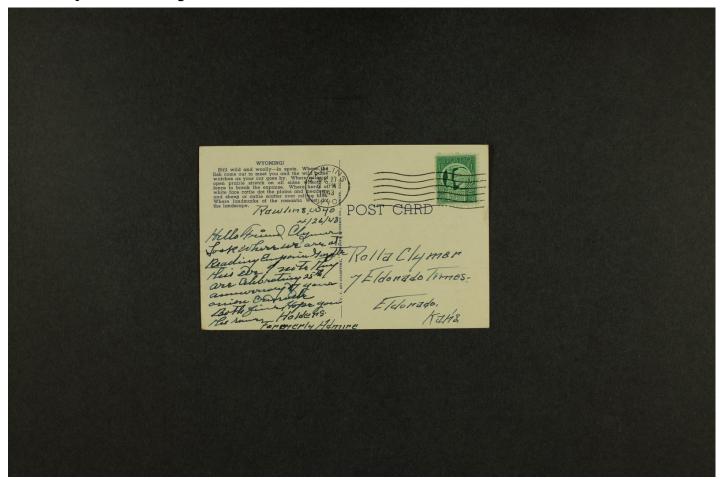




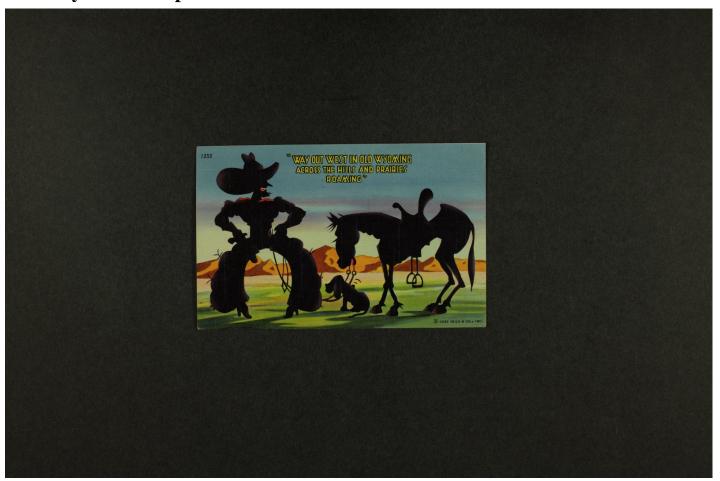




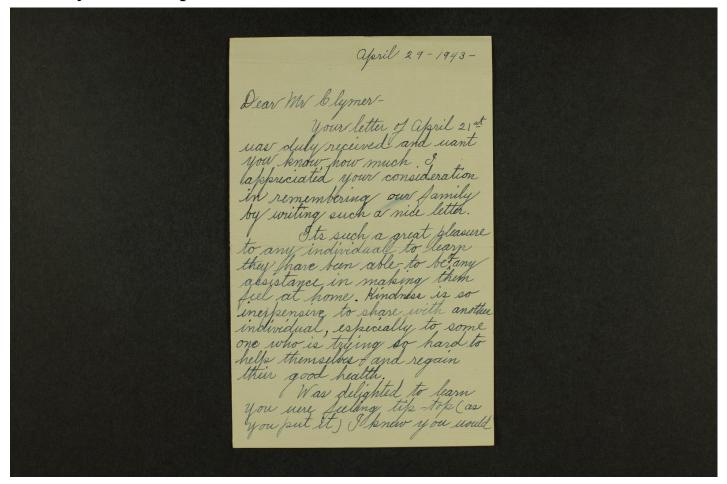




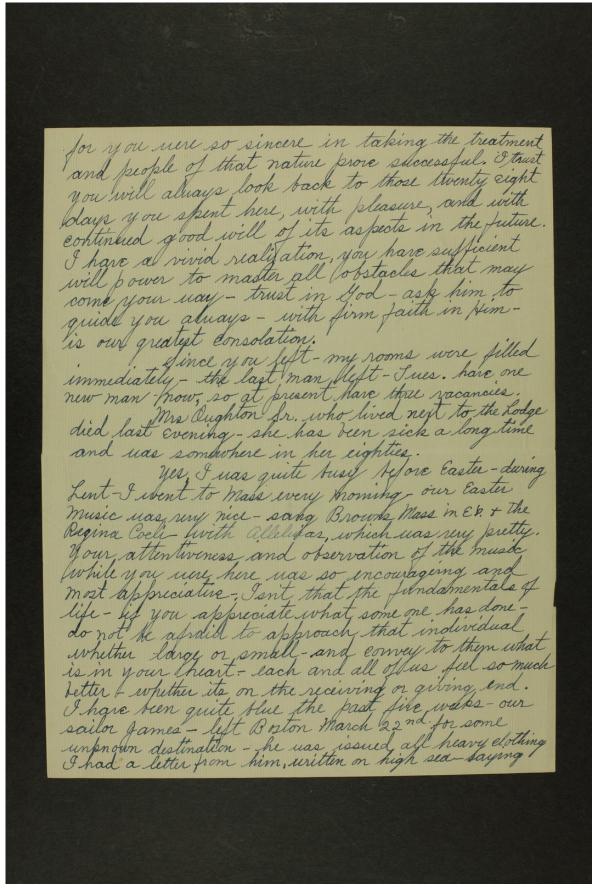




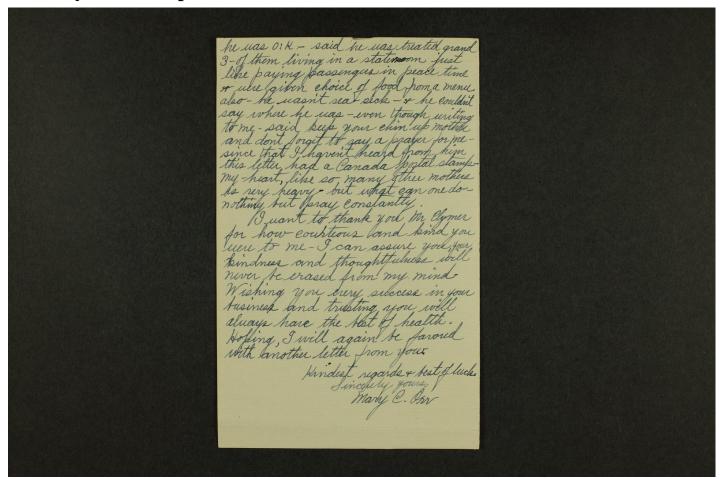


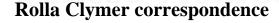
















The Kansas Press Association

J. HOWARD RUSCO, Secretary and Field Manager

3-6671
Phones: Office 4197; Res. 3-3709
500-H-0-to-I-J-0-y-h-o-w-k
TOPEKA, KANSAS
April 29, 1943

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Belleville Telescope
Chm. Legislative Committee

MAX S. MILLER Russell Record Chm. Membership Committee Mr. R. A. Clymer, Editor The El Dorado Times El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

Pursuant to our recent conversation regarding the feasibility of establishing a series of annual awards to Kansas newspapermen, and of effecting a consolidation of the two newspaper associations of Kansas into a single well-rounded, representative organization, Red Wheeler has forwarded to me your letter of April 23.

As I told you during our recent visit, I am very much interested in both the projects you mentioned, and Red also expresses much interest. He indicated he planned to go to Junction City shortly to discuss the latter proposal with Henry Sticher.

I note in your letter to Red a reference to your editorial for the Jayhawker Press; however, we have not yet received this article. Have you mailed it to us, or was your reference to an editorial which you had not yet submitted? I gained the impression from your letter that you already had sent this in, and it occurs to me that it may have been lost in the shuffle of moving our office.

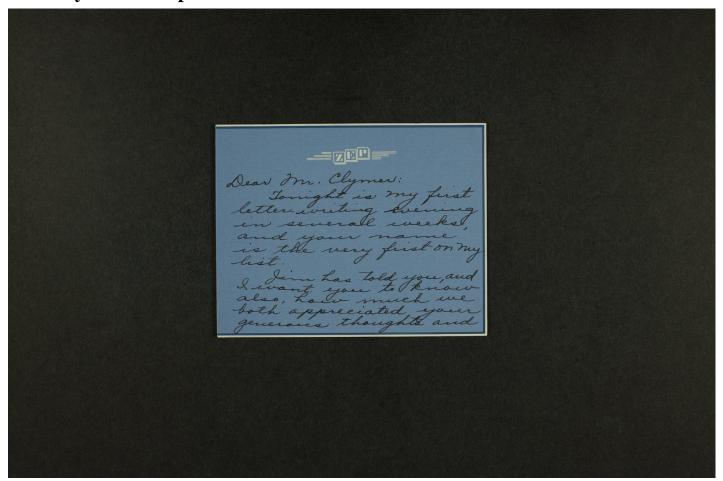
In the event that you have mailed it, and have a copy in your files, would you mind sending us another copy?

Very truly,

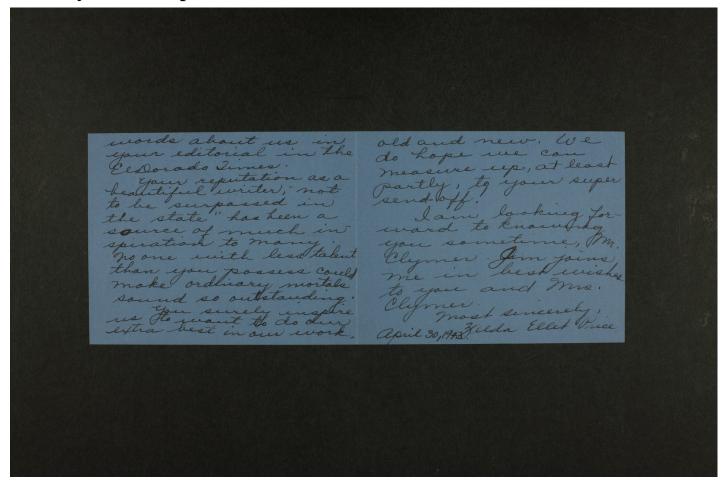
Secretary-Manager

P.S. We had a beautiful fight in New York and Washington last week in an effort to get some of the war advertising, prepared by OWI and sponsored by private industry, to seep down to the towns of 50,000 and under. I think we made some progress.—JHR.











Rolla Clymer correspondence

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TULSA, OKLAHOMA

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J. V. BROWN, TAX SPECIALIST
V. BROWN, TAX SPECIALIST

April 30, 1943

706 THOMPSON BUILDING TULSA, OKLAHOMA TELEPHONE L. D. 737

WASHINGTON OFFICE 500 INVESTMENT BUILDING WASHINGTON, D. C. TELEPHONE NATIONAL BASE

Mr. R. A. Clymer, Editor The Eldorado Times Times Publishing Eldorado, Kansas

Dear Friend Clymer:

In a report received today from John H. Morrison, our Field Representative, he sent us your subscription for 1943, payable on July 1.

It is a great satisfaction to us to have you continue your support of the Association. You have been so much a part of this Association and your work for the IPAA in Kansas and elsewhere has been so persistent that you would be sorely missed if you did not continue with us. We will send you a memo for this account on July 1, as indicated.

Because you know the early history of the struggles of the Association, you will be interested to know that we now have a membership of approximately 6,000, representing forty-three states and that in spite of mergers, sell-outs, men going to the army, and the usual casualties among independents in the petroleum industry, we will show a gain in membership again this year.

The Mid-Year Meeting of the Directors of the Association will be held in St. Louis on Friday and Saturday, May 7 and 8. As guest speakers at that Meeting, we will have Congressman Walter C. Ploeser of the Patman Committee in Washington, Congressman Clarence F. Lea of the Lea Committee also in Washington, and Senator E. H. Moore from Oklahoma. I wish you could come to the Meeting and again mingle with the group. You will receive within a day or two a story on this Meeting.

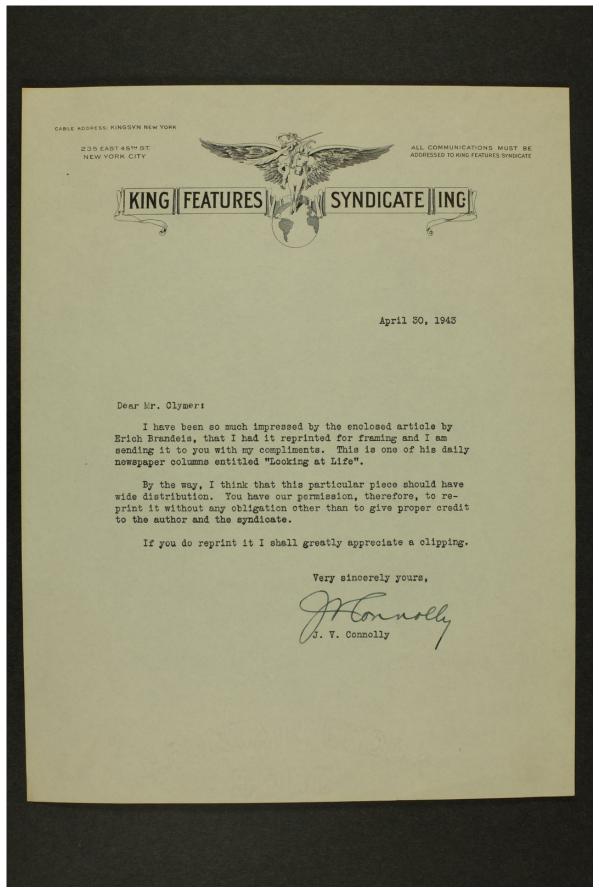
With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours

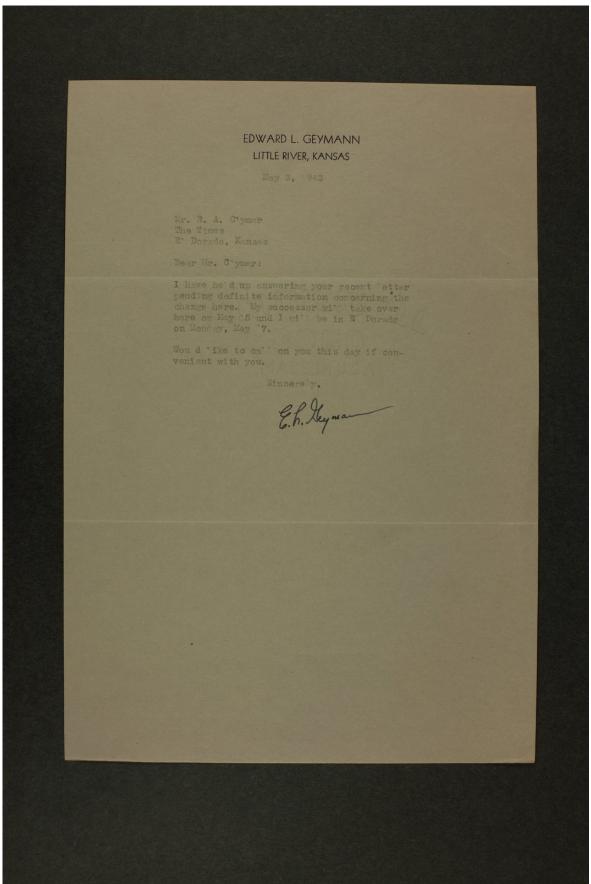
C. E. Buchner, Executive Manager

CEB: K











Rolla Clymer correspondence

TELEPHONE ADAMS 9218

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1337 CONNECTICUT AVENUE WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 3, 1943

Dear Mr. Editor:

Here is the first edition of a new Republican clipsheet.

You and I know there are as many ideas on putting out a clipsheet as there are publicity men and editors. And we appreciate that the editor knows better than we possibly can the type of material he would like to receive from us during the coming important political year.

Our approach to this whole job is that we do not want to be distant press agents dumping useless material on your desks, but that you are as much interested in the cause of breaking the Roosevelt-Hopkins-Frankfurter hold on the government as we are. We are all Americans together who dread the thought of perpetuating one man in the White House; and of seeing the continued mixing of politics with war administration.

James P. Selvage, my assistant in charge of publicity, and I hope, therefore, that as we move along you will not hesitate to give us the benefit of your views, criticisms and comments. If you will tell us the kind of material you can best use - whether it is copy of the type of this sheet, cartoons, other illustrated material, mats, or whatnot - we will endeavor to gradually adjust to the majority needs.

So we invite your aid.

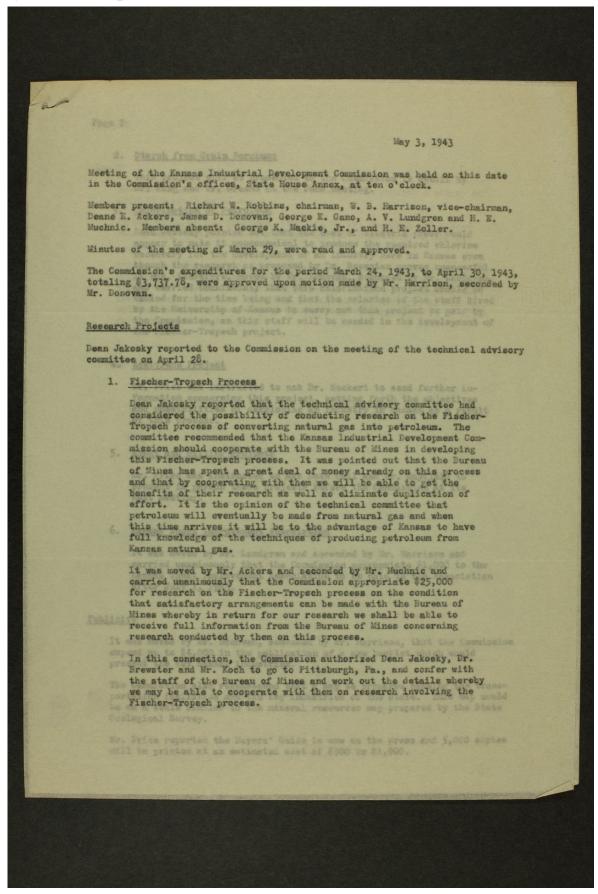
Won't you please, right at the start, advise us if you want this sheet continued to you and to whom it should be addressed.

And, forsooth, if it should fall into hands that do not want it, we would be glad to hear that for we have no desire to fill anyone's waste basket. And particularly not to waste paper at this time. The New Deal press agents can cover that part of the political field very adequately.

H Spanger

Harrison E. Spangler.







Rolla Clymer correspondence



This project will be presented to the Commission in detail by Dr. King and Dr. Greene at the June meeting.

3. Chlorination of Petroleum

2. Starch from Grain Sorghums

Dean Jakosky pointed out that the cost of electric power would appear to make it uneconomical to produce the required chlorine necessary for the development of an industry here in Kansas even though the research as proposed by Dr. Brewster proves successful. It was, therefore, moved by Mr. Denovan, seconded by Mr. Lundgren, and carried unanimously that this chlorination project should be tabled for the time being and that the selaries of the staff hired by the University of Kansas to carry out this project be paid by the Commission, as this staff will be needed in the development of the Fischer-Tropsch project.

4. Acetylene Project

Mr. Price was instructed to ask Dr. Heckert to send further information concerning this project, setting forth the objectives and possibilities of developing an industry in Kansas as a result of this process.

5. Wheat and Milling Projects

Mr. Price was instructed to ask Dean Call and Dr. Bayfield to present in person these projects before the Commission at its next meeting.

6. Kansas Wheat Improvement Association

It was moved by Mr. Lundgren and seconded by Mr. Harrison and carried unanimously that the Commission appropriate \$1,000 to the Kansas Wheat Improvement Association to be paid to the Association after July 1, 1943.

Publicity.

It was moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Harrison, that the Commission expend up to \$4,000 in the publication of a new booklet which would present the key Kansas industries.

The Commission also recommended that a map be prepared showing the transportation facilities and the key industries of the state. This map would be on a scale similar to the mineral resources map prepared by the State Geological Survey.

Mr. Price reported the Buyers' Guide is now on the press and 5,000 copies will be printed at an estimated cost of \$900 to \$1,000.



