

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 738, Pages 22111 - 22140

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

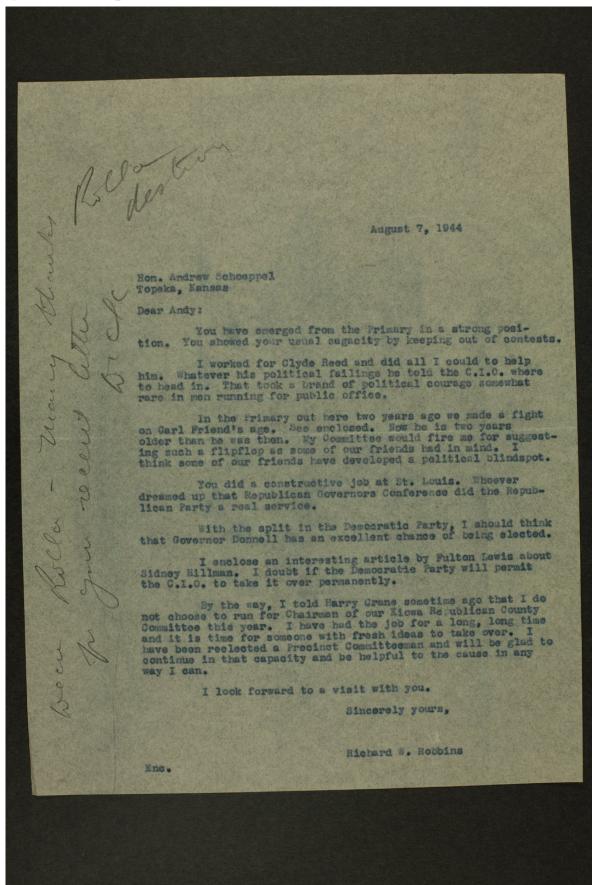
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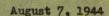
HISTORICAL SOCIETY







Rolla Clymer correspondence



Dear Richard:
I greatly appreciate being allowed to see your file of letters on recent important subjects affecting the welfare of the Commission. I am herewith returning that

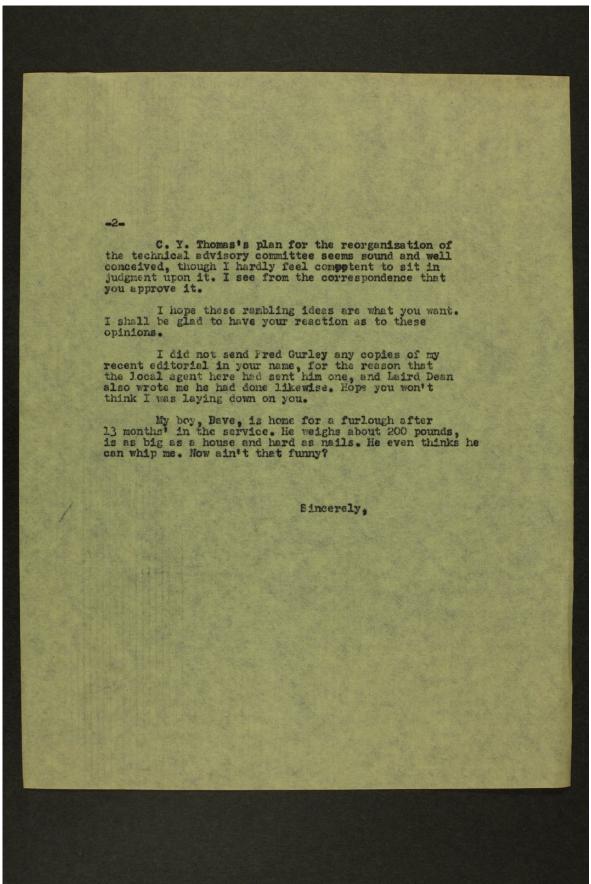
You have asked for my opinion on Mr. Harrison's letter to the governor, and here it is:

I agree with his suggestion that it would be well to amend the law governing the Commission so that its members could elect their own chairman and vice-chairman. The only difficulty with this is that if the law is opened up for amendment, there might be no end to proposed changes. Kennedy himself has the grandiose idea that the law should be rewritten, and told me so the evening he stopped here. (That was the day you knocked his ears down.) Some well-meaning chumps of legislators like John Mayhew or Bill Fowler (of my county) might feel this was the opportunity for a field day and run free like the wild asses of the desert. I would hesitate submitting a bill for changes in the Commission law where the Commission's few enemies and the lunatic fringe could get a whack at it.

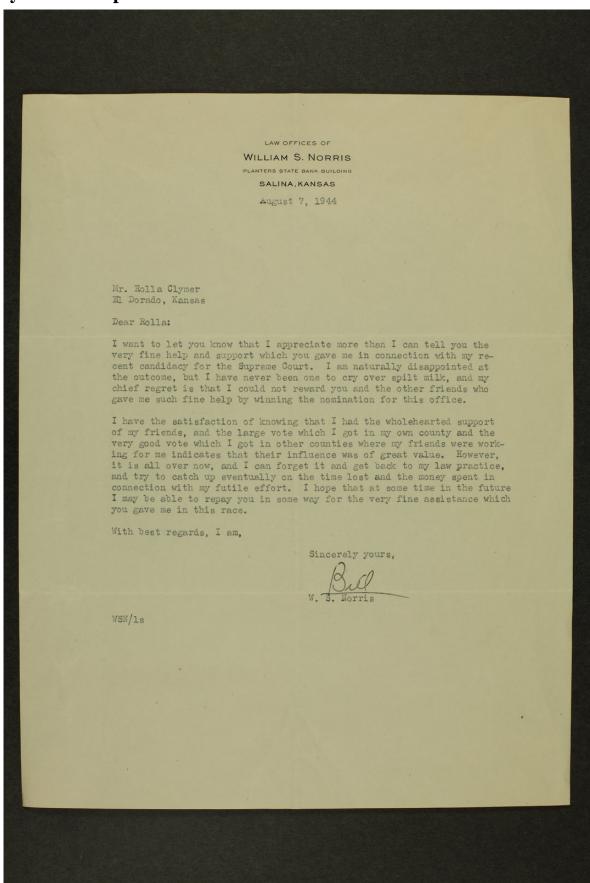
I heartily endorse Mr. Harrison's proposal that a group of industrial leaders be called into session by the governor for suggestions as to who should be chairman of the Commission. This would tie such fellows more closely into the conduct of the Commission and make them more or less responsible. Moreover, it would remove one of Kennedy's pet knocks, to wit that "industrialists" are against the present setup of the Commission and its program. But this could be handled by the governor without the necessity of monkeying with the law. I would much prefer to see it done this way. Mr. Harrison doubtless is sincere in wanting to be relieved of Commission dutires though he has done a great work as a member. great work as a member.

I doubt the advisability of the permanent home idea. This apparently would entail too expensive an investment at a time when all public expenditures are likely to be scrutinized more carefully than ever. Some fairly weird suggestions have already been made for state office building improvement, one which has the approval of the State Chamber that is ridiculous. The Commission does not want to get caught now in this collection of stage-door Johnnies. I think the permanent home idea can wait.

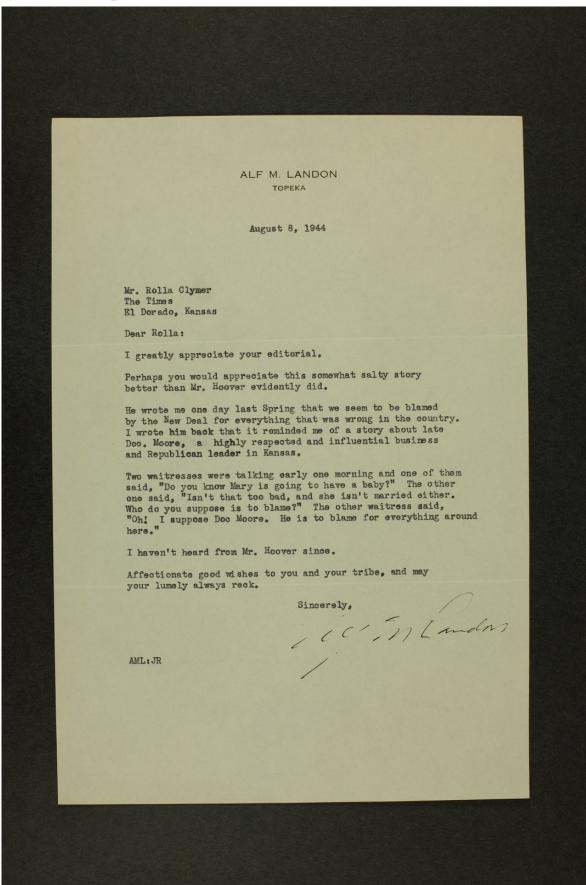




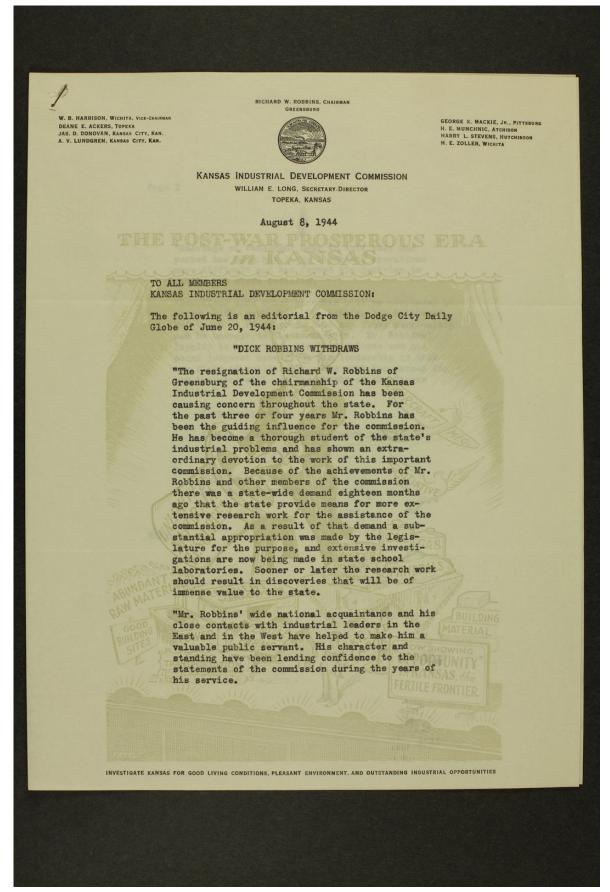




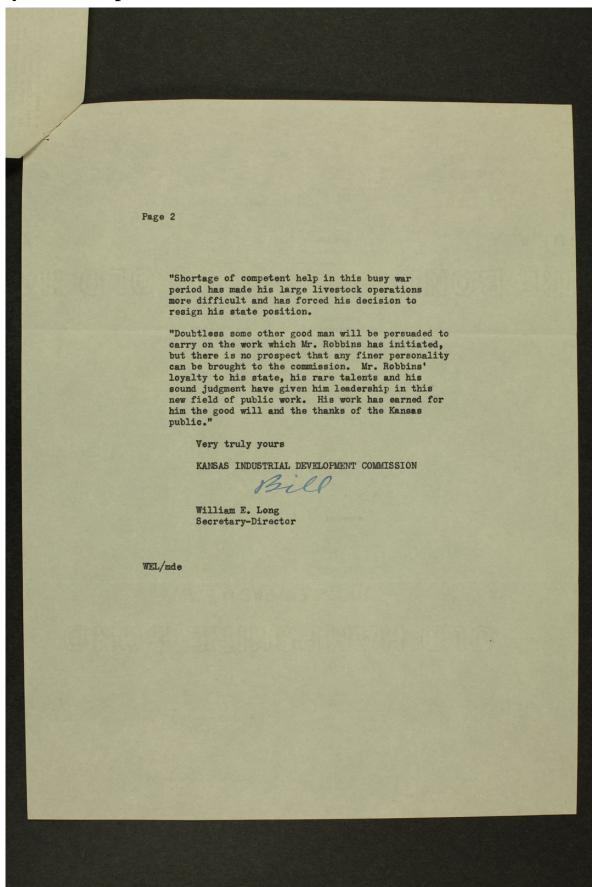




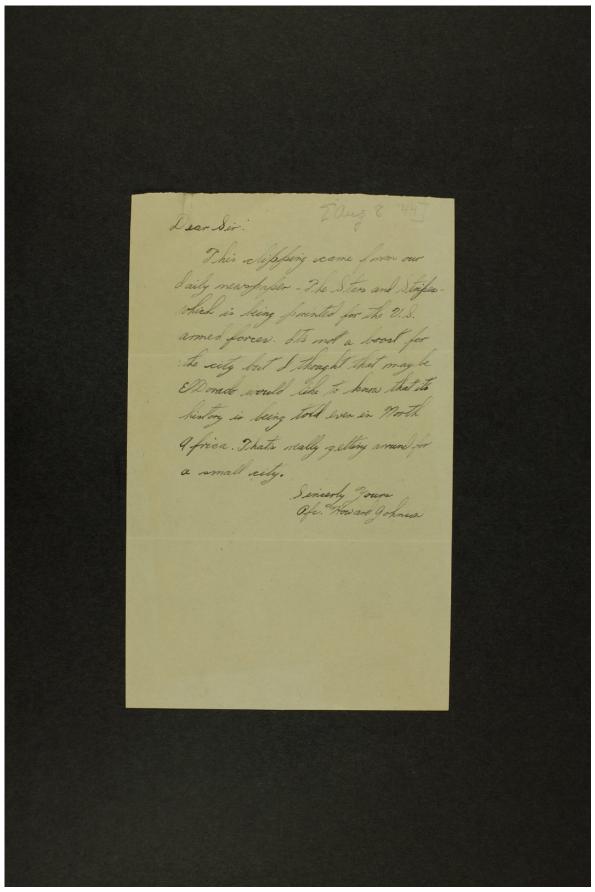




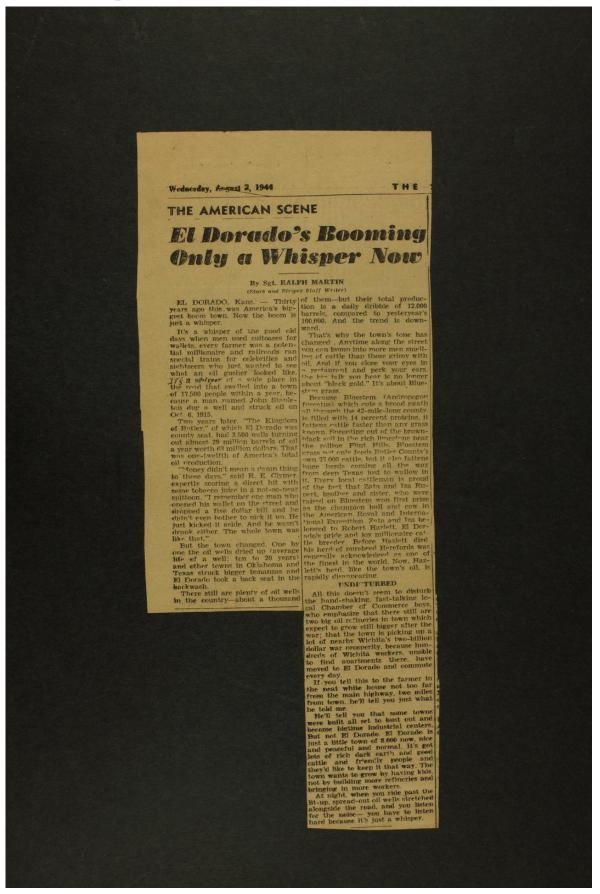












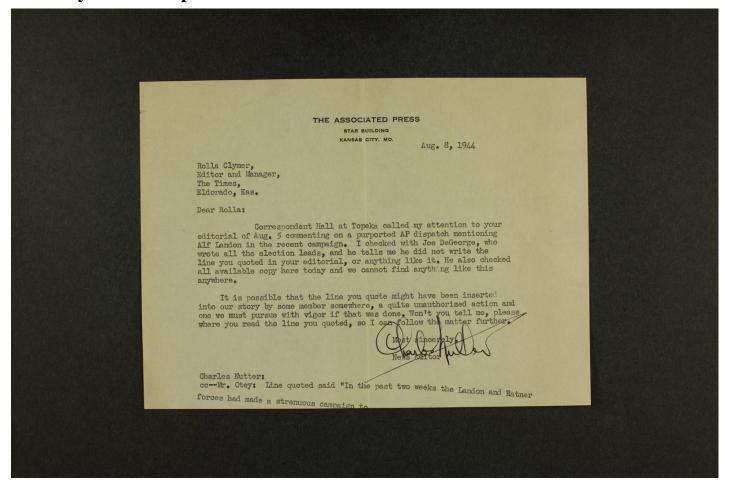




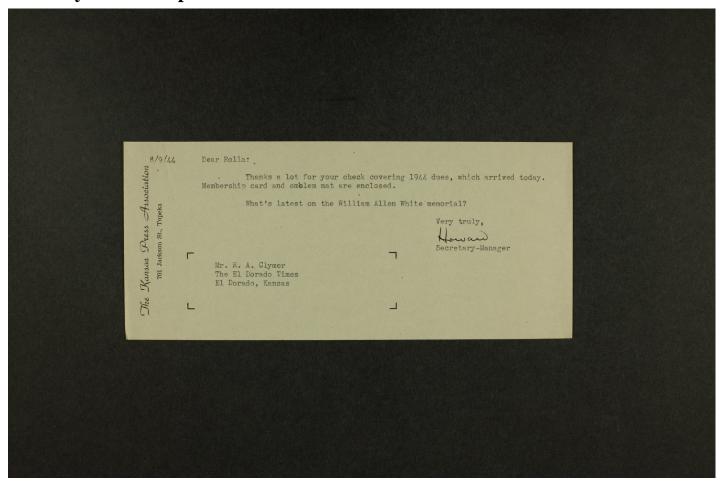




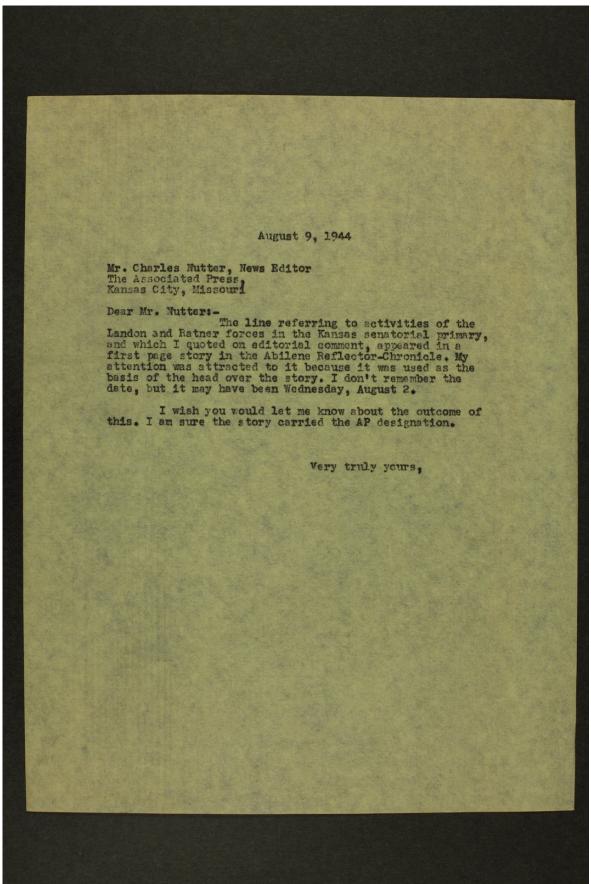




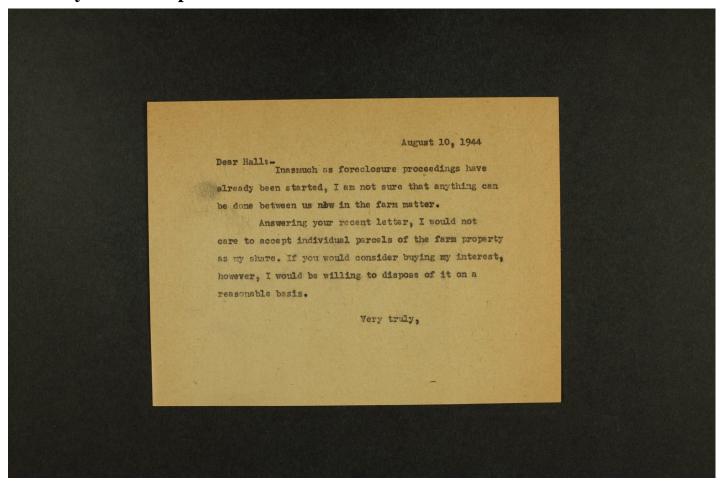




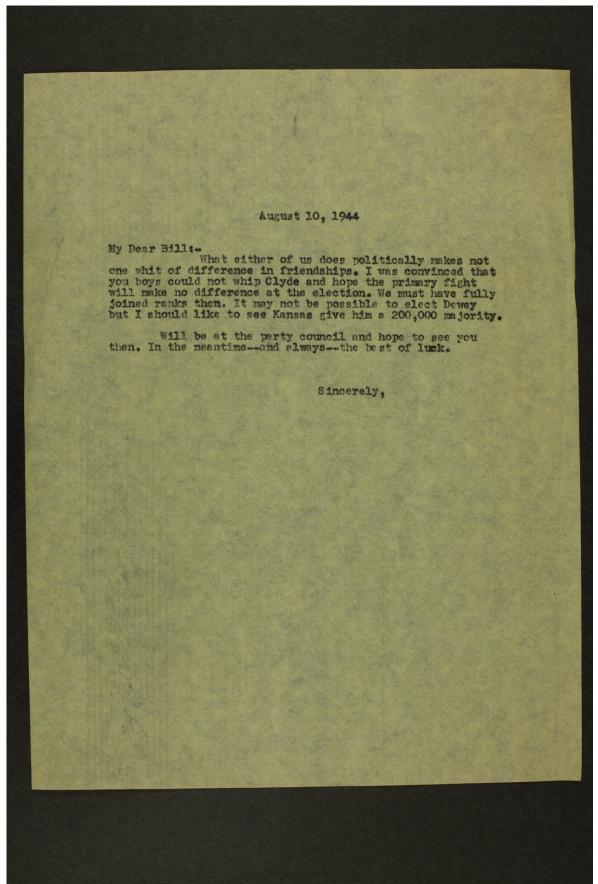














Rolla Clymer correspondence

In Italy 10 August 1944

Dear "Boss";

It is probably doubtful that you will even remember me after so many years, However, I have thought of you often and have wondered how the fates have been treating you. It was a delightful surprise to stumble on to your name in the enclosed clipping from the Stars and Stripes this morning, and the immediate reaction was to write you this note.

There has been much water under the bridge since those hectic days down in Santa Fe when we were trying to make an healthy one out of a sick one. After you left we kept on fighting the battle and ultimately came out ahead, as you know. I left the New Mexican in early 1941 to work for Continental Air Lines, but was called back at the end of the summer. I settled back into the old routine until Fearl harbor, then chucked the works and enlisted in the USAAF. After going through a couple of traker technical schools, I came overseas in the summer of 1942, was stepened in Ireland and England, and got in on the beginning of the Afican show. Last summer I was fortuneate enough to have a direct field commission handed me down there and came on to Italy in September.

My first job was in combat intelligence, but I fineally found the round hole for my round peg and landed in Fublic Relations. I am now P.R.O. of one of the oldest heavy bombardment wings in the 15th Air Force doing press agent work for the B-24 Liberators, the wheel horse of our operations down here, it's been a damned stimulating experience, but after two years over here, I find myself getting pretty workless and hope to get home before the situation becomes chronic. However, the way things are shaping up now, it looks as thought we won't be sweating it out too much longer.

I really meant what I said in the first paragraph, Boss. I do think of you often and hope to see you again someday. After this is over and I come home, I am going to make tracks for the southwest and certainly plan to include El Dorado in my itinerayy. I would very much like to hear from you and how the passage of time has used you. Please bang out a few lines when you find the time.

As always

1st to ohn A. Stevenson, 0-2055946 Headquarters, 47th Bomb. Wing(H) A.P.O. 520, c/o Postmaster, New York, N.Y. Con The second



Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS STAR BUILDING KANSAS CITY 8, MO.

August 10, 1944

C. M. Harger, Editor The Reflector-Chronicle Abilene, Kansas

Dear Mr. Harger:

Rolla Clymer of the El Dorado Times had quite an editorial August 5 based on a purported Associated Press dispatch of August 2 on the Kansas primary, which allegedly made the following statement; "In the last two weeks the Landon and Ratner factions had made a stromuous campaign to defeat Reed." He used this to point out the inaccuracy of this statement and inferentially criticise The Associated Press for the misinformation.

We have searched our records thoroughly and can find no evidence that we ever made such a statement and Joe DeGeorge, who wrote the primary leads, says he is positive he made no such statement. In view of this I wrote Mr. Clymer asking him if he could tell where he saw the statement and whether it was in feet an Associated Press dispatch. He says that it appeared in the Abilene Reflector-bronicle, carried a headline based on the alleged statement, and that he was sure it carried The Associated Press credit.

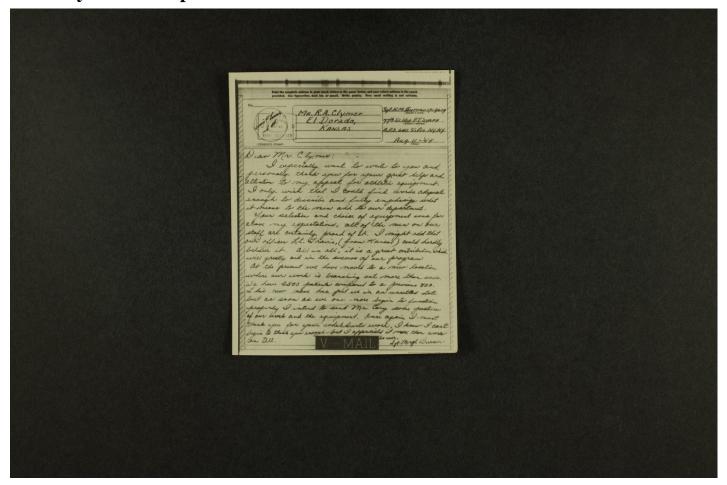
I am writing you to inquire if his recollection is correct since I do not have a copy of your paper of that date and I would appreciate, if this did appear in the Reflector-Chronicle, if you would send me a copy and tell me where it originated.

Most sincerely,

Charles Nutter: t cc-- Mr. Gould, NY (enc) Mr. Clymer, El Dorado Mr. Hall, Topeka Mr. Otey, "ichita

News Editor







Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

August 12, 1944

C. M. Harger The Reflector-Chronicle Abilene, Mansas

Dear Mr. Harger:

I have your letter of August 11 explaining how the material which you had carried got into an Associated Press dispatch printed in your paper, leading to criticism of our accuracy.

I wish you would strongly impress upon the young man who handled this that such action is not authorized and can lead to very serious trouble and that he should refrain at all times from adding any non-Associated Press material to an Associated Press dispatch.

I know you will give us your cooperation in this and I appreciate what you can do.

Most sincerely,

Charles Nutter: t

News Editor

cc- (NM) Mr. Gould, NY
Mr. Hall, TK
copy says he added a clipping from the K C Times to the AP
Mr. Otey, WI
Mr. Clymer
Mr. Clymer
Mr. West Editor
Mr. Otey, WI
Mr. Otey, WI
Mr. Clymer

with my unquestioned faith drilled into me by years of AP accuracy I let it go. Probably it was a special dispatch to the Times instead of an AP story--ifhe got it from the Times. We get up here a half-baked edition of Star abd Times which differs from your city paper--Anyhow it is nothing to get excited about. You tell Rolla that this hot weather he should keep his shirt on--or off--and try to maintain a calm outlook on the political horizon. on the political horizon.

C. M. Harger (signed)



