

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 740, Pages 22171 - 22200

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

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 229011

Item Identifier: 229011

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Chester Shore

LT COL CHESTER K. SHORE, 0-225503 HQ XIX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND, 9TH AF APO 141, % POSTMASTER, N. Y.

FRANSE 27 Aug 44

DEAR HAM: RECEIVED YOUR INTERESTING LETTER SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. HAVE
BEEN MANY PLACES AND SEEN MANY THINGS SINCE THAT TIME. AND MORE IS
TO COME. AM FORTUNATE TO BE WITH THE AIR FORCE COMMAND THAT IS GOING
RIGHT ALONG WITH THE FASTEST MOVING ARMY IN THE WORLD. WISH I COULD
WRITE MORE ABOUT IT TO YOU. WILL HAVE A WORLD OF THINGS TO TELL YOU
WHEN I SEE YOU. IF ANY AIR-GROUND TEAM EVER MADE HISTORY OURS DID
THE PAST MONTH. DEMAREE BESS OF THE SATEVEPOST SHOWED UP THE OTHER DAY
AND I THINK HE PLANS TO DO US UP BIG IN A COMING ISSUE OF THE POST.

OUR WAR CORRESPONDENTS WERE THE FIRST TO GET IN PARIS AND NO DOUBT YOU HAVE SEEN THEIR STORIES. DOUG WARNER, UP, FRANK SHERSHEL, LIFE, HENRY JAMESON, AP (YOU KNOW HIM, WICHITA-TOPEKA AP MGR AT ONE TIME AND FROM ABILENE) ARESOME OF THE CORRES WITH US. I HAD TO TURN DOWN THE TRIP TO PARIS AS GEN. VANDENBURG, CG OF THE 9TH AF WAS GIVING OUT 70 DFC AND SILVER STAR AWARDS TO OUR PILOTS ON THAT DAY.

HAVE HAD SOME THRILLING EXPERIENCES OVER HERE. EVERYONE DOES WHO IS NEAR THE FRONT. HAVE BEEN BOMBED, STRAFED, SNIPED AND HAD A MINE GO OFF 15 YARDS FROM MY JEEP. HAVE BEEN ON SNIPER HUNTS AND HAVE HAD TO TURN DOWN COGNAC AND WINE WHICH IS SO FREELY OFFERED BY THE FRENCH. THE BIGGEST THING IN OUR LIVES IS A SHOWER BATH WE GET WITH GREAT REGULARITY. MY EXPERIENCES ARE NO THAN THOSE OF EVERYONE. SOME HAVE HAD GREATER ONES. THERE ARE SO MANY STORIES THAT ARE NOT BEING TOLD THAT IT MAKES ME SICK. WE ARE NOT ALLOWED TO KEEP DIJARIES AND SO I WILL HAVE TO TRY AND KEEP MY MEMORY ALIVE.

THIS IS A GREAT WAR FOR THE GI (ENLISTED MAN). AND IT SHOULD BE FOR HE IS THE GUY WHO IS DOING THE JOB. THE OTHER MORNING I WENT OUR SHOPPING FOR EGGS AND CONSIDERED MYSELF LUCKY TO GET A FEW DOZEN AT 60 CENTS A DOZ. MY WEEP DRIVER WENT OUT HIMSELF WITH TWO BARS OF SOAP



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AND CAME BACK WITH TWO DOZEN EGGS, TWO FRIER CHICKENS AND A BOTTLE
OF WINE. I HEAR THE GIS ARE GETTING ONE DOLLAR A BAR FOR TOILET SOAP.
I GAME SIX DOLLARS AWAY LAST WEEK, IF THAT IS THE CASE.

I ALAWYS WAS DISGUATED WITH MYSELF BACK HOME FOR MAKING MOTIONS WITH MY HANDS AND ARMS WHEN I TALKED. WELL, THAT CHARACTERISTIC HAS BROUGHT ME GOOD RESULTS OVER HERE. WITH MY HANDS AND MY FRENCH BOOK I AM BEGINNING TO GET THINGS DONE WITH THE FRENCH. MY GERAMN ALSO HELPS ME A BIT.

IT IS VERY AMUSING OVER HERE WHEN THE NATIVES WAVE AT US. THE CUSTOMARY GREETING SIGN IS THE RIGHT HAND RAISED WITH TWO FINGERS FORMING A "V". SOMETIMES THEY FORGET AND GIVE US A NAZI ARM SALUTE. FOUR YEARS UNDER THE GERMAN HEEL STILL SHOWS UP.

MET FIVE MEMBERS OF THE FRENCH FORCES OF THE INTERIOR THE OTHER
DAY ON THEIR WAY TO PARIS. THEIR LEADER WAS AN INTERESTING CHAP AND
HE GAVE ME SOME INFORMATION AS TO HOW THEY HAVE BEEN OPERATING. HE
HADPERSONALLY BLOWN UP TWO GERMAN TROOP TRAINS AND HE AND TWO GROUPS
OF FIVE MEN JUST RECENTLY AMBUSHED A GERMAN CONVOY OF 10 TRUCKS LAOADED
WITH RETREATING GERMAN TROOPS. HE SAID THE JIG WAS ABOUT UP FOR THEM
AND THEY HAD RESIGNED THEMSELVES TO KILLING AS MANY GERMANS AS THEY
COULD BEFORE THEY WERE KILLED, THEMSELVES. JUST WHEN THE GOING WAS
TOUGHEST ONE OF OUR FIGHTER PLANES CAME TO THEIR AID AND AFTER STRAFING
THE GERMANS FOR SEVERAL RUNS DOWN THE ROAD ONLY A FEW WERE LEFT FOR
THE FFI TO KILL. OVER A HUNDRED HEINIES BIT THE ROAD DUST THAT DAY.
THE FFI HAS DONE A REMARKABLE JOB AND IS STILL DOING IT. THEY ARE LIKE
SMALL PACKS OF TENACIOUS DOGS NIPPING AWAY HERE AND THERE. A GREAT
STORY CAN BE WRITTEN ABOUT THEM.

MY OLD REGIMENT, WHICH HAS BEEN DOING A REMARKABLE JOB, IS NOT SO FAR FROM WHERE I AM LOCATED. I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO VISIT MW OLD COMPANY AND EXPECT TO GET THE JOB DONE SOON. IT WILL BE QUITE A BEUNION AS A NUMBER OF THE AUGUSTA MEN I TOOK INTO SERVICE ARE THERE PITCHING.

I AM VERY PROUD OF ALL OF THEM WHEREVER THEY ARE.



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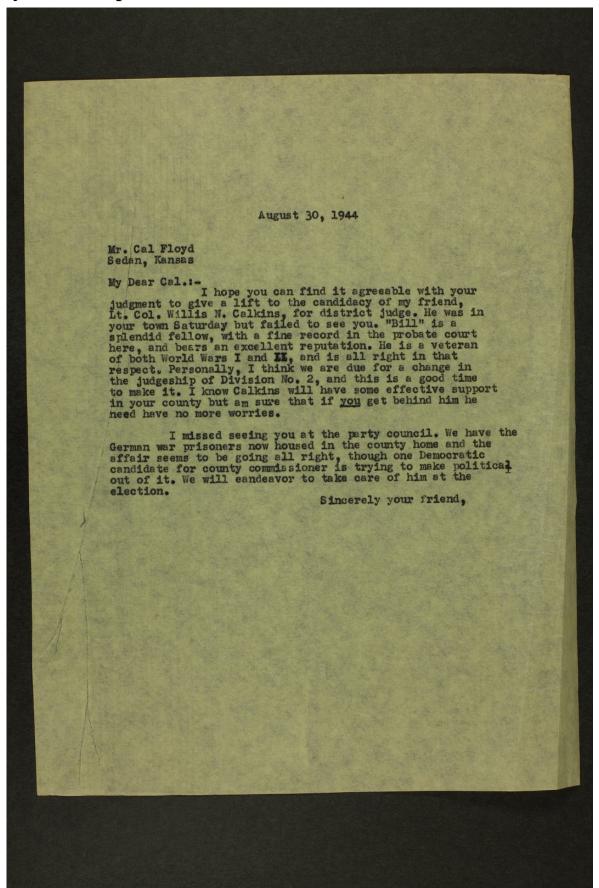
3 - HAVEN'T HEARD THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION. SUPPOSE IT WILL GET
TO ME SOONER OR LATER THRU THE GAZETTE, WHICH IS VERY IRREGULAR
IN SPITE OF THE FACT IT IS SENT ME FIRST CLASS MAIL. I AM WONDERING
IF YOU COULD SEND ME A FEW COPIES OF THE TIMES. DON'T PUT ME ON
REGULAR, BUT SEND ME A FEW COPIES AS IT WILL BE A GREAT TREAT. WE SEE
VERY FEW PAPERS FROM THE STATES. I MISS THE KC STAR VERY MUCH, TOO.
I TOOK IT ALL THE TIME I WAS IN THE STATES. IN FACT I CUT MY TEETH
ON THE STAR.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT THIS, BUT I HAVE A FRIEND WITH MONEY WHO WOULD BACK ME IN GETTING THE WICHITA EAGLE PROPERTIES IF THEY WERE ABLE TO BE PURCHASED. I REALIZE THAT THE PROPERTY IS A MURDOCK HEIRLOOM AND BELIEVE THAT SUCH A DEAL WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE.

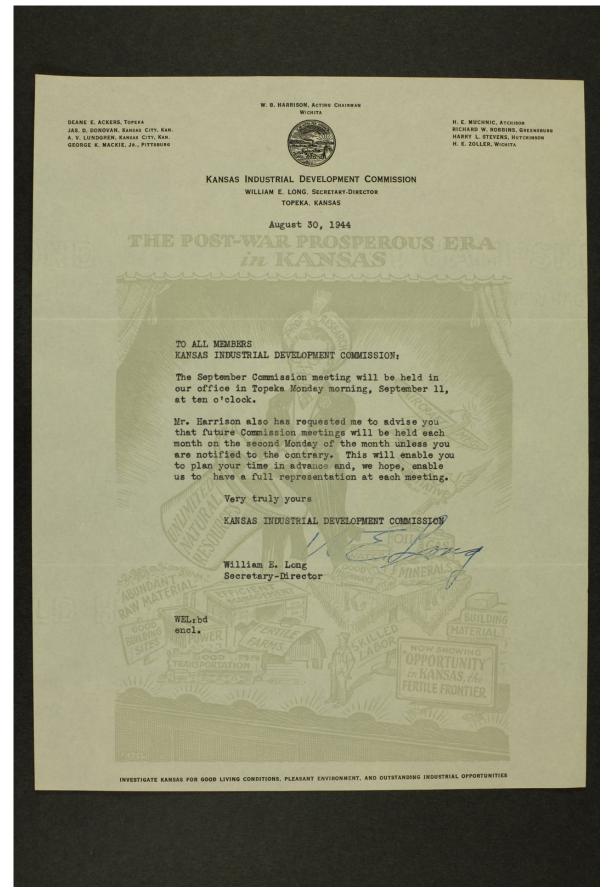
I DON'T KNOW WHO IS CLOSE TO THEM AND COULD FIND OUT. I KNOW HOWARD FLEESON, BUT STILL BELIEVE THAT THE MURDOCK-EAGLE-WICHITA CHAIN WOULD BE A HARD ONE TO BREAK. Are I RICHAT?

SCOOP HILL OFFERS TO GIVE ME A PLACE IN HIS ORGANIZATION OR WILL HELP ME GET A GOOD NEWSPAPER PROPERTY FOR MYSELF. HE CLAIMS THAT ANYONE WHO DID THE JOB I DID THROUGH HELL AND HIGH WATER AT AUGUSTA IS ENTITLED TO A BETTER LOCATION. HE SAYS THERE ARE A NUMBER OF GOOD PROPERTIES AVAILABLE BUT NOT MANY GOOD NEWSPAPER MEN FOR THEM. OF COUSE MY HEART IS IN AND WITH KANSAS OR THE SOUTHWEST. I NEVER WOULD BE I AM JUST ORDINARY, COMMON PEOPLE AND I LOVE TO BE WITH THE SAME KIND. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS PLAN? I AM CERTAIN THAT I WLL NEVER RETURN TO AUGUSTA AND NOW IS MY CHANCE TO MAKE THE CHANGE. I WILL HAVE BEEN AWAY FOUR YEARS IN DECEMBER. AS SOON AS THIS IS CLEARED UP IN EUROPE I WILL TRY TO GET OUT OF SERVICE AND TO UP THE LOST TIME I HAVE HAD AWAY FROM MY FAMILY. CHRIST, MY KIDS NEED ME MORE THAN EVER NOW, AND I AM SURE THAT EUNICE NEEDS ME. AND I AM GETTING OLD, ALMOST TOO OLD TO START ALL OVER AGAIN, BUT I AM DETERMINED SINCERELY, TO DO A GOOD JOB THIS TIME.











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United States Senate COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE COMMERCE

August 30, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 16, regarding a possible appointment to West Point for Henry Haworth. Senator Reed is absent from Washington at the present time and as he desires to make his own appointments to the Academies, I am holding your letter for his personal attention.

We have a complete file on the Haworth boy, including correspondence about his dismissal from Naval Aviation Cadet Training. We attempted to get the Navy Department to change its decision on this case, but they consider flying lower than the prescribed minimum altitude a serious offense and absolutely refused to do anything about it.

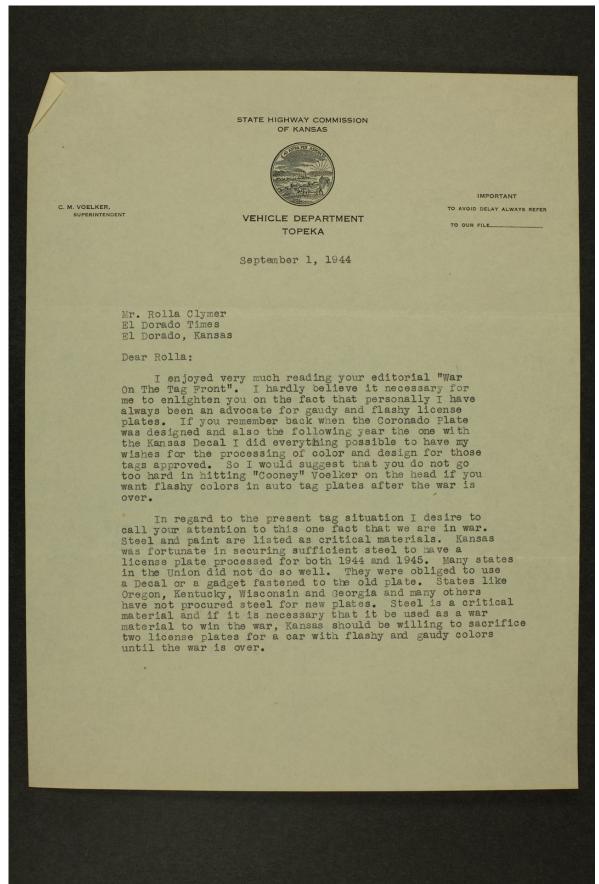
I do not know what the possibilities are for young Haworth. He took our Civil Service examination for West Point, receiving a grade of 51.50 - the passing grade being 70. We have found, from past experiences, that boys receiving a grade below 70 on the Civil Service examination are not able to pass the entrance examination to the Academy, which is much more tough than any Civil Service examination. I am giving you this for your own information. We have not advised the boys of their grades and will not do so until Senator Reed has made his appointments. However, as I said, I am holding your letter for Senator Reed and I am sure he will take your recommendation into consideration.

I received your note and also "The Ghost Talks." I thoroughly agree with you that it is not exactly a book to enjoy. I read it very hurriedly and no doubt missed much about our supercilious (I could do better verbally) New Deal wonders, but I read enough to get my dander up.

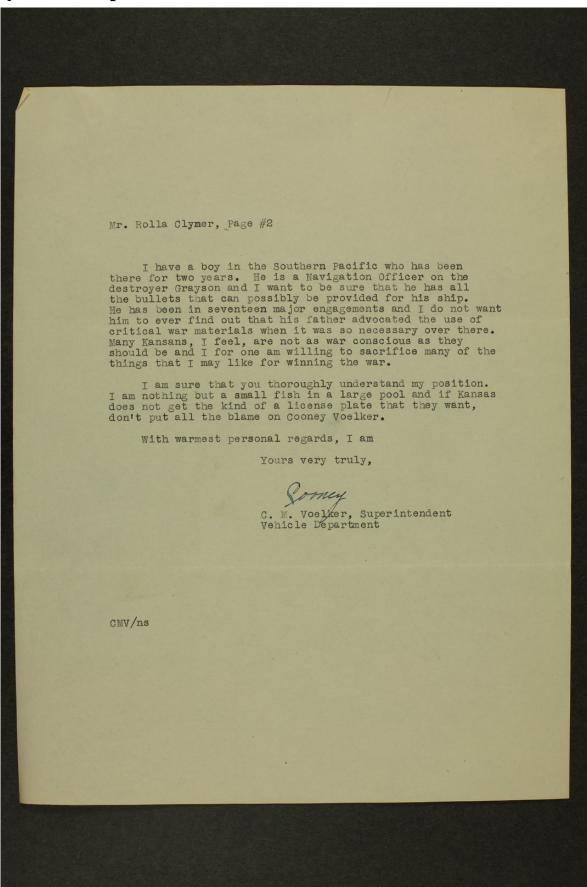
It was indeed a pleasure to have met you while I was in Topeka and I hope I have the opportunity of seeing you again before long.

Sincerely yours,

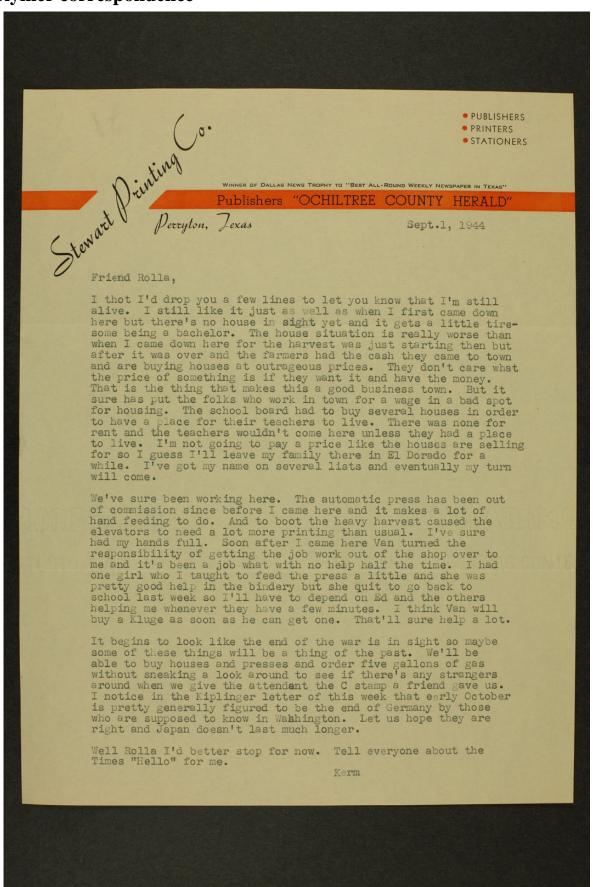




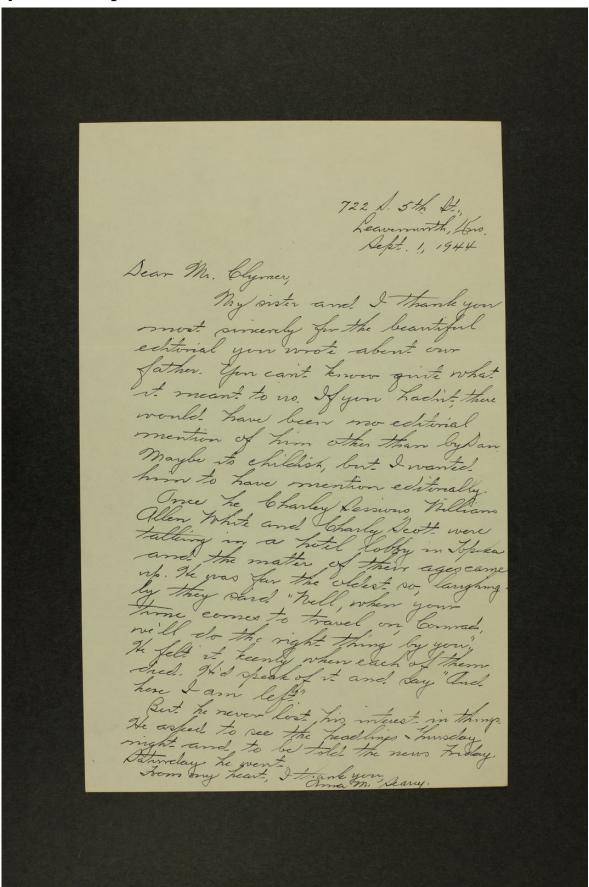




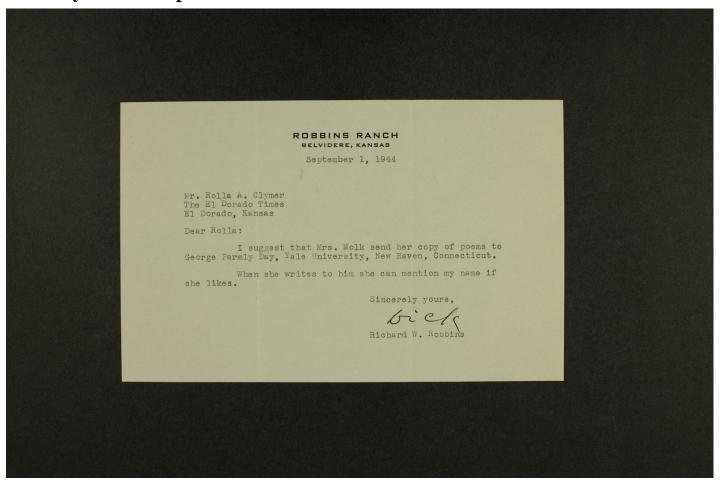




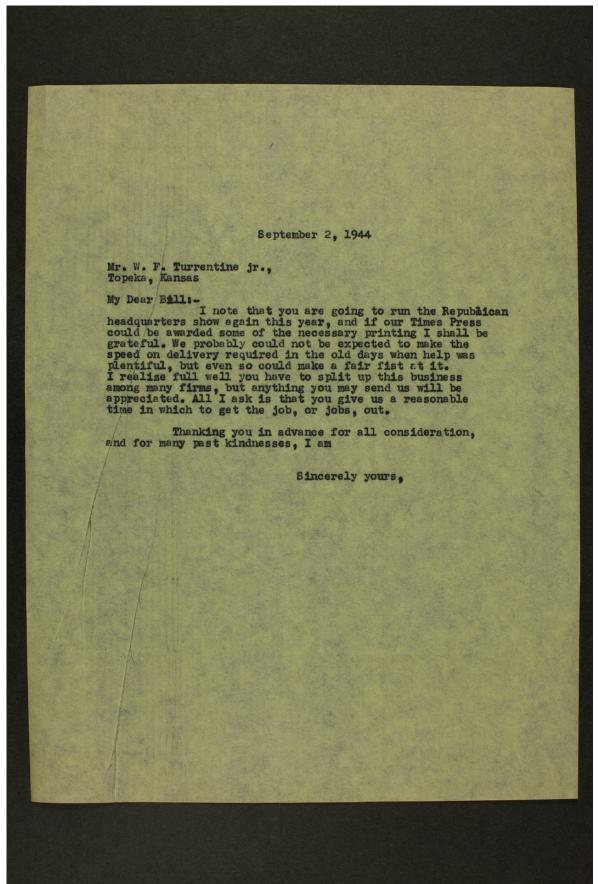




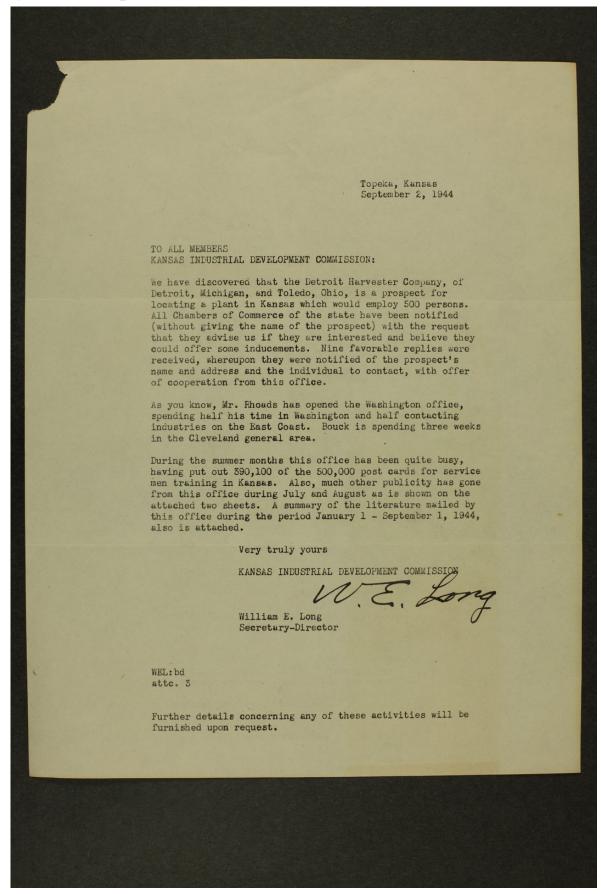




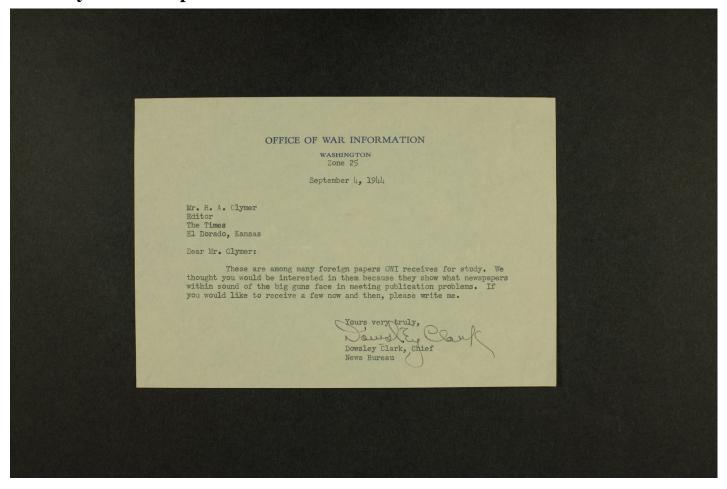




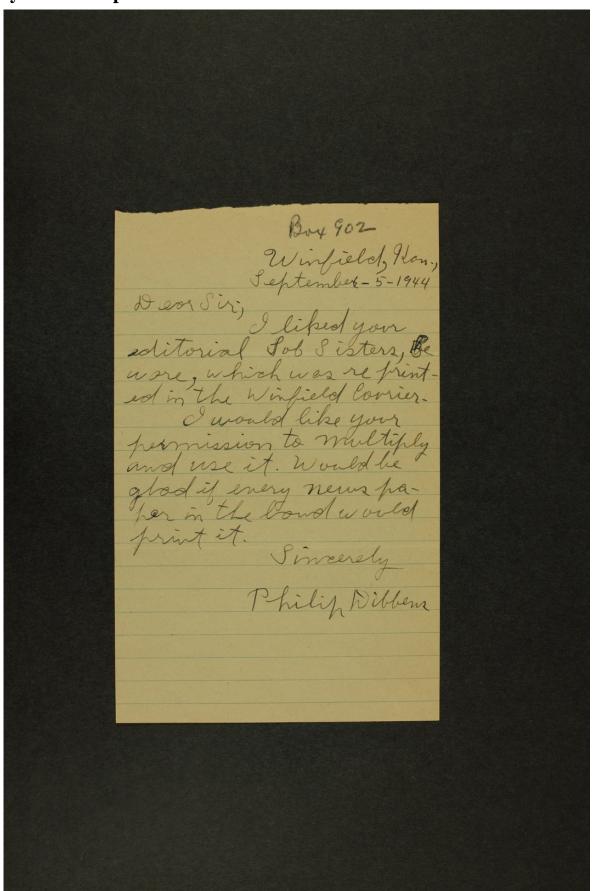




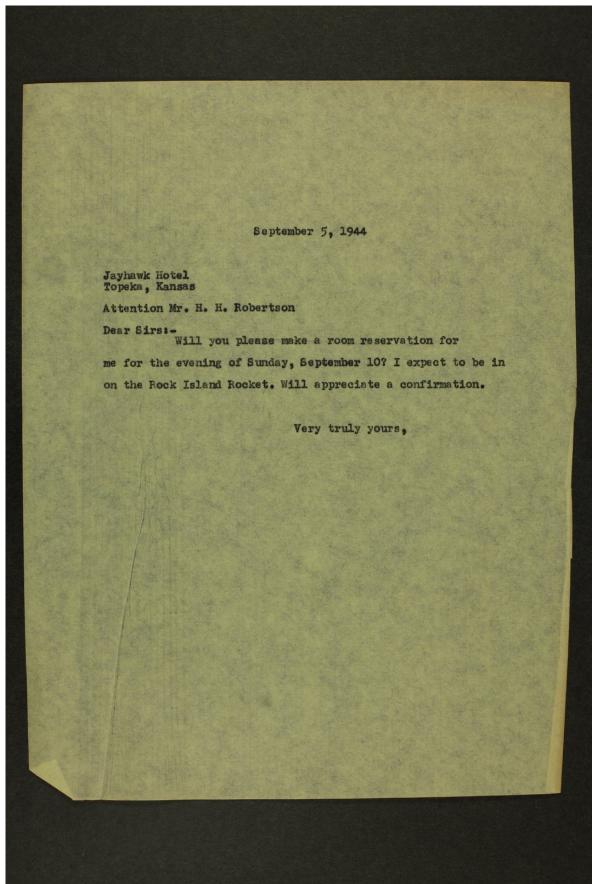




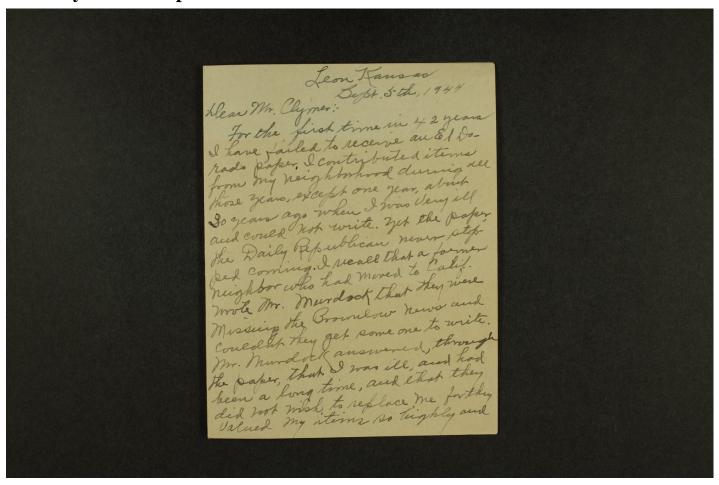




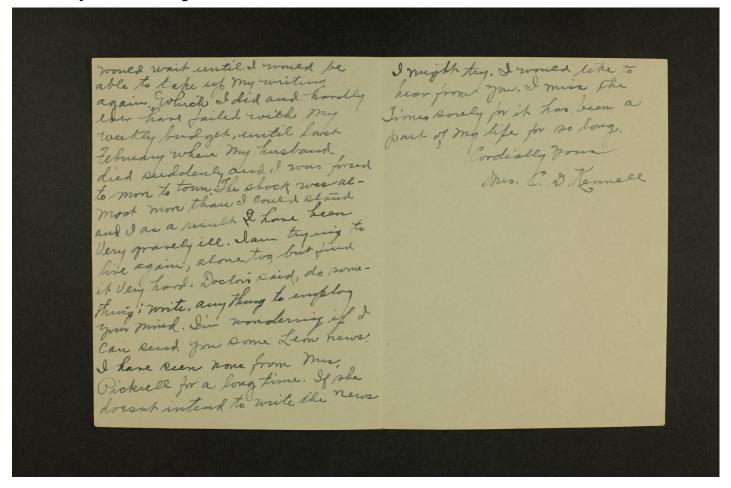




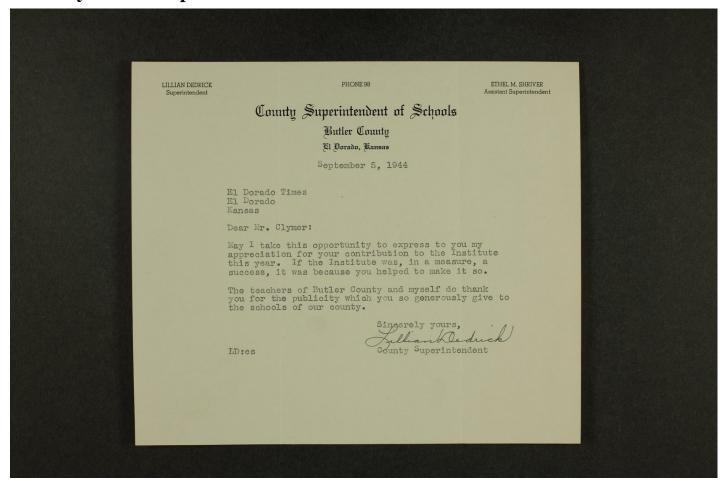




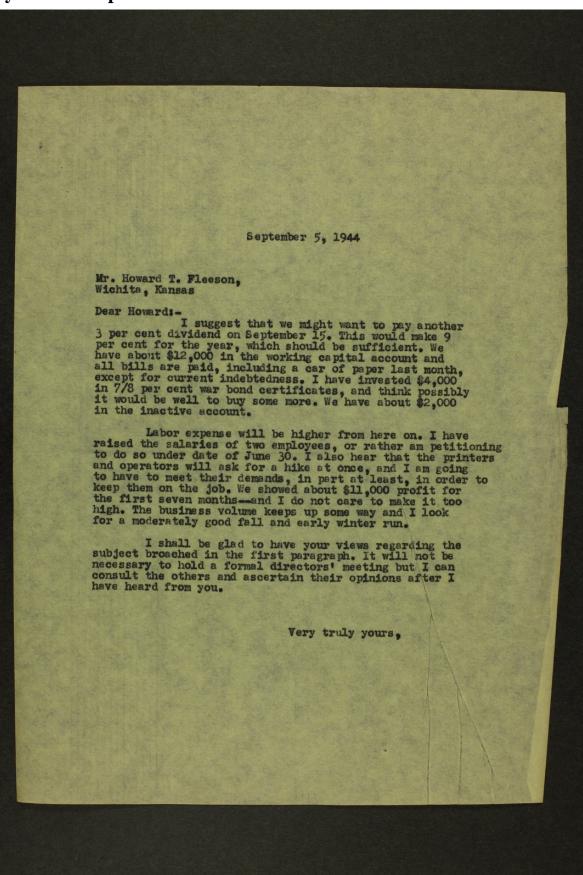














Rolla Clymer correspondence

LAW OFFICES OF

BROOKS & FLEESON

C. H. BROOKS HOWARD T. FLEESON HOMER V. GOOING WAYNE COULSON PAUL R. KITCH

WICHITA, KANSAS

September 6, 1944.

Mr. R. A. Clymer, c/o The El Dorado Times, El Dorado, Kansas.

Dear Rolla:

The report contained in your letter of September 5 is certainly pleasing. Your cash position and your profits justify the declaration of the dividend.

I am particularly pleased about the outlook for fall and winter.

I am a little more optimistic about the future and the period of demobilization than I have been heretofore.

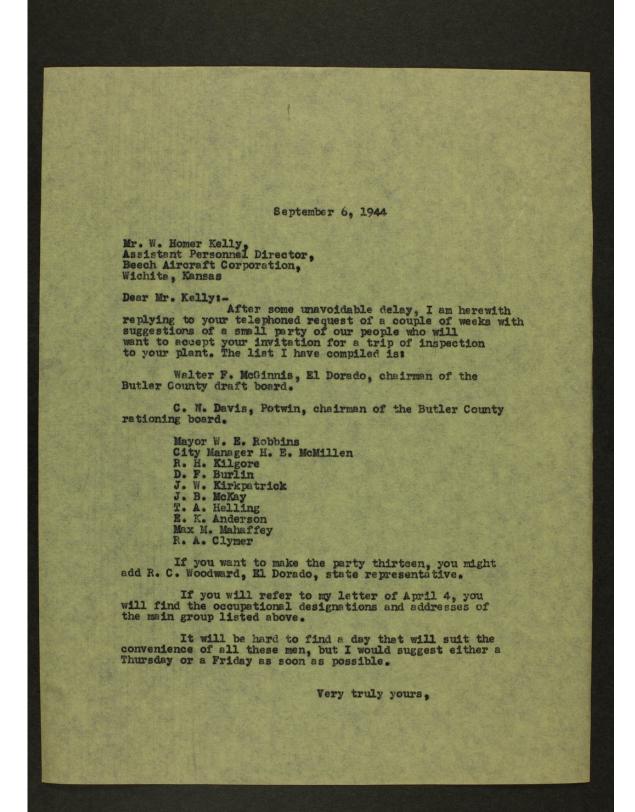
Very truly yours,

Howard & Meen

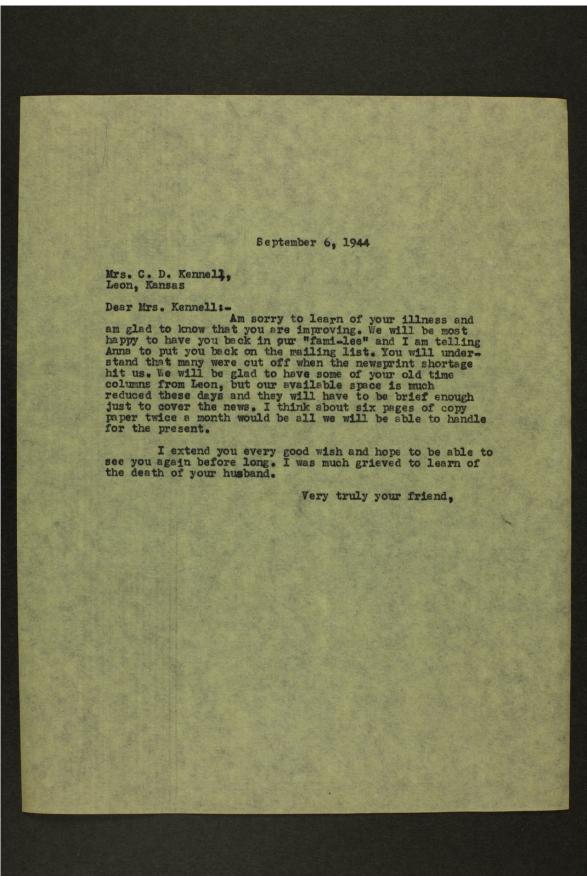
HTF/h

cc - Mrs. Ellina C. Starke Mrs. E. F. Adams

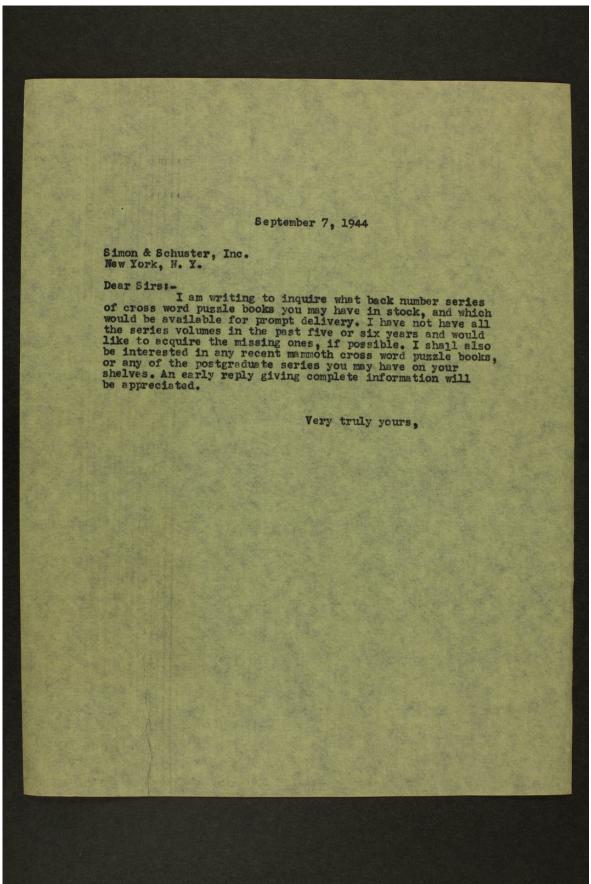




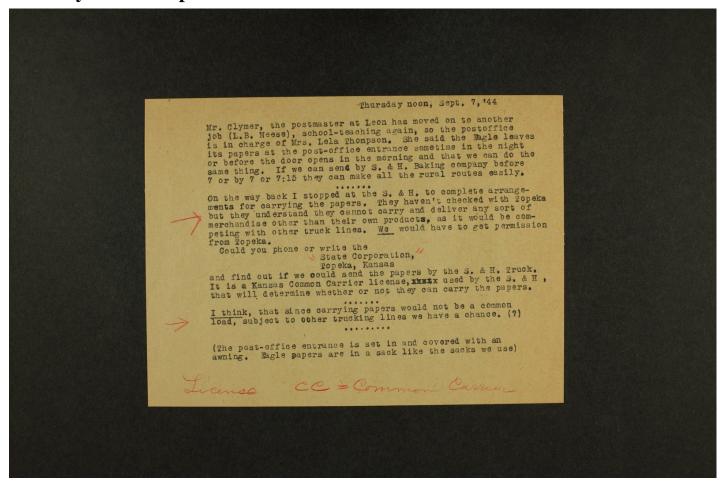






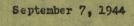








Rolla Clymer correspondence



Mr. Richard B. McEntire, Chairman State Corporation Commission, Topeka, Kansas

In common with other publishers, we have been having the devil's own time in making bundle deliveries of our paper. The way the buses and trains run out of here, we have little service from that source. We are now trying to make arrangements with the S. & H. Baking Company to carry a bundle of ours daily to Leon, which is 12 or 15 miles from here. Their trucks run on a schedule that would fit in with our delivery needs. The company's manager, however, informs us that the stipulations regarding their licensing from your Commission do not permit them to carry any other merchandise except their own products.

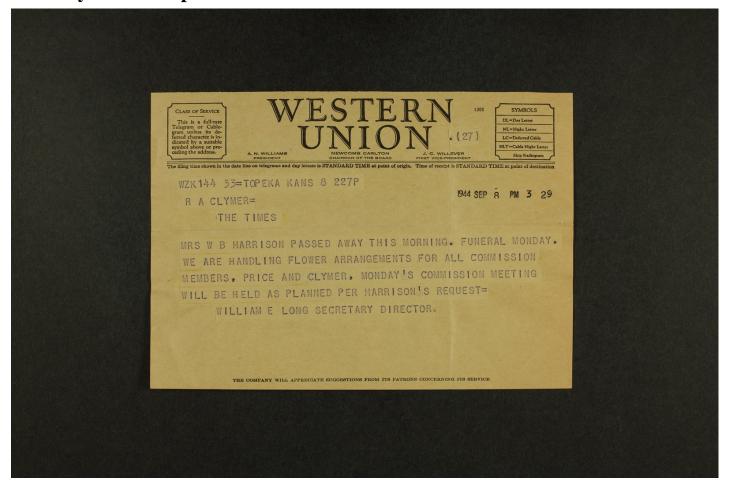
Inasmuch as the S. & H. company has no intention of competing in any withwith other truck services and would only be rendering us an accommodation for a small fee, I would if it would be permissable to lift the restrictions sufficient for the carrying of our daily paper bundle. This would be an extremely great favor to us, beset as we are with difficulties of receiving any service whatever out of the regular carriers.

Your permission to the company seems to be necessary, and I am appealing to you for this concession if possible to grant. Moreover, it would be additionally helpful if we could have a prompt reply to this request.

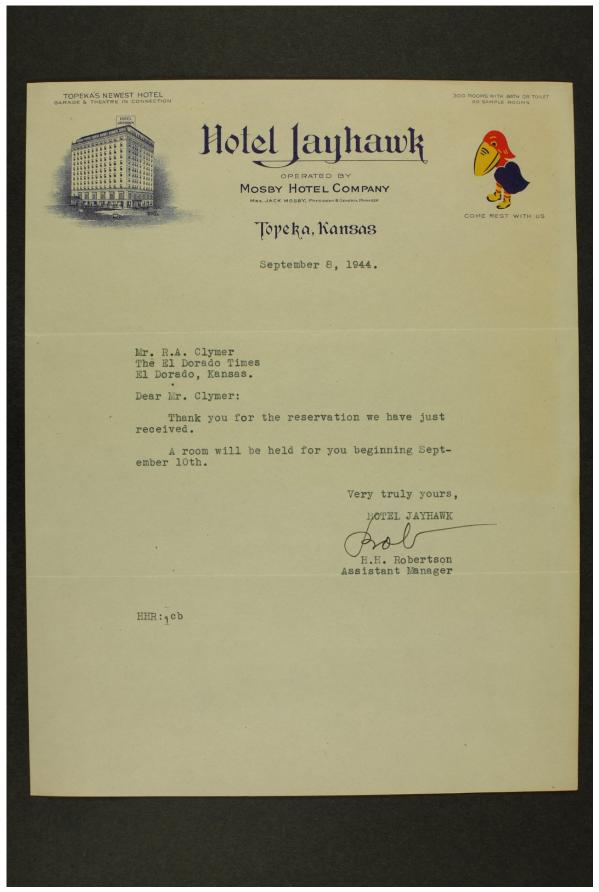
With best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

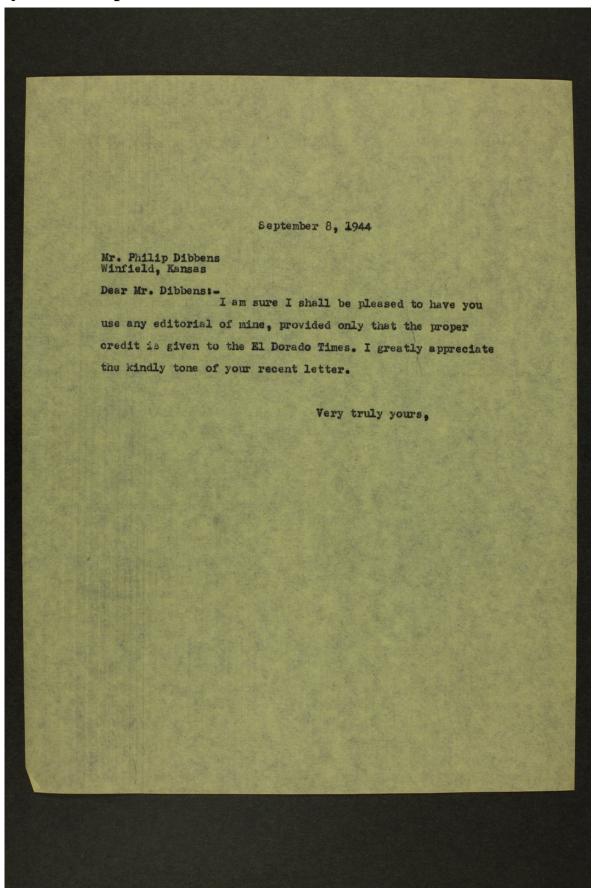






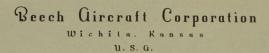








Rolla Clymer correspondence



September 8, 1944

Mr. R. A. Olymer, Editor and Manager The El Dorado Times El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Clymer:

We are enclosing with this letter a copy of the invitation that we have written to the thirteen El Dorado business men listed in your recent letter for the tour of our Plant.

We believe that Thursday, September 21, at 2:00 P.M., at our Plant will be reasonably convenient for all concerned.

We shall appreciate it if you will continue to act as Laison Man for this trip and upon your arrival at our Plant, we would like to have you, with your party, assemble at our Education Building, which is directly North across the street (Central Avenue) from the Personnel Building. There we will provide our guests with identification and from this point, we will begin our plant tour.

Should there be any occasion for you to contact us in advance of our seeing you on Thursday, September 21, please call us by phone at our expense.

With best personal regards, we are

Cordially yours,

BEECH AIRCRAFT CORPORATION

Personnel Director/

WEB:WHK:zw Encl.