

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 797, Pages 23881 - 23910

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

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Rolla Clymer correspondence

May 20, 1946

Mr. Howard T. Fleeason
Wichita, Kansas

My Dear Howard:-

Mrs. Adams is at home now and, while she is still carrying her arm in a cast, I believe she will be able to attend a meeting of our board whenever it will suit your convenience. I shall probably have to be out of town Monday, May 27, to attend a meeting of the state Associated Press but aside from that have no other engagements in prospect to take me away soon.

Very truly yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

The University of Chicago

CHICAGO 37, ILLINOIS

Department of History

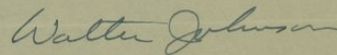
May 20, 1946

Rolla Clymer
El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Clymer:

In March 1947, Henry Holt will publish my biography of William Allen White. Although the book is based mainly on his unpublished letters, every once in a while I quote a published source. Could I secure permission from you to quote the enclosed material from the Times? I should be very grateful for this permission.

Sincerely,



Walter Johnson

WJ:hy

Rolla Clymer correspondence

6-20-46

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I wonder if you are still waging war against the onion-- also are you interested in genealogy? If so, you may be interested in these two squibs I picked up while doing research for the Annals of Kansas. It's all I can do some days to stick to the business of being an annalist, the temptation to turn columnist is so great.

Nyle said they might send me to El Dorado in re your collection of Mr. White's letters, but never mentioned it again, so perhaps other plans have been made. I love the old Boss's book, especially the El Dorado part of it which Al Ewing had told me. Besides it helps me to understand the 80s which is my job now, and it is a job, because reporting was pretty sketchy.

Hope all is well with The Times and the Clymers. Joe-- Historical Society.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Wichita Eagle
11-8-1889

Washington, Nov. 7.-- Hon. Thos. F. Bayard, ex-Secretary of State, and Miss Mary Willing Clymer, were married at 1 o'clock this afternoon at the bride's residence, No. 1617 H. St. in the presence of a most distinguished company. Among those present were ex-President and Mrs. Cleveland, ex-Secretary and Mrs. Fairchild and Mrs. Dickinson, Miss Bayard, Miss Florence Louise and Ellen Bayard, Philip J. Bayard, James Williams, Meremish Smith and wife, and Mrs. Elizabeth H. Smith, all of Delaware, and Thos. F. Bayard jr. of New Haven Conn.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

May 20, 1946

Mr. David Hinshaw, Vice-President
Institute of Public Relations Inc.,
New York, N. Y.

My Dear Dave:-

I greatly regret that I have been delayed in answering your extremely kind letter of May 7, and hasten now to say that I am intensely interested in the possibility you have outlined. I have had a myriad of management troubles here lately and then was out of town for several days. All this consumed time, while I was thinking over what you told me in your letter.

I have not considered myself in the class of those able men who make radio comment, and do not do so now. But my editorials in the past have received some attention in Kansas papers, and I believe I have the necessary writing ability to set down my thoughts in cogent language. Moreover, I have numerous sources from which I am sure I could derive considerable material that would all add up to expressing the right-of-center viewpoint of the Middle West. In short, I am hopeful enough to feel that I might qualify and Oscar Stauffer, the only friend to whom I showed your letter, has encouraged me. Therefore, I should like to follow up this lead and see what becomes of it. I shall, of course, be not too much disappointed if it does not develop.

I have been unable as yet to go through our files of the past few weeks and dig out anything which I might want to send you. The truth is that of late I have been so absorbed and harassed by management difficulties on our paper that I have given my editorial page a lick and a promise. One man could not do it all and do a good job both ways. I have preferred, in the emergency, to try to keep our newspaper ship afloat and functioning rather than to attempt a standout page of editorial utterance. In fact, it was not a preference but a necessity. Now, as soon as I can and one evening this week, I shall go through the files and send you a little bundle of editorial clippings. I shall not pretend that these are my best efforts; they are simply the best I could do under the hard circumstances we are all facing these days to keep our enterprises going.

I am more grateful than I can tell for the kindness you have shown in even suggesting me for such a spot. While I am in no wise conceited about my own abilities, one precedent of the sort already has been established in Kansas.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

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Willard Mayberry, publisher of a small town weekly newspaper at Elkhart, and whom you may know because he was ~~once~~ secretary to Governor Landon, has become a top line speaker on the Knife and Fork Club circuit. It might well be, in the hope that you have offered, that Kansas could contribute something as well to the daily discussion of passing events by radio.

In your eminently sensible way, you have termed this a "long shot," and I accept it as such. But I am willing to take the chance--especially so since I have nothing to lose--and will be guided entirely by your friendly advice in the matter. And some day, I hope, I shall be able to repay you for your friendly consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

May 21, 1946

Mr. E. L. Stovall
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Stovall:-

I wish to thank you for your recent letter applying for a place in our advertising department. I regret to tell you that at the time it arrived we had already made arrangements to fill the vacancy.

Very truly yours,



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Iola, Kansas
May 22, 1946

Dear Publisher:-

At the newspaper meeting held in Emporia last Saturday, the time again was spent exclusively in discussion of national representation, and it was finally voted by a two to one majority to go ahead with the group representation idea and to invite Southwest Dailies, Inc., to organize and represent the group.

We voted in favor of Southwest Dailies only after a frank and exhaustive discussion of all alternatives, including Inland. The deciding factor was the thought that if we were going to attempt group representation, we should hire an organization which has had experience in that field. Southwest Dailies have had 20 years experience in that field; in fact, group representation is the only field in which they operate. Letters read at the meeting from publishers in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee indicate that all are highly pleased with the work that has been done for these three groups.

A Southwest Dailies representative will call on most of you soon. We strongly urge that since we finally have made the decision to attempt the group idea, you stretch a point to go along with us if you possibly can.

The contract you will be asked to sign will be the standard representative contract with these special provisos: (1) that it may be cancelled in 60 days if 15 papers in Kansas do not sign up; (2) that it may be cancelled if a majority of publishers fail to approve the agency's plans for the opening of a Kansas City office.

If you already have a representative contract but are willing to join the state group as soon as you can, ways will be suggested to work that out in as smooth a manner as possible.

We believe important things can be accomplished for Kansas secondary market newspapers if this group idea can be put over in a big way. We urge your cooperation.

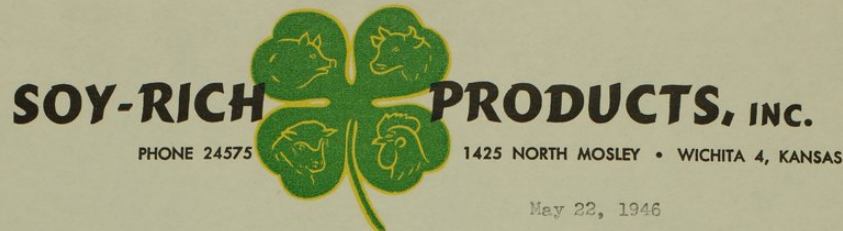
Sincerely,

Angelo Scott

AS: BH

Rolla Clymer correspondence

PROCESSORS OF OIL-BEARING VEGETABLES • SOY BEAN OIL • SOY BEAN OIL MEAL



May 22, 1946

Managing Editor
El Dorado Times
El Dorado, Kansas

Gentlemen:

You are, of course, aware of the present acute shortage of all live stock and poultry feed stuffs and the greatest shortage of all in this area is high protein meals.

Although the Department of Agriculture reports that the soybean crop last year was larger than the preceding year, we have not been able to obtain sufficient quantities of soybeans in this area because of the increased demand in the corn belt which is likewise the largest soybean producing area. This makes it appear that we might expect a continuation of this condition in years to come when the demand for protein feed for dairy herds, poultry flocks and cattle on full feed is heavy.

It has been conclusively proved that we can profitably grow soybeans in this area but to educate the farmers and to convince them that they should adopt it as one of their principal crops will take considerable work and publicity.

The planting season for this area extends from about May 10 to June 10, therefore, being in the planting season now we cannot do much to increase the acreage this year but I am looking toward establishing a program of publicity to extend throughout the next 12 month's period and I believe that the best way to make the farmer soybean conscious would be through the columns of local papers and in the form of news items rather than display advertising. Following this line of thinking I would like to make an arrangement with you to submit for publication in your paper at intervals of 2 to 4 weeks over the next 12 months, items pertaining to the advantages of planting soybeans; the best methods of handling the crop and items pertaining to prices, supply, etc. I think each item should consist of enough material to consume $1/3$ to $1/2$ a column.

Now I realize that advertising is to your industry what soybean production is to ours, therefore, how much display advertising would you require to justify running this publicity for us and what would be the cost thereof.

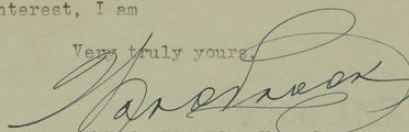
I might say that all of this would be with the approval and consent of your County Agent who will cooperate with us.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Page #2 -

Awaiting your reply with interest, I am

Very truly yours,



MAX O. BROOKS - Vice-President

WOB:IG

Rolla Clymer correspondence

MRS. HAROLD LONG
615 WEST THIRD
EL DORADO, KANSAS

May 22 - 1946

Dear Mr Clymer —

Now that the smoke of battle has vanished and once again we are over the top - I want to tell you how very much the committee is indebted to you and your paper for the cooperation we received. The food page box was a decided aid.

We are all proud of our paper and its employees - without it we could do nothing at all.

I express myself so poorly in writing that I am practically scared to death when writing an editor. But I hope I do convey the sincere gratitude the entire organization feels for all your splendid help. Gratefully Zita Long - Secretary



Rolla Clymer correspondence

May 23, 1946

Mr. War O. Brooks, Vice-President
Soy-Rich Products, Inc.
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Mr. Brooks:-

I am interested in your letter. I know that it takes time and money to carry out an educational program on the advantages of soybean raising in any area. I suppose that when your enterprise finally is backed by sufficient production of beans, it will remain in Wichita. Maybe I should be cold-bloodedly business-like about this matter, and charge you all the way through ~~xxxxx~~ for any service our paper renders to your effort.

I do not feel that way about it, however. I want to see soybeans grown as one of the chief crops in this region, provided soil, climate and other factors are favorable. I have long advocated soybeans as a crop locally and have looked with something like envy upon the success that has been attained in growing them in other parts of Kansas. I am anxious to see soybean raising get started in our county, and am willing to cooperate.

So you send along your releases. Better make them one-third of a column in length, rather than longer, for we newspapers are still having our troubles on newsprint and in other ways. On Wednesday of each week, we have a Farm Bureau department that goes to 800 or 900 additional subscribers, and which would be an excellent place in which to incorporate your soybean information. If you are going to work with our county agent, your material could be handled directly through him and come in regularly with the Farm Bureau copy on Tuesdays.

I am not going to specify any amount of paid advertising on your part to support what we will do through the news columns of the paper. It is true that we have to have sufficient revenue to operate. I will leave it this way. Once in awhile you send us a paid advertisement. I will leave it up to your fairness as to how much money you want to spend with us. I will not only appreciate this business, in such amount as will be helpful to your enterprise and no more, but I shall also be glad of the opportunity to serve in an instance which I think will be of benefit to our farming population. And, selfishly, I do not hesitate to add, that some day when a great volume of beans ~~xxx~~ is raised in this territory, we may be able to underwrite and establish our own plant.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

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I think you will gather from what I have written that we are entirely willing to go along with you for the "larger good." I surely hope that within a year or two you will be able to initiate a large acreage of soybeans on the farms in this section.

If you send us any advertising, our rate is 4½ cents per agate line, or 63 cents per column inch. Your credit is good with us, and all your copy will receive close attention.

Why don't you come in and see me some time? I would surely like to have a visit with you.

Very truly yours,

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Mr Clymer:

5-23-46

You know that one can
not control urgent expressions
that accounts for ~~too~~^{two}
two letters in as many
weeks, though I know the
loaded mail must nag
at your already harassed
existence.

But tonight I went to
the El Dorado Foundry.
When this industry came
to town we invested a
little, not much as I
wanted a little different

Rolla Clymer correspondence

type investment from
what they had to offer at
the time, ~~Proff~~ Maybe
soon we'll get in deeper,
but that is not my theme,
it only explains our
relationship + why Mr.
Miller called us to come
see the iron poured
~~shop~~ This p.m.

The children + I went
at 4 p.m. and Bill
Miller showed us the
works. A clergyman
accepts a "call" to his

Rolla Clymer correspondence

field. Surely Metallurgist
Miller had such a call,
as divination ~~is~~
evident. I had seen
Miller and not thought
too much of him; O.K.;
but nothing out of the
ordinary; but today,
in his own world I
see that something
new has been added
to El Dorado. Within
those ~~sketchy~~ flimsy
walls there is a ~~solid~~
substantial business

Rolla Clymer correspondence

because it is founded
upon knowledge. These
~~two~~ two engineers,
Bill Miller + Jack
Batter Lee have more
than money, which they
seem to lack. They have
sound training in the
job they are doing, ~~they~~
know how to start ~~little~~
in a little way.

After 45 minutes
of amazing explanations
our host followed

Rolla Clymer correspondence

us to the car. ~~the~~ No
mention of a story had
been made, although
Bill (Meyer) said it had
been running through
his mind that here
was a real opportunity.
Mr. Miller said, "I am
going to ask Mr. Clymer
up tomorrow." Quicker
than I can write is
I thought of how busy
you must be, and I
said, "Oh, do you want

Rolla Clymer correspondence

a story? I'll be glad to do it if Mr. Clymer is busy, as I should only consider it a pleasure and I am not enough occupied."

Of course I felt slightly Crest-fallen as my ego had fed upon the invitation, then, ~~for~~ for a moment, I believed it ~~was~~ ulterior. But I should not have feared. It is no-

Rolla Clymer correspondence

so much a story that
Mr. Miller wants, it is
personal appearance.
He is flattered ~~up~~
by the visit. He wants
to think that your
interest as an editor
and our interest as
~~an~~ investor, and
other peoples' other
~~but~~ interests is
genuine personal
concern ~~for~~ ~~and~~
and not wholly
business or profession.

Rolla Clymer correspondence

The ~~foundry~~ ^{foundry} itself is
like a baby being
born. It has burst
from its gestation
and is breathing. Today
they began a program
of pouring every day.
(a little pouring has been
done). More than a
year's orders are on hand,
so a speed up will
be in order I suppose.
I did not ask any
questions but only
added up the facts he
dropped. Without a

Rolla Clymer correspondence

barman + lawyer to
help me, as in your
cattle car figures, I
may have come out
in the neighborhood of
the correct answer.

The payroll of ~~about~~
nearly \$2000 per month
covers 15 employers, for
8 of there are on
the "on-the-job"
training of the G. I. Bill,
and receive a part
of their monies from
that source.

I hope I've made

Rolla Clymer correspondence

you curious enough
that you, too, will go
see Mr. Miller at his
job when he calls you.

I think El Dorado
is just crammed full
of these little businesses.
Being a woman, a
cook + house keeper I
think in those terms
and see them as
crops of dough, with
the leaven working,
rising all over
a room. They must

Rolla Clymer correspondence

be kneaded down
and attended to very
~~are~~ carefully if good
loaves are to come
~~out~~ ^{from} them. Surely
the particular heads
of each industry is
accountable: The
Chamber of Commerce
is a big help: Biggest
of all is the newspaper.
I guess I'm telling
you how to run your
business, and I'm

Rolla Clymer correspondence

sorry to be rude x
I do only hope you
go see the ~~refinery~~
foundry + of course
you are half way
there before you've
read this far.

Rich Meyer



KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

J. C. MOHLER · SECRETARY
STATE HOUSE · TOPEKA

May 23, 1946

Mr. Rolla Clymer, Editor
THE TIMES
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

You are the finest of men and the best of friends, and my favorite editor. Thank you so much for your generous editorial, Rolla, which you were so kind as to send me. My newspaper friends give me all the best of it, Rolla, and you are at the top of the list. If I can measure up, at least in part, with your good opinion, I shall be happy, indeed. I hope I shall always be found worthy.

I think as much of you, Rolla, in your field, as you think of me in mine, and it is one of the joys in my life that I can go marching down the corridors of time in such good company.

With affectionate regards,

As ever,

Take

JCM:LJ

Rolla Clymer correspondence

The FLEMING Co.
INCORPORATED



Topeka, Kansas
May 23, 1946

Mr. Rolla Clymer
The Eldorado Times
Eldorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

Attached find a very poorly written article regarding the opening of our wholesale house in your good city. Please feel free to make any alterations you deem advisable.

Enjoyed seeing you at the meeting the other day. I am looking forward to paying you a visit the first time we are in Eldorado.

Yours very truly,

THE FLEMING COMPANY

By

Ned Fleming

NNF:MJ





THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE • THE NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE SALVATION ARMY • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION



United Service Organizations, inc.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN—KANSAS DIVISION

400 CENTRAL BUILDING, 700 KANSAS AVENUE • TELEPHONE 2-2611 • TOPEKA, KANSAS

May 24, 1946

23d District
Butler County

State Executive Committee

GOV. ANDREW F. SCHOEPEL
Honorary Chairman

JUDGE W. D. JOCHEMS
Chairman

A. C. HANCOCK
Vice-Chairman

E. W. STILWELL
Vice-Chairman

MRS. W. G. WEST
Vice-Chairman

FRANK HAUCKE
Secretary

DAVID NEISWANGER
Assistant Secretary

W. LAIRD DEAN
Treasurer and
Chairman County Quotas

MILTON TABOR
Publicity Chairman

W. J. STROUP
Outdoor Advertising

BEN LUDY
Radio Chairman

HON. HARRY H. WOODRING
Speakers Chairman

FRANK L. BYNUM
State Director

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✓ Mr. R. A. Clymer, Publicity Chairman
Miss Bertha Shore, Publicity Chairman
Mrs. Leah Smith, Treasurer

Dear Mrs. Smith, Miss Shore and Mr. Clymer:

We are pleased to again express our thanks to each of you for serving as Publicity Chairmen, or Treasurer as indicated above, for the coming National USO Campaign to be conducted this fall.

This letter is sent to you so you will know who is associated with you in these important key positions.

We do not have a County Chairman as yet; just as soon as one is obtained, we will send you his name.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

Frank L. Bynum
State Director, U.S.O.

flb:eal

cc to: ✓ Mrs. Smith
✓ Miss Shore

FOR THOSE STILL OVERSEAS, STILL IN HOSPITALS, OR NOW IN TRAINING

Rolla Clymer correspondence

May 24, 1946

Mr. Walter Johnson
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Johnson:-

I am happy to have you publish the enclosed in your forthcoming biography of William Allen White, and will await the appearance of the volume with keen anticipation.

Very truly yours,



Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
GENERAL OFFICE
50 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

May 24, 1946

To Members of The Associated Press

"THE ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS ANNUAL - 1945" will be issued through regular book publishing channels June 20, next. I am holding a complimentary advance copy for you. If you would like to have it, please tell me promptly, and it will be mailed to reach you well ahead of the date of publication.

I was asked to write a brief Foreword for it, and I began it this way:

"Had there been an AP NEWS ANNUAL for each year of The Associated Press, this would be the 98th. What human history those volumes would tell. But since there are no previous volumes, 1945 is certainly an appropriate year in which to begin. When the 98th volume appears, in the year 2044, I hope our great grandchildren will agree."

Going beyond the scope of the usual reference book or news review, this book tells in dramatic, narrative form the story of the most eventful year in history. It is published by Rinehart & Co., at no expense of publication to The Associated Press. It contains 565 pages, and will retail at \$4 a copy. While The Associated Press is not financially interested in the project, it is obvious that the book should bring very considerable returns in good will and prestige to the members of The Associated Press. As did many members in the case of previous books about The A.P., I hope you will want, for instance, to place it in public and school libraries in your circulation area, with the compliments of your newspaper.

I have arranged to reserve to members the privilege of exploiting the project to their advantage in their own communities or elsewhere, through availability to members of copies at substantial discounts. Through an arrangement with the publisher, you can be supplied with them at a discount of 50 per cent, from the retail price of \$4 per copy, in lots of 100 or more, 45 per cent in lots of 50 or more and 40 per cent in lots of 10 or more. In this connection, the publisher informs us, however, that should you wish to place them on sale, it could not be at less than the retail price of \$4 under Federal fair trade laws.

Sincerely yours,

KENT COOPER