

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 820, Pages 24571 - 24600

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

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Rolla Clymer correspondence

Mr. R. A. Clymer - Page 3

I would appreciate your forwarding back to me at your earliest convenience. They may also ask what the chances are for a grant, and you may inform them that we are conflicting with no other station engineeringwise and that according to the present rules and regulations of the Commission, it is my opinion that they must make the grant prior to May 1st, 1947.

As I ramble on with this letter I would like to point out that in connection with the amendment of the application to include you, there will be some additional expense. I would estimate that this should not be in excess of \$500.00, of which you would be expected to pay 40%. These expenses will be primarily attorneys fees. It will almost entail a new application and a trip to Washington to expedite it.

Other questions will occur to you I am sure, and I will be most happy to answer them if possible. I am hoping you will come in on this proposition, because I know it will be both happy and profitable to you. Mr. Potter is a splendid gentleman, who has been extremely successful as an oil operator, and will be an asset to your community. He will be happy if you can see your way clear to look after the radio property and will, no doubt, become interested in your oil and gas prospects in and around El Dorado.

You may feel perfectly free to discuss this with Governor Landon. He has no interest in the application other than a sense of obligation of the writer not to mistreat any of his friends in Kansas and you, sir, are definitely one of his friends.

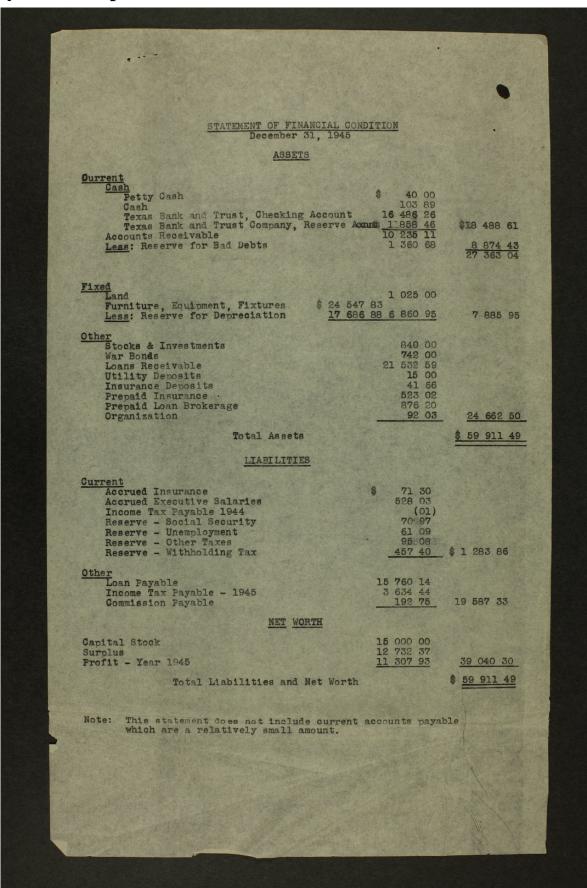
Yours very truly,

enc.

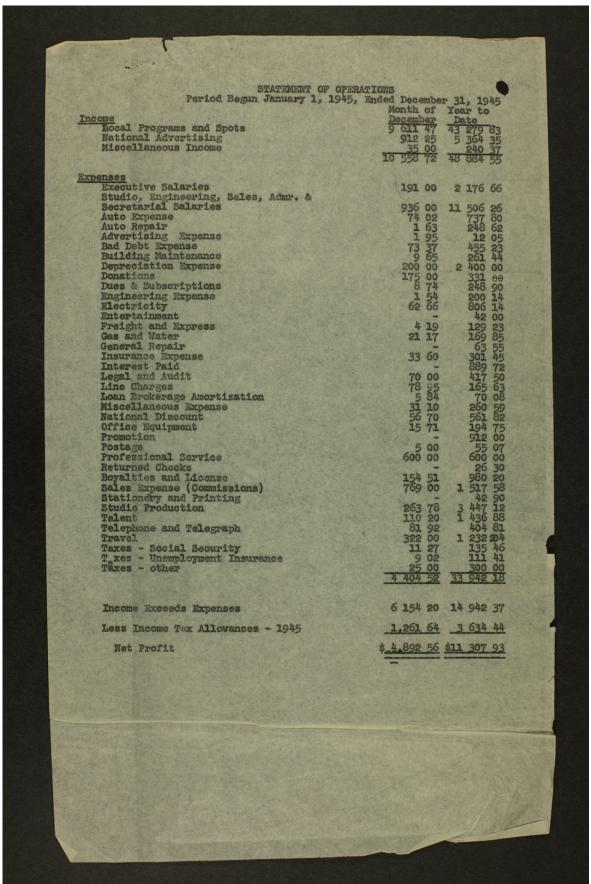
RB:mj

P. S. Am also enclosing Rate Cards of Station KSST, Sulphur Springs, Texas. I own an interest in this station and these rates are below the average, but I thought you might like to see them. RB

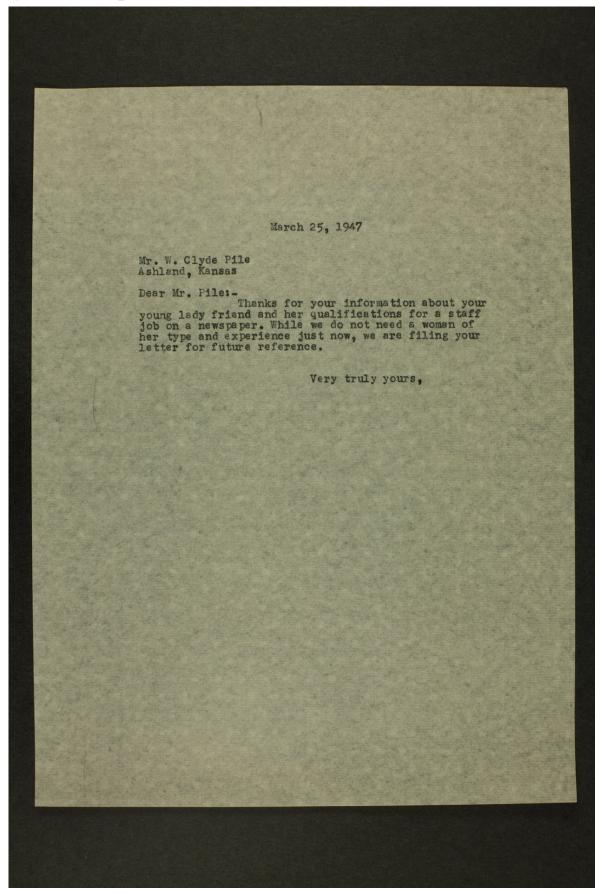




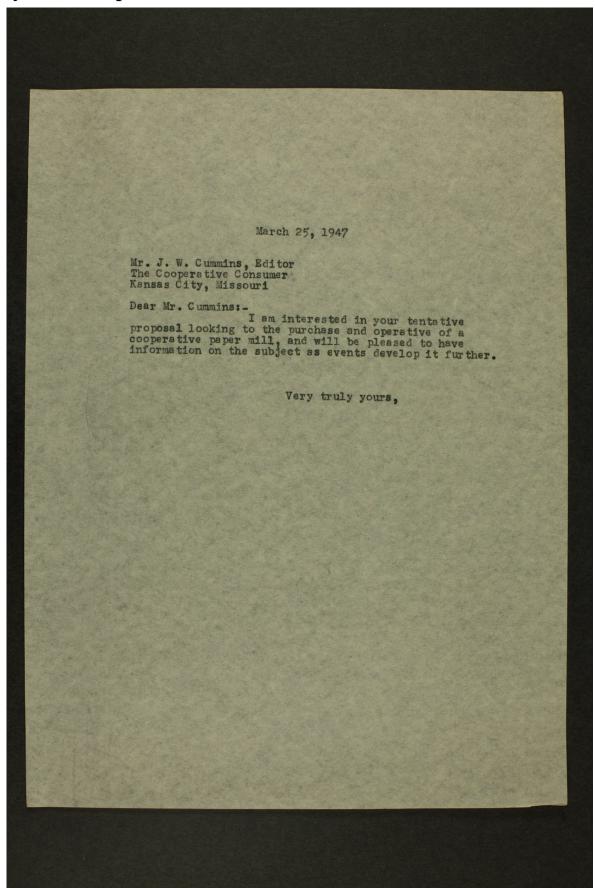




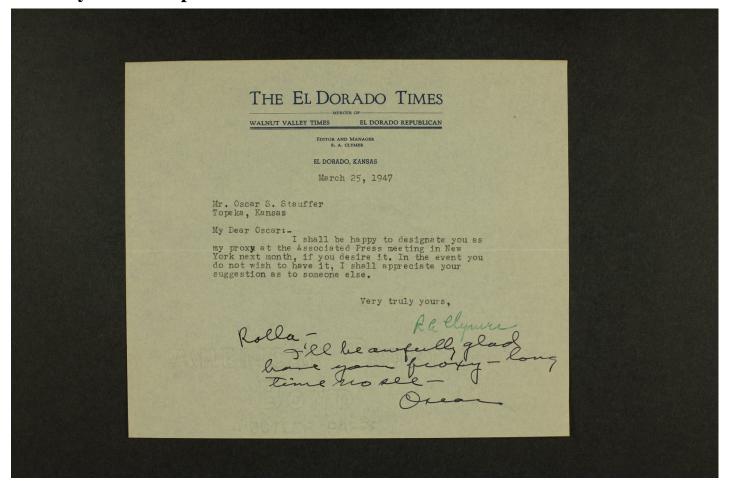




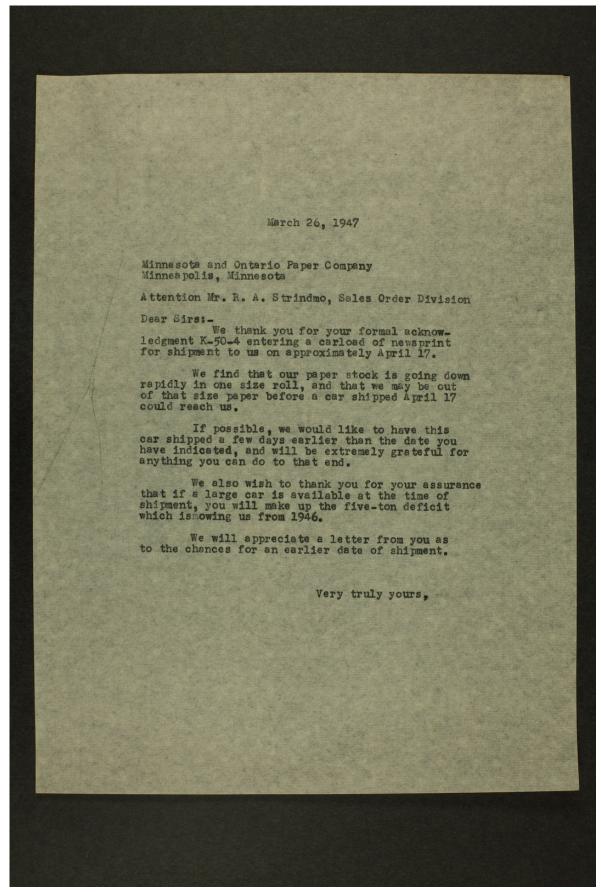




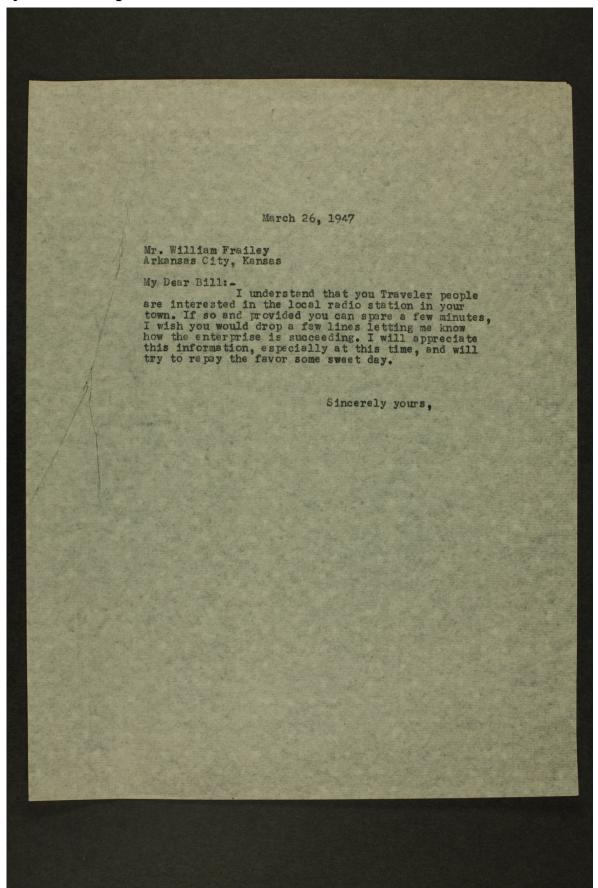




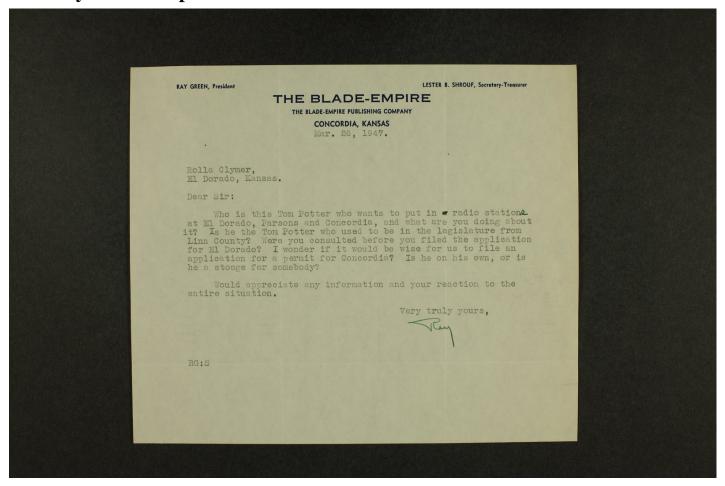






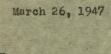








Rolla Clymer correspondence



Mr. Ross Bohannon Dallas, Texas

My Dear Mr. Bohannon: I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter, together with various enclosures, which arrived yesterday morning at exactly the time you said it would be here. I am grateful for your promptness.

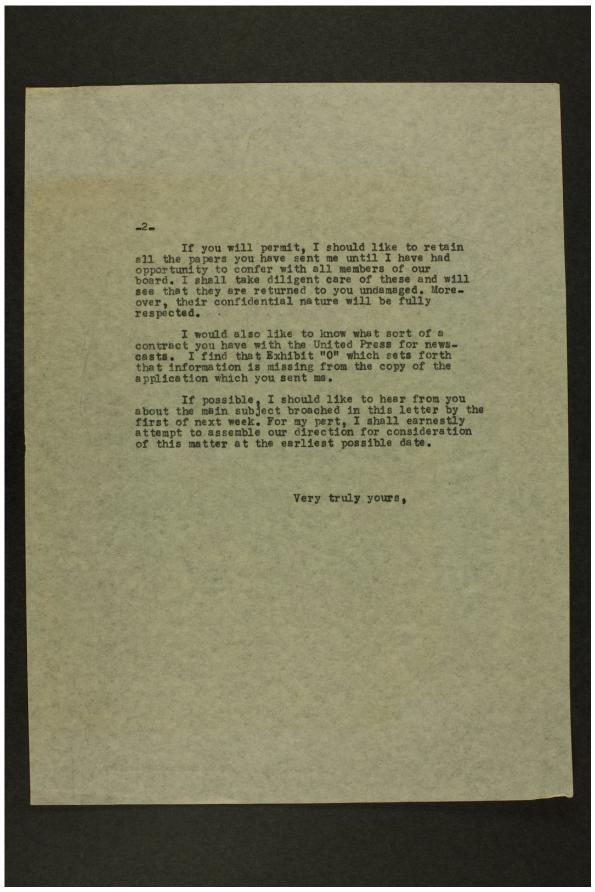
I am studying the subject of the proposed broadcasting company and radio station here carefully, in order to present it to The Times Publishing Company's board of directors at an early date, One of our directors, however, is absent on a trip to Arizona from which he is expected to return shortly after April 1. As soon thereafter as I can arrange it, I hope to have a meeting of our board.

I have discussed the matter at length with one of our stockholders. She and I together own seven-eighths of the stock of our publishing company. Her general attitude toward the proposal is favorable but we both feel that we would like to have more than 40 per cent of the stock of the broadcasting company, especially since the proposed plan would entrust the operation of the radio station to us.

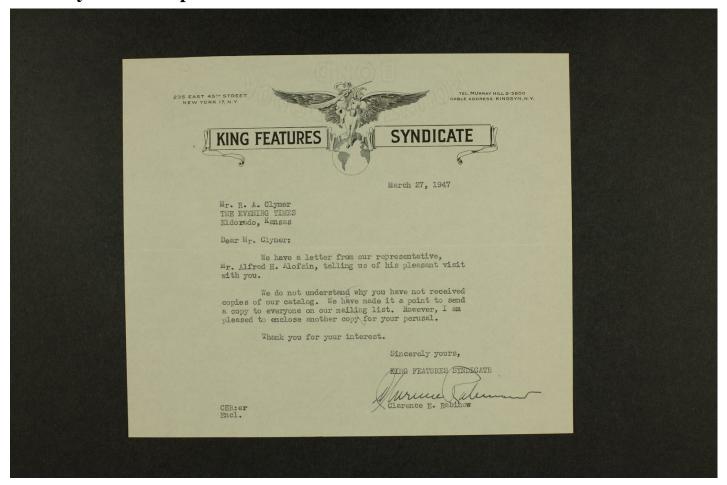
When you were in El Dorado, you indicated that a fifty-fifty joint interest arrangement between our company and Mr. Tom Potter might be consummated. I was therefore frankly disappointed when I read the paragraph setting forth the stipulation of only 40 per cent to us. I am now wondering if you might approach Mr. Potter again and ascertain whether he would be agreeable to allowing us not less than a 50 per cent share. I would like to have an answer on this point before our directors' meeting, if possible, for I feel it will have an important bearing upon our ultimate decision.

I believe, without egotism, that our company's participation in this enterprise -- together with such friendly cooperation as the newspaper can give -- will aid greatly in assuring success of the venture.

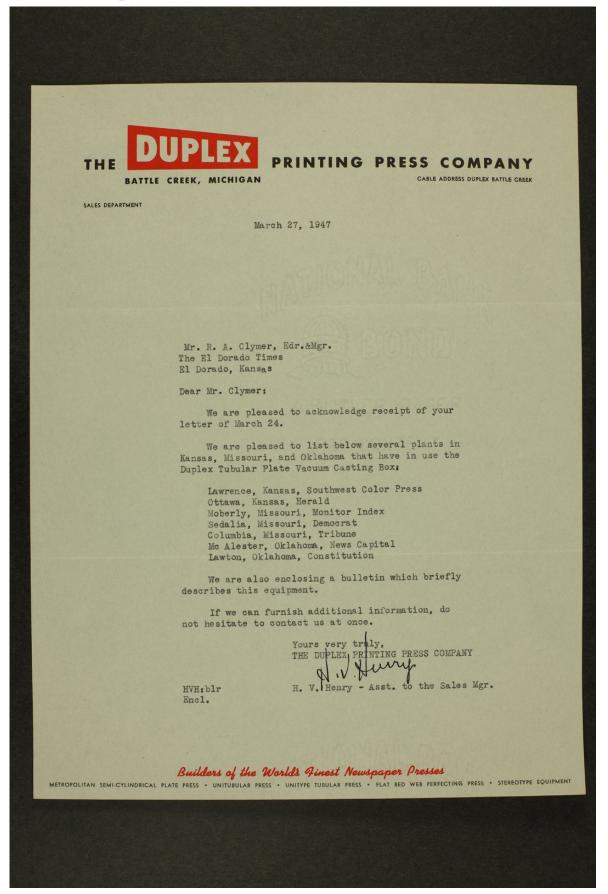




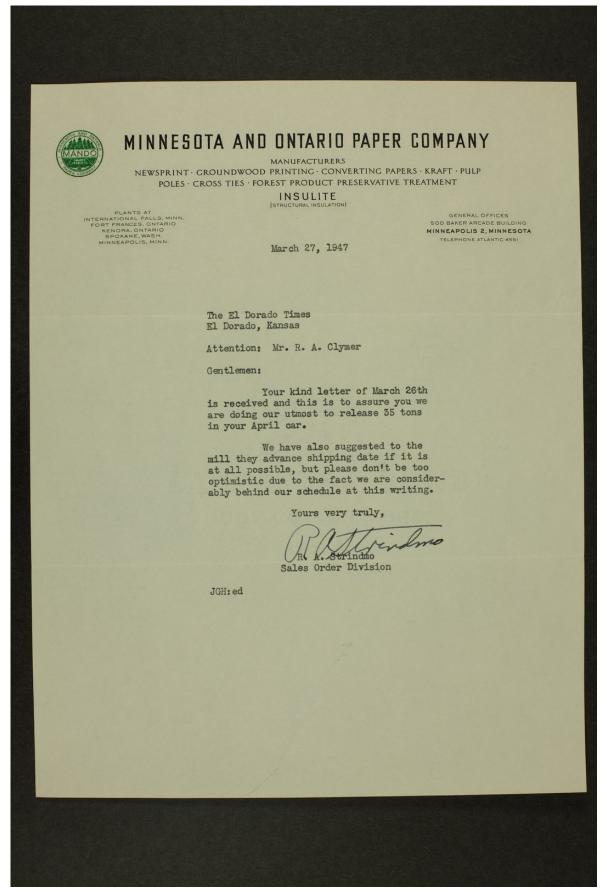




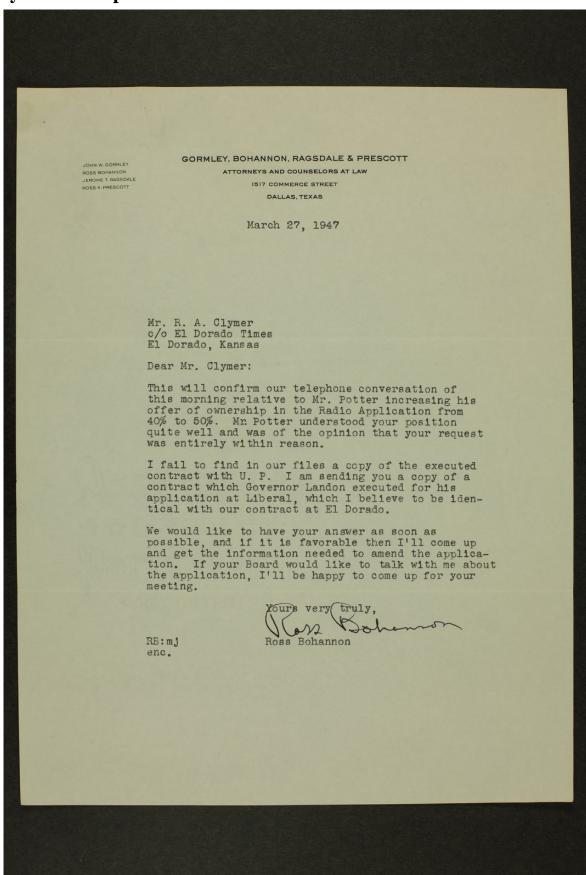








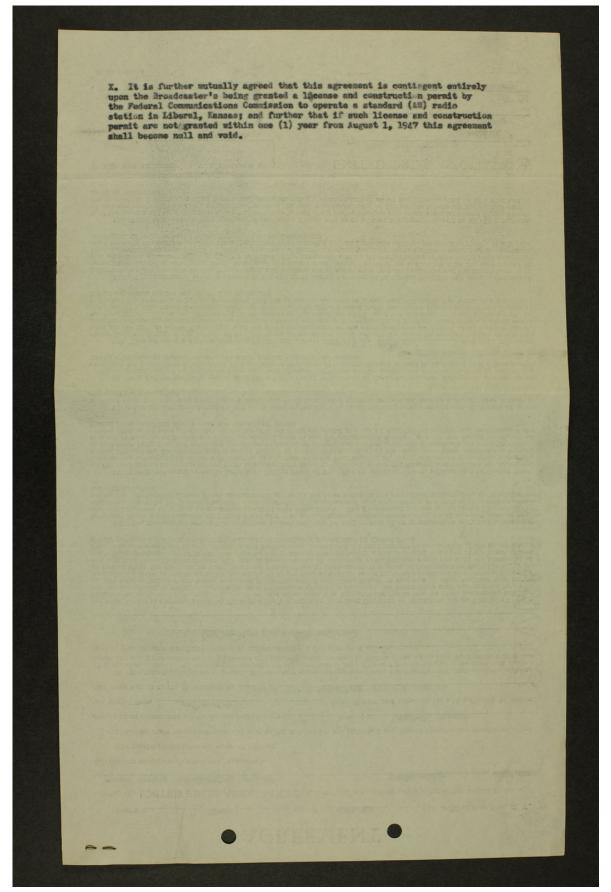






MADE this
between the UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATIONS, a New York corporation (hereinafter called United Press) and
Seward County Broadcasting Coupeny a partnership respectors
(hereinafter called the Broadcaster), witnesseth:
The parties hereto mutually agree as follows:
I. United Press hereby bargains and sells to the Broadcaster the right and privilege of broadcasting vocally, on either
sustaining or commercial programs over radio stationlocated at
the United Press
said News Report to the Broadcaster by
II. The Broadcaster agrees to provide the necessary space and quarters for wire and printer-telegraph machine, and any wire, installation and power necessary or requisite for the operation of said wire and printer-telegraph machine, and further agrees to receive and accept said News Report and pay, without deduction, to United Press, at its New York office, during the term of this agreement and any renewal or extension thereof, the sum of \$\times_{\text{and}}\text{\text{and}}\text{\text{constant}}.
(Forty-five and ne/100 dollars)
per week, weekly in advance; provided, (1) that if the Telegraph or Telephone Company to which tolls are paid on behalf of the Broadcaster by United Press, raises the tolls on said News Report or increases the rental rate on printer-telegraph machine equipment supplied by them; or if the wage scale for union employees is increased, the Broadcaster shall also pay the increases in such tolls, rental or union wages to United Press; (2) that if said News Report or any wire or other facilities used in the transmission thereof shall be hereafter made subject to any Federal or State tax of any kind payable either directly or indirectly by United Press, the Broadcaster shall reimburse United Press for the proportion thereof, as determined by United Press, properly applicable to said News Report; (3) that in case of a war or any other extaordinary even requiring an additional or extraordinary expenditure of \$1,000.00 or more weekly by United Press in securing and elivering the news of the same, United Press may assess and the Broadcaster shall pay United Press and additional weekly sum not to exceed 25% of the Broadcaster's weekly payment for a period coincident with said extraordinary expenditure by United Press.
III. The Broadcaster agrees that said News Report shall not be used as part of, or in connection with, any commercial broadcast deemed objectionable by United Press and that all commercial announcements shall be clearly indicated as such and not broadcast to appear as an integral part of said News Report. The Broadcaster further agrees that all broadcasts of said News Report by the Broadcaster shall state accurately the substance of said News Report and that such broadcasts shall not in the judgment of United Press, misrepresent or distort the facts stated in the News Report received by the Broadcaster from United Press.
IV. The Broadcaster agrees to furnish to United Press at the office of the Broadcaster, without cost to United Press, all the local news and special service from tributary news territory collected by the Broadcaster and to make no subsequent news service arrangements which will interfere in any way with the fulfillment of all the Broadcaster agrees most of furnish or permit to be furnished by his employes or from his office any portion Article IV; and the Broadcaster agrees not to furnish or permit to be furnished by his employes or from his office any portion of said News Report, or any news tips therefrom, to any other person, corporation, publication, commentator or radio station, and not to make or authorize any other use thereof than in the abovementioned manner, and further agrees to respect all release pledges on advance matter, to use the United Press copyright line on all copyrighted matter and to broadcast the United Press creditline during each news broadcast period.
V. It is mutually agreed that United Press reserves the right to make working arrangements and exchanges of news, wire and radio facilities with other press associations, publishers, radio stations or persons, and to sell said News Report to any other party or parties.
VI. It is further mutually agreed that United Press shall in no event be liable for any loss, damage, or expense, direct or consequential, arising to the Broadcaster or to any Sponsor by reason of the publication or dissemination of any of the news received by the Broadcaster from United Press or by reason of the non-delivery of said News Report to the Broadcaster due to a mechanical breakdown, or other cause beyond United Press' control.
VII. This agreement shall continue for five (5) years from
VIII. This agreement is made subject to the ability of the wire companies to furnish facilities and the continuance of intermediate clients now on United Press circuits, and continuance of the general operating conditions of the Broadcaster as to power, wave length or time assignment existing at the date hereof, unless United Press is satisfied with the rate named in power, wave length or same can be mutually readjusted. This agreement and all its provisions are subject to the rules and regulations now in force or hereafter adopted by the Federal Communications Commission, and neither party to this agreement shall be liable in damages to the other if prevented from carrying out the provisions of this agreement by reason of any rule, regulation, or order of said Federal Communications Commission.
IX. Time, both as to delivery and use of said News Report and as to said weekly payments, and in all other respects, is of the essence of this agreement; and a waiver of any breach shall not be construed to effect a waiver of any future breach of this agreement. This written agreement comprises the entire understanding of the parties hereto on the subject matter herein contained; any and all oral representations or agreements of any agent of either party hereto shall be null, void and of no effect whatsoever.
SIGNED AND DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF: UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATIONS
Carl B. Solsader As to United Press. As to United Press.
SEWARD COUNTY BROADCASTING COMPANY
Borothy Bichmond As to Broadcaster. As to Broadcaster.
Radio 5-Yr. 44









Rolla Clymer correspondence

March 28, 1947

Mr. Ray Green Concordia, Kansas

My Dear Ray: -

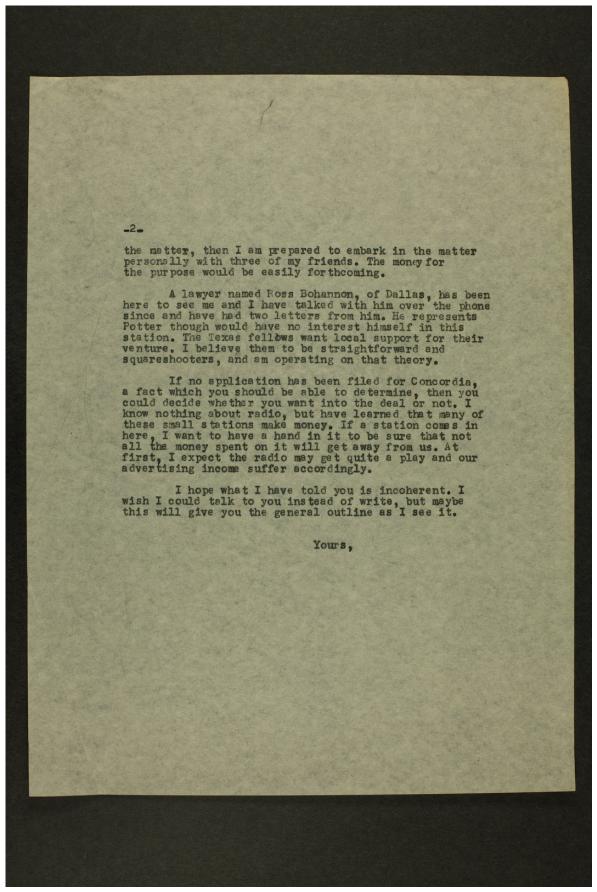
All I know about Tom Potter is that he is an oil man at Dellas, Texas. In his application to the FCC for a permit for the radio frequency here, he qualified himself as being worth in excess of \$500,000 and of having oil production of over 1,000 barrels daily. I understand his daily production is about 3,000 barrels a day—which surely isn't hay. I believe that Alf Landon knows him and you might inquire from Alf.

Of course, we were not consulted here at the time the application for a broadcasting station was made. Potter has been interested in radio stations in Texas and these have proved successful ventures. As I understand the picture, a time limit was set some time ago on applications for new stations. Potter and his crowd wanted to spread out—and did so. They made the necessary engineering surveys and other preliminary arrangements on several Kansas towns including Leavenworth, Liberal, El Dorado and, I was told, Concordia. They got under the wire in time and filed these applications. Certainly that is true as far as El Dorado is concerned. The application for this place is due to be passed upon by the FCC about May 1. Approval is expected, and it is the Texas fellows' intention to proceed with a 250-watt station here as soon as authorization is 250-watt station here as soon as authorization is granted.

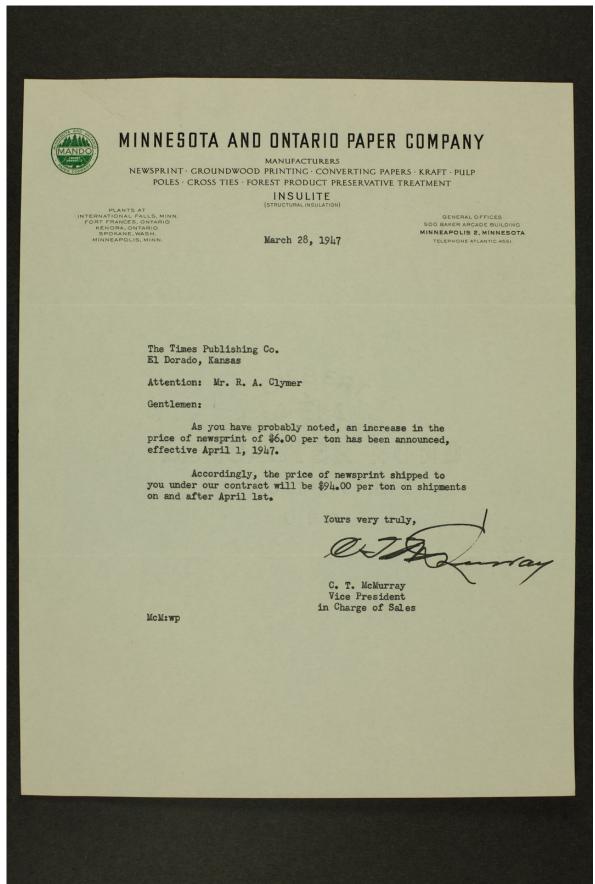
They claim to have spent \$3,500 in preliminaries on this point, including attorney's fees and engineering costs. That seems high, but it is the figure. I believe we are shut out, if we wanted to apply along—as the time has gone by in which applications could be filed. Potter et al seem to have the inside track there, and we can either join them and go along on the deal or be left out in the cold.

Personally, I am in favor of going along. I don't want a radio venture to come into this town unless I have a hand in it. Confidentially, I will tell you that our company has been offered a half-interest in the deal. A Kansas corporation would be set up for the purpose, and we would operate the station. I am going to recommend to my board that we make the deal, provided all details can be worked out satisfactorily. If my board turns down

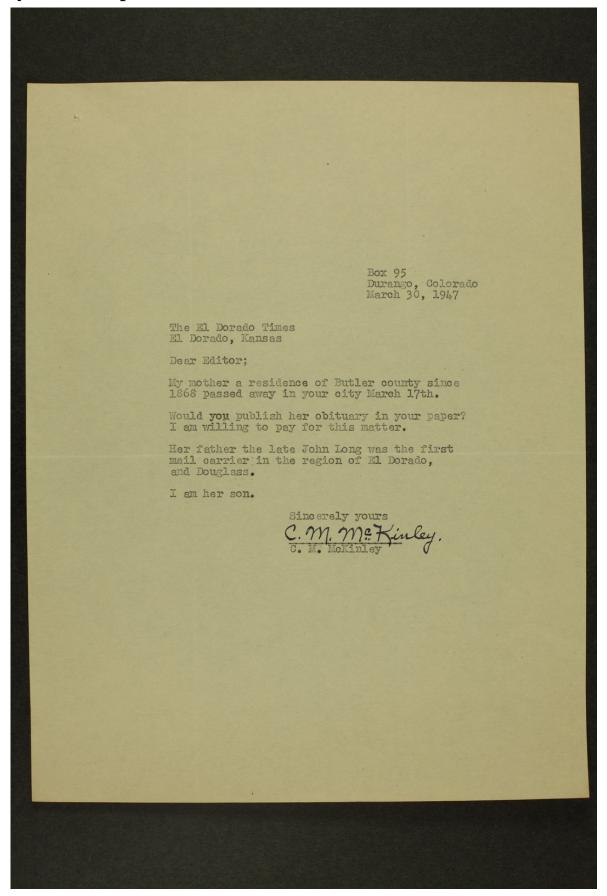




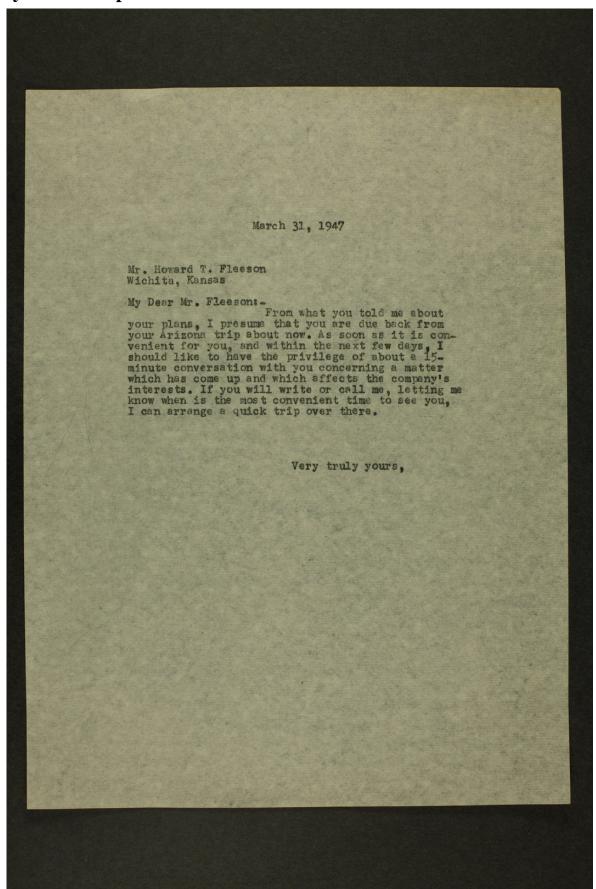




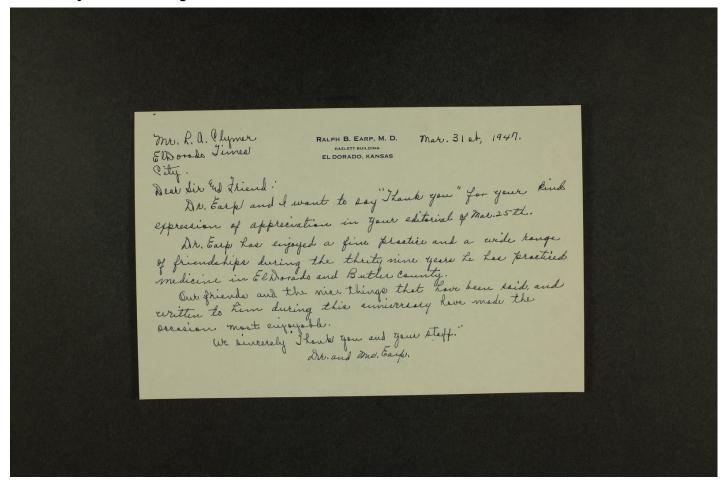




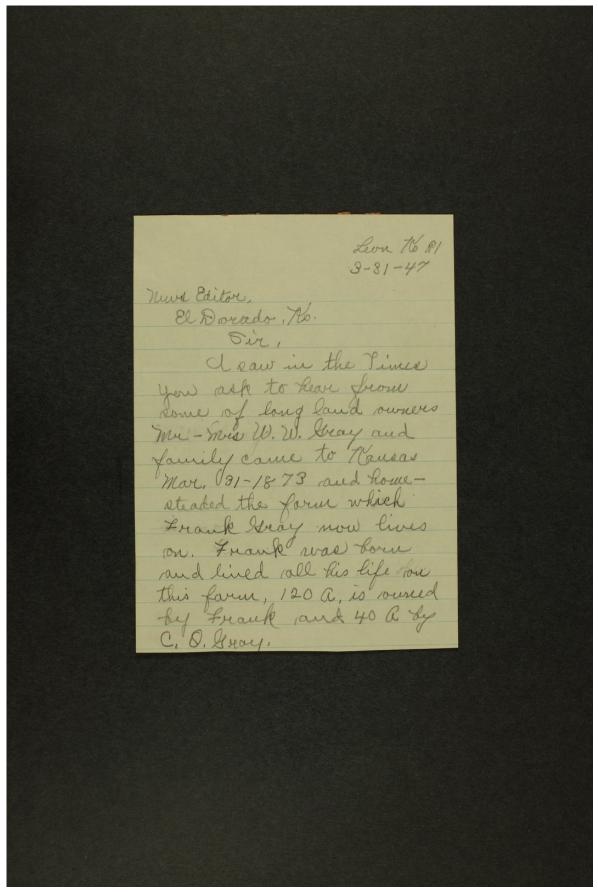




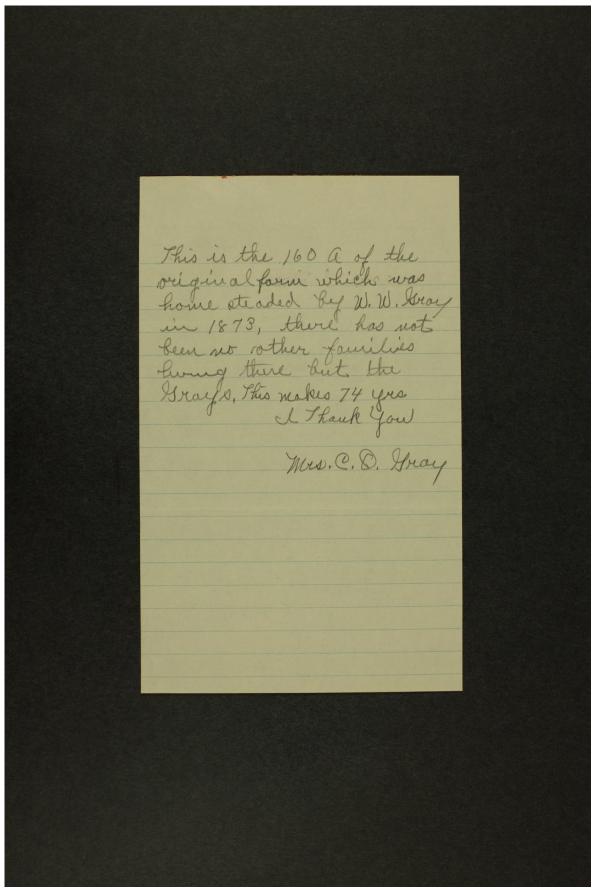




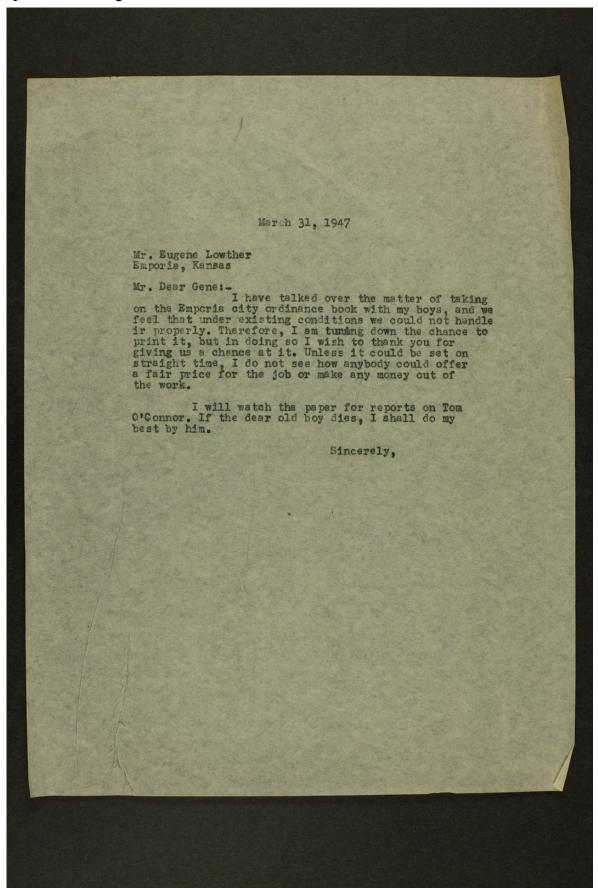














Rolla Clymer correspondence

O. S. STAUFFER. PUBLISHER

The Arkansas City Daily Traveler

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS
AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

ARKANSAS CITY. KANSAS

WILLIAM FRAILE

April 1, 1947

Mr. R.A. Clymer El Dorado Times El Dorado, Kas.

Dear Rolla:

I'm sorry about the delay in answering your letter. Things have been pretty bustling down here and I've been tied up rather badly.

Our radio station arrangement is rather unusual. KSOK is 100 per cent owned by Traveler Publishing Company, but is being operated completely independently of the newspaper. We work together on things, of course, which has greatly benefitted the radio station, but it is operated as a separate unit.

They are making very good progress with the station. They went on the air Jan. 1 with a comparatively large set-up, had a substantial loss in January, approximately broke even in February and should show a fairly decent profit for March.

The station cost a good deal more than Oscar had been anticipating and was launched on a larger basis than he expected and he did quite a bit of kicking about both aspects. They have approximately 12 full time employes and a few part-timers.

They have done a nice job lining up advertising, both locally and from outside. The station appears to have a pretty good listening following, too.

Personally, I believe that the situation would have been much different if anyone except ourseives had been operating the station. From the start, everyone in our organization has been helping boost the station and we have given it considerable promotion in the paper. We had a big list of people wanting to advertise on the air ready when the radio men arrived in town and have continued to do initial selling for them when opportunity arises. We even haven't put up a contest when newspaper accounts have dropped out or cut down to



