

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

### Section 831, Pages 24901 - 24930

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

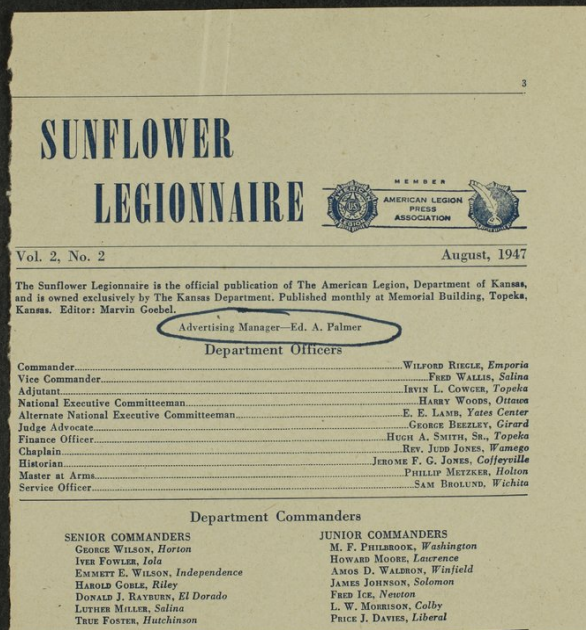
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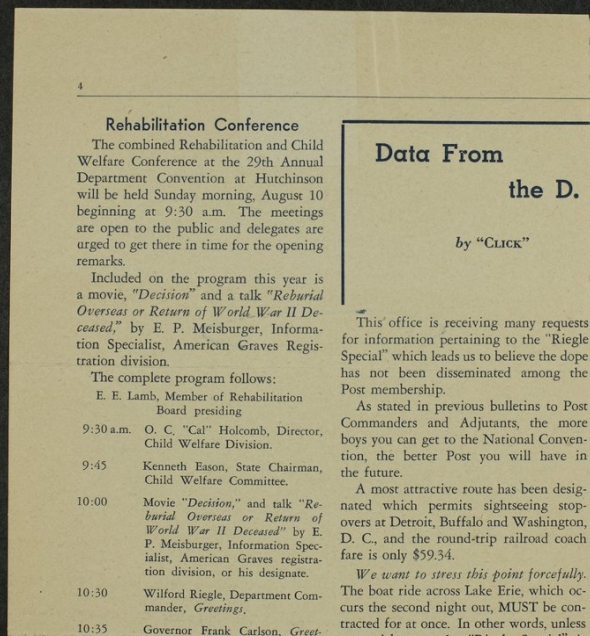
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## Rolla Clymer correspondence



## Rolla Clymer correspondence



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

NIGHT MESSAGE

El Dorado, Kansas  
August 13, 1947

Contact Placement Service  
New York Mergenthaler Linotype School  
244 West 23rd Street  
New York 11, New York

Need operator by September 1. Six-day evening daily.

Job with bonus now paying over \$57. Union, 40 hours,  
pleasant working conditions. Wire collect, R. A.

Clymer, manager The Times, El Dorado, Kansas.

prepay and charge The Times

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

LAW OFFICES  
RATNER & ALLEN

SUITE 1414 UNION NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
WICHITA 2, KANSAS

TELEPHONE 2-6423

PAYNE H. RATNER  
DONALD C. ALLEN  
FREDERICK A. MANN  
RICHARD B. CLAUSING  
LOUISE MATTOX

August 13, 1947

Mr. Maurice E. Fager, Acting Director,  
Kansas Industrial Development Commission,  
801 Harrison Avenue,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Fager:

At Wichita, Mr. Frank Long, a member of the State Board of Social Welfare, has just stated, according to local newspaper stories, "This is rapidly becoming a State of old people. Within a few years more and more people not now covered by Social Security will become welfare charges. We haven't seen anything yet. Young people are leaving the state constantly, for job opportunities, leaving a vast residue of old people."

To me, Mr. Long's above quoted statement is startling and distressing. I have known Mr. Long for many years. I have a very high regard for his ability and integrity. Therefore, I assume his statement is substantially correct. If it is, it certainly contains a significant and imperative challenge to all Kansans in general and to the Kansas Industrial Development Commission in particular.

You will recall that the Kansas Industrial Development Commission is my "baby". You will recall that in my first campaign for Governor in 1938, I promised the people that if I were elected I would create such an agency to help develop our State industrially. You will remember I recommended the creation of your Commission in the 1939 session of the Kansas Legislature, the first one after I became Governor, and put the full weight of my administration behind the recommendation. As result of this, the Law was enacted in that session, creating the Commission.

I am rearing in Kansas two sons and a daughter. Because I want them to remain in Kansas, and because of my earnest desire that the children of the other parents in Kansas shall remain in our State, I am writing you this letter.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 13, 1947

Mr. Maurice Fager,  
Page 2.

I do not believe there are ample or compelling reasons for the situation in our State described by Mr. Long. I believe the opportunities are here for young people now, as good or better than they could find elsewhere in the United States, and I believe that those opportunities will continue. Part of this situation I point out is the result of the splendid record of achievement which has been made by your Commission during the past eight years.

It is my conclusion, therefore, that if Mr. Long is correct in his statement about young people leaving Kansas, and I am right in my conclusion that the opportunities in Kansas are just as good or better than they are elsewhere, our greatest present need is to inform the Kansas boys and girls of high school age of the opportunities that exist for them in this great State of ours, which is rapidly becoming one of the leading industrial centers of the Nation as it has always been agriculturally.

It is my suggestion that this educational campaign be sponsored by the Kansas Industrial Development Commission. In such a campaign, I am confident you will have the active cooperation of the State Teachers Association, the State Chamber of Commerce, the Associated Industries, the Parent-Teachers Association, the Union labor groups, and many other interested and worthwhile organizations of Kansas.

I will be grateful for your reaction to this suggestion after you have had an opportunity to consider it. With every good wish for the continued fine work of your Commission, and of yourself as acting Director, I am,

Sincerely,

*Payne H. Ratner*

Payne H. Ratner

PHR:fm

*Esleeck*  
*Fidelity Omon Skin*

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

920 Forest  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Aug. 13, 1947

Mr. R. G. Clymer  
The Times  
Cl. Colorado, Kan.

Dear Sir:

was talking with C. W.  
Kelley today, the Mergenthallen  
man, and he mentioned you.  
Am a good linotype  
operator. Am not a rock climber.  
I am trying to get in a town  
where I can rent a fur-  
nished apartment or small  
house.

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

- 2 -

While I am alone now (a  
widower), I have lots of  
personal belongings, and  
am not interested in living  
in just a room. And I  
like to cook a meal sometimes.  
Am 48, in good health,  
and of good habits. Have  
had 30 years' experience  
on the machine. Am of  
good appearance.

Very truly yours,  
Lawrence L. Cowan

P.S. Am in the K. C. Sta now,  
but will not remain here, as  
am going to get to a smaller  
place as soon as possible.  
Lc



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

BRANDTJEN & KLUGE, Inc.  
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA



Manufacturers of the KLUGE AUTOMATIC PRESS, the KLUGE and B & K FEEDERS  
SAINT LOUIS BRANCH OFFICE: 2226 OLIVESTREET: SAINT LOUIS 3, MISSOURI: GARFIELD 4161

August 13, 1947

The El Dorado Times  
El Dorado, Kansas

Attention: Mr. R. A. Clymer.

Dear Mr. Clymer:

This will acknowledge your letter of August 7th. Please excuse the delay in answering which was caused by the writer having been out of the city. I am very sorry that it is impossible for me just at this time to give you an estimated delivery date on your press, except to tell you that conditions at our plant have greatly improved since I last wrote you.

As you know a labor situation, beyond our control, developed last January and this cost us many months of production. This situation is now rapidly clearing up and three weeks ago we were able to start shipping ~~two~~ presses a day. This week we are shipping three presses a day and will gradually step up production. We have practically cleared up our back log of rated orders and now have them out of the way. This allows us to start work on unrated orders. Due to the date of your contract it should not be a great while now until we reach your order. You understand we are shipping all orders in sequence according to date of contract.

I am expecting to have some very definite information within a short time that will make it possible for me to be able to tell you just about when you will receive your press. As soon as I have this information will advise you.

Very truly yours

Robert H. Wright

St. Louis, Mo. Branch Mgr.  
Brandtjen & Kluge, Inc.

Branches in: DETROIT - ST. LOUIS - DALLAS - CHICAGO - NEW YORK - SAN FRANCISCO - ATLANTA - LOS ANGELES - PHILADELPHIA - BOSTON - MINNEAPOLIS  
AGENTS IN PRINCIPAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES

ALF M. LANDON  
TOPEKA

August 14, 1947

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

Dear Rolla:

You had your usual wise comment on the Corporation Commission's decision to shut down a number of wells in the Hugoton field because of "overages".

But that is only a part of the story. In April, 1944, the commission cancelled all existing underages for assumed physical reasons.

Now, as you can well imagine, practically all those wells belong to independent producers. And, as you no doubt have general knowledge, the underages were created by failure of the Pipe Line Company to take the wells allowables.

In other words, there was no physical reason. And, the law of rateable taking was ignored. To add to the scandalous situation the underages were redistributed to other wells in the field belonging to the Pipe Line Company's or affiliated companies, and their allowables naturally increased.

The three companies which benefited mostly by this outrageous procedure were the Republic Gas Company, Panhandle Eastern and Northern Natural.

The pretended excuse was the demand for fuel and the war time material, but why wasn't the gas taken from all the wells rateable?

As usual, I am being blamed for having political reasons in agitating this recent decision. Let me assure you that I have been after it for more than two years -- along with a lot of other independent producers in the Hugoton field.



R. A. Clymer

--2--

August 14, 1947

There is no one familiar with the situation that denies the fact that the rules of the Corporation Commission favored the big companies under Schoeppel's administration. Jeff Robertson is doing a good job to correct that unsavory situation.

With highest personal regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,

AL:dr

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Newton, Kansas,  
August 14, 1947.

Dear Mr. Clymer—

We arrived here  
yesterday from a  
perfectly glorious trip.

Minnesota and  
Canada are truly  
lovely. Itasca was  
all that you described  
and more. It really  
was a trip we  
always shall remember.

Our fishing was  
rather disappointing  
for they just were  
not biting. I did  
not get to take some  
of the more strenuous  
excursions since I



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

1/ fatigue. He went on to tell me that I was quite unwise in trying to do too much and that this attack was a danger signal which I should not ignore. The outcome of the whole thing is that I am having to give up all of my outside activities - clubs and column writing among them.

I truly hate to say good bye to "Driftwood" but it appears I will have to, at least temporarily.

2/ left under strict orders from my doctor to take it easy so I tried to do just that.

The night before we left El Dorado I had a strange sort of attack which was alarmingly like a light stroke or blood clot. However, upon examining me, Dr. Hasselbaum said my heart seemed to be all right and he believed I had suffered a spasm of the nerves in my left side occasioned by nervous

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Perhaps when my  
baby is older I can  
manage more.

I expect to be  
back in El Dorado  
by Saturday but  
wanted to get this  
word to you before  
that.

Will see you  
soon.

Yours,  
Loretta

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 15, 1947

Mr. Roy Pearce  
Pittsburg, Kansas

Dear Mr; Pearce:-

We have some reason to believe that the permit for our station here may be granted a week from today. Until we are sure about the permit, we are making no definite plans. I should be glad, however, to talk to you about your qualifications as manager at any time. We already have several applications on file. If you are through El Dorado at any date in the near future, I will be pleased to have you call.

Very truly yours,

August 15, 1947

Mr. A. E. Palmer  
Wichita, Kansas

My Dear Paddle:-

Sure, I remember your boy and will be glad to give him a lift in any way possible. I shall keep your request in mind, and may be able to help in places here and there. If he comes to El Dorado, by all means have him see me. The latchstring will be hanging out for him-- and you, too, if you could ever move your carcass this far.

Sincerely,

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 15, 1947

Mr. Alf M. Landon  
Topeka, Kansas

My Dear Governor:-

I am grateful for your letter. I think I admitted in the editorial to which you referred that about all I knew of the Hugoton gas situation was what I read in the papers. You have provided me with a great deal of information and facts about which I have been previously unaware, and which I appreciate knowing. It was kind of you to go to the effort of setting me straight on this subject and so I owe you a day in harvest.

I may want to talk to you some day soon about our proposed radio station setup here, and may be up that way in a week or two.

Again thanking you, I am

Sincerely,



T. J. ROUSE

L. L. McHONE

### ROUSE and McHONE, Realtors

REAL ESTATE - PROPERTY MANAGEMENT - INSURANCE - BONDS - NOTARY PUBLIC

30 EAST BIJOU

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Aug 15 1947

Rolla Clymer  
Eldorado Kansas  
Dear Rolla

About 2 months ago, I paid  
Anna for one year subscription to  
the Times and today Geo Miller  
tells me that he never receives same  
will you please check to find who is the  
matter. Please mail paper to Geo E Miller  
420 East Fontaine St. Colorado Springs  
Colorado.

How is every thing. It is very nice here  
now. Ray Brown & wife is with us now.  
We are having good time. Regards.

Sincerely

John

J W Kirkpatrick

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 15, 1947

Mr. Lawrence L. Cowan  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Cowan:-

I was pleased to receive your letter today and, in return, will say that we are interested in you. When I talked to Mr. O. W. Kelley the other day, I told him we would need a machinist operator on September 1. Since that time, we have made arrangements to have the machinist work handled and are now in need of an operator. Your qualifications indicate that you would fit well into the personnel of our plant.

We have a union shop and operate on the 5-day, 40-hour week. Our typographical scale is now \$53 but we are paying a bonus which brings the compensation of each man up to in excess of \$57. If this sort of a connection would prove satisfactory to you, I should like to know about it at once--and then would make every effort to secure a small house or an apartment for your occupancy. I can sympathize with your desire for that sort of residence.

El Dorado, like many other towns, is experiencing something of a housing shortage but this is the period just before the start of school when many residential changes are under way. If you think you would like this job, I could go after a place for you at once. The time is short, however, and we shall need to work fast. I have already begun to make inquiries, in the hope that I may run across something suitable and be able to hold it temporarily.

Should you be able to get a reply to me by the first of next week, the problem of the kind of quarters you want might be solved more readily. I feel from what you have told us about yourself that you would fit well into our composing room force. Most of the men we have on the job have been here over many years.

Awaiting your reply, I am

Very truly yours,

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

920 Forest  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Aug. 16, 1947

Mr. R. A. Clymer  
El Dorado, Kan.

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Thank you very  
much for your prompt  
and informative reply to  
my inquiry.

I believe that the  
El Dorado Times would  
be a good connection,

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

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Incidentally, I have a pet cat which I must keep, because my wife thought a lot of this cat. Now that my wife is gone, I will continue to care for the pet. But I am so used to this little detail that she (the cat) is never a nuisance to anybody in any way.

Besides being a good linotype operator, I have worked a lot as a court reporter and am an expert on the typewriter.

-2-

and naturally I am interested in the opening for an operator.

As to a place to live, I would be much pleased if I could get either a furnished apartment of two rooms or more, or a small furnished house. Have always been considered a good tenant, because am quiet and do not drink, and am careful of other people's property.

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

- 4 -

Have worked on all kinds  
of newspapers and other  
publications, such as Chicago  
Tribune, Tulsa World, Mil-  
waukee Journal, New York  
Times, and so on, so you  
know I have had enough  
experience.

I thank you again,  
Mr. Clymer, and hope  
to hear more from you.

Very truly yours,  
Lawrence L. Cowan

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Aug 18-47.

Dear Sir.

See your Ad in  
paper this evening where you  
want a furnished house or  
apartment. I have a three room  
house or six ~~two~~ rooms furnished

Phone 6198. or call  
at 827 N. Gordy St.

Thanks.

Dudley

\*25 a month

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 18, 1947

Mr. R. H. Parsons  
Savannah, Mo.

Dear Mr. Parsons:-

We noted your advertisement in the Sunday edition of The Star, and hasten to acquaint you with our situation. We publish a 6-day evening daily here and working conditions evidently are considered favorable, for most of our employees have been with us for many years. We have long operated a union shop, and are at present on a 5-day, 40-hour week. While our present scale, by contract, is \$53 we are paying a bonus which brings each man's pay up to more than \$57 weekly.

We are going to need an operator by September 1, and would like to consider you as an applicant. While housing conditions are tight here, as they are in most communities, I have hope of being able to locate you satisfactorily if I knew just what you want. An early reply setting forth your needs would enable us to make an effort to find something suitable in the period immediately before the opening of school, when many changes are taking place.

If you are at all interested in what we have to offer, I should be pleased to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

*Rolla Clymer*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Aug. 18, 1947

Mr. J. W. Kirkpatrick  
Box  
Green Mountain Falls, Colo.

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

We have checked your record of payments on subscriptions and find that on May 15, last, you paid us for a year's subscription to

Mrs. V. Knox,  
Haffley Creek,  
British Columbia, Canada

but can find record of no other payments on subscriptions. At the time you paid the Knox subscription you asked about the expiration date on Mr. Miller's paper and we told you it expired on August 1. You remarked that you had plenty time on it. However, if you have paid since that time will you please give us the date as we are not able to find it without some help, it seems. Our carbon copies of receipts are in book-form and we have checked back to March.

Thanking you for any help you can give us, we are

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY

By *Anna Benintendi*  
Anna Benintendi

*We are starting Mr. Miller's paper again at your request. He has been on our mailing list since 1943.*



CABLE ADDRESS:  
KRAWALMA  
NEW YORK

TEL. HANOVER 2 (0165  
0166  
0167

### EAST-WEST TRADING CORPORATION

WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS

IMPORT

79 WALL STREET

EXPORT

NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

August 18, 1947

Business Manager  
Eldorado Times  
Eldorado, Kansas

Dear Sirs:

In your present Newsprint shortage, we can help you.

Please let us know the sizes of the rolls and quantities  
needed at your plant.

We will be glad to supply you just what you need when  
you need it in Standard Quality White Newsprint, 32-pound basis,  
and send you our best quotations.

We can also supply Newsprint in sheets of all sizes, in  
carload lots or smaller quantities.

Our service has proven of great help to leading publishers,  
and we will be glad to furnish you with A-1 references.

Please let us hear from you by wire or phone.

Thanking you, we remain

Very truly yours,

EAST-WEST TRADING CORPORATION

*Alfred Horn*  
ALFRED HORN

AH:BK

Contracts made contingent upon accidents, strikes and other causes beyond our control.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

**The Pittsburg Headlight**

EVENINGS  
EXCEPT SUNDAY

Established 1887

**THE PITTSBURG SUN**

MORNINGS  
EXCEPT MONDAY

Established 1915

### THE PITTSBURG PUBLISHING COMPANY

F. W. BRINKERHOFF  
EDITOR AND MANAGER

Pittsburg, Kansas  
Aug. 18, 1947

Rolla A. Clymer  
The Times  
El Dorado, Kas.

Dear Rolla:

How ever can I thank you for the superlatively kind things you are always printing?

I wanted you to know that I notice these things and the El Dorado Times' clippings are piling up at my house.

This has been a heluva summer for me. We got our radio station on the air the middle of last month. Wrangling around all spring and summer with contractors of all sorts almost got me down. But we are getting organized now and my troubles will be somewhat relieved. But I am still short two men on the editorial staff of these journals of enlightenment. I hope I can find at least one common ordinary plug reporter who retains an old fashioned idea about work. This reminds me that Dutch Shultz's piece for this week is a masterpiece. Dutch has never done anything better. It is written out of a calm indignation which adds force to his logic and emphasis to his recital of facts.

By the way I am writing a note to Ed Rees spanking him for permitting that picture showing him presiding over the House to be sent out. The freshman congressman can be excused for inviting raucous comment. But Ed, one of the most useful and one of the most able members of Congress and, by reason of his committee chairmanship, one of the most powerful, slipped on a banana peel in this instance. It is like Harding on a disc plow or whatever it was or Coolidge pitching hay--only worse.

I hope to be seeing you one of these days. If I can get some time I have promised myself to drive through the Flint hills--up through Butler and Chase counties, to be specific. In that event I will pay you a visit.

Sincerely yours,

F. W. Brinkerhoff

FWB:ls

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Aug. 18, 1947

Edward H. Rees  
Member of Congress  
Emporia, Kan.

Dear Ed:

Here is where I give you a spanking. You should have sat down hard on anyone who proposed sending out that picture--or mat--showing you wielding Joe Martin's gavel.

It hurts me worse than it will hurt you to do this, but you have it coming. It is all right for a freshman congressman to put over a sublime and harmless little fraud on his constituents. Some of them are in great need of any boosting that kind of a thing gives them. But Ed Rees, one of the ablest and one of the most valuable congressmen and now sitting in one of the most powerful positions in the House and strong with a district that recognizes his true worth, needs nothing of the kind.

Just let me know who it was did this to you and, busy as I am, I will make a special trip to smack him.

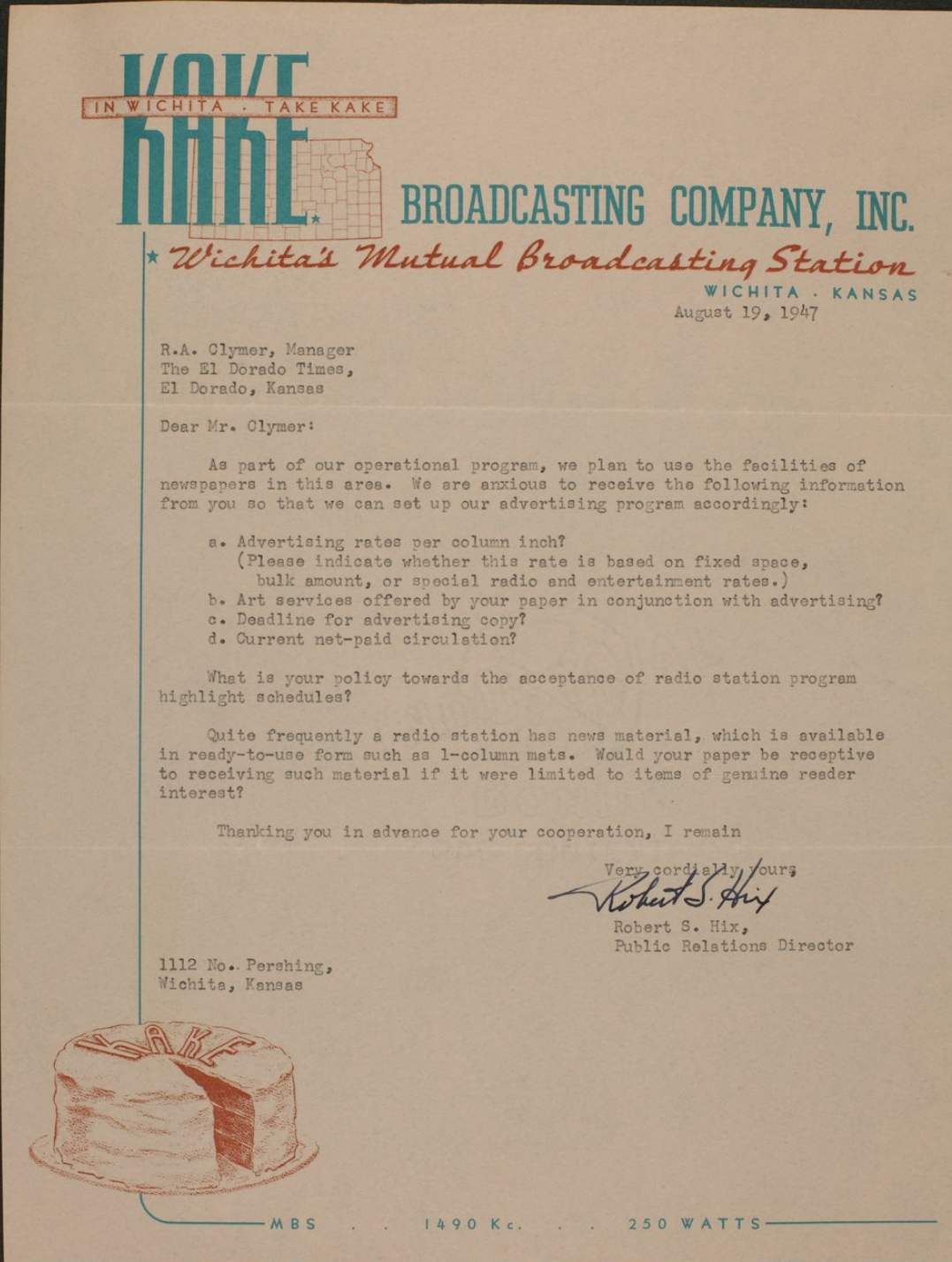
I am telling my old buddy and your friend, philosopher and guide, Rolla Clymer, about this. If your friends can't find fault with you and punish you for your mischief, who can?

Sincerely yours,

F. W. Brinkerhoff

FWB:ls

## Rolla Clymer correspondence



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

*Member of the Associated Press*

*The Wellington  
Daily News*

THE SUMNER COUNTY NEWS

HARRY L. WOODS, Editor  
JOHN W. BERKEBILE, Manager

WELLINGTON, KANSAS

August 19, 1947

Mr. Rolla Clymer, Publisher,  
The Eldorado Times,  
Eldorado, Kansas

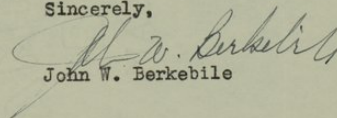
Dear Rolla:

First I want to say a belated "thank you" for the friendly editorial in The Times when I became a partner in The News. Both Mr. Woods and I appreciated it very much.

We are getting set to increase our display rates 5 cents an inch, and I'm trying to learn what other dailies in Kansas have and are doing. Would you send me one of your rate cards?

I hope things are going well with you, and I look forward to seeing you sometime.

Sincerely,



John W. Berkebile

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

August 19, 1947

Mr. Lawrence L. Cowan  
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Cowan:-

I have spent considerable time the past two days looking for a place of residence that would suit your place and needs, and am much encouraged by the outlook. While I do not have a place actually in hand as yet, I feel confident that within a short time we shall be able to secure something that will satisfy you.

I have two or three apartments on the string now--and should know definitely about one of these within a few days. This last is a furnished apartment of three rooms upstairs and not too far from the office. I believe it rents for \$35 a month, with all utilities paid. I have another which is now undergoing remodeling but is not quite completed. It is also upstairs and in a good neighborhood and rents for about the same money but I am not sure I would want to recommend it to you. I also looked at a 3-room house (furnished) at noon today but believe it to be not choice and too far from your work.

Half a dozen real estate agents and apartment operators, all of whom are my friends, are looking out for me. I firmly believe it is only a question of a short time but that something will show up which will be suitable. When I started out on this quest, I feared I would find the rental situation of this class insoluble but found it more promising than I had anticipated. I discovered one block of downtown apartments, less than two blocks away from our office, which the owner refuses to rent because of rulings by the local rent control board. Two of these apartments are under lease and are occupied, but seven are now standing vacant. If these should become available, they would relieve the general situation considerably.

I intend to keep on trying and if anything opens which I feel would appeal to you, will tie it up temporarily. In the meantime, if you feel you should like to accept employment with our paper and could come to us on or about September 1, we could find temporary accommodations for you--and I am sure it would not be long before we could have you located as you wish. Moreover, I hesitate to take the responsibility of committing