

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

### Section 842, Pages 25231 - 25260

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

-2-

do- didn't we all do without tires, gasoline, radios, soap, sugar, washing machines, meat, molasses and homing during the war when there just weren't any to be had? Sure we did and we lived to growl about it afterwards.

Has it occurred to you that the "reading public" could get along without Wallace, war with Russia, Feller, Eleanor, disappearing documents etc.; and still live? This would enable you to still print the news (worthwhile news, I mean) and utilize the space thus saved by making less pages which would solve all your trouble, make possible restful nights sleep, eliminate the spectre of shirt tails, wall paper etc., on which to print the old rag o' freedom and then when this is all over and paper becomes plentiful once more, print a special edition of 150 pages in celebration and everybody will be so happy at seeing their good old sheet once more in full bloom they'll practically force you to accept an increase in subscription rate.

On second thought, tho, seems like I'm carrying this thing too far. All you asked for was a way to save paper - not put ideas in your head about how to make money - you'll just have to figure that out yourself.

This is positively all for this Year.

Sincerely Yours.

Battling Barney.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

12-30-47

### Kansas City Star - Daily & Sunday

Average number pages - Times 14 - Star 20

Weight 14 pages  $3\frac{1}{2}$  oz.

Weight 20 pages  $4\frac{1}{2}$  oz.

Total 8 oz per day per two papers

Total 6 days  $48 \text{ oz} = 3 \text{ lbs.}$

Weight Sun. edition 2 lbs.

Total all papers (13) per week 5 lbs.

Total for year  $52 \times 5 = 260 \text{ lbs.}$

1 ton paper will print 7.7 papers (13 per week) for 1 year.

Sub. rate after Jan 1.  $30^{\text{c}}$  per week

52 weeks  $= 52 \times 30 = \$15.60$

7.7 Subs.  $= 7.7 \times 15.60 = \$120.12$

Cost 1 ton paper  $\$128.00$

$\$128.00 - \$120.12 = \$7.88$  to be absorbed by ads.

### El Dorado Times - Daily except Sunday

Average number pages 8

Weight 8 pages 2 oz

Total weight 6 days 12 oz

Total weight paper for yr.  $= 52 \times .75^{\text{c}} = 39 \text{ lbs.}$

1 ton paper will print 51 papers (6 per week) for 1 year.

Sub. rate after Jan 1.  $30^{\text{c}}$  per week

52 weeks  $= 52 \times 30 = \$15.60$

51 subs.  $= 51 \times 15.60 = \$795.60$

Cost 1 ton paper  $\$128.00$

$\$795.60 - 128.00 = \$667.60 = \text{profit on 1 ton raw material.}$

Why aint we all in the newspaper business?

Of course theres a small item of labor, taxes etc., which is incidental to any business.

"Battling Barney"



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

[947]

Wednesday

Dear Rolla:

It was grand to have your letter, but I still hate to write, as there isn't any news so far. What there is, I will tell you. I don't know what Chet would say if he were writing, but then that doesn't matter. I always tell you everything, anyway, so what the hell.

Mr. Sallows has told Chet that it is all right with him if Chet wants to wait until the first of the year, which would give Chet time to borrow the rest of the money—but I don't know where Chet would get it, as he has tried a few already, and after all, he has no security. Last week, when he thought he just had to do it or else, he even called Stauffer, while I sat and chewed my hankerchief, and that old bastard was willing to put it up—with him getting 60 % and Chet 40%, but I don't have to tell you that. Of course, he would have stretched a point to help him at all on account of the corporation, or something. When the time was extended Chet turned that magnificent offer down, but it wouldn't surprise me if he would take it in the long run. Well, after that, Malott calls and offers the money, and tells Chet that he is losing \$1000.00 a month by not closing and Chet gets fire in his eye and is going to do something, but yesterday was ~~xxx~~ paper day and he couldn't, so I don't know about anything now. He may have lost his fight. I am sick of the whole gahdam mess, and don't care what he does.

I haven't seen a soul outside of my family since I have been here, except a couple who came to call one night and borrow all my books and whom I didn't much care for. At least Chet can get out and work and have to be pleasant whether he feels like it or not, which helps, but I have to stay right in the house and do the same gahdam boring things day after relentless day and get madder and "nervouser" by the minute. Maybe all this self-discipline is good for me—there must be some point to it.

I agree with you that the booze issue—at least, in my mind—is not Woodring's strongest selling point. Well, we will see.

Oh, I see you say you don't know who Malott is. Well, he's the fellow who engineered the sale—the broker, or whatever.

"Our" old pal, Julian Ralston is now the father of twin girls—the old bastard. I would give anything to be there with Gene, however and I am green with envy.

I finally finished THE LITTLE LOCKSMITH last night after not getting to it for years. It was fine, but I am afraid I had lost my first enthusiasm. Maybe I have just lost my "first enthusiasm" period. You must, absolutely must—read MISS MASHAM'S REPOSE by T.H. White. I fell back on detective books for awhile and got real well acquainted with Perry Mason, although Mr. Nero Wolfe left me cold, but when I couldn't solve the mystery of where Goering hid his poison I gave them all up. I hadn't read any of the damned things since I went wild over THE CIRCULAR STAIRCASE and THE HOUSE OF A THOUSAND CANDLES when I was nine and read every one on the market. The library here is terrible—that is, it would be all right if I didn't have a source of supply and hadn't read everything in the damned place.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

The thing that makes me maddest about Goering and his poison is that the rectum would be the ideal place for an a-- h--e like him to hide the damned stuff, but even I know that that is a routine searching place. Well, you see how little I have to think about it if I can get excited about that old bastard.

I haven't had too much trouble getting meat, and you should have been here with us. Not that I had a lot, but I am quite a fancy chef when it comes to chicken and tuna fish. I see by the Gazette and gather from your letter that this situation has distressed you and I am surprised because the only food I ever heard you mention at all was the "little round cookies" that didn't show up on the breakfast table every morning.

Here is something Hilda Jockems sent me which you will appreciate. She is quite incensed over Chet's having to struggle while Julian coins money hand over fist. It is from the Gulistan Misnevi by Sa'di:

If livelihood by knowledge were endowed  
None would be poorer than the brainless crowd;  
Yet fortune on the fool bestows the prize,  
And leaves but themes for wonder to the wise.

The luck of wealth dependeth not on skill,  
But only on the aid of Heaven's will;  
So it has happened since the world began--  
The witless ape outstrips the learned man:

A poet dies of hunger, grief, and cold;  
A fool among the ruins findeth gold.

My drinking is down to a fifth of rum a week on account of there isn't any money for that sort of thing. If there were, and conditions were the same, I would get drunk every day. I find that I don't enjoy it when I do, but I don't enjoy anything, so what.

The kids are all making straight A's in school with Chris and Leslie ~~making~~ doing outstanding work in spelling and reading. Wallace isn't so hot--his lazy years are telling on him. Chris and Michael are both taking piano (an Bobbie) and Chris is doing fine--Michael knows too much--thinks he does. I seem to have a grouch on all the time, but still have fun with Wallace and Anthony and am ashamed that I can't with Michael and the rest, but Michael is too much like Bert and the other two are sort of "in-a-between", I guess, as to age.

Let us hear from you soon. I must get this out, so the man will get it. Wallace won a pair of nylons for me at Bingo at the fall festival last week, so you see my "both-ways" were not all in vain.

Yours,

*Rolla Clymer*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

CONFIDENTIAL COPY  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION!

Dear Ham (alias Santa Claus) Berger:

Thanks a lot for both gifts, the overalls and the spending-money letter. That hint for overalls really was aimed at brother-in-law Clarence Graham, who came through handsomely with a pair from Haberlein's private cellar stock, so now I am well fitted out, and actually feel as fine as described in the accompanying letter, for publication if worthy.

Actually I am getting so much fun out of writing these that I am well repaid even without Santa's gifts, which nevertheless are greatly appreciated. I am proud to have my stuff get into The Times through your discerning editorial scrutiny (I've been trying to learn, without exact imitating, from your own writing style ever since my cubhood days on The Times) and now it tickles me to hear a bunch of my farmer friends wondering who this Agricola could be, looking at me with a suspecting eye. You really would be surprised to know--and pleased, I think--how often one of your editorials or a ~~xxx~~ paragraph or a news story is the chief topic of conversation among the folks who don't take much time for reading but do read The Times first of all. Agricola is in a privileged position to speak his piece and then listen to the ~~xxx~~ echo, and I am going to try to make the most of it.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

[1947]

EUNICE WALLACE SHORE

1206 EUCLID

AUGUSTA, KANSAS

*Read The Sudden Guest by Christopher  
La Farge & Animal Farm by Orwell  
The library here is lousy. Nebraska  
means "flat water"* Wednesday

Dear Rolla:

Our address here is 724 Emerson. 'Nough said.

I know you are awfully busy with the campaign and what not. Saw in the Gazette where you were in Augusta with Carlson or some one.

Nothing is settled here yet. The Gazette money just arrived in the bank yesterday, according to a wire from Bert, but Chet made the ambiguous remark that he didn't know how much was in there. If he sold it for a certain amount wouldn't that be the amount they would deposit? I would think so, but I am sorta dumb about those things. Anyway, he is having trouble raising enough and Malett is coming up here Friday and then things should take some sort of shape, either positive or negative

I like my house. It's all on one floor and about  $\frac{1}{2}$  the work. I don't mind it so much for that reason and keep it up a bit better than I did the other, but housework still bores the hell out of me. Feeding seven people takes an awful lot of time, and my God! the money! We haven't had any meat for two weeks, as per everybody, but yesterday I got a steak and it was \$2.52. I almost fainted when I got the bill, but Chet is evidently hungry for meat because he didn't say anything. This morning I got a leg of lamb at 58 cents a pound, and it will run to at least five pounds, so that is all the meat we will have for quite a while. At least, I know how to stretch it and I'll bet I get at least two good meals out of the steak (unless Chet is hungrier than I think) and three or four out of the lamb. We are trying to get a locker and will buy a half of beef which will certainly help.

This town is really quite pretty. Everyone takes care of their lawns and there are lots of flowers and trees. My yard is full of silverleaf maples, sumac, locusts and a big cottonwood. Yesterday I discovered a big clump of yellow rose bushes in the back yard, and there is spirea, and iris and peonies for spring. When I was here last June, there were no leaves on the trees and that is why it looked as though there were none, I guess.

What did you think of that last poem? I want to know, because I don't know what I think myself.

We are going to have a couple of heathen children baptised here one of these days and will make you a godfather by proxy, as usual. Drop me a line when you have time. Am certainly going to miss the good old fests  
My best,

*Eunice*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

[1947]

Dear Mr. Anthony,

I am a sailor in the United States Navy, and I also have a cousin who is a Democrat. My father has epilepsy and my mother has syphilis; so neither of them can work. They are totally dependent on my two sisters who are prostitutes in Louisville because my brother is serving a life term for rape and murder.

I am in love with a streetwalker who operates near our base; though she knows nothing of my background, she loves me. We intend to get married as soon as she settles her bigamy case which is now in court. When I get out of the Navy, we intend to move to Detroit and open a small "house".

My problem, Mr. Anthony, is this. In view of the fact that I intend to make the girl my wife and bring her into the family, should I or should I not tell her about my cousin who is a Democrat?



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Alliance Times Herald

Association

EUNICE WALLACE SHORE  
724 EMERSON  
ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA

C. Newspaper

Publishers and Printers

Sunday

Dear Rolla:

The only trouble with your letters is that they don't come often enough. Hope Bill is back and well enough to take some of the load off of you.

We will be seeing you shortly--coming the the 35th division reunion. Wallace leaves for Seattle and Aunt Cody as soon as school is out. She was here, you know--looks just the same. Wallace is also going to St. John's again next year, taking a couple of boys from here along. Michael is attending the Catholic Academy and think I will send them all there next year. It is cheap enough and the results are definitely worth more than it costs.

We are dropping Chris and Leslie in Larned, Michael is Augusta, and I will take Anthony with me and let him wet all the beds of my friends across Kansas and in Kansas City. I will be at Gene's on the way, and on the way back, and am going to try to talk Chet into going on back and leaving me the car to drive home so I can spend more time down there. Naturally, we will contact you as soon as we are in contacting distance. Have a lot to talk over with you.

I have made arrangements at long last to have my teeth out as soon as I come back. Would have it done before, but couldn't make up my mind soon enough, so will have to wait. They have all been x-rayed, and now I am ready to finish the job. I don't dread it as much as I did. There is no infection--all the roots are straight, and the gums have receded so he could almost pull them with his fingers.

Spring has finally arrived here and things look good. We made a trip into the Black Hills a couple of Sundays ago, with all the kids, and that was quite a day. It is beautiful there. We didn't go very far in, however, but will later.

I note what you say about THE HUCKSTERS and am amazed. "Queer" is hardly the word for it in my book. I thought it downright stunk. It took him a month to write it, but I would have guessed it took him only one day. Am reading a book by George Palmer Putnam about Death Valley and finding it very interesting. Am learning a few strange facts, which I did not know. Did you know that there are only three states in the union where cactus doesn't grow--Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire. Read THE WAYWARD BUS last, I guess, and thought it not up to standard. Get MRS. MIKE. It is a deal. Enjoyed it as much as anything I've read lately. Tried to read HAPPY THE LAND, but found it inferior to WE TOOK TO THE WOODS, and so reminiscent of THE BIGG AND I in a poor way that I gave up in the middle. Have you read THE WALLS OF JEALOUSY--good. I had LYDIA BAILEY but it



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Alliance Times Herald



A. B. C. Newspaper

Publishers and Printers

Times Herald Building  
Alliance, Nebraska

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**Alliance Times Herald**

*Associated Press*



*A. B. C. Newspaper*

**Publishers & Printers**

TIMES HERALD BUILDING  
**Alliance, Nebraska**

became due before I got started on it.

I have been doing a little job on the drinking, which I will tell you about when I see you. Am trying to eat to beat hell and taking vitamins and feel better than I have in years. But all that will keep.

We were going to move, having bought an apt. house--were going to use two of the apts., but Chet had a chance to sell it at a thousand profit, so we are doing that. Suits me.

Well, will see you soon, and will be delighted to do same. Did you see where Ralph has joined the Digest as Riving Editor? Very best until we can get together over the good old gab.

*E. Clymer*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

[1947]  
Wednesday night.

Dear R. A. C.

I talked with Mrs. Rost at the Farm Bureau office this afternoon--neither Miss Fairbairn nor Gene Payer being there.

I couldn't put my finger on any dissatisfaction with The Times' handling of the F. B. news, or on any spite work. I believe the thing originated, probably with Miss Fairbairn, as a money-saving attempt to balance the F. B. budget against increased salaries and other expenses which are amounting to more than the county appropriation and membership fees total. Apparently her hope was to have a weekly or monthly F. B. newsletter job-printed by some one who would undertake to sell enough advertising to support it. Greenwood County F. B. is supposed to have some such publication.

Evidently this interested the Butler County News and the Butler ~~xxxxxx~~ Free-Lance in the possibilities of taking over the Farm Bureau page, and one of them must have offered to do it for "around a hundred dollars less per year" than The Times was charging. I couldn't get any further details on this--judge the offer was rather vague. Also now being considered is the possibility of sending out a ~~xx~~ mimeographed letter from the F. B. office (using franking privilege to save postage) to the membership once a month.

Mrs. Rost did not let me read the official minutes of the latest meeting of the executive board but I am pretty sure they voted to continue the present arrangement with The Times until either you or myself



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

had been given a chance to speak for The Times. You'll remember that we talked about it the day after Bill was stricken, and the following Saturday night when I saw Gene Payer I told him that I wanted a chance to express my views as a Farm Bureau member before the executive board took any action to discontinue the F. B. page in The Times. I don't believe there was any intention to slight The Times or you personally--I think Miss Fairbairn, probably Mrs. Winzer and some other of the women's advisory committee, were shopping around to see what they could do. Miss Fairbairn is a hustler, capable and well liked; in fact the women are so solidly behind her that she might put over her plan if she has something new. I will talk with her at the first opportunity. Also I will try to talk to Austin Phillips (our vice-president) as soon as possible. I don't suppose I will get to see Arnold Claassen, our president, as he lives near Whitewater. Hope this information will be of some use.

I know you can look out for yourself and I don't mean to horn into The Times' end of it but as a paid-up member of the F. B. I want to know what's going on in my organization that would affect our "public relations" as much as quitting that Farm Bureau page surely would.

Yours,

*V. Boellner*





Beechcraft

AIR MAIL

Beech Aircraft Corporation  
Wichita, Kansas U. S. A.

Dear Rol:

The enclosed gives me two reasons for typing an envelope to you.

First, I'm trying to think of out-of-town friends to add to the list Margaret gave me. You qualify there.

Second, since I've used the idea of a "News Release", it's quite natural to qualify you on that point, too. Though this is one release that you won't have to worry about "marking up" for the printers. Just wanted you to know you're still "on my list".

Not much going on here that gives me many opportunities to help "The Times" -- though I did approve a cut of your town's and our company's band last summer after the boys here told me it was for your paper. Meant to write and thank you for running it, but am ashamed to say it just didn't get done.


Sorry not to have been able to sit down and visit with you at the Editors' banquet recently, but had a young couple in tow that I wanted to get better established.

When warmer weather comes to say, I hope to be able to load the family in the Ford and let them visit friends in Eldorado this spring (as they've wanted to do ever since we finally bought a home and got moved down here) -- so maybe able to drop in on you.

Being even an "assistant public relations director" for an outfit like this is rather interesting -- but I do miss some of the trips I used to make over the state. However am glad I'm not in that wild night-mare of a place known as the capital city. It was fun while it lasted -- but it's so much better elsewhere.

Let me know if there's ever anything I can do for you.

Best regards!

  
Phil McKnight





### NEWS RELEASE

#### It's a Boy!

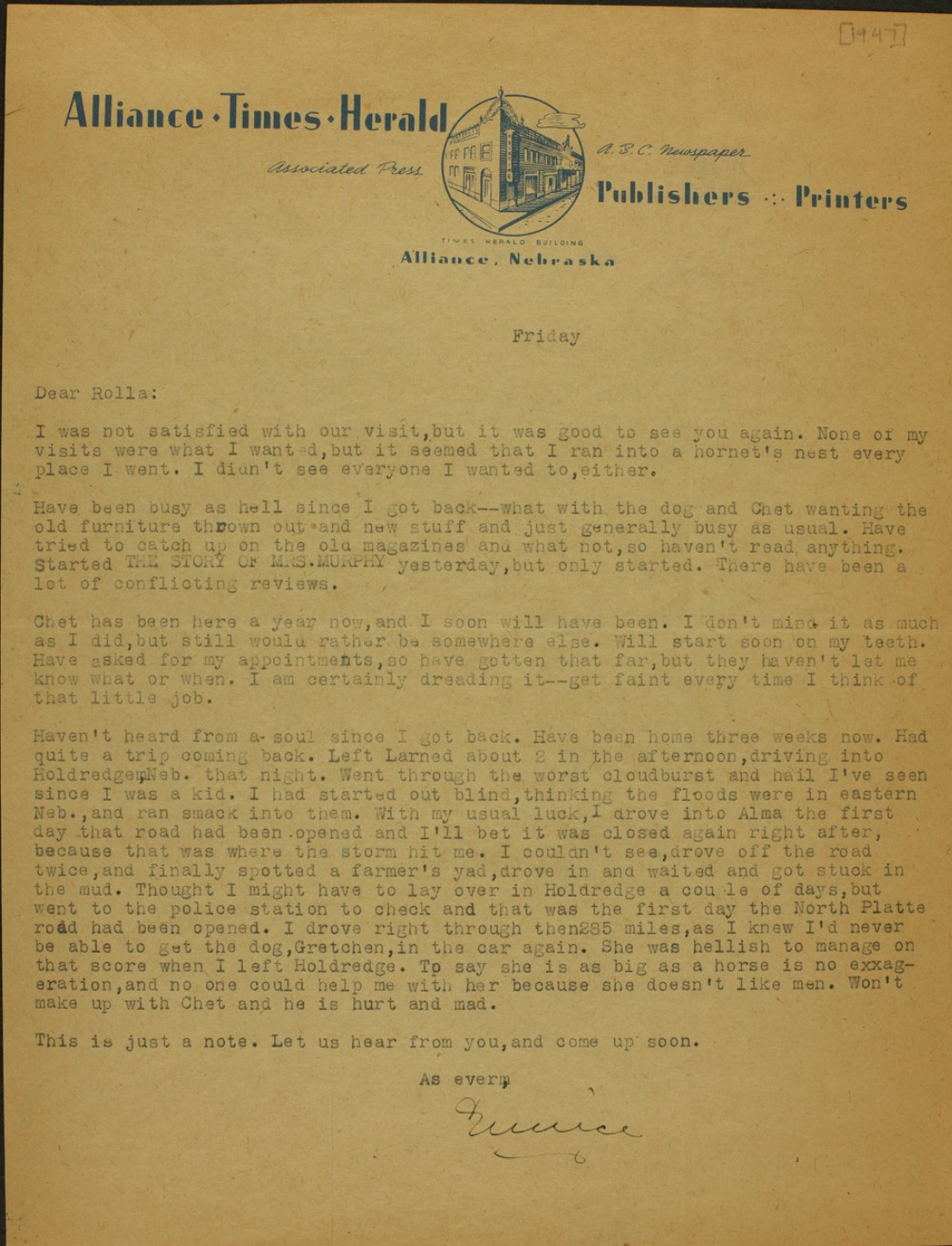
Wichita, Kansas -- Feb. 23 -- Robert Loren McKnight, son of Margaret and Phil McKnight, of 250 North Terrace Drive, arrived at St. Francis Hospital at 2:50 p.m. today.

The latest official bulletin from Dr. Robert H. Maxwell, attending physician, reports that both mother and son are doing fine. Clinical records show that the young fellow weighs 8 lbs., 0 oz., has dark eyes, some hair, and a good voice coupled with a powerful pair of lungs.

When finally reached for a statement, the members of the immediate family had this to say: "I'm very happy!" smiled the mother. "Hurray! She's a boy!" yelled young Philip C. McKnight, II. But the father could not be reached for comment; he was busy getting out a special news release. However, it's reported upon rather reliable authority that he's quite proud and is expected to survive.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

[947]

The Register adds that Iola's attendance this year exceeded that of both Pittsburg and Miami, towns exactly twice its size in population.

-----from the Eldorado Times

LATEST POPULATION FIGURES AVAILABLE:

Pittsburg	23,843
Iola	7,034
Miami	8,345

You can't do that to the Balkans. However, this is offered merely in the interest of journalistic accuracy.

Thanks for the correction you gave the esteemed Fort Scott Tribune on "McCaskey." I never saw such a bunch as the bunch at Fort Scott. They started out all hot for Caskey back in the days when. Some of the fellows worked with Caskey during the winter on highway 69 matters. But they changed under pressure from on high or far below--maybe the latter. One day about the time Caskey was being appointed a ring leader of the bunch met Caskey in Swedish headquarters in Topeka and snubbed him. Can you imagine such a dampcool way for a civic minded guy to act? And now their newspaper McCaskeys him. I never treated Roycox that way, even after he developed into one deserving of anything I saw fit to give him. In other words the Fort Scott bunch is going to be a great help in the development of highway 54. By the way, I wish you would find out for me from your fellows how many Fort Scotters boarded that bus for the 54 trip to Chicago.

FWB





[947]

### The Holton Recorder

HOLTON, KANSAS

WILLIAM T. BECK, PUBLISHER

Sunday.

Dear Rolla:

No public office would bring a man as much real pleasure and satisfaction as the piece you wrote about me, and were willing to sanction it by putting it on to the printed page. Sentiments almost as beautifully put as yours came in a letter from Clye Reed today. Another from Bert Walker, who in spite of everything, is smart.

I am no more anxious to run for and hold public office than you are. We know the satisfaction of the status of an editor, and in this capacity maybe we can be more useful to our party and our country. This being true, naturally there would have to be something resembling a draft. I am practical enough to know drafts always require a little propelling, but I am waiting to see how great the demand is here in my district.

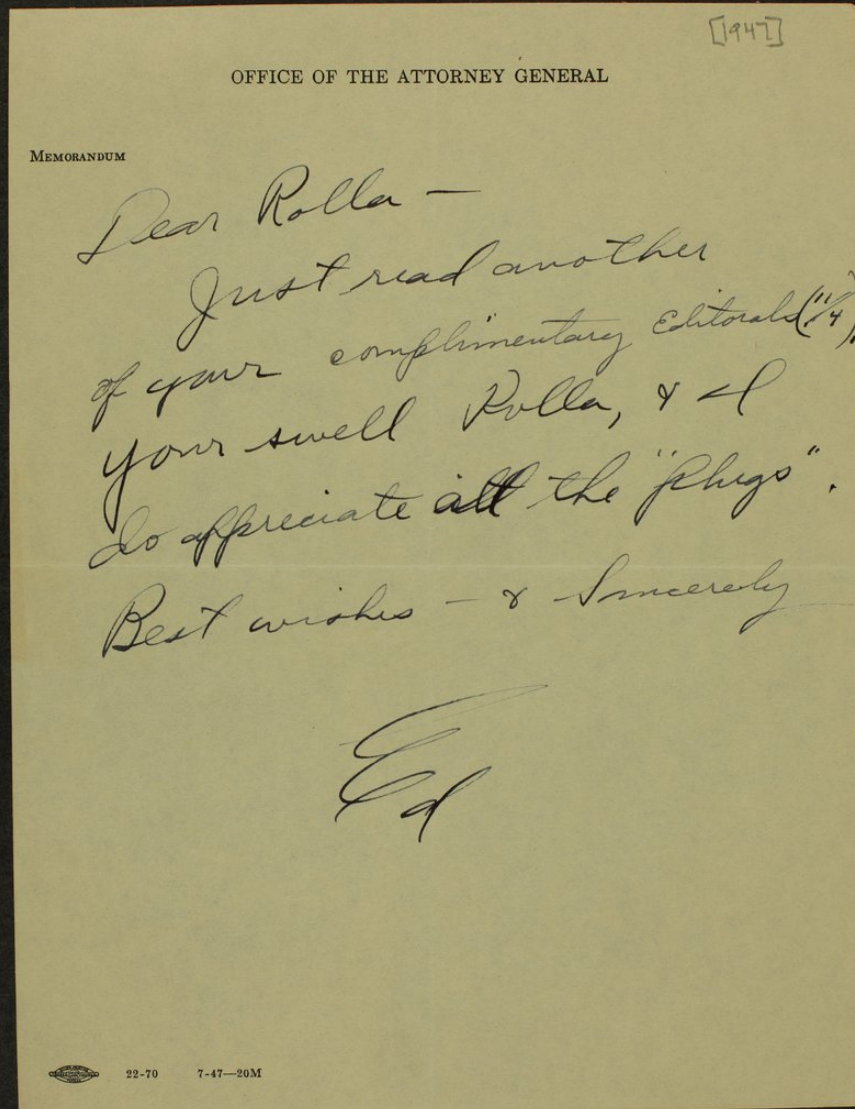
That was a splendid editorial you wrote on keeping in mind the success of the whole ticket. I have it in type, and the Leavenworth copied it last week. Some time ago I hinted that we should not lose sight of the necessity of electing a Republican to the Senate next November. Privately, I must confess that the age question has taken deeper root among the voters than one would have imagined. It looks portentous. An idea is an insidious thing. It spreads faster than disease germs. Hope to see you before long.

Cordially,

*W. T. Beck*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

[94]

Tepeka  
Tuesday

Dear Roll:

That was one of the swellest editorials you ever writ, my bey. I am truly proud of you as well as grateful. It certainly hit my spot, and I've practiced on some others. The Kansas Day club executive committee met Saturday, with some dozen or more present. I was invited and lugged your remarks along. After their session I read 'em your editorial, and your ears must have burned. Every person present says "that's for me!" and really lapped it up. I'm getting it mimeographed, and am going to send it around, albeit I know many of the brethren will beat me to it from your exchange. The gov. and all were mightily pleased, as well they might be. Thanks a millien. I'll think up another diver for your springboard, come the dawn. . . . Dave called me just now from K. U. and he and some other fledglings are coming up to have lunch with me next Tuesday. I'll try to steer 'em right, since he tells me you steered them to me. These kids are the best we've got, Roll, in my beek. Thanks again.

Wes.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

HUGO T. WEDELL  
JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT  
TOPEKA, KANSAS

[1947]

Ans.

Dear Rolla:

That was a grand editorial  
you wrote and I thank you for it.  
It was a characteristic Rolla Clymer  
kindness -

I was thru Eldorado the other day  
and that perhaps I'd see you at the hotel  
at noon where we stopped for  
lunch at noon. We went to Wichita  
with Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Taylor. Stanley  
thought you would probably eat at the  
hotel but you were apparently occupied  
elsewhere.

Hope you have a good summer  
Always cordially yours  
Hugo



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

[147]

**Alliance Times Herald**

*Associated Press*



TIMES HERALD BUILDING  
**Alliance, Nebraska**

*A. B. C. Newspaper*

**Publishers ·· Printers**

Monday

Dear Rolla:

I know you have been busy as hell with Bill sick and all, but we would certainly like to hear from you.

You and Betty are godparents again. Leslie and Anthony were baptised Saturday and we put you on the list. Wallace and Michael have certainly warmed to their church here--both are altar boys and go early and stay all morning. They are crazy about Father Lucas and he is very nice. He is not married and I wonder if he belongs to an order that can't marry. He's about 40. I shall ask him some time. We all went to church yesterday and all looked very dandy.

It is coming spring, even here in the frozen north. I fixed a picnic and took all the kids to the Chadron state park about a week ago. It is quite a sight. You drive about 50 miles over these gruesome flat fields with no trees and all of a sudden you come over a hill and there it is--pines, bluffs, hills, brooks, etc. So there are some very lovely places around here. East there is country a good deal like the flint hills--only more water, and there the muskrats have their houses. I am going out and watch them as soon as it is time. I've never seen them. It will be fun for the kids, too. It is grand to have the car.

Haven't read much lately. Have SIMONE which I am anxious to read, but haven't gotten around to yet. How did you like MISS MASHAM'S REPOSE? I re-read THE STRANGE WOMAN the other night. I had forgotten how rotten it is. THE WAYWARD BUS is not up to standard, but very good. Suppose you have read that. I don't see anything coming up that looks like much. Started DUEL IN THE SUN, but don't think it is worth bothering with.

We have put Michael in the Academy. He is slipping in school and thought perhaps the Sisters would jack him up. We expected him to want to change churches right away, but he hasn't said anything about it. This will knock you off the Christmas tree. The day he changed, Chet said, Well, I suppose he will want to be a Catholic, and I 'lowed warily that he might, and Chet said, Well, I don't care. Even if he wants to be a priest, it is all right with me. I think he would make a good one. The millenium is at hand, I would say.

When are you coming up? Now that it is warm, you owe yourself a trip, don't you? Write. ~~XXXXX~~ I think you are just plain mean. Does Julian still write and order business done? Always,

*Rolla*





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

[1947]

Friday.

My Dear Ham:

Never called you Ham while I was there but heard lots of others do so.

The wife and I are just leaving to go out for dinner and wanted to get a line off to you so could mail it tonight. I think the new job is going to turn out OK---at least, it has so far. Working quarters are excellent and everyone is very pleasant. Haven't as yet had any tangles with the front office. When that does happen I'll know how things stand. As far as the work is concerned, it is just about what I was used to at Boeing, the difference being in the way it is done.

✓ Surely did appreciate the nice things you said about me in The Times last Monday. I told Meryle that if I ever need a recommendation all I have to do is show that item. Would like it very much if you would have Anna mail me about three more copies of that particular issue.

We will get over to El Dorado just as soon as things settle down a bit. Please give my best regards to Klint, Mrs. Burlin and the rest. I'll write you again in a week or so and let you know more of how things are going.

*Rex*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Dear Mr. Clymer:- There was an idea to use at the Kuman's only by radio or telephone. But Mr Sanders could not stand the effort. Maybe you know some local electronicist who can give the ode, the proper zip! *May 29, 1947* *him in after seeing person.*

*Hold for  
Century program*

The cattle kingdom, and particularly of Herefords, has been blessed that at every significant event in the story there has been close up in an advantageous ring-side seat a discriminating reporter trained to interpret and to record not only the daily news but to conserve for those of us who came later a conspectus of the whole history in classic books. Not every field of human endeavor has been so fortunate as to have the reporting witness of daily details also the same literary historian of the archives, and still further the royal subject's poet-laureate.

Yet such is ALVIN HOWARD SANDERS who was editor of "Breeder's Gazette" in those fateful years when Hereford cattle starting as rejected and recessive Cinderellas among cattle have become the dominant regal breed in beef mass production all over the grazing ranges and feed-lots of America.

In 1883 when C.M. Culbertson's beef won first honors in the so-called "Battle of the Breeds" at the Fat Stock Show in Chicago, it was to this young reporter that the champion "Roan Boy's" horns were presented as a trophy to adorn his news office. That was 64 years ago when those first Hereford horns triumphed over all comers in the beef tournament and were hung on the newspaper office wall, a tribute to the discernment--indeed we now know to the prophetic foresight --of a master livestock reporter.

Today, long since retired from active writing, Mr. Sanders at 87 years rests on his laurels at his home in Wayne Pennsylvania, the highly venerated dean of American agricultural reporters, editors and authors. It was he who wrote the comprehensive "Taurine World", the historic "Story of the Herefords", he who wrote "Hazlett and his Herefords", and the classic poem entitled "The Master Stockman".





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

(2)

To invite Mr. Sanders to come to El Dorado today as the guest of honor at the Hazlett Centenary festival is most fitting. He is preeminently qualified to interpret and to elucidate just what in the history of cattle was Mr. Hazlett's achievement in the practical application of nature's laws in the science of heredity expressed as living Hereford animals developed in living flesh and blood as a sculptor with marble or a painter with colors achieved ~~an ideal~~ according to some blue-print of a preconceived ideal.

Yet those very years which gave Mr. Sanders full scope over the story we commemorate today have made the venerable writer's personal journey impractical. <sup>your Hazlett Centenary program committee</sup> ~~Yet thanks to the science of radio~~ <sup>has now tried to see if by telephone or radio it might be possible to have</sup> ~~engineering, you shall now hear Mr. Sanders greet this Centenary~~ <sup>The venerable interpreter of Mr. Hazlett's achievement read his poem to us</sup> ~~honoring Mr. Hazlett and his Herefords, and reciting from his~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~Pennsylvania home~~ the opening ode of our program. ~~Mr. Sanders,~~ <sup>His feebleness in health preventing, we will now have</sup> ~~the author acclaiming:~~ <sup>Miss — — of El Dorado read it for him!</sup>

THE MASTER STOCKMAN  
With glad acclaim and bearing garlands bright and  
wreaths of bay

We sing the glories of the fecund fields where faithful  
herdsmen hold their gentle sway!  
In pastures green, by running brooks; in bosky dells, in grassy nooks,  
The distant mellow jangling of sweet bells proclaims the peaceful  
paths  
of lowing herds, the gifts supreme of husbandry.  
Blessed be the lands on which they graze! And blessed those who  
guide them on their ways!  
"Wielders of power that verges on the infinite itself!  
Dreamers of dreams who live to see their dreams come true!  
Workers of miracles in a world that's all their own!  
Keepers of keys to life's most hidden mysteries!  
While all the nations from the depths of grateful hearts  
Unite to crown the master stockman Master of the Art of Arts! "

*Rolla*



[1947]

The Topeka State Journal

ARTHUR J. CARRUTH, JR.

Dear Rolla —

A few days after I returned from a couple of weeks trying to run AJC III's paper down in Medicine Lodge, I had to go to New York for another couple of weeks.....As a result I never got a chance to catch up at the AP exchange table and, of course, Missed The Times for quite a spell.

One day recently III said in a note: "By the way, better drop in at the Kansas Press office and get the current number of Howard's bulletin--it has a yarn written by your good friend Rolla Clymer about your experiences with The Index."

So I dropt in at the Kansas Press--and there isn't a current number of the bulletin in the darned shop--so the gal told me. (Howard is out of town.)

So--how am I going to find out what my good friend Rolla Clymer said about me?

I wonder!

Faithfully,

AJC



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Monday

Dear Fred:-

I have read your letter several times and have come to the inescapable conclusion that I am hopelessly dumb, as far as being aware of current Kansas political trends is concerned. Still, I was not the only one who has adopted the "cheerio" attitude regarding Carlson's highway appointments. The Topeka Capital today republished your editorial on Caskey in the expressed assumption that everything is rosy and the goose is hanging high.

Of course, I don't know exactly what is in your mind and thus will welcome a talk with you as soon as possible. I rather dread the idea of a fight over governor in the primaries next year, because it may inevitably mean a Democrat in the state house and we need some kind of a Republican there to make the senatorial appointment should either Capper or Reed--or both--die in office. It is curious to me how Frank gets his foot in it almost every time he makes a move. The man certainly must have no shakes of talent whatever for administration.

All I can say is, go to it while you're young, boy--and best luck. Being a rather slow mover myself, I shall probably wait awhile and listen to what the wild waves are saying. But I know you are right when you say that Kansas Republicans have had too much prosperity--and there is nothing like lean pickings for awhile to restore a sense of proper balance.

I will appreciate information from you as to what gives, from time to time.

Sincerely,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Friday

Dear Fred:-

Just a word in regard to your interesting letter which came this morning. I think you give the Topeka Capital too much credit for deep designs and playing a game. They do, of course, for the prime benefit of Arthur Capper. But my observation has been that those fellows in charge there, while capable enough, are not too alert. It seems to be (and perhaps I am judging too harshly,) that the aura around that place is mostly one of liking themselves too much. In the case of your editorial, they simply picked it up and ran it with the assumption that you were "pleased" about the hole affair, and with no effort or intention of digging under the surface of the matter.

I am certainly not out openly knocking the Capital boys, so will ask you to hold this confidentially. It was sheer indifference and complacency that made the Capital blunder as it did with the reprinting of your editorial. I was guilty of the same blunder--and maybe for the same reasons, though I earnestly hope not.

I never knew you to start anything that you ~~xxx~~ weren't capable of finishing. So, I wish you good luck as you embark upon a course of action which seems to you to be dictated to your mind and conscience by the logic and ethics of the situation. I may not go along with you--probably won't--but I don't anticipate that you and me will ever be very far apart in our fundamentals.

Sincerely,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Commissioner W. A. Ayres  
Federal Trade Commission,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ayres:-

It was pleasing to hear from you again, and your letter gives me the opportunity to congratulate you upon your long and useful record in the public service. You have always held a unique position in the regard of the people of this Kansas congressional district, and the comment I made concerning you in the issue of our paper of July 4 was both sincere and generally held. Complying with your request, I am mailing you two copies of The Times of that date under separate cover.

I truly wish for you a continuance of the success and distinction that has attended all your public life.

Sincerely yours,





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

Dear Mr. Clymer:

In thinking over our conversation, I still feel personally that I want us to keep our 50% - but - if the other two of you should decide we had better unload a small amount - the 10% mentioned - I will take your decision with a smile. I wanted you to be sure just how it looked to me and how I felt about it. We will be back about the 6<sup>th</sup> as we are figuring now. Hope the new radio project will be beginning to begin by then. Sincerely  
E. J. Adams.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE SAYLORS  
DELBERT LAWRENCE MAUDIE MAE  
ZODEEN JANE and GOLDENA MAE

Jan 1/48  
Goodman,  
Mo

Mr. R. A. Clymer

Dear sir:

I wish to thank you for  
your letter and newspapers.  
And I know that everyone  
connected with those editions  
have a reason to feel proud,  
and readily say "we did it".

My wife and children, and  
our friends have advised me  
to not make a change at  
this time of the year. I've  
talked with some of the boys  
on the H.C. Times—and to some of  
the boys on the Detroit News. So I'm  
not going to make any change  
at the present. Especially until  
June 1st—