

Rolla Clymer correspondence

Section 857, Pages 25681 - 25710

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

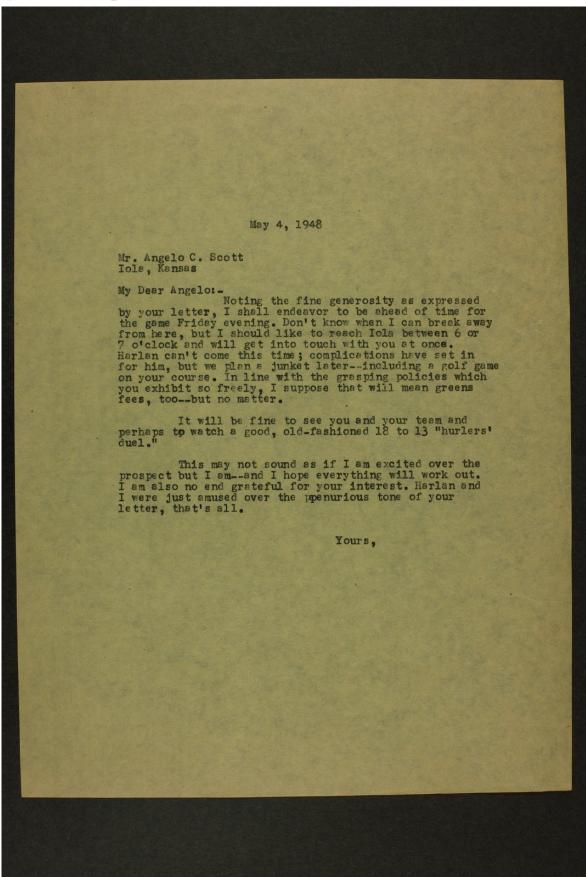
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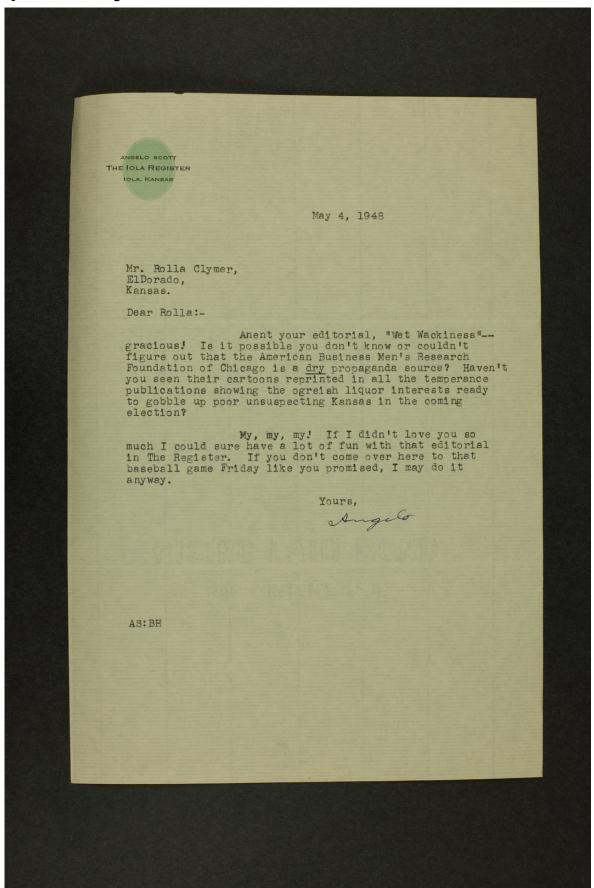
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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

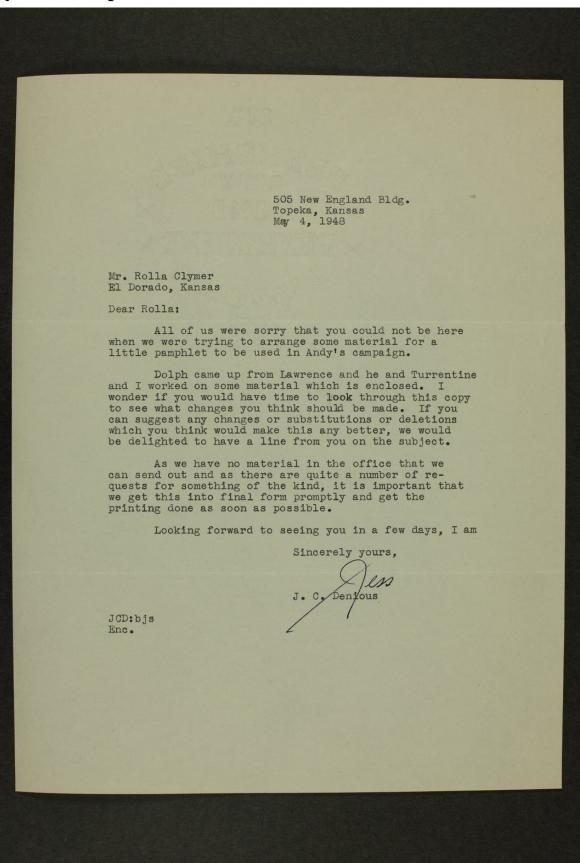




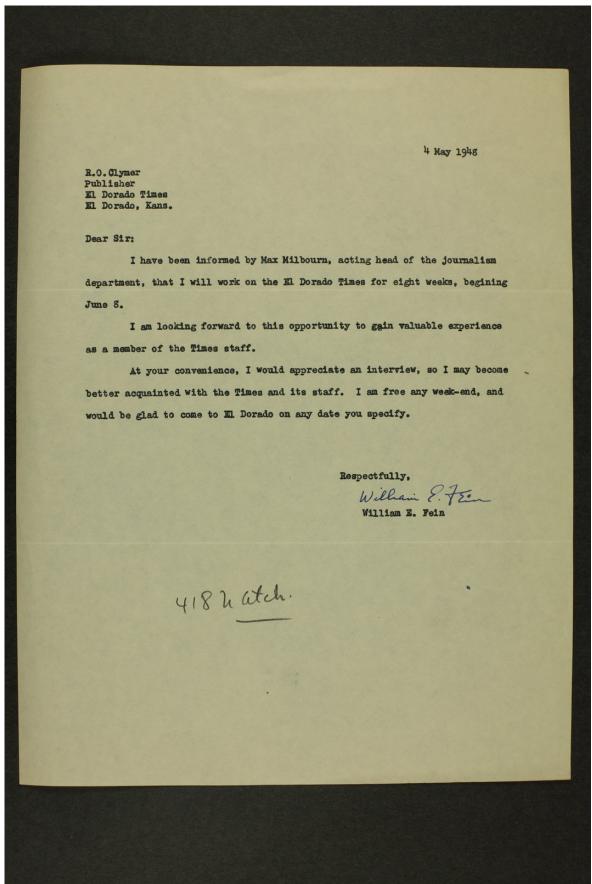


















Rolla Clymer correspondence

ARTHUR J. CARRUTH, JR. 2122 WEST 17TH STREET TOPEKA, KANSAS

May 4, 1948

Dear Rolla:-

Of course you must know how I enjoyed your appreciative and appreciated letter of April 27.

Especially:"---you have retained a youthful mind."

Well, Rolla, there's no secret to that accomplishment—I do it by considerable association with younger people....
My connection with Washburn does much of that....Our house, facing the campus, has been a gathering place for youngsters ever since our own young were in high school...Norma and I built a dance floor in the third story and it was used while the kids were in high school and college...Also a flormitory for the youngsters who "wanta stay out later than the house mothers will allow".....Girls still come over from the sorority houses to get a Dorothy Dix from Norma; and the lads from the frat houses to argue with me over Henry Wallace.

Maybe it is because we understand them--maybe it is because we have a full ice box and cokes--maybe it is because we listen, wide-eyed, to their yarns and problems.... and maybe it is because Norma and I never NEVER want to be "old folks" to our children--or even our grandchildren.

Some day ,no doubt, I'll get cranky and puffy and out of sorts but, brother, when I do it'll be because I can't see and I can't hear what is going on!

And don't forget this--despite their sophistication and their "UNmorals", they're smart--smart and wise and observing and far from credulous.

Knowing you are the same----

Faithfully,

SAJC



Rolla Clymer correspondence

CLAUDE C. BRADNEY
Columbus, Kansas

May 4, 1948

R. A. Clymer El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

Thanks for your acknowledgement and I will be seeing you at the Clair Youse residence, 532 E. 12th St., Baxter Springs, on or about 11 A.M. Saturday, May 8.

I know it would be interesting to you to know that to date the following have accepted: Darby, Fees, Patterson, Clymer, Denious, Dale, Powell, Youse, Boss, Thomas, Brinkerhoff, Nettles, Reed, Pierson, Hanson, McCoy, Albus and myself. No answer as yet from Ernie Shawver, Wilfred Cavaness, B. M. Dunhem and Blake Williamson. Have word from Roy Roberts that he will advise in the next day or so but understand he is anticipating on coming. Schoeppel, Robbins, Wes Roberts and Haynes impossible to attend.

Everything is set and ready to show you a nice time.

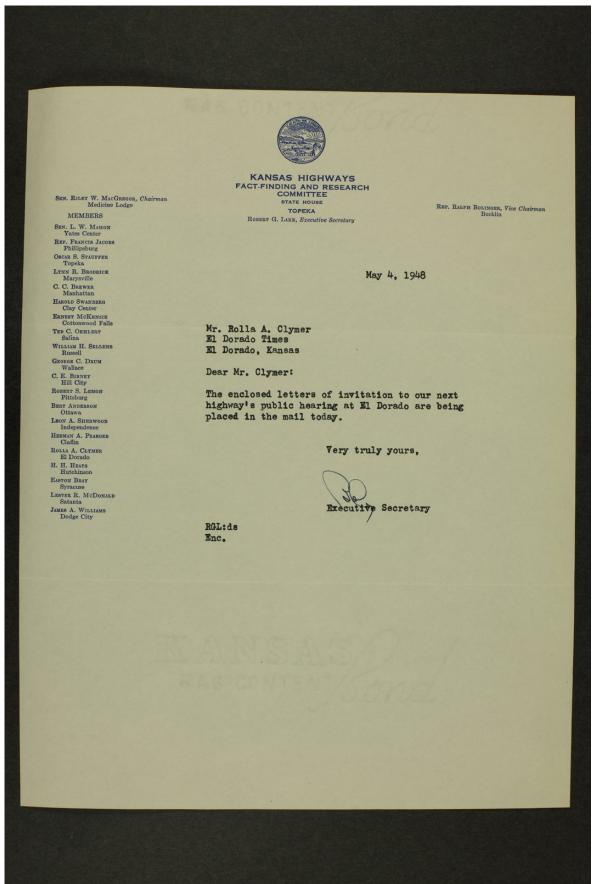
In behalf of the Dale, Youse, Brinkerhoff, Bradney Committee, I remain,

Sincerely,

Claude C. Bradney

CCB:IS







Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE BILLINGS HERALD

BILLINGS, MONTANA

P. O. Box 1565

May 4, 1948

Telephone 9-1455

Dear Ham:

I have hesitated writing you on a number of occasions since I last saw you about a year ago. In fact I have refused to burden any of my friends or relatives with the series of disappointments and reversals that have been my lot since I left the army.

As you may know I am now owner of a paper again, but I am in about the toughest spot one could find and it is no place for a guy of my age and my experience. Most young men would not tackle this venture and older men would run from it. It may be my undoing but it offers me escape for a while.

My experience in selling out in Augusta and trying to purchase the interest in the paper at Alliance was not only a discouraging move but also an expensive one. Eunice cracked up on me last summer and in my efforts to get her straightened out it cost me not only a lot of money but the good job I should have held on to until things became stabalized. The entire affair is still a nightmare to me and Eunice was not helped in the least.

Apparently there is nothing that can be done and I am practically tied up in a knot by her threats; to take her life. She tried it once and I was fortunately on hand to take care of the situation. Her constant drinking and lack of respect for money has been our great difficulty. Now that I am on a shoestring again will make it doubly hard for me. She seems to have the mind of a child in some things and one of them is her disregard for me and my ambitions for the entire family. She never will quit resenting the fact I left for the wars when I could have stayed at home. I admit that mistake on my part but at that time I was practically in the same shape I am now. Perhaps I am the one who has been in the wrong but I certainly have been trying to beat back.



Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE BILLINGS HERALD

BILLINGS, MONTANA

P. O. Box 1565

Telephone 9-1455

I don't think there is anything that anybody can do regarding my great problem. I have hinted to Ralph, her brother, that he could help by influencing Eunice. She now resents the fact that she sold her interest in the Tiller and Toiler to Ralph and says that he forced the deal on her. That money has long been spent by her. I have also given Bobbie some hints of my difficulties but she knows that Eunice resents any interferance, so she keeps still. The irony of the entire situation is that she could be the greatest help to me now when I need it. Knowing that you were always very close to Eunice I don't want you to think that I am asking for your help as there is nothing that anyone can do to help. It's hell to be blackmailed like I am by her threats. I should have cracked up myself long ago.

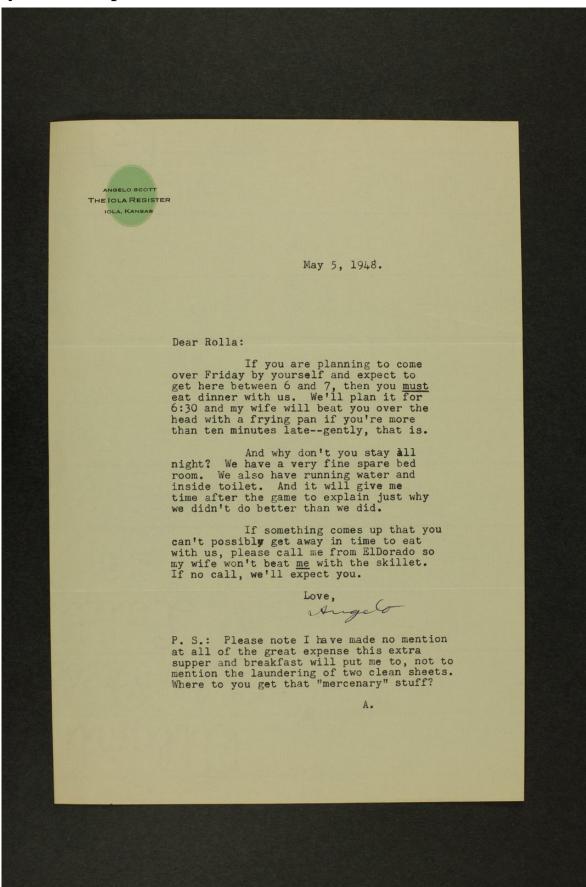
I bought this sheet here as it was the only thing I could finance. I have also had to buy a home so that there will be a roof for that tribe of mine. All in all it took about all my ready cash. I am still optimistic and have faith in my ability to do something with this small property. I have made a lot of friends here the past month and have captured considerable reader interest and confidence. I have the only independent newspaper in Billings and one of the seven in Montana. The Anaconda mining interest own or control all the rest. Fate may force me to sell out to them, too. My plant is about like the Augusta Gazette but much of the machinery is old and tired. It; like starting all over again and the fact that I must work 16 hours a day keeps my mind off my individual troubles.

I am sorry that I am turning into a person who passes his troubles on to his friends. I am so used to making light of my troubles but I am afraid that condition will never be mine again. My first concern are those five kids of ours. They have not had a pleasant time for months and I certainly want things to improve for them. Possibly they will all get a break soon.

Give my regards to all my good friends in Kansas.

P.S. I clan to more the Sinoerely, Chat Shore.



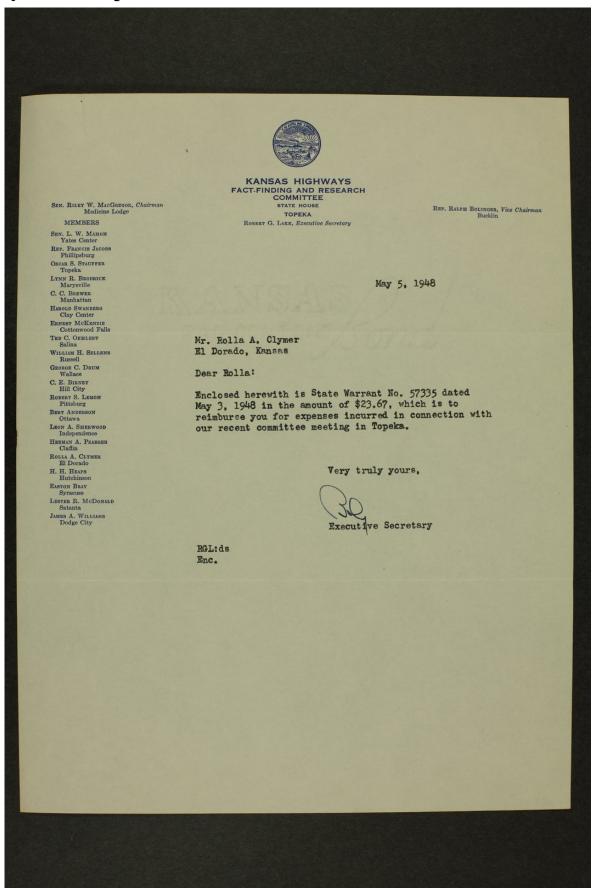




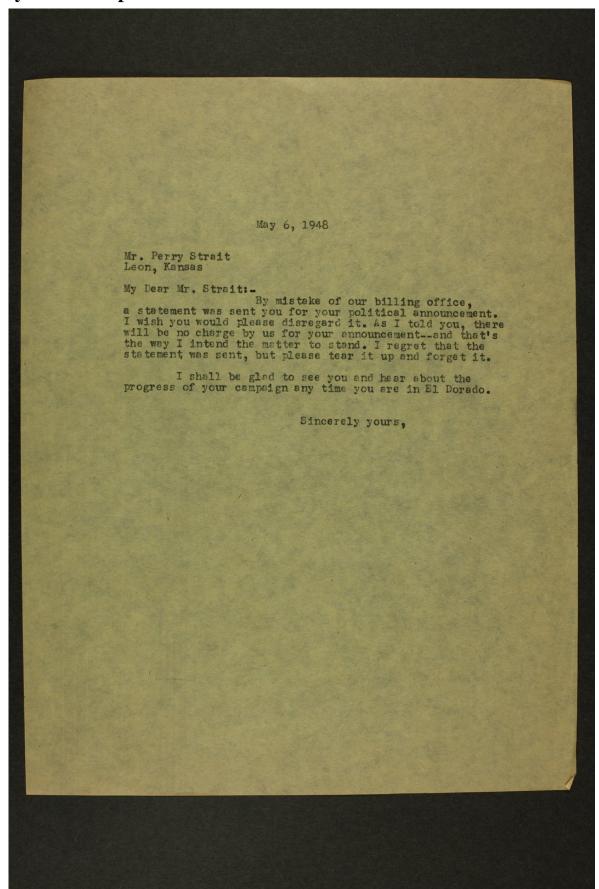
Rolla Clymer correspondence

CARL ACKARMAN ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW OFFICE OVER FIRST NATIONAL BANK SEDAN, KANSAS May 5, 1948 Rolla Clymer El Dorado, Kansas Dear Sir: When I gave you that notation on the Thirteenth Judicial District of Kansas, in checking the matter over I noticed that the name of one Judge was left out. It should be M. G. Troup, 1889 - - 1893. I am sorry this was overlooked. As I told you yesterday if you can make any use of it you are perfectly welcome to it, and if there is any further information I can give you, advise me and I will be glad to do so. Very truly yours, Judge, 17th Judicial District Division No. 1. CA/rs

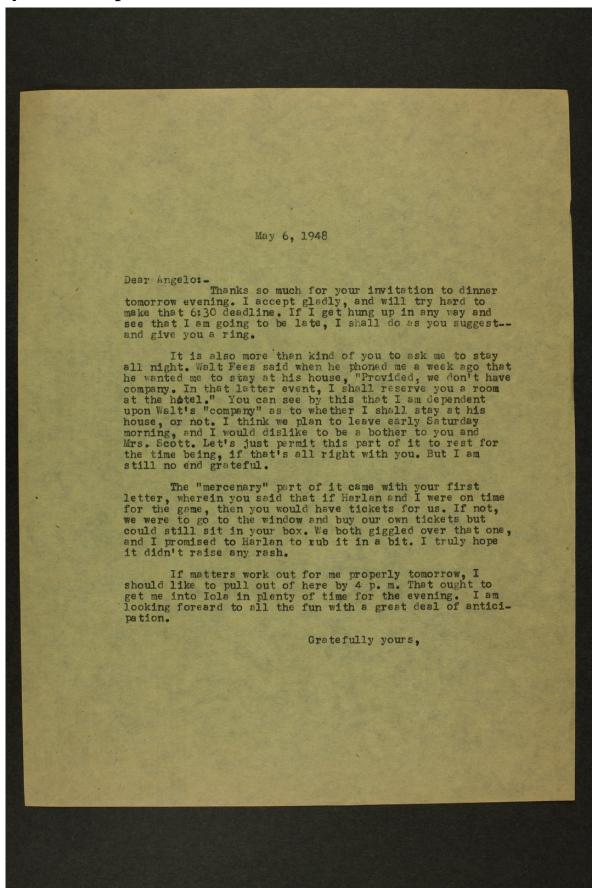




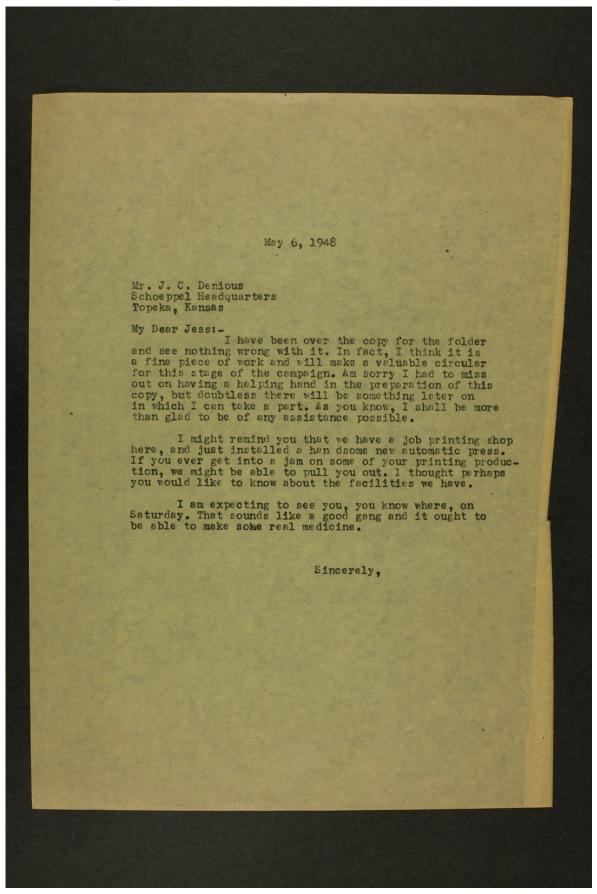




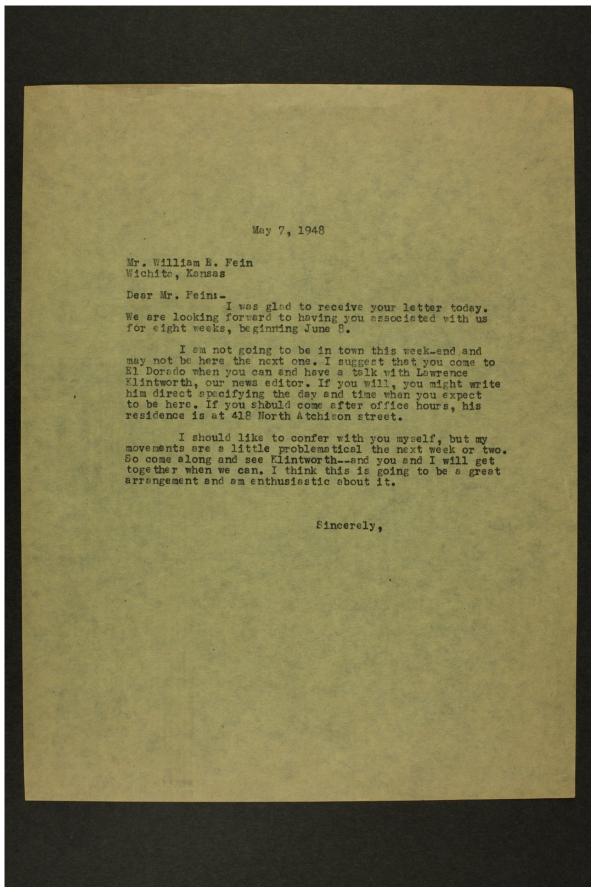




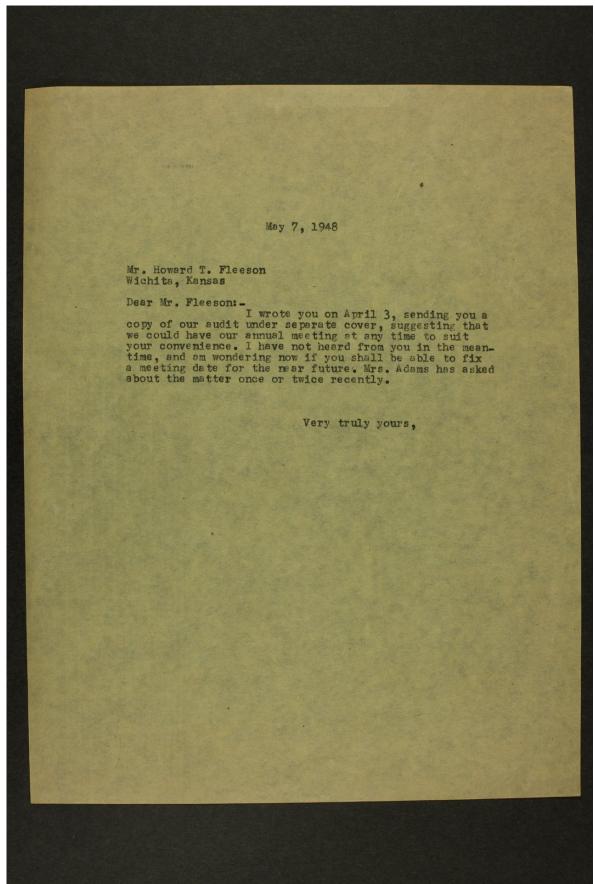














Rolla Clymer correspondence

A. W. AMBROSE, VICE-PRESIDENT LLOYD NOBLE, VICE-PRESIDENT L. G. OWEN, VICE-PRESIDENT

WM. T. PAYNE

W. R. WALLACE, VICE-PRESIDENT CARL WEINER, VICE-PRESIDENT H. E. ZOLLER, VICE-PRESIDENT

MID-CONTINENT OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION KANSAS-OKLAHOMA DIVISION

CLAREL B. MAPES, SECRETARY-TREASURER TELEPHONE 2-5166 308 TULSA BUILDING

TULSA 3. OKLAHOMA

May Eighth Nineteen Forty Eight

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

Dear Mr. Clymer:

Belatedly, this will acknowledge and reply to your letter of April 26th, with which you so kindly enclosed two copies of The El Dorado Times of February 27, 1948, which contained your very splendid editorial entitled "Just Another Tax".

We certainly do appreciate your courtesy in granting us permission to reprint your editorial and to utilize it in any other way we saw fit. And -- one of the purposes of this letter is to advise you that we are now of the feeling that very wide distribution should be given to the editorial throughout the State of Kansas.

To start an effectuation of this thought, we have prepared an 82 x 11 planographed take-off of the editorial, and we are herewith enclosing a copy of same for your inspection. You will note that we have, in a condensed form, carried the masthead as shown on page 8 of The Times, and then have taken the lefthand editorial column, cut it in half, and placed the two halves side by side. The planograph makes a very presentable and readable leaflet, and also carries all pertinent information with respect to the issue of the paper in which the editorial appeared.

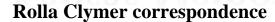
Incidentally, several people to whom I have shown the editorial page felt that the Bible Thought just above the editorial was a very important part, if not the most important part, of the editorial thought which was intended to be conveyed.

At the moment, we have only had 1500 copies of this planograph made for distribution to Association Members and petroleum industry representatives in Kansas. Our thought was, however, that, if you did not object to the utilization of the planograph in the form as enclosed, we might make a very much wider distribution of same, particularly in the oil counties. I will appreciate it if you will advise me whether or not you have any objection to our handling the matter in this way. If you do not feel that this planograph should be so distributed, we will of course be glad to abide by your wishes.

Again assuring you of our appreciation for your many courtesies, and hoping that if you visit the International Petroleum Exposition week after next you will not fail to call on me, I am

I lavel B. Marges

cbm/at encl.





THE EL DORADO TIMES

EL DORADO, KANSAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1948

PAGE EIGHT

OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER

BY THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY R. A. Clymer Editor and Manager

Entered as second class matter December 1. 1919 at the post office at El Dorado. Kansas, under the act of March 3, 1879.

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Member Kansas Press Association

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE SOUTHWEST DAILIES INC.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

We sometimes covet that which is tawdy and harmful. We should learn to appreciate the difference between gold and brass, between tinsel and jewels, between temporal and eternal.—

1 Cor. 12:31: Covet earnestly the best gifts.

JUST ANOTHER TAX

A determined drive is being made by groups and communities in Kansas—chiefly from those who think they wouldn't have to pay it—for a severance tax on minerals. While such tax, if approved, would be levied against all minerals—coal, zinc, lead, salt or any other—its advocates are aiming it principally at oil and gas production, for that is where the big money lies. The 1949 legislature will have to meet the question head or again, as several legislatures in meet the question head on again, as several legislatures in the past have done.

The main trouble with the severance tax proposal, in spite of all the high and holy support with which it is bolstered, is that it is just another tax. The tax-eaters have about run out of soap. Fifteen years, or more ago, the same tribe proclaimed with siren voices that if Kansas could just operate under the workings of a state income tax, all its tax troubles would be over. They got it. But in half a dozen years, they were back again hammering at the door for a sales tax—again to end all our tax woes. They got that, too. But still they seek more taxes. They squirm at paying advalorem taxes for increased schools' benefit—because that costs them. What they want, of course, is to be able to pass along the enhanced expense of public business to some other along the enhanced expense of public business to some other source—and a nice, fat goat is ready at hand. So they hit on the severance tax on minerals, singling out the coal and oil and gas industries chiefly as objects of their designing. They will move heaven and earth to gain their ends—and the oil and gas country should be well aware of their strident in-

It matters not that the oil and gas industry—which will be especially considered in this discussion—is one of the heaviest taxed industries in the state's economy, the taxeaters want to dig it again. Every barrel of oil produced in Kansas for last year is being assessed this year on an annual basis of \$650, at the ad valorem rate. This is effectually the

severance tax itself—the only difference being that the tax money raised therefrom goes to the counties in which the oil was produced, instead of to the state.

was produced, instead of to the state.

Every severance tax proposal yet made in Kansas was for a levy (usually 5 per cent.) on oil taken, or severed, from the ground IN LIEU OF any other direct tax on the producer. This provision would literally ruin the financial setup of more than half the 105 counties in Kansas, for 64 of them produce oil and/or gas. Take away the oil-tax revenue from Butler County, for example, and its income would be depleted to the point where it could hardly operate. The same is true of most of the other 63 oil and gas producing counties of the state. Moreover, scores of school districts in oil productive areas derive a major portion of their support from gas and areas derive a major portion of their support from gas and petroleum taxes. The "in lieu of" provisions of all severance tax proposals to date would cause widespread financial chaos in Kansas. Yet the severance tax boosters are blithely un-concerned about that feature—do not even mention it in their impassioned arguments—so long as they can get their hands on a new source of tax money

The severance tax flag-flappers point to Oklahoma and Texas as states which impose such levy. Again, they over-look the fact that oil and gas producers there are not subject to the minimum allowable production provisions which appertain in Kansas, especially as to oil. They close their eyes to the fact that oil men pay ad valorem taxes on their production at a \$650 a barrel annual assessment valuation, that they pay ad valorem taxes on all equipment and tools, that they are subject to sales tax for everything they purchase and still pay generously in income taxes on whatever they might happen to have left.

might happen to have left.

Severance tax apostles speak in horrified accents of Kansas mineral products going out of the state where some-body else can make a profit on them. But it's the outside market that makes prices good in Kansas—and the same holds true for every item in the agricultural domain. If this state depended upon its own consumption for its products, both mineral and agricultural, Kansas economy would be at a few leving propensity with then it is today. This is only one

both mineral and agricultural, Kansas economy would be at a far lower prosperity pitch than it is today. This is only one of the specious arguments that the severance tax boys and girls are conjuring up for their pet proposal.

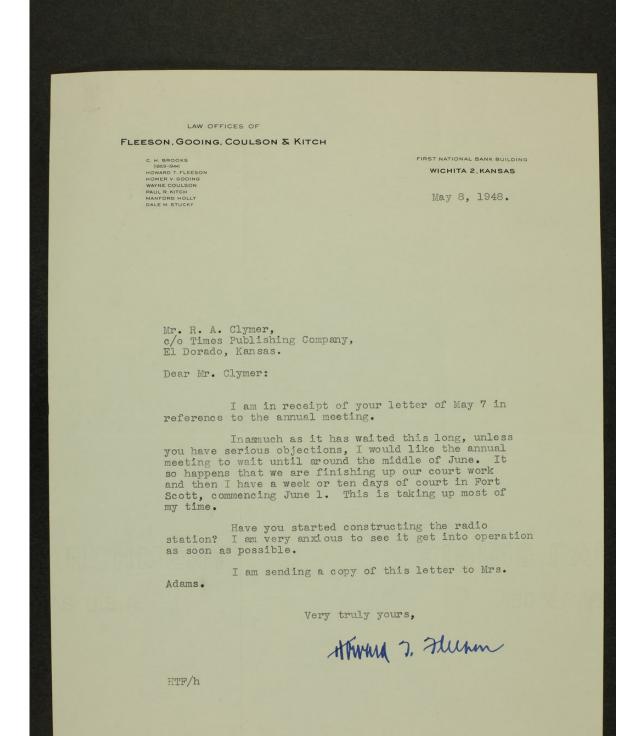
The truth is they are at the end of their rope. They have run out of special taxes. If they don't get the severance tax, they are going to have to spend their own money for some of their ambitious projects—or, perish the thought, quit spending. They are confident that if they get the severance tax, they will be in the clear for another five or ten years. By that time, maybe some other special group will have developed which they can exploit.

Meantime, they sound the trump for the severance tax—which is just another tax, even as the income and the sales taxes were just other taxes, brought forth and clothed in much the same attractive guise that the severance taxers are parading today.

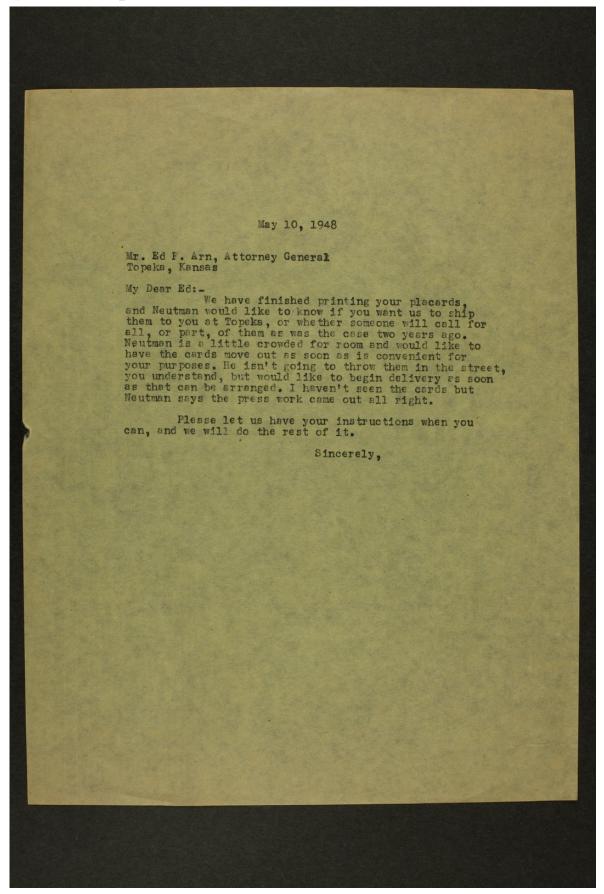
parading today.

The 64 oil and gas producing counties of Kansas should be wary for once. The severance tax, if it should happen to be applied, is going to cost them—plenty!

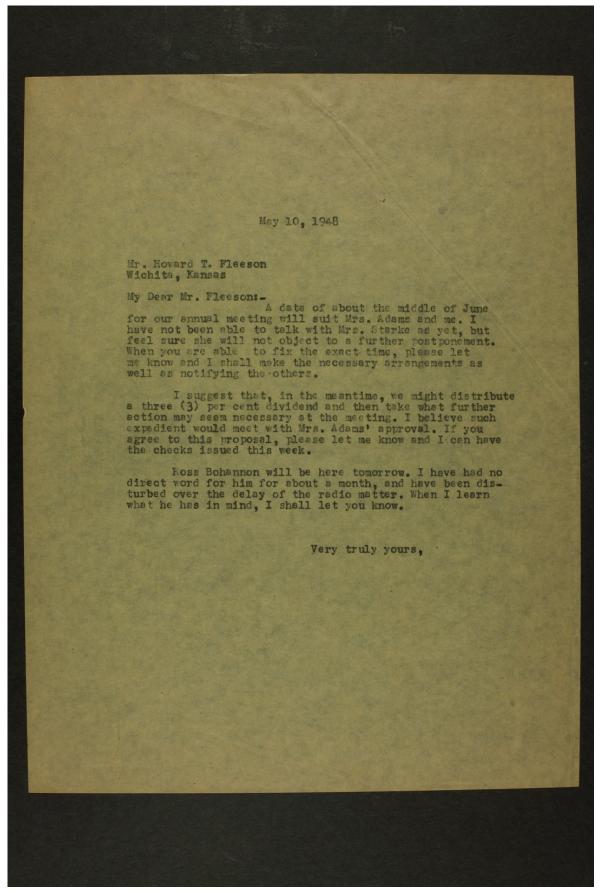




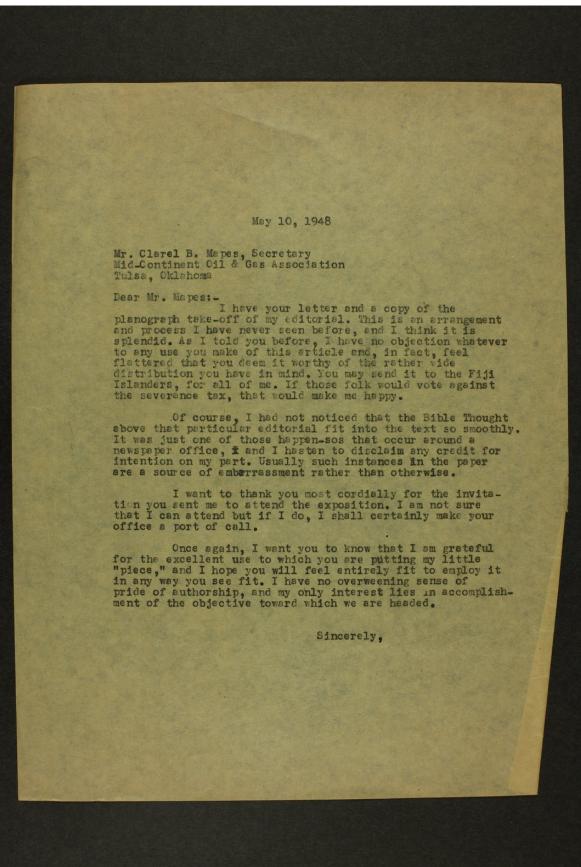














Rolla Clymer correspondence

JAMES E. SMITH, Master United States Circuit Court of Appeals Tenth Circuit 200 West Sixth Ave. Topeka, Kansas

May 10, 1948

TO THE NEWSPAPER ADDRESSED:

Last week I mailed to you proof of a legal notice to all regular domestic and commercial customers of gas in towns named and shown on the proof, requesting that you publish the notice in your newspaper on Thursday, May 13.

On account of the fact that I find that several newspapers overlooked the date of publication as May 13, and through error published the notice in their paper on Thursday, May 6, I am calling the matter to your attention so that there will be no question about the publication of the notice in your newspaper on Thursday, May 13.

If by any chance you happened to overlook the date of publication as stated and have already published on May 6, then you are requested to publish the notice on May 13 in accordance with my previous request.

Yours very truly

James E. Smith

jes-ro



