

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

### Section 933, Pages 27961 - 27990

This series of the Rolla Clymer collection includes sent and received correspondence arranged chronologically beginning in 1909. With few exceptions, the correspondence provides a continuous and very complete view of his activities. Much of the earliest correspondence in the Clymer collection pertains to information about the College of Emporia for the period Clymer was a student there. Scattered throughout the remainder of the correspondence is information about Emporia athletics and alumni activities and letters with former classmates. From 1914 to 1918, Clymer was editor and manager of the Olathe, Kansas, Register. In 1918, Rolla Clymer moved his young family to El Dorado, Kansas, where he became editor and manager of the El Dorado Republican. Except for a six month hiatus in 1937 as editor and manager of the Santa Fe New Mexican in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Clymer served the remainder of his professional career in El Dorado.

In his later years, Clymer devoted much of his time to efforts to preserve the Kansas Flint Hills region which he dearly loved. In addition to newspaper editorials, he wrote and published numerous widely circulated articles and poems about the Flint Hills. Perhaps his best known tribute was his poem "Majesty of the Hills," which helped earn him the designation as Poet Laureate of the Flint Hills. Rolla Clymer died on June 4, 1977, having been the editor of the El Dorado Times for fifty-nine years. For a complete contents list of the Rolla Clymer collection, see the External Links below.

Date: 1909-1977

Callnumber: Rolla Clymer Coll. #9, Box 1 - 49

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 229011

Item Identifier: 229011

[www.kansasmemory.org/item/229011](http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/229011)



September 8, 1950

Mr. C. W. Willits  
Flint, Michigan

Dear Mr. Willits:-

Our office is short of the material you seek. Our most reliable authority on the early events of Butler county is Judge Volney P. Mooney's history, and it lacks any such map as you describe. I am not aware of any residents who are now delving in the county's history, though Judge Ralph B. Ralston of the probate court may be able to help you.

I also suggest that a letter from you to the Kansas State Historical Society at Topeka might procure for you the information you seek. As for current maps, we have long been supplied by the Continental Map Company at Wichita. That firm's products are good and not too expensive.

I surely wish you luck in your quest and wish I could help you more. If any further suggestions occur to me, I shall let you know.

Very truly yours,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

THE McPHERSON DAILY REPUBLICAN

K. R. KREHBIEL  
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

McPHERSON, KANSAS

September 8, 1950

Mr. Rolla A. Clymer, Editor  
El Dorado Times  
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Rolla:

We are considering offering classified  
display and need some help on how to  
start it up.

What rate do you charge and do you have  
any suggestions of any methods of handling  
it which might be of value? I will  
appreciate your advice very much.

Best regards.

Yours truly,

*Ken*

KRK/dlm

## Rolla Clymer correspondence

### MONTHLY REPORT

RECEIPTS: Aug. 11 1950 to Sept. 10 1950

Subscription \$ 433.81 Display \$ 1766.49 Want Ads \$ 171.17

Legals \$ 483.38 Printing \$ 562.65 Merchandise \$ 704.19

Total Receipts - - - - - \$ 4126.69

#### EXPENDITURES:

Postage - - - - - \$ 52.62

Freight and Express - - - - - 18.57

Merchandise for Resale - - - - - 4493.32

Material and Supplies - - - - - 129.65

Repairs and Parts - - - - - .79

Telephone and Telegraph - - - - - 89.21

Utilities - - - - - 52.18

Rent - - - - - 100.00

Taxes - - - - - 45.61

Advertising Car Expense - - - - -

Insurance - - - - -

Dues - - - - -

Travel and Advertising - - - - - 171.52

Wages - - - - - 1506.17

Correspondents and Commissions - - - - - 74.00

Refunds and Miscellaneous - - - - - 12.99

Total Expense - - - - - \$ 2746.63

Depreciation Reserve - - - - - 50.00

Withdrawal - - - \$ 400.00

Withdrawal - - - \$ 60.00 \$ 460.00 \$ 3256.63

Net Profit - - - - - \$ 370.06

Cash on Hand End of Period \$ 413.90

Bank Balance End of Period 2262.90

Total - - - - \$ 2676.80

Depreciation Account Balance \$ 300.00

Accounts Receivable - - 3622.55

Accounts Receivable, Legal 1099.00

Profits Distributed (1) - \$ 500.00

Profits Distributed (2) - \$ 500.00

Total on Hand Start of Period \$ 4323.06

Profits Distributed - - 2400.00

Balance - - - 1923.06

Receipts This Month - - 4126.69

Total - - - - 6049.75

Expenditures This Month - - 3256.63

Total - - - - 2793.12

Adjustment Petty Cash - 116.32

Balance - - - - 2676.80



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 11, 1950

Mr. Howard T. Fleeson  
Wichita, Kansas

Dear Mr. Fleeson:-

Enclosed you will find comparative balance sheet of The Times Publishing Company for August 31, 1950, which you have requested.

Part of our cash--\$4,250--is in special account, where I have set it aside as a start toward building up a fund to meet the heavy taxes which we must pay for this year. I had hoped to add to this during the fall months. August was a fair month but our business so far in September has not been brisk. This may be only a seasonal dip. I am not aware that the prevailing war condition has cut deeply into our business volume as yet.

As I told you, I have paid all the expenses and costs of the linotype program which totalled something over \$12,000. I still have some further expense in that direction but it should not amount to more than a hundred or two, barring any unexpected breakdowns.

Mrs. Adams, who is still at Green Mountain Falls, Colo., has written me, as follows: "If you and Mr. Fleeson decided on a board meeting, remember either a telegram or a phone call and I will be on hand." Her phone number at Green Mountain Falls is 959J2.

I shall be on call for whatever procedure you may suggest.

Very truly yours,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 11, 1950

Dear Ken.:-

The way to sell classified display is to go out and sell it. You and your folk won't find the job too hard.

We charge 70 cents an inch for this space--the same as our national rate, and get it without trouble. Our boys first got started by persuading one or two real estate men to try out the display, rather than the straight classified. The results were good and the real estate people now ask for that kind of advertising. We have been able to get other lines of business interested--automobile dealers, appliance dealers, tire dealers, poultry and feed houses and the like. We have never really pushed this branch of the business. If we did, I think we could make something right valuable out of it.

You will know who among your accounts to sell first on the idea of using classified display. After you have a few of these started, I feel sure the biznai will rather carry itself along. You reall can't miss on making a try in this direction.

Hope you are okay--and send you barrels of the best.

Yours,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 12, 1950

Mr. Tom B. Orr  
Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association  
Wichita, Kansas

My Dear Tom:-

I am greatly pleased that you will be here the evening of September 25 to appear on the B. and P. W. club program along with Kenneth Anderson in a discussion of the severance tax. This was what I had hoped for ever since I heard about the proposed meeting, and I am happy that it has all worked out.

I believe this meeting will be worthy of some statewide publicity before and after--under the circumstances--and we will want to handle reports to the best advantage. I think I know that you don't talk from manuscripts, but if you have something written or printed that will outline the main points you will make, we should like to have it. Then we can make up our wire stories with no fear of misquotation. We are also writing Kenneth for a written statement in order that we may report what he says accurately.

If you can take care of us in the manner suggested, I shall be grateful. Will be looking for you to be in fine fettle on the appointed date, and we shall try to have a few of your friends around to cheer you on.

Sincerely,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 12, 1950

Mr. Alvin McCoy  
The Kansas City Star  
Kansas City, Missouri

My Dear Al:-

At a regular meeting of the Business and Professional Women's Club, to be held here the evening of Monday, September 25, both Kenneth Anderson and Tom B. Orr will appear on the program to discuss the severance tax, pro and con, in informal debate. You know, of course, who Tom Orr is.

I think this debate, so early in the campaign, is worthy of statewide publicity and we expect to handle it in as much volume as the AP will take. I have also considered that you might want to be here. If you do, and will let me know, I shall arrange for you to have a ringside seat.

How about it? It should be a good go.

Yours,

I am still snickering over the story you told me Saturday.





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

LAW OFFICES OF  
FLEESON, GOOING, COULSON & KITCH

C. H. BROOKS  
(1859-1944)  
HOWARD T. FLEESON  
HOMER V. GOOING  
WAYNE COULSON  
PAUL R. KITCH  
DALE M. STUCKY  
DONALD R. NEWKIRK

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
WICHITA 2, KANSAS  
TELEPHONE 3-1202

September 12, 1950.

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

Dear Rolla:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 11,  
with enclosures.

It seems to me that it is in order to have a  
very substantial dividend. I would say that a 20 per  
cent dividend should be paid without delay. The reason for  
this is simply that next year taxes, particularly as far  
as individuals are concerned, will be greatly increased,  
whereas in 1950 there will only be a slight increase, both  
as to individuals and as to corporations. Moreover, the  
increase as to the individuals will only cover one-fourth  
of the year. Our cash position, together with investments,  
is very strong and we have no liabilities. I therefore  
suggest and recommend a dividend of 20 per cent.

I am leaving on Saturday to be gone three weeks  
and it will not be possible for me to attend the board meeting  
until after my return. I see no reason, however, why we need  
a board meeting for this.

It is pleasing to note the increased profits over  
the preceding year. I might say, also, that I am not un-  
mindful that we will be faced with perhaps as much as  
\$15,000.00 or more in income taxes for which we shall have  
to pay in 1951.

I shall be ~~in~~ the office probably on Friday and  
Saturday morning, if you want to call me by telephone.

*I leave Wichita early Thursday morning*

Very truly yours,

*Howard T. Fleeson*

HTF/h

cc - Mrs. Starke and Mrs. Adams.





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 13, 1950

Mrs. J. B. Adams  
Green Mountain Falls, Colo.

Dear Mrs. Adams:-

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter received several days ago. I suppose that by now you have received the copy of Howard's letter which he wrote me yesterday.

His proposal for such a big dividend on top of what we have already paid this year rather startled me. We have never done anything like that before, and I doubt if it is common practice in any business. Howard had said that he is leaving tomorrow morning to be gone three or four weeks, so I called him this afternoon. He said that what he has proposed is not just a whim, but is a practice that many companies are following at this particular time and that he has become familiar with its reasons because of his membership on several boards.

I told him that I was open to reason on the subject but suggested that maybe the payment of such a dividend of the proposed size should be given more consideration. He agreed, and said that it did not have to be paid now. The upshot of our conversation was that he will let me know when he returns in October. By that time, you should be home, too. I would like to discuss the whole matter with you at length and then we can make an appointment with Howard some day and I can take you over to his office for a final conference and decision. This seems to me to be a reasonable way to handle the matter, and I hope you approve. I surely would like to have you acquainted with all aspects of the matter before we make a move, and we can manage that much better in conversation than by mail or telephone.

I shall be glad to hear from you and ~~when~~ to know when you expect to be back in El Dorado. Enclosed I am sending you a copy of our comparative balance sheet as of August 31, 1950.

With best regards for you, as always, I am

Sincerely,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

RAY S. PIERSON  
WILLIAM A. BUCKLES

PIERSON & BUCKLES  
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW  
PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
BURLINGTON, KANSAS

TELEPHONE 214

September Fourteenth,  
1950.

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

Dear Rolla:-

Received the clipping about the 30th annual party and many thanks for your fine comment. It is such swell fellows as you, Dick, Gale, Jack, the Judge, etc., that make the party such an outstanding affair. I was glad to have all of you fellows and you honored us with your presence. Some day I want you to come over and put up in a hotel or in a swell tourist court we have and enjoy the entire party. The Sunday morning breakfast is the swellest part of the party and by far the most enjoyable. By that time I am relaxed and everyone seems to be at his best. The story tellers really get hot and the party is a regular circus for a couple or three hours.

Rolla, I was in Topeka yesterday trying to convince Frank Carlson and Ed Arn's friends that we Republicans have a battle on our hands and we must not take too much for granted. The severance tax people are putting out pamphlets by the thousands at the Topeka Fair. Teachers, School boards, P.T.A., are going to fall for this propaganda, at least, a lot of them will do so. At the Legion Convention I never talked to a veteran who was going to support Carlson. It really alarmed me. This boy Aiken is a smooth operator and campaigner. He started a highway mail bus that ran from Kansas City to Neodesha via Burlington. He had everyone register who visited the bus on the opening day and he was at the entrance of the bus to greet every visitor. Then a few days later every visitor received a personal note from him thanking them for visiting the bus, etc.,. He made quite a short flowery speech just before the bus pulled out. As you know, he was some kind of an Assistant Post Master General at that time. These Democrats are out to beat us and they think they are going to get the job done.

Again I'm glad you made the party and I hope that you can make many more of them.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Your friend,

*Rolla, another thing that is worrying me is the fact that the smartest man in the State Corporation Commission, I hope so, was fired because he told someone he was going to vote for Colmeny. This is dirt, politics should not be tolerated. I told the Gov. about it yesterday. End.*



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 15, 1950

Mr. Stewart Newlin  
Director of Publicity  
The Kansas State Republican Committee  
Topeka, Kansas

My Dear Stu:-

Enclosed you will find proofs of the letterheads--three on bond and three on mimeo paper. I think the general arrangement and effect is satisfactory but you will have to be the final judge on that. We have proof-read carefully by copy and I trust that no errors will be found.

Neutman, our foreman, suggests that perhaps you will want to shift Arn and Carlson at the top, in order to have both pictures looking in and facing each other. I wish you would please give some attention to this idea, as you may want to follow it.

It is not easy to print halftones in blue ink but I think we can make an adequate job of it.

As I told you the other day, if you find nothing seriously wrong with these proofs please phone me and give us the go-ahead on the actual printing job. I hope we may have some letterheads for your uses before long.

Yours,

### State Farm Insurance Companies



HOME OFFICE • BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

WEST CENTRAL OFFICE STATE FARM INSURANCE BLDG. 1014 "O" STREET LINCOLN 8, NEBRASKA

September 15, 1950

Rolla Clymer  
1019 South Denver  
El Dorado, Kansas

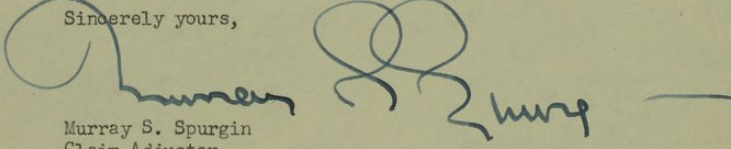
Dear Sir:

Re: Clyde H. & Lillian Spires  
El Dorado, Kansas  
Claim 16-029-107

The claim against our insured arising out of the above captioned matter is receiving our attention.

Our investigation has not been completed but when it is concluded we will communicate with you.

Sincerely yours,

  
Murray S. Spurgin  
Claim Adjuster

MSS:mk

STATE FARM MUTUAL



AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE CO.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 15, 1950

Mrs. Andrew F. Schoepfel  
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mrs. Scoepfel:-

I surely went haywire on that Chapman biznai and I am deeply grateful to you for setting me straight. I should have known better, of course, but I submit that with Washington so filled with mountebanks these days a hinterlander like me is bound to fail to separate and identify them all correctly, on occasion. I assure you, because of your kindness, I shall not make this error again--but frankly all the breed looks alike to me.

I am also glad you told me what you did about Andy. Many of his friends out here have wondered about this case. They know Andy is too smart to be sucked into a booby trap. Then it begins to look as if the Republican high brass has gone off and left Andy to get out of any predicament as best he can. I hear a lot of speculation among my friends and we shall all be happy when the entire story can be told. General confidence in Andy and his integrity remains strong--but I am sure you already know that.

Thanks again for the favor you have done me. And both of you make that visit to the homeland just as soon as you can.

Sincerely,





EDWARD F. ARN  
WICHITA

### ARN for GOVERNOR

Campaign Headquarters  
Hotel Jayhawk, Room 736  
Tel. 4-2673 Topeka, Kansas

September 15, 1950

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

Dear Rolla:

I am attaching two sheets of material which were compiled by some of our labor experts here.

The one marked "A" is a summary of things that the Republican Party has done for labor through the years.

The sheet marked "B" is an addition to and extension of the two themes which I suggested in my earlier letter. The last paragraph (on Carlson) might also fit into the "A" list.

I hope this gives you the material you need and I will be glad to have the labor boys check over your completed piece if you wish.

I think you agree that the tone of the thing should be bewildered and hurt rather than bitter.

Thanks again.

Best from,

STEWART NEWLIN  
PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

SN:bd  
ENCLS. 2

*Let's Think About November*





## Rolla Clymer correspondence

A

In response to urging by all Labor groups  
the Republican Administrations:

1. Created a separate Labor Department,  
and appointed an outstanding member  
of Labor as Commissioner. The Depart-  
ment has since become one of the  
largest in the State.
2. Created an effective accident prevention  
program, staffed with competent inspectors  
from the ranks of Labor.
3. Established an apprenticeship training  
program to train workmen in skilled crafts.
4. Provided job insurance to workers inducted  
into the service.
5. Increased monetary benefits and medical care  
to injured workers.
6. Enacted second injury amendment.
7. Liberalized unemployment insurance benefits  
to \$27.00 per week, equal to any in the  
nation.
8. Appointed Labor representatives to all State  
Boards and Commissions.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

B

Have these Union officials sold labor's vote to the Democrat party?

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A departure from the Samuel Gompers policy of "helping labor's friends and defeating its enemies."

-----

Blindly following the insane socialistic schemes of the left wingers in the Truman fair-deal administration.

-----

National leaders such as John L. Lewis and Phil Murray are dictating Kansas politics to the state labor officials.

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Perhaps our alleged Kansas labor leaders have become dependant upon the Federal Administration for their very existence.

-----

The Democrat Party seems to have absorbed the Kansas Labor movement.

-----

Carlson successfully pleaded labor's cause against restrictive legislation in 1946 and 1948 against odds. Substantially the same group lauded Carlson in 1946 and 1948.

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## Rolla Clymer correspondence

From the 1950 State Republican Platform

### LABOR

Kansas Labor is held in high esteem. Composed of home owners, proud parents, and good citizens, it is truly American and free from racketeering and Communistic influences.

A minimum of friction or industrial clashing has been our pleasant experience.

The Republican Party favors using the good offices of our state government to further facilitate these relations. This, rather than punitive or unenforceable legislation, will aid our effort to balance the economy and make a better Kansas.

The Republican Party will continue to defend the established rights of labor to organize and bargain collectively for wages and working conditions. Sound progress has been made by Republican administrations in the unemployment compensation program, and we recommend improvement in Workmen's Compensation laws by increasing benefits to injured workers.





### THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

MORNING EVENING SUNDAY WEEKLY

KANSAS CITY 17, MO.

Sept 15, 1950.

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

Dear Rolla:

I appreciate your invitation to the Anderson-Orr debate. It has all the earmarks of a good story. Other than the difficulty of communications, in covering a night meeting, the story ought to get statewide attention.

Much as I should enjoy seeing you, I doubt that I'll cover it personally. My schedule, in fact, is not arranged that far ahead, so I can make no positive commitments.

Should I be trailing a candidate in that neighborhood near that time, or going out on some other story, I'll certainly try to include El Dorado in the itinerary. We'll leave it open, but I'll probably not be there unless plans change. If they do, I'll accept the ringside seat.

I enjoyed seeing you in Burlington. I have no new stories to recount.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

*Alvin S. McCoy*  
Alvin S. McCoy.





JOHN L. MCCLELLAN, ARK., CHAIRMAN  
JAMES O. EASTLAND, MISS.  
CLYDE R. HOEY, N. C.  
HERBERT R. O'CONNOR, MD.  
HUBERT H. HUMPHREY, MINN.  
EDWARD L. LEAHY, R. I.  
WILLIAM BENTON, CONN.  
WALTER L. REYNOLDS, CHIEF CLERK  
JOSEPH R. MCCARTHY, WIS.  
IRVING M. IVES, N. Y.  
KARL E. MUNDY, S. DAK.  
MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE  
ANDREW F. SCHOEPPEL, KANS.  
ARTHUR H. VANDENBERG, MICH.

### United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
EXPENDITURES IN THE EXECUTIVE  
DEPARTMENTS

September 16, 1950

*Answer*

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

Dear Rol:

Thanks for that good editorial.  
You don't know how I appreciate it.

There is so much rottenness over  
in that Interior Department that someone  
had to have the guts to point out some of  
it. They're reading a lot of inferences  
into my statement that are not there, but  
that's all right. It's tough all right --  
and frankly, some of the fellows, ten or  
fifteen of them, who enthusiastically  
wanted these exposes made and promised to  
support and assist, started running when  
adverse publicity started to hit.

My conscience is clear and I shall  
be proved right in time. If I cannot rely  
on public records and hearings in the Congress  
of the United States, we have come to a sad  
state of affairs. I'll go to my Kansas friends  
with the cold, hard facts and will let them be  
the final judges.

Good luck, and best wishes.

Sincerely,

*Andy*





FORM S-5001-A

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

228 WEST CENTRAL

ELDORADO, KANSAS

TELEPHONE No. 700

E. M. SORENSEN  
MANAGER

September 18, 1950

R A Clymer  
118 E Central  
El Dorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Clymer:

We want to extend to you this special invitation to attend our Get Acquainted Open House at the telephone building, 228 West Central, to be held September 26, 27, and 28. Afternoon hours are from 2 until 5 o'clock. Evening hours, from 7 until 9 o'clock.

We would like to show you through the building where you can see "behind the scenes" of El Dorado's telephone system, see the operators at work, and examine special exhibits.

We'll do our best to show you an interesting and entertaining afternoon or evening.

Remember the dates - September 26, 27, and 28, afternoons or evening. Come at the time most convenient for you - but be sure to come, won't you?

Cordially

Manager



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

### KANSAS INDEPENDENT OIL AND GAS ASSOCIATION

517 BEACON BUILDING  
PHONE 3-6412  
WICHITA 2, KANSAS

A. LEON DERBY, PRESIDENT  
E. B. SHAWVER, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. J. HARWOOD, VICE PRESIDENT  
P. C. MUSGROVE, VICE PRESIDENT  
R. B. PARRIOTT, SECRETARY  
JACK H. HEATHMAN, TREASURER

TOM ORR,  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

September 18, 1950

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

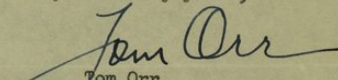
Dear Rolla:

All of the members of the oil fraternity in Kansas appreciate knowing that we have such fine and capable friends as yourself as we approach the "battle of the severance tax" once again. I am personally relieved of much fear and trepidation in contemplating my first baptism of fire in my scheduled encounter with Mr. Anderson on the 25th. I know that the staunch support of the ELDORADO TIMES will be in sympathy with my remarks, and that I can rest assured of a friendly and helpful news coverage.

In response to your suggestion that I provide an outline of the general remarks I shall make, I am enclosing some information which you will find useful.

Looking forward to the day of trial, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

  
Tom Orr  
Executive Secretary

TO:A



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

NORMAN · OKLAHOMA

September 18, 1950

Mr. Rolla Clymer, Editor  
ElDorado Times  
ElDorado, Kansas

Dear Mr. Clymer:

I am enclosing a letter from Mr. Claude Barrow, oil editor at Oklahoma City, which is in reply to a note of inquiry which I sent him. It is almost self-explanatory. I want all the details I can get about the two wells mentioned and I want especially to know their locations, initial production and ultimate production. Any information about the crews will be especially important. The story about "Trapshooter" Riley is new to me, but I would certainly like to get the details.

While I am writing I would like to inquire about a couple of other incidents in the early days of the Butler County fields. A few days ago I had a long letter from my father, A. R. Parker, of Lamont, Oklahoma, in which he related some of his memories of the boom there. We, that is my family, were there at the time, as a matter of fact I was born in ElDorado and my father got his start in the oil fields at that time. He writes that it was generally believed around El Dorado that the discovery well, which, I believe, was drilled by the Continental Oil Company, a subsidiary of the Empire Gas and Fuel Company, was brought in by accident. While the company negotiated for leases the crew was to mark time. But they brought the well in and started a boom ahead of the well-laid plans of their employers. For their carelessness the crew was fired. Can you comment on this story?

The other incident about which I wish to inquire occurred at Augusta, sometime in October, 1916. Dad says that he recalls the incident, but can give me no information concerning it which he would be willing to have cited.

According to the story as I have it, the tank builders and pipeliners, who entered the field in force that summer of 1916, soon established for themselves an unsavory reputation. At Augusta they entered into a particularly mischevious controversy with a certain Marshal Crowe (his first name is not available), and Crowe finally arrested some of them for driving their "flivvers" without tail lights. The "tankies" and pipeliners regarded this as a rank injustice. The rough streets were to blame, they maintained, because it was impossible to keep their carbide lights burning while driving over them.

To embarrass Marshal Crowe, some of the boys borrowed an old gray horse from a teamster, tied a kerosene lantern to his tail and one of them, a certain William Peel, who, I believe, was a candidate for the



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

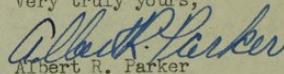
legislature of Kansas, got aboard and rode "Old Gray" down the main street of Augusta in derision. Peel located Crowe standing on one of the principal corners of the town and headed his steed straight for the officer. When he had approached within a few paces of Crowe, Peel pulled the horse to a stop, face him directly away from the marshal and then, as ceremoniously as an ocean liner slipping into her berth, he backed the animal to the curb. Peel then reached back, lifted the horse's tail high into the air and waved it derisively at the representative of law and order.

Crowe, of course, could not tolerate such flagrant manifestations of disrespect and insubordination. Hastily he summoned his little police force and declared his detractors under arrest. Thereupon a mob of "tankies" and pipeliners that had been loitering purposefully nearby fell upon the officers and administered them a sound drubbing. Local legend had it that they pulled down the officers' trousers and strapped them on their bare bottoms. Next, they attacked the jail where their buddies were incarcerated and demolished it.

Can you tell me if I have this story substantially correct? If you know of any place where it is in error, please correct it.

Just a couple more questions, if I may please. What became of the old Walnut Valley Times? Is the ElDorado Times the same paper? Also, who was the Butler County sheriff during the boom years, 1916-18? Dad tells me that he did an excellent job of maintaining law and order; that due largely to his efforts, there was less lawlessness in the Butler County boom than in any Mid-Continent boom my father saw, and he saw nearly all of them. I would like to give the man recognition in the history of the labor force in the Mid-Continent fields which I am preparing here at the University.

Very truly yours,



Albert R. Parker  
P. O. Box 346  
Faculty Exchange  
University of Oklahoma  
Norman, Oklahoma



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 19, 1950

Mr. Clif Stratton  
Topeka, Kansas

My Dear Clif:-

I am happy to know that you will be here for the Anderson-Orr debate next Monday evening. I have reserved room with bath for you at Hotel El Dorado. If you need anything else, or whatever, just let me know.

The Democrats are trying to get this meeting thrown open for a public rally, but I believe the Business and Professional Women's club will hold it as a regular club meeting--which was the intention from the start. I have already put your name in the pot for a place at the dinner.

Yours,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

EDWARD H. REES  
4TH DISTRICT, KANSAS

COMMITTEE  
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

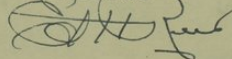
September 19, 1950

Dear Rolla:

I will appreciate it if you will see  
that the El Dorado Times is sent to me at  
Box 630, Emporia, Kansas, after this week.

Congress is taking a recess until  
after election. I shall expect to see you  
during the campaign.

Sincerely,



Mr. R. C. Clymer  
The El Dorado Times  
El Dorado, Kansas

O.K. — changed  
A.B.



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

9-19-1950

### THE FOX CHASE

When the autumn days grow short,  
The fox hunt is a great sport,  
The horses snorting and neighing,  
Restlessly the hounds are baying.

As sun shines over the frosty haze,  
Horsemen gather in the morning maze,  
Anxious their steeds and hounds to race,  
And get started at the fox chase.

The fox is sighted, like a streak,  
It jumps the bank of a narrow creek,  
They chase the fox across the glens,  
Jumping their horses over river bends.

They leap their horses over the stiles,  
As they chase the fox across the miles,  
The wily red fox, who kills a hen,  
When not being chased across the fen.

author--

i.e., copyright 1950 by--Lillian W. Nickle



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

35th

Wichita, Kansas  
Sept. 19, 1950

THE EL DORADO TIMES  
EL DORADO, KANSAS  
Dear Editor:

While I was visiting in your city yesterday I had occasion to enter a store dealing in wallpaper and paints, in which there was a stock of scenic dishes, I have already written about snow scenes as those appearing on the platters, but there was a plate with the scene of a fox chase, so this morning I wrote the poem, "THE FOX CHASE," taken from that idea.

I am inclosing this poem, for whenever I do not have a copyright I find my best protection is to send it to a newspaper.

The book of poems is not the only thing I have written, the first story was entitled, "THE NIGHTINGALE," heard by me on C B S on the lets pretend program. I have been trying to find out who sent it in, but can not get that information. Then there was the story entitled, "THE LITTLE PIN," ( if a pin could talk ) sent to, " READER'S DIGEST," I wrote them repeatedly for three months finally hearing that they had not been able to locate it, they requested that I send them my story entitled, " POOR LITTLE BUTTERFLY," this I did with the same results, after writing them repeatedly they replied that it had never been received. So I then wrote a story entitled, " THE WOMAN WHO RUINED MY SON'S LIFE," ( daughter-in-law ) to the TRUE story magazine, they have received it, for I have the return receipt card from the registered letter, if and providing original story in in the envelope. Did you know that I once sent Mr. Woods, editor a letter, which did not contain the material I inserted and instead seemed to have something which displeased him. Thus I discovered the mail fraud. The Kansas City Star too, did not receive a very important communication. I can give you a real news story, have you seen the picture, " BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN," SLEEP MY LOVE," and " THE MIRACLE OF THE BELLS," I have written newspapers across the country some eleven letters containing information, so that there would be no possibility of the danger which I feared, but one never knows where, where or how danger lurks.

I was attracted by a sign in one of your local stores which read, I quote, " WE FRAME PICTURES."

I want to thank you kindly for your courtesy and hope you enjoy reading this poem, and trust that you will read those in my book, for that is the only way people will get to know me as I am, and not as some would like to picture me.

PHANTOM WRITER\*

Sincerely--

Lillian W. Nickle  
LILLIAN W. NICKLE  
611 N. St. Francis  
Wichita 5, Kansas



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 25, 1950

Mr. Fred Brinkerhoff  
Pittsburg, Kansas

My Dear Fred:-

I wonder if you would be willing to pay a little special tribute to Ray Green at our Kansas-Missouri AP meeting which will be held at Kansas City on Monday, October 30.

In discussing this matter with Frank Gorrie, I said I would prefer to have such tribute given to Ray by one of our members--in a special place on the program--rather than to have just a reference in the resolutions. He agreed with my view, and then we both agreed that you are the man to do the job.

Ray was extremely helpful in affairs of the Kansas AP group, as you know, and this phase of his life and works needs to be stressed. I dislike to dump this chore on you, but it need not be long--and, of course, I know you can do it superbly well. In the event that you accept and will not be able to attend the meeting on the date set, would you not write out something that could be read at the meeting--with full credit to you as the author?

I shall be grateful if you will assent to this request--and need say no more, for you know better what I want than I do myself.

Sincerely,



## Rolla Clymer correspondence

September 26, 1950

Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Sirs:-

It has been difficult for us to anticipate our newsprint needs, and we discover today that we are going to be short of supply unless you can get a car to us around October 25. We estimate that we have four or five weeks' supply, with probably some heavy business coming up in October. We dislike to ask you to make an extra effort to serve us, under the conditions which affect your manufacturing operations, but feel impelled to do so by reason of our present plight.

What we want is a 30-ton car, delivered into El Dorado over lines of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway company, made up of the following specifications:

Not less than twenty (20) 17-inch rolls;

Balance of car, 34-inch rolls.

Please omit paper clips from the cores.

If you can possibly help us in this predicament, we shall be deeply grateful. We trust that within a few days we may have your acknowledgment of this order, and some indication of by what date we may expect this car to be delivered.

Very truly yours,

THE TIMES PUBLISHING COMPANY  
per