

NEWS U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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Washington, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole made the following statement today in the Senate:

ROLLA CLYMER

My State of Kansas suffered a great loss Friday, Mr. President, with the death of Rolla Clymer, a distinguished newspaperman, accomplished historian, and valiant political activist.

Rolla Clymer began his journalism career as a student reporter for the Emporia
azette working under the famous editor William Allen White. He remained there from 1907 until 1914, the latter years as city editor. In 1918, he merged two rival newspapers to form the El Dorado Times, continuing as its outspoken editor until his death last week.

Mr. President, 88 years of outstanding accomplishment and contribution to his community and his State cannot be easily summarized. However, Mr. Clymer's stature as journalist and as civic leader was well-recognized and much-honored throughout Kansas. He received the William Allen White Fourndation Award for Journalistic Merit in 1957. The Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas named him Kansan of the Year in 1960. He was a past President of the Kansas Press Association.

Rolla Clymer also was a respected historian of the Blue Stem area of Kansas. He did more than any other individual to celebrate the colorful history of that senic region of Kansas.

We live in an age when fiercely independent newspaper editors who do their own thinking are sorely needed. William Allen White was just such a valuable servant of democracy. The many great newspapermen who learned their standards of integrity seated at his elbow are about gone now. Rolla Clymer, son of Kansas, was just such an editor. He will be missed by all of us.