

December 22, 1941

Mr. Roy F. Bailey,  
Salina Journal,  
Salina, Kansas.

Dear Roy:

In re-reading your good letter of December 11, I find that it starts out with "Dear Mr. Simons". While I realize that I have been hitting the pavement for more years than you have, I think our friendship is close enough so that we can well speak to one another by our first names.

I have been interested in you and your work for many years. You have taken an active and creditable part in the very life and development of the state. You have conducted a creditable paper, one that ranks with the best and you have given liberally of yourself. Knowing all of these nice things about you, it makes me appreciate all the more the kind expressions in your letter.

When I, as a boy of seventeen, hoofed it back and forth from the newspaper office to the railway stations trying to find some news and not knowing news when I saw it, I was deserving of pity, but I have never asked for pity in my life. Looking back over the years, I believe that John L. Bishop, then City Clerk and Manager of the City Water Works, gave me the first advice I had ever received in regard to what was news and how to get it. He is dead now and I regret that I did not see him in order to express my appreciation of his help.

I never worked harder in my life than I did in Salina and perhaps never with less results. I was the only reporter on the Republican, aside from J. L. Brady, the Editor, and for a few months we had to compete with the Gazette moved down from Abilene, which had a number of real reporters on its staff.