

WILL ROGERS
BEVERLY HILLS
CALIFORNIA

JUN 30 1934

Oologah Okla
June 29 '34

Mr Aman Carter
Dear Sir:

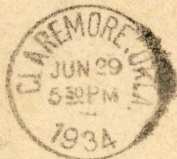
Had a letter from
Mrs Rogers rec. and she said you wanted
one of his branding irons. Am sending
you one of his irons the Dog iron "A".
When the Mo. Pac. railroad built through
from Coffeyville. Kans south through Claremore
in '89 they fenced their right of way. That
cut the Rogers range in two. They had
all this country between the Verdigris & Caney
rivers. Will Rogers father went to Texas
and bought 3500 cows to stock the country
west of the railroad. They shipped them up
here and there was 75 or 80 calves their mothers
wouldn't own being jammed so much. Will
Rogers father gave them to him if he could
raise them. When they got big enough to
brand he figured with this brand and put on
them and continued to use it as his personal
brand until the closing out of the open range

and an awful dry year when he left this
country 1901. His father's brand was 27 cattle
and 34 horses. Now this iron is not on of his
old original iron. I had this one made and
am disappointed in it. These modern black
smiths know more about sharpening a plow
share or welding a Ford fender than they do
about making a branding iron. The old time
workman was thorough. He'd spend more time
leaving a set of horse legs or chipping out
the key stone to a fire place than his modern
brother would in paving a right way espe-
cially if election were near. As for the iron
it's better to adorn the walls of a den than
the side of a cow. You like to look at them
when they've got a paunch full of grass, standing
at a watering with a big old fat calf sucking
but when there ain't enough moisture on a
section of land to raise a staple and you
hear of the tax on hides you want to hang
all your branding irons up. Come by some time
in your travels, I'll show you a land, rich in
romance and history, but getting mighty poor
in soil; but we have a new mass running for
Governor of Okla if he can't lead us out of this
persimmon wilderness he will teach us how to
eat the persimmons. Yours Herb McSpadden.

WILL ROGERS
BEVERLY HILLS
CALIFORNIA

Man

75c



Will Rogers

Mr. Amon Carter,
Star Telegram,
Fort Worth,
Texas.

[Handwritten scribble]

JUN 30 1934