Mr. Will Rogers, Beverly Hills, Calif.

Dear Wills

The enclosed letter from M. C. Hartung and the Hired Hand's reply might interest you. This same young man has been writing Miss Tyler, your secretary, and she in turn has corresponded with the Hired Hand direct to find out about Mr. Hartung. So, this letter would indicate you are now in the publishing business.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,

AGG . KD

MERL C. HARTUNG
Route Number Seven, Box 135
Fort Worth, Texas

COPY

April 24, 1935

Amon G. Carter c/o Ft. Worth Star Telegram Ft. Worth, Texas.

Dear Mr. Carter:

You may or may not remember my writing you some time back asking for some information about Will Rogers, which you did not feel free to tell me.

As I have for some time been greatly interested in any and all things concerning Mr. Rogers and have tried to trace several rumors down, with some success, I should like to have your explanation of a currant rumor going the rounds. It was one persons reason for Mr. Rogers having mentioned yourself on his program of two or three weeks ago.

One version is that: Mr. Rogers now owns the Star-Telegram, having gotten same through it's failure to keep out of the red.

Another is that: Mr. Rogers has loaned to you, for business reasons, several thousand dollars and it won't be long now until he will own the paper.

These rumors if untrue, are very unfair. And even if true are probably enlarged out of proportion. But you can see that these sotries can do you no little harm if allowed to go on and on.

In my work I get a lot of this sort of talk. One man will tell such a story in front of several of his fellows and as it is repeated it soon gets as big and as blundering as Carnera.

These stories have been denied by several of your employees but as I kept hearing them, I decided that you were the man to do the official denying or affirming.

Whatever your answer may be, I believe I can be of some service to you in dispelling such stories as come my way.

Sincerely,

May 23rd, 1935.

MR. CARTER: -

In connection with the attached - about two months ago,
Miss Daisy Tyler, Mr. Rogers' Secretary, asked me to get some information
in reference to this fellow. It seems that he was writing to many of
Mr. Rogers friends, and it was all quite annoying.

In checking up this party for Miss Tyler, we found, at that time, that he was a former usher at the Worth Theatre. It seems that he shook hands with Mr. Rogers when he appeared there during the drouth relief campaign. That gave him an idea that he would like to write a book about Mr. Rogers, but knowing nothing of him, he commenced to write his friends for information. Two months ago, he was employed nights at a Rockyfeller Hamburger stand. He lives out on the Mansfield road and seems to put in a great deal of his time writing letters.

For your information, on March 27th, 1935, we wrote Miss Tyler as follows:

"The party you have asked me about is M. C. Hartung, who receives his mail at Box 135, Rural Route #7, Fort Worth.

Investigation reveals that he is 22 years of age and has lived in Fort Worth for eighteen years.

He was a former usher at the Worth Theatre. He saw Mr. Rogers at that Theatre, and he became quite enthused about him. He has an idea he wants to write a book about Mr. Rogers, but he has no information and has been sending out numerous letters to people he hopes might give him some information for his proposed book.

At the present time, the young man is not employed in a Theatre, but is working nights at a local restaurant. I doubt very much if he will ever go through with his idea, and anticipate that he will probably drop it as a passing fancy before long.

If you would suggest that I call on him and insist that he obtain Mr. Rogers permission before continuing to write Mr. Rogers' friends, I will be glad to do that.

Trusting this is the information you desire, I am,

Yours very truly,

Harold Hough. "

From what I have heard of this party, I would suggest that you ignore the whole business and not even answer his letter.

HVH.