TITLE: Ronald Ives papers

DATE RANGE: 1928-181

CALL NUMBER: MS 0983

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 26.5 linear ft. (21 cartons, 5 boxes, 1 map case)

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CREDIT LINE: Ronald Ives papers, MS 0983, Arizona Historical Society-Tucson

PROCESSED BY: Roger Myers and David Hoober, March 1983.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Ronald L. Ives was born in Cleveland, Ohio on October 12, 1909. His grandfather, Fredric Eugene Ives (1856-1937), and father, Herbert Eugene Ives (1882-1953), were noted scientists and inventors. Ronald Ives had two siblings, Kenneth and Barbara Ives. He attended schools in New Jersey and New York. From 1935-1937 he studied geology and geomorphology at the University of Colorado in Boulder, where he received Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees.

From 1937 to 1942, Ives worked in electronics and geology in Colorado, Texas, and California. He served in the United States Army from 1942-1946, where he took special courses in chemical and bacterial warfare, remote control gunnery and meteorology, electronics. He had a long time interest in military experiments, and he had security clearances of “secret” and “top secret” from 1942 to 1968.

Following World War II, Ives studied and taught at the University of Indiana in Bloomington. He received Master’s and Doctoral degrees in geography there. His dissertation was entitled Chinook Winds in the Colorado High Plains Region.

Dr. Ives was a civilian instructor of electronics and remote control gunnery at Lowry Air Force Base in Colorado in 1950-1951. From 1951 through 1968, he worked as a researcher and engineer for various contractors to the federal government, including Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory; Tronicon, Inc.; John C. Bechman Co.; Bechman and Whitley, Inc.; Stanford Aerosol Labroatory; and Metronics Associates Inc.

Ives was an Assistant Professor of Geography at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff from 1968 to 1975. After his retirement, he pursued various personal and professional interests.

Beginning in the early 1930s, Ives contributed articles to scientific and scholarly journals. Two of his favorite topics were the history of the Spanish exploration of the American southwest, and the geology of the Pinacate, a volcanic region along the Old Yuma Trail in northwestern Sonora, Mexico.

Ronald L. Ives, a bachelor throughout his life, died of natural causes on February 26, 1982. His ashes were scattered in the Pinacate region.
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: The bulk of the collection consists of published and unpublished manuscripts by Ronald Ives relating to geological, meteorological, and historical research in arid lands; and Spanish exploration in northern Mexico, Baja California, and Arizona. Other topics include electronics, minerals and mineral resources, American folklore, hiking, photography, and the Ives family.

Series I: Technical Publications, 1932-1980 consists of 646 typescripts and published manuscripts by Ronald Ives. All copies of each manuscript are filed together. Major topics in this series include: the geology of the western United States; minerals and mineral resources; explorers and missions in Mexico, California, and Arizona; and electronics. The articles were published in several periodicals, including *Trail and Timberline*, *Radio-Electronics*, *Rocks and Minerals*, *Journal of Geography*, *Arizona and the West*, and *Journal of Arizona History*.

_A complete bibliography of Dr. Ives technical publications is found in the appendix._

Series II: Miscellaneous Publications, 1932-1980 consists of newspaper clippings, photocopies of articles, proof pages of manuscripts, speeches, typescripts, published, and unpublished manuscripts written or collected by Ronald Ives. There are 252 folder titles in this series. All copies of each title are filed together.

In addition to the topics listed in series one, these articles reflect Dr. Ives’ interest in science, hiking, and photography. Many of the items were written by Ives when he was employed by Science Service in Washington, D.C., from 1937-1938. The articles were published in such periodicals as *Popular Mechanics*, *Boulder Star*, and *Science Newsletter*. Biographical and autobiographical information on Ives’ grandfather, Frederic E. Ives; and biographical data on his father, Herbert E. Ives, are included in this series.

_A complete bibliography of Dr. Ives’ miscellaneous publications is found in the appendix._

Series III: Correspondence, 1935-1981 consists of incoming and outgoing letters. Most of the letters were written to Dr. Ives between 1951 and 1981. The correspondence is arranged alphabetically by the last name of the writer within a chronological framework. The bulk of this series relates to Ives’ research on the history of the American southwest. It includes correspondence with the editors of several professional journals, other contemporary western writers, and Ives’ family and friends.

Ives published widely in western periodicals. Major correspondents among editors include Harwood P. Hinton, editor of *Arizona and the West*; Andrew Wallace, Ken Hufford, and C.L. Sonnichsen of *Arizona* (later called *Journal of Arizona History*); Anita Alvarez de Williams and Walter Meade of *Calafia*; Glen Dawson, publisher of the Baja California Travel Series and owner of Dawson’s Book Shop in Los Angeles; Wilma B. Fairchild of *Geographical Review*; and Robert L. Kraus of *The Jesuit Bulletin*.

In addition to preparing cartography for his own geological and historical manuscripts, Ives drew maps to accompany the words of other historians of the southwest borderlands and Mexico. Correspondence with Father John F. Bannon, S.J., concern Spanish borderlands studies, Bannon’s progress on a biography of Herbert E. Bolton, and Bannon’s career at St. Louis University. Ives contributed twelve maps to Bannon’s monograph *The Spanish Borderlands Frontier* (1970).

Letters from Fr. Ernest J. Burrus, S.J. related to Ives’ maps for Burrus’ books, including Wenceslaus Linck’s *Report and Letters*, 1762-1788 (1967); Wenceslaus Linck’s *Diary of Hi
1766 Expedition (1966); and Kino and Manje (1971). The correspondence contains descriptions of Burrus’ research on Spanish missionaries and explorers in the southwest and Mexico and geographical queries to Ives.

Correspondence with W. Michael Mathes, Department of History, University of San Francisco, relates to Ives’ map of New Spain drawn for Mathes’ book, The Conquistador in California (1973); the possible recovery of the San Barja mission bells; and Mathes’ other research on mission in Baja California.

Ronald Ives researched the missions, missionaries, and explorers of the southwest. Correspondence with Jane and Byron Ivancovich includes discussions of Ives’ publications; Father Ernest J. Burrus; the organization of the Southwestern Mission Research Center, in Tucson, Arizona, in August 1964; Jane Ivancovich’s work on the Kino Memorial Statue Committee, 1961-1965; the unveiling ceremony of the Kino statue in Washington, D.C., February 16, 1965; and the Ivanvovichs’ travels in Asia, Mexico, and Europe.

Correspondence from Father Walter J. Miller, S.J. contains references Ives’ research on Father Eusebio Kino, S.J.; Miller’s work as an astronomer at Fordham University, New York; and exchanges of each other’s publications.

Letters from Father Bonaventure Nite, O.F.M. concerns his tenure at the Saint John’s Indian Mission, Laveen, Arizona; mutual interest in southwest missionaries and missions; and comments on each other’s publications.

Letter from Father Nicholas Perschl, O.F.M. relates to his tenure at Mission San Xavier, Tucson, Arizona; books on mission in the southwest, and Perschl’s dedication speech at the unveiling of a statue to Francisco Tomas Garces in Yuma, Arizona on October 21, 1928.

Correspondence from Father Charles Polzer, S.J. includes research questions on Eusebio Kino and Spanish missions in the southwest, description of Polzer’s research and travel in Europe and Mexico; his doctoral dissertation; events at the Kino House, a Society of Jesus residence in Tucson, Arizona; and Polzer’s role as Director of the Southwestern Mission Research Center at the University of Arizona. Letters from Carmen Prezelski, Polzer’s secretary, are also filed in this portion of the collection.


Ronald Ives studied the geography and geology of the Pinacate, Sonora, Mexico. He made many field trips to the area and received letters from students and friends. Correspondence from Julian Hayden, a vocational archaeologist and friend of Ives, relates to the geology, archaeology and mapping of the Pinacate; mutual friends, guides and other scientists’ investigation of the region; and Hayden’s excavations at Snaketown on the Salt River in 1965.

Letters from Jon Czaplicki relate to Czaplicki’s studies at the University of Arizona; military service in Leavenworth, Kansas; and archeology excavations in Arizona and Colorado.

Correspondence from the staff of the United States National Park Service at Organ Pipe National Monument, Lukeville, Arizona concerns the Pinacate region; the possible excavation and restoration of the San Marcello Mission in Sonoyta, Sonora; and Bill Hoy’s compilation of a history of the Sonoyta River Valley and the Ajo area.
Series three also includes personal correspondence with Ives’ family. Letters from Ives’ mother, Mabel, include discussions of his publications of the Pinacate and her life in a nursing home in St. Petersburg, Florida. There is also correspondence from the St. Petersburg law firm of Gay and Gordon to Ronald Ives and Ken Ives, Ronald’s brother, regarding the trust estate of their mother.

Correspondence from Ken Ives, and his wife Rene includes discussion of Mabel Ives; regulation of the Mabel Ives estate trust fund; and personal developments in their professional careers. Letters from his sister, Barbara, and her husband Charles Beyer, describe their mother’s health; the estate trust fund; and travels in Europe.

Correspondence from an aunt, Ethel Halladay, includes descriptions of Mabel Ives’ health; daily life in Cambridge, Massachusetts; and other family news. Letters from nieces, Marie-France Holt and Jacqueline Webster, include general discussions of family affairs.

Ronald Ives had an enduring friendship with George Zimpfer, a parish priest in Williamsville, New York. Their correspondence concerns Ives’ travels in southwestern United States and Mexico; Ives’ publications on explorers, missionaries, and missions in the southwest; Zipfer’s parish duties; changes in the Roman Catholic Church’s liturgy and practice; conflicts of the priesthood; and the disruption of American society by student protesters, drug abuse, culture and occultism in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s.

Correspondence from Richard Hazelett refers to a proposal to establish an Ives Institute for Space-Time Studies which would promote research in physics. The letters include photocopies of letters to Herbert and Mabel Ives from Elmore E. Butterfield, a friend of Herbert Ives.

Correspondence from the Bell Telephone Laboratories in New York City and Murray Hill, New Jersey relates to Herbert E. Ives’ participation in the early development of intercity television transmission in April 1927.

Outgoing correspondence from Ronald Ives is arranged chronologically. Topics included field reports on diatom and pollen samples collected for the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the United States Geological Survey; transfer requests to the United States Army; Ives’ efforts to secure bells for the Sonoyta Church in Sonoyta, Mexico; donations of photographs and articles to the Arizona Historical Society; letters of recommendation for students and friends; requests for reprints of Ives’ articles; and research queries to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and United States Customs regarding the location of bells allegedly belonging to the San Luis Gonzaga Mission.

Series IV: Income Tax Returns, 1972-1980 consists of annual reports filed with the federal and state government. They are arranged in chronological order.

Series V: Mabel Ives Estate Financial Records, 1970-1981 consists of statements regarding funds held by the estate of Mabel Ives, at the First National Bank in St. Petersburg, Florida. Statements for several years are missing.

Series VI: Legal Documents, 1951-1956 consists of a copy of a deposition given by Ives on a radio tower in Williamsville, New York; a copy of his Last Will and Testament, dated 1953; and a Mexican tourist visa, 1956.

Series VII: Diplomas and Certificates, 1928-1980 consists of four diplomas and three certificates issued to Ronald Ives.
Series VIII: Maps, Diagrams, and Illustrations, ca. 1950-1980 consists of approximately 319 positive sheet and 800 negative sheets of Kodalith paper. The maps, diagrams and illustrations were used in Ives’ technical and miscellaneous publications. These items have been divided into six subseries: Explorers, mission, and missionaries in the southwest; Geology and geography; Inventions and electronic devices; Weather charts; Lunar computer; Printed materials.

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103 University of Arizona 1964-1980
25 104 V 1952-1981
105 W 1957-1976
106 Webster, Jacqueline 1970-1981
107 Y 1962-1980
108 Z 1978
109 Zimpfer, George 1954-1958
110 Zimpfer, George 1962-1967
111 Zimpfer, George 1968
112 Zimpfer, George 1970
113 Zimpfer, George January-April 1971
114 Zimpfer, George June-November 1971
115 Zimpfer, George 1972
116 Zimpfer, George 1973
117 Zimpfer, George 1974-1975
118 Unidentified correspondence 1962-1978?
119 Outgoing correspondence 1938-1939
120 Outgoing correspondence 1950
121 Outgoing correspondence 1951
122 Outgoing correspondence 1952-1957
123 Outgoing correspondence 1961-1969
124 Outgoing correspondence 1970-1971
125 Outgoing correspondence 1972-1973
126 Outgoing correspondence 1974-1975
127 Outgoing correspondence 1976
128 Outgoing correspondence 1977
129 Outgoing correspondence 1978
130 Outgoing correspondence 1980

26 1 Income tax returns 1972-1973
2 Income tax returns 1974-1975
3 Income tax returns 1977-1978
4 Income tax returns 1979-1980

1 Financial records 1970
2 Financial records 1971
3 Financial records 1972
4 Financial records 1973
5 Financial records 1974-1976
6 Financial records 1977-1978
7 Financial records 1979-1980
8  Financial records  1981
Series VI: Legal Documents  1951-1956
1  Deposition  1951
2  Last Will and Testament  1953
3  Mexican Tourist Visa  1956
Series VII: Diplomas and Certificates (oversize)  1928-1980
1  Montclair High School, New Jersey  June 14, 1928
2  International Correspondence School, Scranton  October 2, 1930
3  University of Colorado, Boulder  June 10, 1935
4  University of Colorado, Boulder  June 14, 1937
5  Explorers Club, New York  December 12, 1933
6  Legion of Portola, San Diego  July 16, 1969
7  Arizona, Secretary of State  February 22, 1980
Series VIII: Maps, Diagrams and Illustrations (oversize - in map case located in lower level stacks near cage)  ca. 1950-1980
Subseries 1  Explorers, missionaries, and missions in the southwest (ca. 145 positive sheets; ca. 55 negative sheets)
Subseries 2  Geology and geography (ca. 144 positive sheets; ca. 315 negative sheets)
Subseries 3  Inventions and electronic devices (ca. 21 positive sheets; ca. 145 negative sheets)
Subseries 4  Weather charts (ca. 27 positive sheets; ca. 250 negative sheets)
Subseries 5  Lunar computer (ca. 33 positive sheets; ca. 33 negative sheets)
Subseries 6  Printed materials (ca. 8 positive sheets; ca. 30 negative sheets)
Appendix: Series I Publications
This list does not include popular articles, newspaper stories or features, or classified reports not yet released by title.

3. Excursionando en los Pinacates, La Montaña (Mexico, D.F.), April 1934, 11, 12, et seq.
5. Surveying the La Plata Mining Region, Trail and Timberline, No. 192, 1934, 136-142.
6. Recent Volcanism in Northwestern Mexico, Pan-American Geologist, 63, 1934, 335-338.
10. Geologic Verification of a Papago Legend, Masterkey (Los Angeles), 9, 1935, 160-161
21. A New Route to the Bross Group, Trail and Timberline, No. 223, 1937, 57.
23. The Use of Brockman’s Formulae with Large Negatives, American Photography, September 1937.
47. Mountain Glaciers of Long Ago, Trail and Timberline, No. 258, 1940, 87-92.
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| 82.    | On Reporting Plateau-Region Pressures in Ratios: A Suggestion, *Bulletin of the
American Meteorological Society, 25, 1944, 332-333.
87. Improved Socket Punch Wrenches, Electronics, Vol. 18, #10 1945, 204-212.
88. When is a Watch Magnetized? American Horologist, Vol. 12, #10, 1945, 40-44.
94. Clock Nut Wrenches, American Horologist, Vol. 12, No. 12, 1945, 42-44.
143. An Interpolating Contactor for Sixteen-point Recording of Wind Direction from a Standard Eight-point Contacting Wind Vane, Transactions American Geophysical Union, Vol. 27, 1946, 781-784.
149. Automatic Range Switching Equipment for the Grinnell Wind Speed Recorder,
150. Dugway Tales, Western Folklore, Vol. 6, 1947, 67-73.
179. Constancy of Temperatures at Fish Springs, Utah, Transactions American Geophysical
    Part I, No. 3, March, 34-35 et seq.; Part II, No. 4, April, 56 et seq.; Part III, No. 5, May,
   Spanish version titled “Sintonia fina con tubo de reactancia,” Revista Telegrafica Electronica (Buenos Aires) No. 500, May 1954, 276-278.
244. Test Crystals with your Signal Generator, Radio-Electronics, Vol. 34, No. 7, July 1953, 47.
267. Make Your Own Meter Scales, Audio, Vol. 39, No. 4, April 1955, 30-34.


289. Improving the S-9er, CQ, Vol. 12, No. 8, August 1956, 20 et seq.

290. Gunging Multi-Section Condensers, QST, Vol. 40, No. 9, August 1956, 64.


298. Dual Triode Tester Measures Tube Balance, Electronics, Vol. 30, No. 3, March 1957,
317. Integrated Audio Monitor for Home and Studio Use, Audio, Vol. 42, No. 4, April 1958, 24-26 et seq.


406. Adapters for Fast Equipment Checkout, *Industrial Electronic Engineering and


409. The Legend of the "White Queen" of the Seri, Western Folklore, Vol. 21, No. 3, July 1962, 161-165.


465. Climbing in Western Sonora, Mexico, *Trail and Timberline*, No. 549, September 1964, 139-143.
480. Station Summary Charts, Weather, Vol. 20, No. 4, April 1965, 122-123.
481. The Simplest Tuning Meter Circuit, S-9, Vol. 5, No. 6, June 1965, 23 et seq.
482. Fail-Safe Audio Squelch, Radio-Electronics, Vol. 36, No. 8, August 1965, 82-83.
483. When Standard Switches Won't Fit, 73, Vol. 34, No. 1, August 1965, 28-29.
   44, No. 2, June 1966, 143-144.
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504. Wind Direction Readouts, Journal of Applied Meteorology, Vol. 5, No. 4, August 1966,
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536. Eliminating Squelch Interaction, S-9, Vol. 8, No. 12, December 1968, 16 et seq.

583. Volume Equalization with Audio Frequency Filters (draft), 73, October 11, 1968.
584. Speaker Protection for C-B Equipment (draft), S-9, November 3, 1969.
591. Interglacial Conditions in the Silver Lake Valley (research report), ca. 1933, 40 pages.
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597. Glaciation at the Headwaters of the Colorado River, 1940, 31 pages.
600. Oblivion Air Base Wind Record: Year of 1944, January-December 1944, 360 pages.
601. Special Reports: Dugway Proving Grounds (Numbers 57, 58, 61, 66, 70, 72), March-May 1946, 100 pages.
604. Receiver (Diagrams for receiver, control panel and speakers), (draft), ca. 1950, 50 pages.
605. Simplified Line-Powered Interval Timers (draft), ca. 1952, 9 pages.
608. Rehabilitating Battery-Powered Illuminators (draft), ca. 1955, 2 pages.
609. Improving Your Field Photographs (draft), ca. 1955, 13 pages.
613. Multiple-Threat Commercial Suppressor (draft), ca. 1958, 14 pages.
614. Commercial Headset Hanger (draft), ca. 1960, 2 pages.
615. Raysistor Control Circuits (draft), ca. 1960, 3 pages.
616. Transistorized Low-Noise Low-Resistance Continuity Checker (draft), ca. 1960, 7 pages.
618. Electric Clock Frequency Check (draft), ca. 1960, 2 pages.
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623. Automatic Lights (draft), ca. 1962, 5 pages.
625. Filters and Controls for Effective Reception of Continuous Weather Broadcasts (draft), ca. 1964, 10 pages.
627. Amplifier (draft), ca. 1964, 8 pages.
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629. Transistorized Impulse Relay (draft), ca. 1965, 10 pages.
631. Latching Overcurrent Relays (draft), ca. 1965, 4 pages.
633. Anemometer Slowage Indicator (draft), ca. 1966, 23 pages.
634. Angle Drill for Close-Quarter Work (draft), ca. 1966, 2 pages.
636. Commercial Trouble Light (draft), ca. 1966, 2 pages.
637. Self-Contained Decade Scaler (draft), ca. 1966, 8 pages.
638. Modernizing the RAK-7 Receiver (draft), ca. 1966, 11 pages.
639. Mapping and Environmental Considerations (Linck Route) (draft), ca. 1966, 6 pages.
641. San Luis Gonzaga Bell (manuscript), ca. 1968, 5 pages.
643. Pedro Fages' 1785 Journey from San Diego to the Colorado Delta and Return (manuscript), ca. 1980.
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645. The Geology of Northwestern Boulder County (research paper), Fall 1932, 172 pages.
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M4. Remote Control Circuits, QST, September 1932, 66.
M7. Test Set Rack, Popular Mechanics, July 1933, 137.
M26. New Science Laboratory, University of Colorado Summer Catalog, June 1934.
M27. On Mountain Face, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, August 18, 1934, Sect. 3, 1.
M32. Arapahos in Winter, Cosmopolitan Club Yearbook, 1934, cover.
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M42. Red Rock Lake, University of Colorado Summer Catalog, 1936.
M43. South Arapahoe Peak, Christian Science Monitor, March 6, 1936, 8.
M44. Keep Off Grass, Colorado Alumnus, Vol. 26, No. 6, March 1936, 8.
M51. Relaxation at Stoffles’, *Colorado Alumnus*, June 1936, 12.
M61. Scale Extension Tables for the Weston Exposure Meter; in Fraprie and Jordan, *Photographic Hints and Gadgets*, Boston, 1937, 74.
M89. Illite, SS Science Page, January 17, 1938.
M95. New Optical Test for Oil Assays, SS Science Page, December 6, 1937.
M100. Virginia Volcanoes, SS Science Page, November 29, 1937.
M104. Sandbed Oil, SS Science Page, September 18, 1937.
M105. $20,000,000 Gold Mined in Alaska in 1937, SS Science Page, November 29, 1937.
M118. "Fireless" Volcanoes may be Ancient Meteor Scars, SS Science Page, September 22, 1937.
M119. South America Yields Tools, Bones of Ancient Man; Finds Rank with Folsom Men in Age and Importance, SS Science Page, August 30, 1937.
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M121. Cryolite, SS Science Page, April 10, 1938.
M123. Well-Flooding, SS Science Page, March 17, 1938.
M126. Euxine Areas, SS Science Page, February 9, 1938.
M130. Many Avalanche Types, SS Science Page, December 18, 1937.
M137. New Worlds to Conquer Lie Hidden Under Seas, SS Syndicated Feature, September 1938.
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M149. Coast Ranges Held Only Four Million Years Old, SS Science Page, February 21, 1938.
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M159. Seeing the Invisible, Rocky Mountain News Feature, July 5, 1938.
M160. Postponing the Threat of an Oil Shortage, Rocky Mountain News Feature, June 7, 1938.
M161. Fool's Errands, Rocky Mountain News Feature, July 18, 1938.
M164. (with Robert D. Potter) Our Earth's Little Lost Moon, American Weekly Feature, January 12, 1941.
M167. No entry.
M168. Tracing the "Lost River" of the Far East, Rocky Mountain News Feature, October 2, 1938.
M169. Putting the U.S.A. on the Map, NEA Feature, October 8, 1938.
M170. We Face a Famine in Tin, NEA Feature, September 3, 1938.
M171. Pity the Poor Schoolma'am, NEA Feature, June 21, 1939.
M175. Predicting the Next Volcanic Eruption, NEA Feature, September 18, 1937.
M177. And Some People Believe Them, NEA Feature, January 15, 1938.
M182. Grounding Prevents Static Troubles, Camera, July 1942, 41.
M184. Shaking the Chaperone, Colorado Dodo, March 1939, 4-7.
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M190. (with W.T. Hamblin) Permian Hypothesis Pictorial, NEA Feature, November 11, 1940.
M192. Star Trace Photography, American Photography, April 1941, 37.
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M201. City Water Crisis Due in 1951, Star-Courier (Bloomington (Ind.)), May 6, 1949, 1.
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M252. Communications (manuscript), ca. 1977, 3 pages.