Descriptive Summary
Title: William Martin Jeffers Papers,
Date (inclusive): ca. 1935-1950
Collection number: 1091
Creator: Jeffers, William Martin, b. 1876
Extent: 54 boxes (27 linear ft.) 6 oversize boxes
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575
Abstract: William Martin Jeffers (b.1876) left school at age 14 to work for the Union Pacific Railroad. He worked his way up the organizational ladder from call boy to vice-chairman of the board of directors (1946-1953). In 1942, Jeffers agreed to serve for one year in the War Production Board as Rubber Director, where he organized the manufacture of rayon to boost the synthetic rubber industry. He also ordered gasoline rationing before resigning in 1943. The collection consists of correspondence, clippings, copies of speeches, manuscript materials, reports, magazines, books, newspapers, and memorabilia relating to William Jeffers' service as U.S. Rubber Director, 1942-43 and his work as a former president of the Union Pacific Railroad.
Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.
Language: English.
Restrictions on Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.
Restrictions on Use and Reproduction
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], William Martin Jeffers Papers (Collection 1091). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.
UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 1720751
Provenance/Source of Acquisition
Biography
Jeffers was born on January 2, 1876 in North Platte, Nebraska; he left school at age 14 to work for the Union Pacific Railroad; worked his way up the organizational ladder as call boy, clerk, telegrapher, train dispatcher, chief dispatcher, trainmaster of the Green River, Wyoming division, assistant superintendent, then superintendent of the division in 1909; became superintendent of the Nebraska district (1915), general superintendent (1915), and vice-president and general manager (1917); in 1928 he became vice-president in charge of operations, served as president of the railroad from 1937-46, and then vice-chairman of the board of directors until 1953; in 1942 Jeffers agreed to serve for one year in the War Production Board as Rubber Director, where he organized the manufacture of rayon to boost the synthetic rubber industry; he also ordered gasoline rationing before resigning in 1943; he died on March 6, 1953 in Pasadena, California.

Scope and Content
Collection consists of correspondence, clippings, copies of speeches, manuscript materials, reports, magazines, books, newspapers, and memorabilia relating to William Jeffers' service as U.S. Rubber Director, 1942-43 and his work as a former president of the Union Pacific Railroad. Also includes original drawings for political cartoons on Jeffers' activities as Rubber Director by Herbert Block, John M. Baer, Hugh M. Hutton and others.

Expanded Scope and Content Note
William Martin Jeffers served as Executive Vice-President and President of the Union Pacific Railroad during the 1930's and very early 1940's. He was appointed Rubber Director in the Franklin Roosevelt administration during the early years of World War II. It is with this period of his life that this collection of papers is primarily concerned.

The collection contains voluminous correspondence, copies of speeches, manuscript materials, clippings, and scattered memorabilia relating to the Union Pacific as well as to the Office of Rubber Director. In addition, there are over 40 original drawings for political cartoons on Jeffers' activities as Rubber Director.

The collection was presented to the Library by Judge Thomas C. Yager of Los Angeles.

Organization and Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:
- Correspondence (Boxes 1-24).
- Speeches (Boxes 15-24).
- Clippings (Boxes 15-45).
- Reports (Box 46).
- Publications (Boxes 47-51,55).
- Certificates, petitions, resolutions, etc. (Boxes 52,59).
- Memorabilia (Boxes 53,58).
- Books and bound newspapers (Boxes 54,60).
- Scrapbooks (Boxes 56-59).
- Political cartoons (Box 59).

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the repository's online public access catalog.

Subjects
Jeffers, William Martin, b. 1876--Archives.
United States. Office of the Rubber Director.
Union Pacific Railroad Company--Management--Archival resources.

Correspondence - Outgoing

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      Physical Description: (27 folders)
Box 5  February 1-February 26, 1943.
      Physical Description: (23 folders)
Box 6  March 1-April 30, 1943.
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Box 8  July 1-September 14, 1943.
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Correspondence - Incoming

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  Scope and Content Note
  Congratulatory letters and Jeffers' replies.

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Box 9, Folder 2  Colorado - Illinois.
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Finding Aid of the William Martin Jeffers Papers
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A - correspondence.
American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers. New York, New York,
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Anonymous.
Anonymous.
Appointments.
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Babcock and Wilcox. Failure of superheated units.
Butler, Hugh. Editorials for insertion in Congressional Record.
C - correspondence.
Checker Cab Company (Omaha, Nebraska). Frivolous use of cabs.
Clippings
Burger, Ken (Publicity man - WPB).
Expansion of Tire Plants and Speeding-up Production with Existing Facilities.
Fourth Project Report (Untrue story on tire production).
Jeffers on Fuel Czar.
Midwest tour to speed moving of dealers' stocks.
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Pearson, Drew.
Special Report of August 1st to Byrnes.

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Economic Club, December 17, 1942.
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Joint Field Inspection Trip. Itinerary. War Agencies, June 1943.

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Maverick, Maury. Speech before the Annual Meeting of the Association of Public
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Box 20, Folder 8  N - correspondence.
Box 20, Folder 9  Nebraska Society Party, December 15, 1942.
Box 20, Folder 10  Newspaper photo mats.
Box 20, Folder 11  O - correspondence.
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Box 20, Folder 16  Publications - miscellaneous.
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Box 21, Folder 1  R - correspondence.
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Box 21, Folder 2  March of Time, November 26, 1942.
Box 21, Folder 3  National Radio Forum, December 2, 1942.
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“A Daily Report on Mileage Rationing.”
“Indications Point to Jeffers Getting Priorities for Most of His Plants.”
“Jeffers Attack on Army Hasn't Helped, Clapper Says.”
“Jeffers May Be Building Up Ammunition to Give to Somebody 1944 Elections.”
“Jeffers Optimism Won't Be Fulfilled, Says Pearson.”
“Jeffers, Says Godwin, Is Nothing if Forthright.”
“Simpson Anxious to Have Jeffers Succeed.”
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Scope and Content Note
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**Finding Aid of the William Martin Jeffers Papers**

**Scope and Content Note**

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1) September 30, 1942.
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Ikes, Harold.
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Miscellaneous.

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  - "Phillips and Synthetic Rubber." 1943.
  - Physical Description: (2 copies)

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<td>India Rubber World</td>
<td>January 1943 (vol.107, no.4).</td>
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<td>May 1943 (vol.35, no.5).</td>
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<td>Life</td>
<td>February 22, 1943 (vol.14, no.8).</td>
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<td>May 24, 1943 (vol.14, no.21).</td>
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<td>National Independent</td>
<td>January 1943 (vol.2, no.9).</td>
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<td>National Petroleum News</td>
<td>October 21, 1942 (vol.34, no.42).</td>
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<td>April 1943 (vol.21, no.4).</td>
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<td>Omaha Chamber of Commerce News Bulletin</td>
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Box 48, Folder 8  July 1943 (vol.2, no.29).
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Public Opinion
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Saturday Evening Post
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<th>Box 50, Folder 6</th>
<th>The Westerner</th>
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<td>The American, February 1943 (vol.135, no.2).</td>
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<td>June 1943 (vol.6, no.5).</td>
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<td>July 1943 (vol.6, no.6).</td>
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<td>August 1943 (vol.6, no.7).</td>
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<td>September 1943 (vol.6, no.8).</td>
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<td>Box 50, Folder 6</td>
<td>The American Mercury, August 1943 (vol.62, no.236).</td>
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<td>Box 50, Folder 6</td>
<td>The American Press, February 1943 (vol.61, no.4).</td>
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<td>Box 50, Folder 6</td>
<td>The American War Dad, January 1944 (vol.2, no.1)</td>
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<td>Box 50, Folder 6</td>
<td>The Annals of Agriculture, July 15, 1943.</td>
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<td>Box 50, Folder 6</td>
<td>Arbitration in Action, January 1943 (vol.1, no.1)</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 1</td>
<td>The Architectural Forum, May 1943 (vol.78, no.5).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 2</td>
<td>Army Day Review, April 6, 1943.</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 2</td>
<td>The Automotive News, February 1, 1943 (vol.18, no.2756).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 3</td>
<td>The Bulletin Index, February 18, 1943 (vol.122, no.7).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 3</td>
<td>Current Biography, November 1943 (vol.3, no.11).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 3</td>
<td>Dun's Review, June 1943 (vol.51, no.2182).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 3</td>
<td>East Texas Oil, February 1943 (vol.9, no.10).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 4</td>
<td>The Goodyear News, June 1943 (vol.32, no.6).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 4</td>
<td>G U I A, June 1943 (vol.40, no.6).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 4</td>
<td>Headlines Today and Tomorrow in National Real Estate News, July 10, 1943 (vol.10, no.28).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 4</td>
<td>Lee-dership, December 1942.</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 4</td>
<td>Maryland Motorist, March 1943 (vol.23, no.3).</td>
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<td>The Mines Magazine, June 1943 (vol.33, no.6).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 4</td>
<td>Motorland, September 1943 (vol.51, no.3).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 4</td>
<td>The Nebraska Taxpayer, May-June 1943 (vol.4, no.3).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 5</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers' Association, February 1943.</td>
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<td>Printers' Ink, March 26, 1943 (vol.202, no.13).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 5</td>
<td>Public Policy Digest, January-February 1943. (Nos. 31-32).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 5</td>
<td>Railroad Data, February 26, 1943 (vol.22, no.5).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 5</td>
<td>The Railroad Trainman, November 1942 (vol.59, no.11).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 5</td>
<td>Railroader, October 1942 (vol.4, no.5).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 6</td>
<td>Reader's Digest, July 1943 (vol.43, no.255).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 6</td>
<td>Report For the Business Executive, February 4, 1943 (no.207).</td>
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<td>Box 51, Folder 6</td>
<td>A Report to Goodyear Employees for 1942 ... A Year of War.</td>
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Physical Description: (Only the cover and 1p.)

| Box 51, Folder 6 | Scouting, January 1943 (vol.31, no.1) |
| Box 51, Folder 6 | Tires Service Station, September 1942 (vol.24, no.2). |
| Box 51, Folder 6 | Traffic Topics, January 1943 (vol.17, no.1). |
| Box 51, Folder 6 | Traffic World, May 8, 1943 (vol.71, no.19). |
| Box 51, Folder 6 | Transport Topics, August 2, 1943 (vol.17, no.45). |
| Box 51, Folder 7 | U.S. August 1943 (vol.2, no.8). |
| Box 51, Folder 7 | U.S. Detroiter, May 1943. |
| Box 51, Folder 7 | W A C O, November 1942 (vol.20, no.133). |
| Box 51, Folder 7 | War Plant Employee Transportation (Booklet no.3). “Automobile Maintenance,” 1943. |
| Box 51, Folder 7 | Yearbook (National Association of Independent Tire Dealers, Incorporated), 1942. |

Note
- (Publications - see also packages)

Newspapers to Certificates, Petitions, Resolutions, etc.
Box 52, Folder 1  “Texas to be World’s Greatest Rubber Production Center.” The Daily Times Herald (Dallas, Texas), Sunday, June 27, 1943.

Physical Description: (Part 3 only)

Box 52, Folder 2  “Salute to Synthetic Rubber.” The Dallas Morning News (Dallas, Texas), Sunday, June 27, 1943.

Physical Description: (Section 4 only)

April 17, 1943 (vol.25, no.8).
May 1, 1943 (vol.25, no.9).
May 15, 1943 (vol.25, no.10).
May 29, 1943 (vol.25, no.11).
June 12, 1943 (vol.25, no.12).
June 26, 1943 (vol.25, no.13).
July 24, 1943 (vol.25, no.15).
August 7, 1943 (vol.25, no.16).

Box 52, Folder 4  The College of Idaho.
The Council of the City of Los Angeles.
Franklin and Marshall College.
International Association of Machinists.
Union Pacific Railroad Company.
Union Pacific Retired Employees Association.
Universitas Creightoniana.
University of Nebraska Alumni Association of Southern California.
University of Wyoming.

Papal Petition.

Scope and Content Note
Certificates, etc.
Note
(See also packages)

Memorabilia
Box 53, Folder 1  The Association of Master Knights of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta in the United States of America.

Booklet, March 1, 1950.

Physical Description: (61pp. Leather bound)
Scope and Content Note
Including list of officers and members, history, and constitution.

Box 53, Folder 2  Dinner menu and program, January 19, 1950.

Autograph Album.


Photographs.
Tour of Inspection. Lake Charles, Louisiana, June 1, 1943.
Visit to Seiberling Rubber Company. Akron, Ohio, October 16, 1942.

Plaque - To William M. Jeffers, 1945.

Programs.
Banquet in honor of Edgar Eugene Calvin of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, October 16, 1928.

President’s Birthday Ball, January 13, 1943.

Scope and Content Note
Also, Supplement to Official Program.
Box 53, Folder 5  Seating list for President’s Birthday Reception and Dinner, January 29, 1943.

  Physical Description: (3 copies)

Box 48, Folder 5  Miscellaneous.
Box 53, Folder 6  Funeral Mass and Burial Service (Booklet). William Martin Jeffers, March 10, 1953.
Box 53, Folder 6  A Golden Tribute to a Master Builder (booklet) from the Ladies Auxiliary, Union Pacific Old Timers’ Club, no.3.
Box 53, Folder 6  Large bandana-type momento (2) from Salt Lake City congratulation Jeffers, October 1, 1937.
Box 53, Folder 6  Poem by C. Paul Harrington.

  Scope and Content Note
  Sung at the celebration honoring Wm Martin Jeffers on his ascendancy to the Presidency of the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Box 53, Folder 6  Sketch of a Rubber Tree.

Books

Box 54  Repairmen Will Get You - If You Don't Watch Out by Roger William Riis and John Patric, 1942.
Box 54  The Telegrapher. Published by the National Telegraphic Union, September 1, 1867-August 22, 1868 (vol.4).
Box 54  Trees and Test Tubes by Charles Morrow Wilson, 1943.

Publications


  Scope and Content Note
  For presentation to Latin American countries.

Box 55  The Army and Navy Journal (special issue), “The United States at War” (vol.80, no.15).

  Physical Description: (Bound volume)

Box 48, Folder 5  Fortune, May 1943 (vol.27, no.5).
Box 55  The Oil and Gas Journal, November 26, 1942 (vol.41, no.29).

Report


  Scope and Content Note
  A national window display research made for the Advertising Research Foundation of Association of National Advertisers, Incorporated.

Box 55  “Presenting the Resources and Natural Advantages of Carmi, Illinois and White County as a location for a Synthetic Rubber Factory.” December 1942.

  Physical Description: (Bound)

Scrapbook

Box 56  Presidency of Union Pacific Railroad, 1937.
Box 57  Golden Spike Days. Omaha, Nebraska, April 26-29, 1939.
Box 58  Naugatuck Synthetic and Reclaimed Rubber Plants, n.d.
   Scope and Content Note
   [Photographs of synthetic rubber and reclaimed rubber plants.] Presented to Wm Jeffers by the United States Rubber Company.

Certificates, Petitions, Resolutions, etc.

Box 59  Boy Scouts of America. The Silver Beaver Award for distinguished service to boyhood, March 7, 1949.
Box 59  State of Michigan - Michigan Legislature.
   Senate Resolution no.32.
   Sufficient metals allocated to factories for production of syntheitc rubber, March 25, 1943.
Box 59  Senate Resolution no.33, March 25, 1943.
   Scope and Content Note
   Extending speed regulations on commercial vehicles.

Box 59  University of Notre Dame. Academic citation for degree.
Box 59  Universitas Dominae Nostrae a Lacu. Legum Doctor conferred upon Wm Jeffers, December 20, 1942.
Box 59  St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana. MA degree in English & Philosophy. Awarded to Eileen Julia Keliher, June 5, 1929.
Box 59  Franklin and Marshall College. Legum Doctoris conferred upon Wm Jeffers, October 1, 1937.
   Scope and Content Note
   [Also], 1 unable to identify.

Political Cartoons

Box 59  “Marching As to War!” Walter La Hue.
Box 59  “Dark and Bloody Ground.” Carl Rose.
Box 59  “With His Orders In His Hand.” Walter La Hue.
Box 59  “Oh, Boy!” Alexander.
Box 59  “This Is America!” John Ranck.
Box 59  “Who's Going to Back Up?”
Box 59  “The Zero Hour” (Editorial cartoon). Herald-American.
Box 59  “The Man at the Throttle is 'Casey' Jeffers!” Roy Braxton Justus (b.1901).
Box 59  “Flash - Man Bites Dog!” Newton Pratt. The McClatchy Newspapers of California, October 14, 1942.
Box 59  _____. James Thomas Berryman (1902- ).
Box 59  _____. Clifford Kennedy Berryman (1869-1949).
Box 59  _____. Silvey Jackson Ray (b.1891).
Box 59  “Persistence Wins.” S.J. Ray.
Box 59  “It’s Tough Being a King--There’s Always An Ace In the Pack-- and a Joker!” Jim Berryman.
Box 59  “ Expedite the Expediter!” Hal Coffman.
Box 59  “How Things Do Change!” Hal Coffman, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 1942.
Box 59  _____. Norman, The Boston Post.
Box 59  “In the Nick of Time.” Herbert Lawrence Block (b.1909).
Box 59  “Running His Own Interference!” Charles George Werner (b.1909).
Box 59  “Now We’re Railroadin’ ” Ralph Lee, The Oregonian, September 17, 1942.
Box 59  “One Man Who’s Not Afraid!” Claude Shafer, Cincinnati Times-Star, October 14, 1942.
Box 59  _____. Cloyd J. Sweigert. May 20, 1943.
Box 59  _____. Fred Little Packer (1886-1956).
Box 59  “Something About to Happen.” Vaughn Richard Shoemaker (b.1902).
Box 59  “Three Men On a Raft.” Tom Carlisle.
Box 59  “How He Keeps It Going Is a Mystery.” Shafer.
Box 59  “Wm. M. Jeffers, Outstanding American.” Bob Satterfield.
Box 59  “All’s Peaceful On the Potomac!” John Miller Baer (b.1886).
Box 59  “ More Bureaucracy.” Gregg.

Miscellaneous

Box 58  Posters (2).
Box 58  World War II fighting airplanes.

  Physical Description: (20 prints)

Box 58  Painting of the Yermo, California train depot.
Box 58  2 copies of the Victory Creed.

  Scope and Content Note
  Including photograph of airborne fighting airplanes.

Box 58  2 large photographs of train engines.

Books

Box 60  Views in Liberia. Firestone Plantations Company, [1942].
Box 60  The Dallas Southwest. Industrial Department, Dallas Chamber of Commerce, 1942.

Bound Newspapers

Box 60  April 13-May 31, 1945.
Scrapbook: World Premiera “Union Pacific”

Box 59  Omaha, April 28, 1939.

  Scope and Content Note
  Includes photographs and bound newspapers of golden spike days.