George Warren Ayer was born on February 4, 1884, in Merrimack, New Hampshire. He attended both grammar and high school in Manchester, New Hampshire, graduating from Manchester High School in 1900 at age 16. By April of 1910, he was lodging at a home on Huntington Avenue in Boston, Mass., and working as a compositor, or typesetter, for the Boston Post. Later in 1910, he married Anne E. Mitchell, a bookkeeper for a telephone company who was also from New Hampshire. He enrolled at Suffolk Law School in November of 1912 and graduated in 1915.

In 1918, George Ayer was still working as a compositor for the Boston Post, located at 259 Washington Street in Boston, and was living at 121 Boylston Street in Watertown, Mass. Also, in 1918, Ayer’s son, Walter, was born. In 1920, George, Anne and Walter Ayer were living at the same home in Watertown, as were Anne’s widowed mother, Maria Mitchell (61), George’s sister, Frances Ayer (44), and a roofer named Helen Siebold (31). By this time, Ayer had his own law practice. By 1923, his office was located at 101 Tremont Street, Room 406, in Boston. By 1928, it was located at 84 State Street in Boston.

By 1930, George Ayer and his family, including his wife, son, mother-in-law and sister, had relocated to a home at 101 Stultz Road in Belmont, Mass. At this time he still had a law practice, but by 1936 it had moved from 101 Tremont Street to 73 Tremont Street in Boston.

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1 Suffolk School of Law Application for Admission, November 4, 1912, SLS Registrations 1908-1913, no application number.
2 Suffolk School of Law Application for Admission, Ibid.
3 United States Census 1910, Massachusetts, Suffolk, Boston, Enumeration District 1408, Sheet 21A
4 United States Census 1930, Massachusetts, Middlesex, Belmont, Enumeration District 9-187, Sheet 15B; United States Census 1920, Massachusetts, Middlesex, Watertown, Enumeration District 517, Sheet 6B; United States Census 1910, New Hampshire, Hillsboro, Manchester, Enumeration District 146, Sheet 5A. Note: Anne Ayer’s maiden name was found to be Mitchell because her mother, Maria Mitchell, lived with the Ayer family by at least 1920, and a 1910 census record for Maria and Walter Mitchell lists Anne Mitchell as their daughter.
6 World War I Draft Registration Card 3703/1118, September 12, 1918.
7 U.S. Census 1920, Ibid.
8 U.S Census 1920, Ibid.
9 U.S Census 1920, Ibid.
12 U.S Census 1930, Ibid.
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