



OTIS MARSTON

2333 VINE STREET - BERKELEY 8, CALIFORNIA
Ashberry 3-6100
COLORADO RIVER CHRONICLES

December
10
19 56

Canyoneer Jim

Golly, that's a swell job you did on the Cat run and I thank you for the copy of the record.

What does Dick Lewis do out at Kigalia? We have been out in that section in 1955 and this year.

You didn't break any cars so they must have been OK. Where did you get them?

I don't think your signing the release in event of accident would be any good. In case there was neglect, you would have a good right of action even tho you signed. Other than that, you undertook what you knew to be a trip involving some danger.

Are the particular mapping projects some secret? I am much interested in the maps of that area and particularly on the left side of the River.

I hadn't heard of the prospector being stranded near the Junction.

Kent Frost and I must have walked by your ~~stop~~ stop at Mile 213 when we were out there October 2nd. We came down the side canyon opposite Spanish Bottom and walked down the shore past the first rapid. The water was almost clear and I would have rated the first rapid about a 1. I might have given the second rapid a 1 1/2. I think the stage was around 3000cfs.

We noted two stone monuments near the mouth of the side canyon called Red Lake Canyon on the 1921 maps. They indicated age. Did you note others on down the Canyon on the left bank?

What was the particular interest at Cross Canyon? Where did you pick up that name?

And speaking of names, did you ever ask anyone why that is called Spanish Bottom?

Did you have much trouble with the Exacta? Bill Belknap has been using one and has told me I should take one on but has now changed his mind saying it is too delicate.

Where did you get the information that USGS lost a boat at 202 in 1921? Best lost a boat at 204 in 1891. USGS pinned their boats at Dark Canyon in 1921 but did not lose them. In October of 1948, Harold W. Chase of the USGS left a sadiron pinned to a rock just below the Big Drop. I think this must be the boat you mean.

Let me in on the Cape May yakking. I spent some cold weeks down there in December and January of 1917 and 1918 living in the old amusement building at the end of the board walk.

That spring at Dark Canyon is near the small ledge that runs out to the edge of the River below the Rapid. It is hidden in among some redbud. I think Randall Henderson built a cairn there.

You did a swell job of rapids rating. This little system is beginning to do some real good.

I had intended for you to keep the Julien item. I'll send it back if you wish. I agree that Kelly isn't justified in his guess that he was in a boat. Kelly made the Glen Canyon traverse in 1932 and again in 1938. He did a lot of looking for inscriptions. So have many others. None have reported to me any Julien inscriptions altho Kelly tells me he has heard there is one up on the Paria.

I look forward to seeing your slides and want to get prints from some of them. I have a lot of pix in Cat which I have not been able to identify so yours will undoubtedly help in this.

I will be in Seattle around Christmas and in Los Angeles right after the New Year for about 10 days so please don't send them when I am away. I will be home from December 26th to New Years Day and will get home again about the middle of January.

Cheerio

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deek". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font. The "D" is large and loops around the "e", and the "k" has a long horizontal tail.