

U.S.G.S. Slick Rock Camp  
% Egnar, Colorado  
September 25, 1936

Dear Dock

For some unknown reason your letter of July 4 did not reach me until after the conclusion of the USGS Cataract Canyon trip, and I am unable to supply the information you wished. However, there are a few minor items which might be of interest to you:

(1) The open flat on the right bank at Mile 215 is known as Spanish Bottom. This is but one of quite a few names appearing on the new U.S.G.S. topography sheets covering the area.

(2) In regard to the side canyon on the left bank at Mile 215: I do not know what the boys decided about the formation in this canyon. A previous worker, mapping from an opposite rim(right bank) identified an exposure of the Paradox formation(probably gypsum bearing) in this vicinity. After checking the exposure, and I am not sure whether or not they checked it in the canyon, the boys were undecided, and wanted to wait until they looked at the exposures in Gypsum Canyon before making up their minds.

(3) From the looks of droppings in Gypsum Canyon it appears that at least one horse wintered there last year. It is impossible for a horse to get down the main drainage of Gypsum Canyon as there is a deep sheer fall about four miles up. None of the side canyons to Gypsum Canyon which were checked revealed possible routes. There are a few places near Mile 197 where a man could climb over the rim without great difficulty, but I did not see a horse route.

(4) I made a log of the activities, and as soon as I can get a few copies typed I will send you one. I tried to keep accurate notes on the rapids, particularly those over Class 4, and am disturbed to find that I have no reference to the new rapid which you mention 3/4 mile below Dark Canyon. There is a large fresh landslide scar about that distance up Dark Canyon which is visible from the river above Dark Canyon, but I can recall nothing of the sort along the river itself.

Could you tell me whether or not the Julien who made the several canyon inscriptions was a native Frenchman, and if so whether or not much is known about him. I have a sister-in-law(French) who is presently in France, and I thought I would ask her to do a bit of detective work for me if there seemed a likelihood of turning up something.

In the notes which I sent to you last June I made a mistake in listing the McPhee Ranch as one of our starting points. The McPhee

Ranch is farther upstream, near Dolores, and the ranch near which we started is the McDonald Ranch.

Glad to hear of your fine Grand Canyon trip. Looks like I'll have no more trips this year, at least water wise, but I did get in a nice climbing trip to Colorado's Needle Mountains, and I hope to get in one more climbing trip before the snow flies.