

PASSING OF STEAMER MARKS AN EPOCH

Story of Olden Days of Transportation on Waters of Colorado River

Sale of Dismantled Hull of Steamer Cochran Ends What Was Once Highly Profitable Period of River Business.—All the Traffic Would Bear Was Implied Motto.

An interesting account of early days of Colorado River traffic is published in a recent issue of the Yuma Sun, the incidents being called to mind by the sale of the hull of the last of the larger river craft. The Sun says:

The sale of the hull and wooden upper works of the dismantled steamer Cochran (formerly Cochran) a few days ago, marks the end of what was in its prime a business of magnificent proportions, the largest private enterprise in the Southwest. This sale is of itself a very small affair. The machinery having been removed, only the wooden part remaining was offered for sale and was disposed of to Captain Charles M. Smith on a bid of \$110. But it removes from the river the last reminder of the Colorado Steam Navigation Company that from 1854 to the coming of the railroad in 1876 did practically all of the freighting for the region comprising all of Arizona, a large part of New Mexico and parts of Nevada and Utah, from the outside world as far as points on the lower Colorado.

The Colorado Steam Navigation Company established its business on the river by the building of the steamer General Jessup in 1854. The partners in the company were Ben Hartzhorn, George A. Johnson and Captain A. H. Wilcox. Business soon increased so that another steamer was added and up to the coming of the railroad two steamers and two large barges were kept busy. In the early years the war department furnished nearly all of the business. The Apaches were continually on the warpath and military posts were at short intervals. Troops and supplies were brought from San Francisco to the mouth of the river on ocean vessels and forwarded to Yuma, La Paz and Fort Mojave by the river steamers. There were several thousand troops in the southwest and everything they needed had to be brought from the states. Prices paid for freight were astounding, \$75 per ton from the mouth of the river to Yuma, for example, and the ton was not a ton, either, all of the time; in fact, it seldom was anything like that weight, being estimated by measurement, forty cubic feet being called a ton regardless of real weight. A man could easily carry a ton of drums, but the freight cost \$75 just the same. The quartermaster was very generous in the matter of calculating weights by measurements. In measuring a wagon the length was from the hind end of the bed to the front end of the chain and the height to the top of the cover, and though the tongue was taken out and shoved under the vehicle, the chain thrown into the bed, the wheels taken off and put into the bed also, and the cover and bows taken down, these measurements held good. 1,000 feet of lumber was estimated at two tons—\$150 freight from

the mouth of the river to Yuma! No wonder it was commonly said in those days that no one in Yuma had a board floor or even a board door unless he stole it from the quartermaster.

In the early sixties gold and silver mining began to be extensive, and though the mining companies would not stand for the same measurements as the quartermaster, this industry added greatly to the business on the river.

Ordinarily the run of the boats was as far as Fort Mojave, but in high water trips were made as far as Virgin river in Southern Nevada, nearly 500 miles from the gulf.

For a few miles of the run through Eldorado Canyon, between Fort Mojave and Virgin river, the paddle-wheel was not sufficient to force the boat up against the current and it had to be warped up with a steam capstan and there are many places where the river runs around rocky points, yet during all the years from the time the General Jessup was launched there was no boat wrecked. It may also be said that there was never a boat burned. In fact, there has never been but one serious accident in all the history of steam navigation on the Colorado. A small boat that was built by another company a year before the Colorado Steam Navigation Company came to the river was sunk at Yuma landing without loss of life.

When the Southern Pacific reached Yuma, a large part of the steamboat business fell off and when the A. & P. road was built it diminished still more. Then came the depreciation of silver and the consequent closing of the silver mines along the river, and after this until Laguna dam, though the boat made an occasional trip, its business was of a small consideration.

Quite a number of men prominent in Yuma have seen service on the river boats. Captain Isaac Polhamus, Captain J. A. Mellon, Captain C. V. Meeden and O. F. Townsend are of the old-timers who are still living. George Thurlow, Captain A. D. Johnson, David Neahr, Alex. Berry, Engineer Muzzy, Captain William Pool, Tom Downey and others who are dead are well remembered by many of our residents, and of the Cochran whose dismantled hull still floats at the landing, Charles M. Smith was the last captain and E. W. Church was the last engineer.

Of all of these Captain Polhamus is the most conspicuous figure. As pilot, master, superintendent and part owner for forty-eight years he was continuously on the river in active service. Coming here in 1856 he took the wheel on the General Jessup as pilot. After six months he was promoted to the command of the boat and served in this capacity until 1860. In this year he was made superintendent of the line and continued in this position until 1886, when he and Captain J. A. Mellon purchased the property. In 1904 the one remaining boat was sold to Thornton and Gandolfo, and Captain Polhamus, feeling that he had earned a rest, turned over the command to Captain Mellon, who three or four years later also retired and gave the Cochran into the hands of Captain Charles Smith.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

The firm of Shaffer & Garber, conducting the El Centro Undertaking Company has been dissolved by mutual consent, R. E. Garber retiring, and C. A. Shaffer assuming all the liabilities of the company. The business will be continued by Mr. Shaffer.
C. A. SHAFFER.
R. E. GARBER.
13-1t

FREE Boys and Girls, do you want a durable gold point fountain pen absolutely free? This is not a toy. Send name and address and we will send you 30 packages of beautiful, assorted post cards which you sell to your friends and neighbors at 10c pkge. Return money to us, then we will send you this beautiful pen absolutely free. DOMESTIC SUPPLY CO., (Dept. 2) 467 E. 37th St., Los Angeles, Calif.

HOTEL OREGON

Imperial Valley's newest and largest hotel. Opened under new management. Dining room in charge of A. G. Miller, formerly of the Bristol Cafe, Los Angeles. The house is electric lighted throughout; equipped with its own cold storage and ice making plant. Rooms single or en suite, with or without private bath rooms.

AN IDEAL PLACE IN AN IDEAL CLIMATE

Free automobile to and from depot. Furnishings complete for comfort. Cuisine of the very best and ample sample rooms for commercial men.

El Centro California

Hotels and Resorts

A New Hotel in Los Angeles

Hotel Sherman

314 WEST FOURTH STREET
Southeast corner Hill and Fourth Streets.

150 rooms, sumptuous furnishings, white enamel woodwork; PERFECT BEDS; Hotel service; private baths; hot and cold water and telephone in every room; elevator. A glance at our rooms and SUMMER RATE sheet will insure your patronage.
W. I. WEBBER, Proprietor.

Famous Porter's Catalina Island Band



Free Camp Ground. The beautiful Island Villa. The Great Canvas City. Mountain goat hunting. Sportiest golf course in California. Deep sea fishing. Moonlight launch rides. Yachting, rowing, swimming, bathing, fine hotels, The Famous Metropole. "See the managers 100 varieties of fish" in the big fish aquarium.
GO WHERE THE SUMMER IS COOL 24 HOURS OF THE DAY
BANNING COMPANY
104 Pacific Electric Building, Los Angeles, California.
7-15

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU AT CORONADO TENT CITY, At delightful CORONADO BEACH, CALIFORNIA.

Better get ready and come early and stay late. For the cool weather CORONADO is having is simply great. The Bay and Ocean are swarmed with those who enjoy the surf and Bay Bathing. Even the little tots can be seen by the hundreds already in that great big open air cement lined swimming pool where there is a continual inward and outward flow of water from the ocean. Attendants always on hand to teach the youngsters the great sport of swimming. Timid ladies who do not care for surf bathing can use this swimming pool.
Hundreds of New Attractions. Many Amusements Provided Gratis. The Palm Cottages and Furnished Tents are Cool and Pleasant, attended by maids. Rates of these tents are Very Reasonable.
You Certainly Can't Miss Seeing Coronado Tent City This Summer. By all means take the first train possible and plan to stay as long as you can. Low Rates from this section. Ask your Agent.
Booklet, Maps, Information, Write Joshua S. Hammond, Manager, CORONADO TENT CITY, CORONADO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, or H. F. Norcross, Agent, 334 S. Spring Street, Los Angeles, California.

Parties intending to come to Catalina, will do well by writing for particulars and prices of cottages to
FREDERICK J. MOLL, SR.,
Avalon, California. 11-4t



STEAMSHIPS
ROANOKE and ELDER
Sail from San Pedro every Tuesday at 7 p. m. for

SAN FRANCISCO
EUREKA
ASTORIA
PORTLAND
Seattle, and direct connections at Portland for Spokane and all Northwest Points via the Seattle, Portland and Spokane Railway.

"THE NORTH BANK ROAD"
Fast Freight and Passenger Service
For rates, reservations, call or write
North Pacific Steamship Company
524 S. Spring Street
Lissner Building, Los Angeles, Cal.
Main 5115; F 7480 D. W. Ferguson, Agt

APARTMENTS LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Get Summer Quarters at the
Ponet Square Apartments

Location Ideal, Roof Garden, Large Airy Rooms, Finely Furnished, Housekeeping Apartments, Private Baths in all Suites.
Address "PONET SQUARE"
Fred Kaltenbeck, Proprietor.
N. W. Cor. Pico and Grand Ave.
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles' Safest Hotel

The King Edward

Fifth and Los Angeles Streets in the heart of the city.
European Plan. First-class Cafe. Absolutely Fire Proof
A very desirable hotel for all visitors to the city.
No Inside Rooms. Write for Booklet
Rates \$1.00 per Day and Up
DUNHAM & SMITH
PROPRIETORS

FOR RENT

HOUSEKEEPING APARTMENTS

LITTLE HOMES OF 2 and 3 ROOMS with kitchen, bed room and parlor; latest and most conveniently arranged apartments in the West. 24 apartment houses, holding 700 happy families. Beautiful flowers, aviaries, extensive grounds, gymnasiums. Best locations.
ALL PRICES \$8 TO \$60 MONTHLY.
Telephone, gas range, hot and cold water, baths. Sanitation unexcelled. Owned and operated by
T. WIESENDANGER,
Room 311, 207 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, California

SAN DIEGO,

is a cool, delightful place during summer months. Thermometer rarely above 84 degrees.
HOTEL IMPERIAL is a home-like, clean, cool and central rooming house, moderate in price. R. E. Helms, proprietor. 1615 D St., Rates 50c per day and up. \$2.50 per week and up. 52-59*

7 Oaks and Bear Valley

The ideal mountain resorts for rest and recreation. Excellent accommodation for families. Detached cottage plan. For rates and information address Manager Seven Oaks, Redlands, Cal., Times Information Bureau. 10-4

HOTEL NORMANDIE

Sutter & Gough Sts.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
A comfortable high order hotel
IDEAL PLACE FOR IMPERIAL VALLEY PEOPLE
Well liked by all who come from the interior.
Fine Air, Elevation, Location. Five Minutes From San Francisco's Lively Center
Direct Lines From Ferries and Depots
American plan \$3.00 per day, up
European plan \$1.50 per day, up
THOS. H. SHEDDEN, Manager

HOTEL ROSSLYN NATICK HOUSE



EUROPEAN, 75c to \$3.50
AMERICAN, \$1.75 to \$3.00
FREE AUTO BUS MEETS ALL TRAINS
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
EUROPEAN, 50c to \$3.00
AMERICAN, \$1.50 to \$3.50

The Hotel Rosslyn and the Natick House are Headquarters for El Centro and Imperial Valley people. They are both located so as to be of easy access to the big stores, theatres, public buildings, etc. Your patronage is solicited.

HOLLENBECK HOTEL

A. C. BILICKE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA JNO. S. MITCHELL
IMPERIAL VALLEY HEADQUARTERS
Accessible to all Depots for Beach and Mountain Resorts. Surrounded by Leading Theatres and Banks. Close to Retail Shopping and Wholesale District
RATES
WITH PRIVILEGE OF PUBLIC BATH 150 rooms--1 person \$1.00; 2 persons \$1.50
100 rooms--1 person \$1.50; 2 persons \$2.50
WITH PRIVATE BATH 75 rooms--1 person \$1.50; 2 persons \$2.00
100 rooms--1 person \$2.00; 2 persons \$3.00
75 rooms--1 person \$3.00; 2 persons \$4.00
HOLLENBECK CAFE---BETTER THAN EVER



Hotel Nadeau

First and Spring Streets
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED WITH REFERENCE TO BUSINESS AND SHOPPING DISTRICT AND CAR LINES.
MODERN IN EQUIPMENT AND A FIRST CLASS HOTEL IN EVERY RESPECT. CAFE IN BUILDING. EUROPEAN PLAN ONE DOLLAR A DAY AND UPWARDS.
ALLEN & THOMPSON, Props.

Hotel Stewart

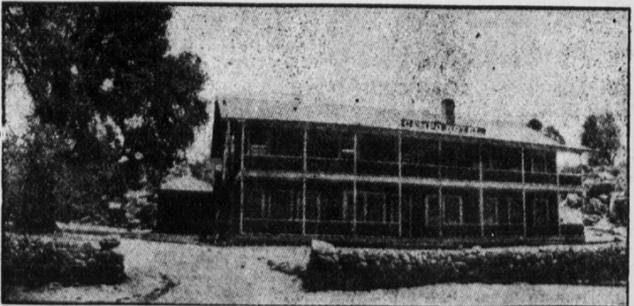
Corner Third and E Streets
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA
AMERICAN PLAN Rates \$2.50 per day and up

KEEN CAMP, Three Miles from Idyllwild

SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS, Riverside County, California.
WILL KEEP OPEN ALL THE YEAR. MRS. J. M. KEEN, Proprietress
(Formerly of Strawberry Valley.) Post Office, KEEN CAMP, CAL.
Situated on the famous Hancock Johnson Ranch of 5000 acres.
AMONG THE PINES AND OAKS.
Stage leaves San Jacinto daily, except Sundays, at 1:30 p. m.
Stage fare, \$4.00 round trip.
Rates are: In cottages, \$11 per week; in tents, \$10 per week; by the day, \$1.50 to \$2.00. Meals, 35c to 50c.
Elevation nearly 5000 ft. above sea level. Saddle livery connected with hotel.
You will find on our table wholesome food, the kind that builds you up. Go to the mountains for your vacation, where every week spent in the delightful air will add a year of good health and vigor to your life. If you are run down in health, a short time spent here voluntarily will save you perhaps years of suffering.

Radium Sulphur Springs LOS ANGELES COLEGROVE

Melrose av. cars direct to springs. TAKE BATHS IN LIQUID SUNSHINE. It sparkles and foams like Champagne. Drink the most radioactive curative mineral water. It purifies blood, keeps you young, revivifies, rejuvenates your whole body. Hot Baths cure Rheumatism, Colds, Asthma, Poor Circulation, Paralysis, Diabetes, Stomach, Liver, Kidneys, Bladder, Blood, Bright's, Nervous and Female Troubles. Makes skin velvety, hair silken. Physician in charge. Send for booklet. Water delivered. 52-59*



CAMPO HOTEL, CAMPO, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
Mountain Air; Mountain Water; Mountain Climate; Mountain Scenery; Mountain Pleasures—and the best home accommodations. \$2.00 per day; \$10 per week. Just the place for Imperial Valley people to spend their summer vacations. For further information, address MISS ISABELLE DAVIES, Campo Hotel, Campo, California.

Warner Hot Springs

The most beautiful mountain resort in Southern California. Pure, cool mountain air; elevation 3165 feet. The wonderful health-giving waters free to all.
Good hotel, house-keeping rooms, lawn tennis, croquet, pool, billiards, trap shooting, dancing and hunting.

Camping Free

All campers have the privilege of croquet, tennis, music room, library and ball room free. Our own garden, ice plant and dairy.

No Liquor Sold---Good Store