

HUNT FOR TRIO BRINGS NO CLUE AS TO FATE OF YOUNG B. C. MEN

4-23-37

Airplanes Are Pressed In-
to Service Today in Ef-
fort to Locate 3

HOPE IS ABANDONED

Bodies May Not Be Recov-
ered for Seven Days,
Experts Declare

Hope for the safety of Charles Lillybridge, Herbert Bowen and Mike Slosson, Boulder City residents who disappeared Wednesday night as they skimmed the surface of the seething waters of Boulder lake in a sailboat, was all but abandoned today as the second day of the search for some trace of the trio neared an end.

It is believed that the bodies of the three men are locked in the bosom of the lake and that they will not be found until the bodies rise to the surface. This may be anywhere from three to seven days, experts on this type of accident declare.

All thru the day yesterday CCC boys tramped the shores of the lake in the vicinity of the spot where the overturned sailboat, belonging to Lillybridge, was discovered by Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Witcher. At nightfall they returned home with no clues.

THIS MORNING, shortly after the sun poked its flaming face over the eastern hills, the CCC enrollees again took up the task, widening their hunt to the shorelines of the various islands that dot the lake in the lower basin. Up to noon today they had reported nothing.

A faint hope sprang up in Boulder City this morning when a report was circulated that the three men had walked to the boat landing last night and that one of the three had been seen in Boulder City.

However, this hope also faded when the report was officially denied by those in charge of the search.

ANOTHER FAINT ray came when dam workmen reported what appeared to be "dust signals" coming from the vicinity of Collville Wash. It was stated that small clouds of dust were sent up at intervals and it was believed that this might have been a signal from one of the trio in an effort to attract attention.

However, a boat was dispatched by the park service and occupants investigated the phenomenon to discover that the dust was caused by falling shelves of sand along the edge of the lake.

WITH THE ground crews working the edge of the lake, all available surface boats were combing the water for some trace of the bodies of the young men and, shuttling back and forth above the water was a Travelair plane

(Continued on page three)

donated by "Roxy" Ruckstell and piloted by Dick Ranaldi with Frank Schwella, peering intently into the water for some sight of the bodies lying on the bottom of the lake. The Grand Canyon Airlines plane also joined the aerial search, flying over the lake on its regular run seeking to locate the bodies.

BUT, ALL three agencies reported no clues.

Captain Charles L. Hall and Guy Edwards, the latter the supervisor of the national parks service at Boulder City, said that the search would be pressed until the bodies are found, "even if it takes many weeks."

The search is being directed by Edwards and Captain Hall with O. P. Senter, of the ranger force, E. W. Bannister, superintendent of NP4, and Roy Richter, foreman of NP4, in charge of the searching parties.

Meantime, while the search was being pursued, three days of prayer, a special intention of the mass was in process in the Catholic church at Boulder City for the three missing young men.

THE AUTHORITIES in Boulder City have contacted Bowen's parents in Los Angeles and Slosson's brother, in Michigan, informing them of the tragedy but have been unable to inform Lillybridge's relatives, believed to be somewhere in New Jersey.

The three boys are believed to have been drowned in the lake when the sailboat in which they were riding capsized and threw them into the water sometime Wednesday evening.

THE CAPSIZED boat, with a pair of overalls tied to the masthead and a pair of shoes tied to the gunwale, was found yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Witch