

ATKINSON AND GARRIS LEAVE JOURNEY TODAY AT LEES FERRY

Nevills And Woman Brave
Rapids to Rescue Mem-
ber of Expedition

GIRL LEFT ALONE

Tells of Experience as Rest
Of Troupe Go After
Runaway Boat

LEE'S FERRY, Ariz., July 9. (UP)—Plans for continuing the daring Colorado river voyage by the Nevills expedition, were postponed here today when two of the members of the party quit and prepared to leave for home.

Don Garris, U. S. geological survey engineer, said he had been transferred to Salt Lake City and must leave immediately while Dr. Eugene Atkinson said that he believed the trip so far has served its purpose sufficiently for botanical study. The departure has been postponed until at least July 12 while attempts to get two new members are made.

A story of overturned boats, a night spent by one woman alone on the turbulent river's edge while wild animals howled, shooting foaming rapids and watching their food dwindle, was today told as six adventurers rested here after a 300 mile trip down the Colorado river.

MISS LOIS Jotter, freckle-faced 25-year-old botany student, said that the voyage was "the most thrilling thing in my life."

Miss Elzada Clover, 40, University of Michigan botany instructor, said "the trip was swell."

THE MEN in the party were jubilant that the first leg of their journey was so successful.

For 18 days the party traveled in three small boats. The craft carrying Eugene Atkinson, University of Michigan zoologist, and W. C. Gibson, San Francisco photographer, capsized in the river, the party said, and Gibson swam ashore, but Atkinson, clinging to the boat, was swept downstream.

Norman D. Nevills, guide and leader of the trek, and Miss Clover, braved a dozen rapids in a wild dash to rescue Atkinson.

THE BOAT which capsized, was repaired, and the journey continued.

One empty boat was swept away in Cataract Canyon, and the remainder of the party left Miss Jotter and went after the boat. She spent the night alone on a sandy ledge, but said she was not frightened, because the canyon walls were too high for the howling animals to get near her.

The party arrived at Lee's Ferry with just enough canned goods for one meal.

The expedition, making its first contact with civilization since June 20 when the six members pushed three tiny boats into midstream at Green River, Utah, was greeted by two U. S. government men who had kept a day-and-night watch since last Monday, fearing the party had met with some mishap.

"ONLY TWICE during the dan-

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Atkinson And

gerous passage through Cataract Canyon did we have trouble," Norman D. Nevills, veteran guide, said. "Both times we feared the boats would be dashed to pieces."

The two women said they had been successful in collecting some "rare botany specimens."

"We joined the expedition partly for a thrill," Miss Clover said. "It's surely been successful so far."

THE FIRST contact with the party was made in an isolated canyon 20 miles above Lee's Ferry Thursday night when a coast guard searching plane from El Paso, Texas, sighted the six and reported they were safe. The fliers, R. W. Fendlay and J. L. Riggs, reported to Lieutenant Perry S. Lyons, commander at El Paso, that they dropped several notes and the scientists signaled they needed no help.

Last night the party climbed the steep canyon walls to camp where they spent their first night in a bed since the journey started.

"We're not afraid of those jagged rocks any more," Miss Joiter said.

THE OTHER members of the party are Dr. Eugene Atkinson, University of Michigan zoologist; Don Harris, U. S. geological survey scientist, and W. C. Gibson, San Francisco artist.