

# ARIZONAN LIVES OFF COLORADO

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., May 31.—(U.P.)—To the treacherous currents of the Colorado river, which has been the navigation stream of Arizona “seafarers” since 1850, Frank B. Dodge, of the U. S. Geological Survey, has turned to earn a livelihood.

Dodge, a member of the expedition that conquered the rapids and hazards thru the Grand Canyon in 1923, has established a motor boat line at Lee’s Ferry Bridge.

Fascinated by the swiftly flowing river since he accompanied Col. C. H. Birdeye on a three-months trip down the river to Needles, Cal., Dodge has resumed activities that began in the 1850’s. The steam-powered side-wheelers of the pioneer rivermen, plying between Yuma and Needles, have been replaced by swift motor boats under Dodge’s plan.

The history of Colorado River commercial navigation is traced back to the line operated by Capt. Isaac Polhams, of Yuma, who piloted a steamboat between Yuma and Needles, a distance of 125 miles. A round trip record of 10 hours was reputedly set by the early day navigator.

Early navigators were content to continue their operations to the lower stretches of the Colorado River, leaving it for Colonel Birds-eye and his party to make the dangerous trip from Lee’s Ferry to the smoother waters at Needles.