

HOOVER DAM'S LAKE TO HALT SCIENCE STUDY

LOS ANGELES, April 8. (U.P.)—While most people of the southwest eagerly look forward to the opening of gigantic Hoover dam, to Dr. Frederick Webb Hodge, noted Indian authority, the inrush of waters will be something of a tragedy.

Waters backed up by the dam will inundate several Indian ruins and valuable relics of inestimable value to students of Indian civilization, he said.

While valuable excavations were made in the section to be flooded, known as Pueblo Grande de Nevada, by M. Raymond Harrington, curator of the Southwest Museum, the ruins are so extensive only a small part of the possible discoveries were made.

Dr. Hodge, head of the museum, said lack of finances threatened to prevent completion of the work before Hoover dam is finished.

The ruins are considered highly important to the knowledge of Indian civilization, as they represent an early Pueblo people. Hodge said it was highly unusual to find this type of Indian civilization so far removed from the known Pueblo country of New Mexico and Arizona.

Dr. Harrington, who headed the expedition two years ago, worked under the dangerous handicap of fashioning tunnels which had to be propped up. He succeeded in bringing to life many new kinds of Indian pottery shell and bone ornaments and stone implements.

He also gathered much subjective material which enabled Harrington, an outstanding archaeological and ethnological authority, to read into the relics and picture-graphs new information about the Indians' manner of life.

To an archaeologist and to Dr. Hodge, who has spent most of his life delving into Indian lore, until he is considered one of the greatest living authorities on Indians, the inundation of the level valleys and arid hills near the mouth of the Virgin river within three years will be one of the major tragedies to the knowledge of Indian culture.

A quiet-spoken executive. Dr. Hodge has had notable success in leading archaeological and ethnological expedition in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado. He has thousands of Indian friends and has formed, he said, a vast appreciation for their many nobilities.

He urged haste in the study of ethnology of Indian tribes because new generations lose an increasing number of the customs of their ancestors.