

NUGGETS OF BOULDER COLOR

By Elton Garrett

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SLOW RIVER SHIPPING

Yes, the Colorado river at one time was used for freighting.

But how efficient is freighting when a consignment of paper and other goods is delayed for six months—not not six weeks, not six days—six MONTHS in transit.

The Mohave County Miner, Arizona newspaper, fifty years ago ordered a shipment of paper. The railroads being yet under construction into the Kingman and Mineral Park country, shipment was to be made by river, a boat to load at Yuma and move up the Colorado to the vicinity near Eldorado canyon, whence the freight was to be hauled up the desert road to the mining communities.

Said the Mohave County Miner fifty years ago:

“The steamer Mohave, with Captain Holhamus in command, arrived last Wednesday at its destination with a large tonnage of freight for Mineral Park, Hackberry and other points: This freight laid at Yuma more than six months and the merchants are very much

peevish with the delay, as now merchandise and other stuff can be obtained from the east within a few weeks from date of order.

“Of course, were the railroad not so close to our territory the merchant would be pleased to receive the goods at any time.

“A consignment of paper from the coast was aboard for the Miner, but news paper had to be ordered from Denver and has been in use the past month.

“Freight teams are at work hauling the freight from the Colorado river, but it will be the last freight that will be shipped in here from Yuma, although all the places along the river will continue to be supplied in this way.”

How different was transportation in those days from that of the present, with fast trains and even air mail now passing through both Kingman and Las Vegas, either side of Boulder City, and with fast roads connecting these three points in this desert country with Los Angeles, Salt Lake and other points east and west.

Fifty years ago the railroads were coming in the Kingman country, taking the place of pioneer methods of travel that were tortuous. Nearly 30 years ago the railroad came through Southern Nevada, 20 years after the Santa Fe was built through Kingman.

No longer was ore from Eldorado canyon in Nevada and the Oatman mining district in Arizona shipped down the river by boat. As a means of transportation the lower stretches of the treacherous Colorado went into the discards with the coming of the railroads, though it is yet pronounced a navigable stream. And no longer did newsprint suffer a six months delay before a boat could carry it up to Kingman and Mineral Park.

— BUY AT HOME —

Were Their Faces Red?

Two of America's biggest financiers escorted Mr. George Bernard Shaw to the platform in New York and when they heard him attack all financiers as lunatics a few moments later they must have felt moved to plead guilty.