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FROM ROOSEVELT TO PHOENIX BY CANAL IS TRIP DESCRIBED

Navigable possibilities of Phoenix were unexpectedly brought to the front yesterday at the luncheon meeting of the Rotary club when Herbert Ensign and Donald Scott, two Phoenix young men, described in a most interesting manner a trip by canoe from Roosevelt lake to Phoenix, thus placing this city on the water map in a manner that offers many future possibilities.

The canoe in which the trip was made was built expressly for that purpose and was made extra strong although light in order to be easily transported around rapids that could be navigated. They took along a camera, food, gun, fishing tackle and a necessary amount of bedding.

After spending some time on the lake fishing, during which they encountered a few squalls which made them fearless of anything they anticipated in the river, the young men transported their canoe to below the dam, placed it in the water and the trip started.

They left Roosevelt in the morning, starting 100 yards below the dam. The first few rapids were taken all right, Herbert Ensign told the Rotarians. Then the boys had their first upset. Fortunately, everything in the canoe was strapped in and nothing was lost. It was not long after righting the boat that they went over again. There are some rapids that they dared not attempt to run. The first day's voyage took the young men to the point where the road leaves the river. The second day they reached a point two miles the other side of Fish Creek.

The magnificent scenery in that part of the trip was adequately described by the speaker. Having seen the Grand Canyon, he stated that there are parts of Fish Creek canyon that rival that world wonder. Walls 2,000 feet high tower above the river and there are points where the stars are visible at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

From Fish Creek to Mormon Flats the boys were not compelled to get out of the canoe. The run from Fish Creek to the Flats was made in three and one-half hours. They reached Granite Reef for the night at 9:30.

Sixty pictures were taken on the trip, but the boys stated that in order to do justice to the photographic possibilities of the journey there should be one person whose only duty it should be to handle the camera, for they were too occupied in handling the canoe to be prepared to catch a scene at the proper time.

Considerable fun was evoked from the fact that after having shot many perilous rapids in the river in the canyon, the boys were upset in the staid old Arizona canal. This happened when they were trying to go under a water gate which they had miscalculated as to the height from the water. On that occasion the baggage in the canoe was not strapped in, and they were fishing out stuff from the canal for some time afterward.

The description of the canoe trip from Roosevelt lake to Phoenix was a veritable classic, it being so unusual, and probably will be the cause of other similar trips. The young men received an ovation at the conclusion of the description of the trip.

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