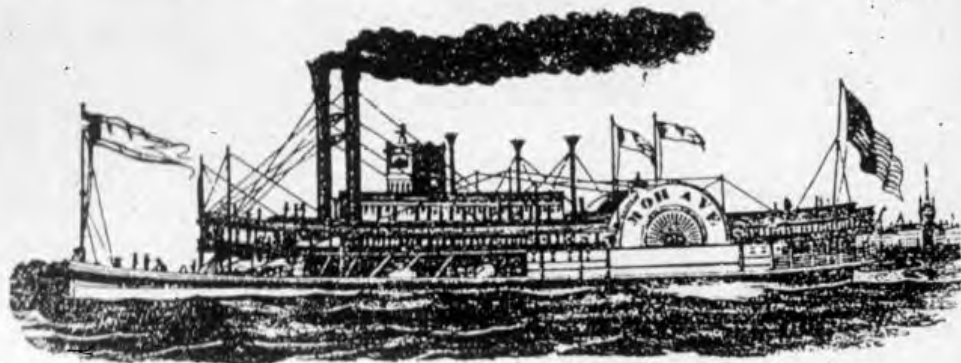


Highlights of
Boating in
Arizona to about
1920

“Boat: A relatively small, usually open craft of a size that might be carried on a ship. An inland vessel of any size.”
Webster’s Dictionary.

The Colorado Steam Nav. Co.
Will Dispatch
THE LARGE PALATIAL and MAGNIFICENT



STEAMER MOHAVE.

which

will leave Yuma for El Dorado Cañon and intermediate points on SUNDAY MAY 1st., at 9 o'clock A. M., Parties desiring freight or passage by this STEAMER will please call at the Company's Office in the Railroad Depot foot of Main Street.

J. F. KNAPP Agent C. S. N. Co.

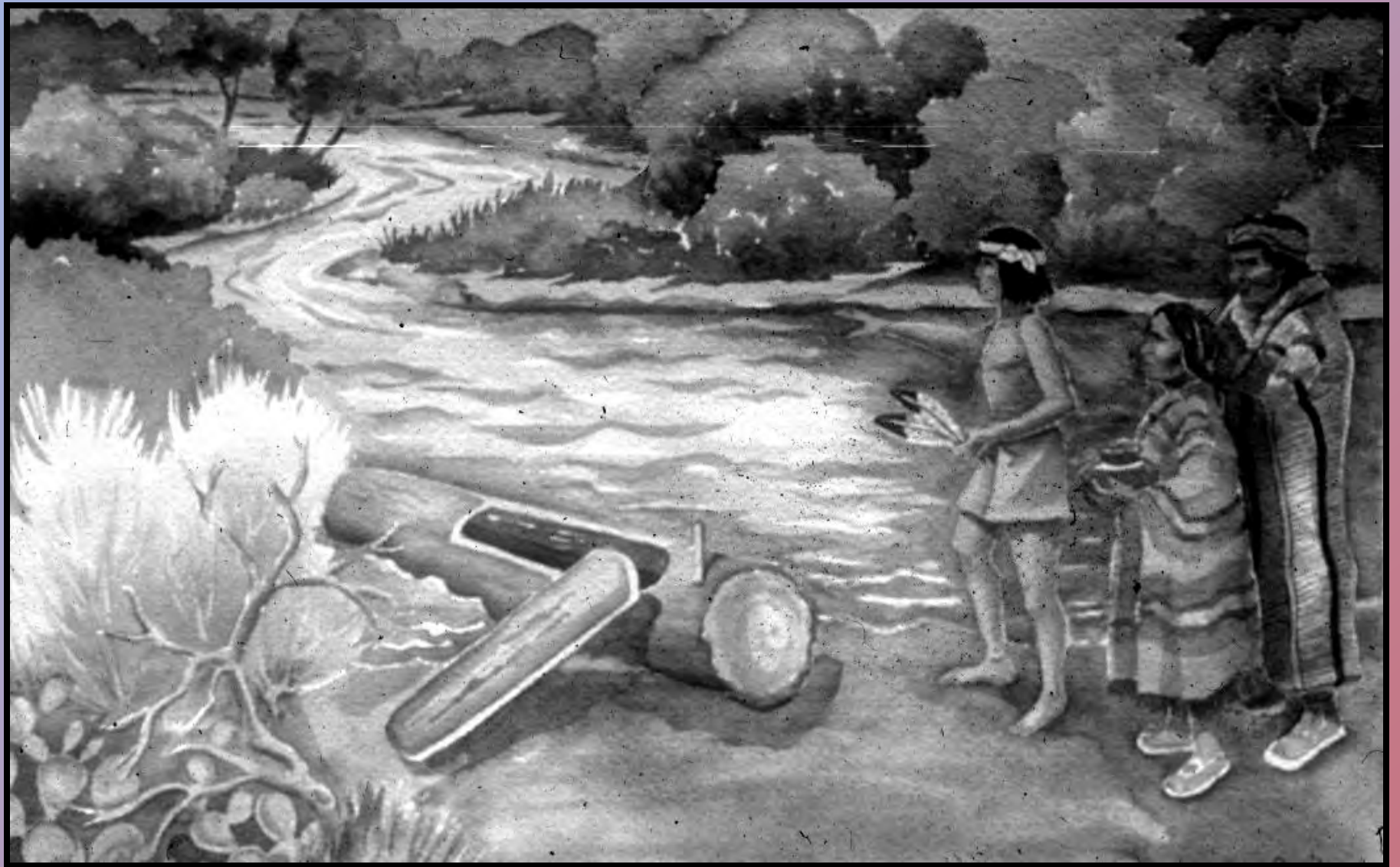
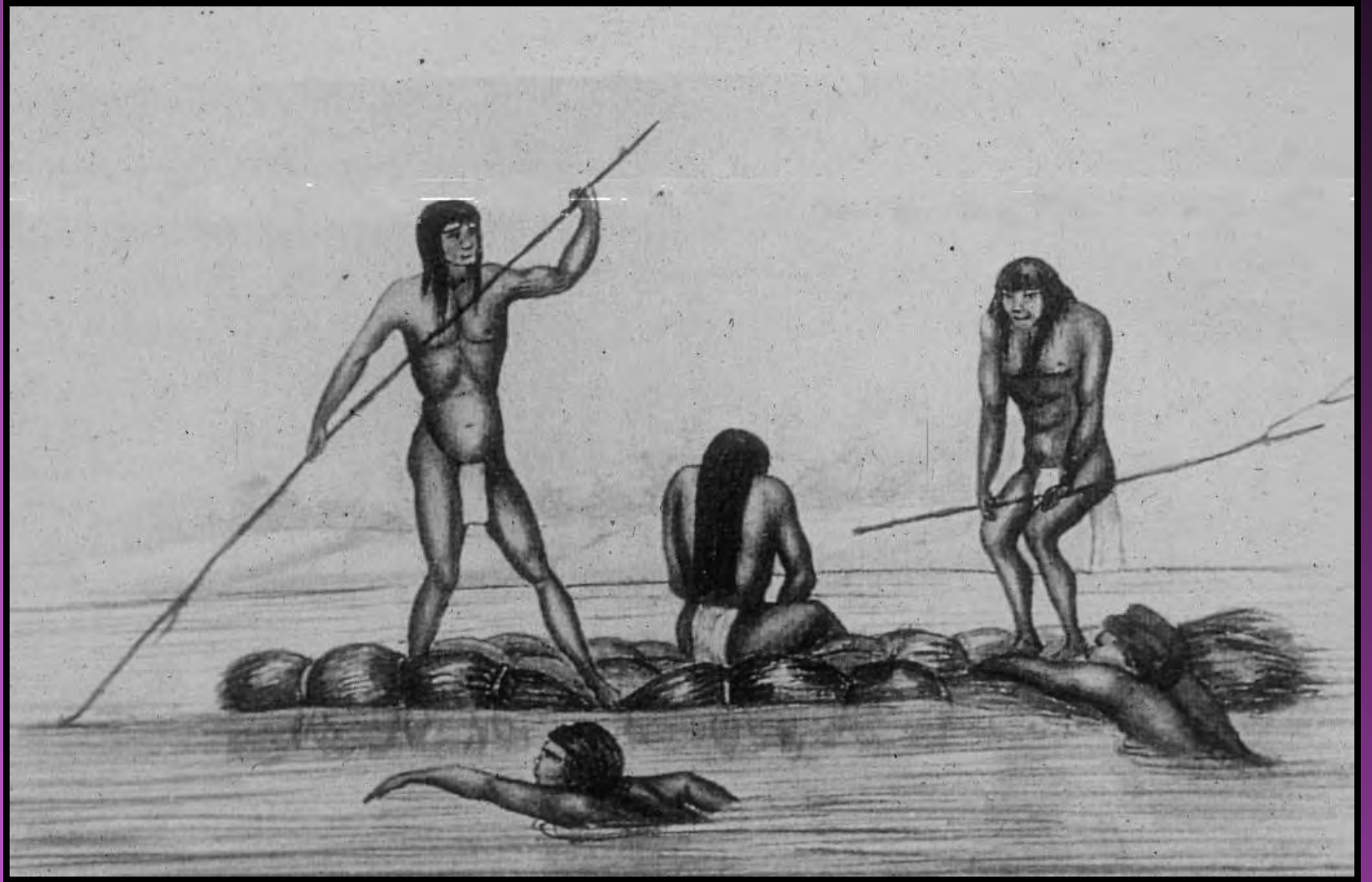




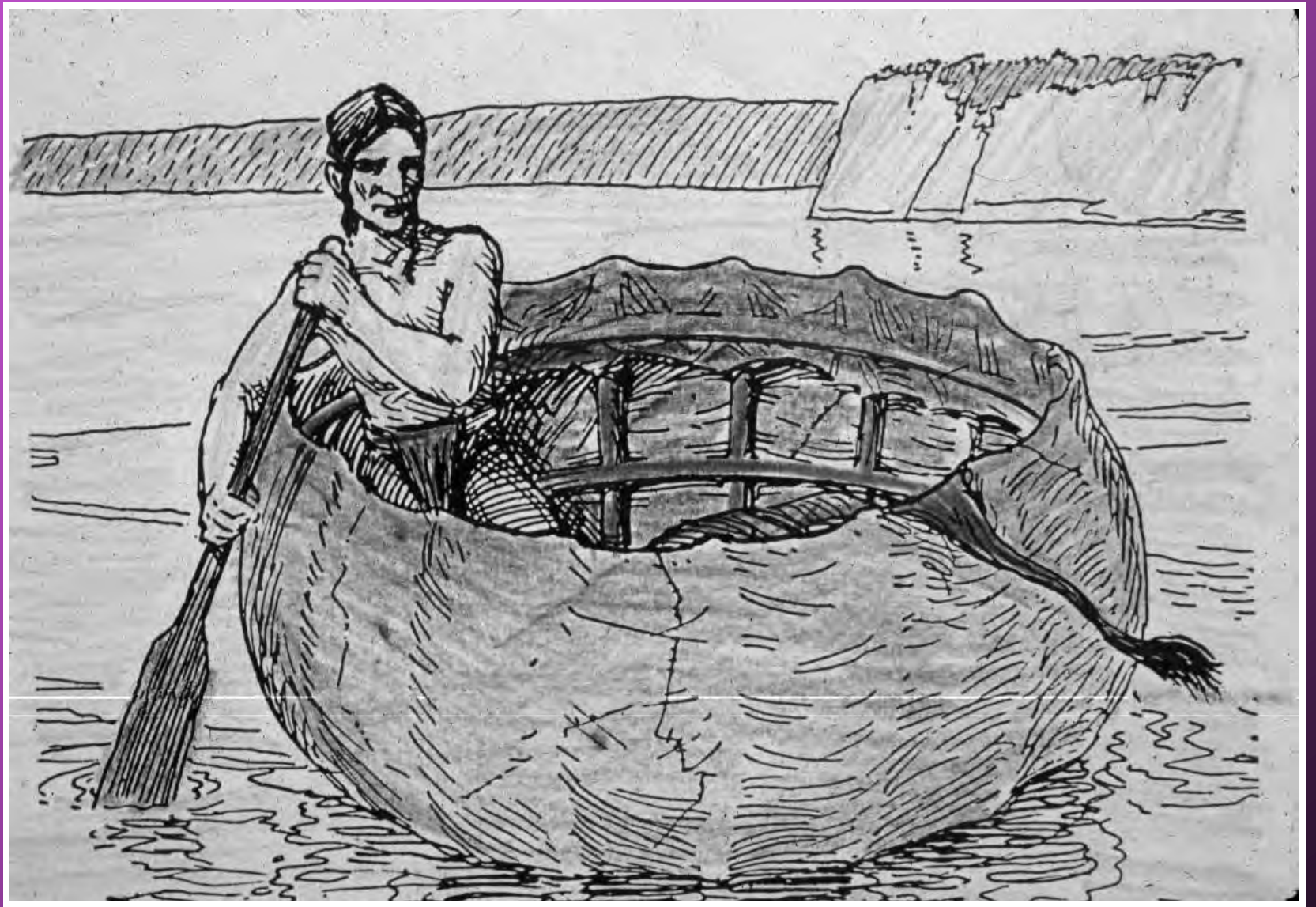
FIG. 27—The balsa afloat.





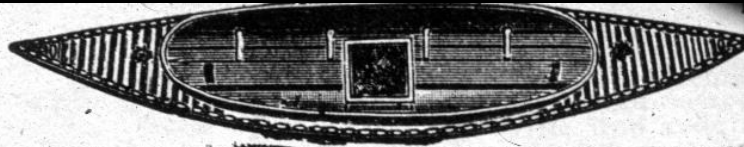






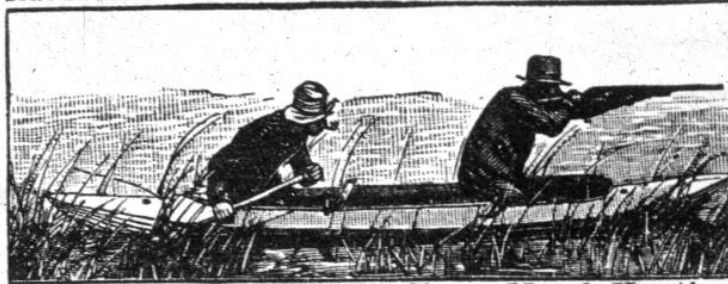


Mail Order Boats
and
Home-made Boats



No. 6R8703. The "GET THERE" Sheet Metal Hunting Boat, 14 feet long, 36-inch beam, 14 inches deep at the top of combing. The cock pit is 9 feet long and the boat weighs about 80 pounds.

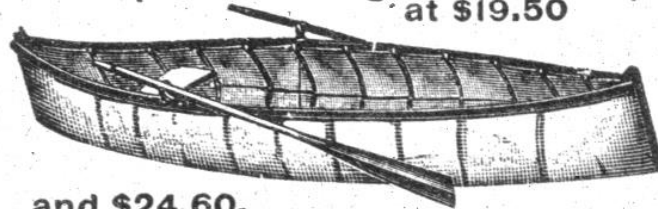
Our special price, with one pair of oars, one long or short paddle, one seat and one hickory slat bottom. **\$17.50**



No 6R8704 "BUSTLE" Sheet Metal Hunting Boat is almost identically the same as the "Get There" except the air chambers are on the side of the boat instead of the ends, making it 10 inches wider than the "Get There," and is a little more steady in the water. Our special price, with one pair of oars, one long or short paddle, one hickory slat bottom and one seat **\$24.50**

Extra seats, each. **.75**

Our Special Folding Canvas Boat, at \$19.50



and \$24.60.

From the above illustration, engraved by our artist from a photograph, you can form some idea of our special canvas waterproof folding boats.

These boats are made from heavy duck, prepared by a flexible waterproof process, so they will not crack when folded, and are made in two sizes, 8 and 12 feet long. Our 8-foot boat is calculated to be a hunting boat, and for one person only. Our 12-foot boat is calculated to hold three persons





CANOE AND BOAT BUILDING.

A COMPLETE MANUAL FOR AMATEURS.

CONTAINING PLAIN AND COMPREHENSIVE DIRECTIONS
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CANOES, ROW-
ING AND SAILING BOATS AND
HUNTING CRAFT.

BY

W. P. STEPHENS,

Canoeing Editor of Forest and Stream.

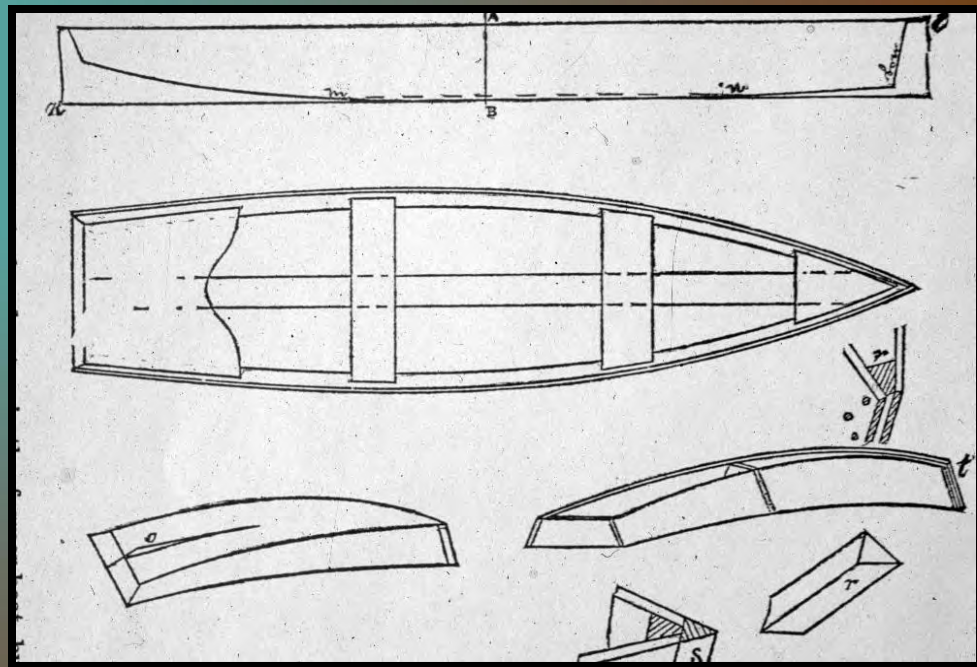
WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS AND FIFTY PLATES OF
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EIGHTH EDITION.

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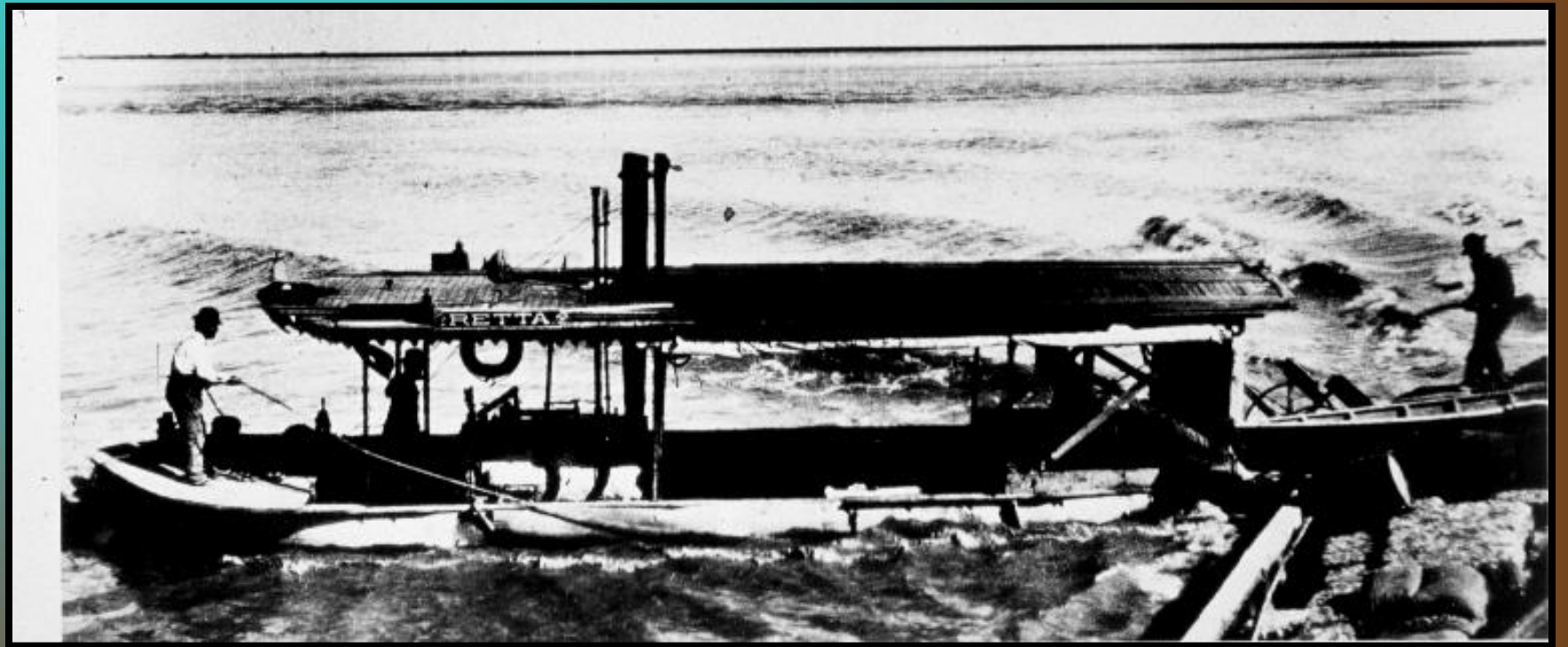
1898.











“It was a good boat, with a light wooden frame, canvas covered. We gave the canvas a good coat of white lead and oil, sold our burros and were ready to start.” Stanley Sykes.

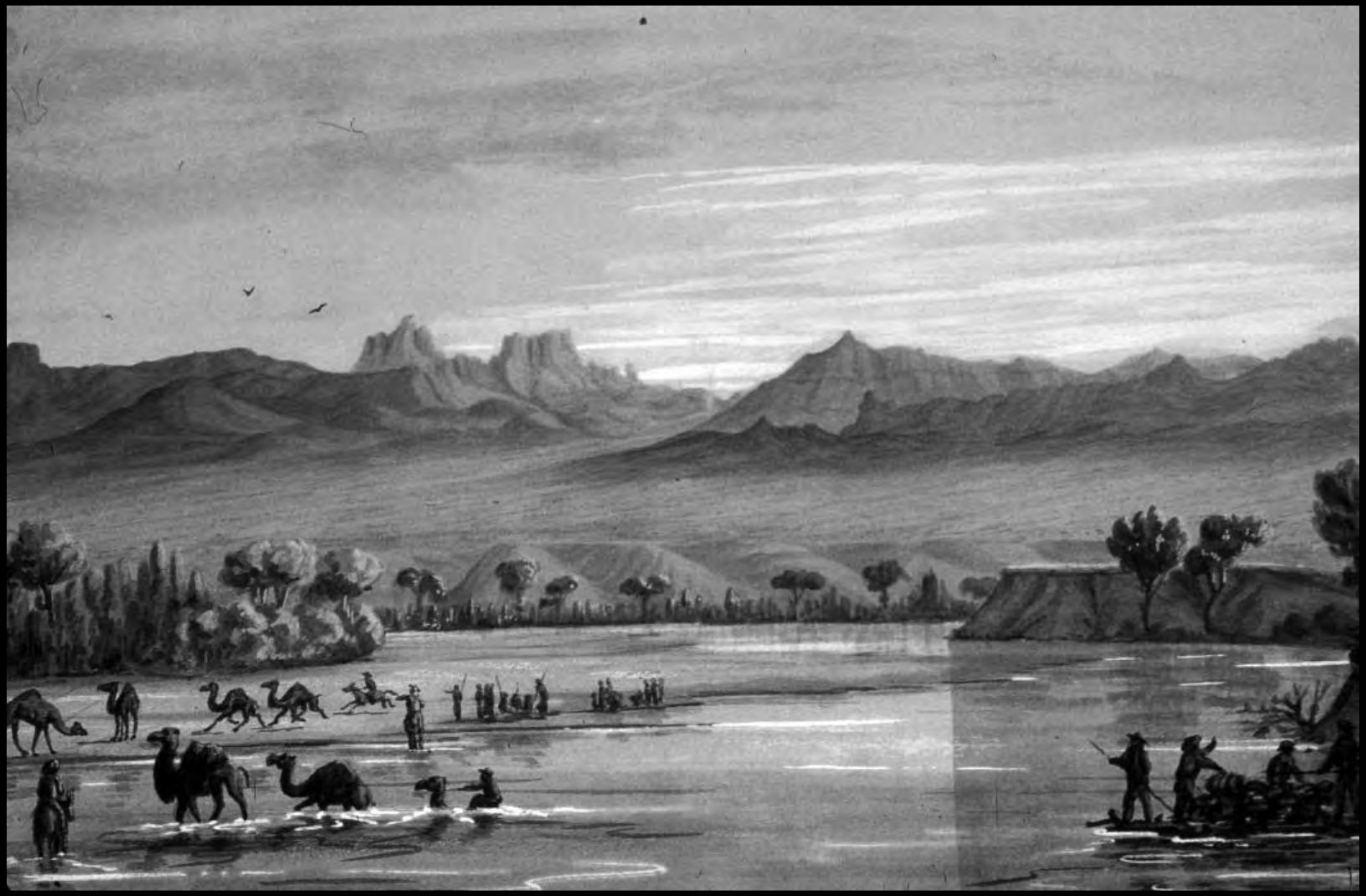






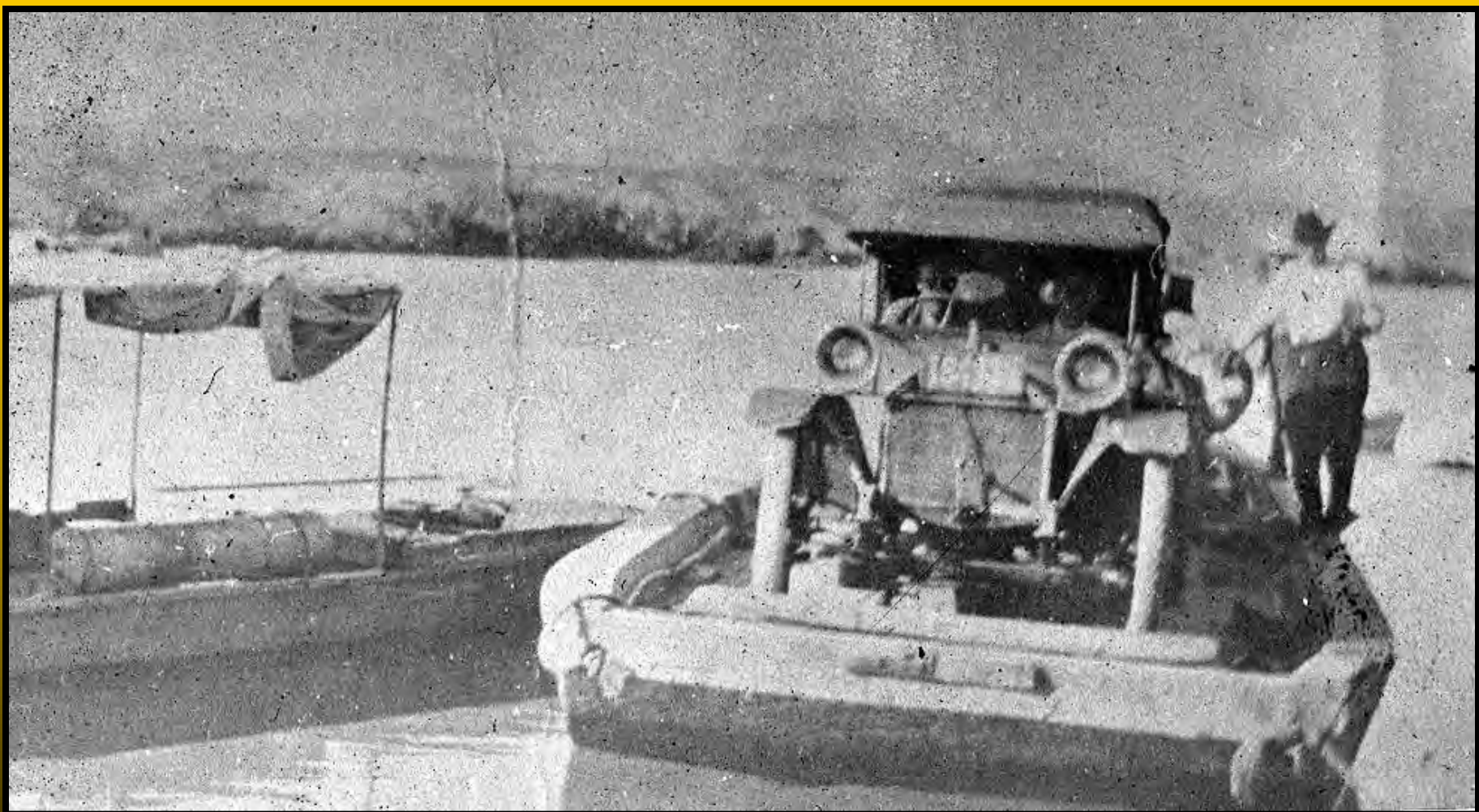


Crossing
the
Rivers





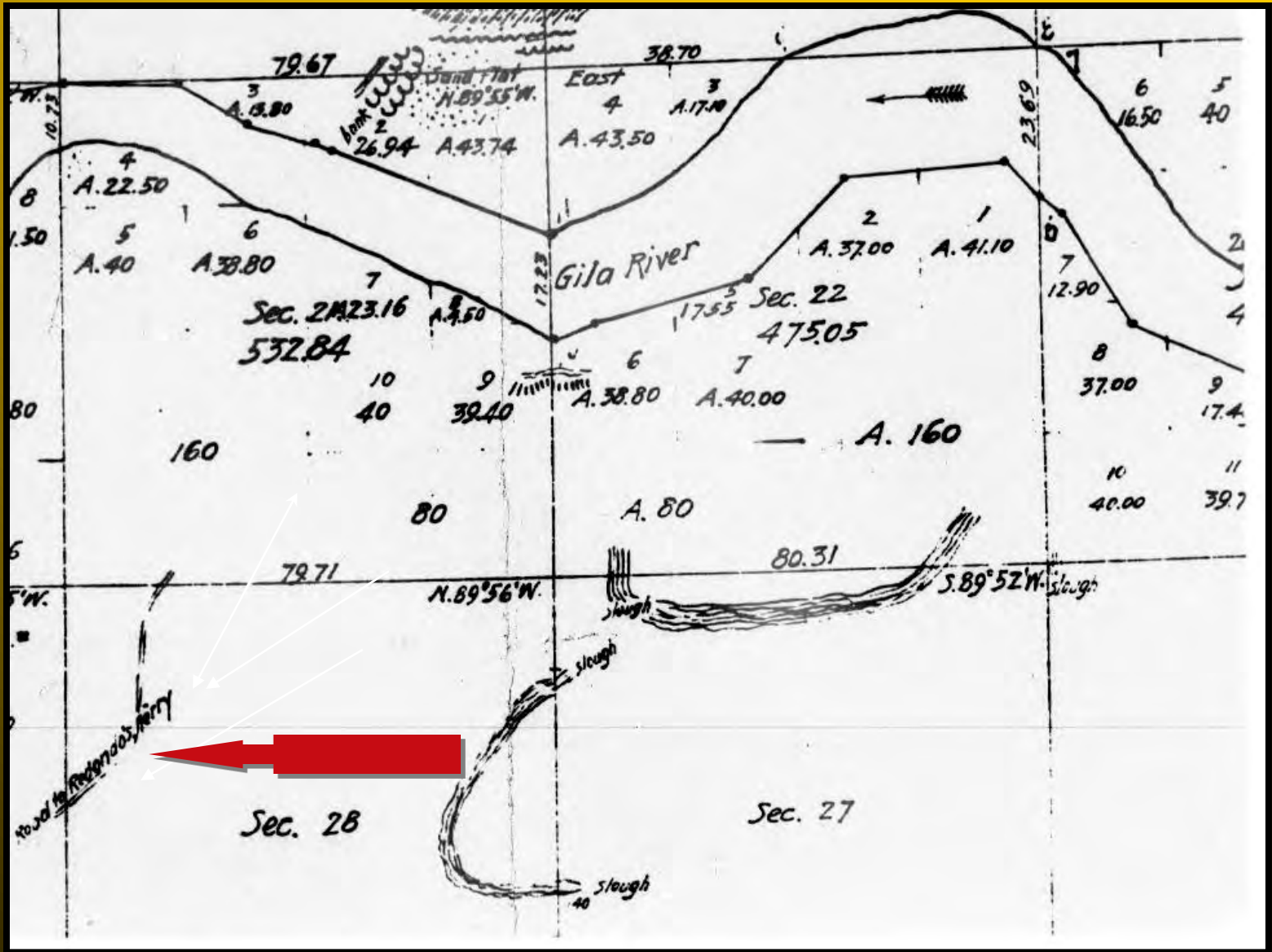
“The work of putting up the big wire cable across the Salt River for the large ferry boat of the Gila and Salt River Ferry Company began this morning.” Phoenix Herald. 1886.







Home

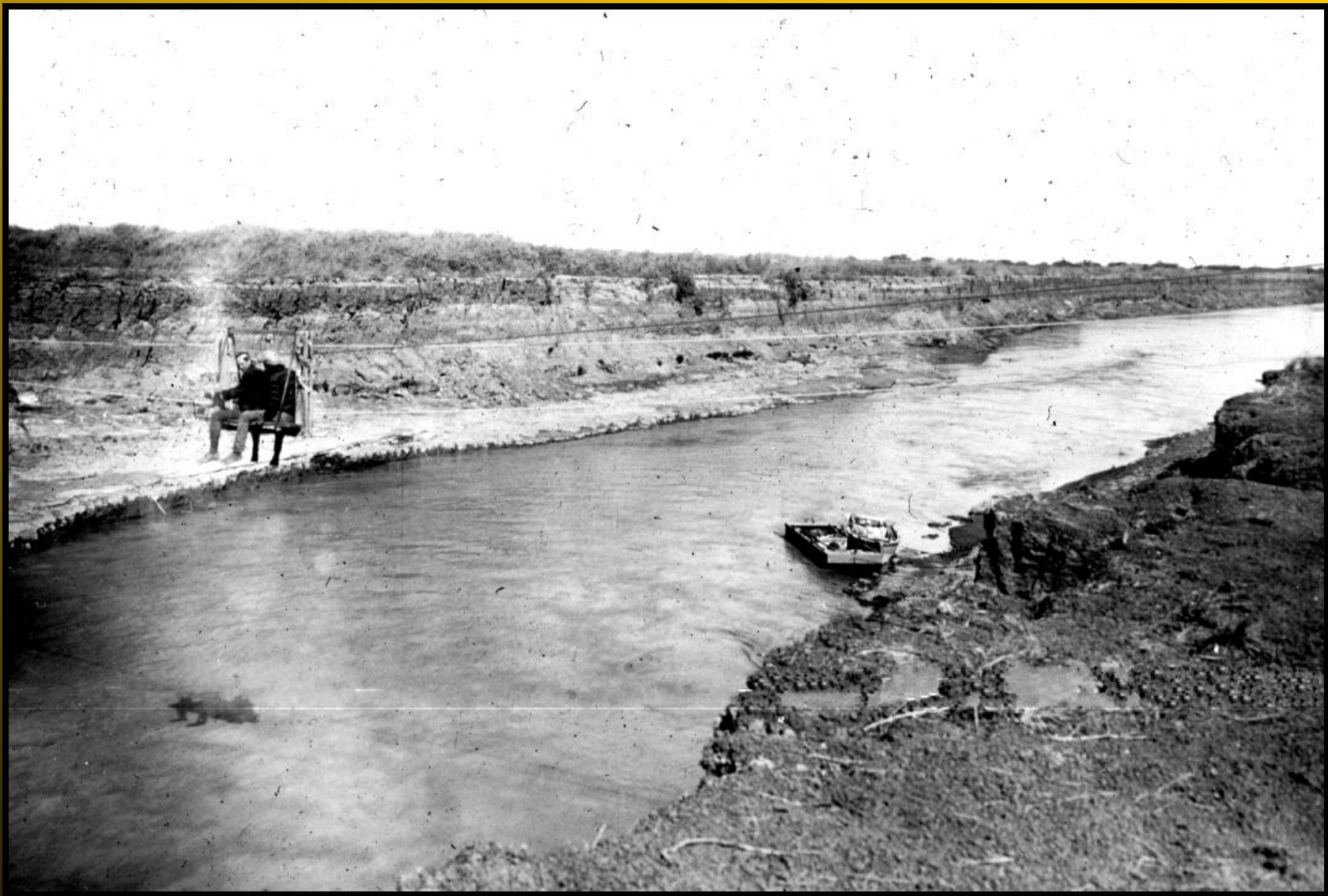


No. 2

A. 80

~~Found in Arizona~~

“Two men employed on the J.M. Ranch to attempt crossing the [Verde] River ... The boat they were using broke loose from a suspension cable and capsized. The men drowned.” Verde Copper News 1931





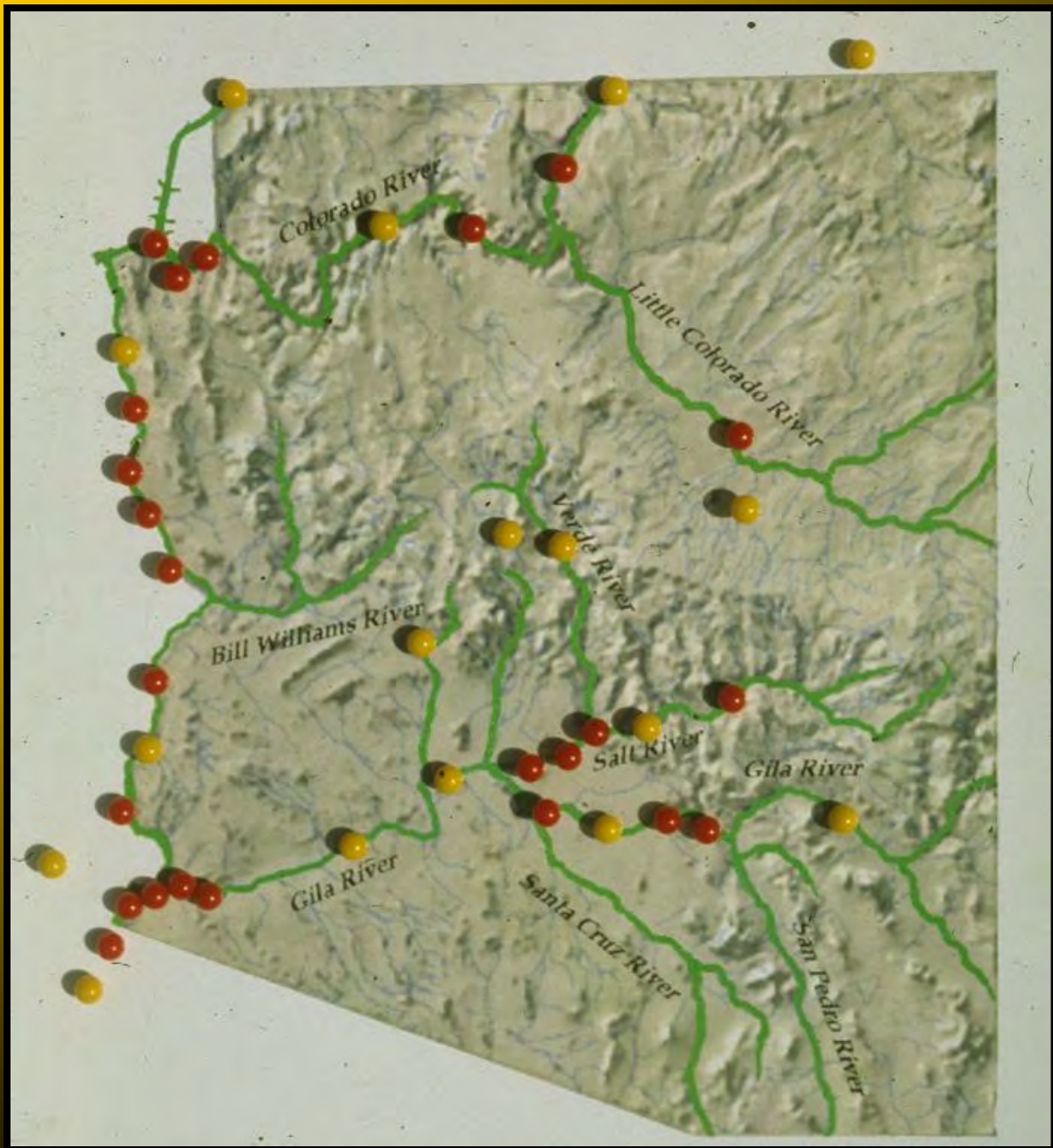
The ferry was tangled up for a while in midstream and during its wildest performances 2 Mexicans came running over the hills, startling the watching crowd by their shouts “Muy grande caballo” They were under the impression that Jack Hughes had returned from Phoenix with a big pack horse and was trying to get him across the river. ...” Florence Blade Tribune 1905.

1. Dr E. Mc Guire 2 Thos French 3 Gov Hunt
4 A. F. Wright. 5 Russell Young.
Crossing the Gila on boat on way to inspect
prison. Mch 18th 1916









Old Ehrenberg

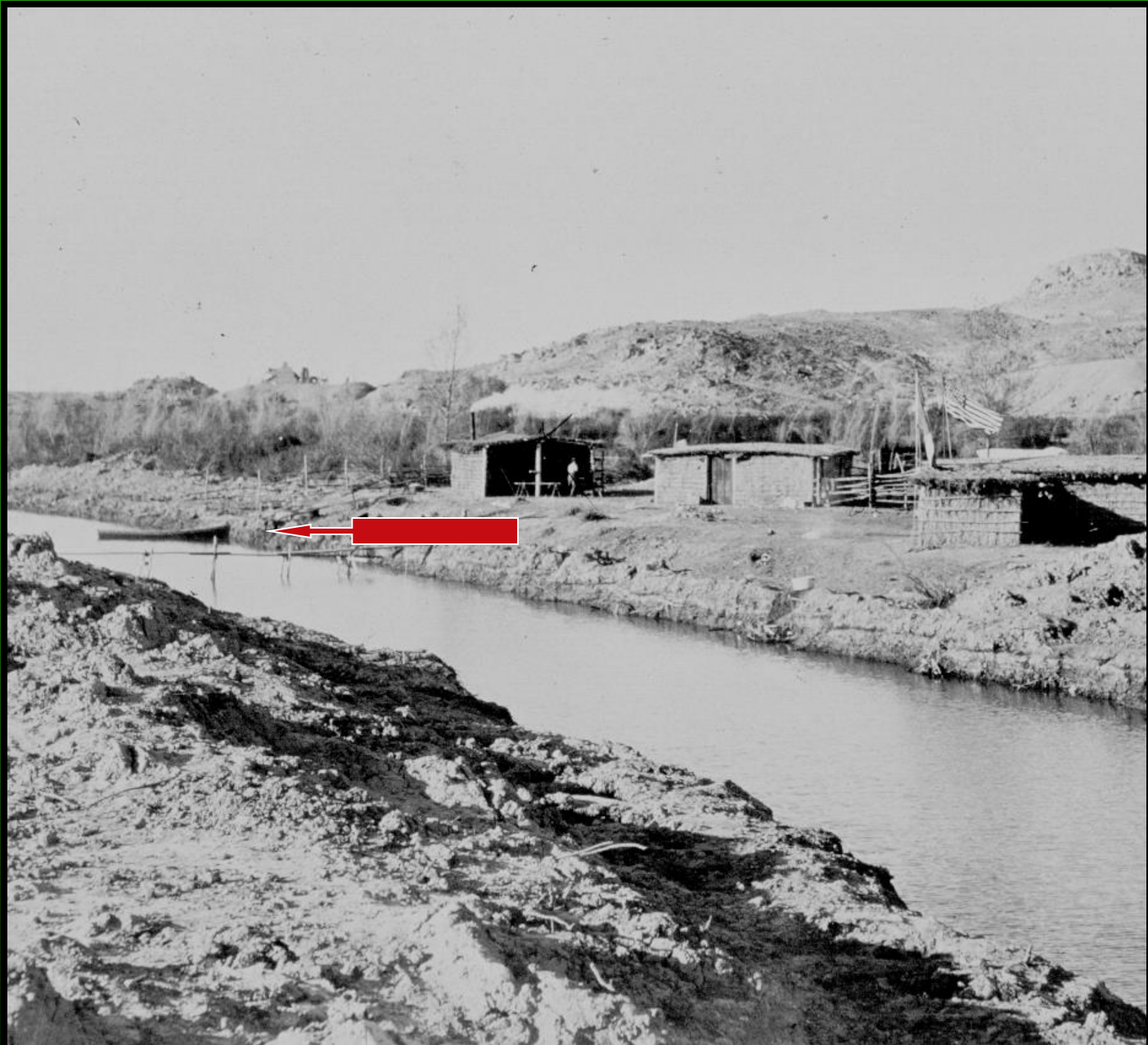
The Bradshaw Ferry was established at this point on June 16, 1862. First called Mineral City, it was later renamed for Herman Ehrenberg in 1867. By 1870, after the decline of LaPaz, Ehrenberg was the second most important port on the Colorado River serving most of central Arizona. This port saw the unloading and transfer to wagons of an incredible amount of freight. The last steamboat sailed down the River in 1908.

LaPaz County
Historical Commission

Useful Boats and Flood Rescues

“□A raft of large size was made of dry cottonwood poles, and when put into the water floated as lightly as cord. The raft was partly laden with canvas packcovers and other buoyant articles, and two men started with it for the further bank.”







**They recently took a gasoline boat
across the desert to the Colorado
and in piloting a couple of boats up
the river to their gold grounds
narrowly escaped the loss of two
men and all their provisions.
Coconino Sun 1910.**

“Arizona Eastern bridge at Gila has lost eight spans. Service to start soon with ferry. Arizona Republican 1916.

“The ferry is across the south channel of the river and the train from the side cannot get within a quarter mile of it. ... Passengers have to walk down the paralyzed structure to south channel then descend to the muddy bank and embark in boats.” Arizona Republican 1905.

**“The Kelvin Navigation Company
launched their new flat boat
Sunday afternoon Attached to
a wire cable extending across the
Gila...” Florence Blade Tribune
1905.**

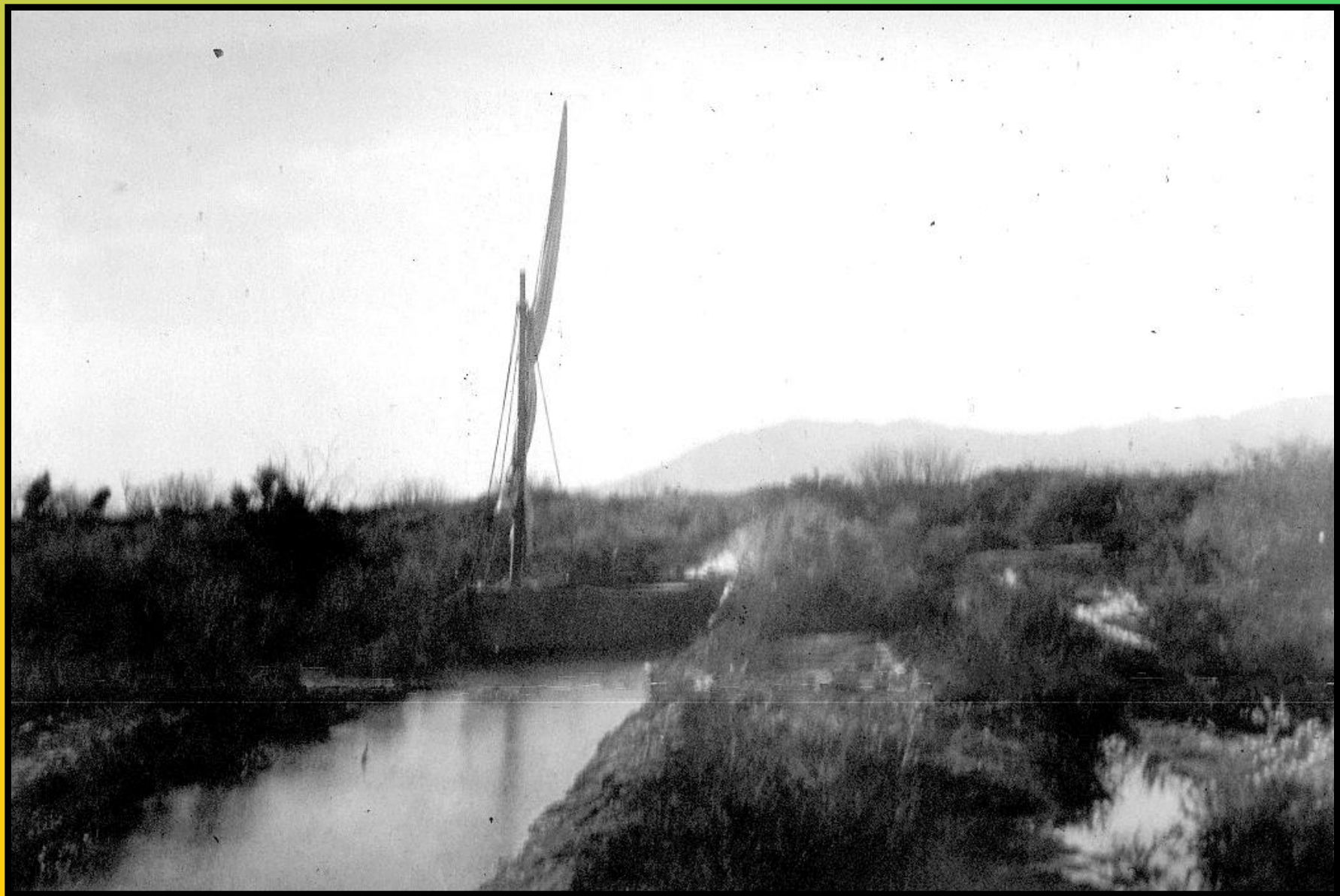
“The Gila Queen, a finely constructed boat recently purchased by the Florence Commercial Company was busy all day Sunday transferring freight for that company.” Florence Blade Tribune 1905.

“... it was prohibited from operating its boats on any of the shallow seas between here [Florence] and Casa Grande that can safely be forded by the stages.” Arizona Blade Tribune March 1905.

**“At the peak of the flood, the Arizona National Guard dispatched its collapsible boat to rescue people on top of a barn near Sahuarita.”
1914. Arizona Daily Star.
Tucson Arizona.**

Recreational Boating





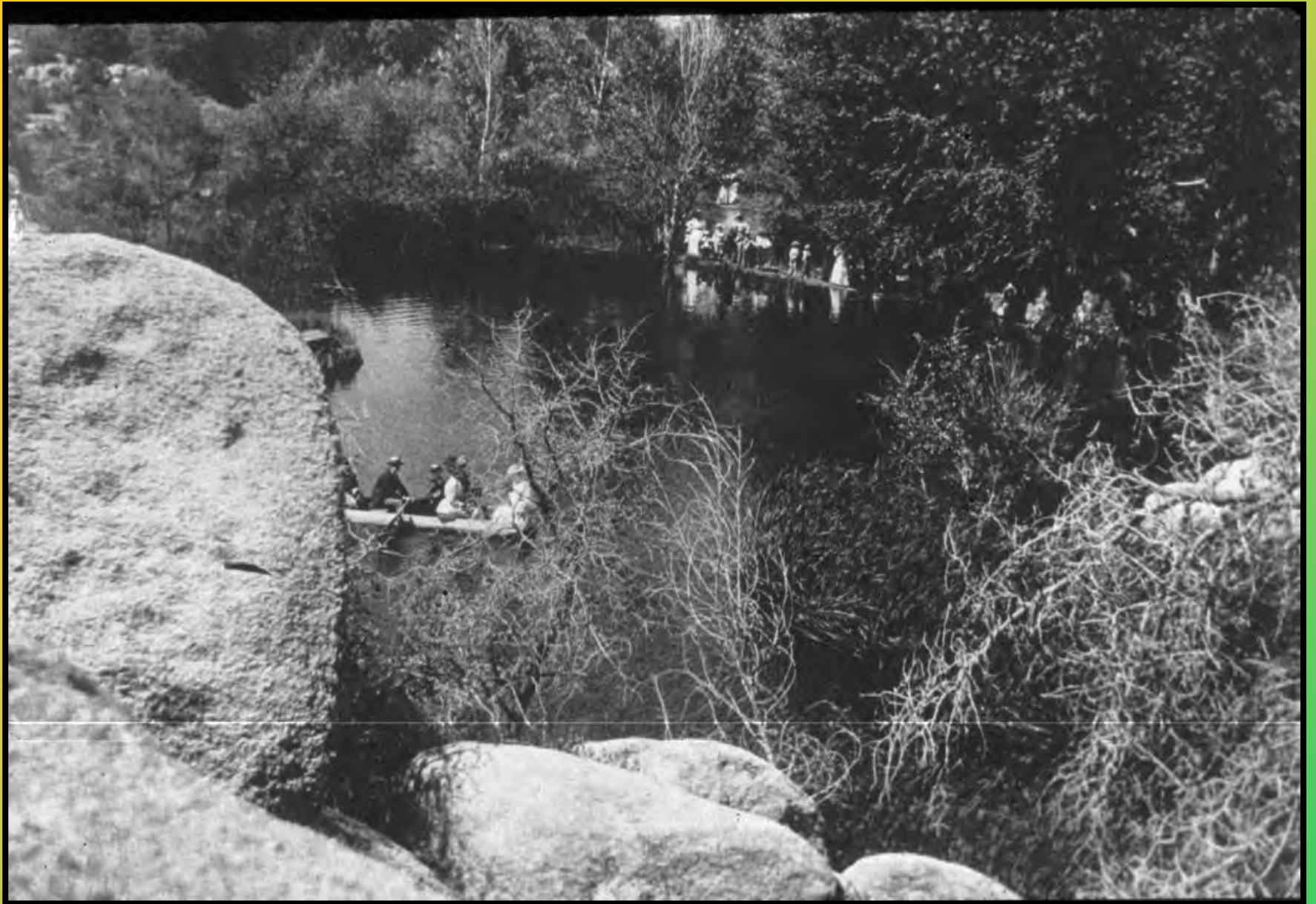


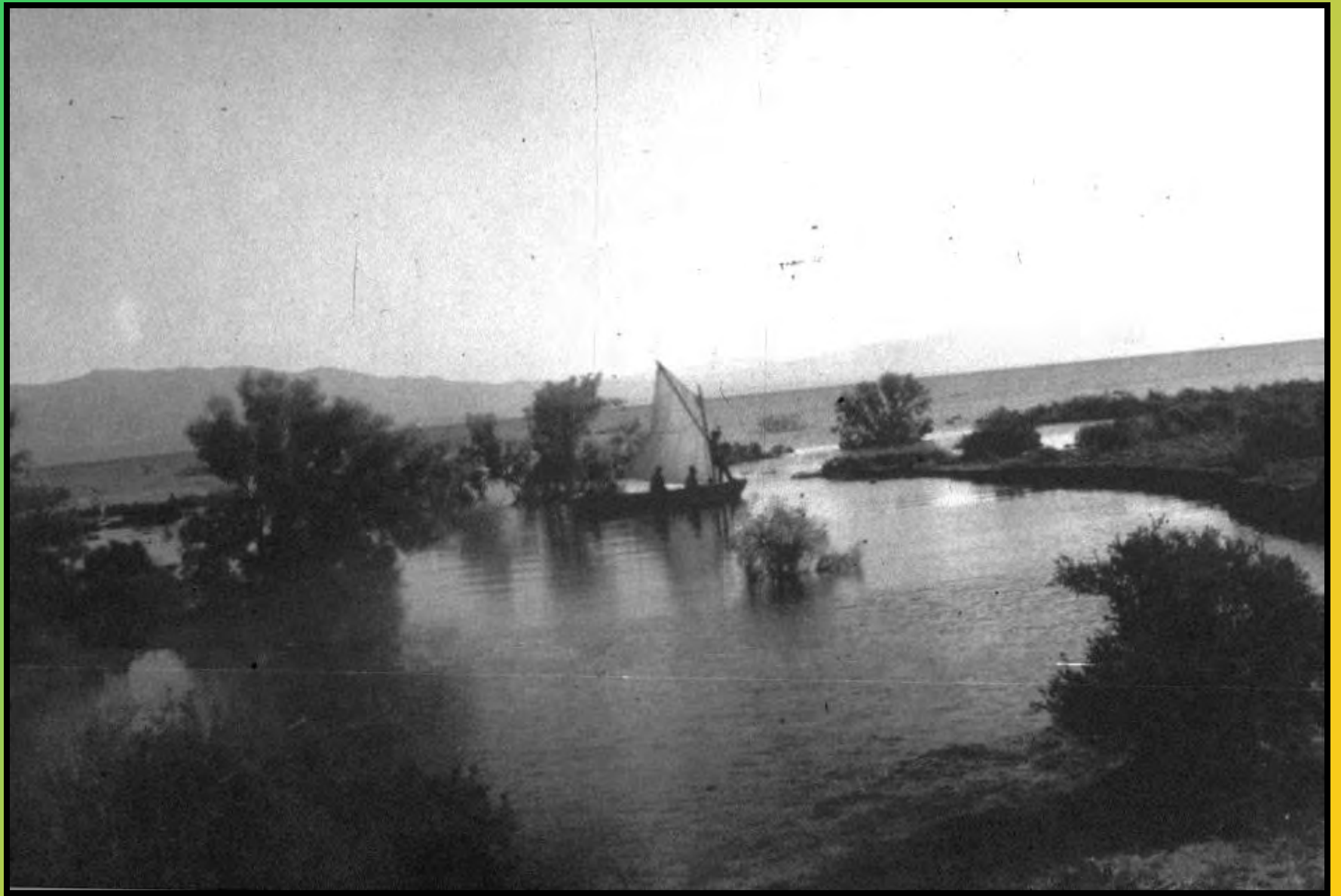
MAKES Constance 85749
at Fort Grant, Ariz.



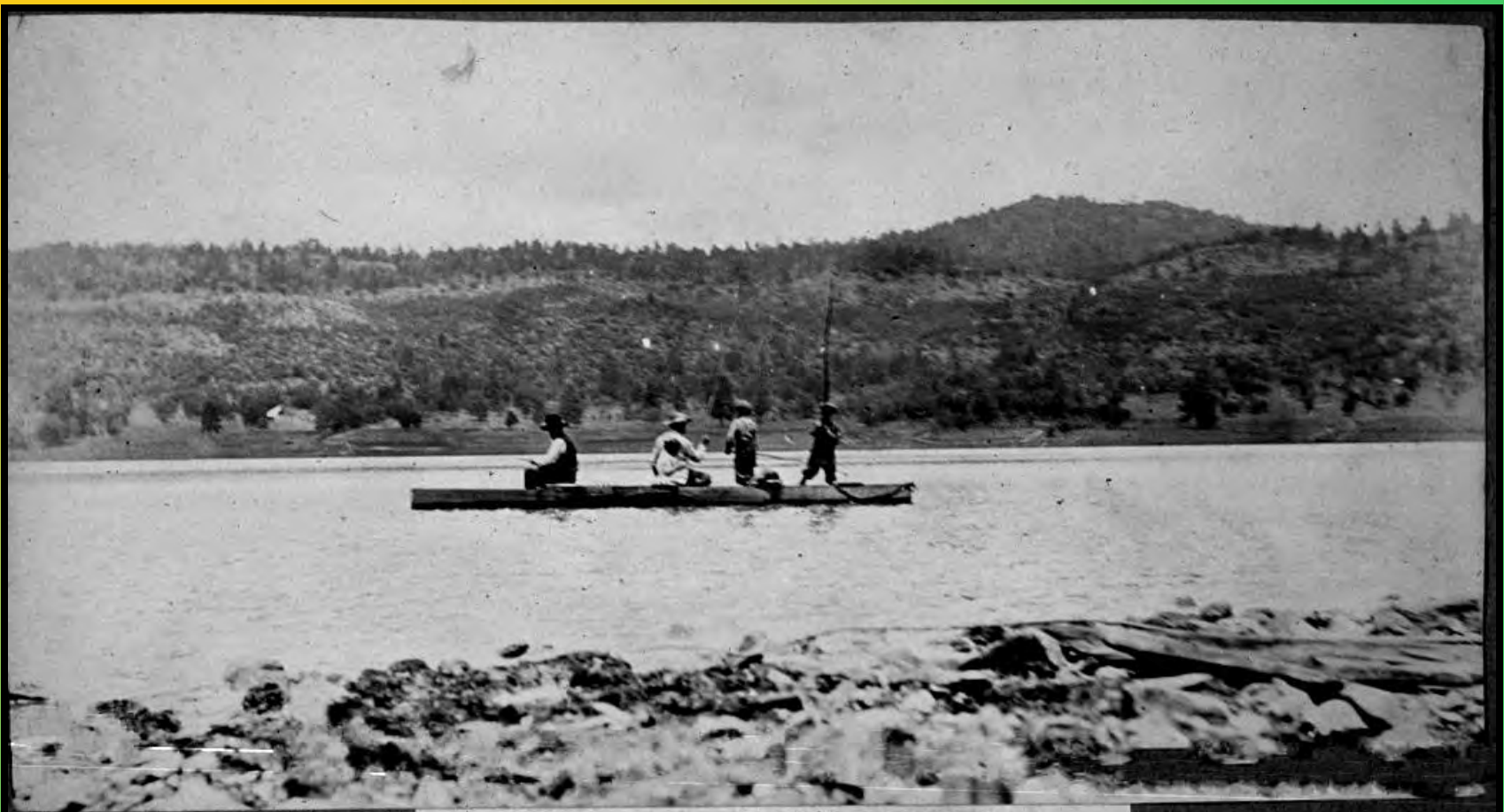


**“Dancing, boating, bathing ...
will be among the attractions
to be found at this [Granite
Dells] summer resort ...”
Arizona Journal Miner 1907.**



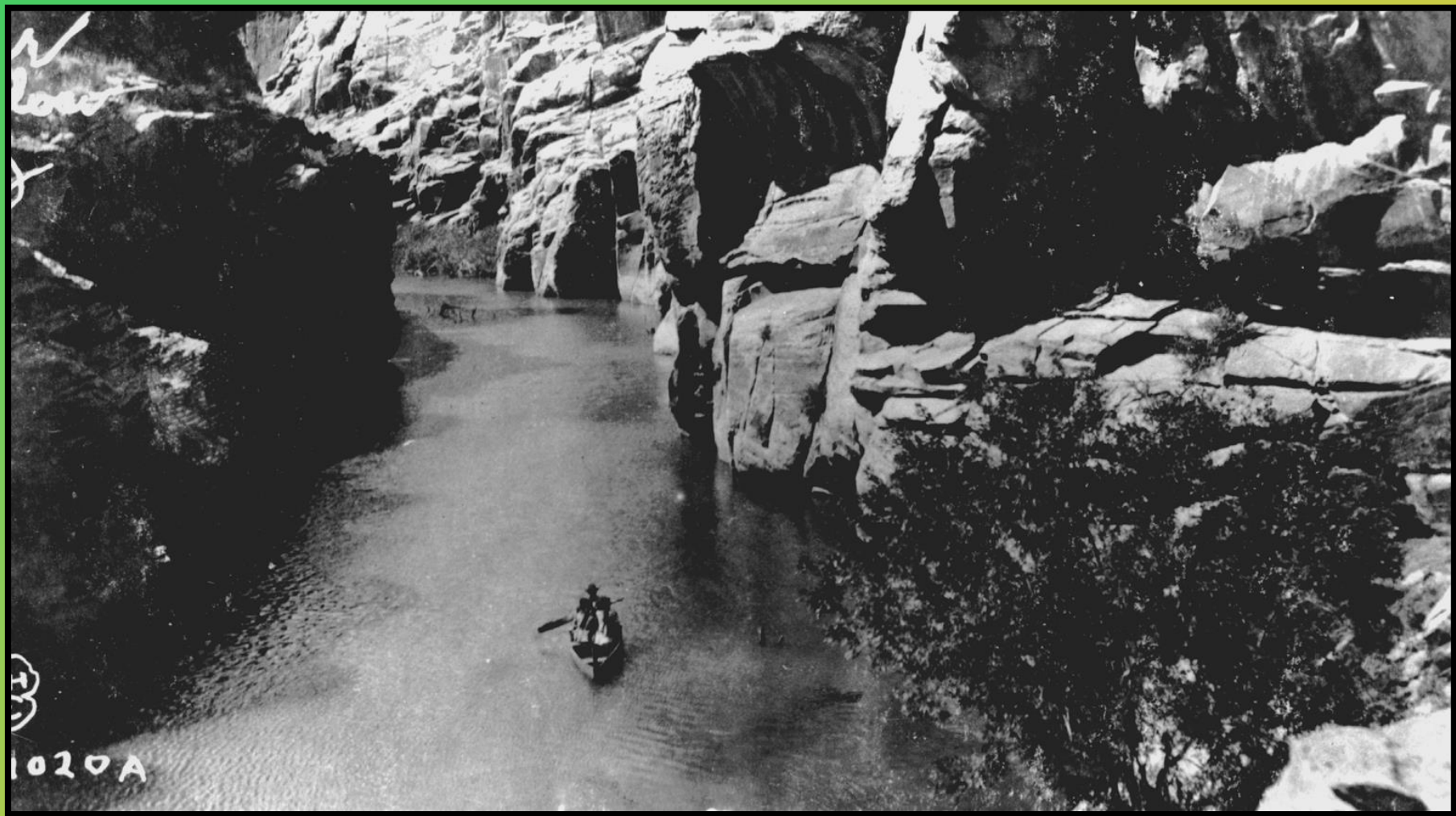




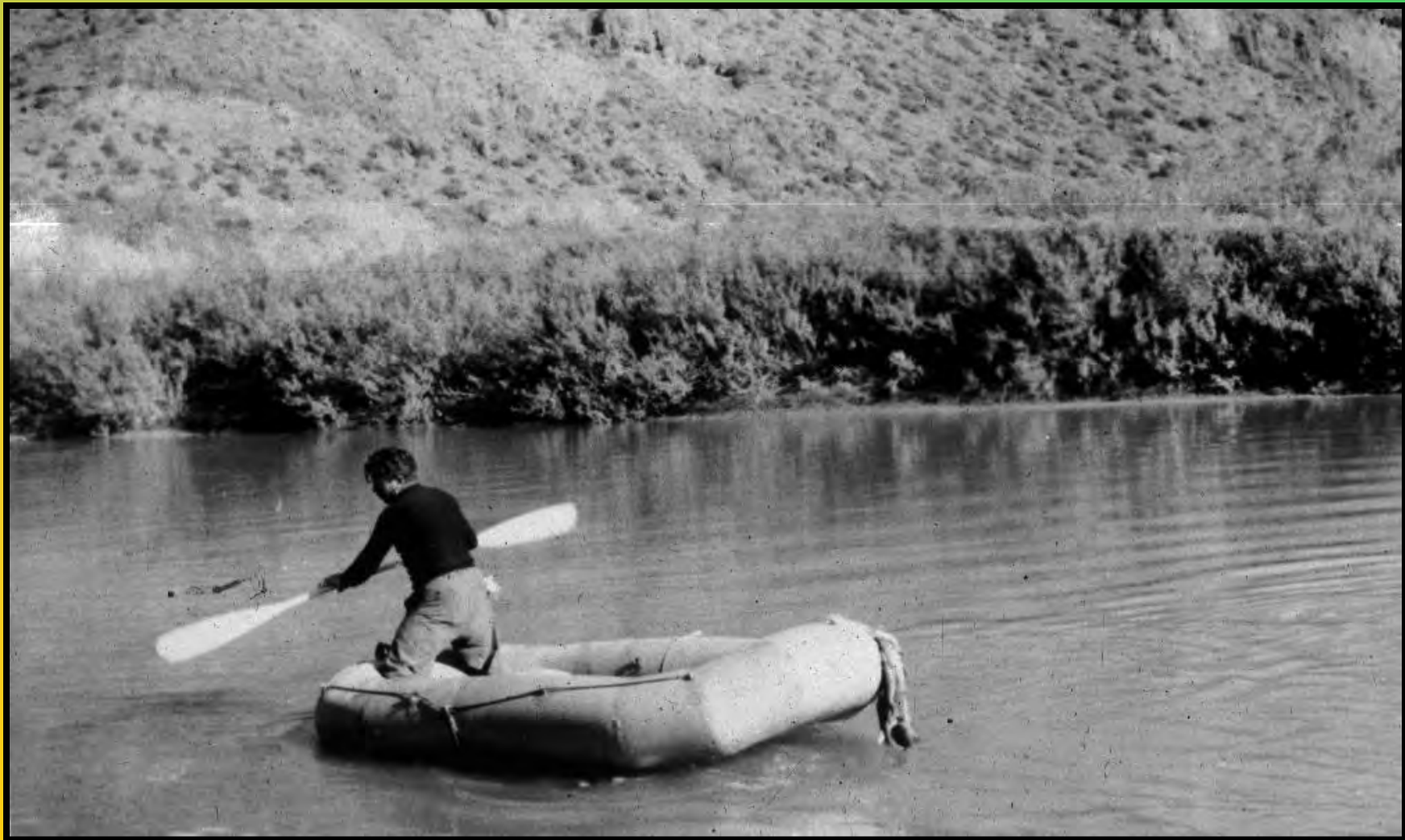


"STONEMAN'S LAKE: MOUTH OF A
CRATER: GREAT FISHING"

**“Two men arrived here last week who had just accomplished the dangerous feat of navigating the Gila River from source to mouth.”
Yuma Times. May 1891.**









“Thus was ended in the most pleasant of towns my two months trip down the Gila River, yet for wealth untold I would not engage to make the trip down this hazardous waters again.” Yuma Sentinel 1895.

“□ We saved the boat but we lost a most all so we was done up for the balance of the trip. ... I got nuff of river to drink in the hieley ... I will say no one has any business on that river with a boat les than 6 feet wide 14 feet long, 3 feet hie an 2 good men. That is all.” Arizona Republican April and March 1905.



Photos from

- ◆ Arizona Historical Foundation
- ◆ Arizona Historical Society
- ◆ Arizona State University Library
- ◆ Kingman Historical Museum
- ◆ Northern Arizona University Library
- ◆ Sharlot Hall Museum
- ◆ Southwest Museum, Pasadena
- ◆ University of Arizona Library
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