

BOAT RACE THRU THE ROYAL GORGE SET FOR JUNE 19th

Two Day Celebration In Salida

CANON CITY, May 4 (UP) — The Arkansas river navy began to get up steam today as plans for the Royal Gorge boat race June 19 began to take definite shape.

The event will be open to all comers with a \$500 prize going to the boat crew which first negotiates the 60-mile river course between Salida and Canon City. Second prize will be \$200 and third prize, \$100.

These amounts were set up Tuesday evening at a meeting between the Salida and Canon City committees here. An entrance fee of \$25 will be charged each boat.

The winner's purse will be enlarged by a sum, raised through sale of \$1 tickets, each of which will entitle the purchaser to make an estimate of the length of time it will take the winning boat to negotiate the treacherous and rock filled course. Ten per cent of the total ticket sale will go to the winner. Fifty per cent will be divided on a 50-30-20 per cent basis between the three whose estimates are most nearly correct. And the remaining 40 per cent of the total ticket sale will be split between the Chamber of Commerce of Canon City and Salida.

Salida will make the boat race a community event, starting on June 17 with ball games, swimming events, a beauty contest, dance and other events. On June 18, a five-mile run off race will be held on the Arkansas above Salida. It will be in the nature of a qualifying event. An afternoon parade, horse races, band contest, street carnival, dances and other entertainment are set for that day.

The race itself on Sunday, June 19 will start at 6 a. m.

Best guesses as to the time needed to negotiate the Arkansas, including the picturesque Royal Gorge, are about eight hours.

A special Rio Grande railroad passenger train will follow the boats. The railroad parallels the river and frequent stops will be made along the water course. Plans are being made for 800 to 1,000 passengers aboard the train. The state highway patrol will control traffic along highway 50, which likewise runs parallel to the river. And the Red Cross is taking steps to set up rescue units at danger points along the river.

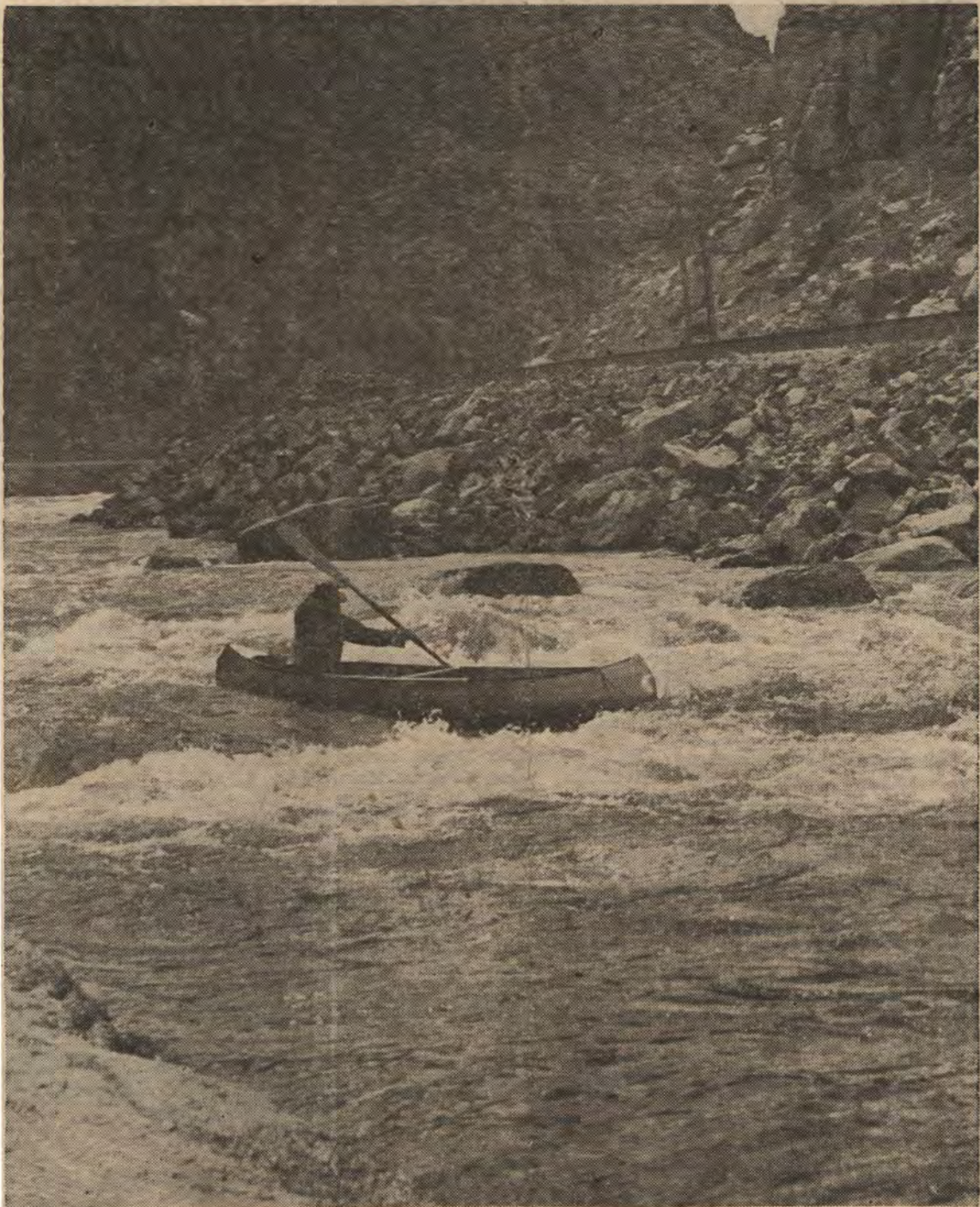
The Salida Chamber of Commerce has copyrighted the organization setting up the race under the name "Royal Gorge Boat Association".

Members of the Salida group who were in Canon City Tuesday evening for the meeting were Robert M. Abbey, Leigh Abbey, Doyle E. Johns, A. Broadstreet, O. R. Lundborg, B. Donnahue, H. Funk, DeLacey Ramsey and H. L. Haley.

Members of the Canon City committee are Stanley Blunt, chairman; Pop Gallogher, co-chairman; Chester Short, Joe Chapman, Bill Montgomery, Al Sandner and John Berta.

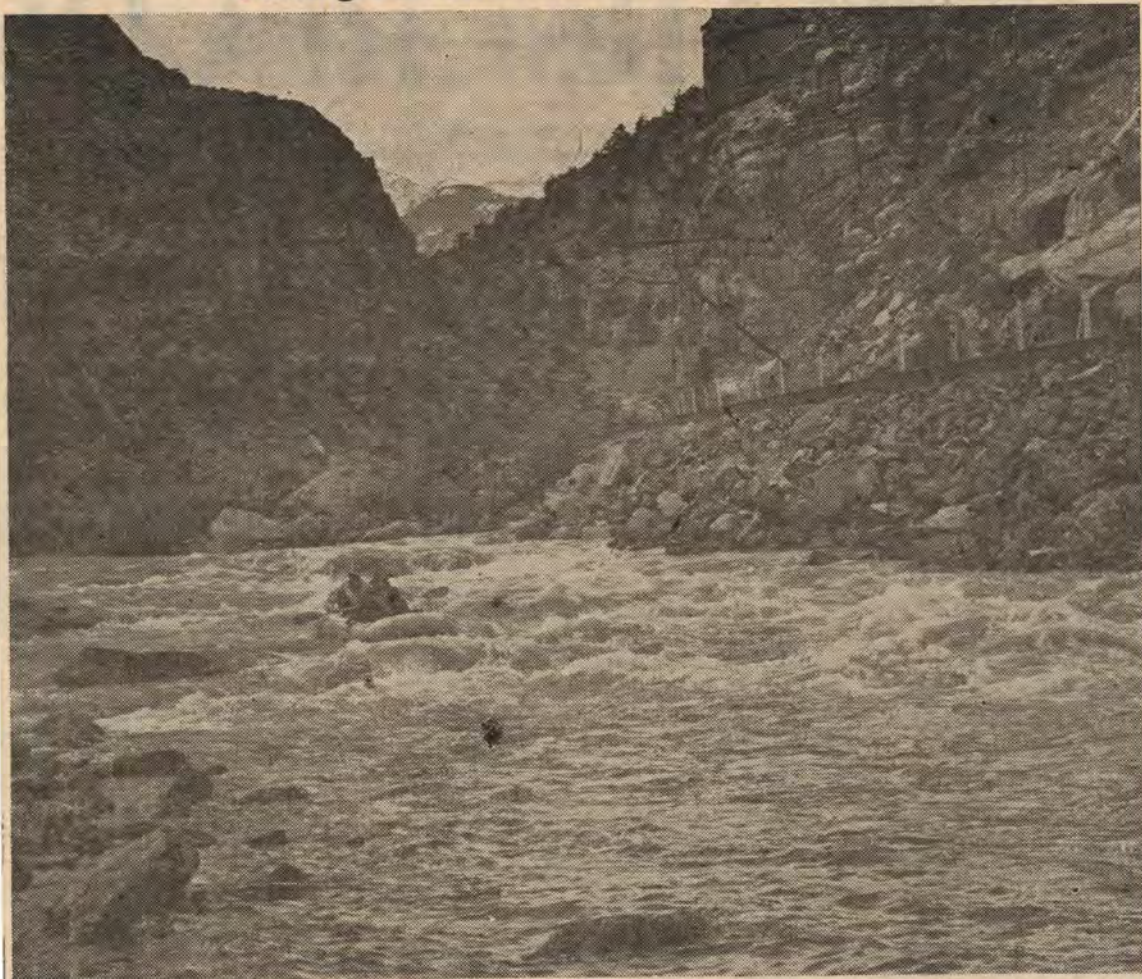
SALIDA, COLORADO, MONDAY, MAY 9, 1949

Floating Down The River



John Zugelder, of the Gunnison navy, is shown above shootin' the rapids in the Arkansas river while in town last week testing the river for the coming Salida-Royal Gorge-Canon City boat race which will take place Sunday, June 19. (Photo By Hughes' Studio.)

Testing The River For the Big Boat Race



Here to help Mr. Zugelder in testing river for the coming Salida-Royal Gorge-Canon City boat race Sunday June 19, was Howard Lowell also of Gunnison. Howard shootin' the rapids in a life raft had a Salida passenger with him Bob Padfield. Bob is in the front of the boat and Howard has a paddle in his hand. (Photo By Hughes' Studio.)

Salida-Canon City Boat Race Is Drawing Near

Telegrams and letters have been pouring into the office of the secretary of the Salida chamber of commerce daily from boatmen who are planning to enter the coming boat race down the Arkansas river in the first annual boat race from Salida to Canon City on June 19.

More than seventeen entry applications have been mailed out to boatmen throughout the United States, who have written requesting them. Many more applications are expected to make up the fast field for the rugged fifty-seven mile course through the famous Royal Gorge.

The five governors from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Mississippi and Colorado, who were invited by telegram to be honorary judges for the coming boat race, have all been heard from. They all stressed that they would like to participate in the judging but only one governor, Sid McGrath of Arkansas gave a definite answer. Governor McGrath informed the committee that he and his party expected to be on hand for the race.

Local businessmen of Salida started the ball rollin' this week in preparation for the coming three day celebration which will be climaxed by the first annual boat race from Salida to Canon City through the famous Royal Gorge.

H. L. Haley, secretary of the chamber of commerce, wired Jean Davis, who promoted the boat race at Thermopolis, Wyo., recently and wanted him to extend an invitation to the winner and runner-up to participate in the boat race here June 19.

Some eight days before the first annual boat race is to take place, Max Roemer, of Biel, Switzerland and Robert Ris, of Basle, Switzerland, are expected to arrive here to test the river out between here and Canon City. The latest word received from the two Swiss boatmen, was that they will spend several days in running the rapids to acquaint themselves with the many hazardous points along the rugged fifty-seven mile course. The two young men left Radium Colorado last week via boldboat and will stop over at Burns, Colo., for a short visit before continuing on to here.

An overflowing crowd of nearly forty thousand spectators is expected to flow into Salida and Canon City during the three day affair. Many out of state visitors have already written for hotel and cottage court reservations and many more are expected before the weekend of the big boat race, which is only three weeks away.

Applications have been mailed to the following:

Max Roemer, Biel, Switzerland; Robert Ris, Basle, Switzerland; Louis Mikkelsen, Box 777, Gunnison, Colo.; G. E. Kimble, President Holbrook Lake Sportsmen club, Swink, Colo.; Eugene Gates, Needles, Calif.; Clyde E. Hinman, Kokomo, Colo.; Jack Lacy, manager publicity dept., Colorado Fuel & Iron Corp., Pueblo.

Dallas L. Cook, director transportation department, Denver C. of C., Denver; Leo Lake, Twin Lakes, Colo., J. E. Fuller, the Anchorage Ltd., 431 West Colfax, Denver; C. B. Marsh, 122 Grant Ave., Santa Fe, New Mexico; Hans Kaman, 2710 E. Evans, Pueblo; H. W. Patterson, Box 253, Climax, Colo.; Walter and Dick Peterson, Box 3023 Mesa Station., Pueblo. Applications also were mailed to Jean Davis, who promoted the boat race at Thermopolis, Wyo., recently in hopes of getting the winner and runner-up of that race entered.

Boatmen Busy Testing River For Boat Race

Two more boatmen hit the Arkansas Sunday as the day of the big boat race draws nearer, more and more boatmen are out testing the Arkansas river in attempt to get the feel of their boats riding over the swift rapids. Yesterday three boats were seen on the river riding the rapids down the Arkansas.

Louis and Bob Clevenger, of Salida, dipped their boat into the river at the Salida bridge, starting point of the boat race and gracefully skimmed over the rapids in their "Meade Kayak" and found the sailing smooth during the first part of their voyage in preparation of the coming event.

Trouble hit at Wellsville, which is about six miles below Salida. At this point their Kayak started filling with water, due to the high waves and rapid water and in a matter of minutes found themselves sinking, but fast. The two boatmen grabbed their boat and swam for the bank.

They stated this morning that the other two boats breezed by them and encountered little trouble in their test run down the river. They also had water in their boats when they pulled out just below Wellsville, but not enough to sink their boats. All reports so far of the river is that it's plenty tricky and fast.

Swiss Boatmen Arrive In Salida For Race



Set and ready to go are Max F. Romer and Robert Ris, two boatmen from Switzerland. The Swiss boatmen have been visiting in Colorado since February and have done quite a bit of boating on Colorado streams and rivers. They are planning several test runs down the Arkansas before Sunday, the big day of the boat race from Salida to Canon City.

Parade On Saturday To Be Colorful; Many Cash Prizes

H. L. Funk, chairman of the boat race parade, announced today the final plans of the huge parade which promises to be one of the most colorful ever staged in Salida. The parade, which will be several blocks in length, will be one of the highlights of the two-day pre-race activities.

Scheduled for Saturday at 1:30 p. m., the parade will form and commence on G Street above 7th and move down F street. Many cash prizes will be awarded the winners in the parade. Sixty dollars will go for the best float, with second and third receiving \$40.00 and \$20.00 in that order.

The automobile dealer having the best display will receive \$10.00 and the implement dealer with the best decoration will also receive \$10.00. Five dollars will go to the best decorated bicycle and \$10.00 to the pair of horsemen having the best decorated outfit. Best saddle horse will also receive \$5.00 and the cleverest costume on pets will be awarded \$5.00.

The parade committee members headed by Funk, are Gilbert Padfield, Joe Dewhurst, Fred Leach, Glen Lamberg, and Ralph Hagerman.

TOMORROW IS KICK-OFF DAY FOR RIVER BOAT RACE

SALIDA B. AND P. W. C. RANKS SECOND IN STATE

An unusual honor has come to the Salida Business and Professional Womens club through a scoring sheet published in a recent issue of the The Colorado Business Woman, official organ of the state organization.

The scoring ranks the Salida club second in Colorado with the Grand Junction branch of the Federation taking top honors. Out of a possible score of 2100 points, Grand Junction made a total of 1927 points and Salida ranks second with 1855 points.

Scores are based on a club's activities and co-operation with the expectations of the national and state organization and the Salida B. and P. W. C. fell down from perfection in only a few instances.

The fact that the local club is just a little over a year old makes the splendid rating quite remarkable. Perfect scoring was made for the following qualifications; use of national program, service in community, recreation, membership renewals, increase in membership, year book, program, news, society, pictures, observance of B. and P. W. C. week, paying expenses of delegates to convention, dues, budget, by-laws up to date, and payment to club funds. Shortages to keep the club from making a perfect score were only made for failure to have a health project and a safety project, failure to form a new club, imperfect attendance, and for not contributing fully to the Florence Sabin fund. These few shortcomings cut the score for Salida's club but 245 points from perfection and the final tally, though short that much, is something of which Salida's B. and P. W. C. club is justly proud. The splendid work of the president, Edythe Davis, and the co-operation of each department chairman has made this fine rating possible.

Final blueprints for the coming three-day jubilant celebration to be held here this week-end have been completed with the climax of the gala affair being the first annual boat race down the rugged Arkansas river on Sunday.

Seven boatmen have sent in their applications and will be in the river Saturday for the time trials, which will be run over a marked course a short distance from Salida. As the big race draws nearer many more applicants are expected and a strong field of more than twelve boatmen should answer the gun at the start of the race.

The kick-off of the three day celebration will be the model airplane show, sponsored by the B. P. O. Elks of Salida and will be staged at the football field starting at 10:00 a. m. Friday. That night an all-star boxing show, will highlight the first day's activities. The 16 bout program will display some of the finest exhibitions of boxing the state has to offer. Many state-wide known boxers, such as James McDondle, Salida, Jerry Nelson, Denver, Johnny Garcia, Salida, Joe Martin, Pueblo, Freddie Sanchez, Denver, Joe Muldonado, Pueblo, Manuel Montoya and many other well known fighters will be seen in action when the bell rings for the first bout at 8:00 p. m.

In between these two events will come an afternoon program that will be a novelty for this area. This event, to be staged at the Speedway race track will be called a novelty horse race and the starting events will be at 2:00 o'clock. Participants are asked to be on hand at 1:30 to make entry in the events.

Such unusual sights as a musical chairs race, a potato race, a boot race, and others will provide laughs and sport for the participants and spectators. Prizes will be given to the winners. Gilbert Padfield is in charge of arrangements.

Saturday morning time trials will be the big interest for the morning session. Boatmen entering the big race on Sunday will determine their starting positions according to their time made over the marked course.

Scheduled at 1:30 Saturday afternoon a huge parade will form on G street just above 7th and move down F Street. This promises to be one of the most colorful parades the town has ever seen. Several hundred dollars will be awarded in prize money and reports are now that the parade will be nearly a mile in length.

A softball game on motorcycles, an event never witnessed before in Salida, will hold the spot light Saturday night. Two well balanced teams from Denver, the Reservation Ramblers and the Gravel Gremlins, will cross bats on their bikes that night starting at 8:00 p. m.

When 6 o'clock Sunday morning rolls around, several thousand people will line the banks of the Arkansas river at the river bridge on F street to watch the boatmen push off on their grueling 57 mile journey down the river to Canon City. After all the boats have dipped into the water a special train will follow the craftsmen as they paddle their way down through the famous Royal Gorge and cross the finish line near the 9th street bridge in Canon City.

Nation's Amateur Champion To Make Salida-Canon Race

J. Kessner of Long Island, New York, and president of the Folboat Corp., of New York will arrive here Friday to be on hand to participate in the Salida-Canon City boat race on Sunday.

Mr. Kessner is the white water amateur champion boatman of the United States and has had years of experience battling the rapids in clear water streams. He has been extremely interested in the local contest since announcement of it was first made and has contacted Lewis Haley, local C. of C., secretary by phone on several occasions. His final decision to come personally and participate in the race was made yesterday and he called Mr. Haley to make arrangements for his entrance.

He will fly from New York to Denver tomorrow and will arrive in Salida on No. 1 Friday evening. His entry gives the coming boat race a color and dash that will add much to its success. While a champion from his own section and well acquainted with the streams of his native area he will try for the first time the waters of the Arkansas river after his arrival Friday.

Arkansas River Boat Race To Be Covered By Fox News

CANON CITY, June 16 (UP) — A Fox Movietone News crew arrived in Canon City Thursday to take pictures of the Royal Gorge boat race Sunday.

The crew, headed by Gene Dubois, veteran chief of the Denver office of the company, Thursday took a number of pre-race "atmosphere" pictures in the Royal Gorge and the neighborhood of old, historic Hot Springs hotel.

Included in their pictures were boating scenes with Larry Turner and Jerry Dilley, and some scenic views with Canon City girls in bathing suits providing the proper touch of beauty.

The Movietone News crew will remain here until after Sunday's actual race, which they will film in detail. They expect to take scenes of the start of the event in Salida, various scenes along the Arkansas river including some of the boats shooting the spectacular rapids. They will also be in on the finish at 9th Street bridge in Canon City.

Meanwhile, Canon City's boating crew of Jim Jickerell, 25, and Bob Wildgen, 23, Thursday made their first trial run before the race. Their king-size Kayak was put in the Arkansas near the west end of the Royal Gorge for a trip through the world-famed canon itself.

Pickerell and Wildgen, both World War II veterans, are being sponsored by a Canon City club. Both have had experience in boating, Wildgen having gone down the river in a smaller boat in past years.

Pickerell is flight instructor at the Fremont County Airport and Wildgen is agent for Monarch Airlines here.

OFFICIAL BOAT RACE JUDGES ANNOUNCED

Officials have selected the judges for the Salida-Canon City Royal Gorge boat race to be staged Sunday and their names are being announced today.

Merle Johnston of Monte Vista, official starter of the Ski-Hi Stampede of Monte Vista, will be one; and the others will be Frank M. Hickey, principle of the Canon City high school and Earl Gorsline, local jeweler.

These three men will be on hand for the start of the race, will judge as the boatmen progress down the river and their official decisions will be made as they witness the finish line of the race at Canon City Sunday evening.

Salida-Canon City Boat Race Sunday June 19

Wind River Boatmen Agree Arkansas River No Cinch

CANON CITY, June 17 (UP) — Bob Noble an 18-year-old Thermopolis, Wyo., boatsman, came bobbing down the Arkansas river Thursday evening, steered over to shore, pushed back his crash helmet and remarked, "It's rough as hell."

Thus ended the first full-dress rehearsal for Sunday's Royal Gorge boat race between Salida and Canon City.

Noble's partner, John Wells, 20, also of Thermopolis, waded out to greet him as he paddled their queer-looking 265-pound boat to the bank just below Canon City's 9th street bridge.

This pair recently won the Wind river, Wyo., race but both agree it was child's play compared to the 57-mile, Salida-to-Canon City course. The Wind river race was only 12 miles.

Their companions on a 10-mile stretch of the river, Max F. Romer and Robert Ris of Switzerland, called it a day at the west end of the Royal Gorge.

The Swiss team said they didn't like the looks of the swirling waters in the world famed canon.

Meantime, Canon City's boat race team of Jim Pickerell and Bob Wildgen looked over the Royal Gorge waters Friday and said they "didn't see anything wrong with it." They'd just as soon shot the Gorge rapids as those any place else along the river, they said.

Carl Strunk, local businessman, thought he might take a fly at the race. That was until he tried out some rough spots west of town Thursday. His canoe hit a vicious rapid, he sailed six feet high and into the water, ruefully got ashore and observed "I guess I won't enter."

GOVERNOR KNOUS



Governor Lee Knous will arrive in Salida Saturday and will ride in the parade tomorrow afternoon at 1:30.

TWO DAY PRE-BOAT RACE CELEBRATION UNDERWAY

Entrants In Boat Race

12:00 NOON FRIDAY

1. Clyde E. Hinman,
Kokomo, Colorado
2. Leo Lake
Twin Lakes, Colorado
3. Bob Wildgen
Jim E. Pickerell
Canon City, Colorado
Relief Participant,
Howard G. Mann, Canon
City, Colorado
4. Hans Kaman,
Pueblo, Colorado
5. Preston Walker
General Mgr. Daily Sentinel
Grand Junction, Colorado
6. John Allan Wells,
Robert W. Noble
Winner Memorial Day Race
Thermopolis, Wyoming.
7. Max R. Romer
Switzerland
8. Robert Ris
Switzerland
9. J. Kessner,
National Amateur Champion
Long Island, New York
10. DeLacey Ramsey
Palace Hotel, Salida
W. K. Hooker
Salida Electric, Salida

Gov. Lee Knous To Highlight Parade

The Hon. Lee Knous, Governor of Colorado, will be in Salida tomorrow to ride in the colorful "Parade for the Paddlers" which is to start at 1:30. Gov. Knous has sent word that he will participate in Salida's big parade and the townspeople, as organizations, business firms, and individuals, are going all out to make their entry the finest they have ever produced. There will be floats in great number, exhibits from business firms and novelty entrants. Participating also will be the colorful Salida high school band, the outstanding Salida Drum and Bugle corps, kids, with pets, bicycles and what-not, and some of the best horses in the state.

Many cash prizes will be awarded the winners in the parade. Sixty dollars will go for the best float, with second and third receiving \$40.00 and \$20.00 in that order.

The automobile dealer having the best display will receive \$10 and the implement dealer with the best decoration will also receive \$10. Five dollars will go to the best decorated bicycle and \$10 to the pair of horsemen having the best decorated outfit. Best saddle horse will also receive \$5 and the cleverest costume on pets will be awarded \$5.

Salidans will have an opportunity Saturday night to witness for the first time a softball game with the participants on motorcycles. Two well balanced teams from Denver, the Reservation Ramblers and the Gravel Grem-lins, will battle it out with bats and bikes at the Speedway race track beginning at 8:00. This game promises to bring thrills as well as spills and the price of ad-

(Continued on Page Eight)

Salida-Canon City Boat Race Sunday

(Continued from Page One)

mission will be 60c per person.

The hour that all the countryside and many visitors is waiting for is 6:00 Sunday morning when from the F Street bridge over the Arkansas the most spectacular event ever staged here, the first annual Salida-Canon City boat race, will start. There are, up to date, 10 separate entrants and the outlook is for a thrilling race through the rapids of the Arkansas river. Portage points have been staked and every precaution has been taken to make the race safe and exciting.

The excursion train over the scenic D. and R. G. W. will leave here as soon as the races have been started and the trip promises to be a thriller for all who ride it. Tickets are still available at the D. and R. G. W. office and to date a record crowd is asked for reservations. The train will follow along as closely as possible to the boatmen and will make stops that are necessary for train schedules as well as for portage points for the racers. The Royal Gorge stop-over will be the highlight of

the trip.

When the boatmen pull into Canon City Sunday the train will have preceded them and all passengers will be at the 9th street bridge to see the winners and the finish. The train will return to Salida soon after the race is ended.

A change in the starter judges was made yesterday and Volner Perry of Salida will serve instead of Earl Gorsline, as announced in the Mail-Record yesterday. The other two will be Merle Johnston of Monte Vista and Frank Hickey of Canon City.

NOTICE

Tickets for the latest race exhibition at Canyon City may be purchased at any time from the New York agent at the New Theatre building.

NOTICE

Due to the parade and other local race activities, the Aggregation Day preceding has been moved up to 1:30 p. m. Saturday and will be held at the New Theatre.

—Committee

TESTING RIVER FOR BIG BOAT RACE



Getting ready for a test run down the Arkansas river are Bob Noble in front with Johnny Wells behind. Helping them to push off from the bank are the two boatmen from Switzerland, Robert Ris and Max Romer. They will not use the canoe pictured above, but will navigate the rugged Arkansas in a P-38 belly tank, which Wells used to win the recent Wind River race.

SALIDA DAILY MAIL = RECORD

SALIDA, COLORADO, MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1949

SALIDA DAILY MAIL RECORD, VOL. 14 NO. 37

Albert Spino, Jr. Claimed Hero Of Boat Race

Albert Spino, jr., is regarded as a hero today of the Salida-Canon City boat race after his assistance in rescuing one of the boatmen from the river.

When J. Kessner, of Long Island, New York, struck a log twenty-three miles down the river, his raft overturned, pinning him beneath it. Mr. Kessner was unable to free himself because he was zipped into the boat and his legs were crossed.

After several attempts were made by the volunteer Red Cross workers, who threw him life preservers which fell short of the boat, Albert Spino, jr., went into the river and held Mr. Kessner upright until the rescue workers could free him.

WINNERS IN THE SALIDA-CANON CITY ARKANSAS RIVER BOAT RACE



Ris and Romer, of Switzerland, winners in the 57-mile Salida-Canon City Arkansas river boat race Sunday.

Swiss Boatmen, Ris And Romer, Win Salida-Canon City Ark. River Boat Race

Pueblo Man Guesses Nearest On Boat Race

Louis Amidon, of Pueblo, was the lucky guesser on the time of the first annual Salida - Canon City boat race. His guess for the time it would take one of the boatmen to navigate the rugged 57 mile course down the Arkansas river was seven hours 38 minutes, 12.7 seconds.

The correct official time was seven hours, 38 minutes, 3.6 seconds. So he missed the correct time by 9.1 seconds.

The total ticket sales was approximately \$1500, the ticket committee from Salida and Canon City Chambers of Commerce stated. The purchase of every \$1 ticket permitted the buyer an estimate on the winning time. The guesses ran all the way from three hours to well over two days.

Amidon, who is \$750 richer today after the race, drove to Canon City from Pueblo to catch the D&RG special that followed the boatmen down the river early Sunday morning.

Just before jumping on the train, Jim Stering, of Canon City cornered Amidon and sold him a chance on the time. Amidon will long remember the first annual Salida-Canon City boat race which netted him \$750.

ONLY ONE BOAT FINISHES

Results Of Parade Contest

Salida's colorful boat race parade brought out thousands of spectators Saturday afternoon and the participants put on a "bang up" show.

At the last minute Gov. Lee Knous had to cancel his engagement here due to pressing matters at the Governors convention in Colorado Springs. But the disappointment of that was offset by the fine display of artistry and ingenuity of those who decorated the floats, and other vehicles that made the parade several blocks in length.

Fred Leach, Mrs. R. A. Hoover and C. H. Kelleher acted as judges and the results were as follows:

Best decorated float, Cox Drug Company; second, Salida Realty, third, K. V. R. H.; and honorable mention, D. and R. G. W. Railroad Best dealers display, Stapleton Chevrolet company. Best pet display, the dog belonging to Joyce and Joanne Ostrum, first, the monkey belonging to Patty Padfield, second.

Best horseman, W. R. Rickard, best pair horses, Mrs. Robert Abbey and Howard Blakey. Best decorated bicycle contest gave \$2.00 each to the three entrants and the best implement display prize went to the Kaess Implement company.

The winners who have not been given their prize money are asked to go to the Chamber of Commerce office and the award will be given them.

Kessner Predicts Great Future For Ark. River Race

DENVER, June 21 (UP) — J. Kessner of New York, National Champion of White Water Boating, predicted a good future for the Arkansas river rough water race, first of which was held two days ago.

Kessner himself was entered in the race but not as a contestant because of his amateur rating. He had completed half of the 57-mile course when his light Folboat struck a submerged log and overturned.

Only one boat completed the gruelling journey from Salida to Canon City, out of the six boats that started.

Winning honors went to Max R. Romer, 24, and Robert Ris, 32, of Switzerland, who took turns on their light craft. They had to carry the boat around dangerous rapids many times during the race.

Kessner, who has been piloting current-powered boats for more than 20 years, said the Arkansas compared very favorably with other streams in this country.

"In many respects it is better," he said, "but on the day of the race it was too muddy."

By Sunday the Arkansas — normally a peaceful stream — had been turned into a roaring, debris-filled river by mountain rains.

Like at least two other contestants in Sunday's race, Kessner suggested that the course be shortened.

"It was more like an endurance contest than a race," he said.

The New Yorker, who has manufactured 14,000 folboats, thought the Arkansas would make an excellent cruise site. He explained that a cruise is where boating enthusiasts get a chance to take their sport in a leisurely manner.

"If the spectators want it" he said, "a race could be arranged over a well-marked course somewhere along the river." He suggested that the course be from 15 to 20 miles long.

Following the precedent of other boat races, the affair could be controlled by White Water Association rules, Kessner said. Those rules would limit the portage and require the contestant to carry his own boat at the portage points. In Sunday's race, bystanders helped the boatmen over land in many cases and once, a contestant carried his craft to the highway and put it on wheels for almost a mile of portage.

Kessner also suggested that officials guard against gambling in the race. "I would like to see it kept clean," he said.

When the New Yorkers tipped over in Sunday's race he had to let his boat go on downstream. He said he would not try to recover the expensive craft.

"I never use a boat I tip in," he said. Since he began white watering in 1929, Kessner said he has been forced to abandon 120 boats.