



DR. LINDLEY DESCRIBES HIS VIEW OF THE TRIP ALONG THE AQUEDUCT

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Dr. Walter Lindley, who was an active and interested part of the tourist trip to the aqueduct, this morning described for The Express the "high points" of the journey.

The doctor said:

"The ride in motor cars through five and one-half miles of aqueduct tunnel in Los Angeles county was certainly thrilling. There was a stream about one and one-half feet deep flowing through this tunnel. This water was developed during the construction. As our autos plunged through, splashing the water on all sides, with the honk, honking of our cars reverberating against the cement walls with the weird lights from our lamps throwing strange shadows, we all felt that we were passing through a unique experience.

We ate our first luncheon at the Desmond camp at Pinchot.

General Chaffee joined the party here and added much to their happiness. Here we went several miles into what is known as the Elizabeth tunnel. Its walls are of solid rock.

In this aqueduct system there are 42 miles of tunneling and 39½ miles have been completed. The capacity of these tunnels at the smallest place is 20,000 inches.

We passed the night at the Harvey eating house, Mojave. At various places along the line, in the Mojave desert, on Sunday we would stop and Engineer Mulholland would show us sections of the work. One of the most impressive sections was in the Jawbone canyon, where great skill and perseverance must have been necessary. We passed Sunday night at Haiwee, where the Haiwee dam is being rapidly constructed. This dam is constructed 75 feet below ground and 60 feet above ground. It will make a lake seven miles long.

Billions of Gallons of Water

One technical statement Mr. Mulholland made was that in making this dam, every nine cubic yards of filling would give an acre foot of water, which he said was far better than the result in any other large reservoir in all history. When completed, this Haiwee reservoir will hold 28,000,000,000 gallons of water.

Los Angeles now uses 45,000,000 gallons a day.

A short distance from here and we began skirting Owens Lake – a beautiful sheet of water covering 75 square miles.

The greatest work we saw Monday was at the mouth of Cottonwood canyon where the electric power is developed for running machinery and furnishing light all along the line of construction and for running the cement plant at Tehachapi. Cottonwood creek has one sheer fall of 1262 feet and has potentially 10,000 horsepower. All through this section the aqueduct is completed.

Engineer Mulholland had an interested audience around him at every stopping place and he cheerfully answered many questions. One of the listeners said he had heard there was a bug on the desert that destroyed cement walls.

‘Yes,’ replied Mulholland, ‘I know all about that bug, its generic name is the Crocus Knockeritis.’

Snow Covered Sierras

At noon Monday we were at the interesting town of Lone Pine, over-shadowed by the snow covered Sierra Nevadas, with Mt. Whitney, the highest mountain in the United States, just opposite the village. The altitude of Lone Pine is 3,728 feet, while Mt. Whitney reaches a height of 14,502.

Mount Whitney hotel at Lone Pine is all right, but if you want fried chicken, hot biscuit and white gravy, go to Mrs. Green's cottage. She has been in Lone Pine 34 years, and is an estimable character. She is proud of a picture of herself and General Chaffee taken standing side by side on her front porch.

Not far from here Engineer Mulholland showed us some artesian wells belonging to the city of Los Angeles. They average 300 feet deep and flow from 125 Inches to 200 inches each.

Los Angeles owns 60 miles of artesian water bearing land in this valley.

Independence, the county seat of Inyo, is a great apple and corn country. I went into the hotel to register. Mrs. Lindley and myself were guests of Dr. and Mrs. Cochran in their car for the trip, so I registered the four. The landlord said 'I have the place for you just across the street in the jail.' This rather startled me, but I went and inspected the rooms and found the building was new and the rooms had been built for the officials and had not yet been occupied. There was bath and hot and cold water and all the comforts of home.

Head of Aqueduct System

As it was about 3 p.m., we started for the intake or head of the aqueduct system, which was 12 miles beyond Independence. This was a glorious ride along the base of the high Sierras that looked on the north side as though they were made of solid snow. Six miles on from Independence, we stopped and drank of the cold refreshing water from the Black Rock springs. These springs have a flow of 1000 inches of water.

Tuesday Engineer Lippincott had us up in time to see the first rays of the morning sun tinting the snow peaks of the Sierras. Here is the home of Mary Austin, where she wrote ‘The Land of Little Rain.’

We all returned full of admiration for the courage and wisdom of these who had conceived and were carrying out this, the boldest piece of water engineering recorded in history.

The roads between Los Angeles and Independence are generally excellent. At various places on the Mojave desert, Dr. Cochran's Packard clipped along at 50 miles an hour.”