

1899 winter river cruise proved White navigable

Perhaps it was a "slow news day" in Indianapolis that inspired a reporter of the *News* to make a trip by boat down White River in December of 1899. The scheme, according to the editor of *Travel Accounts of Indiana, 1679-1961*, was to determine whether the river could be made navigable.

The editor does not indicate why the Indianapolis group came up with the idea in winter — not exactly the best time for a commercial and sight-seeing venture in southern Indiana. Their "naval"



Looking back

By Rose McIlveen

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expert for the trip was Frank D. Norviel, captain of the "Sunshine" steamer at Broad Ripple. The tag-along Indianapolis *News* reporter was Fred Knodle.

The unpredictable winter weather — see **Looking Back** page