

## TOLEDO DESIGNER CHEATS RAPIDS OF MEXICAN RIVER.

In one design school or another we are sure you have seen the nationally known Fred S. Bartz of Fred Bartz Florist in Toledo, Ohio. Fred's shop has made the news in many ways throughout its successful years of business, but this time his shop has made news in a way we are sure no flower shop has ever done before.

One of Fred's designers, Ken Wolfgang has a side line of making 16mm motion picture films and showing them to groups throughout the country. Ken just returned from Mexico where he headed an expedition down the Balsas River to make a new film. As Ken states; "Little did we know when we started our exploratory expedition it would actually end in Hell." This is a word not used in the Florist Review so let us explain.

The trip was a great success until the last day. Ken's party had just left El Infiernillo, (Spanish for Little Hell), when they came upon a rapid of good size. Ken found it was impossible to line or portage the rapid so they had the choice of leaving all of their equipment and trying to walk out or take a chance on the river. The second choice was made. They were almost to the end of the rapid when the river opened its mouth and took a good bite of Ken, his party and all of their equipment. So as we said, the expedition ended in Hell. Ken said that he was in the water battling rapids and trying to stay afloat for over an hour before he could fight free of the swift currents and make his way to shore. After getting out of the water he first checked to see that all others of the party were safe. Then the group had to walk up stream six miles over sharp rocks

and cliffs for help, without shoes on we might add.

A check was made to see if any of the equipment could be salvaged, but unfortunately the river had claimed everything. There is a good side to the story. Ken for some unknown reason flew out all of his exposed film just the day before so he will still have a film to show in a few months, with quite a story to go with it.

Ken is now back at his table designing for Fred Bartz during the work day and his nights are being spent putting together a film that almost cost him his life. Ken claims, however, he will be out in the field again during next years vacation making another of his unusual films.

If anyone finds themselves interested in Ken's films he can be contacted at Fred Bartz Florist in Toledo.