

'Cave Victim' Found Far Away

Disappearance Was Hoax, Police Say

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 10 (U. P.).—John Hurn, sought for nine days in the depths of winding Nickajack cave near Chattanooga, Tenn., was found unharmed in the state of New York today.

Police said his disappearance was a hoax.

Chief Lynn Bomar of the state highway patrol said a man whom he refused to identify drove Hurn to Birmingham, Ala., Tuesday of last week—the day he was first reported missing. From there he went to New York by train.

Chief Bomar said someone got word to Hurn in New York that police were "on his trail" and that Hurn telephoned a friend on the state police force, Capt. J. J. Jackson.

Upset by Trick

Chief Bomar declined to reveal from what city in New York Hurn's call was placed.

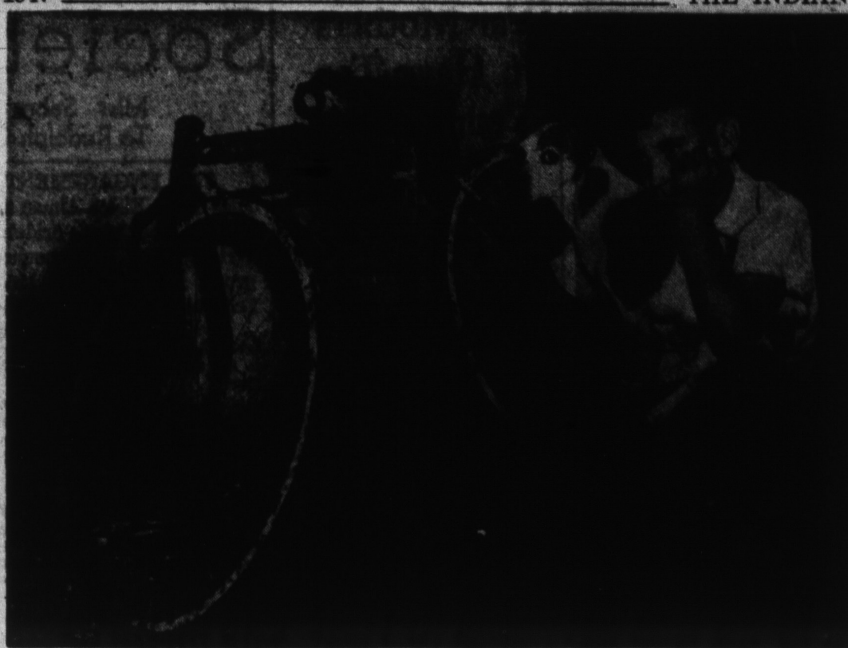
"I've told all I'm at liberty to tell," he said.

But Chief Bomar was obviously upset over the trick that had been played on him, his department, the governor of Tennessee, and nine Boy Scouts from Atlanta, Ga. The Boy Scouts related their lives to hunt for the "missing" man. Many others joined in the search.

Last 3 Nights' Sleep

Chief Bomar said he was "too groggy" from loss of three nights' sleep to speculate on whether any charges would be placed—or could be placed—against Hurn and his brother, Hollis.

The brothers recently bought the cave and were planning to develop it commercially. Whether the disappearing act was for the purpose of getting publicity, it did just that. Hollis Hurn asked for aid last



THE HARDEST BLOW—Young Buddy Davidson's house burned down, but to him the blaze did far worse damage—it got his bike. He and his dog, Spot, survey the charred remains of the precious bike, destroyed in a brush fire in Los Angeles county's Chatsworth area.

Wednesday in the search for his brother. He said John became lost on an exploration tour in search of a mythical entrance.

Spikes Special Session

WASHINGTON, July 10 (U. P.).—President Truman temporarily spiked reports today that there would be a special session of congress this fall on the "Marshall plan." He said he sees no necessity now for such action.

CLUB HOLDS BENEFIT

Good Samaritan club will hold a benefit card party at 1:30 p. m. tomorrow in Colonial Furniture Co.

Father to Lose Girl He Chained

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., July 10 (U. P.).—William Massengill, 50, part-time preacher and paperhanger, who whipped his attractive 16-year-old daughter, Geraldine, and chained her to a bed last week to "keep her away from sin," paid a \$50 fine in domestic relations court yesterday.

He agreed to let juvenile court officers have custody of Geraldine.

Juvenile Court Judge H. B. Webster said Geraldine's custody would be decided later. Many offers of aid and several adoption requests have been received, he said.

"I'll find some place for her to live," Judge Webster said. "She's not going back to her father."

Geraldine, small and blond, was found shackled to the bed last week after she had tossed a note out a window asking for help. Passersby found the note and notified police who took the girl to a juvenile home and arrested Massengill and Geraldine's stepmother.

The stepmother also drew a \$50 fine for abuse and criminal neglect, but payment was suspended.

Truman Considers Early '48 Start

WASHINGTON, July 10 (U. P.).—Some of President Truman's political advisers are advocating an early start on the 1948 campaign.

Mr. Truman has before him a plan submitted by Democratic party leaders for an extended personal appearance trip through the central part of the country. It would begin in Chicago on Labor day with a major address at Soldier field.

Then the President would make a leisurely train trip through the middle west and possibly into the Southwest as he was urged to do yesterday by Texas Democrats.

Mr. Truman has not made up his mind, but if the plan is adopted, a definite answer will have to be forthcoming soon.

The President told his news conference today that no plans have been made for any trip anywhere.

The plans for Mr. Truman's trip were put up to the White House several weeks ago, long before Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, a leading contender for the 1948 Republican presidential nomination, began his current "non-political" western trip.

Sigmund Romberg Cancels Appearance

Sigmund Romberg, composer of "The New Moon" and scheduled to conduct its opening performance tomorrow at Butler Bowl, will be unable to be here, the centennial commission revealed today.

In a wire to J. Charles Gilbert, centennial general manager, Mr. Romberg today stated that an unexpectedly early production start on his forthcoming film, plus radio commitments, would make it impossible for him to participate in "The New Moon's" opening.

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