

Two More Garden Hoses Burrow Way Into Lawns; Downey Hose Released

By UNITED PRESS
Two more hoses ran away from home today by burrowing into their owners' lawns. The baffled masters of two other sinking hoses meanwhile admitted defeat and either cut them off or dug them up. The sudden impulse of garden

hoses to get away from it all has attracted nation-wide attention and prompted scores of explanations. Hoses were still trying to get to China the hard way today at Downey, Calif., and Duluth, Minn.

Robert Breeze of Downey reported his hose had appropriately chosen a gopher hole in which to dive. At Duluth, 15 feet of Robert A. Wombacher's 50-foot hose had gone underground. Nobody could pull the two hoses out. Every now and then they'd give a wiggle and go a little deeper.

The most famous of the sinking hoses was meanwhile set free, to roam where it pleases in the underworld.

George DiPeso of Downey cut his plastic, nose-diving hose because "sightseers and phone calls have been driving me nuts."

DiPeso became a celebrity when his hose started the disappearing act. He had no idea why his hose was leaving him and had originally planned to dig to the bottom of the mystery. But he changed his mind because the hole would ruin his lawn.

"I still don't know what made it go down like that," he said. "But I wish it had never happened."

The earth in the Downey area seemed particularly attractive to hoses, since Calvin Barham's hose also started burrowing in nearby Norwalk.

Water Action Credited
Barham had left the water running overnight to irrigate a tree and when he inspected the hose the next morning it was five feet under. But Barham didn't let the hose get away with it. He dug down and brought the hose back to earth — or rather, above earth.

The most common explanation was the water action pushed the hoses down under. There was also speculation that the little men who live in the earth were giving the hoses a tug. Other thinkers, victims of a heat wave themselves, were convinced the hoses had found a sensible way to keep cool.

Whatever the explanation, DiPeso wanted to hear no more of the disappearing hoses or their owners. "All I can say is 'Good luck' to them," he said.



WHAT'S ON THE OTHER END?—George and Ruth Di Peso and their daughter, Suzanne, of Downey, Cal., ponder the mystery of their disappearing garden hose. The 50-foot plastic hose suddenly began burrowing into the ground and resisted all effort to pull it out. De Peso even tied one end to his car and attempted to pull it from the hole—it broke! He tied the hose to the water and the next morning found the pipe slightly bent from the pull. Ian Campbell of the California Institute of Technology, arriving to investigate, said "If that were my hose, I'd start digging to find out what's on the other end."

Polk County Jail Escapees Captured

Eugene — (U.P.) — A trio of escapees from the Polk county jail at Dallas were captured by state police yesterday about 40 miles west of here on a country road. Police said the three men were in the third car they had stolen since their escape Friday. The trio—muddy and unshaven, were taken without a struggle, although Polk county Sheriff Tony Nuefeldt had warned the men were armed and dangerous. The escapees Sunday held Edward Ziniker, his wife and their five-year-old daughter, Rose Ann at gunpoint for five hours before taking Ziniker's car. The family was not harmed. The stolen car was found about a mile from the Ziniker farm in the Crow area west of here.

A posse and bloodhounds had been searching for the escapees in the western Lane county area. The prisoners escaped by cutting through a vent pipe with a hacksaw blades passed in from outside.

The men, Raymond Lester Lowe, 22, Everett, Wash.; Burton Leroy Bryson, 20, Junction City, and Alfred Peterson, 46, Rockaway, were spotted coming out of a farmhouse driveway about 25 miles west of here. They were captured about two miles down the road after a 60-mile-an-hour chase. Police said the men were armed but gave no resistance.

Lowe was being held on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Burton faces a burglary charge and Peterson is charged with obtaining money under false pretenses.

ATOMIC EXPLOSION
Plainfield, N. J.—(U.P.)—Spectators at an Independence Day parade Monday witnessed an atomic explosion. Firecrackers used for sound effects exploded and set an atomic bomb parade float on fire.

Auto Insurance Rate Reductions Listed

The Safeco Insurance Company of America has announced reductions in auto insurance rates in Washington and Oregon, according to the Alexander and Brown insurance agency here.

Reductions will apply to all auto owners, in varying amounts and present policyholders will realize the savings on their next premium notices, according to Reese Alexander, of the agency.

Lower rates are the result of an intensified traffic safety campaign, which, in recent months, "seems to have been very effective" in the two states, said Alexander.

PROTOCOL SIGNED
Tokyo—(U.P.)—Red China and Soviet Russia have signed a protocol to exchange technical knowledge and experts in industry, agriculture and mining, Radio Peiping announced today.

Helicopter Pilots Rescue Flood Victims

Tokyo —(U.P.)— Daring U. S. Air Force helicopter pilots picked up Japanese from the roofs of their floating homes today in raging floods that overran Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island.

National police here said at least eight persons were dead, 38 injured and 34 missing. More than 14,000 homes were flooded, leaving at least 32,000 persons homeless. Thousands of acres of farmland were washed out.

State Purchasing Director Succumbs

Salem —(U.P.)— Roy W. Remington, state purchasing director under the Finance Department, died here last night following a heart attack.

Remington became state purchasing agent under the State Board of Control. He was also employed briefly at the State Park Department.



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