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THE STATE JOURNAL

FOUNDED APRIL 28 1855

Published weekday afternoons and Sunday mornings by FEDERATED PUBLICATIONS, INC., from the office of The State Journal, 120 E. Lenawee st., Lansing, Mich. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Lansing, Mich., under act of March 3, 1879

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Delivered by carrier in Lansing, East Lansing and adjacent territory, per week 45c, per year $23.40. R. F. D. mail subscriptions in counties of Barry, Clare, Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Ingham, Ionia, Isabella, Livingston, Montcalm, and Shiawassee payable in advance per month $1.50; three months $3.50; six months $6.50; one year $12.00. Other mail subscriptions in Michigan payable in advance, per month $1.75; three months $4.75; six months $8.50; one year $18.00. Mail subscriptions outside of Michigan, payable in advance, per month $2.25; three months $5.75; six months $11.00; one year $22.00

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press is entitled to exclusive use for republication of all the local news printed in this newspaper as well as all A. P. news dispatches. (April 30, 1947). Also served by United Press International.

PHONES—DIAL IV 5-3211 for all departments. In calling ask for desired department: Editorial, Advertising, Circulation, etc.

8 VOLUME 104, NUMBER 320 THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1959

In Wrong Direction

The Michigan supreme court's January ruling that Ford workers in this state, laid off because of a strike in an Ohio Ford plant, are entitled to full unemployment benefits was widely and understandably viewed as a severe blow to Michigan's prospects for attracting new industries.

The decision means that a handful of employes in another state can shut down major industries in Michigan and force employers in this state to pay unemployment benefits to the Michigan workers who are idled.

The supreme court ruling places a potent new weapon in the hands of unions which, by calling a strike in key supplier plants outside Michigan, can, in effect, force Michigan employers to finance strikes against themselves.

Such a situation obviously worsens an industrial climate that stands in need of improvement and by making Michigan less attractive to industry could have a serious adverse effect on Michigan workers who rely on Michigan industries for their livelihood.

The Michigan court's ruling is now in process of being appealed to the United States supreme court.

In the light of the need for correction of the law on which the state supreme court's decision was based, it is disturbing to learn that a Michigan legislator—Rep. Albert R. Horrigan (D-Flint)—has introduced a bill which would make bad matters worse by specifically writing the supreme court decision into law.

It is hardly conceivable that the legislature would, by passing such a bill, further jeopardize Michigan's chances for attracting new industry and thus jeopardize the employment prospects of Michigan citizens.

Members of the legislature and other officials of state government have a responsibility to the people of Michigan to think and act in terms of improving this state's economic climate. They also have a responsibility carefully to avoid actions which would give those attacking Michigan's industrial climate additional valid arguments in support of their case.

Rep. Horrigan's bill has other provisions. It would increase weekly jobless pay and extend the period of coverage, make it easier to qualify and bring more workers under the law. It also would reduce the unemployment tax rate on firms with stable employment, lower the maximum rate that could be charged small businessmen and increase the tax base for all employers.

In considering these features of the bill, the legislature should keep in mind the fact that Michigan now has one of the most liberal unemployment compensation laws in the nation.

Balanced Budget Backed

Sen. Everett Dirksen (R-Ill) reported last week that the American people favor a balanced federal budget by a margin of 7 to 1. The senate Republican leader said polls made by reputable organizations for the G. O. P. indicate overwhelming support for President Eisenhower's efforts to balance income and outgo.

Sen. Dirksen's report comes as no surprise in the light of all that has been said of the grave consequences of governments or individuals continuing to spend more than they take in, of the inflationary effect of deficit-spending by government, of the astronomical national debt and the staggering amount paid in interest on the debt each year.

It is impossible, however, to determine the full significance of a poll without knowing exactly what those polled were asked.

It would be interesting to know whether those questioned in the polls reported by Sen. Dirksen were asked merely whether they favor a balanced budget or also whether they favored any or all of the measures recommended by Mr. Eisenhower as a means of achieving budget balance.

Although the President called for no general tax increase as a part of his program for balancing the budget he did ask for more than $1,300,000,000 of new or increased taxes, postal rates, and other charges or fees.

To be fully informative of public thinking a poll would have to sound out the citizenry on Mr. Eisenhower's request for an increase of 1½ cents in the federal gasoline tax, an increase in the first-class postal rate, a boost in the tax on aviation gasoline and a new levy on jet fuels.

There also would have to be a question asked about a proposed tax revision affecting life insurance companies which would bring the treasury another $200 million.

Perhaps those contacted in the polls mentioned by Sen. Dirksen were asked not only about how they feel about a balanced budget but also how they feel about all the President's proposals for additional revenue needed to balance income and outgo.

There would be likely to be a big difference in response to the single question of whether one favors a balanced budget and to all the questions that have a vital bearing on whether the balance can be achieved.

One Repair Made

A steeplejack has solved the problem posed for the state government when the American flag on the capitol broke loose from its moorings and flew for weeks on a single line while state employes tried vainly to lower it for repairs.

The problem was irritating not only because Old Glory was not properly secured to its halyard but also because of a feeling in some quarters that it helped call attention to the need for improvement in the state's fiscal housekeeping and that Michigan is getting enough bad publicity because of its cash shortage without anyone having cause to be embarrassed over unconventional display of the flag on the capitol.

Unfortunately, it appears that it is going to be more difficult for the legislature to complete repairs of the state government's financial structure than it is for a steeplejack to climb the capitol flagpole in bad weather.

A Notion Dispelled

Lady Nora Docker, the wife of British millionaire Sir Bernard Docker, is back in the headlines again.

Tearfully she told the bobbies: "They've taken all my jewelry—everything I've got."

It appeared that all Lady Docker had was $420,000 worth of gems which she left in her Rolls Royce when she and Sir Bernard went into a restaurant for a leisurely dinner.

"We always take the jewelry with us," said Lady Docker. "We feel it's safer."

It is reasonable to believe that the jewel thieves have dispelled Lady Docker's notion about the safe handling of a fortune in jewels and that when her supply of gems is replenished she will treat them more carefully than the articles one leaves in the glove compartment and at the very least have a burglar-proof vault installed in her limousine.

THE WORLD TODAY

Ike, Stripped Of Two Aides, Talks Bluntly

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON, March 12 (AP)—President Eisenhower, who in recent weeks has had to depend more on himself than at anytime since entering the White House in 1953, sounds more emphatic, blunter.

This showed at his news conference yesterday. At his meetings with congressional leaders last weekend he reportedly was very much in charge.

The two men he leaned on most are now out of the picture.

Sherman Adams, Eisenhower's chief of staff in the White House until he resigned last summer, was a great cushion against the burdens of the presidency.

EYES AND EARS

And Secy. of State Dulles, now ill with cancer, had an extraordinary relationship with the President. He was Eisenhower's eyes and ears in foreign policy and much of the time his spokesman.

Now far more of the presidential load has landed on Eisenhower's shoulders, along with many irritations. And Eisenhower, judging from his performance yesterday, is responding with a show of vigor.

In times past, if you attended one of his news conferences and didn't have to concentrate on taking notes, your mind was apt to wander as Eisenhower rambled through generalities that lacked a sharp edge.

Not yesterday. He still got wound up in long, involved sentences which often scrambled subject and predicate, but he made points that did have an edge.

Perhaps it was out of exasperation with congressional Democrats, who have been calling him to pump more men and money into the armed forces, that he finally said in effect:

There's not going to be a land war in Europe; and if the allied troops there can't cope with whatver is done by the far more numerous Russian troops, then the whole situation has passed beyond the point of limited war.

NUCLEAR WAR

He didn't volunteer any statment that if war could not be limited to land engagements then nuclear weapons might have to be used. But under questioning he indicated he was not ruling out the possibility of nuclear war.

This might have been intended to make the Russians think soberly before they tried any adventures around West Berlin. But, since it might also make American Allies in Europe edgy, he must have thought of that, too, before he spoke.

It was tough talk. But Eisenhower's attitude on the crisis Premier Khrushchev cooked up on Berlin has been increasingly, although not blatantly, tough.

Perhaps the best sign of his bluntness came when he was asked what he thought of Khrushchev's proposal that maybe the Berlin problem could be solved by letting Russian troops join allied troops in West Berlin.

GENERALIZED ONE

At first, almost as if from force of habit, Eisenhower launched out on an explanation with a generalized moral tone typical of many of his news conferences in t he past.

He said this country would consult in the most democratic way with its allies in framing an answer to the Russians' demands about getting out of West Berlin and leaving it a free city.

Then, as if impatient with himself for not getting to the point on the question about Khrushchev's proposal, Eisenhower wound up by saying:

"Now, as to the violating everything I have said, I'd say I don't think much of it."

When?

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POSTCARD From Rome

CAFE SOCIETY

Life in Rome revolves around the cafe. We sit, hour after hour, in the warm sunshine. Trying to improve our Italian with the local newspapers. A premier has fallen and another has taken his place. "Not because of politics but because people are poor," said the waiter. "We change governments to change our luck."

This is a fair heart of the matter, I think. Political differences between Communists and Christian Democrats don't fill an empty stomach. The vote is not for ideals, but for bread.

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Under the sign marked "Bar" we buy pastries, sandwiches, beers. (But not wine. To drink wine, you go to a place marked "Vinii e olii.")

The wine shops have bottles and look a little like grocery stores.

They sell wine and oil by bottle, flask or measure. But you can also stand around the counter and have a glass of fragrant white Frascati or the warming red wine of Tuscany.

All "bars" have an espresso machine. A huge silvery steam machine that squeezes the essence out of coffee. Press on the handle. Hissss. A little trickle of foamy coffee comes into the cup.

It is hardly more than three thimblefuls. Strong black, bitter.

You can have it straight. You can have it with milk—caffe latte.

You can have it as a cappuccino—a little less milk so that it is the chocolate brown of a Capuchin's robe. You can have this sprinkled with ground chocolate, a way that I prefer it.

You can have it caffe con panna—topped with whipped cream.

You can have it caffe con lo schizzo—with a little brandy.

In the summer you take it granita di caffe con doppia panna. Cold with whipped cream on top and crushed ice below.

Romans are not great drinkers of alcohol. They take wine with meals. If you want a martini, you go to American bars like the Hotel Excelsior, or my hotel, the Flora.

• • •

Spring weather has come to Rome. A splash of brilliant sunshine on brown Roman walls. A flag of many colors on the flower stands.

The blessed sun shines on the rich and poor alike. The elegance of the Via Veneto and the cobbled, narrow streets of Trastevere.

The best Roman restaurants, I think, are in Trastevere. Across the Tiber, Antica Pesa, named for the ancient gates where wine was weighed for taxes, is a good one.

So is Romolo's where you eat under the grape vines. The same garden where Raphael painted his lady friend and model, La Fornarina.

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One of the more elegant restaurants these days is the Palazzi, the luxury villa built by Mussolini for Claretta Petacci. (She wound up with him, hanging head down in a Milan gasoline station.)

The food is expensive. The head waiter is chilly when you ask to see the mirror-ceilinged bedroom and the double bath. The waiters look gloomy if the tip is not equal to a week's wages.

"In Italy," said the cafe waiter, "we have the very poor and the very rich. But since the poor outnumber the rich, we keep changing governments. When a government arises to make us all rich, we will keep it forever."

The sun was warm. And in the street an old man passed, picking up cigaret stubs to strip and sell to the convicts. At the prison they call Regina Coeli. Queen of Heaven.

(Distributed by The McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

Lansing Yesterdays

ONE YEAR AGO—

Wednesday—Okemos school district voters Tuesday approved a $2,100,000 compromise school bond proposal for new school buildings by about five to one . . . According to the groundhok, winter should end Sunday, and the weatherman indicated Wednesday that this might just happen . . . The Lansing board of education Tuesday asked the city board of water and light to furnish it free electric power and water.

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10 YEARS AGO

Saturday — Ingham county circuit court acted here Saturday to free the city's 91 voting machines tied up in the Blackney-Stevens congressional recount, in time for the spring election . . . Gov. Williams moved today to make certain there is no "freeze" on hiring by the board of managers of the state fair . . . John H. Kobs, Jr., has joined the staff of Blue Cross in Lansing, Tom Paton, district manager, announced Saturday.

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25 YEARS AGO—

Monday — Lansing grocery stores Monday began to share in the business formerly handled by the city and county welfare store on E. Ottawa st. . . . Three two-alarm fires over the weekend featured a series of 18 runs made by the fire department in which the combined loss was estimated at more than $3,500 . . . East Lansing defeated Albion, 16-14, Saturday night to win its way into the state interscholastic basketball tournament for the second time in two years.

Three Minutes A Day

By JAMES KELLER

HOW TO PERSONALIZE AN ELECTION

A part-time bartender won a Nebraska election recently without giving any speeches or having any campaign cards or posters printed.

This enterprising individual had no phone, so conducted his campaign from his sister's home. He used a unique person-to-person formula and made it a point to talk each day with as many persons as possible. Those whom he could not meet personally, he reached by telephone.

Slowly but surely, this unflaggering campaigner contacted hundreds and then thousands of individuals. People gradually became disposed to him because he took the time and trouble to contact them personally, instead of relying on the impersonal billboards and posters.

Those who strive to restore spiritual values to the market place should make an even greater effort to personalize all they do. The warm, living, spoken word is always more powerful than anything written, forceful as it may be.

"By the words thou shalt be justified." (Matthew 12:37)

Help me, to personalize all I do for You and others, O Lord.

(Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

Questions And Answers

Q—Was Boss Tweed ever sent to prison?

A — When the Tweed ring was broken up, in 1871, Tweed was jailed, but escaped to Spain. The Spanish government subsequently returned him and he died in prison.

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Q—How many stars and how many stripes were on the flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to write our national anthem?

A—The flag had 15 stars and 15 stripes, for the original 13 states plus Kentucky and Vermont.

PORTRAITS

By James J. Metcalfe

Pro Photos

PICTURES capture memories . . . Of days of long ago . . . Back to babyhood and when . . . We first began to grow . . . Pictures that are treasured by . . . A loving family . . . Snapshots, slides or movies or . . . Whatever they may be . . . But also there are pictures that . . . Can mean a whole lot more . . . As they can help promote success . . . That we are striving for . . . Photographs professional . . . As we may dance or sing . . . Or we are quite ambitious for . . . The stage or modeling . . . Photographs that experts take . . . As they direct the poses . . . And help transform our dearest dreams . . . Into a bed of roses.

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The Observer

possible winning issue for next year.

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CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE OF TEXANS

THE indictment may gather new force and substance, in view of the fact that most of the A.F.L.-C.I.O. proposals carry endorsement of many prominent Democrats of liberal leaning, as represented by National Chairman Paul M. Butler's personal advisory committee.

Indicative of the cautious attitude of the Johnson-Rayburn leadership is their refusal to join the Butler group. Their public explanation was that the Democratic representation in congress, meaning themselves, and not an "outside organization," had the sole right and responsibility of fixing party policy between national conventions.

But the truth is that the relatively conservative Texans regard the Butler-Roosevelt-Lehman aims as "too extreme"—in fact, "too radical." Both condemned James Roosevelt's proposal to abolish the house un-American activities committee, which often has been denounced by his mother.

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MEANY, REUTHER UNDER PRESSURE

THE A. F. L.-C. I. O. bosses, however — George L. Meany and Walter P. Reuther, respectively president and vice president—are under terrific pressure from their membership to obtain their latest and most expansive requirements in the way of legislation. So much so that Meany recently paid a private visit to Sen. Johnson's office and virtually served an ultimatum.

Meany agrees with the Butler brand of Democrats that the two Texans are too cautious on social and economic questions. In fact, the A.F.L.-C.I.O. president freely criticizes Sen. Johnson for not insisting on a stronger anti-filibuster resolution.

The current Meany-Reuther dilemma derives from the fact that they persuaded both their national and local unions to endorse Democratic candidates almost unanimously last November. They placed the A. F. L.-C. I. O. in hock to the Democratic party with promises that the organizations would be rewarded fully for their ballot-box turnout. Now, they must deliver the legislative goods.

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CRAFTY JAMES R. HOFFA

ANOTHER source of pressure on them is James Riddle Hoffa, the resentful head of the expelled Teamsters' union. He has emerged victorious so far in every clash with congress, the McClellan committee and the courts. He has not suffered from expulsion.

Nor has he given hostages to either party, Democrats or Republicans. Unlike his rivals, he devotes himself exclusively to workaday union problems, not to politics or affairs of state.

Meany and Reuther are dreadfully afraid of Hoffa. His aggressive moves and grandiose plans fill them with the constant fear that he will begin to raid the A.F.L.-C.I.O. on a large scale, robbing them of millions of members and a like amount in dues collections.

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HUTCHESON'S UNION STILL IN A.F.L.-C.I.O.

IT WAS this obsession which led them to refuse to expel Maurice Hutcheson's Carpenters' union, although he has been indicted in an Indiana land scandal.

Although accused by members of their own executive committee of "having two sets of ethics," they temporarily condoned Hutcheson's behavior lest he merge his 800,000 members with Hoffa's 1,600,000 Teamsters.

Unless Meany and Reuther make good on Capitol Hill, they may split their disillusioned organization. But if they do deliver, they will divide the Democratic party, and perhaps fatally, for 1960.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Love in Westerns Changes; Horse Kissing Has Died Out

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK, March 12 (AP)—In the old westerns the he-man hero usually wound up being bussed by his faithful pony. Because of a growing feminine interest in these hoof-beat sagas, however, horse kissing has died out as a major American art. To please the ladies in the audience, the story now ends with the hero in a tender clinch with the faithful dance hall hostess—and the faithful horse can go eat grass, for all anybody cares.

Barry

Kissing pretty actresses seems an ideal job to the average man. But there are days when Gene Barry, star of the "Bat Masterson" television series, would just as soon turn this chore over to a stand-in.

KISSING ISN'T EASY

For a temperamental actress, he implied, can be worse than a temperamental mustang.

"Some of them try to give you that old feminine flim-flam," Gene said.

"Then it's pretty hard to make love to them. But a fellow can always manage. I always ask myself, 'If their own mother loved them, why can't I?'"

Barry, like that real-life western character, Billy the Kid, was born in New York city. In his first stage role he played Bluebeard in the sixth grade in public school 121 in Brooklyn.

He began his professional career at 16. During periods "at liberty" he sold jewelry, shoes and ladies' wear before making the bigtime on Broadway in "Catherine Was Great."

Since then he has been in a dozen films, traveled the night club circuit, and appeared on more than 100 television shows before he hit the real pay dirt as Bat Masterson, the frontier law and gambler.

His derby hat, tight suit and gold-headed cane — it often takes the place of a pistol—are now symbols of elegance to the teen-agers (and middle-aged ladies) who idolize him.

"No, I didn't have to take lessons in how to handle the cane," Gene said. "I'd learned how to use one in musical comedy."

Barry is confident the Bat Masterson role will go on for years. But he is well aware of the fickle loyalties of the television audience.

"In Europe a star is big for life," the tall, handsome actor remarked. "Once he gets a following he keeps it forever. His public never leaves him.

"The public here is different. Perhaps it's because life here moves so much faster. Sometimes we don't seem to have the time of day for yesterday."

But the big fellow has his plans. He hopes to go on to directing and producing. But if the present mania for westerns should fade and leave him stranded—unlikely, since he is a man of many talents—he's ready to take up a new career.

"I'd go in for contracting and building," he said. "I recently built my own house, and I like the field."

'GO TO COLLEGE'

Barry recently said his goal was to have "a greater concern for the more simple and basic things" in life, then he added with a grin:

"'But first you gotta get rich. Then you don't have to worry about dough and can afford to squander your money on the simple, basic things.'"

Gene, who went to work after high school, gives this advice to young actors:

"Go to college. An education is important. There's nothing worse than a dumb actor."

ON THE LINE

8 Ounces of Bacillus Enough To Do In Entire Human Race

By BOB CONSIDINE

NEW YORK, March 12—Sir Robert Watson-Watt, the cheerful Scot who developed radar, has encouraging news for those who would do in the species.

"Eight ounces of botulinus bacillus, properly distributed, could kill all 2,800,000,000 inhabitants of the earth," rosy-jawed Sir Robert told us over one ounce of spiritus frumenti.

We asked where we might pick up some, cheap.

"In any badly cooked pork, improperly canned foods, and not infrequently in oysters," said the man whose chief gift to science turned the tide of the Battle of Britain. "I'm a bit sorry to say that about oysters. I find them delightful. But there it is, or, rather, there it is on certain occasions.

"A yellow substance, this botulinus when reduced to its most lethal form. You know, I'm quite concerned about the ease with which we can now end this pleasant world. This looks like the most effective thing yet. It ranks over what I like to call the Big Boy's Bomb type of war—you know, the H-bomb and all that sort of thing. Very expensive and messy way to end the human race. Botulinus bacillus might be called the Cheap Boy's Poison. It would leave all the buildings standing. If there were any one left to occupy the area which had been hit by such a bacteria bomb, it would be safe to enter after 12 hours. At least, that's our best estimate."

FAMILY WIPED OUT

He sounded as if consideration had been given to its use.

"Of course," Sir Robert said, surprised, "The allies included it among their poison gas and germ warfare research and development during the war. There had been interest in it for ten or twenty years, at least on our side, in fact ever since an entire family in Lochmarie, northwest Scotland, was wiped out by a single meal. Bad can of salmon, as I recall.

"We had to assume the Nazis were doing similar work. So we let them know that we knew. We made up a quarter million vaccine shots against the stuff and leaked the information that all Canadian troops in the invasion force were being inoculated. They were not, certainly, but the leak had the desired effect. It said, in effect, that if we had a vaccine we must also have the bacillus itself. It said further, of course, that if they used theirs, we'd use ours."

We wondered if our side had messed with the junk.

"Rather," he said, pleasantly. "Your Merck people put out a public booklet on it but the army picked up every copy it could find. Philip Noel Baker gives botulinus a whole chapter in his 'Arms Race.'"

WORK ON 40 TYPES

Questions in the house of commons brought to light that British bacteriologists are working on 40 types of cultures suitable for germ warfare. Sir Robert assumes the other major powers are busying themselves likewise.

"I suppose it's the thing, if you insist on wiping out mankind," he said warmly.

The father of radar, though maintaining a commendable indifference to the potency of eight ounces of botulinus bacillus, grew mildly indignant about the sluggish progress of radar.

"Absolutely ridiculous that a field like LaGuardia here in New York should not have every radar protection," he said. "I was stacked up over Toronto recently for so long, because the field lacked proper radar guidance equipment, that my flying time across the ocean was an hour and a half slower than Alcock and Brown, 1919.

"The collision of the Andrea Doria and the Stockholm was completely unforgivable. So was the iceberg sinking of the Hans Hedtoft. Bridge officers just don't practice radar navigation as they should. They do no radar plotting on paper, but they rely on their memory of where the blip or image was last seen. Shocking neglect."

We asked Sir Robert, whose autobiography, "The Pulse of Radar," has just been printed by Dial Press, how he came to develop the miracle. "No midnight oil was burned," he said apologetically. "The war office people came to me mumbling something about inventing a death ray. Rubbish, I told them, but as a compromise I promised I could locate aircraft approaching invisibly as far as 50 miles away. Simple as that."

DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketcham

"Sometimes if it wasn' for dessert I'd STARVE to death!"

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