

But Finance Minister Fleming was cagey. He would have to examine the assertion made by the honorable gentleman, he said sternly, before accepting it as "a correct interpretation of anything which may have been said by or on behalf of Progressive Conservative members." He had found the honorable member's interpretation of what he called promises to be "far-fetched in many cases." However, he would draw his attention to the fact that the Government "has embarked upon more projects of benefit to the Atlantic Provinces—" Here some honorable members shouted "Order," but Mr. Fleming continued—"than any government in Canada's history."

This brought from Mr. Pickersgill a complaint on the point of order. His inquiry, he submitted, was made without any adornments whatsoever; a simple question about a promise made before the 1957 election. The minister didn't seem to know the promise was made, and had proceeded to make an irrelevant statement.

Mr. Fleming here interjected that he had made "a non-political response to a political question," after which Mr. Speaker took over. He had some doubt, said Mr. Speaker, as to the urgency of the question, having regard to the time when the promise was alleged to have been made. However, he had no doubt that the answer was out of order, as the honorable member of Bonavista-Twillingate indicated.

That was all; there wasn't any more. So the 1957 promise is still in the air. Mr. Fleming doesn't admit that he had ever heard tell of it before, and it is not likely that he'll get round to examining it just because Mr. Pickersgill wants him to. He doesn't like Mr. P.'s far-fetched interpretations of Conservative promises. In fact, one gets the impression that he doesn't like Mr. P. period.

He's probably still convinced that it was Mr. P., and not himself, who put the partisan twist to the incident as recorded in Hansard. The Speaker had ruled otherwise, but that was a lamentable lapse on Mr. Speaker's part. Not cricket, by Jove, considering the nuisance Mr. P. was making of himself to the Government on every subject under the sun, and the need for corrective measures in keeping him in his place! What's the House coming to, when a Minister of the Crown has to be ruled out of order for telling that man off!

But the Speaker's ruling doesn't get us any nearer to the answer to Mr. P.'s question. Perhaps he should have directed it to the Conservative phalanx from the Atlantic Provinces instead of Mr. Fleming; but that wouldn't have been in order, either. He did the best he could in the circumstances, and we hope he'll not be unduly discouraged by having drawn a blank.

**Parting Of The Ways**  
 Regardless of what effect Mr. Hazen Argue's announcement that he has quit the New Democratic Party may have on that party's fortunes in the coming federal election, there is no question that it is the sensation of the moment politically, and that the statement which he plans to make today in the House of Commons on the subject of his dramatic resignation will get headlines across the country.

Nothing quite like this has happened in Canadian politics that we can recall. There have been examples, of course, of members quitting their party for one reason or another, and aligning themselves with another party. Usually these members were backbenchers, and the occasion of their revolt was some specific issue over which they disagreed with their erstwhile colleagues, and on which they felt that their constituents as well were behind them.

Mr. Argue is no backbencher. As parliamentary leader of the CCF-NDP party in the Commons, his resignation has necessitated the appointment of another House leader at the most critical time in the party's history; and the reason he gives, namely that "the New Democratic Party, since its inception, has been to all intents and purposes controlled by labor leaders" and represents a dangerous trend in Canadian politics to which he can no longer, "in all conscience," give his support, is a blanket indictment of the most sweeping kind.

It would come with greater force, of course, if Mr. Argue were not a defeated candidate for the national party leadership last August, and had no reason for harboring dissatisfaction with the party on that account. But other men have been subjected to similar disappointments without impairment to their zeal and usefulness as party lieutenants, and it would be unfair to Mr. Argue to assume that this was the sole reason, or even the predominant one, for the decision he has now taken.

According to a local spokesman for the New Democratic Party, Mr. Argue represents "a small group of the indecisive, extremist and neutralist people from the old CCF party," and since he hasn't been co-operating at all in the new party's development, it is just as well that he and those who share his opinion should get out.

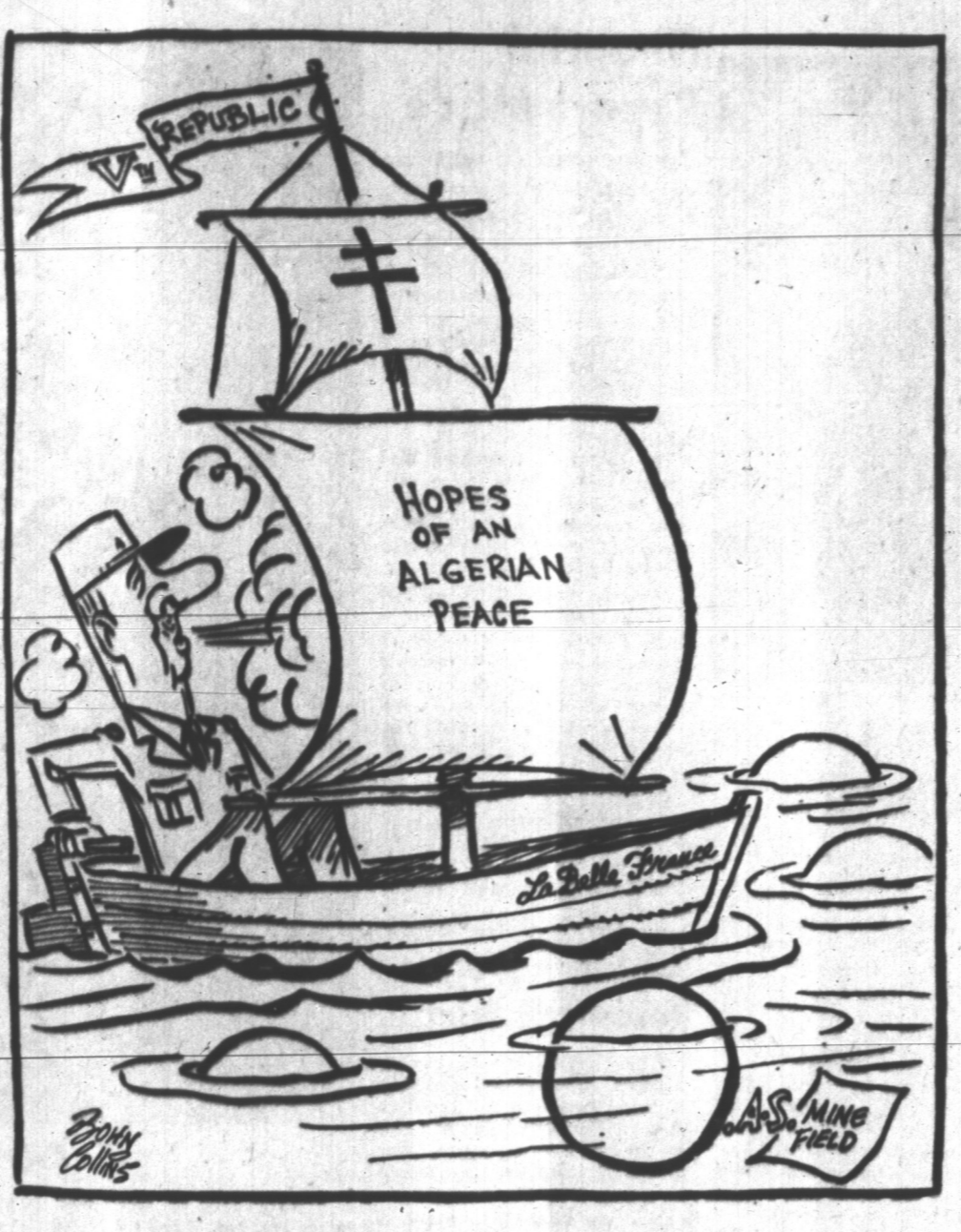
Perhaps these harsh terms are justified; we don't know. We had thought Mr. Argue was doing a good job as House leader of the party, but we were unaware of the recriminations that must have been going on behind the scenes and are still in the dark as to whether it is Mr. Argue and those he represents, or the colleague with whom he no longer feels that he can consort, that should be branded as deviationists.

**Atlantic Projects**  
 It's that man Pickersgill again. The other day, in the House of Commons, he raised the question of that Atlantic Provinces Projects Commission which was to have been set up after the 1957 general election. He wanted to know, from the Minister of Finance, if the Government at the present time was giving "active consideration" to the promise made by the minister's colleagues from the Atlantic Provinces about this commission. 1957, said Mr. Pickersgill, was when the promise was made. This was 1962, but the member from Bonavista-Twillingate refrained from saying so. He just put the question, without adding anything that could be interpreted as political comment.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**  
 The latest story making the London embassy rounds has Khrushchev agreeing to negotiate over Berlin if the Western powers would admit that Adam and Eve were Russian. President Kennedy, General de Gaulle and Prime Minister Macmillan had their doubts, but decided to ask Chancellor Adenauer about it. "Of course they were Russian," Adenauer replied. "They were born poor, with no house and nothing to wear—and thought they were in Paradise."

The Financial Post cites this evidence of the fact that Toronto is no longer, as it used to be, the most "Anglo-Saxon" city in Canada: A boy named John Ruggio, who came to Canada five years ago from Germany knowing almost no English, won a recent public speaking competition open to all high school students in Metropolitan Toronto. There were only four other students in the final round of the contest. Their names were Podolski, Offenburger, Pratz and Wehrs.

Britain is taking a second look at its magnanimous policy of providing free medical care for all and sundry who come from all parts of the earth to take advantage of the country's generosity. Under a newly announced policy, if aliens become sick or are injured while visiting Britain they will continue to receive free medical treatment; but if they come for treatment for a condition which existed before their arrival they must accept the status of paying patients.



**TRAVELLING UNDER FULL SAIL**  
**OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson**

**Overall Picture Viewed Optimistically**

Our statisticians have laid aside their red pencils, as the figures of our economic expansion during the final quarter of 1961 pour in, and show that we are moving into boom conditions.

The accepted yardstick of our national economic activity is called the Gross National Product. This includes wages, salary and pay of all Canadians; corporation profits; rent and interest; farm income; inventory increase; and capital consumption allowances.

Last year our Gross National Product rose handsomely in each quarter. It started at the rate of \$35,668 million per year; as we pulled out of winter's restriction, it expanded to the rate of \$36,396 million in the second quarter; then through the late summer it leaped up to \$37,364 million; and estimates now coming in for the fourth quarter suggest another jump of around one billion to something over \$38,000 million.

The result will be that 1961 will prove to be the first year in which our G.N.P. has exceeded \$38 billion.

The Prudential Insurance Company's Canadian head office in Toronto, whose economists are regarded here as being unexcelled in forecasting, have predicted a further jump of 7.3 per cent in our C.N.P. this year. The cash registers of our stores will tinkle merrily, as consumer spending jumps 5.25 per cent, or by one and one-quarter billion dollars, to a record total of \$25.6 billion. This will include only a modest one per cent increase due to higher prices.

**FIVE-YEAR RECORD**  
 But meanwhile, with a booming 1962 ahead of us, the statisticians are at work totalling up the record over the past five years.

In 1961, compared to 1956, employment was up by 8 per cent.

But Labour Income increased by 30 per cent, while Consumer Spending likewise increased 30 per cent over those five years, and so did Personal Savings.

While the number of persons employed rose 8 per cent, our industrial productivity rose by nearly double that figure, or 15 per cent, indicating that the output per individual Canadian rose by an amount approximately equivalent to 2 1/2 extra hours work per worker per week.

**TRADE PICTURE**  
 One of the most significant improvements over the past five years has been in our foreign trade.

The Frightening Fifties will long be remembered as the time when Canadians went on a spending spree buying foreign consumer goods which we could not afford. Year after year from the end of the war, we spent more and more money in other countries.

When John Diefenbaker became Prime Minister in 1957, our deficit in foreign trade was one of his first targets for correction. In 1956, we had sold exports totalling \$4.8 billion, but we had purchased imports valued at \$5.3 billion, thus going approximately three quarters of a billion dollars in debt to foreign countries, predominantly U.S.A.

But year after year the policies of the Conservative Government corrected this. We did not reduce our imports; we did not deprive ourselves of Florida oranges, or U.S. textiles, or little European cars, or dumped foreign magazines, or Scotch whisky. But we boosted our exports, and this has been especially true in the past year when Trade Minister George Hees has set our salesmen on fire with his Trade Promotion drives.

In the result, our imports were held down to a modest increase so that they totalled only \$3.7 billion in the last twelve month period reported; and our booming exports had just caught up, to total exactly the same figure and thus to balance our foreign trade picture—which is a really remarkable achievement by Canada, and something which we had to do. The great thing is that we have done it painlessly, and not by means of government restrictions.

The figures covering Canada's progress between 1956 and 1961, coupled with our outlook for 1962, make up a very rosy picture.

**"The Letter Killeth"**  
 Montreal Star

The U. K. government last year made it a rule that no one should get a raise in pay. So when postal workers informed the Postmaster General that they felt a raise was coming to them, he said, in substance "It's not that I wouldn't like to, I assure you, but you see the rule." And they said, "Yes, of course, the rule, H-m-m-m. The rule..." and going their separate ways began planning to give him his fill of rules.

Since January 1, rule-observance has been conspicuously more meticulous. Everything is done by the book. Postmen carry not one letter above the proper 35-pound weight, sorters painstakingly measure parcels, rather than trust to rough-and-ready guesswork, telephone operators cheerfully oblige by looking up numbers they know as well as they do their own names. And the mails pile up, and switchboards blaze like Christmas trees.

Exceptions to the rule that most of the public think the whole thing rather funny, the People's League for the Defence of Freedom has sprung to the aid of the Government with a mail service of its own—in jeopardy of a rule that every letter so delivered means a five-pound fine.

The Postmaster General is awaiting (by mail?) the report of an impartial body comparing postal workers' earnings with those from comparable duties in industry, and for shame! meanwhile toying with the notion of changing the rules, which would be bowling one in with a trick ball.

**Plasma For Space Trips**  
 National Geographic Society

Engines of future spaceships may be run on plasma, a substance that is neither solid nor liquid, or a gas.

A plasma is a substance so hot that its atoms have violently smashed one another to bits. The result is an angry swarm of electrons and positive ions, the remainder of the atoms from which electrons have been stripped away.

Until recently, few people except astronomers realized that most material in the universe, including the stars and many loose particles in space, is in this unfamiliar "fourth state" of matter. Only in exceptional places, as on earth, does matter settle down into solids, liquids, or gases.

**LIGHTNING IS PLASMA**  
 The sun, being a star, is largely plasma. So is the visible path of a bolt of lightning, and so are the earth's ionosphere and the Van Allen radiation belts that present a hazard for astronauts. Man-made plasmas occur in neon and fluorescent lamps, electric arcs, the exhaust of jet and rocket engines, and, terrifyingly, the fireball of a hydrogen bomb.

Recently, scientists of the Republic Aviation Corporation reported success in developing a "plasma pinch" space engine that will spit our bursts of plasma at 100,000 miles per hour. Though the thrust itself is tiny, they believe it can push a vehicle through space. Space ships need little power once they have overcome the earth's gravitational pull.

But the vehicles must produce some force over weeks or months to reach their distant destinations. The Republic plasma pinch engine reportedly can run for a year on a sound of

nitrogen. Solar cells convert the energy of the sun into electricity, which turns the nitrogen gas into a plasma and then squeezes the substance with magnetic power to squirt it out at enormous speed.

The plasma may reach a temperature as high as 200,000 degrees Fahrenheit. In contrast the 3,000 degrees of the gas flames on a kitchen stove seem almost chilly. Until recent years man could not create temperatures above some 7,000 degrees, though in nature they range in millions of degrees on the hottest stars. Plasma research has led to creation of sustained temperatures up to 40,000 degrees and momentary duplication in the laboratory of the fantastic stellar temperatures.

**SEEK TO TAME FUSION**  
 Control of thermonuclear reactions in superheated plasmas is a major aim of current research. Physicists have already succeeded in solving many of the initial problems. Eventually they hope to build a machine that will make fusion power available for public use, just as fission power is now.

Fission—the breaking up of uranium and other heavy elements—produces vast amounts of energy as does fusion—the joining of hydrogen atoms to make helium atoms. But fusion has important advantages: It produces no radioactive waste, and it uses heavy hydrogen as fuel rather than rare uranium.

With a virtually inexhaustible supply of heavy hydrogen in the oceans, the fuel equivalent of 300 gallons of gasoline might be extracted for as little as 4 cents. In a world of shrinking oil and coal supplies, fusion power could solve man's energy needs for millions of years.

**Heart Research Pays Dividends**

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen  
 The heart is a muscular pump regulated to a certain extent by what we do physically and mentally. It beats faster when we walk, climb, run, or scrub the floors; and during periods of anxiety, anger, and passion. It may even pound during fright or excitement. Rest, relaxation, and tranquility encourage the structure to slow down.

Most of us think of the heart as an organ of unlimited energy that pumps day and night for years and years without rest. But the old ticker is smarter than this; it rests between each beat. The slower it beats, the more rest it gets, and vice versa.

The heart is like any other muscle. It receives its nourishment through the coronary arteries and not from the blood as it passes through the four chambers. Hardening of the coronary arteries is the basic cause of angina pectoris and coronary thrombosis—the most common forms of heart disease. The muscle also is capable of enlarging under undue strain. Many persons with high blood pressure develop enlargement of the left ventricle which pumps blood into the arterial system.

Four valves guard the entrance and exit of the two ventricles of the heart. The blood makes typical sounds as it passes through these openings, and if they are too narrow or cannot close properly, the sounds change (murmurs). This occurs when valves are scarred through an infection such as rheumatic fever (rheumatic heart disease) or are deformed as a result of a development defect prior to birth (congenital heart disease).

There are many other causes of heart disease, but those involving the coronary arteries, muscles, and valves constitute more than 95 per cent of cardiac disorders. At the turn of the century most medical men diagnosed all ailments of the pumping apparatus simply as heart disease. They made no attempt to determine the type, cause, and severity of the affliction. Heart disease was like a death sentence; many patients were afraid to move, lest it spell disaster.

Times have changed. The recent trend toward pooling our knowledge against the number one cause of death is beginning to pay off. This is the aim of your heart association.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.)

**OUR YESTERDAYS**  
 From The Guardian Files

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**  
 (Feb. 26, 1937)  
 Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Gordon of Charlottetown who have been staying at Annarone House, Craven Hill Gardens, London, since last October, left last week for a trip through Germany, Italy, and the Eastern Mediterranean. They will return to London for the Coronation and will sail for Montreal in time to attend the McGill University commencement, when their daughter will receive her degree.

Archbishop J. C. McGuigan of Toronto arrived in Charlottetown last night. He will remain here until Monday with his mother. Archbishop McGuigan will take an important part in the inauguration of Archbishop Melanson in Moncton.

**TEN YEARS AGO**  
 (Feb. 20, 1952)

In a further discussion of the proper management of woodlots in the province, Frank Gaudet, Chief Forester, Department of Industry and National Resources, said a woodlot should produce as much wood, or as high a quality as it continuously can, if it is to render the utmost benefit to its owners. Every piece of ground intended for growing trees should be growing them, Mr. Gaudet added.

At the close of the regular monthly meeting of the Summer Home and School Welfare Group, held last night in the High School auditorium, an interesting fashion review was put on by the High School girls of grade ten and eleven, under the direction of Mrs. Allison MacLean, Home Economics teacher.

**NOTES BY THE WAY**

The ship on a shoulder is usually mostly bark. — Nanaimo Free Press.

It's a good thing that Old Man Winter is elderly. If he were young, he might hit us so hard we couldn't survive the blow. — Sarala Observer.

A judge in England has ruled that a prospective bride must learn to cook a "tasty dish" before she can marry. If such a qualification existed in this country, there would be an alarming decline in the marriage rate. — Ottawa Journal.

**Capital Punishment**  
 Ottawa Citizen

Those who favor the abolition of capital punishment have received powerful, and welcome, support from the Church of England. The upper house of the Convocation of Canterbury, comprising church leaders, has endorsed a resolution asking for the abolition of capital punishment, or its suspension for five years. The move marks an important step forward in the campaign to abolish capital punishment in Britain.

The bishops did not consider the deterrent argument weighty enough to prevail against the arguments in favor of abolition. They are quite right. The deterrent argument, used so assiduously by advocates of capital punishment, has yet to be proved sound. In areas where capital punishment has been abolished by law, as in Michigan, or by custom, as in Belgium, the homicide rate is no higher than in areas that have retained capital punishment, and in some cases is lower.

On the other hand, capital punishment is a degrading action for the executioner, in reality society itself. A society cannot enable itself by holding life in respect, and at the same time take life when the security of society is not clearly at stake. Since there is no evidence that abolition increases the murder rate, it cannot be argued that it is necessary to take the life of a murderer in order to safeguard the community. The action becomes one of vengeance rather than justice, and the degradation stemming from this action by society must be shared by each individual in the community.

Human nature being what it is, reform is slow. But it cannot be stopped. Progress toward abolition has been made in Britain in recent years and, to a lesser degree, in Canada. The resolution passed by the Church of England will help hasten a reform that is long overdue.

**The National Library**  
 Ottawa Journal

The Government estimates as usual give notice of construction of many new buildings for an expanding Federal service. Of all the buildings about to go up, the one most important to the face of Ottawa is the National Library on Wellington Street.

The Library is due to start later this year as soon as the inhabitants of No. 1 Temporary Building have been provided for in Tunney's Pasture. No. 1 Temporary will then come down—one of the epochal events in the city's history—and the National Library will rise in its place.

The plans for the Library have been ready for some five years. If they are not right, it will not be because there has not been time for sober second thought.

The new Library should be an outstanding building, one of the show places of Ottawa. It will reflect this country's attitude towards all the ideals which a library serves. The Library will command one of the prime sites in the city, and be key to the development of Wellington Street. It should be an architectural gem, exciting, bold, yet in keeping with its surroundings.

Architects have described the design as being "of classical proportions with modern detail," a phrase which should please most persons without saying much. It is expected to cost about \$12,000,000, a handsome sum, but not necessarily a guarantee of a handsome building.

A National Library is only built once. It had better be built well.

**Another African Problem**  
 Milwaukee Journal

Belgium is about to free another colonial territory, Ruanda-Urundi. This consists of twin kingdoms nestled and landlocked between Tanganyika and the Congo. In 1959 they came to world attention when war broke out between the tribes of the giant Watutsi and the smaller Bahutus. The former tried to make permanent their dominance over their more numerous neighbors before independence was granted. They failed.

Last September a United Nations supervised election was held setting up separate governments in the two areas. A UN commission has informed the general assembly that Ruanda has determined to become a republic and Urundi a monarchy. Leaders of both territories have appeared to testify that their people are strongly against political union. Belgian administrators say that however sensible such union might look on paper the tribal and political differences between the two make it impossible. The best that can be hoped is for eventual economic co-operation.

The UN's Asian and African representatives are demanding political union. They insist that the two territories must be united whatever their people want.

Neither Ruanda nor Urundi has qualifications for independent nationhood. But neither had many of the other nations that now sit in the UN. And isn't it strange that the African-Asian group that calls so firmly for self-determination everywhere should be insisting that the peoples of Ruanda and Urundi be overruled and forced into a union that they say they don't want?

**Danger Lurks Here?**  
 Galt Reporter

Decision of the federal government to enact into law some of the recommendations of the O'Leary Commission on Publications should be a matter of concern to Canadians. The bill would place an import handicap on foreign magazines which carry advertising directed to the Canadian market and would penalize Canadian advertisers who advertise in the Canadian editions of foreign-owned magazines.

If the government can limit the circulation of magazines published outside Canada, this could lead to a drastic curtailment of news and opinions which Canadians are allowed to read. It would not be far from there to censorship of the press and curtailment of free speech.

As was stated before in this column, the effect of the proposed legislation might be to throw a great volume of advertising into Canadian daily papers and magazines. As one daily newspaper we are opposed to this, owing to the threat to freedom of expression which may be lurking somewhere behind the proposed move.

It seems to be generally admitted that Canadian magazines are having a struggle to exist. It is possible that magazines might improve their revenues substantially under the policy outlined by the O'Leary Commission but is it worth it to endanger our basic freedoms by so doing?

There is another factor which has not been mentioned. If the government is going to enact laws giving special protection to magazines, what about radio and television stations? The advertising messages on U.S. stations are broadcast across this country. Will Canadian stations be the next ones to ask special consideration?

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