

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER. VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), per year, \$4.00. Daily Bee and Sunday, per year, \$5.00.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 12c.

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee building, South Omaha—City Hall building.

CORRESPONDENCE. Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES. Remittances by draft, express or postal order payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. I, Charles C. Rosewater, Editor of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, depose and say that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of September, 1906, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Copies, Circulation, Total. Rows include Daily Bee, Sunday Bee, and other circulation metrics.

CHARLES C. ROSEWATER, General Manager. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN. Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

City Comptroller Lobeck and Expert Accountant Giehrst do not speak when they pass by.

Cuban insurgents seem to have followed the Indian custom of surrendering no guns but those which are useless.

Secretary Tait's advice to Cubans is to forget and forgive and it will probably be accepted as such advice usually.

If the "alienists" are unrestrained, Harry Thaw will probably be able to prove insanity by the time the case is called for trial.

The exclusion of London Punch from several countries may be taken to show that press censorship is not always an unmitigated evil.

In spite of present fears the new Salton sea may yet be just what California and Mexico both need to make the desert blossom as a rose.

Newfoundland proves that irresponsible governments, like irresponsible individuals, are always to be counted upon to advance the most radical ideas.

Senator William's idea seems to be that comments upon the reigning family should be made only by its own members, and then only when they are in good humor.

Should the Ohio anti-trust law stand the test of the courts successfully, some legislators will be surprised to learn that they failed to provide the necessary loopholes.

No candidate for any office on the republican ticket should allow himself to get the idea that some one else is going to pull him through. Every tub on its own bottom, this year.

In rejecting the assistance of Senator Bailey in prosecuting the Waters-Pierce Oil company the attorney general of Texas seems desirous of knowing the real reasons for his case fails.

The discovery of a Dubuque democratic editor that the democratic party of that state is in the hands of railroad lawyers will be surprising only to those who have never investigated.

Candidate Hitchcock's newspaper cannot even picture a crook or thug without putting a black skin on him. This gives a clinch to the argument of Mr. Hitchcock why colored men should vote for him next month.

Mayor "Jim" evidently is ready to stand sponsor for the liberality of his municipal government. He promised to be liberal before he was elected and if he does not deliver the goods he will be charged with having divested himself of his boasted backbone.

Inasmuch as farmers who kill their own animals are specifically excluded from the operation of the meat inspection law, that appeal of Chicago commission men indicates either that railroad agents are doing a little "constraining" on their own account or that farmers are not all that they seem.

Down at Lincoln the people are actively engaged in an effort to secure greater uniformity in their sidewalks as well as to enlarge the area of the permanent sidewalk district. It would not hurt Omaha to take up this same matter and make another supreme effort to rout out the wooden planks and cover the gaps where there are no sidewalks at all.

CENTER ON HORST. The treacherous Williams, who played Benedict Arnold in the republican state convention for a nomination for railway commissioner, ought by all means be defeated at the election. He is neither qualified nor competent to fill the position creditably, even though he were elected. He is utterly unprincipled, chronically addicted to falsehood and thoroughly dishonest in conduct. To entrust him with the decision of important questions between the people and the railroads involving hundreds of thousands, and possibly millions, of dollars would be almost criminal. Yet such is the advantage which this political sell-out enjoys by virtue of his place on the ticket that decent republicans can head him off and protect the public only by centering upon one of the three opposing candidates.

Careful investigation has convinced The Bee that the man for whom republicans should vote when they scratch Williams is George Horst of Polk county. Mr. Horst has served in three sessions of the legislature, making a record that distinguishes him well above the average. Whatever exception might be taken to some of the positions assumed by him on legislative measures, he proved himself independent of the corporation lobby and in the main stood up and was counted in favor of solid reform.

The fact that Horst is on the ticket as a populist will not weigh against him with fair-minded men when the question of personal honesty and reliability is at stake, as it is here. We have no hesitation in saying that Horst is so superior to Williams in every way as a candidate for the responsible office of railroad commissioner that comparison would be odious. Every republican who believes in loyalty and honesty, and opposes rewarding treachery, should make up his mind and note it down to place a cross mark opposite the name of Horst in place of Williams, when he comes to cast his ballot in November.

MONEY HELD OUT OF BANKS. Complete national bank and treasury reports for September bring out clearly the fact, to which adequate attention has not been given, that not speculative demand alone, but absorption of cash in the hands of the people, has caused the currency famine so seriously felt in the eastern centers of deposit and exchange. If the ordinary proportion of the gain of \$212,000,000 to the money total in the country within a year, of which amount \$45,000,000 was added during September alone, had gone into the banks there would have been no occasion for the strain that has been felt, assuming the same amount of speculation. But instead of the usual ratio of deposits to total currency an unprecedented amount is held out among the people.

This year the cash outside of the banks reaches 65 per cent of the total money in the country, or \$20.80 per capita, whereas two years ago it was only 61 per cent, or \$18.90 per capita. At the same ratio as two years ago there would this fall be at least \$125,000,000 more money held by the national banks than there is, and this amount would be ample as a basis of accommodation for commercial and crop movement demand, without serious strain or danger to stability of values.

Such absorption of cash in business is plainly due to the universal prosperity, the number and rapidity of whose exchanges in detail require a larger amount for hand to hand purposes. On top of that, however, multitudes unnecessarily carry more money in pocket or cash drawer than in less plentiful times. A difference of a dollar or two in the average pocket may seem inconsequential, but in the aggregate it means from \$70,000,000 to \$140,000,000 out of the banks, and that means the sheer loss to the community of the economic power of from one-third to one-half a billion dollars of credit. In the autumn pinch of a year like the present it also means a depressing influence on the value of the industrial product of the whole country whether from farm or factory, and a restraint upon business plans and enterprise.

LIGHT ON CUBAN TROUBLES. Information is now coming through reputable Cuban newspapers that helps to clear up the mystery why the property owning, industrial and business classes, although menaced by revolutionary outbreak, manifested indifference to their government. Its abuses apparently were far greater than had been believed in the United States. One of the foremost Havana papers, which stands high for ability and veracity, and which has strongly condemned the insurrectionary movement, seriously indicts the government, declaring that "the merchants and manufacturers now pay heavier tribute than under the Spanish regime, heavier, too, than in any other country in the world, and in this country, which Marti dreamed was to be a republic, a larger bureaucratic body is maintained than in any other country with four times the number of inhabitants, and these receive higher salaries than are paid in the flourishing nations of the earth." A scandalous state of affairs is shown in detail in Havana, where in the worst time of Spanish domination the highest number of employees of the city council was ninety-four, whereas they now number over 400, with much higher salaries than were received under Spain. And it is alleged, with citation of specific proofs, that similar conditions exist, not only throughout all the municipal and local administrations in the island, but also in the

postoffices, the custom houses, the public works and all departments of the general government, so that with extravagance and waste and incompetence there has been rolled up an immense burden that bears mainly on men of business, thrift and industry.

Under such conditions, of which at our distance not so much was heard. It is easy to see why the substantial classes, dissatisfied and disgusted by the government, were indisposed to rush enthusiastically to its support against the restless and revolutionary elements which revolted for entirely different reasons. It is noteworthy that the former, now that American authority has taken charge, are coming forward to point out abuses like those specified by the Havana paper, and calling for the correction which they regarded impractical under either the Palma or the revolutionary faction. It all brings out into clearer light the essential difficulty of the problem, which is to set up a real Cuban government that, American initiative and control being withdrawn, will not again fall into the same slough of inefficiency, abuse and revolt.

REWARD FOR THE MURDERER.

The Bee has taken it upon itself to secure the co-operation of ten public spirited citizens of Omaha to offer a reward of \$500 for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who murdered Josephine Rummelhart in the city of Omaha last Saturday night.

The victim of this terrible outrage happens to be a poor working woman, without rich or influential friends in a position to bestir themselves to hunt down her assailant, and if the offer of this reward will serve to stimulate those who are working to bring this miscreant to justice, it will serve the desired purpose.

There is no intimation whatever that the police authorities are not doing all that they can in the regular performance of their duty, but the prospect of a reward may enlist the vigilance of others who would not ordinarily be sharply on the lookout.

The alacrity with which all responded who were asked to join in the offer of this reward proves that the lowly station of the victim and the restricted circumstances of her friends in no way lessens the desire to have the law promptly vindicated by the punishment of the murderer.

POSTAGE DISCRIMINATION.

While it has not been the desire of our people that the postal service should be a source of net revenue, it never was intended, nor is it sound policy, that the service should be conducted at an annual loss of from \$9,000,000 to \$14,000,000. Yet there is no difficulty in discovering the class of mail which, paying for postage only a small fraction of the cost of service, causes most of the deficit.

Contrary to a common impression, the loss is not incurred in carrying the newspapers, although the postal regulations as to them contain discriminations and ambiguities, the correction of which would contribute materially to revenue. But the bulk of newspaper mail is carried only a short average distance, according to careful estimates not over 150 miles, whereas there would be profit at 1 cent a pound for an average distance of 300 miles. Express companies actually realize a profit in carrying packages of newspapers and similar articles such distances at that rate. But newspapers, thus paying at least approximately cost of service, comprise only 70,000 of the 330,000 tons annual second-class mail, paying 1 cent a pound postage, on which the department insists that service cost is \$50,000,000 more than aggregate postage paid.

Obviously the loss is due to magazines and periodicals, other than legitimate newspapers, of which the average carriage distance is many times as great and the conditions of handling and delivery different. Moreover, advantage is taken of express rates where the rate is lower for short distance than the postal rate for such periodicals, which consequently are thrust upon the government only over distances that cause it loss. There is, too, the greater inequity in the cities where a magazine, though weighing a pound or a pound and a half, is delivered free after it has been carried 1,000 or 3,000 miles in the mails. Yet the Postoffice department calculates that the bare cost of carrying and delivering such mail is 4 cents a pound, though it pays only 1 cent.

In 1874 the rate for newspapers was fixed at 2 cents and for magazines at 3 cents a pound, later for both 2 cents, and in 1885 1 cent. But the annual sales of monthly publications of all kinds, which in 1876 were only 5,000,000 copies, now exceed the enormous total of 350,000,000. It is therefore a gross discrimination to charge the postal deficit against the newspapers which, except those of county circulation only and those of universal circulation, pay cost of service.

While it is not difficult to point out the abuses of postal privileges, it has been found exceedingly difficult to remedy them. The railroads which carry the mails, on which the government pays excessive rates, are interested in teanage, and join hands with the powerful interests that supply the underpaid mail to prevent remedial legislation.

The Senior Yellow intimates that attempts have been made to tamper with members of the democratic city council in connection with pending franchise ordinances and that the negotiations may be taken before the grand jury. Inasmuch as the grand

jury is in session right now, it would not be a bad idea to trace the ugly rumor down at once before it travels any farther and find out whether it is founded on fact or merely a yellow yarn.

State Senator Thomas is talking about amending the voting machine law so as to remove the straight ticket lever and force every voter to indicate his preference separately for each office to be filled, the idea being to discourage straight ballots and compel independent voting. This might be all right if it were accompanied by the removal of the party circle at the top of the ballots used in counties where the voting machine has not yet been introduced. If all the voters throughout the state were put on the same level there would be no complaint, but so long as the voting machines are used in Douglas county only and the old-fashioned ballots remain in all the other counties of the state, the voter in Douglas county should have the same facilities to cast a straight ballot that the voter elsewhere enjoys.

George L. Sheldon has placed himself squarely on record in favor of taxation of railway terminals for municipal purposes, the same as other property which enjoys the benefits of municipal government. That alone ought to bring him the votes of every taxpaying citizen, not only in Omaha, but in every city and town in the state where the railroads are evading their just share of the burden of local government.

The final voluntary retirement of Dr. Aiden from the superintendency of the Norfolk insane asylum opens the way for completely clearing up the complications with which this institution seems to have been beset for some time past. There is no reason why the state insane asylum at Norfolk should not run just as smoothly and efficiently as the asylums at Lincoln and Hastings.

The intimation sent from Washington that cement makers are combining does not tend to increase the belief that the cement block house will relieve builders from the exactions of so-called "trusts"; but they may have a choice of trust strong boxes to which they may contribute.

Governor Mickey himself commissioned every member of Omaha's present Board of Fire and Police Commissioners, and he knew all about them and what they would do at the time of the appointment. It is pretty late in the day for him to go back of the returns.

John D. Rockefeller is in luck again, as his lawyers have an opportunity to try his corporation before he faces the court personally so he may have plenty of light to decide as to his own guilt or innocence.

It Pays to Advertise.

Washington Post. If Sir Thomas Lipton's repeated trials for the cup prove anything, they prove that in the tea business that kind of advertising pays.

In a Talking Mood.

Baltimore American. Mr. Rockefeller has been eloquent of late that his appearance in an Ohio court this week as a witness in a suit against the Oil trust will be doubly interesting.

Securing the Future.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Uncle Sam has noted the increased value of coal lands and will probably withdraw his remaining possessions of that kind from ordinary entry. They may come in handy in dealing with the Coal trust.

Saddled the Right Horse.

Baltimore News. The republican party of New York clapped the saddle on the right horse when it nominated Mr. Hughes. He is showing himself a brilliant campaigner, strong in his appeal to public reason, keen in his analysis of the issues before the people.

More Scared Than Hurt.

Chicago Chronicle. As the truth gradually leaks out it is seen, as we all along suspected, that Senator Tomas Estrada Palma was more scared than hurt when he appealed for American intervention. He was in a blue funk from first to last. If he had had a little courage and resolution he could have put down the opera bouffe "insurrection" within a week without aid from anybody. The fact that he did not do so confirms the original estimate of him as a "weak sister" who had the disposition, but lacked the bravery to be a bulldozer.

HEARST OVERSHADOWS BRYAN.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican (clipping). That Hearst is making his New York gubernatorial campaign merely a stepping stone to the presidency of the United States his own newspaper clearly indicates. The New York American's account of the Massachusetts democratic convention makes it clear that the adoption of a resolution endorsing Bryan was merely a stepping stone to the presidency of the United States his own newspaper clearly indicates. The New York American's account of the Massachusetts democratic convention makes it clear that the adoption of a resolution endorsing Bryan was merely a stepping stone to the presidency of the United States his own newspaper clearly indicates.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Railroad Rebaters and Sugar Trust on Trial.

The first trials ever held in New York City for violation of the Elkins anti-rebate law begins today in the United States district court for that district. The defendants are the New York Central railroad company, Nathan Guilford, one of the vice presidents of the road; Frederick L. Pomeroy, its general traffic manager; the American Sugar Refining company, and G. Goodloe Edgar and Edwin Earle, Detroit sugar merchants supposed to be connected with the trust. Altogether there are six indictments against the defendants, and a maximum aggregate of \$60,000 in penalties may be inflicted in case the prosecution is successful in proving every count of every indictment.

The investigation into the crimes alleged to have been committed, relates the New York Sun, was begun by United States District Attorney Henry L. Stimson last winter. A portion of the evidence has been laid before Attorney General Moody in Washington. It has been secured, it is understood, largely through the agency of a man who was formerly the chief traffic manager of the Sugar Trust, but lost his position on account of a disagreement with President Havermeyer. His testimony was laid before the authorities in January, and with this as a starting point Assistant United States District Attorney Wise, who has confined himself exclusively to the cases, has got together a mass of testimony which it will take two months to present to the jury.

The cases are not only the first in New York City under the Elkins amendment, but are also the first under the Interstate commerce law as far as the courts of this district are concerned. Prior to the Elkins amendment the penalty for rebating was both a fine and imprisonment. Now a fine alone may be imposed, but the fine may be \$30,000 for every offense, a much larger amount than could have been imposed under the original act.

"As a matter of fact," said one of the attorneys interested in the cases, "the penalty for every act of rebating is at least twice as large as it appears from a cursory reading of the statute. In every offense there must be a carrier who gives the rebate and a shipper who accepts it. Each is liable to the maximum penalty, so that together the state may recover \$60,000 for every offense."

"Thus in the cases about to be tried there are six indictments. For a rebate of some \$20,000 alleged to have been paid by the New York Central to the Sugar Trust on shipments, New York to Cleveland, there is an indictment against the railroad and another against the shipper. Each entails a possible penalty of \$30,000. For shipments to Detroit in 1904 on which a rebate of about \$500 was alleged to have been paid there is an indictment against the New York Central and Nathan Guilford, one of the vice presidents of the road, as a result of which both the company and Mr. Guilford personally may be forced to pay \$30,000 each. And on the same allegation of facts an indictment has been returned against the sugar company, the shipper and Edgar & Earle, Detroit sugar merchants, who are the consignees and are alleged to have been connected with the sugar company and parties to the rebating. Penalties of \$30,000 may be exacted both from the sugar company and the Detroit merchants, so that here for one offense penalties aggregating \$60,000 are demanded.

"The most important indictments are based on shipments from New York to Detroit in 1907. There are two indictments on this allegation of facts, and in each of them there are seven counts charging the payment of rebates averaging \$1500 a month for every one of seven months. In one of these indictments the New York Central, Mr. Guilford and Frederick L. Pomeroy, general traffic manager of the Central, are held liable to the maximum penalty of \$160,000 apiece; similar penalties in the other indictments are demanded in the other indictments from the American Sugar Refining company, the American Sugar Refining company of New York, a subsidiary, Edgar & Earle, and the Detroit merchants.

"The amount of the penalties that may thus be inflicted for every act of rebating is considered by some of those particularly interested in the prosecution as a refutation of the charge that the railroads and big shippers have nothing to fear from a law which imposes a fine without imprisonment. The aggregate of penalties permissible in these cases is many times that which would make an infraction of the law a matter of no financial loss.

"In another way," said one of the attorneys, "the system of fine without imprisonment furthers the ends of justice. When violators of the law could be imprisoned no one who had been a party to rebating was willing to come forward and furnish evidence on the idea that putting another man in prison is going too far in business rivalry. In the present prosecutions men who would never have thought of furnishing evidence to the people under the old law have done so willingly."

It is understood in this connection that some of the testimony on which the prosecution relies is in the shape of letters from railroad traffic officials to the shippers. One of these letters, it is said, states specifically that a rebate of 2 cents a hundred will be paid on the presentation of vouchers by the shippers.

When the investigation was begun by the federal officials in this city there was evidence affecting most of the lines in the trunk line association. Charges were made against both the standard lines and most of the differential lines. The fact that no indictments have been returned against any except the New York Central should not be taken as an indication that the other charges have been dropped.

On the other hand it should be borne in mind that six months of steady work has been devoted to preparing the case against the New York Central, and this in view of its importance as a test case, has been

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considered quite sufficient as far as the procurement of indictments is concerned. With the New York Central cases disposed of, the prosecuting authorities will proceed on more than a dozen other cases, in all of which a considerable portion of important testimony has already been secured.

In addition to the cases in charge of Assistant United States District Attorney Wise there are pending four indictments against subsidiaries and officers of the American Tobacco company. These prosecutions are conducted under the Sherman anti-trust law by Henry W. Taft and Felix H. Levy, who were appointed assistants to the attorney general for this specific purpose.

The indictments charge the MacAndrews & Forbes company of New Jersey and its president, Karl Jungbluth, and the J. S. Young company of Maine, with factors in Baltimore, and its president, Howard E. Young, with conspiring to control the business of licorice paste in the whole country. Demurrers were interposed to these indictments and the cases are not yet scheduled for trial. It is understood that the cases are by no means the only ones in preparation against the Tobacco trust.

MUNICIPAL DEBTS GROWING.

Evidence of Increasing Cost of City Governments. Philadelphia Ledger. From a report just issued by the census bureau, it appears that while the per capita of the national debt is declining, the per capita of the municipal debt is rapidly increasing in the United States. The investigation referred to the period ending June 30, 1903. The per capita national debt was \$11.77, the lowest ever reached. The national exactions are indirect, the aggregate outstanding in 1903, more than four times as great as in 1870, with a per capita averaging \$124, or more than twice that of 1870. This debt must be discharged by direct taxation. The per capita of state and territorial indebtedness is only \$2.98, also a minimum record. The school debt has been practically stationary for some years. The substantial increase is in the debt contracted for the government of cities and other municipal divisions. Local government is increasingly costly, and it is at this point that the weight of government rests heavily upon the taxpayer.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Upton Sinclair has now accepted a socialist nomination for congress in New Jersey. Pennsylvania farmers are holding trucks for higher prices, but they want it distinctly understood that this is not a trust nor a combine, but a community of interests.

Sixteen New York lawyers are being sued for lending their names to an enterprise said not to be legitimate. Their willingness to lend names instead of money is by no means unwise.

The Loomis family has been holding its fourth annual reunion in Windsor, Conn., and drew attendance from all parts of the country. It being estimated that 30 persons were present. The homestead which was built by Joseph Loomis soon after he came from England in 1639 was located not far from Windsor. Part of the original building still stands.

Mark Twain has always been conspicuously lazy-in fact, rather prides himself on his pronounced indolence to physical effort. When at school in Hannibal, Mo., he and his classmates were instructed to write a composition on "The Effects of Laziness." Young Clemens at the end of half an hour's deliberation handed in as his contribution a blank slate.

Edward B. Wesley, long known as "the grand old man" of Wall street, died last week at the advanced age of 86, leaving a fortune estimated at \$300,000. Mr. Wesley never smoked, drank or went to the theater and always attributed his success, like Russell Sage, to the fact that he began to save from his first start in life, when he sold birch beer and cakes to a crowd of people in a little New England village and made a profit of \$3 a day.

SMILING REMARKS. Knicker-What he mentally competent to make a will? Rucker-No; he had seventeen poor relatives-New York Sun.

"Did you ever think what you'd do if you had Rockefeller's income?" "Yes, and I've often wondered what he'd do if he had mine."-Philadelphia Ledger.

He frowned at his chauffeur terribly. "How was it," he demanded, "that I saw you and two young women out in the park last night in my automobile?" "I don't know, sir," the chauffeur faltered. "For I was sure I seen you take the evening train for the country club."-St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Dentist-Little girl, which is the tooth that aches? "Well, I have no tooth that aches, sir, but there is an exceedingly sensitive nerve in the upper right bicuspids, which shall have to ask you to treat."-Chicago Tribune.

"Nobody is valued at his real worth in this world," said the discontented man. "That's right," answered Farmer Corn-tassel. "If this country was to develop an out-an-out genius, some breakfast food or another would come along and claim all the credit for it."-Washington Star.

"I think you'd like this hall room," said Mrs. Starvem. "Of course, there isn't much room here, but..." "No," replied the prospective boarder. "but I'm afraid I'd find room for complaint. Show me something else, please."-Philadelphia Press.

"That man insists on trying to be bigger than his party!" "Well," answered Senator Sorghum, "if he keeps on trying he will probably succeed in at least being bigger than what is left of it."-Washington Star.

THE COMMON AIM. New York Times. They met in the world's square. In the place where people meet, Where the far roads merge and split and where There are trails of a million feet. Each man wore a different dress Or a different sort of hat; An unheard-of creed or god had this. An unknown tongue had that.

Each swallowed a different food, Each uttered a different grace, Each spoke of all his own as good, And of earth as a varied place. They started from dusk till dawn, Each taller than the other, Till each his neighbor fell upon Like whelps of a different mother.

Then the sage of the world's square Who had lived where peoples meet, Who had seen the wanderers meeting there From the trails of a million feet.

Arose with a smile and said: "This youth hath a different hat; This man hath a different shape of head And a different faith hath that." "His land hath the camel and date; Thy land hath the motor and pine; His sun shines hot, though the year be late. While a frozen land is thine. But, answer me, colors and creeds, Is the end not for all human, Does each not toll for his mouth needs, And give the rest to a woman?"

Confounded, the arguers spaced And stared at the sage in affright. Until from the lips of one escaped: "I'll be hanged if he isn't right!"

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