

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY
THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY,
NELSON B. UPDIKE, Publisher.

The Bee's Platform

- 1. New Union Passenger Station.
2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways, including the pavement of Main Thoroughfares leading into Omaha with a Brick Surface.
3. A short, low-rate Waterway from the Corn Belt to the Atlantic Ocean.
4. Home Rule Charter for Omaha, with City Manager form of Government.

House Rolls 517 and 617.

House Roll 517, a bill to establish an industrial court modeled after the Kansas plan, is meeting opposition from union labor-leaders in hearings before the state legislature. These men argue that it is unfair and probably unconstitutional to attempt to force men to work against their will—and this, they assert, is the final effect of the industrial court. There is weight in their argument, not only in its logic but because of the doubt that such a law can command sufficient public support to make it effective in a really serious industrial dispute.

The same argument, however, applies in favor of House Roll 617, although the same union leaders also oppose this bill. House Roll 617 undertakes to restrain interference with men who want to work. It has some of the features of laws known in other states as "anti-picketing" laws.

Governor Allen has made a hobby of the industrial court in Kansas. In some quarters it has been hailed as the road to an industrial Utopia. It has not proved itself to be that, at least not yet. Certain disputes have been settled by its administration, but the real tests are still to come—the test of constitutionality and the test of effectiveness in a major dispute. Nebraska will afford to follow the advice of Governor McKelvie and await further development of the industrial court plan before trying it, if indeed it ever does.

But in the meantime, there is no good reason for rejecting H. R. 617. Such a statute will not interfere with the fair and lawful activities of union labor. Through its several sections, a distinction is made between fair argument and intimidation. If, at any point, that distinction is not clear, it should be made so. Union labor is entitled to the right to spread its influence by attracting the allegiance of all whom it can convince of the honesty of its purpose and the effectiveness of its methods. But it is not entitled to force its doctrines upon men who do not agree with it, by physical force or by any form of intimidation. The great bulk of union members have faith in their cause and are willing to trust to its inherent strength to win new members. Other methods sometimes make the work of union leaders easier and shorter, but in the long run they do not pay.

Land-Locked America.

There is a strange and unbelievable sound to the statement of W. L. Harding, former governor of Iowa, that South America is nearer to New England than is the middle west. Yet he is correct insofar as the cost of transportation is concerned. In times of blockades, such as we have seen several times on our railroad lines, it is also possible that cargoes could come by sea from Latin America more swiftly than from the interior of our country.

Governor Harding is authority for the estimate that transportation by water is twenty-four times faster and from five to seven times cheaper than transportation by rail. Farm products, he told the members of the Advertising-Selling league in Omaha, are losing millions of dollars annually by the lack of water routes to eastern and foreign markets. The development of the Great Lakes ship canal and of waterway transportation in the Mississippi valley is urged by him for the upbuilding of the interior of our continent.

What is not generally realized is that the South Americans whom we of the North are inclined to look upon, have for years been at work with dredges, clearing all-water routes from their wheat fields. The Uruguay river has been deepened to twenty-one feet for 600 miles, the Parana is being made navigable for 1,600 miles, and at Rosario, a city 400 miles from the sea, great docks for loading wheat into ocean vessels are teeming with activity. This is competition that the farmers of the middle west have to meet in the world market.

A project such as that for the channel which will allow ocean freighters to penetrate to Chicago and Duluth would not be throwing money away, and must do far to be realized, the sooner the better. Three hundred miles up the Rhine lies the German port of Mannheim, with three miles of docks and a great harbor. Duisburg and those other ports lately occupied by the Allies are far inland. With the rest of the world taking advantage of the natural outlets to the sea, it is indeed difficult to believe that America will much longer lag behind.

Pershing as Ambassador.

France would welcome General Pershing as ambassador from the United States, and his prestige won in the defense of our sister republic would make his appointment, which is reported to be considered by President Harding, a wise one. The same understanding spirit which existed in times of war could not be better perpetuated and betokened than by sending the commander of the American Expeditionary Force overseas again.

Pershing is the first man since Ulysses S. Grant to hold the rank of general in the United States army, and it is really a problem to know exactly what to do with him. General Grant was elected to the presidency and never returned to active military service, but General Pershing has still four years of active service, with no duties to go with his rank. The active head of the military organization, under the secretary of war, is the chief of staff, Peyton C. March. Under the army code, General Pershing can not be commanded by him, and some sticklers in military etiquette declare that Pershing is amenable only to the "direction of the president. It is said that General Pershing feels that his position is impossible, and that unless he is given new duties he will retire.

Some way ought to be found to keep him in the active service of the nation, and if it is possible to give him actual direction of the army, the diplomatic post at Paris would seem to offer a worthy opportunity for his ability.

Mexico on the Upgrade Again.

Some reassurance may be noted in the picture of Alvaro Obregon, quietly at work, endeavoring to redeem the promise of his election and to restore his country to political and industrial health. He asks that the world be patient with Mexico for a time, saying: "Three months is an extremely short time in which to normalize a nation which has been at war for more than ten years." But Obregon and his advisers have set about the uphill job with a courage and determination that promises to achieve results. His first policy, that of permitting other nations to take the initiative in matter of recognition, is a good sign. If persisted in, Mexicans will find that the powers of the world are ready to accord all rights to a sober and well behaved people, but they must first prove that they have permanently given over the banditry and outlawry that has prevailed there since the Maderistas defied the authority of Porfirio Diaz to levy taxes against their princely Chihuahua domain. If in the future the energy of which the nation is capable be directed in orderly fashion to the development of the resources of the land, to the enlightenment of the people and to the betterment of its social conditions, recognition will not wait, nor need the Mexicans worry as to the point.

Commenting on the inaugural address of President Harding, President Obregon says the speech was "conceived in a splendid spirit for the people of the world, highly instructive and highly moral." His own program is summed up in this statement:

I am certain that if the present government continues within the law Mexico has seen its last revolution. Now that Mexico is at peace means must be found to obtain the co-operative help of intelligence, capital and personal initiative to find a solution of the present economic problem which is basically agrarian. Modern methods of agriculture must be installed and coupled with this, huge haciendas which are not producing in proportion to their ability, must be divided among small farmers.

President Obregon's practical vision will help him to avoid most of the rocks on which his predecessors saw their projects founder. If he keeps within the law he will avoid revolution; if he carries out his agrarian reforms he will restore prosperity and content at home, and in this way will command the respect and confidence of the world. It looks as if Mexico were finally on the right road.

Canal an Aid to Eastern Builders.

While the builders in the region of the central west are waiting for a decline in prices so that work may start, those of the east are solving their problem in a very simple way. The high freight rate on lumber from the northwest is to be overcome by water carriage. In its weekly market review, the American Lumberman says:

One of the most significant developments of the week was the announcement of the sale of several million feet of Douglas fir, which is to be moved east by water via the Panama canal, unloaded at Philadelphia and then shipped west by rail to Ohio points. The water rate on this shipment is to be \$15 a thousand feet and the combined cost of the loading, unloading and back haul will be considerably less than the amount which would have been charged for direct rail delivery of the lumber. Water transportation is arousing the keenest interest on the Pacific coast and in view of the high rail freight rates there is a decided tendency on the part of the manufacturers to encourage and co-operate in water shipments to the Atlantic seaboard, from which reshipments by rail or water will be made to the middle west.

That will not be of much benefit to communities situated as Omaha, unless the railroads take cognizance of the discrimination and grant some relief. It does make the matter of inland navigation loom bigger than ever. Lumber might be carried on steamboats from the gulf upstream at a rate that would fall well inside the tariff now imposed on lumber shipments from the coast to this region.

Another thought occurs in this connection: The establishment of a storage yard at Omaha might obviate one of the present evils of the rail situation, that of the sale-in-transit or reconsignment, over which so much discussion has been had. From such a yard orders within 500 miles could be speedily filled, without the delay incident to the present method of handling, and with none of the uncertainties of delivery attending the reconsignment system, while the wholesalers would be relieved of the annoyance of auctioning supplies along the route. Such a plan commends itself, for its advantages are obvious, and it deserves consideration.

No Ace in the Hole.

The indifference of Americans over the moves of the Allies no doubt is disappointing alike to the Germans and to their opponents. Only in the nick of time has the United States withdrawn definitely from European affairs, and the sooner the understanding spreads abroad that no encouragement or interference in foreign lands is forthcoming the better the chances for stabilized world conditions.

Since the inauguration of the new administration, America has ceased to serve as the ace in the hole in the international stud poker game. The national viewpoint is much like that of an old soldier of Napoleon, who after fighting all over Europe had exchanged the sword for the razor and opened a barber shop in his native town. One morning one of his customers washed in, shouting: "Europe is again on fire; have you heard the news?" "No." "The Low Countries have risen." "Well, well," said the barber-soldier, stropping his razor, "so much the better; they will not be so often flooded."

Miss Alice Robertson, the Oklahoma congresswoman, declares that she did not seek the nomination even though it was leap year; evidently she considers herself married to her new job.

A net reduction in appropriations of a billion dollars is the record hung up by the last congress. Let the new one do as well and much will be forgiven it.

A Line O' Type or Two

CHILDE HASSAM claims that he is fond of music, and we are happy to testify in his behalf, for once on a time he asked us Misses to play Brahms for him. Of course he may have been (like Blanco Posnet's brother when he sang in his high note) lit at the time.

TOBACKINIZED NURSERY JINGLES. Warren had a little lamb. He called it Normaley. And everywhere that Warren went The lamb it followed he.

THE Ziegler-Orthwein romance is poetically summarized by Andy Rebort: "You're a better shot than I am, Gordon Gin!"

Extra! Extra! Bloody Murder of John Pope and the English Language!

I, James A. Scott, being duly sworn, state as follows: On March 1, 1921, I went through the store and they stopped on the back porch and I could see they were in a row and I heard Abner Pope tell John A. Pope, "Do not deny it, you know you said it." We seen they was in a row. We started out there to see if we could stop the row and when I got about 10 feet the sun fired and we went on out and Abner Pope came in and we stepped out on the porch and seen John Pope lying beside the steps partly under the floor with a bullet hole over his left eye.

"I FIND you investigation," says the director of the Winnetka community house, "that 'Twin Beds' is hardly of the type I believed it to be from the title." True, one can't always guess a thing from its title. We thought "Twin Beds" was a nursery tale.

INFORMATION WHILE YOU WAIT. Sir: There is no "Lord Verulam" in history. Baron Verulam was Lord Bacon.

LAM METICULOUS. Sir: I believe you referred to him as Lord Verulam, the only time his title has been correctly attached for some time.

Shot in the Marcell. Sir: At a recent performance of "Dulcy," four Dulcies with variations sat in front of me. They were thoroughly bored. Finally one of them said, "Why, she isn't an actress at all, she's just a fool."

DULCY tells us that she perfectly adored Mr. Harding's inaugural address.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHAT A SHEET? (Ad in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.) Today reminds me of what E. L. T. of the distinguished New York Tribune (what a sheet, by the way!) has to say.

PEDANTRY gives us a pain in the psyche, but we think that people old enough to know better ought not to throw dead cats into the Chaucerian well.

THE THOUSAND AND ONE AFTERNOONS. XXXVI.

"My second job," pursued the bellhop, "was in the office of a newspaper. The character of which was quite different from that of the religious monthly. It derived its income not so much from what it printed, as from what it arranged not to print. The editor was supposed never to be in to casual visitors, and I was so instructed, yet I was obliged to reply truthfully to the first inquirer, who lost no time in asking my employer when the light began to blink. I took my cap and departed, anticipating a scene more painful to me than my previous indiscretion had brought about. Satisfied that my unfortunate veracity would not be in the position of office boy, I obtained work in a large store, and being intelligent and industrious I got on very well until one day a lady, after purchasing an article, asked me when it would surely be delivered that day. I answered that it was customary to promise swift delivery, but that the chances were against the package reaching her until the following afternoon. She accepted the answer good-humoredly, seeming pleased with my frankness, but I had been overheard by a floorwalker, who reported me to the manager, and I was again sent about my business, a curious saying for one who is discharged from no business to attend to, unless it be the business of obtaining another position. This I achieved in the course of time, in another store, but I had the ill luck to be put in charge of a bargain counter, the goods on which had been marked down from three or four times their value to prices at which they could be sacrificed at a handsome profit. Thereafter, when a customer put a question to me I was obliged by my accursed veracity to confirm his skepticism, in return for which kindness he betrayed me to the head of the store, and I was again discharged. Discouraged by these and subsequent misadventures, I had begun to think that it were best for me to cast myself to the bottom of a well, when a friend, who had my infirmity recommended me to an advertising agency, the product of which bore the inspiring legend, "Truth in Advertising." Here, I felt, was a field for my peculiar talent, and I made such progress in learning the business that presently I was entrusted with the task of writing advertising copy. My first composition extolled the merits of a certain washing machine. I said that it was a good machine for the money, and that probably would serve its purpose if too much was not expected of it, that there were better machines but they cost more, and— But I need not tell you that my manuscript was rejected, and myself once more cast into outer darkness."

"ANCIENT Rome, in the height of her glory, with her lavish amusements, Olympian games, etc.—The enraptured advertiser.

The proof reader asks us if it was an eruption of Mt. Olympus that destroyed Pompeii.

"CATO CONTRA MUNDUM." (From the Four States Press.) To the public of Texarkana: I wish to state that it was not me who was arrested on the charge of having a rifle on my premises.

Formerly Texas & Pacific Train Auditor. The Second Post.

(Received from an esteemed contemporary.) Dear Editor: Having recently undertaken the art of poetry for an occupation, kindly reply if your circulation department publishes same if not if it does accept I prefer starting with my paper at an early date that seems suitable. My lines do not dwell on nonsensical topics but pertain to the sentimental, clean-cut variety. I have not communicated with other poets or foreign editors, or any newspaper or magazines yet. The arrangements of payments can be adjusted later on, and I assure you at a reasonable figure.

HEARD on inauguration day: Counter man to Cachier: "Well, Harding is our president now." Bookkeeper: "Any saloons open yet?"

A Pome You Ought to Know. (Translated by Sib from the original holiday card.) The twenty-nine-fold brilliant new year Has come to me with fresh breezes; The mid of Apollo's heart of Oz, I feel in my healthy vein's serene, I feel in my healthy vein's serene.

The dew of ruby, the drop of amber Awaits us, look with new cheer front of the glass In the glass of Joy that made by Mother; Now raise them highly by sweet tears.

TAKAHITO IWAI. DR. VAN DYKE describes jazz as "invented by demons for the torture of imbeciles." But the imbeciles appear to like it.

"THAT STRAIN AGAIN—IT HAD A DYING SNORT." Sir: Speaking of soft music and the peary gases, S. T. Snortum is owner and demonstrator of the music store at St. Peter, Minnesota.

S. W. E. WARREN, O., has acquired a fly barber, and dinged if her name isn't Ethel Gillette.

AN INCLUSIVE AFFAIR. (From the Racine Journal.) "Dance Thursday night, at Eagle's hall. Everything invited.—Adv.

SIGNS of spring: Two angle worms were observed on the pave in front of the University club Saturday, and a lizard in front of the Blackstone. R. L. 7

How to Keep Well

By DR. W. A. EVANS. Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Bee, will be answered personally, subject to proper limitation, where a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

SMALLPOX SITUATION.

In the first four weeks of 1921 10,257 cases of smallpox were reported to the United States Public Health Service by 32 state departments of health. Two of these cases were in the District of Columbia. The figures for Indiana, New Mexico and Virginia were for three weeks in January last or four and those for Kentucky for two weeks.

It is probable there were 15,000 cases in all since among the non-reporting states are such large ones as Pennsylvania and Ohio, Utah, Oregon, Oklahoma, Michigan, and Tennessee, states having a good deal of smallpox each winter.

Since many cases doubtless were overlooked it is probable the total number of cases equaled 15,000. Were the same rate to continue for the year it would mean about 194,000 cases of smallpox. No other country ranking as civilized will have so poor a record. Of course, these will not be that many cases. The expectation is that the number of cases in February and March will be higher than that of January, that there will be a slight monthly decrease through March and April, a sharp decrease in May and June, a low level in midsummer, and an autumn rise.

Since the rise goes to Delaware, from which no cases were reported, though Connecticut is a close second with one case. At the foot of the class stands Minnesota, a state with a very intelligent people, but long known for its poor vaccination laws and practices. That state had 1,255 cases. Other states with bad records are Wisconsin, 994, and Iowa, 929. New England handles its smallpox very intelligently. Four New England states reported only 24 cases. It cannot be charged that this is because of the excellent record of the highway because Massachusetts and Connecticut are among the reporting states. Great New York state only reported 36 cases and New Jersey eight. On the other hand, crank ridden California reported 653.

The great cities like New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston and St. Louis, have reported smallpox figures ever since smallpox figures are printed. It is the places that do not vaccinate and which are poorly equipped with smallpox hospitals that get a black eye whenever smallpox figures are printed. Utah's very bad vaccination is responsible for the poor smallpox showings made by that state in all smallpox reports where figures are entered. It is well to remember that in other health lists Utah ranks well.

The danger of contracting the disease seems to be greatest in the upper part of the Mississippi valley. The southern states, ordinarily bad offenders by reason of their large negro population, show up most gratefully well in this report. New Mexico and Texas, ordinarily rather badly afflicted because of their Mexican population, have a good record this year.

Fortunately for us the strain of smallpox prevailing in this country for more than 20 years is a mild one. Let us hope that we may continue to be spared from invasion of the eastern European strain.

Better Be Examined. L. M. W. writes: "1. Is tubercular throat curable? 2. Does a cough accompany it? 3. Is there a temperature? 4. Does the throat discharge resemble an accumulation of dust particles? 5. For some time I have had a throat discharge as described, particularly about one hour after arising. My temperature varies from about 98.5 in the morning and back to about 97.6 in the evening. I have no cough. Would this indicate tubercular throat? I have had some catarrhal discharge or sputum for some time. 6. One tonsil is perforated and the other looks diseased. Should they be removed?"

REPLY. 1. No. 2. Yes. 3. Yes. 4. Somewhat. 5. Have your throat examined. Have your sputum tested. 6. If your tonsils are badly diseased they should be removed.

The Inhaling of Snuff. W. M. A. writes: "1. Is it bad for the health to put snuff in the nose? 2. Does it cause the brain and salivary glands to atrophy? 3. How does it affect one's health?"

REPLY. 1. No, except as any use of tobacco is bad for the health. 2. No. 3. By causing tobacco heart and

Only 3 MORE DAYS

to secure a high-grade rebuilt piano or player at the wonderful reduction offered during our Spring Housecleaning Sale of PIANOS

Choose Now From the Following List:

- Kimball, mahogany case and wonderful movement... \$465
Angela, mahogany case, beautiful tone, only... \$485
Hooper, walnut case, practically new, only... \$500
Apollo, mahogany case, a master of players, only... \$485
Kranich & Bach, slightly used, walnut case, only... \$250
Goudier, mahogany case, a real bargain, only... \$175
Geo. Steink, ebony case, in excellent condition... \$175

There will be no wash-day odor in your home—and no disagreeable dampness.

We call for your wash; deliver it damp—not wet—light pieces ready for ironing.

Each bundle is washed separately. No laundry marks. We use Refinite perfect soft water—no lye or chemicals to injure the fabric.

Moisture is removed by suction—cannot break buttons. Your clothes are weighed dry. Costs you but a few cents a pound.

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We also air-dry your wash if desired—all pieces ready for immediate ironing. Phone Harney 0784.

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A. Hospe Co. 1513 Douglas Street.

The Bee's Letter Box

Municipal Ownership. Omaha, March 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: In answer to some of the critics on municipal ownership, I have this to say: That said critics must like to be gouged and profited with by corporations, trusts, and so forth.

Municipal ownership of public utilities is the very essence of relief from extortion in every phase of the question. If the people owned all of these essentials there would be no profiteering, and then we would have relief and more money to spend in our homes. It's the tax on water stock that is robbing the people today. Under municipal ownership we don't have to pay a tax on watered stock; we get a reader figure out or start one by voting bonds which carry interest; then the users of the water, light and gas start to pay for the plant in proportion as to the amount they use. Out of this fund, so much to be set aside for depreciation of the plant, so much to be set aside to pay the bonds, and so much for labor. In time, the debt is wiped out including the interest on same, and the people own the plant themselves; but on the other hand if a corporation owned the plant, the dear people would have to keep on paying all through posterity on the valuation of the plant, which is generally watered to the overflowing point.

Now, dear readers, which is the best way, own the plant ourselves, or wipe out the debt so in time the users will only have to pay for the labor performed in running the plant, whatever it may be? Don't the readers think when the time arrives that the rate will be cheaper? The city owns the plant all paid for, not by taxation, but by actual use of the water, light or gas used. The writer can see no other way to better ourselves or posterity; say for instance, Omaha had voted bonds and started every public utility from incineration, the street car system, electric light, gas, water and telephone; can any one realize what the rate would be today for a street car fare? Can a reader figure out or get the figures of the profits wrung from the people of Omaha on our public utilities? If so, I think you would find out that the city would now have them all paid for and your purse would be saved daily a great many pennies with just as good service as we have now. I don't blame any one for kicking if their service is bad under public ownership; this no doubt will make it better; but to come out and advocate against the doctrine is too much for me; that is the reason for this article, and I want to add that some complain public ownership takes the property away from being taxed.

This is corporation propaganda, making the taxpayer believe his or her taxes will be more if this property is not taxed. Even if this property, the taxpayer gets that all back in cheaper rates on the water, gas and so forth. Possibly not yet on the gas, because of the fact the city was left stranded for the present on that deal and will have to have time to re-survey a little first, and it may be that the city made a mistake in purchasing that plant on account of electricity being used for the same purpose. However, it's always better to try and fail than not to try at all. I am satisfied it will work out all right in time, and be a boon to posterity if not for the critics at this time. Very truly,

C. E. NETHAWAY.

Complete Shift. "I recollect," said old Doc Malory, "When wages all looked up to salary."

"The world moves on by easy stages. Now salary looks down to wages."—Detroit Free Press.

Asylum Is Better Place. F. M. E. writes: "My brother was confined in an insane asylum for a time. Later we have observed the same symptoms. Is he curable, and can we do anything for him without sending him away again?"

REPLY. There are various kinds of insanity, some curable, some not. Do not hesitate to place him in an asylum promptly. The care there is better than he can get at home.

A Bit o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year. By John Kendrick Bangs.

YOUTH OR AGE? I do not know, as turning page on page. Which hath the sweeter cast, fresh Youth or Age? The dreams of Youth are fair, all running full Of golden promises delectable. And yet somehow the notion comes to me That as the years pass on Reality Holds richer worth, and in the harbor's calm After the storm there lies a rarer balm.

To soothe the troubled soul than in the strife Attendant on our battlings with life. Whichever the sweeter be I'm nothing loth To thank my stars that I have tasted both.

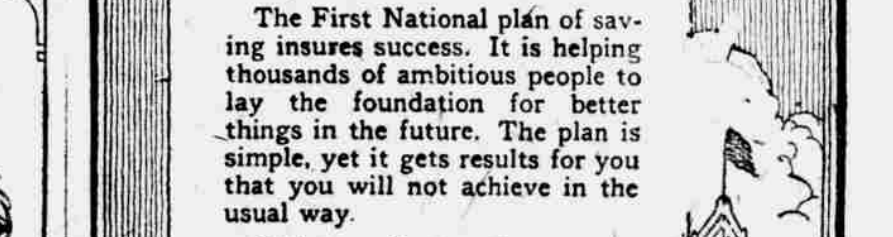
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WORKING TO A PLAN

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Call at our Savings Department and ask for particulars.



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A GOOD GAS RANGE

A GOOD COAL RANGE

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\$175 Combination Gas and Coal Ranges for

\$140.00

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