

Odd and CURIOUS in the NEWS

FREE PIES! The hungry look on the faces of a group of children emerging from a Brooklyn, N. Y. school disappeared quickly at noon Thursday...

-FIND TINY BODIES A man rummaging around in a field at Altoona last Wednesday discovered recently in the Clearfield Taxi-drome Company fur robbery...

EXTRA COURSES It wasn't on the menu but Walter Myers got a lesson with his soup. He was just about to taste the first spoonful when eating in a restaurant at Philadelphia when 16-year-old Mildred Jaynes fell through a skylight which she was washing...

MARRIAGE RETURN When the Rev. Loyal M. Thompson, of Bloomington, Ill., performed his 77th marriage recently, the bridegroom paid him \$7.77 in 777 pennies. The Rev. Mr. Thompson who has been in the preaching business for 25 years, said \$7.77 is above the average. For instance, in a double ceremony in which two couples were married to two sisters, he received 50 cents a couple.

\$12,000 ONIONS A single onion—one onion—that was purchased for \$12,000 was placed on display in London Saturday. A whole box of onions brought \$137.532. The onions, now extremely rare in Britain were raffled off as a feature of Greater London's War Weapons Week which ends with subscriptions for war bonds and certificates totalling \$492,400,000.

TOO VALUABLE TO LOSE As firemen arrived at a burning apartment in Indianapolis, Mrs. Elizabeth Steele, 39, emerged from a smoke-filled stairway clad only in pajamas and a bathrobe, but triumphantly carrying a new summer hat. Firemen said she wanted to return to rescue a new pair of shoes but they restrained her.

SILENT REVELLE Pat, an Airedale dog, has put an alarm clock out of a job in Mrs. W. C. Peterson's home, at New Brunswick, Ill. For three years the animal has been awakening her daily at about 4 a. m. by touching her cheek or arm with his cold nose.

CLOSED CORPORATION Said Teacher Ruth Cyvk to Cousin Carol Clark: "School is dismissed for the summer." And that ended the school year for Cedar County's one pupil, one-teacher and one-family school at Alten, Neb.

Two CCC Camps to Close According to unofficial information, the Farrandville and Loganton CCC camps in Clinton Co. will be abandoned May 31. The reason, it is stated, is due to the few enrollees, because of drafts for military service and the increased number of jobs in industry.

Use our Classified Ad columns. Classified Ads bring results.

Democrats Cut Property Taxes, Provide Special Hospital Aid

The four mills State tax on personal property will be cut and the Commonwealth will meet all its obligations to school districts and county mental hospitals, promised in 1938 and postponed by him in 1939 must be put off for two more years. The Democratic Party has destroyed the James economy myth, for the Democrats are planning to reduce taxes which the Governor asked be re-enacted. Obviously caught off base by the announcement, the Governor said he would go along with the Democratic plan if its feasibility were demonstrated. Meyers' statement was as follows: "The Democratic Party has always been firm on two principles: 1. That the tax burden should be imposed on those best able to bear it. 2. That unscientific and unsound taxes should be eliminated at once." (Continued on page six)

Decoration Day Is 73 Years Old

A widow's devotion to her husband—a Civil War soldier killed in the battle of Fort Donelson—gave the United States the Memorial Day observance which will have its seventy-third anniversary Friday. Two war veterans, sitting on the porch of a country church near Carbondale, Ill., watched the widow place a small wreath on her husband's grave in the church cemetery and offer a short prayer. Impressed, they decided to decorate the graves of their comrades. They mentioned their plan to friends and a special service was arranged for April 25, 1866. Rain interfered, but it was held the following day. With hundreds of persons looking on, 219 uniformed veterans of the war, led by a brass band, paraded from downtown Carbondale to Woodlawn cemetery at the edge of the city limits. General John A. Logan delivered the memorial address and closed his patriotic message with the assertion that: "Every man's life belongs to his country and no man has the right to refuse it when his country calls for it." The crowd then placed flowers on the grave of every soldier, whether they had served in the Confederate or Union Army. Two of the flower girls, Mrs. Julia Amon, now 90 years old, and Mrs. A. C. Elliott, 84, still live there. Two years after the Carbondale service, General Logan as commander of the Grand Army of the Republic issued his now famous general order No. 11, creating an annual memorial service.

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The Centre Democrat

SECOND SECTION

NEWS, FEATURES

Random Items

VOLUME 60.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1941.

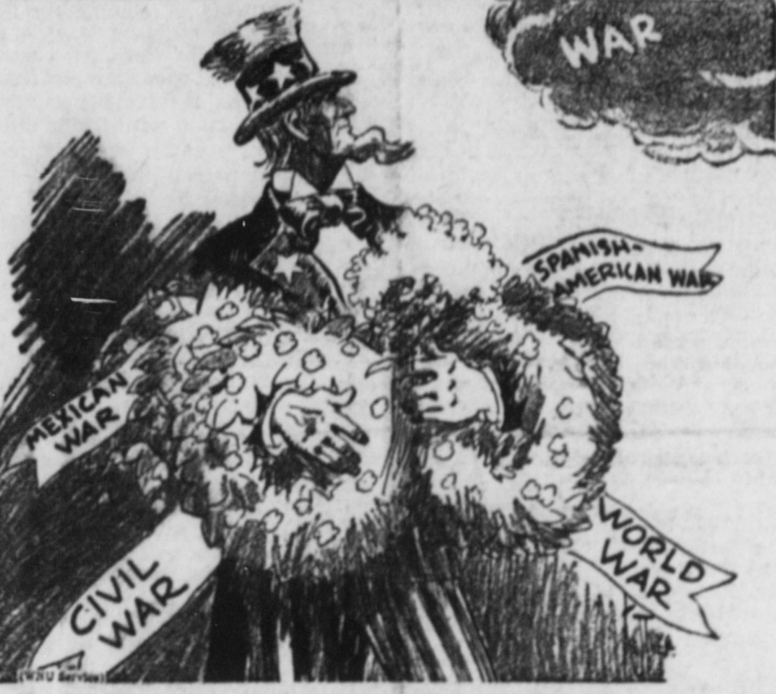
NUMBER 22.

Clearfield Fur Thief Is Considered Suspect In State College Robbery

Police Believe Altoona Man Committed Crime In College Town in Which Shomberg Jewelry Store Reported Theft of \$3,000

Edgar D. Swartz, of Frankstown, one of five Altoona men arrested recently in the Clearfield Taxi-drome Company fur robbery, is reported by State Police at Rockview to be a "definite suspect" in the \$3,000 robbery of the H. S. Shomberg jewelry store in State College last February 13. Police, who filed information against Swartz for the State College offense, expect to lodge a detainer against him, pending his release from the prison to which he will be sent for the fur robbery. They are said to be "reasonably sure" that Swartz is one of the men who broke into the store and "cleaned" the watch board and took merchandise from most of the show cases. Information in connection with the Shomberg case was lodged against the former WPA worker before Squire Harold D. Cowher in Bellefonte by Private S. R. Richardson of the Rockview sub-station. Police say that they have collected considerable evidence which connects Swartz with the State College robbery. They stated that he had a number of accomplices and that other arrests are expected to be made. Two cigarette lighters taken from the store have been recovered up to the present time, police revealed. Roland Martin, a member of the State College police department, went to Clearfield and identified Swartz as one of the men who saw acting suspiciously in State College the night of the robbery. Swartz is now in Clearfield county jail, together with Harry Walls, William Kelly and Mrs. Ruth Weyant, all of Altoona, for their part in the thefts of more than \$7,000 worth of furs. Swartz's wife, Ruth, was charged with receiving stolen goods, and is under prosecution in Blair county.

Memorial Day



DISPEL MYTH OF RESTORING LIFE

If you have ever held the belief that a criminal who has been put to death in the electric chair at Rockview could be restored to life by scientific methods, dispel it from your mind. Science has put the experiment to a practical test and proved it a myth. At a meeting of Scientists in Boston last week disclosure was made of actually experimenting on the body of a murderer fresh from the electric chair, and finding not the faintest spark of life that might be fanned to living flame. Joseph Brooks, 30, was escorted into the death chamber at Charleston state prison last April 22. A few moments later he was pronounced dead, four shocks having snuffed out his life in payment for the killing of a policeman. Brooks' body was taken to the Massachusetts General Hospital less than an hour after he was pronounced dead. Dr. William J. Brickley conducted the experiment of reviving Brooks. The doctor reported: "Fifty minutes after Brooks was removed from the chair a brain-wave machine was placed over the killer's head in an effort to detect activity in the brain. There was none. A stimulant was injected into the heart muscles to see if it could be revived. It could not." (Continued on page five)

Two Die In Crash Near Bellwood; Two Others Are Injured In Collision

Frank W. Harpster, Juniata, Mrs. Pearl Coleman, Grandview, Killed Instantly; Collision on Three-Lane Road

A man and a woman were killed and two other persons seriously injured Monday night when two automobiles crashed head-on on a triple-lane road 220, about three-fourths of a mile east of the Bellwood intersection. The dead are: Frank W. Harpster, 30, of Juniata, an employe of the East Side block company, who was found lifeless in his automobile, suffering from multiple lacerations of the body, broken left leg and other undetermined injuries. Mrs. Pearl Coleman, 36, of Grandview, near Wehwood, who died at Altoona hospital at 7:45 p. m. of a fractured skull, a severe gash of the left arm and brush burns of the body. The injured: William Cornmesser, 20, of Bellwood, deep lacerations of the forehead. Robert Patterson, 16, of Grandview, back injury. Both Cornmesser and Patterson were reported in "fair" condition at Altoona hospital. It was learned that Cornmesser was driving southward toward the Bellwood intersection and was alone in his automobile. The other car, traveling in the opposite direction, contained Harpster, the driver, and Mrs. Coleman and Patterson. Harpster was found dead in a sitting position behind the wheel. Cornmesser, friends related, had been visiting a Budd family in Tip-ton around 6 o'clock and was en-route to his Bellwood home when the accident occurred. Due to the lack of witnesses, Coroner Rothrock announced he would be especially interested in contacting the driver of an automobile he was told that preceded a bus bound from Tyrone to Altoona and which had stopped momentarily at the scene of the crash, but then drove away. Harpster's destination was uncertain, although Mrs. Coleman's husband, C. T. Coleman, reported at Altoona hospital, where his daughter, Henrietta, is a patient, that he believed his wife was going to Lock Haven to visit friends or relatives. Frank W. Harpster was born August 8, 1911, at Warriors Mark, and was the son of William E. and Hay (Blair) Harpster. He had been employed by the (Continued on Page 5)

Howard Man Has Jaw Fractured

Car Leaves Marsh Creek Road And Crashes Into Tree

Dean Miller, of Howard, R. D. 1, is a patient in the Lock Haven Hospital with a fractured jaw received in an accident about 6 o'clock Sunday evening on the Marsh Creek road. His brother reported that Miller's car left the road and struck a tree. The Lock Haven motor police investigated two other accidents, in which no one was injured. Friday evening at 9 o'clock cars driven by Edward Klein, Beech Creek, R. D. 1, and Walter E. Mann, Monument, collided on Route 220 at the intersection of the old road in Allison township. Klein stopped to the rear of a car, turning left onto the old road and Mann, unable to stop in time, hit the rear of the Klein car. Damage totaled \$30.

MISSING GIRL RETURNS BRINGING HUSBAND

Miss Fay Dershem, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin R. Dershem, of Lock Haven, reported missing since Monday, returned to her home on Thursday, the bride of Malcolm Moore, 21, of Beech Creek. According to Clinton County Sheriff D. Edward Grenoble, the bride's mother was arrested by her new son-in-law for assault and battery, when Mr. Moore came to the Dershem home at Lock Haven to claim his wife. An argument ensued and the arrest followed.

WHY SOME FOLKS WANT A DIVORCE

You, Mr. and Mrs. Average couple of Centre county, may not always get along like a pair of love-birds, but take it from the record, your difficulties can't touch some peoples. Just to furnish a comparison to your own marital troubles, let's look over the strange reefs on which matrimonial barques have been cracking up lately. First the "ladies' division," and their grounds for divorce. (Don't worry, the gents will have their turn too)— An Omaha woman: Her husband only took a bath every three weeks. A Chicago woman: Her husband not only monopolized all the blankets in cold weather, but also chased her out in the snow in her bare feet. A Hollywood stunt girl who specializes in jumping out of burning buildings: Her husband stayed out too late at night, making her nervous. A Bridgeport, Conn., woman: Her husband went out one morning to buy cream for the coffee, and didn't come back for a year. A Los Angeles woman: During three months of marriage, her husband gave her \$150,000 worth of diamonds, but only \$20 for groceries. A Chicago woman: Her husband insisted that she become a nudist. A Los Angeles woman: Got a divorce on the ground that her husband took a girl friend along on their honeymoon. A Camden, N. J., couple split up because they never could decide who should have first whack at the bathtub. A Milwaukee man charged in his divorce suit that his wife, just for spite, served him tough steak after he had had his teeth pulled out. A Pittsburgh man was granted a divorce because his wife punctured the tires on his car with ice pick. A Newark (New Jersey) woman: husband testified his wife had moved their residence 27 times in six years—so that he hardly could remember which bus to take home. A Los Angeles man sued for divorce on the ground that his wife had stoned their dog on him every day. A Wabash, Ind., man got his marriage liquidated because his wife told him she had only two previous husbands, whereas she actually had six. A Camden, N. J. man: In 13 months his wife spent \$3,500 on fortune tellers, and "I still don't know what she was trying to find out." (Continued on page six)

Road Building Bid Is Accepted

York Firm Submits Low Estimate on Beech Creek-Howard Road

State to Improve 5 Roads in County

Highway Department Will Resurface and Build 4.79 Miles

The Department of Highways is planning to improve 4.79 miles of road in Centre county this season with its own forces. This is part of a program approved by Governor Arthur H. James for improving more than 700 miles of road primarily in rural areas of the Commonwealth. The work to be undertaken by the department forces will be in addition to any contract work in the county and does not include projects sponsored by the department to be completed by WPA forces. Some of the work to be done by department forces will consist of placing macadam surfaces on roads reported to be high. The flash of lightning, which struck the building during the heavy electrical storm, was followed by a heavy peal of thunder and soon by flames. Large crowds of people living at Janesville, Houtzdale and nearby communities watched the flames consume the good-sized wooden building. Church Steeple Damaged A vicious wind and electric storm which passed through the vicinity of Tonawanda blew the large gilded cross which surmounted the steeple of the St. Peter and Paul Church from its fastenings. It made a large hole in the church roof, and then bounded off into the church yard. Two barns in the county were burned, after being struck by lightning. Classified Ads bring results.

Expanding Rail Injures Workers

Two P. R. R. Track Employees Are Victims of Unusual Accident

Three Pennsylvania Railroad track workers were injured in a peculiar accident near the passenger station at Petersburg. The men were engaged in putting in new rails, and when they removed the spikes from one of the old rails, which had expanded from the heat, spring forward and struck them on the legs. Leroy W. Lightner, 28, and Ray Fitzgerald, 45, are patients at J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital with broken legs, while the third, G. M. Ruppert, was discharged from the hospital after treatment for a bruised foot. All are of Petersburg.

Penn State Star Is Chosen Coach

Bill Miller Elected to Direct Athletics at Jersey Shore High

Bill Miller, former all around athlete at Penn State, has been elected coach of the Jersey Shore High school, it was announced last week. Miller replaces LaVerne Casner who resigned his head coaching post at the end of the 1940 season. Miller won out over Harold Stackhouse of Ralston, and Gray Pury, Mill Hill coach, seeking the Jersey Shore position. The ex-Penn Stater's appointment was made on the recommendations of Bob Higgins, Joe Bedenk, Chick Werner and John Lavender, Penn State coaches, who stated he was one of the best coaching prospects for a high school position. Miller played football, basketball and was active in track at Penn State. In his senior year he was an outstanding end for the Lion grid team and captained the State track team. He was one of the best hammer throwers in the history of Penn State.

Held In Vending Machine Theft

Two Lock Haven Men Face Charges of Robbing Service Station

Edward Kriner and John W. Wolford, both of Lock Haven, have been committed to the Clinton county jail following their second arrest within a week last Thursday. The men are charged with the theft of \$90 in cigarettes and cash from a vending machine which was broken at the Casselberry service station in Lock Haven. The machine had been rifled twice previously. Whether there was anything missing from the service station where the men were employed was not established. Kriner and Wolford were arrested Thursday by Sheriff D. Edward Grenoble, Deputy W. Glenn Adams and State Policeman Charles Lick, of Williamsport, and were given a hearing Friday afternoon by Alderman Lipetz who held them for court. They were committed in default of \$500 bail each.

Fugitive Shot By Altoona Cop

Negro Who Drew Knife on Patrolman Is Fatally Wounded

A 50-year-old Negro, identified as James Bolt Hall, who drew a knife on an Altoona city policeman Monday night after being arrested for a reported theft, was shot to death by the officer. The shooting occurred in Eighth avenue alley, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets, when the Negro, who broke away from Patrolman John Schonder while under arrest, pulled out the knife when Schonder overtook him. The dead man's address is not known but city police expressed the opinion that he was not an Altoonaan. After the shooting the victim's body was taken to Altoona Hospital where, after an autopsy, it was found a .38-caliber bullet had entered the right side of his back and pierced his right lung, touching just the edge of the heart.

Lightning Bolt Destroys Mill

Davis Planing Mill at Janesville Burned to Ground Thursday Night

The Davis lumberyard at Janesville, Clearfield county, was totally destroyed last Thursday night by fire after it was struck by a bolt of lightning. The Houtzdale firemen were called to the scene but in spite of their efforts the planing mill was destroyed together with its machines and stock of lumber. Damages to the building and machinery owned by Seth Davis are reported to be high. The flash of lightning, which struck the building during the heavy electrical storm, was followed by a heavy peal of thunder and soon by flames. Large crowds of people living at Janesville, Houtzdale and nearby communities watched the flames consume the good-sized wooden building.

Is Fatally Injured

Kenneth Dewalt, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Dewalt, Danville, R. D. 6, was fatally injured when the truck he was driving was struck by a west-bound freight train on the Wilkes-Barre Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, at Riverside. He died in the Geisinger Hospital. He suffered a fractured skull, fractures of the right arm and leg and internal injuries, and did not regain consciousness after the crash.

Osceola Mills Woman Hurt

Mrs. Cecelia Fox, 58, Osceola Mills, suffered contusions of the chest last Thursday at Harrisburg in an automobile collision between cars driven by John Anderson, 19, of Osceola Mills, and Benjamin Gurnberg, Buffalo, N. Y. Mrs. Fox, who was treated at the Polyclinic Hospital, is owner of the Anderson machine which skidded on wet roads and crashed into the rear of the other car.

Church Steeple Damaged

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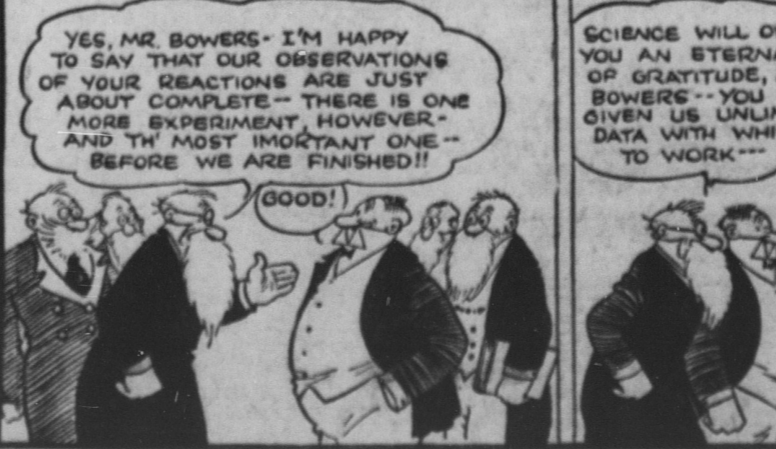
Prominent Man Hurt

D. J. Driscoll, trustee for the Associated Gas and Electric Co., New York, was injured Friday in an automobile accident 12 miles east of St. Marys. The former chairman of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission was en route to his home from New York when his automobile overturned. Several of his ribs were reported broken.

Child Attacked by Ram

George Riggs, 22-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Paul Riggs, of Sunbury, suffered a fracture of the left leg when he was attacked by a ram at the home of his grandmother. The attack happened when the child was climbing the fence into the barnyard, and the ram butted him in the hip. He is a patient at the Mary M. Packer Hospital. Clothes may make a man but it takes hosiery to make a woman.

'KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES' — Meet Alfred, Eddie!!!



By POP MOMAND



CLASSIC: Bellefonte High School Superintendent O. F. Sollenberger was teaching one of the sophomore history classes the other day. The topic was war, invasion, etc. Referring to the necessity for preparation on the part of the U. S., Mr. Sollenberger thumped the table and asked: "If the Nazis landed outside of Bellefonte tomorrow would be the first to go out and try to stop them?" There was a heavy silence for a moment. Then young Stanley Musser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Musser piped up: "Kar. Kusse!"

MYSTERY: Workmen engaged in opening a ditch along Allegheny Street for the Bell Telephone Company's new underground cables, are puzzled over what seems to have been a substantial concrete road under the brick paving, from Pike Street southward. Even thorough officials can't figure out when the concrete road was in use. Some believe that it was placed as a base for the brick paving some years ago, but there's some doubt about this since there is some about four inches of earth or other material between the concrete and brick. S. O. S. PLEASE: Will some good soul kindly suggest an appropriate name for the new highway between Bellefonte and State College? This department doesn't care who selects the name, or what the name is, just so long as it is half-way appropriate to the road Centre County's two chief cities labored so long and so earnestly to get. "Benner Turnpike," has been pinned on the highway by some newspapers, but it is a meaningless and inept name, for the highway is not a turnpike, and "Benner" had nothing at all to do with the road. Here's a main highway, linking Bellefonte and State College by an almost straight route, passing through the grounds of Rockview penitentiary (which in itself is known far and wide) and no one to date has been able to think of a good name for it. The name must be comparatively short. If you have any suggestions, please telephone, write, or call any newspaper office in the county and we believe your efforts will be sincerely appreciated. (Note to Newspapermen: As fellow members of the Centre County Newspapermen's Association we feel certain that you will want to see the new road correctly and appropriately named. We are positive that a good name is available, if only someone would think of it. We repeat that: we don't care who gets the credit for the name and we'll be glad to give credit where credit is due.)

Road Building Bid Is Accepted

York Firm Submits Low Estimate on Beech Creek-Howard Road

Link bid on the proposed "missing link" connection between Howard and Blanchard on Route 64 was announced Friday at \$462,275. H. J. Williams and Company, York, was said by the Department of Highways to have been low bidder. Construction will cover 4.7 miles of highway and will result in extensive cuts and fills, bringing practically a straight road between the two communities. Blanchard is expected to be eliminated from the thoroughfare. Estimates indicate the work will take approximately one year to complete, with detours to be in force. New bridge over Bald Eagle Creek, east of Howard, and Culvert over Hunter Run, west of Blanchard, are contemplated. Some cuts will run 19 to 26 feet deep. When completed, the highway is expected to be accepted as a military route, part of the system from the hard coal region to the Pennsylvania Turnpike at Bedford. The road will complete the Lock Haven-Millsburg link.

WANTED:

This ad is somewhat unusual so we're putting it here. The Undine Fire Company has been trying to obtain two parade rifles, for use, strangely enough, in parades. All efforts to locate such "dummy" weapons have been fruitless. For the life of us, we can't imagine any of you folks having a brace of parade rifles in your attic. But if you have, call or write Carl Moerschbacher, or the Undine Fire Company, immediately. "FATHER" DOWNES: Sunday night the Court House was crowded to capacity as the Undine Fire Company presented the Rt. Rev. William E. Downes, rector of the local Catholic church, with the robes of a domestic prelate. After the ceremony it was interesting to note that of the hundreds of persons who filed past to congratulate Monsignor Downes, practically every one of them in speaking to him called him "Father" Downes. We have a suspicion that many of those who have known him all these years will unconsciously perhaps, continue to call him just "Father," instead of by his new title. ACADEMY: Anyone who attended the Academy Alumni reunion and banquet here Saturday must have been impressed by the fine type of men, generally who came here for the event. There were doctors, lawyers, coaches, professors, dentists (Continued on page five)

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