

DECLINES TO ARBITRATE

Castro Says Venezuela and U. S. Have no Pending Questions.

STATE DEPARTMENT INFORMED

Says Case of New York and Burmudez Asphalt Co. Must Remain in Court.

Minister Bowen cabled the State Department on the 14th from Caracas that President Castro has flatly refused to arbitrate the pending issues between Venezuela and the United States. Minister Bowen further stated that President Castro had declared that the disputed asphalt cases must be adjudicated by the Venezuelan courts.

Minister Bowen's telegram formed the principal topic of discussion at Friday's meeting of the cabinet. That the situation is not regarded as acute at this time was indicated clearly by the determination of the President and his advisers to pay no present heed to Castro's refusal to arbitrate. It is the indicated intention of the President and Secretary Taft, who, in the absence of Secretary Haef, is being relied upon for advice in matters pertaining to foreign affairs, simply to await further developments in Venezuela. It is not believed that the situation now is of such a character as to warrant alarm.

Indeed, the President is proceeding with the arrangements for his southwestern trip without reference to the Venezuelan dispute. The New York "Tribune" says: In answer to a request for a statement on the present Venezuelan troubles the "Tribune" received the following signed cable dispatch from President Castro: "I do not believe there will be any trouble, and if there should be any Venezuela would win, because she never drifts away from the right, reason and justice, which are the strength of weak nations."

The "World" prints this dispatch from President Castro: "There is in reality between Venezuela and Washington no question of sufficient importance to occupy public attention or worthy of consideration by serious persons. Your minister holds himself aloof from the good understanding which exists, but Venezuela will defend with ardor the common interests and honor of both countries."

ADMITS SHE OWES \$750,000

Mrs. Chadwick Tells About Some of Her Creditors.

In the bankruptcy court at Cleveland, Mrs. Chadwick detailed some of her financial transactions, in the course of an examination by Attorney Louis J. Grossman, acting for Referee Nathan Loeser.

Mrs. Chadwick said she did not care to state how much she owed James W. Friend of Pittsburgh, but after several other questions had been asked and answered, she said that the actual sum she had received from Mr. Friend was \$75,000. For this she said she gave him notes for \$150,000. She said that Mr. Friend had assisted her in making other loans to the amount of \$150,000. For this she gave jewelry as security, which was later appraised at \$42,000. Of the loans for \$150,000 she said she received the entire sum.

Mrs. Chadwick said \$225,000 is the total of her indebtedness in Pittsburgh. Mrs. Chadwick said that she was not able to give as many details of her transactions as she would like to, because of the absence of papers which were held in a number of cities. She had sent for the papers, and expected to have them when the hearing is continued next Thursday. Mrs. Chadwick testified that her total indebtedness would not exceed \$750,000. Of this sum, she borrowed from various persons she had received only \$517,000, leaving \$238,000 for commissions to the money lenders.

She said she owed certain banks in Cleveland \$200,000. The names of these institutions she was willing to give to Mr. Loeser, trustee for the creditors privately.

JACKIES HONORED

Johannessen, Bresnahan, Behnicke, Behne and Corahorgi Get Medals.

Acting Secretary of the Navy Darling has issued a general order announcing the award of medals of honor and a gratuity of \$100 to each of the following named men on the battleship Iowa:

Johannes J. Johannessen, chief water tender; Edward Floyd, boiler maker; Patrick F. Bresnahan, water tender; Heinrich Behnicke, fireman; Frederick Behne, fireman; Demetri Corahorgi, fireman.

While the Iowa was engaged on maneuvers January 25, a plate of the boilers blew out, filling the fire room with steam and scalding water. The seamen rushed into the room and labored to secure the boiler and ship against injury by closing the valves and isolating the affected boiler.

General Allen of the constabulary, in command of the Federal troops in the island of Samar, reports that the uprising among the Puljanies is now under control.

CZARS FLEET DAMAGED

Reports Reach St. Petersburg of Torpedo Attack.

A report is in circulation in St. Petersburg that a Japanese torpedo boat has sunk the Russian battleship Navarin and the battleship Sissoi Veliky. Both of these vessels are in Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet, which sailed recently from Nossi Be, Madagascar.

Jules Verne, the novelist, died in France.

WILL OBSERVE ECLIPSE

U. S. Navy Completes Arrangements to That Effect.

Rear Admiral Chester, superintendent of the naval observatory, has completed arrangements for the observation of the total solar eclipse of August 28-30 of this year, an event of the greatest importance to astronomers. Congress appropriated \$5,000 for this purpose, and the naval party will be sent out to establish three separate stations, namely, one near the central line of the eclipse, near the central line of the island of the Columbrete group off the east coast of Spain; one 10 or 15 miles within the edge of the shadow path, probably near Valencia, Spain, and one near the central line, close to the railroad from Tunis to Algiers in Africa.

Exact locations cannot be finally settled until local conditions are personally examined, and for this purpose the expeditionary force will consist of Rear Admiral Chester in charge, about seven men of the staff of the naval observatory, L. E. Jewell of Johns Hopkins university, Dr. S. A. Mitchell of Columbia university and Dr. N. E. Gilbert of Dartmouth college. Prof. H. F. Bigelow of the United States weather bureau will accompany the expedition in charge of meteorological work.

ROOSEVELT'S BIG HUNT

Will Spend Days in Saddle and Nights in Sleeping Bag.

Philip B. Stewart, who is arranging the details of President Roosevelt's hunting trip in the White river country next month, has received a letter from Secretary Loeb, saying there has been a change in the President's plans to visit Colorado.

Mr. Stewart says the President expects to live catrily in the open, if the weather during his visit to Colorado is favorable. "The President," continued Mr. Stewart, "will spend his days in the saddle and his nights in a sleeping bag wrapped in a rubber blanket."

COMPLAINT NOT HEEDED

Claims He Warned Uncle Sam Against Failed Firm.

Colonel Russell B. Harrison is in receipt of a letter from B. St. John Hoyt of Pittsburg, in which Mr. Hoyt says he called the attention of the Postoffice Department last year to the Storey Cotton Company of Philadelphia, which recently failed and that no investigation of the company was made by the Department. Mr. Harrison, at the request of Mr. Hoyt, will forward the correspondence to President Roosevelt.

It is charged by intimation that some employes or employees of the Postoffice Department may have been protecting the company from the investigation asked for by Mr. Hoyt.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

Michael Clifford, aged 102 years, is dead at Reedburg, Wis.

The Delaware Legislature adjourned without choosing a United States Senator.

The astronomical expedition sent out by D. O. Mills in New York has discovered 20 double stars.

As the result of a quarrel over land near Des Moines, Ia., James Blee shot and killed Isaac Sailer, his half brother.

A fire in the Empire State building at Broadway and Bleeker street, New York, did \$50,000 damage, and threw the occupants of the building in a panic.

Patrick Welch, 72 years old, fell down the stairs at his home in Bellaire, O., and was killed. He was a retired business man and was wealthy.

The first Brannock law election in Steubenville, O., was a victory for the temperance people, who knock out four foreign saloons in a resident district.

A serious outbreak occurred at Candia, Crete, between 15 French soldiers and 20 Greek marines. Six Greeks and two Frenchmen were killed.

Fire at Carbon, Ind., destroyed 20 business houses and 40 residences, causing a loss of \$200,000. The business section of the town is practically wiped out.

During violent storms through Oklahoma several persons were drowned, among the victims being D. E. Richmond, John Thomas, Charles G. Schoonover and Orville Pemberton.

Albert Nickle, seven years old, was drowned in the Mahoning river at Warren, O. The river was dragged for several hours without result.

Fire partially destroyed the McDermott and McGowan store, at Niles, O. The loss will reach \$5,000, partially insured.

The first trains from the west into Maryland are now being run over the completed Wabash extension from West Virginia into South Cumberland.

Attorney General Rogers, of Arkansas, has instituted suits against the Armour Packing Co. and the St. Louis Refrigerator Co. to recover back taxes on private cars used in the state on an approximate valuation of \$1,000,000. Suits will be instituted against other companies that have used private cars in Arkansas during the last 10 years.

Not a Russian Escaped.

Captured Japanese report a terrible affray in the streets of Mukden on March 10, when a big detachment of Russians, the last to leave the city, were entrapped by Chinese bandits and a few Japanese soldiers, who closed the city gates and blocked the narrow streets. According to the report, not a Russian escaped.

Dr. Nansen fears there will be a split of the union between Norway and Sweden.

BOMB THROWN IN WARSAW

Baron von Nolken, Chief of Police Seriously Wounded.

ONE OFFICER WAS KILLED

Six Officers in Assembly Room of Praga Police Station Injured by First Explosion.

While driving to the police station at Praga, Baron von Nolken, chief of the Warsaw police, was severely wounded by a bomb thrown into his carriage. A companion escaped without a scratch.

The assault on the Baron was the result of a conspiracy on the part of the revolutionary party. Shortly before 8 o'clock in the evening a stranger threw a bomb into the assembly room of the Praga police station, situated in an important suburb of Warsaw, across the Vistula river. Six policemen were injured and a wall of the room torn out. The bomb-thrower was also injured and was arrested.

Word was at once telephoned to Baron von Nolken, who started at once for Praga. He was compelled to pass along a certain street to reach the bridge across the river Vistula. Here the bomb-thrower lay in wait.

When passing the castle of the Governor General, the man threw a bomb into the carriage. The coachman was thrown from the box by the force of the explosion, but was uninjured. Von Nolken was hurt about the head, neck and arms and legs, and although in a serious condition, he will recover. The police official who accompanied Baron von Nolken started after the bomb-thrower and caught him. The criminal proved too strong and broke away. Another policeman in plain clothes started after him, and was shot dead. A girl, who was passing when the bomb was thrown, was injured by flying splinters.

According to the theory of the police the revolutionist calculated upon Baron von Nolken going to Praga on the occasion of the explosion of the bomb at the station there, and knew he must pass the castle, that being the only road by which he could reach the city across the Vistula.

Baron von Nolken is very unpopular. He is hated by the Polish population, who hold him responsible for the sanguinary suppression of the disturbances here at the end of January.

GOLD BASIS FOR MEXICO.

Mints Will Be Closed to the Free Coinage of Silver.

President Diaz has issued a decree for the reform of the monetary system authorized by congress in December last. The decree establishes the "peso" or silver dollar at a value of 50 cents gold, and the theoretical unit of the Mexican currency is defined to be the dollar or "peso" of 75 centigrams of gold. An important feature of the decree is a provision for a reserve exchange fund which at first will consist of \$10,000,000 or 15,000,000, and may be increased.

The original plan did not provide for the immediate establishment of this fund, but it is now deemed wise to start with one simultaneously with the beginning of the new monetary system. The mint will be closed April 15 to the free coinage of silver and the new monetary system will go into effect May 1.

The publication of the decree gives great satisfaction in business and financial circles. It assures a continuance of stable exchange and assures business men against losses in importing.

Mormons Moving Back.

Mormons have decided to come back to Illinois. At the meeting of the Illinois conference of the Mormon church, in Warren county, it was decided to build three churches, one in Monmouth, another at Oakwaka and the third at Warsaw. It was to Monmouth the trial of the Mormon church, took place in 1841.

The practice of the letter carriers of Toledo, O., in selling mining and other stock while on duty, and which resulted in the dismissal of a number of them, has resulted in a general investigation on the part of the Postoffice department into similar cases in other cities, including Pittsburg. It is known that inspectors are now at work in Pittsburg looking up charges against certain carriers, who, it is claimed, have used the time of the government in soliciting subscriptions for stock of various kinds. It is understood that should any flagrant violations be found among the carriers in Pittsburg the offending ones will be summarily dismissed.

Mrs. Chadwick Writing Book.

Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick announces her autobiography is in preparation and will soon be given to the public. She claims to have received a handsome offer from a publisher, the work to be printed in the original style, without alteration.

The police discovered 80 bombs hidden in a brick grave in the Powenski cemetery in Warsaw.

Loses Rights of Citizenship.

President Roosevelt has approved the sentence of the court-martial inflicted on Midshipman Arrowwood of North Carolina, recently tried for desertion from the navy. The sentence carries with it dismissal from the navy and the law bearing upon the desertion provides that a man so dismissed shall not hereafter be eligible to any of the rights of citizenship.

The approval of the sentence was recommended by Acting Secretary Darling.

New Island for Japan.

The correspondent at Tokyo of the London Daily Telegraph sends to his paper the story of the volcanic throwing up in the last days of December of a new island in the sea of Japan, three miles south of Iwo. The island has been named Nushuma. It is nearly 2 1/2 miles in circumference and is 480 feet above sea level.

The Russian third Pacific squadron, under Admiral Yagoroff, has left Suda bay for Port Said.

PROTEST AGAINST GIFT

Preachers Spurn Offer of \$100,000 by John D. Rockefeller.

Congregational ministers representing Boston and various sections of New England have forwarded to the American board of commissioners for foreign missions a protest against the acceptance by the board of a gift of \$100,000 from John D. Rockefeller.

The protest is based on the ground that the Standard Oil Company, of which Mr. Rockefeller is the head, "stands before the public under repeated and recent formidable indictments in specific terms for methods which are morally iniquitous and socially destructive," and that "the acceptance of such a gift involves the constituents of the board in a relation implying honor toward the donor and subjects the board to the charge of ignoring the moral issues involved."

Among the signers are Daniel Evans, Cambridge; Edward F. Sanderson, Providence, R. I.; George N. Gutterston, Derrick, N. H.; N. Van Derput, Marblehead, Mass.; Reuben Thomas, Brookline, and James S. Williamson, Haverhill.

JAPANESE ARE IMPEDED

Damaged Roads and Bridges Delay Pursuit of Russian Armies.

The Japanese continue to closely follow General Linevitch's rear guard, but the damaged bridges impede their progress and possibly will create sufficient delay to permit the Russians to reconcentrate reinforce, partially reorganize and construct works at Changchun and Kirin.

The first Mukden prisoners are arriving in Japan. The government has chartered and fitted out 40 steamers to assist the transports in carrying prisoners and wounded.

Revised figures of the Japanese losses at the battle of Mukden place the number at 50,000 and revised estimates of the Russian losses from the commencement of the battle of Mukden and ending with the fighting at Tie Pass, place the total at 175,000 killed, wounded or captured.

ROBBED OF \$10,000

Messenger for Bank Relieved of a Big Sum by Highwaymen.

J. E. Baly, a liveryman who was acting as a messenger for the Central bank, of Oakland, Cal., was held up and robbed of \$10,000. He was on his way to the Standard Oil refinery at Point Richmond.

The robbery took place on the road between Stege and Point Richmond. The highwaymen jumped out of a clump of brush at the side of the road and covered Daly and former Deputy Sheriff Roach, who was riding with him. Daly and Roach were compelled to jump from the buggy and give up the sack of gold. Then the robbers tied the men to a fence and gagged them.

FORGOT BABY.

Infant Has Extra Ride After Mother Leaves Train.

The three weeks' old baby of Mrs. E. R. Merryman of Hillsdale, Ill., arrived home after having been carried 200 miles by rail before the anxious mother discovered what had become of the child.

Mrs. Merryman and her baby daughter were visiting in a nearby town. On returning home the mother was given up the train by her sister, Mrs. Merryman was so anxious to get home that she forgot about her sleeping infant and hurried away. Telegrams were sent after the train, and in Iowa the child was found, still sleeping.

New Trials for Jett and Powers.

A new trial for Curtis Jett, under sentence to hang for the assassination of J. B. Mareum, in Breathitt county, Ky., was ordered by the Court of Appeals. A fourth trial of Caleb Powers for the assassination of Gov. W. S. Goebel will begin in a short time. The Court of Appeals having overruled the petition of the Commonwealth for a rehearing.

WOUNDED BY BOMB.

Six Soldiers and Two Policemen Victims of Explosion in Warsaw.

A bomb thrown from the window of a house in Volsk street, Warsaw, Russia, exploded in the midst of a passing patrol composed of police and infantry.

Six soldiers and two policemen were dangerously wounded. They were removed to the military hospital. The assailant escaped.

At a meeting of the executive board of Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers of the Second district at Wheeling a strike was declared in the Laughlin and Whitaker plants of the Whitaker-Glessner company.

Venezuela Warned.

The Venezuelan government, it is announced from Caracas, has received a note from the American minister, Mr. Bowen, requiring an answer as to whether Venezuela will arbitrate the questions pending, and saying that in case of a refusal the United States will feel free to take the steps which may be necessary to secure justice.

Orders More Engines.

It was officially announced at the general offices of the Pennsylvania railroad that the company had decided to purchase \$1,080,000 worth of motive power for delivery in September and October of this year. The order will consist of 38 freight locomotives, 15 passenger engines and 15 switching engines. All of the new motive power will be equally divided between the northwest and southwest systems of the Pennsylvania lines west of Pittsburgh.

WILL BATTLE WITH TOGO

Two Russian Fleets Will Proceed to Meet Japanese Squadron.

PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE

Confirmed That Emperor William of Germany Has Tendered His Good Offices.

At the Russian admiralty it is strongly intimated that Admiral Rojestvensky will effect a juncture with Admiral Negoboff within 10 days and then proceed to meet Admiral Togo. The third division of the Russian second Pacific squadron, commanded by Rear Admiral Negoboff, left Suda bay, Island of Crete, yesterday for Port Said.

The retreat of the Russian army is being conducted in a splendid fashion. In four days' actual marching after leaving Tie pass the rear guard has fallen back 70 miles and the heads of the columns are already entering Gansu pass, 40 miles further north, keeping up with the Japanese column marching north over the Grand Trade route.

With the bridges and railroad destroyed behind the Russians the Japanese are unable to press the rear. It is believed that the bulk of Field Marshal Oyama's army is still at Tie pass, the flanking column being comparatively weak.

For two days there has been some skirmishing, accompanied by artillery exchanges between the Japanese on the Grand Trade route and the Russians screening the retreat. With the crossing of the Sunegari river at Chantchiatu protected many military men here believe that Gen. Liné-Harbin will attempt to hold the line at Kuan-chang-tai to Kirin, so as to control the rich Sungari valley as a source of supply for the army.

Progress Toward Peace.

The party within the government which is urging the Emperor to indicate to Japan Russia's willingness to end the war if a reasonable basis can be reached has been greatly encouraged the last few days, and an actual peace proposal may be just ahead.

The subject has occupied much of the attention of the conferences at Tasskooe. Certain grand dukes, supported by Gen. Sakharoff, the minister of war, Admiral Avellan, the head of the admiralty and what is known as the war party are still bitterly opposed to the idea of peace under present circumstances, but with the exception of the ministers of war and marine the Emperor's ministers, backed by M. Witte, solidly favor this course, and the convincing arguments they offer are telling. French influences in the same direction are now being supported by German opinion. The rumor that Emperor William had tendered his good offices now seems to be confirmed.

Simon Burns Loses.

The long-standing controversy between the Buras and Hayes factions of the Knights of Labor was decided by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia favorably to the latter. J. W. Hayes was elected general secretary of the order several years ago, but his right to the office was disputed by Simon Burns, of Pittsburg, who instituted a contest in the Supreme court of the District. The decision there was favorable to Burns, but it was reversed on appeal. The courts of the District of Columbia have no jurisdiction in the premises.

Will Visit the Philippines.

Among those who will accompany Secretary of War W. H. Taft and party on a trip to the Philippines are Senator N. B. Scott, of West Virginia; Speaker J. G. Cannon, Gen. Charles Grosvenor, of Ohio; Miss Alice Roosevelt, and a number of other officials. Congressmen and government officials. It is announced that all will pay their own expenses to and from San Francisco, excepting railroad fare.

RUSSIANS STILL RETREATING

Japanese Following But Not Pressing the Enemy.

The Russian rear guard is retreating slowly and engaging in occasional skirmishes. It has now reached a position 27 miles north of Tie pass. The Japanese are slowly advancing without pressing the Russians. In the course of the retreat the Russians are destroying bridges, the railway roadbeds and highways and carrying off everything not portable. Reports of a wide turning movement by the Japanese are no longer being received.

Dynamite Wrecks Car; Two Dead.

A car loaded with dynamite in an Illinois Central freight train exploded near Kenner, 12 miles north of New Orleans. Two men are missing. One dead man has been found, but he is unrecognizable. Considerable damage was done in Kenner, where buildings were wrecked and glass and kitchen were destroyed. Houses nearby were demolished.

FRIGHTFUL EXPLOSION

Leaking Gas Ignites at Bellaire and House Is Wrecked.

An explosion which wrecked the home of John Fogle, in the high water district occurred at Bellaire, O. The gas had been leaking and boys shooting rats in the house over the high water struck a match and the gas ignited, blowing out the side of the house. Mrs. Fogle was badly cut and burned, her daughter, Mrs. Clew Smith, had four ribs broken and was burned and cut. The victims fell into the water, but were rescued.

"Jim Crow" Law Is Upheld.

In an opinion delivered by the Court of Appeals at Annapolis, Md., the act passed at the last session of the Legislature, commonly known as the "Jim Crow" law, and requiring steam railroads in the State of Maryland to furnish separate compartments for white and colored passengers, is valid, so far as it affects commerce within the State, but invalid as to the interstate passengers, and must be construed as not applying to them.

Boston Wool Market.

While the Boston wool market is considered by dealers to be in a strong position, business is light in most grades. Quotations of leading domestic descriptions follow: Ohio and Pennsylvania—XX and above, 34@34 1/2; X, 30@31; No. 1, 36@37; No. 2, 37@38; fine unwashed, 27@28; unwashed delaine, 27@28; Michigan—Fine unwashed, 21@22; quarter-blood, unwashed, 29@30; unwashed delaine, 25@26.

FINNISH RULER SHOT

Young Assassin Boldly Enters Office and Fires Three Times.

A message from Viborg, European Russia says: Governor Miasorodoff was shot and seriously wounded by a boy said to be Hjalmar Reinikka, a confessed Anarchist. The assassin, who is about 15 years old, obtained an entrance to the Governor's office and fired three times at him, one bullet inflicting a serious wound, and the others slightly wounding the Governor's legs.

The Governor's clerks and secretary were unable to stop the would-be assassin, who reached the streets. There he was arrested without a struggle.

The Governor's condition is critical. The youth who shot the Governor admits he is a revolutionist. He hails from Kurikka parish, in the northwestern part of Finland, but recently has been living in Stockholm.

KILLED BY TORNADO

Storm Sweeps Over Southern Portion of the State.

A disastrous storm swept across the southern part of Randolph county, Ala. Nine lives are known to have been lost and damage amounting to thousands of dollars was done to property. The tornado started at a point near Doublehead and proceeded in a northwesterly course. The residence of Mack Carlisle was demolished and R. G. Hayes, of Roanoke, was killed. Six miles east several houses were demolished. Three or four negroes were killed on Holly plantation, near Rock Mills. At Lime postoffice a store was demolished, a white girl was killed as her mother seriously injured.

SIX MINERS KILLED

Two Others Fatally Injured by Explosion.

Six miners dead and four injured, two fatally, is the result of an explosion in the mine of the Princeton Coal and Mining company at Princeton, Ind. The dead: Hudson Weatherly, Edmond Geiser, Albert Geiser, Harry Taggart, William Biggs, George Dill, John Dill and William Jones were fatally injured. When the explosion occurred most of the miners had left the mine. Whether the explosion was a premature shot or an overcharge is not known.

Railroad Earnings.

Increases averaging 9.24 per cent are shown by the gross earnings reports of 17 railroads for the second week of March. Net earnings reports of 95 railroads for January show an average increase of 11.48 per cent and the same roads for the seven months to January 31, 1905, show an average increase of 8.12 per cent.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS

At the departure southward of Gen. Kuropatkin, crowds of thousands of civilians and soldiers gathered at the station and gave him a great ovation.

Professor Frank K. Sanders, dean of the theological department of Yale university, has resigned. He explained to his class that the reason for his action was to assist in reducing the expenses of the department.

The directors of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad company have declared a dividend of one per cent on the common stock, payable May 1. This is the first dividend on this stock, since November, 1900.

Secretary of the Navy Morton and party, including Speaker Cannon, Senator Hale and Representative Meyer of Louisiana, sailed from Charleston, S. C., for Guantanamo, Cuba, to inspect the naval station and observe the North Atlantic fleet maneuvers.

J. H. Stone, H. C. Quintard, W. Russ and James Russ, officers of the Nonpareil Cork Works of Camden, N. J., charged with conspiracy against the United States Government by placing iron bars in life-preservers, have reinstated their plea of not guilty. The men had changed the plea of not guilty to guilty to allow them to demur to the indictment. They will be tried April 3.

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