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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1949

Reduced Taxation Probable

According to the usually well-informed cor-
respondent of The Gazette there is prospect of
considerable tax reduction. Characteristic of
the high-pressure campaign now being waged by
Liberal M.P.'s, are speeches delivered in the
Commons by Mr. Leonard Tremblay (L—Dor-
chester) and Mr. Jean Lesage (L—Montmagny-
L'Islet). Mr. Lesage, one of the Government's
junior lieutenants in Quebec, declared that
during 1949, the government should so arrange
its new tax policies in the forthcoming budget
as to leave an additional \$300,000,000 in the
pockets of the small taxpayer. As for Mr. Trem-
blay, who is also the Liberal Quebec whip in the
Commons, an equally impressive list of propos-
ed tax reductions was submitted for Mr. Ab-
bott's edification.

He urged a flat exemption of \$400 for all
dependent children up to university leaving age;
boosting the exemption for single persons from
\$750 to \$1,000 and that of married persons from
\$1,500 to \$2,000. He was disposed to go as
far as a \$3,000-exemption for heads of families.

The proposals of Mr. Tremblay and Mr.
Lesage, similar in many respects, are typical of
tax suggestions contained in addresses of a
great many Liberal M. P.'s during this—though
not last—session.

But the evidence in favor of substantial
tax reductions rests on a much sounder founda-
tion than the utterances of M.P.'s; despite the
traditional secrecy surrounding tax policies.

Last fall, during the Algoma by-election.
Revenue Minister McCann unburdened himself
on the general subject of tax cuts.

"None of us likes to pay taxes," he is re-
ported to have told the electors in that con-
stituency, "and we all look forward to the day
when taxes will be lower, which, I promise you,
will be in the not-too-distant future."

A short time later Dr. McCann discovered
that he had been misquoted on that occasion.
He explained that he had only expressed the
pious hope that such tax cuts would be forth-
coming.

Dr. McCann, by the way, possesses a some-
what questionable record as a tax prophet. In
March, 1946, he predicted a slash of "some 50
per cent" which failed to arrive.

Finance Minister Abbott himself has told a
Montreal audience that taxes would be reduced
as soon as circumstances justified such a move.

Speaking in Nicolet during the by-election
campaign, Solicitor-General Joseph Jean —Que-
bec organizer for the Federal Liberals —is re-
ported to have "promised electors of the dis-
trict reduction in income taxes and readjustment
of the present family allowance scale."

He has never denied the report.
Prime Minister St. Laurent has tried his
hand at tax reduction predictions. He is record-
ed as having stated in a radio address several
months ago, significantly perhaps, that "most
of us hope to see a cut in present income tax
rates."

It is not unknown, of course, that Prime
Ministers have a great deal to say in the final
determination of tax policies.

Even Defence Minister Claxton, who has de-
voted relatively little time to philosophical dis-
cussions on future tax levels, has entered the
forecasting field.

On Feb. 23, in an address at Owen
Sound, he told his doubtless delighted audience
that: "In consequence of the policies we have
adopted during a period of buoyant revenues, it
shall, we trust, be possible and proper for us to
decrease taxation."

No member of the cabinet has yet stated
the case more clearly.

Sask. Wants Capitalists

Hon. C. M. Fines, the Finance Minister in
the C.C.F. Cabinet in Saskatchewan, says The
Gazette, has joined his premier, Hon. T. C.
Douglas in inviting private capital and private
enterprise to come to Saskatchewan. It is now
said to be quite untrue that private capital and
enterprise are not wanted in that province. On
the contrary, Mr. Fines says that they are want-
ed very much. What Mr. Fines really means, is
that they are wanted very badly.

"The fact would seem to be that the C.C.F.
Government in Saskatchewan has built up its
taxes to a point where they have become top-
heavy. Mr. Douglas has admitted that the satura-
tion point has been reached in the Govern-
ment's social services. More services will need
more taxes to support them. But this raises the
important question of where the money is to
come from.

"Evidently it is unlikely to come from the
profits that the C.C.F. Government will make
in nationalized industries. After nearly five years
in office, the fruits of nationalization are, like
the curate's egg, excellent only in parts. Mr.
Fines has reported that all the Crown Corpora-
tions put together have earned a surplus of
\$3,100,000 last year. This is a moderate sum in
terms of government finance, especially when
the nationalized industries have included the
operation of such fundamental services as tele-
phones and power. In fact when the telephone
and the power are taken away, it will be found
that nothing remains but \$400,000 for all the
other Crown Corporations combined.

"Premier Douglas has expressed a particular
desire for private capital and enterprise to de-
velop the province's oil resources. In this respect
there is certainly a striking contrast between
Saskatchewan and its neighbor, Alberta. In Al-
berta private enterprise has developed the oil
industry to important proportions. At the pres-

ent time Alberta is obtaining taxes from oil de-
velopment that probably amount to about
\$15,000 a day and are always increasing. Speak-
ing recently in the House of Commons Mr. D. S.
Harkness, member for Calgary East, said: 'If this
development continues, as it seems certain it
will, I am convinced that soon the province will
be in the happy position of having so much
revenue from oil that it will be unnecessary to
impose any taxes if it does not wish to do so.
The way in which these oil revenues are mounting
and are likely to mount is simply stupendous.'

"It seems probable that as much oil may
lie under the soil of Saskatchewan as under that
of Alberta. But the call from a C.C.F. Govern-
ment to free enterprise to 'come over and help
us' is one that will hardly evoke a full response.
For free enterprise is in effect being invited to
provide more tax money for socialist endeavors.
And, if the projects of free enterprise reach a
point that makes nationalization attractive, they
may be condemned as 'capitalistic' and taken
over by the Government."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Feast of St. Gregory.

Tomorrow, second Sunday in Lent.

Russian Revolution broke out this date 1917.

Canada and Sweden are negotiating for the
abolition of tourists' visas for the other's nation-
als. Perhaps the day isn't so far away when one
will be able to go anywhere by merely pack-
ing one's things and buying a ticket.

The prospect of ended clothes rationing
holds little cheer for the average Briton accord-
ing to a Reuters dispatch. The impression is
that prices are now too high to allow any buy-
ing spree by the public.

Saint John, New Brunswick, has been un-
derstandably jubilant over the commencement of
its new freight service with South Africa provided
by the South Africa Marine Corporation. The
service also opens up the prospects of new mar-
kets for Island products.

Agriculture Minister Gardiner told the
House of Commons the Government is consider-
ing legislation increasing the compensation for
farmers whose cattle are found to be infected
with tuberculosis. He said the present maximum
payments are \$100 for pure-bred cattle and \$60
for other animals.

Bishop Berkeley, Irish philosopher, born this
date 1685; was a friend of Steele, Swift, Addi-
son, etc. He wrote on economics anticipating
Adam Smith. In his Treatise on the Principles of
Human Knowledge he advanced the theory that
the activity of the seen world depends on its
being perceived and that this involves the as-
sumption of creative Eternal Reason.

In the course of a recent decision the Ex-
chequer Court made an observation which may
have Lieutenant-Governors seeking Income Tax
rebates. The court held, in part, that \$10,000
a year paid to an administrator acting as Lieu-
tenant-Governor of Quebec was not so much
salary as an indemnity to cover expenses in the
administration of his duties.

Unlike this Province, Ontario is evidently
not getting better very fast. Five thousand more
persons were sentenced to Ontario reform insti-
tutions in 1948 than in the previous year. In its
annual report, tabled in the Ontario Legislature
the Department of Reform Institutions reported
36,598 persons were committed for trial and
30,613 sentenced. Highest number ever sentenc-
ed before was in 1938 when 34,914 persons were
committed and 27,926 sentenced. Of the prison-
ers in reform institutions, 3,878 were described
as intemperate drinkers, 1,830 as temperate
drinkers and 977 total abstainers. Seventy-nine
prisoners were drug addicts.

The death of a young man in Fredericton
and the narrow escape of two others in Mont-
ague should make us more watchful for the
danger of carbon monoxide. Many instances of
death due to this poisoning have been noted
while the victims were in parked cars and citi-
zens are more or less conscious of the danger,
but in one of the reports yesterday morning the
car was in motion when the victims were over-
come. Cars travelling over the bad roads at this
time of year often damage the exhaust system
allowing the deadly fumes to enter through the
floor. While death does not always result there
may be numerous cases in which the persons trav-
elling by auto have been partially poisoned by
the fumes and totally unaware of what had
affected them.

The Law Courts and the Federal Govern-
ment are at loggerheads over Income Tax en-
forcement. In Montreal Mr. Justice Louis Boyer
of the Bankruptcy Court in a written judgment
explained his move last week in declaring in-
come tax officials in contempt of court for re-
fusing to testify in a court case. He said he was
convinced that no official of the Department
of Revenue—not even a deputy minister — had
a legal right to instruct other members of the
department not to testify at a court hearing
where they will be asked information they secured
in the course of their duties. It is the busi-
ness of the judge to interpret the law, His Lord-
ship said, and not of government departmental
officials. Mr. Arthur Gilmour, director of income
tax and succession duties and Dominic Vincelli,
assessor in the Income Tax Department, the two
officials in question, had refused to give infor-
mation because of their oaths of secrecy by
which they said they were bound as regards all
income tax matters. They were also instructed
by the Deputy Minister of Revenue to take that
position if and when they were called to the wit-
ness stand. Income Tax Department attorneys say
that the Department of Justice had ordered the
appeal against Mr. Justice Boyer's decision to
be inscribed.

The King's
Right-Hand Man

(Lord Chamberlain is head of the
"Above Stairs" Staff at Bucking-
ham Palace, Censor of Plays, and
the Convener of Court Events).

By Arthur Nettleton

A busy figure behind the royal
scenes just now is the Lord Cham-
berlain. The King's illness entail-
ed considerable revision of the court
programme for months ahead, and
upon the Earl of Clarendon, who
occupies the post just mentioned,
has fallen the task of making these
alterations.

Next to the King himself, he has
the last word on matters affecting
court functions. He is the leading
dignitary of the royal court, and
he arranges all these events. They
include levees, the presentation of
debutantes, royal garden parties,
and drawing rooms. He is also
head of the "above stairs" staff at
Buckingham Palace which means
that he appoints the King's Grooms-
in-Waiting and Lords-in-Waiting.

But his duties extend far beyond
the royal circle. They affect the
activities of most of Britain's popu-
lation, and they have a bearing on
the commercial world.

Royal Go-Between

If you wanted to present a new
play to the public in the United
Kingdom, you would first have to
get it sanctioned by the Lord
Chamberlain. If you wished to
supply goods to the royal house-
hold, you would have to apply to
him for the contract. His approval
is also required when new theatres
are to be opened in certain towns.

The chief duty of the King's
right-hand man, however, is to act
as an intermediary between His
Majesty and the people. He is the
people's spokesman, and nominally,
at any rate, he is the only person
entitled to introduce individuals to
the Sovereign.

His office is a relic from those
distant days when monarchs often
feared for their lives. A trusted
go-between was therefore appointed,
to ensure that nobody intent
on harming the King should have
direct access to him.

One of the Lord Chamberlain's
symbols is still a key, signifying
that he alone in olden days held
the right of direct approach to
the Sovereign and was responsible
for his safety.

Today, this duty has developed
into purely a social and ceremonial
one.

The Lord Chamberlain has to
examine the credentials of all who
appear for presentation at court. In
fact, he stands beside the dais when
the affairs take place and announces
the name of each debutante com-
ing forward for royal recognition.

Further, he is the arbiter of the
dress worn at these functions. From
him come the instructions as to
the length of the train to be worn
by ladies being presented, and for their
guidance he has sketches of typical
court dress.

The King's Doctors

Appointing the King's physicians
is another of his responsibilities.
He has therefore been concerned
with the diagnosis and treatment
of His Majesty's illness.

That firms supplying goods to
the royal household should be ap-
pointed by a responsible high of-
ficial is self-evident. But how does
it come about that the Lord Cham-
berlain is Britain's censor of plays?

Leading playwrights have to bow
to his decisions—Shaw's Pygmalion
was banned from public presenta-
tion for many years, because the
author would not agree to the de-
lection of one word. The Lord
Chamberlain's censorship also ex-
tends to operas, musical comedies,
and reviews—but not to music-hall
shows, these being licensed by local
authorities.

You have in this royal custom
another example of a souvenir from
earlier centuries. It is a throw-
back to the days when the Stage
and all connected with it were re-
garded somewhat askance by "the
right people!"

Indeed, only in recent decades
have actors and actresses become
eligible for some royal honours!

So the Lord Chamberlain, as the
representative of the Sovereign,
was given the job of keeping the
theatre clean.

Nowadays, the interpretation of
his task is modified from time to
time. He keeps abreast of public
opinion in Britain, and the play
which he banned yesterday may be
sanctioned tomorrow.

No Dictator

Further, he is always prepared to
discuss a ban in a reasonable way,
and is open to be convinced that
his objections are ill-founded or can
be overcome.

He does not read plays submitted
himself, unless a highly controver-
sial issue is involved, but employs
"readers" who report to him. But
the final decision does rest with
him.

His jurisdiction over new theatres
in royal boroughs (such as Wind-
sor) arises from the same old idea
that the stage was not quite "the
thing." So, in places even motely
connected with the royal house-
hold, the King's right-hand man
was entrusted with the job of lic-
ensing new playhouses.

His other duties include instruct-
ing the Master of the King's Music
and the Poet Laureate whenever
they are required to compose spe-
cial music or write a poem for some
regal occasion.

He is responsible for the care of
His Majesty's works of art, though
he delegates the task to experts.
The Royal Bargemaster, the Keeper
of Virginia Water (the lake in
Windsor Great Park), and the
Keeper of the King's Swans are
under his jurisdiction, too.

Then there's the Gentleman Usher
of the Black Rod, another of
his "employees," who is the official
messenger between the House of
Lords and the House of Commons.

The Lord Chamberlain gets £2,000
a year for his manifold jobs—not
exactly a princely salary when you
consider his varied responsibilities.
But his post is regarded as a high
honour and is invariably occupied
by a senior member of the peerage.

Lord Clarendon has occupied the
office for ten years. His predecessor,
Lord Cromer, was Lord Cham-
berlain for sixteen years. He served
in that capacity during more



PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the
discussion by correspondents
of questions of interest. The
Guardian does not necessar-
ily endorse the opinion of
correspondents.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

MICMACS' CAPTIVE

In the early part of 1887, in the
western section of Prince County,
an old man died, whose story
brought vividly before the mind the
difficulties and dangers which the
early settlers had to encounter. The
following account is from his obitu-
ary in the local press:

"Peter Brundage, as he was cal-
led (though his real name was
Charles Brundage) was about
eighty years of age at the time of
his death. When a child of three
or four, living with his parents in
New Brunswick, he was carried
away by the Indians, who at that
time were still numerous and often-
times troublesome. All search for
the boy proved fruitless, and as the
years passed his family almost ceas-
ed to look for him. His brothers
and sisters married and settled in
New Brunswick, others on this Is-
land.

"One day a strolling party of
Micmacs came to the house of one
of Peter's sisters, whose attention
was attracted by a youth who,
though dressed as an Indian, and
talking their tongue, was unmis-
takeably of white parentage. The sister
at length recognized her long-lost
brother. We have not been able to
learn why it was that he was not
at once taken from his captors; it
may be that in the then thinly set-
tled state of the country he could
not be rescued. Certain it is that
he remained with the Indians; that
for the boy had now found out his real
condition and race, and was de-
sirous of making his escape. But
this the Indians effectually pre-
vented. Several times he ran away
from them but was as often pur-
sued and recaptured.

"We will remember, years ago,
poor old Peter telling the writer
of these attempts to escape. 'He
had got away from the Indians who
pursued him with dogs. He thought
to hide himself, and crept into a
large hollow log for concealment.
The dogs tracked him out, and the
boy was caught as in a trap. The
dogs mangled him fearfully, and
the whole calves of his legs being al-
most torn away. He used some-
times, though rarely, to show the
scars, which to his dying day bore
witness to the terrible treatment he
had received.

"Having worried him with their
dogs, the Indians at length carried
him back to their camp, and there
their anger at his attempt to es-
cape was not appeased until they
had inflicted still further tortures
upon him. At last he seems to
have given up all further effort to
get away, and lived with his cap-
tors, an Indian like themselves.

"In later years he used to live in
a camp by himself, a solitary, kind-
hearted, simple old fellow. His peo-
ple were always anxious to bring
him back to the ways of white men,
but he had become too thoroughly
imbued with the Indian habit to
change. For a long time he used
to have his solitary camp on Lot
11, and for the last few years used
to wander about different parts of
the western end of this Island.
Twice during the last three or four
years he walked down to Charlot-
teton, and though he was never
known to ask for anything, it was
well understood that Peter was al-
ways grateful for any gift volun-
tarily offered him. He was strictly
honest. He was very fond of chil-
dren, and we well remember how
Peter used to watch for his favor-
ites among the school children,
whom he used to treat to maple
sugar, and for whose benefit he
would save up his few coppers to
buy apples or candy; and the chil-
dren were always fond of old Peter.
A few weeks ago the strange story
of his life closed at a house on
Lot 5, where kindly cared for he
passed away. His story seems
strange to us now, and vividly re-
calls what was the state of the
country in the early part of this
century."

I am, Sir, etc.
PERCY JOHNSTON

The Poet's Corner

EXPECTATION

Silent and frozen, the lakes and
the rivers,
Snow-drifts are sweeping the plains
white and cold.

While murmuring sadly the pine-
tree shivers,
Waiting for Springtime its buds
to unfold.

When shall the robin, mating and
singing,
Rest in his branches with wings
unfurled?

When will Summer, with warm
breath clinging,
Spread her green mantle all over
the world?

Sadly I muse at the wild wind's
weeping!

Fate bids me wait; till the months
fly away,
Always in winter Nature lies sleep-
ing.

Ever cold breezes Spring's dawn-
ing delay,
When will the south-wind, laughing
and blowing,

Call back the song-birds as Winter
must close?
When will the Summer, with joy
overflowing,

Nurse in her bosom the tulip and
rose?
—F. H. MacArthur
Cornwall, P. E. I.

POWER PLANT CHANGES HANDS

TORONTO, March 11 — (CP) —
The Ontario Hydro Commission
today announced the purchase of
the Kaminstiquia power company
at Fort William, Ont., for \$5,000,
000. The plant, approximately 18
miles west of Fort William with a
peak generating capacity of 33,800
horsepower, was bought from the
Abitibi Power and Paper Com-
pany, hydro chairman Robert H.
Saunders announced.

FARMERS HUNT WOLVES

ST. HILAIRE, Que., March 11 —
(CP) — Farmers of the Rouville
County district 25 miles east of
Montreal ailed up their guns today
to hunt down wolves which have
been preying on dogs and farm
animals throughout the winter.
About 25 men are expected to join
tomorrow in the hunt.

than half the reign of King George
V, as well as during the first part
of our present Sovereign's reign.

Notes By The Way
One advantage in being dumb is
that you never need have any
quandaries about going against your
better judgment. — Sudbury Star.

Once upon a time there was a
great Canadian game called lac-
rosse. Hoodlumism and dirty play
killed it. But there's nothing wrong
yet with hockey that jailing a few
young punks can't cure. — Ottawa
Citizen.

Some fashion wiseacre writes
that "the vest is disappearing from
American men's attire." We al-
ways thought a vest was an under-
shirt, but we presume that the
fellow means a waistcoat. And it
is certainly not disappearing from
our attire, unless a few pens, pencils,
penknives, watches and other
necessaries disappear with it. —
Peterborough Examiner.

Compassion, wherever manifested,
is to be commended even when it
has little chance of expression in
deed as well as in word. The com-
petition sponsored by the Afrikaans
Cultural Council of Pretoria, South
Africa, for a national wedding
march which should be "as light
as a bride walking over the carpet,
and fill the nervous bridegroom
with courage," demonstrates a high
measure of consideration for a for-
gotten man. Unhappily, the effort
of the council to succor bride-
grooms is almost certain to fail,
until bridegrooms become as beau-
tiful as brides, they will remain
forgotten—and frightened. Those
are brutal facts. But there are
other men who invite the council's
attention. Expectant fathers, pacing
hospital waiting rooms, could
benefit from music written especi-
ally for them. So could politicians
waiting for election returns. The
music for such as these ought to be
nicely blended melody of the gay
and melancholy. If every mood is
to be satisfied it would be foolish
to go to extremes. The field is
large. There is the nervous young
man seeking his first job; the skier
about to make his first long jump;
the army recruit on the carpet for
the first time. All need courage,
and if music will fortify them,
music they should have. Employ-
ers could help in the first instance
with a sprightly polka. A soothing
waltz of the kind the Strausses
wrote might be suitable for the
skier. There are plenty of stirring
marches for the soldier. But the
bridegrooms are out of luck. —
Ottawa Citizen.

In the Province of Quebec there
has existed for years a society, the
objective of which is to protect
birds, especially those that are com-
monly sought by hunters. What the
society is trying to do now particu-
larly is to influence hunters to
make their pursuit of birds with
the camera instead of the gun, and
it is said that considerable success
has been achieved. A lecturer be-
fore a Montreal audience recently
assured his hearers that he had
tried both methods, and that he
now experienced far greater enjoy-
ment in securing a picture of a bird
in its natural haunts than in tak-
ing its life. It is the custom with
hunters. One of the reasons for
the effort to convert hunters to
the camera method is based on the
prospect of an early extinction of
many species. The recreational and
cultural value of birds is widely
admitted, yet many people fail to
recognize the fact that if unre-
strained hunting proceeds there
will come an end to the supply of
game. It is to avert such a disaster
that effort is directed to the estab-
lishment of game sanctuaries and
the enactment of protective laws.
Canada is fortunate in the number
and diversity of birds. It would
seem that there is good reason why

the human inhabitants of the coun-
try should take steps to perpetuate
a natural asset capable of contribut-
ing so greatly to the pleasure of ex-
istence. — Sarnia Canadian Obser-
ver.

Lenten Meditations
The Times, London
TWELVE GATES
Parochialism is one of the most
constant dangers and most subtle
enemies of true religion. The man
who has little experience of wor-
ship tends inevitably to think of
religion in terms of the little that
he knows; the village church of his
boyhood, the school chapel, the fa-
vorite hymn, the church where he
was married, or to which he took
his child to be baptized. These oc-
casional contacts provide his norm;
all other practices appear aberrant
and strange.

In a different way parochialism
is a temptation for the men whose
religious experience is real and
deep. There are 12 gates to the
city of God, says the Book of Re-
velation. He has glimpsed one of
these from afar, and his whole life
is a pilgrimage towards it.

The discovery is so revolutionary
that it colours all his thinking and
they would receive material ben-
efits above those accorded to out-
siders. There are indeed passages in
the Scriptures which lend support to
Bacon's contention: "Prosperity is
the Blessing of the Old Testament
and Adversity is the Blessing of the
New."

But this was not the prophetic
testimony. "Not only have I
known of all the families of the
earth," said the prophet Amos—and
the ordinary Hebrew would expand
the sentence to conclude, "therefore
I will bless you above all others."
But its ending is: "Therefore I will
punish you for all your iniquities."
Privilege implied responsibility; of
those to whom much was given
would much be required.

Jesus entered into the prophetic
heritage and underlined many of
the prophets' lessons. His ministry
was almost entirely confined to
Israel, but throughout it He show-
ed Himself a light to lighten the
Gentiles as well as the rejected
glory of His own people. This wide
vision, this all-embracing charity,
sets a question mark against the
favourite parochialism of every age
and class.

"There is a point," said Goethe,
"where we can stand, as it were,
above the nations, and can feel the
happiness or misery of a neighbour-
ing people as though it were our
own." Modern history suggests that
this point cannot be attained by
man's unaided efforts, but only by
the grace of God.

BODMIN, Cornwall, England —
(CP)—Lady, Moleworth-St. Aubyn
was elected the first woman presi-
dent of the Devon Cattle Breed-
ers' Society.

SPRING SAMPLES
NOW IN
J. P. MacPherson & Son
Men's Made-to-Measure and
Stock Clothing

Don't Take Risks
Fire is man's oldest servant but it remains untamed and as
treacherous as a tiger. It strikes swiftly unexpectedly, bringing
tragedy in its train—a careless match, or even a bit of defective
wiring, is enough to set it free—don't risk your home or place
of business—protect yourself against the ever-present hazard
of fire by the only known means—adequate insurance in strong
reliable Companies.

If you would like to know more about Fire and Supplemental
covers, we will welcome your enquiry.

HYNDMAN & CO. Limited
INSURANCE SINCE 1872
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