

# THE FARM AND THE TURF

## TO THE FARMERS.

Farmers and others interested in Agriculture are invited to contribute to The Farm and The Turf Section of The Guardian either by question, correspondence or otherwise on topics of general agricultural interest. Answers will be given by experts to all questions of general interest and space will be given to any articles that will in any way help to advance Prince Edward Island Agriculture.

Contributors are asked to have their articles at this office early each week, as only a short emergency item can be handled as late as one p. m. Thursday. All received after that hour cannot appear until the following week.

## WINTER FEEDING FOR PROFIT.

Winter feeding for profit requires considerable more skill than does the growing of the raw products, and a great variation is often found between the results secured by different farmers, with any given line of live stock feeding. Especially is this the case in cold climates, and he who would winter feed any class of live stock at the present prices of all kinds of feed must give close attention to every detail if he would make the venture pay.

The stables should be warm for beef cattle, just above freezing will be sufficient, but dairy cattle and hogs should have somewhat warmer quarters if possible than this. Heating the stock with the feed that should go to milk or flesh, is a much more costly system than double boarding or sheathing a stable, and warming the hundredweight of frozen water that a cow drinks in a day up to blood heat by feed is a most extravagant method. Young cattle, especially calves, will make slow, and very expensive growth if kept in cold quarters.

So the aim of every stock man should be to make his stables as comfortable as possible and have some method of providing water as warm as possible, always remembering that the animal heat must be kept up either by external or internal means. Everything we do to warm the temperature, food and water, for the animals, we cheapen or lessen the cost of producing that animal, or its products. Cattle must always have fresh air and it is necessary in close stables to have some system of ventilation but most stables in this province at the present time are quite sufficiently ventilated, in fact where most of the stables are now arranged with a single row of stock facing a barn floor, it is a very simple matter to have plenty of fresh air where the cows can get it before becoming polluted with stable air.

Warmth is a most important consideration. Then we must study the cost of feeds and the capacity of the animals we are feeding and weigh the feed. If dairying the milk this will be found interesting and most profitable.

I would not attempt to feed grain without weighing, and we have weighed milk continuously for seven years. It does not take long and you learn a great deal about the production of your different cows and how to best feed for profit. Guessing is too costly and I don't understand how any man is satisfied to continue it. Our policy always is when a cow freshens to start weighing her milk for the first week or so, then steadily increasing as she increases, until her limit is reached. We can easily figure what she is eating and what her butter is worth, then we find the level at which she gives the most profit and keep her there. This is the only way to know, and when the Department of Agriculture furnishes equipment, and test samples of milk free of charge, every man who is attempting to dairy any should weigh, not only one year as is often the case, but year in and year out as long as he is in the business.

I have been told by creamerymen that a great many farmers drop testing after the first year with the idea that they know their cows and heifers are continually coming into the herd and there is often a great variation in the production of the same cow in different years. In weighing the changes of feed, effect of different milkers and many other complications that may occur to cause fluctuations are shown, while there is time to find a remedy, and I would urge upon those who have not yet taken up weighing to do so this winter, and note results. Those who may have become indifferent about this, matter I would advise to give it some serious thought. If any profit is to be made with winter feeding at present feed prices we should get all the knowledge possible that the scales can give us.

W. M. LEA.

## RENOVATION OF OLD ORCHARDS.

By Chas. M. Williams, Dominion Fruit Inspector.

The subject of "Renovation of Old Orchards" should be of special interest to farmers of Prince Edward Island inasmuch as on nearly every farm there is an orchard that could, with very little expenditure of time and money, be made one of the most profitable adjuncts of the property.

If the orchard is under thirty five years of age, and if the trees are in a healthy condition, that is not broken down with disease, snow, or wind, the orchard can be profitably renovated and made to yield handsome returns.

In the renovation of an old orchard there are four operations to be considered—Spraying, Pruning, Cultivation, and Fertilizing. In many theoretical and practical instructions

cases a fifth is necessary—Grafting. While these are not given in order of importance, by far the most essential yield larger returns for the money and work expended than any other operation, and any man sufficiently intelligent to run a hundred acre farm will have no difficulty in handling a spray pump.

Four sprayings are necessary and the best fungicides and insecticides to use are Lime Sulphur mixture and Arsenate of Lead. The first application should be given before growth starts in the spring and Lime Sulphur should be used alone. Either the home-bottled or commercial concentrated solution may be used, the water to apply at the rate of one gallon Lime Sulphur to eight gallons water. The trees should first be pruned, thoroughly scraped to remove all old bark and fungi, and then a thorough application of spray mixture given. In the second, third, and fourth sprayings poisoned Lime Sulphur should be used a and should be mixed as follows: one gallon concentrated Lime Sulphur, thirty eight gallons water, and three pounds Arsenate of Lead. The second application should be given just after the leaf buds open, the third after the blossoms fall, and the fourth during the latter part of July.

In all sprayings the utmost thoroughness is necessary. Use high pressure, apply in a fine spray, and cover every leaf, twig, branch and stem. In pruning as in spraying, average intelligence is all that is necessary. The operation is somewhat analogous to thinning turnips. In one case the buds are removed and in the other the roots, in order that a sufficiency of nourishment, water, sunlight and air may be available. Pruning should be started on the outside of the tree and when completed there should be no vacant spaces. Care should be taken however that there be no crowd ing. Where limbs cross, one should be removed in order that all twigs shall have equal advantages.

The proper tool to use in pruning is the ordinary pruning shears, a saw is occasionally needed, but an axe should never be used. The work should be done during the warmer days of March and April.

When the majority of orchards on the Island were planted little was known regarding varieties and consequently these orchards today contain too many varieties and very often these are undesirable ones. This difficulty may be overcome by topgrafting, the principles of which may be grasped by any man in a very few minutes. Cultivating and fertilizing may be considered together. When an orchard has been in sod many years considerable discretion is required in breaking it up. It is very necessary that this be done however and cannot be too strongly recommended. The plowing should be shallow and should be done in the early spring—the earlier the better. The rod should never be broken up late in the season. After plowing, the soil should be as carefully prepared as a seed bed for grain. Cultivation should be practiced every ten days up to the middle of July when a cover crop should be sown. The choice of a cover crop rests with the individual but a leguminous one is to be preferred on account of its nitrogen gathering qualities.

The apple tree requires less fertilizer than almost any other farm crop on account of most of its plant food being returned in the fallen leaves; the apple itself is composed of nearly ninety per cent water. A proper system of cultivation alternating with a leguminous cover crop will generally supply all the plant food necessary.

It is to be hoped that many farmers having old orchards will not consider them hopeless if the trees are fairly sound and the soil and situation suitable. Top grafting, pruning, spraying, work and cover crops will, in many cases, and it is possible that many now poor orchards will be yielding handsome returns in a few years.

## THAT COURSE IN AGRICULTURE.

Arrangements are being completed for the Short Courses to be held in Charlottetown, January 27th, to February 8th, inclusive. Professor W. J. Reid of McDonald College will be in charge of the classes in Live Stock and will be assisted by Professor Archibald, Dominion Animal Husbandman; C. M. McRae of the Live Stock Branch, Ottawa, James Tolfer, Maritime Representative of the Sheep Division, Ottawa, Dr. Stannard of the College of Agriculture, Truro, N. S. and Dr. Pettick, Provincial Representative of the Veterinary Director General's Branch, Ottawa. Herds of Ayrshires, Holsteins, Jerseys the Guernseys will be available for judging demonstrations in dairy cattle and the classes in dairy cattle will be quite the equal of those given at any other short course. Every farmer in the Province will be welcomed for what ever time he can remain.

The Short Course in Sheep Husbandry will be held during the week beginning January 27th. It will be made as practical as possible. Sheep will be shown, dipped and killed, in a modern way. Classes will also be held in the judging of Sheep. Good individuals of the long and shortwool types will be produced and each student given a chance of examining them.

The Dairy work will be under the direction of Harvey Mitchell of the Dairy and Cold Storage Commission's Staff, Ottawa, and a competent assistant.

During each day the course from 11-12 A. M. and from 3-5 p. m. Cultivation, and Fertilizing. In many theoretical and practical instructions

will be given on the following branches of dairy work:

1. The handling of milk and cream on the farm for cheese factories and creameries by the latest and most approved appliances.

2. The care, management and operation of hand cream separators for the best results to do so can be taught.

3. The use of the Babcock tester to determine the percentage of butter fat in milk, skim milk, and cream.

4. The use of the scale and Babcock test in the improvement of the dairy herd.

Mr. Mitchell will also deliver an address on Dairying illustrating his talk by the use of lantern slides. A Short Course work will be made as practical as possible. It is intended to help practical men to a better understanding of the subjects treated, and to enable them to carry on their operations and management with greater success and satisfaction when they return again to their farms.

Each course will consist of lectures, discussions, and demonstrations with materials suited to the course. Every one present will be invited to take part, but there will be no examinations or written tests at the close.

It is intended to give as much chance to specialize as possible. From 9:00 to 10:30 a. m. and from 1:30 to 3:00 p. m. of each day certain classes will be held, which every one will be expected to attend. After those hours special classes will be organized and there will be several options so that a person desiring to do so can spend a large part of his time applying to one or more of the subjects. Anyone desiring to become more proficient in milk testing will have an excellent opportunity.

Every state in the American Union has now its agricultural colleges and experiment station and every Province in Canada has its agricultural college or is building one, except New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The latter province is making a beginning this year by holding short courses as above. If these courses are well attended there is no knowing what the farmers now to patronize them. The expense will not be great. The Department of Agriculture is refunding the railway fare and granting scholarships of \$15.00 to help pay the board of all who remain for the full course, provided they made applications last month.

A. D. Campbell of Morrisburg Ontario, who has had a great deal of experience at Short Courses says: "In planning for a successful Short Course there are a few essentials which must not be overlooked. A large roomy, well lighted, comfortable, well seated building with sufficient length to give space for moving a horse is necessary. The Agricultural Hall, Charlottetown, answers admirably for this purpose, and with the prizewinning stock of the maritime provinces for demonstration the Short Courses should be second to none.

The Department has arranged with the P. E. Island Railway to issue one way first class fare tickets on the standard certificate plan of free return, to students attending. These tickets will be issued from January 25th to February 8th, and will be good to return up to and on Feb. 10th, 1913. They must however be signed by the secretary of Agriculture to show that the student has been in attendance at the Course. Arrangements are now being made for upwards of five-hundred. It should mean something to Charlottetown to have the most progressive of P. E. I. farmers, spend two weeks in it, and the merchants and townspeople should do their utmost to make everything as attractive as possible. The course is held the season of the year when trade is most liable to be dull. Let everyone be prepared to give the Short Course students a hearty welcome.

## PROPER CARE OF MARKET EGGS.

Remove the male bird from the flock immediately after the breeding season and market no fertile eggs.

Provide roomy nests and plenty of clean material, preferable dry shavings or cut hay.

Keep the nests clean and sanitary. Collect the eggs regularly at least once, better twice a day in moderate weather, and more frequently on very warm and very cold weather.

Remove at once in clean utensils to a cool, dry cellar.

Cover with clean cloth to prevent dust from settling upon them, and also to prevent evaporation and fading.

Do not pack loose in a box when taking them to market, but rather secure a suitable egg case and thus avoid breakage.

Bulletin No. 16, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

## GETTING EGGS IN WINTER.

Keep the hens if you would get winter eggs. The hen that eats her fill and goes back on the roost will not lay many eggs during the winter. The science of feeding has been worked out by many of the experiment stations and colleges, but nowhere better than at Cornell University. Prof. Chas. A. Rogers, in an address to Connecticut poultrymen, explained their method of feeding which has given some wonderfully good records.

In the morning the hens are fed 2 1/2 to 3 pounds mixed grains for 100 Leghorns. At noon green feed or green cut bone is given and the hoppers of dry mash are opened. At night they are fed seven to eight pounds of mixed grain. Grit and oyster shell are kept before them at all times. By giving a light feed of grain in the morning in deep litter the hens are kept hungry and will

scratch all day for it. They should eat from one-third to one-half as much dry mash as hard grain.

## PROPER MANURE.

At Cornell University a few years ago they left a pile of manure out in the barnyard for six summers months. The pile was carefully weighed and packed solid. But at the end of that six months when they again weighed the manure and tested it chemically, they found that the total dry manure had decreased fully fifty per cent. that over three-quarters of the nitrogen had been lost either through leaching or decomposition, and one half of other fertilizing materials.

On thousands of farms it is a practice to hold over a portion of the barnyard manure for use on the fall wheat. This is but a repetition that existed in the Cornell experiment. On still more farms manure is allowed to waste even in the winter. It is piled carelessly and loosely. No particular attention is given to selection a suitable site for the manure pile, and the very best of it is continually leaching away and making many farmers, hundreds of dollars poorer in a few years.

What does this neglect of home-made fertilizer cost us anyway? The value of barnyard manure is \$2.50 a ton. By carelessness in handling it, one might easily drop a hired man's salary for a year.

## DAIRY NOTES.

The dairyman who will sell off each season two or three of his poorest cows will soon improve his herd if he replaces them by heifers raised from his best cows.

## MARKETS.

The market tops last week were as follows:—

Hogs—Toronto, \$8.65; Montreal, \$9.25; Buffalo, \$7.90.  
Cattle—Toronto, \$7.00; Montreal, \$7.50; Buffalo, \$9.00.  
Lamb—Toronto, \$8.00; Montreal, \$7.25; Buffalo, \$9.50.  
Butter—Toronto, 28 1/2c; Montreal, 29 1/2c; New York, 27 1/2c.  
Eggs—Toronto, 40c; Montreal, 30c; New York, 45c.  
Cheese—Toronto, 15 1/2c; Montreal, 14 1/2c; New York, 18c.

Exceptionally heavy receipts of cattle at Chicago during the ten days ending with the first of last week caused a temporary slump in prices in that centre. Since then supplies have been normal, former firmness has been restored, and the year ends across the line with a strong situation in all lines of live stock.

The top price of cattle in Chicago last week was \$9.50, against \$8.85 a year ago; the top for hogs was \$7.70, against \$6.30; the top for lambs \$8.75, against \$6.50.

The difference in supplies counts for the difference in quotations. Receipts of cattle at the principal American markets are well over half a million less than for 1911, while arrivals of hogs show a decline of nearly half a million. On the other hand, sheep receipts are upwards of 300,000 in excess of a year ago, but this of course represents a mere flea bite in comparison with the falling off in other directions. Nor is there any indication of a general increase in American live stock supplies for 1913. Cattle receipts are more likely to decline than to increase; sheep will almost certainly show a falling off, but hogs may and probably will, arrive in greater volume than during the year just closed. On the whole the outlook for the stockman for 1913 is decidedly encouraging.

While hogs are only 15c. higher in Toronto than they were a week ago, they are up 25c. in Montreal, the price in the latter city being \$9 to \$9.25.

## ADVICE TO BREEDERS.

The criticism levelled at the carriage horses shown at our Provincial Exhibition last fall by the expert judges must have made an impression on all thoughtful breeders. He had heard so much of high bred and high expectations ran high and when he was confronted with the display, which was markedly inferior to other years, he plainly told his disappointment. The reasons for the falling off of first class exhibits are numerous, but the chief one is the lack of breeding noticeable in recent years, and the fact that a large percentage of our good brood mares have been sold abroad.

The possession of a good brood mare is a first essential to successful breeding and the stockowner who has such an animal should hold on to her like grim death. The writer has in mind a Kremlin mare owned by W. H. Musgrave, Halifax, which has proved a veritable gold mine for the owner. She was raised at the Allen Farm and drifted down to Halifax and was bought at auction for a reasonable figure. Her first colt for the new owner was Achilles the Great by Nova Scotia Government. This was one of the best colts ever foaled. As a two year old Mr. Musgrave gave him a record of 2.30 and as a three year old he competed with aged horses and took a mark of 2.24. Both Maritime records at the time. This year he reduced it to 2.20. Her next colt was by Baring 2.18 1/2 and is the now celebrated Barings Comet 2.28, at two years, the present Maritime record. He stepped a colt—Brocton this fall in 2.20 and Mr. Musgrave refused \$1800 for him.

Another colt by Baring this year for which Mr. Musgrave refused \$700, unfortunately died when ten days old. Had Mr. Musgrave wished to realize on the produce of that one brood mare it is certain that he could be \$4000 richer.

While it is true that only a few can meet with success like the above, it is also certain that the demand for good carriage horses will be sufficiently large to pay breeders for the time and trouble of breeding. There is probably nothing so satisfying to the farmer as the raising of one or

two good colts, and intelligent selection of sire and dam should enable one to breed "speed and style" with almost absolute assurance of moderate success.—Provincialist.

## CARE OF THE HORSE.

The past few weeks have been extremely trying on horses feet due to their becoming dry and hard from driving over the hard ground. The feet should be packed every second night with linned meal made moist with hot water.

This is a splendid time of year to get your horse in good condition. A good tonic powder will work wonders in making your animals feel strong and fit. A tablespoonful of flaxseed boiled and given daily will improve the coat.

Look out for your horses teeth. They should be examined at least once a year by a competent person. Neglected teeth mean ruined horses.—Contributed.

## HORSE NOTES.

Berka 2.14 by Bingara, dam Kadika by Kremlin, a full sister of Bottom 2.23 1/4 owned by the MacKinnon Drug Co., was one of the most successful trotters over the 1/2 mile tracks of the United States in 1912. She made 14 starts and won ten firsts, two seconds, a third and a fifth, winning nearly \$2700 in purses.

Bistan 2.14 and Baring 2.18 1/2 both by Bingara dam Kavalla by Kremlin, full brothers, will both meet in the same races on the Grand Circuit this season.

The fastest heats paced on Maritime Province tracks in 1912 are as follows: Halifax—Frank Patch... 2.13; Fredericton—Alcyde... 2.15; Moncton—Frank Patch... 2.15; Charlottetown—Hilda S... 2.20; Summerside—Vesta Boy and Thoughtful... 2.18 1/2; Billy C. trotted the fastest heat ever trotted in the Maritime Provinces at the Halifax Exhibition races, 1912, namely, 2.15 1/2.

The Ice Racing Circuit which comprises Toronto, Hull, Ottawa and Montreal, opened at the first named place on Dec. 25th and was attended by over 15,000 persons. These ice races are for large purses, mostly stakes of \$1000, and are competed for by the foremost green horses in the United States and Canada. It is the great kindergarten from which graduate the Grand Circuit warriors.

The 2003, Joe Patchen II 2.03 1/2, Grand Opera and Knight Onward 2.05 1/2, are all graduates of the ice path and followed the above circuit within the past few years. It is no place to go with a second class horse as the purses and pools are large enough to attract the "best." The fastest heat so far was made by Grand Opera—2.16 which is said to be a world's record.

The following is copied from the American Horsebreeder of Boston. It does not entertain a very high opinion of Maritime tracks:—

## BARING (2.18 1/2).

Unless a lot of people, who are usually credited with having a bit of horse sense, are all wrong, the little trotter Baring (2.18 1/2), by Bingara, which Walter Cox picked up down in the Maritime Provinces recently, is likely to be a rather troublesome customer for some of the more costly trotters that have been purchased for the purpose of taking a shy for the money hung up in the big line of 1913. A trotter that can trim a bunch of pacers over "cow path" tracks all season, is quite as likely to make good, when the big money is in sight, as is one of those that at the late meetings, is sighted to come second in races where the winner is beating 2.10. We have known cases where a driver has thought he was pulling his horse all down the line, but when he finally concluded that the psychological moment had arrived, found to his sorrow that he had not been cheating at all. The horse that has gone out and when the time was in three in five races, even if the time was not sensationally fast, looks to us a better prospect than the one that has been raced for the purpose of finding a purchaser from among those seeking stake material for the following year. It is a lot easier to come second or third than it is to go out and beat a good field of horses three trips.

## VALUABLE HORSE.

Since the Hopper Stock Farm, Indiana, Iowa, came into existence in 1908, it has been the acknowledged leading trotting breeding establishment of the west. Its continual spirit of progressiveness has kept it before the public at all times, and it gains its title through the fact that it is one of the most practical and well managed stock farms in America, and because Expedition 2.15 1/2, one of the greatest family building stallions known in horse history, is at its head, while before him the mighty Allerton 2.09 1/2 occupied that position.

Expedition 2.15 1/2 has been justly called the greatest son of his sire, Electioneer 1.35. C. W. Williams who owned both Allerton and Expedition at the time of their purchase by Mr. Harry E. Hooper, had always claimed for Expedition such a rank, even before the stallion rose to fame, and from every indication the brown horse has proved himself to be such, for none of Electioneer's sons, even Chimes, who sired a galaxy of trotting stars, have bred one as successful.

As has been said, the true test of a progenitor is found in his ability to produce extreme speed through his sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters, and the sire who breeds speed in his own generation, but fails to transmit it outward to future generations, soon falls into the discard and his blood not only becomes extinct, but unpopular as well. As a family-builder Expedition

# BOTTOM

(Race Record 1-2 Mile track) **2.23 1-4**

(Standard bred and Registered Stallion)

(Sire Bingara dam Kadika by Kremlin)

This handsome son of the great Bingara will be available for stud purposes to a limited number of mares this season. He should be a splendid sire for he comes from one of the best breeds extant—the Bingara-Kremlin cross which were the most successful trotters out in 1912. His size and weight (1100 pounds) and handsome carriage give promise that his colts will be desirable as carriage horses while his breeding gives every probability of siring early and extreme speed. He is a full brother of Berka 2.14 1-4 one of the best trotters over 1-2 mile tracks in 1912. She won 10 out of 14 starts annexing \$2700 in purses. Also full brother of Biala 3 yr. old record 2:18 1/2. Service fee \$15. Will be in Charlottetown Feb. 15.

## The MacKinnon Drug Co.

OWNERS

shines far above other stallions who have had greater opportunities to perpetuate their fame and glory as creators of trotting tribes. He is himself a "triple crowned" sire of 210 trotters, having Exalted 2.07, Bon Voyage 2.08 and Bi-Flora 2.09 1/2 among his eighty-nine standard performers; but his true merit as a sire shines through his sons who are the sires of 230 trotters, and his daughters who have produced extreme trotting speed, for to them we owe a group of notable trotters which have performed on the Grand Circuit and lesser mile tracks. His son, Archdale, as the sire of Dudie Archdale 2.04 1/2, is one of the greatest trotters of modern times and besides the great little mare has also sired Dr. Archdale 2.09 1/2 and Miss Archdale 2.09 1/2. Camera 3.11 1/4, another son, sired Fleming Boy, 4-2.07 1/2, one of the trotting sensations of 1908, and at that time holder of the world's record for green trotting stallions. Elire 3.12 1/2 sired Embury 2.08 1/4, a good money winner on the Grand Circuit for two seasons. Bon Voyage 2.08, a triple futurity winner, and a record holder during his two-year-old form, sired Jean Villejanp, 2.10 and several very good young trotters. Expedition Girl produced Baron Reaper 2.03 1/2, a very game trotter, and one with a public trial of 2.07 1/2. Elsie Leyburn 2.27 1/2, by Expedition, produced Jack Leyburn 2.04 1/2, who was also sired by a son of Allerton, who, at the time of his death, was owned by the Hopper Farm. But it was reserved for 1912 to prove how the blood breeds on and on, for with money-winner (335,700) in Grand Circuit history, whose granddam is an Expedition mare, the dam of the trotting stallion Aquiri 2.27 1/2 owned by J. M. Nicholson, Charlottetown is Eutaxia by Expedition 2.15 1/2 and she is also the granddam of Baden 2.05 1/2.

## THE HORSE

The horse is an animal demanding concentered rather than bulky foods. The stuffing of the horses body with hay will not keep the animal in working shape.

"Beer & Weeks' January Sale of table linens, sheetings, pillow-cottons, towels, blankets, furniture coverings etc. begins today. The usual unparalleled values are being given. 20 per cent off our regular low prices—that means lowest prices in the city. Compare before you buy. Beer & Weeks, Furniture headquarters. 1-3metf.

"20 per cent off at Beer & Weeks'. All linens, sheetings, bedding and blankets—furniture coverings etc. at 20 per cent off during our annual January sale. Begins today. Lowest prices in the City. New, fresh, clean goods. Specially imported for this event. Beer & Weeks' Furniture head-quarters. 1-3metf.

## Horse Medicines

are our partu-l-r strong po-nt. We can help you greatly if you have a sick or blemished animal. Remember we have \$500.00 worth of horse flesh our-elves and have the experience in caring for them. We handle every reliable horse and catt'e medicine.

Condition Powder 25c a tin. Stock Foods of all kinds—Sheep Dip 25 @ 4c a bottle. Absorbine for puff, etc., \$2. a bottle. Blisters, Tonics, Cough Powder, etc. in fact everything for the Horse.

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