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THE MARKETING BILL

An effort is being made to show that Mr. Mackenzie King and his followers in Parliament, while doing everything in their power to kill the Marketing Bill, are not opposed to its principle, but only to certain features of the bill as introduced by the Bennett Government. This does not correspondent with Mr. King's own statement. The basic principle of the marketing legislation, he claims, is objectionable because it will "create monopolies of producers in particular occupations, special groups controlling production, purchase and sale of different classes of products and commodities." And he emphasizes this as the main point at issue. (Hansard, April 19, page 2522).

The "special groups" to which the Liberal leader refers are chiefly our farm and fishery producers. It is against giving these the right to control the marketing of the product of their own labour that he has delved into Green's History of England for high-sounding platitudes, and raised a hue and cry about alleged disregard of the principles of Magna Charta. Our agricultural producers, faced with ruinous price-cutting under present-day marketing conditions, may well ask, as Hon. Mr. Stevens asked at the close of Mr. King's speech: "What on earth has the opinion of the historian Green about Magna Charta got to do with the price of eggs or hogs or butter?"

The necessity for the bill embodying the principle on which Mr. King bases his chief objection was thus stated in the Legislature by Mr. W. H. Dennis, Liberal member for Second Prince:

"When he (Mr. Dennis) went home he had consulted the farmers and they thought this would be a grand thing, but he represented to them that he believed, but did not know, that the central board would have a complete jurisdiction over the exportable agricultural products of Province, and without that it is no good. We as a Province have a right to constitute our board in such a way that we have complete control over every exportable item of farm products. Then we can accomplish a wonderful work for the agriculturists of this Province. There would be one central marketing, no cutting of prices. We would be in a position to say, 'There are 10 cars of No. 1 creamery butter on Prince Edward Island; the price is so-and-so.' That is the position we would be in under these conditions, and the best possible conditions for any seller to be in." (Patriot, April 14).

From the Patriot of the same issue we read that Mr. B. W. LePage, Liberal member for Second Queens, said he had suggested such legislation as the Marketing Bill, and was glad to know it was being introduced at this time. The farmers had been suffering for a number of years through their products being handled by speculators and not receiving sufficient prices for them. He believed this bill would overcome a number of difficulties which the farmers have to contend with. He referred to the marketing of seed potatoes. At present it is impossible to control prices in competition with other potato producing provinces. Under this bill, the different provincial boards could get together and arrange a price based on the price of the Maine stock. This Province, having a good product, should be able to get better prices than ever before. If price cutting were eliminated, according to a letter which had been sent to members of the Potato Growers Association the farmers would have been getting from 20 to 25 cents more for their seed potatoes. He also pointed out that Canada controls the lobster supply of the world, and he saw great possibilities in the lobster industry through co-operative marketing once the price was controlled. If Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island were not quoting different prices, we might be getting $30 in place of $20 now through the Marketing Board. The price to the fishermen might also be controlled, so that they would receive more for their catch. Again, he pointed out that 95 percent of the beef raised in Canada is consumed in Canada, but the meat industry is in the hands of a few big packers. Pork is selling on the street at 9 cents a pound, yet bacon is selling at 30 cents. The same, he said, is true of fish. Codfish sells at 10 cents a pound in the city, yet on the shore about 20 miles from here, it only brings from 1 to 2 cents. "Here," said Mr. LePage, "is where a Marketing Board may prove of great benefit."

The remarks of Mr. W. M. Lea, leader of the Opposition, who also spoke in favour of the bill, have not yet appeared in the Patriot. He stated it had been his opinion for years that there should be some sort of marketing legislation, because our farmers are a disorganized body of producers, and have found it impossible in many cases to get a fair price, due to price cutting. He cited the difference in butter prices here and at Montreal as a case in point.

"But," says Mr. Mackenzie King, (Hansard, April 19, page 2523) "the fines and imprisonments that are to apply to anyone who dares to violate what becomes the law are put down in the bill, but in what the law is to be none save the self-interested parties are to have a word."

Let us page Mr. J. P. McIntyre, Liberal M. L. A. for Second Kings, on this point. We quote again from the Patriot of April 14:

"Mr. McIntyre asked if the Marketing Board would have any control as to the regulation of prices and whether it was empowered to penalize those who cut prices on fish or farm products. If not, he did not see how the Act would be . . . ." (A line is dropped here from the Patriot report, but the word used was "effective.")

"Control of prices, and power to penalize those who cut prices." These provisions, it will be seen, are in the opinion of our Liberal representatives the very teeth of the Act. Without them the Act would be a farce. And they are the teeth which Mr. Mackenzie King wants to draw before he gives his consent!

Yesterday our local contemporary hailed Mr. King as "Liberalism personified." What a slap in the face to its own party stalwarts in the local Legislature! If Mr. King is Liberalism personified, to what hybrid political category do Messrs. Lea, Dennis, LePage and McIntyre belong—or Messrs. Campbell, Annear, Allen and other local Opposition members, for that matter, for they are all in one boat so far as approval of price fixing under the Marketing Bill is concerned. They all voted for it; most of them verbally indorsed it; and some of them tried to take credit for introducing it.

A word in conclusion in reply to the ridiculous criticism of our contemporary that all the Ministers did not speak on the bill in the local Legislature. Why should they have done so? Its provisions were fully explained by the promoter, the Attorney General. Introduced as a Government measure, it naturally carried the full approval of the administration.

And after the able arguments adduced in its favour by the Opposition, what was there left to say?

THE GOLD TAX

In order to reduce the sugar tax, it was necessary for the Dominion Government to make up revenue in some other way and consequently a 10 per cent gold tax was announced by Finance Minister Rhodes in his budget speech. Commenting on the Opposition protest against this tax, the Toronto Telegram says:

"The gold mining industry has rolled through the depression in the softly upholstered seats of its profit-taking limousine. Now that it is asked to help carry more of the load of the national exchequer, it puts up a yowl as though the seat were out of its pants and its feet were blistered through hitting the hard-times turnpike.

"The gold industry is the one business which has continued to make good profits throughout the depression. The thing most to be criticized about the next tax is that it was not put on two years or more ago.

"It is difficult for those persons and industries who have borne the heat and brunt of the day to work up a great deal of alarm over the alleged tragedy of a gold tax which does not come into effect until gold sells for more than $30 an ounce. The suggestion that gold development in the country will suffer "incalculable loss" through a tax of this kind is merely an example of the brazen effrontery of a highly organized business in resisting the levy upon them which might be legitimately expected.

"It is with taxes as with some other forms of legislation. "No rogue e'er felt the halter draw with good opinion of the law," nor is the taxpayer expected to wax enthusiastic over the imposts which may be laid upon him. It is interesting to discover, however, that the populace which the Opposition has pictured as scarcely able to purchase the necessaries of life has in reality been walking about with its pockets stuffed with gold shares, and, according to the Opposition, will suffer a new "crack of doom" in a tax which doesn't operate until good profits have been assured by a price of $30 an ounce."

Notes By The Way

The British people have no quarrel, and want no quarrel, with any other nation. They seek no conquests, nor further "military glory." They desire Peace, Bread, Work. How can we ensure them? Let us resolve: To turn our face from the troubled Continent and look to our own land and beyond the seven seas to the British territories and free Dominions; To withdraw within our borders and build our trade anew within them; To equip our defences by land, sea and air with forces strong enough to resist all attack against us: To show friendship to all nations, favor to none, enmity to none. These are our Articles of Faith, our Testament of Peace. This is the policy of splendid isolation.—London Daily Express.

The New York Herald-Tribune says Mr. Chamberlain's budget is "a reminder that a nation can adhere to time-tested fiscal practices and still attain a substantial measure of recovery." This is contrasted with the United States problem of "trying desperately and vainly to spend billions of dollars that an unprecedentedly lavish Congress has voted" while the British chancellor is busy "allocating the prospective benefits of increasing receipts during the next twelve months."

The tremendous gain made in the warfare on diphtheria is illustrated by the fact that thirty deaths are now regarded as excessive, whereas in the 10 years before immunization campaigns got under way in 1929 the average number of deaths in a year was 750. But 30 is still high after it has been demonstrated that there would be none if all children above nine months of age received immunity treatment. The treatment itself has been simplified. At first three injections of toxin-anti-toxin were required; now immunity can be obtained after one injection of the new toxoid.—New York Sun.

The present generation has experienced more thrills than any before, probably. Movies and talkies, the telephone, electric lights and electrical equipment of all sorts, airplanes and the radio, all have come in our lifetime. The children of today accept all these things as a commonplace. They simply are an ordinary part of their world. Will they, in turn, be able to exclaim over as many marvels and miracles in the next 40 or 50 years?

Christian Science Monitor: "If we could get rid of the approximately 100 men responsible for wars in this world, the people would enjoy peace." When Henry Ford made this remark the other day he was referring to the munitions makers. And he was, of course, over-simplifying. The case against the armaments interests is too complex to state in a few words. But it is also too complex to be grasped quickly by persons who have not given serious study to the conditions on which arms peddlers thrive and to which they contribute certain dangerous elements. Someone, therefore, has to be willing to put it as Mr. Ford has: "The people in general don't want war, but it has been forced on them by scheming munition makers looking for enormous profits through the sale of arms."

One of the panels from the altar front "The Adoration of the Lamb," by Hubert and Jan Van Eyck, Flemish artists was stolen last week from the Cathedral of St. Bevan's in Ghent. The robbery is regarded as the most sensational event in the art world since the theft of Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa from the Louvre in Paris in 1911.

Critics of dilatory American legal procedure have often pointed out that not a few judges in the criminal courts tend to be too long, verbose, and technical in their instructions to the jury; that sometimes, far from analyzing the evidence clearly, they make it even more confusing, so that "twelve good men and true" file out for their deliberations befogged as to the real points at issue in the case. In Illinois, a court practice act has been passed for the express purpose of abolishing this fault, and it has attracted much attention among the legal fraternity. The first interpretation of it was given by the judge sitting at the recent trial of the Touhy kidnapping gang. Instead of addressing the jurymen orally, he had his charge printed, and each of them was provided with a copy to study after retiring to settle upon a verdict.—Ex.

Calgary Herald—The claim is often advanced that if Canada would lower her tariffs she would be able to sell more of her farm products abroad. There is absolutely no evidence to support such a conclusion. If the Canadian market were thrown open to the manufactured products of the United States tomorrow, there is not the slightest basis for the belief that Uncle Sam would reverse his long sustained policy and buy Canada's farm products. He is a competitor in the sale of wheat; he does not want Canadian cattle, or any other farm product from this side of the line, but he, under a reduced Canadian tariff, would flood Canada with American manufactured goods. Right now he is actively engaged in trying to find foreign markets for increased exports. The same observation applies to France or Germany or Italy or Japan.

Providence Journal: Where humanitarian arguments in behalf of the persecuted Jews of Germany have failed, commercial arguments are having a larger influence. A combination of economic considerations is operating to bring about a change in the Berlin policy of anit-Semitism. First is the extensive boycott of German-made goods in the United States and other countries. Second is the forth coming international discussion of German debts and loans. Third is the problem of unemployment in Germany, which has caused Dr. Kurt Schmitt, German Minister of Economy, to protest against interference with Jewish enterprises, on the ground that such interference contributes to the gravity of the national labor situation.

A legion of German Catholics has been organized at Innsbruck, Austria, in a move to create a base of operations for united Austro-German Catholic opposition to the Nazi-regime. The leader is Baron von Pach. It will be a semi-military organization similar to the Austrian legion built up in Germany among fugitive Nazis from

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

HEART DISEASE MORE THAN DOUBLED IN 30 YEARS

In 1900, heart disease was fourth among the causes of death and tuberculosis was third.

In 1930 heart disease stood first and tuberculosis stood sixth.

The figures show that in 30 years the death rate from heart disease more than doubled while death from other causes either increased or decreased by a small percentage.

The cause of the deaths in heart disease was rheumatism in 27 per cent, high blood pressure in 21 per cent, acute infections (other than rheumatism) in 15 per cent, hardening of the arteries in 9 per cent, thyroid trouble in 4 per cent, congenital (born with it) in over 2 per cent, and other causes made up the balance.

The leading cause of heart disease under the age of 20 was rheumatic infection. "As a matter of fact, it is generally believed that over 90 per cent of all cases of heart disease in individuals under the age of 20, have rheumatic fever as the cause."

At 40 to 60 years, hardening of the arteries, which of course, causes high blood pressure because the elasticity has gone out of the walls of the blood vessels, stands first as a cause of heart disease.

If then rheumatism is the main cause of heart disease, causing death in some, and a crippling of the heart in many other youngsters, certainly every means of preventing rheumatism should be used.

In some cities there are "heart" centres where parents and children can learn how to protect and gradually strengthen a heart damaged by rheutamism. This is an excellent work and means much to the happiness and effectiveness of these lives.

However our first thought should be the prevention of rheumatism. That infected tonsils are very often the cause of rheumatism is now beyond all question.

This doesn't mean that all tonsils should be removed and thus no rheumatism and therefore no heart disease.

The tonsils have a number of uses in the body and should be removed only when they are poisoning the system or obstructing the breathing. If sore throats are frequent the tonsils should be removed.

Societies for the prevention of rheumatism have found that wet clothes, damp houses, severe chilling, too much starchy food and not enough meat and eggs, are also factors in causing rheumatism.

The Country Mill

(The Spectator, London)

Time was when every largish parish had its mill. The mills are still there, derelict or used as store-houses or turned into residences. Only a few are working now. Up to the war, an occasional windmill was still grinding barley or crushing oats. By now they must all have been given up. Here and there a water-mill is still making flour, but even of the few that have survived the greater part are used only for grinding meal. In old days the country mill was bread, and life, to the parish. The authomatic roller system of milling requiring power beyond the capacity of streams and requiring, too a heavy capital outlay and ample labour supply, took the milling industry to the large towns. Then, within a few years, cheap ocean transport and the building of railways from the cost into the middle of America and of Russia brought about a further migration of the milling industry from the towns to the ports, notably Liverpool and Hull, importation of cheap wheat meant laying down the centre and west of England to grass. Every circumstance combined, some fifty years ago, to ruin the small mill. And for the most part, circumstance had its way.

At the present moment, unexpectedly, the country mill shows signs of renewed vitality. There is a dispersion of population going on which raises the distribution costs of the port miller. Government assistance has brought the wheat acreage back to its immediately post-War level. Internal organization and Government support is increasing the number of pigs. Poultry-keeping is becoming a major part of the farm economy. The country mill, with increasing number about it both of human beings and of domestic animals, finds itself with work to do. The movement of the milling industry from the ports back to the parish is, as yet, only in its merest beginning. It is symptomatic of the redressing of the balance of the new but already dilapidated world of Victorian urbanization by calling in the old world of local town-and-country mutuality. It will show probably not in the clapping of the mill-wheel but in the hum of the dynamo. It is the principle, not the mechanism, which is important. Mills at work once again all over the country will be a welcome sight to everyone.

Concerning Tax Burdens

(Moncton Times)

We hear a great deal from time to time about the burden of taxation in Canada, and of late we have read with a great deal of pride of Great Britain's wonderful recovery in a financial way, a deficit of more than a hundred and fifty million dollars having been converted in a single year into a surplus of almost exactly a similar amount.

What has not received as much consideration as perhaps it should is how this recovery has been brought about. It is largely due to Britain's departure from free trade. Without customs duties on imported goods the Mother Country could not have given the products of Canada and the other Empire Dominions and Colonies a preference over those of foreign countries, as provided in the Ottawa trade agreements. From these duties several hundred million dollars were derived in the fiscal year ended with March, in excess of the revenue derived from this source in previous years, and this is what converted the deficit into a surplus.

But aside from this, few Canadians have given much consideration to the burden of taxation borne for years, without much complaint by the British taxpayer. The greater part of Britain's national revenue is derived from the income tax, which has been 25 per cent. and has applied in recent years to incomes as low as ten dollars a week. In his budget the Chancellor announced a reduction in the income tax to 22 1-2 per cent, which is four or five times the rate in Canada. Under the new rate a married man with an income of 500 pounds, or $2,500 a year, will pay an income tax of 47 pounds, or $235 in our currency, while the tax in Canada would be about $60.

Ancient Systems

(Butterfield in Vancouver Province)

Our friend, Brother Woodsworth of Winnipeg, reformer extraordinary to His Majesty, and leader of the mixed philosophy known as the C. C. F., has unbosomed himself at a banquet in Toronto upon the high destiny that awaits his party in the history of Canada.

The main idea seems to be that neither he nor his followers will make any compromise whatever with the existing forces of evil in the shape of established parties in politics. He will have the whole cheese or nothing. That is, of course an honorable ambition. He has decided to go forward.

It is his confirmed belief that there must be a new system without any compromise with the old. It is worth his attention, however, that all old systems can not be—or should they be—scrapped suddenly. It is also worth his attention that a strict adherence to all the older principles of government in Britain has placed that great country in a leading position in what progress the world has made toward recovery.

Let Mr. Woodsworth read the facts from England—if he can take time off from fomenting dreams—and find out for himself that there are now more men employed in England than there have been for many years; that she has a very comfortable surplus; that her trade revival is most impressive and that altogether she has no need to invent a new system in a hurry.

If England can do that, Canada can also, and without a new system. Indeed, if Mr. Woodsworth will not compromise, he may possibly find that other parties will adopt some of what is good in his proposals—for there is some good in them—and weld it to their own policies for the good of the country—and without consulting Mr. Woodsworth.

The Poets' Corner

A POET

A Poet!—He hath put his heart to school,
Nor dares to move unpropped upon the staff
Which Art hath lodged within his hand—must laugh
By precept only, and shed tears by rule.
Thy Art be Nature; the live current quaff,
And let the groveller sip his stagnant pool,
In fear that else, when Critics grave and cool
Have killed him, Scorn should write his epitaph.
How does the Meadow-flower its bloom unfold?
Because the lovely little flower is free
Down to its root, and, in that freedom, bold;
And so the grandeur of the Forest-tree,
Comes not by casting in a formal mould,
But from its own divine vitality.
—William Wordsworth.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS
FOR ALL KIDNEY DISEASES
BACKACHE BLADDER TROUBLES RHEUMATISM
4087 THE PROPRIETORS

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

DEGRADING POLITICS

Sir,—A few days ago you ventured to comment on a Nova Scotian's alarm at "the growing number of feeble-minded", which a New Brunswick exchange interpreted as an explanation of the vote at the last provincial election. This is a variation from the usual flattery employed by wily politicians when angling for votes. It is usually "this fine intelligent audience whom I have the honor of addressing."

More usually it is hesitation to meet issues face to face, and to deal fairly with facts for fear of treading on some political corns. A long experience convinces me that pusillanimity in defense rarely fails to produce disaster.

It is true that an opposition, without responsibility, has the advantage of operating slime pits and slinging mud which the party in power, with the responsibilities of government, cannot lose self respect by wasting good powder to refute. Yet there is a duty of the press, and those behind the government to keep within limits the unprincipled propagandist who to gain political ends will sacrifice every interest of his country.

I admit myself Conservative, but not so steeped in party as not to be able to view political issues with a judicial mind. And I have only disgust for the gyrations of those who change tactics with every wind, and whose policies are as "unstable as water." And perhaps some further disgust that Conservatives let them get away with it.

I would like some one, Liberal or Conservative, to recall from the history of Canada an instance in which the Liberal Party ever implemented an important platform pledge, or performed when in power their promises while in opposition. They fiddled on the strings of free trade, under various forms and alias captions such as Tariff for Revenue, Unrestricted Reciprocity, Free Trade as they have it in England, changing the form as frequently as they changed their leaders. When they assumed power under Laurier they measured as great a distance as hades from Heaven from the policies preached, and left power with a higher average duty than when they took office.

In opposition they denounced in vicious attacks the building of the Canada Pacific Railway by Sir John A. McDonald, at a cost of $33,000,000, charging extravagance and corruption. They were not long in power however before they saddled Canada with that unwanted Transcontinental, at a cost of over $300,000,000, with extravagance and charged corruptions to stagger conception. It is this great and unmanageable white elephant, imposed on us by Liberals, that is now swamping the country to the verge of financial ruin.

They reached economy with heroic persistence when in opposition, but when the reins of government were entrusted to them, on several occasions, rampant extravagance became the order of the day, and debts mounted skyward with which Conservatives coming into power had to exercise their keenest wits to overcome.

The vote in Nova Scotia is being played as a trump card to bait the electorate in other parts of Canada. Why are Conservatives so slow in posting the public as to the facts? Is there any man of reasoning power who believes that the McDonald Ministry if it now appealed to the people would not be wiped out as completely as the Bell Government in this Province was wiped out under like conditions?

How and on what platform was the Nova Scotia Government elected? Exactly on the same propaganda as our Bell Government was elected. Our Liberal Government pledged themselves to economies and run the country without increase of taxation, and to balance accounts with a positive saving and surplus of $25,000. When elected they, Liberal-like, flung their policy and promises to the wind, doubled up the whole taxes of the people, taxing everything "Tangible and intangible," and because of this perfidy, the electors snowed them under as soon as the elections were called.

The Nova Scotia Liberals rode into power on a like platform. They promised without taxation and by economy to save hundreds of thousands, to lighten the burdens of the people, and to banish the spectre of depression from their impoverished homes. It was not a case of "feeble-minded" but of honest men, out of work, and believing the smooth oratory of Liberal spell-binders, even though the process was grasping at straws, with their unbounded pledges of work and better times, accepted the delusion and elected them to power.

But now the reaction. Economy cast adrift, civil service demoralized to house the hordes of office seekers, and the Legislature working overtime with taxation bills, "Tangible and intangible," the coal mines infested with strikes, the spectre of unemployment still stalking over the community, saved only by the relief and corrective measures of the Federal Government and the enterprise of the houses of industry which they so busily denounced. With this record those deceived, the real balance of power, are only awaiting opportunity to rectify the mistake they made when they elected a Liberal promise breaking party.

I have much more to recall, but long letters are not welcome to either editors or readers and hope to continue this subject later.

I am, Sir, etc.,
POLITICAL STUDENT.

Arms Parley Muddle

(Montreal Gazette)

The arms parleys in Europe have come down to the question of whether it is possible to salvage the wreck of the World Disarmament Conference. Hence it is small wonder if the announcement of conversations now held in London between Mussolini's emissary, Signor Pulvio Suvich, and the authorities at Downing Street evoke but a languid interest. These negotiations have become stale recitals of hope deferred which maketh the heart sick. And if the plain truth be told it is manifest that those who have engaged themselves in this effort, courageous and laudable as it is, are enveloped in so murky an atmosphere of depression and uncertainty that their own confidence in any successful issue has shrunken almost to vanishing point. On all hands it is recognized that there is not, as matters now stand, the ghost of a chance of implementing the original draft of the prospectus issued. The assets of the League have suffered a slump comparable only to the fiscal collapse that hit the markets after the Great War, and the arms parleys which have shown all sorts of up-and-down curvature since the Geneva deliberations began still remain in the gravelly plight akin to the dislocation of the currency exchanges. Yet, while this deplorable state of affairs forces itself painfully upon the attention of all statesmen and observers, it does not in the least mitigate against the urgent claims on the merits of the disarmament cause itself. And it should be remembered that a war which cost the world powers $400,000,000,000, and left in its wake the tragic train of ills with which nations have been grappling during the past fifteen years, provides an all-sufficient argument for the continuance of efforts to reduce the cost of arms, although the League representatives push their policies against the heavy odds.

The dread alternative and sinister menace of another arms competition exert its pressure and blockades the road to security and peace; and the crisis is only the more aggravated by the deplorable fact that amid the conflicting policies and demands, the arms parleys have taken an oblique angle and have developed into a race contest for arms parity, or, in other words, the balance of power—nation against each—and that at a cost none of them can sustain. What can be done under circumstances like these? This is the problem under consideration at Westminster. The necessity of some new approach to the disarmament imbroglio is recognized in London and Rome; and thus in Great Britain and Italy are agreed. The one hope that remains is that effect such an understanding between the major European powers as shall serve to keep the Locarno Pact in good countenance and affairs in poise so as to secure the resumption of the World Disarmament Conference at some future date.

A party of tourists were being shown over the cathedral by a guide.

Behind the altar, he told them, lies Richard the Second. In the churchyard outside lies Mary Queen of Scots, also Henry the Eighth. And who, he demanded, lies above an unmarked flagstone. Can do you think is lying 'ere?

Well, answered a nearby visitor, I don't know for sure, but I have my suspicions.

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