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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1921.

War on the Mosquito

The people of Wilmington have learned through experience that the mosquito is not unconquerable, but they have discovered also the price of conquest in this case is unceasing vigilance. Every citizen who possesses a normal regard for his own comfort, for the reputation of his town-among visitors and for the public health will be interested in the reports submitted by expert investigators to our County Health Officer and published in The Star yesterday.

These reports are worthy of attention, not alone because of the recommendations they make along the lines of a united community effort against the mosquito, but also because of the suggested means by which residents, acting individually and singlehanded, may sometimes gain a substantial measure of relief. The tendency of the mosquito to carry on his life work in the vicinity of his birthplace often makes it possible for the individual householder to wage an effective battle even if the community at large should prove to be rather

Nevertheless, that is not the mode of warfare to be accepted by a progressive city of Wilmington's character and mosquito susceptibilities, so to speak. Localization of the mosquito is not in any sense an exact or reliable science. Moreover, the average householder is not prepared to exercise the proper control over his private mosquito incubators. He requires the constant aid and comfort of someone skilled in the tricks of mosquito warfare, one who knows where to look for the breeding place, how to put it out of operation -and how to perform the same service for the householder next door.

Wilmington can not afford to neglect the remedies proposed in the reports to Dr. Herring. An appropriation of \$10,000 is suggested as a minimum expenditure. It is hardly to be regarded as a high price for the city's immunity from the mosquito plague. The loss in health, in peace of mind, in personal comfort-perhaps even in religion-will be such as to overshadow that small sum, if we neglect now to make adequate provision against the operations of a mosquito summer colony this year.

Mr. Harding Invites Speculation

I think we will have with us the coming week some men who will arouse your interest, and you will be free to speculate concerning them to your heart's content .- Mr. Harding to the Correspondents.

But Mr. Harding has done nothing but see men who aroused interest and concerning whom speculation has become rife. The privilege which he now so liberally offers was long ago seized by correspondents without his express permission. * Mr. Harding's method of feeling out the country . with respect to cabinet possibilities was an invitation to universal speculation.

It has not always been pleasant speculation. Mr. Root, Mr. Hoover, Mr. Sutherland, all have undergone demolition. Mr. Hughes remains, but he is apparently to be a Gulliver among Lilliputians.

Having sought to sound the country, it has been inevitable that Mr. Harding should learn that senators like Lodge and Penrose regard themselves as the American people. For a while, the Pennsylvanian was so arrogant in his selection and dumping of prospective cabinet officers that the Public Ledger felt constrained to chasten him with editorial reproof. Indeed, Messrs. Lodge and Penrose have become so egregiously presumptuous that the President-elect has given his blessing to the movement to organize a bloc definitely devoted to his support—a friendly bloc which is not to include the scholar from Massachusetts or the bully from Pennsylvania.

The wages of indecision, Mr. Harding is reallzing, is trouble.

Reports of improving business conditions in the United States are fortified by encouraging news from abroad. The change in world conditions has hardly been perceptible since the first of the year, according to the Department of Commerce, but in Belgium and in the Scandinavian countries, particularly, the signs are highly promising. Representatives of the Department in Europe, Asia and South America are sending generally optimistic forecasts for the near future. Business abroad is gradually setting its house in order, and even slight progress in that field must be reflected very quickly by a favorable reaction in our own country. European weakness especially has been a millstone about our business neck, and any diminishing of the burden will be felt with grati-

An Engineer's Utopia

That today is the day of the engineer has been forcibly demonstrated many times in the past few years. Great fields are yet to be conquered, and the recent report of the committee on information and service of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers indicates that the engineers are quite ready to make still greater improvements in the mechanics of living. With reference to the "unwholesome and rapacious way of using raw coal,"

the report goes on to say: Advance of engineering science and high prices of domestic and industrial coal and gas challenge the municipalities to put a stop to this medieval way of using raw coal. Bituminous coal, even of poor grades, can be distilled at low temperature and yield fertilizer and ammonia, benzole, a superior substitute for gasoline; tar, a basis of most of our dyes; medicine, chemicals and perfumes, and a sur-

If the 400,000,000 tons of coal annually burned in this country is so treated, the following products will be obtained: 1,200,000, 000,000 cubic feet of fuel gas, 4,000,000 tons of ammonia sulphate, 1.000,000,000 gallons of crude benzol, 3,600,000,000 gallons of tar and 288,000,000 tons of artificial anthracite. The use value of all these commodities will be nearly \$4,000,000,000 instead of two billions' worth of raw coal

The smokeless city will thus be achieved. At the same time large sums now spent for smoke abatement will be saved as well as gas, oil and gasoline, and the price of coal and gas can be materially cheapened. District heating, electric service, power for trelleys and busses can be similarly included in this comprehensive plan of organizing cities to conserve our foundation of wealth-fuel.

The use of substances once considered waste has already meant enormous wealth to the world. The South has gained tremendously from the discovery of the food value of cotten seed in its various forms; the by-product chemical mants make as much, and more, from the refuse as they do from the product isolated first. The scientific treatment of coal outlined above offers an almost limitless field of utilization. Imagine integrated multiple-production plants which could serve a great population with smokeless coal and with gas suitable for heating, cooking, and illumination. At the same time they would make good roads easy of attainment, since they would supply tar for road surfacing as well as for roofing and for chemical industries. The automobile industry would profit by the benzol supplies released; farmers would have increased supplies of fertilizer, and ice production would be made cheaper by the addition to the ammonia supply.

Germany has pointed out by her process of utilizing the "brown coal" which is useless in its original form, the great economic value of the scientific use of fuel. It is to be hoped that American engineering science will be able to interest capital in the development of plants for the

The Disabled Veteran

We believe the American people will support with warmth and steadfastness the effort that is being made, chiefly through the leaders of the American Legion, to give adequate relief to the former service men who are suffering from disabilities. Proper hospital facilities are the first need. Something may be achieved in this direction as a result of action by the present Congress. There is pressing need also of a thorough-going reorganization and co-ordination of the government agencies that are charged with the service of relief among these veterans.

Wherever the fault may lie, it is no longer to be questioned that the men who came back from France so marked by the conflict as to be incapable of meeting the world on even terms have been shabbily treated. The stories that are told of inadequate relief, often of no relief at all, for these men.-mere shadows now of the youths whom their mothers sent to war-would be unbelievable but for their constant reiteration by responsible investigators.

The conditions among the disabled veterans, conditions which have led more than one "gold star" mother to say, "I thank God that my son died on the field of battle instead of returning, disabled, to the state I find here," may no longer be ignored by a generous and grateful people.

We quote here from the account of an investigation made in the nation's capital by the Washington Post, an account that should stand without

Pitiable conditions existing among former service men, who have returned from war to poverty, sickness, suffering and death, were revealed here yesterday by an investigation by the Washington Post. Lack of proper hospital facilities is ascribed as the primary cause of the situation, although many heroes who have been able to get into hospitals are not much better off than those who are walking the streets, nursing their own diseases and trying

as best they can to gain a livelihood. Men who have become mentally unbalanced because of injuries; men who have contracted incurable diseases; men whose diseases are growing steadily worse, although a few weeks in a hospital would cure them; men who are destitute because their devotion to their country sent them overseas, are wandering around the streets of the National Capital. They are seeking proper medical treatment, including a place in a good hospital, and enough money to keep them until they can recover from their experiences overseas and once more earn their

It is said that Col. House is writing a book on, "What Really Happened at Paris." The volume ought to provide considerable diversion for some people, but the world's interest is largely centered in what has happened since Paris.

Miss Alice Robertson, Congresswoman-elect, announces that when she arrives at Washington she will keep her eyes open and her mouth shut. The lady is evidently under some misapprehension as to the office to which she has been elected.

Correspondents report Mr. Harding as altogether satisfied with the progress he has made toward the selection of a Cabinet and happy over the probable outcome. We don't feel that it is up to us to worry if he isn't doing any on his own account, but we hope he hasn't lost his calendar down there in the Florida wilds.

There is said to be considerable demand at Washington for the reformation of the postal service. What do they want? Isn't Mr. Burleson

Carnegie's Library Inspiration

The loan of a book has been the starting point of many a career, the source of inspiration which has been productive of great good. Today with great public storehouses of books, where they may be read or borrowed, the borrowing of a book may not be so conspicuous in the life of the individual, yet the influence of books goes on.

It is interesting to know that one of the agencies which have put books into the hands of great masses of our population had its inception in the loan of a book. Andrew Carnegie, when a messenger boy, was lent a book by a great steel magnate of the day. Because the youth was absorbed in the book upon steel making and the tremendous advantage of steel over iron, the steel man told him that he might have free access to his personal

The impression made upon the boy was of lasting importance, says A. B. Farquhar, president of the A. B. Farquhar Co., Limited, who knew Carnegie well. "Carnegie then and there made up his mind if he ever became wealthy he would found libraries and give young men the same opportunity that had been afforded to him."

Carnegie libraries everywhere, so common that few think of their origin, are witnesses to the sincerity of that pledge to himself.

Announcement at the port of New York that a shipload of unwashed immigrants would not be admitted there caused the shipping line to divert the vessel to Boston. We suppose Boston was much obliged for the business, and particularly grateful for the inference that passage through that city will purify our immigration stream.

A Chicago man, announcing the change of his name from Teinewitz to Tenny, registers the opinion that all newcomers in this country should adopt good old American names. That is, we suppose, something like "Rain-in-the-Face," "Black-Thunder-Cloud," "Red-Sitting-Bull" or "Narragansett."

The Congressman who declares that Judge Landis should be removed from the bench may be called upon to explain whether he means the judicial or baseball bench.

Our best wishes go with the Wilmington delegation which last night proceeded to Raleigh to support the pending good roads legislation. The members of the delegation have interested themselves in a matter of great importance to the entire State, and a matter which may be said to be of peculiar interest to Wilmington and to Eastern Carolina. There is no section of the State that would profit more handsomely by good roads than our own Wilmington territory.

Contemporary Views

LOST, 7 BILLION DOLLARS IN SIX MONTHS

Kansas City Star: With the largest harvest ever gathered, the farmer has sustained a loss of more than 5 billion dollars in the last six months, due to the shrinkage in value of his crops. A billion and two-thirds of this loss falls on the corn grower, a billion and one-third on the cotton planter, and almost a billion on the producer of wheat. To these losses, staggering as they are, must be added a 2-billion-dollar loss so far sustained by the farmer on his livestock.

A part of this loss was unpreventable and much of it is permanent. It is of such a nature that it cannot be quickly regained and must be charged off the farmer's inventory. This decline in the value of farm products is not because the world has more food and clothing than it needs, although there is a surplus in this country, but because many of the peoples of the world are anable to buy enough to stave off hunger and to keep them

Some of this loss no doubt could have been prevented if the steps we are now taking in forming a government finance corporation and numerous private finance corporations to aid in selling our products in foreign countries had been taken in expectation of the market collapse instead of after much of the damage had already been done.

Fortunately, most of the unused wheat, corn and cotton produced last season is still in the hands of farmers, so that any improvement in the market of these and other commodities that may come through the activity of the selfing organizations will benefit the farmer directly. Generally by this time the farmer has sold most of his crops and any advance in price that occurs at this season helps those who speculate in farm products instead

DRIVING YOUNG FOLKS AWAY

Asheville Times: Rural communities long have been worrying over a problem peculiarly their own: why do our young people leave the home town?

One of the answers is contained in a news dispatch from Scotts Bluff, Neb.

There the town council passed an ordinance hanning all forms of dancing and motion pictures. It went a step farther, forbidding those under 21 from being away from home after 8 p. m. Scotts Bluff couldn't have conceived of a better

way to dive its young and spirited boys and girls Do you happen to know a young person who would want to live in a town like Scotts Bluff? When you were under 21 would you have liked

living under the dreary shadow of such anti-joy And yet, Scotts Bluff fathers and mothers this very day are wondering why it is that their sons and daughters look with desire at railroad trains

MEN OF VISION

and the outside world.

Columbia State: The other day, in Brooklyn, died a Mr. White, who was said to be one of the most useful and beloved citizens of that city. He was a man of considerable wealth and had spent a great part of it in the building of comfortable tenant houses for working people-indeed he had done more of this good work than any other single man in his generation.

In The State yesterday a dispatch from Saluda. S. C., told of the will of W. J. Chapman. He left his comfortable little estate, which he had accumulated as a country merchant, to aid poor white people in acquiring homes. His farm lands are to be divided into small tracts and sold on liberal terms. The trust fund arising from the sale of the property is to be invested from time to time and the rate of interest the buyers will pay is to be no more than six per cent. In the event that the funds shall not be invested for two years, they are to be devoted to the improvement of the roads in Saluda county.

Mr. Chapman of Saluda has no such wealth as Mr. White of Brooklyn had, but in vision at least, the two were equals. One can imagine nothing that would be more helpful to the people of Saluda than this disposition of his estate by the late Mr.

How this plan will be realized remains to be seen, but the plan is all right.

European News and Views

has been de-Germanized says the parison with the late Victorians who Berlin Tageblatt:

"The first impression which is felt on visiting Hamburg is that of a busy five years, has come to life again.

proudly, mast beside mast, in the river, the most numerous here, Americans and Japanese are to be seen, who were formerly very rare guests, for the simple reason that they possessed only a small amount of tonhage. Numerous foreign navigation societies, 67 in all according to the returns at the beginning of December have settled in Hamburg, so as to keep up from there the first chapter, to "throw open the that the law will soon b. a regular service with all the great window and let in the pure morning it has not been effective countries. England alone has 22, Hol- air. 'Frowsy beast!' says the modern the drinking of spirits land 11, and in this foreign competi- girl, who would rather risk a snowtion even Portugal and Cuba are represented. The German commercial windows closed. And she has a right fleet disappears almost entirely among all these other countries. The ships smells of petrol rather than Parfum ered a means whereby which remain to her after all that she d'Arabie. has given up are just sufficient to keep up the navigation along the coasts of Holland, Denmark, Norway and the

"After the declaration of war, the net tonnage registered for the German commercial fleet was 5 million 24. Today, after giving up so many ships to the Entente, there are only about half a million; of this half million 100,000 tons only are fit for navigation with neighboring countries. The German navigation companies have however not been discouraged. First the Hamburg-South American Steamship orles of the flamboyant period in owes thereto various of Company' and the 'German-East Africa Line' chartered ships flying the German flag. Later an agreement was made between the Hamburg-American Line and the Harriman Line, and other foreign navigation companies made Hamburg. American Line' has leased for 25 years the whole 'Rofshafenksi'. As this line consists of a number of navigation companies this agreement is of very great importance from an economical point of view. The 'American Line' consists of the 'International Mercantile Marine Company' the 'Red Star Line' the 'White Star Line' the 'Dominion Line' and other less important

"A similar agreement," continues the writer, "has been made with the Engish Company 'Royal Mail Steam Packet o.' and there is a question of negotiaions with 'Cunard Line', with a Dutch ompany and other foreign companies.

of great concern to the State of Ham-schools.

"These difficulties arise largely from a want of organization, The whole director of community schools feels Tuesdays river from Laurenburg to Coxhaven is one from an economical and transport tions can be made, though the work point of view. But from a political of organizing schools has of necessity Sound, February 5. point of view it is divided into 3 or distinct districts; Hamburg, Altona, and Harburg compete with one another instead of rationally distributing the navigation. Mostly the docks depend on a triple administration and are the four lower grades, for natives, the unsettled weather, and the badly arranged. The people of Ham- and to instruct in the English lan- that all the students are employed burg say it would be more sensible if Hamburg was to become the port usual means of publicity, the newspa- The total will be increased great for wood and coal, Altona for fish and coastal navigation, and the rest of here than ordinarily, it was necessary who cannot leave home are organic the traffic should be centred in Hamburg, and the port of Hamburg 1self city and county. In this, the services needs many improvements.

on "If the Elbe port were ruled by one and county welfare workers, and of cation and all kinds of experience single company and that this port were private citizens interested in the move- adults far more unlike under one political authority. It would ment, were invaluable, as through than immature children.

wharfs must be paid by foreign firms ested brought others. and that these wharfs shall return to the State of Hamburg after a certain period

writer, "which from one point of view opening of the schools, urging the at- States. at least puts foreign countries at the service of the revival of Germany. "The future of Hamburg is still shrowded in mist, but slowly this is dispersing, and the outlines of a new those whom they thought would, or are having to teach under condition organization begin to appear.

Women Today Cleanest in History A woman writer in the London Daily Sketch-attacks Elinor Glyn's criticism that "women are not as clean as they used to be." Juliet, she claims, possessed no tooth-brush.

"She does not put it so crudely." the writer admits, "but that is what she! means. She is revolted by 'modern The days are given for the informa- at night. females puffing smoke at you, and quite disgusting, to one sense or another, to be near.' And she evokes for

"Women then, she would remind us. creatures whom it was obvious that man would want to kiss.' She even hints that the rarity of great loves nowadays may be due to the unconscious revolt of the senses at what she frankly calls 'nasty smells.'

"It is true that there were 'perfectly divine' exceptions-the few great ladjes who made the sense ache with their laces and ribbons and flowers and exotic perfumes, and may also have been exquisitely clean; but they had to have at least two maids apiece to accomplish this feat, and themselves were inactive as china dolls.

"But after them trailed a sorry procession of the less pampered women who followed their fashions-the little governess who sat up at nights to rebind the frayed and mud-caked hems of those flowing skirts, the busy housewives who scamped the stitching in o fresh linings to those coquettish high collars, the shop girls who could only get time to build up the puffs and rolls of hair (so subty feminine on the 'perfectly divine' few!) every other day, and so slept in the touzles. "It could never have been more dif-

ficult for the uninitiated to decide whether a girl in evening dress was 'bound for a ball or a bath' than it is in London today, but, at any rate, she has had the bath. It would be too obvious if she hadn't.

"An efficient bath, too, Almost any London business girl today is better bathed than, say, Mary Queen of Scots was. Mary had a silver bath filled with warm red wine, but it probably wasn't half so effective as the hideous plumbing in our thousands of geyser-fitted suburban bathrooms. And Mary of

The once-German port of Hamburg | Scotland was a dainty creature in com-

are deplored by Mrs. Glyn. "The late Victorian corset alone was death and disease, and enough to have started a pestilence. It polishers are unknown. was an elaborate, expensive affair. port, which after being dead for nearly | Often it could not have been washed even if its owner had been able to afford a Stepney to wear while it and restaurants is forbidd "But this illusion is deceptive, all dried. Multitudes of middle-class wo- of this customers frequently the great vessels which are anchored men had to make one example of it last to get a supply served in a for a year. They mended it up with fewer than 11,000 prosecutions bits of old gloves, they protected it waiting to be dealt with are flying foreign flags. Nearly every with hideous bodices, of which the alone, just now. nation is represented in this port. Be- present-day frivolous camisole is the The punishment descendant. But even then-! (This to be consumed on the is not a nice subject, but the exquisite for the first offence a fine Mrs. Glyn began the plain speaking.) sterling and the shutting The modern girl, for all her stale for a week. Many prop smoke, has not a skeleton of that sort this punishment as a fi in her cupboard.

"In that period of the 'perfectly crowded with sympathizers divine' woman, it was usual for the reopens and the sale of heroines of romance, on awaking in brisker than ever. It is drift on her bed than sleep with her to say it, even though she herself Ohlbaver, is reported to

people are like by what they buy. At qualities of tone of the be the end of last century the haberdash- The London Times tells ers' counters were spread with an insanitary litter which contained frames and can neither play the to puff out the hair, false curls and nor has he had anything switches, stiffening for absurd sleeves, their manufacture. He blnding for the horrible street-sweep- secret came to him by ing skirt hems. Nowadays they are and occured to him some heaped with nail-brushes and mani- the ghost of Stradivarius cure files, with an eau de Cologne and to him. This experience shampoo powders. "The modern ballroom may seem case, since Herr Ohlhav-

shocking to those who cherish mem- in the occult for the last 30 feminine dress, but its atmosphere is he has made. literally purer. The modern debutante, with her airy garments and obvious lieved, when the Dutch knees, would wonder what to make of der Ber recently played the remark of a zealous chaperon at ate audience a piece upon a Cren a Dublin ball in the 'nineties. 'No. violin and then upon a Captain. Mary is not for you this treated by the Ohlhaver treatmer polka. I'm keeping her cool for his audience was unable to notice an Excellency:

the best-washed being who has yet tests of the discovery are also st joined the human pageant. As for her to have been made by several being a creature 'whom men would tinguished musicians, including]

Juliet possessed a too! Glyn, men and women

Meadow and in places w regarded as calamities associated

Belgium Must Have its Spirits The sale of spirits in

Ghost of Stradivarius Walks Hamburg business "One can find out pretty well what instruments can acquire

> the Tageblatt, is not us "If the same ne

"The smart girl of 1921 is surely tone in the two instruments, pr

Community Schools Have Scored Success With Enrolement of 250

That the community schools of New 14, Tuesdays and Thursdays William "Taking these circumstances into Hanover county, established several negro, December 14. Tuesdays consideration, the port of Hamburg, months ago, now have an enrollment because of this arrangement is already of 250 pupils, and that the attendance Thursdays: Peabody, negro, Down too small and to bring the port up to on night classes, which are free, is 16. Tuesdays and Thursdays; Bock H he level of present requirements from graitfying, is the statement of Miss negro, January Waldhorst. director of the Anita A report of the activities of Demands from manufacturers the schools was submitted to the board Mondays and Thursdays; East who wish to establish warehouses of education last week and she has mington, negro, there have to be refused. Everywhere furnished a resume of the work which and Thursdays; the limits of the port cause inconven- will be read with much interest. It follows:

that a report reflecting local condigone slowly. Since we are operating under the direction of the state de- approximately 250. partment of education's director of tendance is slightly lower, vet community schools, it has been neces- one considers the distance many sary to limit the work to that of ple come in order to attend a guage for those of foreign birth. The ing the day, the record is very go pers and posters, being of less service as the afternoon classes for moth to make a personal canvass of the of the home demonstration agent, of as numerous as the pupils enrol "It would be better," the writer goes the public health nurses, of other city since all stages of preliminary then be possible to undertake urant them community interest was aroused. reforms, which, in the interest of the Employes of large numbers of peo-schools, particularly in German Empire, would help much to- ple, the labor unions, fraternal organi- schools, is planned for the beginn wards the revival of Hamburg's pros- zations, the ministerial association, Almost invariably these are men the American Legion and other or- women, boys and girls, who "Today, more than ever, Hamburg is ganizations were informed of the purgoing to act as economic intermediary poses of the schools, and all of them where the school term lasted a between Germany and foreign coun-expressed support of the movement. tries. The port of Hamburg has taken After the section of the city or county the year. To them we owe a care to stipulate in questions of the served by a certain school had been responsibility. There are still establishment of foreign companies informed of the beginning of class intelligent people who, having that the cost of constructing the work, it was found that those inter- some schooling, or having taught

Negroes Heartfly Co-operate "Among the negroes of New Han- of newcomers to this country. over county splendid co-operation was are eager to learn more of the "This is a policy," concludes the secured. The ministers announced the guage and institutions of the in had limited educational opportunities. have done splendid work, bringing The teachers advertised the night adaptability and an interest schools, and made personal calls upon have helped greatly. should, be interested in night school which are far from ideal yet works By their insisting that each are teaching, and the students student who came bring another one. studying, to good effect. New the enrollment of the schools grew rapidly.

"The county is by no means fully making possible the night schools. organized as yet. At present the fol- other factor which has b lowing schools, which opened on the dates given, are doing work two bers of the Kiwanis and Rotary nights a week, from 7:30 to 9 o'clock. in taking teachers to and from tion of those who may be interested in attending:

"Delgado, November 29. Mondays there are people who wish to contrast the "perfectly divine" women and Thursdays: Castle Hayne, Novemof the beginning of this century-'re- ber 30, Tuesdays and Fridays: William though work has already begin fined to their lovely finger-tips, gentle Hooper, December 7, Tuesdays and Fri- instruction is largely individual. voices, perfect scents and clothes and days: East Wilmington, December 10.1 one at the office of Major God Tuesdays and Fridays; Scotts Hill, ne- | county superintendent, will be ab gro, December 13, Tuesdays and Thurs- give information to anyone desired were 'exquisitely fresh, purely-scented days; Castle Hayne, negro, December It."

"After three months of work, the days: Almont, Branch, negro, February 2; Greenvi

Different Types of Work "The types of work done are a months, during the worst weath selves, are coming to school for cial help. Another group is made

"The teachers of the city and c over is the gainer from the tw months' salary schedule, since service is the help given by the m

"It is planned to continue in and to open new ones, as long No one need hesitate in entering

· THINK!

-: OF :-

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