

Around Our TOWN

OR Shelby SIDELIGHTS

By RENN DRUM.

FORTY YEARS AND FINGER JOINT GIVEN TO ONE FIRM

Forty years ago this morning—Monday, March 17, 1892—a youngster not yet 14 years of age hopped, skipped and jumped by the side of his dad to the Thompson & Gantt lumber mill at Belwood and put in his first full day of work taking the slabs away from a shingle saw.

This morning that youngster of two score years ago sat in the office of his big lumber yard and casket factory on North Washington street, in Shelby, puffed away at a cigarette in the holder that is seldom missing from his mouth, and thought back over the years.

In his hand was the musty ledger used by his father, W. H. Thompson, in keeping the records of the old Thompson & Gantt firm at Belwood. As he rubbed the stub of what a saw 28 years ago left of the index finger on his right hand he noticed an entry on the book, dated March 12, 1892. It was Saturday and recorded that Zolie Thompson had been paid the grand sum of \$2.20 for his first week's work—40 cents per day.

And thus a new record of a long period of service became available for use in this corner.

Ten years or so after going to work for his father at Belwood, Z. J. Thompson bought the interest of his father's partner, and the firm was moved to Shelby. For 23 years it was operated just across the Southern tracks on West Warren street. About seven years ago the new plant was built on North Washington street, near the Seaboard. Today the boy who "tailed" the shingle saw at Belwood in 1892 completed 40 unbroken years in the lumber business and looked forward to quite a number more.

"Got any idea how many homes you have furnished the material for in the 40 years?" he was asked.

"No, I haven't," he answered, "but they're bound to run in the thousands. Just 30 houses per year would run it over one thousand, and in a number of good building years we've furnished the material for over 100 houses per year. You can imagine what size town Shelby was when the plant was moved here 20 years ago. In those days very few Shelby residents imagined the town would ever reach its present size. There weren't so many homes here then and anybody in town could name every house and who lived in it. Look around and try to do that today, and then you'll get a pretty good idea of how much material we've turned out for a big percentage of the material for a majority of the homes and business buildings erected since came from the Thompson plant."

In more recent years "Z. J.", as the mayor pro tem is best known, opened up a casket factory and the new sideline has manufactured several thousand caskets. Associated with him in business now are four of his seven sons. The Thompson firm seems destined to go on and on.

And, now, what about some more records of long service with or in the same firm?

YOUNGSTER DID NOT DESIRES A BABY

It is told on a Shelby mother and her young son. Maybe it's true and maybe not.

Anyway the little son was being sent to the hospital for an operation. The mother was doing her best to cheer him up. Finally, just as he was to be put in the car, he looked up at her and said: "That's all right, mom; don't you be worried, I'm not even a little bit afraid. But I'll tell you one thing—they're not going to palm off a baby on me like they did on you over there. I wanta pup."

SHELBY SHORTS:

John P. Mull still chucking because he believes that this time a year from now the mail man will not be leaving the Hoover mail at the White House. Name the only young lady in town with courage enough to smoke in public and let the spectators go-hang if they don't like it. Pencil scrawls on the walls of the old Seaboard freight station hark back to the days when some of the groundups about town were wild youngsters. It was almost 50 years ago, W. C. informs.

Questions Answers—

(Our readers can get an answer to The Cleveland Star, Washington Bureau, 1322 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. Write your name and address on one side of the paper, state your question clearly and enclose 2 cents in stamps for reply postage. Do not write legal, medical or religious questions.)

Q. How much foreign money is invested in the United States, and how much American money is invested abroad?

A. The estimated foreign investments in the United States is \$4,700,000. Direct American investments in foreign countries was estimated at \$7,841,000,000 in 1930 and in addition, \$1,088,000,000 was invested in foreign corporation bonds.

Q. What is the maximum draft of American battleships under serviced conditions, and how does it compare with the draft of the Leviathan?

A. For battleships 35 feet and the Leviathan draws 39 feet, 6 inches.

Q. What is the botanical name for hemp?

A. Cannabis sativa.

Q. What is a thoroughbred horse?

A. All thoroughbred animals and especially horses, are specifically those having an ancestry from noted stock, recorded in the stud-book for several generations.

Q. Who was secretary of war during the World war?

A. Newton D. Baker.

Q. Can matter be destroyed?

A. Matter is indestructible; and merely changes form, as for instance, when wood and coal are burned, the new forms of matter consist of gases and ash.

Q. If the United States was at war, could the date of the presidential election be postponed to allow the president to continue in office until peace was declared?

A. No.

Q. What is the origin of the word "boycott"?

A. It is the surname of Captain Boycott, who was the first notable victim of the system.

Q. What is the rate of letter postage to Paris, France?

A. Five cents for the first ounce or fraction and three cents for each additional ounce or fraction.

Q. What Latin inscription is on the "Lion of Lucerne" statue in Switzerland?

A. "Helvetiorum fidei ac virtuti," which is translated "to the faithfulness and virtue of the Swiss."

Q. When did Marion Crawford, the novelist, die?

A. In 1909.

Q. What does the name Habadarik mean?

A. It is a German family name meaning "property reward."

Q. What is the real name and nationality of Barbara Stanwyck, the actress?

A. She is an American, born in Brooklyn, N. Y. and her real name is Ruby Stevens.

Q. Did George Washington lay any musical instrument?

A. No.

Q. What are the populations of China and Japan?

A. The estimated population of China is 450,000,000, and the population of the Japanese Empire is 91,337,635.

Q. What is the process for submerging and emerging submarine and how long does it take?

A. To submerge water is admitted to tanks, and the boat is brought to the surface by expelling the water by compressed air pumps. The time required to submerge and emerge depends upon the size of the boat, the reserve displacement, and the capacity of the ejecting and pumping equipment.

Q. Where is Mount Blanc and how high is it?

A. It is in eastern France, close to the Swiss and Italian border, and is 15,781 feet high.

If you want a copy of our new bulletin on GROWING ROSES write to our Washington Bureau, enclosing five cents in postage stamps.

that "Fed" Hoke sucked six dozen (72) eggs at the corner near the present First National location—and soon wished he hadn't. A young married woman of Shelby recently received a letter from an old schoolmate, now a sophisticated big city girl with her second, or is it her third? husband. "What," she asked among other things, "still living with G—?" Another springtime note: Young girls with their hair rolled to their ankles. "Will," queries a reader, "the next sheriff make his home in the county jail, or is he living there now?" See us bright and early on Sunday morning, June 5, and perhaps we can give you the desired information. Eggs a cent each. Almost as many telephone calls to know how the golfing Webb brothers are getting along in Florida as to inquire about little Lindy. "First Monday"—and since the primary is nearing, much back-patting—at the court house. The last name under "F" in the Shelby telephone directory is "Friday" and the last name under "M" is "Mundy." There is a family in Shelby by the name of Byers and another by the name of Sellers. There are seven telephones in the court house and five in the city hall. Anything else you'd like to know?

Work Unemployed On Idle N. C. Farms

Raleigh.—The American Legion's drive against unemployment in North Carolina is uncovering many new remedies. Major Michael A. Pery, of Raleigh, state executive of the Legion's campaign, reported. In High Point members of the Legion post auxiliary are soliciting jobs by telephone. Each woman is assigned approximately 30 names. A report daily is prepared, showing the results. Unoccupied farms adjoining High Point are listed and an effort is made to find someone who can do the farming. The Legion's employment at Smithfield has opened an exchange where clothing is received, repaired and sold, the proceeds being used in providing work for the unemployed. The Winston-Salem Legion post is cooperating with the city employment office. The employment committee of the post sells books of tickets in denomination of 25 cents to \$1. The employers pay the workers with these tickets and they are turned in to the committee by the workers, who received cash for their amounts.

McBrayer School Roll Of Honor

The following is the honor roll for the McBrayer school for the sixth month:
First grade—Florence Borders, Eugene Blanton, Columbus Church, Evelyn Evans, Wray Randall Greene, Randall Gibson, C. B. Rippy and Maynard Ware.
Second grade—Coleman Crofts, Adam Tessenner, William Tessenner, Doris Ripy and George Ware.
Third grade—Ruby Allen, Mary Helen Blanton, Ethel Crofts, Mary Ruth Davis and Blondine Evans.
Fourth grade—Daniel Evans and Noble Evans.

Mrs. Hoover Wears Dimity Dress In Boosting Wearing Of Cotton

First Lady Does Her Part To Stimulate Cotton Clothing Sales

Washington.—When Mrs. Hoover stepped out in a dimity dress at a White House reception she directed attention to the active campaign of research and promoting which is endeavoring to discover and promote new uses of cotton. Along with the effort to spread the gospel of diversified farming in the section so badly hit by the slump in cotton, the departments of Agriculture and Commerce are co-operating with the Cotton Textile Institute to develop uses and possibilities of the product. These efforts will interest many persons outside the cotton industry because they are bringing cotton into increasing competition with other raw materials and finished products.

Cloth Sales Increase
Large increases in the sales of cotton cloth have been reported and the world's fashion dictators are said to have been sold on the possibilities of cotton in the new styles. Studies are now being made as to possibilities of cotton in fabric wall covering, fabric belting, seasonal specialties such as sun-bath cabinets and beach equipment, aeronautical fabrics, camouflage cloth, awnings, tents, tarpaulins, buffing and polishing wheels, molded industrial specialties, fabrics in combination with sulphur for industrial purposes and insulation for wall board, sleeping

porch screens, bindings for straw coverings on nursery trees and coatings for underground pipes. That will give you an idea how seriously the cotton people are going at this thing. Already, there is some handsome business and social stationery made of cotton and many manufacturers made Christmas cards of cotton last fall. The Cotton Textile Institute thinks that about 5,000,000 yards of cotton fabric has been consumed in that manner in less than two years. A printing firm in good old Memphis has sold about 2,500,000 letterheads on cotton fabric "paper." Efforts are being made to sell the stuff for table covers, with the aid for permanent records of daily newspapers.

Push Cotton Suits
Plots have been underfoot to put seersucker or other cotton suits on men in northern cities next summer as well as in southern communities—such as Washington—where the fashion already is popular. Report from New York, Philadelphia and even from the far northwest are the summer will be a banner season for lightweight cotton fabric suits. A hat manufacturer who makes two pounds of cotton per dozen hats season reports that he uses about two pounds of cotton per dozen hats—or about 80 500-pound bales a season. Cotton fabrics are even being used in constructing concrete roads and in bituminous surfacing of

earth roads. The Agriculture Department points to a saving of 50 per cent on covers for curing concrete.

The states of Georgia, Texas and South Carolina have been experimenting on their roads with cotton reinforced bituminous surface treatment and a study is being made with the idea of using the treatment on levee faces on the Mississippi river. Efforts are being made to sell agricultural producers everywhere on the use of cotton bales for their commodities and cotton baling is also becoming more popular.

Get Garden Going
In Early March
Urges State Board

Vegetables Recommended For Early Spring Planting, Valuable Publications.
At least twelve popular vegetables may be started in the spring garden and these will aid in cutting down the food bill. The garden this year should be considered the most important acre on the farm because it is good health insurance as well as safe economy. "The urge to get the garden going can hardly be withstood now that signs of spring are apparent," says E. B. Morrow, extension horticulturist at State college. "We have three valuable publications which may be used by those needing information on establishing a garden and will send these to any one making application as long as the present supply lasts. These three publications give suggestions about starting the early plants, a manual of garden planting and

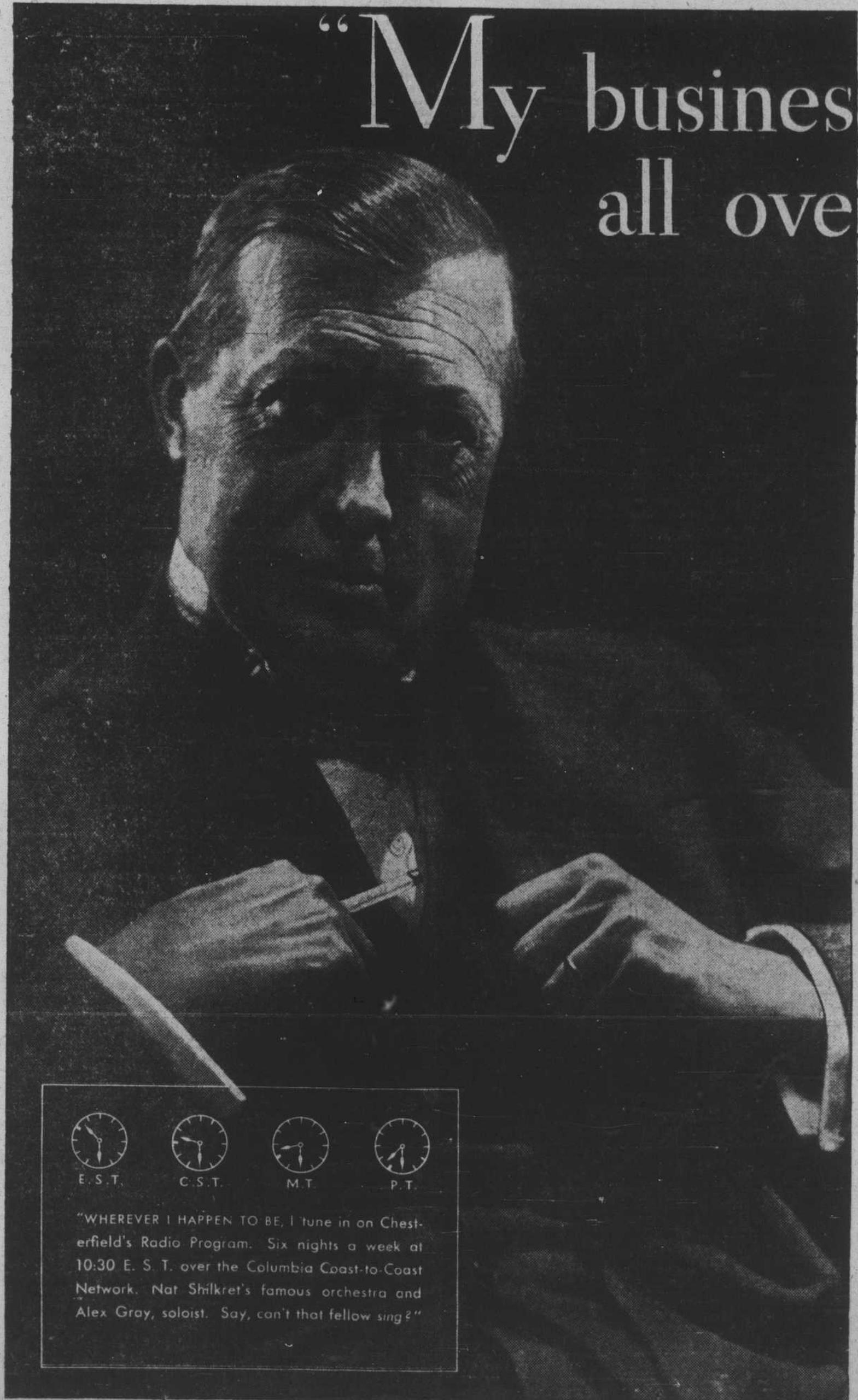
cultivation, and a vegetable seedling guide. Citizens of North Carolina may have them on request to the agricultural editor at State college."

However, in beginning the garden now, Mr. Morrow recommends the planting of asparagus, beets, cabbage, carrots, lettuce, garden peas, Irish potatoes, pepper, radish, sweet potato and turnips. Large one-year-old roots of the Mary Washington variety will give a start with asparagus. The Early Wonder and Detroit Dark Red are good varieties of beets for the early planting. If the first seeding is caught by a frost, another planting should be made immediately. Early March is not too late to make plantings of the second early cabbages such as the Copenhagen Market and the Charleston Wakefield varieties. The seedlings should have plenty of room and the young plants transferred to the garden as soon as possible.

Carrots are as yet not generally popular but more could be used for health. The best varieties, according to Mr. Morrow, are Chantenay and Danvers Half Long. The other plants mentioned are well known and are standbys in most gardens. Early plantings should be made at once.

Says Hoover Will Adopt Wet Plank

John J. Raskob has "direct information" that President Hoover is willing to run for reelection this fall on a platform containing a wet plank if his party thought it necessary.—The Senate Judiciary subcommittee will report favorably on the Bingham 4 per cent beer bill according to Chairman Metcher. Wall Street Journal.



"Guess I'm like most Americans who travel a lot, I take many of my hobbies with me. Chesterfields, for instance. I've smoked 'em for years. They're not only made good, but they're made to keep good, and that's why they hold old customers like me. Take the tobaccos. That fragrant Turkish tobacco—your taste gets that, all right. And the whole blend—say, there's nothing like it for milder, better taste. But my point is, Chesterfields are just the same wherever I buy them—Argentina, India, New Zealand. The package is O. K.—moisture-tight, clean-looking—keeps the aroma in. Even the paper comes into it. As far off as Shanghai I've noticed how pure and white and fresh it is. I've never yet found a town where Chesterfields couldn't be had! And no matter where I've bought 'em, they've always been just exactly right!"



MILDER PURE TASTE BETTER
They Satisfy
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