



# FREE LIBERTARIAN

Monthly Newsletter of the Free Libertarian Party

Vol 2, No 8

August 1973

## MORE PETITIONS

### FROM THE CHAIR

Dear free libertarians,

One of our flyers is headlined: YOU'RE NOBODY TILL YOU GET ON THE BALLOT." As you will learn elsewhere in this issue, our petition drive to get on the ballot got off to a rousing start but is now in a slump, due to a lack of signature-gatherers. Our petitioners have found the people of New York City responsive to some of our proposals or, in some cases, to our right to be on the ballot so we can raise important issues.

We are not the only petitioners on the streets. Biaggi, Beame, Blumenthal and Marchi are all trying for a second line on the ballot (on the theory that lifelong Democrats have heart attacks if they have to pull the Republican lever, or vice versa). Badillo is back into the fray, as are the Communist Party, the Socialist Workers Party and the belligerent Labor Committee.

Rumor has it that the SWP put 300 people out and collected all their signatures the first week. Whether or not this is true isn't important; but the principle still works. 300 people times 100 signatures apiece equals 30,000 signatures.

The FLP has 200 members, some of whom live as far away as Buffalo and Albany. But there are more than 100 members in the New York City area. If 100 people each collected 100 signatures a week, our goal of 20,000 signatures could be met in two weeks. Instead, we have a small band of workers out almost every night, sweating those signatures so that all 200 of us can reap the benefits which will accrue from the publicity our ideas will get when we're on the ballot.

Collecting signatures isn't fun; it's hard work. We all have daydreams of thousands of people pleading with us to let them sign our petition; but, of course, it doesn't work out that way. We all try to come up with gimmicks but there is no easy way to do it. However, one of our people collected 155 signatures in one day, and another got 147 in a day. Several others have passed the 100-a-day mark.

We will continue working and we will get on the ballot. But it's a damn shame that so few of us have to work so long and hard when, if 100 people each collected 14 signatures

per day for a week, we would have almost 10,000 signatures at the end of that week, and nobody would have to work hard.

Some libertarians don't like to deal with people, only ideas. The libertarians who have joined the FLP know we have to deal with people, expose them to our ideas, convince them that individualism is better than what they're used to. One can deal with people on a one-to-one basis and on a general basis. What we're doing now is dealing on a one-to-one basis so we can get the opportunity to communicate with them on a wider (media) basis. The immediate purpose of the Free Libertarian Party is to get candidates on the ballot. Presumably, the members of the FLP want us to be more than a debating society or coffee klatch.

For six weeks a year money won't help and moral support won't help. For six weeks a year we need people who are willing to pitch in and work - not 25 or 30 people but everyone who can and will help.

In addition to gathering the petitions, we must process them. We have a crew of people, headed by Bill Lawry and Bob Cassella, working at the office, preparing all the petitions for filing at the Board of Elections. They work almost every night. They're way behind. They need help. If it's a rainy night and you don't want to get wet on the streets, call the office and tell them you're on the way.

We're not a party of second-handers. Let's not act like second-handers. By the time you get this newsletter, there will be only about 2 weeks left in the petition drive. Last year, after the battle with the Board of Elections, we ended up with 3,520 signatures (needing 3,500). Before you decide you don't want to bother, imagine how you would feel if this year, needing 7,500, we wound up with 7,480 - 20 signatures short.

It's your party - and it will be your ideas being spread, your life and liberty you're working for.

TANSTAFL,  
Andrea Millen  
Chairperson



# VICTORY FUND

In view of the difficulty and inefficiency of allocating funds piecemeal, the Victory Fund Committee decided, on July 25th, to turn over all funds not specifically earmarked otherwise, to the Youngstein for Mayor Committee.

This action culminated a series of meetings including long debates concerned with the method of allocating the funds collected rather than with particular allocations. During this series of meetings, Gary Greenberg resigned as (non-voting) director of the Victory Fund, and, on July 25th, announced the formation of the Youngstein for Mayor Committee.

In deciding to transfer all its present and future receipts to the Youngstein for Mayor Committee, the Victory Fund Committee recognized that with almost no exception, the funds received had been solicited for the Mayoral Campaign. Moreover, the Youngstein for Mayor Committee has promised to honor all debts incurred or authorized by the Victory Fund Committee as of July 25th, 1973.

At present, the Victory Fund still exists as a conduit for FLP campaign funds. However, all receipts not specifically designated otherwise will be turned over to the Youngstein for Mayor Committee.

The vote on the motion to transfer the funds was five in favor, none opposed, one abstention. All voting members of the Victory Fund Committee were present.

*Ray Strong, Secretary  
Victory Fund Committee*

## THANK YOU

A very special thank you to Larry Totams for his donation of an air conditioner for the FLP office.

Thanks also to Marjie Fleischer for her donation of a file cabinet and supply cabinet.

Thanks also for a desk donated through Joanna Farley and her aunt.

Thanks for John Pachak for the donation of his time and labor in putting up shelves, installing the air conditioner and various electrical outlets in the office and making up the petition boards. John is a free-lance carpenter and I highly recommend his work to anyone who needs carpentry work done.

Thanks to Charles Curley for his help with the installation of the air conditioner.

Thanks to Dolores and David Grande for the conference table and chairs.

Thanks to Sieglinde Kress for the lamps, bulletin boards, etc.

Thanks to Gary Greenberg and Paul Lepanto for their donations of standing shelves.

Thanks to John Muller and Sharon Presley of the Laissez Faire Bookstore for their long-term loan of the mimeograph machine.

Thanks to Wesley McCain for enabling us to buy an electric typewriter at an almost "donation" price.

Thanks to Linda Kalsman and Jerry Klasman for their donations of a work table and a file cabinet.

Thanks to all the many people who have donated office supplies: paper clips, staplers & staples, paper, etc. etc.

In case I've left anyone out, please forgive me and put it down to severe mental collapse.

*Andrea Millen  
Chairperson*

What's the difference between a City Taxpayer and a sheep?

None! They both get fleeced!

Join the March of Sheep (?)

From: Sheep Meadow in Central Park; Sunday, August 12th at 12 Noon.

To: Gracie Mansion

Why: Repeal City Income and Sales Taxes.

After a hard week getting petition signatures everybody deserves some rest and recreation. Let's relax together, swap campaign (horror) stories, and share our delightful and unique brand of libertarian humor with the rest of New York. So meet us on Saturdays, the more the merrier. Who knows, we may even start a campaign tradition! The remaining parties scheduled are:

August 11th at 8:30 PM: Laissez-Faire Bookstore  
208A Mercer Street  
(this will also be an autograph party for David Friedman who will be there to put his genuine signature to copies of his new book.)

August 18th at 8:30 PM: The Crooked Fence  
81st Street & First Avenue

Monday, August 27th at 8:30 PM: The Crooked Fence  
(This last party to be a "filing Party" Among the attractions will be the contest to see which libertarians can resist the temptation to drop from exhaustion longest.)

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Martin E. Nixon, Editor

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## PETITON DRIVE '73 - INSIDE

"Our candidates aren't going to get on the ballot - unless we get help to process signatures."

Bill Lawry says that although the response to this plea has been good, it's not good enough. Bill continues, "The 'hard core' has been here and so have people from Nassau, but not on a continuous basis."

"If you're not on the streets, we need you at the office - Now."

Gary Greenberg told us that, "The Party belongs to the activists." But the griping comes from the absent but not-so-silent majority.

### CHANGE YOUR STATUS

Get active - Get a piece of the action.

Doors open at 7 PM weekdays, 1 PM Saturday and Sunday. 15 West 38th Street. If you don't have a key ring. Call Bill Lawry at 392-0200 (days), 354-0292 (evenings). Get scheduled in on the fun. It's not the Mickey Mouse Club or a peep show; but it is worthwhile.

*(Editor's note: This article was promised by one individual but appeared in the handwriting of someone else. Will the author please stand up?)*

## IN THE NEWS

*(Editor's note: unsigned items are the sole responsibility of the editor.)*

### FLASH FROM NATIONAL!

We have just received an urgent phone call from Evan Soule at the National Committee to Legalize Gold. Evan informs us that once again, the pro-gold forces in the Senate have passed a bill to allow Americans to legally own the yellow metal; and once again, Rep. Philip Crane (R-Ill.) is introducing an identical bill in the House. If Crane's bill passes, the battle is over; if some other bill, laden with qualifiers, comes out of the House, there will be problems. The whole thing may get screwed up. Thus, once again, we urge you to get all LP members in your state to write their Congressman, as soon as possible, asking for a "yes" vote on Crane's bill to legalize gold. The vote in the House last time was 163-162, so every vote counts...and our letters could sway a few crucial "undecided" votes.

Sue Nolan

FLP Mayoral candidate Fran Youngstein is currently out in the west lands raising funds, and will be back in New York later this month. Fran got a mention in the July issue of Majority Report, along with a photo.

During the last Libertarian Victory Fund meeting (see separate story), it was decided that each FLP candidate would raise funds for their own campaign. At present, Bill Lawry is totally involved in our petition drive; but once it's over, Bill will launch a campaign that is the most imaginative and creative possible.

His emphasis will be on gaining maximum national publicity for libertarianism and making a great effort to increase membership in the FLP. Both the FLP and libertarianism can become household concepts; and Bill intends to do all possible to make them so.

All this will take money - your money. With your support Bill will succeed. Send your contributions to: Citizens for Lawry; 41-38 49th Street; Sunnyside, N.Y. 11104.

Bob Cassella

Tom Avery, the FLP candidate for Comptroller who will take good care of the taxpayer's money by not taking it in the first place, has really been on the campaign trail as one of the petitioners.

On Saturday afternoon, July 28th, Paul Streitz, the FLP candidate for Councilman-at-Large from Manhattan, was petitioning in Central Park. He was accompanied by Chairperson Andrea Millen and two signs that read, "Legalize Marijuana."

Paul had propped the signs against two wastebaskets and was collecting signatures when a policeman came up and asked if the signs were Paul's, and told him that it was illegal to advertise in the park. The policeman took one of the signs and tore it up. After some further argument, the policeman tore up the other sign. Paul was given a summons returnable on August 21st.

All this happened despite the fact that there were numerous other signs already up around Central Park advertising concerts, yogis, etc.; and despite the fact that Paul was not advertising a product - but expressing a political opinion. Streitz is looking into the possibility of legal action against the policeman in question and the city.

Martin E. Nixon

On July 14th, Sandy Cohen, Congressional hopeful from the 25th C.D., addressed a group of students from Dutchess Community College and SUNY at New Paltz. His topic was "The causes and cures of inflation."

On Sunday, August 5th, he will be interviewed on WLNA in Peekskill at 1:30 PM. It's 1420 on the AM dial, and 100.7 on the FM dial. The interview will last a half hour.

The question is - can a formerly successful rancher from Patagonia, Arizona find happiness with two dozen pullets in the Town of Poughkeepsie?

Well, Guy Riggs admits he didn't exactly come from a sprawling chicken ranch. "My mother had five acres in Patagonia," he remarked, "and each spring she raised a couple of dozen fryers. But out west anything with animals on it is a ranch."



First off, Riggs went to his neighbors and asked if they would object to seven or eight weeks of chicken raising on his backyard ranch. They said no, not if they received either 1-a chicken or 2-an invitation to a chicken dinner. Actually, one of his neighbors offered -im a part of his own property on which to raise fryers for the Riggs' freezer. So Riggs set about finding the easiest way to get a town variance. He found there was only one way.

Bryant Ormsby, zoning administrator, told Riggs he must first get a map of the property, showing boundaries and distances from neighboring houses, etc. Under Town of Poughkeepsie ordinances, "you may not raise any livestock (chickens are considered livestock) within 200 feet of the nearest property line." Next Riggs will have to indicate on the map, by drawing a "to scale" sketch, the location and size of the chicken coop. He must fill out the proper forms and come before the Zoning Board of Appeals for a hearing on whether or not a variance should be granted. He must also pay for a legal notice to be published in the Poughkeepsie Journal.

Riggs will appear before the Board on August 6th. He will not have an attorney. He said he can represent himself and the chickens just fine.

"I want to find out just what I have to go through to try to raise a couple of chickens in my own backyard," he said. And while he may not win, he is going to go the whole route and see it through to the end. Bureaucracy, bureaucracy, bureaucracy.

*Martin E. Nixon*

## OPEN FORUM

### USING ECONOMIC ISSUES

There's a lot more to it than taking an ultra-conservative position. Each target group requires a special approach.

With minorities, demonstrate how the liberals want to make them wards of the state for them (liberals) to feel sorry for. Add a touch of anti-state monopoly capitalism.

With liberals and the New Left: attack state monopoly capitalism with the deals and favoritism vigorously first, then tie state socialism to it and present laissez-faire as the alternative. You have totally undercut their argument and certainly made clear our separation from the establishment.

With consumers mad about inflation: point out how the government takes their money in taxes, then uses it to pay foodproducers not to grow food (subsidies), cutting supply and boosting price. Expose import restrictions on food, too, (as well as on a wide range of other items). "Fair Trade" laws are also a good target to attack.

With anyone (except the radical left): show how lower taxes (immediate appeal) puts more money in the hands of consumers and business, demand for goods and services increases. Business hires more workers to produce required goods and services, cutting unemployment. "But won't that cause more inflation?" asks John Doe, No. Because the money is in the hands of efficient businesses now, instead of government bureaucrats, supply goes up even faster. The increased supply in relation to the not-as-much increased

demand forms a natural price-control. In addition the standard of living climbs nicely. In sum - lower taxes brings "prosperous stability."

Above all, (with everyone except the right) we must avoid Hazlitt style reactionary attacks on welfare statism without corresponding broadsides against state monopoly capitalism. Teddy Kennedy is probably going to win the Presidency in 1976 because people are saying "ITT and General Motors are getting everything they way they want it - now's it's time I started getting my share." The Hazlitt approach just feeds into that. We must not be tagged with the conservatives on economics. Libertarian economics is an independent approach unto itself.

*Roger Eisenberg*

## CLUB NEWS

ALBERT JAY NOCK FLPC (Chartered). For further information, call Robert Cohen (212) 762-3203 or Spencer Pinney (212) 886-2623.

BRONX LIBERTARIAN CLUB (BLC) (Chartered). Anyone interested is joining the Bronx Club (membership is not limited to the Bronx), or in attending a meeting are asked to contact Tom Avery at (212) 584-5493.

BROOKLYN LIBERTARIAN PARTY CAUCUS (Chartered). For information contact Gloria Johnson at (212) 768-5892 or Ray Goldfield at (212) 376-4891.

LIBERTARIAN ABORTION ACTION GROUP (LAAG) (Chartered). The Club is devoted exclusively to the abortion issue, but will also be dealing with contraception law repeal, and is open to men as well as women. The next meeting will be on September 24th at the FLP office. For further information, contact Fran Youngstein at (212) 223-4136 (-5) or (212) 249-0172 (evenings).

LIBERTARIAN TAX REBELLION COMMITTEE (LTRC) (Chartered). The LTRC meets the first Monday of every month. We have a number of anti-tax activities being planned. The legalities of tax rebellion are also discussed. Through our affiliation with the National Tax Strike Coalition, we offer memberships which include coverage under the legal defense fund and a monthly newsletter, etc. The newsletter is available separately. Contact Howard Katz at (212) 254-4791 or Kenneth W. Kalcheim at (212) 288-0327.

MID-HUDSON LIBERTARIAN CLUB (MHLCL) (Poughkeepsie) (Chartered). The MHLCL meets every third Thursday of the month at 8 PM at the Unitarian Church; 67 Randolph Avenue. For further information contact Guy Riggs at (914) 462-0613.

FLPRC (Multi-club caucus) plots and conspires fourth Friday of every month at 635 East 11th Street - Apt. 24; New York, N.Y. 10009. (212) 673-6136.

FLP REFORM ASSEMBLY (RA) (all areas). If you will give me a call or drop me a line, I'll demonstrate the need for the RA. Roger Eisenberg; 250 Mamaroneck Avenue; White Plains, N.Y. 10605 or call (914) 949-8030 evenings and Sunday.

FLP GROUP (all areas) (Eventual chartering an open ?): This is the ONLY group or club without a pre-determined function that will be decided by members in time. Contact Roger Eisenberg, address and phone above.



**LIBERTARIAN ANTI-CENSORSHIP COMMITTEE** (Manhattan) (Unchartered) Lobbying efforts are now underway across the country to pass strict "community standards" laws that would, in effect, prevent anyone from reading books or seeing films that are offensive to some. New York City officials are already drafting such legislation, while courageously sending police to break up porno operations that they seem to feel pose greater dangers than other types of crimes. On the state level, the New York State Catholic Committee will make a tough anti-obscenity law "a prime priority at the next legislative session." Join this club and make freedom of choice a prime priority of libertarians. Remember what Richard Nixon said in 1970: "Legalization of pornography would lead to anarchy." The next meeting will be on Monday, August 27th at 7:30 PM at the FLP office. For additional information contact Louis Sicilia at (212) 663-2562 (mornings & evenings after 9).

**LIBERTARIAN EDUCATION ISSUE CLUB (LEIC)** (unchartered). For information contact Noah Fuhrman at (212) 737-8851 or write to him at 35 East 85th Street, New York, N.Y. 10028.

**LIBERTARIAN HUMAN ISSUES GROUP** (unchartered). New Club being formed. We will try to find libertarian solutions to problems such as environmental crisis, discrimination against children, women, minorities, freedom lovers, etc. If interested, call Sheldon Horowitz (212) 320-2167 or (212) 320-1488.

**NASSAU LIBERTARIAN CLUB (NLC)** (unchartered). For further information write P.O. Box 32, West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552 or call Mary Jo Wanzer at (516) 481-6010.

**STATEN ISLAND LIBERTARIAN CLUB (SILC)** (unchartered). For information contact Timothy Killoran at (212) 76-5596.

**SUFFOLK LIBERTARIAN CLUB (SLC)** (unchartered). For further information, contact Richard Lerner at (516) 543-9463 (evenings) or Alex Walker at (516) 924-3794 (home) or (516) 345-4596 (work).

**ATTENTION:** All clubs wishing to place notices in the FLP Newsletter must submit exact written copy by the 20th of the preceeding month. No copy will be accepted over the phone. Clubs that do nothing will find their notices left to the tender mercies of the editor.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Regarding the recent change in control over the Libertarian Victory Fund from seven decision makers to two, we all know that dictatorship is generally less cumbersome and in that sense more efficient than democratic control. But Emma Goldman said it long ago: "There is no greater falcify than the belief that ends and purposes are one thing, while methods and tactics are another."

We nominated candidates to represent FLP principles, not to decide what they are. I doubt that many people contribute anything to our campaign for the benefit of a candidate rather than the FLP and its principles.

Jack Brookner, Treasurer  
Victory Fund Committee

This is written directly after the national convention. The convention was a fabulous, exhilarating experience; but there was one thing about it which left me very upset and depressed: that was the smoking of marijuana which occurred.

Ever since I attended college one thing which has contributed to my alienation from people has been their methods of having fun. For most people an essential ingredient of any kind of fun was getting drunk (smashed, stoned) out of one's mind.

I have never been able to understand this and cannot understand it now. When I want to have fun, I want to be as fully aware of the experience as I can be, both for the current experience of it and the memory of it. It is not that I regard the state of being drunk (or high) as immoral (which I do); it is that I cannot understand the temptation.

In the case of a man who commits a theft or an immorality in the area of sex I condemn the act; but I can understand the temptation. Sex is fun; and money is fun. In such a case I can imagine in my own mind the forces which move such a person. I know what he is thinking; and although I don't approve, I do understand.

But in regard to blanking out one's mind, to distorting one's perception of reality, I do not. I am as tempted to stab a knife into my eye or to stick my hand into a fire as to blank out my mind. My mind is my means of perceiving reality. I cannot conceive of a more horrible torture than to face an unknown universe with no means of discovering its order. In *Oedipus Rex* the story ends with Oedipus blinding himself. It is a horrible fate, signifying more than just physical blindness. This I understand and fear. I do not conceive of the attempt to duplicate this state by marijuana or alcohol as a temptation.

There is an experiment in psychology whereby two mice in separate cages are subjected to electric shocks, one at regular intervals, the other at random. Although the shocks are the same for each mouse, the mouse whose universe is regular maintains his stability; the one whose universe is chaotic breaks down. This mouse I can understand; the pot smoker I cannot.

The only reason I can logically reconstruct for blanking out one's mind is that reality is such a horrible place that removing one's self from it brings a respite from pain. For those people for whom this is true I feel a sense of revulsion (because they will not face their problems) and pity (because their lives must be a kind of hell that I cannot conceive).

I dearly love and respect all of you whom I have come to know through the Party. I do not want to believe that any of you are this kind of person. I try to tell myself that marijuana is smoked in the spirit of defying an immoral law (do it because you are told not to) or to display a "left-wing" image, or for some other stupid, trivial reason.

I know that many Party members are former students of Objectivism who are in rebellion against the up-tight "Randoid" mentality which was so much in evidence during the late 60's. Many others are followers of Dr. Rothbard who has been in rebellion against that mentality since the late 50's. I strongly approve of this rebellion; but one must be careful to distinguish between what is good in Objectivism and what is bad and to retain the former while rejecting the latter.

I did not want to be divisive; but this issue strikes me very deeply. On so many occasions I have wanted to like and respect specific people only to be disillusioned by their further actions. I cannot understand the smoking of marijuana. I cannot put myself in the place of a person who does it. I cannot empathize with him in any way. I hope and pray that the people to whom this letter is addressed will rethink the issue, that they are not the kind of people



who are trying to escape from reality, and that they will see the evil of a drug which has that effect.

Sincerely,  
Howard Katz

Now that we are in the middle of an important petition drive, FLP members are being urged to make every effort to get out on the street to collect signatures. No one needs to be told how vital it is to get on the ballot. The petition drive is crucial, and the work of the various "street-walkers" getting signatures is important.

But amid all the emphasis on "activism," I think there has been a tendency to forget the contributions of those who have little or no time to pound the pavement. There are a number of FLP members who have contributed badly needed funds to make this petition drive possible, and without their help all the "activism" the party can muster would be useless.

There are those who make an effective contribution to the FLP by working, though they cannot afford to give money. There are others who make an effective contribution by donating money when they cannot donate their time. For the most part these financial supporters have been quiet and unassuming. Let us hope they are not forgotten.

Thomas Avery  
FLP Candidate for NYC Comptroller

To My Friends in the FLP:

I thought you'd be interested to know that I am moving to California. Consequently, my official connection with the FLP must end. But my support and admiration will remain with you.

I've been looking back upon my association with the Party: my post on the national Party's Temporary Executive Committee; asking Ed Clark to be the first State Party Chairperson; bringing Guy Riggs and the Party together (they make such a lovely couple!); attending and addressing the state convention ("Pass the No-Doze, please"); my brief tenure recently on the By-Laws Committee ("Andrea, these By-Laws aren't right; they aren't even wrong"). And looking back, I truly regard my involvement in the Party as one of the most worthwhile things I have ever done.

Some of you have been kind enough to tell me that I'll be missed. That's nice to know. But I'd like to remind you that not all libertarians are leaving Poughkeepsie. For instance, there's a fellow named Sandy Cohen. He's out to win in 1974 the Congressional seat presently held by one Hamilton Fish, Jr. Sandy's campaign has been in progress for several months. The Citizens for Cohen are long on enthusiasm; but short on bread. Whether you live in Sandy Cohen's district or not, I hope you'll support his campaign all you can.

My very best wishes to all of you. It's been great. It really has.

Yours for freedom,  
Paul Lepanto

## MISCELLANY

### NYLA MEETINGS

Held the first and third Friday of each month at 8 PM at the Laissez Faire Bookstore in Greenwich Village.

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The *Free Libertarian* costs money to print and mail. And there ain't no such thing as a free newsletter, although there is such a thing as the *Free Libertarian*.

A subscription to the newsletter costs \$4 per year. The newsletter is included in membership fees to all FLP members. Friends of Libertarianism who wish to continue receiving the newsletter on a regular basis are urged to fill out and return the coupon.

## CLASSIFIED

**WANTED:** typists to help the FLP. Work at your office, our office or at home. Contact Andrea Millen (212) 988-7814 or Gary Greenberg (212) 860-2517.

**WANTED:** small refrigerator for the FLP office. Anyone willing to donate or sell cheaply, please contact Ray Strong (212) 982-0127.

**HISTORY IN THE MAKING:** Back issues of the *Free Libertarian*, the FLP newsletter, are available for 50¢ each (except March '73). Get them while they last!

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