THE BASIS OF LIFE.

PROFESSOR LOEB SAYS IT IS ELECTRICITY, NOT HEAT ENERGY.

EXPERIMENTS SAID TO PROVE HIS THEORY —PROFESSOR NOVY'S NEW GERMICIDE.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Professor Jacques Loeb, of the University of Chicago, to-day in a paper read before a section of the American Society of Naturalists made the announcement that he had discovered the physical processes that accompany life, and that electricity, and not heat energy, is the basis of life. He does not claim to have solved the problem of "What is life?" but to have proved a theory which overthrows a fundamental portion of the teachings of text-books on physiology.

"The energy of food stuffs," Professor Loeb said, as a conclusion, "and the motions of heart are not, after all, due to the production of heat, but to the chemical energy in electrically charged molecules," and again he put it this way: "A part of the chemical energy of food stuffs is transformed into electrical energy, which, in turn, gives energy to the muscles and organs of the body."

Dr. Loeb described his experiments with a jellyfish, and explained that when he placed the fish in a solution electrically charged, such as salt, it responded, while, when he subjected it to a solution that was a non-conductor, it did not respond.

Proceeding from further experiments, he found, first, that the muscles contracted rythmically in solutions which had these electrical charges in them, and, second, that the contraction of the muscles depended on the number of charges on the differentions.

The announcement that electricity and not heat is the life energy is the climax of Professor Loeb's famous experiments, which have extended over ten years. He was first led into this line of research by the observation that electricity was able to affect protoplasm in a more universal manner than any other stimulus. He then came to the conclusion that if electricity was able to have such effects in the form of currents it ought to have like results when in the form of "ions." An "ion," he explains, is an atom, or group of atoms, carrying a charge of electricity.

He first set to work to investigate along the lines of parthenogenesis, or artificial reproduction, and discovered that the electric ion was responsible. Then he took up the study of the cause for the rhythmic beat of the heart, and again traced the agent to the same source. When with the aid of Professor A. P. Mathews the same causes were discovered to be behind the secret of nerve action, the series was complete, and the savant's ambition was attained.

"Nerves, consisting of a colloidal solution," Professor Matthews said, "are stimulated by the passage of the colloidal particles from the condition of solution to that of gelation, which change is produced by the action of electrically charged atoms which bear negative charges. The stimulating action of any chemical compound depends on these negative charges; the particles of the nerve are held in solution by positively charged groups of atoms such as sodium, potassium, etc., and the effectiveness of these ions in preventing stimulation varies directly with the number of positive charges they bear.

"By these facts chemical stimulation is shown to be identical with electrical. Whenever in any part of a nerve the negative particles are in excess the nerve is stimulated. All positively charged ions reduce irritability in the nerves; negative increases it."

It was said to-night that, while Dr. Loeb's experiments in prolonging life were important and interesting, thus far they were applicable only in the case of a single animal cell, and therefore of narrow limitation.

Another paper which attracted special attention was that read before the meeting of the Bacteriological Society by Professor F. G. Novy, of the University of Michigan, who made public for the first time the result of his efforts to find a perfect germicide. His results, as reported, were beyond expectations, for he has, it is asserted, discovered an organic peroxide which is absolutely destructive of organic life, and which can be taken into the system by human beings with perfect impunity.

A number of experiments were described by Professor Novy to demonstrate the power of his germicide, which he calls "Benzol." Germs to the number of 1,000,000,000 in saliva were immediately killed. The throat of a diphtheritic dog was sprayed with it, and the dog was cured more speedily than by the anti-toxin treatment. This drug is in the form of volatile crystals which are soluble in water.

In the psychology department Professor Charles S. Minot, of the Harvard Medical School, scouted the doctrine of telepathy as a product of the imagination.

ENCOMIUMS OF HIS ASSOCIATES.

JUDGE LANDON, RETIRING FROM COURT OF APPEALS, COMPLIMENTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THAT BODY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Albany, Dec. 31.—The judges of tht Court of Appeals to-day presented to Judge Judson S. Landon, of Schenectady, who retires from the Court of Appeals after two years' service in that court, a beautiful copy of "Liber Scriptorum." Accompanying this gift was the following note, which was signed by every member of the Court of Appeals:

Albany, December 22, 1901.

Dear Judge Landon: We deeply regret that the expiration of your term of office takes you from our court at the end of the year. Our personal relations have been so pleasant, and your contributions to the unremitting labors of the court have been so helpful, that the thought of losing you is, indeed, very hard to bear. Please accept in this farewell note an expression of our hope that in good health you will live many years to enjoy the consciousness of duty well done during all your thirty-three years of judicial service, as well as the grateful encomium of bench and bar and the public, "Well done, good and faithful servant" of the State.

The members of the Court of Appeals have reason for rejoicing that by their hard and persistent work during the last three years they have largely reduced the number of suits before them. Two years ago at this time they had one thousand suits awaiting consideration. A year ago they had reduced the number to 703 cases. In 1902 the new calendar will contain all the suits before the court, and these number only 450 in all.

It was the belief of Alton B. Parker, the Chief Judge, and his fellow judges that by the addition of two more judges to the Court of Appeals and by pushing action on suits before it the court could catch up with its work. The constitution was amended to give the court an opportunity to test this plan, and, as will be seen by the statement above, the theory was proved correct.

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and Scotch Whiskies have increased very largely in excess of any other year.

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NEW-JERSEY NEWS.

CITY SUED FOR $2,500,000.

PROPERTY OWNERS WANT DAMAGES FROM PATERSON FOR POLLUTION OF PASSAIC RIVER.

Paterson, Dec. 31 (Special).—Suit was begun in the Court of Chancery to-day by Henry W. Doremus and about thirty other property owners on the banks of the Passaic River against the city of Paterson to restrain the city from emptying its sewage into the river, and asking for $2,402,300 damages. It is practically a Passaic City business men's and manufacturers' movement. The complainants comprise nearly all the owners of land on both sides of the river from tidewater, near the city of Passaic, to this city. Some of the sums claimed as damages are: Botany Worsted Company, $500,000; Dundee Woollen Company, $100,000; Andrew McLean Company, $150,000; United States Finishing Company, $500,000; Worthen & Aldrich Company, $100,000; Passaic Woollen Company, $100,000, and P. P. Van Bussum, $123,000.

The bill is a voluminous document, and was compiled by R. V. Lindabury and Steward Depue. They have spent a long time in gathering the data. About four years ago Samuel R. Phillips and the city of Jersey City started a suit against Paterson to restrain the latter from emptying its sewage into the Passaic River, which, it was claimed, was thereby polluted. Chancellor McGill granted the injunction, but the Court of Errors and Appeals reversed the decree, holding that Paterson could not be stopped in that way from disposing of its sewage.

The decision of the court hinted that the only redress was by a suit for damages, and the suit now started seems to have taken that cue.

PULLING WIRES IN CAMDEN.

MANY CONFERENCES THERE, BUT THE SITUATION NO CLEARER.

Camden, N. J., Dec. 31 (Special)—It was the opinion of the many well known Republicans here to-day that the political situation in the State was full of possibilities. Of candidates for United States Senator there seemed to be a-plenty this afternoon, as the leaders of the Republican hosts gathered in the rooms of the Republican Club to look over the field.

Up the street a bit there was another gathering with a little more weight, but a little more of the sphinx like character. Attorney General Grey had invited the men who made up the list of honorary pallbearers at the funeral of Senator Sewell to be his guests. There Governor Voorhees, ex-Attorney General Griggs, Senator Kean, State Assessor Baird, Chancery Clerk Stokes and several other State leaders were in conference with the visitors. When the latter had departed there was some desultory talk of the situation, but, according to one who was present, nothing of value nor anything definitely bearing upon the political situation was brought up.

Mr. Griggs and Mr. Stokes, who have been considered as candidates to succeed General Sewell, had some words of an informal character, but neither asked the other for his support, nor did either say what he expected to do. In view of the recent death of General Sewell it may be some days before the situation can be sized up with any clearness. At present the candidates seem to be John W. Griggs, David S. Baird, Barker Gummere, John F. Dryden, Edward C. Stokes, possibly, and John J. Gardner.

There may be others in the list, but they will not figure, according to those who seem to understand the situation.

MARK M. FAGAN'S APPOINTMENTS.

REPUBLICANS AND INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS IN THE LIST—THE FORMER WILL HAVE MAJORITIES IN IMPORTANT BOARDS.

Mark M. Fagan will become Mayor of Jersey City at noon to-day. He announced his appointments yesterday. In the list are a number of Democrats of the anti-machine stripe, who earnestly supported Mr. Fagan during the campaign. The appointees are: William F. Ely, Republican, City Treasurer; George R. Hough, Independent Democrat, City Controller; John Mitchell, Republican, Police Commissioner; Frank Angel, Republican, Fire Commissioner; Thomas J. Degnan, Independent Democrat, Tax Commissioner; Oliver H. Perry and Hugh H. Abernethy, Republicans, Finance Commissioners; E. B. Bacon and Edward Fry, Republicans, and Edward L. Dowling and John O'Brien, Democrats, Excise Commissioners; Andrew Knox and John H. Weastell, Republicans, and James Connolly, Appeals Commissioners; Charles Merker and Frederick Frambach, Republicans, and Richard Connolly, Independent Democrat, Assessment Commissioners; William H. Simmons, Republican, Sinking Fund Commissioner; Robert Carey, Republican, Assistant Corporation Attorney; John A. Walker, Republican, Free Public Library trustee; Directors of Education, Henry C. Klute, Democrat; John F. Moran, Democrat; John H. Ward, Republican; Lipman P. Lyons, Republican; Herbert Stratford, Republican; Dr. Murray E. Ramsay, Republican; Charles D. Ridgway, Republican; John Gilmore, Democrat; Julius Berger, Independent Democrat, and Dr. Benjamin Edge, Democrat.

Ward and Berger are members of the present board. The holdovers in this board are William A. Lewis and James C. Egbert, Republicans, and John A. Tracey, Democrat. The Mayor's private secretary will be Joseph A. O'Connor, and the clerk of the Mayor's office will be Stephen J. Fitzgerald. The police board, fire board, finance board, appeals board, assessment board and school board will have Republican majorities.

FIVE GENERATIONS TO GATHER.

FATHER AND GREAT-GRANDCHILD OF WOMAN MARRIED FIFTY YEARS TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY.

East Orange, Dec. 31 (Special).—A golden wedding anniversary celebration at which five generations will be present will be held to-morrow night at the home of Mrs. William Ballentine, No. 10 McKinley-ave., East Orange, for her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William B. McMurtry. They were married on New Year's Eve, 1851, but deferred the celebration of the golden wedding until to-morrow. Mr. McMurtry is seventy-four years old, and Mrs. McMurtry is five years his junior. The chief guest will be Mrs. McMurtry's father, Ferdinand Van Doren, of Basking Ridge, who is ninety-five years old. Other guests will be Mr. and Mrs. McMurtry's four children, fourteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

MRS. HOBART GIVES LAND.

PROPERTY AND MONEY PRESENTED TO CHILDREN'S DAY NURSERY AS MEMORIAL FOR HER DAUGHTER.

Paterson, Dec. 31 (Special).—Mrs. Jennie T. Hobart, widow of Vice-President Hobart, to-day gave to the board of managers of the Paterson Children's Day Nursery the plot of land at Grand and Hamilton sts., which was recently purchased by her for this purpose. Mrs. Hobart gives, in addition to the land, $25,000 to build and furnish a modern building suitable to the needs of the nursery.

This gift is a memorial for the daughter of Mrs. Hobart, who died in Italy while on a visit to that country with her parents about six years ago. The gift was formally made at a meeting of the directors of the nursery this afternoon, and a resolution of thanks was promptly adopted. Mr. Hobart left to the nursery $5,000 in his will.

BACK BROKEN; LIVED SIXTEEN MONTHS.

HOLBROOK MANN, HURT WHILE DIVING IN 1900, DIES.

Orange, Dec. 31 (Special).—Holbrook Mann, the eighteen-year-old son of the Rev. Charles H. Mann, Editor of "The New Church Messenger," who broke his spinal cord while diving at Bailey Island, Me., in August, 1900, and has since been entirely paralyzed, died on Sunday. His funeral was conducted privately at his father's home, No. 155 William-st., Orange, this afternoon.

The accident which caused his death occurred at his father's summer home, when the lad dived into the water, which was too shallow. Although his life was despaired of he began to improve and was able to be brought home a few weeks later. Several pieces of the shattered spinal column were removed, and last summer the lad was able to go to Maine again. He was able to move his hands a trifle, but gradually grew weaker.

U. S. LIFE INSURANCE COMPAY'S REPORT.

The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New-York, No. 277 Broadway, has made public its fifty-second annual statement, which is for the year just ended. The total of the balance sheet is $8,478,559 48, with a surplus as regards policyholders of $612,558 23. In 1901 dividends, death claims, matured endowments, etc., to the amount of $1,042,176 54, were paid to policyholders. An increase in insurance in force, assets, surplus and new business is announced for the last year.

SPORTS AND SPORTSMEN.

FIRST BICYCLE RACE.

ANNUAL CONTEST TO YONKERS AND TARRYTOWN STARTED AT MIDNIGHT —A RACE TO CONEY ISLAND.

Many of the hardy road riders about New-York have been preparing for several days to take part in one of the three races which took place last night. While all of them saw the old year out standing on the ground, they were in their saddles speeding away to some special point on the birth of the new year. The annual race of the Associated Cycling Clubs of New-York was started a few seconds after midnight at Fifty-ninth-st. and Eighth-ave. Most of the officials of the organization were present, and a mighty cheer went up as the pistol was fired sending the riders off on their trip to Yonkers and Tarrytown. The first rider at Yonkers received a bottle of wine and a medal, and the same conditions prevailed at Tarrytown. The clubs to which the riders belonged will receive banners.

Over in Brooklyn there was a goodly number of wheelmen present at Bedford Rest, where two races were started at midnight. While the wind blew out of the northwest with considerable force, the riders did not seem to mind this handicap. Several of them have made similar trips in a snowstorm. The roads last night were dry and crisp, and most of the riders were confident that they would make excellent time. Special prizes are offered for the races in Brooklyn as well as the one from Fifty-ninth-st.

Promptly at a minute after midnight the wheelmen left Fifty-ninth-st. and the Boulevard last night in their annual ride and race to Yonkers and Tarrytown. Starter Gerberoux had no trouble in getting the men in line, and at the flash they were off like the wind. H. Y. Bedell, the winner for two years, was among the starters, and he said that he had an excellent chance to capture the prize, providing he met with no accidents. Among the starters were George Holhaver, Prospect Wheelmen; J. W. Kelley, Century Road Club Association; Morris Stafford, Prospect Wheelmen; "Al" Cahn, Prospect Wheelmen; R. E. Wagner, Royal Arcanum Wheelmen; B. Bammerman, Century Wheelmen; W. G. Rank, Century Wheelmen; George Gillies, Century Wheelmen; R. A. Vandyke, Century Road Club Association; G. Laurie, Century Road Club Association, and H. Mander, Century Road Club Association.

The first rider to arrive at Yonkers was Bedell, who made the trip from Fifty-ninth-st. in exactly 50 minutes. Bedell had a desperate brush with Cahn all the way and beat him out by only ten seconds.

The vicinity of Bedford Rest, Brooklyn, always a popular rendezvous for wheelmen in summer, last night looked as if the craze for bicycle riding had broken out with startling fury. The Century Road Club started one race from the Rest to Coney Island and return over the Coney Island Cycle Path at midnight. The distance is about sixteen miles, and a record ride was anticipated when the thirty-two men were sent on their journey. Among the starters was Ernest Gerlott, the winner of the Coney Island Handicap last summer. On the way down to the island the wheels seemed fairly to fly, for the riders had the wind to their back, and it was reported that all went through safely. The return trip was directly in the teeth of the gale, and only the seasoned riders were able to keep within sight of the racing men.

The Coney Island race was won by about three lengths by W. B. Ferguson, with Ernest Gerlott second and G. R. Perden third. The time was 51 minutes. The others straggled in for half an hour.

About a minute after the first bunch of riders had been sent off the annual race to Valley Stream held under the auspices of the Century Road Club Association was started. John M. Wall was the starter, and as most of the nineteen men who mounted their wheels were racing men the starter had no trouble. "Gus" Erloff, the twotime winner of this race, did not appear. Among those who did and who are picked as possible winners by the officials were Henry Veit, D. M. Britton and E. Palmer.

CHESS.

PENNSYLVANIA AND CORNELL DIVIDE HONORS IN SECOND ROUND OF THE INTERCOLLEGIATE MATCH.

Some deceptive chess was played in the second round of the match for the championship of the triangular chess league and the Rice Cup between Cornell and Pennsylvania at the Manhattan Chess Club yesterday. The contestants were Riedel, Cornell, against Addleman, Pennsylvania, and Heuser, Cornell, against Pardee, Pennsylvania. The first hour's play produced nothing unconventional on the first board, but right afterward Riedel tried to force things by a brilliant sacrifice, which netted him two pawns for a piece and an attack, which made him look like a winner. Expectations, however, were foiled, when white on the eighteenth move brought about a needless exchange of pieces, which further allowed black to castle into safety. Addleman then turned the table upon his adversary, and with a few well directed strokes disorganized white's position, winning ultimately a second piece and the game after thirty-two moves.

Heuser also tried to run away with his opponent, but his premature attempt at a checkmate cost him a piece, which he recovered in course of time. His game, however, was far from satisfactory, as he was a pawn behind. The change came with black's thirty-first move, which enabled Heuser to win a rook by a brilliant sally, and on the forty-fourth move Pardee surrendered. The records to date follow:

	Won.	Lost.		Won.	Lost.
Cornell	2½	1½	Pennsylvania	1½	2½

The individual scores are:

CORNELL.	Won.	Lost.	PENNSYLVANIA.	Won.	Lost.
Heuser	1½	½	Addleman	1½	½
Riedel	1	1	Pardee	0	2
Totals	2½	1½	Totals	1½	2½

The third round will be played in the following order to-day: Pardee, Pennsylvania, vs. Riedel, Cornell, and Heuser, Cornell, vs. Addleman, Pennsylvania.

BOXING.

M'GOVERN TO MEET SULLIVAN IN FEBRUARY—A BITTER FIGHT EXPECTED.

"Terry" McGovern and "Dave" Sullivan will meet before the Yosemite Athletic Club of San Francisco in the second week of February. This was agreed upon yesterday at a meeting of the fighters and their managers. "Jim" Kennedy, representing the Yosemite Club, offered 55 per cent of the gross receipts, which was satisfactory to both men.

Both fighters have already begun training for the fight, and it is expected that the match will be a bitter one, as there has been bad feeling between the men for some time. It is also said that McGovern will devote more time to training in this bout than he did when he fought "Young Corbett."

JEFFRIES'S OFFER TO FITZSIMMONS.

In regard to Fitzsimmons's statement that Jeffries did not notify him of his challenge before making his match with Sharkey, the champion, who is in Chicago, said yesterday: "I will do for Fitzsimmons a little better than he did for me. When I fought him I only got 25 per cent of the purse, win, lose or draw. He took 75 per cent. Now, if he is willing to fight, and Delaney's contract with Sharkey permits it, he can secure the championship if he beats me, and, in addition, he can have 65 per cent of the purse. If he loses I will give him 35 per cent of the purse." Jeffries adds that he will fight Fitzsimmons for $50,000 under these conditions.

HOCKEY IN BROOKLYN.

BEDFORDS DEFEAT THE NAVAL RESERVE TEAM AT THE CLERMONT AVENUE RINK.

There was a large attendance at the Clermont Avenue Rink, in Brooklyn, last night to witness the opening game in the Intermediate League championship between the Bedford Athletic Club and the Naval Reserve teams. Halves of twenty minutes were played, and the contest was close and exciting throughout, the result being uncertain until the blast of the referee's whistle. The playing was so even in the first half that neither side succeeded in sending the puck into the net.

In the second half the Bedfords proved themselves to be the better stayers, and, outplaying their rivals in this half, scored two goals, and won the game. The Bedford forwards were particularly aggressive toward the end of the game, and W. Blake twice shot goals, assisted by Armstrong, leaving the score: Bedfords, 2; Naval Reserve, 0. The teams played as follows:

Bedford A. C.	Positions.	Naval Reserves.
Burke	Goal	Kellum
Shayleer	Point	Dorsett
Boland	Coverpoint	Pearsall
W. Blake	Forward	G. Cooke
C. Blake	Forward	O. D. Cooke
Wilkerson	Forward	Gayland
Armstrong	Forward	Holton

Score—Bedford A. C., 2; Naval Reserves, 0. Goals—W. Blake, 2. Time—Halves of twenty minutes. Referee—P. G. McMasters. Umpires—Dunn and Blatz.

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GOLF.

HOLIDAY MATCHES ON MANY LINKS—FOX HILLS TEAM AT ATLANTIC CITY.

There will be plenty of holiday cheer at local golf clubs to-day. At Baltusrol arrangements have been made for a members' handicap at eighteen holes, medal play, for prizes presented by the club. The new annex containing the bowling alleys and squash courts will be formally opened by a series of games, starting at 2 p. m.

At the Scarsdale Golf Club there will be a holiday handicap for members, the prizes to include a set of golf clubs and a caddie bag. Local players will also figure prominently at Lakewood and Atlantic City, where attractive tournaments have been announced for those who are accustomed to spend the holiday at these resorts. The Golf Club of Lakewood will hold a men's handicap, and the Country Club, a women's handicap, while at the Atlantic City links there will be a team match between the Fox Hills and Atlantic City teams. It will be the first occasion on which Louis Livingston, jr., the newly elected captain, will formally head the Fox Hills team.

"Alec" Finlay, professional at the Newark Athletic Club, has offered a prize for a members' competition at the Newark links, while at the Yountakah Country Club, of Nutley, two cups will be disposed of on lines similar to those which governed the Christmas Day tournament there. Other contests include play at the Dyker Meadow, Nassau, East Orange and Crescent Athletic Club links.

BROOKLYN'S NEW GOLF CLUB.

The list of Brooklyn golfing organizations is to be increased next season by the Eastern Parkway Golf Club, which is already at work laying a nine-hole course. George Low, professional at the Dyker Meadow Golf Club, is mapping out the links, which will be bounded by New-York and Albany aves., the Eastern Parkway and Malbone-st. The aggregate playing length is to be 2,850 yards. The membership list already includes a number of members of the Union League Club of Brooklyn, for whom the course is primarily designed.

Abel E. Blackmar, ex-president of the Union League, is president of the club; James Ross, secretary, and Frederick W. Rowe, treasurer. The executive committee is composed of Horace W. Carleton, William J. Gilpin, Clarence W. Seamans, Eugene G. Blackford, Elihu Dwight, Wesley S. Black, Charles E. Newton, Simon B. Rothschild, Joseph M. Bacon, Charles G. Street, Russell Parker and W. E. Pulsifer. The lay of the land is much like that at Fox Hills, combining a series of small hillocks bare of trees and with a good natural turf. The club will build a small clubhouse, on which work is to be started at once.

FOULIS GOING ABROAD.

James Foulis, head professional of the Chicago Golf Club, has sailed for Scotland for a three months' visit to his old home. David Foulis, his brother, will remain in charge of the club's links, nine holes of which are to be kept open throughout the winter. "Willie" Smith and David Bell, professionals at the Midlothian Country Club, near Chicago, have been engaged for another year, ending November 1, 1902.

INTERCOLLEGIATE LACROSSE OFFICERS.

The Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association has elected officers as follows: President, Cyrus C. Miller, Columbia; vice-president, Reginald H. Starr, Harvard; secretary, Orville J. Waring, Pennsylvania; treasurer, George A. Smith, Cornell.

BOSTON GETS CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The Amateur Athletic Union has awarded to the Boston Athletic Association the two mile running championship for the games to be held at Boston on February 8. The Massachusetts Sportsmen's Association has been awarded the indoor swimming championships at 60, 80, 100, 120, 200 and 300 yards, which will take place at Boston from February 22 to March 15.

RELAY RACE AT GARDEN.

One of the most important features of the Knickerbocker Athletic Club's meet which is to be held at the Garden on February 3 is the match relay race for one mile between the West Side Young Men's Christian Association, of this city, and the New-York Military Academy, of Peekskill.

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