LETTER FROM MANILA

Fred Soule Writes an Interesting Epistle to His Brother George.

SPEAKS OF THE BATTLES

He Being in the Thickest of Them. Good Work Done by Uncle Sam's Boys.

No writer can picture the battles as they are and have been better than the brave soldier boys who have been in the middle and thickest of them. One of these soldiers who writes a letter that all delight in reading, is Fred Soule of this city, who is one of Uncle Sam's brave boys in Manila. The following letter was recently received by his brother, George Soule, and thinking some of our people might be intersted we are permitted to publish it:

"Manila, Philippine Islands, Feb. 14, 1899.—My Dear Brother George: I wrote a few lines to Kittie and father a few days ago to let them know I was all right, so now as I have a few leisure hours I shall try and give you the details of the fight up to date. The ball commenced to roll on Saturday night, the 4th, at about 8:45; it was started by a company of the South Dakota regiment and was soon taken up all along the line. Our position was at a place called Paco, near the southeast of the city, under General King (the great writer), and as fine a soldier as ever fought a battle. The Washington regiment was at the firing line at this time, so we laid all night in the Paco churchyard waiting for daylight, while Mauser bullets whizzed over our heads with a ping, ping, and made all kinds of music. This night two of the boys in my company got hit, one in the arm and the other in the groin, and the poor fellow died before he got to the hospital. This Paco church is very large, as all of them are, and the walls are from eight to ten feet thick; in fact, they are nothing more or less than jails, forts and arsenals, and are a curse to the country, and were all built by and under the Spanish rule. We were just going over a wall about six feet high, with our back to the church, when an awful fire was poured into us by the natives who were in the church, but only one man was hit. It is a great wonder we were not all killed while we slept, for it could have been done as easy as falling off a log. We at once set the church on fire and opened up our battery on it, and in a very short time what had been a fine church was a smoking mass of ruins. After we had fired the church, the insurgents came out with the white flag, but we did not recognize it. Every one was shot or burned. One of the priests came out with a baby in his arms, but he got a big chunk of lead for his trouble. Every bamboo shack from here on to the block house (over a mile) was full of sharpshooters and all were set afire and the natives were either killed or taken prisoners. We got to the bridge at the block house and three companies were deployed to the right of the road and companies B, C and G made a charge across the bridge and to the left under a most terrific fire from the insurgents. We had to ford three different streams neck deep and had a cross fire coming from five sides. Our aim was to get two Krupp guns the insurgents had, and we got them. If they had been any good on the shot not one of us would have ever got out alive, but the devil himself could not have stopped us. General King had us recalled a number of times, but our major nor the men did not heed it; all were after our game. The charge was about three-quarters of a mile and it took all of a man's power to make it. We had five wounded and three killed in this. After we had carried our last trench our major was shot twice, his left arm was broken all to pieces at the muscle and he was shot through the center of the breast. I staid with him on the field, with our adjutant and lieutenant, and we did all we could for him, but he died at 2 p. m. Before his death he was breveted brigadier general for his bravery, so you can imagine what kind of a charge we made. I had a number of very close calls while I was with him, for the sharpshooters tried to pick me off, but did not seem to catch me. Generals Anderson and King, our division and brigade commanders, say it was one of the most gallant and dare-devil charges they ever saw or heard tell of, for we only had about 140 men in the three companies. We killed about 150 here and took eighty-four prisoners, besides the two 3.2 Krupp guns and plenty of ammunition. We staid here this night and the next day advanced on Santa Anna, which we took, and San Pedro, still farther up the Pasig river. On the following day two more towns were taken between the California, Washington and Idaho regiments. General Anderson asked General King how his Idaho warriors were getting along and he told him all right, but that they were more than warriors, they were savages.

"On Thursday we were taken from the First division, Major General Anderson and Brigadier General King, and put in the Second division, under Major General MacArthur and Brigadier General Otis. Friday we went with the Kansas and Montana regiments and took another town, Caloocan, fifteen miles north of Manila. Here we had a hot fight, but were assisted by "Uncle George Dewey," but we took the town like a damn, and sure killed Indians galore. Here in this battle Lieutenant Colonel Wallace of the Montana regiment was wounded. This place was one of their strongholds, but not strong enough for the American boys, of course. As we go along everything is set afire and burned to the ground. At present we have got the town of Malabon at our mercy and surrounded and can take it any time, but they are letting our forces rest and giving the English people a chance to get out. At present our lines cover about thirty miles of country and are getting kind of weak. We can hold our own, though, for the present, but I don't think we will go much farther until the other troops come. At Caloocan we struck the railroad and have got it in operation now into Manila, so we get all of our rations out quick and also take the killed and wounded in this way. The natives killed most of the engines, but as we have all kinds of mechanics we soon had them alive again. We have Anaconda engineers and trainmen.

"Say, if anyone ever tells you the boys form Montana can't fight, hit him in the nose; also the Idahos, or in fact any regiment in the Eighth army corps. The insurgents do not savvy our system of fighting. They say we don't fight fair, for we go on the charge and take their trenches. They all shoot very high, but make a better and harder fight than the Spaniards ever dared make. They are very treacherous and use the knife with awful results. They killed a doctor out of the Utah battery and cut him all to pieces; also two California boys.

"I saw Will Shearer and Switzer. They are both O. K. and I was glad to see them. Every native soldier has from two to three men following him and as soon as he falls one of them picks up his gun and goes with it, so we have not as yet captured as many small arms as we should, but we have them in a bottle now and they can't get out. We have four 4-inch vitrol mortars trained on the town of Malabon and will burn it as soon as they commence action again. It is a fine town and it seems almost a shame to destroy it, but it can't be helped. Auginaldo has lost all control over his army, so he says, but Otis told him he would take care of them and learn them a lesson.

"Between Malabon and Malolos there are four more towns that will have to be taken. You see Malolos is the seat of the insurgent government, and if they do not surrender I suppose this war will not end till we get there, but I don't see how he can keep it up much longer, for he is running low in ammunition and food and they are killed off by the thousands and we have about 4,000 prisoners.

"Our regiment was brought home on the railroad Monday for a few days' rest, as we have been hard at it ever since it began, and all are about worn out. I am proud of my officers and all of the men and can say we have been in every hard fought battle and took everything before us. Not many, if any, of the other regiments carried their flag or colors with them, but we did, and it is full of holes, too. Our company is the color company, so we had the most fire directed on us. I guess that is how we lost so heavy, but we all stand with the flag, and you ought to see them cheer when we came up. Say, it would do your heart good.

"They say war is hell, and you can bet it is. It is awful to see these poor old native men and women with their little ones; no shelter, clothes or food, homes burned to the ground, sitting around with bowed head in their hands, not knowing where to go or what to do for something to eat. Soon an American soldier comes along, gives them coffee, hard tack and canned meats. Oh, how thankful they are! They can't make it out why we do it. All of the prisoners that are brought into camp expect to be shot and the first thing they do is to get down on their knees and pray for mercy. But they are tickled to death when they are well fed and find out that they will not be hurt. It is the same with the wounded on the field; their wounds are dressed and they are taken to the hospitals and taken care of. Then they say that Aguinaldo is 'mucho mallo' (no go). Poor devils, they were forced to fight, most of them, through fear of him. Most of them wear medals given them by the church and were told if they wore them they would not get hurt or killed. After they are wounded how they tear them off and say 'mucho mallo.' Christianity is all right in its place, but when you pump it into American soldiers through church windows, out of Mauser and Remington rifles it don't go. No matter where you go or in what direction you look, you see a church, and you can make up your mind it is a fort, full of the enemy. Our batteries are at once turned on them and they are driven out. Then the fun begins. It is just like jack rabbit hunting. In Caloocan we got one six-inch muzzle loading gun, but they never got to use it on us. They had one four-inch rapid fire here, but got away with it on the cars. They left the carriage. When we make an advance we do it quick and they have to run like hell or we get them. We have captured three of the hill tribe. They are called the wild natives and wear long hair, use the bow and arrow, also the knife, and are savages.

"As far as this war is concerned, the boys are all willing to quit and go home, for it is very hard and tiresome work. We have to pack our 150 rounds of smokeless, blanket shelter tent, poncho and dishes, and it is hard in the sun. Hundreds fall out on the lines of march from the heat and exhaustion—just can't go any farther. The hospitals are full, but are in fine running order and not any of the wounded are in any serious condition. Our clothing and quartermaster departments are up-to-date and there is plenty of good grub. The field hospital corps is all right, all in the Eighth army corps is all right and there is no kick. I can't tell you any more war news now."

MUSSELSHELL EVENTS.

Numerous News Briefs Recorded from the Northern Country.

Special Correspondence of The Gazette.

Musselshell, April 4. — Notwithstanding the disagreeable weather there was quite a large turnout at the school meeting held last Saturday at the Fattic creek school house. Miss Helen Byerly was elected to succeed W. H. Smithey, whose term is about to expire.

W. N. Taylor was elected road supervisor for district No. 9, in Yellowstone county.

School will begin at the Fattic school house for a five months' term on Monday, April 10, with Miss Grace Tinsley as teacher.

McVey Bros. of Roundup will move their sawmill to the vicinity of the Gordon & Ostrander ranch on Fattic creek, where they will arrange to saw out a large quantity of lumber, having already received several large orders.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. George Hammond of Buffalo creek, Sunday, March 26. Mother and child at last accounts were doing well.

George Walker of Hawk creek returned last week from a pleasant winter's visit at his old home in Edinburgh, Scotland. He was accompanied upon his return by George A. Smith and W. P. Harper, also of Edinburgh, who contemplate locating here and engaging in the stock business.

Will McCormick, the energetic rustler for Donovan & Spear of Billings, was doing business in this section last week.

Stockmen, a number of whom thought they were going to be able to carry a little hay over for another winter, are gazing at the depleted, diminutive piles of what were once large hay stacks. They are congratulating each other, however, that the stock losses, considering the unusually lengthy winter, are light and the end surely near.

Miss Elizabeth Grierson of Rancher postoffice, on the Yellowstone river, who taught school in this neighborhood a few years ago, and who has numerous friends in this section, is visiting a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace at the crossing and will remain until after the coming Friday night social dance.

F. W. Handel has returned from a week's trip to Custer station, where the superintended the unloading and forwarding of three cars of merchandise, consisting principally of wagons, farm implements, barb wire, etc., for the rapidly increasing business of the firm of Handel Bros.

J. E. Edwards, the popular Junction City merchant, made a flying business trip to Gilt Edge last week, going and returning by stage.

Owen Couchman, the young man who unfortunately lost one of his legs in a sawmill on Flatwillow last fall, returned from Lewistown, where he had been under treatment ever since his accident. After visiting his relatives in this vicinity, he left for Helena the fore part of last week.

COURT ADJOURNS.

Will Meet on Thursday of Next Week. Criminal Cases Set.

Court will adjourn tonight until next Thursday, Judge Loud having decided to take a recess after setting the following criminal cases for trial:

State vs. Frank Savaresy, case set for trial April 13 at 9 a. m.

State vs. Frank Quinn, disturbing the peace, appeal is dismissed on motion of county attorney.

State vs. August Schroeder, assault in first degree. Defendant plead not guilty. Case set for April 17 at 9 a. m. F. H. Hathhorn retained as his counsel.

State vs. August Schroeder, grand larceny. Defendant plead not guilty. Case set for April 15 at 9 a. m. F. H. Hathhorn appears as attorney for defendant.

State vs. H. Newman, forgery. J. B. Herford appointed as defendant's attorney. Case set for April 17.

State vs. Anthony Cosgriff, assault in second degree. F. H. Hathhorn appears as defendant's attorney. Case set for April 21.

On Wednesday Judge Loud granted a divorce to Sophia A. Hart from George L. Hart on the grounds of desertion and non-support and one to Isabelle Smith from Harvey Smith on the ground of extreme cruelty. In the latter instance the plaintiff was given the custody of the daughter Elizabeth Smith, aged 12 years.

A new trial has been granted in the case of Charles Coffman vs. Geo. A. Berky, as sheriff on the motion of the defendant.

In the case of Myron D. Jeffers vs. Lung Kong and Lewis Covington, judgment was rendered for $7,378.

TO HANG MAY TWELFTH.

Calder and Fisher Will Pay Penalty of Their Crimes Then.

William Calder and Eli Fisher, who were convicted at Lewistown of murdering Farquhar McRae and John Allen, have been sentenced to hand May 12. Notice of a motion for a new trial has been entered in each case, which will not be heard until next term of court at Lewistown. As the next term will not begin until May 20, it is expected that Governor Smith will reprieve the prisoners until an opportunity for a hearing on the motion for a new trial can be had. In the event of the motion for a new trial being overruled, an appeal will be taken to the supreme court, and should the latter act promptly and sustain the refusal for a new trial, the execution would probably take place some time in July, but until that time it is likely that the necks of the two condemned men will be safe.

Public School Notes.

Items of Interest to Parents and Patrons from the Various Grades.

Special attention is called to the Irving birthday programme given by the Irving Rhetorical society at the high school next Friday afternoon. This is the last of the regular rhetorical programmes of the year, and all are urged to be present.

* * *

	Number Enrolled.	Average Attendance.	Average Belonging.	Per Cent of Attendance.	Tardiness.	Days Absence.	Visitors.
Miss Evans	32	29.6	31.2	97.8	1	25.	36
Miss Phillips	22	19.9	21.4	98.4	4	19.5	2
Miss Hood	46	42.	43.	98.	0	17.5	0
Miss Edwards	60	52.	54.4	96.	3	36.	4
Miss Pilcher	58	47.9	50.	95.7	1	44.	2
Miss Hayden	42	41.5	42.	98.8	1	10	12
Miss Carns	54	44.4	46	96.3	3	32.5	3
Miss Crawford	47	42.5	43.5	97.8	2	19	1
Miss Reynolds	49	41.5	44.4	93.6	12	30.	6
Mrs. Foster	40	36.4	37.3	97.3	3	20.	5
Total	445	397.	413.	97.	29	233.	74

Honor Roll, High School, Miss Sara R. Evans, Teacher.—Jessie Ralisback, Josie Terrell, Ellen Stebbins, Mabel Salsbury, Minnie Weller, Rob Schmudlach, Clara Schmudlach, Cecil Brockway, Trudence Miller, Harriet Stebbins.

Roll of Honor, Primary Grade, North Side, Mrs. Cora G. Foster, Teacher.—Agnes Burton, Mamie Crowe, Gertrude Hannah, Frances Rinehart, Beatrice Smith, Bessie Ten Eyck, Harry Chapple, Mary Friend, Charlie Mann, Joseph Nelson, Johnnie O'Donnell, Marie Segur, Myrtle Weber, Nicholas Weber, Walter Haynes, May Morley, Jessie White, Lottie White.

Roll of Honor, Room 2, North Side, Miss H. A. Crawford, Teacher.—Lelah Allen, Frank Allen, Genevieve Boardman, Vera Bullard, Henry Berky, Willie Brown, Julia Bennighoff, Chas. Burton, Chas. Crowe, Robert Clement, Madge Fenske, Leo Heffner, Carla Haynes, Valentine Lechner, Maude Lane, Harry Mann, Norman Ryan, Hill Rinehart, Geo. Salsbury, Marguerite Smith, Willard Salsbury, Clarence Slebrede, Clair Todd, Olive Ten Eyck, Ben Tompkins, Geo. Trieschman, Winnie Wheeler, Harold Williams.

Roll of Honor, Third and Fourth Grades, North Side, Miss E. L. Hayden, Teacher.—Lizzie Barstow, Frank Connelly, Madge Hungerford, Helen Herford, Whitney Herford, Fred Lechner, Anna McCormick, Ethel Newton, Alma Robbins, Maud Segur, Ira Salsbury, Ned Townsend, Neva Todd, Lester Zimmerman, Fanny Brown, Willie Clanton, Mary Hill, Clarence Hutchinson, Ruth Linton, Woodson Moss, Helen Rowley, Maud Smart, Ralph White, Cassius White, George Hubbard.

Roll of Honor, Room 4, North Side, Miss Mae Edwards, Teacher.—Esther Bouton, Edna Cardwell, Gertrude Carwile, Walter Chrysler, Edna Carwford, Anna Dunne, Marie Hannah, Lucy Hawks, Wm. Parker, Alice Radcliff, Edna Railsback, Arthur Salsbury, Alice Shaw, Lucile Vaughan, Annie Winnett, Amy Bennighoff, Eva Berky, Ray Barton, Albert Clanton, Gertrude Crowe, Jennie Crowe, Myrtle Hammond, Lyle Hungerford, Frank Robbins, Harry Segur, Clara Spear, Mabel Stebbins, Max Zimmerman, Carl Wells.

Roll of Honor, Room 4, South Side, Miss Ella H. Hood, Teacher.—Harry Davis, Mary Garrity, Vera Frizelle, Vinnie Burton, Orley Nelson, Robie Holmes, Arthur Barth, Perlie Linton, Harold Stull, Lillie Schmudlach, Lena Austin, James Carwile, Warren Grunwell, Roy Matheson, Dora Rademaker, Catherine Wiliams, Roy Nelson, Addie Goulding, Amy Rademaker, Birdy Szitnick, Josie Lavigne, Arthur Ovren, Oscar Davis.

Roll of Honor, Eighth Grade, Miss Phillips, Teacher. — Roscoe Allen, George Baker, Charles Hoe, Lillie Linton, Lulu Railsback, Edith Lavigne. Many whose deportment was satisfactory missed a half day or a whole day.

Roll of Honor, South Primary, Miss Lillian Reynolds, Teacher.—Neil Graham, Philip Dilley, Olive Roush, Ernest Ashbaugh, Georgie Davison, Jesse Andrus, Katie Ray, Louise O'Donnell, Nelle Toole, Morris Ranger, Edna Dunne, Abbie Deckert, Claud Owens, Carl Huckleberry, Deoss McBride, Florence Schmudlach, Jessie Ray, Mabel Eastman, Norman Nelson, Myrtle Hall, Percy Lavigne, Tamon Ingalls, Frank Hudlow.

Roll of Honor, Room 2, South Side, Miss Laura B. Carns, Teacher.—Tom Clarke, Willie Davis, Violet Davidson, Bernice Deckert, Robert Foster, Walter Graham, Thos. Halsteadt, Chrissie Hoe, Ned Hood, Rufus Sawyer, Mary Shearwood, Ruby Tomlinson, Myrtle Tschudy, Florence Wilson, Arthur Ashbaugh, Gracie Awe, Robert Huckleberry, Mae Kennedy, Mannie Murphy, Helene O'Donnell, Thos. Roark, Lottie Schock, Edmund Summers, Frankie Swim, Edith Szitnick, Harry Wilson.

Roll of Honor, Fifth Grade, Miss Jane E. Pilcher, Teacher.—Earle Frizelle, Mabel Hoe, Ethel Hanserd, Ole Hoyem, Bessie Horner, Clara Foster, Ethel McBirde, Pearl Nelson, Pearl Owens, Annie Roark, Eddie Schmudlach, Lewis Salsbury, Frances Tschudy, Minnie Stupe, George Deckert, Arthur Hanserd, Clara Lamport, Arthur Nelson, Van Salsbury, Ben Witham, Annie Wagner, Reuben Smith, Essie Summers.

CROW AGENCY CAWS.

People at Agent Becker's Town Delighted with Music by a Billings Orchestra.

Special Correspondence of The Gazette.

Crow Agency, April 6.—Matthew H. Murphy, the St. Paul cattle king, was here several days the past week looking after his interests in these parts.

Ed. Dana of Parkman, Wyoming, one of the extensive cattle raisers adjacent to the reservation, was here Tuesday shaking hands with acquaintances. Mr. Dana reports plenty of snow in his vicinity the past winter and a shortage of hay.

James Swisher was up from Fort Custer renewing acquaintances last Sunday.

Miss Sophia Sheffer of Minneapolis arrived Monday last and now presides over the cuisine at the Crow boarding school.

Miss Marie Server has been visiting Mrs. James Swisher at Fort Custer the past ten days.

Benjamin Holstein, one of Sheridan's hustling business men, was here several days the past week "looking around."

Mrs. C. G. Hoyt and Master Horace, wife and son of Hon. C. G. Hoyt, arrived Wednesday morning from North Yakima, Washington, and will remain with us for some time to come.

Mrs. Portus Baxter returned Tuesday from a two months' visit under the parental roof in Wisconsin.

W. J. Scally was reading signs in the booming city of Billings a couple of days during the past week.

L. D. Siria and George Smith of the Crow irrigation survey force were here Thursday evening en route to Billings.

Mrs. T. A. Hindman has resigned her position at the Crow boarding school and has gone with Mr. Hindman to the Black Lodge ranch, where the latter is employed as additional farmer.

Mr. Lawson, representing the Montana Hide company of Helena, was looking after his firm's interest at this place Wednesday.

Chester Bad Boy, a Crow Indian, came in on the north bound train Monday evening with a full cargo of firewater aboard and started for his ranch on the Big Horn mounted on his pony. A short distance from the agency he became disgusted with the animal he was riding and pulling out a revolver shot it. Agent Becker has the brave (?) in the "booby-hatch" and when Chester gets out he will conclude that his name and actions are not congenial to what they ought to be.

James Hardy was up from his Pass creek ranch in the southern part of the reservation last Monday.

Agent Becker and Warren Evans worshipped (?) in Billings Sunday last.

Tuesday evening the people of our village turned out en masse to listen to a programme given by an orchestra from Billings, consisting of Mrs. Tompkins, Miss Martha Tompkins, Chas. Whitney, W. O. Allen, Rob Allen and Robt. Long, assisted by Mrs. C. H. Barstow, vocalist. Every number was encored vigorously, showing that they were appreciated. After the programme was finished a number of dance-loving people adjourned to the Hotel Server and danced until 12 o'clock. Everyone voted the music splendid and our people hope to again be favored with a visit by this orchestra.

Woman's Club.

The mothers' department entertained the club with a very interesting programme Monday evening at the home of Mrs. J. J. McCormick. The meeting was opened with singing by the club, "Nearer My God to Thee," and the Lord's prayer repeated in concert. The report of the department secretary, Mrs. Stebbins, was given in full. Mrs. Free and Miss Talbot played a beautiful piano duet. The reading, "What a Woman's Club May Do," by Mrs. Herford, was very good. Mrs. Dr. Clark's paper on "Heredity," was excellent. The vocal solos by Mrs. Barstow and Miss Denham were nicely rendered. The paper on "Ventilation" by Mrs. Frizelle was interesting, as was also Mrs. Railsback's paper on "Froebel and Pestalozzi," two renowned kindergarten educators. Mrs. Free read a paper on "Temperance," and Miss Pilcher's paper, "What is a Child," concluded the programme, the remainder of the evening being spent in a social manner. The meeting was a complete success.

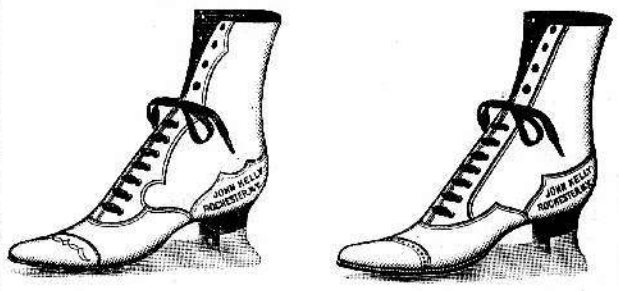
* * *

The literary department met with Mrs. Rixon Tuesday afternoon. The period of Greek history was concluded and all feel that they know much more about Greece than they did before this month's study. The lesson included the following topics: "Sparta Supreme," "Macedonian Period," "Greek Civilization," "Greek Art," "Education," and were conducted by Miss Pilcher, Mrs. Clement, Mrs. Hassler, Miss Rixon, Mrs. Railsback and Mrs. H. S. Hammond. Mrs. Brayton read a biography of Socrates, Miss Rixon gave a synopsis of the life of Alexander the Great. Miss Chapple read of Homer, Mrs. Railsback of Aristotle and Mrs. Brayton of the Greek historians, Herodotus, Thucydides and Xenophon. Miss Pilcher read a short oration which was one of Demosthenes. A most pleasant and instructive afternoon was spent in reviewing all the principal points of Grecian history. The department will meet with Mrs. O'Donnell next Tuesday afternoon.

Another Montana bank has been started, or at least incorporated. The articles of incorporation of the Judith Basin bank were filed with the secretary of state this week by G. J. Bach, H. Hodgson and David Hilger of Lewistown. A general banking business will be carried on at Lewistown. The capital stock of the bank is $75,000, or 750 shares of a par value of $100 each. The capital stock is fully paid up.

The crew of the battleship Iowa, now lying in port at San Francisco, have presented Captain Robley D. Evans, who commanded the Iowa in Cuban waters during the war with Spain, with a handsome sword, accompanied by a fitting letter.

YEGEN—YEGEN—YEGEN—YEGEN—YEGEN



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