CLOSE OF THE WOMAN'S CONGRESS.

After a Week of Interesting and Crowded Meetings the Convention Adjourns for a Year.

A FAREWELL SURPRISE

Great Enthusiasm Is Manifested at All the Sessions.

MISS SHAW SHOWS SPIRIT.

Eleven Fine Papers Read and a Stirring Address Given by Miss Anthony.

JOINT CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE,
HEADQUARTERS, 1630 FOLSOM STREET,
SAN FRANCISCO, May 9.

The nine days' talk in regard to the action of the Republican convention in adopting a woman suffrage plank has not yet ended, and the committee of women who went up to Sacramento are besieged with inquiries as to how it was done. The only answer to be made is that "it did itself." We established our headquarters on the third floor of the Golden Eagle Hotel, opened our parlor, lighted a cheerful fire in the grate; the ladies of Sacramento sent in quantities of flowers, we spread out our literature, put our boxes of badges on the center table, and then sat down in our rocking-chairs and waited. We had decided not to down in the lobby to "buttonhole" the delegates, but to stand on our dignity and let them come to us. There was no other headquarters on that floor, and they would have to make the trip on purpose to see us. Suppose they did not come!

But in a short time a prominent editor appeared and then the rush commenced. From Tuesday noon until the close of the convention there was a steady stream of delegates, in twos and threes, and in whole delegations. Sometimes a chairman would come up and say the others were too busy to call, but had sent him for badges for the entire delegation. Wednesday morning 250 delegates were wearing woman-suffrage badges, and our supply was exhausted. At least fifty more could have been used.

Only once did we go to the floor below and that was when we were invited to address the platform committee. I wish I could picture that scene. In the small room, seated or standing around the table, were the seven men who held the fate of this question in their hands. At one end of the table stood Miss Anthony, the light from above shining upon her silver hair till it seemed like a halo around her head, and she spoke as no one ever heard her speak before.

On the face of every delegate was an expression of the deepest seriousness, and before she had finished tears were in the eyes of more than one of them. She was followed by Miss Shaw, who stood there the embodiment of all that is pure, sweet and womanly, and in a low clear voice presented the cause as no one else could have done. As we were about to leave the room the chairman said: "Ladies, we will take the vote now if you desire." We thanked him but said no, we would withdraw and leave them to consider the matter at their leisure.

Within a very few minutes we had their decision, six in favor of the resolution and one opposed—Kidder of Grass Valley. We violate no confidence in giving his name, as he went down into the lobby and publicly proclaimed the fact. Here I want to call attention to one thing. Eight women knew of the favorable action of the committee by 9 o'clock, but although we were besieged by reporters and delegates until nearly midnight we gave no sign, and the Wednesday morning papers could only say that it was probable there would be a woman suffrage plank. It is said that women cannot keep a secret, but this is one of those many ancient myths that takes a long time to die.

How were we treated? Just as ladies are treated who hold a reception in their drawing-room. Not one discourteous word or action during the entire convention, only the most profound respect. There was more than respect; there were hearty encouragement and helpfulness, and more compliments than we cared to hear. We would not have it understood that we believed implicitly all that was said to us, but the final action of the convention spoke louder than words.

The convention-hall was clean, cool and beautiful with flowers and bunting. There was no smoking and no disorderly conduct. There were many women present, and the surroundings were much more agreeable than at the majority of mass-meetings for various purposes which women attend without any comment.

The meeting was more orderly and decorous, if we are to judge from the telegraphic reports, than a great religious convention now in session, which is not willing to permit a woman to sit among its delegates. As we entered the hall we noticed on every banner which marked a delegation three white stars on a blue ground. We did not know what they might signify, but to us they said, "Wyoming, Colorado, Utah"—the three States where women are fully enfranchised.

The convention throughout was for us an enjoyable one. We listened with close attention to the bursts of eloquence displayed in the nominating speeches, but we wondered why in those nominating Mr. Grant the orators spent all their breath in extolling the illustrious father, but had not one word to say in praise of the proposed delegate, except that he was the son of his father.

We were very much grieved to learn from our waiter at the hotel that he should not vote for woman suffrage, as he did not think women were smart enough to vote! We had a young fellow to do our errands, look after our fire, etc., and he surprised us by saying one day that he thought he ought to tell us that he could not give us his vote this fall, as he did not think women were prepared for suffrage! We asked him if women who could come up there and do the work we were doing were not intelligent enough to use the ballot. He said he thought we were awfully smart women, but not smart enough to vote. Finding that he was a Republican we inquired if all the wise men attending the convention should decide that we ought to have the ballot, whether he then would vote for it. He thought he would, and finally decided to put on the badge. I refer to these instances simply to illustrate the humiliations to which progressive, educated women are subjected.

As soon as the convention closed there was a wild rush for the train, and when we got aboard the cars were crowded. At least a dozen delegates, tired as they were, sprang up and insisted upon putting us in their seats, and after we were comfortably seated they came to us from another car and told us they had arranged to have us all sit together there. We went forward and took those seats, and then the other men came in to know why we left their car. At the Benicia ferry a delegate from Tulare brought a lunch to us, and in every possible way our comfort and convenience were attended to. These are but small things, yet I relate them because one of the bugbears held up before the advocates of woman suffrage is that when women get the right to vote they will be allowed to stand up in cars, etc.

We believe that they will be treated with even more deference and respect when they are no longer classed politically with criminals, idiots and insane, and when their opinions and wishes are considered of sufficient value to be accorded the same weight in public affairs as are those of men. We make the prediction that after a few years' experience of woman suffrage in California all of these old objections will appear so utterly weak and absurd that people will wonder how they ever could have made them or believed in them.

On Monday we go to the Populist Convention at Sacramento and on Thursday to the Prohibition Convention at Stockton. We have every assurance from the leaders of these parties that our appearing before them will be a mere act of formality and courtesy, as woman suffrage is one of their fundamental principles.

The statement is frequently made by Populists, and appeared in THE CALL a few days ago, that, while they are in full sympathy with suffrage and will work for it, they are not oblivious to the fact that, as soon as it was given to the women of Colorado, they overthrew the Populist party in that State. This is not a fair statement. It is true that at the first election where women voted in Colorado the Republican party scored a victory, but this also was done in Kansas, where women have no vote whatever in State elections. The Populist party was as fully in control in Kansas as in Colorado. Whenever there comes a time of great financial stress the party in power is always charged with being the cause of it, no matter what party it may be. Colorado and Kansas were passing through such a period of depression, and in both States the people overthrew the administration, in hopes of securing better times. The Populist women doubtless stood by their party in as large a proportion as did the Populist men. It was simply one of those landslides which are apt at any time to turn down any party.

IDA A. HARPER,
Chairman Press Committee.

A glowing bower of pink environed the fair participants in yesterday's session of the Woman's Congress. Sweet Castilian roses blossomed everywhere, save in some nooks and corners graced by dainty pink carnations and flesh-tinted sweet peas.

Mrs. Emma Seckle Marshall read the first paper, taking for her subject "Women as Citizens." There was something singularly lucid in her presentation of the subject. She said:

"You have heard if you have been in attendance during the week the history of woman; her growth as a sex; the unfolding of her character; the processes of the broadening and strengthening of her mentality; how, even in the days of her most abject slavery she was the staff upon which man leaned for support, for had she not then tilled the soil, ground the acorns and maize, grubbed the roots and performed the various menial tasks how would the poor creatures who depended on her strength and energy for food and shelter have existed?

"When one-half the world is dependent on the other why should either half assert their superiority? Man without woman is like unto what the earth would be deprived of the sun's warmth, and, I will admit, vica versa. Therefore, if men whom we have cared for, educated and encouraged, are entitled to certain man-conferred privileges the same should be considered the prerogative of women.

"It has been asserted by some men, and women too, who are, strange to say, among the thinkers of the age, that Nature made man physically the stronger because on him was to devolve the care and maintenance of dependent beings, hence, they say, it is but in line with the intention of nature that he should represent the weaker portion of humanity in a legal phase; that, as he is the bread-winner and natural protector so must he assume and exercise the functions of government.

"But I do not believe that the Creator intended man to exercise a jurisprudence over woman simply because she was not as big and strong and robust as he is. Nature's God is never unjust, and there is nothing in the world to prevent man from protecting and guarding woman if she rises to the dignity of a legal citizen. It certainly should not detract from her womanly qualities or make her one whit less sweet and lovable.

"It is not so many years since co-education was considered unwise, and even to-day, women are excluded from some of our highest institutions of learning, but they have proved their ability to contest collegiate honors with the other sex, and our colleges and universities which receive young women on an equal footing with young men have reason to be proud of the attainments of one equally with the other. Then why should the woman who divides class honors with the man be his inferior in but the one thing, the ability to be a good citizen?

"In this connection let me cite an instance that occurred one week ago to-day. A husband and wife presented themselves before the commissioners of the Supreme Court for examination for admission to the bar. The wife had become interested from hearing her husband read aloud, and concluded that she, too, would take up the study of law.

"The examination proved that the knowledge of the wife was far superior to that of the husband, and one of the commissioners in speaking of the fact afterward exclaimed enthusiastically: 'Of all the applicants that I have examined for admission to the bar, and I have been on the bench for upwards of twenty-five years, that lady was one of the very best.' Now the point I wish to make is this. She is the mother of growing children who are models of obedience, and who prove by their manner and bearing the true motherhood that has guided them.

"Take our criminal records and look them over. In California the census shows that the female population is nearly equal to that of the male, yet in the penitentiaries of the State there are at San Quentin 1250 male prisoners and fifteen female prisoners. Last summer I visited the State's prison of Nevada and found that, while nearly every cell in the men's department of that institution was occupied, there was but one woman prisoner, and she was incarcerated for having killed her betrayer.

"If women are less law-abiding than men or defy the laws equally with men why are they not equally punished with men? Are our peace officers, our judges and our juries, the latter composed of 'the peers of the realm' who are sworn to uphold the honor and justice of our country, more partial to the female transgressor than the male? And if this is so, why? for it is conceded than when a woman loses her self-respect and her position in society she sinks to lower levels of criminality than does a man.

"And is this the reason that, limited as are the accommodations provided for women in our penitentiaries, they are more than ample for the number assigned to them?

"The brain that can expend the small income of the artisan or laborer in a masterly manner can certainly comprehend as much mystery and intricacy as the brain that guides the hand that earns that income. He brings his wages home—we are speaking now of the exemplary man—and as the wife expends them so does the family succeed or fail. Her brain carries the details of butcher, baker and candlestick-maker, etc., to say nothing of the rent or installments on the little home they are buying; she has to plan for the shoes and hats and suitable clothes of their growing children; to keep in condition the garments of her husband; to see that variety marks his daily meals; to note the symptoms of illness in her little ones, and though she hovers over the beds of feverish babies in the still watches of the night, yet must she keep well oiled the machinery that operates her household affairs. Who will tell me that the woman who accomplishes this—and her name is legion—is unfitted to make a good citizen?

"The requisites for a good citizen consist in a thorough comprehension of his duties to his country, his family and his fellow-men; an understanding of the needs of his Government and an honest endeavor to do his part toward accomplishing the satisfying of those needs by casting an intelligent, honest ballot. Is there anything in these requisites to prevent a woman from being a good citizen?"

Mrs. Miller of Oakland opened the discussion by saying that the type of woman described by Mrs. Marshall would make a splendid public officer.

A lady in the gallery opined that the husband could never represent the wife at the polls.

Mrs. Hall said she would like to bear her testimony of agreement with the gallery lady's remarks and said woman's cause was an attempt for the good of all; it was not for an expediency of good government; it was all right enough for a man to eat a meal, but that meal did the woman no good, and so it was with political rights.

"I suppose," observed Miss Severance, "that woman is citizen enough to pay taxes, and if she has no husband she may perhaps take up land, but when it comes to the actual rights of citizenship, woman's position is peculiar. She's in it, and she isn't in it, and she don't know where she is at all."

"Women," commented Miss Manning, "are said to be very free in France. In exchange for their freedom the French woman gave the voting and law-making power into the hands of the men. As a result France has some of the most villainous laws in relation to woman that have ever been enacted."

"I know a man in Oakland," said Mrs. Van Pelt, "who has never voted since his marriage, and he says he never will until his wife can go with him to the polls."

"Do you think that man will vote next November?" inquired Miss Severance.

"He most certainly will," was Mrs. Van Pelt's answer, which was applauded to the echo.

"Housekeeping and City-keeping" gave Miss Harriet May Mills of New York City the theme for a brilliant address. She said in part:

The growth of civilization has been a remarkable growth in the last century. In Washington's time only 3 per cent of the population lived in cities, but now 10 per cent live in the cities of the United States.

We know that city-keeping is nothing but housekeeping on a larger scale, and yet men for a whole century have left out of consideration this important element of management. The home management, the many undertakings women have entered, show that they are good managers. They are used to making a very little go a long way, for they have not had much money to manage with and they are economical.

In New York I remember driving for years over a street with holes in it and they always grew bigger until finally the men got an epidemic of pavement laying and paved every street and lane.

What's more, women are more cleanly in management. Their handling of houses shows that they know more about sweeping than men who have so long superintended the wretched street-sweeping systems.

What we need is not only sanitation and better sanitation, but the cultivation of a taste for the beautiful. Any man that will sacrifice the beautiful trees and the natural contour of the City is not fit to hold the position that controls such things.

Street-sweeping is too often made a matter of political affiliation. We wouldn't have a cook simply because she would howl for some particular candidate or party in favor.

If you were in a city where a School Superintendent could not read or write you might feel that woman ought to have a hand. Woman should have some part in the management of the school system. Men always make a mistake when they try to keep house alone, and that is what they have done in attempting the management of cities.

There is no good city-keeping in which good housekeeping is not recognized as an important part. It would save us from filth, from a great deal of disease, and it would save men from a great deal of the responsibility.

We don't expect to reform the city management all in a minute, but we do believe it will result eventually from the joint management of men and women.

Miss Manning took occasion here to express herself on a topic of the day suggested by Mrs. Mills' speech. She said:

If women were sharers in San Francisco's government could the City papers have come out this morning with the announcement of the disgraceful removal of the most efficient officials that have ever served in this City, Mr. and Mrs Weaver, the superintendent and matron of the Almshouse?

Several other persons commented on the paper, after which Mrs. Alice Moore McComas spoke, in part as follows, on "The Right of Representation."

That there should be a question of the right of representation in a republic founded as is ours, upon the principle of "freedom and equality," is truly remarkable. It is contrary to the spirit of our government to question the political rights of any of our people. Therefore I claim that American women are entitled to every right possessed by American men. In making this assertion, contrary to our usual political practice, yet perfectly in harmony with republican ideas—in perfect accord with the fundamental principles of our government—it is right and proper that I attempt to show that it is reasonable and not dangerous to our public interests.

There is no better way to do this than to show by our National constitution that women are entitled to the right of representation. Article XIX, section 1, says: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States, and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." And again: "All governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."

The American woman bases her claim to the right of representation upon the Declaration of Independence, which was not a declaration of revolutionary war, but of a new political philosophy. The inalienable rights therein declared are not limitable by sex, and she questions the intention of our forefathers to so construe them. Woman has the same right to life, liberty and property that man has. Has she not an equal right to protection? This is the right of suffrage. If she has a natural right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, then she should have a natural or acquired right to everything that secures to her the use of these rights—just as man has—provided this does not harm the equal right of another.

I ask the men here assembled if you have to a certainty ascertained that you are entitled to any God-given, natural rights that are specified prohibitions to women? Have you any claim to protection that is justly denied to women? Gentlemen of the Golden State—you who are famous the world over for generosity and chivalry, whose pride in your women stands as one of your most graceful virtues—we ask that you establish such a government in our State. We ask that you no longer permit this "Shadow on the face of the Princess" to remain.

Woman are part of the people of California. They ask that the grand declarations of the founders of this great State be no longer considered as glittering generalities. Verify them at the polls next November by enfranchising your intelligent women.

There is too much said about woman's "holy mission" and not enough about her practical duty to her country; there is too much said of man's patriotism and public service and not enough about his "holy mission" as the father of his race. A little mingling of these duties and missions, and more interchange of mutual interests would give us an improved system of government in the home and the state. You have seen a household bereft of a mother and have watched the distracted father try to do for the children what the mother had done. You have seen a home deprived of a father and witnessed the broken-hearted mother's attempt to take his place. No matter how great the effort, neither of these homes are like homes where each day husband and wife gave their best strenght and thought to the welfare of the family. Does our government differ from our household? Do we not love our country as our home?

Our opponents say, "Universal suffrage is contrary to law," "against nature," "not sanctioned by scripture," and "means revolution."

Yes, everything now is a revolution. Revolution and evolution are the mainsprings of civilization.

When Sir Samuel Romilly proposed to abolish the death penalty for stealing a handkerchief it was feared it would endanger the whole criminal code. When the bill abolishing the slave trade passed the House of Lords, Lord St. Vincent left the House, saying he washed his hands of the downfall of the British Empire.

When the first steamer floated down the Thames it was declared against nature! When at the close of the reign of Charles II London had a half million people, there was a fierce struggle against street lamps.

In 1828, when some enterprising young men wanted to hire a "meeting house"—not a thousand miles from New York—to hold a debate on railroads, the slow-going deacons, after prayerful deliberation, sent a note of refusal, saying, "You are cheerfully welcome to our meeting-house to debate all proper questions, but such things as railroads are impossibilities! There is nothing in the Scriptures about them. If God had designed his intelligent creatures should travel at the frightful rate of fifteen miles an hour by steam he would have foretold it by his holy prophets. It is a device of Satan to lead immortal souls to perdition!"

We can scarcely believe such foolish men ever lived! Yet the time is not far distant when a truly enlightened people, enjoying the privileges of a truly Republican Government, will be doubting the existence of men who questioned woman's right of representation.

Miss Yates, opening the discussion, told of a man in the employ of a wealthy lady graduate of Vassar College who went to cast his first vote after an instantaneous naturalization. His mistress asked him how he had voted. It transpired that he had cast his first tax receipt into the ballot-box.

"I can give a little incident myself," said Mrs. Marshall.

"I applied for the position of proof-reader of a great register of one of our counties, as I had been assistant on the previous issue, but I was refused, as I was told, because I was not a voter. They gave the position to a man, and he found he could not get it out on time and he had to send for me."

Miss Mabel Craft, a graduate of the University of California, offered some pertinent remarks on women's wages. She said that in all the positions requiring what is known as brain work the women of California receive compensation equal to that men receive, but that in other employment the women competing with men do not receive nearly so much pay as the men. In teaching and in journalism women receive as good wages as men and in some cases better because of better work, but in stores poor girls who have to help out the family at home work for $4 a week. It would not be possible for them to live on such wages, but they are adding a little to the furnishings of brothers and father. Women will never know political economy, she concluded, until they are able to vote; until they refuse to take work unless the pay is fair.

The last paper of the morning session was by Miss Sarah M. Severance, who spoke on "The Reaction of Injustice" in the following strain:

Action and reaction are equal, and injustice to woman has reacted upon man in full measure pressed down. Neither is responsible except for its continuance, for it is an inheritance, but wrong woman and retributive justice follows on the track of her sons and grandsons. Not only is there general retribution, but the individual suffers. All intelligent people are interested in politics. The club-woman knows all about the laws of Moses, of Lycurgus, of Solon, the Twelve Tables,

Mrs. John F. Swift, Whose Presence and Assistance at the Woman's Congress Lent So Much to Make It the Grand Success It Proved.

"THE CALL" HAS GAINED A MULTITUDE OF FRIENDS.

Charles M. Shortridge

My Dear Sir: You can never imagine how delighted I am in view of the noble attitude your grand journal has taken on the Woman Suffrage question. This sentiment of joy and gratitude is to my certain knowledge, universal among all friends of the movement. The Call has gained a multitude of warm friends by thus bravely coming out in favor of justice for women. The women of California will show their appreciation in more than by words. Please place my name on your subscription books — with a promise of more names of Southern California women when I return to Los Angeles. Wishing "The Call" every prosperity and success possible in the coming important political campaign I am cordially and gratefully your

Alice Moore McComas

Mrs. Alice Moore McComas, Whose Intelligent View of the Suffrage Question Has Placed Her in the Front Ranks of the Modern Movement for Woman's Emancipation.

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Invalids of any age or condition.

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STATEMENT
OF THE
CONDITION AND AFFAIRS
OF THE
NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF MILWAUKEE, IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, on the 31st day of December, A. D. 1895, and for the year ending on that day, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of California, pursuant to the requirements of section 613 of the Political Code of said State.

ASSETS.

Net value of real estate owned by the company	$1,400,863 15
Amount of loans secured by bond and mortgage on real estate	59,041,112 24
Cash loans to policy-holders on this company's policies assigned as collateral	1,948,050 00
Premium notes and loans in any form taken in payment of premiums on policies now in force	418,301 84
Cash market value of all stocks and bonds owned by the company	12,635,201 08
Amount of cash on hand in company's office	97,169 05
Amount of cash deposited in banks	4,508,915 77
Interest due and accrued	1,362,318 06
Rents due and accrued	8,987 71
Net amount of premiums in process of collection and of deferred premiums	1,481,470 74
Total assets	$82,902,389 64

LIABILITIES.

Claims for death losses and matured endowments, due and unpaid	55,216 74
Claims for death losses and matured endowments in process of adjustment, or adjusted but not due	282,359,67
Claims resisted by the company	43,844 99
Net present value of all the outstanding policies, computed according to the combined experience tables of mortality, with 4 per cent interest	65,804,572 00
Amount of all unpaid dividends to policy-holders	94,740 97
All other demands against the company	108,094 01
Total liabilities	$66,388,828 38

INCOME.

Cash received for premiums on new policies during the year	$1,579,149 92
Cash received for renewal of premiums during the year	11,990,630 79
Cash received for sale of annuities	6,291 97
Cash received for interest	3,837,791 50
Cash received for rents	109,642 23
Cash received from all other sources	27,269 41
Total income	$17,550,775 82

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for losses and matured endowments	$3,512,740 40
Paid to annuitants	2,554 26
Paid for surrendered policies	872,671 38
Paid for dividends to policy-holders	1,296,894 65
Commissions paid to agents	1,548,571 52
Salaries and other compensation of officers and employes, except agents and medical examiners	306,196 26
Salaries and traveling expenses of managers of agencies	899 91
Medical examiners' fees and salaries	119,691 15
Cash paid for taxes	194,323 73
Cash paid for rents	25 000 00
All other cash payments	782,119 16
Total expenditures during the year	$8,656,662 42

PREMIUM NOTE ACCOUNT.

Premium notes and other premium obligations at beginning of the year	$467,540 42	
Premium notes and other premium obligations received during the year	89,664 60	
		$557,205 02
Deductions during the year as follows:		
Amount of notes and other premium obligations used in payment of losses and claims	$22,756 17	
Amount of notes and other premium obligations used in purchase of surrendered policies	10,436 81	
Amount of notes and other premium obligations used in payment of dividends to policy-holders	66,639 64	
Amount of notes and other premium obligations voided by lapse of policies	13,780 90	
Amount of notes and other premium obligations redeemed by maker in cash	25,290 16	
Total reduction of premium note account		$138,903 18

H. L. PALMER, President.
J. W. SKINNER, Secretary.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of February, 1896.
C. A. PRIDE, Notary Public.

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THE GREAT PAYERS
SOLE AGENTS FOR THE MAGGIONI KID GLOVES.

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At $1.00, $1.25, $1.50, $1.75 and $2.00 Each.
Skirts
At 50c, 75c, $1.00, $1.15 and $2.00 Each.
Chemises
At 50c, 75c, 85c, $1.00 and $1.25 Each.
Drawers
At 25c, 35c, 40c, 50c and 65c per Pair.
AND
Corset Covers
At 25c, 50c, 75c, $1.00 and $1.15 Each.

The above are all made of splendid materials, finished in the finest manner, full width and of good shape. See them.

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