

This Magazine is issued from the office of:

The Organising Secretary George Formby Club 169 Oxford Street, W.I. to whom all enquiries should be addressed. Section of the section of

EDITORIAL

SHIP AHOY!

Our President and Vice-President are greatly enjoying their cruise. As they have purposely cut themselves off from everything, we have not much news. We do know, however, that they are both very well. George is putting on weight fast - that's always a good sign - and there's not the slightest doubt that he will be back much fitter and ready for more hard work. His first engagement will be early April at the Liverpool Empire.

"SUNDAY EXPRESS" RUNS PAGE BY PRESIDENT

Have you seen our President's page appearing every Sunday in the "Sunday Express"? If you want a week-end laugh don't miss it!

AN APPEAL

We publish in every issue of the NEWS requests for pen pals and from letters we have received there is no doubt that many of our members are now in Regular touch with each other by post.

We make a special appeal this month for Leslie Skeel who is now 21 and has been bed-ridden from birth. You can imagine how time drags, can't you - being confined to an invalid chair all day. Although he is a keen Formby fan through the medium of the wireless, he cannot see our President on the films. He has to rely on his mother to describe them to him.

It would be nice to know that his fellow Formbians were doing their best to make life easier for Leslie by sending him a cheery note. Make this your good deed for to-day! Do it now! I am sure it will be greatly appreciated.

He would also probably like some of those books you have read. Why not turn out that cupboard of yours and send some on? We shall be very disappointed if Leslie is not snowed under with letters and books. His address is:-

> Mr. Leslie Skeel, 61, Victoria Road, Edmonton. N.9.

We are so sure that he will be inundated with letters, that of course it will not be possible for him to answer them all - particularly as he is not earning any money. So don't be disappointed if you do not hear from him personally. His mother is sure to give us a message to pass on to you in the next issue of the NEWS.

OUR GRAND TOUR

Our young Formbian goes further afield this month and we find him in more remote places. Last month - as several members rightly pointed out - it was fairly easy. This was done purposely so that you could get the right idea.

This month they are - we think - not so easy and next month they will be more difficult still - we hope. The places this time are all Countries, not Towns, and they are all European.

SECOND INSTALMENT OF OUR COMPETITION.

Going abroad for a tour, we visited several countries, and without bothering you with the why and the wherefore of how we got there, here they are :-

Kumania, mana

Seanamaria.

- 1. George has one. It <u>hasn't</u> turned out nice again. Mkrame
- Regret. 2. Obsession.
- To survey. 3. Noise. Two thirds of a bird's home. Dennaik.
- 4. A cave, cavity. To notice.
- 5. A microbe. Some.
- An honoured but fleeting guest in most homes at Xmas. 6. Junkey.

goslavia

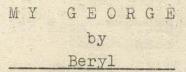
Hraly.

Jolestine Greece Doland

- 7. Evergreen tree. To travel. Kill. By way of.
- Pronoun (neuter gender) 8. A narrow passage.
- Royal residence. 9. Northern river (England)
- Animal fat. 10.
- 11. River Catch.

Don't send your postcards yet. Make a note of your solutions and keep them by you.

THIRD AND LAST INSTALMENT WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE.



The speediest song I ever helped George to write was "When I'm Cleaning Windows."

George was filming in "Keep Your Seats Please" at the Ealing studios when they found that there was a gap of twoand-a-half minutes to fill, and there could be a song scene.

The idea came to George in a flash. He began humming the melody and in exactly two-and-a-half minutes had the whole song worked out - which is probably a record for song-composing speed. There wasn't even any time for me to write the thing down. so he sang it out of his head while the sound recording was done. "When I'm Cleaning Windows" became a hit overnight!

I feel proud to think that even in a small way I helped to produce a song which has proved as popular as the good old-timers like "Standing at the Corner of the Street", which George's father made famous.

Film stars in Hollywood like queer food and the glamour girls seem to live on alternate diets of champagne and chicken for fun, and grapefruit and dry toast for their figures. George and I have never had much use for fancy food. We both have a strong preference for Lancashire hot-pot and dripping-toast.

When we first went to work at Ealing, the studio canteen staff (then presided over by a French chef) thought they'd give us a real Lancashire treat and make a hot-pot for dinner one day. And gee, was it awful! "Is eet good? Is eet like zee Lancashire 'ot-pot?" asked the chef. And what could I possibly say? I was as tactful as I could be and said it was lovely but that of course, we Lancashire folk had a few home secrets of our own in making hot-pots! "Ah, ca? Then Meessis Formby, will you tell us just how you make zee 'ot-pot?" Was I in a mess! Nowadays I don't get time to do any actual cooking! So I just got my wits about me and tried to remember all mother had ever told me about Lancashire hot-pots. Next day another great hot-pot appeared on the table and it turned out fine. Now it's a stock dish once or twice a week at the studio restaurant.

George is no cookery expert, though he likes his food good. He's not a great drinker either. I'll never forget the look on the face of a waiter at the Savoy Hotel one night, where we'd been invited for a film celebration party.

MY GEORGE continued

George asked him for a tankard of milk! "Ah, sir, I know you comics!" smiled the waiter, and went off to get a tankard of milk-stout. It wasn't till George had gone out into the Strand and brought in a quart bottle of milk off a barrow that the waiter really knew he meant MILK!

While I've been responsible for the hot-pot dish on which many film players at the studios thrive, George has been the benefactor of a novel tea-time dish - novel to Southerners, anyway. I mean beef-dripping-toast. "Only another Formby joke" I expect they said. But they soon found that beef dripping on crisp hot toast is delicious.

This all sounds like economy, but actually it isn't. Lancashire hot-pot, properly made in North-Country style, is an expensive item. Nevertheless George and I have learned the vital necessity for economy, and the man who taught us that lesson was - Sir Harry Lauder!

George and I were still in our hard-up days when we first met Sir Harry. We were playing two shows a night in a small hall in a tiny mining town in the North. Sir Harry was at the big theatre in the neighbouring town. "I'm going to see Sir Harry Lauder's show this afternoon, Beryl", said George one day. He went to the matinee and queued up for over an hour. "Didn't you go round to see him afterwards?", I asked, when George came back. "Ee, no", he said, "he wouldn't want to be bothered with me."

That night at our own hall, as we were resting between shows, the call-boy came in. There was a man waiting to see us downstairs. Then there was a tapping of a stick all the way upstairs and the jovial face of Sir Harry Lauder peeped round the door! "Och, lad" he said, gripping George by the hand, "I knew your father and now I want to know you. Married, eh?" So I was introduced and we all three sat talking, laughing and reminiscing about the days of George's father until Sir Harry had to go back to the theatre. He seemed to have taken a fancy to me and as he went he winked at me and said, "Now mind ye nail it doon" - meaning take care of the money. Needless to say, I took the grand old man's advice, knowing full well that in his case "nailin' it doon" meant giving away vast sums to many good causes.

It was George's idea to teach children to "nail it doon" for charity, and so we started the "O.K. Kids" club. Three or four years agó it became something of a problem when children used to stop George in the streets and ask for his autograph, so when we were playing in panto in Birmingham the year before last we decided that we'd start a club which would give certain children the right to hail George in the street and say, "O.K. George," and he would reply "O.K. kids!"

Further instalment next month.

"IT'S IN THE AIR"

Members will be pleased to know that the following Cinemas will be showing our President's latest film during March. Make a point of seeing it at your local theatre:-

Palace PUTNEY Odeon EPSOM Odeon SIDCUP Plaza CREWE Odeon WELLING Odeon CROYDON Odeon HORSHAM Regent HORLEY Odeon READING Savoy FAREHAM Rex CAMBRIDGE Rex COVENTRY Plaza WIDNES Regal MARGATE Odeon CARDIFF Ritz SOUTHEND Cecil HULL County MARLOW Ritz GOSPORT Palace BHLPER Odeon LRITH Palace LUTON Corinth HAYES Savoy EGHAM Rex HANWORTH Palace HANLEY Odeon NEWPORT Plaza RUGBY Odeon YORK Regal BOSTON Forum JERSEY Regent DOVER Odeon DUDLEY Odeon BATH Odeon YEOVIL Grand LEEK Ritz LINCOLN Odeon HALIFAX Odeon ASHFORD Rex ELY Savoy COBHAM Empire ILFORD Odeon WORTHING Gaumont OLDHAM Medina NEWPORT Majestic CLAPHAM Palladium BALHAM Dominion HOUNSLOW Imperial HIGHBURY Scala ILFRACOMBE Palace WANDSWORTH Odeon SURBITON Annexe ISLINGTON Rink SYDENHAM Odeon CAMBERWELL Odeon KINGSTON Odeon LANCASTER Odeon MORECAMBE Odeon WEYBRIDGE Regal WIMBLEDON Odeon WOOLWICH Odeon NEW MALDON Central SHEFFIELD Lion ROTHERHITHE Majestic STAINES Embassy DORKING Majestic REIGATE Caley EDINBURGH Kinema RICHMOND Kinema NEW CROSS Ritz WORKINGTON Astoria BRIXTON Regal GODALMING Empire PLUMSTEAD Odeon BOURNEMOUTH Gaiety BEXHILL Regent BRIGHTON Empire WISBECH Palace KILBURN Troxy PORTSMOUTH Doric NEWMARKET Odeon RAMSGATE Ritz NOTTINGHAM Electric TORQUAY Elysium SWANSEA Rialto SWANSEA Cinema LOUGHTON Odeon LOWESTOFT Regal ROTHERHAM Odeon HARHOGATE

Dorchester HULL Rivoli ST. HELENS La Scala DUNDEE Palace ABERDEEN Regent ABERDEEN Paramount GLASGOW Hippodrome MARCH County HERTFORD Odeon ST. AUSTELL Pavilion NEW JUAY Kings CAMBORNE Astoria PURLEY Pilot KINGS LYNN Palace WOLVERTON Gaiety HASTINGS Ritz CHELMSFORD Empire ALDERSHOT Scala WORCESTER Odeon HEREFORD Regent BRISTOL Plaza MANSFIELD Broadway BARKING Regal COLCHESTER Capitol SCARBORO Savoy SPAIDING Palace CARLISLE Odeon HERNE BAY Studio ELSTREE Embassy CHESHAM Ritz NOTTINGHAM Empire YARMOUTH Odeon KETPERING City LEICESTER Palace BRISTOL Odeon LLANELLY Electric HALIFAX Cinema STOCKTON Rex BERKHAMSTED Savoy PENZANCE Pavilion WELWYN Odeon PETERBORO Commodore RYDE Danilo REDDITCH Regent PAIGNTON Rialto LIVERFOOL

Odeon WARRINGTON Alexandra DERBY Cdeon FALMOUTH Embassy CRAWLEY Odeon WALLINGTON Regent AMERSHAM Globe PLINCOPAD Regent AMERICA Globe PLUMETEAD Regal LICHFIELD Empire MARYPORT Queens RUSHEY GREEN PECKHAM Annexe PECKHAM Cdeon EAST DULWICH Odeon SOUTE NORWOOD Odeon WEST WICKHAM Odeon WEST WICKHAM Embassy PETTS WCOD Majestic ROCHESTER Odeon MUSWELL HILL Empire SOUTHAMPTON Majestic SEVENCAKS Granada SHREWSBURY Gaumort MANCHESTER Havelock SUNDERLAND

Picture House YORK Empire CAERNARVON Greengate PLAISTOW Pavilion HODDESDON Court KENTISH TOWN Capitol TONBRIDGE Gaiety ABERTILLERY Rialto BLACKBURN Astoria FOLKESTONE Odeon STOURBRIDGE Cinema WOODBRIDGE Gloria CHADDESDON Carlton EDINBURGH Bungalow PORTOBELLO Astoria FOREST HILL Park SHEPHERDS BUSH Odeon RICKMANSWORTH Abbeydale SHEFFIELD West End BIRMINGHAM Playhouse EDINBURGH Twickenham TWICKENHAM Embassy WALTHAM CROSS Gaumort MANOHESTER Gaumort CHICHESTER Trocadero SOUTHPORT Excelsior BETHNAL GREEN Empire BETHNAL GREEN DEMUNAL GREEN Victoria BETHNAL GREEN Havelock SondBarandGainsboro' SUDBURYOdeon NORTH WATFORDGaumont Palace PECKHAMGaumont Palace PECKHAMSt. George's Hall BRADFORDTheatre Royal BRADFORD Gaumont Palace PECKHAM
Pavilion LAVENDER HILL
Odeon WELL HALL KentSt. George's Hall BRADFORD
Theatre Royal BRADFORD
Gaumont Palace CHESTER
Essoldo NEWCASTLE ON TYNE
Surrey County Cinema SUTTON
Theatre WELW YN GARDEN CITY
Radio EAST GRINSTEAD
Gaumont Palace BIRMINGHAM
Regal LEAMINGTON SPA
Broadway BEXLEY HEATH
Queens WOLVERHAMPTON
Hippodrome LIVERPOOL
Tower NEW BRIGGATE LeedsSt. George's Hall BRADFORD
Theatre Royal BRADFORD
Gaumont Palace CHESTER
Essoldo NEWCASTLE ON TYNE
Surrey County Cinema SUTTON
Theatre WELW YN GARDEN CITY
Radio EAST GRINSTEAD
Gaumont Palace WOLVERHAMPTON
Tredegar Hall NEWPORT
Scala STONY STRATFORD
Coliseum LEIGH ON SEA
Futurist KIDDERMINSTER
Hippodrome HUNTINGDON
Tmeerial WEST GREEN Tottenham

Watch for further dates in next month's issue of the NEWS.

This month's best contributions were submitted by:-SYLVIA MASSEY. G.A. SHARP. WILLIAM P. JACKSON to whom autographed photographs of Mr. & Mrs. Formby will be sent within a few days of their return from their cruise.

OUR LETTER BOX

We wish to thank those members who have written to us since the last issue of the NEWS and have pleasure in dealing with some of the letters below. Will those members who require a direct and personal reply to correspondence please enclose a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary. Unfortunately most of you omit this, which makes our postage so very high. Will you please try and remember in future?

"It would be interesting to know if there is anyone with a better collection of airmen than mine, which includes Jim Mollison, Amy Johnson, Sir Alan Cobham, Tommy Rose, Sqd. Leader Orlebar and Flt. Lieut. Stainforth, Bleriot, Sqd. Leader Gayford and Flt. Lieut. Nicoletto, Henry Farman, T.O.M. Sopwith, Robert Lorraine, Jean Batten and Sir Charles Kingsford Smith, whose signature I had the morning he went on his last ill-fated flight."

JOHN HOLMES. "THE HAVEN". WHITCHURCH. READING.BERKS. What a wonderful collection: How about it members, can any of you beat this record?

"I can play on a ukelele (not accompanied by a piano), the sum of twenty-six George Formby songs. Of course I don't profess to be a second "George" but if any members can beat this I would like to communicate with them to exchange views on the style of playing and the "working out" of the notes. As to myself, I play with a 'felt' puck, and among the songs I have learnt are - "Rhythm in the Alphabet", "They Can't Fool Me", "I Blew a Little Blast on my Whistle" and "Our Sergeant Major."

GEORGE V. SMITH. 52, BRADWELL ST. MILE END. E.1. Here's an interesting proposition for some of you ukelele players and we hope George Smith receives several replies.

"I am getting married to Club member Miss M.L. Moule on March 2nd. My autographed photos of famous people now reach 450 and snaps of Club members about 50. Please appeal to them to send me snaps."

LEN PEARSON. 36, COLLÈGE ST. BURY ST.EDMUNDS. We are sure all Club members will join us in wishing a very happy married life to these two members. Won't some of you answer Len Pearson's plea for snaps of yourselves? Sylvia Massey, Eversley, Chapel Road, Alderley Edge. Ches.

Lillian Woodford (Nurse) Parkside Hospital, Quernmore Road, Lancester.

James McDonald, 25, Howsin Street, Burnley. Lancs.

Jack Arnold, 76, Sabell Road, Smethwick. Staffs.

Master P.H. Wilkinson, 23, Barlow Moor Road, Didsbury. Manchester.

Marjorie Bellworthy, 40, Coningsby Road, High Wycombe. Bucks.

Ruth Leedale. (Staff) Bradford. Yorks.

Derick G. Ellis, 71, Outram Road, East Ham. E.G.

Miss Jacqueline, c/o Mrs. Pat Boyle, Box 2452, Johannesburg. S.Africa.

Mr. A. Bilton Jnr., 45, Thorpe Road, Walthamstow, E.17.

PEN PALS

(would like a boy or girl pen (pal. She is 13 years old, interested in collecting cigarette cards and just beginning autograph (collecting. Is very keen on (football and footballers. (especially Frank Swift, the (Manchester City goalkeeper.

(is anxious to secure a pen pal, (nurse preferable. She is 23 (years old and interested in all (film stars and the exchange of (autographs.

(would like to communicate with (other Club members either in (England or abroad. He is 18.

(would be glad to receive letters (from members who would care to (write to an 18 years old boy. (Interested in all kinds of sport (and reading,

(is 120 years old and would like a (pen pal about his own age.

(doesn't know many people and (would love a pen pal.

(is a newcomer to Bradford and Bradford Children's Hospital, (very anxious to make some pen or (personal friends in the town.

> (would like to get in touch with (other members.

(would like some pen friends of (either sex about her own age -(23. She is very interested in (photographic work and willing (to exchange photos.

(wishes to have a girl pen pal (living in Essex, about his own (age (17) who can play the (banjolele and is interested in (cycling.

William Bennion, 13, Princess Street, Wharton, Winsford. Ches.

Mr. H.H. Ewers, 162, St. John's Road, Walthamstow. E.17.

Miss C. Mitcheson, 42, Maple Terrace, Shiney Row, Philadelphia. Durham. (would like to correspond with a (girl member in Canada or South (Africa about his own age (20) (who is interested in films, (dance bands and collecting (autographs.

(wishes to have a 16 years old (girl pen pal living in Essex, (who is interested in cycling (and can play the banjolele.

(would be glad if any members (living south of Durham would (care to write to her.

We would like to extend a special welcome to a new Overseas member:- MR. I. EVANS of JOHANNESBURG.

CLUB TIES

. Will new members please note - George Formby Club ties are available in diagonal stripes of maroon and silver. These are suitable for both male and female members and are offered at the amazingly low price of ninepence each.

Send your postal orders to the Organising Secretary.

BLAZER BADGES

There has been a very poor response to our paragraph in last month's NEWS, only five members having expressed their willingness to purchase a blazer badge.

Before abandoning the scheme, however, we will repeat the message once more in the hope that more of you will ask for your names to be put on the list and in order to give our Overseas members a chance to apply.

If we can secure at least fifty orders, we can supply a shield shaped blazer badge with maroon flannel background, silver embroidered border and the letters G.F.C. in silver, at 2/6d each.

Will all members who wish to purchase a badge on these terms please drop a line to the Organising Secretary.

THE MAGIC SQUARE

YPSYYCDTOAUOOHAH UTCUUAMERICMRNEN WEEIWCFEINSGIEOA SCSHSWRRHEDTHITF WAEOWLUUINPBILNT LDETLAEULYNALLSR CODINWSEOUSNOAMW MWUITYIIEIPTCSLL TLOFOTELRLNAMRIN UOYTEISOEBOETUNT LTUIRMOGAARSUPTR TIOFEHUAENWATOPN NYNVHVOTEOAOIENT XUBUSRYHTRIRMDOE YWLAOEUWEIIBNLYI ASTLTAESRHYEHYTH

Concentrate on a wish. Close your eyes and select haphazardly one of the small lettered squares, with a pin or pencil. Jot it down with every eighth letter following. Go all through the square till your final letter is the eighth from where you started. When you come to the top line underline the first letter alighted on. It will be the first letter in your answer.

> IRIS A THURSTANS BIRMINGHAM.

The	answer to	last mon	th's	code is:-	- autom				
		BEBGEB	and the second se		TBG	HEURR			
	BEST	WISHES	TO	GEORGE	AND	BERYL			
This is how it was arrived at :-									
ABC DEFGHI JKLMNO PQRS TUVWXYZ									
	THE GE	ORGE FORM	BY CL	UB MEMBER	S				

It was very tricky wasn't it, and I don't suppose many of you were able to work it out.

*			2		3	+	11/1	6	
-					6				7
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3		14	. ill	204		15			
123	111			-05					
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20		1000	21	ing	43		22	120	10
11	VIII	111			13				

ACROSS

- 1. George Formby has one.
- 6. Upright.
- 8. French for "blue".
- 9. Electrical engineer(abbrev.)
- 10. Great Southern Railway (abbrev.) 12. Cry.
- 13. Opposite of wrong.
- 15. Sound of exclamation.
- 16. Engine.
- 19. Father.
- 20. A month of the year.
- 22. Many.
- 23. 20 down but the other way round. 11. Hundreds of people

Submitted by G.A. SHARP WITHINGTON MANCHESTER.

Solution to be given next month.

DOWN

- 1. You need one when it is wet.
- 2. George Formby makes you...
- 3. Smile of hatred against another.
- 4... the dawn was breaking the farmer got out of bed.
- 5. Royal Court (abbrev.)
- 7. The washing is done in these.
 - collect them.
- 12. Sharp, piercing.
- 14. George Formby Club.
- 17. Horses feed on them.
- 18. Bread, meat, jelly are all.... 21. We.

INTELLIGENCE TEST

ANSWER

QUESTION A KING. KIND OF PIG. BOY'S NAME. LEATHER WORKER. WHAT QUEEN WEARS. NORTH & SOUTH POLES.

TOTAL. \$ 2. 7. 61/2d.

£. S. D.

How is the above total arrived at? The answer will be given next month.

<u>PIEASE NOTE</u>. Unfortunately, two members living miles apart submitted this same puzzle, which indicates that they must have secured it from a periodical. We are afraid therefore that mither qualifies for a prize, as in order to do so members must submit original contributions.

TRY THIS TRICK ON YOUR FRIENDS :-

A tramp was walking along picking up cigarette ends. All told he collected forty-nine, which he made into cigarettes, each taking seven ends. How many cigarettes did he make? THE ANSWER IS ON THE LAST PAGE. BUT PLEASE DON'T LOOK FIRST.

Jack: "Don't come down the ladder Bill, I've taken it away." Bill: "Too late, I'm half-way down!"

A Scot, who had worn the same hat for ten years, decided with a heavy heart to buy a new one. Going into the only hat shop in the town he said - "Well, here I am again!"

lst Tramp: "Bet you a thousand pounds to a farthing Chelsea
win the Cup"
2nd Tramp: "O.K. that's a bet."
lst Tramp: "Show us your farthing first!"

Old Lady (to small boy): "Who gave you that black eye, sonny?" Small Boy: "Nobody gave it to me, I had to fight for it!"

MASTER L. WORPOLE STRATFORD. E.15.

SPRING

I'm always glad when springtime comes, And buds begin to shoot, When lambs and ponies frisk and play And owlets call and hoot.

Now spring is a happy, joyful time, For winter's passed away, And now the damp and foggy night Breaks into a longer day.

The green grass in the meadows, Where tiny calves are born, Is refreshing, sweet and cooling, With the dew at early dawn.

And soon it will be summer, When the April month has passed, And next it will be autumn, The seasons fly so fast.

SYLVIA MASSEY ALDERLEY EDGE

GEORGE

Old George he is a hero with all the little lads, Who simply roar with laughter, then go and tell their dads, So just to please the children (that's what they always say), They'll go and see George Formby upon another day. But really in their own minds, they think he's pretty hot, And without telling anyone they see him quite a lot, They say they like the opera, or old Inspector Hornleigh, But we know what they really like, It's good old GEORGE FORMBY.

WILLIAM P. JACKSON THETFORD. NORFOLK.

BON VOYAGE

YOUR CLUB AND COUNTRY NEED YOU

We didn't want to lose you But we knew you had to go The pantomime filled with children How they did love you so

And then your great big family Felt just a little blue Still! They mean to carry on And do all they can for you

The loved ones left at "Beryldene" Have such a while to wait But they'll be there with Billy (dog) To greet you at the gate

"Bon Voyage" George and Beryl, We've dried up all the tears And when you become strong and well All will be turned to cheers.

> MRS. EVA MARTIN RICHMOND. S.W.

What fish is like a beautiful barmaid?

The bar-belle.

Why do young ladies think curates attractive? Because they are good in-vestments.

Why did the coal scuttle? Because it saw the kitchen sink.

Why is G like the sun? Because it is the centre of light.

> JOHN HOLMES WHITCHURCH. BERKS.

The reply to the puzzle by Master Worpole is :-

Eight cigarettes. When he had smoked seven he had seven ends left which he made into another cigarette, thus giving a total of eight.

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