LIVING HISTORY DAYS TO FEATURE OLD-FASHIONED PARADE

Living History Days, May 16-17, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., will have an exciting new feature this year: an old-fashioned parade complete with brass band, marchers in period costumes, 1920s mounted horse units, and on Sunday, a corn dog. People in costume will be invited to join in at 2:00 each day and march along to the music of John Philip Sousa. Joining the parade will be KRON-TV 4 personalities: Sylvia Chase, Bob McCarthy, Mark Thompson, Jim Paymar, Bob Jameson, and Tom Netles. Headquartered at the newly refurbished Chicco House, these members of the evening news team will be available for pictures and visiting with the public. KRON-TV 4 is one of the event’s three main sponsors as are San José Parks and Recreation Department and the San José Historical Museum Association.

Visitors to the Museum on these two special days will want to arrive early and linger throughout the day to fully enjoy the hundreds of demonstrations, children’s activities, historical entertainment acts, and historical units. Demonstrations will include weaving, quilling, rope making, lace making, lithography, blacksmithing, lino painting, quilling, wood carving, and basket making. A wide variety of exhibits will be a view on the grounds as well as in the buildings, from hats to antique fire engines, automobiles, radios, dolls, miniature operating model railroads, and antique bottles. A new area, Heritage Corner, will feature displays by local ethnic, cultural, and historical groups.

Living History Days is a unique opportunity for children to experience life 100 years ago in a ride variety of ways, including butter churning, clothes washing, rug beating, quilling, apple peeling, and grinding coffee ad nutmeg. For a small fee, boys and girls may dress as a corn husk doll, herbal basket, or spoon doll. In between these activities children will want to view a puppet show, ride a pony in the pony ring, listen to story telling or try their skill at blind man’s bluff, tug-of-war, sack races, and hoop rolling. Once tired from the games, children will be able to visit the toy table to play with toys as they were made before the days of plastic and batteries.

DON’T MISS THIS ADDITIONAL PAGE NEWS

Autograph Party with Mayor McEnery ........................................ p. 3
New Ralph Rambo Booklet ......................................................... p. 5
Tour of Oakland’s Paramount Theatre .......................................... p. 7
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In lieu of a column this month, I prefer to devote space in this newspaper to photographs of our recent house move. As page 35 of this issue shows, we have had to ask about the impending moves for months now, and these photographs will give you an idea of what lies ahead. The coordination of the donation and move of three houses at once was a monumental task, but the results make it all worthwhile. We plan to maintain our beautiful grounds and see our new structures in place on the grounds.

Bruce Pohle
Association President

DOCKET REPORT

Have you ever noticed how fast time flies when you are having fun? Well, apparently, we Docents are having a ball! All of the Docents are again being featured in various springtime schedules here at the Museum of pre-scheduled school tours and the outreach programs in the community. With the good weather setting in we will be taking many school children to the Japanese Friendship Gardens and downtown to the Peralta Adobe. And, we are now one-third of the way through the training program of the docent trainees, which will be the conclusion of the middle part of May. These new trainees are an enthusiastic group and they are thoroughly enjoying the excellent training program put together by our Curator of Education, Virginia Beck.

On Sunday, May 15, seventeen of our Docents, in costume, volunteered from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. at TV Channel 54, San Jose, by answering the telephones in the pledge break camera. Our good Docent, Ellen Longworth, was the one who contacted the station to get us on the program, and then she got him in touch with the group of men and women from our Docent Council who were willing and available to perform the public service. We all agree that this was a grand opportunity for us to obtain some publicity for the San Jose Historical Museum and for Living History Days, May 16 and 17. This appearance and exposure on local television should be a fine opportunity for public awareness of the museum and its programs. We are hoping to make this an annual event for the Docents.

During the month of March, our Docents made another interesting field trip, this time to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory where we were taken on a tour through the building that houses the world’s largest laser. Then we went by bus around the rest of the one mile square area that houses the other activities taking place there.

Doc Near
Docent Council President

MUSEUM AUXILIARY

Looking for the unusual gift for a special friend, relative or business associate? Spend a few minutes in the Museum Gift Shop. There you can find turn-of-the-century dolls, aprons, rocking horses, dolls, cars, toy furniture, hats (both men’s and lady’s), gift cards, postcards of old San Jose and the more modern souvenirs and spoons.

Do you have a library of local history books? The Gift Shop probably has a book that will compliment your collection. Books are available on local and state California, Indians, and many other topics.

The Gift Shop is staffed by members of the Auxiliary who are knowledgeable and eager to help you find the perfect gift or the book you are searching for.

During the summer vacation time nearly upon us, maybe you would be interested in donating a few hours working in our Gift Shop. We are always ready to meet new, interesting and friendly people here at the Museum as you make us some of our most valuable visitors from all over the world. Call Dulce Jansen at 287-2290 for more information.

Joan Helms
Auxiliary President

The San Jose Historical Museum is part of the City of San Jose Parks and Recreation Department.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Archives will be open the following Saturday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. for research: May 9 and 30, June 13 and 27, July 11 and 25, August 8 and 22. Please call the week before for an appointment.

Leslie Masunaga
Archivist
IN THE COLLECTION

During March and April, the Pacific Hotel lobby case displayed patent medicine bottles, chemicals, and apparatus used in compounding prescriptions in celebration of San Jose's old time drug stores. Special thanks to Chuck Leiter of Leiter's Park Avenue Pharmacy for the loan of the mortar and pestle, showgloves, and suppository mold. In May, a collection of antique eyeglasses donated by Neil Benson will be on display.

Recent donations to the collection include two armchairs and a settee from Margery Kolstedt, daughter of William Anderson of Anderson-Bargrover Company (which later became PMC). The furniture originally belonged to Mrs. Anderson's parents, James and Sarah Schafer. A chalk portrait of Margaret Schafer Anderson (Mrs. William) was also included in the donation. An incense burner from San Jose's Chinese Temple was donated by William Pryor, the carpenter who led the crew that dismantled the temple in 1966. Mr. Pryor brought the incense burner to the Museum after reading about the proposed reconstruction of the temple.

The "Connoisseur Night" lecture series presented in March and April was very well received. Organized by curator Margaret Martin, the series presented conservators from around the Bay Area speaking on the treatment of paintings, textiles, furniture, works of art on paper, and decorative arts.

Attendance at each lecture averaged around 30 people. The series has been successful; our next lecture program will be offered again next spring.

Sarah Heigho Nanes
Curator

HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION CORNER

Just recently, I had the chance to pass through downtown San Jose and check on the progress of the transformation of the city. San Jose is definitely "growing up" and it’s difficult not to be impressed with the new high rise of steel and concrete. As I visually sorted through the half-finished buildings, I was relaxed to see old familiar "faces" such as the Bank of America Building that is now a Lesher Building, the newly renovated Saratoga Capital Building, Germania Hall, the decidedly 50s look of San Jose State, and many other historically significant landmarks.

As San Jose "grows up" the Historic Landmarks Commission strongly encourages the community to continue building for the future but at the same time, make every effort to preserve the city's heritage of historic structures. Historic buildings, including many buildings of cultural and scientific significance, are now being appealed to tourists and convention attendees. We have some excellent resources in and around the city which can be a part of redevelopment and quality as an investment in San Jose's future.

Leslie Parks
Chairman
Historic Landmarks Commission

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VINTAGE REFLECTIONS

JUNE 15TH/PAGE 3

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INTERESTED VOLUNTEERS CALL 408-287-5260

AN AUTOGRAHP PARTY WITH THE MAYOR

Join us after work on Wednesday, May 13th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM! The Museum Association is once again hosting an autograph party with Mayor Tom McEnery - this time at popular D.B. Cooper's restaurant in downtown San Jose. It will be a festive gathering in a great location, with complimentary hors d'oeuvres provided by D.B. Cooper's on the patio behind the restaurant. Plan to enter through the main doors on Santa Clara Street. This is your opportunity to purchase a copy of California Cavalier: The Journal of Captain Thomas Fallon written by Mayor McEnery, and have your book autographed by the author. (Please note, however, that purchase of a book is not necessary for attendance at the party.)

California Cavalier is now reproduced by the Museum Association through a grant from the Hugh Stuart Center Charitable Trust. All proceeds from the sale of this book go directly to the Museum Association for the support of the Museum.

California Cavalier is written in diary form, in a style that both informs and entertains the reader. It tells the interesting personal history of Thomas Fallon against the backdrop of San Jose and California's history. The Fallon House, Thomas Fallon's family home, still stands on San Pedro Street; an exact replica of the location of Manny's Cellar.

California Cavalier: The Journal of Captain Thomas Fallon is hardbound, 112 pages in length, and sells for $15.00. Museum Association members receive a 10% discount. Books will be available for purchase on the evening of May 13th. Please join us!
HISTORICAL FOOTNOTES OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY

By Jack Douglas

OUR UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC LEGACY

Those of you who believed that a designated building on San Jose's historic inventory was safe from demolition had a rude awakening last month. Kostka Hall at Bellarmine College Preparatory was torn down on April 9, 1987. A number of factors influenced the majority of the Landmarks Commissioners who voted to have the building removed from the inventory, thereby sealing its fate. These factors included long neglect of the building, cost of rehabilitation, and the urgent need of the site for a new science building.

The handsome Mission style dormitory, built in 1909, was originally named Helen Guth Hall. Its primary significance was that it was one of the first buildings on campus, architecturally impressive, left from the days when the campus of the University of the Pacific occupied the site. Surrounded by modern buildings, Kostka/Guth Hall had lost the contextual relationship it had when it was part of a complex of older buildings from the turn of the century. The other two UOP buildings, the old gymnasium and Sexton Hall, are located near the back of the campus, and the gym, like Kostka Hall has been condemned as unsafe in its present state. The staff at Bellarmine could not have found it in their hearts or pocketbooks to rehabilitate Kostka Hall and put it to some new use, but to grind the wheels of progress.

The University of the Pacific campus was an important educational and cultural institution in our area from its founding in 1851 when it was moved to Stockton. Perhaps a bit of UOP history is in order here to put this in perspective.

Before 1860, the closest thing San Jose had to an institution of higher learning was Reverend Edward Bannister's English and Classical School, later known as the San Jose Academy. Its first classes were given in a building on the southeast corner of Second and San Fernando streets. Reverend Bannister was given church support by the Methodist Church to form the first college in California. This college, originally chartered as the California Wesleyan College, began in 1851, and later renamed the University of the Pacific, can lay claim to be California's first official school of higher education. That same year, the Mission School in Santa Clara, and the College of Notre Dame (then located in San Jose) were chartered, making the Santa Clara Valley the center of higher education in the West.

The first University of the Pacific buildings were in Santa Clara on Main Street across from City Park. There were only two; the Female College, chartered in 1854, and the Men's College Institute, thus forming the first semi-coeducational school in the state. The students lived and studied in their respective buildings. The history accords that Victorian decorum could be maintained. The Archaic (men's) and Emendish (women's) Liberal Societies were formed in 1854, and 1858 respectively, making them the first such groups in the West. The UOP medical school was formed in San Francisco and still operates today as a dental school.

In the early years, when California was cut off from the eastern United States, the prospective student had to write a letter to attend the colleges in our valley. With the opening of the transcontinental railroad, however, students from well-to-do families could go east to more prestigious and better endowed colleges and universities. As a consequence, the universities and colleges here set about expanding and modernizing their campuses. In 1866, UOP purchased 435 acres of land on the south side of the Bangkok, Rancho, in the San Jose Valley, which is now the site of the College Park station. A short time later the Southern Pacific established their College Park Station adjacent to the campus. The name was prophetic, for in the early part of this century, the name was changed to College of the Pacific. It was not until 1861, when the Stockton campus had expanded greatly, that the name reverted.

The opening of the railroad and the ability of students to go east was only the beginning of UOP's problems in maintaining enrollment, for other colleges and universities were also springing up in the vicinity. In 1870, the first State Normal School was built on Washington Square in San Jose, and in 1891, the first classes at Leland Stanford University had commenced. The beautiful new Stanford campus was even then almost a "world class" institution and a magnet for the best and brightest of the state's youth. UOP struggled with its financing as the economic ups and downs of the late 19th century took a toll.

The enrollment picture improved somewhat when, in 1890, the school agreed to incorporate another Methodist affiliated school, Napa College, into the UOP. The residents of Napa were not happy at having their college but the weight of economics prevailed.

Another significant event took place with the opening of the commodious Music Conservatory Building on the College Park Campus in 1890. The music department had been organized in 1875 under the guidance of Professor Louis King, who, in the past decade had developed it into a full-fledged school known as the Pacific Conservatory of Music. King left UOP in 1893 to form the King Conservatory in San Jose, Central Dining Hall, c. 1886. Photo courtesy of University of Pacific.

However, the Conservatory continued to flourish under other directors, including, in 1915, the noted American composer Howard Hanson.

At the turn of the century, the College Park campus consisted of five buildings, West Hall, built in 1871, was the ladies dormitory, and the Levi-Goodrich designed East Hall was the men's dormitory. In 1905, the library and cafe were opened, the library and dining room. There were also the Jackson-Goodall Astronomical Observatory and the new Romanesque Music Conservatory building.

The construction caused by the 1906 earthquake dealt the college the most severe blow. Damage was so extensive to East Hall that the fourth floor had to be removed in the renovation. Other buildings were significantly damaged as well. A miracle worker was needed if the student was to be rebuilt and its shaky financial situation improved. Such a one was found in the person of William Wesley Guth who was installed as president in 1906. Dr. Guth, a native of San Francisco who dropped his ministerial duties in Cambridge, Massachusetts to come west, wasted no time in patching up the old and planning for the new on the UOP campus.

High on his list of building priorities were a new ladies dormitory, a gymnasium, a science hall, a library and a president's home. When Dr. Guth took in 1913 to become president of Goucher College in Maryland, most of these goals had been accomplished. The most impressive new addition to the ladies' dormitory, was named for his wife Helen Guth.

More important perhaps, was the impact Dr. Guth had in the quality of education at the college. Enrollments doubled during his regime, and a firm fiscal foundation was established.

During this period, serious thought was being given to finding a better location for the college. The growth of San Jose had pressed in around College Park, and the noisy railroad was lending some trustees to believe it was time to move. Obviously, President Guth was committed to improving the College Park campus, and his relatively short tenure may have been due to disagreements with the trustees over this issue.

Several other catastrophes occurred which turned the tide for the move. Central Hall, the primary classroom building (which also held the kitchen and dining room) burned to the ground in 1914. Not long after, West Hall burned, destroying the library and cafe, the science department and other classrooms were moved to East Hall.

Changed on page 5

East Hall in the 1990s. Photo courtesy of University of Pacific.
LITTLE BOTHERSOME MEMORIES

A few years ago, while teaching in Cairo, I learned to enjoy a typical Egyptian treat: a tall, chilled glass of fresh-squeezed fruit or vegetable juice, sold at sidewalk stands. The first time I saw one I was momentarily whisked back to San Jose and 1945: the Year of the Juice Stands.

Somehow, from some unknown source, fruit juice stands began to appear along First Street between Santa Clara and San Salvador: small, one-person stands, offering two sizes and three colors: purple, green, and yellow. I believe the colors represented grape, lemon, lime, and orange flavors. I remember that it took a brisk jolt of teeth to get the purple off your teeth! Whatever happened to the juice stands? Who owned them?

And what of the Lavendar Lady? No one knew her name. The legend among the schoolchildren was that her fiancé was killed in WW II and she spent the rest of her life in mourning. We used to see her often, always moving along with quiet grace, dressed entirely in softly draped clothing of an older vintage: a little cloud of lavender chiffon, silks, and crepe de chine. Does anyone know her story or recall her name?

Perhaps the greatest mystery of all was the roof of the Farmers Union building, on the north side of West Santa Clara Street, near San Pedro. There, at about six-foot intervals, were statuaries of men going all the way around the roof.

These are not your usual classic busts of Homer, Caesar, Galen and Company. They were likenesses of real people. They looked to be farmers and lawyers, merchants, doctors, clerks and teachers — typical men of San Jose in the 1890s. Who were they and where are the busts now? Who made them?

Sometimes I ask old friends who used to live in San Jose if they remember these men of the Farmers Union, the Lavendar Lady or the fruit juice stands. I invariably get side-long glances and a skeptical "uh-huh" that says, "it's your imagination again." But somewhere in our valley, there must be somebody who remembers?

Edith Smith

Ralph Rambo's many fans have a real treat in store! At the age of 93, Ralph has written another in his series of nostalgic reminiscences of life in "old" Santa Clara Valley.

E-Day 1906: Witness to an Earthquake recalls the big quake of 1906 and its devastating effects on Santa Clara County. Ralph was 12 years old at the time but his memories of the devastation are clear. Just the night before, his family's new tank house was completed; the morning of April 18th it lay in ruins. Ralph and his father spent the day driving around the valley, checking up on relatives and friends and viewing the damage firsthand.

E-Day 1906 was published by the Restoration Press of San Jose in cooperation with the San Jose Historical Museum Association. It is 24 pages in length, softcover, with original cover artwork by Ralph Rambo. The booklet is illustrated with Ralph's own pen and ink drawings and historic photographs selected from the Museum's Archives.

E-Day 1906 might hold some surprises for those who think of this disaster as the "San Francisco" earthquake. Quake damage in the South Bay was extensive, as Ralph recalls and the historic photographs vividly confirm.

E-Day: Witness to an Earthquake is now on sale in the Museum Gift Shop for $2.00 + tax. Museum Association members receive a 10% discount on all purchases. Consider E-Day 1906 as a gift for someone special, as well as a "must" for your own library! You can use the coupon below to order E-Day 1906 directly from the Gift Shop.

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THE OLD CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Does a hot, summer's day have anything in common with a cold, winter's evening? Most assuredly, a good library book. Before television was common in our homes, reading was one of the family's entertainments. This led us to our memories for the source of this pleasure.

At the corner of San Fernando Street and Fourth Street stood the San Jose Public Library. It was situated on the edge of San Jose State Normal School campus on Washington Square. The building was surrounded by grass, with a couple of tennis courts on the Fourth Street side. There were many tall trees shading the area making it a lovely, cool place in which to walk on a hot afternoon. Andrew Carnegie was responsible for San Jose's first public library with his donation of $50,000. The cornerstone was laid in 1902 with great pomp and ceremony by the San Jose Elks Club.

The outside of the building was of brick and sandstone, with stone steps leading up to the front of the main library. There was a full basement, and it was here that the Children's Library was housed. Thinking back on it, that was a pretty large library for a town of less than 50,000 people. As one walked up the steps to the main library, one entered a large room from which emanated warmth and light. Children seldom entered this adult domain, but when we did it was with awe. It was always so silent, peaceful, yet friendly in its warmth. It seemed to require us to always be on our best, quiet behavior.

Most children would only go to the Children's Room using an outside entrance. Entering here, we were still rather quiet, but not necessarily subdued. We felt that we were in a friendly atmosphere, and were quite at home, especially if we were greeted by the head librarian, Mrs. Edith Daley. Internally, everything was the same. When the Library was opened in 1903, the Children's Room was only a small alcove on the main floor. The basement was used for the boiler room, stacks, and a lecture room. Some thoughtful person must have decided the children of San Jose needed more.

It was always a happy day when one could go to the library and pick out a supply of books. I was fortunate enough to be able to walk over as many times as I wished. This entailed my crossing the railroad tracks that ran down Fourth Street, all the way through town. In the summertime, it was my favorite activity.

There was one special time that I will never forget — Book Week. One year, the Children's Room was decorated in a particularly memorable way. There were child-sized dolls dressed and posed to represent different books. Also on display were pictures of scenes from many stories. The day I saw it for the first time, I remember coming to a sudden halt as I entered, and stood staring at the room. Then slowly, I walked around, looking at all the wonderful displays.

As the town grew, a larger library facility was needed; so in 1937 the City Library moved to the Post Office building on Market Street and San Fernando. Today it is our San Jose Museum of Art. The old Carnegie building was turned over to San Jose State College. It was torn down in January 1968 and replaced by the John T. Wahlgren Library, named after the President of the College at that time.

Wilma Virgo Lee
VISIT
OAKLAND’S PARAMOUNT THEATRE
THE CAROUSEL COMPANY AND TOBIN FRALEY STUDIOS
LUNCH AT JACK LONDON VILLAGE

WHEN: Friday, June 5, 1987
WHO: Association members and their guests
HOW: Royal Coach Tours
TIME: Leaving and returning to the Museum 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM
COST: Members $25.00 (includes lunch)
Non-Members $27.50 (includes lunch)

We will begin our day by touring the Paramount Theatre, which is an outstanding example of Art Deco architecture and decor. It was originally designed by Timothy Pflueger in 1928 and was fully restored to its original beauty in 1973. It is now the home of the Oakland Symphony and is a California and National Historical landmark.

Our next stop will be Jack London Village. We will have lunch at Shenanigans. The lunch will consist of a Soup and Salad Bar and is included in the cost of the trip.

Our last stop of the day will be The Carousel Company and Tobin Fraley Studios. This is where antique carousel animals are restored to their former glory for many of the Bay Area carousels. We will see a slide show, the gallery of antique carousel animals, and tour the repair and paint studios, where dedication professionals refurbish up to 100 carousel animals a year. We will see animals in all stages of restoration, and restoration techniques shall be explained and demonstrated when possible.

Reservations for this trip are limited and refunds will be made only when there is a waiting list for the trip. Checks should be made payable to the San Jose Historical Museum Association and sent (along with the reservation form and a stamped self-addressed envelope) to the San Jose Historical Museum, 636 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, CA 95112. Attn: Earline Shields.

OAKLAND JUNE 5, 1987
NAME: 
ADDRESS: 
PHONE NUMBER: 
NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS: 
RESERVATION CONFIRMED: [ ]

MYSTERY PHOTO

Canyou help identify this house, any of the people, or the event? If so, please contact the Archives at 877-2290.

MARCH MYSTERY PICTURE

Alas! Our lovely lady remains a nameless mystery. (Please, write the names of your family and friends on the back of your pictures.)

The picture mount was signed by A.P. Hill, San Jose, Cal. Andrew P. Hill was a prominent photographer and painter in San Jose and one of the founders of the Sempervirens Club. We have several paintings of his hanging in the main exhibit at the Museum.

The portrait of this lady dates from the Edwardian period (1900-1910). According the Ann Lindsey, Costume Consultant, her dress was "perhaps a late afternoon tea dress characterized by light colors, often white, light-weight in filmy fabrics and having the lace trim and soft pleating used at this time. The skirt fit closely around the hips and flared to fullness at the bottom and the sweeping train consists of a fan-shaped panel of narrow pleats. The shirt appears to be finished with a deep flounce of narrow pleats and the sleeves are also pleated. The flowered sash tied in a large bow at the back of the waist and ends in a long knotted sash loosely over the train. If we could see the dress from the front, it would no doubt have the full- bosomed, blousy "pouter-pigeon" look above the waist, possibly trimmed with lace inserts or with plaits to match the sleeves and train. Her hair is the pompadored "Gibson Girl" look fashionable at that time."
The San Jose Historical Museum Association, using additional donated funds and monies from its budget, arranged the restoration of the house interior. Living History Days, 1987, will be the first time this house is open to the public since its move to the Museum in 1973.

Association members, guests and the public won't want to miss this year's event which will be bigger and more exciting than ever!

Virginia Beck
Curator of Education and Living History Days Chairperson

DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 15, 1987: Autograph Party with Mayor Tom McEnery, D.B. Cooper's 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- May 16 & 17, 1987: Living History Days, Museum Grounds, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- June 5, 1987: Tour to Oakland, Departure from Phelan Avenue Parking Lot, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
- June 20 & 21, 1987: Rotary's Day in the Museum Grounds, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

MULLER CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY
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Scene from Children's Games, Living History Days 1986.

SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

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