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Dean Riordan Expects No Problem Recruiting Next Year's Freshmen

As the 1968-69 academic year rapidly approaches its final stages, the Admission Office's task of selecting next year's Freshmen to replace this year's seniors is entering its climactic level. Only after that climax has passed and those students accepted by the college have made their final decisions will the number of men and women in the Class of 1973 be known.

In a recent interview, Mr. Lawrence Riordan, Dean of Admissions, said that the number of female applicants is very satisfying and that the number of male applicants greatly exceeds the number at this time last year. As of February

AAUP Speaker Policy Given To Bissonette

At its most recent meeting, the Assumption College Chapter of the American Association of University Professors voted to adopt the policy of the National AAUP concerning speakers invited by the faculty and/or the student body. The chapter resolution, presented to Rev. George L. Bissonette, President of Assumption College, emphasizes that the policy is not meant to imply college endorsement of the views held either by the campus sponsors or by the invited speakers.

The AAUP President, Professor John Dufault, explained that the campus chapter acted because at present, the College does not have an official, public policy on what the AAUP regards as a basic matter in the sphere of academic freedom. Professor Dufault further remarked that the AAUP resolution contained no criticism of past actions by the College, but was intended both to specify what as fairly consistent unofficial policy at Assumption and to prevent future misunderstanding, either between the college administration and the faculty, or between the college and the general public. In the latter regard, he pointed out that Assumption's adoption of the AAUP resolution as policy would emphasize that the role of a university in furthering the free exchange of ideas involves the responsibility for allowing views to be heard which may not necessarily be popular with the college community or with the community as a whole. He indicated, however, that the search for knowledge inherently involves awareness of diverse viewpoints, and that by providing for this without abandoning its own commit-

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Correction

Jim Corona was elected vice-president of the IRC at the club's January 29th meeting and not Russ Eckel, as was incorrectly reported in the Feb. 14th issue of the Provocateur.

20, the total number of female applicants was 237 and male applicants numbered 520, making a total of 757 applicants with more expected.

Looking at the figures of past years, Mr. Riordan pointed out that usually about 1/2 of all applicants are accepted and that about 1/2 of those accepted finally decide to come to the college. Using this as his basis, he estimates that about 80 girls will decide to come here next year and this is near to the number he anticipated when the Co-Ordinate College was established. He said that, as of February 20, the number of 237 female applicants included 165 accepted applications, 32 still pending in the Admission's Committee, 34 which are incomplete, and 2 withdrawals.

Mr. Riordan stated that 7 girls have definitely decided to attend Assumption. He emphasized that this does not mean that we are

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Committee Report Recommends 'Graduated Drinking Privilege'

A preliminary report from the four-man committee, set up last year to investigate the drinking on the Assumption campus, has been released and sent to the Dean of Students' Office. In the six-page report the committee, headed by Mr. Neil Brophy, outlined its investigation and made some recommendations.

Its purpose was to "inquire into and evaluate the present practices and guidelines concerning the use of alcoholic beverages on the Assumption campus." The committee ran into difficulty since there exists no campus policy as such. The Student Handbook upholds the laws of Massachusetts but only singles out drunkenness and disruptive behavior as deserving of sanctions.

Faced with these difficulties, the committee then began its investigation into six separate areas: "the role and purpose of alcohol in human life; the responsibility of Assumption as to the education of man directly or indirectly in reference to alcohol; the student's evaluation of alcohol as contributing to campus life and atmosphere for studies; what other schools of similar constitution were doing concerning alcohol; and what principle governs our relationship with students now that 'in loco parentis' is going, and 'mind your business' or 'let me learn by mistakes' is supposed to be 'au courant'."

The committee's first recommendation was that the drinking privilege be continued in the Assumption community. Fr. Norman Meiklejohn, Dean of Students, agreed with this recommendation and foresaw no drastic change in the use of alcoholic beverages on campus.

The committee also recommended that the privilege be graduated to match the way students are graduated from one year to the next. In response to this, Fr. Meiklejohn said, "This would not affect any student now on campus but could, after careful consideration, affect next year's freshmen."

However, he noted, this is only a preliminary report and will be reviewed by the Office of the Dean of Students before any action is taken. The Dean's office will then submit their findings to the committee which will formulate a final report.



A "Conversation among HONNETES GENS:" Fr. Denys and Mr. Poisson defend an unpopular position before fifteen French and Foreign Language Majors. (photo by Dave Lemire).

Departmental Meeting On Orals Ends In Stalemate; More To Come

Acting upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee urging departmental meetings of faculty and students, the French and Foreign Language Departments met two weeks ago at 4 PM to discuss this year's oral comprehensive exams. Although this topic directed itself to seniors, underclassmen majors were invited. Approximately 15 students attended the sessions co-chaired by Mr. Phillippe Poisson, Chairman of the French Department, and Father Denys Gonthier, Chairmen of the Division of Modern Languages.

Mayer To Speak On Czech Resistance

Prof. Milton Mayer, noted writer and educator now at the University of Massachusetts, will speak at Assumption on March 4 at 8 p.m. on the role of the Czech students in the August uprising, their subsequent resistance, and its relation to non-violence and students in the U.S.

A frequent visitor to Czechoslovakia, Mr. Mayer made his latest trip there in November 1968. His talk will be titled "The Art of the Impossible: A Schweik analysis of the Czechs."

Before entering the field of education, Mayer worked as a newspaperman for the Associated Press, The Chicago Evening Post and The Chicago American between 1928 and 1937. He has been a visiting professor at several colleges in the U.S. and Europe as well as a fellow at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Santa Barbara, Cal. since 1964.

Mayer's books include *They Thought They Were Free: The Germans 1933-45*; (with M.J. Adler) *The Revolution in Education*; and *What Can a Man do?*

He is also the author of numerous articles in national magazines, including regular contributions to *The Progressive*, and the recipient of a Ben Franklin citation in journalism.

Mayer's lecture, will be given in the Maison auditorium.

Mr. Poisson began the meeting by outlining the basic nature of the exam. Points such as the length of the exam, the members of the "jury," the grading of the exam, and possible test material were mentioned by Mr. Poisson. Fr. Denys commented upon these points in reference to the Foreign Language concentrators. During this period most of the students remained silent.

This silence soon ceased, however, when the purpose of the oral comprehensives was brought up. Mr. Poisson stated that the exam is administered "to show the student what he does know: not to flunk or to humiliate anyone." He continued, "We are trying to find the lacunae in your knowledge. When this is accomplished, the exam should evolve into a meaningful and enjoyable discussion."

With this remark, many students questioned just how "meaningful and enjoyable" the exam could be. One student even offered that the comps were no more than "a grilling session of horribly nervous seniors." At this time Father Denys admitted that the atmosphere was bad but added, "whatever you do that is going to be worth anything is going to cause a certain amount of tension."

The students then questioned the actual worth of the comprehensive exams; they wondered just how comprehensive a 45 minute exam could be. And with this re-

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Protest Fears Prompt Rehash Of Absurdities

Last week, in the wake of a Black student demonstration and occupation of certain administrative offices at Clark University and amidst rumors of a similar protest here at Assumption this week, two hastily prepared notices were rushed through the Dean of Students office and posted throughout the campus. They were both signed by Fr. Georges Bissonnette, president of the college.

The first to appear was a reprint of the "rules" for campus demonstrations released by the Deans' office in October and endorsed by an uninspired Student Affairs Committee in November. In effect, what it said was students could protest on campus provided they didn't bother anybody! "If demonstrators seriously obstruct the general business of the college ... they will be liable to legal action, as deemed necessary by the committee." Ultimate interpretation, of course, rests with the Student Affairs Committee.

These regulations were absurd when they first appeared and have certainly not been enhanced by our president's signature. One demonstrates when other, more legal, measures are not possible. The idea is to bother somebody — that's how things get done.

The second notice to appear served to warn non-members of this "academic community" that they had no business interrupting its activities. If one couldn't guess it by the first one, this notice should have tipped him off: Fr. Georges, and probably a few other administrators, were scared. While it might be easy to understand their concern with possible violence on campus, we don't think it's as simple as that. We think Fr. Georges is worried, more than anything else, about the school's image. Student unrest would destroy the idyllic picture Assumption would like to portray to the community of a campus where students are still Christian gentlemen and where all elements, students, faculty and administration, live in harmony. Students are part of the decision making process at Assumption, Fr. Georges declared to the press after his election as president. What would happen if people found out that that was largely untrue? How much money would we lose if potential donors heard about trouble on the campus?

If the time ever comes when the students at Assumption find it necessary to demonstrate in order to assert their rights and responsibilities as intelligent men, we hope they draw up their own "rules." The administration is too busy creating a good image.

D. Letendre Axes Free Days Three Factors Used To Screen Applicants

The Administrative Council has decided against any change in the Academic Calendar for the spring semester of the 1969 school year.

The Council examined a report from Associate Academic Dean Donald H. Letendre at its February 26th meeting before making the decision. The report, according to Dr. Remick, contained a comparison of the number of class meetings in the last three academic school years.

The report stated that the number of class meetings in the spring semester were 70, 69, and 74 for the 1967, 1968, and 1969 school years respectively. According to Dean Letendre, the "required number of class meetings" for each semester was 75 (45 according to the Mon-Wed-Fri count).

The investigation of the present academic calendar came about after Dr. Remick received a letter

from a faculty member questioning the number of class meetings for the second semester. Contrary to rumor, no questioning of the academic calendar came from the Business Office.

Dean Letendre's report, which stated that in this year's calendar "the number of class meetings has been increased to approximate more closely the required number," was not the only factor which influenced the decision to

Mulford Sibley Here March 11

Dr. Mulford Sibley, Professor of Political Science of the University of Minnesota, will speak at Assumption on Tuesday, March 11, 1969. The topic of his lecture and discussion will be the "Ethical Dimensions of Marxism." The lecture will deal with the ethics of Marx and their application and transformation by the communist nations. Prof. Sibley will also examine this question in light of the invasion of Czechoslovakia, Soviet relations with its satellites, and the Sino-Soviet dispute. Prof. Sibley last lectured at Assump-

tion two years ago when he discussed the "University and the Community."

Professor Sibley is a nationally known educator having served as professor of political sciences at the University of Minnesota for 20 years.

Professor Sibley, a pacifist and socialist, is the editor of the book *The Quiet Battle*. He is a contributing editor of *Liberation* magazine. He is also the co-author of a prize-winning study of conscription in the Second World War and a contributor to the *Political Science Quarterly*.

These four points were eloquently defended (and to little avail) by Paul Jourcin. Mr. Poisson and Fr. Denys had yet more eloquent (if less tenable) replies.

TO THE EDITOR:

On Monday, February 17th, the Crown and Shield Society met for the second time this semester. The first meeting was held on February 3rd when the Society invited Dr. Meier to discuss with them the "role of an honor society on campus." Mr. John Burke, Mr. Neil Brophy, and Roger Bernier, '66 were then invited to the second meeting.

At the last meeting, the 15 members present resolved: first, to look into and to volunteer for opening the Coffee House daily from 10:30 to 1:30; second, to form a subcommittee to prepare a reasoned statement asking that grades be sent to students; third, to explore the possibility of making a lounge on campus where faculty and students could meet in comfort and with ease; and fourth, to urge the Academic Council to seek greater integration of courses.

Through this and further action, the Crown and Shield Society hopes to become a more viable and effective body than it has been in past years.

Ron Biron,
Chairman, Crown and Shield Society

TO THE EDITOR:

I hereby give my account of what transpired at the Friday 14th meeting, at which Fr. Denys and Mr. Poisson were present to discuss the oral comprehensives to which all French and Foreign language majors are subjected.

First of all, Mr. Poisson demonstrated his open-mindedness at the start of the meeting by telling us we were to discuss the nature of the orals and to set the date on which they would be taken. Then we waited for Fr. Denys to grace us. Then we commenced. The students, after listening to a snooze-rendering discourse on the nature of orals by Mr. Poisson, finally had their chance to present a number of logical, concrete arguments against them. For example:

(1) Poisson's by now legendary definition of orals as "a conversation among honnetes gens" is not only ideal but downright untrue. The tribunal setting with three judges and the accused — who is asked to prove his worth — is an unnatural one for a discussion.

(2) Nothing is proved by a 45 minutes purge.

(3) The knowledge shown in such a grill session is not that which has been truly acquired in four years at Assumption; it is rather the result of a two-week cram session.

(4) The education we receive at Assumption does not lend itself to an overall birdseye view of our major field; each course is an isolated entity. Yet somehow at the end of four years we are expected magically to be able to tie all the strings together.

These four points were eloquently defended (and to little avail) by Paul Jourcin. Mr. Poisson and Fr. Denys had yet more eloquent (if less tenable) replies.

THE FORUM

They were as following. Again, point for point: Poisson admitted that his description of orals as "conversation" was an ideal one. (We admire idealism, but dread its very real implications.) Ideas for the very simple reason that in every case one the "honnêtes gens" in question is bound to shake a little before the intellectual firing squad. Fr. Denys, however, insisted that all students who felt like victims before the Almighty board were definitely neurotic. (In which case, we suggest that Assumption immediately be transformed into a hospital.) Poisson added that orals, despite the tension, have proved generally to be a meaningful, enjoyable experience. (I offer that this statement is only so much defecation. Poisson is obviously either suffering from the *delusion tremens* or telling a baldfaced lie. None of last year's seniors I have talked to said anything about meaningful experience. (To which I say that since, neither the student nor the faculty member takes pleasure in it, why don't we eliminate orals altogether and make everybody happy. Ah, hark the words of the sado-masochistic sage, "Should all ordeals be done away with?" No, Fr. Denys, they should all be retained, and the children in *afra* will thereby learn the importance and value of food and life. "L'homme se forme par la peine." Translated pain. Oooo. Pleasure. Gurgle, gurgle. Finally, Poisson disagreed with the part about a student having to prove his worth to the panel of judges. His worth, Mr. Poisson said, is already taken for granted. How much worth is being measured? (Yet Poisson seemed strangely amenable to the idea of transferring the orals to a pass-fail, which would defeat the measuring purpose, and more importantly all his fun, since it would eliminate "the little pluses and minuses that we might want to throw around.")

(2) Here Mr. Poisson and Paul Jourcin arrived at a stalemate. Said Jourcin, nothing is proved by a minute purge. Said Poisson, everything is proved by it. Who is right? Which is the better test-four years of written exams or one oral interview? And if orals are better, why not be consistent throughout the four year period?

(3) Fr. Denys agreed that cramming is one way to pass the orals, though not the best way. (He gave no other way. Trusting to fate, perhaps?) Most of last year's seniors agreed that cramming was the only way to pass the orals. All crammed. And passed.

(4) Both Fr. Denys and Mr. Poisson agreed that the Assumption package of education comes in separate boxes. But, at the end of the four years we are finally given the wonderful opportunity to tie the strings together. Or else. Well, as they say, opportunity knocks only once. (Thank God.)

Tom Wall

Continued from Page 1

having difficulty finding girls to come here, since most will not commit themselves to any college until all of their acceptances or rejections have been received and any financial aid application they may have made has been acted upon. It is, therefore, too early to tell how many women will be in next year's Freshman Class.

The same applies to the men, where out of 520 applications 231 have been accepted, 156 are still pending in the Admission's Committee, 124 are incomplete, and 4 have definitely selected Assumption.

Mr. Riordan indicated that the same standards of selection were being used for both male and female students. He said that three academic factors are used in the selection of prospective Assumption students. Each applicant is considered on the basis of his or her high school record, his or her S.A.T. verbal and math scores,

and two recommendations, one from a guidance counselor and one from a class room teacher. He did mention that his office has been concerned with choosing women who have been active and who wish to be quite active here, since the strength of the Co-Ordinate College's extra-curricular program will depend upon the efforts of these initial co-eds.

Mr. Riordan concluded that a large number of the girls who have applied appear to be highly promising students. He said that of the 237 female applicants 75% were obviously acceptable because of their academic achievements.

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Lenich Plans Head-On Campaign Against Present S.G.A. Problems

With five weeks of his presidency remaining, Student Government leader Bill Lenich sees a busy term of office ahead. Two goals are uppermost in his mind: resolving the problems which past Student Governments have created, and improving communication on campus to make Assumption the "community" it is said to be.

No one knows better than Lenich that these goals will be difficult to attain at any time, and impossible to complete in the remaining five weeks. In commenting on these problems, Lenich stated that Student Government had to first decide what its role

was on campus. Then, in order to fulfill that role, it must first solve past S.G.A. problems. Lenich is concerned over the variety and inactivity of S.G.A. committees. As president, he hopes to bring these committees closer together, possibly by having members of each committee attend S.G.A. meetings to keep the Senate informed of their work. Lenich also met recently with the class presidents to try to co-ordinate S.G.A. and class governments.

Concretely, Lenich feels the S.G.A. must prepare for next year's budget meeting and decide what relationship the senate will have

with the S.G.A. of the co-ordinate girls' college. Lenich mentioned the possibility of combining the two Student Governments, which in effect would allow the girls' college to send a delegation to the original Student Government until such time as their senate would assume their own budget responsibilities.

On the subject of the campus community, Lenich said that the spirit of contributing to the college environment had been lost in recent years. The general attitude, he felt, was one of people looking after only themselves, abusing the college property, infringing on the rights of others, and failing to support many extra-curricular functions on campus.

Practically speaking, Lenich realizes that Student Government cannot show students and faculty how to live as a community. But it can, he believed, suggest ways in which this area could be improved. By becoming an active center of student activities, the S.G.A., he hopes, could provide a basis for the kind of contribution to the community that is lacking.

When these goals will be accomplished cannot be said. But Lenich is optimistic about the working potential in this year's S.G.A.

"In recent years, he stated, 'ideas to improve the S.G.A. and college community came out only during election speeches. Although some senators would introduce these ideas, usually they would not be implemented. I think this year's senators realize that work on a motion must be done before the meeting, and that the meeting should be used to present ideas orderly and suggest their implementation rather than the theory behind them.'"

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Denys Rejects Seminar Plan As Replacement For Orals

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mark senior French major, Paul Jourcin, the apparent student spokesman, offered a well-developed alternative to the comps. He proposed that a truly comprehensive examination could be given if the second semester of the Foreign Language Seminar (FL 192) were re-designed to include a group of three professors sitting in on the class discussions (which already are general and comprehensive in nature) on a regular basis. According to Jourcin, "not

Discussion Of Draft Procedures Will Be March 6

Col. Paul F. Feeney, Deputy State Director of the Selective Service System in Massachusetts, will speak on the draft system in the state at the March 6 session of the Worcester YWCA "Electric University" course on the draft.

Col. Feeney will discuss the administration of the Selective Service regulations at the state level, particularly (a) the way in which quotas are determined for Massachusetts; (b) how requests are handled by state appeal boards; and (c) the relationship between the local boards, the state office and the national office.

The course, "The Draft: A Problem in American History," meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in room EF at the YWCA, 2 Washington St. Now in its fourth week, it focuses on (1) Present regulations, draft counseling and legal advice available to young men facing the draft and (2) Responses to conscription in war and peacetime, including Sen. Mark Hatfield's recent bill introduced in Congress to abolish the draft.

Other speakers scheduled for the course include Mr. Keith Lyons of Grafton and Prof. John Burke of Assumption College. Mr. Lyons is a Conscientious Objector now doing alternate service in an area hospital and will speak on Feb. 27. Prof. Burke will discuss the problem of conscription from the Revolutionary War to the present on March 13.

Registration for the course is still open. Individual sessions are also open to visitors.

only an accurate idea of the student's comprehensive knowledge in his major field could be determined but also the tension would be removed by this method of testing."

In response, Father Denys denied that this proposed method would have the same effect as the orals. "An evaluation of a student from the orals would not be the same as an evaluation from the seminar." When questioned as to what the exact difference was, however, the Modern Languages Chairman responded in what many students termed "vague generalities." Though he denied that the tension of the exams was the only difference, he asked, "why should we do away with everything that is unpleasurable?" And at another point he interjected, "Are the comps an ordeal and should all ordeals be done away with?"

Jourcin next suggested that if the comps need be administered, perhaps they could be graded on a Pass-Fail basis. Mr. Poisson stated that he had "no strong objection" to this proposal, but Father Denys commented that this alternative was only a "trick to diminish the tension" and would only be taking away "some of the advantages."

After a two hour session, both chairmen concluded that they would not "drop orals in fear of short-changing the student." Mr. Poisson adjourned the meeting with the proposal that the French majors meet again soon to discuss the Pass-Fail grading system and dates for the exams.

Clark University Cinema presents Norman Mailer's new film,

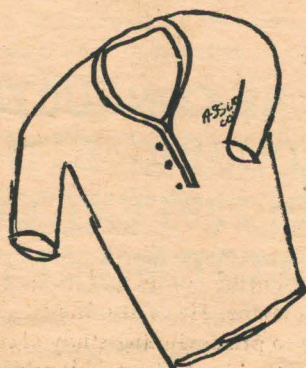
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Free Speech

Profs Back New Plan

Continued from Page 1
ments, the College provides an important service for its students, its faculty, and the community. The text of the resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION ON SPEAKERS' POLICY

Whereas the refusal of the college administration to permit the Melvilles to speak at Assumption this past summer has raised concern over the college's position on freedom of speech, and

Whereas the AAUP "Report of the Special Committee on Academic Freedom in Church-Related Colleges and Universities" AAUP BULLETIN, (Winter, 1967) emphasized (1) that limitations of academic freedom because of religious or other aims of the institution are to be clearly stated in writing "with reasonable particularity and made a matter of public knowledge," (2) that such limitation "should be imposed only after consultation among faculty, administration, and governing body," and (3) that academic freedom protects the right of faculty members to "express, clarify, and interpret positions — including those identified as his own — which are divergent from those of the institution and of the church which supports it," and

Whereas the AAUP article, "Speakers on Campus: A Reexamination" Murray HansKnecht, (AAUP BULLETIN, September, 1967), while granting that colleges must be concerned with their own integrity as social organizations, and that extracollege forces can be real and potent threats to the college's existence, nonetheless concludes that an academic community if it is to be true to its own presumptions "must always opt automatically for freedom. Therefore, we urge that the administration adopt the following as policy on the matter of speakers on campus:

Faculty and students should be

allowed to invite and to hear any person of their own choosing. While the orderly scheduling of facilities may require the observance of routine procedures before a guest speaker is invited to appear on campus, institutional control of campus facilities should never be used as a device of censorship. It should be made clear to the academic and larger community that sponsorship of guest speakers does not necessarily imply approval or endorsement of the views expressed, either by the sponsoring group or the institution.

(This statement is based upon Section III B 6 of the AAUP "Statement on The Academic Freedom of Student," AAUP BULLETIN, Winter, 1965. Only the words "Faculty and" have been added.)

Final Victories Gain Hounds Tourney Seat

The Assumption College Greyhounds had stunned a highly regarded Fairfield University five and topped Wesleyan in the next to last scheduled encounter.

The Clark University Cougars were the victim of a hungry pack of Greyhounds in their last game.

It started off as a see-saw type affair with the Cougars matching hoops with Jake Jones but by halftime, the hot-handed Hounds had amassed a 23 point bulge. Some deft ball-handling from Freshman Neil Burgess and great shooting from just about any Hound on the court led the Hounds to a well deserved 115-79 lop-sided victory.

Sophomore Jake Jones emerged as the top point-getter with 23 markers, 20 of which arrived in the initial half. He was aided by everyone on the squad as each Greyhound broke into the scoring column. Behind the sharp shooting Jones came Tommy Mack, sophomore Brian O'Brien and captain Bobby Boule.

The entire crowd was amazed by the fantastic display of basketball finesse put on by the spunky A.C. team in the first twenty minutes of play. However, the Hounds turned right around and bettered their first half activities as they ran away with their sixteenth victory of the '69 campaign.

On that same day, the Hounds received a bid to the NCAA regional tournament to be held on March 7 and 8 at the A.I.C. gymnasium. Other invited teams are Central Connecticut State College, Springfield College and of course, A.I.C., the host team.

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