

THE TENNESSEE

ECHO Uniting Volunteers for Christ

Volume 27

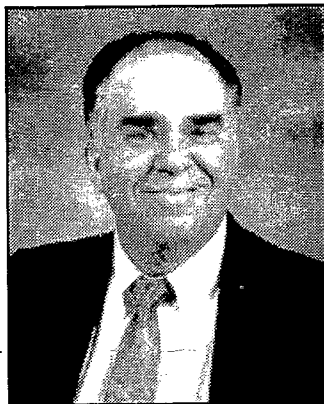
October-November-December 1994

Number 4

The ECHO (USPS-909860) is a quarterly publication of the Tennessee State Association of Free Will Baptists. Editorial office, 2404 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203. Second Class Postage paid at Nashville, TN. Dr. Charles A. Thigpen, Editor. Postmaster: Send forms 3579 to ECHO, 3606 West End Ave., Nashville, TN 37205.



Charley Carmack



Rodger Castle, Sr.



Oscar H. McAmis

Program **57th Annual Session Of** **Tennessee State Association Of** **Free Will Baptists** **Convening with** **First Free Will Baptist Church** **Oak Ridge, Tennessee** **November 14-16, 1994**

Monday Evening, Nov. 14

5:30 p.m. Registration: Registration Fee for all delegates, \$5

7:10 p.m. Mini-Concert: Host Church

7:30 p.m. Gerald Fender, Presiding
Congregational Singing: Fred Hall (Song Leader), Susan Mosley (Pianist), Lois Addington (Organist)

Prayer

Who Is Here: Dr. Charles A. Thigpen, Promotional Director

Welcome: Rev. Terry Mosley, Pastor - First FWB Church, Oak Ridge

Response: Rev. Gary Lovitt, Pastor - Smithville FWB Church, Smithville

OFFERING: Offertory

Association Called to Order

Introduction of Associational Officers

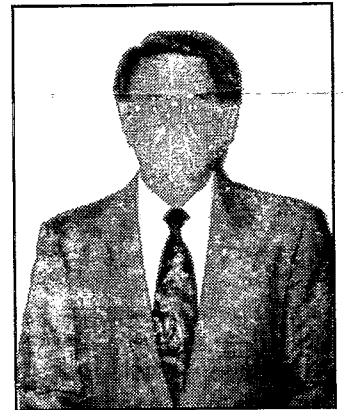
Moderator Appoints Committee on Committees

SPECIAL MUSIC: Host Church

KEYNOTE MESSAGE: Rev. Rodger Castle, Sr., Associate Pastor, First FWB Church of Morrison City, Kingsport

ANNOUNCEMENTS

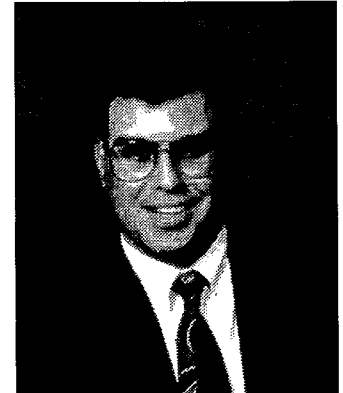
Benediction



Terry Mosley



Roger S. Hood



Mark Ball

Tuesday Morning, Nov. 15

8:00 a.m. Registration Continues
9:00 a.m. BIBLE CONFERENCE
Rev. Terry Eagleton, Presiding; Rev. Terry Mosley, Song Leader
First Speaker: Rev. Roger Hood, Executive Director - Trula Cronk Home For Children
Second Speaker: Rev. Mark Ball, Kingsport
10:30 a.m. Adjournment
11:00 a.m. Regular Service: Paul Creech, Speaker
(See Woman's Auxiliary Program)
12:00 p.m. Lunch

Tuesday Afternoon, Nov. 15

2:00 Congregational Singing: Terry Mosley
Scripture and Prayer: Rev. Doyle Pruett,
Pastor - Canair Chapel F.W.B. Church, Erwin
Moderator's Remarks: Rev. Bill Gardner
REPORTS:
1. Credentials Committee
2. Promotional Director: Dr. Charles A. Thigpen
3. Treasurer: Rev. E. B. McDonald
4. General Board
5. Executive Committee
6. State Home Missions
7. Sunday School and C.T.S.
8. State Foreign Missions
9. Children's Home: Rev. Roger Hood
10. Master's Men
11. State Woman's Auxiliary
GREETINGS FROM NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS:
1. Randall House
2. Bible College
3. Home Missions
4. Foreign Missions
5. Master's Men
6. Executive Office
7. Woman's Auxiliary
8. Board of Retirement and Insurance
4:30 Dismissal

SPECIAL NOTICE: The Woman's Auxiliary Banquet will meet at 5:00 p.m. at a nearby church. Please get your ticket and plan to attend! The Speaker will be Rhoda Creech.

Tuesday Evening, Nov. 15

7:30 Presiding: Rev. Teddy Webb, Pastor - Grassy Creek F.W.B. Church, Rogersville
Congregational Singing: Fred Hall (Song Leader), Susan Mosley (Pianist), Lois Addington (Organist)
Prayer
Introduction of State Home Missionaries: Rev. Larry Powell
Introduction of Foreign Missionaries: Rev. Eugene Waddell
Introduction of Home Missionaries: Rev. Roy Thomas
OFFERING: Offertory
SPECIAL MUSIC: Host Church
MESSAGE: Rev. Oscar McAmis, Pastor - Union Temple F.W.B. Church, Chuckey
Benediction

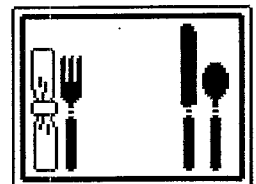
NOTE: Please visit the exhibit areas, take the available material and please be on time for the final session in the morning (Wednesday) at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday Morning, Nov. 16

9:00 a.m. Presiding: Rev. Herman (Bud) Beverly
Congregational Singing: Terry Mosley
Scripture and Prayer
OFFERING: Offertory
MESSAGE: Rev. Charley Carmack, Pastor - Ashland City F.W.B. Church
9:45 a.m. Association Resumes Business
UNFINISHED REPORTS AND GREETINGS
1. Registration
2. Finance
3. Resolutions
4. Digest
5. Placement
6. Nominations
MISCELLANEOUS
12:00 p.m. Adjournment

Special Events

Tickets for the Master's Men Breakfast and the Woman's Auxiliary Banquet will be available on Monday night at the State Association Meeting. Come prepared to attend these two special events. Good program, food and fellowship.





**Forty-Ninth Annual Session
of the
Tennessee Women Active for
Christ**

**First Free Will Baptist Church
Oak Ridge, Tennessee
November 15, 1994**

No Prayer, No Power

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us." Ephesians 3:20

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Morning Session
Congregational Singing
Prayer
Welcome
Special Music
- 9:15 Skit
- 9:30 Business
Credentials Committee Report/Seat
Delegates/Secretary's Report
WNAC Report
TWAC Report
Children's Home Report
Elect Nominating Committee
Appoint Committees
- 10:30 Committee Meetings
- 10:50 Reconvene for Business and Reports
Appreciation
Treasurer
Registration
Resolutions
Finance
Appoint Delegates to Charlotte Convention
(July 16-20, 1995)
- 11:15 Morning Worship
Congregational Singing
Prayer & Offering
Special Music
Message: Paul Creech, Missionary to Africa
- 12:15 Adjourn
- 5:00 TWAC Fellowship Banquet
Speaker: Rhoda Creech, Missionary to
Africa

**November is Home
Missions Month**

This special emphasis is part of the "Together Way Plan" adopted by the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Every church is urged to give a special offering for National Home Missions General Fund.

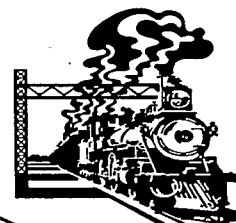
Benjamin Randall Offering

Your gifts and prayers help build churches in the North American continent and U.S. owned islands. Everyone is asked to participate in this gigantic effort to raise \$225,000 for National Home Missions. Each pastor whose church gives to the Benjamin Randall Offering, and every individual who gives at least \$25, will receive the exciting new book, *David Marks: What a Preacher! What a Man!* This is the inspiring life of one of our greatest Free Will Baptist forefathers.

Free materials to promote Home Missions Sunday may be obtained from Free Will Baptist Home Missions Department, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002.

**Tennessee Youth
Conference**

Free Will Baptist youth are invited to attend the TYC in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Dec. 28-30, 1994, at the Chattanooga Marriott. The price is \$50 per person (4 to a room) and includes two nights' lodging, a pizza buffet, and admission to all conference activities. (If you register after 11-11-94, the price will be \$55 per person.) For additional information, write Tennessee Youth Conference, 3915 Franklin Road, Nashville, TN, 37204, or call Sam McVay at 615/298-9288.



Motels in Oak Ridge, Tennessee State Association, Nov. 14-16, 1994

All motels are 1 to 5 minutes from the church.

Comfort Inn
(Convention Motel)
433 South Rutgers Ave.
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(615) 481-8200

1 to 4 people
All rooms: \$45
including breakfast

Hampton Inn
208 South Illinois Ave.
Oak Ridge, TN 378302
(615) 482-7889

1 or 2 people
King Standard: \$59.00
1 to 4 people
2 Double beds: \$59.00
Continental Breakfast

Days Inn
206 South Illinois Ave.
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(615) 483-5615

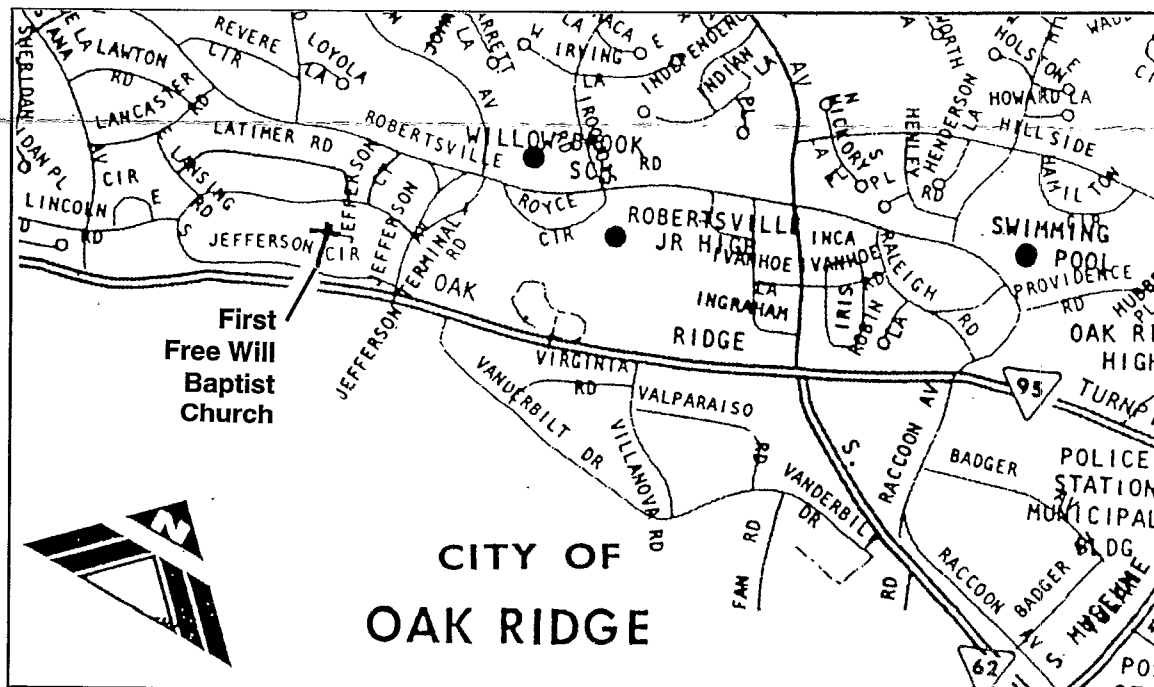
1 person
Double beds: \$39.00
2 to 4 people
Double beds: \$42.00

Directions to First Free Will Baptist Church, Oak Ridge.

From West Tennessee: I-40 East to Exit 356—at end of exit ramp turn left—go about 15 miles to Oak Ridge—you will see a fire station on the right and in 1/2 mile you will come to a traffic light. The church is on the left, 1/4 mile past the light. (The church is on Jefferson Circle.)

From East Tennessee: I-40 West to exit 376A (Pellissippi Parkway). Follow signs to Oak Ridge. When you get to Oak Ridge you will be on Illinois Ave. The first traffic light past Shoney's, you will turn left. Go to first light and turn right and then immediately turn left. This is Jefferson Circle. The church is 1/4 mile on the right.

(When you call for reservations, state that you will be attending the Free Will Baptist State Association.)



A Letter From The Sextons

by Billie Sexton

My heart is breaking as I write. For the past several months Don has been very sick. He was in such a bad condition that he had to be hospitalized for seven days and was then moved to a nursing home. The physician must still keep a close check on him, because of his condition.

Don cannot walk at all, even though he has therapy regularly. He has injections in his legs every day to enable him to bear the pain and muscle cramps. He is helpless to do anything except to feed himself—after the food is cut into bite-size pieces.

Through all of this, Don is so precious and wonderful and never complains. God is so close and dear to him and Don's trust in the Lord never wavers. All that Don does is just lie in bed. I am so glad that I can be with him from three to six hours every day. My back is some better now that I do not have to move Don around. This has been a very difficult time for me. Please pray for both of us.

We could never thank you, our friends, enough for your continued concern. Thank God for your prayers and your support of the "Sexton Medical Fund." We are very grateful to you for all that you do for us. From our hearts we say "Thank you!"

(From the Editor: Please continue to share in the "Don and Billie Sexton Medical Fund." All checks should be made payable to Valley Forge Free Will Baptist Church and earmarked "Medical Fund." These gifts should be sent to:

Rev. Jonas Revis
Route 8, Box 270
Elizabethton, TN 37643)

Home For Children Homecoming

Since 1939, Free Will Baptist Home for Children, located in Greeneville, TN, has been used by God to reach hurting children. On October 22, we will celebrate 55 years in the child care ministry, and we want all of you to partake in this joyous occasion. We believe God is at work here at the Home, as evidenced in the increased number of children He is allowing us to serve and in the changed lives of the children. We would very much like for you to see for yourself what is taking place. We believe you will be encouraged and challenged, at the very least.

The very first child of the Home was Trula Cronk, and she will be present to share her testimony of how important the Home is to her. There will be other exciting things on the program, which will be followed by lunch and opportunities for you to tour our whole campus. Our program begins at 11 a.m. We will be looking forward to having all of you as our guests! If possible, let us know if you are coming- 615/ 639-9449

Tennessee Churches Support Foreign Missions

Tennessee Free Will Baptists gave \$634,248 to foreign missions in 1993. The leading church in Tennessee was Donelson FWB Church, pastored by Robert J. Morgan, which gave \$48,044. The second church was Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville, pastored by Larry Powell, which gave \$24,194. The third church was Fellowship FWB Church in Kingsport, pastored by Winston Sweeney, which gave \$22,026.

In all, twenty-two churches in Tennessee gave \$5,000 or more to foreign missions in 1993. They are:

Donelson, Nashville	\$48,044.53
Cofer's Chapel, Nashville	24,194.38
Fellowship, Kingsport	22,026.59
Shady Grove, Clarksville	17,399.62
Bethlehem, Ashland City	15,429.61
New Hope, Joelton	14,576.40
Limestone	13,718.80
Cross Timbers, Nashville	12,903.37
Forest Grove, Knoxville	12,834.02
Good Springs, Pleasant View	12,108.48
First, Newport	8,367.53
Wooddale, Knoxville	8,094.08
Glamorgan, Wise, VA	7,680.50
First, Sparta	7,398.72
Head's, Cedar Hill	7,163.33
Horton Heights, Nashville	6,844.65
Heritage Baptist, Johnson City	6,400.00
Fellowship, Antioch	6,221.65
Valley Forge, Elizabethton	6,179.98
First, Church Hill	5,817.60
Randall Memorial, Memphis	5,387.00
Burbank, Roan Mountain	5,213.05

National Offices Building

Tennessee's Portion—\$78,557.09

Amount Given—\$50,602.89

Yet Needed—\$27,954.20

To Our Friends in Tennessee



From Allan and LaRue Crowson

January 1982: Our family, complete with three pre-schoolers, moved to Nantes, France. Missionaries Don and Billie Sexton had recently returned to the U.S., and John and Pansy Murray continued the work. That Free Will Baptist Church, along with two from other mission groups, formed the only Bible-preaching, non-charismatic witness for a city the size of Nashville.

July 1994: Our "pre-schoolers" will soon be ready for college. The Sextons, despite failing health, have travelled the Tennessee highways and by-ways, to build support for missions, particularly through the now-annual Walk-a-Thon for Missions. The Murrays returned to the U.S., where John helps to train new Christian workers. Steve and Becky Riggs are doing an excellent job at the Nantes church. Those three Nantes churches have grown stronger and larger. The Free Will Baptist church has outgrown its facilities and is hoping to move, for the second time in 12 years!

We worked in the Nantes church and saw God answer prayer in a mighty way. The church reached out to members in desperate financial need, and welcomed refugees from Angola and Cuba. This next year they will host periodic regional training sessions, with teachers from Bible colleges and institutes in the Paris area. I can honestly say that of the six churches or mission works now in the Nantes area, the Nantes Free Will Baptist Church seems to have the greatest potential to extend God's kingdom in that area. Many people, both French and American, contributed to the effort, and God gave the increase. We are most grateful to have been part of it.

Thank you for praying for us this term. Thank you for your financial support. Walk-a-Thon money has been crucial to our account. Please continue to pray for us as our account is in the red. We need God's wisdom as we evaluate past ministry and seek to do the most possible for the Lord in the future. Our children, after ten years in French schools, are trying to learn to cope with American schools. Pray for the salvation of Jo and Philippe, two unsaved men whose wives are members of the Nantes church. Above all, pray for God-sent, Spirit-drenched, Christ-exalting revival—here, in France, and around the world. May God bless you.

TENNESSEE FINANCIAL REPORT

JUNE-AUGUST 1994

INCOME

Appalachian Association

Grace	\$144.88
Keensburg	100.00
Watauga Valley	100.00
Appalachian Assoc.	38.27

Cumberland Association

Bethlehem	166.50
Brandon's Chapel	513.20
Cross Timbers	100.00
Cumberland Assoc.	1,065.71
Calvary	219.00
Donelson	1,349.05
Dunbar Chapel	75.00
East Nashville	75.00
Good Springs	177.57
Head's	110.60
Hendersonville	200.00
New Hope	50.00
Trinity	119.00

Liberty Association

Cookeville	150.00
Liberty Assoc.	117.36

Northeast Association

Union Street	150.00
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Union Association

Bethany	30.00
Church Hill First	800.00
Fellowship	150.00
Limestone	100.00
Oak Grove	207.20
Union Assoc.	469.66

Others

Valley Forge	403.43
Home for Children	225.00
Association Fees	290.00

Total Income \$7,741.43

Total Expenditures for June, July, August

..... 11,560.75

Thank you for your gifts to support the State Assoc. work. All checks should be made payable to Tennessee State Association and sent to E.B. McDonald, Ashland City, TN 37015.

1994 National Youth Conference Winners From Tennessee

Bible Memorization: Grade 1

2nd Place Lynna McInturff

Bible Memorization: Grade 3

2nd Place Andrew Chamberlin

Bible Tic Tac Toe:

2nd Place Valley View, TN

Bible Bowl:

1st Place Keensburg

Vocal Solo B:

Amanda Simpson

Vocal Trio, A:

Good Springs Trio

Chorales, A:

Patch the Pirate

Chorales, D:

Xample, Donelson

Large Instrumental Ensemble, F:

For The King

Dramatic Selection, B: TIE:

Chris Duke and Luke Mullen

Dramatic Selection, E:

Tiffany Scarborough

Recorded Puppetry, D:

Tell It Puppets

Recorded Puppetry, E:

Mary Beth Bernard

Readers Theater, D:

New Hope Drama

Graphics, A:

Timothy Lee

Graphics, C:

Megan Mackie

From Your Hand, God...We Give



Paul J. Kettelman Memorial
Christmas Fund
Free Will Bible College

December, 1994

*A gift to the Lord and to our next generation of Free Will Baptist
leaders*

The Together Way Plan
P.O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN 37011-5002

A Tennessee Pioneer

Brother Herman A. Christian of Church Hill, Tennessee, has been a genuine pioneer among Free Will Baptists in the state of Tennessee. He was converted at an early age in a revival meeting held by Brother A. N. Benfield at Christian's Bend Free Will Baptist Church. He answered the call to preach at the age of twenty-four.



Several churches have been pastored by Brother Christian; among them are Upper Room, First Free Will Baptist of Church Hill, Mt. Carmel, Van Hill, Christian's Bend, Phipp's Bend, Magnolia, and Morning Star. In addition to pastoral and evangelistic work, Brother Christian founded Upper Room Church, First Church in Church Hill, Goshen Valley, and Jones Chapel Church.



Brother Christian may well hold a record among Free Will Baptists for number of funerals conducted and number of weddings performed. He has conducted 1,349 funerals and has performed 1,360 weddings.

To Brother Christian and his first wife, two sons and three daughters were born, and one son was adopted. There are thirteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Brother Christian's first wife passed away in 1981. In November of 1982, he was married to Dorothy Grills, the widow of Pastor Charles Grills, who has four daughters, one of whom is adopted. She has five grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

We thank God for this wonderful couple and their extended family. What a marvelous contribution has been made by these dear people to the cause of Christ and Free Will Baptists. The Christians are now members of one of the churches founded by Brother Christian—First Free Will Baptist Church of Church Hill.

Dates To Remember:

Nov. 14-16 Tennessee State
Association, Oak Ridge, TN
Dec. 28-30 Tennessee Youth
Conference, Chattanooga, TN

My Greatest National Guard Experience

*by Master Sergeant Ray Houk
(Member, Valley View Free Will Baptist Church, Loudon, Tennessee)*

Twenty-six members of the Civil Engineering Squadron from McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Knoxville, Tennessee, fulfilled their two weeks of summer camp obligation at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Oklahoma, April 9-23, 1994. We worked on several projects and improved our skills in various civil engineering functions. We had free time in the evenings and on the middle weekend.

As my custom is, I planned to go to church. I was able to reach Brother Charles Bigger, pastor of the Enid Free Will Baptist Church, and was given directions to the church, as well as the times of service. I invited others from my unit to go with me and three men agreed to go. On Sunday, the four of us went together to church. Even though the congregation was small, all of us felt an immediate attraction to them; they were so kind and friendly, and they welcomed us so warmly. They had a lovely and spacious building, which would accommodate 175 to 200, but only a few people were present. We learned that the membership had been greatly reduced several years ago during the "oil bust," when many people in that entire area left to find jobs elsewhere.

An incident occurred at the first service which affected the four of us guardsmen. The pastor apologized for the poor appearance of the church bulletins and said that the copier was broken. We later learned that the copier would cost \$250 to be repaired. Because of the small congregation, even such a modest cost would be a problem. Even though the women of the church had raised part of the repair cost, well over half was still needed. The Lord seemed to impress me that we should assist them with this project.

Upon returning to the base, I reminded the twenty-six men in our unit that on previous occasions we had "passed the hat" to help with various needs. Then I shared with the men about this small church and its need. I was thrilled that \$160 was given by my men. This meant that our gift, together with that which the women had raised, would pay for the repair of the copier. The people were thrilled that a group of visiting Tennesseans would do this for them! All of us were really blessed by having a small part by helping these fine people.

Brother Bigger's dedication to the Lord and to his congregation left a lasting impression on me and my fellow guardsmen. I feel that if we had been allowed to stay two more weeks, my three friends would have been drawn into the Free Will Baptist family! This dear pastor and his congregation need the prayers and support of all Free Will Baptists. This is truly a missionary work.

This was the first summer camp in our unit's history where some of us put forth an organized effort to encourage participation in religious activities. It proved to be the most rewarding and memorable summer camp in my entire career!

(It would be most rewarding if the example set by Sergeant Houk would be followed by all Christians when away from their home church.—Editor)



THE TENNESSEE

ECHO

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