SEEK HOLDUP MEN NEAR HOOD RIVER

Scene of Search for Clews Is Transferred to Point Far East of City.

POLICE LAUGH AT EFFORTS

Local Sleuths Say Chance for Deputies to Make Good Has Come. Suspects Arrested, but Are Unidentified by Trainmen.

Though innumerable clews have been discovered and suggested, and those most plausible followed through an interminable maze of details, neither deputy sheriffs nor railway detectives have succeeded in finding an encouraging link in the search for the robbers who held up the O. R. & N. train east of the city Thursday night.

The scene of the search has been shifted temporarily to Hood River by the railway detectives, while deputy sheriffs continue to search the city and surrounding country. It was at Hood River, it is believed, that the three holdup men boarded the train. Special Agents Wood and Fitzgerald went to that place yesterday in the hope of finding a clew upon which they might work.

An interesting feature in connection with the search is its practical abandonment by the police. With the exception of one or two detectives, who are devoting little or no time to the case, the entire force has abandoned the search.

"We've our hands full looking after Portland," said one of the city detectives. "These railway detectives, who have been standing on the corners knocking our department, now have a chance to show what they can do. They've been saying: 'We could catch those fellows if we wanted them, but as long as they let our railroad alone they may do as they please.'

Police Not Interested.

"Now we say that as long as they let our Portland alone these highwaymen may do as they please. We've got our hands full right here in the city, but of course we would render all assistance we could. But from the talk of the 'fly' railroad detectives they don't need any help. So we'll see what they can do."

Two suspects were arrested at Fairview yesterday morning by Deputy Sheriffs Beatty and Leonard. However, after a rigid examination, according to Sheriff Stevens, it is not believed they were implicated in the robbery. They will be held pending a further investigation.

The men gave their names as Ervin Winn and Walter Grittner. Each was armed with a 38-caliber revolver, many rounds of ammunition, a bottle of poison and other suspicious articles. They were brought to the city and taken before S. V. Vanderhoof, the tramp who was riding on the engine when the train was held up. He failed to identify them, although he claimed to be able to recognize any of the three men who were implicated.

It is claimed that there is reason to believe the crime was done by the same gang that looted the Oriental Limited train on the Great Northern, near Spokane, December 9. In that connection, it is said, there are reasons for ascertaining the whereabouts of two convicts who were recently released from the Oregon State Penitentiary. So far as is known these two men have never been involved in a train robbery, but are said to be experts in the use of explosives, especially nitroglycerin. It was only through their use of nitroglycerin that the robbers secured entrance into the express-car.

Suspect Ex-Convicts.

These two men were suspected in connection with the holdup of the Great Northern train, near Spokane, and officers are said to have been trying to locate them since that time. The search for the two suspects has been renewed in earnest by local officials since the O. R. & N. holdup.

Excellent descriptions of the robbers were provided the officers, not only by the engineer and firemen, but by the tramp who was riding on the engine. In addition to the descriptions, the officers found a rubber topcoat near the scene of the crime Thursday night. It had either been lost or thrown away by one of the robbers in their flight. A dark slouch hat was also found near the scene. On the inside band were the initials "J. A. S."

Both articles are regarded as important clews to establish the fact that the owners of the articles were at the scene, if they are apprehended. However, they offer little encouragement towards bringing about an arrest.

Rewards of $1500 each have been offered by officials of the O. R. & N. Company for the capture of the criminals. As yet no reward has been announced by officials of the Pacific Express Company, which was the owner of the safe that was rifled. Nor has it been announced by officials of the Pacific Express Company whether or not Express Messenger Huff will be rewarded for his bravery. Such action, if it is taken, will be announced from the office of the general superintendent in St. Louis.

Deputy Sheriffs Leonard and Beatty, with special agents of the O. R. & N., went to Hood River yesterday to continue the search. With them are several Pinkerton detectives. Conductor Dunn stated to the officers that as the train was about to pull out of Hood River he saw a man lurking near the engine tender, apparently preparing to climb on as the train started. It was too late for the conductor to stop the train, but he thinks it was this man with his two companions who were the ones who afterwards held up the train near Portland. The man is said to have been carrying a small handsatchel.

Agent Has Narrow Escape.

It was only by the merest accident that J. D. Burch, route agent of the Pacific Express Company, was not in the express-car with Messenger Huff when it was held up. Mr. Burch was coming to Portland from Baker City.

As the train neared Portland, he arose from his seat in the rear of the train and started forward to enter the express-car. In the car immediately behind the express-car he met a friend and stopped to shake hands and talk with him. It was while so engaged that the train was cut in two.

There were eight packages secured by the robbers from the safe in the express-car, according to Manager Beckwith, of the local Pacific Express Company's office. The total value of the goods lost, he says, is not more than $700. Included in the stolen packages were three diamond rings being shipped from New York City to a local liquor house.

VERY LIKE FORMER HOLD-UP

Outbound Train Robbed Near Same Spot Eleven Years Ago.

In 1897 a holdup very similar in detail to the one Thursday night, took place on the O. R. & N. tracks just beyond Sullivans Gulch, a short distance beyond the scene of the latest crime.

An out-going passenger was held up. The crime was committed Saturday night, and on the following day Detectives Maher and Riley captured Jackson and Wilkins in a house at Seventh and Stark streets, where the Oregon Hotel is now located. Jackson and Wilkins were convicted and sentenced by the late Judge Sears to 30 years' imprisonment.

MAY GIVE REWARD LATER

Express Company to Consider All Aspects of Case.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The matter of a reward for Messenger Huff will not be considered until the arrival of more definite information from the superintendent of the western division of the Pacific Express Company at Salt Lake City, according to a statement made tonight to The Oregonian correspondent by John T. Daniel, assistant general superintendent. Frederick C. Gentsch, general superintendent, now on a train somewhere between New York and St. Louis, is expected by Daniel to reach St. Louis tomorrow.

O. H. Huff, the Plucky Express Messenger Who Saved Packages of Money at Thursday Night's Train Robbery.

"If Mr. Gentsch were here tonight he could not tell you anything more than I can," said Daniel. "Our first official information of the hold-up came at noon today, and that was very vague. Mr. Gentsch will receive a report containing sufficient detail to enable us to consider intelligently the question of whether Messenger Huff has rendered a service meriting reward."

WHAT THE MARKETS OFFER

BY LILIAN TINGLE.

CHRISTMAS displays are the feature of the week in meat, fish and fruit markets, as well as in the department and other stores that are the scenes of the daily exciting performances of the "Christmas-shopping" drama. Turkeys, geese, chickens and ducks hang in sacrificial rows, and there are sirloins and ribs of Christmas beef, saddles of mutton, quarters of lamb, roasts of pork and veal, and an array of all sorts of good things to eat, which, so far as description goes, could only be adequately treated by the pen of a Dickens, though the knives and forks of mere ordinary mortals will suffice to do them justice in a practical way.

Turkeys are still high in price and will probably cost 30 cents a pound for Christmas dinners; but the quality of the birds is superior to that shown for Thanksgiving. Chickens cost 18 to 20 cents a pound, broilers and ducks 25 cents, and domestic geese 20 cents. Snipe are to be had at about 75 cents a pair, and wild geese 50 to 75 cents each.

The first catch of Royal Chinook Salmon is in, and there are splendid fish displayed at 40 to 75 cents a pound. Steelhead salmon is also good at 15 cents. Columbia River smelt are more plentiful and are to be had at a reasonable price. Sea trout are in again at 25 cents, and red snapper or rock cod at the same price. Nearer Christmas there will probably be a supply of Eastern whitefish, bluefish, lobsters, oysters and scallops. Fresh herring are particularly large and good just now, at 10 to 15 cents a pound. Other available fish are striped bass, 25 cents; shrimps, 15 to 20 cents; shad, catfish, sole and croppies, 15 cents; halibut, tomcod, California smelt, 12½ cents; salt water smelt, perch and flounder, 10 cents a pound. Lobsters, crabs, oysters and mussels are to be had as usual, but clams are inclined to be scarce on account of the cold weather, and frog-legs were not to be had when I inquired for them.

Cured fish of all kinds, native and foreign, are conspicuous at this season. New Norwegian stock fish, smoked sturgeon and salmon, Finnnan haddie salt mackerel—big and little; herring—salted, smoked and pickled; flaked codfish, and other "preserved sea fruit" offer a variety of tasty snacks, "savories," relishes and breakfast dishes that are often very acceptable, especially when "eggs is eggs." Eggs, however, are inclined to be slightly lower in price just now, though the lower price is not as low as could be wished for by the economically minded housewife.

There is a good variety of vegetables, the prices being about the same as last week. The list includes green peas, beans and peppers, hothouse cucumbers, egg-plant, tomatoes and lettuce, Brussels sprouts, savoys, kale, cauliflower, red and white cabbage, spinach, chicory and watercress, leeks, onions and shallots, celery, both the large and heart kind and cerelac; Hubbard, cream and Spanish squash, carrots, turnips, rutabagas, radishes, beets, parsnips and oyster plant, French artichokes and mushrooms. Japanese and tangerine oranges are conspicuous this week and are useful for Christmas tree decorations, "petits brules" and snapdragons. The tangerines are about 15 cents a pound, the Japanese 65c to $1 a box. Other oranges cost from 25 to 50 cents a dozen. There are very good grape-fruit at 8, 10 and 12½ cents each, including a new imported variety that has the color of an orange, the taste of a grape-fruit and a shape all its own. Cranberries are about 20 cents a quart and excellent in quality. This, however, can hardly be said of huckleberries at 12½ cents a pound. Strawberries are about 30 cents. Grapes cost 60 to 75 cents a box, pineapples 50 to 75 cents each, pears 15 to 25 cents a dozen and persimmons 5 cents each.

There are very choice dried fruits, cluster raisins, figs, dates and prunes in attractive packages at fancy prices, as well as the usual cheaper kinds, and plenty of nuts of all sorts and sizes. You can't have a proper Christmas without nuts. The bakeries, both "home" and otherwise, are busy just now; and there is a fine show of fruitcakes, plum puddings, Scotch shortbread, German Lebkuchen, both domestic and imported, springerlie, aufiauf, pfeffernusse and other dainties of the Vaterland. Imported Norwegian honey cakes, English biscuits in fancy tins, Danish rye cakes and French macaroons represent the claims of other countries; and there seems to be plenty of mincemeat and pumpkins for those who prefer native sweetmeats.

NO DELAY ALLOWED IN FINCH TRIAL

Six Jurors Already Selected to Determine Lawyer's Guilt of Murder.

WILL PLEAD SELF-DEFENSE

Lawyers for Defense Express Confidence of Acquittal, While Prosecution Is Equally Sure of Conviction and Rapid Trial.

SIX JURORS SELECTED.

The six jurors accepted yesterday to try James A. Finch for his life, are: W. S. Abbett, tinner; E. E. Hawes, agent road machinery; J. W. Davis, streetcar conductor; W. E. Charlton, dairyman; S. I. Ogden, farmer; Robert Service, farmer.

James A. Finch, murderer of Ralph B. Fisher, was placed on trial in the State Circuit Court yesterday. It was made clear that in the fight against overwhelming odds which he must make for his life he will depend almost entirely on the plea of self-defense. There was no intimation yesterday in the examination of talesmen that insanity will figure in any way in the trial.

With only Verna Burkhart, Fisher's stenographer, as a witness of the crime, it is learned from an indisputable source that Finch will endeavor to set up that Fisher assailed him, and that he fired to protect his own life. And for this purpose Finch has succeeded in getting no less than two witnesses who claim to have witnessed a desperate struggle between the two men from the street below. It is known that all such testimony is to be most vigorously assailed by the state.

Progress on Jury.

Six of the jurors who will decide whether or not Finch is entitled to a further lease of life were secured yesterday, considerable progress being made at the afternoon session. Finch and his lawyers made it plain that they want jurors who have not read the press comments on Finch's crime. A preference was shown for jurors living outside the city. But no juror who has read and talked about the assassination of Fisher need apply, no matter how fair and unbiased he may declare himself to be. Finch has already used up two of his allotment of 12 peremptory challenges on talesmen who seemed to have shown previous interest in the case.

On the other hand the prosecution is paying less attention to the jury, being careful only to exclude radicals and personal friends of Finch and of Finch's relatives and lawyers. The state has a confident attitude as to the outcome of the trial, and the prosecuting officers insist that there is no way in which Finch can break down the great bulk of direct evidence and escape the gallows.

Seek Many Delays.

Seizing upon every technicality which the law affords, Finch and his quartet of lawyers, Messrs. Lord, Piggott, Holcomb and Campbell, occupied nearly all of the forenoon session of court in futile motions to dismiss or delay the case. The indictment on which Finch is held was attacked from several different points.

The failure of the court and its officers to serve W. C. Piggott with a subpena was made the basis of an appeal for postponement, it being contended that this particular Piggott, nephew of the Piggott now appearing in the case, is a most important witness in the case. By him it is intended to prove that Finch bought a revolver an hour before he shot Fisher for the sole purpose of protecting himself from burglars, who had been haunting the Finch home for several nights.

Failing to accomplish anything by these technical obstructions to the progress of the case, Finch's lawyers dropped the campaign of motions to dismiss, and permitted the examination of talesmen to proceed.

Finch sat all day occupied in the legal aspects of the case. He took copious notes on the remarks of talesmen, consulted a law book now and then, and was continually making suggestions to his attorneys. He was clean-shaven, neatly-dressed and there was nothing in either his appearance or conduct to mark him as the principal in a murder that shocked and horrified the entire city less than a month ago.

Finch Picks Jurors.

Once during the afternoon he insisted on the acceptance of a juror who was in doubt by his coterie of attorneys. This man, J. W. Davis, a streetcar conductor, said he had heard his passengers discussing the case, but had not read the press accounts. Davis was sure he could act fairly in the trial of the case, but Finch's lawyers were reluctant about accepting him.

"He is all right; accept that man, quick," Finch whispered with a gesture of finality, and his order was followed at once. He likewise caused the dismissal of Theodore Brugger from the jury. Brugger proved to have had a great deal of interest in the case, but he was positive about being fair and unprejudiced. But Finch was suspicious, and insisted that one of the 12 peremptory challenges be used on Brugger, after Judge Bronaugh refused to excuse the talesman for cause.

It is believed that the jury can be completed without difficulty today, unless the defense adopts a new and more elaborate course in the examination of talesmen. It is even possible that the opening statements of the case can be disposed of today, thus leaving the introduction of testimony for next week.

Case Will Be Pushed.

It is not intended to let the case drag unnecessarily. The state's testimony is all direct, and there is no doubt as to the killing having been done by Finch. The chief hitch is likely to occur when witnesses are put on the stand to tell of an alleged struggle between murderer and victim; for any such testimony will not only be assailed, but the credibility of the witnesses will be questioned.

Less than a dozen witnesses will be put on the stand by Messrs. Cameron, Fitzgerald and Spencer, who are waging the battle for conviction. The witnesses for the defense will be even fewer, it is now said. It is said by the various attorneys in the case that the jury should go out by next Thursday forenoon at the latest.

Cameron Confident.

"The jury will not remain out 20 minutes before convicting the man," said District Attorney Cameron. "He cannot escape the gallows."

"Despite the circumstance that public opinion is against Finch, there remains the fact that the real facts in the case will cause a revulsion of feeling and result in Finch's acquittal within 30 minutes from the time the jury retires," said the prisoner's lawyers, unanimously.

From the examination of talesmen it developed that there is wide public feeling regarding the Fisher murder, and several talesmen said plainly that they were prejudiced against the defendant. A. G. Day, a Morrison-street restaurant-keeper, said clearly that he didn't want to sit on the jury, and that he had formed opinions which were not to the best interests of Finch. E. L. Dixon, a carpenter, was of a similar frame of mind, and half a dozen talesmen admitted that they had opinions prejudicial to the defendant.

"I believe the man is guilty," was the statement volunteered by R. A. Bates, an advertising man. He added that he did not believe in capital punishment and his release from service was readily acceped by both sides. M. Burns, living at Cleone, had opinions regarding Finch which he said considerable evidence would be required to remove.

Want Case Continued.

Immediately upon the assigning of the trial of the case to Judge Bronaugh and the taking up of trial, Finch's attempt to secure a delay was taken up. It was contended that the defense had not had sufficient time in which to fully prepare its case, and it was further set out that time was needed to get absent witnesses here. The motion being ruled down, it was then asked that the arraignment and plea be set aside because no certified copy of the indictment had been served upon Finch. This being denied, it was asked that the indictment be set aside because of not stating that it was concurred in by five grand jurors or that the jury was regularly empanneled.

The next motion was to throw the case out because the indictment had been further mixed in preparation, but this, too, was promptly ruled down; and the examination of prospective jurors then proceeded.

The first talisman called, W. S. Abbett, was accepted as a juror. His examination was lengthy and searching. He said he had not read much about the case, had not discussed it with anyone, had formed no opinion, knew nobody connected with the affair, and was sure he could act in an impartial manner.

Theodore Brugger, the second talisman, proved a bone of contention, for he had read the accounts and talked of the case. After trying every possible method of having Brugger excused for cause, the defense used its first peremptory challenge on him. Adjournment for noon then occurred.

Afternoon Session.

E. E. Howes, the first talisman at the afternoon session, proved an exceptionally good witness, although Finch was suspicious concerning him for a time and insisted upon a minute examination. In questioning Howes the defense went over its entire field of inquiry, asking him if he read the press accounts, discussed the case with anyone, formed any opinions, or if he belonged to any Scotch societies of which District Attorney Cameron is a member, or if he had ever been in politics, or known Ralph B. Fisher or any of Fisher's relatives, particularly including Thomas Kay, of Salem, or O. P. Kershaw, of Roseburg; or if he knew any of the attorneys in the case, or had seen a cartoon in The Oregonian relating to a hangman's gallows.

Howes answered these questions quite satisfactorily. He had not talked of the case, did not know any of the parties named, belonged to no secret societies, and had formed no opinions. The state merely inquired if he had any compunctions about the death penalty. He said he had not.

J. W. Davis was next examined and accepted, after which Charles B. Hand was called. He didn't want to see anybody hanged and was excused by the court. W. E. Charlton qualified and was accepted. E. E. Burdick qualified, but had read too much about the case to satisfy the defense and was challenged.

E. T. Buckler and Charles T. Cash were not believers in hanging, and were excused by the court. W. H. Brown, a storekeeper, had read and talked about the case a great deal and was excused at the instance of Finch. Alex Burrell had read all about the case, but hadn't formed any opinions. The state resisted a challenge, which was sustained by the court, and the defense then lost Burrell on a peremptory challenge. M. Burns and W. A. Cantrill had opinions and were challenged by the Finch representatives, the challenges being sustained.

Interest in the case sufficed to attract a big throng of spectators, and every seat was occupied all day. Many persons were turned away. Nearly 100 people were hanging about the corridors when court adjourned, waiting for a glimpse of the lawyer-murderer, as he was being taken back to his steel cage in the County Jail.

Given $367.54 for Decorating.

Although J. A. Greef did not get to do the interior decorating work at the Perkins Hotel, he collected $367.54 for the work in the State Circuit Court yesterday. Greef disclosed that he had a contract for the decorations that called for $1000. But the Perkins Hotel Company is said to have broken the contract, and he sued for the full amount. After being out several hours the jury which heard the case decided that he was entitled to collect $367.54. Just what the extra 4 cents is for the jurors did not designate in their verdict.

OCEAN IN MIDWINTER.

Christmas eve, December 24, and New Year's eve, December 31 the 6 P. M. train of the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad will run through to Seaside. This will accommodate those wishing to spend the holidays at their Summer homes. Special dinner served at hotels. For tickets and parlor car reservations call on city offices, Third and Morrison streets and 122 Third street.

Elegant stock of fitted bags and suit cases at Harris' Trunk Co. Note window display.

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Send this ad., four cents for postage, mentioning this paper, and we will send you a "Complete Handy Atlas of the World."

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MURDER IS VERDICT

Harry Daley Found Guilty After Hour's Deliberation.

INSANITY DOES NOT AVAIL

Attorneys Make Brilliant Pleas, but Jury Believes Deed Was Premeditated—First Murder Conviction Here in Several Years.

A verdict of murder in the first degree was rendered by the jury in the Daley murder case at 6:15 o'clock last night, just one hour after J. H. Page, attorney for the prosecution, had concluded his argument. Judge Gantenbein set the time for sentence for Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

This is the first verdict of murder in the first degree in Multnomah County for several years, the last occasion being the trial of John Guglielmo.

The case was begun Thursday morning. The testimony for the defense was concluded before noon yesterday. The prosecution offered witnesses to rebut the defense's theory of insanity. Daley was again called to the stand to testify that he did not remember having a quarrel with Kenny, the deceased, a few days previous to the shooting. Mrs. Miles, Daley's landlady, finished her testimony in support of the insanity plea at the morning session. City Physician Fred J. Ziegler was called and testified that Daley had been seriously injured by being struck with a cable at the Albina ferry slip about a year ago. Frank Thompson and William Broyles, County Jail prisoners, testified that Daley has acted strangely since he was placed in jail. The testimony of these men was offset, however, by that of Jailers Hunter and Phillips, who said that they observed nothing unusual about the actions of the defendant.

D. N. Mosessohn, for the prosecution, began his argument at 2 o'clock and devoted his efforts to proving that Daley was not insane at the time of the murder and has not been insane at any time; that the murder was deliberately planned and executed with full knowledge of the enormity of the crime. The singular loss of memory regarding certain incidents exhibited by the prisoner was ridiculed by Mr. Mosessohn, who also referred to the testimony of witnesses to the shooting that Daley admitted at the time he shot Kenny that they had had trouble over money. Mr. Mosessohn also reviewed the testimony of the witnesses for the defense and showed how weak a basis it offered for the plea of insanity.

L. W. Humphreys, attorney for the defense, offered as evidence of insanity the injury to Daley's head, which City Physician Ziegler testified might cause mental derangement. Mr. Humphreys also referred to the great pain endured by the defendant by reason of the injury to his knee received at the same time. This was offered as an evidence that intense suffering could contribute to his irresponsibility. While Mr. Humphreys' plea was well presented, it failed to appeal to the logic of the jurors. Attorney John H. Stevenson's plea for the defense also covered thoroughly all the points in the prisoner's favor, but likewise did not influence the jury. Attorney J. H. Page, closing the argument for the prosecution, further weakened the case for the prisoner, which had already been dissected by Mr. Mosessohn.

MUST GO TO PENITENTIARY

Caspar Blikenstorfer Gets Sentence of From One to 15 Years.

An indetermediate sentence of from one to 15 years in the penitentiarly was the penalty imposed by Circuit Judge Bronaugh yesterday afternoon upon Caspar Blikenstorfer, who killed Charles Hegburn with a club two months ago.

Sentence was passed immediately before the taking up of the Finch-Fisher murder trial, the hour of sentence having been fixed several days ago. The proceedings occupied only a few minutes. In sentencing the man Judge Bronaugh said he was taking into consideration a recommendation of the jury that lenience be shown.

Hegburn, the victim, was Blikenstorfer's closest friend. The two men quarreled over the care of a team of horses. Hegburn accused Blikenstorfer of having neglected two horses left in his care. Blikenstofer denied the charge, words passed and Blikenstorfer seized a club and struck the other, inflicting a concussion of the brain which caused immediate death. The tragedy occurred in front of a stable near Lents and Blikenstorfer proceeded feeding and currying his team until an officer arrived and arrested him. He was first charged with first-degree murder but that charge fell flat, as the crime was not premeditated and it was shown that Hegburn was the aggressor in the trouble.

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Order them early in order to get first choice. You know our price is always the lowest.

Fresh Eastern and Olympia Oysters.
Best Butter, roll..... 75¢
Good Butter, roll..... 70¢
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Corn-Fed Turkeys For Xmas

Chickens, lower..15¢, 16¢
Fresh Eggs, dozen.....40¢
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264 Yamhill.

Ghirardelli's Cocoa

is a food drink for young and old that pleases the palate—strengthens the body—builds up the nerves—quickens the mind. It instills qualities in young and old which produce perfect contentment and perfect health and allows one to give

A Smile All the While

Ghirardelli's Cocoa is a standard combination of the cocoa bean. It is made with painstaking care and after 50 years of manufacture stands to-day a perfect product.

30 cups of a delicious drink 25c

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