The School Magazine OF THE McCABE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL,

MAIDSTONE.



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McCABE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

Vol. VI. No. 17.

May, 1936.

SCHOOL HISTORY.

This issue of the magazine will be the last to be published at 8 London Road. Just as we go to press the news has arrived that the negotiations for moving the school to larger and better premises have been successfully concluded. When we re-open in September the school will be at The Elms, 66 London Road, where there will be opportunities to develope the school far beyond the scope of the present premises.

The important dates for the term are:—
Thursday, 21st May.—Old Boys' Flannel Dance.
Tuesday, 26th May.—Repetition of Concert.
Monday, 1st June.—Whit-Monday.
Monday, 15th June.—Half-Term.
Monday, 29th June.—Annual School Outing.
Tuesday, 30th June.—Old Boys' Meeting.
Wednesday, 15th July.—Sports Day.
Tuesday, 28th July.—Old Boys' Meeting.
Wednesday, 29th July.—Term Ends.
Monday, 21st September.—Christmas Term Begins.
Saturday, 19th December.—Term Ends.

SALVETE.

During the Easter Term the following new boys were admitted:—

No. 176.—P. G. Anderson, IVa (School). No. 177.—R. L. Hill, IVb (St. Peter's). No. 178.—J. E. Mayger, IIIb (St. Peter's). No. 179.—A. G. Ellis, IIIb (St. Augustine's). No. 180.—D. L. Gosling, IIIb (School).

No. 181.—A. Bolton, Prep. (St. Augustine's). No. 182.—N. Bonner, Prep. (St. Augustine's). No. 183.—D. R. Bradley, V (St. Augustine's).

VALETE.

J. W. Beale after 7 years in the school, has left with the intention of entering the Navy. We are sorry to lose such a

popular athlete. N. Stevenson, $4\frac{1}{2}$ years in the school, has taken an engineering post in the Aylesford Paper Mills. D. R. V. Noakes, 4 years in the school, has entered the estate agency firm of Messrs. Couchman. D. A. Black, 3 years in the school, has gone into the stationery and printing business with Messrs. Hobbs & Sons. H. A. Berry, 3 years in the school, is training as a motor salesman with Messrs. Rootes, Ltd. Several of these posts were due to recommendations by the school.

Since our last issues the following examinations have been passed:—Music, R. T. Rand, Grade 4 lower of the Associated Board; Pitman's Shorthand, H. C. Claris, speed 60, J. H. E. Piper, speed 50; G. H. Goodchild and J. H. E. Piper, Theory, stage II., D. R. G. Noakes, M. F. E. Betts and E. C. Austin, Theory, stage I. This brings the total number of outside examinations since June 1931 up to 58.

We now have 8 Challenge Cups open for competition. They are the Captain's Cup and Medal, presented 1920 by the Old Boys, the Football House Cup, presented 1924 by W. J. McCabe, Esq., the Cricket House Cup, presented 1932 by the Old Boys, the Victor Ludorum Sports Cup, presented 1932 by C. Hart, Esq., the House Cup presented 1932 by the Principal, the Junior Victor Ludorum Cup, presented 1935, and the Chess Cup, presented 1936 by A. M. Williams, Esq., and a Sports House Cup presented 1936 by E. Winser, Esq.

We hope the coming summer will again see keen interest in the swimming. In 1935 a record number of badges were awarded to boys who learnt to swim. The test is the ability to swim one length of the baths.

One familiar event will be missed this term—the County Fair, which the Community Council of Kent recently decided to suspend for the present. In addition to our own tent, our boys have rendered valuable service to Kousin Mac in running his corner in past years.

The Sports Day in July is always a great event for the school. In 1935 it proved a phenominal success, but we intend to attempt to beat even that high standard. The notices asking for subscriptions to meet the necessary expenses will be despatched in due course, and we trust that a generous response will allay

any financial anxiety on the part of the Honorary Treasurer and the Secretary. Given a fine day we can promise an enjoyable afternoon for both spectators and competitors.

The Annual School Outing will be on 29th June by special train to Windsor, thence by boat to Hampton Court and home by rail. Those who came to Southampton last year will no doubt be glad to join us again this year. Particulars will be given in the course of a few weeks.

ANNUAL CONCERT AND PRIZE-GIVING.

The following account is taken from the "Kent Messenger.":-

The best entertainment yet given by the pupils of the McCabe Commercial School, was seen by a packed house at the Corn Exchange, on Tuesday, 7th April, at the Annual Prize presentation.

Every item was well produced and well staged and was evidence of the hard work that had been put into the concert by both pupils and the staff of the school.

The high light of the entertainment was a production of an act of "The Merchant of Venice." .The cast did extremely well in a limited space. The costumes were very good and every boy seemed to catch the spirit of the play.

G. H. Goodchild was particularly good as Shylock. He carried himself well on the stage and did not over emphasise the use of his hands.

A GOOD PORTIA.

J. H. E. Piper gave a good performance as Portia, and at times carried through with honour the difficult task of holding the audience.

The concert ended with an original burlesque on the trials of Columbus and Guy Fawkes, a performance which literally "brought the house down." The cast was made up entirely from the pupils and staff. The part of His Honour Judge Mubblewit was ably taken by Mr. A. M. Williams, who has had experience on the London stage.

SCHOOL'S SUCCESSES

In his annual report Mr. H. I. Piper, the principal, said there were 100 pupils in the two schools. There had been a record number of successful public examination results during the past year. The school staff had been increased and now two specialist teachers in book–keeping and French were engaged.

A number of models made by pupils of the school were exhibited at the Brussels Exhibition.

Two new cups had been presented to the school for chess and for the house gaining the most points for sports during the year.

Presenting the prizes, Lieut.-Colonel A. Coates said that examinations were not the only things in school life, it was the moulding of personality and character that counted.

Colonel Coates said that he would present four prizes to the school next term for handwriting.

The Rev. C. W. Martyn, Vicar of St. Peter's, Maidstone, thanked Colonel Coates and Mr. Piper.

Bouquets were presented to Mrs. Piper by her percussion band and Mrs. Stanford by pupils of the preparatory school.

THE CONCERT.

Pianoforte duets were given by Mrs. Stanford and Mr. E. G. A. Bettle; and solos by A. Baker, H. Gosling, A. Hunt, R. Rand and G. Reynolds. Violin solos by K. Bodiam.

The cast in "The Merchant of Venice" was: E. Hughes, K. H. Whibley, R. Rand, M. Betts, D. R. V. Noakes, G. H. Goodchild, C. W. Tombs, R. J. Randall, J. H. E. Piper, A. Berry, M. Higgins, R. Corke, J. W. Beale, D. Bradley, N. Stevenson, R. Brett, E. Austin, D. Smith and E. K. Leeves.

MUSICAL PLAY.

A musical play, "Dick Whittington," was produced by Mr. E. G. A. Bettle.

Those taking part were: N. L. W. Hartridge, C. J. Beale, A. J. Taylor, R. Sawyer, E. Leeves, L. Baker, A. V. A. Baker, K. Y. Noakes, A. Hunt, A. E. G. Ellis, E. Barham, D. F. Winder, F. G. Griffen, G. K. Reynolds, E. G. Knott, R. W. Westbrook, J. P. Le Feaver, D. L. Gosling, D. Fraser, P. Gibbs, J. E. Mayger, E. Skinner and K. Underwood.

The percussion band, under the direction of Mrs. F. A. Piper and conducted by A. Fraser, gave selections.

Mr. A. M. Williams produced, "Ahmed The Cobbler." Those taking part were: L. Baker, E. K. Leeves, S. Farman, D. Smith, H. Mungham, A. Seymour, N. Ashton, D. Fraser, P. Anderson, E. Tomsett, D. Colinese, C. Bincham, B. Westover, H. Gosling, P. Sackree, M. Froud, F. Adley, B. Beale, H. Parker, E. Harries, T. Mercer, A. Hunt, R. Hill, R. Young.

THE PRIZE-WINNERS.

Old boys' cup and medal, K. H. Whibley, to be held jointly with present holder, G. H. Goodchild; champion house at cricket, St. Peter's (G. H. Goodchild, captain); champion house at football, St. Peter's; house championship, St. Peter's; chess champion, D. V. R. Noakes.

College of Preceptors' examination, senior, K. H. Whibley; junior, M. F. E. Betts, R. Tapsfield; preliminary, R. J. Randall.

Shorthand examination, speed certificates, G. W. Ashby, H. Philpott; theory, stage 2, H. Claris, W. Beale, G. W. Ashby; theory, stage 1, K. H. Whibley, H. Claris, R. W. Randall, W. G. Apps.

Typewriting, elementary, 1st class, R. D. Sackree; intermediate, 1st class, R. D. Sackree.

Music, Trinity College, 1st steps, F. A. Hunt.

Form prizes, L. Beale, K. H. Whibley, G. H. Goodchild, F. E. M. Betts, R. D. Corke, J. W. Beale, E. C. Austin, R. T. Rand, E. K. Leeves, A. W. Seymour, L. F. Rippengal, R. W. Westbrook, H. H. Mungham, A. Baker, E. Knott, C. J. Beale.

Subject prizes: mathematics, F. E. M. Betts; English, D. R. V. Noakes, languages, K. H. Whibley; commercial subjects, J. H. E. Piper; mapping and art, G. H. Goodchild.

Good work prizes, W. Tucker, M. G. Higgins, B. W. Westover, K. Y. Noakes, N. A. Ashton, S. W. Moore, C. Larkin, J. Stockbridge, G. Reynolds, A. Barham, J. Pearson, N. Hartridge, L. Walker, J. Le Feaver.

Preparatory school and Mount Pleasant school prizes: Easter term, C. Temple-Wright (top boy), summer term, E. Skinner (top section A), G. Pickup (top section B), Christmas term, N. Swan (top section A), T. Wright (top section B).

Good progress, F. Lambert, K. Underwood, B. Day, J. Stott, P. Stern, J. Stearn, G. Hughes, N. Bonner, A. Bolton, Good work, R. Knight, K. Fraser, R. Baker, Rita Baker, R. Foreman, J. Scott, J. Ross, M. Newman, J. Geering, A. Hall.

Prizes for meccano exhibition were awarded as follows: Best working model, E. C. Austin; best rigid model, B. West-over; best assembly model, D. B. Smith; best model by junior, K. Underwood; best handwork in 3rd form, P. Gibbs; best display of stamps, F. E. M. Betts; special award for ingenious reducing gear to D. B. Smith.

Certficates for good progress: Forms V. and VI., J. H. E. Piper and A. A. Byam; Form IVa, D. A. Black, E. G. Hughes, H. A. Berry; Form IVb, C. W. Tombs, D. B. Smith; Form III., P. Gibbs and G. Griffin.

UPPER SCHOOL NOTES.

The Spring Term is always popular—the examinations are too far off to arouse anxiety. We have been able therefore to give some attention to subjects outside the examination syllabus.

G. Goodchild is taking his Chamber of Commerce Examinations during the holidays (hard luck). We wish him all success.

A party from the Upper School went up one Saturday to see the matinee performance of that amusing historical travesty, "1066 and All That." This is one of the most brilliant London productions, and contains more concentrated wit and humour than the cinema can show in a year. It has been suggested that this type of visit might be repeated annually—the play being chosen for its educational value or out–standing humour.

The study of the 1936 examination literature has been started this term. The plays are "Romeo and Juliet" and "Henry IV." (part I); this later is a very fine play. The prose includes Weyman's "A Gentleman of France" and Stevenson's "Kidnapped." All these books are an education in themselves.

Had the School Concert taken place at half term as originally arranged, it was intended to have a series of 'cycle rides to places of historical interest in the district. If time can be spared we hope to organise some of these visits during the Summer Term. Our thanks are due to those who helped to make stage properties for the "Merchant of Venice," particularly to Bradley (two ferocious pikes), Brett (two most mediæval–looking trumpets), Whibley (Shylock's scales) and to all those who made swords, daggers, etc.

STILL FURTHER WORDS FROM THE WISE.

Deciduous trees lose their leaves in Winter because they get a kind of goose flesh.

Barbarians are little things put inside bicycles to make them run more smoothly.

One kind of Government is archæology.

The oracle was the first kind of boat.

FOOTBALL.

The school welcomed the visits of Mr. Stewart Davidson, on January 30th and Februray 27th. He gave very useful hints, and especially good were those on swerving and feinting. At the conclusion of his last visit, he said that the standard of our boys' play compared favourably with that of other larger schools. He picked out Goodchild, Hooker, Froud, Stevenson, Smith and J. Beale for special mention as he considered their game well above the average.

HOUSE MATCHES.

In the School v. St. Peter's match Sackrée (P.) was unable to play so Froud deputised. The game started evenly, but St. Peter's proved better opportunists, and Goodchild's three corner kicks were all headed home by Froud, and just before half—time Goodchild went through the School defence to score a fourth goal. In the second half, Froud was unable to play, but Goodchild scored again with a hard drive after a good solo run. Then St. Peter's handicap began to tell, and School attacked incessantly; Hooker, Stevenson and Rand were the chief raiders but were repulsed by strong play by Randall and Goodchild until five minutes from the end, when Rand scored. Goodchild, however, scored a sixth goal for St. Peter's in the closing minutes. Result, School 1, St. Peter's 6.

In the School v. St. Augustine's match. St. Augustine's started spiritedly and scored through Higgins, but School House dominated the game after this and Rand scored from Hooker's pass. This was followed by further goals by Rand (2) who thus completed a hat trick. In the second half, School were supreme and scored more goals by Smith (2) and D. Gosling in spite of stubborn play by Hughes and Shoebridge. Whibley played well in School's defence. Result, School 6, St. Augustine's

G. Goodchild.

HOMEWORK.

There has been a great deal of attention given in Parliament and the Press to the subject of homework. Even a Government enquiry has been ordered. In the last few months apparently several people have arrived at the conclusion that the two and three hours homework set by some secondary schools is not only useless, but positively dangerous to the health of the student. We have always held this view even in the days when it was

W. C. Beale replied. Mr. T. George gave the toast to "The School," and Mr. E. G. A. Bettle responded, and said, after outlining the school's activities both on the field and in the school-room, that the school could be proud of itself. Entertainment was provided under the direction of Mr. Eric J. A. Bettle.

At the Annual General Meeting the following officers were elected:—President, Mr. H. I. Piper; Chairman, Mr. J. W. Solman; Vice-Chairman, Mr. W. C. Beale and Mr. E. G. A. Betttle; Treasurer, Mr. T. George; General Secretary, Mr. A. M. Williams; Assistant Secretary, Mr. A. Wood; Sports Secretary, Mr. B. Finn; Auditors, Messrs. Charlton and Elborne. It will be noted that we have increased the number of Vice-Chairmen, and that Mr. George takes the place of Mr. Fowles, who has obtained an excellent position with the Kingston Borough Council. Mr. Fowles has been the Association's Treasurer since 1932, and has not only looked after the accounts with meticulous care, but has put in much hard work. Mr. Fowles of course remains a member of the Association. A letter of appreciation was sent from the Association thanking Mr. Fowles for all he had done.

Meanwhile we welcome Mr. George who has been a valued member since the re-formed Association came into being. He now combines the offices of Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

A Tennis Tournament is to be held again this year, and besides a "singles" competition for the cup already given by the Association, a "doubles" event is being organised. A generous friend has offered to give another cup for the "doubles" event if twenty-four entries are obtained.

The first of a new series of Dances arranged by the Social Committee took place on March 19th at the New Inn, and was voted a great success. The excellent floor and charming lighting combined with the expert syncopation of Bob Steven's Band rendered the evening very pleasant. The next Social and Dance will be at the New Inn on 21st May. We were very grateful for the fine prizes presented for the Dance by Mr. L. Pierce and Mr. Sturt. Gifts of this kind enable us to show a better balance at the end of the year.—Verb Sap.

The members enjoyed a very interesting debate with the Church Institute Debating Society. The motion was that The League of Nations has proved a failure. The Debate was spirited. Mr. Williams led off for the Association, and Mr.

George seconded, Mr. Piper also spoke for us. The Association's view (for the debate) being that the League had not failed. Mr. Williams was allowed a right of reply, and in spite of the greater numbers of the Church Institute we only lost by two votes. It is hoped to arrange further debates during the Winter.

We have been glad to hear from the following:—P. Hinton, who is now in a responsible post in the R.A.F. in Bedford; Captain Mott who is at present away on service in the Pacific; A. Baxter who was invalided home with a poisoned leg, but is making a good recovery; E. Codling who has recently joined the Navy, and has been sent abroad. We are always pleased to receive news of any old boy at home or abroad. One of the most important functions of the Association is to keep old boys in touch with one another when they have left school. Call or write, the President and Secretary will be very pleased to hear any news.

May we again appeal to those able to influence employment or knowing of vacancies to drop a note to the General Secretary as he may be able to put them in touch with an old boy. We have been able to render this service in one or two cases already. This is a very useful side of the Association's work.

SUNRISE.

The sky is tinged with crimson, blue and red,
As like a blazing orb the sun ascends.
The clouds are creased by many a purple fold,
Whilst each bright colour with the other blends.
The silvery beams break through the massing clouds,
And glitter on the wet bedewed leaves.
Whilst in the still, dark, shadowy, leafy woods,
The golden light a mystic pattern weaves.
It shines upon the hills, upon the church's spire.
It turns the rippling brook to running blood,
It turns each drifting cloud to chariot of fire,
And changes rolling mists to crimson flood,
The colour fades like dying flames of red,
Whilst from the valley's depths the mists have fled.

K. Whibley, (15).

INDUSTRIAL GEOGRAPHY.

The visit of the seniors to the Granada was one of the most interesting we had had for some time. The explanations of the electrical apparatus were exceedingly clear.

We were shown first the air-cooling plant. This apparatus pumped air into the interior after cleaning and cooling it. In winter, of course, the air would be heated slightly.

By means of remote control thermometer, the temperature could be determined of any part of the building, and this could be adjusted accordingly.

The demonstration of the lighting on the stage was also very clearly explained. Our guide showed us how the red, blue and green lights could be varied to produce any colours required. Then into the holy of holies, the projection room. A very clear and interesting description was given of the whole process, the photo-electric cell principle, the spot lights and the working of the curtains, all of which are controlled from this room.

The projectors themselves were lit by carbon arcs, one of the brightest lights obtainable.

An object that was very interesting to watch working was the mercury rectifier, which was used to supply the direct current to the carbon arcs.

The fascinations of the working of a large cinema made a very interesting visit, and everyone learnt something from it.

The juniors paid a similar visit to the Ritz, where they saw an installation similar to that at the Granada.

The third and last visit of the term was paid to Sharp's Toffee Works, where the process of making chocolate, toffee and Easter eggs was fully explained.

K. Whibley.

WHEAT AND CHAFF.

RADIUM

is a remarkable element discovered by Madame Curie. It is only found in small quantities in pitch-blende. At present the chief world supplies of pitch-blende come from the Katanga district in the Belgian Congo, the radium is extracted at Bolen in Belgium. It possesses an amazing degree of radio-activity, and it gives off heat and light with an intensity not approached by

any other substance. It is about 268 times as heavy as hydrogen, and according to Sir Oliver Lodge, 100,000 electrons of radium could lie in the diameter of an atom. It is assumed that radium is present in the sun, and some scientists hold that in this element we have probably what may solve the problem of the material universe. However it is impossible so far to ascertain the extent to which radium can be practically utilised.

E. C. Austin.

SKYSCRAPERS.

Skyscrapers were first built in Chicago, where they were an attempt to place a large number of business firms on a small area A similar problem was solved in a similar way in New York.

The construction of skyscrapers was rendered possible by the modern method of building with a steel framework and reinforced concrete; these materials have sufficient toughness and elasticity to withstand the enormous strains set up. In Chicago the foundations are made by sinking caissons. These are enormous steel drums: they are sunk to the rock beneath and then filled with concrete.

Some of the highest of the skyscrapers are about 1,000 feet high. The upward distances are overcome by means of elaborate series of lifts, each group serving particular sets of floors.

The highest of the skyscrapers are:—Empire State Building (New York, 1,248 feet), Crane Building (Chicago, 1,022 feet), Chrysler Building (New York, 1,030 feet), Woolworth Building, (792 feet).

E. Hughes.

SILK.

This fascinating fabric is made from thread spun by a silk worm around its cocoon. The silkworm lives on leaves from the mulberry tree, which flourishes in a sub-tropical climate. Hence these regions produce raw silk. The larvae are killed by heating and the threads of silk are unwound, the best quality being woven from complete strands, but the broken strands are spun and are then woven for a slightly inferior quality of silk. Japan produces the largest amount of raw silk, while other important sources of supply are China, Bengal, Piedmont and the Levant. Japan

accounts for over 62%, China about 20%, Italy 10% and the Levant about 3% of the total supply available for export. In France, Lyons is the centre of the silk trade and has a larger share than any other locality in Europe. Only artificial silk is made in Great Britain.

A. Berry.

"69 NOT OUT."

In June, 1862, the day Scotch Express from King's Cross, which had, during the 8 or 10 years it had been running, left at 9.0, 9.15, or 9.30 a.m., became the famous "10 o'clock of the railwayman, and the "Flying Scotsman" of the ordinary passenger. Since then some 21,500 journeys have been made, and as the departure time has been maintained practically without alteration during the 69 years which have passed, the down "Flying Scotsman" holds what is believed to be a world's record of "69—Not Out."

A similar record could be claimed for the up "Flying Scotsman" had it not been for the fact that, after being scheduled in 1862 to leave Edinburgh at 10 a.m., the train was varied during the following years to run at 10.10, 10.15, 10.20, and 10.25 a.m., though in 1876 it came back definitely and finally to 10 a.m.

Althought the "10 o'clock" has for over 50 years been known as the "Flying Scotsman," there is no record as to when or by whom it was first given that name. Officially, it has always been the "10 o'clock," and in the public time—tables its most ambitious title was "Special Scotch Express." At first indeed, it was dignified by a heading to its time—table column, "Spl. 1st Cl." (this was when it started earlier than 10 a.m.), and, later, "Spl. 1 & 2 Cl."

Presumably, the title of "Flying Scotsman" was giving in days when fancy names for specially important trains, as also for many other things, were in fashion. At any rate, the name goes back a very long way, and was particularly suitable in that for many years, this train was the chief, if not the only day express by the East Coast Route, and was the fastest, and therefore "Flying" Scotch Express.

R. T. Rand.

REFLECTIONS.

A dark night pouring with rain, lighted only by the flash of guns and starshells, and challenging searchlights. Mud is everywhere. The soldiers in the trenches are tense and expectant, for in a few hours it will be zero hour. Already the allied guns are thundering Zero Hour. The men are waiting for the order to leave their trenches and charge forward over open ground. The order is given—the men are swarming over the parapets: but the enemy are replying. Machine guns are chattering their hail of death—many men fall back into the mud never to rise again, others mortally wounded are groaning while some of their companions are doing their best to relieve them. The others are now out in the open, many are falling either dead or fatally wounded, now left groaning and dying in the mud. This was the cruelty of the Great War. We do not want this again. But the League of Nations must be more efficient than it is today, otherwise we cannot stop War.

N.A.A.

AMPHIBOLIA.

(Taken at random from local newspapers).

The first photograph is that of a fourteen pound pike taken in a back yard from the top of a step-ladder.

A lady (through circumstances) wishes to let part of her well furnished house.

The Territorial Band played the hymns as well as the church organ.

A gentleman shortly returning to Australia wishes to meet a lady and marry her before doing so.

Long leave will be granted to Parents and Guardians of all boys who apply for it.

It would seem that almost any women, no matter what extent or depth her wrinkles, might have been removed entirely and for ever by means of this lucky discovery.

A.M.W.

ISLE OF SMILES

A Cockney woman was addressing her small son, who looked rather guilty.

"Wotcher bin a doin' of?" she demanded suspiciously.

"Nuffin," replied the small boy.

"Wot are yer doing, then?"

"Nuffin."

"Wotcher goin' to do, then?" she persisted.

"Nuffin."

"Well, then," she exclaimed, giving him a sound cuff on the ear,

"Take that, yer lazy little brat!"

A Scotsman on returning from a holiday in England, was asked if he liked London.

"Hoo!" he replied, "Did I like London? Rather; you go into a restaurant and find tuppences under the plate."

First Boarder: "This cheese is so strong it could walk over and say 'Hello!' to the coffee."

Second Boarder: "Yes, and the coffee is too weak to answer it."

1st Farmer: "Is that boy steady?"

2nd Farmer: "Well, if he were any steadier, he wouldn't move

Important Notice: This magazine is the official organ of the Maidstone Commercial School, Past and Present. Old Boys are strongly urged to become subscribers (2/6 per annuum) and thereby keep in touch with the School.

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