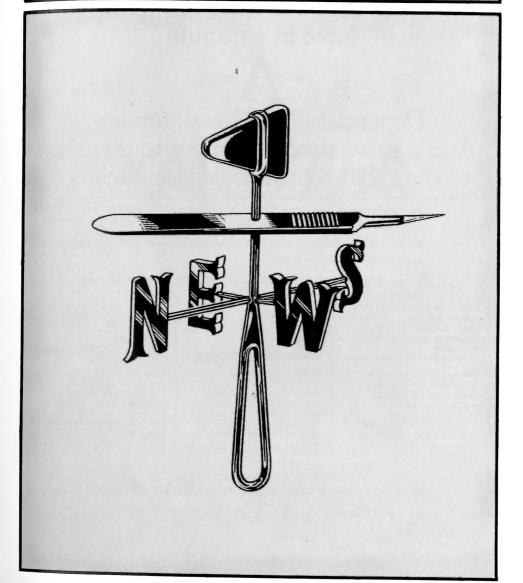
BULLETIN

of the MAHONING COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

Volume LVII

APRIL, 1987

Number 4



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From the Desk of the President



The speaker at our March meeting of the Society discussed the "Purposes and Functions of a Medical Society." A thoroughly mundane topic. The speech consisted of a listing of purposes and functions. It really did not seem to awaken the audience and there were only one or two questions for the speaker. I promise more exciting topics in the future.

I chose this topic because it seemed to me that the society was just drifting from day to day. We seem to be in a constant defensive position. Parrying each attack levied at us by the various organizations and systems that want a piece of our pie just does not seem to be adequate. We need to take some aggressive offensive positions. With this meeting topic, I was trying to get a fcundation for a fresh approach and perhaps a re-definition of just what a medical society should be in this rapidly changing medical scene.

The big question is: How can the society better serve its members?

In the "good old days" the only purposes of a medical society were those of providing educational and professional opportunities. It was also the watch dog of "professional ethics" and provided the camaraderie that came from talking to other physicians.

After listening to our speaker, I came to the conclusion that to-day's Society must be all things to all physicians. There are those who would have us politically active. We need to lobby our legislators to pass bills favorable to our interests. Some want us to use our influence to mediate with Medicare and Medicaid. There is a need to negotiate with third-party carriers. We need to find a legal way to collectively bargain with PPOs, HMO's, etc. In addition, we need a public relations arm in order to put our best foot forth. We need to be involved with more community services. Some members would like more social functions. Others want less expensive hospitalization. I must have left something out.

When considering the diversity and magnitude of the problems that face us and the nature of the projects we must become involved with, it is obvious that our society has a most ineffectual organizational structure. As I look at the list, I realize that there is not enough time in my day or energy in my body to tackle the list. Of course, we have an elected council of very capable men. However, other than the delegates and alternate delegates, they do not have specific assignments. The council is elected at large from among those willing to donate their

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The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

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Editorial:

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION

At the time of the American Revolution there were about 3500 practicing physicians in the colonies. Of these, only about 300 of these marvels of medical care had ever bothered to receive a medical degree. The only medical school at that time was the decade old Philadelphia Medical College which graduated only a handful of these physicians, the rest being trained in the latest techniques of the period in the European schools. Most of the medical personnel were trained by the apprentice system (See one, Do one, Teach one!). With the crude techniques of the time, grew the concern that unless organized medicine could be channelled into a meaningful and supervised society, then anarchy would certainly prevail.

The evolution for this came with the Revolutionary War itself. As in all great times, great men arose. To centralize his efforts, General Washington put together hasty guidelines and appointed some of these great men to the position of DIRECTOR-GENERALS. As with all government projects this initial thrust into the governmental organization of medicine was fought with tremendous problems and thus almost went the way of the early war effort. Finally, the leadership of men like Dr. William Shippen and ultimately Dr. Benjamin Rush would emerge. During this time the private sector also showed signs of organization, especially at the Philadelphia Hospital.

With the end of the war, great efforts were made to weed out "charletonism" in medicine. Although the Eastern shores erected medical schools of note, the growing West was completely untamed. With ignorance, many people would be persuaded to try a multitude of bizarre treatment modalities or "Cures". So called medical schools arose at about the same rate as these cures. As the Twentieth Century evolved, it was apparnt that advances in medicine should also be followed by well trained practitioners.

Now, in steps the government to reorganize the show. State boards were set up and curriculums were standardized. This assured the public that, at least, physicians had training before being unleashed to the ills of the American people. It worked, for the most part, mainly because it acted to preserve the integrity of the individual physicians who were free to try to

(Continued on Page 92)

Editorial:

(Continued from Page 91)

do their best for their patients. Medical practices became families, with the physician acting as the father figure.

Then came 1965. Unemployment was only 2% and the government found it could operate with great profit despite a growing wartime footage. The general public was assured the finest and insured for the best medicine in the world, except for the elderly. Now, in steps the government again Medicare, Medicaid, and other types of government insurances were set up. This did not come without a price.

The cost of any organization is that of bureaucracy. The cost of taking advantage of third-party payers is to play their games. After all, they feel that it's their money the physicians are trying to get.

All of the above is understandable. Now comes the bizarre twist of the 1980's. For the first time in our history, we are losing the basic freedoms envisioned by our forefathers, and are fast becoming the tools of the system we helped set up! Four physicians signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It will take many more in 1987 to accomplish the same thing. We are learning a valuable lesson in our professional life. No longer can we independently take care of our family of patients. Now we are forced to take on another partner. The third-party payer has divided us and the governing bodies have promoted it by law. Now is the time for all good souls to come to the aid of medicine. Build a fortress against the powerful winds of war. Pick up the banners of our forefathers. Organize a front. Build the framework of freedom that inspired the great physicians of America!

Brian S. Gordon, M.D.

BREAST CANCER SCREENING IS SET

The American Cancer Society, in cooperation with six Mahoning County breast cancer screening centers, will hold a breast cancer screening awareness

program in early April of this year.

The American Cancer Society announced the focus of the Society will be placed on mammography this year. The Mahoning County unit of the Society will follow the emphasis but the local program will differ from the national program because the local program will extend over three years. As of April 6, requests for mammography screenings are being received by the Ameican Cancer Society. This follows a week of public service announcements. Area screening sites have made 100 free mammograms available for the education program that will emphasize the need for breast self-examination, physician consultations and examinations, and the appropriate mammography sequence. Applicants receiving the free mammograms are in the high risk category. All callers to the screening sites will receive a special kit concerning breast cancer awareness.

This campaign is part of a nationwide effort by the American Cancer Society to inform women about the many benefits of early detection of breast cancer. One of the purposes of the campaign is to encourage physicians to inform their patients of the three steps to early detection of breast cancer: Breast self examination, Professional breast examination, and Mammography.

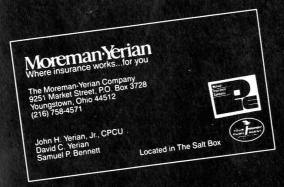
Education activities during the Breast Cancer Screening Awareness campaign will include radio and television public service announcements, newspaper coverage, and speaking appearances by representatives of the Society,

as well as the mammography screenings.

The Cancer Society is urging the medical community to take leadership action in this endeavor, to promote early detection measures, and to educate their patients about the ways breast cancer can be found at its onset. Only with this vital participation and support will the campaign play a significant role in saving lives in Mahoning County.

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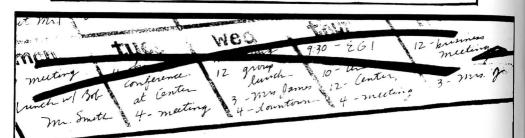
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PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL March 10, 1987

The monthly meeting of the Council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held Tuesday, March 10, 1987 at Antone's in McKay Court.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. while dinner was in progress to expedite the meeting. The minutes of the February meeting, having

been read, were approved.

The treasurer's report showed a total of 318 members have paid dues for 1987 to date as compared with a total of 326 at the same time last year. An accounting was given of total dues receipts and extra income, with a note concerning the amount in the reserve account of the Society. A bills list was presented and a motion made, seconded and passed to pay each and every bill.

The following application for membership was presented:

ASSOCIATE: Jane R. F. Butterworth, M.D.

The application was approved and the applicant will become a member of the Mahoning County Medical Society in the voted category 15 days after the name has been printed in the minutes of the March meeting that are mailed to all members. unless an objection is received in writing by the executive director before that effective date.

COMMUNICATIONS included:

A letter of thanks from Dr. Stephen Ondash for the recognition shown him at the December meeting of the Society;
An informational notice concerning the House of Delegates meeting

of OSMA being held May 15-17 in Columbus;

A request from the president of OSMA for recommendations for membership on State OSMA committees. Three Council members evidenced interest in serving on committees. Committees listed for membership recommendations are: Accreditation, Art & Culture, Cancer, Task Force on Cancer Screening, Communications, Education, Emergency & Disaster Medical Care, Geriatric Medicine, Impaired Physicians, Journal Advisory, Judicial & Professional Relations, Maternal & Neonatal Health, Membership, OSMA Nurse Liaison, Professional Liability Task Force, Resident Physicians, Public & School Health, Sports Medicine, State Legislation.

The committee on evaluation-of-health-o-rama presented its report. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the present status as regards the health-o-rama be maintained by the Society.

The mini-internship committee reported the next session will be held August 16-18. Recommendations for participants from the private sector and from the medical society will be accepted at the Society office.

The president noted a request from the Dental Society for the appointment of two Medical Society members to a joint golf-outing committee and stated he would make the appointments.

The Welfare Fund committee reported that contributions have been

made to the benefit of two needy physicians.

A considerable amount of discussion was held concerning the practice of some pharmacists filling prescriptions that are out-dated and not current. It was noted the practice has been brought to the attention of the local pharmaceutical association previously but the practice still continues. A member of council suggested that all physicians photo-copy each prescription and make the copy a part of the patient record in order to be able to substantiate instructions and medication — because it is reported that pharmacies no longer keep written prescriptions after they have been put into a computer. It was directed by Council that a letter be written to the pharmaceutical association asking what information is needed in order for the association to take action to eliminate the illegal practices of filling unauthorized prescriptions.

SOUTHWOODS

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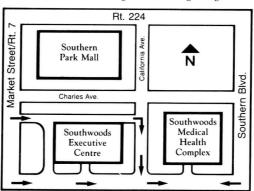


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A motion was made, seconded and passed that will have the Society absorb the cost of meals for retired members who attend the regular Society meetings, and be part of the prepaid-meal provision enacted last year and effective in January (non-dues payors, too).

A motion was made, seconded and passed that notice of Society meetings be distributed to the residents at the hospitals and that the resident-members of the Society be offered a 50% reduction in meal cost if they

wish to attend the meetings.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to take part in the Career Day Program at YSU and have the Society's booth manned by anyone willing to spend the three hours as part of the program.

Approval was given for the Society to be a title sponsor of a financial planning seminar to be presented in September by SMB Financial Planning,

an affiliate of PICO.

It was announced the regular Society méeting will be held Tuesday, March 17 at THE MOONRAKER on Rt. 224, with Robert Clinger, Director of Health Education for OSMA, as the speaker. The topic is Purposes and Functions of a County Medical Society.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Robert B. Blake Executive Director

From the Desk of the President

(Continued from Page 90)

time and expertise to the society. Generally, the council meets once a month to discuss and divine solutions to our problems. Believe me, I have no criticism of the members of council. In fact, I greatly appreciate their advice and service and so should all the members of the society. However, I believe the nature of council should be changed. Each seat on council should be for a specific function. W should elect members for specific positions. These would include a seat for political action, Medicare-Medicaid relations, third party negotiations, publicity, community projects, hospital relationships, etc. Then the council member who has been elected to each position would select his own committee of four or five society members to assist him in his efforts. At the council meeting, each member reports on the activities of his/her committee. Then the entire council can weigh and advise on each committee's activities.

With the above structure, specific areas of concern will have someone responsible for them. At the present time, everybody is responsible for everything. With each of us only having a limited amount of time, taking on one of the above activities becomes a voluntary situation. With the above proposed sructure, each member will enlist the services of four or five society members. This can get 35 to 40 members involved and decrease the total time each member has to spend. Thus, at election time, we will not just elect members to council, we will elect each council member to a specific position.

I believe we need this or a similar change in order to become a more effective society. These are only my initial thoughts and not a final draft. As the year progresses, I would heartily appreciate the thoughts and suggestions of Council and of all the membership along this line.

G. Robert Barton, M.D. President



ITEMS

From the Exec's Desk

ROBERT B. BLAKE, Executive Director

A Course In Human Relations:

The six most important words: "I admit I made a mistake."

The five most important words: "You did a good job."

The four most important words: "What is your opinion?"

The three most important words: "If you please."

The two most important words: "Thank you."

The one most important word: "We."

The least important word: "I."

Social Security was never intended to be more than "a floor of protection" for retirees, according to Social Security Commissioner Dorcas R. Hardy, who said Americans need to take a closer look at how much they are saving for their own retirement because Social Security alone won't do the job.

Warning: No loving can be dangerous to your health, according to Art Mollen, M.D. and newspaper columnist. He says that just as exercise and proper diet are important components of health, so is love. In fact, not loving increases anxiety, fear, tension and stress. Not loving also causes medical ailments such as digestive problems, nervousness, depression, back pain, headaches, insomnia and others. So, he says, all you have to do to avoid illness and be healthy is fall in love and live happily ever after. Not loving is hazardous to your health!

Two fish were swimming together in the river when the little fish asked his large companion, "How did you manage to grow so large?"

"My friend," the big fish replied, "When I was your size, I learned to keep my mouth shut . . . and here I am."

* * * * * * *

A cynic gave this caustic reaction to a dinner which he attended. "If the soup had been as warm as the wine, and the wine had been as old as the turkey, and the turkey had a breast like the waitress . . . it would have been a marvelous dinner."

Minds, like bodies, will often fall into a purpled, ill-conditioned state from the mere excess of comfort, according to Charles Dickens.

The average girl quickly learns that her ideal boyfriend isn't real, and her real boyfriend isn't ideal.

And . . . ministers may preach about the hereafter but, as a group, they remain longer in the here and now. According to the American Council on

Life Insurance and the Presbyterian Ministers Fund, religious professionals who are now 35 years old will live to be 83. For the general population, government data indicates the average 35 year old will live to be only 76.9 years old. Actuaries admit clerics' lifestyles have fewer risks than the general public. For one thing, many ministers do not smoke.

1988 INSTALLATION TO BE DIFFERENT

As the result of action taken at the March 17 meeting of the Society, held at the Moonraker Restaurant, the 1988 Society dinner and installation will be a dinner-dance event, in cooperation with the Society Auxiliary.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to change the date of the annual installation meeting from Tuesday, January 19, 1988 to Friday, January 22, 1988 and to have a dinner, installation and dance. The event will be held at one of the Country Clubs and details are yet to be worked out.

The attendance at the March 17 meeting included 49 Society members and 21 others, for a total of 70 persons.

Special speaker for the meeting was Robert Clinger, OSMA director of health education. His topic was, "The County Medical Society - Its Purpose, Its Function." Clinger spoke briefly about areas such as legislative action, the business of medical societies, contract medicine and noted the county society is the connection between the State organization and the physician.

A question and answer period followed Clinger's presentation.

MEDICAL BOOKS FOR CHINA

"Medical Books for China" has shipped 200 tons of medical books and related educational material to the Peoples Republic of China.

Founded in 1981, the organization came into being after Dr. Jordan Phillips and his wife, Mary, visited the Peoples Republic of China in 1979. They were among the early visitors when China opened its doors to the western world and they learned that most of the medical libraries and their books had been destroyed in an effort to stamp out western culture.

On a return visit to the PRC, Dr. Phillips took some of his medical library books as a gift to Chinese doctors. When he returned to the United States, he sent a letter to 1200 medical schools and libraries asking for donations of books, medical journals, visual aids and audio tapes. Now, "Medical Books for China" operates out of a large office-warehouse in Sante Fe Springs, California with five employees.

An IRS ruling permits 100% tax deduction for contributions to "Medical Books for China." Donors should contact the local postoffice for special postal rates. Contribution of medical books, not older than 1960; journals, no older than 1969; and related medical educational materials should be sent to: Medical Books for China, 13201 E. Florence Ave., Sante Fe Springs, CA 90670. Contact phone number is (213) 946-8774.

WHERE IS THAT WHITE COAT?

The Journal of the American Medical Association recently reported on a study which many physicians might find helpful in this age of consumerism and physician marketing. Two hundred patients were interviewed concerning physician attire and etiquette with the following results:

- .65 percent believe physicians should wear a white coat.
- .27 percent believe physicians should not wear tennis shoes..37 percent believe male physicians should wear neckties.
- Only 40 percent want physicians to address them by their first names.

.34 percent believe female physicians should wear dresses or skirts.

TOLEDO SEMINAR IS SET

The 8th Annual Endocrine/Metabolic Symposium for health professionals, sponsored by the Department of Endocrinology of Mercy Hospital, will be held on Thursday, May 14, 1987 at the Hotel Sofitel, Toledo, Ohio.

The all-day program will be devoted to Management Strategies in Type II Diabetes Mellitus, and will feature Gerald M. Reaven, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Head, Division of Gerontology, Stanford University School of Medicine and Dean Lockwood, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Head, Endocrine-Metabolic Unit, University of Rochester School of Medicine.

Topics will include:

- Pharmacologic Management of Type II Diabetes

 The Relationship Between Hypertension and Carbohydrate and Lipid Metabolism

- The Pathogenesis and Treatment of Abnormal Lipoprotein

Metabolism in Type II Diabetes

- Weight Control in the Management of Diabetes

 The Endocrine, Neurologic and Urologic Aspects of Sexual Dysfunction in Diabetes

The Team Approach to Treatment of Sexual Dysfunction in Diabetes

The Medical College of Ohio and Associtaed Teaching Hospitals designate this continuing medical education activity for 7 credit hours in Category I for the Physicians Recognition Award of the AMA.

The registration fee is \$50.00, and you may register by calling Mercy Hospital Endocrine and Diabetes Care Center, (419) 259-1370.

C. M. E. AT ST. E

- April 24, UROLOGY "Bacteriuria in the Obstetrics and Gynecologic Patient". Speaker to be announced.
- May 1, ENDOCRINOLOGY, "Office Management of Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus", Maime Davidson, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine at Southeastern Medical School, Texas.
- May 8. CARDIOLOGY, "Unstable Angina". Speaker to be announced.
- May 15, MEDICAL ETHICS, "The Commercialization of Medicine: New Variations on an Old Theme", H. Tristram Engelhardt, M.D., Ph.D., Member of Center for Ethics, Medicine and Public Issues, Baylor College of Medicine.
- May 22, GEONTOLOGY, "Osteoporosis in Aging: Clinical Implications", Leonard Speroff, M.D., Professor and Chairman of Department of Reproductive Biology, Case Western Reserve University.
- June 5, HYPERTENSION, "Regulation Therapy Renal Hemodynamics in Essential Hypertension". Speaker to be announced.
- June 12, ENDOCINOLOGY, "Control and Complications of Diabetes", John P. Sheehan, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University.

A man's true wealth is the good he does in the world. Happy are those who have doubt about themselves. It is just one step from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Patience is bitter but its fruits are sweet.

It is hard for the happy to understand misery.

Men are better when they are old: things are better when they are new. The less men think, the more they talk.

Brevity is a great charm of eloquence.

S. L. PERNI. M.D.

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From the Bulletin

FIFTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1937

Members were invited to the Mahoning County Bar Association's gridiron show entitled "Frolics and Colics of 1937" at the Ohio Hotel. It was a musical show with the Medical-Dental Orchestra in the pit. It was a hilarious comedy written by Verne Cailor and the high spot was a song and dance number put on by Oscar Kaufman.

Peter Boyle was abroad studying Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Rotunda in Dublin. E. C. Baker addressed the Cleveland Radiological Society. W. H. Bunn and John McCann appeared on the program of the OSMA meeting at Dayton. Dr. Richard V. Clifford became a member of the Society.

FORTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1947

Dr. Ray Hall's article on "Tonsillectomy and Poliomyelitis" said that there was no statistical nor experimental proof so far of any true relationship between Poliomyelitis and Tonsillectomy.

Morris Rosenblum was studying Internal Medicine at the Mayo Clinic.

Milton Yarmy was at the New York Post-Graduate Medical School.

I. K. Herald was studying Proctology at the New York Polyclinic. C. W. Stertzbach arrived in town to be associated with E. J. Wenaas. Dr. Louis Bloomberg opened his office for the practice of Opthalmology. J. L. Scarnecchia completed residency at Lakeside Hospital and resumed his practice of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

THIRTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1957

President Ondash was promoting a committee under the auspices of the

American College of Surgeons for the better care of the injured.

The North-East Ohio Society of Internal Medicine was formed with the headquarters in Youngstown. Arnoldus Goudsmit was President; John Noll, Vice-President and Hugh Bennett, Secretary-Treasurer.

New members were George B. Pugh, G. H. Davies, W. D. MacLean and

H. C. Gonzalez.

FORTY YEARS AGO — APRIL 1967

President Reese inveighed against the new registration fee for doctors which would provide the State of Ohio with \$110,000.00 with absolutely no benefit for the doctors. The fee was \$10.00.

Joseph Colla died. He was a fine gentleman full of vigor and humor and

everyone loved him.

Bill Allsop died after an outstanding career in surgery. He was Past

President of the Society.

New Members were: Comenic Malter, Juan A. Ruiz, Michael Galose, M. L. McKenzie and C. A. Sarantopoulis.

TEN YEARS AGO — APRIL 1977

President Jim Anderson editorialized his objection to the multiple efforts by outside agencies to control the cost of medical care. As he pointed out, since third parties are now paying for the cost of medical care, neither the patient nor the doctor has the incentive to keep costs down. He proposed a ten dollar deductible hospitalization insurance.

Dr. Kurt Wegner received a plaque and a resolution at the March meeting in recognition for his organizing and carrying out four large immunization programs for the Medical Society. They were: Polio in 1961, Measles in 1967, Rubella in 1970, and the Swine Flu in 1976. He received a standing

ovation, and it was well deserved.

The annual dinner dance was held at the Youngstown Country Club. The date of the event was not mentioned but Mrs. Robert (Anne) Buckely Mrs. S. W. (Mary) Chaisson were Co-Chairpersons. Mrs. Robert (Frances) Barton was President and served as Hostess. Special guests were Dr. Jim and Mary Ann Anderson.

There were no new members listed for April, 1977.

Robert R. Fisher, M.D.

A QUESTION

If you don't have time to do a job right the first time, where are you going to find time to do it over?

AN IDEA

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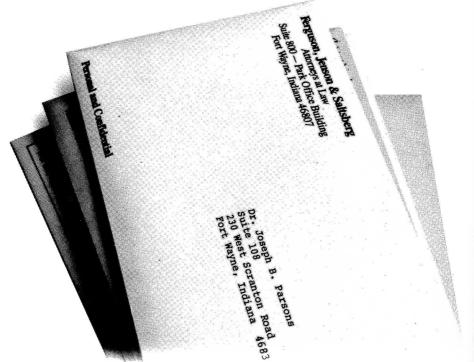
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