

The Western Clarion

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SATURDAY, DEC. 16, 1905.

A SQUIRT-GUN BATTERY.

Vancouver, like all other great and unlighted cities, is blessed or cursed as the case may be, with a number of daily papers. While the city's blessings and curses are not confined altogether to these sheets, they nevertheless occupy no mean place in the list, and one that could not be more worthily filled by any other creature of capitalist civilization. Through their agency, the guileless and unsuspecting denizen of the burg has dished up for his delectation such accounts of the world's happenings as those whom providence has appointed to rule over him deem it wise and proper for him to know.

This tender and even paternal solicitude goes far towards keeping the aforesaid denizen docile, decorous and contented with the lot in which the wisdom of providence has placed him. Should he become acquainted with events as they are actually occurring in the various parts of the earth, and become familiar with their significance, it might throw him into such a fit of economic belly-ache as to cause him to leer at the fat capitalist of spit upon the policeman.

The sole function of the daily paper, however, does not lie in informing the common herd of things they should not, and keeping from them the things they should know. One of its chief functions is to lie about the most common place things. As a rule these lies are such transparent ones as to be easily recognized as such, and they are probably indulged in for the purpose of keeping in practice for times of emergency when a honest penny might be turned by it.

There is an obscure sheet among the Vancouver contingent of dailies that is unique in its way. That is to say that it is unique in its veracity. It "prints the facts." This is a positive fact, because it distinctly so states at the top of its title page. Now as to some of the facts.

On Sunday evening, Dec. 10, J. H. Hawthorthwaite, member for Nanaimo in the local house, addressed an audience in the Grand Theatre, Cordova Street. In the course of his remarks he used the following words according to the report in the Daily Province, of Dec. 11:

"The Russians were setting an example as to the measures necessary to be taken to secure freedom and the downfall of capitalism. He hoped, though, it would not be necessary for them here to adopt such tactics. The ballot, and not the bullet was the weapon. The Socialist party in this country advocated making use of it, but if ever came to the worst, Mr. Hawthorthwaite stated he would respond to the call as fearlessly as any man."

The correctness of this report is vouched for by dozens of men who were present at the meeting. It is not just to the Province to say that its report was in its entirety accurate and fair. The report of "the paper" that prints the facts" (remember, that paper is the "World") was headlined as follows: "Hawthorthwaite Wants a Rifle." Nanaimo's Bombsastic Furioso Tolls Vancouver Workingmen He Will Lead Them Against Capitalistic Bullets." The title of the matter is that Mr. Hawthorthwaite expressed no hankering after a rifle, nor did he lead Vancouver workingmen that he would "lead them" anywhere "much less against" capitalistic bullets. Of course it would be entirely out of place to say the World merely lied about it, for it is the "paper" that prints the facts. But come to think of it that does not assure that it

could not or would not print something in addition to the "facts" upon occasion. If it were true that "Hawthorthwaite wants a rifle," it would still be not so bad as it might. It is merely a choice of weapons anyhow. Some might prefer a cannon or a stuffed club. The "World" evidently prefers a battery of political and journalistic light-guns of exceedingly small calibre, and infinitesimal range.

It is largely a matter of taste after all. One excellent thing about the "World" is its comparative insignificance. It would scarce be noticed were it not for the abnormally voiced young men who brazenly proclaim its vulgarity to the ear of the patient Vancouverite, more especially on Saturday evenings. Its Saturday evening solicitations in order to exchange its "facts" for coins are carried on with a naked shamelessness which would be considered as a breach of business ethics even in the "red light" district. Hawthorthwaite may stick to his rifle, providing of course, that it is his favored weapon, with the assurance that it is a cleaner and more dignified means of attack or defense than a battery of broken-down squirt-guns.

ENERGY WASTED.

What a lot of energy is expended in splitting hairs over the minute details of the capitalist system of skinning workmen and converting their hides into luxuries for the skinners, and additional capital with which to continue and enlarge upon the skinning. Whether this one is exploited or to what extent that one is skinned are vital questions to shallow paters, but have no bearing of consequence upon the skinning process in general. The facts in the matter are by no means obscure, and consequently should not be difficult to locate. The workers without property rights in the means of production are compelled to surrender themselves to the owners thereof, in return for which they receive what is termed wages. The workers' wage is the market price of his labor, power as a commodity. This commodity exchanges, like all others according to the amount of labor-time embodied in its production.

That is to say, if sufficient food, etc., can be produced upon the average, by the expenditure of two hours' labor-time, to keep a workman one day, that is to produce one day's power to labor or labor-power, his wage expressed in money will be the equivalent of that specified amount of food. Under the pressure brought to bear upon the price, (wages) by virtue of the fact that there is constantly in excess of the number of jobs, the price is held down to this point in spite of all efforts on behalf of the workman to raise it. This is the hold that capitalist property has upon him, and this is the hold he must break before he can realize either appreciable or permanent relief from his miseries heaped upon him through his present position as a wage-slave.

An understanding by the workman of a few simple facts relating to commodities, the economic laws underlying their exchange, and his labor-power is in the list of commodities, affords the necessary ground-work for intelligent action looking to his deliverance from wage-bondage. From this starting point he will soon be brought to see that he is held in leash for exploitation at the hands of capital because of the present system of property which vests in the capitalist class the ownership and consequently the control of the means of production, enabling that class to appropriate the products of his labor down to the last farthing's worth. By such ownership the capitalist class virtually owns the working class, each individual capitalist or owner merely sorting out from the common stock such desirable specimens as may suit their purposes, and for such a period of time as they may choose. From this point to that of seeing that this power to own is exercised and controlled by the state in one or two, and the only means of conclusion to be drawn is that if the workmen would free themselves from the tyranny of capital they must oust the capitalists from control of the State, the sole point of vantage from which they can make their tyrannical possible.

To arrive at this conclusion and solution does not require any fine splitting of hairs over the thousand and one petty details of the present system of exploitation that may be dug up. The main facts in the case are the things to be mastered in order to insure correct action. Let us on hair-splitting. Get in and drill. The gains and conquest of the approaching revolution are even now

in evidence, presaging the rapid approach of a social storm that cannot be lulled by blabbering and hair-splitting.

ANOTHER AGREEMENT BROKEN

The art glaziers of Chicago struck last spring for a nine-hour day with eight hours on Saturday. After being out something like two weeks, a settlement was reached by the signing of an agreement, covering the various demands of the workers, as claimed by the workmen that the employers have broken the agreement and there is much weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth thereat. It may well be wondered how long the workmen will continue to pin their faith to agreements made with their masters. In the last analysis these are simply agreements entered into with robbers relative to the extent to which their robberies shall be carried, and surely no sane person would expect any self-respecting robber to keep such an agreement once it stood in the way of the profitable carrying on of his robberies. Besides all of this it should some time dawn upon the wage-slave that the victims of robbery really have no rights that robbers are bound to respect. It is also quite proper that they should have no such rights in view of the fact that by giving their support to the political rule of capitalist property they actually legalize the robbery. As well expect a wolf to refrain from indulging his appetite for mutton because of an agreement to do so, as to expect the capitalist hyena to refrain from gorging himself with the savory profit from wage-labor because of a similar contract. To realize the expectation in either case it would be first necessary to change the nature of the respective beast, which every one will admit is by no means an easy task. Let the workers become wise and refrain from entering into such agreements covering any stated period of time, and then abrogate the agreement whenever the opportunity offers to do so advantageously. Even when bound by agreement for some specified period, the workers are justified in breaking it at any moment. King capital does it and surely the King can do no wrong.

FORWARD MARCH

According to the Revue de Commerce Scientifique, Japan is striving forward. She has fast taken her place among the great maritime and industrial nations. She has known how best to build up her trade and her home and sea commerce. She has not let capital to enter her gates, she has just broken with one of her oldest traditions. She is allowing foreigners to buy and hold land, and she is permitting her people to mortgage their real-estate to the banks. It was not possible in the past for capital to enter Japan, for the first demand made by capital is security, and the best security for the capitalist is earth itself. The law of mortgage the Japanese to mortgage their real estate puts into their possession the aggregate of loans amounting to at least 750,000,000 yen. With such a sum, mines may be opened, railroads claimed and factories built and equipped. Mortgages may be placed now on mines, railroads, etc., thus she is materially aiding the Empire's industrial and trading power. Everybody in the East is beginning to notice the fact that Japan is growing and her demand upon foreign goods is increasing. She is manufacturing many goods that went into her formerly from Europe and America. She has gone forward in the East in the same way that we have gone forward in the West. She is indicated by an advance from 56,000,000 yen in 1900 to 97,000,000 yen in 1904. If anybody is waiting for Japan to fall in her efforts to augment her industrial resources to or to extend her trade, he will be disappointed.—Exchange.

Japan is now affording an excellent opportunity to observe the process of rapidly converting the industries and resources of a country which has remained in a somewhat backward stage of industrial development into capital, and the great mass of its working people into proletarians. By reading the above it may readily be seen that the hour has struck when her people are to be torn from their real estate holdings and forced to become wage-slaves. Capital, the second fact, that they are taught to worship as the Almighty and Omega of all that is great and good, "delectable security," and the best security on earth is the earth itself. In other words capital demands its pound of flesh from labor, and the way to best secure payment is to "dispossess the workers of all right and title to property in land. This being effected, it becomes impossible for the worker to demand any payment of the pound of flesh. The implements of capitalist production are so gigantic, complicated and powerful as to be beyond his reach. He must therefore surrender his life force to capital in return for a miserable subsistence which will come to

PLATFORM OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, in convention assembled, affirm our allegiance to and support of the international revolutionary working class. Labor produces all wealth, and to labor it should justly belong. Do the owners of the means of wealth production belong the products of the present economic system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of wealth production; therefore all the products of the present economic system belong to the capitalist class. The capitalist is master; the worker is slave.

So long as the capitalists remain in possession of the reins of government, the interests of the state will be used to protect and defend their property rights in the means of wealth production and their control of the product of labor. The capitalist system gives to the capitalist an ever-swelling stream of profits, and to the worker an ever-increasing measure of misery and degradation.

The interest of the working class is the abolition of the existing class system, the abolition of the wage system, the abolition of capitalist exploitation, the transformation of capitalist property into collective or working-class property.

The irrepressible conflict of interests between the capitalist and the worker is rapidly culminating in a

struggle for possession of the power of government—the capitalist to hold the worker to secure it by political action. This is the class struggle. Therefore, we call upon all workers to organize under the banner of the Socialist Party of Canada with the object of conquering the public power for the purpose of setting up and enforcing the economic program of the working class, as follows:

1. The transformation as rapidly as possible, of capitalist property in the means of wealth production (natural resources, factories, mills, railways, etc.) into the collective property of the working class.
 2. Thorough and democratic organization and management of industry at 7.30 o'clock in morning.
 3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.
- The Socialist Party, when in office as working class government, shall make the answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct. Will this legislation advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will, the Socialist Party is for it; if it will not, the Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.
- In accordance with this principle the Socialist Party pledges itself to conduct all the public affairs placed in its hands in such a manner as to promote the interests of the working class alone.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for membership in _____ Local _____ Socialist Party of Canada.

I recognize the class struggle between the capitalist class and the working class as the basis of all government, and which necessitates the organization of the workers into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties of the capitalist class.

If admitted to membership, I hereby agree to maintain or enter into no relations with any other political party, and pledge myself to support by voice, vote and all other legitimate means the ticket and the program of the Socialist Party of Canada only.

Applicant _____
Address _____
Occupation _____
Age _____ City _____
Admitted to Local _____ Chairman _____
Rec. Sec. _____

him in the form of wages. The Japanese worker is to be ground fine in the mills of capitalist exploitation, just as his fellows in Europe and America have been ground. Now that he has been used as food for cannon in the conquest of requisite territory into which brutal capital may dump the plunder taken from his sweat, he is likewise to be offered up as a sacrifice upon the altar of profit in order to provide the plunder.

The tragedy of converting Japan into a land ruled by the merciless hand of capital is to be a realistic one. That which required centuries to do in the case of Europe and America will be done in decades in the case of Japan, because at its opening, the villain Capital comes upon the state armed Cap-pie with the cunning and powerful weapons forged by the centuries experience in other lands. In other words full-grown capital is to seize the prey which has hitherto escaped its clutches.

Scanting the rich profits to be squeezed from the Japanese workers, the pace will be swift and the pursuit eager. The breaking of Japanese "traditions" to the extent of affording opportunity for the mortgage to get in its deadly work will not be the end of tradition breaking. Anything in this line that stands in the way of the complete realization by capital of the last drop of juice in the workers' bones will be shattered, broken and thrust aside.

One of the clincher arguments fired at the Socialist is, that "you cannot make people good by law." And yet the Socialist is the only one who knows this to be true. All the rest of the world stubbornly persists in attempting it. The pious inclined want Sunday observance laws to compel people to obey the scriptural injunction to remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. The prohibitionist wants laws against indulgence in booze. The small fry labor-shinner wants the law to protect him against the big fellows. Small shop owners invoke the law to prohibit transportation companies from discriminating against them in freight rates. The workman wants the law to protect him against the extraction of his employer in the matter of hours, wages, etc. In fact, every ignorant ass in the whole bunch who has a belly-ache against someone else looks to the law for relief. He has no faith in the ability of that institution to compel the offender to be good. The Socialist alone knows what to do with the criminal. The science of jurisprudence is but a ruling class. The verbal expression of the tyranny of masters over slaves. Being an expression of class interest, it cannot be made just nor impartial. It cannot be made good by law, but fools will persist in trying it.

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Union Directory

When They Meet, Where They Meet.

Every Labor Union in the province has a card in this directory. Secretaries please see.

Phoenician Trades and Labor Council
Meets: Every alternate Monday
President, M. J. Gilmore; Vice-President, N. Lendley; Secretary, W. F. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Miners' Hall. V. Ingram, Secretary; W. A. Pickard, secretary.

Phoenician Miners' Union, No. 4
W. F. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Miners' Hall. V. Ingram, Secretary; W. A. Pickard, secretary.

Socialist Directory

Every Local of the Socialist Party of Canada should run under this head. \$1.00 per month. Secretaries please note.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA
S. Headquarters, Vancouver, B.C.
- Dominion Executive Committee -
A. R. Stebbings, John E. Doherty, Ernest Burns, C. Peters, Alf. Lamb, A. J. Wilkinson, Treasurer; J. O. Secretary, 551 Burrard St., Vancouver, B. C.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, No. 1, S.P. of Canada.

Business meetings every Monday evening at headquarters, 165 Hastings Street, (room 1) second floor. All educational meetings every Sunday at 8 o'clock p.m. in Sullivan Hall, Cordova Street.

D. P. MILLS, Secretary, Box 858, Vancouver B. C.

LOCAL TORONTO - Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, Toronto Bldg.

Secretary, E. F. Dale, Secretary, 41 Henry Street, W. G. Giblin, organizer, 180 Hogarth Ave.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

AS GIVEN OR EXPRESSED BY SOCIALISTS THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION

Edited by R. P. FETTERIDGE, to whom all correspondence for this department should be addressed.

"The birth-pangs of a new civilization" Such is the condition in Russia, and as the child is quickening and ere the child is born the workers' blood may run knee-deep; but industrial freedom will triumph!

The workman with a modern nail-making machine makes a 100-pound coil of nails in two hours. In the days of hand production, the task would have engaged him for two weeks. He gets a bare living from his labor now, and as the old-time hand worker got that, the query naturally arises as to what good a machine has been to the workman anyhow.

Cynical bystander on fringe of a Socialist meeting to sympathetic onlooker: "Do you know that whenever I see a Socialist, always I always put my hands in my pockets. Onlooker (sarcastically): "Indeed, and I suppose when there is no pocket, the Socialist will put his hands in your hands in other people's pockets, eh?" And the cynical one wondered why those within earshot smiled aloud.

We have always pursued the policy of spending our savings as fast as we get hold of them in order to make sure of securing ourselves against losing them. The wisdom of our judgment has been more than proved by the failure of the York County Loan and Saving Society. It would be well if all other such societies would refrain from being hooked by these swindlers, as it is well to be well for the suckers.

There is apparently room for Socialist agitation and organization round the Mission City district, largely composed of farmers, according to the daily press. A large signed petition to the Fisheries Commission last week, "It was urged, if it should give ear to the representations of the canners as to the necessity of the proposed restrictions, to erect a big trap and a gigantic cannery and operate them itself with white labor only, closing the river to all private companies and fishermen."

Reformers, and others are wont to point to "government ownership," etc., as Socialism rather than government socialization. Here's a sample: "Calgary, Alta., Dec. 5.—A strike is imminent in the Calgary postoffice. The employees are required to work seven days a week and on Sunday. One of the principal clerks has resigned." Daily press. The wage-system, the method by which the workers are alone robbed in the world, is the condition of the slave class can be permanently remedied.

Recently the I. T. U. took a referendum vote on a 50-cent-a-week strike in order to order to enforce an 8-hour day. For the assessment 26,949 votes were cast; 5,628 in favor of the proposition, 21,321 against. In Canada, its vote was 19 for, 16 against. The Vancouver (No. 28) vote stood 69 for, 2 against. In Victoria, B. C., the vote was 19 for, 16 against. A cheaper method for Victoria's "106" would be to take out English Church marriage licenses. No show then for a divorce.

The Socialist movement if anything, must be a revolutionary movement, and by the working class—the slaves of the class they seek to overthrow. But there are plenty of members of our movement who believe this idea and aspirations who while probably "uncultured," and forthright "uneducated," are still capable of expressing themselves in popular language without muzzling our language in fairness to the audience, the speakers and our movement, greater care should be exercised by local in the selection of representatives of the party, who are to introduce speakers or convey our message to the public in public places. A long-winded chairman is wearisome enough at a public meeting, and if he is uneducated, an "amateur" of Anglo-Saxon is unbearable, and conveys a bad impression upon the minds of prejudicial listeners.

In the face of the terrible slaughter at Odessa, Kiev, and hundreds of other places, it sounds like a grim joke to say that the Government has not succeeded in its plot. Yet this is the case. The revolution has not only not been killed, but it has received a new stimulus and a new life—the blood of thousands and thousands of martyrs, and children—will be avenged in such a manner which will really stagger humanity. Just as January, when the Communist of St. Petersburg, were perfidiously drawn to the shambles, before the revolution, so will the new massacres mark a further and a more sinister stage in that "red dragon's" teeth have been sown in the lava-ground of the revolution, and warriors, stronger and more vindictive than ever before, will arise to avenge the crime.

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BIG MASS MEETING

HELD BY LOCAL VANCOUVER, S. P. O. C. IN GRAND THEATRE.

J. H. HAWTHORNTWHAITE

Speaker of the Evening—A Stirring Address on Matters Pertaining to Provincial Politics and Questions of Interest to the Workers of British Columbia.

Last Sunday night's Socialist mass meeting was of a decidedly revolutionary hue, and rather likely any of the large audience present, who were expecting to hear an advocate of such issues as "public ownership," "franchised ownership," and other questions which are of no concern to sellers of labor-power, would feel somewhat disappointed.

On Sunday evening Mr. J. H. Hawthornthwaite, M. P. P., addressed a large gathering of Socialists in the Grand Theatre on Cordova Street. The address of Mr. Hawthornthwaite's address was, "Legislation for the Coming Session."

The speaker started off by scolding the press for their unfair reports of the course of the Socialist members in the House. He said the Conservative papers took out all that did not please them and left in what suited them; the Liberal did the same, but he hoped they would remedy this by having at the next session a reporter for the Socialist papers who would accurately represent what they did.

C. P. R. FREIGHT RATES. That giant monopoly has been stretching out its tentacles and after devouring the lives of the workmen, it is trying to shove down its hungry maw a new and more deadly medicine. They have certainly set up a most discordant squawk. I have heard a great deal of sweet music in my time. As a boy my British blood has been singing and playing the bands playing the music of the "Rise Britannia." I have listened to the finest operas and orchestras, I have sat in lofty cathedrals and my soul has been stirred by the strains pealing from the organ. But the most discordant squawk set up by the middlemen of Vancouver. (Laughter.)

Mr. Hawthornthwaite continued that he supposed that at the next session these men would

APPEAL TO THE LEGISLATURE to help to vote of sympathy or otherwise to reduce the rates. In the United States this appeal had been made to the House of Representatives. He had moved a hand the railway employees had protested against any reduction in rates as it would mean a corresponding reduction in wages. It was the companies that no matter what they did it went the workmen would have to suffer anyhow and if he were approached by the business men of Vancouver he would simply have to tell them to get their backs to the wall. Mr. Hawthornthwaite then gave a short sketch of the history of the two great political parties, and coming down to British Columbia said that the McBride Government represented the capitalist class and the Liberal Opposition represented the middlemen of the Province. He held that the greatest enemy of the workmen was this same

REFORM PARTY. He said that everywhere, because they were in the last stages of capitalism and if the Reform Party got in they would probably mean a further and a more sinister stage in that "red dragon's" teeth have been sown in the lava-ground of the revolution, and warriors, stronger and more vindictive than ever before, will arise to avenge the crime.

CLARION QUESTION BOX.

W. J. C., Chilliwack, B. C.—Received your communication O. K. It would be simply impossible for me to personally acknowledge letters to this department. Watch the Clarion.

LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Dr. P. W. Titus, of Seattle will address the socialist mass meeting in the City Hall tomorrow, (Sunday) evening.

E. T. Kingsley will speak in Seattle tomorrow evening. On the Sunday following he will address the workers of this city in the City Hall.

AMONG THE WORKERS.

Com. Arnason is in Vancouver. Inside of another month the fact will not need publishing. There are some 50,000 people in town, and if he hasn't brought the whole of them to the city by that time, he'll change his present mode of attack. You ought to see 'em coming.

The Clarion publishers are endeavoring with some success, to arrange for full reports of the proceedings in the coming session of the B. C. Legislature, which meets early next month. An eight-page paper every week will be published. The paper will give Clarion hustlers a good weapon to boost the circulation with. It's a climb-in' up every day, comrades!

CHILLIWACK, B. C.

By Dr. W. J. Curry.

CHILLIWACK, B. C., Dec. 12.—A branch of the Canadian Socialist Party has just been organized here, and from now on, you may expect to hear of some energetic work for socialism being done in this locality.

This Local Progressing holding weekly meetings, open to the public, and will soon open a reading room for the members.

An interesting time is promised any who care to debate the subject of Socialism from a Capitalist, Prohibition, Single Tax, or any other point of view. As we are all units of this social organism, it is the duty of every intelligent man and woman to take an active interest in all the great questions of the day, and it is indeed, time the public began to understand something of the laws and motive powers of social development.

As to the subject of education, the recent exposure by our Lawson, Russell and Terrell—threw a light on the business methods of some "leading men of the day," and has caused in the minds of the people in New York and other cities show us just how effectively legislation is in protecting the public from its greatest thieves and anarchists.

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WHY SOCIALISM IS NOT POPULAR.

It is impossible to gain any correct knowledge of modern Socialism from the press and current literature. The great majority of our teachers, preachers, editors and authors are muzzled by the capitalist class because that class holds their property.

Because of reasons before given, the great majority of those who are honestly opposed to Socialism, are not Socialists. This is because they are not Socialists. This is because they are not Socialists. This is because they are not Socialists.

Another method of prolonging its existence is to keep people in the dark. It is a fine stroke of business to divert public attention by the fencing exhibitions of its political retainers. This is done by the publication of facts of its own crimes and corruptions and in keeping the masses of population in a state of servitude, an ignorant state, that have neither time nor opportunity to learn anything regarding the only means for their emancipation.

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