

RBMS Newsletter

*Issued by the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section
of the Association of College and Research Libraries
a Division of the American Library Association*

APRIL 1988

Number 9

RBMS GEARS UP FOR NEW ORLEANS

The RBMS Preconference in New Orleans this summer may not get the press coverage that the GOP convention on August 15 will, but it is promising a busy and informative four days at the beginning of July. It should also prove especially entertaining given the environment and the fact that RBMS will be celebrating its 30th anniversary at ALA. This "birthday" will be appropriately celebrated throughout the Preconference with such festivities as a birthday party and the honoring of RBMS's founders and past chairs.

The Preconference will be held July 5-8 and is entitled "Libraries and Museums: Leaves from Each Other's Books." The focus will be the relationship between special collections libraries and museums and what the two can learn from each other. To be discussed, from both theoretical and practical views, are such mutual interests as fund raising, public programs, access, cataloguing, collection development, and reference services. Speakers at the plenary sessions will include librarians, curators and scholars. A variety of seminars has been planned to encourage discussion of practical aspects of the Preconference theme and other topical issues. Among the seminar topics are conservation, exhibition catalogs, grant proposals for preservation and access, interlibrary loan of special collections material, collecting fine printing in both libraries and museums, museum artifacts and



art objects in special collections, risk management, and the history of science, medicine and technology.

Registration will be at the Preconference desk in the Omni Royal Orleans Hotel (in the French Quarter) on Tuesday July 5 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. and Wednesday July 6 from 8:30-9:15 a.m. Also on Tuesday there will be an RBMS Orientation Session from 4:00-5:00 p.m. (which new members are especially encouraged to attend) and an opening reception from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Historic New Orleans Collection, 533 Royal Street, when RBMS's 30th anniversary will be celebrated. Additional receptions will be held at Tulane University and the Hermitage Plantation, a restored antebellum home. On Thursday, participants will be taken by bus to Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge for program events, tours and a luncheon at the Faculty Club.

All RBMS members should have received a more detailed announcement in the mail with registration information. Those who have not and would like to participate in the Preconference (you do not have to be a member to do so) should write ACRL/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611 (or call ALA at 800-545-2433). Once registered, applicants will receive further information on housing, dining, transportation and parking, and a map of the New Orleans area. The Chair of the Preconference Planning Committee is Ann

RBMS COMMITTEE MEETINGS*Tentative* Schedule for ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans
July 9-July 11, 1988

July 9th (Saturday)	8:00-9 :00 AM	GODORT/RBMS/MAGERT Joint Committee
	9:00-11:00	Manuscript Discussion Group Exhibition Catalog Awards Committee Gifts & Appraisals Brochure Committee (ad-hoc) Ethics Committee (ad-hoc) Records Retention Committee (ad-hoc)
	11:30-12:30 PM	Curators/Conservators Discussion Group RBML Editorial Board MARC for Special Collections Discussion Group Orientation Manual Committee (ad-hoc) 1989 Dallas Planning Committee Borrowing for Exhibitions Committee
	2:00-4:00 PM	Legislative Information Committee Continuing Education Committee Standards I Conservators Collations Committee SAA/RBMS Joint Committee to Revise the Guide- lines on Archives and Manuscripts (ad-hoc) Statistics Committee (ad-hoc)
	8:00-10:00 PM	Standards II RBMS/LAMA/ALTA Program: "Insider Theft & Misappropriation"
July 10th (Sunday)	9:00-11:00 AM	1989 Cambridge Planning Committee Literary Rights Committee Security Committee Publications Committee Standards III
	11:30-12:30	Executive Committee I
	2:00-4:00 PM	ACRL Legislative Committee/RBMS Program: "Information Access"
	2:00-5:00	RBMS Program: "Government Documents as Rare Books"
	8:00-10:00 PM	Information Exchange
July 11 (Monday)	9:30-12:30 PM	Executive Committee II

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Gwyn (Johns Hopkins); the Local Arrangements Committee is chaired by Robert Martin (Louisiana State).

RBMS PROGRAMS AT ALA

The fact that RBMS is sponsoring or co-sponsoring three programs at this year's Annual Conference is indicative of the ever increasing level of RBMS's interaction with other organizations within and beyond ALA. Please note that the dates and times listed below are tentative.

The RBMS Program, co-sponsored by GODORT and MAGERT, is entitled "Government Documents as Rare Books" and will be held on Sunday July 10 from 2:00-5:30 p.m. The program, chaired by Robert S. Martin, is a forum to discuss the problems of identifying rare government documents and to explore strategies for protecting and preserving these materials. Also during the program, printed citations will be presented to this year's Exhibition Catalog Award winners. James Green (Library Company of Philadelphia) is the Chair of the Program Planning Committee.

RBMS is also co-sponsoring a program titled "Insider Theft and Misappropriation." It will be in the form of a panel discussion; representatives from RBMS, the American Library Trustee Association (ALTA) and the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) will consider recent incidents of insider theft and their ethical and psychological dimensions, administrative contents, and the responses of the profession. It will be held on July 9, from 8:00-10:00 p.m.

The ACRL Legislation Committee Program at Annual Conference is entitled "Information Access: Issues and Action." RBMS is co-sponsoring this program with GODORT and the Coalition on Government Information. William Keller, Chair of RBMS's Legislative Information Committee, will speak on tax and legislative issues having impact on the public's access to research resources. This program will be on July 10, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

NEW RBMS COMMITTEES

Five new RBMS committees were instituted by Executive Committee motions during Midwinter.

On the Legislative Information Committee's suggestion, an Ad-hoc Committee on Gifts and Appraisals was established to prepare an informational brochure on gifts and appraisals for distribution by institutions

to potential donors and for internal use. Stephen Ferguson (Princeton) will chair that committee.

An Ad-hoc Ethical Standards Review Committee was formed to review the ethics guidelines produced by an earlier RBMS Ethics Committee in view of the recent occurrences of insider theft; Terry Belanger (Columbia) will chair.

An Ad-hoc Committee on RBMS Records' Retention has been created for a two year period to examine the problems of records retention within the Section and to develop appropriate guidelines for the establishment of a records' retention policy.

An Ad-hoc Committee on Statistics has been formed to investigate the feasibility of undertaking a statistical survey of rare book and manuscript libraries.

An Ad-hoc Committee to Revise the Guidelines on Archives and Manuscripts has been created to work solely on the completion of those very necessary and extensive revisions.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Legislative Information Committee (Chair: William Keller, George Washington University) is in the process of reviewing its recent survey of institutions regarding the consequences of the 1984 tax reform act with the intent of publishing a summary in C&RL News. The Continuing Education Committee (Chair: Barbara Paulson, Columbia), besides working busily on the seminars for the Preconference, recommended to the Executive Committee in January that its name be changed to the Education and Professional Development Committee and a sub-committee has been established to review its goals. In January, the Orientation Manual Committee (Chair: Donald Farren, University of Maryland) decided that such a manual would ideally be geared towards newly active RBMS members, basing it upon the orientation materials distributed at the 1987 Stanford Preconference. The Nominating Committee (Chair: Donald Farren) will be announcing a full slate of candidates for the 1989 elections in New Orleans. The Publications Committee (Chair: James Green, Library Company of Philadelphia) has been charged by the Executive Committee to continue to work toward publishing a membership directory as a membership service, and to investigate ACRL policies on the use of royalties and profits derived from section publications. In January, the Standard's Committee's

(Chair: John B. Thomas, Humanities Research Center) revisions of the Guidelines on Manuscripts and Archives stalled and a new committee has been created to work on these revisions. After the Standards Committee's unanimous approval of the guidelines produced by the Security Committee (Chair: William Moffett, Oberlin), those Guidelines on Theft were approved by the ACRL Board. The Borrowing Special Collections for Exhibition Committee (Chair: Ellen Dunlap, Rosenbach Museum) has referred its draft guidelines to the Standards Committee, which will be reviewing them in July. The Curator/Conservators' Collations Committee (Chair: Terry Belanger, Columbia) has a final draft of its guidelines ready to pass before the Standards Committee; the committee will probably be dismissed, having fulfilled its intentions, at Annual Conference in New Orleans. The Literary Rights Committee (Chair: Cathy Henderson, HRC) is continuing to solicit comments on its draft informational pamphlet, "Copyright Strategies for Unpublished Literary Manuscripts." Anyone who would like to read and comment is urged to request a copy from Cathy; the committee wants to complete a final draft at its July meeting. The committee has also been approached by a commercial publisher interested in publishing a directory of the names and addresses of holders of literary rights in unpublished manuscripts. The Curators and Conservators Discussion Group (Chair: Cathy Henderson) reviewed the work of the Curator/Conservators' Collations Committee in January; it is also currently discussing the relative merits of in-house vs. contracted conservation treatment. The Manuscripts and Other Formats Discussion Group (Chair: Bob Blesse, University of Nevada/Reno) in January discussed the legal actions being taken by the estate of Martin Luther King against Boston University. The MARC for Special Collections Discussion Group (Chair: John Thomas) held its first Midwinter meeting in January. The RBMS/GODO-RT/MAGERT Joint Committee (Chair: Nora Quinlan, University of Colorado/Bolder) is busy exploring a variety of co-operative activities.

LIAISONS

Based upon the past success of repeated ALA and SAA program sessions at each other's respective conferences, the ALA/SAA Joint Committee (Liaison: Joan Friedman, Yale Center for British Art) decided that this practice should continue and that the following programs be shared: Buildings and

Equipment for Archives and Special Collections (SAA Program Session) and Collecting Local History (ALA/RBMS 1989 Program Session). The committee is also interested in promulgating joint standards and guidelines and will be joining in the revision of the Guidelines on Manuscripts and Archives for which a new RBMS committee has been formed. The RBMS Orientation Open House at SAA's Annual Conference last fall was very well received and plans are underway to hold another at SAA in Atlanta, which Robert Blesse will be organizing.

Charlotte Brown (Franklin and Marshall College), liaison to RTSD's Preservation of Library Materials Section, announced in January that PLMS has bibliographies in progress on paper standards and preservation; PLMS is also interested in sponsoring a grant writing program and in developing guidelines for teaching preservation and is eager for RBMS input.

Sally Leach (Humanities Research Center) has been appointed to the ACRL Task Force Committee on Awards, Ad-hoc. The committee's charge is to review the various ACRL awards and to produce a manual of uniform policies and procedures.

APRIL ELECTIONS

The following RBMS members are nominees in the 1988 elections: For Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, Sally S. Leach (Humanities Research Center) and Peter VanWingen (Library of Congress); for Member-at-Large (1988-1991 term), Rosemary Cullen (Brown University) and Joe Springer (Mennonite Historical Society).

LEAB EXHIBITION AWARDS

The Leab American Book Prices Current Exhibition Awards for 1988 were recently chosen by the Exhibition Catalog Awards Committee (Chair: Sally Leach, Humanities Research Center). Winners are:

Division I: The Larder Invaded: Reflections on Three Centuries of Philadelphia Food and 35 Receipts from "The Larder Invaded" (Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania) and Time: The Greatest Innovation (Folger Shakespeare Library)

Division II: Marianne Moore: Vision into Verse (Rosenbach Museum)

Division III: The Virgin & the Witch (Harvard Law School Library)

Honorable mentions are:

Division I: Max Ernst: Beyond Surrealism (New York Public)

Division II: Mormon Imprints in Great Britain and the Empire 1836-1857 (Brigham Young University)

Division III: Five Views of an Age (University of Missouri/Columbia) and Three Fine-Press Printers (University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana)

*****Congratulations, everyone*****

Entries for catalogs produced between Sept. 1, 1987 and Aug. 31, 1988 must be submitted by Sept. 30, 1988 for next year's awards. For more information and application forms contact Sally Leach (HRC, P.O. Box 7219, Austin, TX 78712; 512-471-9115).

PUBLICATIONS

The Spring 1988 issue of Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarianship will soon be in the mail. This issue will be a somewhat transitional one. James Green (The Library Company of Philadelphia) will be carrying on the fine work of Paul Koda (University of Maryland) as the new Book Review Editor. This is also the last issue with Ann Gwyn (Johns Hopkins) as Editor. Ann deserves a hearty round of applause for all she has done in the past few years to make RBML the outstanding journal that it is. Subscription requests should be sent to RBML, ACRL/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

The Security Committee's Guidelines Regarding Thefts in Libraries appeared in the March 1988 issue of the C&RL News.

Peter VanWingen's informational brochure "Some Questions and Answers about Books and Their Values" has been retitled "Your Old Books" and is nearly complete. Produced under the auspices of RBMS and endorsed by RTSD, this brochure is an ALA publication for the general public with intrinsic interest to all RBMS members.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Information Exchange will be held Sunday, July 10 from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. RBMS members and any other interested persons are encouraged to use this time for discussion and announcements. Susan Lemke will again moderate. She has requested that those who cannot attend but want to make announcements to please contact her at Special Collections, National Defense University, Ft. McNair, Washington, D.C. 20319-6000 (202-475-1187).

BITNET

At Midwinter, a request was submitted by a number of RBMS members that addresses for

the communications network BITNET be listed in the Newsletter. The respondents are listed here. Should you like to have your BITNET address listed in a later issue, please contact the editor.

Janet Gertz, Penn State: JEG@PSULIAS

Peter Gottlieb, Penn State: PXG@PSULIAS

Charles Mann, Penn State: LJS@PSULIAS

Barbara Paulson, Columbia University: CUL.PAULSON@CU2OB

Robert S. Martin, Louisiana State University: NOTRSM@LSUVM

Leon Stout, Penn State: JEG@PSULIAS

David S. Zeidberg, UCLA: ECZ5DAV@UCLAMVS

CAMBRIDGE (ENGLAND!) IN 1989

Sept. 5-8, 1989, RBMS will sponsor a major conference in Cambridge, England on the international antiquarian book trade with particular emphasis on the flow of material across the Atlantic. The conference will include sessions on historical as well as contemporary issues, and it should provide members with a thorough introduction to the international trade in rare books and manuscripts. Speakers will be drawn from universities, libraries, and the trade, and the conference will allow members to hear and meet distinguished colleagues from abroad whom they might not otherwise have occasion or opportunity to encounter. The planning committee believes that the conference will be of substantial interest and practical value to all RBMS members whose work necessarily involves a knowledge of the book trade, past and present. We expect to be joined in the conference by our colleagues from the Library Association, so that the Cambridge meetings will also give members a chance to meet some of their British counterparts.

Blocks of rooms have been reserved for us at Newnham College, and per diem costs for members should be low enough to make the conference additionally attractive. Moreover, arrangements have been made with Newnham College to allow those who wish to stay on in Cambridge after the conference a chance to do so at bargain rates.

Members of the Planning Committee include James Green, William Joyce, Marie Korey, Richard Landon, Bernard Rosenthal, and Michael Ryan (Chair). David McKitterick, Librarian of Trinity College, has kindly agreed to handle local arrangements on our behalf. Questions or suggestions concerning the conference should be directed to William Joyce (Princeton) or Michael Ryan (Stanford).

1989 PRECONFERENCE

One by-product of the Cambridge conference will be an abbreviated RBMS Preconference prior to ALA's 1989 Annual Conference in Dallas. That Preconference will take place June 22-23 at Southern Methodist University. The 1989 Dallas Preconference Committee (Chair: Sid Huttner, University of Tulsa) announced that its theme will be local history, its collection, development and care. The 1989 Dallas Program Planning Committee (Chair: Pat Bozeman, University of Houston) has decided to also treat local history ("Collecting Local History and Promoting its Use") as its theme.

ESTC/NA

The last Newsletter's article on ESTC left the mistaken impression that ESTC/NA processed all of the records of the Oxford and Cambridge libraries. In fact, the North American team processed only the records of the college libraries; the records of the Bodleian Library at Oxford and the University Library at Cambridge have, of course, been processed by the team at the British Library.

AMERICAN PRINTING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

At APHA's annual meeting in January the awards for distinguished contributions to the field of printing history were presented. The individual award went to Edwin Wolf, 2nd, Librarian Emeritus of the Library Company of Philadelphia, and the institutional award went to the Kemble Collections of Printing and Publishing at the California Historical Society.

For the first time in its 13 year history, APHA's September annual conference will be held outside of New York City. It will be in Philadelphia and the title is "The Book Arts in Philadelphia, 1785-1840." The conference will coincide with "Legacies of Genius", a city-wide exhibition of 250 of the most significant rare books and manuscripts from 16 area libraries' collections.

IFLA

The Rare and Precious Books and Documents Section of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) provides a forum for an international group of librarians concerned with the collection and preservation of rare books and manuscripts. It also feels a special responsibility for the cultural interests of

IFLA at international, regional and national levels and works to relate directly with other relevant sections of IFLA. These basic intentions are approached through the Section's programs at an Annual Conference and the continuing discussion of three specific issues: the history of the book and libraries, retrospective bibliographical control, and exhibitions for the general public. Currently, three projects reflect these interests: 1. The Annual Bibliography of the History of the Book and Libraries (ABHB). 2. Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke (GW). 3. World Directory of Museums of the Book. The Section's Program at this year's Annual Conference in Sydney (apart from business) will focus on Australian/New Zealand collections and their relationship to European/North American traditions of collecting. For more information write IFLA, c/o Royal Library, Bx 95312, 2509 CH, The Hague, Netherlands.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 1-5 - American Institute for Conservation, New Orleans (Contact: AIC, 3545 Williamsburg Lane, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20008)

June 6-July 1 - Columbia Rare Book School (For course descriptions & applications write: Rare Book School, School of Library Service, Columbia University, NY, NY, 10027)

July 5-8 - RBMS Preconference, New Orleans (Contact: ACRL/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, 60611)

July 9-14 - ALA Annual Meeting, New Orleans (Contact: Address as above)

Aug. 22-26 - Quadrennial Congress of the International Council on Archives (ICA), Paris (Contact: SAA, 600 South Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60605)

Aug. 30-Sept. 3 - IFLA Annual Meeting, Sydney, Australia (Contact: Helen Sweeny, Library Assn. of Australia, 376 Jones St., Ultimo, NSW 2007 Australia)

Sept. 4-19 - Study tour for librarians and archivists in China (Susan Swartzburg, Alexander Library, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08901)

Sept. 18-21 - Conservation conference Cambridge (England). For librarians and conservators, to discuss work done in the past five years on the Parker Library Conservation Project (Contact: Parker Library, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge CB2 1RH)

Sept. 24 - American Printing History Annual Conference, Philadelphia, "The Book Arts in Philadelphia, 1785-1840." (Contact:

APHA, P.O.Box 4922, Grand Central Station, NY, NY 10163)

Sept. 29-Oct. 2 - Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting, Atlanta (Contact: SAA at address above)

Jan 7-12, 1989 - ALA Midwinter Meeting, Washington, D.C. (Contact: ALA at address above)

TRANSITIONS

Material for this column is gleaned from ALA periodicals and other available newsletters. People with knowledge of relevant transitions are encouraged to contact the editor.

Sandra Alston became the Canadiana specialist in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library of the University of Toronto in December. Jennifer Banks is now head of preservation and collections at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Sidney E. Berger is the new curator of printed books at the American Antiquarian Society. John Brewer is the new Director of the Clark Library and of UCLA's Center for Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Studies. Sally A. Buchanan is the new associate director for preservation services and cooperative planning at the University of Pittsburgh. Jeanne Byrom is the Catalog Librarian at Southern Methodist University's DeGolyer Library. Arevig Caprelian and Tatiana Goerner (Columbia University SLS graduates of 1986) have joined the Mellon Foundation-funded recon-cataloging project at the New York Historical Society, whose other members are Jeffrey Barr (Columbia class of 1985), Michael Joseph (class of 1983), and John Robotham (class of 1983). Michele Cloonan, having just completed the doctoral program in Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois, recently became Preservation Librarian at Brown University Library. Tony Cucchiara is now archivist and head of special collections at Brooklyn College. Lori N. Curtis is now assistant curator of special collections at the University of Tulsa. Jennifer D. Denlinger now serves as reference librarian and archivist at Fairfield (Conn.) University's Nyselius Library. Anne Morgan Dodge has been appointed Conservator of Library Materials at Brown University. Anne K. Donato, curator of the Waring Historical Library at the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, has retired after nearly 20 years of service. Lawrence Dowler, Librarian of the Houghton Library at Harvard, has been appointed Associate Librarian for Public Services at the Harvard

College Library. Paul F. Gehl was recently named Custodian of the John M. Wing Foundation for the History of Printing at the Newberry Library. Kathy A. Grenga has been appointed assistant services librarian and curator for the South Carolina Baptist Historical Collection at Furman University, Greenville. Margaret Heilbrun is now the Assistant Curator of Manuscripts at the New York Historical Society. Richard A. Holland is now head special collections librarian at Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos. Bruce L. Johnson, formerly Library Director at the California Historical Society, San Francisco, has been appointed Director of the William Henry Smith Memorial Library at the Indiana Historical Society. Patrick Lawlor has been appointed reference librarian/bibliographer and curator of the Herbert H. Lehman Suite and Papers at Columbia University. Judith Lowman has been appointed assistant curator in the Special Collections Department at Northwestern University. Janice Matthiesen has been appointed special collections cataloger at the University of California, Los Angeles. Paul Naiditch has been appointed publications editor in the Department of Special Collections at the University of California, Los Angeles. Betty Y. Newsom has been appointed curator of the Waring Historical Library at the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston. Cynthia Peters was promoted to the position of Readers Services Librarian at the Newberry Library. Charles Eliot Pierce, Jr. has been named director of the Pierpont Morgan Library. Abigail Quandt recently returned to the Walters Art Gallery to a newly created position, Conservator of Manuscripts and Rare Books. Bernard F. Reilly has become the first head of Library of Congress's Curatorial Section of the Prints and Photographs Division. Edwin J. Saeger, previously a cataloger of special collections at Bowdoin College, is now Rare Book Librarian and Art of the Book Librarian for the city of Phoenix. Carolyn A. Sheehy has become Administrative Curator of Special Collections at the Newberry Library. Althea M. Silvera has been appointed university archivist and head of special collections at the University Park campus of Florida International University, Miami. Carol M. Spawn has been promoted from manuscript and archives librarian of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, to the post of librarian. Robert J. Starring, head of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of Michigan since 1984, has

retired after 20 years of service. Richard W. Stephenson is now specialist in cartographic history in the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress. Eleanore (Sandy) Stewart has accepted a new appointment as Head of Conservation Treatment at the Stanford University Libraries. Robert Strauss has been named executive director of the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, Philadelphia. Laurie Thompson has joined the staff of the California Auction Galleries in San Francisco. Daniel Tierney has joined the professional staff of the Rare Book and Manuscript Division of the New York Public Library. Alan Virta is now the head of special collections and university archivist at Boise State University Library. Michael

Vinson is the new Reference and Collection Development Librarian at Southern Methodist University's DeGolyer Library, Dallas. Patricia Cannon Willis has been appointed curator of the Yale Collection of American Literature in the Beinecke Library of Yale University.

Frances Hammill, of the distinguished rare book firm of Hammill and Barker in Chicago, died on October 21, 1987 after spending over 60 years as a dealer.

Hans Moldenhauer, honorary curator of 20th century music at the Harvard College Library, died the week of October 19th, 1987.

Deadline for Fall, 1989 Issue: October 10

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c/o Karen Nipps
Library Company of Philadelphia
1314 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

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