

American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance

1900 Association Drive

Reston, VA 20191

The AAHPERD Chronicle 1885-1985

Eleanor English - Joanna Davenport

- 1885— Sixty people with diverse backgrounds, but alike in interest in physical education, convened at Adelphi Academy, Nov. 27th at 10 a.m. W.G. Anderson (age 25) called the meeting that begins the chronicle of the Alliance. Hitchcock 1st president. Helen C. Putnam (Vassar) one of three vice-presidents.
- 1886—Organization adds "American" to its title and adopts the constitution for American Association for the Advancement of Physical Education (AAAPE). Leaders of North American Turnerbund attend. Treasury now \$2.20.
- 1887— Hitchcock urges members to exchange ideas, return home with renewed vigor and reinforced methods. Membership 119 and financial balance \$52.74. Association recommends physical culture in all courses of study to national education organizations and to all state and county boards of education.
- 1888— Annual meeting in NYC. William Blaikie, author of *How to Grow Strong and Stay So*, presides... the only attorney to serve as president. Mary Bissell presents paper on prejudice against women's participation in exercise classes ... first time a woman appears as speaker on the Association's program.
- 1889— Conference at MIT substitutes for yearly meeting. AAAPE members speak at three or four sessions and discuss different systems of gymnastics. Baron de Coubertin attends.
- 1890— Annual meeting in Boston, the first outside NYC environs. Anthropometry issue leads to debate between Hitchcock and Sargent. Latter assumes the presidency. Committee forms to compile studies to serve as model for teacher training courses.
- 1891— AAAPE conference in Boston with Sargent as president. First honorary memberships are awarded to five individuals including Mary Hemenway and President Charles Eliot of Harvard.
- 1892— Controversy over gymnastics systems encompass Delsarte. At Philadelphia convention Baron Nils Posse recommends that Americans teach system of gymnastics based on their own psychology... an American system. Posse's remarks surprising because he strongly advocated Swedish Gymnastics. Edward Hartwell is asked to serve as NEA's chairman of Department of P.E. & Hygiene at Chicago World's Fair. First recognition by NEA of profession of physical education as integral part of education.
- 1893— Papers at World's Fair are presented by people from several countries. Thomas Wood's query, "What is physical education and its role in education?" challenges the group. Sargent proposes reorganizing AAAPE on Turnverein model. Gulick outlines a plan and a committee is appointed to design a model.
- 1894— "A Nation-Wide Association" is the theme of conference at Yale. A new constitution is approved setting up ten regional sections, each divided into physical education societies. Gymnastics, athletics and games are included in expression of Association's objectives to reflect new trends beyond gymnastics.
- 1895— Teachers College (Columbia) site of convention under Jay W. Seaver's presidency. Boston is selected as permanent national headquarters. Ohio forms first State Association.
- 1896— American Physical Education Review, a quarterly, becomes the official organ of AAAPE. Committee on Publication & Information manages the Review with Hartwell chairing. Senda Berenson is selected chair of new Committee on Vital Statistics. Next year's convention is postponed for one year.
- 1897— Hartwell completes third year at helm. Committee on School Anthropometry, with Henry Bowditch of Harvard Medical School, is formed as a department of interest. Association sets aside two years to work toward promoting opposition to military drill in school curricula and toward organizing physical education societies and districts.
- 1898— Planned conference in Boston is postponed, in part due to Spanish-American War. Members receive four issues of Review, a membership certificate, all general notices, publications of the National Council, and attendance at all meetings. Membership fees still \$1.00.
- 1899— First National Convention is held in Boston. Delegates are chosen and are accredited by constituent societies. The conference is extended to three days and is addressed by Hartwell who expresses satisfaction in the organization's growth in different parts of the nation. Committee of Fifteen is established to secure recognition of physical training at all educational levels. Women's Basketball Rules Committee is established.
- 1900— Reorganization model based on Turnverein structure is not effective. Sargent recommends model used by American Association for the Advancement of Science which includes vice presidents, each serving as president of one of the national sections. Also proposes a return to an annual conference rather than national conference every two or three

- years. Gulick is named Editor of the Review. Committee of 15 expands to 19 due to name conflict with NEA's Committee of 15. R. Tait McKenzie (McGill) represents AAAPE at an international conference in Paris.
- 1901— Hotel in NYC serves as first convention headquarters for a conference. Theme is "Ideals in Physical Training." President Sargent reports that physical training now is established in 270 colleges and universities and about 300 cities introduce physical exercises in public schools. Jessie H. Bancroft is elected to new office of Secretary.
- 1902— Committee on the Constitution's report is presented by Gulick and is approved to go into effect in March 1903 unless majority of members disapprove. Many local societies did object so Council has constitution presented to the convention delegates. Membership dues now \$2.00. The Society of Secondary School Physical Directors is organized by W.G. Anderson.
- 1903— New constitution is approved with name change to APEA; among other changes are elected offices and organization of National Sections by interest areas rather than geography. National convention to be arranged biennially.
- 1904— Gulick is new president; with George Fitz of Harvard as editor of Review. American Academy of Physical Education is formed to bring together persons doing original scientific research. Special professional institute is held along with Louisiana Purchase Exhibition in St. Louis in lieu of convention. Four week courses are offered with special diplomas to be awarded to participants.
- 1905— Trend toward dance is apparent in National Convention's theme, "Dancing." Backed by President Gulick three sessions are devoted to dance. Elizabeth Burchenal and Melvin Gilbert are presented. Sargent and Hitchcock are made honorary members. Senda Berenson is named editor of revised National Women's Basketball Committee. Forerunner of NCAA (USIAA) is formed to protest football brutality.
- 1906— James McCurdy (Springfield) succeeds Fitz as Review editor. National convention in Springfield in December, a first. Theme, "Athletics," mirrors concern over violence in football and increases emphasis on competition for women. Hitchcock is honored with luncheon and reception at Amherst.
- 1907— With support of APEA, Athletic Research Society is formed with dark W. Hetherington first president. First Executive Committee for EPEA is formed and is comprised of officers and four at-large members. Dues now \$3.00. State and city districts and city groups in East are given more representation on Council to dampen political dissension. Bernarr MacFadden is fined for "obscene material" in his magazine Physical Culture.
- 1908— Review is changed from quarterly to monthly publication with nine annual issues. No convention. Council investigates possible affiliation with Playground Association and the American Hygiene Association, both rapidly growing organizations with members in the APEA.
- 1909— Disagreements so great among Eastern factions that Boston Society of Physical Education severs affiliation with APEA. National convention is held in Philadelphia with George Meylan (Columbia) presiding. Membership now 919. National Association of Physical Education for College Women is formed.
- 1910— Review contains articles on football reform. Wood of Columbia promotes system termed "Natural Gymnastics." Indianapolis convention is held along with Department of Superintendents of the NEA and American School Hygiene Association. Discussions clarify APEA's advocacy of health instruction, but not to detriment of physical education. No special attention is given to silver anniversary year of APEA's founding!
- 1911— president Meylan reflects on Association's first 25 years in address to Boston Convention. Membership 929, income \$5,532, and monthly journal at 700+ pages. First book sale is established to allow practitioners to get copies of physical education texts. Profit from sale \$70.00.
- 1912— In February, the only time in history, the convention is held outside the USA. McKenzie presides over Montreal meetings. Concept of intramural sports first is mentioned in April Review in article by Paul Phillips. The Middle West Society of Physical Education and Hygiene is organized. APEA membership 1,115.
- 1913— National Council considers affiliation with Middle West Society. Newark's convention has, as was custom for years, demonstrations by local students in marching tactics, dumbbell exercises, aesthetic exercises and dancing. Motion pictures of the Olympic Games are shown by the Hon. James E. Sullivan. Baron de Coubertin is made honorary member of APEA.
- 1914— At St. Louis, convention Council votes down proposals to constitutional modifications suggested by Middle West Society. Review articles address excesses of collegiate sports calling for reform and an honor code.
- 1915— President McKenzie does not attend Berkeley convention because he is serving in British Royal Army Medical Corps. Meeting is the first held on West Coast. Review editorial expresses concern over European conflict; publication includes reports on amateurism. Membership in APEA 1,367.
- 1916— "Preparedness Through Physical Education" is the theme at Cincinnati's National Convention. President Ernst Arnold notes need for preparedness and Committee on Preparedness is formed. New constitutional plan forms three districts—East Coast, West Coast, and a Middle Section.
- 1917— During evening program at Pittsburgh conference an announcement is made that USA has declared war on Germany. Resolution passes offering President of the USA services of the APEA's members. President Burdick campaigns to recruit more organizations for affiliation with APEA . . . North American Gymnastics Union and YMCA Physical Directors become APEA sections. Committee chaired by Burchenal is appointed to set standards for sport activities—women & girls.

- 1918— "Physical Education and the War" expresses APEA's patriotic fervor as Philadelphia convention theme. Leaders such as Gulick, Meylan, Naismith and Stagg are overseas establishing athletic programs for Allied troops. East and West Districts are organized and are granted representation on Council. Middle West Society remains independent until proposed changes are made. December Review is dedicated to Middle West Society. Boston Society resumes affiliation.
- 1919— Due to McCurdy's efforts APEA and Middle West Society hold a cooperative convention in Chicago. President of the Society gives welcome address. Preconvention meetings held for first time—theme, "Lessons from the War."
- 1920— Dudley Reed (Chicago), former head of the Middle West Society, is elected APEA president—first not to come from the eastern part of the nation. APEA's 35th anniversary conference is at Waldorf Astoria. Two original founders, Anderson and Sargent, address the convention banquet.
- 1921— Oakland, California, hosts National Convention. Membership 2,303. Work on interest sections begins following war's hiatus. New Playground and Recreation section is formed and Therapeutic and Public School Section is reformed.
- 1922— Membership dues are raised to \$5.00 as APEA faces financial problems. Review expands to ten issues. Council rescinds order to charge registration fee at conventions. National Amateur Athletic Federation is organized by several organizations concerned about athletics.
- 1923— Highest attendance ever at Springfield's National Convention. Growing prosperity in the country brings focus on men and women working in industry; recreational needs are discussed in several papers. Elmer Mitchell's article, "Speedball: A New Intramural Game," appears in Review under "Practical Hints to Teachers." Under Mrs. Hoover's leadership, the Women's Division of the National Amateur Athletic Federation is formed. MacFadden's offer of \$50,000 for funding research project in teacher-training is refused by APEA leaders.
- 1924— Membership at 2,674. Association's budget now \$30,000. National meeting in Kansas City has "Athletics in the School Program" as theme. Mabel Lee's Review article, "The Case For and Against Intercollegiate Athletics for Women. . ." challenges APEA members.
- 1925— Financial solvency is achieved by APEA first time since war. Increase in number of states with laws requiring physical education in the schools brings demand for teachers and subsequent increases in professional preparation programs. At Los Angeles conference book sales over \$11,811. A "Sex-Education Outline" for junior high school programs is reported in the Review. First of two conferences of teacher training institutions is held in Washington cosponsored by the U.S. Bureau of Education.
- 1926— Charles Savage (Oberlin) becomes first athletic director to serve as president of APEA. He appoints first committee to study feasibility of joining the NEA. McCurdy notifies Council that a need exists for a public relations person to do promotion work for the Association. Middle West Society criticizes policies of the APEA and refuses to affiliate.
- 1927— Joint meeting with Middle West Society is held at Des Moines. Intramural activities for college women a major topic mirrors growth of this area at all educational levels. Council considers a new publication focusing on research, but deems it financially impractical.
- 1928— Growing interest in research leads to the formation of Research Society. The eleven year custom of selling books at National Conventions ends because large book companies now exhibit and sell texts. Baltimore hosts the conference. Review features report of Advisory Committee on Athletics for High School Girls which concludes the value of athletics for girls is receiving deserved recognition by modern educators.
- 1929— McCurdy resigns after 24 years as editor of Review. He and his wife are made honorary members in recognition of their work. An analysis of APEA members shows New York had 444, Pennsylvania 440, and California 308. Mabel Lee, President of Middle West Society, invites Frederick Maroney, APEA president and McCurdy of Society's Council to discuss common problems. Maroney suggests APEA structure be revised utilizing Society's recommendations. Middle West Society's Pentathlon merges with Review to produce new journal next year with Elmer Mitchell (Mich.) as editor.
- 1930— New constitution divides USA into five districts . . . Eastern, Southern, Northwest, Southwest and Midwest. States within each district maintain state associations; each state has representation on Council in this democratic alignment. In January first issue of Journal of Health and Physical Education appears. Unlike Review it contains many photographs. Membership and Journal subscription is reduced from \$5 to \$2. In March another new publication emerges, the Research Quarterly. This gives exposure to many graduate research studies. Largest number to attend a national convention (2,500) from many states are in Boston. Mabel Lee is first woman president-elect.
- 1931— With Miss Lee presiding in Detroit the Association presents first Fellowship Awards to outstanding leaders. Ten women among 48 are so honored. The Women's Athletic Section changes title to National Section on Women's Athletics. Members are urged to include dance in programs for men and boys. Vice-president Williams' accepts \$3000 for six articles in MacFadden magazine Physical Culture and creates stir in APEA.
- 1932— With Depression causing great problems in the profession, distraught members turn to APEA for aid. President J.F. Williams organizes a National Committee on Physical Education to promote the significance of the subject. Pamphlet, "Physical Education Today," details the importance for schools. Six more state organizations are formed. Dance Section formally accepted into APEA.
- 1933— President Mary Coleman sets up two committees to help members in economic crisis; i.e., for unemployed teachers— federal relief programs; and, in promoting public relations. January Journal article, "The Future of Physical Education," looks for positive elements from a reexamination of objectives and results. Huge Midwest

District is sectioned into two groups with Mississippi River as dividing line—Midwest to the east, Central District to the west. Membership drops to 5,892 . . . still 159 above 1930.

- 1934— With Southwest formally organized entire nation is within fold of APEA. At Cleveland conference a festival presenting history of physical education, "Olympia Through the Ages," is performed by 3600 teachers, students, nationality and organization groups of Cleveland. "Around the Country" in the Journal notes that APEA leaders now are flying to their destinations, reaching far distances in shorter time. "Dance Section News Notes" appears in the April issue of the Journal.
- 1935— Golden anniversary of APEA is celebrated at National Convention in Pittsburgh with William G. Anderson, sole survivor of 1885 meeting, as honored guest. Over 900 delegates register with the new feature, the pre-registration of all local members. Record setting 800 attend banquet. Paper presented by James Rogers stresses oversupply of health and physical education teachers due to financial conditions. Convention's theme, "Health and Physical Education in the New Social Order," most apropos for the advent of the New Deal. Physical educators are urged to take their place among nation's useful activities.
- 1936— Membership just over 7,000 . . . 40th anniversary of the publication of the Journal of Health and Physical Education prior to 1930, the American Physical Education Review.
- 1937— Membership just over 8,000 . . . Publication of "Standards in Athletics for Girls and Women" as guidelines for athletic activities . . . Department of School Health and Physical Education of National Education Association officially is amalgamated with American Physical Education Association to form AAHPER, a department of National Education Association.
- 1938— Membership just over 9,000. . . adds recreation for another new name AAHPER.. . first time employment of full time officer, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Neils P. Neilson . . . R. Tait McKenzie dies.
- 1939— President Margaret Bell, last Association President with M.D. degree . . . first committee on Foreign Relations . . . 10th Anniversary of Research Quarterly.
- 1940— Membership just over 10,000 . . . James Naismith and James McCurdy die.
- 1941— Dues are raised from \$2.00 to \$2.50—membership drops . . . Constitution is revised whereby form changes from Executive Committee and Legislative Council to Board of Directors and Representative Assembly ... the Women's Division of the NAAF merges with AAHPER.
- 1942— Even with war National Convention is held in New Orleans . . . Because of travel restrictions and unavailability of speakers Southwest District is postponed ... shortage of teachers; school year is shortened in many areas.
- 1943— Membership declines to 7,853 . . . Student section is formed . . . Eastern District Convention is cancelled due to war conditions . . . Neilson resigns as Executive Secretary-Treasurer.
- 1944— The Gulick Award is adopted from New York City Physical Education Society—first Association winner C. McCloy ... Ben Miller becomes Executive Secretary. . . February JOURNAL is devoted to memory of R. T. McKenzie and for rest of year all JOURNAL covers are his sculptures.
- 1945— National and District Conventions are cancelled. . . Gulick Award to William Anderson. . . Research Quarterly suffers due to lack of manuscripts.
- 1946— Membership new high 12,703 . . . Now three permanent people in headquarters staff—Executive Secretary, Editor, and Health Education Consultant. . . American Council on Education reports 417,324 veterans in college ... Gulick to Ethel Perrin.
- 1947— Membership 15,000...seventeen colleges and universities offer majors in dance... William Anderson dies... Memorial to R. T. McKenzie, "Column of Youth" presented to NEA ... Gulick to Blanche M. Trilling.
- 1948— Membership 17,210 ... Jackson's Mill Conference focuses on undergraduate preparation of teachers ... 390 institutions have majors in HPER... AAHPER is given representation on Executive Committee of United States Olympic Committee...Gulick to Mabel Lee.
- 1949— First Anderson Award to Mazie Scanlon . . . Gulick to Elmer D. Mitchell.
- 1950— Pere Marquette Conference focuses on graduate education in professional preparation ... Carl Troester becomes Executive Secretary ... Rachel Bryant is hired as first Consultant in Physical Education and Women's Athletics ... Membership 16,937 . . . Gulick to Elizabeth Burchenal.
- 1951— Membership 17,922 ... Gulick to William LaPorte . . . Dues increase ... William Skarstrom dies.
- 1952— Membership votes to hold national conventions every other year ... National Section on Women's Athletics (NSWA) become National Section for Girls' and Women's Athletics (NSGWA)... Membership 16,692... Gulick to Charles Savage.
- 1953— No national convention ... results of Kraus Weber tests are published for the first time—country's shocked that European children more fit than American children ... Gulick to Frederick Cozens.
- 1954— JOURNAL added Recreation and became Journal of Health, Physical Education and Recreation ... formation of American College of Sports Medicine . . . Men's Athletic Division is created ... Membership 18,575 ... Gulick to William Hughes ...Senda Berenson and Frederick Cozens die.
- 1955— No national convention ... first conference of state association president-elects—becomes an annual event in order to strengthen the organization ... inauguration of Outdoor Education Project with Julian Smith as Director... Membership 18,912 . . . Gulick to Carl Nordly.

- 1956— Membership 20 474 ... President Eisenhower calls First President's Conference on Fitness of American Youth resulting in The President's Council on Youth Fitness with Shane McCarthy its executive director... Gulick to Rosalind Cassidy.
- 1957— No national convention ... Membership 21,648 ... Gulick to Clair Langton.
- 1958— Voted confirms return to annual national conventions ... Membership 22,256 ... Dues increase voted ... Gulick to Helen Manley... AAHPER Youth Fitness Test Manual with national norms is published ... NSGWA became a division—Division of Girls and Women's Sports (DGWS).
- 1959— Membership 20771 ... campaign "Operation Fitness—USA" begins ... formation of International Council on Health, Physical Education and Recreation with headquarters at AAHPER office and Dorothy S. Ainsworth as first president... Mabel Lee is chosen first archivist... Gulick to Delbert Oberteuffer... C. H. McCloy, Elizabeth Burchenal and J. Anna Norns die.
- 1960— Membership 25,042—highest in history ... Gulick to Dorothy Ainsworth.
- 1961— Membership 27,480 ... Gulick to Neils Neilson.
- 1962— Membership 30,895 ... Gulick to Clifford Brownell.
- 1963— Membership 35,131 ... Gulick to David Brace.
- 1964— Franklin Henry's article "Physical Education: An Academic Discipline" initiates curricular reform and formation of sub-disciplines ... Membership 38,448 ... Gulick to Ruth Glassow.
- 1965— Education project is initiated—Lifetime Sports—to increase participation in sports which may be enjoyed throughout life ... Membership 45,105 ... Gulick to Ruth Abernathy and Elwood C. Davis ... Amos Alonzo Stagg dies.
- 1966— Membership 48 341 ... formation of Commission of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (CIAW) whose prime purpose is to sponsor National Championships ... President Lyndon Johnson establishes Presidential Physical Fitness Award in joint sponsorship of AAHPER and Physical Fitness Council... Jesse F. Williams dies ... Gulick Award is not given.
- 1967— Membership 50,467—highest ever... Dues increase to \$20, the first increase in 10 years ... Gulick to Arthur Esslinger.
- 1968— First R. Tait McKenzie Award on the 100th Anniversary of his birth to Mabel Lee... AAHPER Archives and Record Center is initiated ... Gulick to Minnie Lynn ... Membership 48,172, a drop attributed to dues increase.
- 1969— DGWS issues statement against athletic scholarships ... membership votes to become affiliate of NEA ... Gulick to Arthur Steinhaus ... Margaret Bell dies.
- 1970— E. C. Davis succeeds Mabel Lee as Archivist... Dues increase to \$25 ... Gulick to Catherine Alien... bought four acres of land at Reston, Virginia for \$110,000 ... Marjorie Bouve and Arthur H. Steinhaus die.
- 1971— In cooperation with President's Council on Physical Fitness started Physical Education Public Information Project (PEPI)—to reach the public about Physical Education through television, radio, press ... Rachel Bryant retires after 21 years as consultant on Girls and Women's Sports ... DGWS-AAU approve five player basketball game for girls and women with 30 second clock ... Gulick to Margaret H'Doubler.
- 1972— CIAW becomes governing body for Women's Intercollegiate Athletics and changes name to Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW)... Gulick to Julian Smith.
- 1973— Gulick Award not given.
- 1974— Membership to reorganize and call itself Alliance instead of Association, with seven Associations ... First AIAW Delegate Assembly... Carl Troester resigns after 26 years as Executive Secretary and is succeeded by George Anderson ... Gulick to Leona Holbrook ... Elizabeth Halsey dies.
- 1975— First year of new Alliance and beginning of no official relationship with NEA ... first National Physical Education and Sport Week ... Establishment of Joint NCAA-AIAW Committee to work on future relationships ... top priority—development of future center at Reston ... Peter Karpovich and Julian Smith die.
- 1976— First time for Alliance flag—flown at Milwaukee Convention ... Gulick to Ben Miller.
- 1977— Initiation of Alliance Scholar program ... Membership votes to build at Reston ... Auction of memorabilia at National Convention for the Development Fund ... Mabel Lee publishes through AAHPER Memories of a Bloomer Girl... Gulick to Eleanor Metheny ... Dorothy S. Ainsworth dies.
- 1978— Alliance publishes Youth Sports Guide, first comprehensive coaching manual and Mabel Lee's Memories Beyond Bloomers ... Dues raised to \$30 ... Gulick to H. Harrison Clarke ... a place in Wisconsin sponsors Jump Rope for Heart, which develops the next year into joint AAHPER and American Heart Association national project... ground is broken at Reston.
- 1979— Dance is added to name of Alliance ... George Anderson retires after 28 years in administrative posts with AAHPERD ... AIAW is granted legal identity and separates from AAHPER ... Gulick to Ruth Murray and Elena Sliepcevich.
- 1980— First year of name change—AAHPERD is moved to Reston ... Research Quarterly becomes Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport... Exercise equipment is mailed to hostages in Iran ... Gulick to Aileene Lockhart... Leona Holbrook dies.

- 1981— Reston is dedicated ... Journal becomes Journal of Physical Education, Recreation and Dance ... 1034 members have paid \$500 to be Charter Donors to Reston ... Robert Windsor, Executive Vice-President resigns—Ray Ciszek is appointed interim ... Gulick to M. Gladys Scott ... Ruth Cassidy and Delbert Oberteuffer die.
- 1982— Jack Razor elected new Executive Vice-president ... Gulick to LeRoy Walker ... Due to NCAA initiating Women's Championships, AIAW ceases operation. 1983—Gulick to Celeste Ulrich ... Fay Biles, AAHPERD President in 1980-81, for her work with "Jump Rope for Heart" receives Award of Merit from American Heart Association (AHA).
- 1984— After studies, one funded by NAGWS, proved players more efficient with smaller ball, NCAA declares smaller ball official for women's basketball beginning 1984-85 academic year... Olympic Scientific Congress held at University of Oregon prior to Olympic Games—AAHPERD one of the sponsors ... Gulick to Barbara Forker.
- 1985— 100th Anniversary ... Gulick to Louis E. Alley.

Eleanor English, wrote the chronicle from 1885-1935, Olean Youth Bureau, Olean, NY 14760.

Joanna Davenport wrote the chronicle from 1936-1985. She is athletic director for women, Box 351, Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama 36849.

Harold Ray, editor of the Centennial Issue of the JOURNAL, was the editor of this document.

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