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TORONTO PHILATELIC JOURNAL



DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

Vol. I.

TORONTO, CANADA, AUGUST, 1885.

No. 6.

Written for the Toronto Philatelic Journal.

POSTAGE STAMPS

—
AND HOW THEY ARE MADE.

—
By J. M. T. Partello.

Did any of the readers of the *TORONTO PHILATELIC JOURNAL* ever see the process of manufacturing the little postage stamps we all take so much pleasure in collecting? Perhaps the greatest manufacturing firm of this kind on this side of the Atlantic, and possibly in the whole world, is located in the fifth storey of the Equitable Life Insurance Building, on the corner of Broadway and Cedar street, in New York City. A great many of the foreign stamps, we find so much trouble in securing for our albums, are born on this very spot in New York City. The American Bank Note Company hold the contract for the making of the United States postage stamps, and they have held it off and on ever since July 1st, 1861. The Continental Bank Note Company had it for awhile; but, I believe, the American Bank Note Co. have it at the present writing. They renew their contract every four years; and having the presses, inks, expert workmen, and everything else necessary to manufacture the stamps, they are able to underbid all competitors for the job, and thus secure a renewal of their contract at the expiration of every four years. It once fell to my lot to pay a visit to the top of the Equitable Building (which, by the way, is perfectly fire-proof), and you may be sure I enjoyed every moment of time in examining everything in this great postage stamp mill which I consider the greatest

of the kind in existence. The first thing to do is to stop on the elevator at the ground floor, when you are shot skyward with such tremendous velocity that you not only have every bit of breath taken out of your body, but you also imagine the machine is going straight up through the roof. This last catastrophe does not take place however, for the elevator box suddenly comes to a standstill, a little door slides back, and you step out in front of an iron-barred door which is constantly locked and guarded by a janitor, who sits within the bars. Our party "had a pass," and so the door was unlocked for our admittance. We met the government agent, who is always present to attend to the interests of the United States, also the superintendent of the Bank Note Company; both of whom were very courteous to us and showed us all the mysteries of stamp manufacturing. The whole upper floor is divided into a number of rooms apportioned out as office rooms, printing rooms, drying rooms, cancelling, cutting, perforating, and every other kind of room. In printing, steel plates are used, on which two hundred stamps are engraved, and that number printed at each impression. The stamps are entirely printed with large rolling-hand presses, each press having one man and a girl to do this work. Near by are two other men kept hard at work, covering the plates with colored inks and passing them to the man and girl who do the printing. I counted ten of these presses in the room, although less than half that number were in operation, as there was no particular rush for stamps at the time I visited the establishment. The paper used, as every one can see by examin-

ing the stamps, is of a peculiar texture, somewhat similar to that used for bank notes. After coming from the printing presses, the sheets of stamps are given a chance to dry, and then are sent into the next room to be gummed. This was the most interesting room of them all to me, as I was particularly anxious to see what manner of paste was used in gumming the sheets. I knew that gum arabic or simple mucilage cracks paper badly (see the last issue of *Austria* which, to my mind, takes the cake for miserable gumming), and so I walked into the next room and up to a large smooth table, where stood a pair of pasters with large calomining brushes in their hands slapping on the gum with rapidity, care, and precision. I examined the brushes, and found them to be of the finest quality of camel's hair, as fine and as soft as silk. Next I examined the paste-pot, and was not long in discovering the odor of potatoes. Ah! there was the secret of such excellent paste, it was all due to the potatoes. One of the workmen informed me that the paste was a composition made of the powder of dried potatoes, starch, and other vegetables, mixed to the right proportion with warm water. The recipe is so simple and the composition so excellent, that I have half a mind writing it out and sending it to the Austrian government with my compliments. After covering with this paste, the sheets are placed on little racks to again dry, this time being fanned by steam power for an hour or more. Taken from the racks they are placed between sheets of pasteboard and pressed in hydraulic presses capable of applying between 225 and 250 tons. The next thing to do is to pass them

over to a number of young girls armed with shears almost as large as themselves, by whom the sheets are cut in half, each sheet then containing one hundred stamps. Cutting by hand is preferred to that of machinery, as the latter method, it has been found, destroys too many stamps. In the next room are a number of squads, to whom the sheets are passed for the perforating process. This is done by machinery, singly too, and with great care, lest some of the profiles should have their beauty spoiled by being cut full of holes. After being perforated, the job is finished and each sheet undergoes a careful scrutiny. If a single stamp is torn or mutilated, the whole sheet is condemned, then cancelled by cutting, and afterwards burned. If they pass the final test, the sheets are pressed once more, then packed and labeled, and stowed away in another room to await orders. I asked our guide how many stamps were destroyed by reason of some fault in their manufacture. He answered between 700 and 800 sheets a week, which would make between 70,000 and 80,000 individual stamps destroyed four times each month. I forgot to say there is a small room off to one-side where the final counting is done. During their manufacture the sheets are counted no less than eleven different times by girls, whose expertness in the business is only equalled by the lady counters in the Treasury Department at Washington; some of whom count more money in a single minute of time than most of us can hope to possess or even in a lifetime. So great is their accuracy and such care do these young ladies take in counting them, that not a single sheet of stamps has been lost during the past twenty-five years. We saw many other wonderful things in the building which would not be interesting to narrate. On one shelf I saw a plate with the profile of Don Pedro engraved thereon, which led me to believe that possibly the stamps of Brazil were manufactured in the very room. Having inspected everything worth seeing, the superintendent politely but expeditiously conducted us back to the iron-grated door, opened the same and showed us out, and turned the key on us. We stopped aboard the elevator once more and sped downward

I thought with a speed more alarming than when we ascended, arriving at the bottom with just about as much breath as when we went up. An open doorway led us to the street, and we mingled with the crowd on busy Broadway, much pleased with our visit to the wonderful stamp factory above our heads.

LIST OF CANADA REVENUE STAMPS.

Canada used revenue stamps first in 1864, when bill and tobacco stamps were issued by the Dominion government. In 1876, when the Supreme Court was established, the general government assumed the supervision of gas administration and of the correctness of weights and measures, and issued Supreme Court, Weights and Measures and Gas Inspection stamps.

Besides these stamps of the Dominion government, the Quebec Provincial government issued two series of law and law registration stamps, and one series of assurance stamps; the Ontario government issued two series of law stamps, and the Manitoba government a series of law stamps.

We give this month a complete descriptive list which we are convinced will supply a long desired want.

BILL STAMPS.

Used exclusively for notes and drafts. 1864. First issue, profile of Victoria to left. Small rectangular, blue—1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 7c, 8c, 9c, 10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c. Larger rect., blue—\$1, \$2, \$3.

1865. Second issue, profile of Victoria to left. Small rect., scarlet—1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 7c, 8c, 9c; blue, 10c, 20c, 30c; scarlet, 30c; blue, 40, 50c. Red centre, larger rect., \$1, green; green centre, \$1, red; purple centre, \$2, red; indigo centre, \$3, red.

1869. Third issue, Queen to left in widow's cap. Small rect., brown, 1c, 2c; small rect. also vermilion, 2c orange, 3c green, 4c brown, 5c orange, 6c green, 7c orange, 8c brown, 9c green; 10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, blue. Large rect., black centre, \$1 blue, \$2 orange, \$3 green.

1869. Same design, surcharged N. S. for Nova Scotia. Small rect., 1c brown, 2c orange, 3c green, 4c brown, 5c

orange, 6c green, 7c orange, 8c brown, 9c green; 10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, blue. Larger rect., black centre, \$1 blue, \$2 orange, \$3 green.

LAW STAMPS.

1864. First issue, large rect., figure of Justice, surcharged L. C. (Lower Canada) in red. Green—10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c. Black centre, green—\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5.

1864. Same design, C. F. (Consolidated Fund) in blue. Green—5c, 10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c. Black centre, green—\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5.

1864. Same design, L. S. (Law Society) in red. Green—20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c. Black centre, green—\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5 (never used).

1864. Same design, F. F. (Fee Fund) in yellow. Green—10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c. Black centre, green—\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5 (never used).

The last three sets (C. F., L. S. and F. F.) have been reprinted and the plates destroyed.

1864. Second issue, smaller rect., "Quebec." Red—10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c. Blue—\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5.

1870. Second issue, same size, "Ontario." Red—5c, 10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c, \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4.

1877. Third issue, same design, "Ontario." To prevent confusion of values, a set has been adopted in the following colors: 5, 40, 70 cents, \$1, red; 10, 30, 90 cents, \$2, green; 20, 50 cents, \$3, chocolate; 60, 80 cents, \$4, blue, which will come into use as soon as the present stock is exhausted.

1877. Size of preceding, Justice in centre, "Manitoba." Surcharged C. F. in blue. Green—10c, 20c, 25c, 50c, \$1, \$2.

1877. Same design, surcharged L. S. in black. Green—10c, 20c, 25c, 50c, \$1, \$2.

REGISTRATION STAMPS.

1864. Square, value in centre, "Lower Canada." These stamps are used for law documents only. Red—5c, 15c, 30c.

1876. Rect. Beaver in centre, "Quebec." Green—5c, 15c, 30c.

SUPREME COURT STAMPS.

1876. Crowned head of Victoria to left, very large rect. Each stamp is registered by printed number. Blue—10c, 20c, 25c, 50c, \$1, \$5.

ASSURANCE STAMPS.

1876. Large rect., "License Stamp," "Quebec" in centre. Used on fire, marine and life insurance policies. Green—1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 10c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c; lilac—\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES STAMPS.

1876. Long rect., nationality omitted. Crown at top, value below, centre for inspector's initials and date. Registered by printed number. Black—5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 30c, 50c, \$1, \$1.50, \$2.

GAS STAMPS.

1876. Similar design, "Gas Inspection." Blue—25c, 50c, \$1, \$1.50, \$2, \$3, \$4.

It is contemplated to introduce the word "Canada" on the Gas and W. and M. stamps, either by surcharging them or making new plates.

TOBACCO STAMPS.

Duty on tobacco in Canada was first imposed in 1864, under Act of 27th and 28th Victoria, chapter 3. To designate the tobacco on hand at that time, which was exempt from tax, a provisional stamp was used, diamond-shaped, and printed in green, with D in angles for dutiable and M for manufactured tobacco. The first labels used to indicate the payment of tax on tobacco were similar to the above printed in black or red for Excise, or duty on home manufactured, and blue for Customs, or duty on imported tobacco; the colors of the stamps being a distinctive feature denoting the use to which they are applied.

The stamps in black are used on tobacco sold direct from the factory. When the manufacturer makes up a large stock for which there is no ready market, and does not wish to pay the duty long in advance of its sale, he is required to send it to the government warehouse, where it is stored at trifling cost, and may be removed whenever a market is found by paying the duty, the stamps for which are red. Following

the above, which we call the garter series, came small lozenges, and ribbons with lozenges printed in centre, which appear to have been used contemporaneously with the garter series for several years.

These comprise the early issues of the Canada tobacco stamps, which are now very difficult to obtain in anything like fair condition, especially the ribbon stamps, as they were made of very thin paper, and glued on in a way evidently not intended to accommodate stamp collectors, and require patient soaking with warm water to get them off entire. The Canadians themselves seem to have entirely neglected until the past year, these interesting mementos of their own country, but through the enthusiastic efforts of a gentleman of this city, who has ransacked the Dominion to obtain a collection of them, we are able for the first time to give a description of these rarities, which, we are satisfied, is very nearly complete.

These early issues were followed by the more elaborately engraved stamps in present use, consisting of a set of diamond-shaped stamps with the Queen's profile at the top; a set of ribbons with the Queen's head over a central medallion; six oblong stamps with figures of weight at sides for packages up to 15 lbs. weight; rectangular stamps marked "caddy" for packages of from 15 to 60 lbs., and "boxes" for over 60 lbs., and a small "customs" stamp for parcels of imported tobacco.

Throughout the various series all stamps are found in red and black for Excise, and in blue for Customs, except that several of the styles used for Excise are not used for Customs, such as the "pounds" series, and the "caddy" and "boxes" stamps. In two or more instances an error has been produced by the engraver inserting "Excise" in a "Customs" stamp.

PROVISIONAL GARTER SERIES.

Excise: (Pattern No. 1) June 1st, 1864. Diamond-shaped, 4 inches square, crown above and beaver in small oval below encircling garter inscribed—"Tobacco - 27 & 27 Vic. cap. 3 - Excise, Canada;" within the garter "Stock on hand prior to August 1st, 1864, Inland Rev. of ... Date when stamped ...

Description ... Gross weight lbs. Nett do. lbs... Coll. I. R." D in angles, green, water-lined bluish paper; D in angles, green, plain white paper; M in angles, green, plain white paper.

(No. 2) June 1st, 1864, the same, but instead of "Gross weight lbs.;" "Cigars value per M." D in angles, green, water-lined bluish paper; D in angles, green, plain white paper; M in angles, green, plain white paper.

(No. 3) Jan. 7, 1868, like (No. 1), but instead of "August 1st, 1864;" "Dec. 12th, 1867," used in N. B.; N. S. and P. E. I. on their confederation with Canada. M in angles, green, thin watermarked paper.

(No. 4) the same, but instead of "Gross weight lbs. Nett do lbs.;" "Cigars, value per M." M in angles, green, thin watermarked paper.

GARTER SERIES, DIAMOND-SHAPED.

Customs: (No. 5) 1865, same pattern as (No. 1), garter inscription "Tobacco - 27 & 28 Vict. cap. 3 - Customs, Canada;" within "Port of... Entry No. 18. Description.. Gross weight lbs... Nett do. lbs.. Coll. Cust." Blue on water-lined bluish paper, blue on salmon tinted paper, blue on plain white paper.

(No. 6) 1864, Error: the same, but "excise" instead of "customs," and "Coll. I. R." instead of "Coll. Cust." used as a customs stamp. Blue on water lined bluish paper.

(No. 7) 1865, same as (No. 5), but within the garter, "Port of.. Entry No. 18.. Cigars, value per M... Coll. Cust." Blue on water lined bluish paper, blue on rose tinted paper.

(To be continued.)

EARLY FORGERIES.

Many collectors fondly imagine, especially those who have collected for many years, that certain specimens which they happen to possess must be genuine, because they obtained them before counterfeits were thought of. Now, a hand-book, published in 1863, probably the first in America, gives a description of stamps issued for Iceland and Paraguay. As the first genuine emission of those states came out several years later, does it not prove the existence of forgeries in the first days of philately?—*Ex.*

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One page*	7 00	One page	13 00

IN ADVANCE.

Remit money by P. O. Order, or small amounts in one or two cent stamps.

TORONTO, AUGUST, 1885.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

To the Friends and Patrons of the "Canadian Philatelist":

This month the *Canadian Philatelist* and the *TORONTO PHILATELIC JOURNAL* are combined, and the business will be carried on by the Toronto Philatelic Co. who will fill all subscriptions and advertising contracts that have been made with either of the above-mentioned papers. All papers now inserting exchange advertisements for the *Canadian Philatelist* will please discontinue them at once and make new arrangements with the Toronto Philatelic Co.

It is with great reluctance that I have given up the publication of the *Canadian Philatelist* as a separate journal, but I am compelled to do so by the increased demand upon my time by my regular occupation. My paper has succeeded beyond my anticipation, and, I think I may say, has been received very favorably by stamp and coin collectors in this and other lands. I have thoroughly engaged the editing and publishing of the paper, and shall always look back with pleasure to my experience in this direction.

Besides, being as source of amusement, it has been fairly remunerative, and I must thank my many stamp dealing and collecting friends for the able support which I have received from them. If any of the publishers of stamp papers see fit to continue my name on their mailing lists, I shall be heartily obliged to them as I shall always retain my interest in philately.

Hoping that the new journal under the new management may have your hearty support.

I am, yours fraternally,

L. F. BARKER.

NOTES.

We want agents in every city and town in the world to get subscribers for this paper.

The Toronto Philatelic Society has postponed their regular meetings during the summer months.

Mr. W. G. Whilden, Jr., of Pelzer, S. C., is our authorized agent to receive both subscriptions and advertisements.

The author of "Silver Threads among the Gold" has been appointed a postmaster in Wisconsin with a salary of \$242 per year.

We have come across some counterfeit triangular Cape of Good Hope. They are printed on very poor paper, and the impression is taken from a wood cut, very badly executed. Collectors, look out for them.

We have received the following papers up to date, publishers accept our thanks: *Philatelic Monthly*, *Museum*, *Capital City Philatelist*, *Youth's Gazette*, *Collectors' Companion*, *Silent Nation*, *Stamp World*.

The 30 sol. silver piece, issued in 1670 for the French-Canadian colonies, was sold for \$800, in fine condition. Obverse, bust of Louis XIV., LVD. XIII. D. C. FR. ET. NAV. REX. Reverse, crowned shield, GLORIAM REGNI TVI DICENT; size 18, milled edge. This same piece, the property of a gentleman, giving up collecting, was offered at auction, May 22, 1885, by Messrs. George A. Leavitt & Co., 787 Broadway, New York, U. S.

For some years past the Indian post-office has successfully worked what is known as the "Value Payable Post;" that is, it not only carries parcels from tradesmen to their country customers but also undertakes to collect the prices. It has often been proposed to extend the system to the conveyance of parcels between England and India. It is now said that the project will be sanctioned shortly, as the English postal authorities are cordially in favor of it.

The paper lately issued by Mr. Batchelder, *Our American Youth*, has suspended.

We send you a copy of this paper as an inducement to subscribe if you have not already done so.

More than 60,000 stamps are found every year loose in the letter-boxes of the United Kingdom.

Since 1871 Japan has organized mail routes over 36,000 miles, and has established 3,927 postoffices and 7,439 letter-boxes. Seven thousand five hundred persons are employed in the regular service.

NEW ISSUES

That have appeared, or are about to appear:

Bahamas.—The color of the 1 shilling has been changed to violet, and a new value issued, viz., ½d. green.

Ceylon.—The 8 cent stamp has been printed in lilac, and surcharged "Revenue and Postage, 5 cents"; and the following also, "10 cents" on 16 cents; "28 cents" on 32 cents.

Hong Kong.—The following surcharges are announced: 20 cents on 30 cents, violet; 50 cents on 48 cents, brown; 100 cents on 96 cents, slate.

India.—The 4 annas with "India Postage" has been issued.

Macao.—These stamps are now in use in this principality. They bear the head of the prince: 5 centimes, blue; 15 centimes, rose; 25 centimes, green.

Mauritius.—Another provincial has been made by surcharging the 98 cents "cents" in black. Three new stamps have also been lately issued: 2c. green, 4c. rose, 16c. brown.

Senegal.—This French colony is said to be using stamps of the French Colonies surcharged with the name "SENEGAL."

Victoria.—The 2 shilling stamp has been surcharged "Stamp Duty."

NUMISMATIC DEPARTMENT.

NOVA SCOTIA.

BY J. MOORE.

(Continued from the *Canadian Philatelist*.)

9. Obverse, small bust of Geo. III., laureated to right, half-ponny token, 1814. Reverse, government house, pay-

able by Hosterman & Eitor, Halifax, size 18, plain edge, 2 varieties.

10. Obverse, large bust of Geo. III., laureated to right, half-penny token, 1815. Reverse, same as No. 9, size 17, plain edge.

11. Obverse, same as No. 10. Reverse, ship in full sail, success to navigation and trade in circle, size 17, plain edge.

12. Obverse, small bust of Geo. III. to right, laureated and draped, half-penny token, 1815. Reverse, ship in full sail to right, "payable by John Alex'r Barry, Halifax," in circle; size 16, plain edge, 4 different varieties.

13. Obverse, small bust of Geo. III. to right, laureated and draped, "Half-penny token, 1815," in circle. Reverse, ship in full sail to right, another vessel in distance to left, "Halifax," size 16, milled edge.

14. Obverse, same as No. 13. Reverse, Britannia seated, "Genuine British Copper" in circle, size 16, plain edge.

15. Obverse, within a circle, a cask, marked spikes, nails, &c.; outside of circle "Half-penny token, 1815." Reverse, outer circle "Importers of Ironmongery, Hardware, &c.;" inside of circle in 6 straight lines: payable—by—Miles W.—White—Halifax—N. S.; size 18, plain edge.

16. Obverse, large bust of Geo. III. to right, laureated and draped, "Half-penny token, 1814." Reverse, a frigate under sail to right, "payable by Garritt & Alport, Halifax," on circle; size 19, milled edge.

17. Obverse, same as 16. Reverse, a frigate under sail, "For the Convenience of Trade" on circle.

(To be continued..)

NOTICES OF EXCHANGE.

Under this head will be inserted (free of cost to subscribers) notices of exchange for stamps, coins, etc. All notices should be in by 10th of the month to insure insertion in next number.

A pinetree shilling, 1652, and U. S. half-dollars, 1803, 1805, 1810 and 1831, in fine uncirculated condition for the best offer of Canadian coins or medals. W. L. BASTIAN, 1207 St. Catherine st., Montreal, P. Q.

Will exchange all kinds of stamps with advanced collectors. Rare United States stamps especially desired. H. MORELL, 76 Baldwin st., Toronto, Can.

—//—

I would like to exchange with advanced collectors of stamps. Have all kinds of Canada to exchange. E. Y. PARKER, 169 McCaul st., Toronto, Can.

—//—

912 all different stamps, 435 unused ones, for self-inking press, chase not less than 4 1/2 x 6 1/2, and 1 or more fonts of type. (Stamps worth \$14). W. BEESON, 1819 Garrison ave., St. Louis, Mo., U. S.

—//—

Cook and Bernheimer, Soule, entire wrappers and 100 other varieties U. S. medicine stamps to exchange for match and medicine stamps not in my collection. Address, L. A. JUDKINS, Claremont, N. H.

A FOOLISH FRAUD.

"You would be surprised," said a post-office official recently, "if you could know how frequently stamps are used a second or even a third time. And what is the most surprising thing about it is, there is no profit for the person using a stamp the second time, as it requires more than 2 cents worth of application and ingenuity to cleanse a stamp; but the loss to the Government is very considerable. I would be content to receive a sum equivalent to that stolen from the department every year in this way for my salary. Post-office clerks by long practice become very familiar with the appearance of good and bad stamps.

They acquire perhaps the same degree of ability in the detection of the irregularities as do clerks who handle money, but in large offices there are so many letters and the work of cancelling is of necessity so rapid that few chances are offered for detection. It is only when letters are deposited in offices where the mail receipts are small that there is any considerable danger of detection in using stamps a second time. But the use cannot be profitable; packages or heavy-weight letters having sufficiently large postage stamps on them to justify their cleansing for a second use are subject to a somewhat rigid inspection and fraud can be detected. As I said, how-

ever, the use of smaller stamps a second time is large enough to make quite a hole in the department funds."

TO DEALERS

Those marked * are unused.	Per 12	Per 100
Bahamas, Is. green	36	\$2 50
Bulgaria, old and new, 12 kinds	25	1 25
Serbia, 14 kinds	75
Greece, 12 kinds	36
*Argentine Republic, 1862, 5c	10	75
" " 1884, 12c. provisional type	28	1 50
*Hanover, 1-25, black, 1863	30	2 50
*Heligoland, 1 pfening	68	50
" " 12 sets of 15	2 50	...
*Suez Canal, 12 sets of 4	1 25	7 50
*Constantinople, 12 sets of 3	36	2 25
Bosnia, assorted	16	1 00
Great Britain (1,000) 18 kinds	25
Portugal, well mixed 75	66	25
Persia, 1 franc	56	3 75
" " 8 kinds, assorted	36	2 75
Turkey, well mixed	12	36

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