

# CBS, Look To Cover Fancy Dress

## Let Merriment Reign

A picturesque setting, soft lights, sweet music as colorful brocaded ladies and bewigged gentlemen greet Charles II at Hampton Court. The Lord Chamberlain issues the royal proclamation and the dance begins. . . . Merrie Olde Englande is transferred for a night to historic old Lexington. Fancy Dress 1948 is under way.

Last year Fancy Dress swept in on the heels of a snow-storm—this year on the heels of examinations! Snow again covers the ground and the warmth of transformed Doremus will once more be a mecca from the cold. Last year gay cabelleros provided the music, this year musicians to the King will fill the hall with lilting rhythm. The setting changes but Fancy Dress goes on.

Yes, Fancy Dress is an old tradition at Washington and Lee. It provides a bit of lightness that makes the serious business of the year easier. For a period studies can be forgotten as tired minds are rested and renewed for strenuous days ahead. The time has come for Jack to play. . . . Let merriment reign!

—W.B.P.

## Smoking Rules Lawrence Had To Be Enforced Polio as Youth

The danger of fire originating among the inflammable decorations in the Doremus Memorial Gymnasium this weekend has necessitated a smoking regulation that floor committee officials say will be rigidly enforced.

Smoking will be prohibited in the gym at all times except in designated rooms during the three-day dance set. Smoking will be allowed in one room in the basement of the gym and in the trophy room on the main floor, which will be decorated with murals depicting scenes at Hampton Court. The room directly above the trophy room will also be designated as a smoking room.

Students will enter the gym on Friday night only through the lower door to the basement in front of the gymnasium. The lower rear door and upper doors on both ends will not be used on the night of the Fancy Dress Ball. On Thursday and Saturday nights dancers may enter through the upper doors, which will be closed on Friday night.

In addition to the fire-fighting apparatus normally on hand in the gym, supplementary protective equipment will be provided as an additional safeguard.

The gymnasium itself is fire resistant, but this year's highly inflammable decorations present a fire hazard that dance set officials are endeavoring to minimize through the effective administration of the stringent "no-smoking laws."

Regulations designed to facilitate automobile traffic and to

(Continued on page six)

An attack of Infantile Paralysis left the deft hands of six-year-old Elliot Lawrence uncoordinated, stilled and virtually useless, and it seemed as though the young pianist, who at the age of five composed a little ditty, "Falling Down Stairs," would be unable to continue his musical career.

But the uphill fight to recover from this dreaded disease soon began—a fight that enabled him to regain use of his fingers and become an accomplished pianist.

Elliot Lawrence started on the keyboard when he was four, had composed a song by the time he was five, and at the age of six won local prominence in his native Philadelphia.

### Stricken in 1931

Then, in 1931, he was stricken with poliomyelitis and for six months waged a battle of life or death against the paralysis. He started on the road to recovery, but damage inflicted to his muscles in his fingers apparently meant that his brief career, as a pianist had ended.

Two years later, however, Lawrence at the age of eight began a campaign at the keyboard that was eventually to return to him the use of his fingers. After a few initial failures, he found that he was able to play a few bars of his own song, "Falling Down Stairs."

Constant hard work slowly led him to complete mastery of his fingers, and not long afterwards at the age of ten he formed his first band. He was later to rise to national acclaim as a composer, arranger and pianist.



Miss Jane Harp, Queen of Fancy Dress

## Mary Washington Student to Reign As Queen Catherine of Braganza

By KENT TRUSLOW

The Fancy Dress Ball this year will feature as its queen and co-leader of the celebrated "Figure" pretty, brown-eyed, Miss Jane Harp, hailing from Hillsville, Virginia.

Jane is a native Virginian, as she was born in Hillsville during 1925. She has lived there all her life, receiving both grammar and high school education in her home town.

While attending high school, Jane entered many fields of extra-curricular activity. She was one of Hillsville High's most active cheerleaders, a member of the school's "Beta" club, and an assistant editor of the student newspaper, the "Trumpet."

Upon graduation, Jane entered Westhampton College of the University of Richmond. During her two year course there, she continued with her interest in school affairs as a member of the college Athletic Association, and an active participant in the choir. She also entered the local branch of

the Young Women's Christian Association.

Jane transferred in September of 1947 to Mary Washington College at Fredericksburg to continue her education. She is a senior now, majoring in English, with minor courses in Psychology, Philosophy, and History. Her interest outside of study includes the Committee of Formal Dances, of which she is a member. This group may be compared to the regular Dance Committee here at Washington and Lee.

Jane says that she is fond of all types of outdoor sport, but that she is especially interested in swimming and diving. She likes to play bridge, but modestly admits

(Continued on page six)

## Junior Prom Tonight Initiates Weekend of Gaiety and Frivolity

The year is no longer 1948; it is 1662. The place is no longer Doremus Gymnasium; it is Hampton Court. The picture is no longer one of a quiet, conservative, little college town; it is English society at its naughtiest . . . and nicest. This is Fancy Dress!

The annual pilgrimage to Lexington by choice young ladies the country over is under way. Some of the Fancy Dress devotees arrive by bus. Others get their first glimpse of Lexington through the windows of long, shiny autos with out-of-state tags. And some come even on the "Virginia Creeper." This is something truly different. This is Fancy Dress.

## Macon Featured In FD Collegian

Clayton Contributes 'Merry-Go-Round'

By MATT PAXTON

When the word gets around, almost every-body will be reading the Fancy Dress Issue of the Southern Collegian.

In this issue the Collegian has a pictorial review of Randolph-Macon. The pictures, commented upon and interpreted with accuracy, dignity, and tact by Sandy Richardson, are calculated to put one in the know about RMWC. Many more W. and L. men will now be able to approach the campus of that college with assurance, feeling already familiar with its layout. Old members of the Macon team will find their curiosity about the school's traditions satisfied. Furthermore, as will be seen from the pictures, there are other things beside campus and traditions at Randolph-Macon.

Coming closer home, one should not miss in this issue of the Collegian "Predictions from House Mountain" by Charles "Choo-Choo" McDowell. McDowell's article can be more appreciated if the reader will remember that the author is an aborigine of these parts. The predictions do not come from McDowell himself but from an old friend of his or perhaps a distant relative. But the predictions are of universal significance and will appeal to the cosmopolitan student body of W. and L.

"The Football Future" by Don Murray bears no relation to McDowell's prognostications. Though of a different vein, Murray's story is fully as worthwhile. Don is concerned here with the heavily weighted 1948 W. and L. football schedule. Analyzing this schedule, he adds suggestions for changes in emphasis in the future. To illustrate he gives a sample schedule.

A most enjoyable surprise to

(Continued on page six)

The second Fancy Dress Ball since its post-war revival and the thirty-ninth since its inception with Miss Annie Jo White's "Bal Masque" in 1907, the "Hampton Court" ball is expected to attract over five-hundred collegiate couples and approximately two-hundred spectators, according to Set President Ralph Davis.

Smooth waltzes will replace 17th Century chamber music tomorrow night as Davis and his date, Miss Jane Harp of Mary Washington, as Charles II and Catherine of Braganza, officially begin the evening dancing. Following the court "figure" which begins at 10:15, the chairs will be taken from the gymnasium and the floor cleared for the five remaining hours of revelry.

Ten minutes before the figure begins, at 10:05 p.m., the doors of Hampton Court will be closed and will not reopen until after the conclusion of the figure at 10:45.

A nation-wide broadcast from 12:05 until 12:30 will be carried by the Columbia Broadcasting System. Following the broadcast there will be a 30-minute intermission.

Events that precede the colorful Fancy Dress Ball include the Junior Prom on Thursday and the Kappa Sig Open House on Friday.

The Junior Prom, led by Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sauers, will begin at 10:00 p.m. and will continue to 2:00 a.m., with a 30-minute intermission at midnight.

Kappa Sigma hospitality will be extended on Friday from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. when they entertain the entire campus with an Open House cocktail party.

On Saturday, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Doremus Gymnasium,



Elliot Lawrence will give the student body a taste of the danceable music that has won him wide acclaim on the nation's campuses.

Last item on the weekend calendar is the Omicron Delta Kappa Formal, from 9:00 to 12:00 p.m. The figure, beginning at 10:15, will be led by Jim Harmon, ODK president, and Miss Evelyn Herrin, of St. Petersburg, Fla. According to Harmon, the figure will consist of the participants forming into a large, rotating "wheel." There will be a 30-minute intermission at 10:30.

Traffic regulations for the dance set may be found elsewhere in the paper. Students are urged to conform with these rulings as they have been designed not only to expedite traffic but also to provide for adequate escape exits and access to fire-fighting facilities in case of emergency.

## WEEKEND CALENDAR

Thursday, January 29

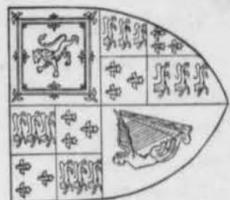
10:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.—Junior Prom  
Junior Class Figure, 11:00 p.m.  
Intermission, Midnight to 12:30 a.m.

Friday, January 30

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.—Kappa Sigma Open House  
10:00 p.m.-3:00 a.m.—"Hampton Court" Fancy Dress Ball. Doors Open, 9:15 p.m.; Close, 10:05 p.m.  
Figure starts 10:15 p.m.  
Dancing begins, doors re-open after conclusion of Figure  
Coast-to-Coast Broadcast over CBS 12:05-12:30 a.m.  
Intermission, 12:30 to 1:00 a.m.

Saturday, January 31

3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.—Kappa Sigma Concert in Doremus Memorial Gymnasium  
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.—White Friars Cocktail Party, Pine Room, Mayflower Hotel; Invitation only.  
9:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m.—ODK Formal  
ODK Figure, 10:15 p.m.  
Intermission, 10:30-11:00 p.m.



## Burrell Gimpell, Chandler McDougall Praise Efforts To Prevent Communists From Attending FD Ball

By BURRELL GIMPELL and CHANDLER McDOUGALL

As National Parallel Week screams to a momentous halt, the cosmopolitan student body of Washington and Lee—now on the very verge of its third century—attires itself in Van Horn splendor and goes forward fearlessly, even happily, into another thrill-filled Fancy Dress Ball.

A hectic fortnight of examinations terminated, the students withdraw into their costumery—a bewigged flunkard indistinguishable from a fellow courtier of highest academic accomplishment.

The scene of daily physical educational maneuvers having been transformed into a lovely setting of Seventeenth Century majesty, the fortunate ticket-holders will gambol in the identical locale where the typical Washington and Lee freshman learned the intricacies of the forearm stand.

From far and wide eager femella have converged on this tiny collegiate haven which for this

week-end, alas, compares to the glories of the gaudy, gross Restoration. These lucky women are to witness the brief glimmer of frivolity when the Leyburn Plan gives way to culture of Forever Amber.

Leaving no stone unturned, the men of non-military Lexington have brought to this bustling village exotic specimens from the romantic climes of Walla Walla, Turkey Crossing, Massey's Mill and, yea, the snowbound metropolis that is the heart of America. Not one Communist is there among these fine girls from the teeming factory towns of the Nawth and the smiling acres of the Southland. Quartered in the homes of the townspeople who have taken these scholars to their hearts, the frivolity-flushed young ladies will commute between the colorful fraternity solrees and the under-plumbed accommodations where so many share so little for so much.

For this monumental occasion Fancy Dress moguls have procur-

ed for a mere pittance the services of a fitting chamber music group. Elliot Lawrence, pianist extraordinaire, again brings into our midst a group of musicians whose contribution to American musical culture must be reckoned with. Not one Communist is there among these fine young men from the teeming factory towns of the Nawth and the smiling acres of the Southland. The smiling young maestro with equally hilarious troupe will provide the musical background for four distinct and separate affairs that are to make up this challenge to your economic ingenuity.

Forty-five separate and distinct floor committeemen have been thoughtfully provided to prevent each other from smoking and to facilitate their admittance free of economic hindrance. It is also expected that these committeemen will devise a traffic pattern which will prevent the incident of last year when a number of couples were hopelessly entrapped in the visiting team's shower room.

# Jabo Can Stay . . . But We've Got To Go—Bob Gates

Once upon a time, when Washington and Lee was only one hundred and ninety-two years old, there descended upon fair Lexington a freshman class that pre-dated the GI Bill of Rights. These were all youngsters, products of home town soda fountains. Gangly and pimply-faced, they had come to attend this venerated institution which stands so firmly upon a layer of Devonian limestone.

One young lad, more pimply-faced than the others and gangling to a hopeless degree, solemnly shook hands with his father in the dorm archway. The elderly gentleman told him to work hard and graduate in the customary four years. Loading himself down with newly purchased "collegiate life" junk, the lad ascended the stairs of the freshman dorms.

Years passed. Most of the above-mentioned freshmen have graduated, married, gone into business, made millions, and retired. But not he of the second paragraph. Spotters stationed on the outskirts of town have seen him leave on innumerable occasions, but he always returns. Year after year, his father would phone him and ask what in the devil was taking so long. The inevitable answer would be that he had changed his major again. He just plain refused to graduate.

We had a purpose in all this. What was actually taking place was deep research which was to culminate in an epic entitled, **Forever Gilliam, or A Decade at Washington and Lee**. We were cut short by two years, however. The faculty registration committee was given definite instructions this fall. "Fix it so that Gates is bound to graduate this January," they were told. "He's likely to die here, and this may be our last chance."

They succeeded, as all faculty committees will if given time. We leave, but it can't be said that we haven't given them a good fight. Transitional periods have been witnessed, and inasmuch as the cycle has neared completion, it is probably fitting that we should go. At first, "John loves Mary" and "Belle of Sweet Briar" were seen freshly carved into the armrest of a classroom desk. This had grown dark and worn by age when replaced by such things as "Officers' Latrine" and "Out of bounds to all personnel." The other day we watched while "Mary fluffs John" was being dug into the oak. A return to normalcy is indicated.

Some people start writing for **The Ring-tum Phi** with no other object in view than the dubious privilege of being able to write a "thirty" column one fine day. Just how this "thirty" business started, we don't know. From what we've been able to discover, all the staff gathers around their colleague who is about to leave; they sing songs, shake hands, everybody yells, "Thirty," and then they let drop a few tears in their beers. Columns written at the time of such auspicious occasions generally contain tear-jerking expressions of humble appreciation for the tolerant and generous cooperation given the writer.

It is our intention to do anything but that. We've been grossly mistreated; hundreds of times we've been literally kicked out of the Print Shop, to land in a humiliated heap at the feet of Magruder Drake or Tommy Wilson. In the beginning, page two had us above Brian Bell. Now we're under Fran Russell, and almost any day we expect it to be printed that we smoke Chesterfields. It's been hell.

Editor-in-Chief Walt Potter glowers at us from beneath the hat he wears only when inside the Print Shop. It is four o'clock of a Monday afternoon when, full of good disposition and accompanied by neatly typed sheets of foolscap, we stand before this policy-making magnate of American Journalism. Potter grabs our weekly effort and places it before him on the copy table.

"What is this?" he growls. "You used 'hell' again, and you had already used your 'hell' for this month. I was more than lenient in allowing you to use that word once a month, and now you, like the low sneak you are, have tried to slip in another."

"But, Potter," we exclaim, "here I have a Wahoo saying it, not a Washington and Lee man. I never have us saying it."

We are ignored as Potter continues: "And this little business on the second page. How many times do I have to remind you that **The Ring-tum Phi** is a 'family' newspaper. Students' wives read it while ironing their husbands' shirts; little children in the pre-fabs chew on it all day. We must print only the nicer things. How about this on page three! It is utterly suggestive. These foreign words . . ."

"They're Sanskrit," we said. "Only three people will be able to read them, two faculty members and Fred Holley."

"That doesn't make any difference. Washington and Lee men are so bright that sometimes it isn't even safe to have a blank place in the paper. Their quick little minds will start reading something into it. It's definitely not wise to suggest any suggestive suggestion."

This flow of sagacious oratory had us completely stopped.

"Now," said Potter, "with all these corrections we have a neat little column. Thank you, Gates. I knew you'd come through."

As we were leaving, Potter turned to his obedient staff and yelled, "Tear down page eight! Hold sixteen for pictures! Put the front page to bed."

"What in the world are you talking about, Potter. You never had a sixteen-page newspaper, and never will have."

"I can dream, can't I?" he wistfully replied.

Outside we encounter Charley McDowell on his way to the Co-op for the tenth time that day. He was obviously worried, and kept muttering "Gad" under his breath. When asked the cause of his distress, he answered:

"Something has happened which will have worldwide repercussions. Some gross Wahoo has just stolen Mrs. Didawick's front gate."

Not everyone would realize the significance of this, but we did. Just as the American female centers her wardrobe on a 'basic dress,' McDowell writes from a basic column. Actually he has written only one column in all his life. He just scrambles up the elements of that one to obtain variations. Should anything happen to Chocolate B-Bs, John Hodiak, Wahoos, or Mrs. Didawick's front gate, he would be columnless.

With McDowell in such a state, what better time could there be for us to make our departure. Slowly the sun sinks behind House Mountain 1 and 2, which is actually just one big divided sandstone conglomerate, and lights flicker on in the little Lexington homes. Jabo comes out into the alley to load his coupe preparatory to making the evening rounds. Mr. Daves prepares for another big night at his entertainment emporiums, and in the shadows of the VMI stables a stealthy figure is seen sneaking back to Charlottesville. A front gate protrudes from under the folds of his long Shetland jacket.

THIRTY

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## REPORTER-AT-LARGE

by Charlie McDowell

Unless he forgot to write it, Robbins Ladew Gates' last column appears somewhere on this page. This final product of Cap'n Bob's tortured portable is, sad to say, the last installment of what has for a year or two been consistently the best writing to find its way into these unpredictable columns.

The University has run out of courses and Robbins has found that he has little choice but to leave the campus of which he has become, in the course of something like a decade, one of the most interesting landmarks. Ingenious shifting of majors, pre-meditated avoiding of required courses, delaying actions in the law school—all have helped Robbins hang on long after the members of his regular class began to come back for reunions. But finally they are going to give Robbins a diploma and there is nothing he or Dr. Gaines or the Clique or the Bicentennial Committee or anyone else can do about it.

So, any day now, Robbins will pile the monumental collection of things he has let people sell him into the back of his Ford and drive down Road 11 past the Steve's Diner sign and away from Washington and Lee. Where to?

Well, there is the most amazing and the most typically unexpected phase of the story of The Education of Robbins Ladew Gates. To face the fact very squarely, our own Robbins is off to seek further edification—among the Wahoos. Yes, fearlessly—just like it was

something you might do any morning before breakfast—Robbins is going right into the midst of the Persecuted Men of Charlottesville in search of a Master of Arts degree.

Naturally we were a little shocked when we learned of Robbins' plans. The idea of Cap'n Bob living among the Hotel Wreckers—going to the movies with them and shooting their Wahoo pin-ball machines, even—was something we never figured on having to reckon with. But we soon realized there was another way to look at it.

We choose to accept Robbins' startling venture onto the "grounds," into the very "yard," as the beginning of the great infiltration—the infiltration into the Land of the Short Cuff which spells the beginning of the end of Wahoo civilization as we know it today. Give Mr. Darden a few more Robbins Ladew Gates, a few more souls who see the ridiculous humor in the Wahoo, and he will make a state university out of that place yet.

Robbins is a fellow who sees the humor in things without much trouble. He spent most of his decade in Lexington laughing at things that needed laughing at.

Ever since we can remember Robbins has been on hand at every significant gathering on the campus and most of the insignificant ones. And at every gathering, be it movie or dance, election or dog fight, Robbins was laughing

at something that was pompous, someone who was taking himself too seriously, or something that was just funny. Always a believer in moderation, Cap'n Bob took advantage of Dean's List privileges to attend classes only on an occasional basis. That gave him more time for writing columns (well), painting (surprisingly well), drawing (likewise), bowling (not great), telling stories (among the best), sleeping, and being the easiest mark in the East for a salesman with something to get off his hands.

Robbins, in his time at W. and L., has bought more things he didn't particularly want than anyone would believe possible. His room is packed with records (but nothing that will play them), coats that don't really fit, socks that don't match, philosophy books and unclassified gadgets. Robbins has one tremendous book on birds—and he has a standing and thorough dislike of the creatures. But the salesman was a hell of a nice guy.

And Robbins delights in razzing himself about his total lack of sales resistance just like he loves to razz anything else that is a little ridiculous. He is a born satirist. Something always seemed to whisper to Robin when a professor or a big talker or Hollywood was perpetrating something on him that was damn foolishness in disguise. He got a laugh out of Allan Ladd grimly guiding a reaper through a hail storm as fast as

he did out of the argument for the protective tariff or the Great Greeks or a simple box of Chocolate BB's.

Cap'n Bob leaves Washington and Lee—the land of key worship—with a key chain that is pleasantly keyless. He used to sit in the smoked-filled rooms where the wheels were awarding honors to each other and just snicker a little bit. He roared for a week, though, at the campus key-bearing champion who forgot the key to his front door and had to sleep all night under a bush.

When they just let the troops vote, Robbins was elected to all sorts of things. Not only was he Alpha (and we suspect that he always wondered why it wasn't just called president) of his fraternity, but whenever there was a dance or event of any consequence, Robbins turned up as vice-president in charge of originality.

Robbins loves Washington and Lee very much. Not because of the gift of Washington or the inspiration of Lee, but because he just sort of likes it around here. However, as he leaves Lexington with his diploma, there won't even be a trace of a tear in his eye. Robbins will be laughing to himself about something he sees along the way, or at this obituary-like affair, or at the memory of Allan Ladd rumbling through a hail storm on a reaper.

— F I N I S —

## BRAIN FOOD

by Brian Bell

LEXINGTON, Va., January 30, 1968—Dance Set Leader Joe Folderot, in a last-minute bulletin, announced today that Fancy Dress has been oversubscribed by advance ticket sales and would definitely be a financial success as well as a social triumph. Joe, in a special to **The Ring-tum Phi**, said, "All plans have been completed for the best Fancy Dress in years."

For the benefit of those who have not been following the Fancy Dress plans **The Ring-tum Phi** will go over the dramatic, colorful spectacle of Fancy Dress '68 with the latest developments being outlined in detail.

The theme for this year's dance set, in an effort to keep down prices already ridiculously high from inflation, will be "A Night in a Roman Bath." Obviously few costumes will be necessary for the Friday night affair. Those in the figure will wear colorful towels while the rest of the dance participants will be conservatively clad in nothing.

Decorations as usual are being supplied by Atomic Architects of Beuna Vista who are busy at work turning Doremus Gym into ancient Rome. This clever trick is being accomplished with the aid of much complicated scenery. Dec Orator, in charge of the project for Atomic Architects, announced, "In keeping with the theme, plumbing is being installed everywhere."

Music will be supplied again this year by Harry Bird and his Tree Sitters who so ably diverted us last spring. Mr. Bird has since added a vocalist to his orchestra. Advance publicity on the singer, Miss Lena Ginster, is that she is statuesque and can really sing, specializing in slow, sexy numbers.

In deference to W&L tastes Mr. Bird has announced he will gear his music to the mood of the dance and has promised to restrict Red Skies and A Hovel in Old Hoveltown to fifteen renditions a night.

The world-famous leader expressed great pleasure in learning that "The Biggest Little Station in Rockbridge County," Lexington's own WVMI would broadcast the Fancy Dress Program. WVMI promises all listeners within a radius of two and a half miles a whole evening's entertainment.

Another startling announcement was the news that a national picture magazine, LICK, would cover the week-end's frolic. In keeping with the title of its magazine, LICK will do no tongue-in-cheek article about wild college boy antics but will seriously present Fancy Dress to waiting millions.

Hours for the set have been restricted by the dance board after complaints on their length were registered by several of the nearby girls' schools. Thursday, time will be 9-5, Friday, 10-7, and Saturday, 3 to noon. Harry Bird has promised short intermissions, announcing with brutal frankness, "My men don't need as long to smoke their marijuanas as some of these hands."

As usual Randolph-Macon, historic institute of higher learning, will send the most girls Lexington-ward with a covey of 75 arriving by rocket ship Thursday afternoon. Surprisingly enough, a newcomer to the feminine college ranks grabs second place in personnel attending as 60 young ladies from the United Nations Nursery will journey from Tibet. Time has been cut to nine and a half minutes on this flight so the girls may be expected in plenty of time for all the festivities. Distance seems no barrier this Fancy Dress with two girls coming from the Isle of Man, three from Antarctica, three from Siberia, and one from Mars. A hot number was expected from the Sun, but was forced to ICC at the last minute because her brother came in town.

Since the recent Lexington City Council meeting outlawed alcoholic beverages Monday through Saturday, celebrators will have to be content with strong substitutes

like Hydrochloric Acid, Lye and Water, and State Drug Store Coffee.

Leading the figure with Joe Folderot will be hideous Ima Hot-neck from Duskytown, Union of South Africa. The deeply tanned Miss Hotneck is a blind date who was recommended as "not pretty, but a marvelous personality, wonderful dancer, makes good grades, and all the girls' like her." She lives up to her recommendation.

Joe Folderot and his revolting partner will lead the figure dressed in blue and white dish towels which are especially designed to slide from place to place in keeping with the romin motif. They will carry soap and plumbing tools and will march to the tune of "Plumbers' Friendship."

Mike Passo, business manager, explained the increased price of tickets in a statement for the press. Said Mr. Passo, "We were forced to raise the price from \$235 to \$275 because of inflation. Harry Bird wants \$45,000 this year instead of his usual \$30,000."

"Oh, for the good old days," moaned Passo, "when you could get a band for \$15,000." The business mogul added that Cokes would remain the same price and

could be purchased for \$5.00 at intermission.

After-dance snacks can be had at 'The Solid Breakfast' (formerly 'The Liquid Lunch') and 'The Corner Night Club' which will remain open continuously. Special delicacy for the set will be Fried Wahoos Sauteed in Alcohol flown in from Charlottesville as ordered.

All in all this Fancy Dress seems destined to surpass any that has gone before. Under the capable leadership of Joe Folderot, plans have been completed and even at \$275, the set will be a bargain. **The Ring-tum Phi** wishes at this time to vote Folderot and his capable assistants a gold bath tub plug for preparing such a fine dance. We'll see you at the Baths and help make '68 Fancy Dress the biggest wash-out in history!

All Fancy Dress costumes and costume check slips must be returned to the Student Union Building basement between 2:00 and 5:00 Monday afternoon to costume chairman Joe Vicars.

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**Jimmie Willis**

# \$44 Bal Masque in '07 Started Fancy Dress

## History, '07-'29; Leading College Social Function

The story of how Washington and Lee's Fancy Dress Balls "just grew" to become the South's premier college social affair is a story filled with brilliant pageantry, glorious tradition, unconfined gaiety—and a little lady named Miss Annie Jo White.

The first Fancy Dress Ball was given as a "Bal Masque" by Miss Annie Jo White, then president of the Dramatic Club. Miss White, wishing to reward some students who had appeared in one of the Club's plays, took the profits of the play—a mere \$44—and conceived the idea of a combination costume and masquerade ball.

On the evening of Shrove Tuesday, February 12, 1907, Miss White gave her Bal Masque for the students and sub-professors of Washington and Lee and the first classmen of VMI. The dance was given in the old gymnasium, located on the site of the present chemistry building. According to **The Ring-tum Phi**—which was carrying such advertisements as "good wholesome table board at \$3 per week at the University Inn"—the function "from the standpoint of brilliancy, beauty and pleasure has not been equalled this season in the state." One awed spectator, not very originally, described it: "Well, this beats anything I ever saw! I wouldn't have missed it for anything in the world." The costumes, then as now, were furnished by Van Horn of Philadelphia. They ranged all the way from the leading couple's "George and Martha Washington to "King Dodo," "Buster Brown," and "Hiawatha."

### Held in Skating Rink

By 1909 the Fancy Dress Ball had become an annual event and was eagerly anticipated by the students. The third ball was held in the old skating rink, where the Baptist Church now stands, and Miss White used all her ingenuity and resources to transform the rink into a veritable fairyland by using Japanese and the new-fangled electric lights. An enthusiastic **Ring-tum Phi** feature writer ebulliently described it this way: "Every age and clime was represented in the dress of the dancers and the effect was to carry the beholder to the mystic land of dreams and fancy. Highland lasses romped and laughed with Spanish dancing girls, while handsome Cavaliers and grinning clowns made merry as the gleeful



### LEADERS OF WASHINGTON AND LEE FANCY DRESS BALL

With an authentic theme based on Hampton Court under Charles II, Washington and Lee University's 42nd annual Fancy Dress Ball will create a collegiate version of the pomp and gay revelry of late 17th-century England at Lexington on Friday evening, January 30. Leading the pageantry, and shown here (center in the period costumes they will wear for the collegiate event, are Miss Jane Harp, of Hillsville, a student at Mary Washington College, University of Virginia, with Ralph Davis, of Arvonnia. They will represent King Charles II and his queen, Catherine of Braganza. Other Fancy Dress leaders who will join W&L students in key roles in the colorful ball figures are

(2) Miss Ruth Faftery, of Waynesboro, to be escorted by Robert Gates, of Waynesboro; (3) Miss Martha Brewer Godwin, of Suffolk, and Mary Baldwin College, with Archibald Crittenden, of Ridgewood, N. J.; (4) Miss Louise Curry, of Lebanon, Ky., and Sweet Briar College, with Charles Lemon, of Roanoke; (5) Mrs. Glenn Chaffer, of Bridgeport, Conn., with Mr. Chaffer; (6) Mrs. William D. Bien, of Baltimore, Md., with Mr. Bien; (7) Miss Janice Paradies, of Atlanta, with Sheppard Zinovoy, of New Rochelle, N. Y.; (8) Miss Kay McDonald, of Washington, with George Stott, of Suffolk, and (9) Mrs. Marshall Ellis, of Clarksdale, Miss., with Mr. Ellis.

revelers danced the hours away." Even staid professors jested and made a vain effort to emulate the younger and more effervescent dancers."

The 9th Annual Fancy Dress Ball was the most lavish event of the school year, and Miss White surpassed her former efforts by

converting the old skating rink into a magnificent ballroom. The main figure was composed of six sets of four couples each. These couples, representing different nationalities and each carrying a flag of the country represented, marched forth and formed a Maltese Cross. Masks were removed at

midnight, but dancing continued until dawn.

Somber news of a W&L Provisional Training Battalion and the formation of a Volunteer Ambulance Corps shared the front-page of **The Ring-tum Phi** with the news of the 14th Annual Fancy Dress Ball. The patriotic motif

was featured throughout the dance, and expenses were cut to a minimum. There were no dance cards, the elaborate decorations were missing, and the customary midnight supper was omitted.

Uncle Sam and Miss Columbia, represented by Matthew W. Pax-

## Ten Regulations For Dance Dates Given by Bodoni

By B. F. Bodoni

After the repeated entreaties of the management of this newspaper, I have decided to return briefly from my journalistic retirement for this gala Fancy Dress issue. My purpose, of course, is to say a few words to the ladies who have been brought to the campus for the divertimento at hand. So ladies, put your date down and listen for just a minute.

What I want to talk about are the hazards which you, being laides, of course, are liable to run into at a dance given by the collective youth of this institution. In line with this, I have prepared a set of very simple rules which are designed to keep you out of the Lexington jail and the President's office. Follow these and you won't have any trouble. You won't even have any fun.

Rule 1. All girls must be accompanied by not less than two chaperones. (This is in case your date gets discouraged and goes off somewhere and you want to play three-handed bridge. If you only had one chaperone you would be stuck with some old game like gin rummy which chaperones don't play anyhow because of the name.)

Rule 2. Strapless evening gowns are strictly prohibited. (This rule is necessary because of the cold interior of the gym. You might catch a cold.)

Rule 3. Girls staying on the second floor of Steve's Diner are requested to maintain quiet after three o'clock in the morning to avoid disturbing the customers.

Rule 4. Girls are prohibited from climbing on the rafters in the gym. (This doesn't make sense but it's an old rule so I stuck it in anyway.)

Rule 5. Washington and Lee students are required to be in their rooms a half hour after the end of all dances and girls are asked to cooperate fully. (This can be taken several ways.)

Rule 6. Coach Carl Wise requests all girls going out for basketball to be on the court by seven o'clock. (This must be a typographical error and should be ignored.)

Rule 7. Girls should attend no classes Saturday except the class in Domestic Relations in the Law

(Continued on page four)

(Continued on page four)

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# Lawrence Band Is Acclaimed on Campus

## Youthful Orchestra Outstanding Favorite at Colleges, Ballrooms

By GEORGE STOTT

The fastest repeat engagement in the history of the Hotel Pennsylvania's Cafe Rouge was scored in November, 1946, when 21-year-old Elliot Lawrence brought his band back to the spot where he had made his "big time" debut in July of the same year.

Not since the early days of the great Glenn Miller has any orchestra created more attention or attracted more publicity. During a time when most other bands were breaking up or moaning under the heavy financial strains, Elliot Lawrence further indicated his popularity by topping the Hotel Pennsylvania's record gross for the year—during his very first week.

At 22 Elliot Lawrence, a Valentine's Day baby who was born on February 14, 1925, ranks as one of the outstanding new bandleaders in the nation. He is the only orchestra leader who has ever played for two consecutive Fancy Dress Balls, a feat which was accomplished within less than a year's time.

Elliot was last on the Washington and Lee campus on February 22 for the 1947 Fancy Dress. At that time he had just turned 22. This year, but still 22, Elliot is back for the 39th Fancy Dress.

### Coast-to-Coast Trip

Following his engagements in New York with the Cafe Rouge and the Paramount Theatre, Elliot embarked on an extended trans-continental trip that took him from college campuses to the Hollywood Palladium. His tour of colleges took him to Washington and Lee, Purdue, V.P.I., Iowa, Illinois, Vermont, Cornell, Indiana and Bucknell and many others.

His current five week stay at the Palladium in Hollywood (his first engagement West of the Rockies) has also added to the growing popularity of Elliot and his aggregation.

During his five week stay at the Palladium, which concluded on December 27, the Lawrence orchestra rose from relative obscurity among orchestra fans on the West Coast to one of the most popular and most talked about young musicians.

While at the Palladium Elliot signed a contract with M-G-M for a musical short to be based on the orchestra leader's own life story.

Two ex-marine vocalists and one former member of the Benny Goodman brass section are featured with the Lawrence orchestra. Jack Hunter and Rosalind Patton handle the lyrics for the aggregation. Both hail from Philadelphia, the birthplace of their leader. Miss Patton has been with the band since it was created in 1935, and Hunter has been doing vocal chores since the band first started broadcasting over CBS.

Hunter was in the Marines for five years and was one of the few pre-Pearl Harbor Marines. Miss Patton enlisted after that fighting branch of the service was opened for women.

Alec Fila, recognized by many authorities as one of the best of any young brass men now in the business, is the featured trumpet player in the Lawrence orchestra. Alec, a former Benny Goodman brassman, has earned such a reputation among young trumpet players that the Saturday Evening Post recently devoted an entire story to his activities.

### Accent on Youth

With Elliot Lawrence, youngest of the big name bandleaders, the accent is on youth. The average of the members of the orchestra is only 24. Elliot, who has a liking for flashy sport coats, likes to mingle with the crowd and find out what kind of music the young dancers want.

## History '07-29; Roaring '20's

(Continued from page three)

the opening figure. Following, to the strains of "God Save the King," and "La Marsellaise," were committees representing Great Britain, France, Italy and Belgium.

Although the theme of the 16th Annual Fancy Dress Ball was "Bookland," the spirit of the dance was the spirit of the Old South, with its warm beauty, responsive chivalry, lazy geniality, and impulsive grace. The music—a special "Roaring Twenties" brand of swing, with the added flavor of jazz—to quote a melodramatically inclined Ring-tum Phi writer, "sighing like a god in pain, went into every heart, until the people, swaying in unison as the melody throbbed, saw unroll a figure of unusual complication and beauty." For the first time since the dances were initiated by her, Miss Annie Jo White did not attend. She had left for an extended tour of Europe in the fall of 1919 and had left the supervision of the dances to Professor C. E. L. Gill.

### Dance President Elected in '24

The decade of the twenties marked the greatest period of elaboration and magnificence of the Fancy Dress Balls. In 1922, the Ball had as its theme "Dream Waltz," 1923, for which Jan Garber's Garber-Davis orchestra played, "Bal des Operas," which portrayed the evolution of jazz from melodies of old operas; and in 1924 "My Lady of the Fan." A precedent was set in 1924 when the student body first elected Hagan Minnich as president of the Ball.

In 1927, "Carnival in Venice" was chosen as the theme of the



ELLIOT LAWRENCE, piano stylist and composer, on the Washington and Lee Bandstand during the 'Carnival in Rio' Fancy Dress in 1947. His orchestra was brought back to W&L by student demand.

Ball. The California Ramblers, a popular local band from Farmville, furnished a "captivating, snappy and jazzy brand of music."

The 22nd and 23rd Annual Fancy Dress Balls, under the supervision of Professor Gill, ended the decade with dances never before equalled at W&L in novelty and splendor. The Ring-tum Phi published its first Fancy Dress Supplement to chronicle the happenings of the 1928 Ball.

In 1929, with 200 people in attendance, the Fancy Dress Ball was recognized as the outstanding social event of the year. Professor Gill, with an "Arabian Nights" theme, decorated the gymnasium in authentic Oriental style, superb in beauty, novelty, and classic background. Visitors and alumni, representing practically every state, attended, applauded, and departed to spread the reputation of Washington and Lee's Fancy Dress Balls as the outstanding college social event of the South.

### Dance Rules

(Continued from page three)

School. (The practice of bringing girls to class has produced distraction amongst the faculty, particularly biology professors.)

Rule 8. This is not worth anything so I will leave it out.

Rule 9. blank blank blank blank blank (This should be very helpful.)

Rule 10. Girls should patronize the Dance Board by not attending either dance. (Boys would much rather dance with themselves and you would probably rather knit.)

These rules should take care of any situation likely to arise during the week-end. If any situation arises which they do not take care of, I would be very happy to take care of it myself.

If you want me for anything, I'll be on the fifty-yard line until midnight. After that, I won't be there for several weeks, so come early.

## FD Balls Have Featured 'Kremlin,' 'Kentucky Derby,' 'Monte Carlo'

By JERRY HOLEN

Every year about this time, a Ring-tum Phi reporter finds himself thumbing through the old bound copies of The Ring-tum Phi in the archives room of McCormick Library to learn about Miss Annie Jo White, the little old lady who started Fancy Dress Ball 41 years ago—on a shoestring of \$44.

Since that year of the opening of the Jamestown Exposition and the eruptions of Vesuvius and Et-na, Fancy Dress budgets have climbed into the four-figure column and the Ball, originally proposed as a little 'tete-a-tete,' has blossomed into a social flower of the South.

And the panic of 1929, when everybody wanted "More Margin," did not deter the Washington and Lee merry-makers from spinning "Tales from the Arabian Nights," theme of the '29 event.

Fancy Dress took a Spanish Fiesta in Old Valencia to the Music of Jean Goldkette "and his Victor Recording Orchestra" in 1930.

Robin Hood and Hal Kemp shared the Fancy Dress spotlight the following year as Bill and Mirriam Tallyn led the figure in a brother-and-sister act. Fancy Dress of Medieval England was President Francis P. Gaines' introduction to W&L festivities, as

he succeeded Dr. Smith.

Days of the Old Dominion were revived in 1932 as George and Martha Washington—James Sparks and Miss Ellen Millsaps—danced the minuet at a Garden Fete at Mount Vernon. The Ring-tum Phi continued its custom of printing pictures of the more well-known beauties who planned to attend the famous event: "Miss Sunshine Bailey," it reported, "who is a frequent guest at W&L, is expected for the forthcoming Fancy Dress Ball." If she wasn't campused at the last minute, Sunshine danced to the music of Bernie Cummins and his New

(Continued on page five)

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# Figure To Portray Pomp of Restoration

## Fancy Dress Balls in '40s Portray 'Mardi Gras' and 'Carnival in Rio'

(Continued from page four)

Yorkers and saw Walter Winchell introduce Fancy Dress over a nation-wide hook-up under the auspices of the cigarettes that satisfied. Fancy Dress was fast becoming nationally known.

Spain returned to the limelight of the 1933 edition of Fancy Dress in the form of the Spanish Court, reigned over by King Philip IV and Queen Elizabeth—Frank Bailey and Miss Justine White—and attended again—as she had been doing since 1907—by Miss Anne Jo White. Bernie Cummins returned also, to the estimated tune of five dollars per minute. That's sweet music.

The Russians moved into Doremus Gymnasium for Fancy Dress of 1934. The Ring-tum Phi termed the theme of the Ball, "The Kremlin," the "Romanoff capitol." But that was back in 1934. If Joe had heard about it, drastic action might have been taken. But as it was, Alexander III and Marie Feodorovna, posing as Howard Smith and Miss Dorothy Fly, were crowned king and queen of the Ball. Johnny Hamp and his Cossaks played the Kozatzki. This year also marked the inauguration of the ODK formal and a morning dansant, sponsored by Kappa Alpha and Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Kay Kyser and a slightly tipsy jester shared the spotlight in the Elizabethian England Fancy Dress Ball of 1936 as the jester staggered onto the floor dressed as Groucho Marx during the court scene, and Kyser, believing that it was part of the pageant, stepped

up to the music to the appropriate tempo.

Eddie Duchin and Hal Kemp were on hand in 1937, but Miss Annie Jo White was unable to attend for the first time in many years. The Italian Renaissance was the theme of the event.

Ante-bellum Days in Charleston was the theme of the 1938 affair, which saw Bill Rogers, Jr., and Miss Margaret Woods leading an array of political and literary leaders of the era in the figure. Jan Garber and his orchestra provided the music.

The Southern motif was continued the following year as the Golden Era of Williamsburg was the theme. A somber note in the proceedings was the fact that Miss Annie Jo White had passed away the previous fall. The Ring-tum Phi mentioned that costumes for this Ball would cost \$3 apiece. And advance sale tickets for the set were \$9.50. Hal Kemp made his second appearance at W&L.

Fancy Dress of 1940 was a real music festival, with Benny Goodman, "The King of Swing," and Charlie Barnet, "King of the Tenor Sax," booked for the set. "Rex, King of the Mardi Gras"—Charlie Chapman—led the figure with Miss Martha Jane Farmer.

The South predominated again in '41 as Doremus Gymnasium was transformed into the Blue Grass State of Old Kiantuck and a post-Derby fete, complete with Kentucky Colonels, landowners, track officials, river gamblers, jockeys—and mint juleps (or something just as good).

The little yellow men with the slanted eyes almost prevented



Fancy Dress Vice President Joe Vicars and Miss Pat Flannery of Randolph-Macon who will be featured in the figure Friday night.

Fancy Dress of 1942 as the campus was drained of students who went off to war. On the front page of the December 9, 1941 Ring-tum Phi, the following two headlines

appeared:  
"Woody Herman, Powell Signed for Fancy Dress Ball." "University, Students Pledge Cooperation as U. S. Goes to War."

## Students Representing Nobility Will Appear in Order of Rank

By AL WALTER

Flourishing trumpets will set in motion the colorful Fancy Dress Figure which will begin the gala costume ball at "Hampton Court" in the Doremus Gymnasium on Friday night at 10 o'clock.

The 1948 Figure, which is expected to last for about 30 minutes, will portray the pomp and splendor of English Court life during the Restoration Era. Figure Director Ken Coghill anticipates that this year's figure will "delight patrons of Washington and Lee's 39th Fancy Dress Ball for years to come."

Built by Cardinal Woosely, "Hampton Court" was adopted in 1670 by King Charles II. It then became the scene of gaiety and lust in the royal transactions of business and pleasure.

In keeping with the styles of 17th Century England, all members of the Fancy Dress Committee and students in the figure group who portray English nobility of the period will wear wigs and dress in the English cavalier costume so that they can appropriately contemporize the court interpretation with the time and place.

### In Order of Rank

Coghill said that the figure committee will take some liberty with the court procedure and will

provide for musical effects to infuse more life into the figure.

Exceptional arrangements have been made to add still more color to the court pageantry. Students representing the nobility will appear in order of rank, beginning with the Dukes and culminating with the appearance of the sovereign, Charles II.

The number of retainers for each of the members of the royalty will vary with the station of the gentlemen.

Coghill plans to use "props" to contribute to the conformity of the figure. Seldom employed in the past, these "props" will include four palace guards, the Lord Chamberlain, a page and two court heralds.

Waltzes will replace the 17th Century chamber music that filled the real "Hampton Court," and King Charles and his Queen will officially begin the evening's dancing when they dance to the first waltz. Following the dance by the sovereign and his Queen, the nobility will waltz to the music of Elliot Lawrence, after which the chairs will be removed and the court will permit dancing for all.

All figure participants are to assemble in the football dressing room by 9:45 p.m. Doors to the gym will be locked at 10:15 and no one will be admitted from that time until the end of the figure.

Washington and Lee

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Fire Regulations

(Continued from page one)

minimize congestion at the gymnasium have been drawn up by the faculty committee on Social Functions and the Fancy Dress Vice Presidents.

Washington Street from the Student Union to the gym will be one-way, with cars going toward the gym. This will be the only approach to the gym, since the other University roads will be used for exit only.

Parking will be forbidden in front of the gym, in front of the dorms or in the area between the two. Automobiles at the gym may turn either to the left and park in the area behind the gym or to the right and park in the provided areas on the plot in front of the gym or elsewhere on the campus.

The doors will open on Friday night at 9:15 p.m. and will remain open until 10:05 p.m. after which time no one will be admitted until the conclusion of the Fancy Dress figure. A coast-to-coast broadcast from the Washington and Lee bandstand will begin at five minutes after midnight Friday and will last until 12:30. Intermission will follow the broadcast.

Chief Wright of the local gardemes urges that students lock the doors to their cars because of the increase of petty larceny cases in this area. Wright also warns that no valuables should be left in the cars.

Hampton Court Queen Endorses 'New Look'

(Continued from page one)

that she couldn't "play with the experts." Jane should have a wonderful time during the Fancy Dress set, as she says that she "likes to dance very, very much."

Five feet three, with dark brown eyes and brunette locks, Jane's favorite colors are black and white. She advocates the long skirts and black stockings featured in the nation-wide fashion, the "New Look."

Jane has known Ralph Davis, Fancy Dress President, since October of 1947, when they met at the wedding of mutual friends in Charlotte.

"I am looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to being in Lexington for Fancy Dress," Jane said.

Southern Collegian Includes Town Guide

(Continued from page one)

this writer was a feature contributed by Wally Clayton. Wally, who is now working on the Evening Star in Washington, D. C., was editor of the Southern Collegian in 1943. His article brings in that man of the world viewpoint which rounds out this issue of the magazine.

The title of Clayton's story, "The Washington Merry-Go-Round" has a slightly familiar ring but I can assure all readers that its content is entirely original. Note Clayton's definition of inflation which enabled this writer to pass Economics 101. The Collegian plans to continue the practice of requesting a contribution for each issue from various alumni.

The inside story of the Gauley Bridge Hunt is revealed in the FD issue by Don Hillman. This exclusive organization which contributed so much to the W. and L. cheering section in the fall has already become a campus tradition. Hillman was allowed to examine the confidential files, or at any rate, to interview Bob Gates for this story.

For the benefit of dates and other out of town guests here for Fancy Dress, Jock Morrison and Hack Heyworth have compiled an

Dine from Land or Sea at The Whitehouse Cafe

Air-Conditioned Est. 1908

excellent guide to Lexington which they have consented to publish in the Collegian. The Lexington Telephone Company, the Hotel Midway, and McCrum's are beautifully described. Each of these establishments has a slogan, like "If you have the time... Eat at McCrum's."

After reading this article the stranger to Lexington will not be constrained from making a tour of the famous places described herein. Probably many students have never really appreciated these institutions, not having seen them in their true light.

A must for all freshmen is the illuminating article by Cub Bear, "The Natural History of a Date at Hollins." Freshmen, the man

who penned these words writes from experience, and Hollins is not portrayed here as an unattractive place. But beware of those pink and yellow slips.

Truly in the Fancy Dress spirit is "For Goodness Sake, Amethyst" by Leonard Wild. Amethyst is a fabulous character from the mystical region of Buena Vista. Her wonderful experiences at the court of Charles II form the great-

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er part of this fantasy. The features mentioned above are not all that is to be found in the Fancy Dress issue of the Southern Collegian.



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SUN - MON She didn't get that gleam in her eye from dreaming... or did she? Ginger Cornel ROGERS - WILDE It Had to Be You with Percy Wares - Spring Dintion - Don Randall

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