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# The Rockport Pilot

**Johnson's Drug Store**  
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 COFFEE — SODAS — SUNDAES

The Only Newspaper Published in Aransas County

Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, Thursday, January 10, 1946

No. 38

## City Secretary Resigns; Attorney Hired By Council COMMISSION GETS JURISDICTION OVER TURNING BASIN

### Along The Waterfront

Less wind and less fog would make a lot of people lot happier along the waterfront. Few boats ventured far from shore.

At Johnson Fish Company one oyster boat was the only one that came in with a load during the week. No shrimp boats made an attempt to get a catch.

Some oysters were brought into Jackson Seafoods Company but no big loads. No shrimpers made a try for it. Jackson's "Betsy" was out on the ways for repairs. Willy Wilson's commercial boat was also on the ways for repair work. Weather has been too bad for painting or much work on the boats.

W. F. Hagen and Simms of Houston had a good shoot this week-end at Mills Wharf, taking 40 ducks to their homes. W. L. Dennis and Miss West of San Antonio brought back 20 ducks Sunday. Crawford and Harbican of Chicago came in Monday with 4 geese. P. C. Sorenson and his son, Capt. Al Sorenson of the Army Air Forces, got 20 ducks Monday. Harry Mills is now running a motorboat at Mills Wharf and

for Fish Company had a few more to open this week. The load was 30 gallons brought by Frank Holt on the "Merrilee" Bill Johnson said that boat the "Elizabeth" will come out for repairs.

Souquette and Wendell had one catch of fish. Bob DeForest caught in 500 pounds in his oyster skiff. A few loads of oysters came in. Lupe Pelido on the "no" had the best load with 400.

Casterline Fish Company had luck with oysters, but didn't catch any fish or shrimp. The K. with Clifton McElwee as brought in 90 gallons on the "P" and Y. J. Dawson on the "C" came in with 80 gallons.

Seafood shipments from Rockport and Fulton for the week total \$11,500 worth.

A barge belonging to the Atlantic-Gulf and Pacific Dredging Company, was chipped and painted at the Rockport Boatworks this week. Repair work was done including the welding of leaks.

A houseboat was being rebuilt at the shipyards and made into a boat. The cabin was cut out. The boat belongs to W. Wilpott of Lubbock.

A motor skiff, 18 feet long and 4 feet deep, was completed and ready. It was tried out in heavy winds Tuesday and perished along.

A number of Humble boats are being pulled out and repainted at the shipyards.

Mr. Morrison sent his "Ramona" Port Isabel to run crew for the Dredging Corporation. The boat will be on the job about 10 months. Curtis Atchley, a recently discharged, went as skipper.

Work is progressing on rebuilding Morrison's Boathouse, damaged during the hurricane. The reconstruction is completed and will move into it before the week. He expects to be finished with it.

The oyster commission's four good boats will be out this week, but they are not yet ready.

The agent is Gaynelle Green of Houston. Her father has been an agent for 40 years at Dallas. She was in the war

### Agrees to Replace Pipe and Put In New Outlets

**City Council Meets With Navigation Board Wednesday**

Long-questioned jurisdiction over the turning basin was given to the Aransas County Navigation Commission Wednesday night when they met jointly with the city council.

For months, questions arising involving the turning basin have been left hanging because authority was not certain. Some responsibility had been taken by the city and other by the navigation commission.

At Wednesday's meeting, the question was taken up, records studied and interpreted and the decision made that the Navigation Commission had sole jurisdiction over the turning basin.

At the same meeting, the commission agreed to replace the water pipe which runs completely around the basin. This pipe was of cast iron on reinforced concrete. Water seepage worked dirt away from the pipe, causing it to break.

The commission agreed to put in a two-inch galvanized pipe for the full length of the water conduit. The pipe will have an outlet at each slip for the use of the boat owners.

Commission members and council members discussed the needs of the basin and possibilities of improvement in the future. Added facilities in the basin were taken up in the Chamber of Commerce suggested program of waterfront improvements.

### Directors of C of C to Meet Friday Night

Preparation for the annual general meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and election of officers will be made at a meeting of the board of directors of the chamber at the City Hall at 8 o'clock Friday night.

The Rev. J. H. Kelly, president, said a financial report will be presented by the financial committee of which A. C. Glass is chairman.

A tabulation will be made of results of a questionnaire sent to members recently asking preference of luncheon or supper, weekly or monthly meetings.

Jack Blackwell, secretary-manager, will make a report of activities scheduled for the chamber this year, including initial plans for the July 4 celebration.

Father Kelly asked all directors to be present so that there could be a representative expression of opinion before the general meeting.

One of the few girl telegraph operators and station agents on the Southern Pacific Lines took over the duties at the railroad station.

### G. M. Hooper, Native of Rockport, Dies at Family Home Tuesday Night

**Funeral Services Held Here Wednesday Afternoon**

George Marcus Hooper, 61, last surviving son of one of Rockport's oldest families, died at his home Tuesday night at 7:15 o'clock.

Hooper was born at Rockport, the son of George E. and Maria Hooper, July 17, 1884. His father was a partner in one of the early stores established here more than 70 years ago, Sorenson and Hooper's. Before his death, each went into business for himself and the elder Hooper and his two sons, the late James Hooper and G. M. Hooper, carried on the business. Until the death of James Hooper last year, it was operated by the two brothers as Hooper Brothers.

G. M. Hooper, known to all of his friends as Pat Hooper, was on the city council of Rockport from April, 1920 to April, 1929. During that time, he served on the finance committee for the city.

He had lived here all his life and attended school here. He was active in his business until several months ago when he became ill. Since that time he has been at home, but returned to his store the day of his death.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Caroline Clark Hooper; daughter, Miss Caroline Ada Hooper; sister, Mrs. W. D. McIvaine of Saint Paul and one nephew, William D. McIvaine, Jr., of Chicago; and one niece, Mrs. Paul Speer of Saint Paul. His brothers, neither of whom is living, were James and Charles Hooper.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the family home with the Rev. T. H. Pollard officiating. Burial was in Rockport Cemetery.

Active pallbearers were Willie Close, Somer Smith, Alvin Brundrett, Charlie Cleveland, Lyle Dieckrich and Frank Young.

Honorary pallbearers were Victor M. Clark, O. Clark Bailey, Maj. H. T. Bailey, Maj. Travis Bailey, Albert Bruhl, Fred Dieckrich, Dave Scribner, W. S. Close, Richard Simpson, Sr., Richard Simpson, Jr., James Sparks, Ted Little, Tom Rooke, Chris Rooke, Oris Young, Ford Jackson, Jack Casey, Joe Johnson, J. D. Donaldson, Dr. Edgar Mathis, Dr. Charles F. Cron, John Sorenson, T. C. Kelly, Fred Bracht, A. L. Bracht, Will Friend, Charles Garrett, Paul Sorenson, Austin Smith, Floyd Smith, Sid Richardson, Pete Richardson, Raymond Diffeo, Hoy Ingersoll, J. F. Bullard, Floyd Huffman, Elbert Mundine, Milton Mundine, Sam Mundine, Clyde Townsend, Darb Stewart, Bruce Preckwinkle, Jack Hagar, J. M. Sellers, R. H. McMullen, Henry Schmidt and Will Rooke.

M-Sgt. Walter D. Bell, Jr. who has been visiting his family on a furlough here has reenlisted and returned Thursday to New York. From there he will be stationed at Westover Field, Mass.

### One of Few Women Telegraphers On Line Is Temporary Rockport Agent

She had handled the duties at Bay City. Miss Green became interested in the work and began to study with her father. Then, as is necessary in telegraphy, she "buckled down" and learned it herself.

Miss Green said there are a number of women agents on the line but only a few of them are telegraphers. She has been an agent for years but a telegrapher agent for only a year and a half. She now serves as an operator for her father in Bay City.

### Swearengen To Take Over Legal Work

**Practices At Corpus Christi After Army Service**

Clifford Swearengen, Corpus Christi attorney, was hired by the city council as attorney for the city of Rockport at a council meeting Monday night.

As soon as details can be worked out, Swearengen will hold municipal court in the city. Recently, there has been no municipal court in Rockport nor means of enforcing city ordinances. Times of court sessions will be announced later.

Swearengen will continue to maintain his offices in the Medical Professional Building at Corpus Christi with Lawrence Berger, but will come to Rockport for council meetings, court sessions and conferences.

The young attorney is practicing law for the first time at Corpus Christi. His home was there before he entered the University of Texas in 1935. He completed his studies there and received his law degree.

Entering service, he became a captain in the U. S. Army Air Forces. He was sent overseas, and served in the Italian campaign. He was discharged from service and returned to Corpus Christi in October.

Both Swearengen and Berger attended the council meeting, working out details for handling the city's legal business. The city has had no attorney since Emory Spencer resigned to fill the office of county attorney.

### Six Discharged From Army, Navy And Marine Corps

Two Army men, three Navy men and a Marine were discharged from service and returned to their Aransas County home this week.

Fidel R. Covarrubias, a corporal in the 334th Air Drome Squadron, served in the air offensive against Japan, the China offensive, Southern Philippines, Luzon, Western Pacific, Ryukyus and the China defensive. He was awarded the American Theatre Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign medal with seven combat stars, the Philippine Liberation Medal with one combat star, the Victory Ribbon and two overseas bars.

J. F. Green, a technician fifth grade, served with the 303rd Gen. Hospital. He was awarded the American Theatre Campaign medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Victory Ribbon and one service stripe.

Raymond Vernon Cole, boatswainmate second class, Daniel McCollough, Jr., coxswain, and Castanio Solis, electricians mate second class, were discharged from the Navy.

Willie Hugh Schuster, Jr., a private first class in the Marine Corps, served in the Pacific area from February of 1944 to November of 1945. He participated in the Philippine Liberation.

### ED BARNARD IS DISCHARGED

Ed Barnard, owner of the Rio Theatre, was discharged from the Navy at Camp Wallace Tuesday. His wife, who has lived here with their children during his overseas service, went the first of the week to the camp to meet him.

### THREE WOMEN ATTEND LECTURE

Mrs. F. A. Banks, Mrs. C. C. Loveless and Mrs. J. W. Tow send a meeting of Methodist women at Taft Friday. A lecture was given on missionary work.

### MANY BORN BUT FEW DIE HERE IN LAST YEAR

Disregarding shift of population, Rockport should grow if city statistics tell the tale.

In 1945, there were 25 births recorded in Rockport and only 15 deaths.

Will Friend, city secretary, said that is about an average figure for deaths, but there are usually more births. In 1944 there were 42 births in the town.

But in that or previous years, births have neared or doubled the rate of deaths.

### Tourist Courts And Business Property Sold

**Oak Shore Changes Hands and Johnson Buys Building**

Real estate activity maintained the head start it has gained in 1946 by a sale of tourist courts, business buildings and residential property.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ford of Houston Tuesday purchased Oak Shore Apartments and Cottages. They will take over the management January 15.

Selling the cottages were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stefka who moved here from Temple several months ago to buy the cottages. They were former owners of Palm Courts. Mr. and Mrs. Stefka have not announced their plans for the future.

The two-story apartments and stucco cottages, among the largest and most modern in the Fulton area, were previously on the market for \$60,000. No announcement of consideration has been made in this sale.

Mr. and Mrs. Ford and their small daughter will live at the courts.

In a transaction recorded in the county clerk's office, Joe Johnson, owner of Johnson's Drug Store, purchased from Charles Cleveland the building on the main street of Rockport that houses the drug store and Hunt's Barber and Clean-up Shop. Johnson said he contemplates no immediate changes in the building.

The sale, with consideration listed as \$6,000, is property described as Lot 1, Block 14, Dougherty and Mathis Division, City of Rockport. Cleveland retains a party wall interest to the wall on the south line of the property.

Mrs. L. M. Braucht sold to Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Court Lots 3, 14, 2, 15 and the south 10 feet of Lot 4 in Block 205 of Rooke Addition to the City of Rockport. The vacant property is in the northern section of Rockport.

### Fines Run High During Week In Justice Court

More than \$150 was paid in fines in Justice of Peace Court this week on charges ranging from drunkenness to resisting an officer.

Gano Marshall and Hommie McLead were fined \$5 and costs each when they pleaded guilty to a charge of assault and battery filed by J. R. DeForest Tuesday. W. W. Ellis paid two fines amounting to \$100 and costs on two charges filed by Deputy G. C. Mullinax. Ellis pleaded guilty to fighting and resisting an officer Friday.

Will W. Walker paid a \$25 fine and costs yesterday on a charge of shooting ducks from an automobile. Charges were filed by E. M. Elmore, state game warden. One fine of \$5 was paid for drunkenness.

### Will Friend To Leave Office January 15

**Has Served Nine Years In Rockport Office**

Will Friend, for nine years and a month city secretary of Rockport, tendered his resignation to the city council at a meeting Monday night. He said his vacating of the office would be effective Jan. 15, but he would assist any person brought in to take his place.

Friend said he was sorry to leave the city office, but his health would not permit continuation of the responsibilities of the work.

"I am going to do nothing for a while if I can," he explained emphatically.

Mayor Albert Collier said Friend leaves the office with the books and accounts in excellent condition. There are no delinquent bonds and all bond interest is paid to date. Bond funds are all in good shape, and the city has no overdue bills.

The position of city secretary in Rockport also involves the work of clerk, water and sewage system accountant, treasurer and tax collector and assessor. The council has made no decision on filling the vacancy.

Friend came to Rockport 16 years ago. He had lived in Mississippi where he was a road builder and construction work contractor.

Collier said it was through the efforts of Friend that a government grant of \$65,000 was received by Rockport to build the sewer system. Friend, working with Travis Johnson at the time he was mayor, got the water system for the town.

### Mrs. Cunningham Dies Here At Daughter's Home

Mrs. Elizabeth Cunningham, 88, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J.D. Rundell, Thursday afternoon. She had lived in Rockport 38 years.

Mrs. Cunningham was born at Victoria July 21, 1857. In May, 1877, she was married to LeRoy Cunningham, member of a pioneer family of Victoria. She has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for many years.

She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Rundell; three sons, Harvey Cunningham of Rockport, John Cunningham of Port Aransas and Wallace Cunningham of Little Rock, Ark.; seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Cape Funeral Home Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock with the Rev. T. H. Pollard officiating. Burial was in Rockport Cemetery.

### CASTERLINE TO REMAIN AWAY

Cecil Casterline was brought home from a San Antonio Hospital by his father, Frank Casterline, and Billy Johnson Sunday. It was necessary for him to return to a higher climate, and Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. Cron took Casterline and his wife back to San Antonio Tuesday. They will take a house there and remain until Casterline's health improves.

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

Walter C. Williams and Mrs. Mamie Lee Bullard.

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**THREE BIOLOGISTS ATTEND MEETING**

Albert Collier, Joel Hedgpeth and Dr. Gordon Gunter left Tuesday to attend a meeting of the Texas Association of Marine Resources at College Station today. Doctor Gunter is chairman of the association. The marine biologists were to stop in Austin on their way to the meeting.

**Men of The Church Hold Discussion**

The Men of the Church held a discussion meeting Monday night when their guest speaker, Major Tom Taggart, was called out of town by the death of his mother. The officer was scheduled to speak on his experiences as a prisoner of war.

A committee of women from Circle 2, Mrs. Charles Roe, Mrs. Harry Mills, Mrs. Jim Hooper, Mrs. Fred Brundrett, Mrs. George Lee Brundrett and Mrs. T. H. Pollard, served the dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roe.

Men attending were the Rev. T. H. Pollard, Hugh Morrison, W. H. Morrison, Clyde C. Hayden, George Lee Brundrett, Fred Brundrett, Ted Little, Floyd Smith, Harry Mills, Watkins, Cantwell, Roe and Norvell Jackson.

**Jack Sanders to Speak and Show Films To Pirate Football Banquet Tonight**

Jack Sanders, recently a professional football player in the east, will be guest speaker on the program of the football banquet to be held at the Homemaking Cottage tonight at 7 o'clock.

At the banquet, lettermen for the 1945 season will be announced by Coach John Ramseur. Picture shows of games will also be shown.

Football players and their invited guests will attend the banquet. Joe Johnson, Jr., is serving as master of ceremonies. The invocation will be given by the Rev. J. H. Kelly.

After the dinner, to be served by members of the homemaking classes under the direction of Mrs. Morgan C. Wheeler, Johnson will give the welcoming address and introduce the guests.

Coach Ramseur will give a talk on the highlights of last season, his first with the Pirate team. He will announce the names of the boys who lettered.

Sanders will show films of professional games in which he played last season. A star in Texas college athletics before entering ser-

vice, he is a veteran of World War II.

Films will also be shown of a Highland Park-Port Arthur game and an A. and M. College game.

**Haney's Poem To Be Published**

Bert Haney, a junior in Rockport High School, is the author of a poem to be published in the Anthology of High School Poetry at Los Angeles, Calif., for 1945-46, and to receive honorable mention in the book.

This is the second year that Haney has been so honored by the National High School Poetry Association.

His poem, "Ebon Evil Soul", was submitted in October. It was accepted and received honorable mention, the highest honor bestowed on a student in the anthology.

There are two sections of the book, Fall and Spring. Haney's poem will appear in the fall section which will be put out at the end of the school term in 1946.

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**Bible Study Meets At Weber Home**

The Fulton Bible Study met at the home of Mrs. John Weber Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Weber gave the devotional and Mrs. Fannie Mars read the lesson.

The monthly grab bag was held. Refreshments of sandwiches and coffee were served to Mrs. Robert Cunningham, Mrs. Mars, Mrs. E. B. McHaley, Mrs. Vallie Cole, Miss Hettie Weber, Mrs. Clyde Weber and Mrs. John Cole.

**Mrs. Jackson Leads Program On Africa At Auxiliary**

The monthly meeting of the Womans Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church was held Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Norvell Jackson was program leader. Her topic was "The Heart of Africa". On the musical portion of the program, Mrs. Jim Hooper sang a solo.

Mrs. Hooper and Mrs. Byron Bushart were hostesses at the meeting. They served a refreshment course of sandwiches, cookies and coffee.

Mrs. Harry Mills presided at a short business meeting following the program.

Attending were Mrs. A. M. McNatt, Mrs. Marshall Anderson, Mrs. Fred Brundrett, Mrs. Ted Little, Mrs. James Lathrup, Mrs. Hooper, Mrs. Bushart, Mrs. T. H. Pollard, Mrs. Jackson, and Mrs. C. C. Hayden.

**Bettie Lou Garrett Elected Head Of Baptist GA**

Bettie Lou Garrett was elected president of the Girls Auxiliary of the Baptist Church at a meeting last night.

Other officers elected were Kathryn Freeman, vice-president; Berta Gene Shults, secretary; Kathryn Atwood, assistant secretary and Loyce Mae Shults, treasurer.

Bettie Lou Garrett took up the offering at the meeting. The seven members present studied their new "Standard of Excellence Chart" and the steps in their manuals. Betty Lou colored a flower on the chart for the first meeting of the year. Loyce Mae read from the Bible Isaiah 45:18-24.

**Charles Garrett Returns to Home**

Charles Garrett, a sergeant in the Army, was discharged Monday after two years in service.

He had been stationed at Army hospital at San Antonio since he returned from overseas in October. He is now at his home here with his wife and three children.

**Personals**

Sgt. George L. Brundrett, Jr., who has been stationed at Sebring, Fla., is spending 10 days here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Le Brundrett. He is being transferred to a new air force station at Smyrna, Tenn.

Capt. and Mrs. John Haseman and Verna Ann have left for San Francisco after spending the holidays here with Mrs. Haseman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Lee Brundrett. Captain Haseman has been transferred from Brownwood.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Drake and Laverne Drake have returned to their Edna home after visiting Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brundrett here.

Mrs. Allen Roberts is spending a few days here as the guest of relatives.

Mrs. John C. Gorman of Bay City was a week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Adolphus.

Mrs. D. V. Owens of Palestine is visiting her granddaughter, Brenda Joyce Marshall, and other relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hernandez of Corpus Christi were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Boot last week.

Mrs. Evans Corbin and children Jimmy and Eddie of Ingleside are visiting Mrs. Corbin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Jackson for an indefinite length of time.

Miss Katie Lee Clarke has returned from a trip to West Columbia where she visited her sister, Miss Eula Clarke.

Mrs. Bill Cavitt spent the school holiday with her husband at Sinton. He has been employed at a hardware store here since he was released from service.

Mrs. Simon Lee Sorenson visited her mother at Shiner over the holiday and her mother and sister returned with her for a visit.

Mrs. C. O. Lowry and Mrs. Charlyne Hunt have had as their guest Mrs. Lowry's son and his family, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Lowry and children, of Galveston.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ramseur returned from Borger this week after a holiday visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Allen and daughters spent the holidays at McAllen as a guests of Allen's mother.

**Guild of Saint Peters Has Meeting**

The Guild of Saint Peter at the home of Mrs. Paul Tuesday afternoon for the conduct of business and a social hour.

Mrs. Reese served a refreshment course of cake, confection and coffee.

Attending were Walton, Mrs. Sam, Kate Ezell, Mrs. Blain, Mrs. Crompton Sowerby, Will Steverson, Miss Ka Clarke, Mrs. Paul Clark Sorenson and Mrs. John Sorenson.

Mrs. Jim Barber and child have returned from a week's at San Antonio.

Mrs. Lucy Roberts was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Carpenter of Beville over the holidays.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Sanders last week were their son, George Sanders; W. C. Wetsel, assistant coach at Southern Methodist University; B. M. Weisel, Will Brooks, and Jim Brooks, all of Dallas, and A. C. Panceast and Tom Carr of San Antonio.

Lt. F. J. McGary, a chaplain at the Naval Air Station at Corpus Christi, was a dinner guest of Rev. J. H. Kelly here Monday night.

Mrs. H. B. Baldwin and Mrs. Sam Creelias have returned to their homes at Corpus Christi after visiting Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Prophet, their parents.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rooke last week were Mr. and Mrs. Harvey B. Lewis of Dallas, their niece and nephew, who are now at Corpus Christi where Lewis is a gunners mate second class at Ward Island; Miss Lola McDonald of San Antonio; and Paul B. Fletcher, their nephew of Dallas who was recently discharged as a lieutenant in the Navy.

Thomas Rooke, Jr., is spending several days in San Antonio but will return to his home here soon.

Mr. and Mrs. George Crook of Houston has returned to her home after visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Townsend.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Townsend, former residents of Rockport who have been traveling since they sold their business here, are spending several weeks with Mrs. W. Townsend. They plan to go Kerrville from here.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffin and the son Bob, who was in the six grade in Rockport schools, have returned to their home at Lit Rock, Ark. They spent two months here.

Dolly Lee Hart spent four days as a guest at Refugio and was named honoree at a New Year Eve party.

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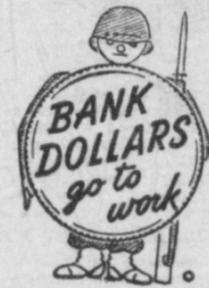
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