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HELP THE V.-POSTULATOR PUBLISH HIS BOOK ON THE GREAT APOSTLE OF THE SACRED HEART —

- Continued on inside Cover

KATERI

Vol. 9 No. 4

CAUGHNAWAGA, Oue.

SEPTEMBER, 1957





Photo : J. G. Martin.

THE RELICS OF TEKAKWITHA

KATERI Vol. 9

No. 4

Editor and V.-Postulator: The Rev. Henri Béchard, S.J.

THE KATERI TEKAKWITHA GUILD

The sodalists of the Blessed Virgin of Caughnawaga, Quebec, who are descendants of the earliest Christian Indians in Canada and New York State, have formed themselves into a Guild to spread devotion to Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

Our quarterly bulletin KATERI, intends, above all, to tell her tale, to foster devotion to her, and to record the favors both temporal and spiritual you receive through her intercession. As a result, it is hoped that the Cause of her Beatification will progress more rapidly.

A one year subscription to KATERI (\$1.00) will enroll you as a member of the Kateri Tekakwitha Guild for one year to share in the daily memento of the V.-Postulator's mass and in a special mass offered each week for your intentions in the old Mission Church of St-François-Xavier.

Published quarterly to spread devotion to *Ven. Kateri Tekakwitha* by the Rev. Martial Caron, S.J., at the Mission of St-François-Xavier, Caughnawaga, Quebec, Canada.

All subscriptions, remittances and correspondence should be addressed to KATERI, The Mission of Saint-François-Xavier, Caughnawaga, Que., Canada.

Golden Jubilee in Rome.	3
Her Life and Her Love	
(Cont'd) The Vice-Postulator	
Asian Influenza	4
The Vice-Postulator.	6
The Seaway and the	
Mission	
Photography by	
Van der Aa	7
The Story of a New Book	
Evelyn Brown	10
Letters to Kateri	12
The Vice-Postulator's	
Diary	14
Bernard de Hoyos, S.J.	15

SEPTEMBER, 1957

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The Cover photo, The Seaway is Coming! is by Jack Marshall; the other photos by Van der Aa are from the files of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority.



our sincere congratulations to rather Charles Micchelli, S.J., Postulator for Kateri's Cause for the past twenty-one years, who was granted a special audience by the Holy Father on June 15, Golden Jubilee of his Ordination to the priesthood. This great Roman, now eighty years old, has been responsible for the success of many Causes, Jesuit and others. Along with Father Thomas Coffey, S.J., American Vice-Postulator, "we hope that Kateri will soon become another jewel in his crown."

Asian Influenza

R. ANDREW RHODES, Director of the School of Hygiene of the University of Toronto, is rather pessimistic. Millions of Canadians, according to him, will suffer from Asiatic influenza come this autumn and early winter. There will be fatalities among them. He fears that the influenza which, although mild in the Orient, has caused many deaths; will be quite virulent in North American.

A medical opinion, fortunately not yet verified in the case of the present epidemic, holds that a virus becomes more and more malignant as it spreads. "Nothing can stop it from coming to Canada", Dr. Rhodes is quoted as saying, "and those susceptible to it will be the aged, the very young, and those suffering from a heart condition. Anyone in good health should be able to get rid of it, after an attack lasting approximately three days, marked by fever, a dry cough, and neuralgia."

The public will be instructed to observe certain precautions. Vaccination will be counselled with a new vaccine developed during the summer months at the Institute of Microbiology of the University of Montreal and at the Connaught laboratories in Toronto and elsewhere. You will be advised to stay away from crowds, and if the virus attacks you, to remain in your room apart from others.

May I propose another remedy or preventive? Recourse to Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha! She who was known as the "Protectress of New France", the "New Star of the New World", will certainly intercede for us in Canada and the United States. As a little child of four, she suffered from an epidemic of small-pox which wiped out half her village,*her Mother, Father, and little Brother, leaving her afflicted with sore eyes for the rest of her life. She will understand our plea . . . if we take the trouble to ask*her help. And ask again.

You are urged to renew your subscription and to obtain new members. If you have already done so, please ignore this request.

Her Life and Her Love Were Marian

(Cont'd)

Intimacy with Mary

Baptism

In St. Peter's chapel, at what is now known as Fonda, N.Y., on Easter Sunday, 1676, Father de Lamberville baptised her, calling her Catherine, in Iroquois, Kateri.

A child of God

After she became "a child of God", as she grew to know better and better "the qualities, the power and the glory of Our Lady", Kateri's love for Mary became more tender and profound. This love found its expression in her inlimacy with Mary.

Two manifestations

Each day she recited the entire Rosary, was always faithful to her Angelus, learned by heart the Litanies of Our Lady, and said them frequently.

Sundays and on Holy Days of obligation, after attendance at mass, the group recitation of the Rosary was customary among the Christians of the Mission. Kateri never omitted this practice, but it succeeded in exasperating her people. Harsh words, and, eventually, cruelty were applied to induce her to work in the cornfields on these days; finally, she was even deprived of food. "A person who does not work," she was told, "does not eat!" Kateri's love for Our Blessed Mother prevented her, despite constant persecution, from doing anything displeasing to Her Son!

Imitation of Mary

Flight

To protect her divine Son, Our Lady left her country and fled to Egypt. Kateri imitated her, abandoning her little Indian village to come to a land where she could serve her Lord as she should.

As time went on, persecution had become so intense that her spiritual guide, Father de Lamberville, urged her to flee to the Christian Indian Mission of St. Francis Xavier on the banks of the St. Lawrence.

At first she hesitated, but, one day, after a young brave threatened her life, she decided, that should the opportunity present itself, she would run away to Canada.

The visit of Hot Ashes, an Oneida chief, a staunch convert and relative of Kateri, and of a Christian Huron provided the desired occasion. One morning, after her uncle's departure for a visit with the Dutch at Fort Orange, today Albany, she set out on the two hundred and fifty mile trek to distant New France.

Haven

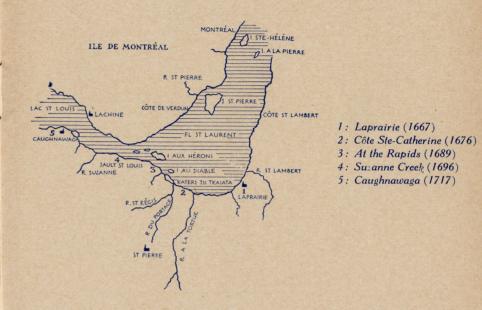
Once within the refuge of the stockade on the St. Lawrence, Kateri continued imitating her wonderful model... At Fatima, Lourdes and La Salette, the Blessed Virgin asked Catholics to pray and to make sacrifices in order to save the world.

Prayer

Although little Kateri had prayed fervently at Ossernenon, her spirit of prayer now further increased. Each day she assisted at two masses. She was permitted to receive her first Holy Communion the Christmas day after her arrival without the ordinary year of preparation. Thereafter she communicated as often as possible and made spiritual communions throughout the day.

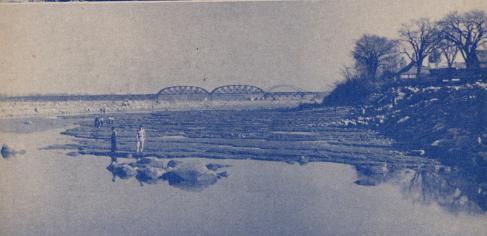
(To be continued)

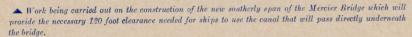
The Seaway and the Mission



The Mission of St. Francis Xavier was founded by Father Peter Raffeix, S.J., in 1667 at what is today Laprairie. Ouebec. In the course of centuries it moved five times. Kateri died at the second site in 1680. Excavation at the fourth site (1696-1717), recently rediscovered, upon land expropriated by the St. Lawrence Seaway, will be renewed at the expense of Kateri's Cause by the time you will be reading these lines. Fathers Jacques de Lamberville, S.J., and Jacques Bruyas, S.J., intimately connected with the Lilv of the Mohawks, are believed to be buried there. Practically all the riverside from Kateri's cenotaph at Côte Ste-Catherine to the western limit of present-day Caughnawaga is being transformed into an immense canal, which is changing the physical aspect of the Mission. The KATERI bulletin owes it to its subscribers to show them a few aspects of this gigantic undertaking.







▶ Part of the South Shore of the St. Lawrence River near Caughnawaga that has been laid bare for excavation of the Seaway channel.





▲ Nearly a mile of the completed channel lies in a curve beside the Lachine Rapids close to the fourth site of the Mission.

▲ At Côte Ste-Catherine, where Kateri died, the chamber of the lock will contain 24,000,000 gallons of water. The towering walls are still rising as can be noted by the forms for concrete, upper right. Gantry cranes in background lift buckets of concrete brought to their feet by trucks and pour contents into the forms. Length of the lock will be 867 feet, width 80 feet.

THE STORY OF A NEW BOOK

by its Author

Evelyn Brown

TN the late Fall of 1955 I was asked by Farrar, Straus and L Cudahy, Inc. of New York to write a book for their Vision series on the life of some hero or saint.

"Why don't you write on Kateri Tekakwitha?" someone asked me one day while I was still in search of a subject.

"Who was she?" I asked. "You see I've been a Catholic only ten years and I haven't yet caught up on all the saints."

Briefly Kateri's life was outlined for me. I was intrigued. I had just finished my first book "Educating Eve", a work which had been guite exhausting for its author, and the thought of now living in imagination the life of a simple Indian girl, was destined first of all for young people, and Kateri's brief life span seemed particularly appropriate to the age group of my readers.

Kateri. Not even the person my mind off my own miseries, subject knew that 1956 was to be the tercentenary of her birth. future.

Scarcely had I begun the research work when I became suddenly and seriously ill. Struck from my eyes to my feet with a form of rheumatoid arthritis, I lay for many weeks without the use of my limbs.

A Jesuit priest who had guided me to research sources before my illness visited me in the hospital. "When I heard what had happened to you," he said, "I didn't worry. I just thought, this will bring her nearer to Kateri."

While I wished with all my heart that I could get nearer to Kateri running around on my legs, I rather wistfully saw his point. However, at that moment I saw no relation between my illness and a book, attractive and refreshing. Be- since I had no remote thought sides that, this second book was of ever writing one. Nevertheless I continued to think of Kateri and to ask her to pray for my recovery.

It was the middle of March while still in hospital that I That very day I went off in began to read again on the search of some literature on subject. At least it would take who had suggested her as my I thought, and keep me from worrying about an uncertain

My spiritual director kindly ed to my body, a book began brought me books from the to take shape in my imagination. University library. As I delved more deeply into the customs and mentality of the Iroquois against its own colourful and crude background, the miracle of her purity became ever more hauntingly beautiful.

Slowly I regained the use of my limbs and was able to make notes with a few odd fingers. One discovery after another kindled my interest. In "Moeurs des Sauvages Américains" by Father Lafitau, written in old 18th century French I picked up a priceless pearl of information; he told of a little plant a taxi drove up to the door and believed by the early Iroquois to possess the power to heal, only when plucked by the hands of a virgin. If such respect for virginity had already existed among the Iroquois, it must have persisted in the subconscious mind of the tribe and it would only take someone pure in heart like Kateri to give it new meaning and a Christian orientation.

During my convalescence at home I was still unable to do more than read and make untidy notes. But the long enforced periods of rest favored meditation, and day by day, seated alone, with the silence all around me, I relived in my Gradually as wholeness return- panion in the work.

April came; it was the deadline for an outline and sample chapters. Although I had not and began to see Kateri's life yet the strength to tackle the creative work. I wrote to my editors explaining my predicament and asking for some weeks more of grace. Most willingly they granted this.

One day I reached the point in my research where I could go no further without seeing Father Béchard, the Vice Postulator of Kateri's cause for Rome. I could not attempt the trip to Caughnawaga to see him yet. The very next day a tall Jesuit got out. To my delight it was Kateri's friend, Father Béchard!

From that time on I had Father Béchard's patient and kindly help, right up to the very last bit of the work.

Slowly, painfully at first, I began my book. Month by month I offered a Mass in Kateri's honor asking her help and inspiration in the work.

Kateri Tekakwitha, Mohawk Maid is a reality now in the hands of its publishers, and will be released in 1958. If there is anything of beauty in this book it is due to the help and the many prayers of devoted priests and friends and to Kateri, mind and heart the life of Kateri. my constant and devoted com-

LETTERS TO KATERI

(When acknowledging favors to Kateri, be sure to indicate details.)

PENETANG, ONT., July 11, 1957: Please find enclosed my dollar which I had promised Kateri at the beginning of my pregnancy. I am now the proud mother of my third baby and am now in the best of health and so is the baby. I will continue to pray to Kateri and please use the

money for any good cause. Mrs. M. M.
CHICAGO, ILL., July 2: Kateri is truly
a wonder-worker. Through her intercession my sister's health was restored.
I will forward more of an offering again

soon. Miss G. LaG.

ROCKVILLE CENTER, N.Y., July 20: I gratefully thank God for granting me another great blessing through the intercession of the Lily of the Mohawks. My daughter has given birth to a son "normal in mind and body". I now pray this little child will learn to love and some day perhaps serve Him. Again I humbly acknowledge and thank God for His goodness to me. Mrs. E. F. C. PHILADELPHIA, PA., July 28: Enclosed

please find another small donation promised Kateri for a safe plane trip with my children and also a list of some of my friends in whom I am hoping you will find subscribers. I am sure that if you mention my name in seeking the subcriptions it may awaken their interest knowing that a friend of theirs has a personal interest in Kateri also. Mrs.

MONTREAL, P.Q., August 10: About a year ago I followed the advice of my mother, by making a promise to recite my rosary each evening, to offer a mass and communion each week for the beatification of Kateri. I had many requests to make. I am a mother of six children. And naturally I am concerned about their spiritual and bodily welfare. I wish to tell you that my prayers have been heard beyond all expectations. Twice I received money which could come only from heaven, something totally unexpected. In February 1957, I gave birth to a seventh child at the age of forty-three after having passed nine months of suffering and worry of all sorts. My child was born in perfect health without any infirmity. I again believe in Kateri's intervention in this case for during all this pain and suffering, I asked her to take care of my child. I believe that by writing to you I am accomplishing a duty of gratitude towards her. Mme P. E. S. DAYTON, OHIO, July 22: Enclosed is

five dollars in thanksgiving to Kateri for the sale of a home my daughter and her husband built. In thanksgiving also to Kateri for preventing my daughter from buying some worthless ground. Please accept the money to help the cause of Kateri and please remember our inten-

tions in your prayers. Mrs. R. J. W.
WINDSOR, ONT., July 9: Enclosed
please find five dollars that we promised to Kateri if she would solve a refrigerator problem. We had spent so much money having it repaired several times and then on Saturday it started to run again and would not stop. Being the weekend and wanting to make a day of recollection on Sunday, we found it impossible to get a repairman. So we prayed to Kateri and during the family rosary, a thought came to me to lower the thermostat. thas been running and stopping regularly since. Thanks to our dear Lord and Kateri! Mr. & Mrs. J. D.

MONTREAL, P.Q., July 31: I promised that I would write you if I obtained the cure of my feet. This is my difficulty:

I work nights and I remain standing from nine to ten hours. My feet hurt me so much that I did not know what to do about it. I prayed to Kateri requesting that she cure me. I have obtained my favor and now my feet are cured. Work is pleasant for me now. A big "thank you" to Kateri! I will say a Hail Mary each day to hasten her beatification. Mme C. L. ST. HYACINTHE, P.O., July 25: The

first favor I obtained from Kateri concerned a raise of twenty dollars a month for rent after having undertaken a big cleaning at the apartment occupied by my daughter and her family. On visiting them at St. Hyacinthe, I found tham quite surprised by this raise. To console them, since I had heard of Kateri Tekakwith athrough another benefactor living at Waterloo, P.Q., I advised them to go with all their receipts resulting from their moving, and settle their case with the St. Hyacinthe Rentals Board, taking, meanwhile, good Kateri Tekakwitha as protectress. The Rentals Board reduced it to an eight dollar a month increase

instead of twenty dollars!... Mr. L. A. G.
ST. BONIFACE, MAN., June 5: The
Catholic Girl Guides of St. Boniface in the past years often implored the intercession of Kateri Tekakwitha, the young and admirable Iroquois. Believe me, it was not in vain even from a temporal or spiritual viewpoint. The last two years. we have organized a tag-day; the sale of miniature tents representing our summer camp, the sale of flowers made by the Guides. These tag-days are a means of obtaining enough money to finance the Guides during the summer, since all have not the means to pay for their two-week stay at camp. Last year and the year before we sent to Caughnawaga to have

our request made to Kateri. The sales proceeds were beyond every expectation. We also attribute to Kateri Tekakwitha the gift of fifty dollars which arrived quite unexpectedly, no request nor de-mand having ever been made. Surely, it is Kateri again who has thus helped us with such a generous donation. A thousand thanks to her! All the Guides, and the Brownies, of St. Boniface will fervently pray to obtain her beatification. Miss G. B.

NORTH ADAMS, MASS., July 8: Please renew my subscription and send me a Kateri novenna . . . I received favors from her as she pulled me through a difficult operation . . . Now I am asking her aid again . . . Mrs. M. G.

MONTREAL, P.Q., July 27: For three years I have been suffering from a nervous breakdown. In June 1956 I promised Kateri to say each day a decade of my beads for her beatification and since then I have noticed a gradual change. All thanks to Kateri! Now I feel well enough and I partly attribute this im-provement to Kateri, since I was also under the doctor's care for eighteen months without any results. I am offering each day a decade of my beads for her cause. Mme G. L.

MONTREAL, P.O., July 4: Having been obliged to go to the hospital as a result of a nervous breakdown, I am now much better. And I believe I owe it to Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha to whom a good friend advised me to pray. Please receive this offering of two dollars in gratitude for what she had done for me. Mme N. R.

WALLINGFORD, CONN., July 3: Enclosed is two dollars for our dear Kateri. I could not find a receipt and prayed to Kateri to help me find it. I found it immediately. I am also praying that the Blessed Virgin Mary will make Kateri our Saint. Mrs. M. G.

MONTREAL, P.Q., June 17: This is just a word of thanks to her whom I call my Kateri. She obtained for me about twenty favors including help with motor trouble and the cure of my sick children. This gives me wings to climb stairs in distributing "Ma Paroisse" (a monthly French publication featuring an article on Kateri). This five dollars is part of my promise to Kateri. Please place my needs at her feet. Here are a few names of people whom I believe are interested in Kateri's cause . . . Mr. G. B.

SPOKANE, WASH., June 3: Would you send me another statue of Kateri? Father John Buchanan, S.J., who is building the Copper Valley School at Grand Allan credits her with financial help he has been so lucky in getting. He asked for the one I had: He said she has been a tremendous help to him and the huge project in Alaska. Father Buchanan said it was the nicest he had ever seen. Many thanks again, Father. I will remember you in my prayers and start a novenna for the beatification of Kateri. Mrs. C. D. MONTREAL, P.Q., July 7: I am sending

you a check of ten dollars in thanksgiving to Kateri for favors obtained. My husband had been out of work for three months. I prayed to Kateri and a few days after he found a job. I also promise a daily Our

Father during a year to hasten her beatification. Mme M. R.
MONTREAL, P.O., July 8: I am now coming to accomplish a promise made to Kateri if she would help me in a very critical situation. As she heard my plea, I am forwarding a twenty dollar check for her beatification. Ask her to obtain for me an even greater favor which she knows about. I have placed it in her hands. I pray to her each day. I have a picture of her which belonged to one of my sisters. Publish this letter if you think it will be of any help to her canoni-

zation. Mile E. P.
MONTREAL, P.Q., June 20: I wish to inform you of what I have just obtained from Kateri. I am thirty years old and since the age of sixteen I am subject to lumbago attacks. With the years these attacks have become more frequent, lasting many days. I must then get to bed for my back then becomes crooked and I have much difficulty in moving because of the pain. These attacks come unexpectedly without any warning. Yesterday one of these attacks took me and I could barely walk. As the pain increased gradually, I anticipated several days of forced rest. I have four little children who need me very much. I prayed to Kateri and this morning on arising the pain had disappeared leaving me with only great fatigue. I continue to pray to Kateri so that she will deliver me definitely from this pain. I also pray to her for three

this pain. I also pray to her for three other favors concerning three of my children. Mme M. G.

MONTREAL, P.Q., June 6: Enclosed one dollar for Kateri's cause. My last child born May 9 has been kateri. Mme M. B.

"Kateri" will now have its French counterpart. It will be of a different format and presentation. Subscription rates: \$1.00 per six issues — to appear whenever the Cause can afford it . . .

THE VICE-POSTULATOR'S DIARY

July 31, feast of St. Ignatius, brought

The Rev. A. Favreau, S. I.. was transferred from the College of St. Boniface, Man., to Caughnawaga. We are also expecting the Rev. E. Lalande, S.I., another China hand, who at the time of this writing is on the high seas on his way from Formosa to Canada.

The Rev. A. Burns, past pastor and professor at our Indian High School. for many years stationed at the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, will teach English at the University of Sudbury. To Father Burns, onetime Associate Editor of "Kateri", our prayerful good wishes for many happy years in Sudbury, his place of origin.

In The Montreal Star, July 11, 1957, Mr. Harold Poitras wrote: "The smallest musuem in Canada, with probably the rarest collection of exhibits, is in process of developing in an eight-by-eight-foot former powderhouse of ancient Fort St. Louis in Caughnawaga.

The museum is being developed by the Jesuit Fathers serving at St. Francis Xavier Mission - one of the oldest Christian centres in North America. The mission is now estabblished within the walls of Fort St. Louis, built in 1725

The exhibits are all early Indian material, many dating back to prewhite times. Most were found during the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway at former camping grounds of the Mohawk tribe of the Iroquois nation.

Exhibits were uneathed by Rev. quite a few changes to the Mission. The Henri Béchard, S.J., and Dr. Wilfrid Rev. C. Cossette, S. J., a missionary to Jury, of the University of Western China for many years, is now with us. Ontario during the past three years

just east of the present Caughnawaga settlement.

They provide the viewer with an excellent opportunity of seeing the difference between the original Indian - made smoking pipes and those which came into existence after the tobacco-smoking habit spread in Europe.

There is also a collection of early Roman Catholic medals, fashioned in catlinite, a red Mississipi clay, bearing a handengraving of a cross, plus Iroquois ornaments and beads.

In addition, there are 18th century Europeanmade thimbles, pottery, glassware, rings, bracelets,

scissors, needles, eveless fishhooks, an old straight razor (believed to have been used by an early Jesuit father), pincers, spoons, spigots, sword handles, flint rocks, bucket handles, tools and hoes.

The most priceless exhibit is a 1720 desk on which Rev. Francois-Xavier Charlevoix, historian for the King of France, wrote his three original volumes on New France, which were published in 1744.

Because of limited space, the desk and books (recently donated by Mr. David Stewart) are exhibited in the main building of the old mission house, which contains many souvenirs of early pioneer days. The desk, with drawers two inches thick, has a built-in foot warmer in which bricks were placed.



Fr. Albert Burns, S.J.

BERNARD DE HOYOS, S.J.

To help Kateri's Cause, won't you add your name to the "Sponsors All!" list on the cover page? 1000 sponsors are needed to enable the V.-Postulator to publish his manuscript: THE VISIONS OF BERNARD DE HOYOS, S.J., a young Spanish mystic favored by the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In return, the Sacred Heart, according to His promises, will shower down abundant blessings on Kateri's Cause.

Father Hoyos' life in another century, in a distant land, and along the mystic way is definitely outside the commonplace. The chapter titles are quite revealing:

Down the Royal Road - A Jesuit, Perhaps? - The Novitiate -A New Land — Peeled Onions and Washed Floors — Fire Into His Bones - The Baroque Angel - The Ape - The Three Strands - Plague at Medina — The Immaculate Heart of Mary — A Vision of Hell — 'My Heart is Ready' - The Mystical Marriage - In Sickness and in Health — Death and Resurrection — Theology at Valladolid — The Promise to Spain - 'My Affairs and Yours' - The Retreat of 1733 — 'Expand and Unfold' — The Hidden Treasure — Another Sacrament of Love — In Preparation — A Priest Forever — A Copper Plate - Sins of Impurity - The Vision Everlasting.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND FUNDS NOW

I promise to pay Kateri the special price offered to her friends (approximately \$3.50 a copy) upon reception within the next year and a half of

The Visions of Bernard de Hovos, S. I., Apostle of the Sacred Heart

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