

## Hurricane Hazel

### Bradford West Gwillimbury Local History Association

**Length: 1 hour, 47 minutes, and 47 seconds**

The host of this special meeting (*whom we can assume to be Barbara Verney*) held by the Bradford West Gwillimbury Local History Association explains that this will be an afternoon where different speakers share their experiences of Hurricane Hazel. She hopes everyone will enjoy. They will start with the people who were actually on the marsh that night.

Barbara starts off by reading a story that a member of the Verkaik family asked her to share. Jerry Verkaik was 17 at the time. He took the family's John Deere tractor and carried people to his father's home (Harry Verkaik) on the north side of the dyke. They eventually had about 80 people there. At around four in the morning, the hurricane subsided so he and Ari\*Moore took a row boat to help rescue others. The waves were too strong; they got to his Uncle Jacob Verkaik's house in Springdale where they found another 70 people. They were all eventually rescued by motor boats.

*(New Speake; name is not given but it can be assumed to be Art Janse)* He lived west of the 400 where his father had a place. They stayed in the house overnight. Everyone knew that there would soon be a flood. At about seven o'clock at night, (at that time they just had a party line) the phone kept ringing and everyone was listening and knew there was something wrong. They heard that the dike just broke (west of the 400). Anyone that was in the marsh had to get to higher ground. They stayed in their home, but the basement flooded up to the sixth step. The next morning they came around in a row boat and said that everyone needed to evacuate. The speaker was 16 at the time. People in the Verkaik house were sleeping on the ground all over the place for a few days. At that time there was confusion about what to do in a situation like this so the army came in and dug some dikes and fixed the bridge so trucks could go over top of it. The army was a great group of workers and worked the machines hard. They managed to get the dikes filled. The government had a man there making sure their money was being used properly to fix everything. That man had a thing for dynamite and made them use to make the dikes but it did not work so they tried to use it in the ditch. They cut the sticks of dynamite in half and used it in a ditch but it was too strong and they tried cutting it into fourths but then it wouldn't go off and that was the end of the dynamite. The 400 Highway had lots of debris so it was closed and had to be cleared off.

*(New Speaker; Ann Tripp)* She and her husband had just moved out from Toronto the year before. They lived in a trailer until they finished building their house in July. The night of

the hurricane, her husband had talked to the neighbours who said it was going to get very wet there and that they should leave for a few days. She was pregnant at the time and agreed to go away for a few days but did not realize that they would be gone for six months. She believes they were the last car out of the marsh before the dike broke. It broke right in front of her house (but of course they weren't there). The water level settled about 2 inches above her front door. She remembers that it was pouring rain as they drove up Simcoe Road. There was quite a steep hill and as they came up there was a man on the side of Simcoe Road with a tow truck and a winch. He was winching his cattle up from the pasture because it was too muddy for the cows to be able to move. As they came down the main street in Bradford, the water was over the bridge and all the vegetable baskets were bobbing along. They stayed in Toronto until the baby was born and then they went back home. By that time, the house was fixed up.

*(New Speaker; Herbie Hughes)* He was Reeve at the time and was called at seven o'clock. ... He was heading into Bradford and the rain was coming down in streams. ... The lumber from ... was all floating across the road. He slammed his foot on the brake but the car kept going sideways. When he got into Amsterdam, many people were running in all directions. He believes that only one man died in the flooding, from a heart attack. That night, at about three o'clock, George Horlings\* asked him to go ... He remembers going across the Springdale Church grounds. The water was that deep (*gestures*) and he pulled out ... (*name is inaudible*). In the Church, the piano had floated into the toilet. They were lucky that they didn't lose more people that night.

The host reads another story that someone has given to her to share, written by Phyllis Coulten. This person was at work in Milton at the time and knew it was raining heavily with high winds. They came out of work at five o'clock and the wind turned their umbrella inside out. There were four or five inches of rain in the parking lot but they just walked through it. They lived in Woodbridge. They had no power and the phones were out of order so they went to bed. Their brother was out celebrating his birthday and couldn't phone or get home. All bridges leading to Woodbridge were washed out. The next morning they woke up not knowing what had happened. They walked down to #7 and Islington Avenue and saw that the bridge was gone. There were people that wanted to get through but they didn't make it; they were washed down the river. At the other end of town, people were brought out by whale boats\*. There was a trailer park that was gone and in one area, you could only see the rooftops of houses. They were lucky to be safe.

George Jackson speaks on behalf of Vicky Marks, whom he had interviewed a few weeks ago. He says that what follows is a recount of that interview. On October 15<sup>th</sup>, the Marks family received a phone call informing them that things were not good on the marsh, as the dikes had broken on the Springdale side. They were living on Strawberry Lane and decided to leave

because the water was coming in. The Marks family, along with their neighbours the Eeks, headed towards Highway 400. As they went further west, the water got deeper and there was lots of debris so they decided to turn around. However, now the ditches were full and could not be seen so they felt around for the edge of the road with their feet and turned the car around carefully.

The Eeks were dropped off at a family in Holland Landing and the Marks came to Bradford to stay with ... Wyman (*first name is inaudible*) across from Town Hall. There was a knock at the door and it was Jody\* Marks, informing them that there were all kinds of people in town sitting in their cars and not knowing what to do. Jody\* said she would get in touch with the Reeve, Art Evans, to see if he would open the town hall to accommodate these people. The Marks and the Wymans went and told all the people in the cars to go to Town Hall. By eleven o'clock on the night of Hurricane Hazel, the town had an emergency relief centre open to those who were forced out of their homes on the marsh. That night, the army from Borden brought down cots and blankets to set up in the Town Hall. Helicopters and boats were also used by the army to try and rescue people. They called the residents of Bradford, asking them to take in any families that were flooded out of their homes. This continued through the week. Almost immediately, the women in town arranged to provide meals at the Town Hall. Three meals a day were provided for the next three to four weeks. Most of the food was donated and the people who prepared the meals were volunteers. In time, the Salvation Army received many donations of clothing and household goods and operated out of the ... located on the south side of John Street, west of Barrie Street. The Red Cross was also present.

*(New Speaker, Ken Tupling)* At the time of Hurricane Hazel, Ken was the third treasurer of the municipality and also second treasurer of the Holland Landing Drainage Commission. The Commission was set up by West Gwillimbury so the funds were its responsibility. Aside from the administrative standpoint, his first recollection of Hurricane Hazel was being in the office around 5:30pm. Everyone seemed to be worried; phone calls were coming in and nobody knew what to do. Him and ... Stoddart\* (*first name is inaudible*) went into the township's garage and there was a big truck that was used for snow plowing and hauling gravel. Stoddart\* would drive and Ken would hold the safety brake. Mrs. Ruth Kneeshaw's brother Joe Wood was with them. They went down 88 and the 400, which is flooding. As Ken looked out the window, the 400 Highway was starting to cave away so they pulled the break and stopped the truck. Joe Wood (who Ken calls a hero) got out of the truck into the storm, tied a rope to the truck, and put the other end over his shoulder. He started walking down the 400 Highway, feeling for the road with his feet and guiding the truck. They were unable to get to the marsh so they turned the truck around. In the median, a small Volkswagen was stuck with a couple and two small children sitting on top of it. They saved the family and drove back to Bradford.

The members of the Holland Marsh Drainage Commission were Mr. Hughes, Elton\* Armstrong, Peter O’Kife\*, Frank Francis\*, and Ben Steers. These people were responsible for many things that were done in the wake of Hurricane Hazel. He describes some committees that were formed following Hurricane Hazel. There was a Central Committee, Agricultural Committee (looked after crop damages), Flood Homes and Building Assistance Board (looked after structural damage), and Holland Marsh Emergency Relief Committee. The Lions Club, Rotary Club, and Art Evans were all deeply involved in the success of the community after Hazel. George Horlings was essential for the committees. The marsh was formed and maintained under the Municipal Drainage Act through the province of Ontario so they asked the province for assistance but were turned down. The township’s municipal drainage engineer was W. G. McGeorge\* who was Canada's leading authority on drainage. Years prior, he had actually assisted in writing the Municipal Drainage Act. He came to Bradford from Chatham and stayed with the speaker and his wife for a week, sleeping on the couch. George Carson was another person who helped out. He was the owner of the Riverview Inn and rented boats out to go fishing. He donated a lot of his time and nine boats (seven of which were never returned to him). Professor Scott from the Ontario Agriculture College in Guelph set up a repair system for agriculture equipment and did a great job. 180 full sized tractors and 210 smaller machines were repaired there at no cost to the grower.

There was a meeting on Sunday morning following the hurricane. The speaker was the clerk treasurer and in attendance were the Chairman of Ontario Hydro (Mr. Saunders), the Premier of Ontario (Mr. Frost), and others. The speaker remembers that the Premier looked at him and asked for the bank manager whom he gave \$100,000 to start spending to rebuild and clean the canals. Mr. Saunders said that he knew where there was a diesel pump that would be helpful and sent it to the marsh; it is still in use today. He also got them a helicopter to use. The speaker would like to note that Holland Marsh is a multicultural area in which people get along very well; the rest of the world could learn something from this community.

*(New Speaker; John Rupke)* The speaker goes back to when it all started on Friday night at five or six o’clock. It had been raining for about three or four days prior to that time, and was still raining. At 6:30, he went for a walk and remembers seeing that the water was starting to run over the dike after about 15 minutes. The canal had never been that high in his memory. He drove across the north bridge and when he came back to cross it again a bit later, the water was a foot deep and he couldn’t get across. He went home and told his wife there was going to be a flood and they had to get out; he told her to put all the possessions up as high as possible. Before he left he called the neighbours and told them they should get out of the area. The speaker went to tell one of his hired men to get out but he did not want to leave. The man had two little girls and the speaker and his driver grabbed one each, hoping the man would follow (which he did). They took the 400 Highway and got as far south as Highway 7; they were

headed for ...Motel which was just off of Highway 7. They went downhill to Woodbridge and the firemen there were trying to keep the arena dry; pumping for all they were worth. They got to the top of the hill but there was a depression with water and the speaker could see tow trucks pulling out cars that were stuck. As he was debating whether to attempt to go through, a car drove past him into the water which was about 20 feet and the water shoved it into the guard rail and down a hill. He remembers there being a man, woman, and child in the vehicle. They spent the night at his sister's house in Toronto. When he went back to marsh the next morning, everyone in the marsh thought he had died because they did not know he left but were all glad to see he was safe. The speaker mentions that George Horlings\* was a great organizer and leader.

*(New Speaker; Bill DePeuter\*)* Going back to a few days before the hurricane, it was raining and they couldn't do much on the fields so they went for a ride to the city. They had a hard time coming back in the evening because the bridges were out in Schomberg. They managed to get home and were old not to worry because if the water got too high they'd come and get them. However, when the water started rising it rose too fast for anyone to get to them. Their family had immigrated to Canada four or five months earlier and did not have any transportation except for a 1934 car which was not running. While the water was coming up they were worrying about the furniture they brought over with them. They tried to move what they could upstairs because water was coming in. They stuffed the doors with rags and boarded up openings. The water rose all around them and eventually the house was lifted off its foundations and carried to the road. Somehow the house still had hydro for a period of time. The family consisted of his father and mother, 12 children, and a boy from next door; they were all in the house upstairs as it was floating. At the time, the speaker was 20 years old and the oldest of the children. They had a buddy system in place in case the house went down. After a number of hours, the house actually just went around in circles because of the currents made by the dikes breaking. They finally ended up on the service road by the Davis farm. They saw traffic going by slowly on the 400 and they started shouting and waving for help. Eventually someone stopped and contacted the army. They came from Camp Borden with trucks, boats, and volunteers and got them out of the house. They took them to Bradford; it was the first time the speaker had ever been in the Town Hall. There were dry clothes provided for them at the Town Hall; they were very thankful to the community.

*(New Speaker, Roy Storey\*)* The speaker came back from work and helped the fire department sandbag the river until four o'clock in the morning (he was a volunteer fire fighter). A few days later, they started building a hydro line for the pumps on the dike because the marsh was all flooded. There used canoes and row boats to go across the marsh string wires. They had to put up the line along the highway and put poles in. They worked night and day at this.

George Jackson speaks on behalf of Nick Juranic\*. He lives just west of the pump house on the south side. George references pictures that were taken on the day of Hurricane Hazel, October 15<sup>th</sup>. They were taken on Nick's\* property on the Canal Bank Road, Lot 11. He and his neighbours were trying to stop the water from going across the road. They had bags but no sand so they filled them with gravel but it was unsuccessful. They gave up at around 6:30pm and decided to move to higher ground. They put two chairs together facing each other and put the stove and fridges on top of the chairs to keep them dry. They went upstairs, got their two kids, packed some things, and put drawers on top of the dresser in an attempt to keep them dry. Then they left to stay with a neighbour who lived on higher ground. The next day, they went back home to pack some more clothes. Like many others who had to leave their home in the marsh, they were taken in by a family in Bradford for three days before going to live with his parents in Toronto. They came back to Bradford every few days to see how things were progressing. When the water was finally gone from their area of the marsh, they went back to their house to start to clean; there was mud everywhere.

*(New Speaker, Merv Jessop\*)* Merv\* lives on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sideroad. He says that his story confirms what has been said until now. At 5:45pm, he was trying to get home to his wife who was alone. There was no way in through 5<sup>th</sup> Concession and had to get home using the Sideroad. He wasn't sure if the bridge was still there and he tried to feel for it ... He thought if he had enough speed, he would get to the other side. He did it and arrived home with the car undamaged. He looked around and realized he was an island; the water kept coming up. For them, it was fortunate that the dikes broke because the water went down quickly. The next morning was a shock to him; he remembers looking at the 400 Highway and seeing a car in the middle of it. He got down to look over the marsh and saw vegetables scattered across the highway, as well as the house that had floated down there.

*(New Speaker, Harry VanderKooi\*)* The speaker was living with his parents in ... *(place name is inaudible)* and his father bought land near Highway 400 because he wanted to farm onions. They realized that the land was very soggy and there was always a danger of flooding. On the day of the flood, they were told to evacuate because the marsh would be flooded. They went to Bradford and were taken in by the ... *(family name is inaudible)*. They volunteered to help sandbagging but were told it was no use and that they had to leave. They went back to their house and slept there. When they woke up, the marsh was a lake with houses and debris scattered throughout. He was only involved in the cleanup for a few days afterwards because he was hired in another city.

*(New Speaker, Gord Church)* He was a member of the fire department at the time of the hurricane. He remembers working that whole day and night trying to rescue people. After that,

they decided that they would try to close off the 400 Highway. The south end of the marsh was drained ... After that they went out to the marsh to free tractors that were stuck in the fields. They used tow trucks and boats to pull the machines out of the water (it took 1500 feet of cable). They towed the machines to the township building and did this for about three weeks.

*(New Speaker, Art Kneeshaw)* Art says that Ken Tupling worked for him for a couple of years. Art was clerk treasurer for West Gwillimbury. Art Evans was the Reeve of the town at the time. Art and his wife were living up in an apartment at the time of the hurricane. At around nine o'clock at night, Art Evans came to Art's place and said that they should go down and see how the community was doing. On their way, after seeing how bad the storm was, they decided to go to the fire hall to get help. There was no one there so they called Brookie\* (the telephone operator) and she told them how to ring the emergency bell. The firemen got there quickly. On Sunday, they brought a group of officials from Toronto to see the marsh. When they got there, it looked like Lake Simcoe. Art thinks that seeing the flooding that day was what made the officials give \$100,000 to the town.

*(New Speaker, Frank Miklas\*)* The speaker says that he will not be talking about the marsh. He lived on Dundas Street just east of the old Lambton Bridge. He had just come home from work on Friday night. They lived in an apartment that his father in law had built for them. Water was coming in from the backdoor and there was a drain about 10 feet from the door. They had a pick axe so he made a trench to the drain and it was going down as fast as the rain came in. As they sat down to eat dinner, the phone rang and it was Dad asking for him to bring his hip waders. He lived at Jane and Wilson at the time. He agreed to bring them and drove over in his brand new Ford. He drove up Jane Street and got to the intersection at Wilson Avenue; there was a creek there and water was gushing over. The door on the passenger side of his car somehow opened and water was coming through. He opened the driver's door and the water was going through both sides. He got to his dad's house and his basement had four feet of water in it; all their belongings were covered. He got back in his car and took Weston Road south into Lawrence Avenue; crossing the bridge at Humber on the way. When he got home, his wife had the radio on and was listening to the news. They said the dam holding back the Humber River at Bolton had burst so there was a 60 foot wall of water coming down. The speaker lived about 150 feet away from there and the police were coming around telling everyone to pack up canned goods, get in the car, and get ready to evacuate. ... The speaker remembers the noise as the water came rushing by. The next morning the police asked if anyone had a truck to help pull out bodies ... from the river. He lost quite a few friends in the hurricane who worked for the volunteer fire department: Jimmy Breton\*, ... *(name is inaudible)*, and Kenny Bleacher\*.

*(New Speaker, Muriel Reynolds)* Mrs. Reynolds would like to share some different stories that she has gathered. The Beeton paper had an article this week about Hurricane Hazel. The reason Tecumseth was so severely affected by Hurricane Hazel was because the Tottenham Dam collapsed. This story that is told in the newspaper is about one of the people who went through it. *(Mrs. Reynolds reads the article)* It was approximately 6pm on a Friday night. Fred Woodward and his two sons (Bruce, 14 and Earl, 13) were working on the home they were going to move into the next day. At 9pm the water had created a hole in the dam that was getting bigger. Fred told his sons to get into the attic because the water was coming into their home. They could see outside and the water took the car away. The house moved off its foundations and did a complete somersault and came up on the other side of the 4<sup>th</sup> Line. The house got caught in the current and floated into shore. Earl made it to shore and went to Abrams\* to tell them what was going on. Bruce tried to swim to shore as well but the current was too strong. By this time, Dad had gotten onto the roof and he said to grab onto the nearest log. The house went into shore again and Dad abandoned ship and went to Mr. Hamils\* farm. Bruce was still floating on a log. He could hear the house smashing into the trees. Bruce was told that between 12 to 1am he was found by searchers 20 to 25ft up a tree. The next thing he remembers is waking up in the doctor's office at 2am and was then taken to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Simpson\*.

...We lived in what was called Tecumseth swamp. In that area there were 400 cattle that drowned. 200 of those belonged to ... *(name is inaudible)* in a pasture on the 12<sup>th</sup> line. It had been a wet fall and the ground was saturated before the rain had started. The speaker says she talked to May, Irwin, and Roy Reynolds because of their memorable experiences. At 3am Irwin had a phone call from his neighbour named Murray\* saying that the water was two feet deep and that they needed to get the pigs from the stable to the barn. Irwin went to help him and when he got home he found two feet of water in his basement. They thought the safest thing to do was to get into the car and drive to Roy Reynolds home on the 13<sup>th</sup> Line which was on much higher land. They had problems getting there because there were two small rivers and they were both out. Roy got his tractors, put planks over the river, and guided Irwin's car over both the rivers. They stayed with Roy for two days. The marsh looked like a lake. Roy had some cattle on low land so he set out across farms to find them in water up to his waist. He found nine cows.

... In the afternoon of that day her husband *(it is unclear who the speaker is referring to)* could see that there was a problem coming so he took all the sheep and cattle up into the barn. The girl from Beeton was to be married and the reception was to be held in Beeton. Her responsibility was to bring a fruit salad for 75 people. She remembers sitting in the kitchen, hearing the pouring rain and whining of the animals, preparing the food. They went to bed thinking that the heavy rain wasn't too much too worry about. They woke up the following

morning to the house surrounded by about two feet of water. The dessert got to the wedding, but not many of the guests did. That Sunday they were able to visit some people in the Scotch Settlement and took the fruit salad with them – so it was eaten after all. School was closed for several days because of the flood ... A veterinarian and others were going around to the cattle and trying to save them. They were given an injection of corn syrup mixed with something else to give them some nourishment because they were standing in the water for days; it was not very successful. A week later, on the 11<sup>th</sup> Line, they saw a line at least half a mile long of animal carcasses; these were being brought by boat from pastures out to the road. The company that would collect dead animals came by with a truck and picked up load after load of dead animals. The same day, they drove through Schomberg which was covered in debris.

Cleaning up a basement after a flood is horrible. In their church, from midnight to 5pm the basement was filling with water. Every single thing in the basement up to the wainscoting was covered in mud and the floor had to be hosed down before it could be walked on. Then they carried everything out to the parking lot, hosed it down, and then brought it back into the basement. The two Reynolds families grew corn but it was so wet that they couldn't get their machinery to work. They got a big tractor, put a platform on it, and drove through the fields with knives to harvest the corn by hand. The farmers would have to go from their house to their farm by boat; this lasted about 10 days.

*(New Speaker, Mr. Steers\*)* ... The Cookstown Agricultural Society was at Town Hall in Cookstown and there were a few of them gathered there. At about nine o'clock ... *(name is inaudible)* got there and said that he just went through water on the 400 Highway. They called off the meeting and headed home. When Mr. Steers\* got home, the hydro was still working but when they opened the door ... They mopped water until 12 at night. –Tape cuts out - ... he couldn't come home the way he had gone out because he couldn't get through so he went north ... By the time he got to Bradford, they said they had gotten everybody off the marsh. ... They had people staying with them for two weeks. One thing the flood did was bring people of different nationalities together and developed an attitude of cooperation that still exists today. The speaker has spent over 70 years in West Gwillimbury and seven years in Bradford; he came from England when he was two years old and he'll be 90 years old next spring.

*(New Speaker, Marija Kojic\*)*. The speaker says she lived on Centre Street on the marsh. She got married six years prior to the hurricane on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1954. Her husband was already ... sleeping. Their telephone was connected to 15 different houses and all she heard on the line was the word flood said repeatedly. She woke her husband up and told him to get the car ready. They picked up a nearby family with three children that did not have a car and drove to Bradford; to the Salvation Army. She saw a picture of her house taken from a helicopter after the hurricane.

The host of this meeting says that she will be sharing the memories of the late Sunny\* Evans, Mrs. Charlie Evans. She submitted this article based on a speech that she gave; the host found it in the Women's Institute book, the Tweedsmuir book. She says, on night of October 15th she was playing bridge with neighbours. They heard that volunteer firemen were bringing marsh families to the Town Hall. She went home and she and Charlie gathered up tea, coffee, dried milk, sugar, socks, and other things to bring to Town Hall. There were three or four other women there and half a dozen families already. The second floor of the town hall was turned into a dormitory for the single men. Many of the marsh families stayed in Bradford with other families for ten days to three weeks.

That same night, Charlie and several other men got food from shopkeepers. They served soup and coffee until midnight. She went home at around 3:30am and Charlie came home at 5:00am with a family to stay at their house. At 6:00am she was back at the Town Hall where other women were as well. The presidents of the women's groups (the Women's Institute, the knitting club, the IODE) organized hot meals. They decided that they would have stew on Saturday and they cooked all day. All the vegetables were donated by the packing plants and storekeepers donated all the other foods. Sandwiches, coffee, and tea were sent down to the workers in the marsh. They decided to make roast beef for Sunday. Each club was given a specific task: the Rotary Club was in charge of housing, the Lion's Club was in charge of food supplies, the firemen were responsible for the distribution of clothing (which the Salvation Army took over later), and the women's groups were responsible for making and planning the meals. Martha Evans\* was in charge of meal planning. They decided breakfast would be from 6 to 8am, lunch at 11:30 to 1:30, and and dinner from 5:30-7:30pm. The men working in the marsh were fed at various times throughout the day.

After the first week, St. John's Ambulance of Toronto came in and helped from 10pm to 6am for 10 days. On the second Sunday after the floods, St. John's Ambulance of Barrie came and did a 24 hour shift. Kate Atkin\* (who used to be on the radio) visited the town and asked Sunny Evans to appear on a broadcast. They made up boxes for families with toiletries and other necessities inside which were distributed by the Rotary Club. The last box was given out on January the 26<sup>th</sup>. Altogether, there were 2500 boxes packed at the marsh and 300 were packed in the Town Hall. Doctors persuaded the Red Cross to provide beds and bedding for a temporary hospital in the Community Hall at Bond Head. It was staffed by women of Bond Head, with a registered nurse always on duty. Other than colds, there was never a serious sickness. The merchants in town were very generous by donating food as needed, not knowing if they would ever be reimbursed. On the Monday after the flood, a representative from the Provincial Department of Welfare came to town and advised that all food bills were to be paid if the work was done by volunteers. Sunny included a quote from Matthew ... (*last name is*

*inaudible*) at the end of her speech, “If any a time comes when women work together simply and solely for the benefit of mankind, it will be a power that which the world has never known”. The host thanks everyone for coming and sharing their memories. – Tape cuts out -

*\* Indicates that the word or name is written as it sounded, and therefore may be incorrect.*

*... Indicates that the speaker is inaudible.*