

EDITORIALBristol FLF Farewell Tour - Sunday, August 23rd.

A booking form for this tour is enclosed with this news sheet, and members should note that all bookings should be made to Mrs E. Delahoy, 58. Eastbourne Grove, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 0QF. This tour will provide members with an excellent opportunity to ride on one of the few remaining Bristol FLF6LX's, and, as members will note elsewhere in this news sheet, the final vehicles of this type are likely to be delicensed imminently. The tour starts and finishes at Hadleigh and picking up points will be at Tarpots Corner, Basildon (Bus Station) and Southend (Seaway Car Park Entrance, Chancellor Road).

The Last Bristol FLF In Service From Hadleigh (HH) Depot

The Company has asked the Group to publicise the arrangements for the last service journeys of a Bristol FLF6LX from Hadleigh (HH) depot. The final day will be Friday, July 31st, and the vehicle will be operating on service 3 throughout the day. The rota of journeys will be the 0645, 0945, 1245, 1545, 1845 and finally the 2145 hrs. journeys from Shoeburyness (East Beach). Group members are invited to travel on the bus during the day, and the Company is hoping to publicise the event locally beforehand giving additional information about the vehicle concerned.

London Country Open Day At Grays Garage - Saturday, August 22nd.

London Country are holding an open day at Grays garage on Saturday, August 22nd., and the Group's sales stand will be present with our full range of publications, photographs and other items.

Essex County Council Publications

A new timetable booklet for the Colchester/Clacton/Harwich area dated July 1981 has recently been published by Essex County Council. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Denfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ.) at £0-30p each plus £0-30p postage and packing for each timetable.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.New Vehicles

1050	TJN973W	Bedford YMQS	LW451815	Wadham Stringer DP33F	8670	Delivered	8.7.81
1051	TJN974W	Bedford YMQS	LW451830	Wadham Stringer DP33F	8664	Delivered	3.7.81
1052	TJN975W	Bedford YMQS	LW451839	Wadham Stringer DP33F	8665	Delivered	24.6.81
1054	TJN977W	Bedford YMQS	LW451869	Wadham Stringer DP33F	8667	Delivered	2.7.81
1056	TJN979W	Bedford YMQS	LW451911	Wadham Stringer DP33F	8666	Delivered	1.7.81
1057	TJN980W	Bedford YMQS	LW451954	Wadham Stringer DP33F	8672	Delivered	10.7.81
1058	TJN981W	Bedford YMQS	LW452081	Wadham Stringer DP33F	8671	Delivered	14.7.81
1059	TJN982W	Bedford YMQS	LW452158	Wadham Stringer DP33F	8669	Delivered	13.7.81
1300	XHK213X	Leyland PSU3F/4R	8130401	Duple C53F	133/5189	Delivered	20.7.81
3102	UAR592W	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3000	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24841	Delivered	22.6.81
3103	UAR593W	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3001	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24842	Delivered	22.6.81
3104	UAR594W	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3002	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24843	Delivered	23.6.81
3105	UAR595W	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3003	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24844	Delivered	23.6.81
3106	UAR596W	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3004	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24845	Delivered	24.6.81
3107	UAR597W	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3005	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24846	Delivered	24.6.81
3108	UAR598W	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3006	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24847	Delivered	30.6.81
3109	UAR599W	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3007	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24848	Delivered	30.6.81
3111	XHK216X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3027	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24896	Delivered	22.7.81

The arrival of this large number of new vehicles is the main item of news this month. A further eight Bedford YMQS 'midi-buses' have been delivered, some of which are already in service, and this leaves one vehicle (1055) of this batch still to be delivered. However, this vehicle was on display at the London Bus Rally at Purfleet on Sunday, July 19th. and delivery is expected shortly. As noted in last month's news sheet the Company are reducing the capacity of these vehicles from 34 to 33 by

fitting a luggage rack. The first of the Duple bodied Leyland Leopard coaches has also been delivered, and this represents the first new coach for Eastern National since the delivery of 449-51 (X00879-81L) in May 1973, excluding 1200-17 which are classified as dual-purpose vehicles by the Company. The vehicle is fitted with a Duple Dominant IV body and is in normal National white coach livery. The last eight vehicles from the 1981 order for Bristol VRTSL6G's have also been delivered, and these vehicles have also entered service. However, perhaps most interesting is the news that Eastern National are to receive a further 20 vehicles of this type in the near future, and 3111 listed above is the first of these vehicles. They are being diverted to the Company from Southdown Motor Services Ltd. (14 vehicles) and the Thames Valley & Aldershot Omnibus Co. Ltd. (Alder Valley) (6 vehicles) and they will carry fleet numbers 3110-3129 and registrations XHK215-34X. The diverted Southdown vehicles will be 3110-23 and their chassis numbers are 3/3026-34/9-43, whilst the diverted Alder Valley vehicles will be 3124-9 and their chassis numbers are 3/3076/7/85-8. At this stage only the body numbers of the Southdown batch are known, and these are 24895-24908. 3111 has a number of standard Southdown fittings including a rear number blind and a revised rear registration number position, although it is believed that the Company may remove the rear number blind.

For members' information registrations WWV919/20W were originally reserved for the two Leyland Leopard coaches (1300/1), but they will now carry registrations XHK213/4X.

Withdrawn Vehicles

6.81 1609 (GVW979H) 9010 (RHK346D)

It is understood that both of these vehicles have been sold to the Gwent After Care Probationary Service, Gwent, possibly for use as playbuses.

Ensign Bus Company, which has purchased a large number of Eastern National vehicles over the last few years, has now re-located its premises from Grays to Purfleet where it has a much larger site. The London Bus Rally was held at this site (and not at Brockwell Park, Lambeth as originally planned), and on that day (July 19th) a total of 28 ex-Eastern National vehicles were present, viz: 2752/72/5/6/83/90/7-9 2801/4/9/12/5-9/23/5/7/31/3/42/4/59/64 2940.

Re-built Vehicle

Bristol RELH6G coach 1404 (VHK177L) has now re-entered service and is currently allocated to PL. The vehicle has retained its original body number (19857) as it has not been completely re-bodied. Instead the vehicle has been re-built, chiefly at the front and rear ends, as a prototype for the new style of E.C.W. coach bodywork currently being introduced.

Vehicle on Loan

Southdown Leyland Leopard coach 1819 (RUF819H) is still on loan to Eastern National and is mainly used on the National Express service 609 (see below).

Allocations & Transfers

The introduction of many new vehicles has resulted in a large number of allocations and transfers during July. Certain of the movements listed below depend upon the availability of new vehicles and will not occur until August. Where this is known, the details are followed by the symbol *.

7.81 1000 BS-D/L (D)*, 1001 BS-D/L (D)*, 1002 BS-D/L (D)*, 1003 BS-D/L (D)*, 1004 BS-D/L (D)*, 1050 D/L-CN, 1051 D/L-BE, 1052 D/L-MN, 1053 D/L-CR, 1054 D/L-SE*, 1055 D/L-BD*, 1056 D/L-DT, 1057 D/L-BS*, 1058 D/L-BS*, 1059 D/L-MN*, 1100 CR-D/L (D)*, 1103 CR-D/L (D)*, 1210 CN-CR, 1213 CR-CN, 1214 DT-PL, 1300 D/L, 1412 MN-CF, 1505 SD-SD (PLDS), 1514 SD (PLDS)-D/L (P), 1515 D/L (P)-D/L (D), 1517 BD-CR, 1524 BD-D/L (P), 1525 MN-BS, 1526 CN-CR, 1534 SE-BS, 1538 CR-MN-D/L (P), 1542 BE (P)-BE, 1551 BN-BS, 1759 BE-BS, 1873 SD-CF, 1939 SD-CF, 2885 CF-D/L (D), 2897 HH-D/L (D), 2898 D/L (P)-D/L (D), 2902 CF-D/L (D), 2905 CF-D/L (D), 2919 CF-D/L (D), 2922 HH-D/L (D), 2925 HH-D/L (D), 2943 HH-D/L (D), 2944 HH-D/L (D), 3007 SD-HH, 3036 BS-SD, 3046 HD-BE, 3048 BE-HD, 3102 D/L-HH, 3103 D/L-HH, 3104 D/L-SD, 3105 D/L-SD, 3106 D/L-CF, 3107 D/L-HH, 3108 D/L-CF, 3109 D/L-HH.

The completion of these allocations and transfers will leave just four Bristol FLF6LX's remaining in service (2886/8/91 2916) all at CF. The allocation of 1055 to BD (listed above) will clearly be delayed until August, as the vehicle has yet to be delivered.

Service Developments

Following representations by Chelmsford Borough Council and East Hanningfield Parish Council services 11 and 11A were revised from Monday, 13th July and all through journeys between Chelmsford and Southend now serve East Hanningfield. There have been some minor revisions to the timetable, and revised timetable leaflets are available from the Company's local offices.

A timetable leaflet has also been published for new service 31D which is operating this Summer from Chelmsford to Maldon via Danbury Country Park (see NS196). The service operates on Sundays only from June 21st to August 30th, and also on the Late Summer Bank Holiday, at a two-hourly interval.

To coincide with the Southend area service revisions on June 14th three local timetable leaflets were also published for the Eastwood, Rayleigh and Hullbridge area, the North Leigh and Belfairs area and the Thorpe Bay and Shoeburyness area. A special leaflet has also been published for service 68 (operated by Southend Transport) and this advertises a special round trip fare of £1-00p.

Other timetable leaflets have also recently been published for services to Colchester Zoo including the Summer Sunday extension of service 74A from Wivenhoe (5.7.81-6.9.81), the special Summer Sunday services to Constable Country (87/A) which are also operating from July 5th to September 6th, the Harwich area local bus services (120-2), service 402 including a revised picking up point at New Cross introduced from 19.7.81, and the facilities offered to shoppers at Basildon and Romford by services 400 and 402.

On the Royal Wedding Day, Wednesday, July 29th the Company will operate a Summer Sunday service on all routes with the exception of services 74A, 87 and 87A which will not be operated.

Sunday services were also operated on the two Bank Holidays during May. On the May Day Holiday (May 4th) a special service was also operated on services 100 and 106, together with a normal Monday service on services 701 and 726. These additional services also operated on the Spring Bank Holiday (May 25th) together with the special Summer Sunday services on services 74A, 87 and 87A. These services were also operated on the previous day (May 24th), whilst the special timetable for service 100 also applied on May 2nd and 3rd and throughout the period from May 23rd to June 13th.

The Company has recently applied for a number of revisions to stage services in the Braintree and Witham area mainly affecting Week-end services. Brief details of these proposed changes are as follows :-

- 70 - Revised terminals to be Colchester (Bus Station) and Black Notley (Hospital Car Park), with all Sunday journeys extended to Black Notley. Certain minor timetable changes are also proposed on Wednesdays and Saturdays, together with a revised route in Braintree.
- 315 - Tuesday service to be withdrawn.
- 316 - This service to operate on Tuesdays only.
- 320 - Revised Saturday timetable.
- 321 - Sunday service to be withdrawn and replaced by extension of service 70.
- 325 - Two minor timetable changes on Saturdays.
- 326 - Revised Saturday timetable with six journeys withdrawn, two additional journeys and one journey re-numbered 327. Sunday service to be withdrawn.
- 327 - Revised Saturday morning timetable, and one journey to be withdrawn.
- 330 - Four journeys to be withdrawn and two other minor timetable changes on Saturdays.
- 331 - Two minor timetable changes on Saturdays.
- 335 - Revised Saturday and Sunday timetables.
- 337/40/1 - Revised Saturday timetables.
- 353 - Three additional journeys to be introduced on Saturdays.

Other proposed revisions to stage services will involve minor timetable changes to services 54, 103, 106, 122, 147, 151 (including one journey to be withdrawn on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and also on Thursdays during the Summer period), 261, 301,

351, 500 and 501 (one journey to be withdrawn on Schooldays). The proposed minor timetable changes to service 123 (Saturdays only), which were listed in NS207, have been withdrawn, and instead the Company now proposes to re-time one journey on this service on Mondays to Fridays, together with two minor timetable changes on Saturdays.

For a period of 2-3 months, Hadleigh Road in Leigh-on-Sea is closed for road works and service 25A has been diverted from Rectory Grove via Marine Parade and Burnham Road and then back to Hadleigh Road as usual.

In connection with the Highwayman services, the Company has recently published a leaflet advertising the facilities that are available from Clacton by using express service 194. Direct connections are made with Highwayman services 802 and 806 at Colchester and through fares are available from Clacton and a number of intermediate points.

The Company has also recently become responsible for the complete operation of National Express service 609 between Southend and London (Victoria Coach Station). The normal vehicles on this service are currently Bristol RELH6C's 1407 and 1411 (both of which now carry SD depot plates) and Southdown Leyland Leopard 1819 (RUF819H), which remains on hire to Eastern National. This service is no longer extended beyond London.

Brief details of other service revisions which have been introduced over the past few months are as follows :-

2 - 15.6.81 (NS205); 2B - 15.6.81 (NS207); 46 - 15.6.81 (NS205); 58B - 15.6.81 (NS205); 74/A and 78/A - 26.4.81 (NS205), and a revised timetable leaflet was published for these services; 75A - 1.6.81 (NS207); 75C/D - 28.4.81 (NS206); 88 - 10.8.81 - one journey withdrawn and two other minor timetable changes on Mondays to Fridays; 103 - 27.7.81 (NS208 - see above); 147 - 15.6.81 - one minor timetable change; 151 - 16.6.81 (NS208 - see above); 153 - 15.6.81 (NS205); 156 - 27.7.81 - one journey withdrawn on Wednesdays and Fridays and one minor timetable change on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; 232 - 15.6.81 (NS205); 233 - 14.6.81 (NS205); 245 - service withdrawn after 24.7.81; 261 - 5.5.81 (NS206); 263 - service withdrawn after 10.4.81; 302 - 27.4.81 (NS206); 331/2 - 1.6.81 (NS206); 350/1 - 12.4.81 (NS207); 351 - 29.6.81 (NS208 - see above); 500 - 15.6.81 (NS208 - see above); 501 - 15.6.81 (NS208 - see above).

Temporary Loans

Undoubtedly the highlight of the month as far as temporary loans are concerned was the loan of Bristol FLF6LX 2905 from CF to BS from June 29th to July 3rd. This situation was caused by a vehicle shortage at BS and it was the first occasion that a Bristol FLF had operated from BS since July 1980. For the record, 2905 operated on services 301, 317 and 333 on June 29th and then solely on service 309 from June 30th to July 2nd. It was returned to CF on the morning of July 3rd but sustained gearbox problems en route, and the vehicle is now D/L (D) at CF, not having been used since its return from BS.

Other more routine loans of CF vehicles during July have included 1508 (SE), 1513 (BE), 1700 (IN), 1707 (BE), 1708 (BN), 1774 (BN) and 3019 (HD). 1905 and 1866 were at Great Dunmow (outstation) on July 5th and July 12th respectively.

Four Southend (SD) vehicles which have been noted on loan to other depots during recent weeks have been 1505 at DT and MN, 1514 at MN, 1518 at DT and 3008 at HD. 1505 was at DT on June 30th, but had moved to MN by mid-July and was noted on service 38 on July 15th and 16th. 1514 was noted on service 31 on June 20th and July 6th, whilst 3008 was noted on service 311 on June 29th. 1518 operated from DT for most of June, being replaced on June 30th by 1505.

Clacton (CN) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to DT during June were 1210, 1527/9/37, 1751/69/91, 1800/3/34 and 3003. 1507 CR also operated from DT from June 2nd-9th having replaced 3027 which had failed at Colchester.

Unusual Workings

Details of unusual workings which have been supplied by members are as follows :-

19.3-3025 SD noted on service 45.	9.4-3073 SD noted on service 154.
31.3-3082 CF noted on service 251.	14.4-1934 BN noted on service 251.
2.4-1539 MN noted on service 45.	17.4-3076 BN noted on service 153.

- 21.5-1846 DD noted on service 153.
 23.5-3057 WG noted on service 400,
 3062 SD noted on service 402.
 28.5-1802 CF noted on service 451.
 14.6-3071 SD noted on service 402,
 3101 SD noted on service 20 - the
 first day of this new service.
 18.6/19.6-1730 CF noted on service 232.
 20.6-3062 SD noted on a private hire
 trip from Southend to Silver End.
 The vehicle was parked at SE depot
 during the day.
 23.6-1711 BN noted at Prittlewell Works.
 24.6-2916 CF noted on service 42,
 3071 SD noted on service 29A.
 27.6-1206 HD, 1549 CF, 3040 MN and 3082
 CF, together with Colchester Borough
 Transport 39/90 and Southend
 Transport 367-9/79/87, all noted at
 the Essex Showground, Great Leighs
 on private hire work.
- 29.6-1867 CF noted on service 20.
 2.7-1708 CF noted on a Wickford local service.
 1857 BE noted on service 53.
 4.7-1546 HH noted on service 9.
 5.7-3060 HH noted on service 400,
 3072 SD noted on service 402,
 3073 SD noted on service 62.
 6.7-1721 SD noted on a Wickford local service.
 8.7-1774 CF noted on service 232.
 Early July-1522 DT noted on a STC contract
 from Basildon to Southend, following a
 repaint at PL Works.
 10.7-3073 SD noted on service 11A.
 13.7-1700 CF noted on service 234.
 1939 SD noted on service 25A.
 14.7-1708 CF noted on service 230.
 15.7-1721 SD noted on service 230.
 17.7-Bristol VRT driver training vehicle
 9010 MN noted in Rayleigh.
 21.7-2891 CF noted parked at SD depot, but had
 returned to CF by the evening.

General

According to the information at present available, both Prittlewell (PL) depot and Prittlewell Works will close on Saturday, August 8th as planned (see also NS204). It is not known whether delicensed vehicles will continue to be stored in the depot and Works yard after this date. Coaches at present allocated to PL will be maintained at Southend (SD) depot, and at least two of these vehicles (1407/11) are already carrying SD depot plates.

Some additional information regarding the last day of services on route 251 between Southend and Wood Green (June 13th) is now available. Details of the final journeys were published in last month's news sheet. However, members may be interested to know that a total of 13 Bristol FLR6LX's operated on the route during the day. The vehicles concerned were 2895 2906/11/2/4/7/8/20/3/7/30/1/46, all of which were D/L (D) following operations on that day. A number of other vehicles operated certain journeys during the day, including a number of short workings between Wood Green and Brentwood and between Brentwood and Southend. For the record these were Bristol REL6G's 1514 and 1531, Leyland National 1823 and Bristol VRTSL6G's 3021/5/57/75/92.

Vehicle Repaints

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks and this continues from the information published in NS207 :-

June : w/e 26.6.81 - 1540 at PL, 1714 at CW, 1867 at PL, 3048 at CW.
 July : w/e 3.7.81 - 1847 at PL, 1848 at CW, 3058 at CW.
 w/e 10.7.81 - 1522 at PL, 1702 at CW, 1750 at CW.
 w/e 17.7.81 - 1736 at PL, 1884 at CW, 3059 at CW.
 w/e 24.7.81 - 1862 at CW, 1892 at CW.

3048 has been repainted into standard green livery from its Golden Jubilee livery, and the vehicle is now allocated to HD.

Allocations of D/L (D) and D/L (P) Vehicles

Following the allocations and transfers listed on page 2, a large number of vehicles are in the process of being delicensed. The Company has kindly given the Group details of the allocations of these vehicles once the various transfers have been completed. It should be noted that certain of the vehicles listed below remain in service at the time of writing.

CF - 2885 2902/5/19, PL (Depot) - 1003/4 1514 2097 2922/5/43/4, MN - 1000-2 1538,
 SE - 1100/3 1524.

This information supplements the full allocation of delicensed vehicles which was published in last month's news sheet. Two vehicles (1609 and 9010) have been sold since the publication of that list

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COLCHESTER TRANSPORTGeneral

The only item of news to report this month is that Bristol BELL6L's 17/8 (YWC 17/CL) were delicensed in May, and they are currently in store as surplus to requirements.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORTNew Vehicles

233	MRJ233W	Leyland FE33ALR	8001789	Northern Counties	H49/31D +12	2010
235	MRJ235W	Leyland FE33ALR	8001840	Northern Counties	H49/31D +12	---
236	MRJ236W	Leyland FE33ALR	8001937	Northern Counties	H49/31D +12	---
239	MRJ239W	Leyland FE33ALR	8002232	Northern Counties	H49/31D +12	---
242	MRJ242W	Leyland FE33ALR	8002282	Northern Counties	H49/31D +12	2012

Delivery dates - 233/5 : 18.6.81, 236/9/42 : 30.6.81.

The body numbers of 235/6/9 were not known at the time of writing. 242 is the last production Leyland Fleetline. The seven vehicles of this batch listed in last month's news sheet all entered service on July 1st, with 241 being the first vehicle in use on service 9B.

Withdrawn Vehicles

6.81 352 (WJN352J) 353 (WJN353J) 355 (WJN355J) 356 (WJN356J) 357 (WJN357J)

Of these vehicles, 353 had been reinstated for a few days in June (see NS204). The last PD3, 347, may be withdrawn on July 31st, and members are asked to telephone Richard Delahoy (Southend 42894) on July 30th (1300-2100 hrs.) for news of a final trip.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS207).

'National' numbering system.

3614 (CTW 210) - Eastern National Preservation Group, by 6/79. (correction to NS202).

412 (YHK729F) - Compass, Wakefield, 3/81, ex. Black Prince, Morley.

416 (YTW540F) - Cheek, Wealdstone, 8/80. (additional information to NS188).

1347 (207 YVX)	1423 (202 YVX)	1445 (BN0115B)	2773 (VWC 53)
1361 (OWC 610)	1434 (JHK458C)	2771 (VWC 51)	2807 (BVX683B)

All of these vehicles to Breaker, Carlton, 12/80, ex. dealer, Grays.

1440 (1 BXD)	1451 (OWC183D)	2753 (JWC 713)	2832 (KN0955C)
1448 (BN0117B)	2705 (85 TVX)	2781 (994 K00)	2939 (BVX669B)

All of these vehicles to Breaker, Carlton, 11/80, ex. dealer, Grays.

2730 (177 XNO) - Breaker, Carlton, 7/80, ex. Blackers Mill (N-PSV), Portadown, N. Ireland. (additional information to NS202).

2780 (993 K00) - Dealer, Sherburn, by 4/81, ex. Double Two Shirts (N-PSV), Wakefield.

2788 (AVX956B) - Playbus Disco, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, U.S.A. (additional information to NS182).

2791 (AVX959D) - Breaker, Carlton, 1/81, ex. dealer, Grays.

2813 (GN0789D) - Breaker, Carlton, 1/81, ex. dealer, Grays.

2824 (JHK459C) - Exported to U.S.A., 3/81, ex. dealer, Grays.

2828 (KN0951C) - Exported to Dubai to work for French Kier (contractor), 4/81, ex. dealer, Grays. (correction to NS207)

2853 (Viking Safaries, London, W.C.2., for work in France, 3/81, ex. dealer, Grays.

2880 (SVX279D) - Breaker, Carlton, 11/80, ex. dealer, Middlewich.

2882 (UEV220E) - Williams & Davies, Wrexham, ex. dealer, Middlewich, 11/80, originally Alexander (Midland).

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were recived from A.G. Osborne (C&F), R. Delahoy (M180), P.J. Carr (M207), A.W. Meadows (M209), P.W. Harvey (M219), R.E. Huggins (M296), S.D. Barham (M313), L. Thorington (M352), J.G. Collins (M405), S. Simister (M419) and G. Huggins (AM1). Notes and information for the August news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) by Wednesday, August 19th.