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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1915.

The man who cats all his eggs will never raise any chickens.

Imaginary Attack on Vested Interests THERE are beginning to appear craftily worded statements that the people who want rapid transit are opposed to the existing company.

It may be doubted, as a matter of fact, if a public service corporation was ever treated with more consideration than Director Taylor and the men working with him have shown toward the P. R. T. An important feature of the Director's plans was his carnest purpose to protect the existing company by permitting it to participate under favorable conditions in the new undertaking. He repeatedly insisted that invested capital should be protected, within proper limits. His plan, as a matter of fact, represents an agreement with the P. R. T., an agreement which that company has never repudiated. even if it has been lax in espousing it before the public.

There is abundant reason to believe that the city is treating the existing company with at least as much consideration as the existing company is treating the city. Any assertion to the contrary is unworthy of thoughtful men who have the real progress of the municipality at heart.

In transit the interests of the city and the company are closely interwoven. The city is determined to have a comprehensive rapid transit system. It is entirely up to the company to determine whether or not it wishes to participate in the benefits accruing from that system. If it decides to stay out and loses thereby surely the blame will not rest on Philadelphia or the men who are fighting to secure for the city the modern transit facilities which it must have.

#### The Mother Heart

WHAT would you do, if you were a married woman without any children and should go to the door in answer to a ring and find on the step a basket containing a three-weeks-old baby that looked up into your face with a three-cornered smile and waved two pudgy and dimpled hands in the mir as if in salutation?

The first impulse of a woman in North 11th street, to whom this wonderful experience came, was to adopt the baby. Her mother heart responded to the subtle appeal. Her second and her third and last impuls-

say that the nations will not attach themselves to the higher standards also, and pull themselves out of the bloody trenches of the battlefields and take their place, along with Bunyan's Pilgrim, in that pleasant chamber looking toward the east whose name is Pence?

#### Only Americans in America.

There has never been but one flag under which the German-American has fought. There never can be but one flag under which he will ever fight, and the flag is the Stars and Stripes.-Herman Ridder, of the New York Staats-Zeitung.

THIS is an admirable expression of the undoubted sentiment of all Americans of German birth and descent. It also sets forth the attitude of all Americans, whatever may be their descent.

Mr. Ridder's persistent special pleading for fair play for Germany since the war began has, however, led many persons not familiar with his sterling Americanism to misjudge him and to assume that his loyalty to the land of his fathers was stronger than his love for the land of his sons. But when the crisis comes he and all others worthy the name of American reaffirm that oath of allegiance which they took when they first chose this land as theirs. They abjured allegiance to every king and potentate and pledged themselves to support the Constitution of a free self-governing people, and they will keep that pledge.

### Clearing Houses for Ideas and Ideals

MORE men attended the City Club dinner last night to celebrate the completion of the successful campaign for new members than were on the membership roll on January 1. When the campaign began it was hoped that the total membership could be raised to 1500. It has been raised to 1900, and it is proposed to put the limit at 2000 and have a waiting list for those who are certain to desire admission as soon as the new clubhouse is under way.

We have said it before, but it deserves repeating, that there is a new spirit inspiring this city, a spirit of combination and co-operation, the fruits of which are manifest in the creation of the greater Chamber of Commerce and in the enlargement of the City Club. The citizens are ready for great things, and leaders are coming to the front able to organize all the enthusiasm as it appears. With these two big clearing houses, one for commercial ideas and the other for civic ideals, the present is big with promise for the future.

#### Can the Nursery Be Neutralized?

THE suggestion recently made before the Woman's Peace Society of Pennsylvania that the nurserles be neutralized in the interest of universal peace will receive from the War Departments of the world the consideration which it deserves.

It is a beautiful plan to teach the children to admire the heroes of peace and to despise the military geniuses, and to give them woolly sheep to play with instead of lead soldiers. But, like many beautiful plans, it takes too little account of the nature of a boy, and assumes that the way to keep dry in a rainy country is to abolish the manufacture of umbrellas and water-proof balmacaang.

Give a real boy a choice between a woolly lamb and a tin sword and he will choose the sword every day. The boy worth while is a primitive savage in his instincts. When he grows to man's estate in a civilized nation he becomes a civilized being. Only the adult mollycoddles are developed from woollylamb-loving boyhood. The plan to neutralize the nursery is one of those iridescent dreams which filt through the brain of men and women in the twilight zone between unconsciousness and realization of facts as they

### THE COMMANDER OF THE WAR FLEET

Rear Admiral Fletcher Is Not Only a Great Sailor, But Something of Statesman-A Man of Versatility and Poise.

#### By ELLIS RANDALL

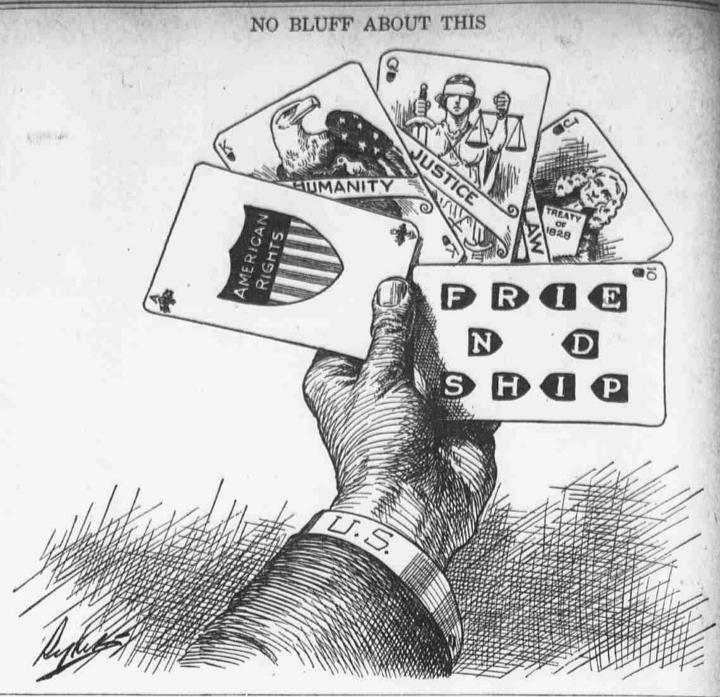
OF THE man who commands the magnifi-cent war fleet now at anchor in the East River, President Wilson said, at the time of the taking of Vera Cruz, "He is a great sailor with a touch of statesmanship about him." A man of that description, most Americans will agree, is just the kind of man to have in charge of our naval fighting force. Rear Admiral Frank Friday Fletcher. as his record has amply demonstrated, combines in his make-up, to an extraordinary degree, ability and common sense and poise. The moment you look at Fletcher you know that he is boss of his job. He looks it, every inch. His modesty of demeanor, his considerate attitude toward subordinates, his quiet voice, quietness of speech, impress one as revelations of force. As an officer should, he gives his orders with precision. He is medium-sized, broad-shouldered, well "setup," and deliberate of action without being slow. His eyes are perhaps his most striking feature. They are kindly eyes, dark and flashing, that seem somehow to reveal the man's bigness of character.

His middle name is half nickname. He was born in Oskaloosa, Ia., on November 23, 1855, which was a Friday. On this account his father used to dub him "my little man Friday." When the lad was 7 years old his father died, but the name stuck. He was appointed to Annapolis at the age of 14 and escorted to the academy by an older brother. The latter, when called upon to put the youngster's name down on the roster of boys entering the Naval Academy, wrote "Frank Friday Fletcher." And so the name was carried along into the academy. The bearer has never been able to shake it off.

Friday Fletcher, as he was now called. was graduated from Annapolis June 21, 1875, after a course in which he had shown no special brilliance. His first job showed the kind of talent that was in him. He was assigned to duty on board the United States steamship Tuscarora, which was engaged in surveying a submarine route for a projected cable to connect California with Japan. This involved an exploration of the ocean depths. Just east of Japan the Tuscarora discovered the deepest hole that exists anywhere in the world. This marine abyss, called the Tuscarora Deep, goes down five and a quarter miles. The soundings went that deep and falled to touch bottom.

The navy demands much of a man today. He must be sailor, mechanic, student of international law, diplomatist, sanitarian and a few more. Of course, some naval officers are deficient in certain of these points and make up for their lacks by excellence in others. Fletcher is great in all these lines, and in addition he has added to the efficiency of our navy by a series of remarkable inventions. Some of the most valuable contrivances in use aboard craft of our fleets originated in his fertile brain.

He will long be known among navy men for the Fletcher breech-closing mechanism. The device is a wonder of efficiency. It shuts the breech of a rapid-fire gun in the quickest imaginable time and with the fewest possible motions. Then he invented a gun mount, an arrangement of truncated cones on a roller path by which friction is reduced to such a point that a weapon weighing thousands of pounds can be trained literally with one finger and clamped instantly upon the target. He has also revolutionized the use of torpedoes by his researches into the behavior of these dread messengers of the sea. He has corrected many grievous errors of range.



# HOW THE MOVIES AFFECT THE DRAMA

Educating a New and Democratic Audience in the Picture Palaces-The Future Hope in the Present Disastrous Situation.

#### By KENNETH MACGOWAN

MERICA'S most disastrous theatre sea-A sen has come to an end capped with the calamity of Charles Frohman's death. It is a little early to estimate the results of his taking off, but it is surely time to try to think a little more discerningly about that competition of the movies, which has played such a large part in the threatened bankruptcy of the American theatre.

From the beginning we have had plenty of articles glorifying the fortunes involved in the movies; plenty decrying them as the destroyers of our theatre. But until very lately there has been no deeper inquiry into their effects, no sharper vision of their possibilities. Now can be heard another voice above the crass bragging and crasser vituperations. It has found a new instrument of art, reaching millions that have gone without. But it has made this discovery a little late in the day. The facts of the movies' popularity have grown too clear for any further muddled declarations that a 10cent art is a stupid art and that, anyway, the crowd has no business taking the thing

impossible. In the beginning was not the word. The standards which we reverence most have been very humanly discovered by repeated explorations. Progress in the drama has rested on this; progress in the movies must do the same. And the movies have the advantage of drawing larger audiences, more steadily, than the theatre could ever hope to do.

#### The Future

As the result of this experience there must come out of the moving picture theatres w changed audience. They will do more than demand a subtle, artistic and specialized form of motion picture. As people seeking the better and more dramatic portrayal of life, they will turn from the movies to the theatre. The casual theatregoer of today will come back to the playhouse with a finer taste than was his before the movies lured him out. And he will bring with him the big mass of present-day people who never see a play. For we must remember that there is a very definite link between the

that a nation may be so right that it need not resort to force to prove it. That the latter is the more important of the two is clearly indicated by its position and was that night by the President's emplosis. Careful as he is in his choice of words, certainly he would have made no assertion such as the first, an insult to the nation, without immediately de-stroying that premise and substituting another. FRANCIS B. HITCHCOCK. Philadelphia, May 13.

### NOT A REBUFF

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-An article appeared in today's Evenine LEDGER entitled "Anti-Suffragists Rebuffed by Board of Education."

This statement being absolutely untrue, I ask that you make a public refutation of same, referring you to John Wanamaker, who I am certain will bear me out, as to the true facts,

certain will bear me out as to the true facts, which are as follows: On May 13 I went before the special Board of Education Committee representing the Penn-sylvania Association Opposed to Woman Suf-frage, which I have the honor of serving as State campaign manager. I explained to the secretary of the Board of Education that I had come to make protest against either suf-frage or anti-suffrage being made the subject of essays in the public schools.

I was not "rebuffed"; to the confrary, I was treated with every courtesy by Mr. Wana-maker and every other member present at the hearing.

hearing. Mr. Wanamaker explained that, as it was a subcommittee, it had no power to pars of the question. He then directed the secretary to take my name and address and assured me that when the General Committee met in dis-cussion of this subject I should be duly notfied and my plea should be heard before that body

No, indeed, Mr. Editor, we have serious ar-

reinforced her first, and she is now awaiting the completion of the necessary legal proccases before she can call the child her own.

But there is tragedy behind this beautiful incident, and it is written in the mother heart that felt itself compelled to surrender that wonderful gift, which, as Macdonald says, comes "out of the nowhere into the here."

#### Jitneys Have Come to Stay

MR. EDISON thinks that the jitney craze will be shortlived because a five-cent fare is too small to pay the cost of operation and maintenance.

Perhaps he is right, but there are some jitney owners who think otherwise. Everything depends, of course, upon the popular demand for the cheap method of transportation. Some owners in the suburbs are already running the jitneys on a sound commercial basis by putting in the bank each week a definite sum to cover the depreciation of the car. What is left is used to pay a chauffeur and to buy gasoline, oil and tires and to bank as profit. Thus far there has been a considerable surplus each week for profit. Of course, the amount is not large in comparison with the earnings of a trolley car, but it is enough to justify the conclusion that, provided the people use the Mineys as they have been doing, there is a future for them in every community of any mize.

In a city with the population of Philadelphia they ought to coin money for their owners when run on short routes.

The Lifting Power of a Woman's Ideal EVERY same woman, as well as every well balanced man, objects to war. Brute force is not a weapon which commends itself to reasonable beings. The women, therefore, who have said that they could see no reason In the present crisis for sacrificing their sons on the battlefield, have been uttering the natural sentiment of all humanity. There is a widespread feeling among men as well as women that disputes can be settled in a hetter way than by force. President Israels, the hero of the epoch-making peace story which the Evening LEDGER printed on Thursday and Friday, is a type of those who helieve in an appeal to the conscience and to the sense of fair play in the hearts of all

Woman is the idealist of the world. Her faith in a man has many a time kept him in the straight road, and made it possible for him to resist the temptation to be false to his principles. The man has said to himsaif, "My wife believes in me and I will do sofhing which will cause her to loss her So he has chained himself to the fry standard, and by long and painful effort has pulled himself up to its level.

when the women, who are increasing in power and influence with every passing decade, say that there must be no more war, that the some whom they have brought into the world with so much pain and travail must not be shughtered morely because then yofune to listen to the voice of reason. sbay the hubcate of justice, who shall (

Policy of the Curbstone Cabinet THE curbstone cabinet, which holds daily

are.

sessions in front of the Evening Lenger bulletin board, is in hearty accord with the polley of the President.

It recognizes the primacy of the man who sits at the head of the table in Washington, and it is unanimous in its approval of the poise, temper and tone of the note to Germany. It does not ask that a single word be changed or that a single punctuation mark be removed.

It awaits with confidence the development of the further plans of the man on whose acts it passes with the freedom of irresponsibility and yet with the responsibility of free men.

#### Who Would Not Be Straight-laced?

CERTAINLY not the lady of fashion. For it is decreed that to be up to the minute she must be laced straight from her heel up to the crown of her hat. Her shoes are laced up the back. Her blouse is laced in the back, the cuffs of her sleeves are laced in the back and a ribbon is tied around the top of her hat and laced down the crown and clear to the end of the brim, where the ends hang off as streamers.

It all looks so "stylish" that no woman will be happy until she is wearing the laced costume. Not all women will achieve happlness in this way, for some of them have already got their summer gowns, and the exceptional few, who would rather be different than in style, will wear costumes pinned or buttoned together, or fastened with hooks and eyes, to the despair of their husbands or their maids or their sisters, or whoever has to be called in to assist in closing the gaps in their garments. The fortunate many, however, will go to church wrapped up in that feeling of righteous content which always envelops a woman who knows when she kneels that her gown fits well in the back and is , cut and trimmed in the most approved fashion. But there will be as many straight-laced ladies out of church as in during the next few months.

It is now Victor Emmanuel's turn to throw the dice."

The President not only knows what he wants to say, but knows how to say it.

The stock market was the only thing that showed any nervousness on account of the historic note.

It seems to be getting unsafe for Germans to live anywhere in the world save in Germany and the United States.

The Kalser and Francis Joseph must fasten up their socks with strings hereafter, for King George, the purveyor of garters to European royalty, has taken theirs back.

Can you imagine the welcome the President of the United States will receive when he arrives in New York to review the Aiiantic fleet now at suchor in the Hudson Miver?

It is interesting at this time to recall some of the answers which Admiral Fletcher made to the Naval House Committee last December. He defended the dreadnought as the greatest weapon of naval warfare

"The European war has not demonstrated." he said, "that the battleship is any less valuable in naval warfare than heretofore, or that it is not still the main factor in finally determining a confilct,

"The submarine undoubtedly is a very valuable adjunct to a navy. The defense against the submarine has not yet been fully developed. Eventually a defense against the submarine will be found, just as a defense was found against the old style spar-torpedo and the automobile torpedo. One defense against the submarine already developing is the airship."

The admiral gave it as his opinion that great naval battles would continue to be decided, in the main, by battleships.

Admiral Fletcher told the committee that a European nation could send submarines across the ocean to dart into an American harbor and assail the American fleet. It was, of course, he said, a supposititious case as to the practicability of such a move. For instance, he said, England had a "nice little supply station" seven hundred miles away from New York harbor at Bermuda.

The Admiral said he would recommend, as good policy, eight or ten more submarines for coast and harbor defense, but emphatically reasserted that the real success of the navy must ultimately rest with the dreadnoughts and the battleship fleets generally.

Fletcher's versatility and grasp of affairs were strikingly shown in the way in which he handled the news from Vera Cruz at the time when the whole American people were eagerly awaiting every dispatch which came up from Mexico. Secretary Daniels jocularly remarked to the newspaper men in Washington that the Admiral would have made a great managing editor, for he not only showed the newspaper instinct for real news. but in his dispatches he flung the feature of each story to the front in clear and concise form.

He is almost universally liked. In many qualities, said an officer of the Atlantic fleet y short time ago, "he resembles Sampson. He's a type of the best Annapolis product." The officer went on to speak of Fletcher's accomplishments in international law. His sound learning in this field is one of the reasons why President Wilson and Secretary Daniels trust him so thoroughly. They know he will reflect credit on the United States. With Fletcher on the bridge of the battle flagship, Washington does not worry about the fleet.

### ONE RESULT IS SURE

ONE RESULT IS SURE From the Brocklyn Kasie. Whatever the Outcome, one result is aure. The blow at humanity, at civilization, hard as it hits the world, aits Garmany barder still. Its affects will be cumulative. They will grow wherever there is response to impulses other than these which are wolfish, bloody and ray-ensue. They will convert Frussian, if not all Garman militarism, hato a hyword and a ve-remach. Fur the Yon Tirsits resime has desive on the own indictment, and the finger-prints are in common. They are there to state

that is most amusing for the money. Fortunately, the crowd has a refreshing way, every now and then, of doing just as it pleases.

Two-dollar drama-Ibsen or "The Follies -is what a good many decriers of the movies want. But that is no reason for blinding ourselves to the fact that the tastes of a lot more of us haven't been developed by education or wealth to appreciating either example, while the mere price of admission has barred many from any chance of developing a liking by experience.

#### The Care for the Playgoer

The patron of the movies has an excellent case. It is a case independent of the potential art of the cinematograph. He has taken a very sensible stand in the face of the fact that the American theatre is not a place of popular amusement. In Germany it is-or was-for prices there have been brought down to a great extent by municipal endowment and by acting societies that give plays for working class audiences. Here, as in England and France, for that matter, prices are so high that the mass of ill-paid workers-including clerks and sales people as well as day laborers-can hardly afford a visit a month to the cheapest parts of the theatre. Is it any wonder that moving picture houses of the luxurious, usually very comfortable, and always offering good seats at less than the lowest price in the regular theatres, are so tremendously popular? If the people who see the "legitimate" stage rapidly being ruined by the movies were right in taking movie audiences for alienated playgoers, it would be only an evidence of how the high prices and poor service of the theatres have choked off an eager, if not yet discriminating public.

As a matter of fact, the movies are drawing a composite audience. A portion, minority, come from casual playgoers, the normal patrons of melodrama and cheap farce. The vast majority are men and women who seldom or never go to the theatre; the high cost of amusement has barred them out. The movies are drawing in to a form of dramatic entertainment immensely larger audiences than the theatres ever touched. Vastly more important, they are drawing them in steadily, repeatedly, night after night. There lies the big hope for a rapid rise of a great cinematographic art. People who decry some of the pictures of crime, horror or cheap comicality in the movies, should remember that the art is young. They should wait for this growing experience of the audience to have its effect on the artists developing with it. Taste, real taste, individual taste, is achieved, not by the lack of anything bad, nor even by the help of good advice, lectures or reading, but by experience. Give a man enough contact with any art, and you will find him turning from the ephemeral and the cheap, from the thing that satisfied at first but that palled on repetition, to better and subtler and more refined examples. Of the many factors that contribute to artistic development, experience is, after all, the fundamental basis. You manoi go bahind is. Without it, progress is

movies and the drama. It is as natural to proceed from moving pictures to solider dramatic fare as from melodrama to Shakespeare.

But these people will not come into the theatre unless it is ready for them with a new spirit and a new economic basis. It must be made sounder as to economic organization, and thus broader as to art. Its prices must be brought within the possibilities of democracy.

Is it not possible that the ruinous competition of the movies will drill some such lesson into the heads of our theatre organization? Is it not possible that economic conditions will force them to find some method of conducting their business which will give an adequate return to the playgoer for money invested? It is that or annihilation.

### QUESTIONS OF THE DAY

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-Is it better for Germany to allow a ship-load of ammunition to land in England to be used to destroy the lives of possibly thousands of Germans, or for the Germans to destroy ship and cargo with all on board, after due notice being given to a civilized people of danger in using the enemy's ship or ships carry-

ing contraband of war for transportation? Is it possible for civilized people to place their lives in jeopardy by taking passage on ships owned and salled by warring nations and not feel they are planning deliberate suicide?

How long will intelligent people allow their

ives, property and country to be used as a shield for one or another warring nation? Would it not be well for us to consider the friendly fdeling manifested by some of our foreign friends during our rebellion of 1861-1865; also during the Spanish-American War? Is it for the benefit of these United States that meenle and nations want us to extense Is it for the benefit of these us to get our that people and nations want us to get our that people and with blood from our friends or hands stained with blood from our friend enomies on the other side of the Atlantic?

JEHU PRICE.

Philadelphia, May 13.

## FAITH IN THE PRESIDENT

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-In the "Speaking the Public Mind" de partment of the EVENING LEDGER tonight all the letters are in line with your admirable article supporting the President in his calm procedure in this last outrageous action of Germany. The letter by Antonio Mutignani, one of the new citizens, deserves our admira-tion for its earnest simplicity and his expres-sion of "faith in Mr. Wilson."

For any intelligent persons to imagine that the President would not be strong after what he had said in his last note to Germany, proved he had and on the mat note to Germany, proved they did not comprehend his nature, for such persons must be told that, though the Freaf-dent sims for peace, he is perhaps the most forceful man in the world. The expression, "atrict accountability," in his last note meant what it said. JOSEPH MACLEAN. Philadelphia, May 13. Philadelphia, May 13.

# "TOO PROUD TO FIGHT"

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger :

Sir-In view of the indignation expressed a ome and abroad over the phrase "Too prout home and abroad over the phrase "Too proud to fight" used by Fresident Wilson in his speech delivared hare. I am surprised that at-tantion has not been directed to his undoubted masning. In contradistinction to the popular, or rather unpopular, impression that has since prevailed.

To me that night it seemed plain that he carefully chose and clearly worded two separate Ideas.

st. A nation may be too proud to fight,

nents, but do not wish the child mind to be contaminated and would keep the public schools free of political issues. \* \* \* FLORENCE GOFF SCHWARZ

Philadelphia, May 13.

### PRESIDENT ISRAELS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-Can you tell me why the name of Prest-dent Israels is not mentioned in Webster's New Ideal Dictionary? I read the first part of the "Impeachment of President Israels," and I "Impeachment of President Israels," and I would advise everybody to read It; it will put and settle a good many of these hotheaded, nonthinking and for-war house until ple who do not realize what war means until they find themselves troubled with it. We should be thankful for the good common sense of this deep-thinking man, President Wilson. headed, nonthinking and for-war-looking proof this deep-thinking man, President Wilson ONE OF YOUR READERS.

Philadelphia, May 13.

[The EvENING LEDGER has received many inquiries in regard to the identity of President Israels. He has no historical prototype, but is one of the strong, outstanding characters of fiction.—Editor of the EVENING LEDGER.]

#### MORE RUINS

From the Boston Advertiser.

Among the newly acquired ruins of this are we number the Rheims Cathedral, the Balti-more Platform and the Law of Nations.

#### "THE DIVINE RIGHT" From the Boston Evening Record.

The "Divine right" to kill women and children is not recognized and will not be.

SLIPPIN' OFF A-FISHIN' I hain't a-carin' 'bout the spring Or garden-makin' time, not another thing on earth No When fishin's in hits prime: I want to go an' dig some bait An' hunt my hook an' line: My rhumatiz is better now. An' 1'm a-feelin' fine,

I'll have to slip away, I guess, Hit's kind o' hard, you know, But if my wife should find hit out She wouldn't let me go; The garden needs a lot o' work, The chickens are to mind.

An' jist about this time o' ; They's lots of work, I find. year They always is a lot to do.

An' hit seems like to me My wife is bound to wear me out-She jist won't let me be! Hit's "Go an' plant the 'taters now," Or "Bring some stove wood in": While fishin'-why to hear her talk Hit is a deadly sin.

But I don't care, I'm goin' to go-"Play hookey," that's the game: I'm goin' to do it, yes I am As sure as Bob's my name!

As sure as hows my name I'll slip away—jist watch me now, Hit brings the kind o' joy I used to feel when stealin' off Back when I was a boy.

Hoop-ee! Hold on, don't holler yit. They'll hear you at the house; toop down an' allp along the fence As quiet as a mouse Wait till you git behind the hill. Slip over in the brush. Somebody's comin' down the lane. Squat down an' hids-an' hushi

Well, now they're gone I guess hit's safe

To allp on down the fence, Hit's kind o' nice sometimes, you know,

- 'To have to feel suspense: This "playin' hookey," why, hit's sreat!
- I kind o' want to run Jiat like I used to when a boy-

Oh, golly, but hit's fun' - Springfield Republicate