*Trinidad Guardian*, 25 June 1918; reprinted, *Trinidad Guardian*, 25 June 1993, p. 3, “75 Years Ago Today: Ramblin nonsense”

Note: This piece was probably written by the *Trinidad Guardian*’s marketing manager, to encourage people to buy and read their own copies of the newspaper.

**“Since I buyin’ you paper”**

TO DE EDITOR

De Trinidad Guardian.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Since I buyin’ you paper I get plenty fren’. Pun a mornin Billy Bighead come in an sez:

“Hellow John, how you mudder, how you farder? Le’ me read de Guardian!”

“Two minits later Mary Ninetoes come in an sez:—

“Hello John, how you keepin’, how you comin,—len’ me de Guardian!”

Soon after de door open an’ in comes Sam Souz: “Hello fren’” he sez, “how you nenen[[1]](#footnote-1), how Susan—len’ me de Guardian!”

An ‘fore I have time to put on me coat fo’ go an’ wurk, in hops Potogee[[2]](#footnote-2) Puddin an’ sez:

“Len’ me de Guardian quick, fo’ Maria, me 300 poun Maria blowin’ cane in de house coz she aint got fo’ cent in change!”

Dat is four ob dem Mister Editor, so I kalkerlate fo’ times fo’ is sixteen cents or two poun’ ob flour deses people save offer pore me!

English Version

TO THE EDITOR

The Trinidad Guardian.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Since I’ve been buying your paper I have plenty of friends. One morning Billy Bighead comes in and says: Hello John, how’s your mother, how’s your father? Let me read the Guardian!”

Two minutes later Mary Ninetoes comes in and says:— “Hello John, how’re you keeping, how’re you coming along—lend me the Guardian!”

Soon after the door opens and in comes Sam Souz: “Hello friend,” he says, “how’s your nenen, how’s Susan—lend me the Guardian!”

And before I have time to put on my coat to go and work, in hops Portuguese Pudding and says:

“Lend me the Guardian quick, for Maria, my 300-pound Maria, is blowing cane [?] in the house because she doesn’t have four cents in change!”

That is four of them, Mister Editor, so I calculate four times four is sixteen cents or two pounds of flour these people are saving off poor me!

1. *nenen*. Godmother [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Potogee*. Portuguese [↑](#footnote-ref-2)