

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 nenen¹, how Susan—len’ me de Guardian!”

An ‘fore I have time to put on me coat fo’ go an’ wurk, in hops Potogee² 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!

¹ *nenen*. Godmother

² *Potogee*. Portuguese

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!