

Attract and Subtract

T-bone Slim

If we admit we are unfit—

We are unfit if we admit.

To-wit:

To thus admit, a lack of wit—

I do submit—is proof of it.

Proof of it? I mean of wit—

To thus admit the lack of it.

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Sure. Surely we are entirely fit to be trusted with the truth of all open-connivances, openly arrived at, sure Mike...

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Lets have 'em. It is the sacred obligation, and a patriotic duty, of the peoples servants to keep no secrets from the public.

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To keep a secret from the people is like refusing to tip your hat to the boss—

* * *

There is an under current of suspicion that our public servants are getting to be too darn radical in this respect.—The nerve of them!—to try to insinuate by their action that we, the people, are unfit to know all the facts...

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What will the foreigners think of us?—us, blue bellied, and blood-ed, citizens of this fair democracy... if they get wind of it, what?

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The other day I heard a story about two I.W.W. feeling each other out—you know how wobbles are.—They are as careful as a professional beau with a new mash—until they get a line on the other fellows view point.

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Well, says one.—“Things would stand a little improving in places. Times are pretty hard.” “Yes, you’re right. Its pretty tough on the poor people—but I guess—next spring president Harding will start the ball rolling.—I think Harding is a very good man, don’t you?”

“Good?—why, that man is the best president we have ever had—Lincoln wasn’t in it with Harding—It took Lincoln four years to free a million and a half slaves. Harding has freed nearly seven million in less than a year.”

“By Gee, thats right—and maybe if we keep him in office he’ll free the rest of the slaves while Hank Ford throws a harness on Mississippi...”

“Yes, maybe—”

I have been a staunch supporter of Warren—he comes from my own state.—God bless her,—and him... Ohio is the territory in question—Ohio has produced as many bums as any state in this union, (counting myself)—but she has also favored our beloved country with presidents... Now it happens, that the Industrial Workers threatened to inscribe on their banner the revolutionary watchword “Abolition of the wage System.” What did Harding do?—Did he lay down—No. He saw his duty... and got in the middle of road, spread his hands, and said stop! “We must get back to normalcy.”

With that one historical sentence he abolished the wage system insofar as six million slaves are concerned.

Not many of them have seen a pay envelope since.