Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am sure you will want to see the enclosed tear sheet of "How FDR Played Poker" from the coming issue of LOOK - the August 19th issue.

This issue will be released nationally on Tuesday, August 5th.

Cordially,

Felix Jager

Thank you for your letter.
How FDR Played Poker just as he played politics

By JAMES KIERAN

Franklin D. Roosevelt played poker with a hoy nunny nunny and a huchcha cha. He seemed to play the political game the same way. Yet, despite an apparently innocent un-orthodoxy in both activities, he always seemed to win.

My own poker acquaintance with him goes back to 1928. The regular games, played with four newspaper men, began in Warm Springs in 1932. Each year for about five years thereafter, the same men gathered over the chips in Hyde Park. The score sheet, above, was written in FDR's hand. The 1934 game

The "Jim" on the score is himself, then a political reporter on the New York Times. "Ernest" is Ernest K. Lindley, a Washington columnist. The "Mc (Scotch)" was the late Marvin H. McIntyre, presidential secretary who sat in only on this game. "Walter" is Walter T. Brown, former AP man and later secretary to Governor Lehman of New York. "Louis R." is Louis Ruppel, New York and Chicago re- porter and editor. "Pa," of course was FDR himself.

This score sheet represents a typical game. It was held at Hyde Park on Sept. 8, 1934, as the sheet shows. After dinner, the ladies re- tired. Near the fireplace in the great library, we assembled around a cloth covered table. FDR grinned as he brought out a gallon jug of Demerara rum. Right then we should have been suspicious. Demerara rum is liquid dyna- mine and FDR was a moderate drinker.

The President scribbled our names on a sheet of Hyde Park stationery and doled out the chips. Then we settled down to play.

At first, it was plain poker—draw with jacks or better to open, regular stud. The limit was low. After a while the rum began to create a pleasing glow. Some of us who normally pre- ferred the plainer game agreed to FDR's sugges- tions for variations. They came thick and fast. The President loved such wild versions of poker as seven card stud, with deuces and one- eyed jacks wild, or "split in the ocean," a poker complication I still don't understand. It was here that FDR displayed his gay recklessness. Laughing and betting on madly intricate com- binations, he looked like Joe Sucker asking to be hooked.

At about 3 a.m. he totaled up the score. He was ahead $14.50 in chips and $16.35 left over as banker—a total of $31.15. Again the Roose- veult bravado paid off!
Japanese tell LOOK that the U.S. Army's occupation chief did a good job, but they fear Russia and complain of high prices, food and clothing shortages.

Page boy Y. Hayakawa: "Prices are very high. I wish tips were as high. But American officers are kind to me. I like to work for them. I wish I could see MacArthur. We play baseball all the time. The GIs help us. I save tips so I can buy a baseball glove. Could I get a job in America? I'm a good page boy."

Hotel manager T. Morimoto: "The Japanese are grateful that you sent us a man like General MacArthur. The Russians would not have been so kind. We hope America will continue to help us get back on our feet. Food and clothing are scarce except on the black market. We hope that the tourists come back."

Student O. Hoshino: "Most Japanese think the occupation is good for the country. General MacArthur is a wonderful man. Your country must be like him. But the food situation is very bad here. This year is the worst. Housing is bad. Often you will see five to six families living together in one room."

Hotel clerk A. Masubuchi: "Everyone in Japan thinks MacArthur is a fine man. We have hope now. I hope your troops stay here until Japan can help itself. First you must help us get rid of the black market. Prices are so high now. Sugar costs more than jewelry but prices are better than before."

Farming is America's greatest single enterprise. The welfare of the nation depends upon it. More people are engaged in it than in any single industrial classification. While farm workers are fewer than pre-war, farm production is at an all-time high. Mechanized or power farming has made this possible; has revolutionized modern farming; has increased and diversified the average farm's output, many fold. Here is where spark plugs play an exceptionally important part in the daily lives of the users. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that Champion Spark Plugs are the overwhelming favorites in cars, trucks, tractors, stationary engines and other power farming equipment, because they're dependable. Champion Spark Plug Company, Toledo 1, Ohio.

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