

*At Ease: Stories I Tell to Friends*  
by Dwight D. Eisenhower

pp. 82 - 83

“Whatever the school thought, I was not without ingenuity. When Earl was several months old, my mother wanted him taken out in the baby carriage and wheeled around. Saddled with the chore, I discovered that I could lie down on the lawn in the front yard and draw the carriage back and forth lengthwise by catching the front axle with my fingers, bringing it back down toward my toes, and then catching the rear axle with my toes and bringing it back the same way. This gave me a perfectly lazy time in the sunlight and kept Earl sufficiently happy so that each time, he finally went to sleep.

A neighbor, Mrs. Brown, thought this was the funniest thing she had ever seen and she regaled my mother with all its details. Mother worried that my new technique might tip the buggy so she asked me for a demonstration. Fortunately, she approved.”