

The Chief is a nice Fellow (1899)

Resume

Scene I

A man, who lives in a dangerous part of town, requests a permit authorising him to carry a weapon. The Chief will only accede to his request after the man has been attacked.

Scene II

A woman comes to report that her husband is mad. He screams at the top of his voice that the whole world is crazy and has bats in the belfry and rats in the basement. He threatens to kill anyone who touches his wife. Her husband, the lady thinks, poses a threat to everyone. However the chief considers that mad people are not his responsibility. The lady should consult Social Services.

Scene III

Breloc has found a watch on the sidewalk and is bringing it to the police station. Instead of congratulating him on his honesty, the Chief interrogates him and has him thrown in jail.

Scene IV

The policemen bring in a certain Floche, who has been causing havoc in the street by insulting the Republic. While questioning the man, the chief realises that he is face to face with the madman who claims everyone has bats in the belfry and rats in the basement. As Floche is well armed and manages to lock the door so that the policemen cannot come to the rescue, the Chief is forced to obey the most bizarre and painful orders. In the end, Floche pushes the chief down the coal cellar and walks out of the station without any problem.

Scene V

The policemen rescue the chief who is now prepared to do all in his power to arrest the madman.