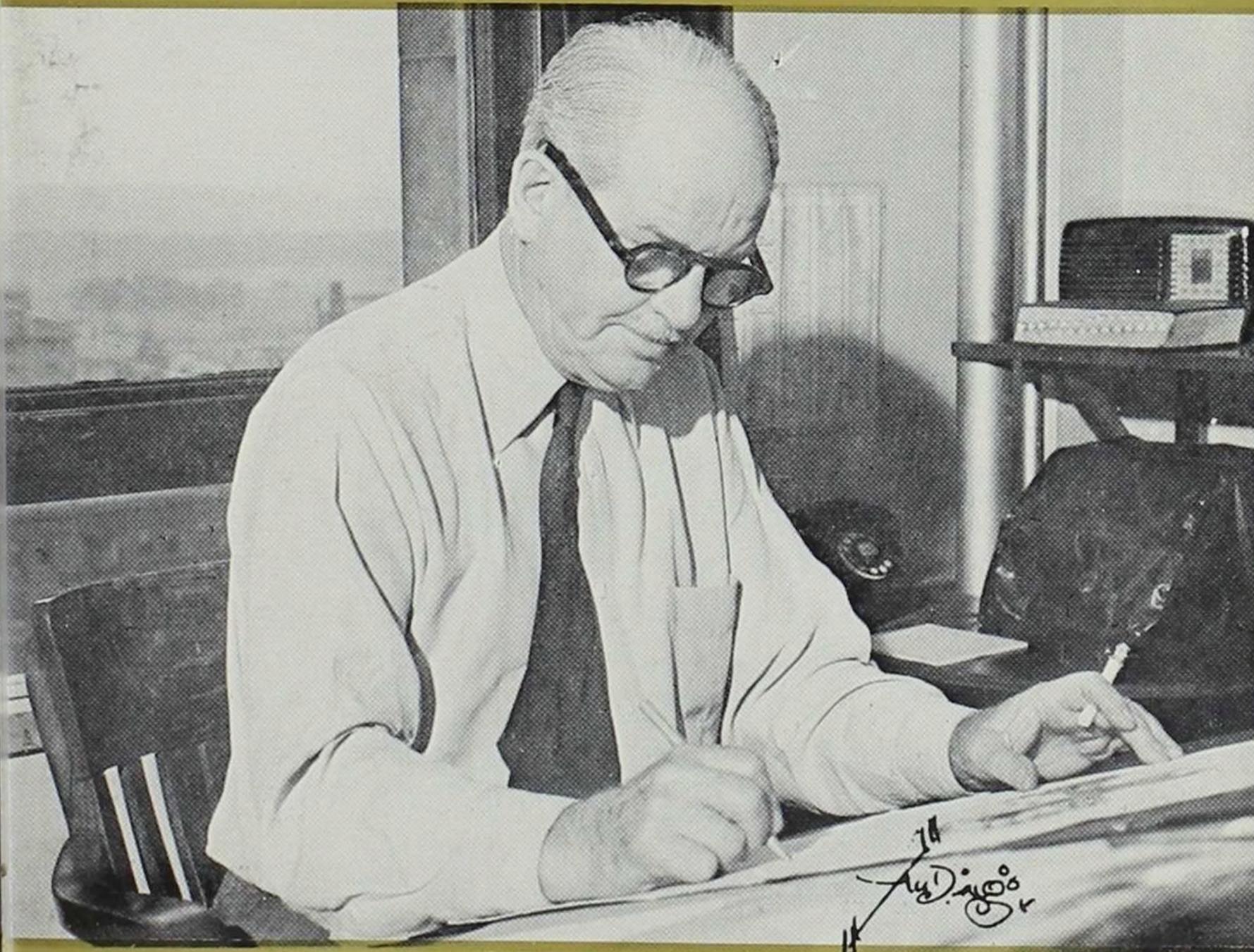


*The*  
**PALIMPSEST**



J. N. "Ding" Darling at His Drawing Board

**A Treasury of Ding**

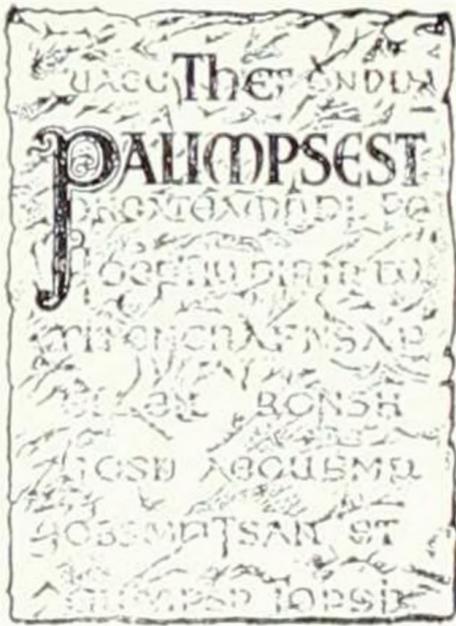
Published Monthly by

**The State Historical Society of Iowa**

Iowa City, Iowa

MARCH 1972

SPECIAL "DING" DARLING NUMBER — ONE DOLLAR



## The Meaning of Palimpsest

In early times a palimpsest was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been erased to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records but also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts.

The history of Iowa may be likened to a palimpsest which holds the record of successive generations. To decipher these records of the past, reconstruct them, and tell the stories which they contain is the task of those who write history.

## Contents

### A TREASURY OF DING

JOHN M. HENRY

Of Ding Himself	81
Some Cartoons Have Extra Stories	95
Comparisons and Contrasts	110
The Fourteen Presidential Campaigns	127
It Might as Well have Been Today	144
Around the Home	151
Browsing	162

## Illustrations

All illustrations were furnished by the author, John Henry, to whom Ding had willed the small "proofs" of his cartoons. The entire collection has been given to the Drake University Library by Mr. Henry.

## Author

John M. Henry was born in Silver Creek Township in Pottawattamie County in 1895. He graduated from Macedonia high school and from the University of Kansas. After a one-man job getting out the *Macedonia Weekly News* he became Managing Editor of the *Council Bluffs Nonpareil*. Subsequently he was general manager of an Iowa-Nebraska radio network. He served as trouble shooter for the Republican National Committee after which he was placed in charge of Public Affairs for the *Des Moines Register*. A close friend of "Ding" Darling, John Henry has lectured frequently on the cartoonist since his retirement from the *Register*.

THE PALIMPSEST is published monthly by the State Historical Society of Iowa in Iowa City. William J. Petersen, Editor. It is printed in Iowa City and distributed free to Society members, depositories, and exchanges. This is the March, 1972, issue and is Number 3 of Volume 53. Second class postage paid at Iowa City, Iowa.

PRICE—Included in Membership. Regular issues, 50¢; Special—\$1.00

MEMBERSHIP — By application. Annual Dues \$5.00

ADDRESS — The State Historical Society, 402 Iowa Avenue  
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

# THE PALIMPSEST

EDITED BY WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

VOL. LIII

ISSUED IN MARCH 1972

No. 3

Copyright 1972 by The State Historical Society of Iowa



## Of Ding Himself

Jay Norwood Darling, using the name "Ding" and putting a cartoon before the people of Iowa every day—day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year, decade after decade—for a half century, has been called the most influential man in Iowa's history. He began drawing cartoons for Iowans on *The Sioux City Journal* in 1900. In 1906 Ding went to the *Des Moines Register and Leader* and there furnished a daily cartoon until he retired in 1949. He died in 1962.

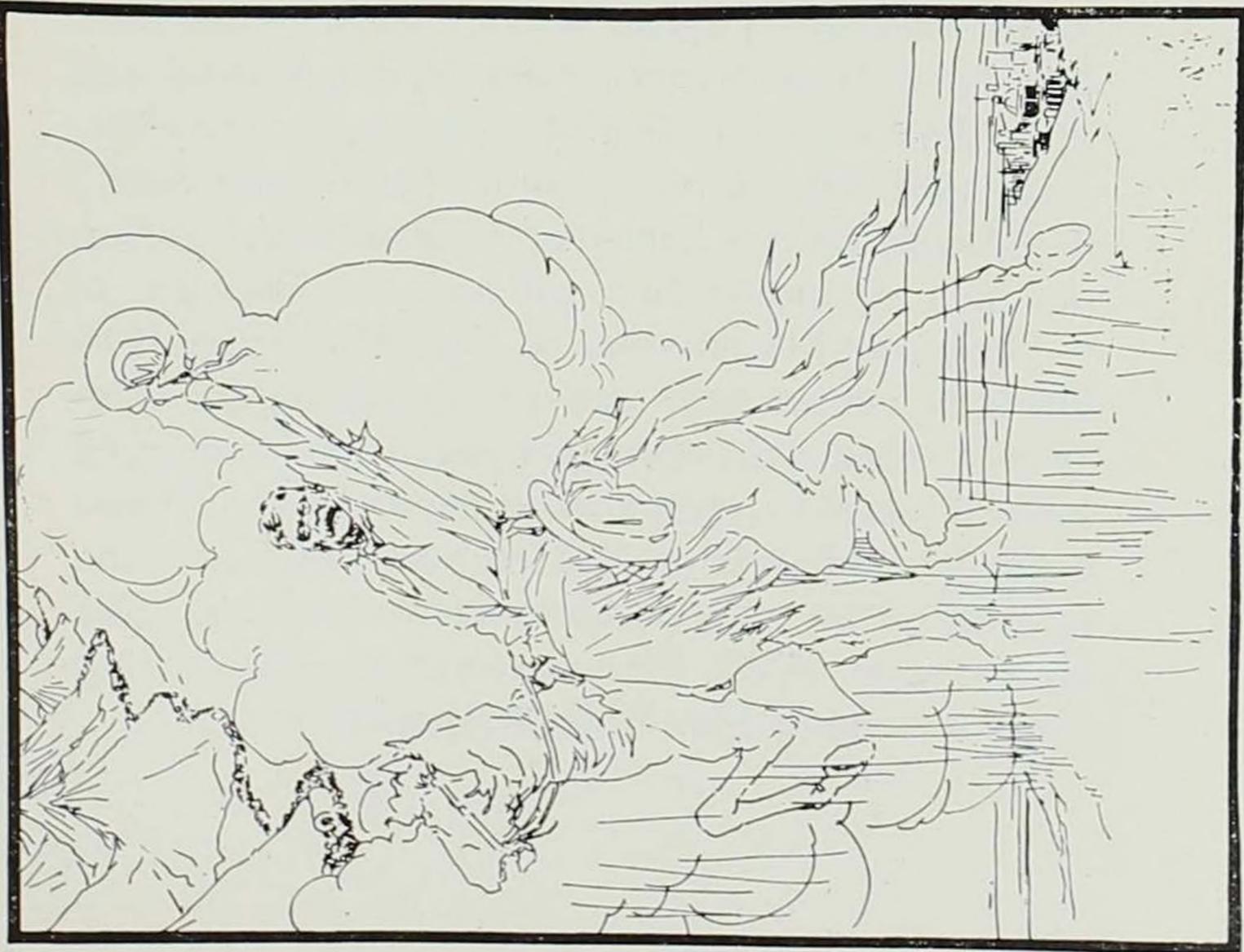
The selection of the cartoons reproduced herein has been made by the writer, a long-time associate of Ding, to whom Ding willed the proofs of his cartoons, and who has edited several books of the cartoons. His big originals, Ding willed to the University of Iowa.

The cartoons in this issue of *The Palimpsest* are classified in what the author believes is an interesting and significant way. One section is "new" in that it dwells on Ding himself, showing cartoons significant to him as an individual. Another details

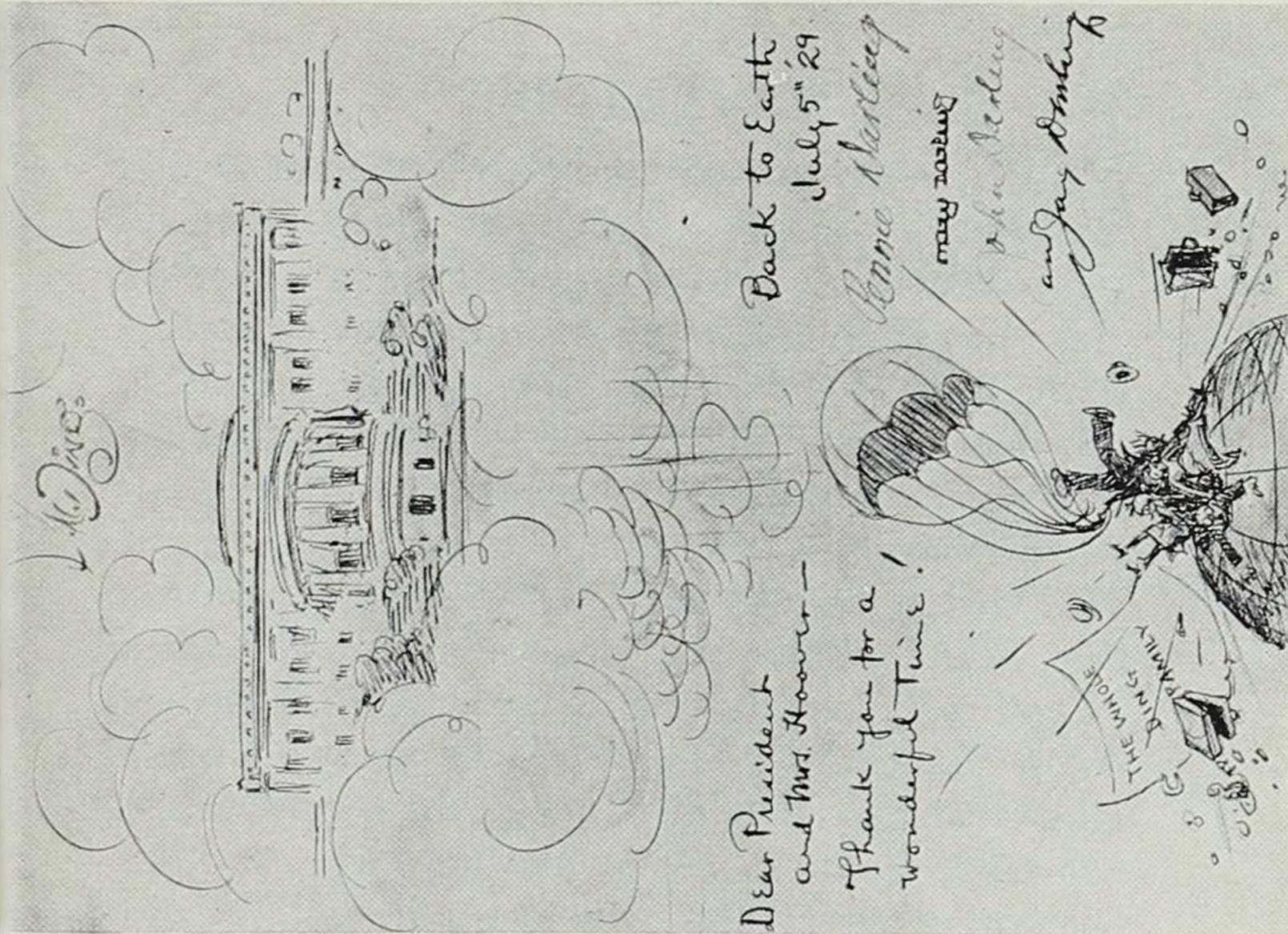
the fascinating little stories that go with the drawings, and that are just as true today as when the cartoons originally appeared. Another section emphasizes what already has been emphasized often—that Ding cartoons, which depicted scenes and episodes dating far into the past, are pertinent today. Still another shows some of the cartoons Ding drew about presidential campaigns—from 1900 to 1952—fourteen of them. And finally, there is a sort of browsing section of cartoons which members of the Ding family and the writer especially liked.

The first two cartoons—one of which has been the most reproduced of any of the more than 20,000 Ding cartoons, the other, a cartoon that has never before been published—are significant of the close friendship of Ding with two presidents of the United States—Theodore Roosevelt and Herbert Hoover.

The cartoon drawn at the death of President Theodore Roosevelt, in 1919, was hurriedly done by Ding when he learned late in the day of his friend's death. [1] He expected to furnish another later in the evening, but this was so instantly popular he drew no other. This cartoon has been reproduced more than any other—on paper, in stone, on metal, wood and concrete. Last year, TR's grandson wrote that every member of the family of the four generations had a copy of it, in some form, and it appears in hundreds of public places.



[1]



[2]

TR frequently invited Ding to visit him at Oyster Bay. For a while it was thought that the idea for this cartoon came from some of their horseback rides together. But Ding recalled that two years before TR's death, he had drawn one like this on the death of Buffalo Bill, and the idea stayed in the "back of my head apparently."

The cartoon showing the "return to earth" of the Darling family from a visit with the Hoovers in the White House was found among President Hoover's papers at the Presidential Library at West Branch in 1970. [2] Copies of it were made and furnished to Mrs. Darling, in Florida, who has since died; to Mary Darling, who is Mrs. Richard Koss in Des Moines; and to Dr. John Darling in Florida. In July of 1929, a few months after President Hoover's inauguration, the Darling family was invited to the White House, and upon their return this cartoon was sent to the President and Mrs. Hoover as a "thank you note." The family did not immediately recall the drawing, but their signatures brought back the memory.

Ding met Mr. Hoover at Des Moines in 1919 when he went to hear him speak, and to get a closer look at him for cartooning purposes. During the time he was Secretary of Commerce and President, Mr. Hoover, at his request, was sent the original of any cartoon Ding drew about him. The librarians at West Branch found scores of Ding cartoons among Mr. Hoover's papers.

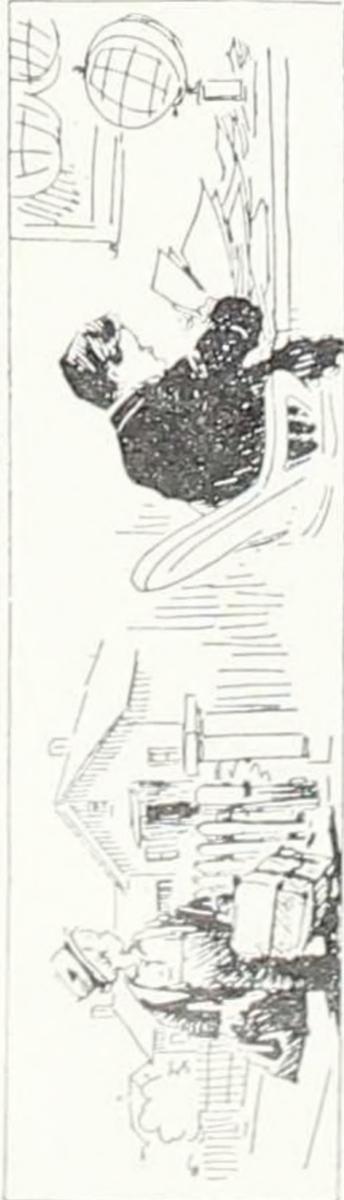
It was not generally known, until the past year, that Mr. Hoover early in his presidency tried to buy the cottage at West Branch in which he was born. Ding acted as Hoover's agent but was unable to make the purchase. Some eight or nine years later Mrs. Hoover and their son, Allan, did buy the cottage and moved it back to its former location. The park development was started by William Anderson, which resulted in the building of the Hoover Presidential Library in the park with the cottage.

At the giant observance of Herbert Hoover's 90th birthday, at West Branch, in 1964, the State of Iowa presented Hoover with a book containing 100 selected Ding cartoons about Iowa's most distinguished son. The writer who edited the book, now has a leather-bound copy in his home, bearing the autographs of both Mr. Hoover and Ding, with a characteristic misspelling of a word by Ding. Ding often said that a person who could spell a word in only one way didn't have much imagination.

The Pulitzer prize is the highest award given for work in journalism, including cartooning, and Ding received the second granted to anyone—that in 1922. [3] He had drawn many cartoons worthy of consideration for such praise in the years before that, but the prize was not offered until the start of the 1920's.

Ding got his second Pulitzer award in 1943—

IN GOOD OLD U. S. A.



AN OPPHAN AT 8 IS NOW ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST MINING ENGINEERS AND ECONOMISTS WHOSE AMBITION IS TO ELIMINATE THE CYCLE OF DEPRESSION AND UNEMPLOYMENT



THE SON OF A PLASTERER IS NOW THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEUROLOGIST AND HIS HOBBY IS GOOD HEALTH FOR POOR CHILDREN



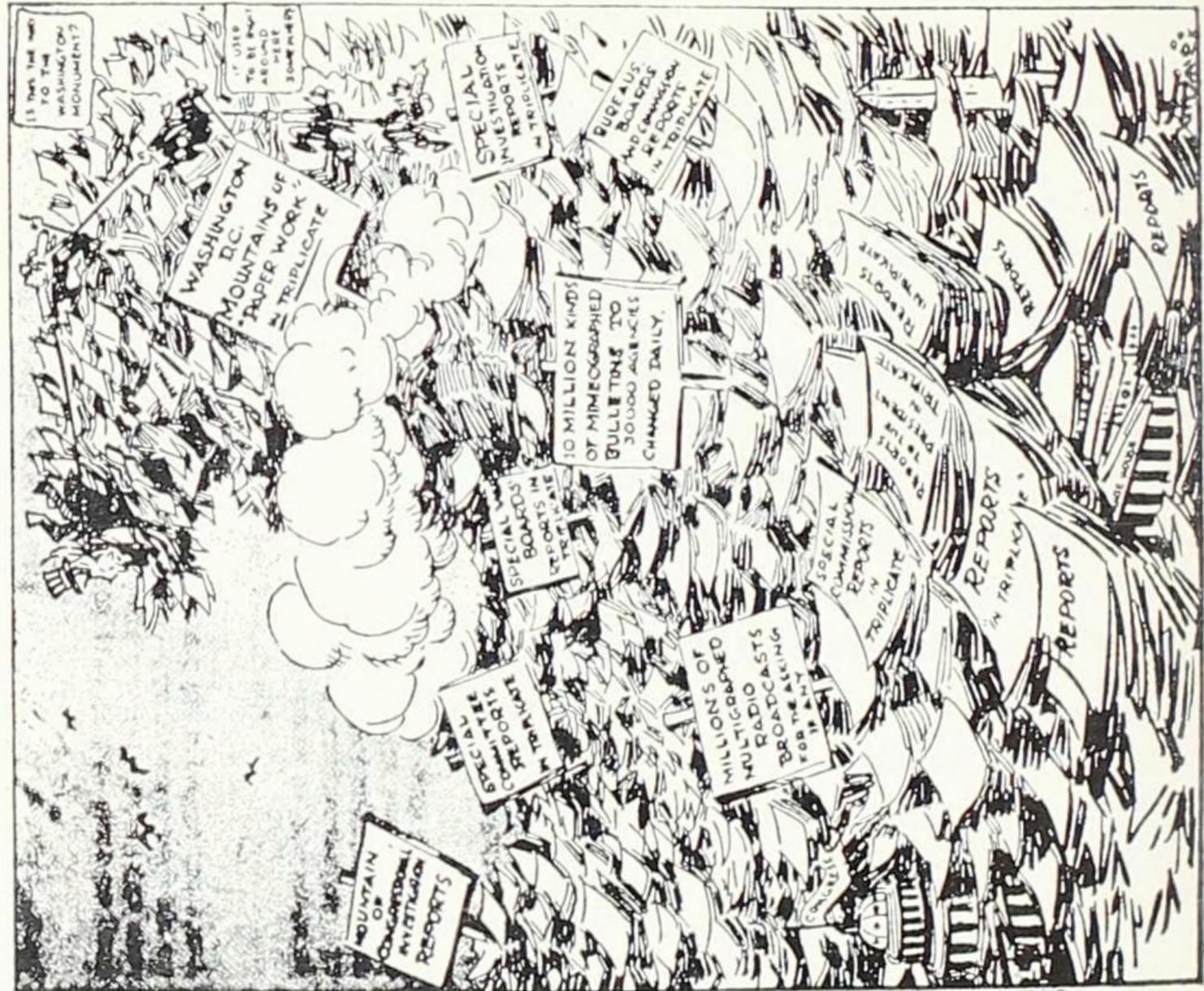
A PRINTER'S APPRENTICE IS NOW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE UNITED STATES



BUT THEY DIDN'T GET THERE BY HANGING AROUND THE CORNER DRUG STORE

DRAWN BY JIM BIRKING  
AND ANIMATED BY FREDERICK BRUCE  
FOR THE BELL SYSTEM OF THE U.S.A.

What A Waste Paper Campaign



and did not like it. [4] He often said he could not conceive why such a cartoon was given the prize. When a collection of his cartoons was made in 1961 (Ding's Half Century) he asked that it not be included, and it was not. He thought that another cartoon, depicting the effect of the atomic bomb, should have received the prize. [5]

Ding was disappointed that this cartoon was not given the Pulitzer prize. It was drawn immediately after the atomic bomb blasts over Japan. Later, another cartoonist used this idea for a cartoon, and the Pulitzer prize went to him.

Although he was one of the best cartoonists, and very articulate in every way, Ding wrote but twice on how to draw cartoons, and both times after he had retired. One explanation was in a personal letter; the other was a part of a chapter in the book by his friend, Gene Brynes, published in 1952. In it Ding explains how he developed an idea for a cartoon: [6]

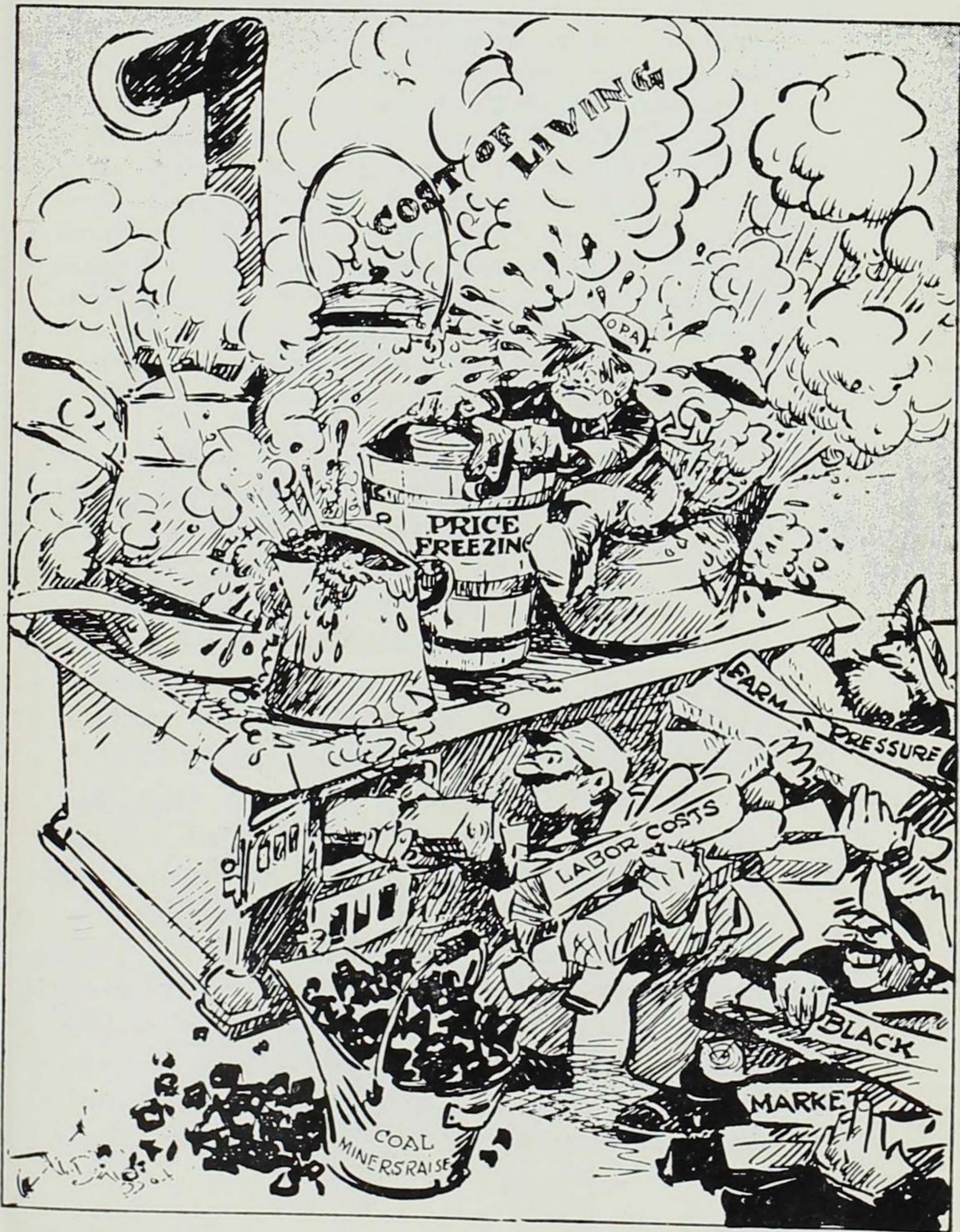
The cartoon started with the idea of freezing prices under difficulties. "Freeze" suggested what most every boy of my generation had experienced, that is—grinding away on an ice-cream freezer that wouldn't freeze. But how was I to explain the other end of the theme; that the people were preventing the freezing? They could be shown building a fire under the freezer. If so, they had to be building the fire for a reasonable purpose and only inadvertently putting the heat on the freezer. Well, where would most people build a fire? Probably in a cookstove to cook some-

Eventually, Why Not Now?

HELLO! HELLO!  
IF THERE'S ANYONE LEFT ALIVE  
I'D LIKE TO UNITE WITH 'EM  
IN A WORLD LEAGUE TO  
OUTLAW  
WAR



Helping Johnnie With The Ice Cream



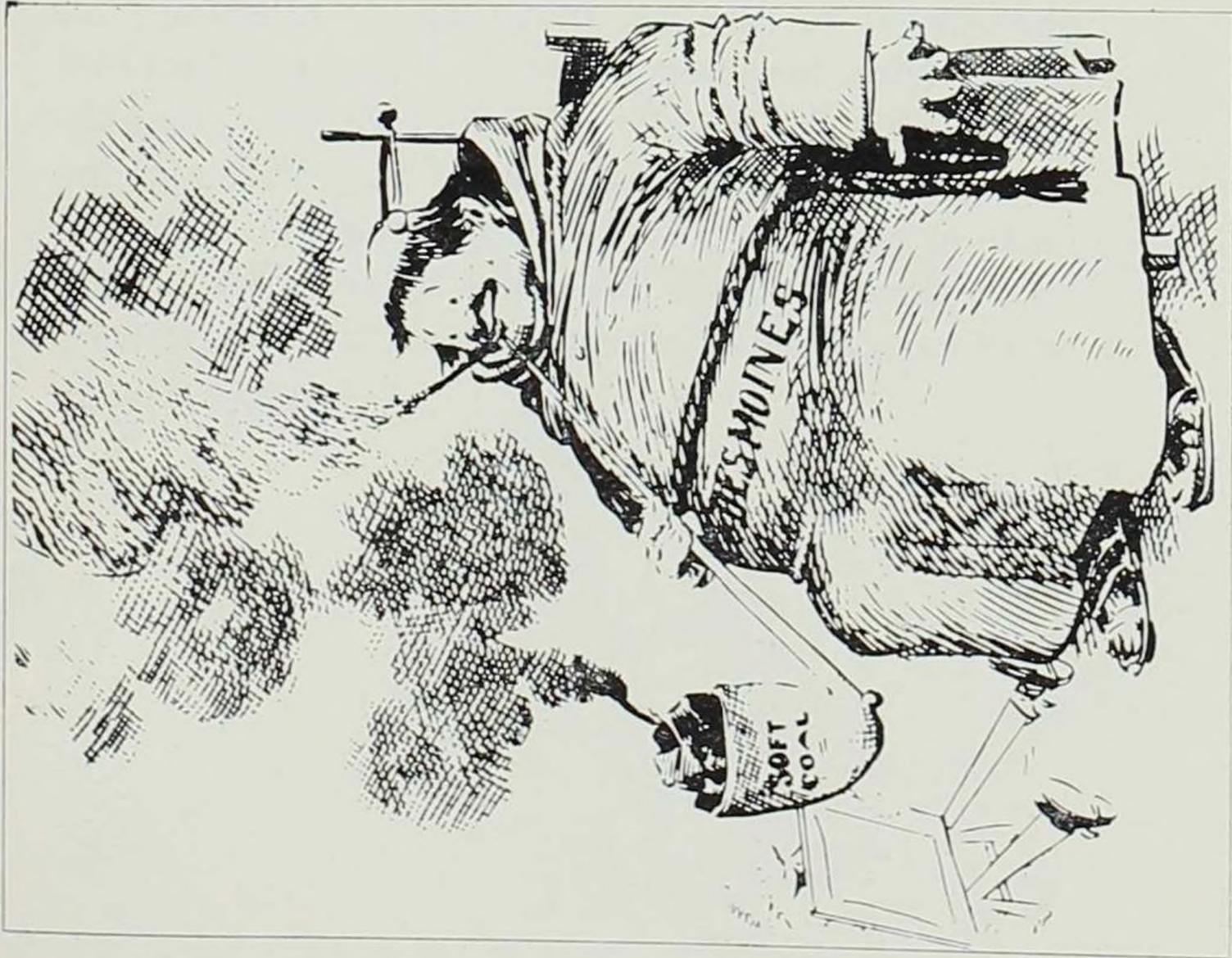
[6]

thing they wanted cooked. And what everyone wanted to cook now was more income and more profits for themselves. But, there the idea broke down, for it failed to take into account the boy turning the ice-cream freezer—unless I sat the boy with the freezer on top of the stove, along with the boiling pots and kettles of increasing costs of production and rising prices. Oh, but putting the boy on top of a stove to freeze ice-cream was absurd! Well, so were the rising costs of production and stabilized selling prices absurd. Yes, maybe it would work (to put the boy and freezer on the stove) and be effective (impress and please the reader) because of the obvious inconsistency. It did.

These two cartoons were bench marks in the career of Ding. That at the left, of the monk smoking, was his first for the *Des Moines Register and Leader*, when he joined that paper in 1906. [7] He continued drawing cartoons for that newspaper until 1949, when he retired. This cartoon, often cited as Ding's first of many on pollution, (now regarded as a current issue) drew criticism from the coal dealers and from the Catholic Church.

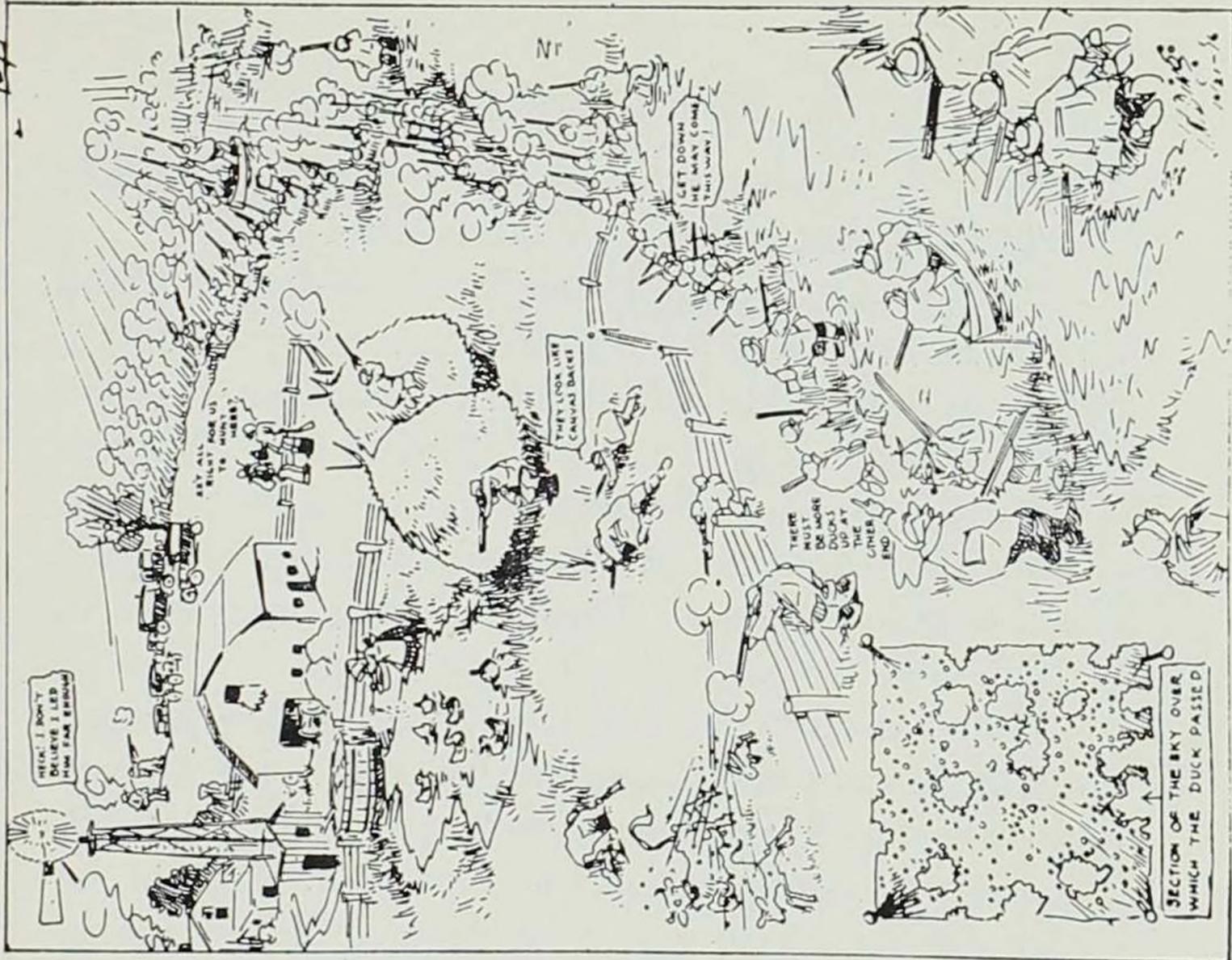
The other cartoon was one that Ding had drawn and published on his 40th birthday, ten years later. [8] He was an avid hunter and this was one of a score he had drawn on hunting. What made this one memorable was the fact that on that day, Henry Reed, representing the *New York Herald-Tribune* syndicate, arrived in Des Moines to arrange to syndicate Ding's cartoons to other newspapers. The *Herald-Tribune* syndicated the cartoons the rest of his career. Ding's

A Cartoonist Comes To Town



[7]

THE ANNUAL MIGRATION OF DUCK IS ON



[8]

drawings appeared in the *Des Moines Register* and 135 other papers simultaneously.

Ding was a rugged man, over six feet tall, and able to withstand the rigors of hunting and fishing, and tough traveling. His trip over the Russian mountains is a saga in itself. [9] But now and then he did leave his drawing board for brief periods. When he returned, his drawings showed how glad he was to be back. These cartoons appeared in 1926. [10]

Ding drew a cartoon which he wanted printed after his own death. During his final years he was confined to a hospital from time to time. In 1959, during his convalescence in a St. Paul hospital, he drew this cartoon which he gave to his secretary, Mrs. Merle Strasser, directing that she keep it, showing it to no one. Immediately following his death, Mrs. Strasser gave it to Kenneth MacDonald, editor of *The Des Moines Register*, for publishing. Ding died on February 12, 1962, and the cartoon shown here [11] appeared the next day on the front page of the paper where some 20,000 of his cartoons had appeared in the decades before.

JOHN M. HENRY

If You Don't Think The World Moves, Just Try Stopping It  
Things Seem Just About Where We Left Them A Year Ago



'BYE NOW-IT'S BEEN WONDERFUL KNOWING YOU.



## Cartoons with Extra Stories

The big "originals" of the cartoons drawn by Ding were willed by him to the library of the University of Iowa. The "proofs," which are smaller copies, printed on hard paper, and the same size as the cartoons appearing in the newspapers, were willed to the writer and in turn given to Drake University, which has them in its library. Both the originals and the proofs have been carefully indexed, just as books are in the University and Drake Libraries.

In connection with the University Library, an amusing situation led to the drawing of a special cartoon. Ralph Ellsworth, then University librarian, asked Ding to draw cartoons which might be cut into metal and placed in the nine panels above the three entrance doors of the new library. Ding tried several drawings of covered wagons, prairie scenes and such, but none satisfied him. Then, as a joke, he drew the special cartoon. [12] Ellsworth and President Virgil Hancher liked the drawing so well they persuaded Ding to draw eight additional cartoons to precede this in the panel group, showing, in the same style of drawing, how materials are gathered for a library. Ding, laughing about the cartoon, said: "See, the

The Professor Passes It On



[12]

THE OPERATION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN



[13]

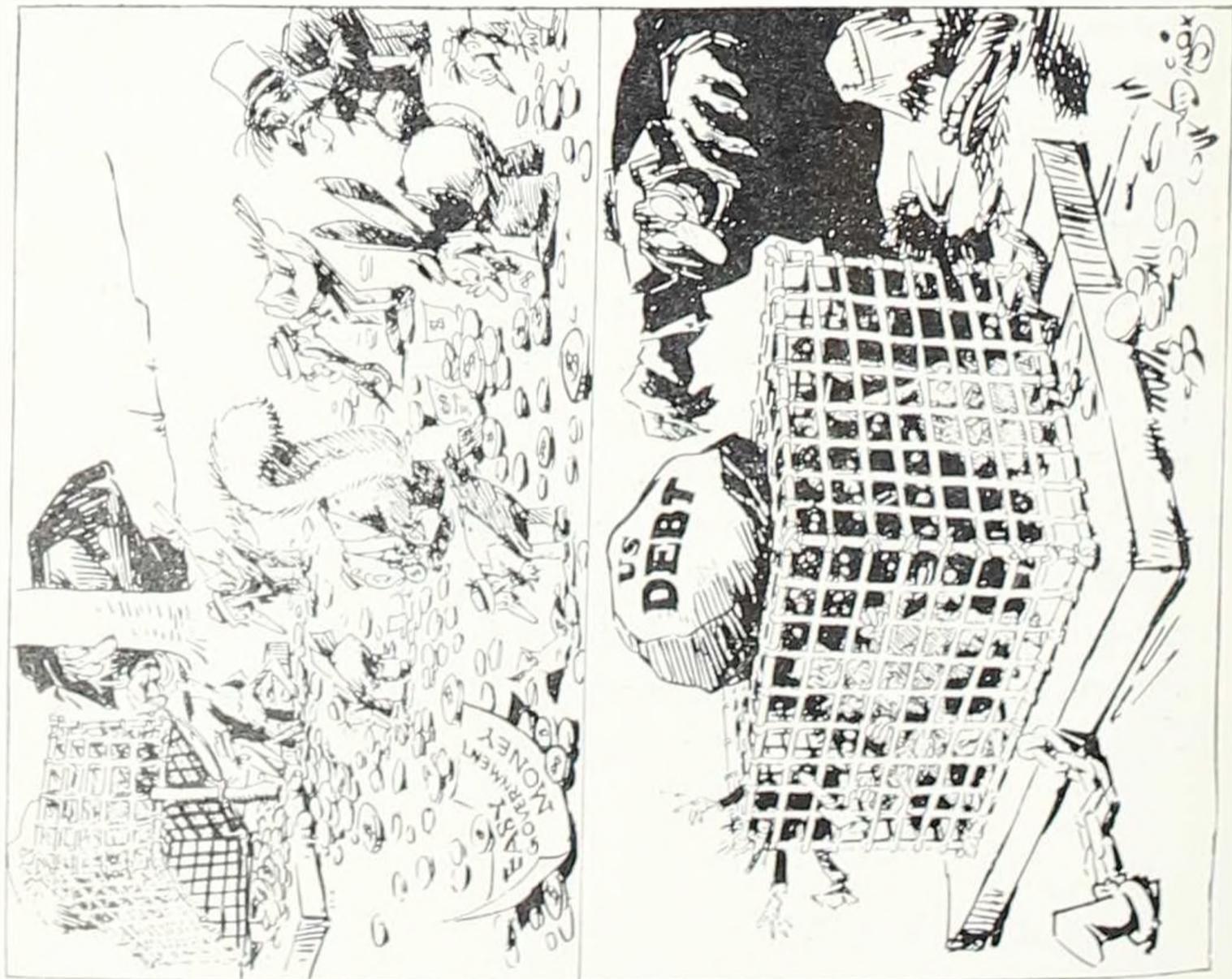
library contents are going right on through the student's head." Because of the exposure to the weather, the cartoons, although on metal, were so worn away they had to be taken inside the library by Leslie Dunlap, librarian, where they are now on exhibit.

The other cartoon first appeared more than fifty years ago. This writer discovered it, and, through "the Third House" (the lobbyists) at the Iowa statehouse, huge prints were made and now displayed in the Senate and House lounges. The presentation was made on the 50th anniversary of the appearance of the cartoon—January 8, 1917. [13]

Two cartoons of unusual interest came off Ding's drawing board in the mid-1930's. The one was an all-time favorite of his. [14] He often said it had "everything," a good, amusing yet serious message, easily understood; "and the execution isn't bad." He requested that this cartoon be included in any appropriate group of his drawings.

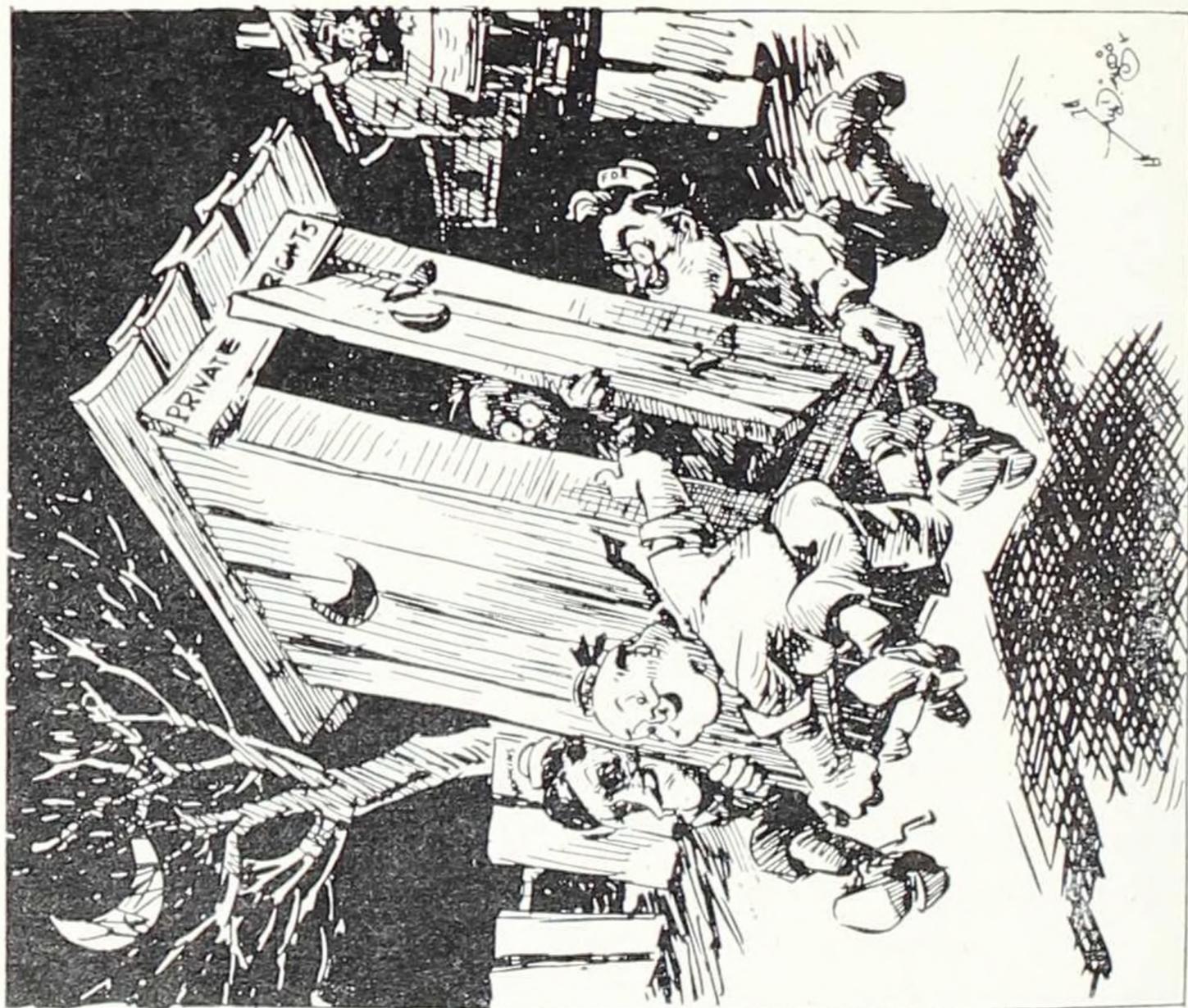
The other cartoon appeared on Halloween, 1936, at a time when there was quite an outcry that the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration was taking away the rights of private citizens. Shown with the president, stealing the privy, are Postmaster General James Farley, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and Harry Hopkins, confidant of FDR and later his Secretary of the Interior. [15] The cartoon did not appear in *The Des Moines Register* because the then publisher,

A Cartoon About All Of Us



[14]

Halloween—U.S.A.



[15]



As Goes Nature, So Goes Man



Where Many Of Our Resources Go



Gardner Cowles, Sr., thought it was in bad taste. But it was sent to other papers by the syndicate and many used it.

Ding often, at the convening of Congress, drew a cartoon likening Congress to a doctor, with the issues and problems in his waiting room. This 1923 cartoon is very similar to eight or nine others drawn during his half century of recording Congresses. [16]

Here are two of the most reproduced of the many cartoons Ding drew about conservation. The one appears as the frontispiece of the history of agriculture containing some 100 Ding Cartoons published by the Pioneer Corn Company of Des Moines. [17]

The other has been published again and again through the years since it first appeared in 1937. [18] It is as pertinent now, of course, as it was then.

This cartoon would not be drawn by Ding if he were at his board today because of the changed attitude on racial rights. [19] But at that time, 1920, it aroused no protest. The cartoon appeared early in 1920 at a time when Herbert Hoover was very popular because of his war-time food work. It was not known for sure that he was a Republican, and many Democratic leaders sought him as the Democratic nominee. However, it developed that he was a Republican, and when Harding was elected president in 1920 he named Hoover Secretary of Commerce. Hoover served in that capacity

A Big Theft Threatened in the U.S.A.



Weather That Was Weather



for Harding and Coolidge, and was elected president in 1928.

The other cartoon was one of many that Ding drew, lamenting off-season weather. He wanted winter to be cold and snowy, summer hot and sweaty. If they were otherwise at any time he took up his pen in disgust. This cartoon appeared January 28, 1932. [20]

In the mid-1920's, farm prices were low. Farmers were irate at the Republicans because a Republican, Coolidge, occupied the White House. In an effort to help, and thus appease the farmers, the McNary-Haugen bill was passed by Congress. (The Haugen of the bill was Congressman Gilbert Haugen of Iowa.) This bill would use tax money to control production, and thus keep up prices for the farmers. But Coolidge vetoed the bill, and Ding drew this cartoon. The farmers were mad. And they were madder when the bill was passed a second time, and Coolidge vetoed it. It was passed again in Hoover's administration and he vetoed it. And again the rural ire arose. However, the Republican party was strong enough in the 1920's to elect their nominee for president. But many Republican Congressmen from the farm states were defeated. [21]

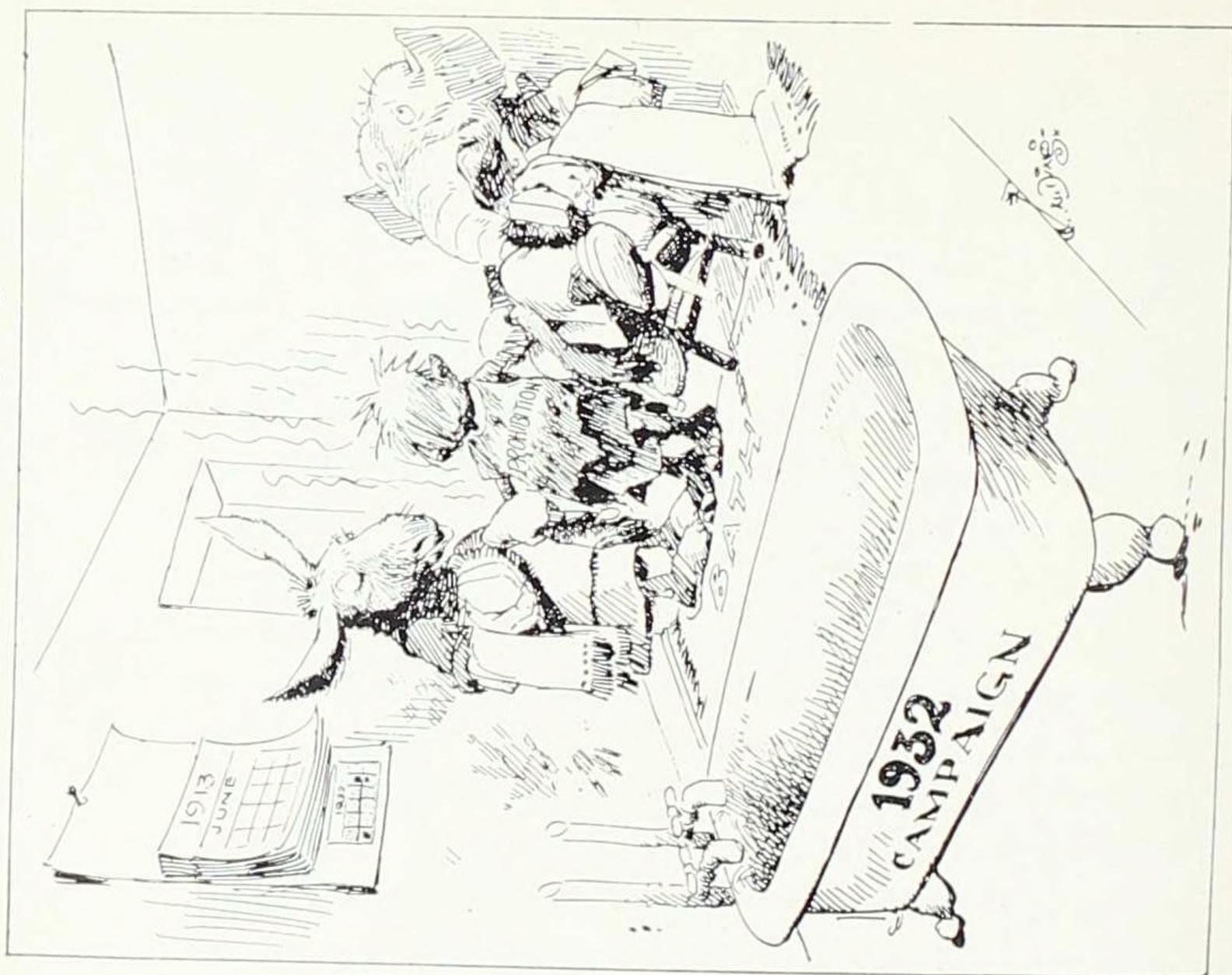
The cartoon at the right tells its own story. It is included here, especially, because of the "error" in the date on the calendar. [22] Ding made that error—one of a few in his 20,000 cartoons—and

Right Through The Nest



[21]

Waiting For Saturday Night



[22]

Forget the Souvenirs, Save The Man



[23]

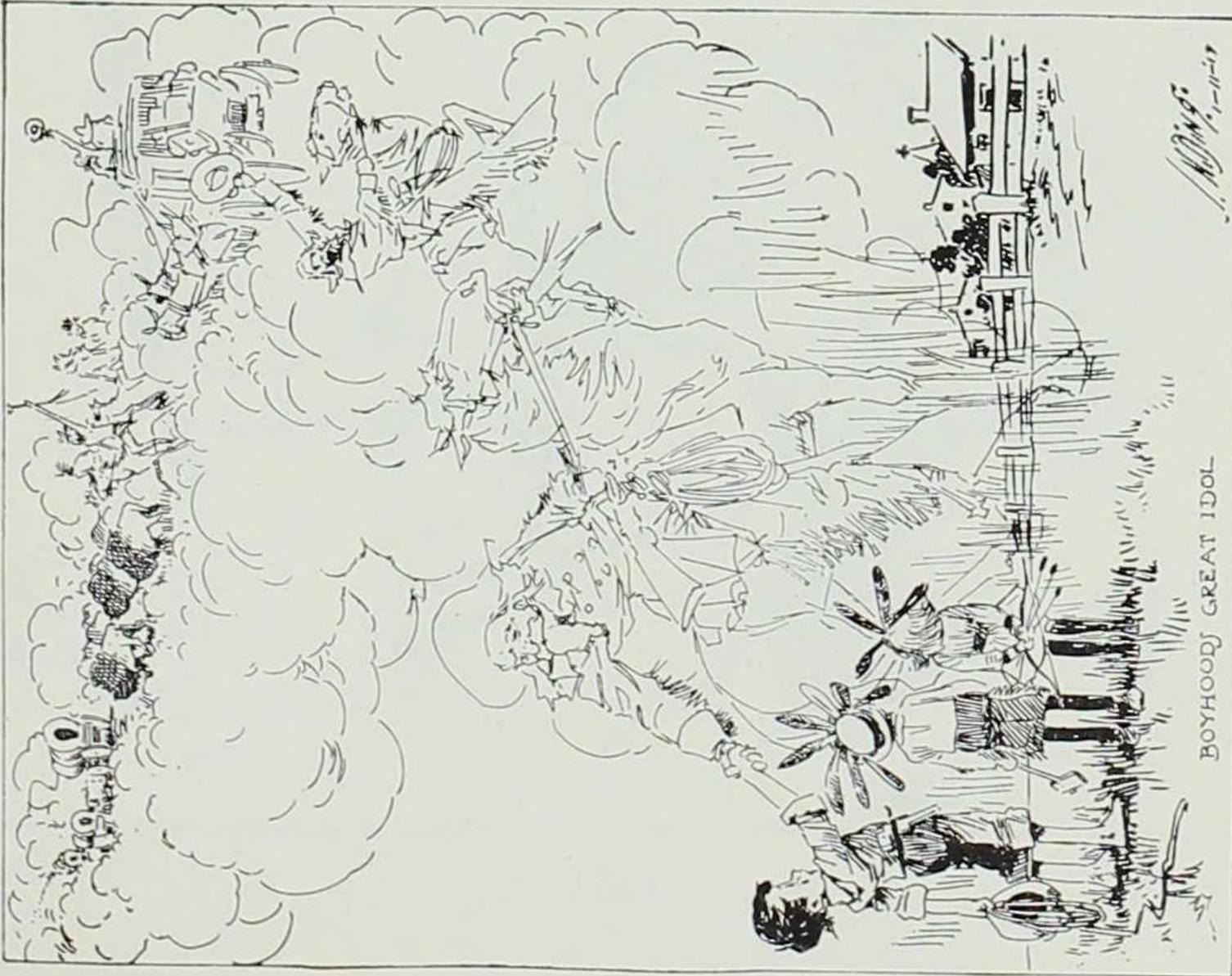
no editor handling the cartoon noted it. Thus, the "error" comes down into history.

Henry Agard Wallace became Secretary of Agriculture under FDR during the farm depression of the 1930's. Wallace developed the policy that the nation was so dependent on the products of the farms that the Federal Government should make payments to the farmers to insure that they kept on producing. His plan was very controversial. A test case of the Wallace plan finally went to the United States Supreme Court, which held it unconstitutional. This caused Ding to draw the cartoon above. [23] The policy was adopted in a different form and, with other changes, has come down to this time. This cartoon for several years was on the wall in the office of Gardner (Mike) Cowles, Jr. It is now in the possession of the family of James Wallace, brother of Henry Agard Wallace.

The cartoon at the left was drawn at the time of the death of Buffalo Bill, in January of 1917, and was the begetter of Ding's most popular cartoon, that drawn two years later on the death of Theodore Roosevelt, also depicted as going into the heavens on his horse. Ding drew the Roosevelt cartoon from what he thought at the time was a spontaneous inspiration. Later he recalled the Buffalo Bill cartoon, and realized that it "must have been in the back of my head." [24]

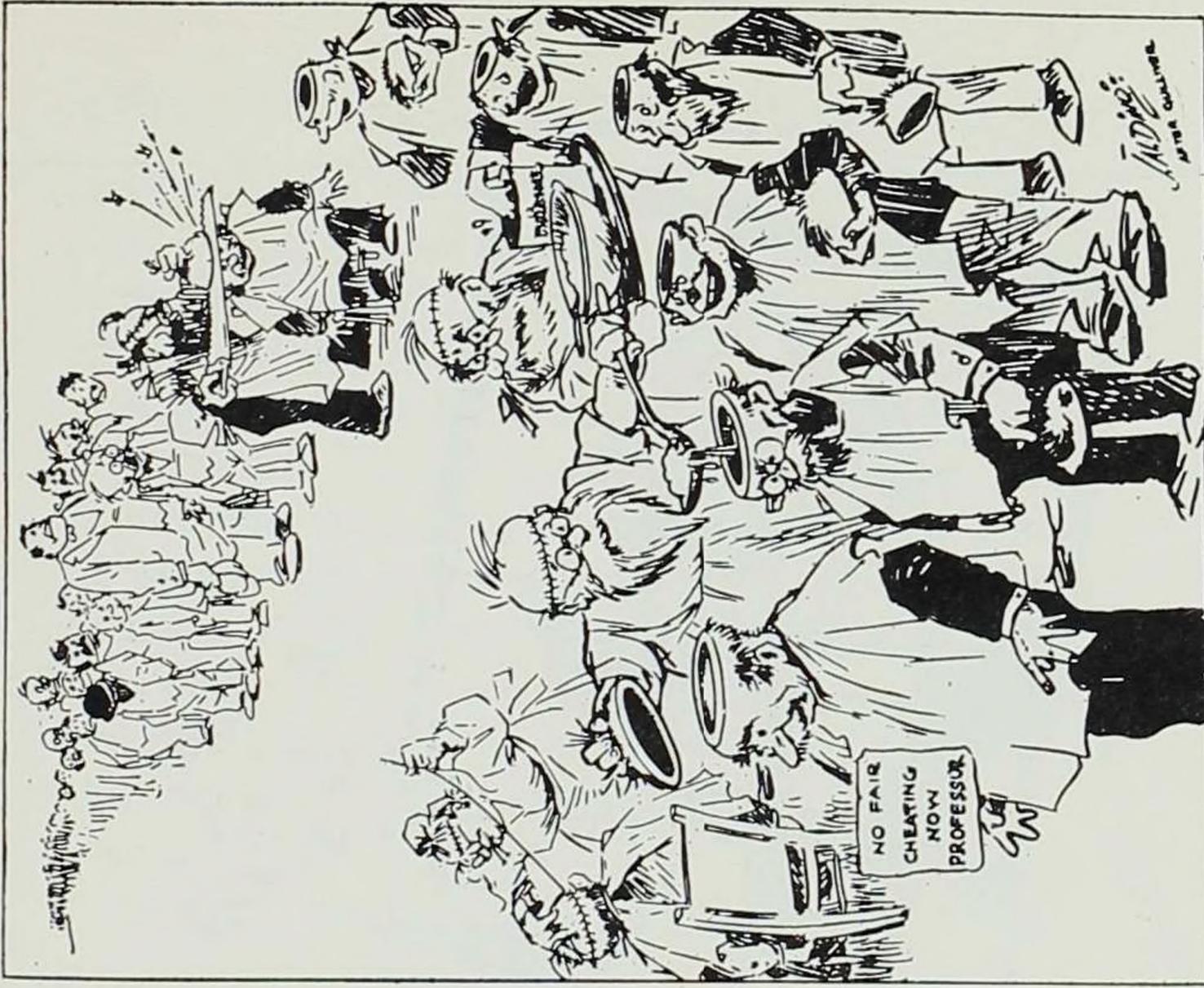
The cartoon at the right is a favorite of Ding's

Gone to Join The Mysterious Caravan



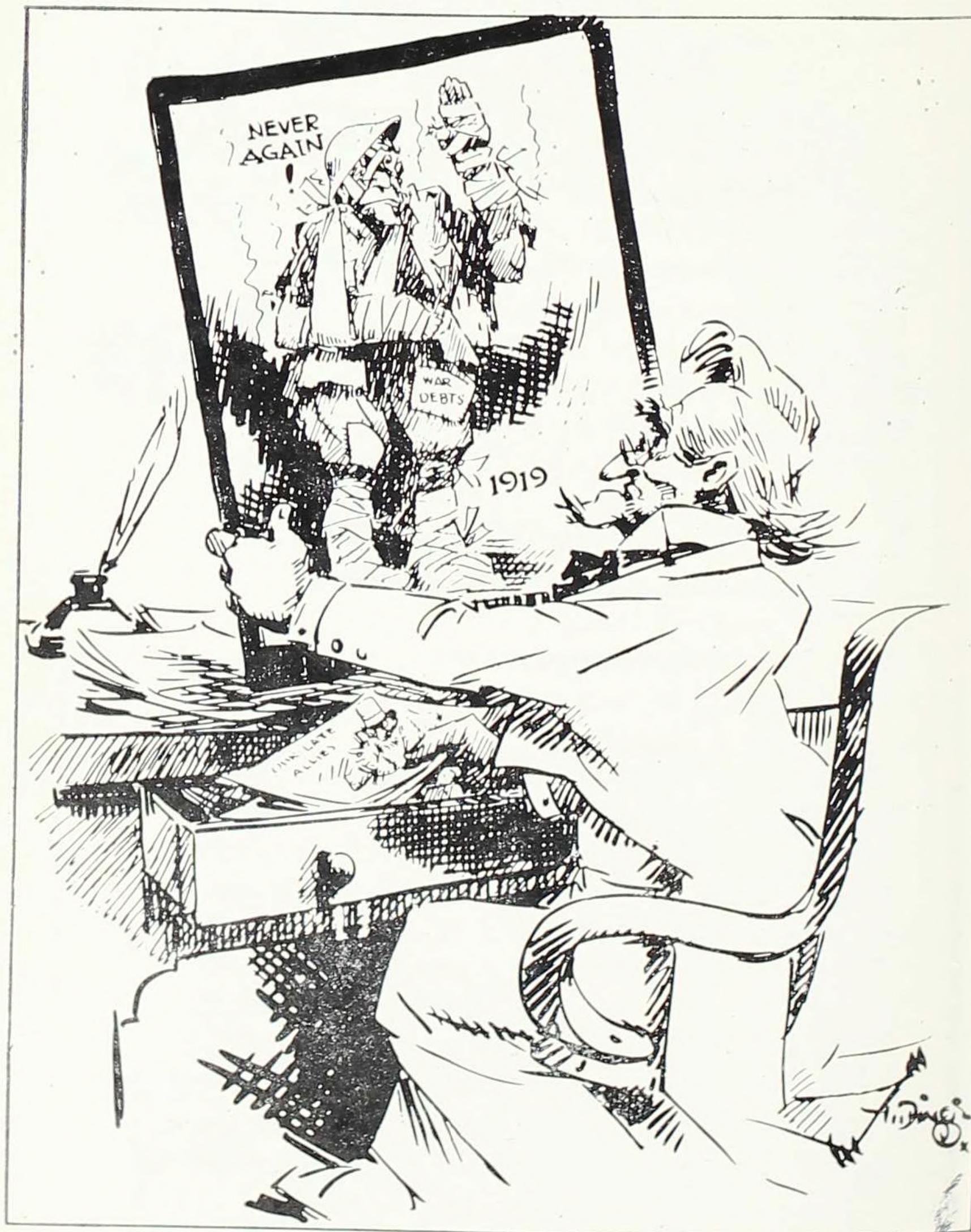
[24]

The Ultimate Balancing Process



[25]

A Look At Some Old Pictures



[26]

family. It was drawn in 1934, following a statement by an official in the Franklin D. Roosevelt New Deal administration, that it planned to even up all persons. [25]

A print of this cartoon hangs in one of the galleries at the Naval Academy at Annapolis. [26] It was sent when the Naval Institute asked that it be given some cartoons indicating that Ding had foreseen the Second World War. The institute was given thirty-some such cartoons, which Ding produced in the 1937-1940 period, and this was the one selected for hanging.

JOHN M. HENRY

## Comparisons and Contrasts

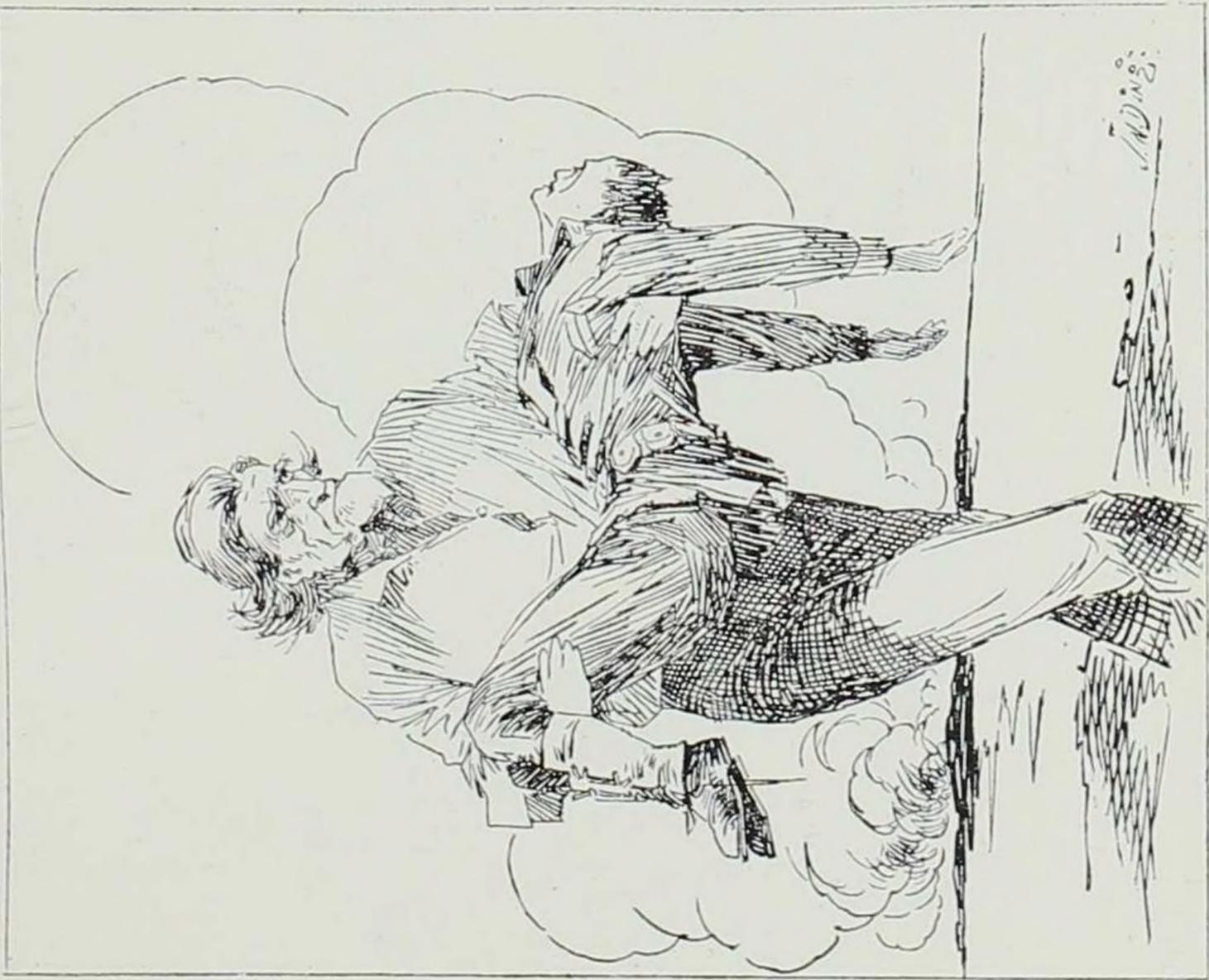
Ding drew very similar cartoons for the first casualties of the two world wars. The first was drawn in memory of Merle Hay of Glidden, one of the first three American boys killed in World War I. [27] The cartoon by Ding appeared a few days after his death in November, 1917. A monument, standing along Highway 30 at Glidden, was erected by the State of Iowa in 1928 to commemorate Merle Hay's death. Ding's cartoon was reproduced on this monument. The road to Camp Dodge from Des Moines was named for Merle Hay. The wording on Merle Hay monument refers to his death "in the world war," as if there would not be a second. . . . The cartoon for World War II appeared in 1942, on the first anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor—December 7, 1941. [28]

On another occasion, Ding drew similar cartoons on the deaths of two of his friends—Iowa statemen who had been serving in Washington for years. Henry Cantwell Wallace, second generation publisher of the *Wallace's Farmer* magazine, was in the cabinet of President Harding as Secretary of Agriculture at the time of his death in 1920. [29] Henry Agard Wallace, son of Henry



[28]

BRINGING THE TRUTH HOME TO US



[27]

The Nation Has Lost A Worthy Servant



[29]

The End Of A Great Career



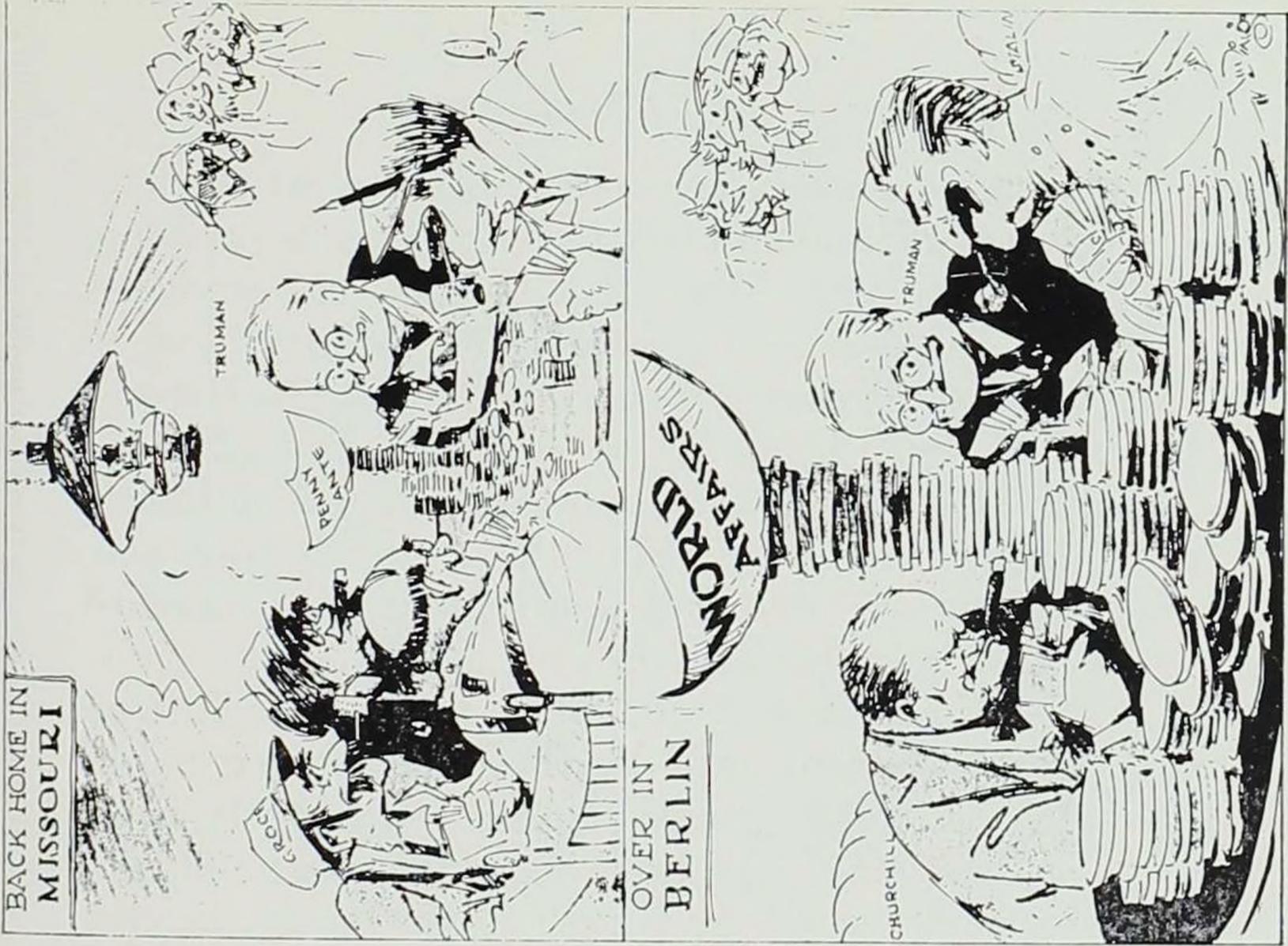
[30]

Friend Calls in London



[31]

He Is In Another Poker Game



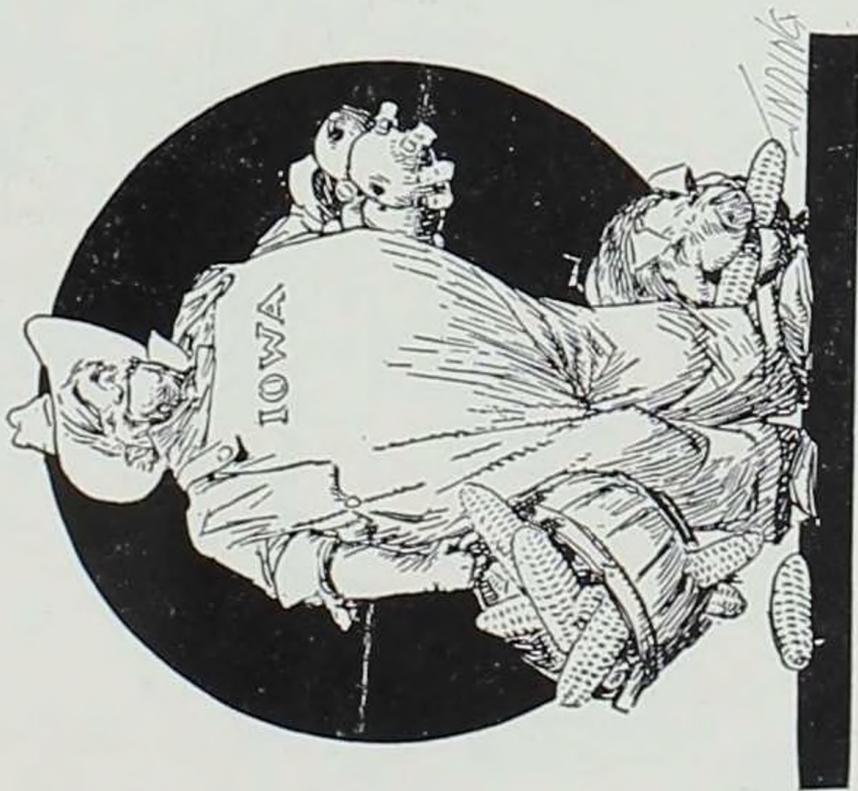
[32]

Cantwell, was Democratic Secretary of Agriculture for Franklin D. Roosevelt and vice president 1941 to 1945. Albert B. Cummins had served as Iowa's governor for three terms, then had gone to the United States Senate for three terms. His majority in 1920 was the greatest ever given an Iowa official. But the depression period on Iowa's farms in the early 1920's drew support from him, and he was defeated at the primary elections of June, 1926. He died the next month. [30]

Ding drew cartoons about the trips to Europe of two presidents—Wilson—immediately after World War I, and Truman immediately after World War II. Wilson was widely and wildly acclaimed, visited the British Royal family, headed parades in London, Paris and Rome, and was viewed by millions. This was because the war had been so thoroughly won by the Allies, and there was not, as yet, any dickering between them about what to do with the Central Powers—Germany, Austria, Turkey. That came later. (The original of the Wilson cartoon was said to have reached Buckingham palace.) [31] Whereas, immediately after the end of World War II the victors began dickering, and quarreling over what to do with the losers. Thus, Truman was depicted playing poker. [32]

Probably Ding's best known cartoon character was the Iowa fat farmer. Many Iowa men declared they were the model for that, but Ding insisted

The Iowa Farmer



[33]

High Time To Begin



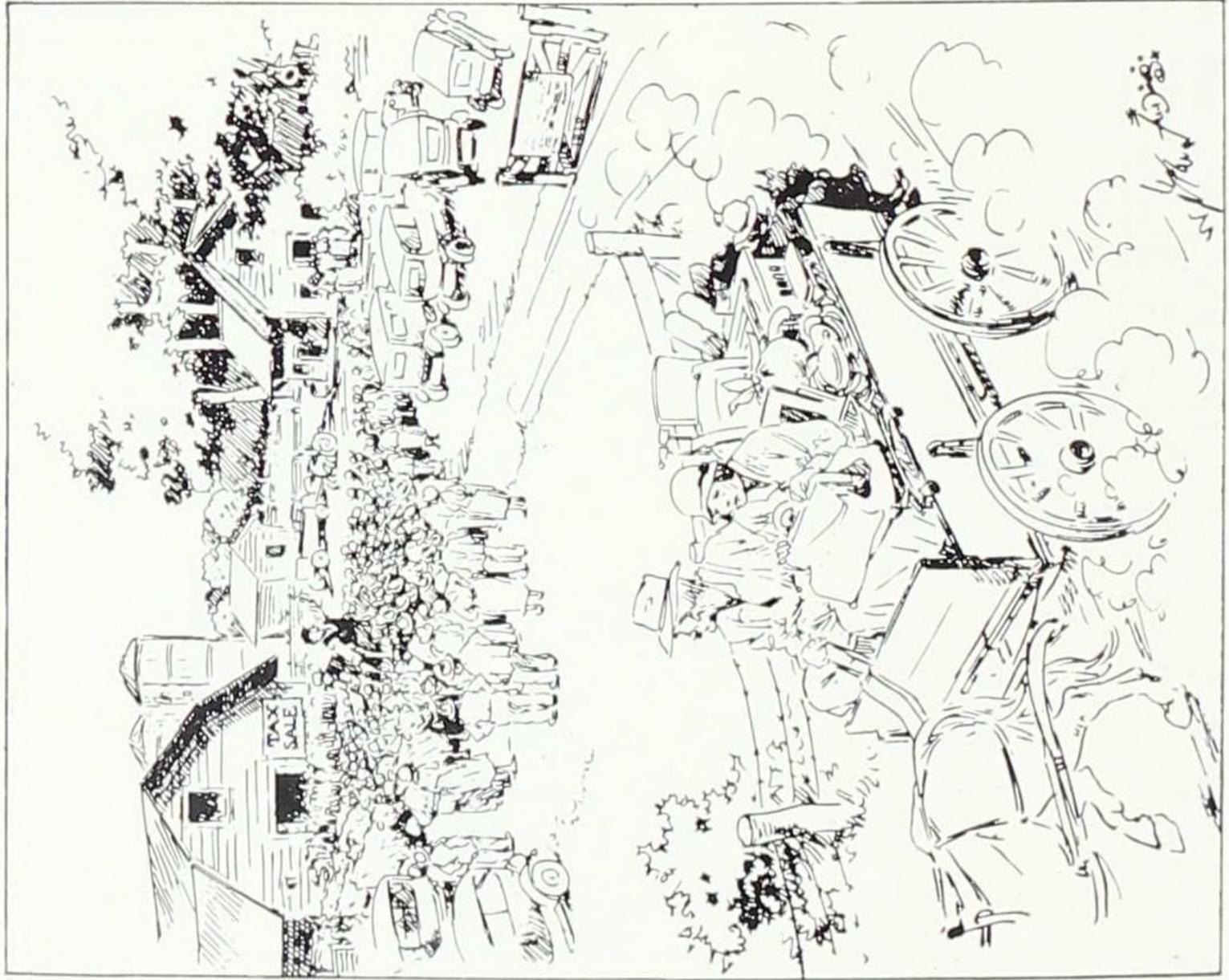
[34]

You Don't Know What It Is To Be Tired



[35]

In The Great Depression Of The 1930's



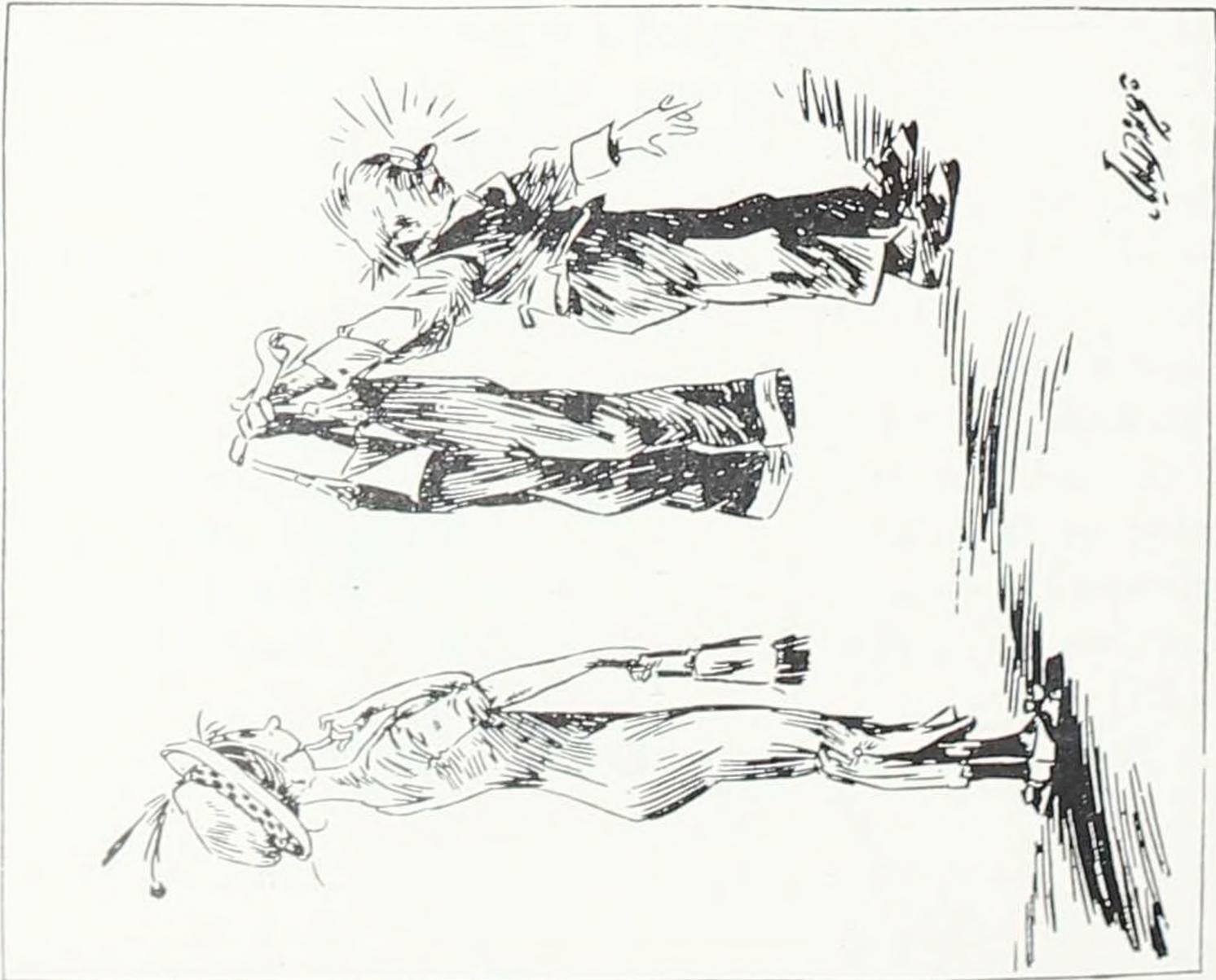
[36]

that no one man was the model. Ding drew his fat farmer most often as a single figure, looking happy. [33] But, at other times he put him into slightly rumpled workaday clothes, as at the right above, in a cartoon drawn in 1919. The fat farmer came off the drawing board the latter part of the teens. Before that, the Iowa farmer was just a sort of harassed rural person, worrying about the corn crop. [34]

Ding used the light touch nearly always in his cartoons. Very, very seldom was there rancor. But, now and then he did show deep feeling and then he was bitter. Once he drew a cartoon while angry, and later he asked that this cartoon be shown in any collection of his work, with an explanation of why it was drawn. In Des Moines, one evening at a bridge game, he heard a woman say, during World War I, that she was "tired" of all the Red Cross, food-saving and such campaigns. Next day he drew the cartoon shown here, saying directly to the world—"You don't know what it is to be tired." [35] In the years after his retirement, a half a century later, he said, "I'm still mad at that woman." In contrast to his "mad" cartoon was a "sad" one he produced during the Great Depression of the 1930's. That was a sad period, and Ding enlivened it some with his pen, but he conscientiously recorded the "sad" part of the history. [36]

In the half century of Ding's cartoons woman

Not A Bad Idea



[37]

Anticipation And Reality



[38]

Let's Really Pollute The River



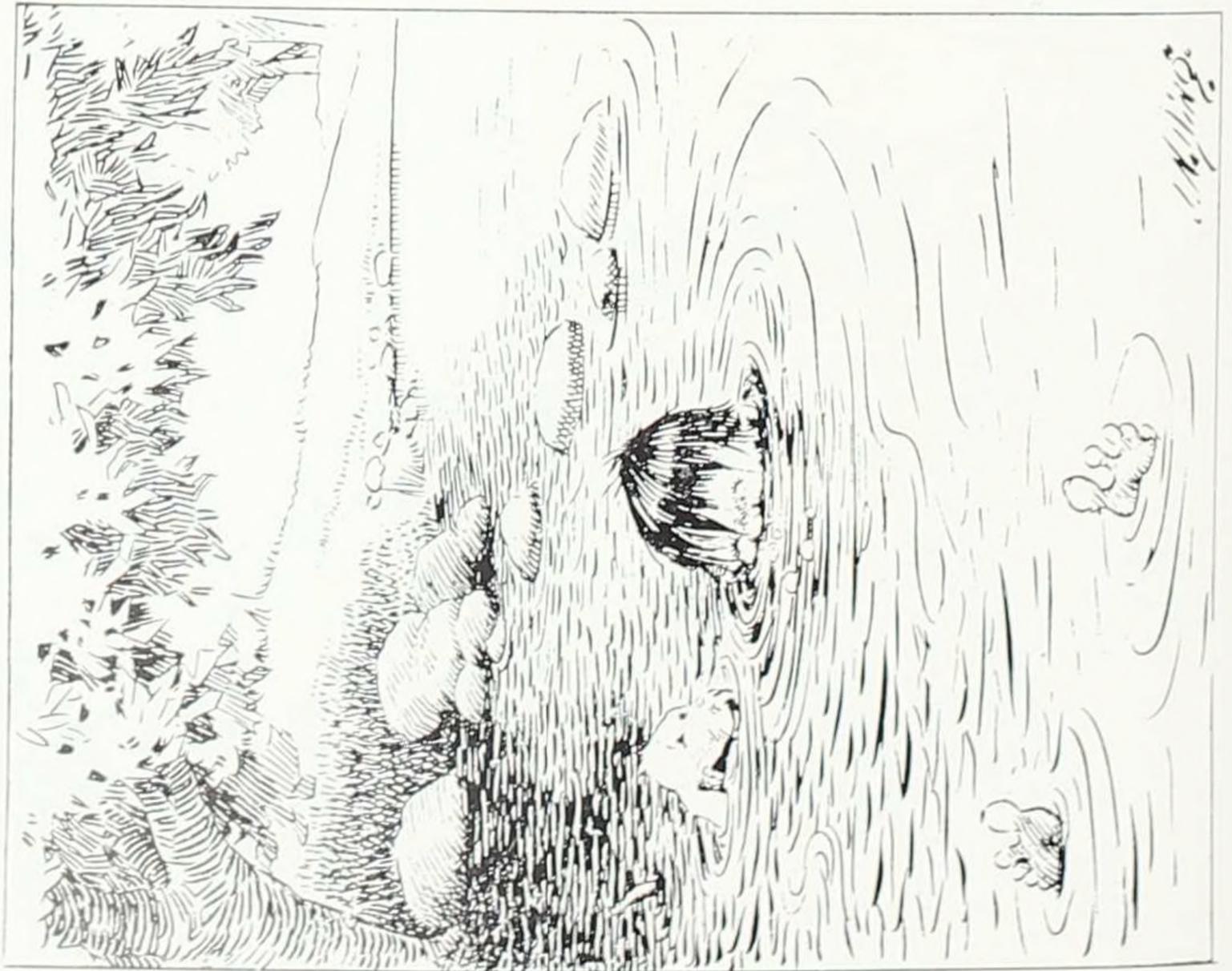
[39]

But The Cure Lies Upstream



[40]

For That Sticky Feeling



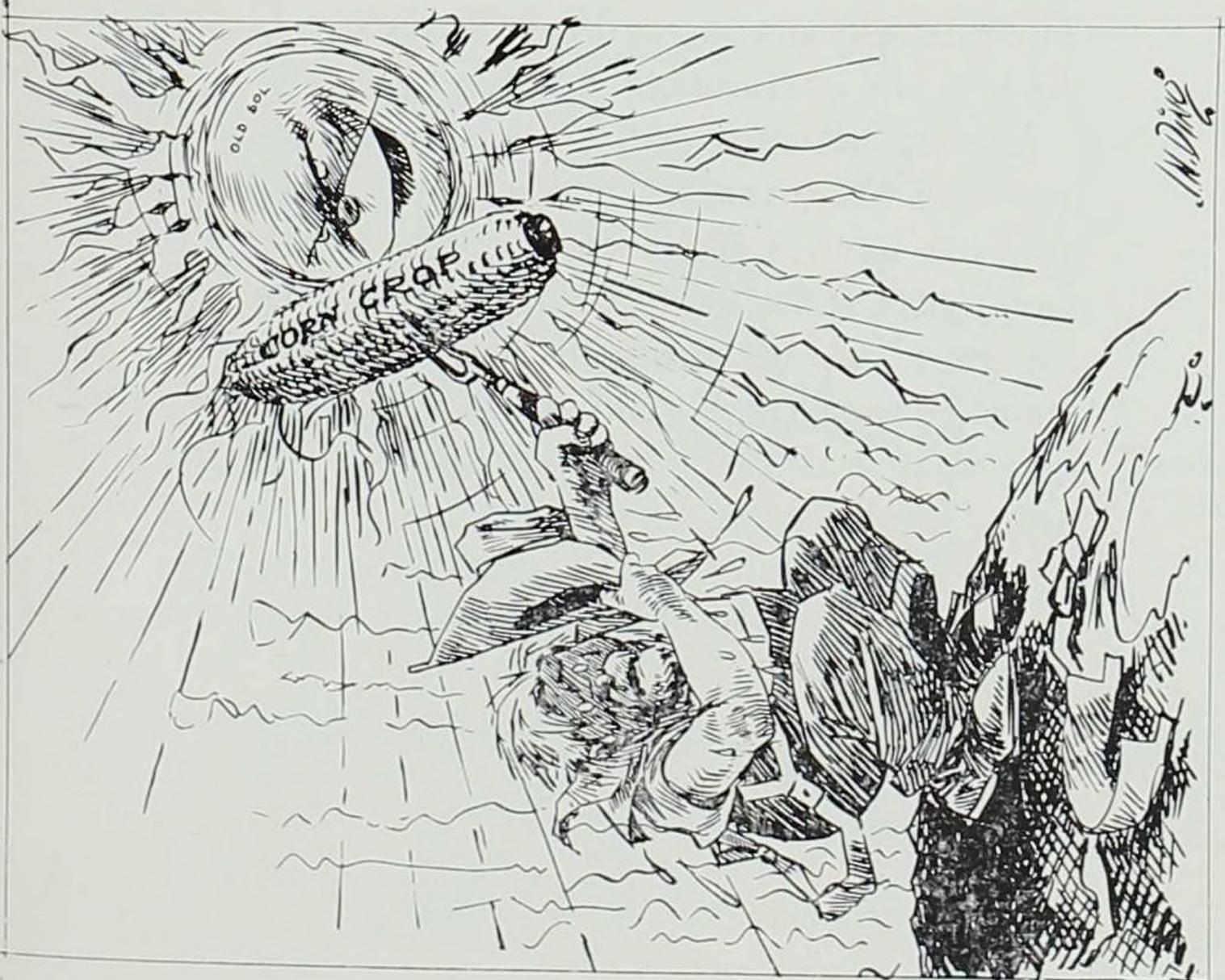
[41]

When A Husband Is Handy



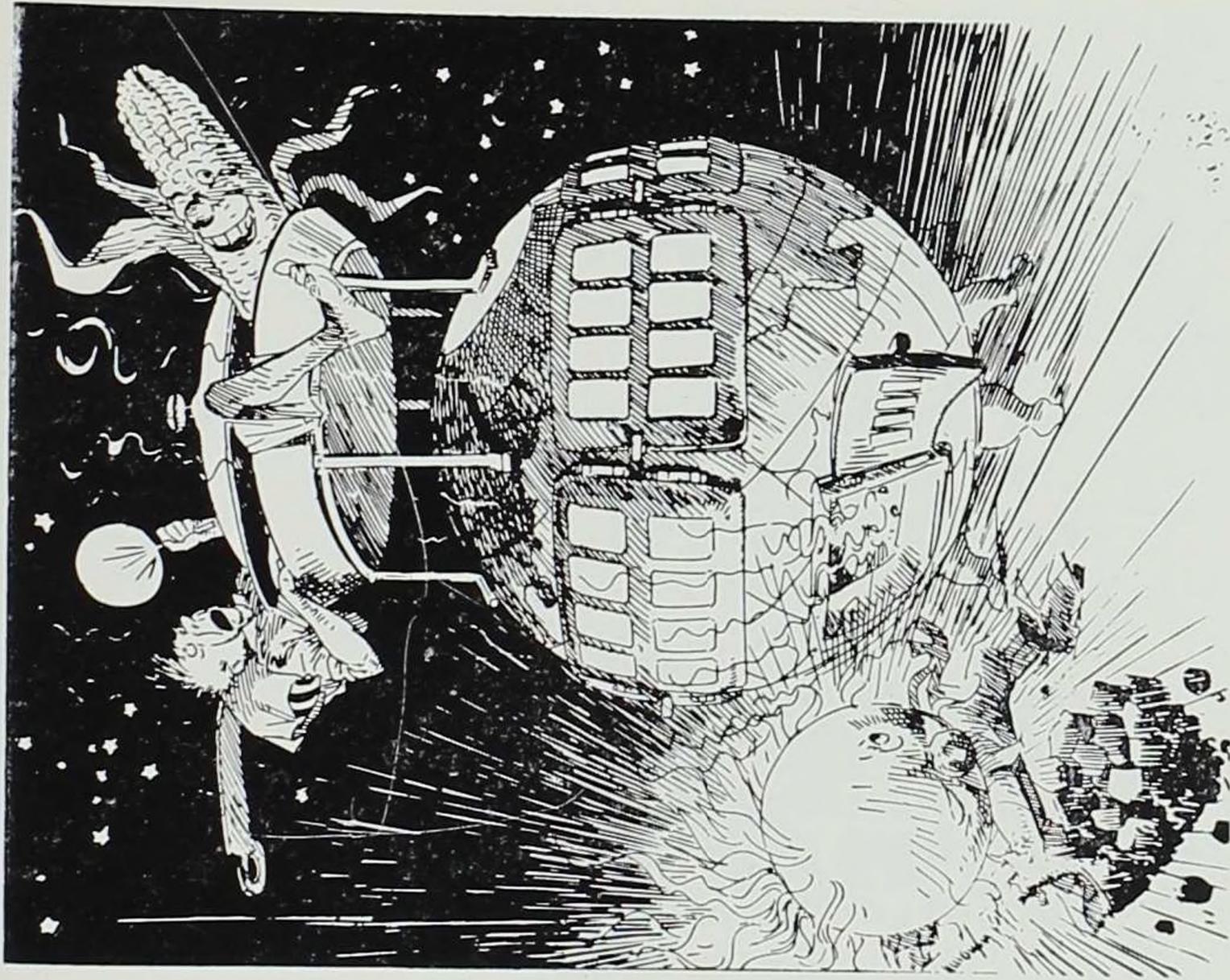
[42]

Iowa Growing Another Corn Crop



[43]

But Its Good For The Corn



[44]

"came a long way." This fact is illustrated by a cartoon drawn early in his career, 1909, [37] and one in the latter part of the 1940's. [38]

Ding was almost as famous as a conservationist as a cartoonist. He drew more than 100 cartoons urging conservation practices in the various fields. He was in Washington for two years in the 1930's, furthering the preservation of wild life. Almost all of his conservation cartoons are as pertinent now as they were in the 1930's, when he drew most of them. The two shown here are representative of the many. The one at the left appeared in 1927, [39] at the time of the great Mississippi flood. The other appeared first in 1937. [40]

Called "The Bathroom Pair," these cartoons appear now in a number of homes in Iowa. [41] They usually are located appropriately. Ding drew them in the early teens. [42]

During his later years, Ding had cartoons dealing with the attempts of Congress and the president to handle huge corn crops so the farmers would not suffer from resulting low prices. But in the first two decades his consideration was of weather conditions—and he, like all Iowa, believed that heat was what was needed to bring a good crop. [43] There never was, in those years, any worry about huge crops depressing prices. The cartoon at the left was drawn in 1916, the other in 1919. [44]

Ding, by his cartoons, was making a record of

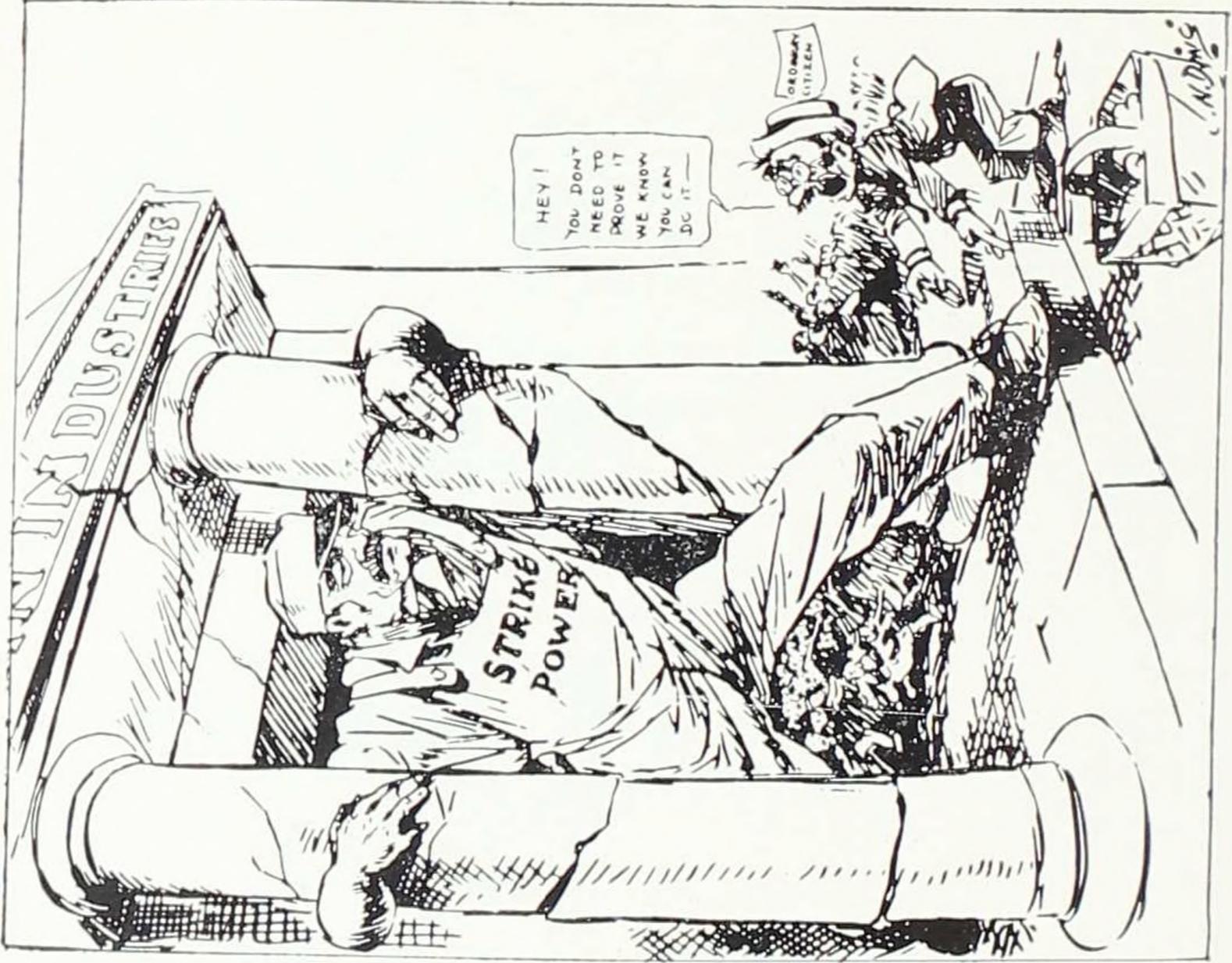


The Blind Giant



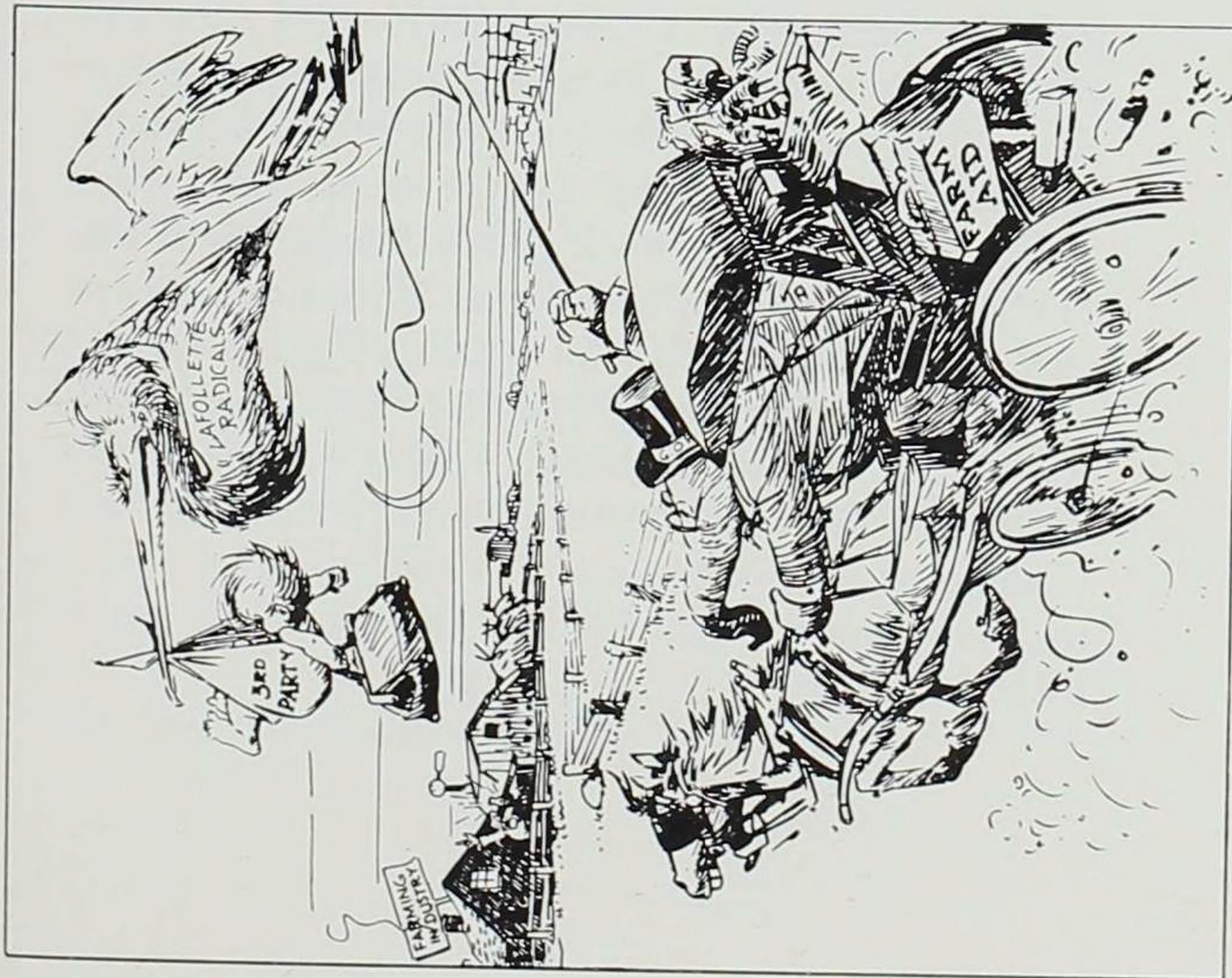
[47]

Use Judgment With Your Power



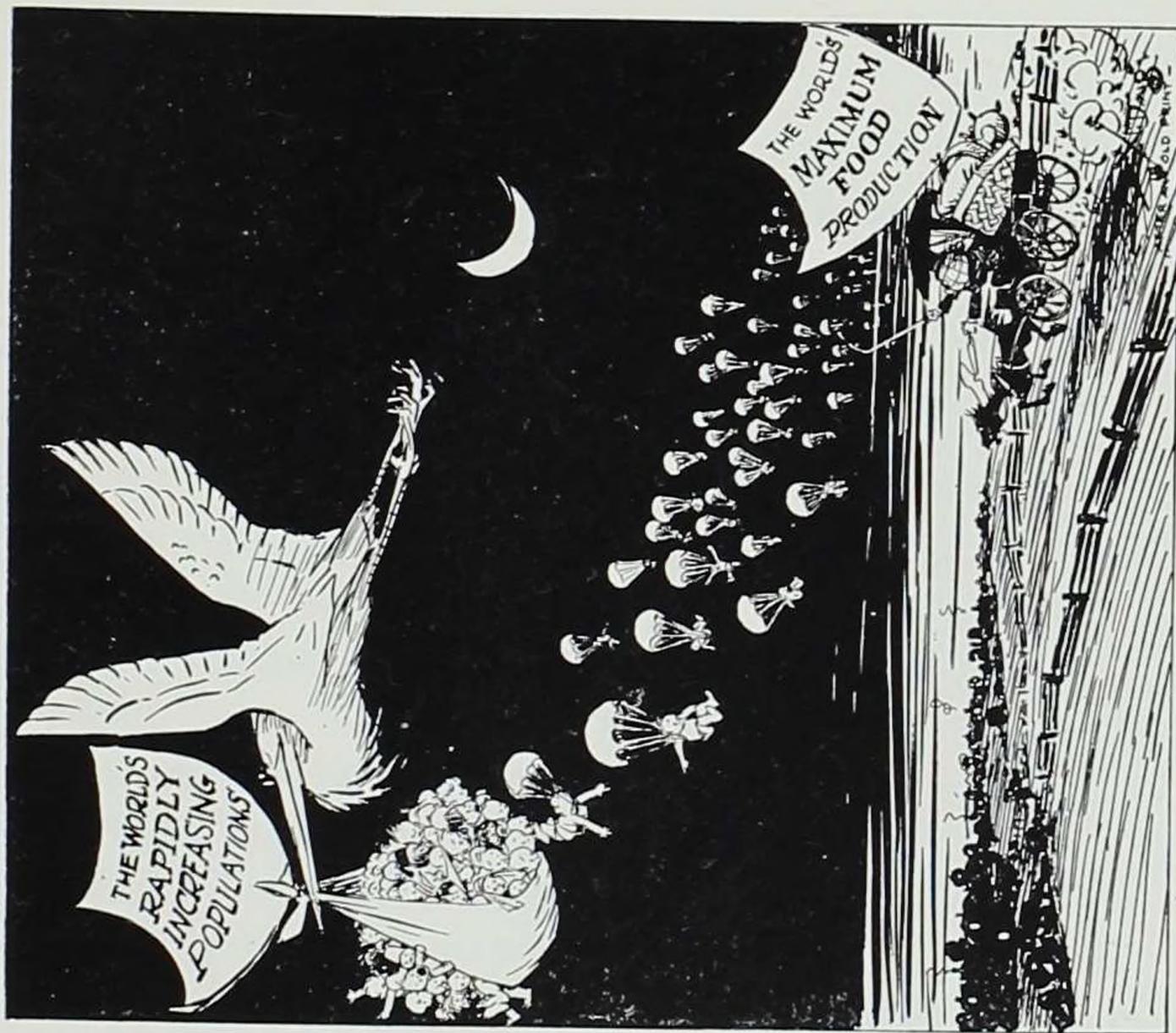
[48]

A Rural Race



[49]

The Race With The Stork



[50]

the history of the first half of the century. [45] This resulted, probably, in his preoccupation with history—"feeling sorry for history"—as it were. [46] His light-hearted touch appeared in two cartoons drawn near the close of World War I—both in 1917.

These cartoons, so very much alike, were drawn a decade apart. That at the left came from Ding's drawing board in the 1920's, [47] and that on the right in the late 1930's. [48]

These cartoons, as Ding's note at the bottom of the one at the right recalls, are from an old print. That at the left [49] depicted the effort of Robert M. La Follette of Wisconsin to establish his Third Party—in 1924—which he called Progressive, before the Coolidge administration could satisfy the farmers with farm aid. He did establish his party, and he was its presidential nominee, but the ticket carried only La Follette's Wisconsin in the election. During Ding's time there were three Third Parties, each called Progressive: the one noted here—the one which Theodore Roosevelt organized in 1912 in a vain effort to be re-elected president, and that in 1948—which had Iowa's Henry Agard Wallace as its nominee. The cartoon at the right was drawn in 1948, at the beginning of the post-war period in which the world began to worry about feeding the increasing populations. [50]

JOHN M. HENRY

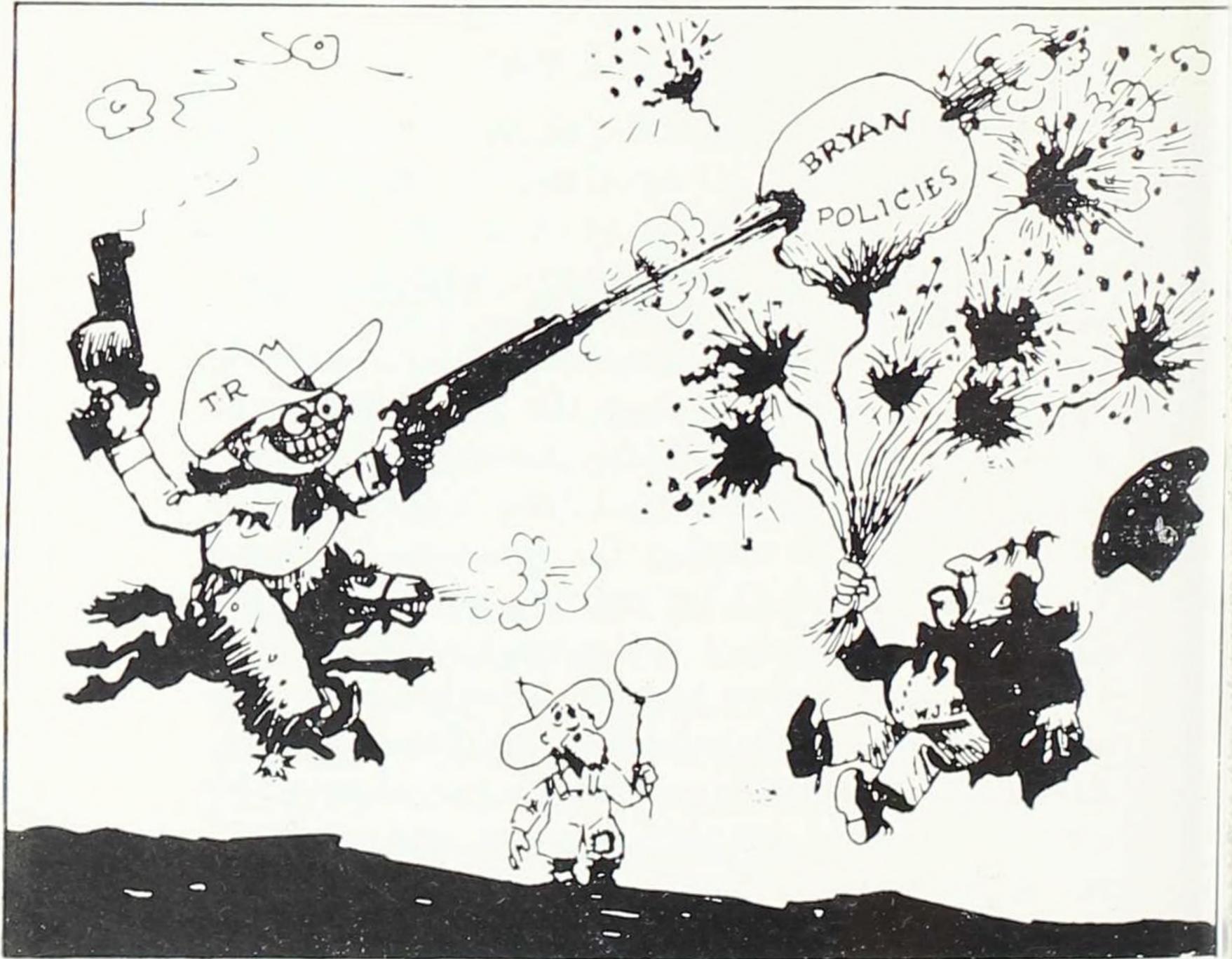
## Presidential Campaigns—1900-1952

Ding's first presidential cartoons begin with the campaign of 1900 in which the Republicans re-nominated William McKinley for president. Governor Theodore Roosevelt of New York, the hero of San Juan Hill during the Spanish-American War, was chosen as his running mate. "Teddy" Roosevelt did most of the campaigning in 1900. Ding's cartoon shows him, as a cowboy, shooting down the county fair balloons of William Jennings Bryan, the Democratic nominee for president. [51] (Bryan had been the 1896 nominee, and would be the 1908 standard bearer.) Roosevelt had spent several years as a cowboy on a ranch in North Dakota. McKinley and Roosevelt were elected in 1900. They were inaugurated March 4, 1901. In September of that year McKinley was assassinated by the anarchist, Czolgoz, and Roosevelt served as president the rest of the term. Ding became a close personal and political friend of Roosevelt, generally known as "TR." The cartoon at the time of TR's death became Ding's most famous and most popular.

1904

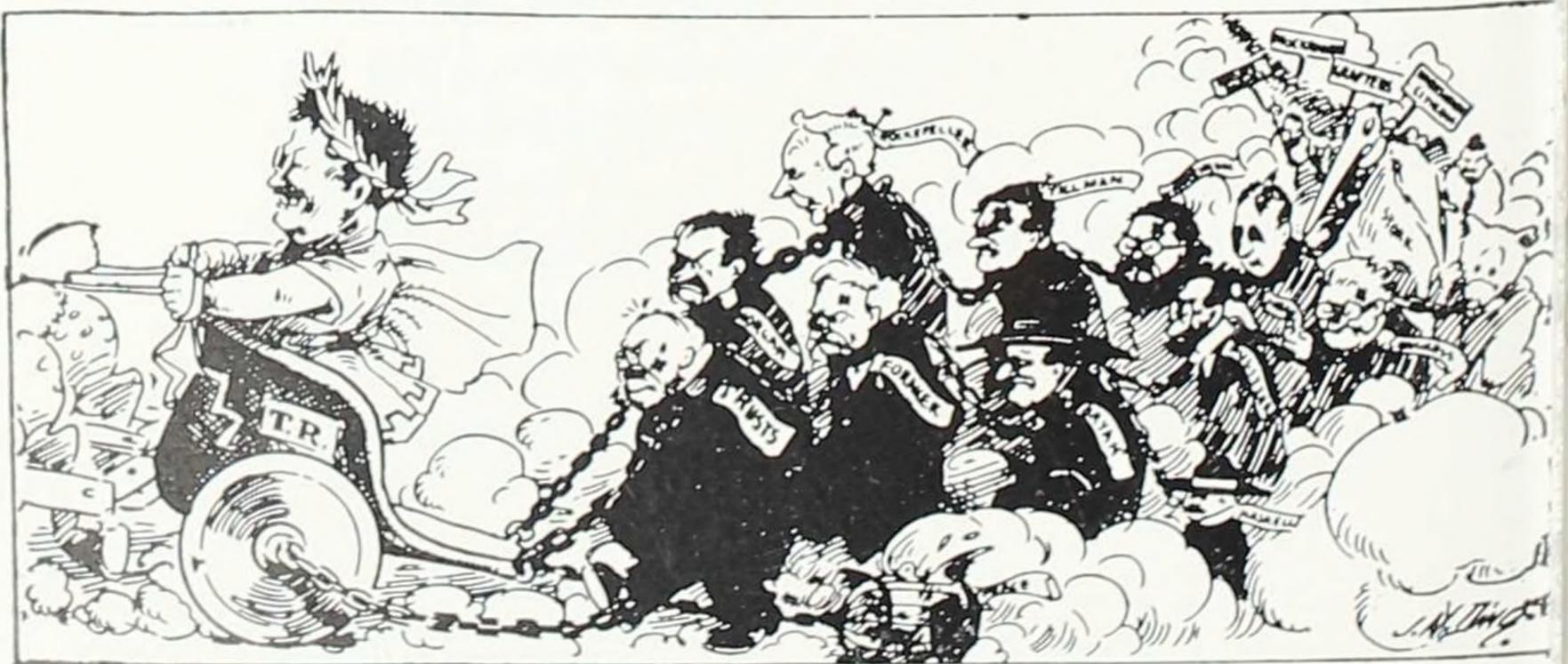
Theodore Roosevelt so dominated the heated political scene in the first years of the century that

Shooting Down The Faker's Wares



[51]

TR and His Trophies



[52]

there was little thought that anyone other than he should be nominated by the Republicans in 1904. Ding's cartoon emphasized TR's triumphs. [52] Nominated with TR was Charles Fairbanks of Indiana. They easily defeated Judge Alton B. Parker of New York, whom the Democrats nominated in a surge away from the liberalism of Bryan. With Parker as vice presidential nominee was Henry G. Davis of the West Virginia coal family.

## 1908

As the 1908 election approached, TR still dominated the scene. Would he seek another term? Technically, he had filled out one term—the first three-plus years in the White House following the assassination of McKinley. But, after he was elected in 1904, TR had said publicly that he regarded the McKinley term as his "first" term, and he would not seek re-election in 1908. Close friends revealed later he was sorry he had made such a promise. [53] However, in 1908 he designated as his choice for the Republican nomination, William Howard Taft, Secretary of War, who had been governor of the Philippines and served on the Federal bench. Taft was easily elected over William Jennings Bryan, whom the Democrats had nominated again.

## 1912 - 1916

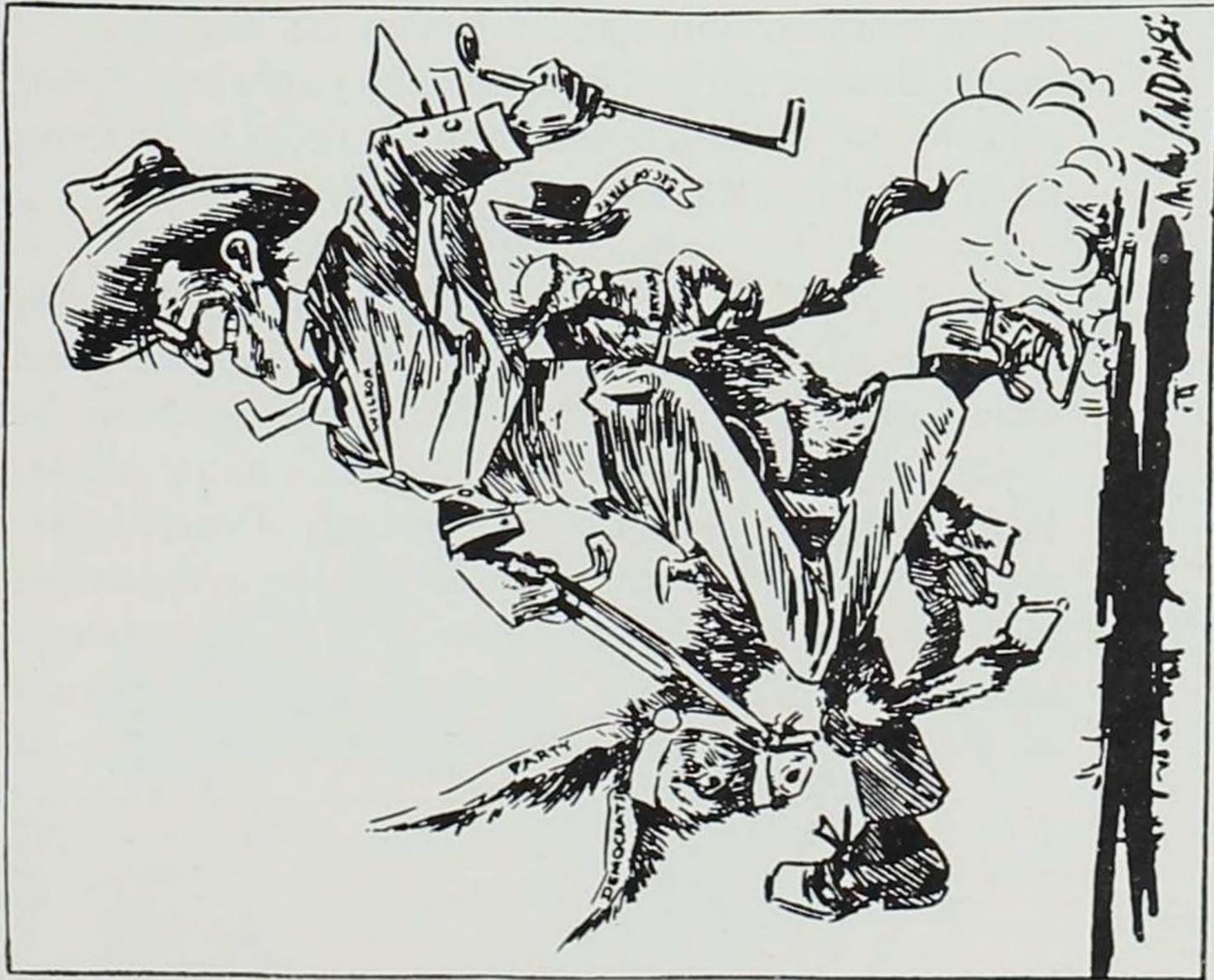
The campaign of 1912 was in sharp contrast with any held since the days of Grant, Blaine, Harrison—prior to the 1890's. TR went on a big

Will You, Or Will You Not, TR?



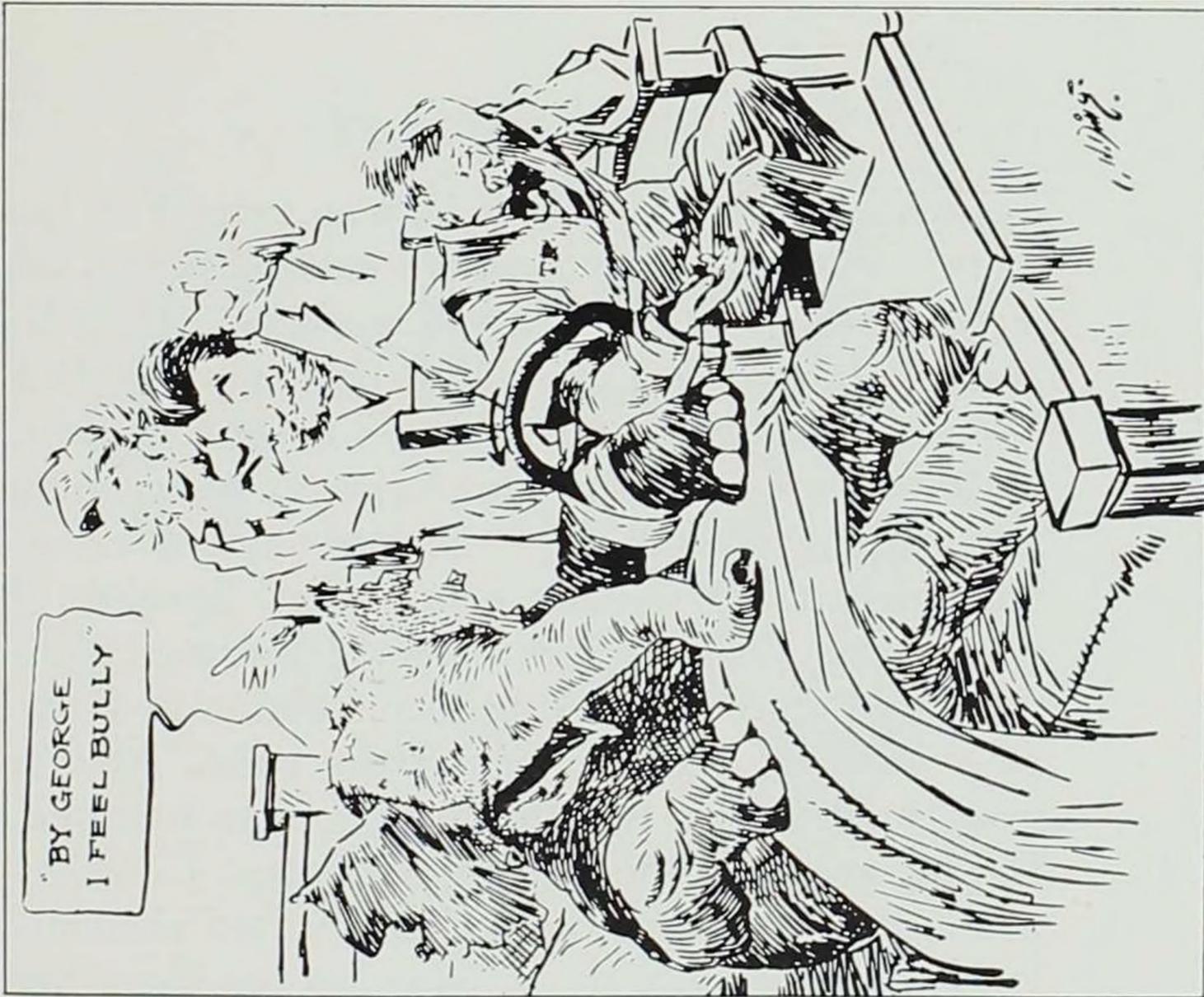
[53]

Just Who Is Riding This Animal!!!



[54]

In 1916 TR Returned; Hughes Was Nominated;  
But Wilson Had "Kept Us Out Of War" And Won



"BY GEORGE  
I FEEL BULLY"

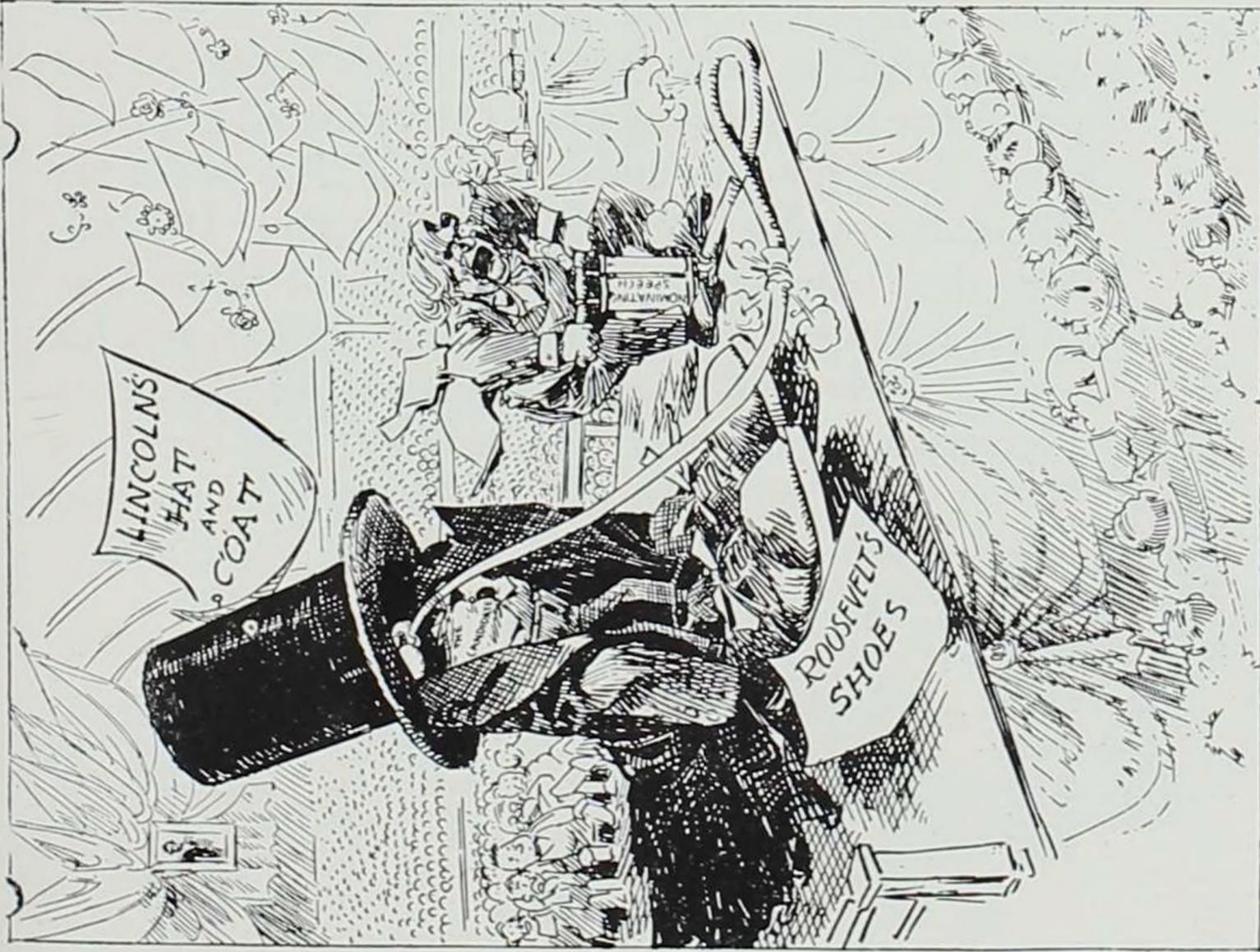
[54A]

game hunt to Africa. While he was away Taft began co-operating with conservative elements in the Republican party which TR didn't like. He repudiated Taft, and set up his Progressive or Bull Moose Party which nominated TR for president, with Hiram Johnson of California as his running mate. It was evident the Democrats had an excellent opportunity to elect a president. Speaker of the House, Champ Clark, was the leading candidate, and at the Democratic convention in Baltimore received more than half the votes. At that time, however, a two-thirds vote was required. Bryan, arousing the delegates against Clark by connecting him with the Tammany bad elements in New York, won the nomination for Governor Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey. Wilson was easily elected, and named Bryan his secretary of State. Bryan tried to dominate the party and public affairs, but Wilson would have none of it, as Ding depicted this situation in a cartoon. [54]

1920

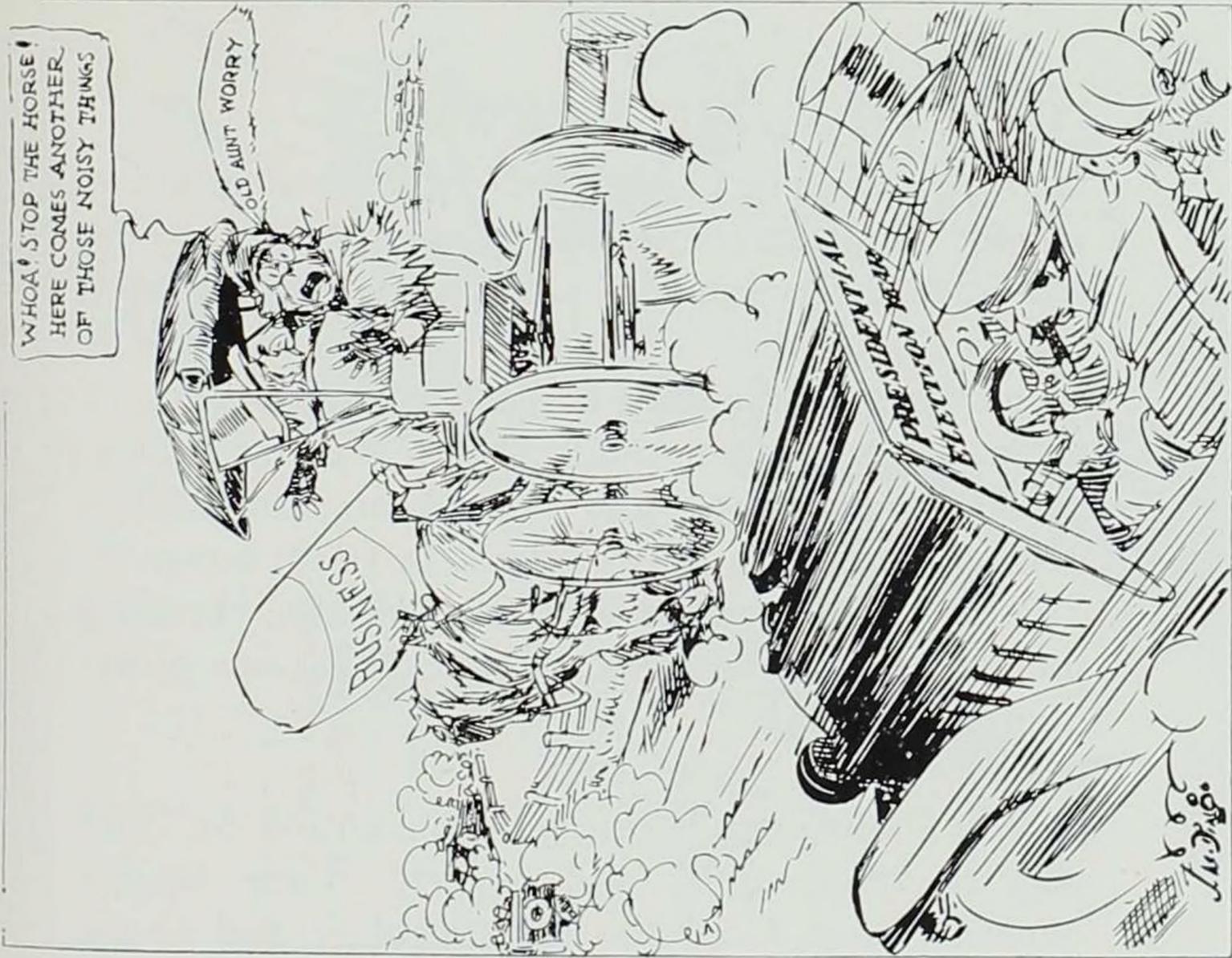
In 1920 the Republicans nominated Senator Warren G. Harding of Ohio, in a "smoke-filled room" after a deadlock had developed between the forces of General Leonard Wood, Senator Hiram Johnson of California and Governor Frank Lowden of Illinois. Ding summed up the nomination speeches in the cartoon above. The Republican leaders had planned to nominate Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin for vice president but the name of

For Those Who are Unable to Hear The Nominating  
Speeches A Verbatim Report Has Been Prepared



[55]

The Old Lady Is Worrying Again



[56]

Governor Calvin Coolidge of Massachusetts was offered first, and the delegates stampeded for him. Coolidge had won national fame when he declared that the Boston police had no right to strike. The Democrats nominated Governor James Cox of Ohio, for president and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, for vice president. A dozen years later Roosevelt would be elected president. In 1920, however, Harding and Coolidge were easy victors. Harding died three years later and Coolidge became president. [55]

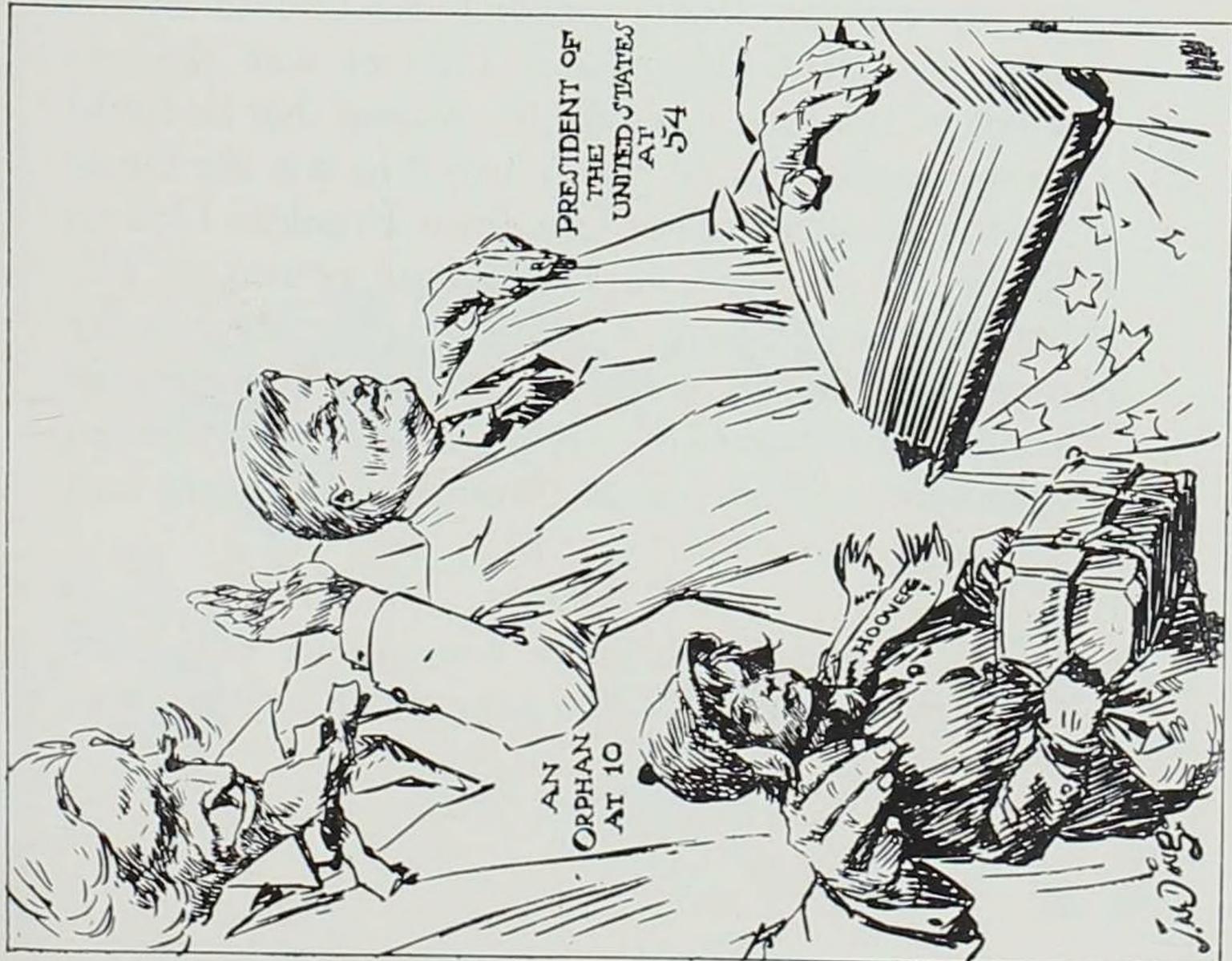
1924

The Republican National Convention of 1924 was relatively quiet and orderly. They simply named Calvin Coolidge for president and chose colorful General Charles G. Dawes of Illinois for vice president. It was different with the Democrats, however. They took 100 votes but could not break the deadlock between Governor Al Smith of New York, and William Gibbs McAdoo, former Secretary of the Treasury. Finally, after 103 ballots, they nominated John W. Davis of West Virginia, former ambassador to Great Britain, and for vice president, Governor Charles W. Bryan of Nebraska, brother of the famous William Jennings Bryan. The election was quiet, and a shoo-in for the Republicans, as indicated in Ding's cartoon. [56]

1928

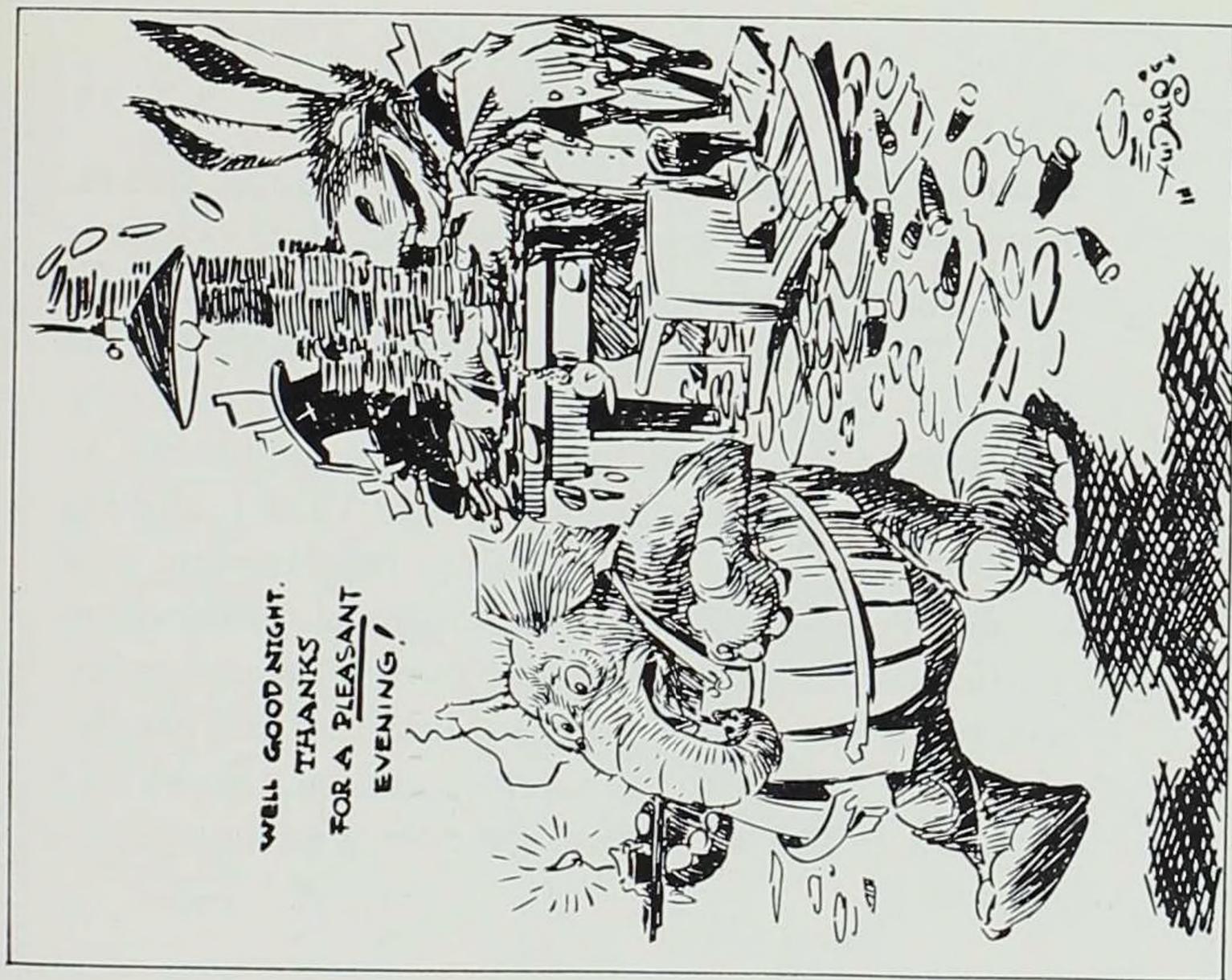
It was almost inevitable that Ding should draw

Only In USA Does This Happen



[57]

To The Winner Goes The Joy



[58]

a very laudatory cartoon when his good friend, Herbert Hoover, was nominated in 1928. Hoover won quite handily over Governor Al Smith of New York. The Wet-Dry issue, as well as the fact that Smith was a Catholic, was in evidence throughout the campaign. Hoover's popularity as Food Administrator during World War I, and his work as Secretary of Commerce for Harding and Coolidge, contributed to his big total. Ding drew many cartoons about Hoover, during the campaign and while he was president. Ding and his family, it will be remembered, were guests at the White House a few months after Hoover was inaugurated. [57]

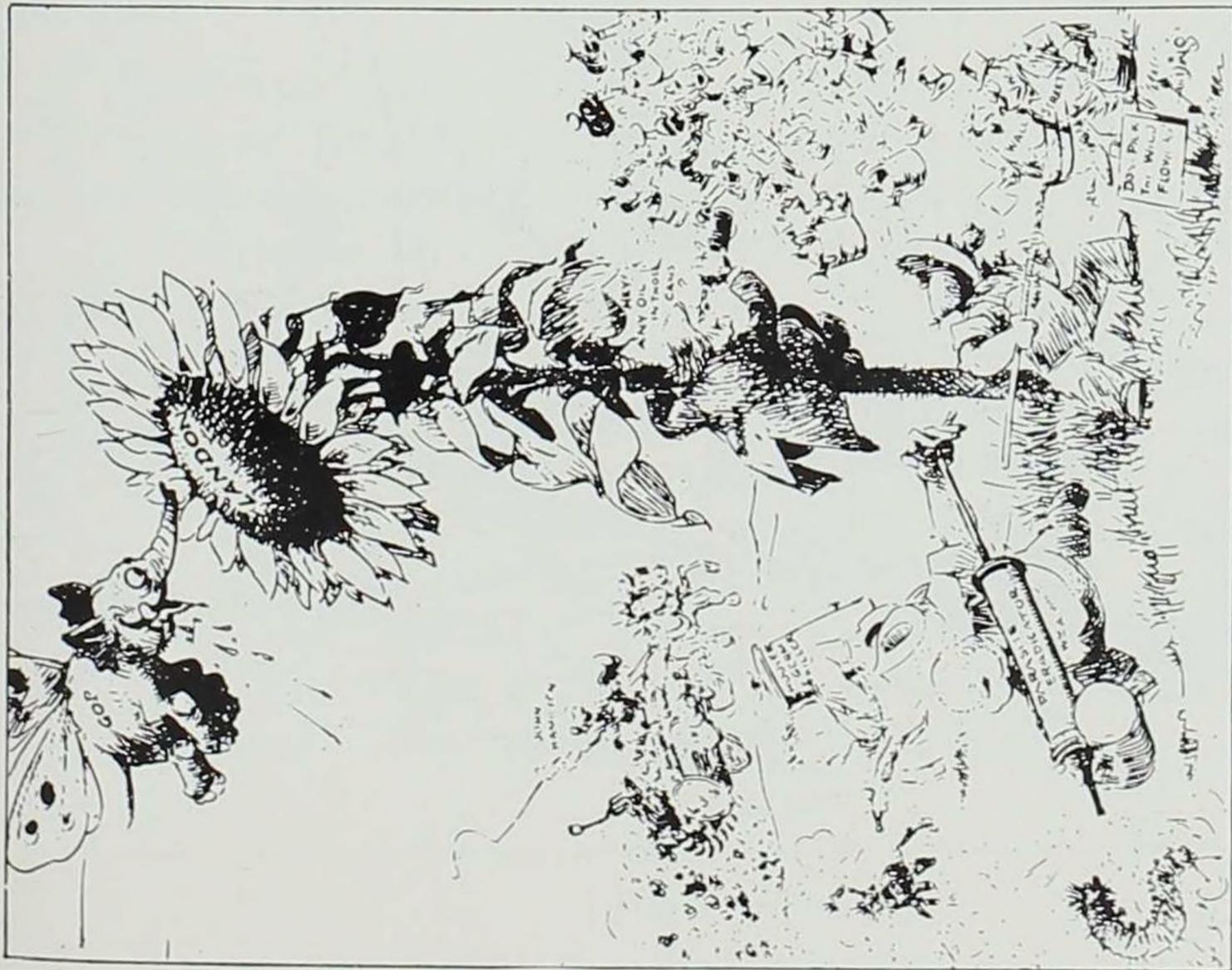
1932

The world-wide economic slump that followed the rip-roaring 1920's headed the United States into the Great Depression. Hoover was renominated in 1932 but it was quite evident that he could not be re-elected. Al Smith hoped to win the Democratic nomination but Governor Franklin Delano Roosevelt of New York, a distant cousin of TR, was named in his stead. Ding's cartoon depicts the results of the campaign. Roosevelt, who became known almost immediately as "FDR," was elected president, and stayed on through three terms, and part way into a fourth. [58]

1936

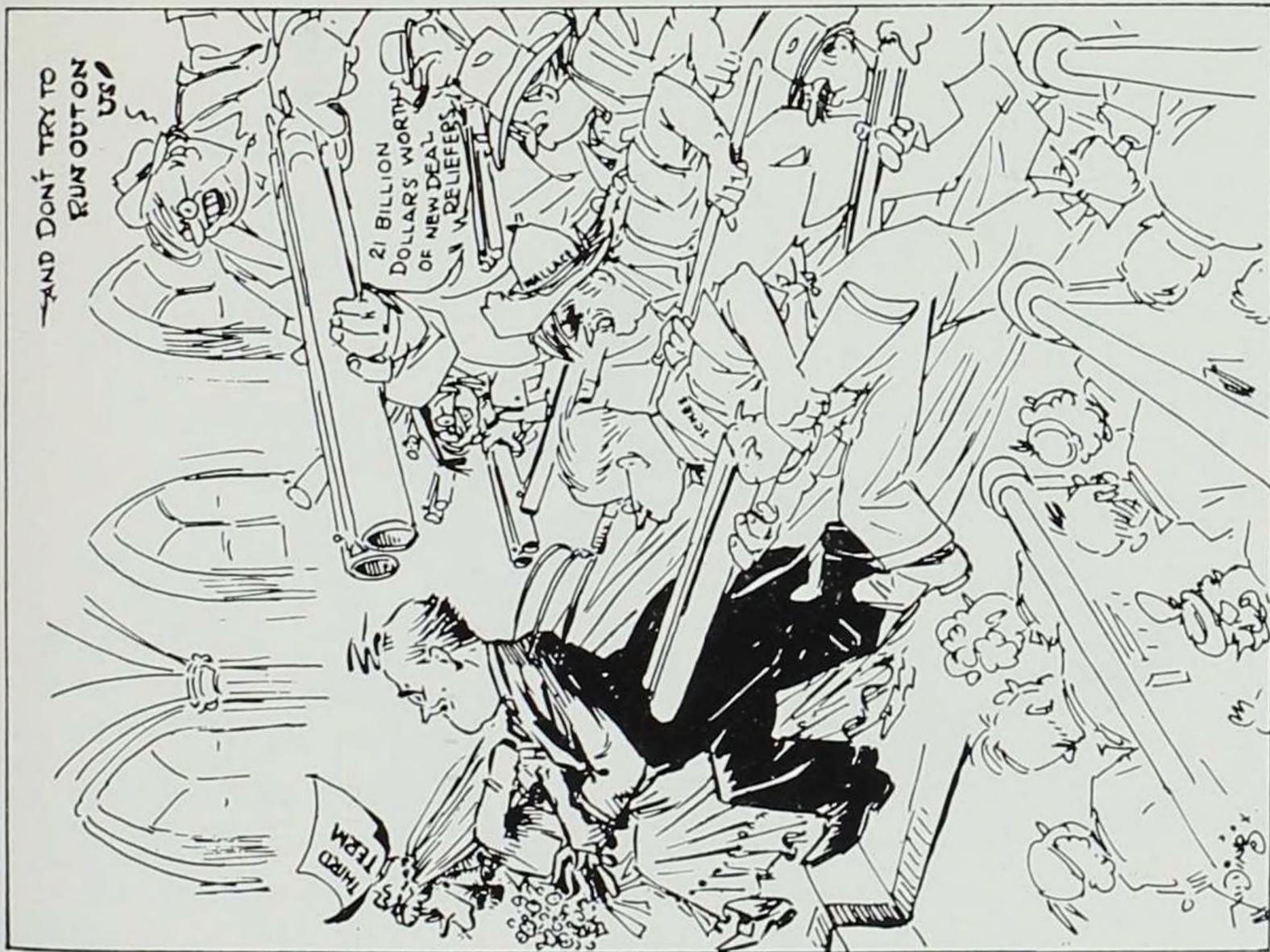
The Great Depression was about half way through its throes at the time of the 1936 cam-

A Sunflower Grows In The West



[59]

Get Me There And Be Nominated



[60]



TELL HIM TO  
LET THE PEOPLE  
RULE.

LOOKS TO ME AS  
THOUGH YOU WERE  
THE ONE WHO HAS  
BEEN "TRADING  
HORSES IN MID  
STREAM"

paign. The New Deal, rightly or wrongly, was pouring millions out to the people in "relief." Electing anyone but FDR was unimaginable. But the Republicans tried it. They nominated Alf M. Landon, governor of Kansas, the only governor the Republicans were able to elect in 1934. With him, they named Frank Knox, Chicago newspaper publisher, who later served as Secretary of the Navy, in FDR's "nonpartisan" cabinet. The Republicans carried only two New England states. [59]

At about this time strong Nationalist governments began to be evident in Europe—particularly Hitler in Germany and Mussolini in Italy. Across the Pacific the Japs had begun invading the coast toward China. Ding drew many cartoons indicating he saw all of this.

1940

The Republicans in 1940 nominated Ding's good friend, Wendell Willkie, for the presidency. The leading candidates for the nomination had been Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York and Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio. But Willkie, a new face in the Republican party, was chosen. He had been strongly supported by Ding. President Roosevelt's conduct regarding the European war was an issue. He was re-nominated, along with Henry A. Wallace of Iowa for vice president. The fact that Roosevelt was trying for a third term in 1940 was a big issue. The Republicans claimed that various special interests had forced

FDR into the race for a third term. Ding reflected this in one of his cartoons of the campaign. [60] Roosevelt and Wallace were elected.

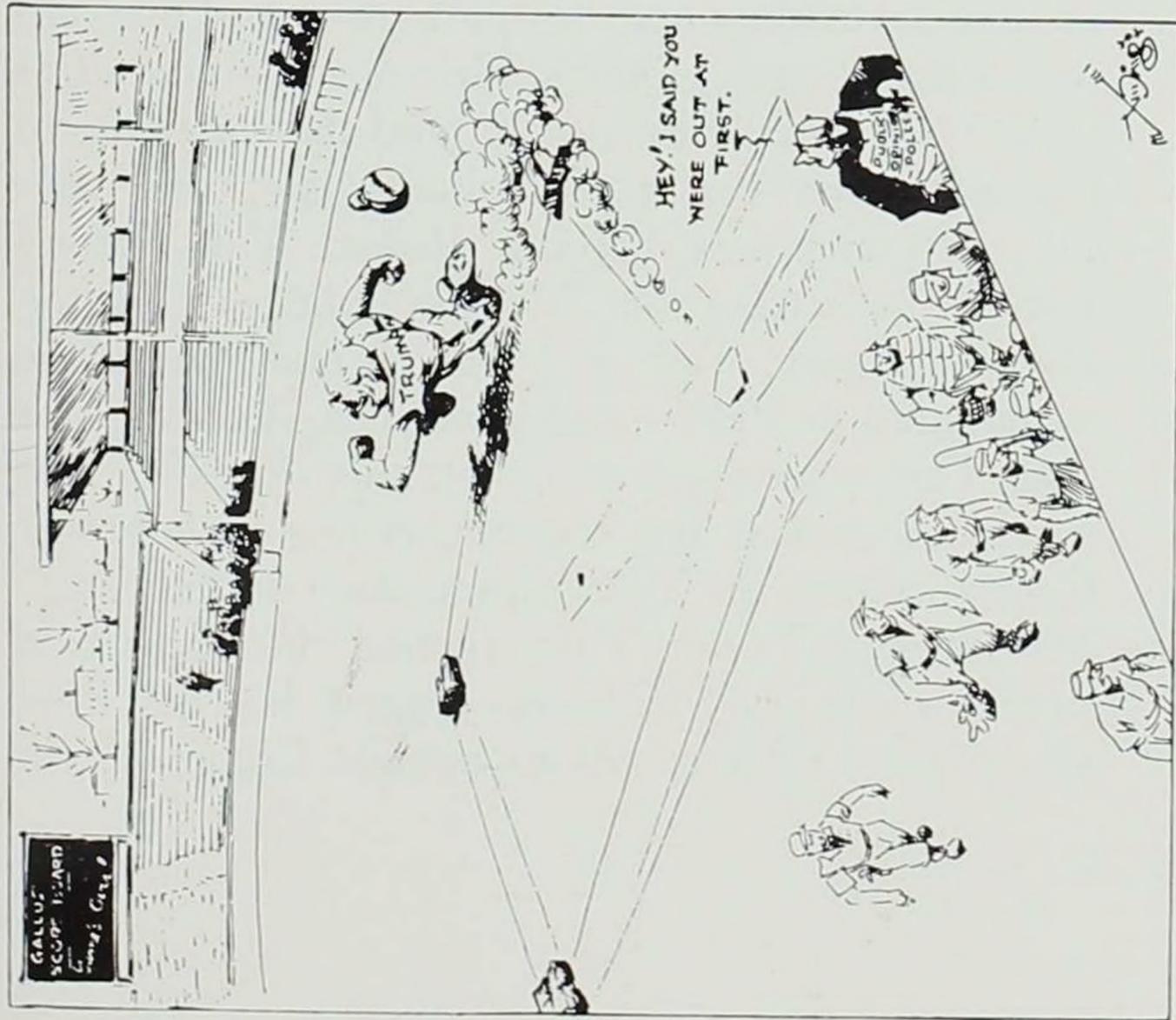
## 1944

The fact that Roosevelt was trying for a fourth term in 1944 was the main issue of the campaign, but the Republicans emphasized all the questionable organizations and persons that they said would come into office, or remain in power, if FDR were re-elected. This was the subject of one of Ding's cartoons. [61] Nominated for vice president by the Democrats was Senator Harry Truman of Missouri. Roosevelt and Truman were elected. The Republicans nominated Governor Thomas E. Dewey, who had sought the nomination in 1940, and with him for vice president they named Governor Earl Warren of California. The Democrats won—432 electoral votes to 99. Roosevelt died in April, a month after he was inaugurated, and Truman finished the term.

## 1948

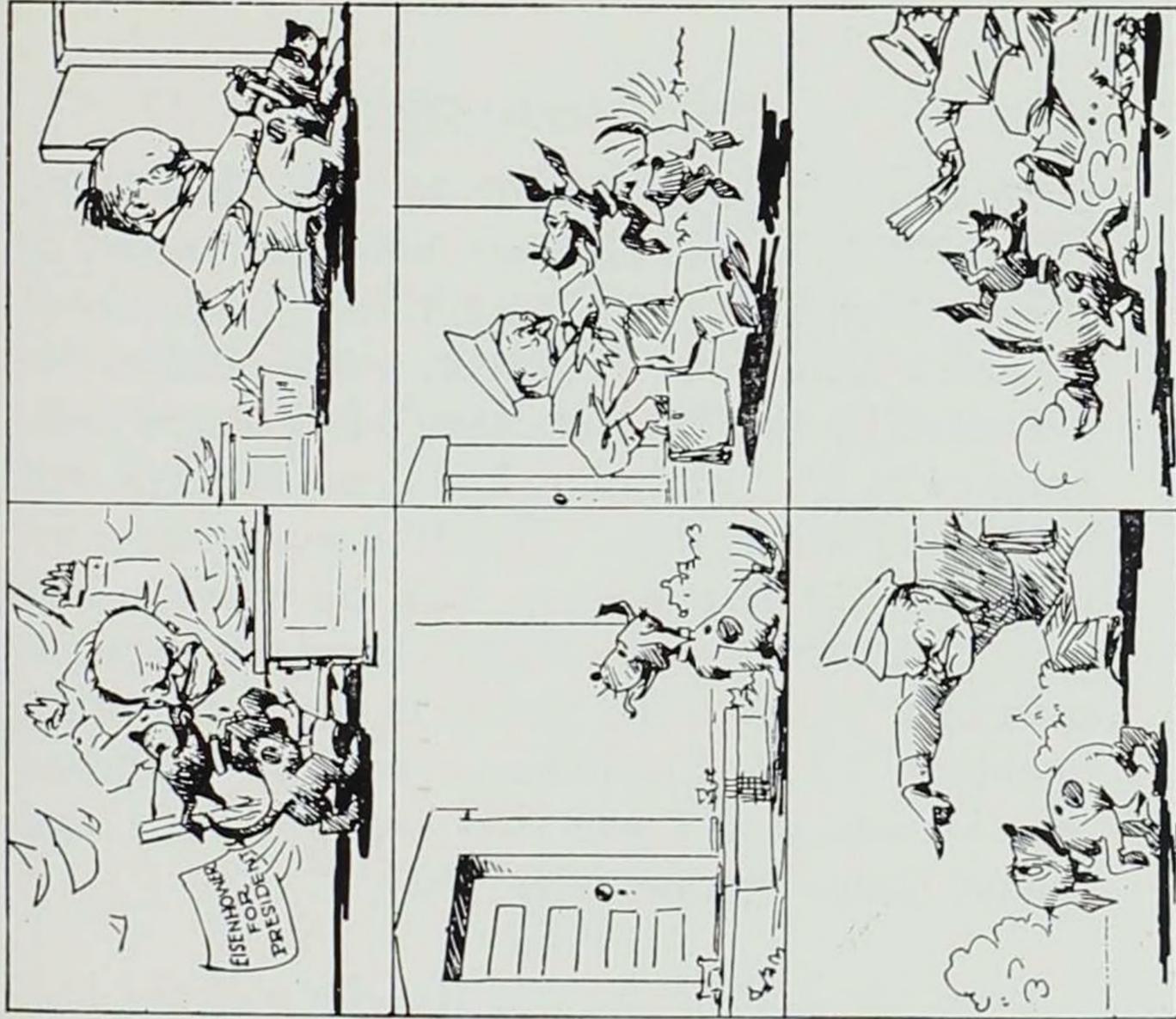
The campaign and election of 1948 will be called unique so long as there are American presidential campaigns. Every means of assessment indicated strongly that the Republicans would win with Thomas E. Dewey as the nominee. The polls showed that—all of them. Plain logic did. Truman had split the Democrats by his post-war acts. The ultra liberals had formed their own party—the Progressive—the third party of that name in

Maybe He Didn't Hear The Umpire



[62]

When A Dog Loves A Man



[63]

Ding's time, and each with its own philosophy. Henry A. Wallace, of Iowa, who had served as FDR's Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Commerce, and Vice President, was nominated for president by the Progressives. But Truman campaigned as few before him had done. He repeated again and again that "The 80th congress, controlled by the Republicans, was the worst in history." He came to Iowa and declared the Republicans had "stabbed the farmer in the back with a pitchfork." The Republicans were so confident that Dewey would win that they did little real campaigning. Truman won. [62]

1952

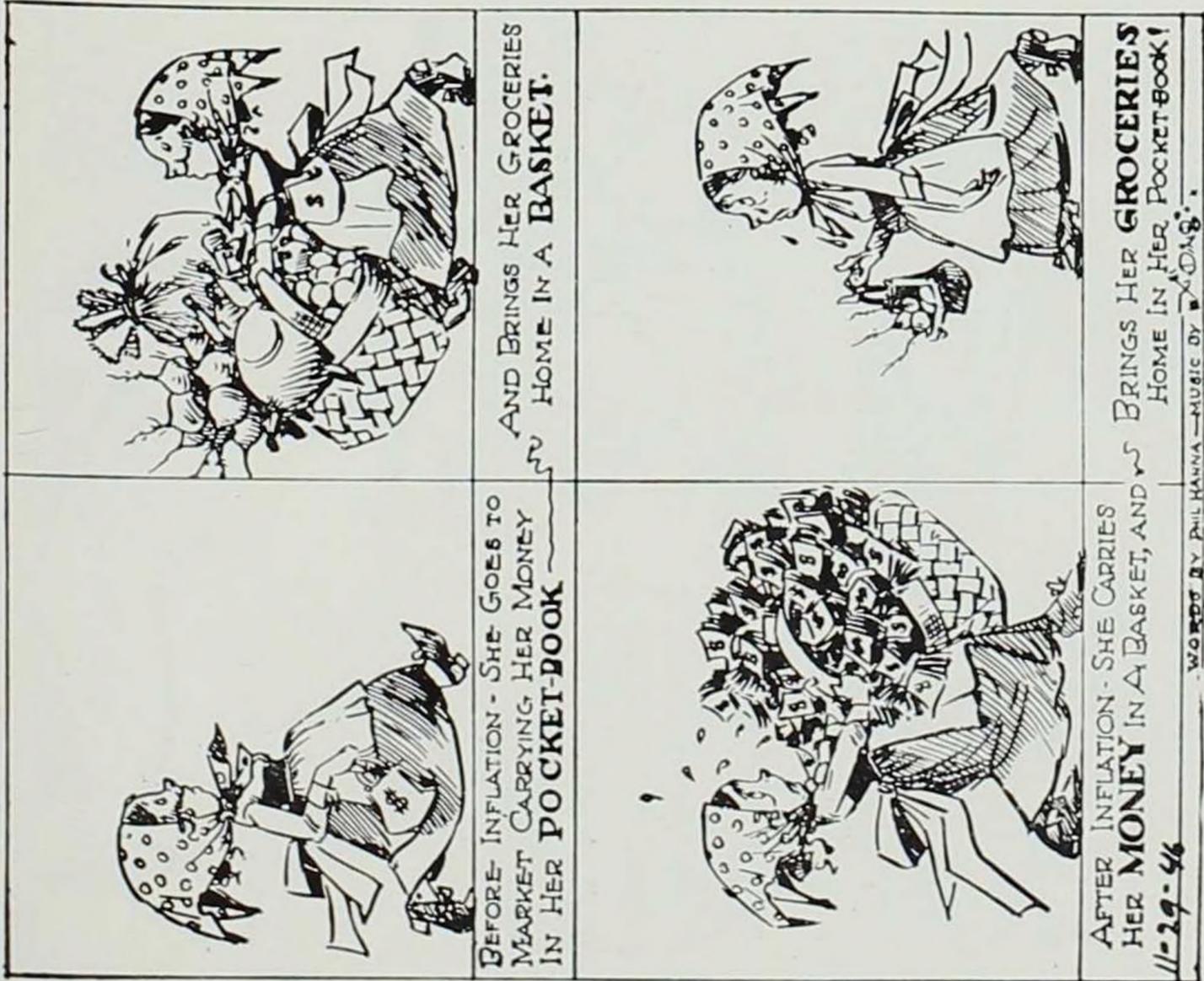
From the end of the war the Republicans had wanted Dwight D. Eisenhower as their candidate. Individual leaders and delegations visited him and urged him to enter politics. He refused—year after year. [63] Finally he agreed, and the campaign to nominate him began. Simultaneously, the campaign to nominate Senator Robert Taft, strong man of the Senate and "Mr. Republican" to many, got under way. Taft and Dewey had sought the nomination in 1940—and it went to Willkie. This time Taft was closer to it, but this time TV was available, and at the convention the Eisenhower forces accused the Taft organization of "stealing" delegates in Texas. They carried the accusation to the people via TV. It was a good deal like Bryan carrying his accusations against Champ Clark

to the people in the Democratic convention of 1912, forty years before. The Eisenhower people made the accusation believable, although it was disproven later—too late to help Taft. Ike was nominated, and elected, and went on to be re-elected in 1956.

JOHN M. HENRY

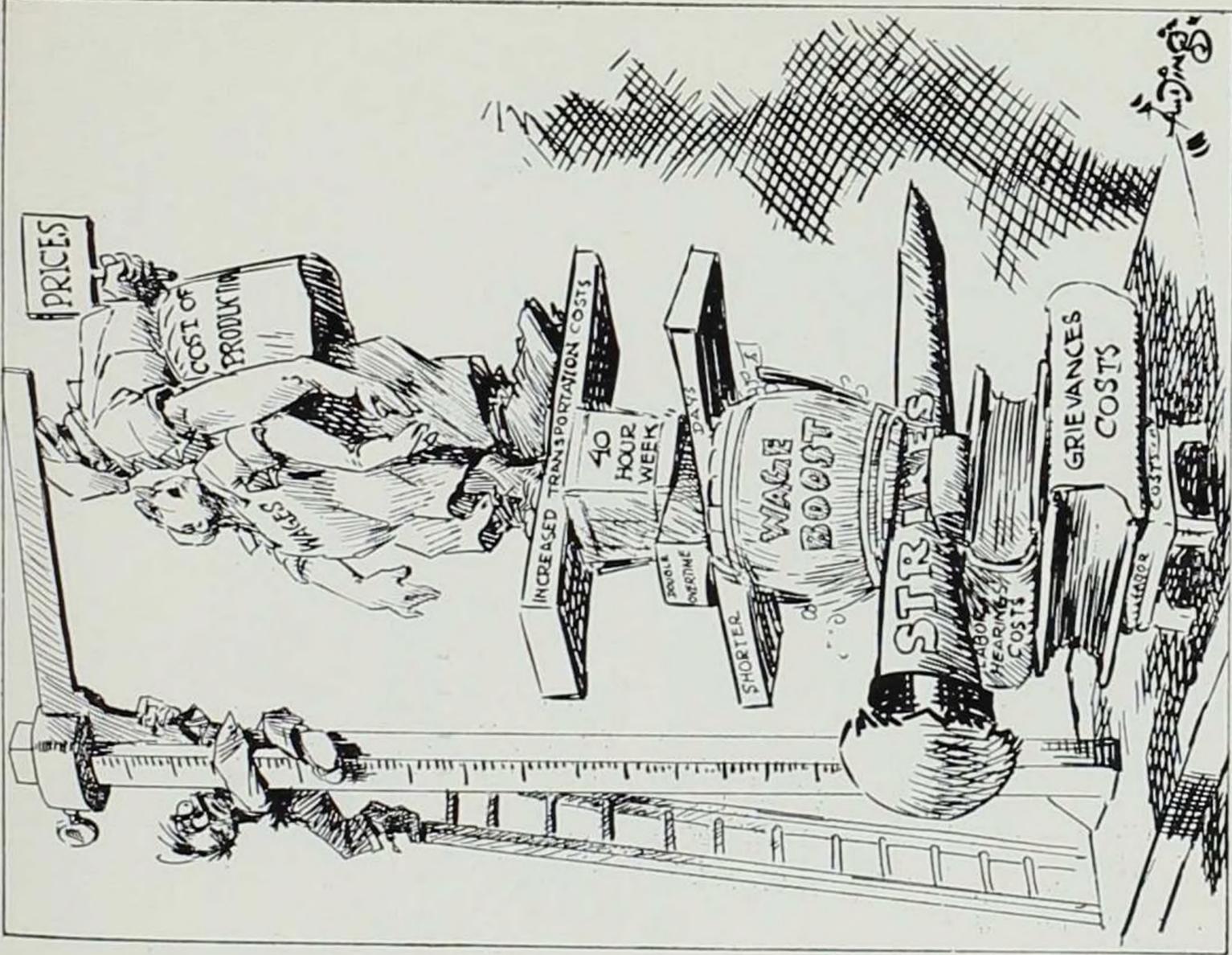
*It Might as Well have Been Today*

The Little Lady Goes to Market (1946)



[64]

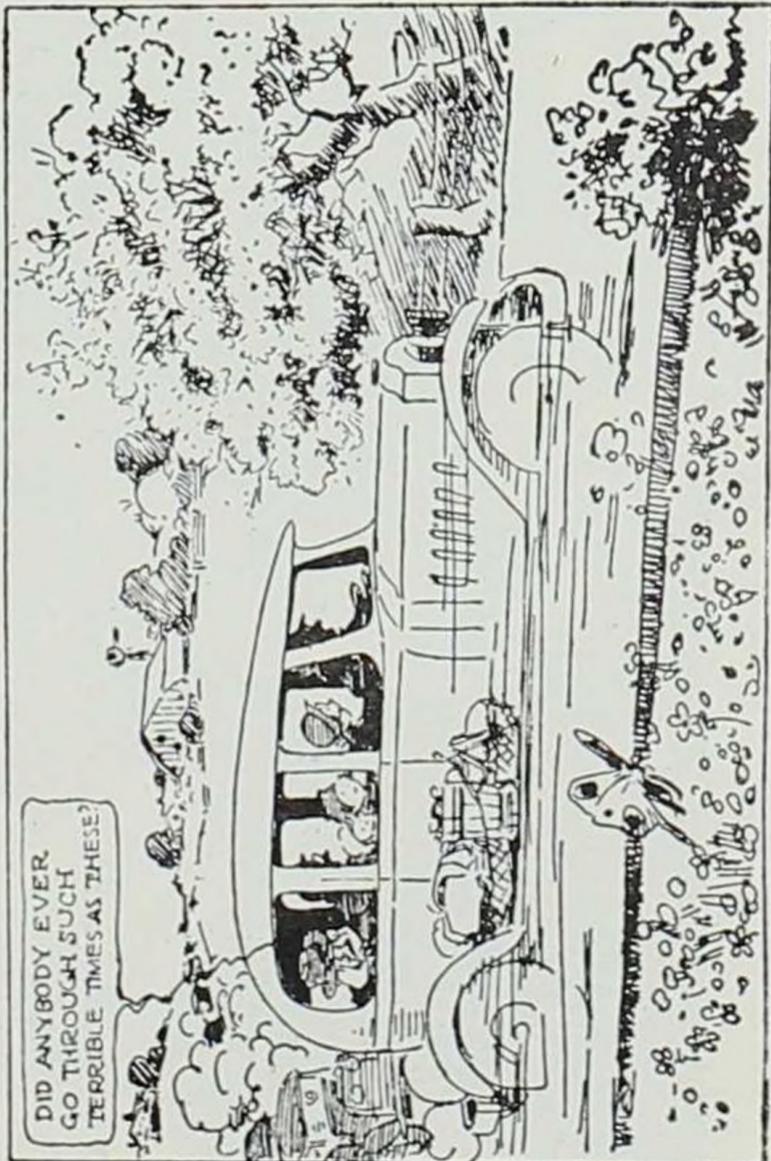
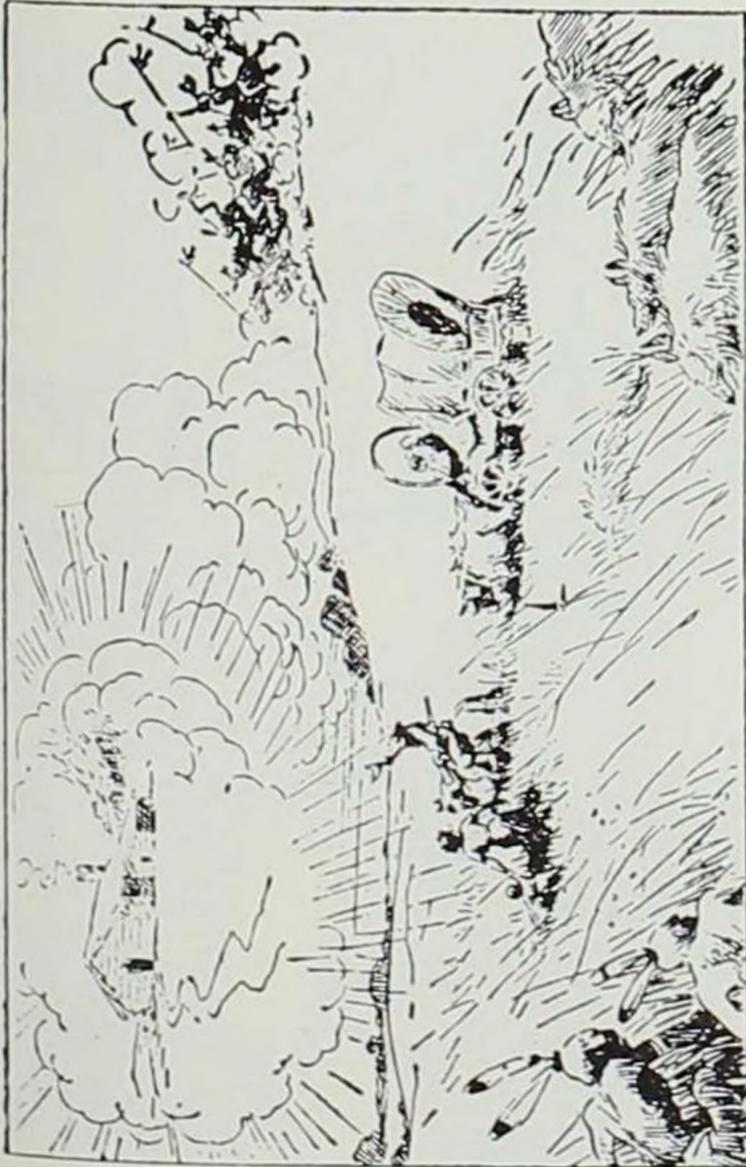
Never Quite Catches Up (1938)



[65]

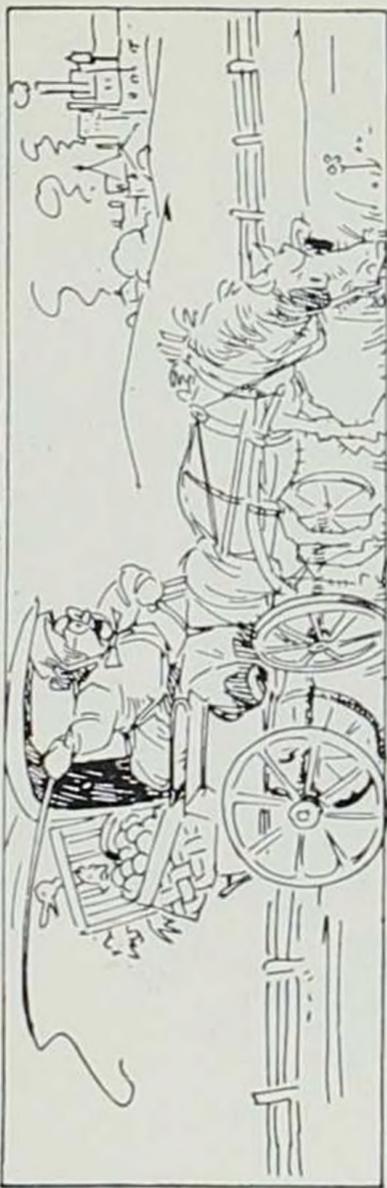


Then and Now and American Problems (1927)



DID ANYBODY EVER GO THROUGH SUCH TERRIBLE TIMES AS THESE?

How to Activate the Old Nag (1921)



ANY ATTEMPT TO COMMUNICATE WITH  
THE POLICE WILL BE FRUITLESS



[70]

While the His D... ..

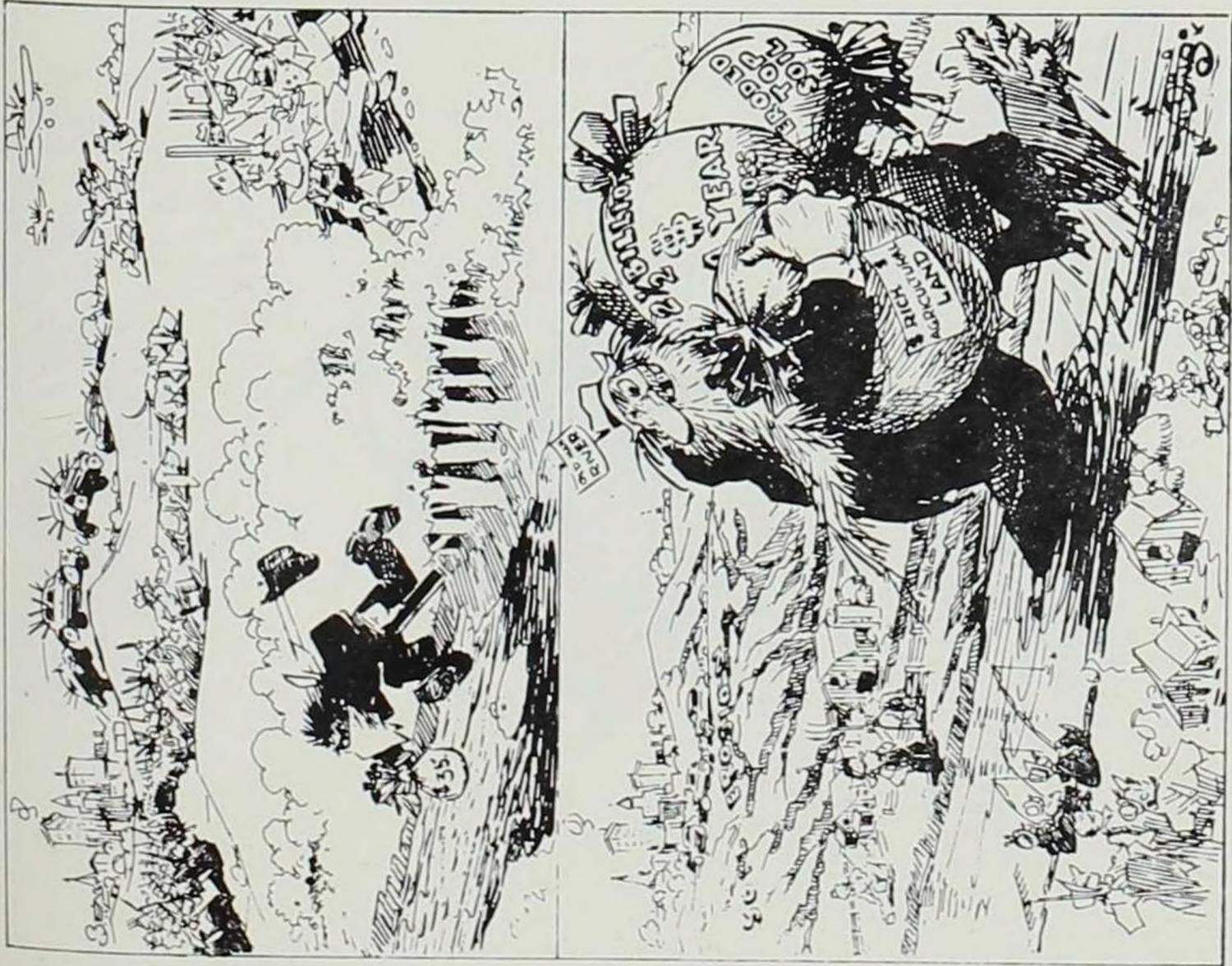
Any Sunday (1938)



P.S. - IF YOU DON'T LIKE THIS CARTOON - DON'T COMPLAIN TO THE EDITOR - USE A LITTLE COMMON SENSE IN YOUR DRIVING

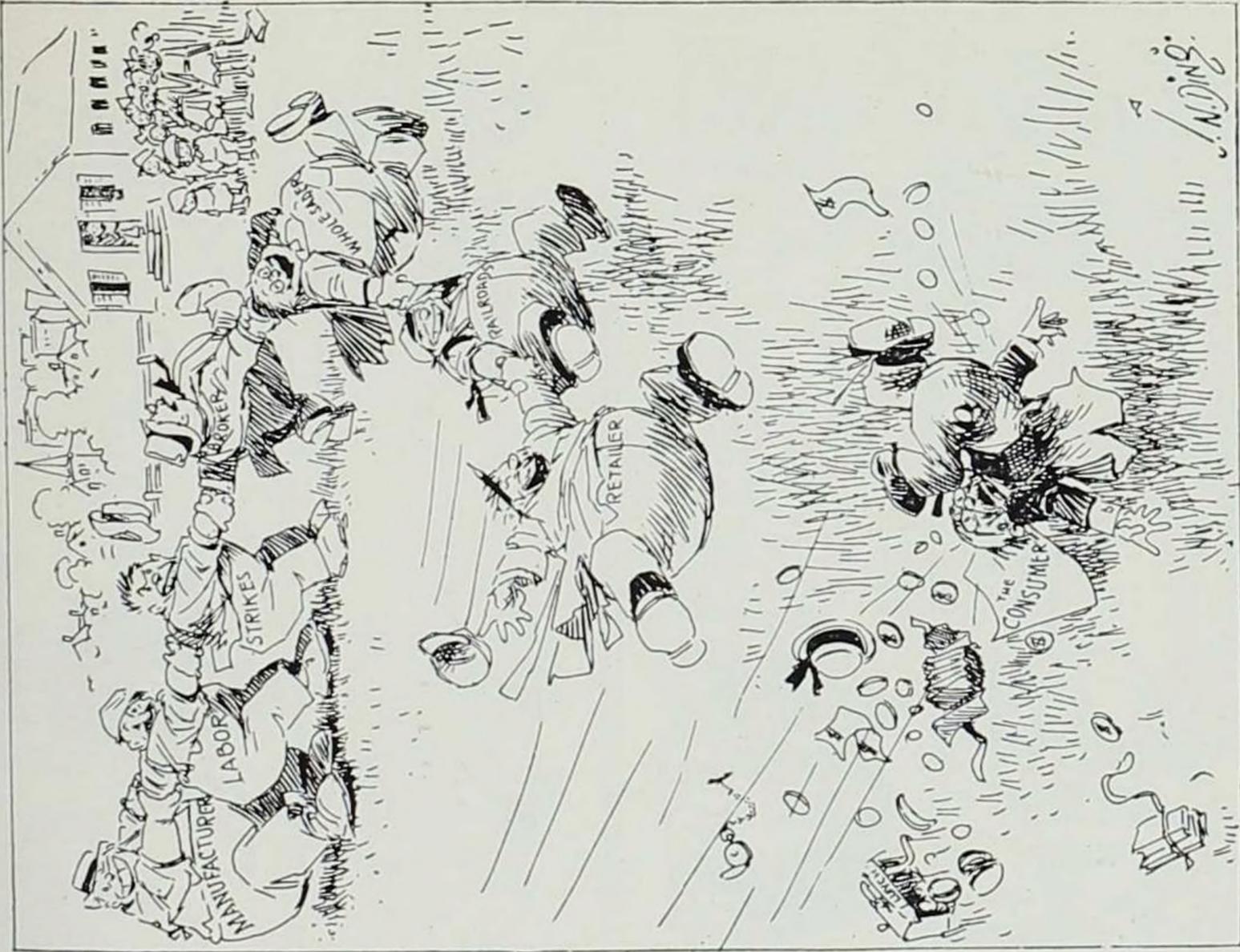
[71]

While the Big Robber Goes Free (1936)



[72]

Just Having A Lot of Fun (1916)

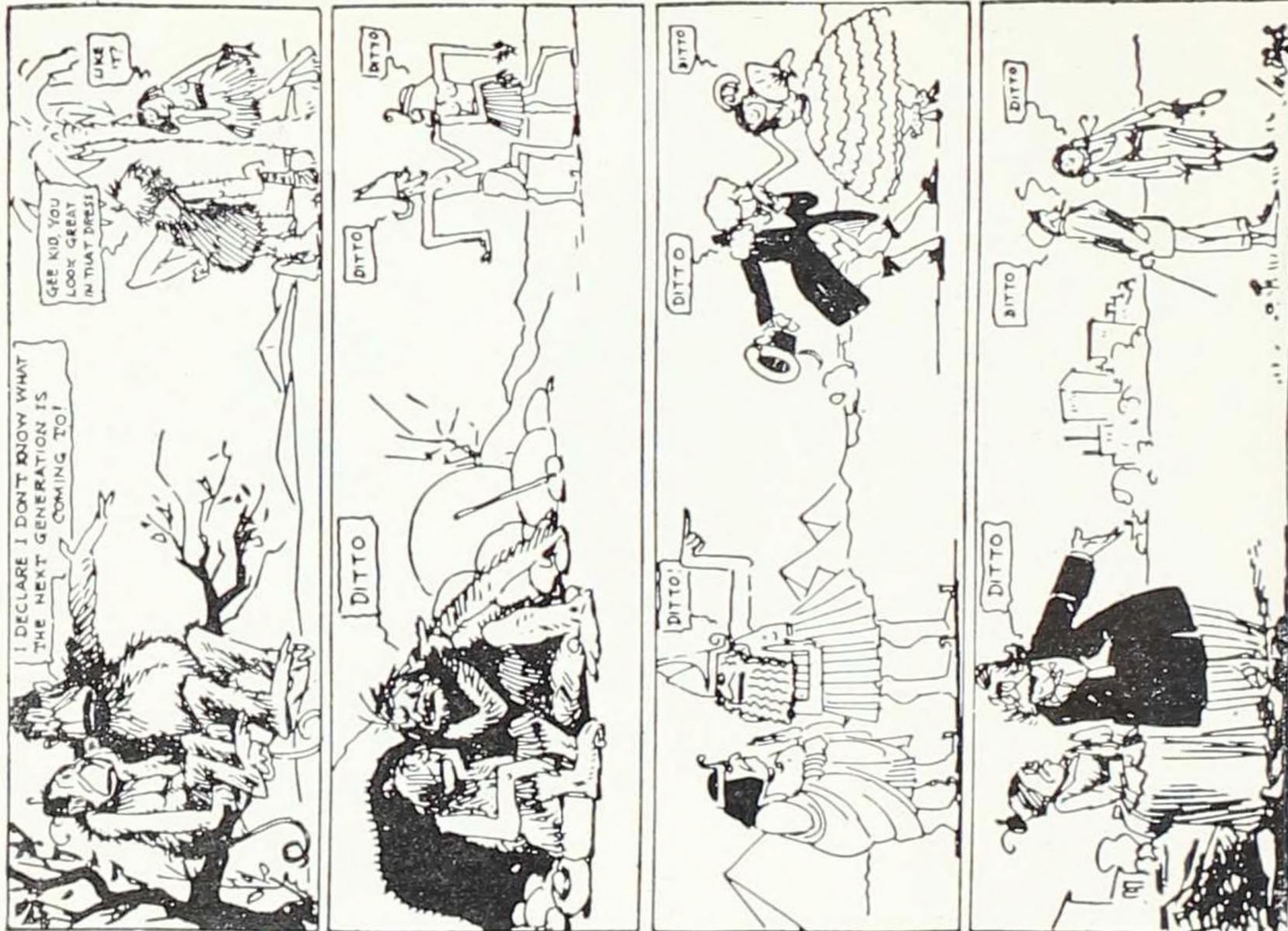


[73]

Just Before the Parachute Opens (1928)

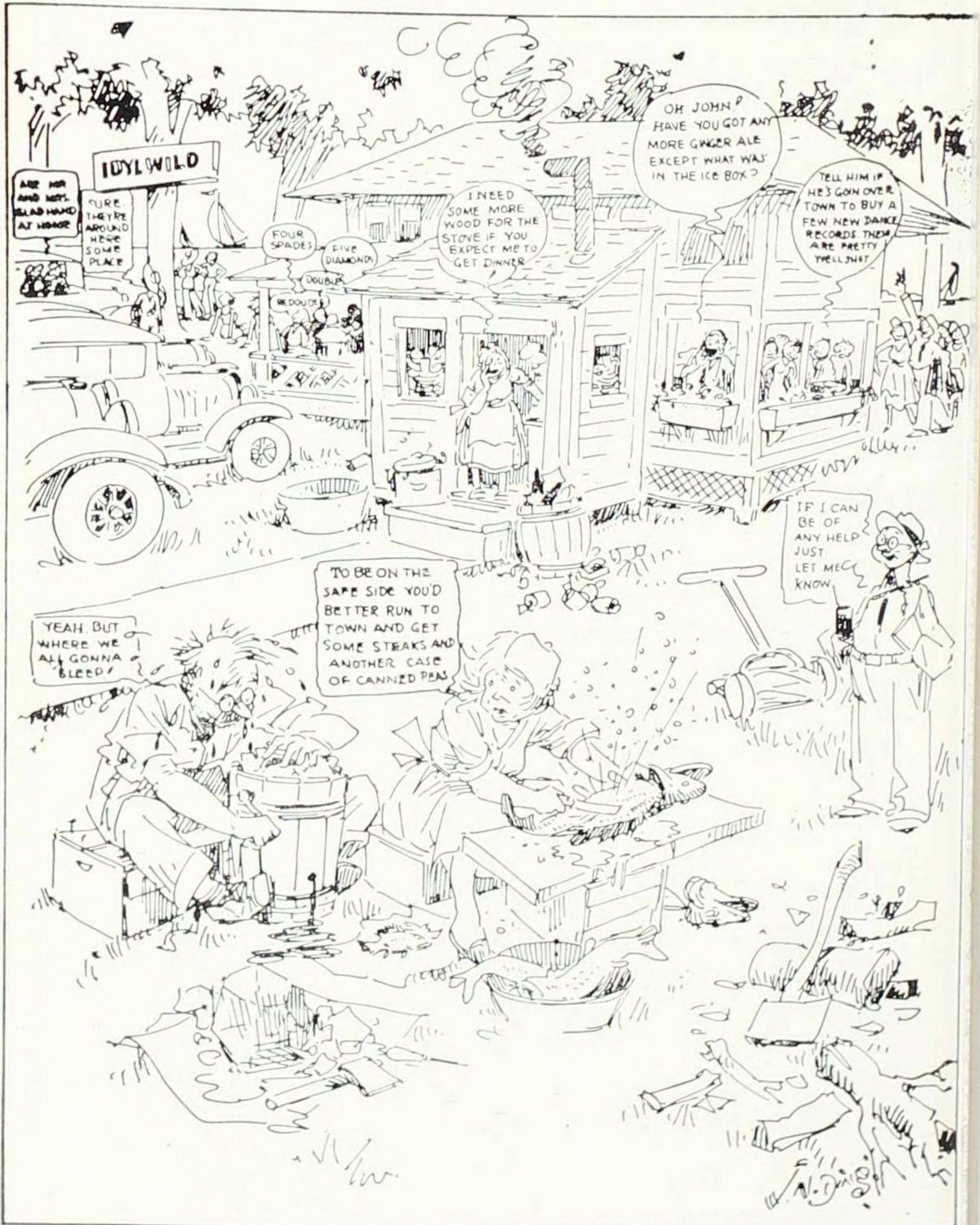


An Outline of History (1922)

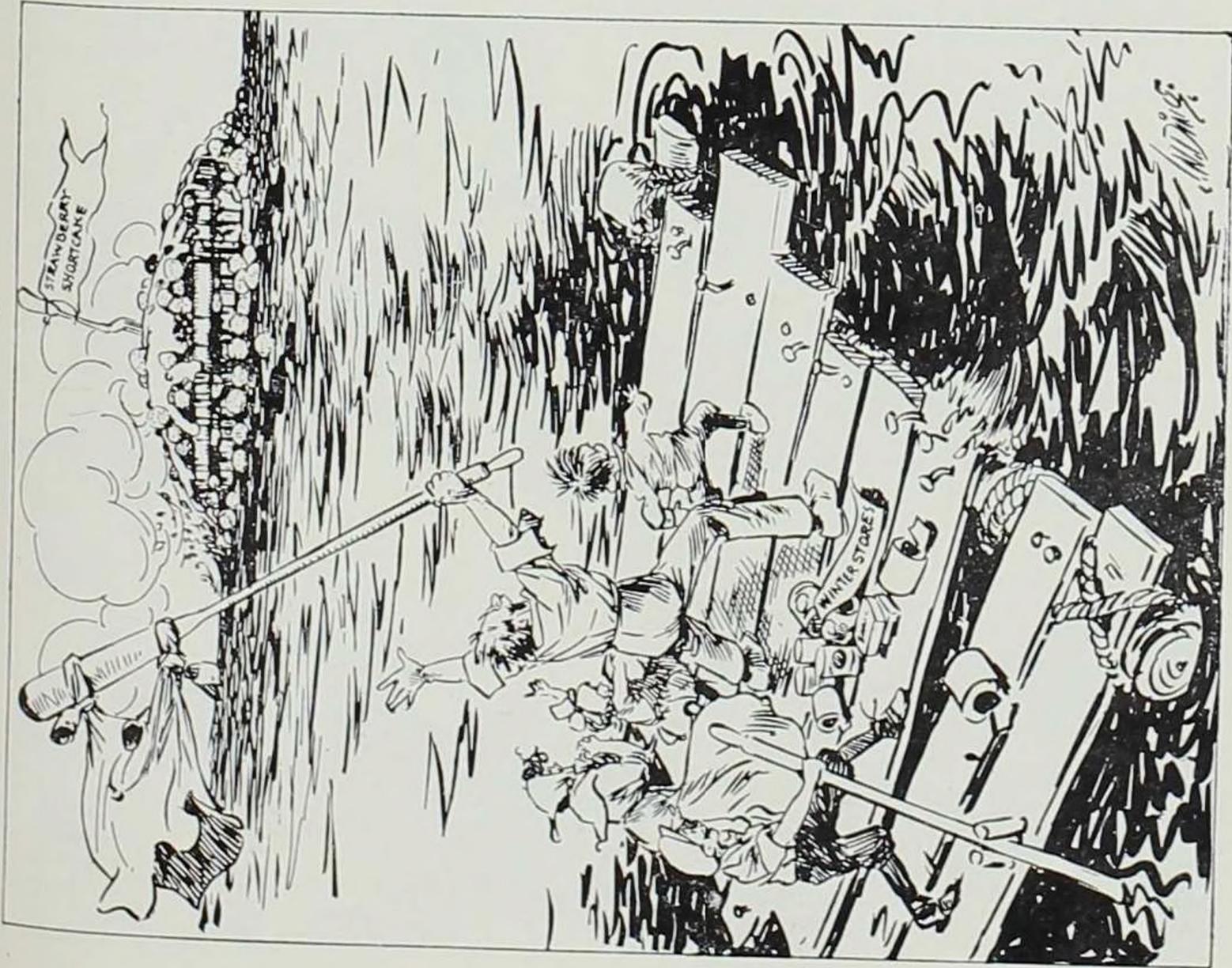


*Around the Home*

Mr. and Mrs. Gladhand Are at Their Cottage Again (1930)

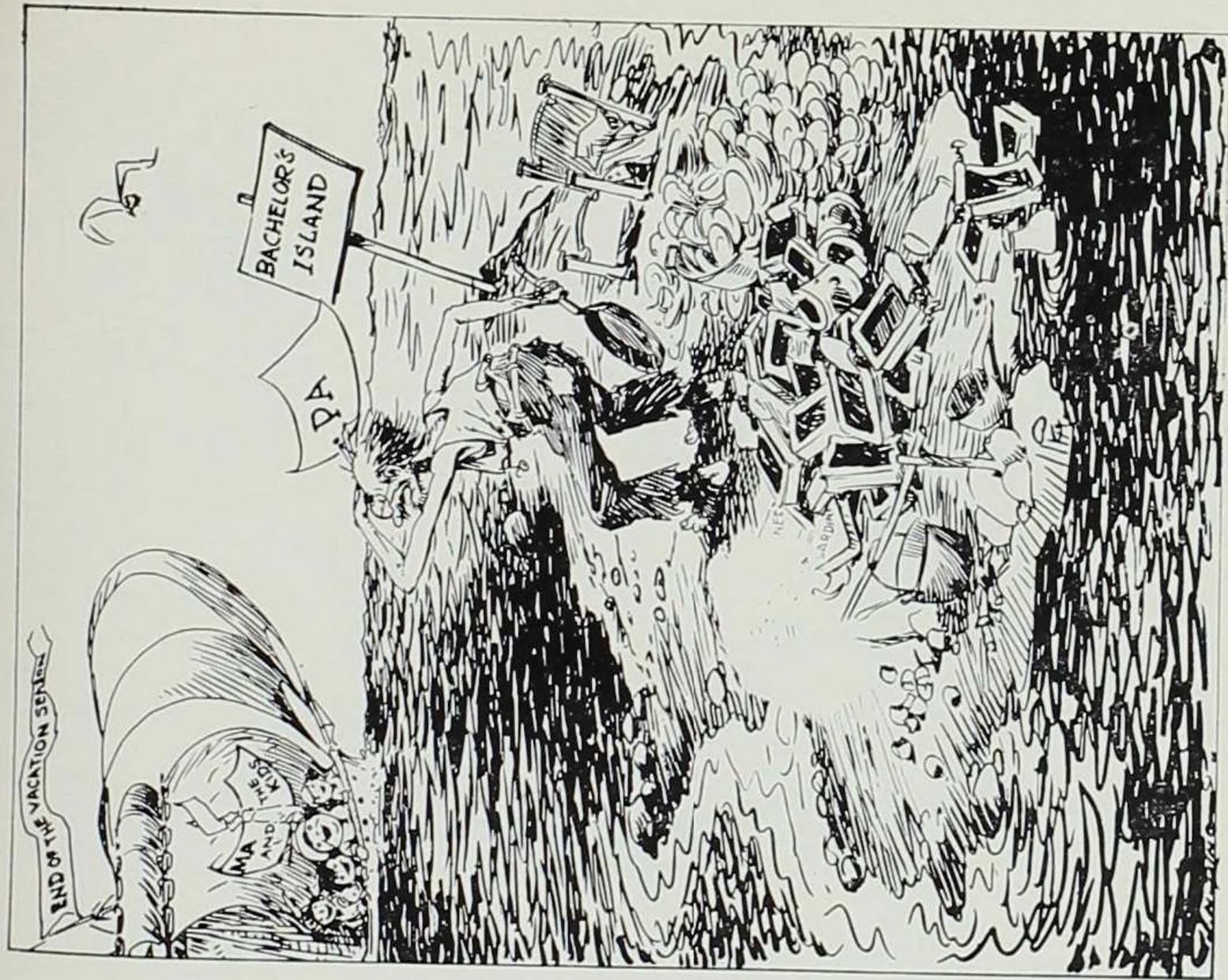


Saved at Last (1918)



[77]

Just In Time (1916)

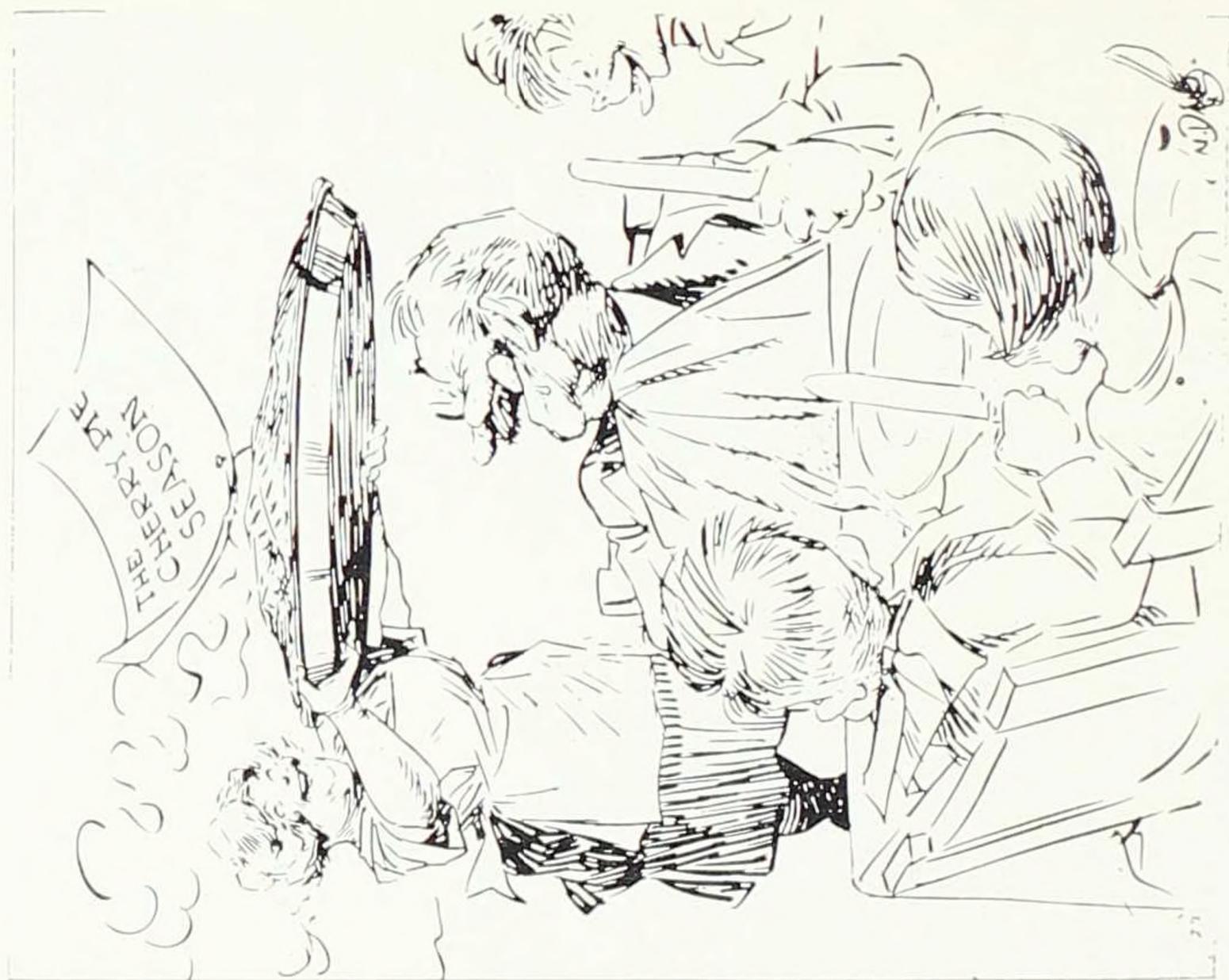


[78]

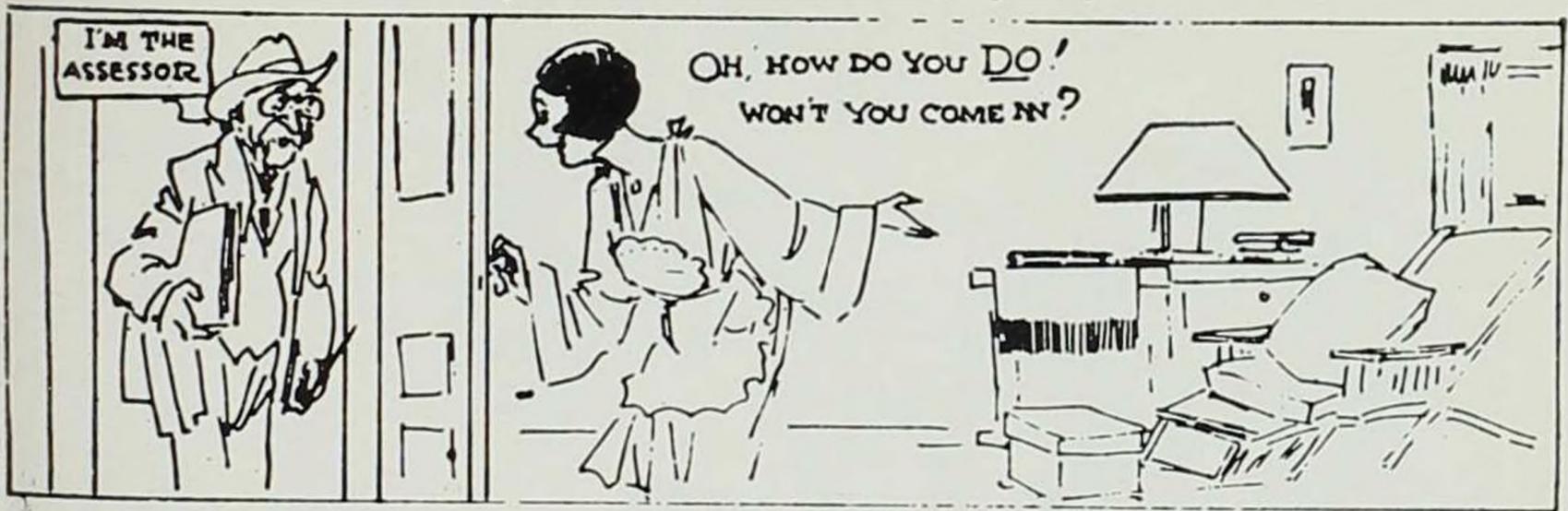
To Start A Winter Day Right (1917)



What Makes A Home A Home (1924)



Why Some Tax Bills Are High (1926)



DO YOU OWN YOUR HOME?  
AND IF SO WHAT'S ITS VALUE?



OH YES! WE OWN IT AND HAVE IT ALL PAID FOR, ALMOST.  
ISN'T IT JUST GRAND—AND IT COST SO MUCH MORE THAN WE THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO — YOU SEE WE HAD THINGS BUILT IN TO SAVE BUYING FURNITURE AND IT WAS TERRIBLY EXPENSIVE! ANYWAY FRED — THAT'S MY HUSBAND — SAYS HE WOULDN'T TAKE A HUNDRED THOUSAND FOR IT JUST AS IT STANDS! WE'RE BOTH JUST CRAZY ABOUT IT!



ANY JEWELRY, WATCHES, DIAMONDS?  
— MONEY IN THE BANK —?



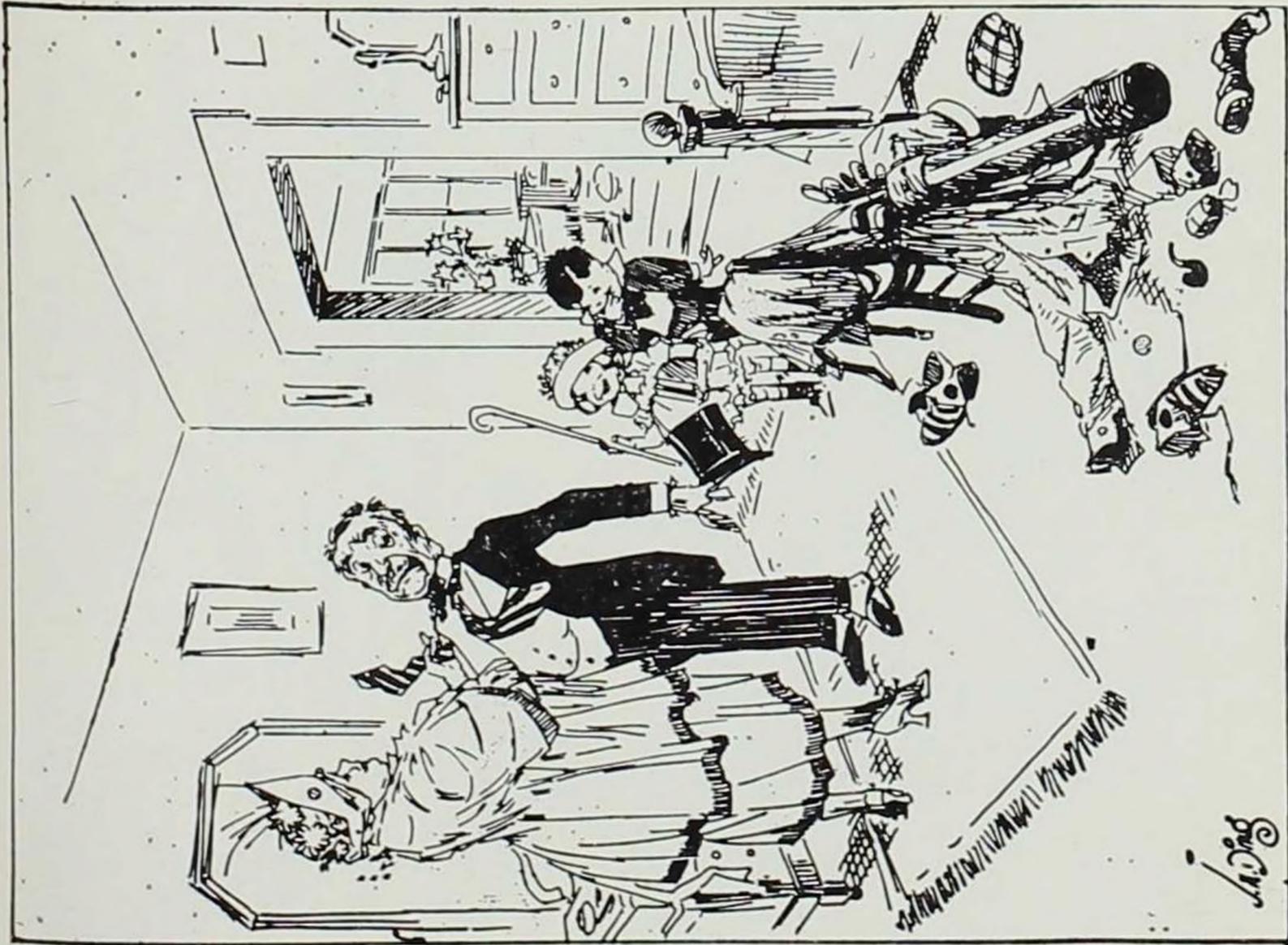
INDEED WE HAVE! JUST LOADS! FIRST THERE'S MY ENGAGEMENT RING. THE DIAMOND ISN'T SO AWFULLY BIG BUT THE QUALITY IS WHAT MADE IT COST SO MUCH— AND THEN I HAVE THIS LITTLE LOCKET — FRED SAYS THEY'RE NOT REAL DIAMONDS BUT I'M SURE THEY MUST BE — AND THEN FRED HAS A LITTLE DIAMOND IN HIS STICK PIN AND THERE'S ALL MY GRANDMOTHER'S JEWELRY THAT'S ALMOST PRICELESS — WE REALLY HAVN'T THEM YET BUT SOMEDAY WE WILL SO IT'S JUST THE SAME — AND — OH I DO WISH FRED WERE HERE, HE COULD THINK OF LOTS MORE — ETC ETC.

OH FRED I'VE HAD THE GRANDEST CALLER TODAY — THE ASSESSOR AND HE WAS SO INTERESTED IN ALL OUR THINGS AND SO SURPRISED TO FIND HOW WELL WE WERE GETTING ALONG —

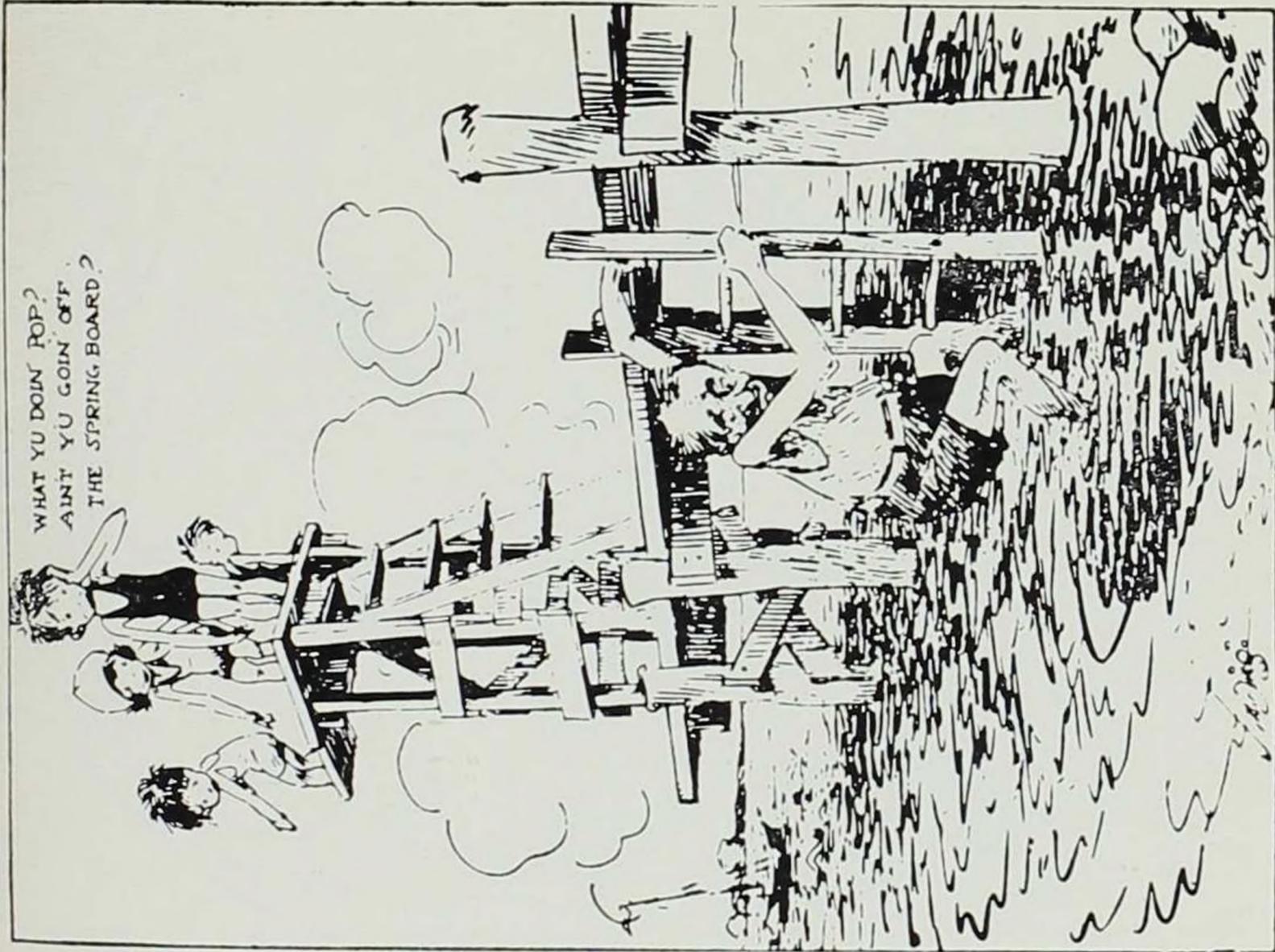




It's Easter Again (1915)



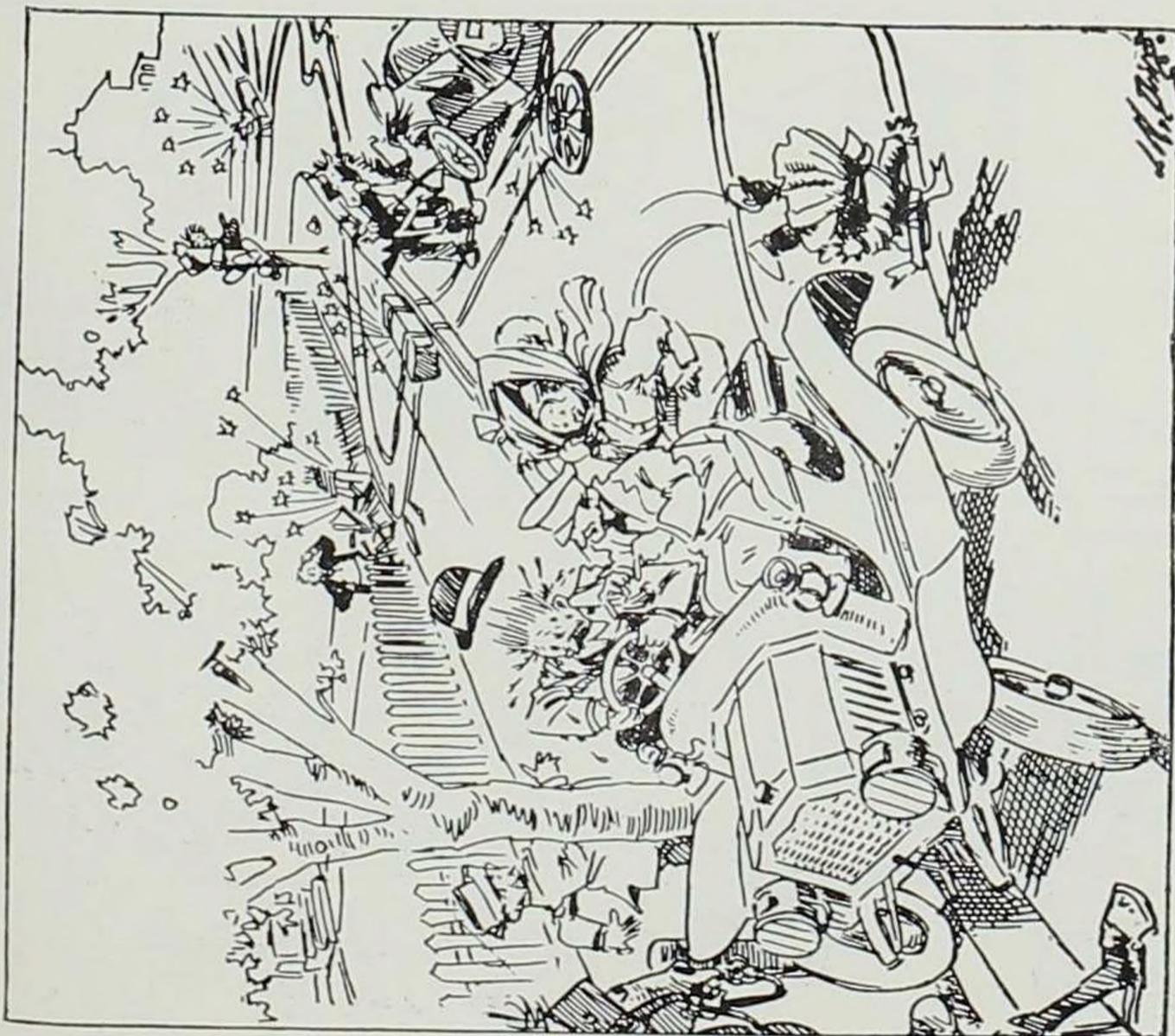
Pa Realizes He's No Longer Young (1915)



WHAT YU DOIN' POP?  
AINT YU GOIN' OFF  
THE SPRING BOARD?

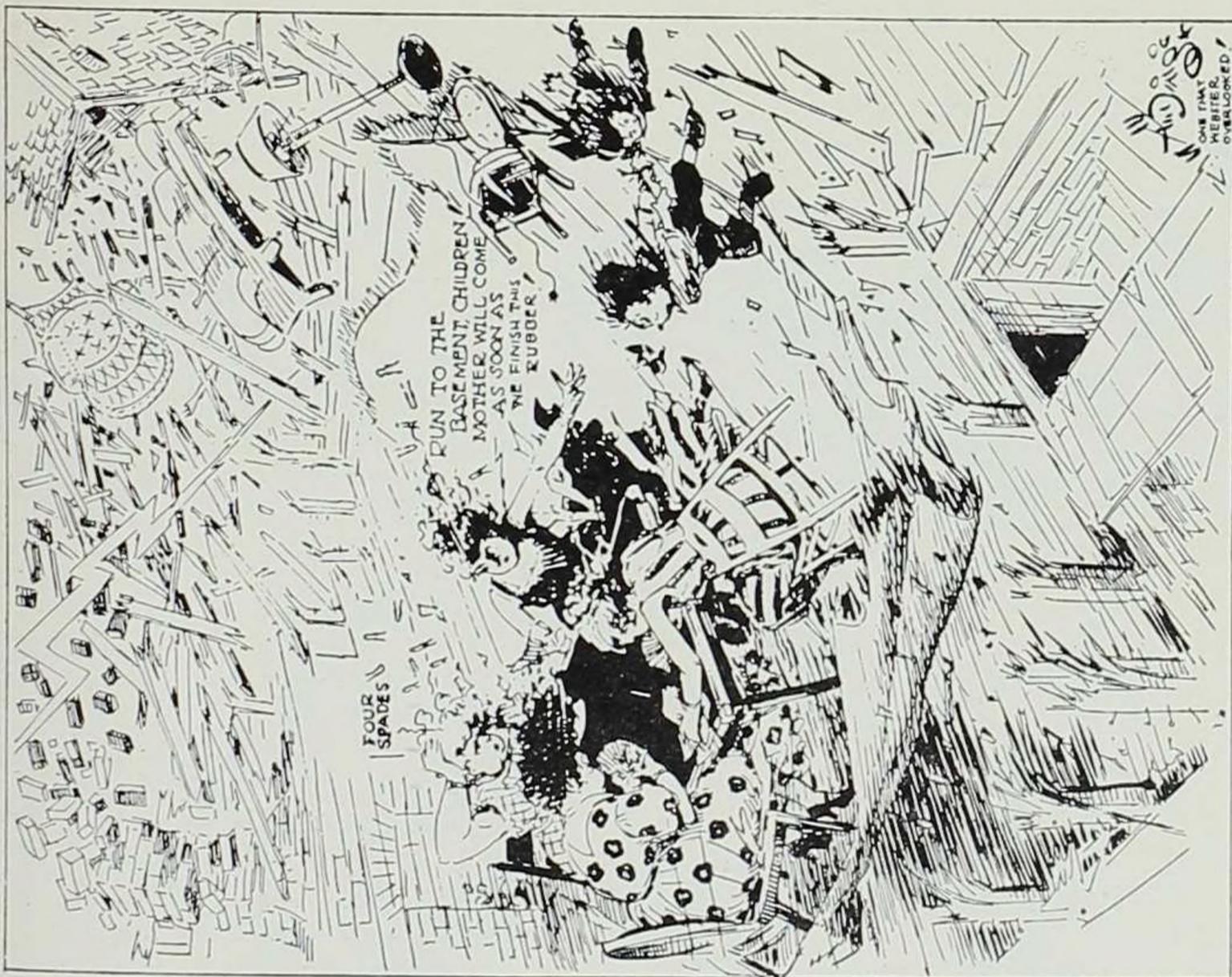


The Driving Lesson (1908)



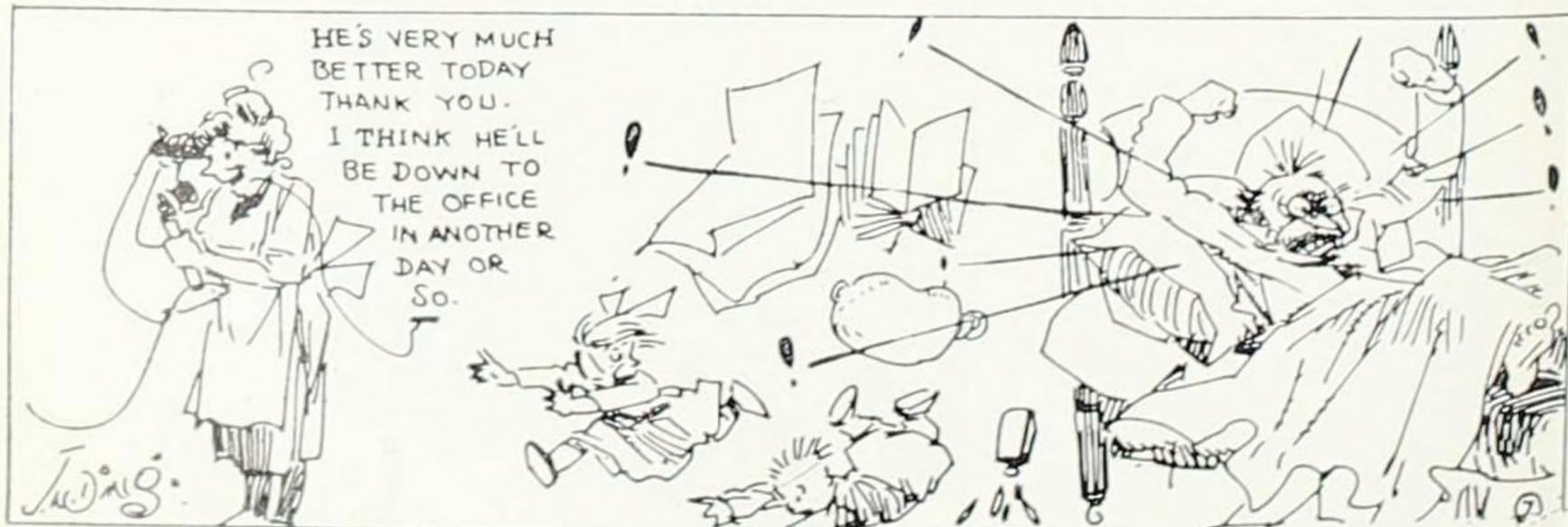
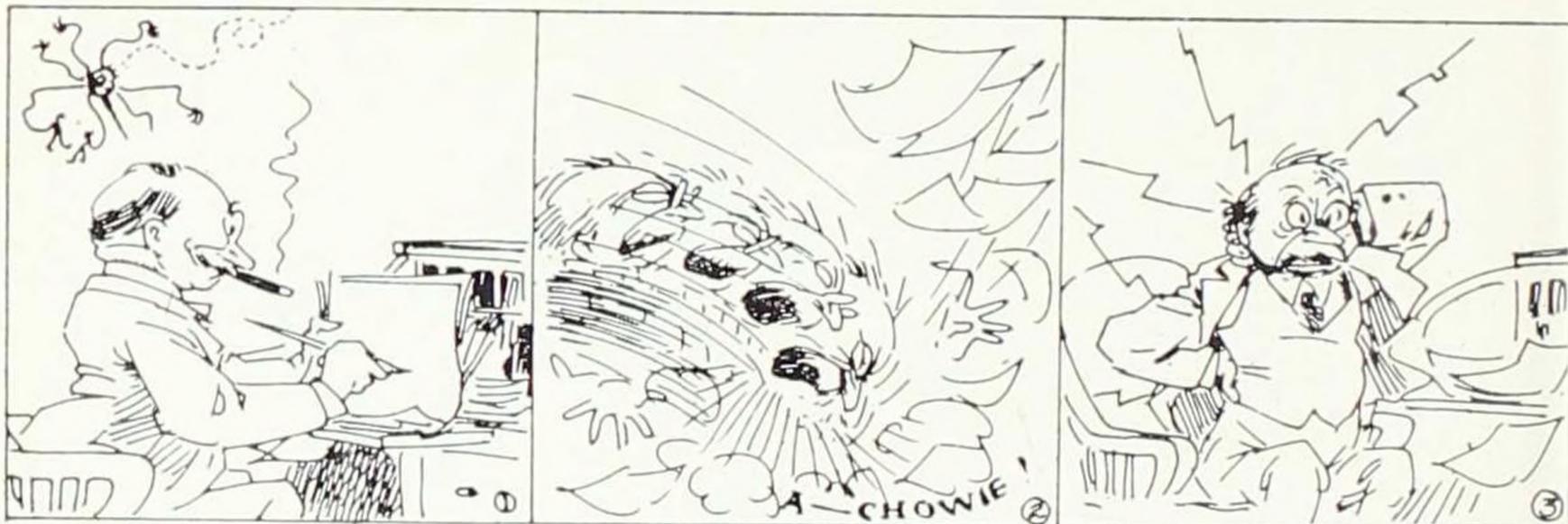
[88]

The Afternoon Bridge Club (1937)

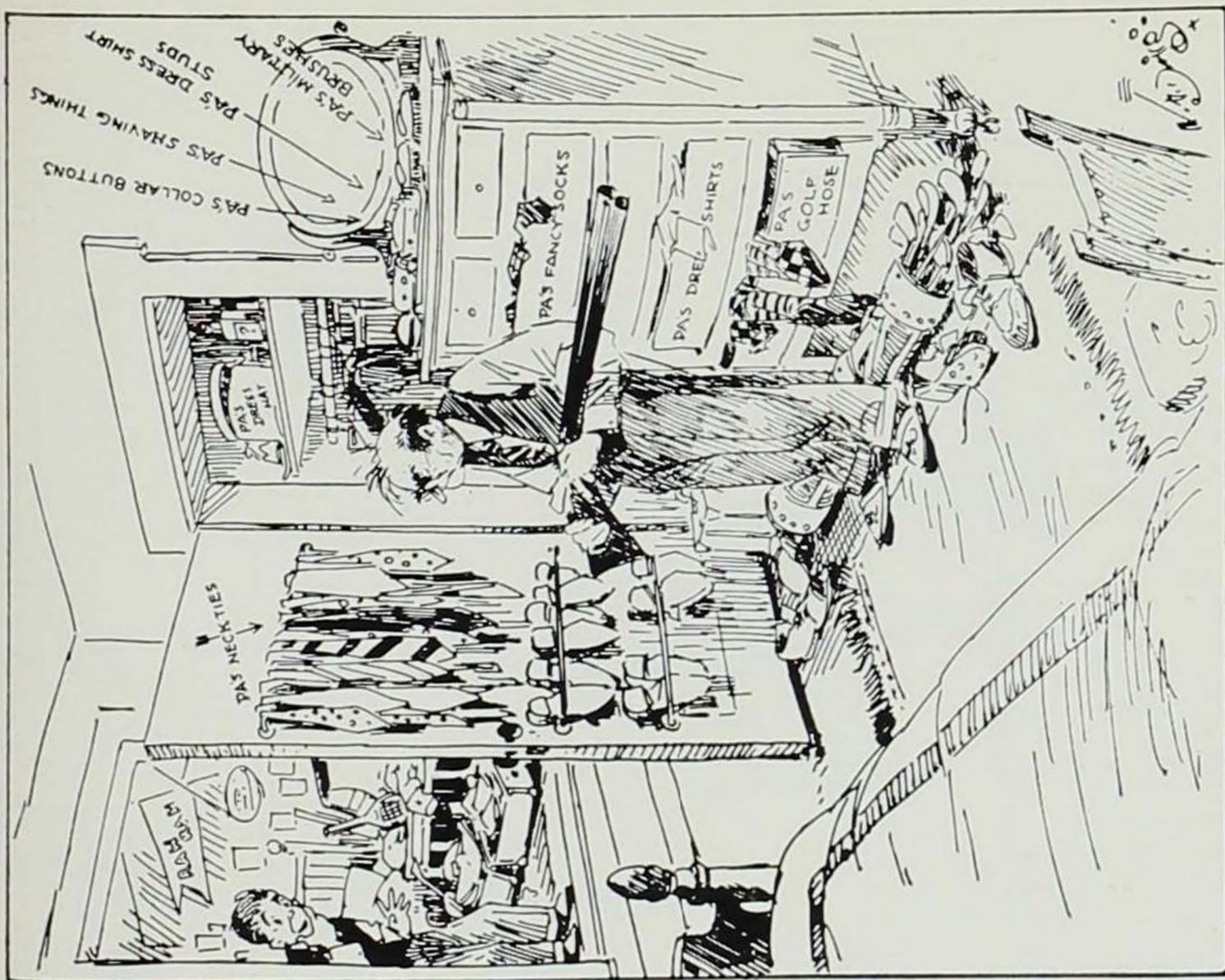


[89]

The Seven Stages of the Flu (1919)

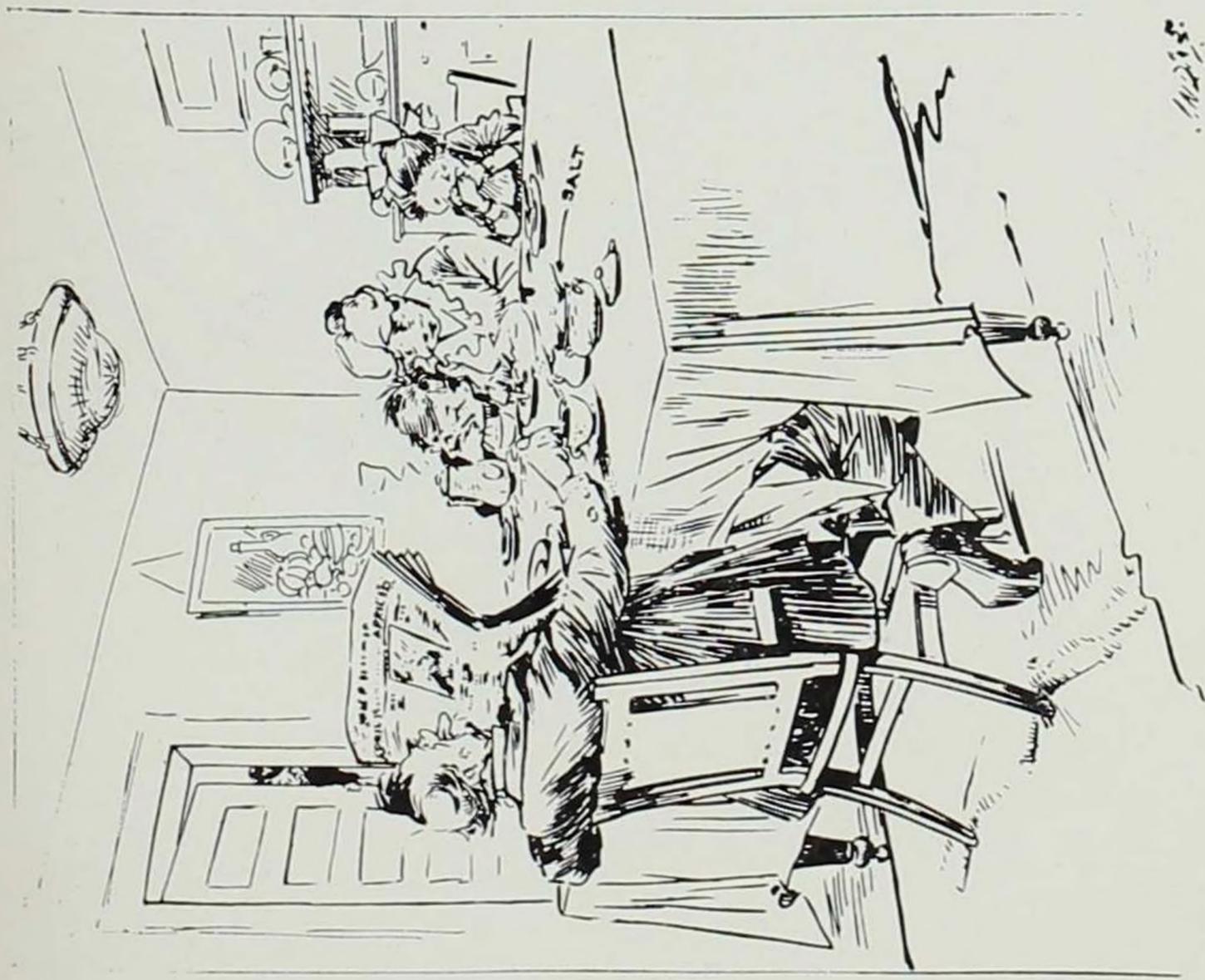


Junior Is Packing For College (1930)



[91]

Waiting For Father (1915)

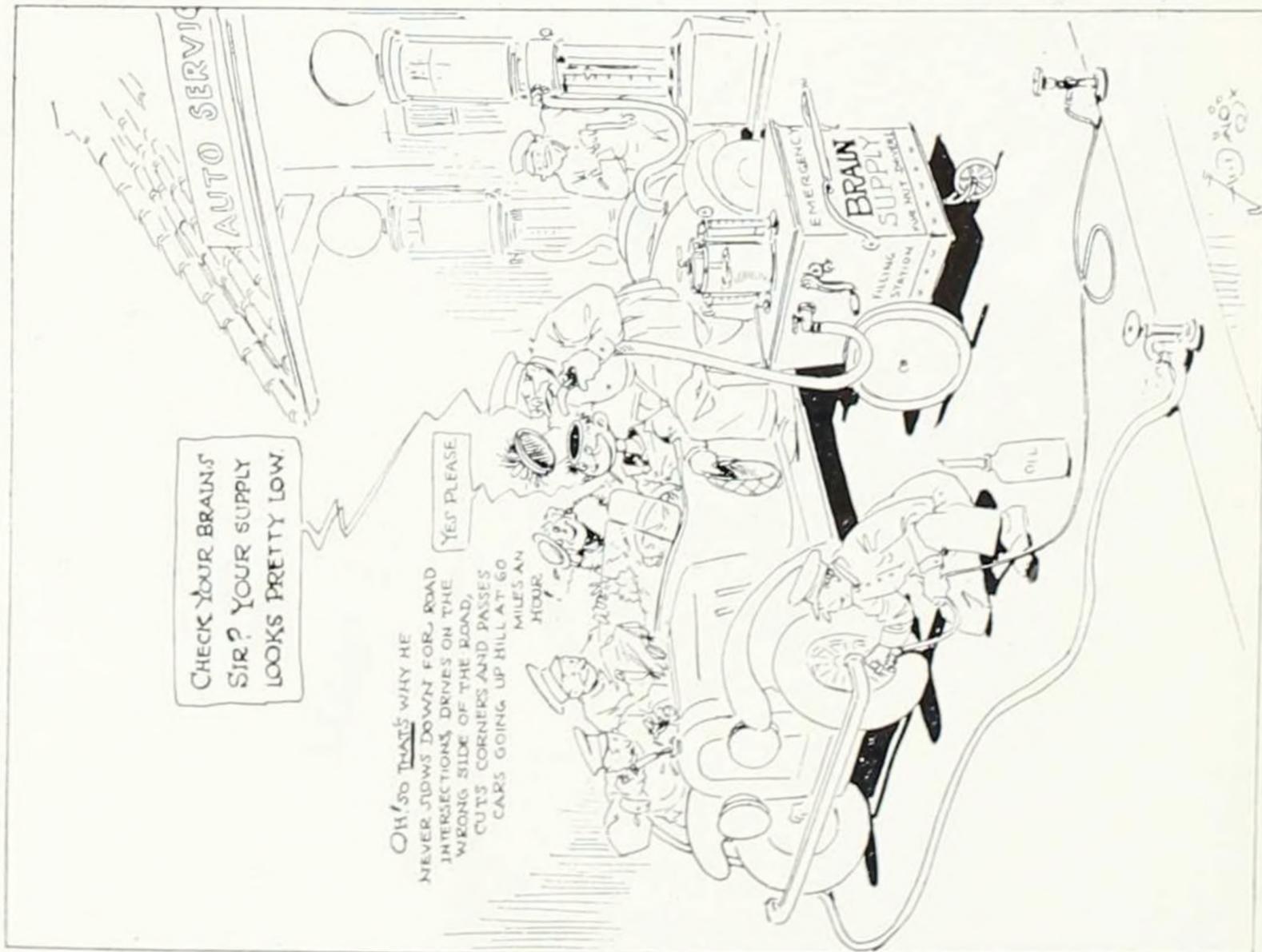


[90]

*Browsing*



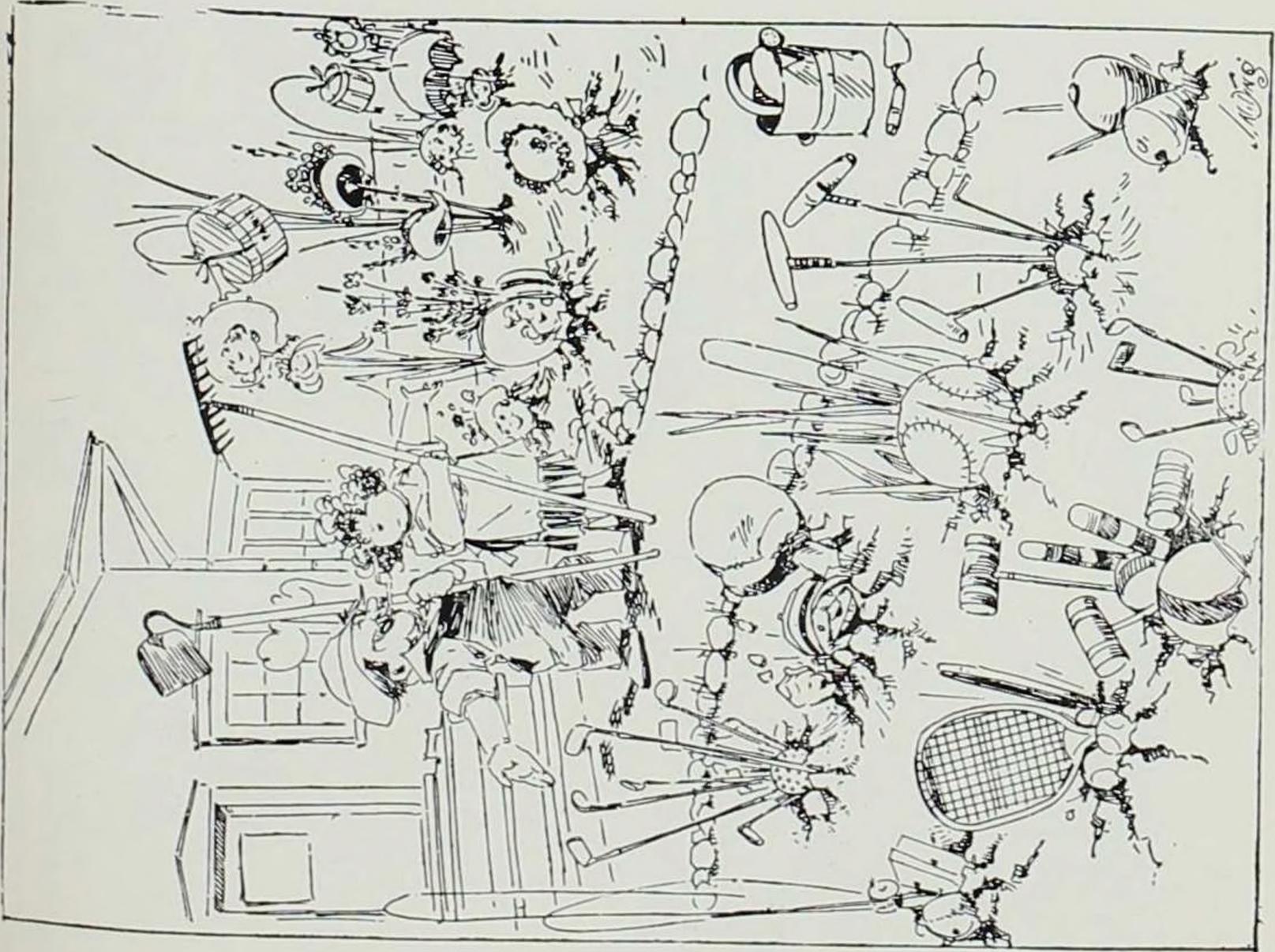
# A Real Service Station (1949)



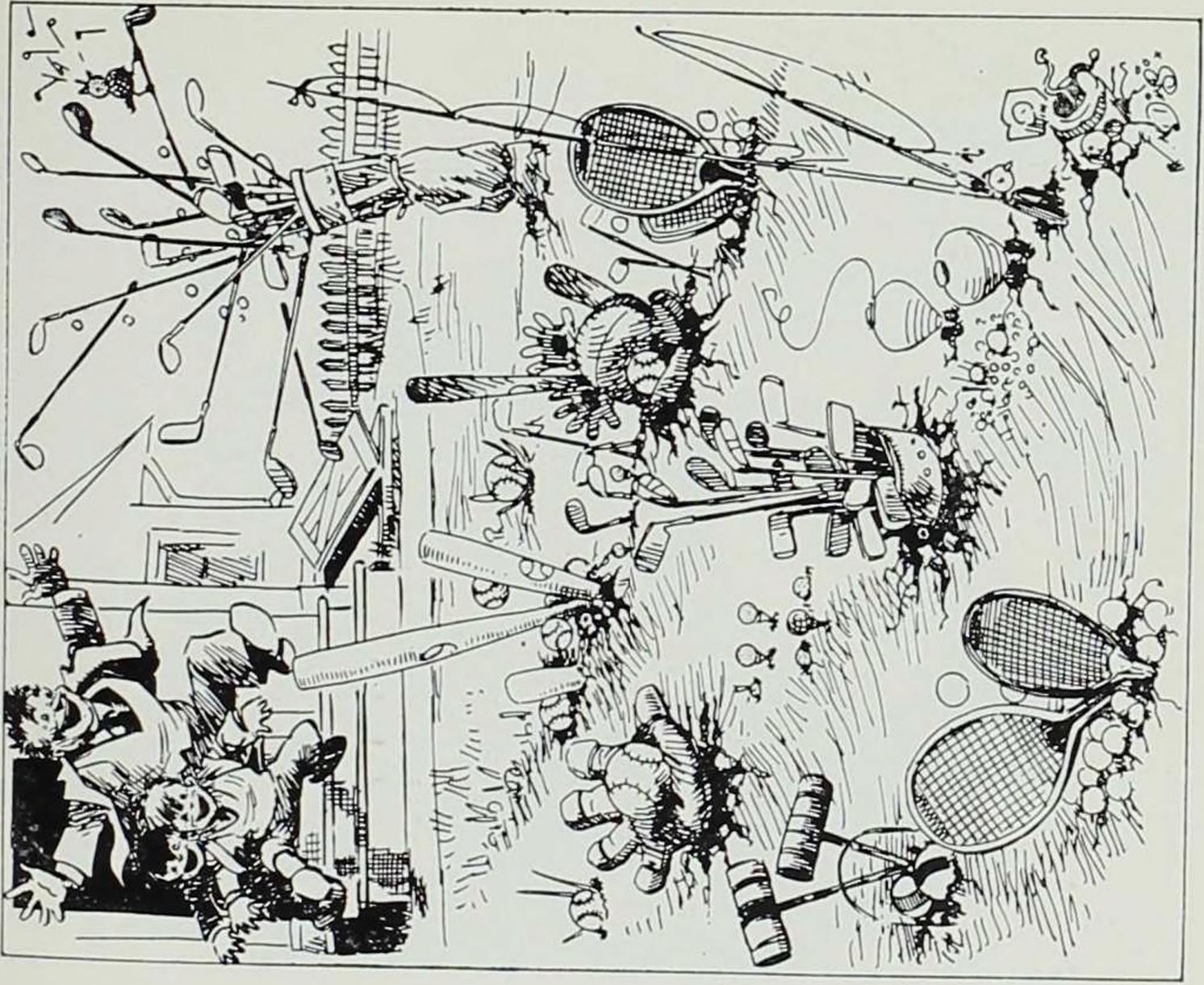
# Some Ideas on the War (1917)



The Flowers That Bloom In The Spring, Tra La (1922)



Spring Is Busting Out Everywhere (1945)



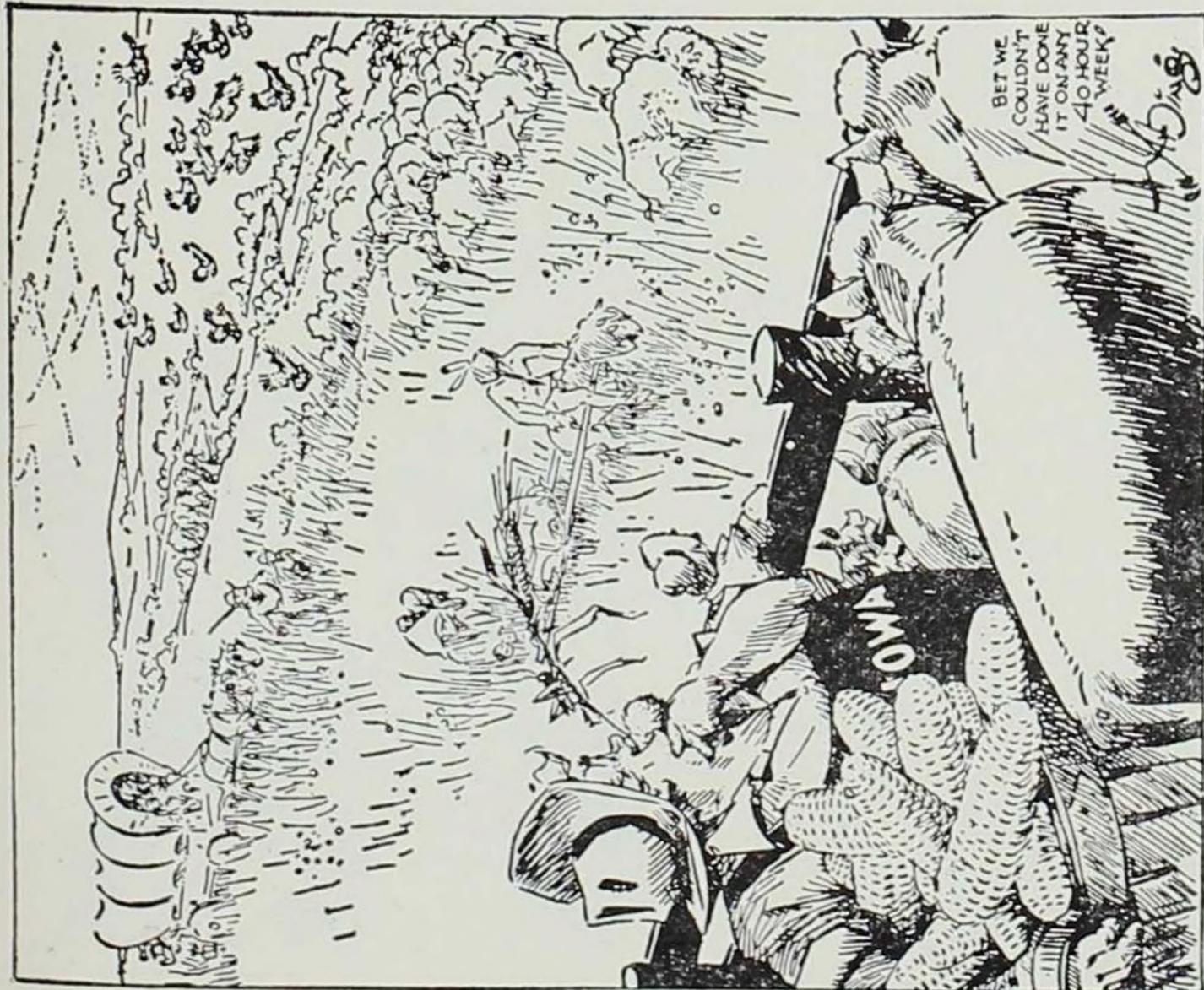
A Generation Gap (1949)



Until Next Time (1929)

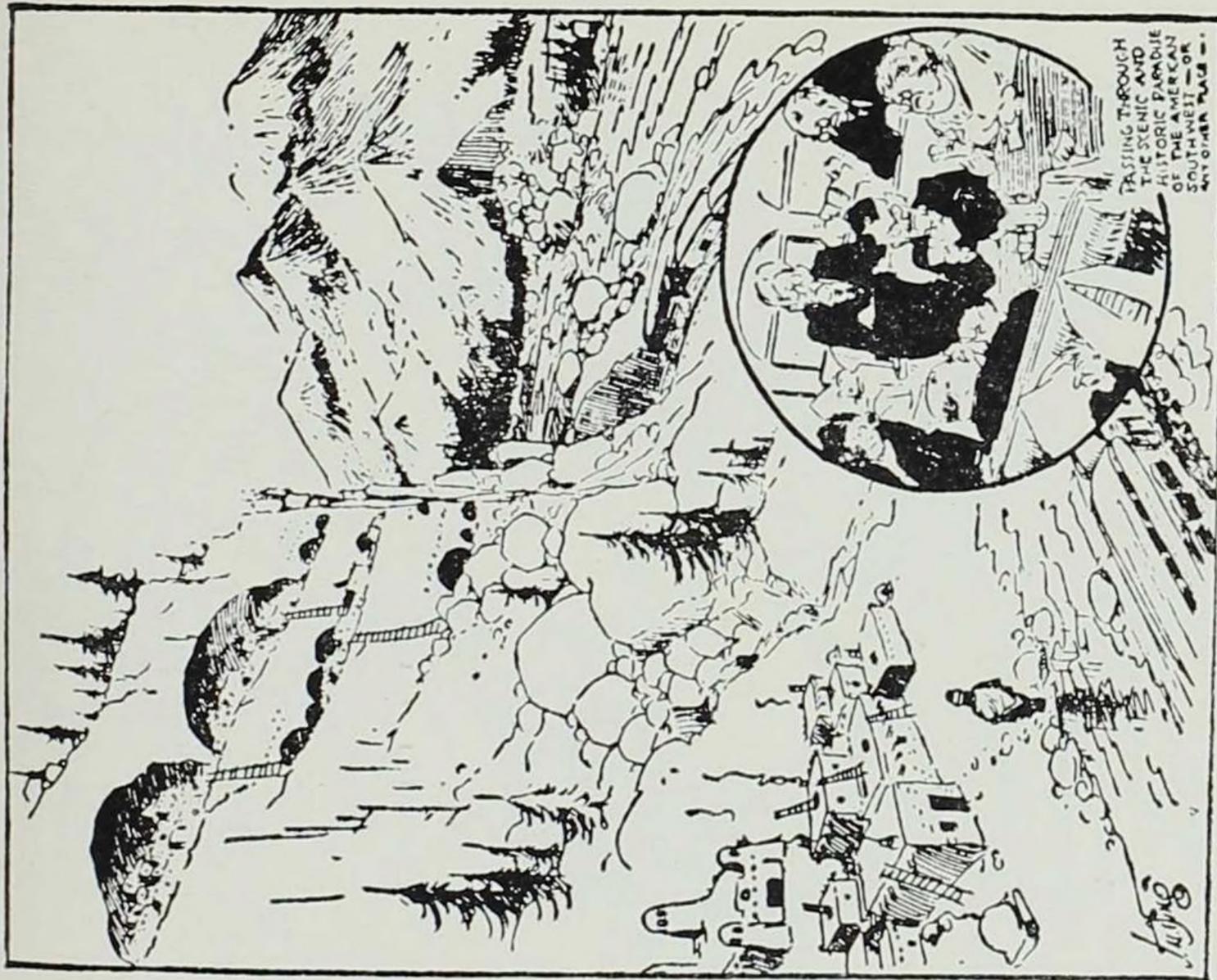


Iowa Has Come a Long Way in a Hundred Years



[100]

The Educational Value of Travel (1926)

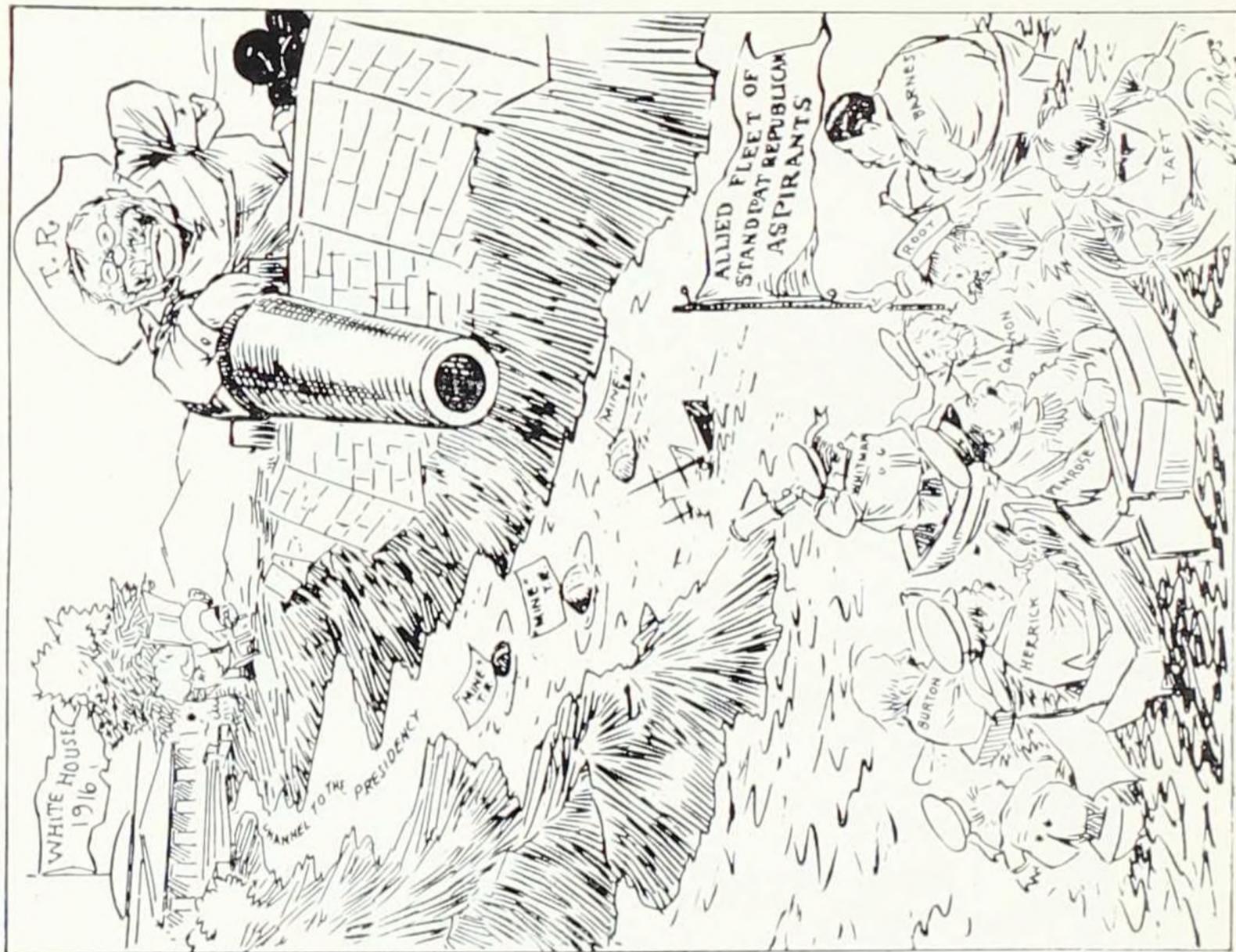


[101]

Waiting For Better Weather Conditions (1927)



The Political Dardanelles



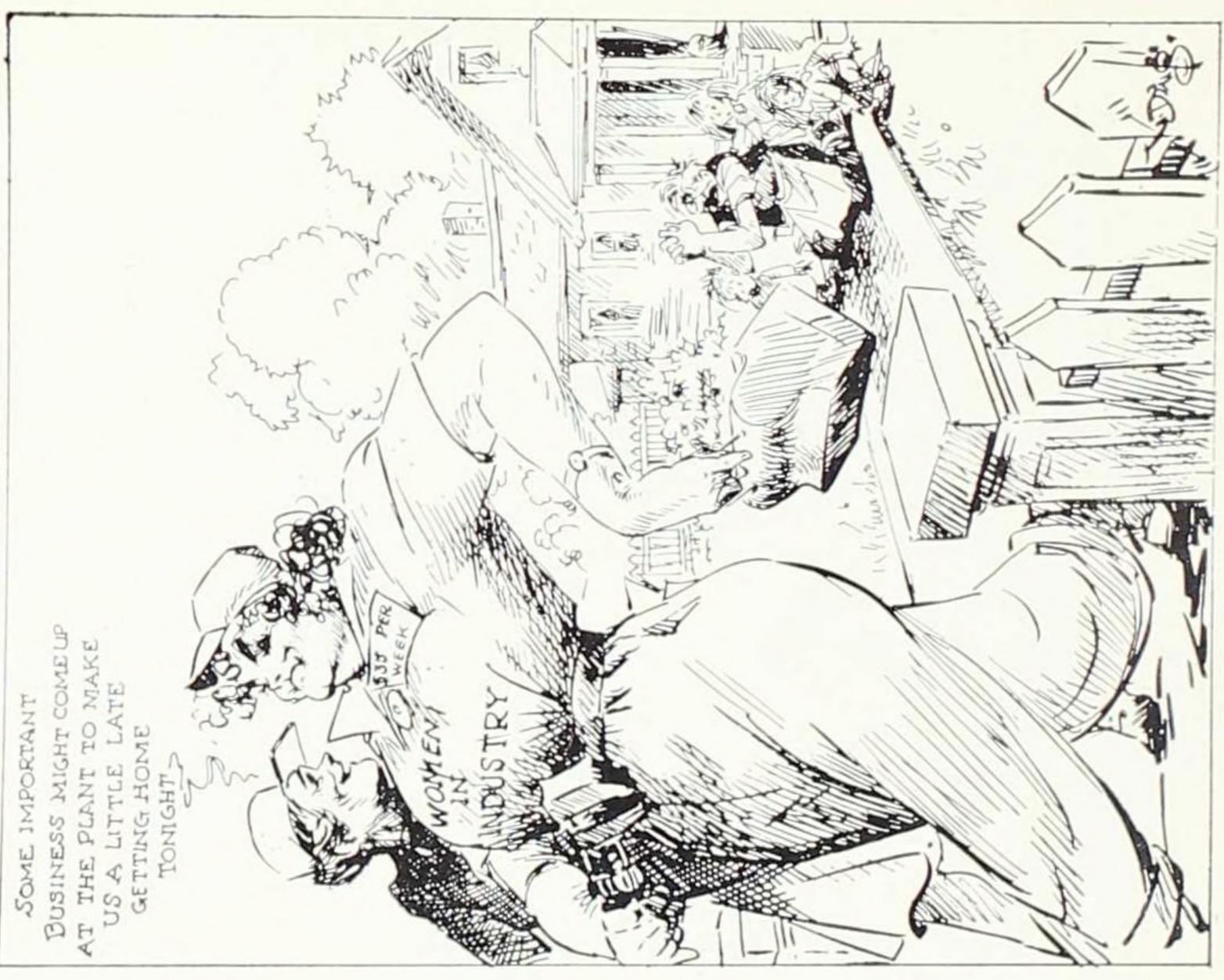
A Dress Designer's Autobiography (1915)



[103]

[102]

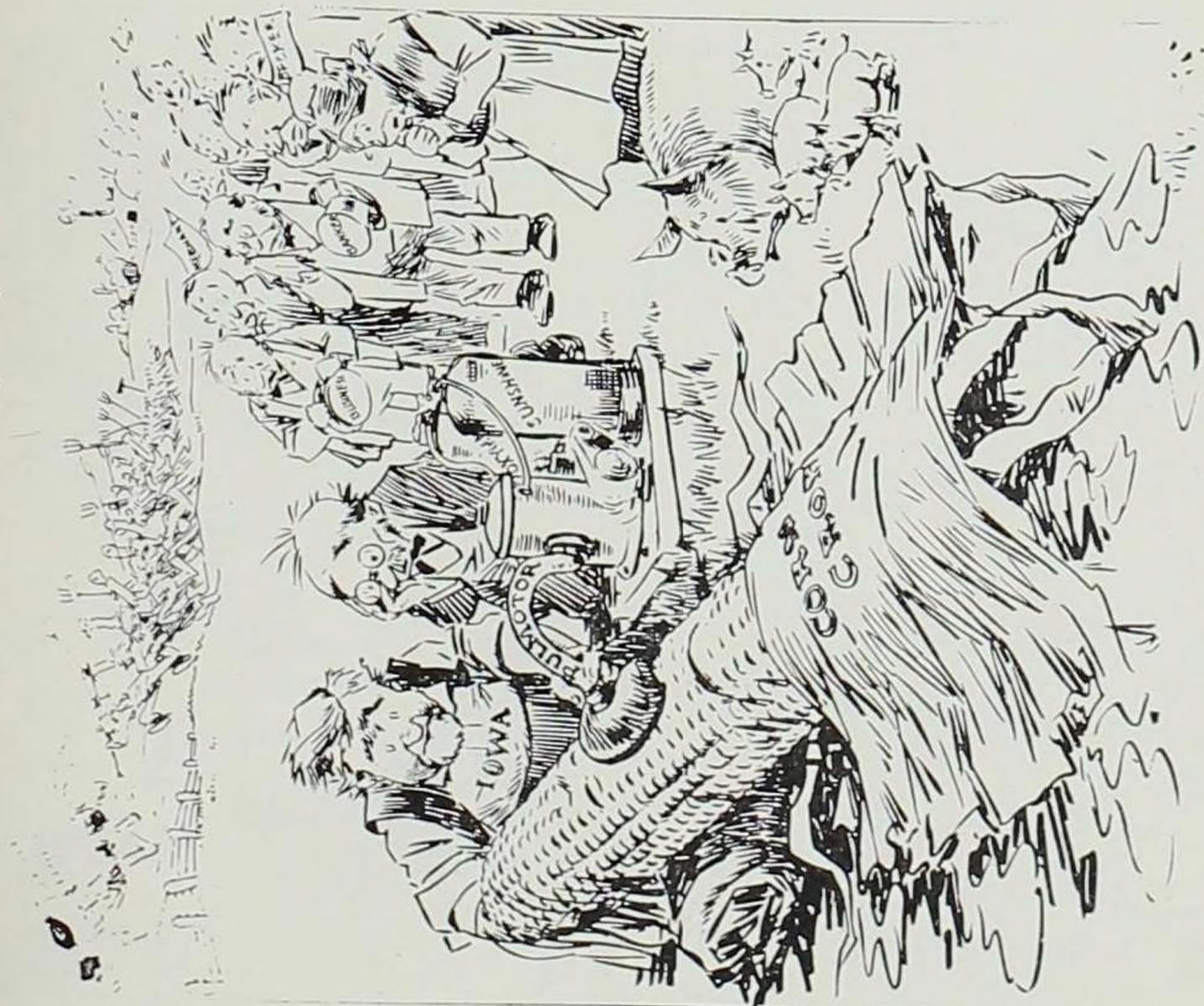
Post War Readjustment Problems (1943)



We'll Be Thinking of You Every Day (1916)



Watchful Waiting (1915)



[107]

The Republican Convention Is On (1940)



[108]

Machines Are So Much More Efficient (1929)



THE ROMANS  
KILLED 4941  
GLADIATORS  
IN 117 ROMAN  
HOLIDAYS



BUT WITH ALL OUR MODERN  
IMPROVEMENTS  
THE BEST WE CAN  
DO IS ONLY ABOUT  
35000 IN 365!

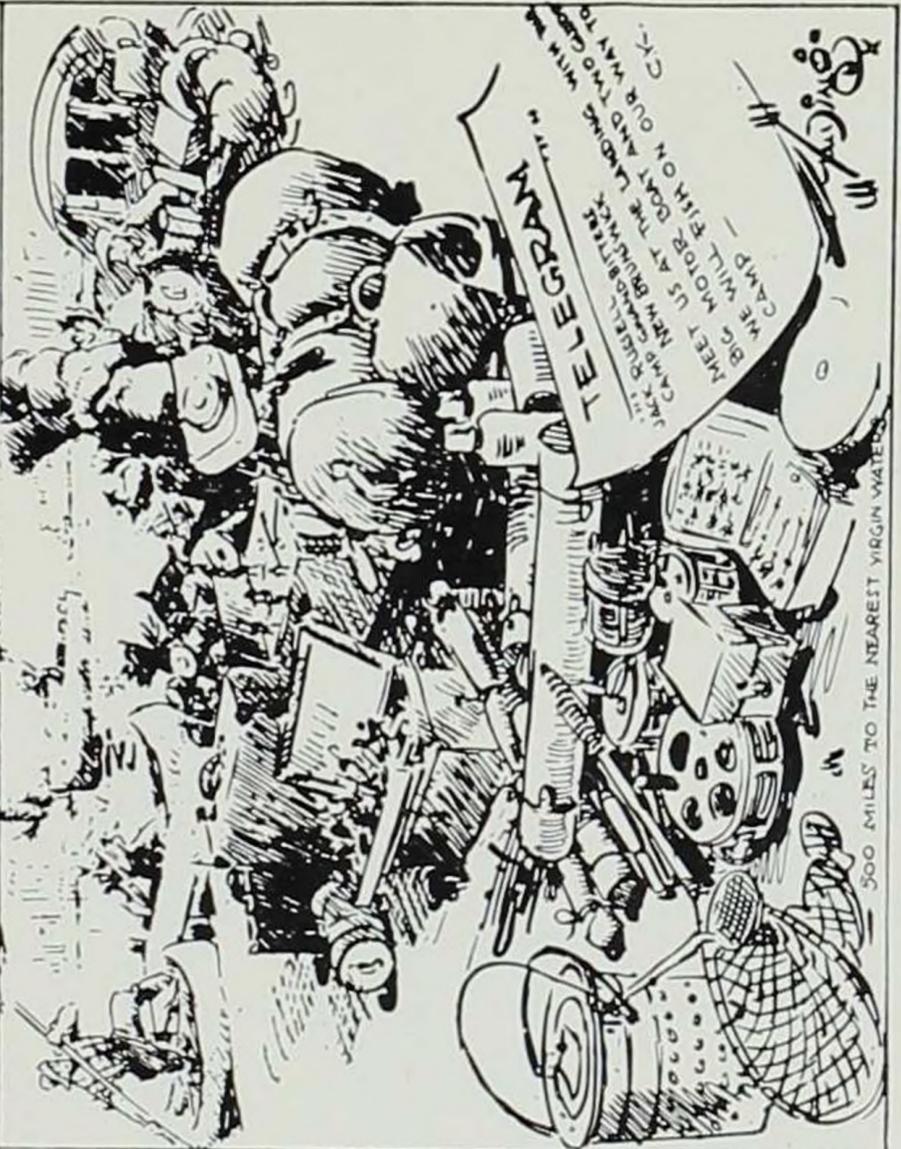
Prediction In 1939 Of World Today



No Wonder It Costs Us So Much More  
To Live These Days (1936)



WHEN THESE WERE  
BLACK BILLS  
WITHIN A MILE  
OF YOUR OWN BACK DOOR



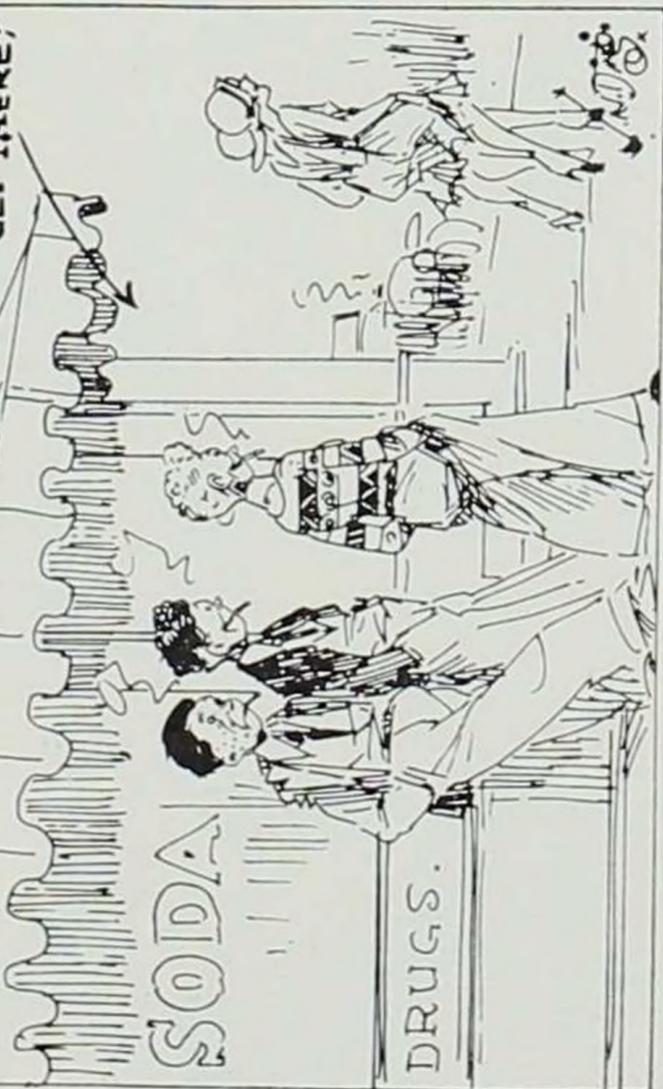
500 MILES TO THE NEAREST VIRGIN WATER

Had You Noticed It, Too? (1929)



THOSE WHO ARE IN THE BIGGEST HURRY—

SEEM TO BE THE ONES WHO HAVE THE LEAST TO DO  
WHEN THEY  
GET THERE!



About All We'll Ever Do About It (1947)



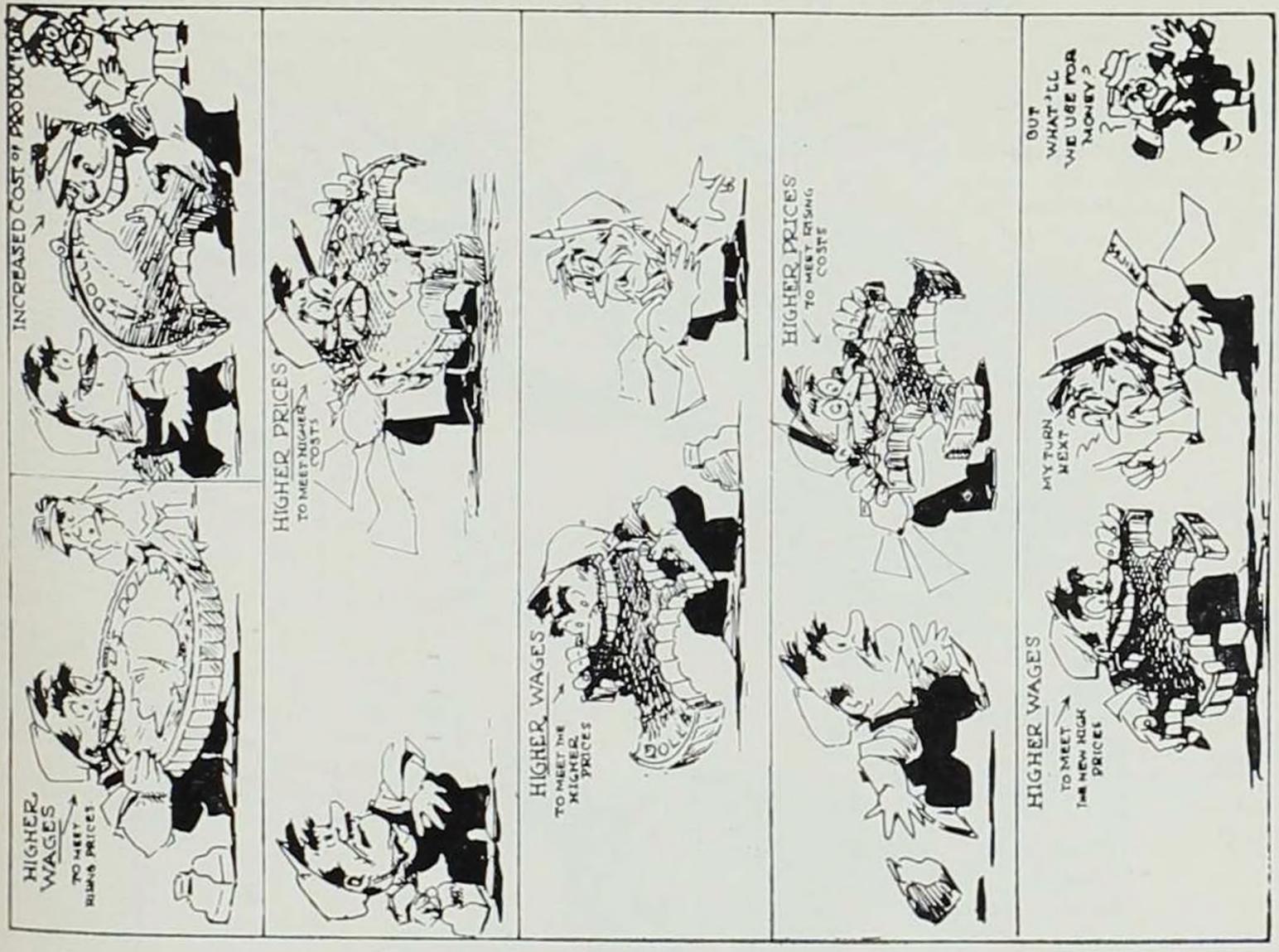
[113]

Its A Wonder There Are Any Ducks Left (1934)

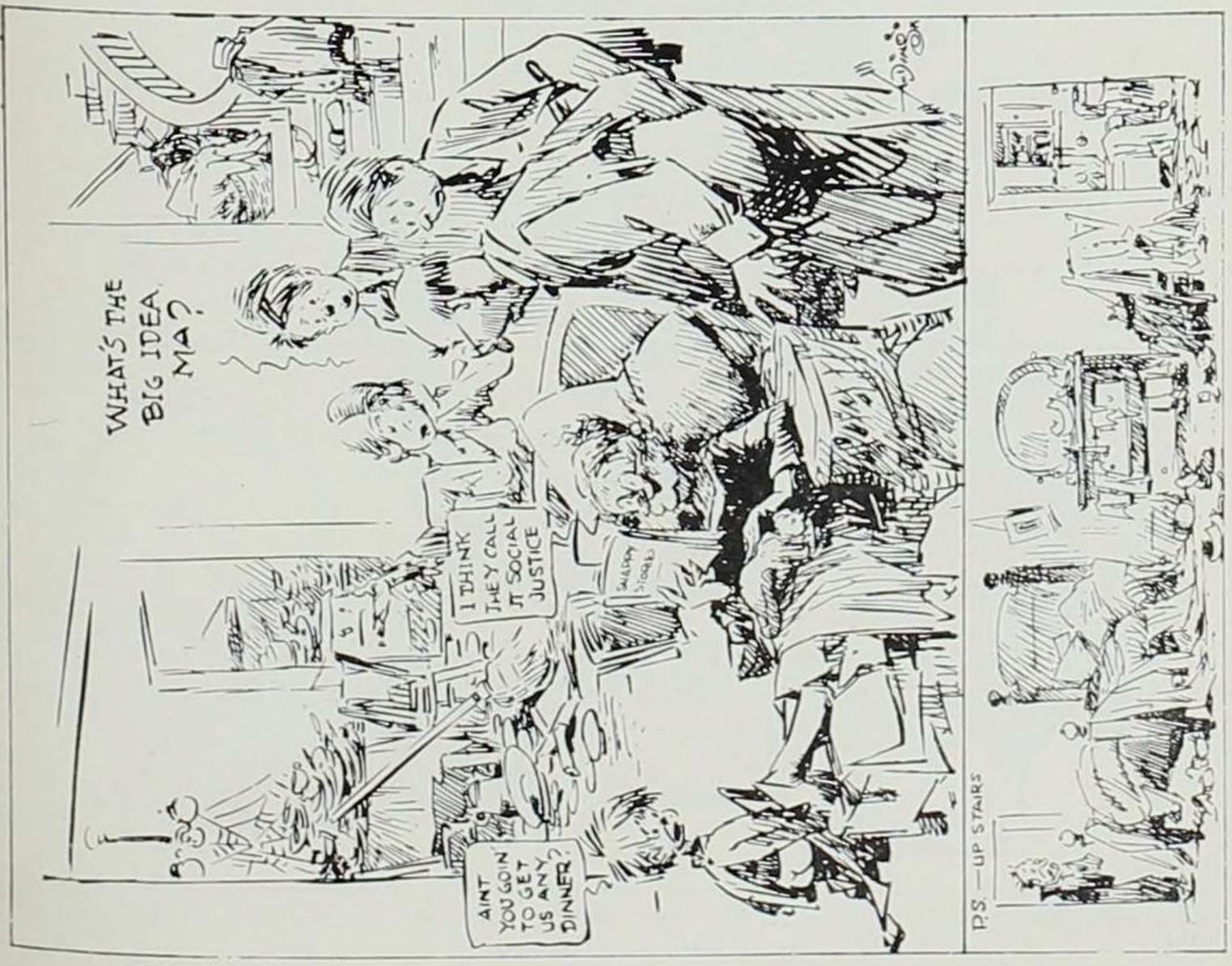


[114]

Making The Dollar Smaller (1943)



Wait Till Mother Takes Up The 30 Hour Week Idea (1936)



Damned If They Do and Damned If They Don't



[117]

Candidates for President in 1912

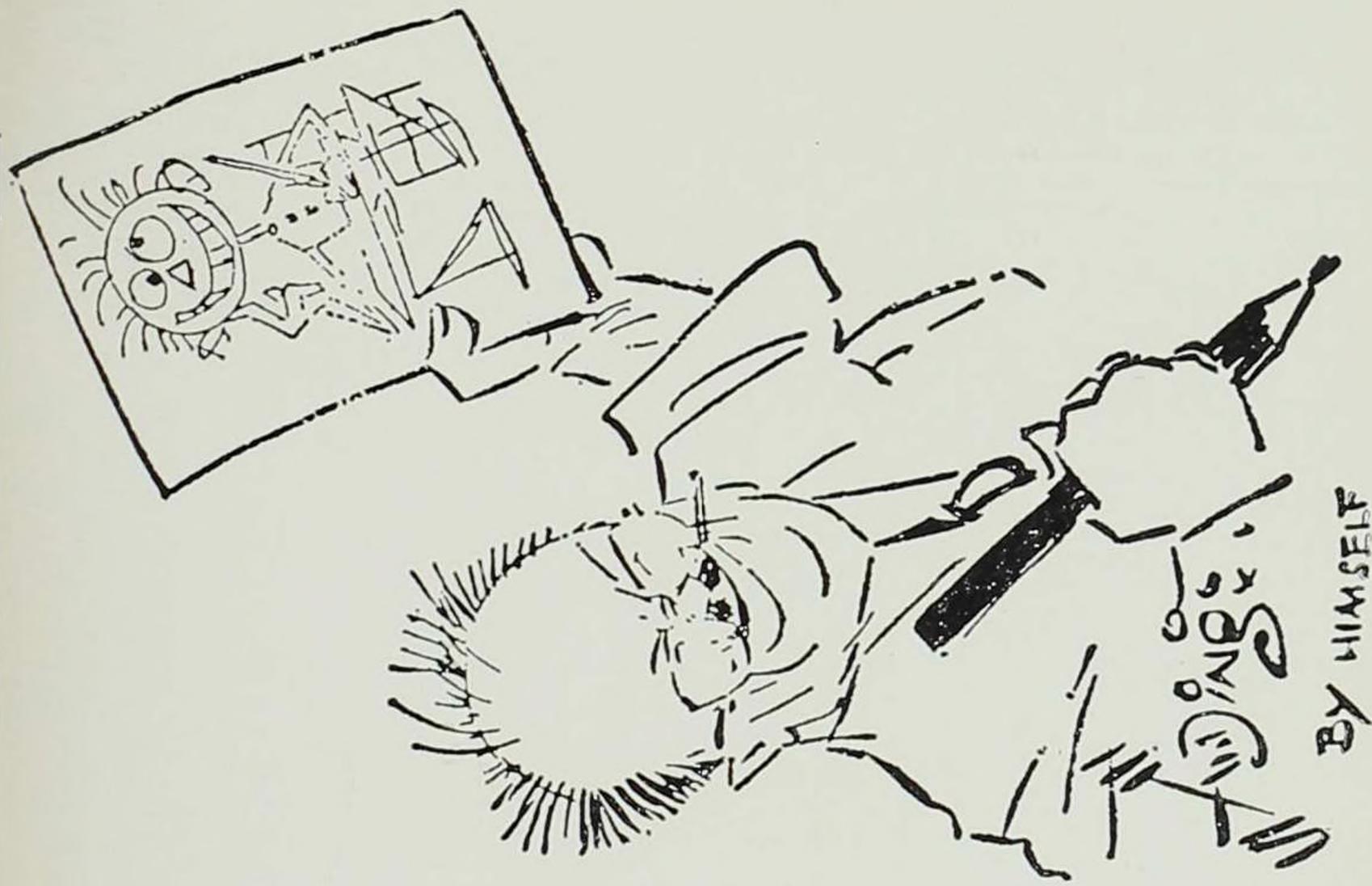


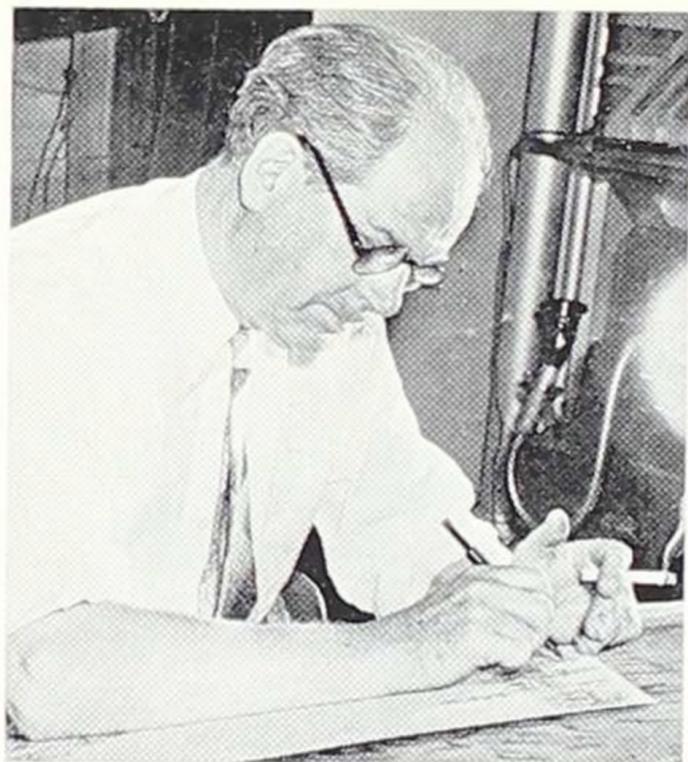
Twenty years ago, "Ding" drew the above cartoons of Wilson, Roosevelt, and Taft for the October, 1952, issue of *The Palimpsest*.

Ding by James Montgomery Flagg



A Self-Drawn Cartoon of Me (1922)





Cartoonist at Work



Self-Portrait by Ding

A Casual Pose in the 1940's

