

PART I

Food Administrator

Ding's devotion to all forms of conservation instinctively interested him in Herbert Hoover, newly appointed food administrator. Early evidence of Hoover's sound judgment, his ability to grasp and master seemingly impossible situations, and his unselfish devotion to his responsibilities were the qualities stressed by Ding which were to catch the attention and admiration of the American people. Hoover's long residence abroad, both as a mining engineer and as an administrator of relief in Europe, had prevented his participation in American public affairs, and he had no known political affiliation. His new popularity made him a political figure, and both parties were claiming him.

April 21, 1917

THIS WAS among the first cartoons to appear of the capable American Ding and others were beginning to admire. It was requested by, and given to, an associate of Hoover in the food administration. At this time Americans were reading the war news, and now and then stories of a different kind:

GERMANS ON VERGE OF REVOLT

**HINDENBERG'S CONCENTRATION OF
TROOPS GREATEST EVER KNOWN**

British war cabinet calls into service every physician. . . . H. G. Wells recommends a form of government like that of the United States for Great Britain. . . . President Wilson reported ready to go before Congress to get "universal military service." . . . Earl Caddock of Walnut, Iowa, world champion wrestler, defeats Russian easily. . . . And hogs of 280 pounds sell at \$16 per hundred-weight.



It's going to be universal training for these, anyway.

May 24, 1917

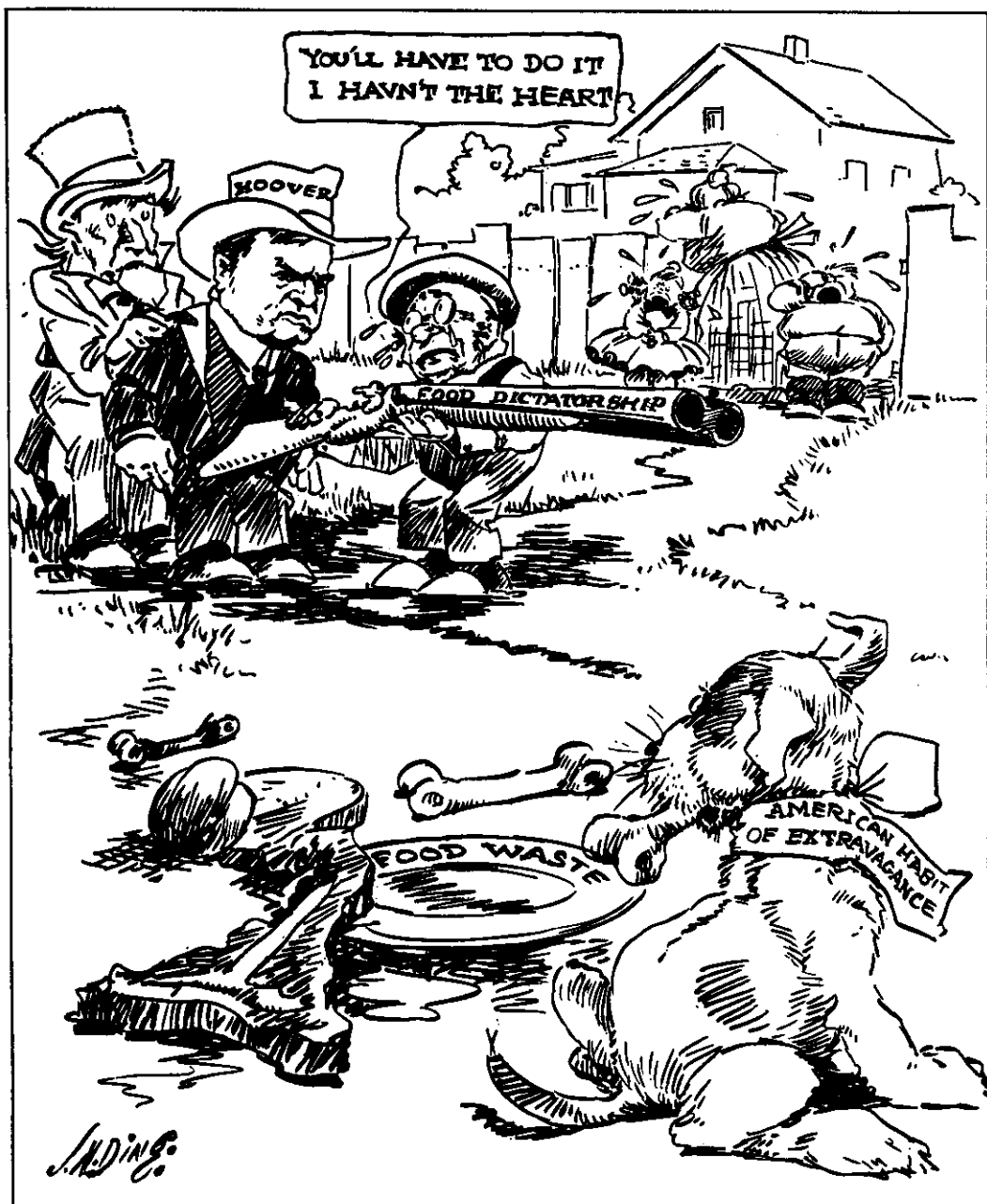
THE UNITED STATES was in World War I and food was one of the allies' great problems at the time Ding put onto his drawing board the likeness of the man who was to "appear" there often in the next 15 years. The original of this was presented to Hoover. Austria was reported to be trying for peace with Russia, because of the food situation there. . . . A plan to pool allied purchasing was under consideration. . . . Headlines were saying:

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER MAY BE UTILIZED FOR
MOVEMENT OF GRAIN**

PRES. WILSON SEEKS NEWS CENSORSHIP

**HERBERT HOOVER OPENS NATIONAL FOOD
ADMINISTRATION OFFICES**

400 MILLIONS FOR ALLIES' JUNE LOAN



Getting rid of the family pet.

November 4, 1917

A MERICANS ACCEPTED the theory of food conservation, but were slow to practice it. The cartoon of this day was ringed on the front page by dramatic war news. The first Americans had been killed on the battlefields: Private Merle Hay of Glidden, Iowa, Private James Gresham of Evansville, Ind., and Private Thomas F. Enright of Pittsburgh, Pa. A headline said:

BRITISH SINK 12 HUN SHIPS

and a summary of war stories declared the Germans had withdrawn a few miles at Chemin-des-Dames. The National Coal Administration had granted the producers a 45-cent-a-ton increase in price to cover the wage boost given miners. . . . Premier Kerensky, representing the Bolsheviki who followed the Czar and preceded the communists, said Russia was growing tired of the war.



Can't you say something to him, Mr. Hoover?

January 1, 1918

SEVERAL CARTOONS about Hoover's food administration accomplishments dwelt on the way the women were co-operating in the effort to save foods. Here the imagination of the Ding pen produced some of its best work. Public interest at that period was centered on food, as the cartoon indicated, but other results of World War I were being reported, such as Germans trying to make separate peace deal with Russians. . . . McAdoo says food and coal shall be moved in transportation ahead of people. . . . British on sugar rations; first experience in food control.

**UKRANIAN AND COSSACK FORCES ROUT
BOLSKEVIKI**

TURKS MASSACRE MILLION GREEKS

PEACE TALK CAUSES DROP IN CORN PRICE

December 30, 1918

A YEAR PRIOR to Hoover's leaving Europe came this cartoon concerning the man who, by the same date a decade later, had been elected President, and was awaiting inauguration. In that final week of 1918 the major headlines read:

HUN TROOPS FIRE ON U.S. FLAG

FRENCH WON'T SEEK TERRITORY GAINS

**IGNACE JAN PADEREWSKI ARRIVES IN
POLAND TO FORM POST-WAR GOVERNMENT**

Editorial comment was on President Wilson's speech in Guildhall, London. . . . On the sports pages Urban Shocker was taking his place with Ruth as a pitcher who could bat 300. . . . And on other pages Alexander Graham Bell declared against any government ownership of telephones.



Hoover will have to be careful or he'll be elected President.

March 12, 1919

EVEN DURING his food administration days, before he was a cabinet member, Hoover was handling foreign situations in a way that won this pen-praise. Before Russia replaced Bolshevism with communism, Hoover was having a way with Bolshevism. The world was then trying to recover from World War I, but news could be personal if the person was important enough. For instance, a headline said:

PRESIDENT WILSON'S COLD IMPROVES

Others read:

GERMANY BESET BY LOCAL CIVIL WAR

QUEEN MARIE TO VISIT U.S. SOON

**DRAFT OF PEACE TREATY NEARLY
COMPLETED**

**KAISER WILHELM ASKS PERMISSION TO MOVE
FROM HOLLAND BECAUSE OF HEALTH**

**FORMER PRESIDENT W. H. TAFT SPEAKS
AGAINST LEAGUE OF NATIONS**



Taming the wild ass.

January 29, 1920

THE SQUABBLE over Hoover's political affiliation so amused Ding that he produced this much-copied cartoon on that topic. Headlines of that day gave indications that the country was entering the Roaring Twenties:

**BRYAN INSISTS THAT G.O.P. MAKE
DECLARATION ON LIQUOR QUESTION**

**TENTATIVE RETURNS ON INCOME WON'T
BE ALLOWED THIS YEAR**

**MANY RADIO EXPERTS INTERESTED IN
MARS IDEA**

**CANADIAN PEOPLE URGED TO CHECK
LAVISH SPENDING**

And a nine-room modern home was advertised for \$4,500.



One of those "party line" conversations.

February 15, 1920

THE SECOND CARTOON on Hoover's political affiliation was copied even more than the first one. Sharing the front pages with it were headlines and news stories such as:

**PRES. WILSON PROMISES QUICK ADJUST-
MENT OF RAILWAY WAGES**

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the national League of Women Voters, urged women to work with the political parties. . . . Editorial comment was on President Wilson's dismissal of Secretary of State Lansing because he called cabinet meeting during the President's illness. . . . And a feature story read:

**MARRIAGES CONTINUE IN HEAVEN, SAYS
WIFE OF SIR OLIVER LODGE**



One way to be sure of a good Sunday dinner.

