

PART II

Cabinet Member

Ding liked Hoover, the individual, and was intrigued by the tremendous tasks the remarkable public servant was assuming. Several of his well-known cartoons emphasized how very much the cabinet member was doing, and doing well. Others of this period reflected national concern over the trend toward moral laxity in private and public affairs. Hoover's unassailable record of integrity added to his prestige as an administrator, and Ding was quick to recognize that the people wanted leadership they could respect.

May 6, 1923

WHEN DING drew this cartoon, the first of his two Pulitzer prize-winners, the "Roaring Twenties" and the "Era of Prosperity" were in full swing. World news was prominent in the headlines:

FRENCH TRY KRUPPS PRESIDENT

PARIS REJECTS GERMAN PEACE PROPOSAL

**U.S. CAN'T KEEP OUT OF EUROPE,
HARDING WARNS**

Other news stories featured events alarming to sober-minded people: 15-year-old "flappers" were found in raid on Chicago hop joint. . . . Marathon dancers were fainting after 90 hours continuous performance. . . . City vice squads were unable to cope with increased crime. . . . In the financial news:

**FORD COMPANY TOPS WORLD IN CASH
ON HAND**

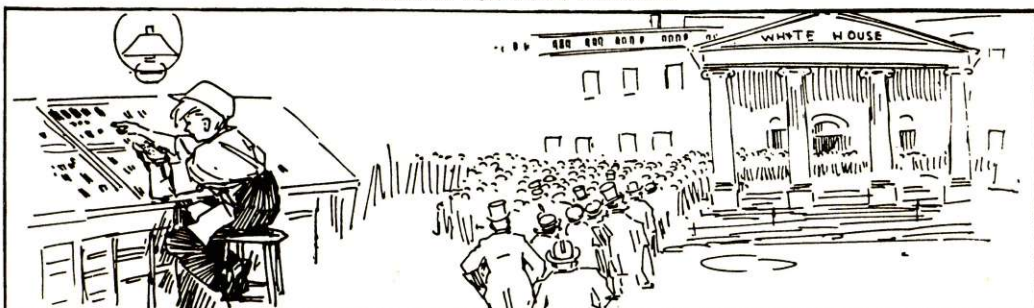
And 260-pound hogs bring \$8.02 in Chicago.



AN ORPHAN 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

Good old U. S. A.

February 23, 1924

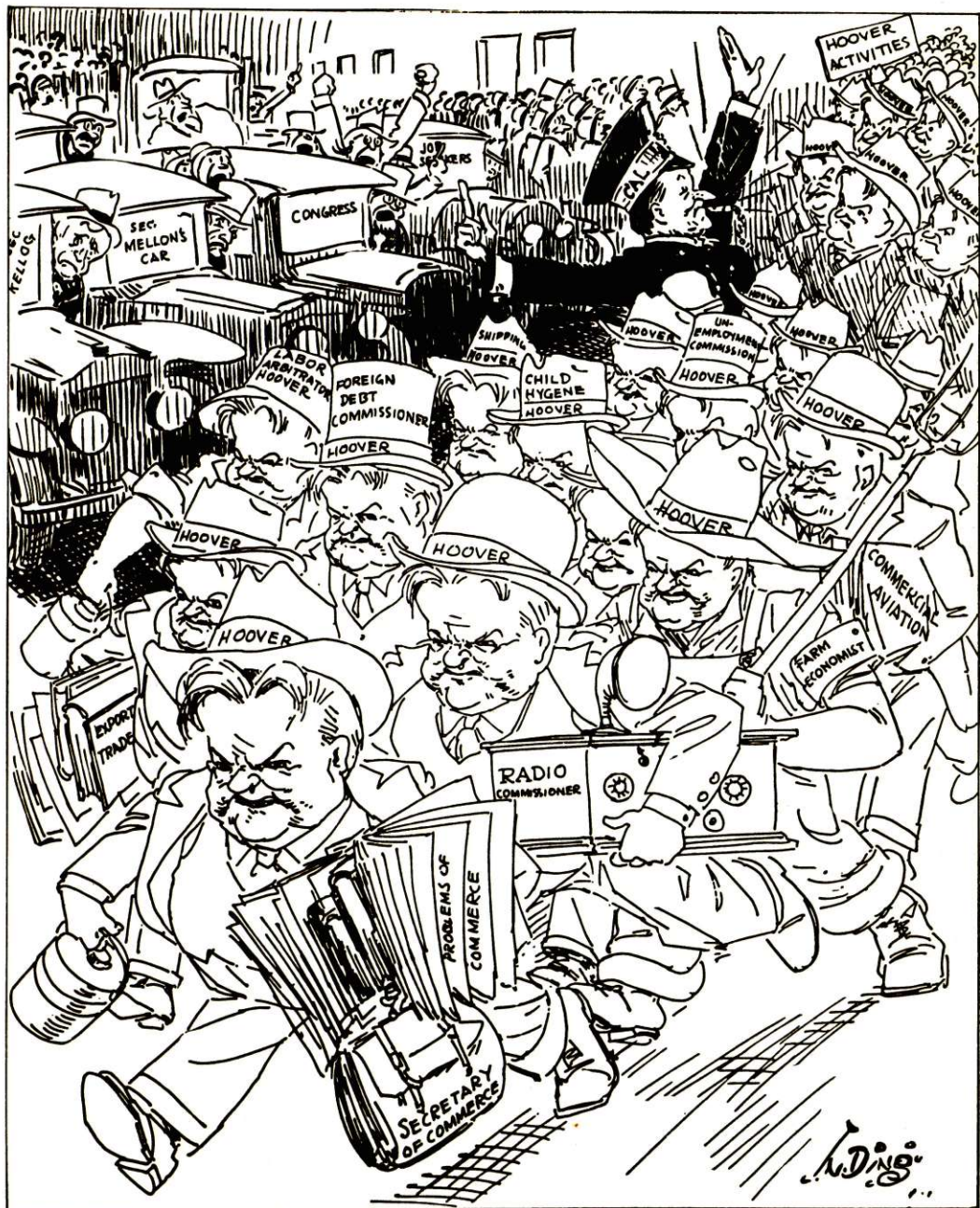
THE SCANDALS of the Harding administration, in which Hoover was Secretary of Commerce, emphasized by contrast the worth of the leaders *not* involved. The cartoon on this topic listed Hoover's name first, while the newspapers were saying that Bascom Slemph, secretary to President Coolidge, would be called as witness in the Senate oil inquiry. . . . General Smedley Butler told experiences as director of public safety of Philadelphia. . . . A committee in Congress approved a bill for \$17,000,000 to improve the country's highways. . . . That day a federal judge dismissed the \$200,000 libel suit against Henry Ford by Herman Bernstein, New York editor. . . . And Major F. L. Martin left Chicago for Los Angeles on the land leg of trip around the world by Army air squadron "world cruisers."



Thank goodness they're not all like that.

April 27, 1927

THE MULTITUDE of Hoover's in Washington traffic further amplified editorial interpretations of President Coolidge's statement that he was *not* considering Hoover for Secretary of State, should Kellogg retire. Commentators were trying to allay the fears of those who felt Hoover had too much power, that he was endangering the prestige of the President. Headlines featured the Mississippi River flood, with levees being cut to save New Orleans. . . . The movie industry had now become the 4th largest industry in the nation. . . . And sailors were injured by Chinese fire on a United States gunboat in the Yangtse River.



The traffic problem in Washington, D. C.

August 11, 1927

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE's controversial statement of Aug. 2, "I do not choose to run" had unleashed mass speculation about whether he meant "No," or only "Maybe." And if he meant "No," who would be his successor? Some Midwesterners were pushing a Lowden-Dawes "twinship," but Ding felt Hoover was the favorite of the rank-and-file Republican. Headlines featured the Sacco-Vanzetti trial, with Charles Lindbergh and Aimee Semple McPherson sharing lesser space. . . . The smallest corn crop in 26 years forced December delivery price to a seasonal high of \$1.18. . . . France was again hedging on war debts. . . . The 5-power naval conference at Geneva had collapsed. . . . And Babe Ruth hit his 36th home run.



The presidential shoes.

September 21, 1927

EVEN WHEN HOOVER was being spoofed for his apparent indifference to the 1928 presidential nomination, he was shown working — which the others certainly were not. But politics was not all that concerned the people at that time. A Minnesota Senator predicted that Calvin Coolidge still would be the G.O.P. candidate. . . . Tunney (who held out for — and got — a 20-foot arena) and Dempsey were girding themselves for the “Title Bout of the Century” the following evening. . . . The leader in the National Air Derby had completed the New York–St. Paul leg in 9 hours, 9 minutes. . . . Dwight D. Morrow had been named Ambassador to Mexico — but a bitter fight loomed over this appointment from the J. P. Morgan firm. . . . And frost periled Iowa corn.



My word! What ardent lovers.

