MR. DOOLEY'S DISCOURSES

ON OCEAN TRAVEL.

BY FINLEY PETER DUNNE

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"Well sir," said Mr. Dooley, "I see this here new steamboat has broke all records. It come acrost th' Atlantic ocean in four days. Passengers that got aboard at Liverpool on Saturday were in New York Friday afthernoon."

"But that's more thin four days," said Mr. Hennessy.

"Not be nautical time," said Mr. Dooley. "Ye mustn't figure it out th' way ye do on land. On land ye mivir read that 'Th' Thunderbolt limited has broken all records be thravellin' fr'm New York (Harrisburg) to Chicago (Fort Wayne) in eight hours.'

But with a steamboat 'tis different. Ye saw a lot iv time off ayether end an' what's left is th' v'yage. Th' Conyard line's gr-reat ocean greyhound or levithin iv th' seas has broken all records iv thrans-Atlantic passages except thim made be th' Germans. She has thraveled fr'm Liverpool (a rock so far off th' coast iv Ireland that I nivir see it) to New York (Sandy Hook lightship) in four or five days. Brittanya again rules th' waves.' So if ye've anny frinds inclined to boast about makin' a record ask thim did they swim aboord at Daunt' Rock an' swim off at th' lightship. If they didn't, refuse to take off ye'er hat to thim. To tell how long it takes to cross th' Atlantic compute th' elapsed time fr'm boordin' house to boordin' house. It's fr'm a week to ten days depindin' on th' time ye go to bed whin ye come home. Manny a man that come over on a five-day boat has had th' divvle iv a time explainin' to his wife what he did with th' other two days. No record in thrans-Atlantic thravel takes into account th' longest, roughest an' most dangerous part iv th' passage, which is through th' New York custom house.

"But 'tis wondherful annyhow. 'Tis wondherful that a man shud cross th' Atlantic ocean annyhow an' 'tis enough to make ye dizzy to think iv him crossin' it in an iron boat that looks like a row iv office buildings. The grand times they must 've had. All th' time they were on th' bounding billows th' wireless tillygraft kept them in touch with home. Th' day was whin a man got on a boat an' was lost f'r a week or ten days. Now, be hivens, through the wondhers iv modhern science he's hardly settled down to a cigar an' a game iv pinochle with another fugitive that he's just met, whin a messenger boy comes down th' deck on his bicycle and hands him a tillygram with glad tidings fr'm home. Th' house is burned, th' sheriff has levied on his furniture or th' fam'ly are down with th' whoopin' cough. On th' other hand, we know all about what they are doin' on boord th' levithin. Just as ye'er wife is thinkin' iv ye bein' wrecked on a desert island or floatin' on a raft and singnallin' with a red flannel undhershirt she picks up th' pa-aper an' reads: 'Th' life iv th' ship is Malachi Hinnissy, a wealthy bachelor fr'm Pittsburg. His attintions to a pretty widow from Omaha are most marked. They make a handsome couple.'

"Well, sir, they must 've had th' glorys time on boord this new boat. In th' old days all ye knew about a ship was that she left Liverpool and landed in New York afther a most disthressin' v'yage. Now, be hivens, ye r-read iv th' gay life aboord her fr'm day to day: 'Th' tie in th' billyard tournymint was played off last night. Th' restaurants are crowded nightly an' great throngs are seen in Main shreet undher th' brilliant illuminations. Th' public gardens are in full bloom an' are much frequented be childher rollin' hoops and sailin' boats in th' artificial lake. Th' autymobill speedway gives gr-reat satisfaction. Th' opening day iv th' steeplechase races was a success. Th' illivator in th' left annex fell thirteen stories Thursday, but no wan was injured. Th' brokerage house iv Conem an' Comp'ny wint into th' hands iv a receiver to-day. Th' failure was due to th' refusal iv th' banks to lend anny more money on hat pools. Th' steeple iv th' Swedenborjan church is undher repair. Th' Daily Fog Horn has put in three new color presses an' will begin printin' a colored supplement Sunday next.' An' so it goes. It ain't a boat at all. It's a city.

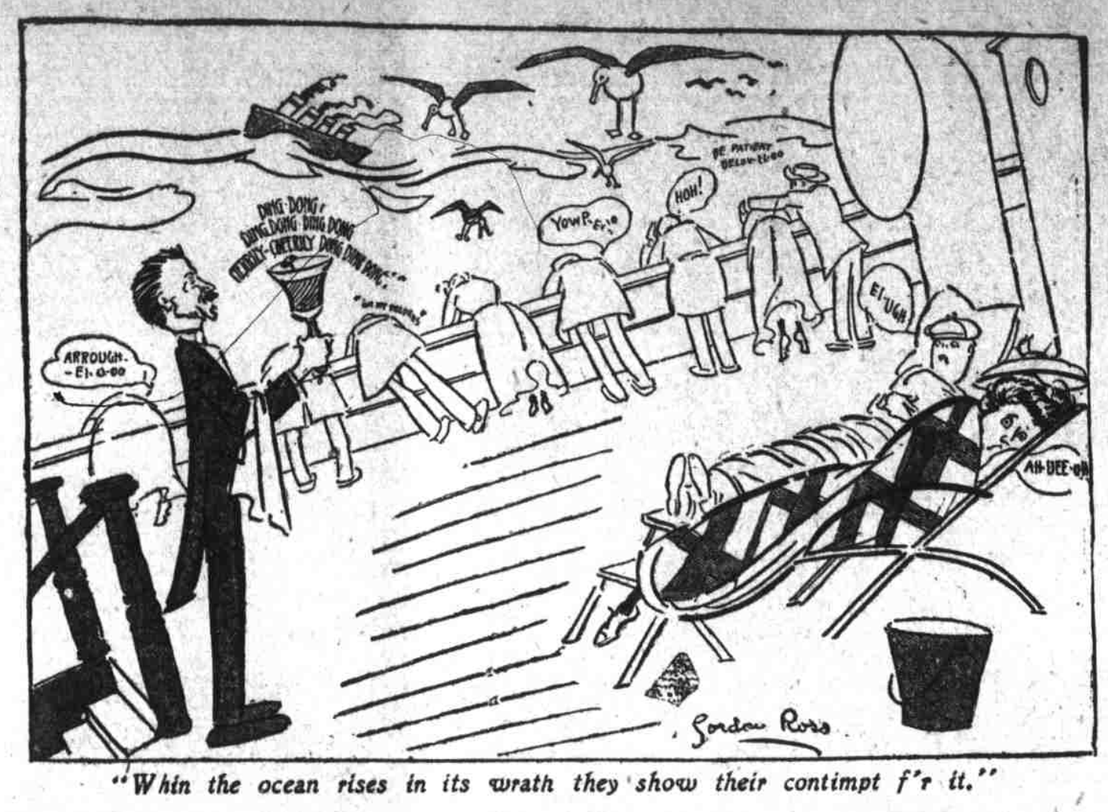
"At laste I thought it was but Hannigan that come over in it says it's a boat. 'Ye must've had a grand time,' says I, 'in this floatin' palace, atin' ye'er fill iv sumschuse food an' gazin' at th' beautifully jooled ladies,' says I. 'Ah,' says I, 'th' wondhers iv science that end put together a conthrivance th' like iv that,' says I. 'It's a boat,' says he. 'That's th' best I can say about it,' says he. 'Did ye not glide noiselessly through th' wather?' says I. 'I did not,' says he. 'Divvle th' glide. We bumped along pretty fast an' th' injines made noises like injines an' the' ship creaked like anny ship.' An' wasn't th' food fine?' 'It depinded on th' weather. There was plenty iv it on good days, an' too much iv it on other days.' 'An' th' music?' 'Th' music was spilled by th' stoorts.' 'An th' beautifully jooled ladies?' 'No wan knew whether th' ladies were beautifully jooled except th' lady that searched thim at th' custom house. Don't ye make a mistake, Dooley,' says he. 'A boat's a boat. That's all it is. Annything ye can get ye can get beither on land. A millyonaire is made as comfortable on an ocean liner as a longshoreman on earth an' ye can play that comparison all th' way down to th' steerage. Whin I read about this here floatin' palace I says to mesilf: "I'll add a little money and go acrost in oryental luxury." Whin I got aboord th' decks were crowded with happy people wörryin' about their baggage an' wondherin' already whether th' inspector in New York wud get onto th' false bottom if th' tarunks. I give th' old an' enfeebled English gintleman that carried me satchel a piece iv silver. He touched his cap to me an' says "Cue." "Cue" is th' English f'r "I thank ye kindly" in Irish. He carried me bag downstairs in th' ship. We kept goin' down an' down till we touched bottom, thin we rambled through long lanes neatly decorated with steel girders till we come to a dent in th' keel. That was me boodoor. At laste part iv it was. There were two handsome berths in it an' green bottles. Three or four hundred men had begun to walk around th' ship with their hands folded behind thim. A poker game between four rale poker players an' a man that didn't know th' game but had sharp finger-nails was already started in th' smokin' room. About that time I begun to have a quare I had th' top wan. Th' lower wan was already occuypied be a gintleman that had started to feel onaisy on th' way down f'm London an' was now prepared f'r th' worst. I left him to his grief an' wint up on th' roof iv th' ship. It was a gay scene f'r th' boat had started to feel onaisy on th' way down f'm London an' was valid chairs with shawls over thim, pretindin' to read an' takin' deep smells at little sinsation. I haven't been able to find out yet whait it was. I must ask Dock O'Leary. I wasn't sea-sick, mind ye. I'm a good sailor. But I had a funny feelin' in me foreheard between me eyes. It wasn't a headachie exactly, but a kind iv a sthrange sinsation like I used to have whin I was a boy an' thried to look cross-eyed. I suppose it was th' sthrong light. I didn't have anny aversion to food. Not at all. But somehow I didn't like th' smell iv food. It was disagreeable to me an' it seemed to make th' place in me head worse. Sivral times I wint to th' dining room intindin' to jine th' jovyal comp'ny there, but quit at th' dure. It was very sthrange. I don't know how to account f'r it. Very few people were seasick on th' v'yage, but several hundhered who were injyin' gorkin' a spoon in a cup iv beef tea on deck spoke iv havin' th' same sinsation. I didn't speak iv it to th' ship's doctor. I'd as lave carry the ailments co a harness maker as to a ship's doctor. But there it was, an' fr'm me pint iv view it was th' most important lvint iv th' passage. Next to that th' most excitin' thing was tharjin' to find annybody that wud take money fr'm me. It's a tur-rble awkward thing to have to force money on an Englishman in a uniform like an admiral's an' talkin' with an accent that manny iv th' finest people on th' deck were thryin' to imitabe, but I schooled mesilf to it. An' sthrange to say they niver rayfused. They were even beither thin that. I was lavin' th' ship whin th' fellow that pulled th' plug out iv th' other man's bath f'r me touched me on th' shoulder. I turned an' see a frindly gleam in his eye that made me woundher if he had a knife. I gave him what they call five bobs over there, which is wan dollar an' twinty cints iv our money. He touched his cap an' says "Cue." I was greatly moved. I have now as large a collection of cues as Jake Schaeffer an' more expinsive. But it's done wan thing f'r me. It's made me competent f'r anny office connected with th' legal departimint iv a sthreat railway. Be hivens, I cud hand a piece iv change to a judge iv th' Supreem Coort. I hear th' Conyard line has passed a dividend. They ought to make a merger with th' head stoort," says he.

"An' there ye ar're. A boat's a boat even whin it looks like a hotel. But it's wondherful annyhow. Whin ye come to think iv it 'tis wondherful that anny man cud cross th' Atlantic in annything. Th' Atlantic ocean is a fine body iv wather, but it's a body iv wather just th' same. It wasn't intinded to be thravelled on. Ye cud put ye'er foot through it annywhere. It's sloppy goin' at best. Th' only time a human being can float in it is afther he's dead. A man throws a horse shoe into it an' th' horse shoe sinks. This makes him cross an' he builds a boat iv th' same materyal as a millyon horse shoes, loads it up with machinery, pushes it out on th' billows an' goes lark'n acrost thim as happy as ye plaze. If he didn't go over on a large steel skyscraper he'd fake a dure off it's hings an' go on that. All ye have to do is to tell him there's land on th' other side iv th' ragin' flood an' he'll say: 'All right, I'll take a look at it.' Ye talk about th' majesty iv th' ocean but what about th' majesty iv this here that th' ocean don't get tired iv growlin' an' roarin' at th' little sixty-eight by eighteen inches bump iv self-reliance that threats it like th' dirt undher his feet? It's a wondher to me that th' ocean rises in its wrath they show their contimpt f'r it. Whin it rises in its wrath they show their contimpt f'r it be bein' seasick into it. But no matther how it behaves they niver quit usin' its face f'r a right iv way. They'll niver subjoo it but it niver bates thim. There niver was a time in th' histhry iv little man's sthruggle with th' vasty deep that he didn't deserve a decision on points.

"Whin a messenger boy comes down th' deck on his bicycle an' hands him a tellygram."

"Well, it's all very well, but f'r me th' dhry land," said Mr. Hennessy. "Will ye iver cross th' ocean again?"

"Not," said Mr. Dooley, "till they asphalt it an' run th' boats on throlleys."



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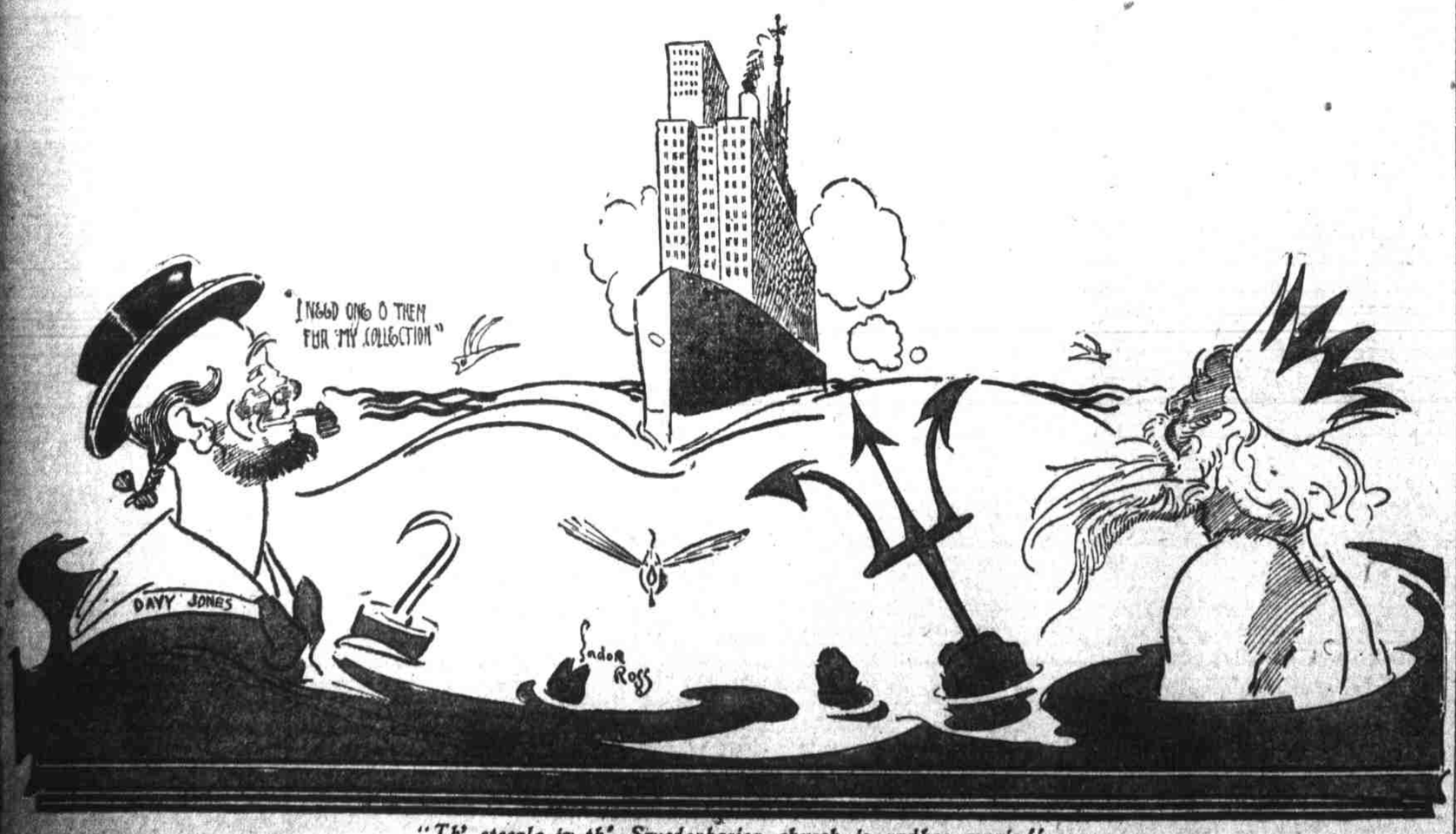

"Th' steeple iv th' Swedenborjan church is undher repair."

The largest vineyard in the world is near San Gabriel, Cal.

J. Ralph Burton, the former United States Senator, has bought an interest in the Union, at Salina, Kan., which he will edit.

The Question Box

B.—My pantry is overrun with large black ants. Can you tell me a sure method to get rid of them?

A. Take a tin pie plate, cover the bottom and sides thickly with lard and place it in the pantry, with a short stick for permitting the ants to climb up to the plate. In a short time the plate will be covered with ants as they will forsake even sugar for lard. When the plate is well covered turn it upside down over the hole of a hot stove and the melted lard will destroy all the ants in this trap.

New Home.—What is the meaning of the displacement of a ship in tons?

A. Its weight. It displaces that amount of water.

E. B.—What is a limerick; neither the International or the Century dictionary defines the word? (2) Does aluminium corrode or rust? (3) Years ago I read a poem in Littell's Living Age, the title of which I do not recall. In the poem these lines occur:

"It would not make me sleep more peacefully
To know thou wert wasting all thy life in woe
For my poor sake; What love thou hast for me
Bestow it ere I go."

Please publish entire poem and greatly oblige?

A. The word is applied to nonsensical verse. (2) It does not. (3) I would be glad to oblige you but have not time to study a weekly publication for "years" to find the poem.

S. C. W.—Can you tell me how long our government has been putting the Roman eagle and the Roman head on American half-dollars and quarters, and what authority they have for doing so?

A. I cannot say how long the eagle has appeared on these coins, but it was placed on some coins much more than a hundred years ago. But I never before heard it called a Roman eagle; the bald eagle, also known as the American eagle, is peculiar to North America and has been known as "the bird of freedom" since revolutionary days. All authority is vested in Congress.

Nameless.—Please print recipe for soda pop? (2) Also tell how to remove red engine oil from a tin can?

A. A recipe without the apparatus for making pop drinks would be worthless, and you don't want to buy the appartus till you know how to use it. (2) There are any quantity of scouring articles, to be used in connection with hot water.

D. A. C.—Please advise me as to firms wanting valuable pearls, or have them write to me; I have some pretty ones?

A. Show your pearls to a manufacturing jeweler.

W. H. R.—Land can be sold for unpaid taxes, no matter how it was acquired.

K. L. O.—I regret my inability to advise as to what breed of hogs would be most profitable for a locality I have never seen. Better advise with stockgrowers in that section.

Rose.—Write the gentleman in care of the manager of the Atlanta Baseball Club. You should be proud, independent, talkative and competent to bear large responsibilities.

M. A. M.—Your half-dollar of 1817 is worth fifty-one cents if in good condition. The others are not rare. Foreign coins are of no value here except as bullion.

B. O. D.—Knowing nothing of the character of the puzzle pictures you send, my guess as to title would be of no value.

W. A.—If the article you desire a patent on is a simple one you can make application without employing a lawyer. Write to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C., for blanks and directions how to proceed. A patent costs thirty-five dollars.

B. F.—When was eight or ten days considered fast time for an Atlantic voyage?

A. In 1856 the steamer Persia was a record breaker, her time being 9 days, 1 hour and 45 minutes; she held the record for ten years, when the steamer Scotia made the trip in 8 days, 2 hours and 48 minutes, and it was not until 1882 that any steamer made the voyage in less than seven days, when the Alaska made the voyage in 6 days, 18 hours and 37 minutes. The route in all these days was between New York and Queenstown, east or west.

Ned.—How is iron or steel welded electrically? (2) How is there a gain over the ordinary process?

A. The two pieces are firmly held clamped against each other, and being brought into perfect contact, are made the terminals of an electric current of tremendous volume, though of small voltage. At the flow of the current, heat develops at the place in the circuit that offers high resistance. Then when the ends are at the proper heat, they are pressed together and the weld is effected. (2) Through the complete localization of the heat.

M. R.—By what process is kerosene oil made?

A. It is secured from crude petroleum by distillation. A common form of still is a horizontal iron cylinder 30 feet long by 12 1-2 feet in diameter and holding from 600 to 700 barrels of crude oil. Above this are dome and vapor pipe. Under increasing temperature, oils pass off in the order of their volatility. After gasolines and naphthas come the illuminating oils, followed by lubricating oils, till little is left but tar.

L. E.—What is the meaning of "Kismet?"

A. Kismet is an Arabic word meaning fate or destiny. For instance, if any misfortune happens to a Mohammedan, he bows his head and says "Kismet"—it was fated! philosophically accepting it as something which had been destined to happen, and could not be avoided.

A. H.—Kindly name all the different languages of the world?

A. The principal languages are English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Portuguese, Turkish, Greek, Hindu and Chinese. Those speaking these languages comprise more than 1,000,000,000 people, or about four-fifths of the human race. In addition there are several thousand minor dialects, and partially understood savage tongues, including some in interior Africa of which little is known.

K. J.—Who was the compiler and translator of the Arabian Nights?

A. They were discovered in Syria in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and introduced into Europe by Antoine Galland, the French Orientalist who traveled extensively in the East. Galland afterwards translated them into the French and published them in Paris in 1708-12. The best English translation is that of E. W. Lane, published in 1839.

P. C.—What did the Capitol Building and the Congressional Library Building cost at Washington?

A. The central section of the Capitol was completed in 1827. With its furnishings and extensions in subsequent years it is estimated that the total cost of the National Capitol has been $30,000,000. The Congressional Library was completed in 1897 at a cost of $6,300,000.

O. O.—What is the area of the Yellowstone National Park?

A. It contains 3,312 square miles or 2,119,680 acres.

A. N.—Has a woman been made an officer in the United States army?

A. Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee, a daughter of Prof. Simon Newcomb, was distinguished during the Spanish war by receiving a commission with the rank of first lieutenant in the army as surgeon.

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