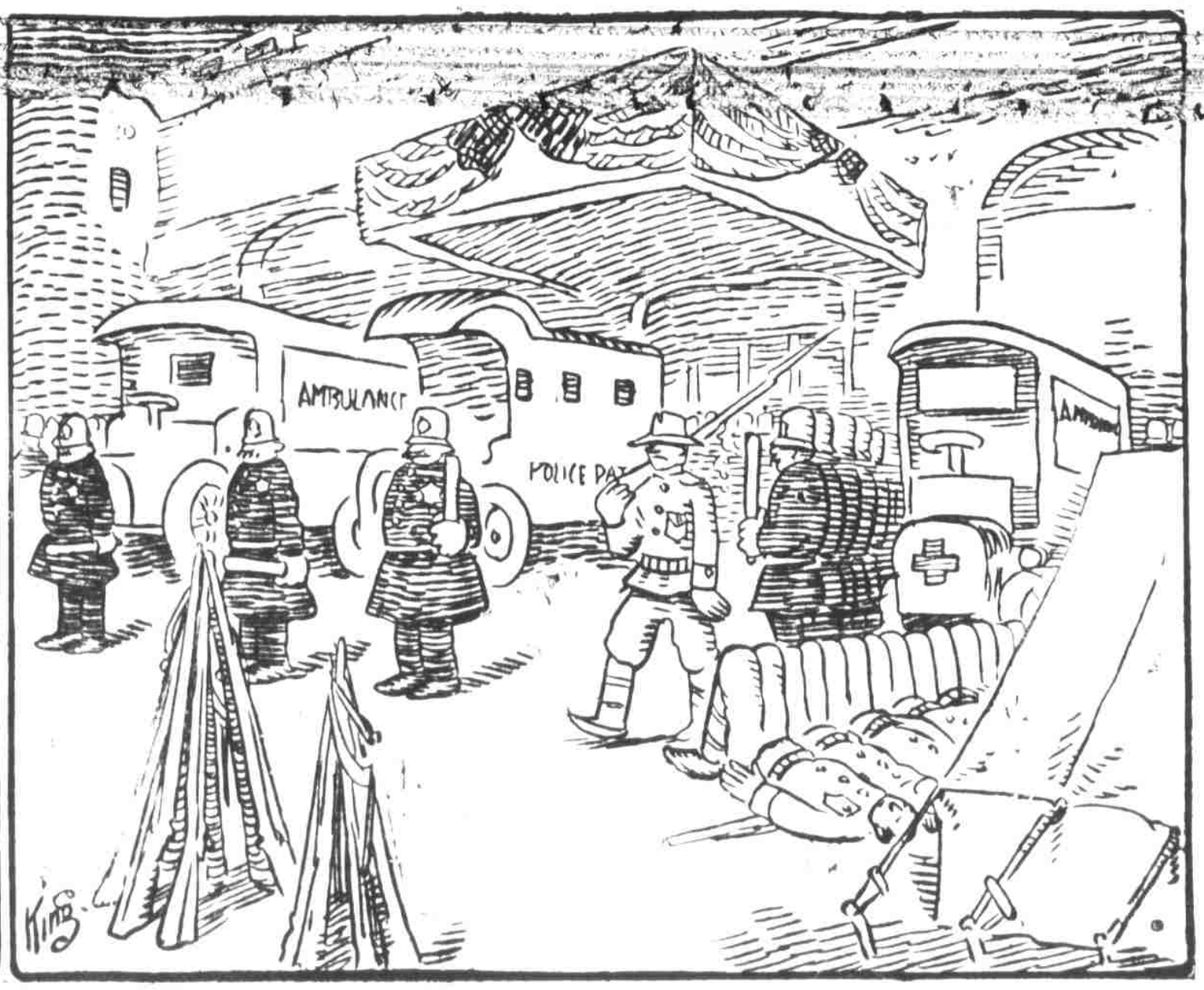
MR. DOOLEY ON THE CONVENTION

BY FINLEY PETER DUNNE

"Th' question iv how manay can be accomydated on a canvas cot bed."



Th' ambylances ar re standin' at th' dure, an' th' milishy ar re sleepin' on their ar-rms."

W[illegible] Dooley, "in a few [illegible] Dummycrats will know [illegible] convention [illegible] Republican [illegible] as they ar re [illegible] Lars. He gr[illegible] Look. But he used a chair. If me [illegible] Mike [illegible] was as [illegible] today he'd be wan [illegible] th' whole country. He [illegible] great figure on th' floor in th' convintion. A [illegible] between him an' Elihoo Root on some [illegible] point wud be well worth seein. [illegible] Mike [illegible] an' Elihoo [illegible] unusual punishment.

[illegible] me to me.

[illegible] goin' to give [illegible] th' [illegible] I had a good [illegible]

[illegible] th' statehouse [illegible] Dodge [illegible] Mike was [illegible] discontinted with th' Dummycrat party [illegible] th' blessed end. But he couldn't be made to [illegible] th' Republicans, because he said th' Republican party offered no injoocements to a man iv talent. [illegible] Mike's talent as a [illegible] man was all in th' legs [illegible] an' he was a gran' debater. I never knew [illegible] wan man that iver answered his argymint [illegible] that was a la-ad be th' name iv Costello f'm New [illegible] go to shop our grand Dummycratic "[illegible] thinks." I to mesif: "They need help [illegible] th' game. They're not as [illegible] th' kind iv wurruk. They'll be as [illegible] a team iv Baptist ministhers thryin' to [illegible] foothall. I'll put on me hat an' go over an' [illegible] them in th' rudymints." But, [illegible] I want down to th' Republican [illegible] see their magnificent wurruk [illegible] like a peddle [illegible] dollar bill [illegible] to make [illegible] broad minded men at re[illegible] where us Dummy[illegible] with th' first reader. They [illegible] they don't want f'r it to [illegible] that a man has ravvis[illegible] like a [illegible] th' dil[illegible]

[illegible] that [illegible] done [illegible]

[illegible] Their scholars come out, as Hogan says, fully equipped for th' battle iv life on annyduck in th' wurruld. I've seen a coal heaver readin, an' counting a debate between th' prisidint an' th' ex-prisidint an' weepin' because his father had dhrunk up all his money an' hadn't give him an eddycation that wud fit him f'r th' station to which he was called.

"I thought I knew something about pollytickal eloquence in th' days whin th' ballot boxes was all made with double bottoms in case iv a tie, but I could be pre-tum-huse f'r me to aven speak in th' presence iv th' immynent men that have been conducting th' preliminary wurruk in th' convintion. I see me frind Aldherman Kerna that was elected be a vote iv twinty thousan' out iv a possible eight readin' an account iv th' New York primaries with a white face an' thremblin' hands an' sayin' to himself:

"'But weren't there any polls around?'

"All th' other details were attended to with ickel skill be thirty thrained hands. Before I laave th' subject I must speak a wurrud in praise iv th' chairs made be hand. They never [illegible] better or more thoroughly [illegible] It has been carried out and with some [illegible] at the present moment to number in delegates [illegible] most twice as large as it was at th' beginning iv th' campaign.

"At now all th' wurruk [illegible] are in a few days th' delegates will attend with [illegible] th' great issues before thim. Everything is in readiness f'r th' grand deliberations. Th' ambylances are standin' at th' dure, th' polls have been equipped with th' usual riot bats, an' th' milishy ar-re sleepin' on their ar-rms. Within a week we will know whether this grand old party will stand firmly be thim principles iv constitutional liberty handed down f'm George Wash'ington an' Alexander Hamilton to Bill Barnes or march on to higher an' betther ideels undher Bill Flinn, or both.

"There's wan fine thing about th' convintion, Hinnissy. It's goin' to be grand f'r th' south. There will be more money in th' sunny southland this winter thin has been there since th' battle iv Bull's Run. I expect to read in th' papers next New Year's day: 'Although th' cotton crop was not up to th' av'rage, tobacco was killed be frightin' frosts an' th' mint was pale in color an' inferior in flavor, all th' losses were made up be th' great demand an' excellent market f'r colored dillygates. A community with wan dillygate injoyed unexampled prosperity, while a county with two or more was raised to afloonce.' Ye see, 'tis this way: Th' Republicans says to th' south, 'Ye must give our brunette fellow citizen a vote.' 'All right,' says th' lasads down south, 'we'll do so. We won't let thim vote down here onless they want to use in a bonfire on election night. But we'll see that they have aven greater rights than we have. We'll let thim vote at yeer conventions,' says they.

"'Twas a masther sthroke. I run acrost an' old friend on th' sthreet visterdah. His name is Zeke Cobbins, an' he was wan iv th' havroes who joined th' army iv occupation afther th' war. He wuzzum as a private with th' title iv gauger an' come out as a colonel an' collector iv customs. He done his county well in lavin' waste th' inimy's country but when th' soldiers left th' close season woke up on him. Wan day he led a party iv politicians to seize th' statehouse, but whin th' ut'ther fired a salvo iv artillery at him he quit politics an' entthered business as manager iv th' customer's office f'r a crap game. I had heard he was in poor circumstances, so whin I see him I says I to mesif: 'Here's where I give th' poor man wit business revarses.' But, [illegible] whin he come near I see that he was dressed like a weddin' guest an' wore a [illegible] shirt front that wud put out th' eye iv a railroad fireman.

"'Well,' says I, 'ye're lookin' fine,' I says. 'I've had a good year,' says he, flickin' th' ashes [illegible] his sec gar off on an imprald ring. 'I'm a [illegible] planter,' he says. 'What d've raise?' [illegible] 'cotton?' 'There's nawthin' in cotton,' he says. 'It's a spiculation pure an' simple. No, I [illegible] interested in colored dillygates to th' [illegible] convention. It's been a most fortunit year f'r us. We've had three crops: wan at th' primaries, wan at th' meetin' iv th' county, an' th' third will be ripe about Choosday,' he says. 'Where is yeer plantation?' says I. 'In a hotel on State sthreet,' he says with a hearty laugh. 'I've got three iv thim planted there now,' he says. An' he give me a sprig iv sulvable that I pawned f'r."

"Well," said Mr. Hinnessy, "us Dimmycrats ought to profit by their mistakes."

"What do we care about Republican mistakes?" said Mr. Dooley haughtily. "The Dummycratic party can make its own mistakes."

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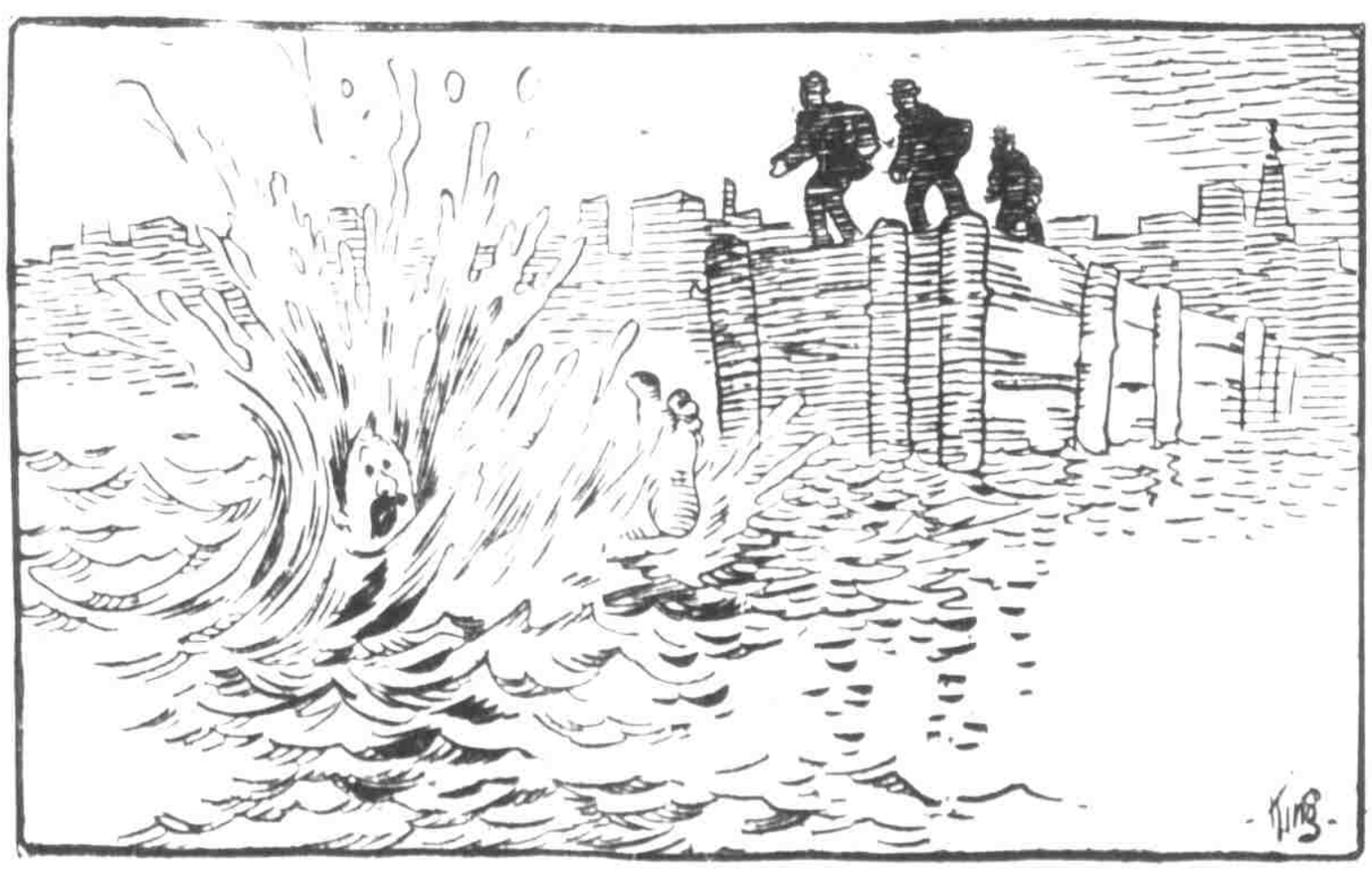

"They go down an' pull him out iv bed an' hurl him into th' lake."