

Activity #2 Finding Inspiration

Ideas for cartoons can come from published memoirs, newspaper articles, or books. We asked Jay Harding to create three original cartoons. His first inspiration came from this excerpt taken from “The Memoirs of Herbert Hoover: Years of Adventure, 1874-1920,” Volume 1.

Clark and I were anxious to obtain access to the old workings to see the nature of the deposits and what the sulphides were like. There were in the hillsides many low tunnels about four feet high and three feet wide, preserved fairly well by the hard rock. They had been cut by hand-tools, probably with the help of water poured on the rock after subsequent fires in the fashion of



Hannibal’s road-building in the Alps. We started to crawl into these tunnels one by one, but sooner or later were baffled by falls of the roof. In the last one we entered I, in advance of Clark, was crawling on one hand and my knees, carrying a candle in the other hand. By chance I looked down into a puddle of water ahead, and there, as big and plain as life loomed the fresh track of a tiger. He had been going in. I pointed it out to Clark. To fight a Bengal tiger with a miner’s candlestick made no appeal whatever to either of us. With no delay and with steadily increasing panic we made for the entrance. The tiger, fortunately, was not of an inquiring turn of mind and did not come to greet us. Anyway, we explored no more tunnels. When, later on, we came to build a great double track tunnel through which to operate the mines, I named it the Tiger tunnel. It provided more room in case of such conflict.