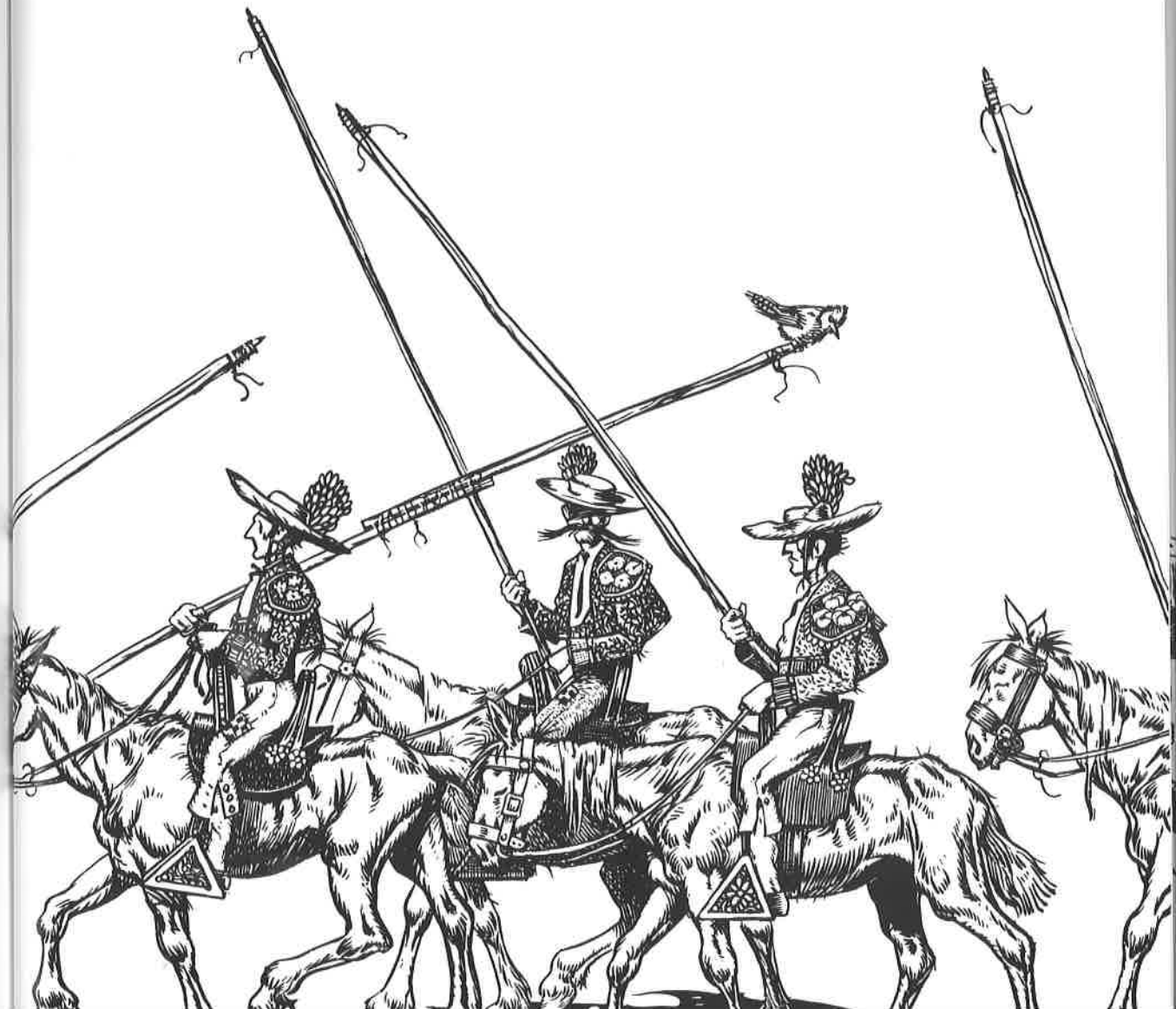


Next came the Picadores who rode skinny horses and they had long spears to stick in the bull and make him madder.

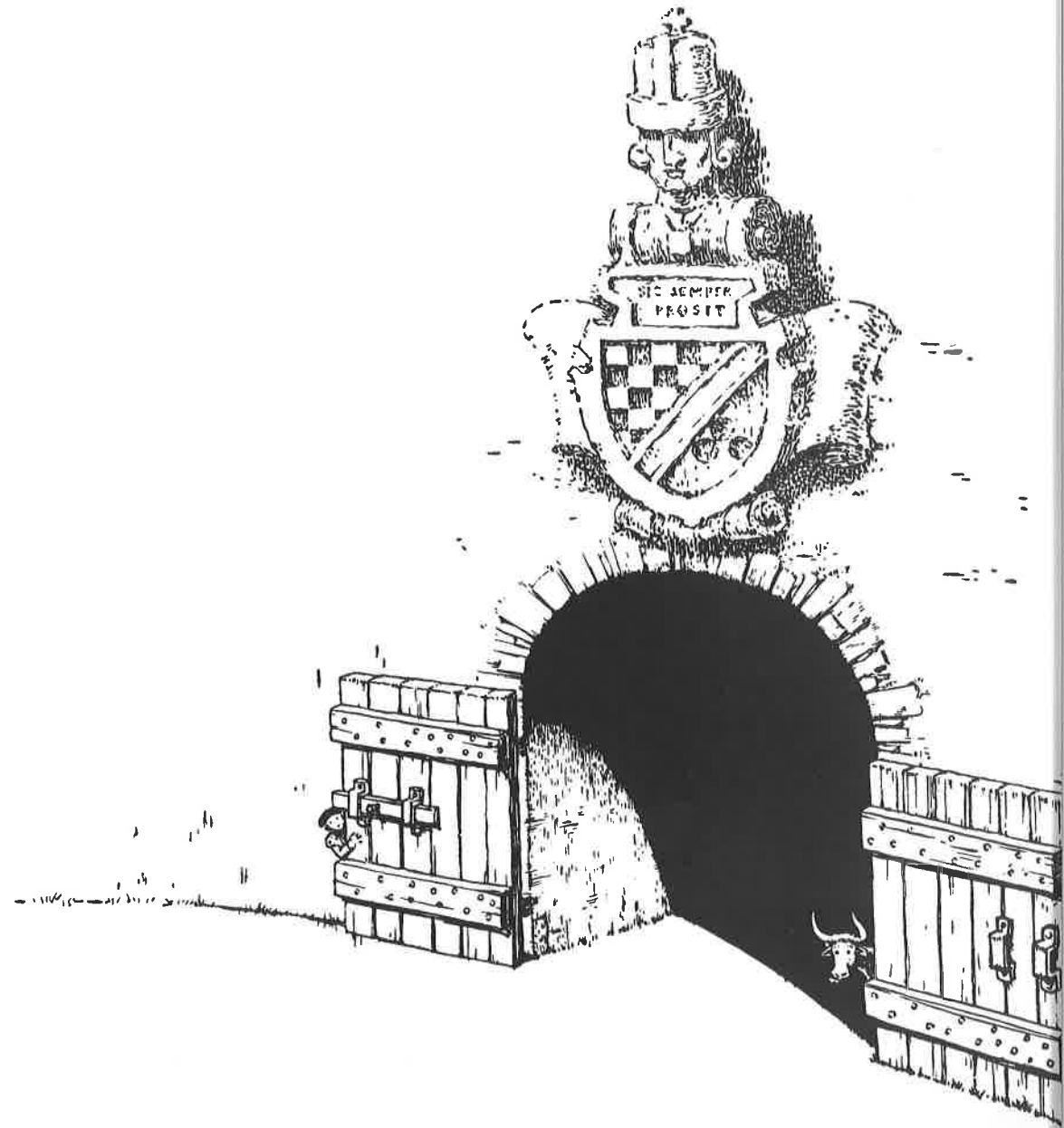


Then came the Matador, the proudest of all—he thought he was very handsome, and bowed to the ladies. He had a red cape and a sword and was supposed to stick the bull last of all.



Then came the bull, and you
know who that was don't you?

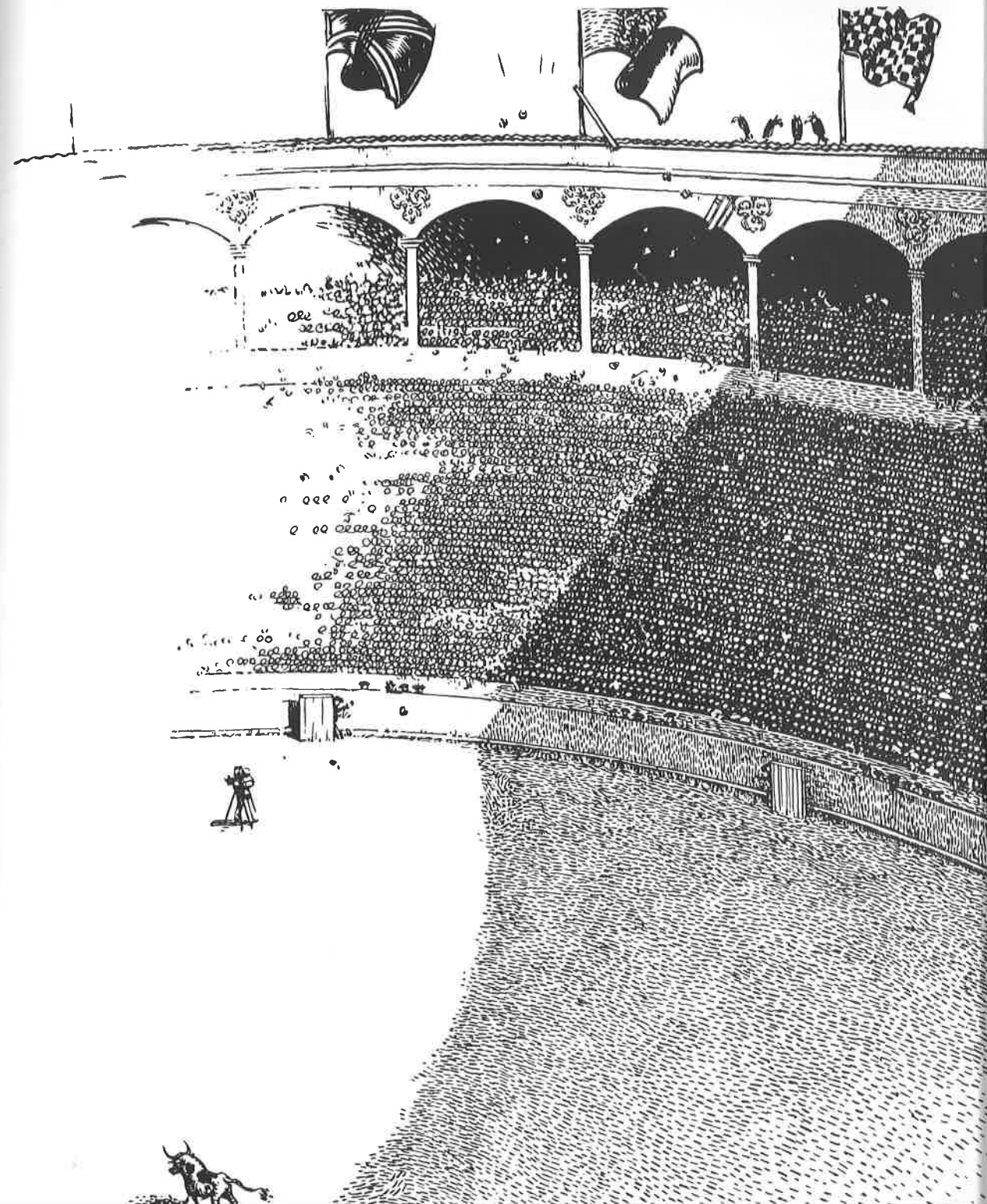
—FERDINAND.



They called him Ferdinand the Fierce and all the Banderilleros were afraid of him and the Picadores were afraid of him and the Matador was scared stiff.



Ferdinand ran to the middle of the ring and everyone shouted and clapped because they thought he was going to fight fiercely and butt and snort and stick his horns around.



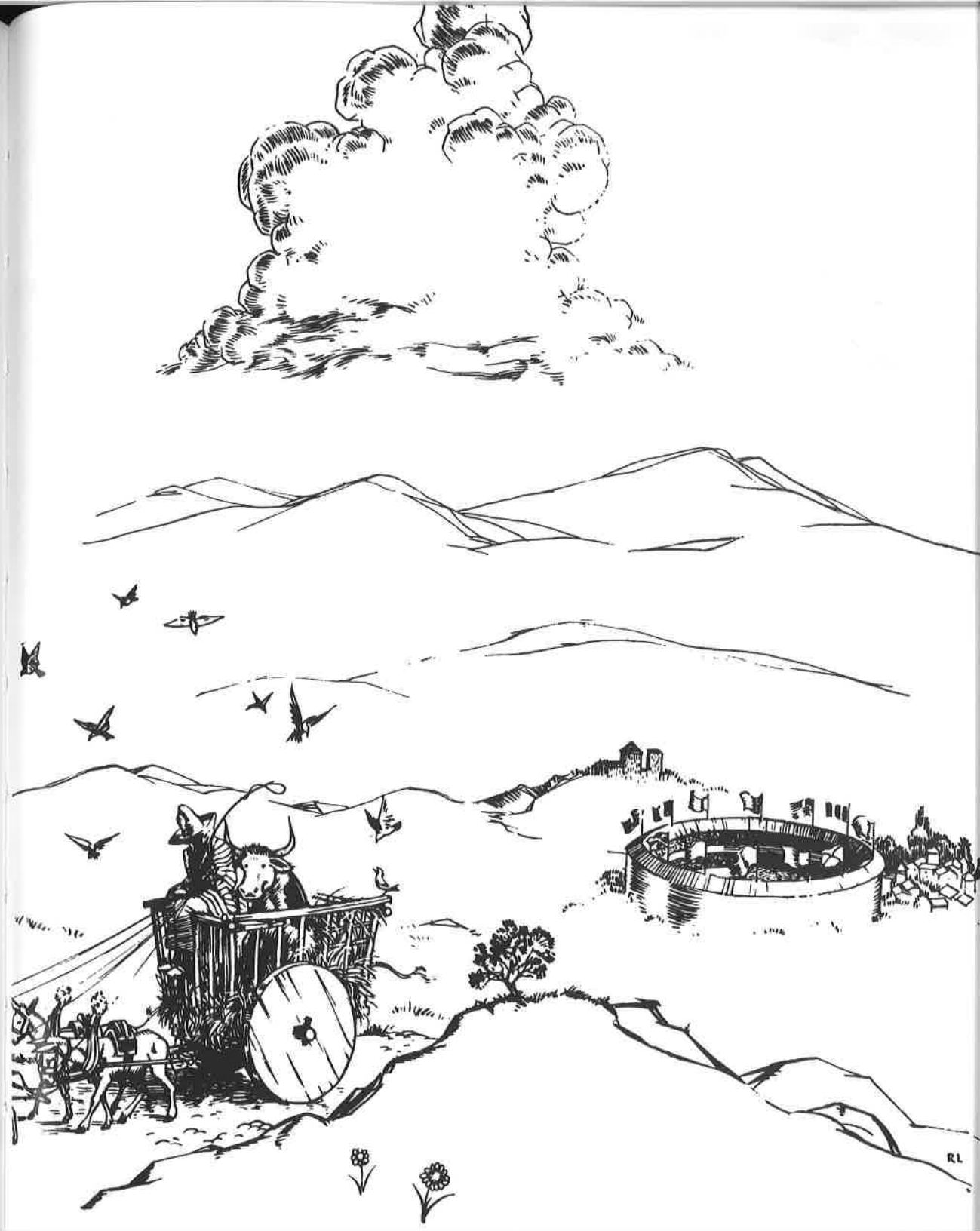
But not Ferdinand. When he got to the middle of the ring he saw the flowers in all the lovely ladies' hair and he just sat down quietly and smelled.



He wouldn't fight and be fierce no matter what they did. He just sat and smelled. And the Banderilleros were mad and the Picadores were madder and the Matador was so mad he cried because he couldn't show off with his cape and sword.



So they had to take Ferdinand
home.



And for all I know he is sitting
there still, under his favorite
cork tree, smelling the flowers
just quietly.



He is very happy.

THE END



WILBUR MONROE LEAF (aka N
ican author of children's literatu
during his long career. His book
artists, including Ludwig Bem
Seuss Geisel (Dr. Seuss). He is l

ROBERT LAWSON (1892–1957)
School of Fine and Applied Ar
used expressively and with deta
The Story of Ferdinand. In additi
including *Mr. Popper's Penguins*,
a number of his own books for
Caldecott Medal for his picture
Good, and in 1944, he was awar
grade novel *Rabbit Hill*.