

## 'BIG TOPS' ON MOVE AS SPRING OPENS SEASON

Shining Wagons, New 'Gags' Mark Decamping From Winter Quarters.

BY GENE COHN

NEW YORK, April 3.—In glistering, freshly painted wagon caravans, and in huge special trains, the circus is moving again! It is moving down metropolitan boulevards and plodding through the spring mud of rural roads.

Already the first crack of the ringmaster's whip has been heard

in Madison Square Garden, where the Ringling-Barnum show snaps into organized shape for the summer rounds. But even in the "biggest show on earth," elephants and clowns remain the basic circus symbols.

The elephants are still the elephants, what with "Uncle John," the famous pilot of the herd, maintaining a disciplined leadership taught him in the days that old P. T. Barnum himself was king of the white tops.

But the clowns are not exactly the clowns of yesterday. One of the last and best of the old-timers went to caper in the Elysian fields during the winter; Jules Tournour, the jester whose exploits are preserved between the cover of Isaac Marcossens' book.

The clowns are younger today; almost an entirely new generation of them. A veritable veteran and ranking entertainer is, for instance, Felix Adler, who has spent but six to eight years with the big show. There's Blutch, who was uncle to

the late Lillian Litzel, whose tragic death leaves the circus with no "queen of the air" to fill her place. And there's Charlie Smith, also one of the chief lunatics of the younger generation.

The talking and singing clown practically has disappeared from the arenas of all but the smaller and more intimate tent shows. The "wik around" gradually has "eased out" the old solo-star—the clowns must keep moving now, working in fast acts and quick gags that will take them all around the Hippodrome without disturbing the other acts.

Most of these new clown numbers use "props" and require several persons for the "cracker." The

old tableau is fast passing and the clown in the "No. 1 spot" is more rarely seen. A "producing clown," one who contrives rapid-fire original stunts, is the highest paid of the prankers.

## IT'S PERFECT BRIDGE

J. M. Hegarty Is Dealt Thirteen Spades in Game Here.

Perfect bridge hands, like Kansas cyclones, are becoming frequent and inevitable in Indianapolis.

Another was recorded here Thursday night, when J. M. Hegarty, 330 Eastern avenue, was dealt thirteen spades, forced to the limit bid of seven, and won without a double.

## U. S. LAUNCHES FIGHT TO ROUT GOTHAM GANGS

Campaign, Similar to That in Chicago, Based on Income Tax Law.

NEW YORK, April 3.—A drive to rid New York City of bootleggers,

racketeers and gamblers was launched today by federal revenue officials along lines similar to the campaign against Chicago gangsters.

George Z. Medaile, United States district attorney, revealed that fifty federal operatives were being brought here from Chicago to invoke the income tax law against gangsters in the same way that resulted in the conviction of Al and Ralph Capone, and other Chicago underworld chieftains. The special squad is expected here the beginning of next week.

David Burnet, commissioner of internal revenue; Elmer L. Irey, in charge of the revenue department intelligence bureau, and Hugh Mc-

Quillan, head of the intelligence unit here, were in conference most of Thursday.

It was believed they had completed plans for the investigation, in which McQuillan is to have full co-operation of the Chicago unit.

McQuillan is expected to draw on the current vice investigations and the forthcoming legislative inquiry for considerable evidence to be used against gangsters and racketeers to secure convictions for violation of the income tax laws.

After experimenting for five years, an Omaha physician has bred wingless and almost clawless chickens, which he believes will be prolific egg producers.

## RARE BIRD ON RESERVE

Utah Marsh Is Home of 78 Different Fowl Species

By United Press  
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, April 3.—The Bear river marsh, great bird reserve in north central Utah, is the habitat for at least seventy-eight different species of birds, according to George E. Mushback, superintendent of the refuge and connected with the United States biological survey. The rarest bird yet found is the "Ruddy Turnstone," a shore bird and wader.

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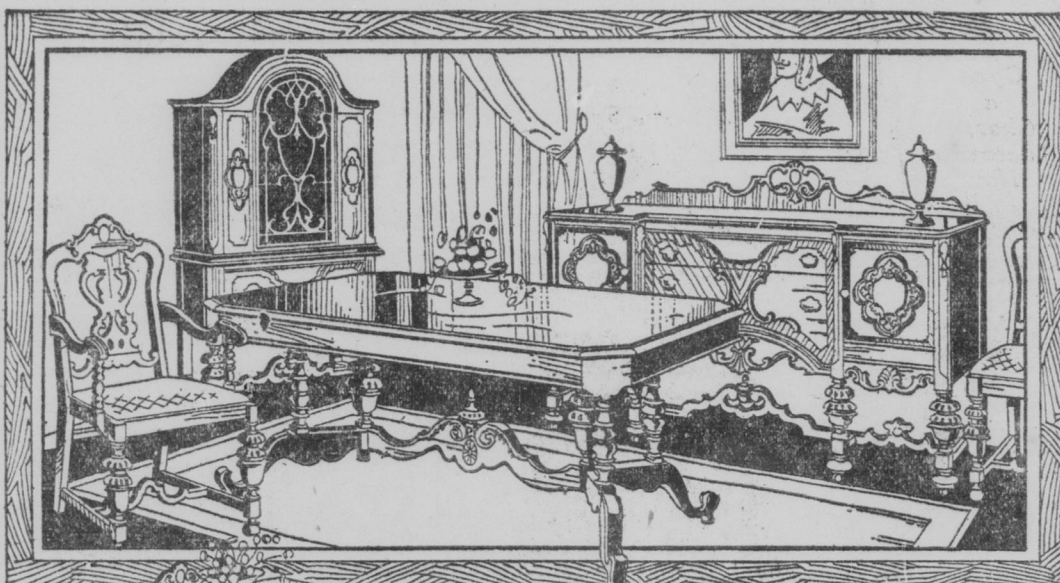
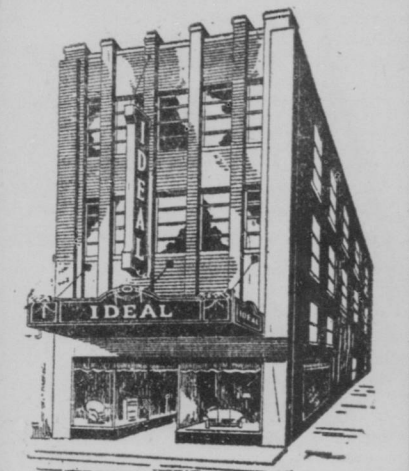
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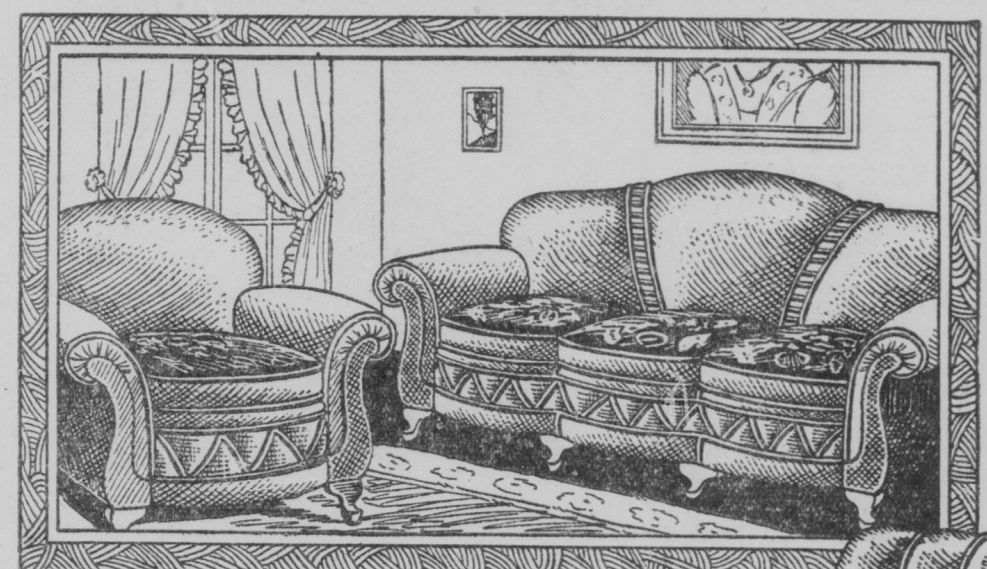
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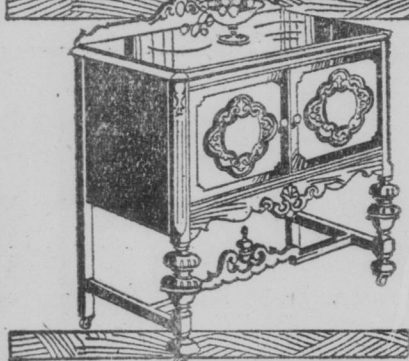
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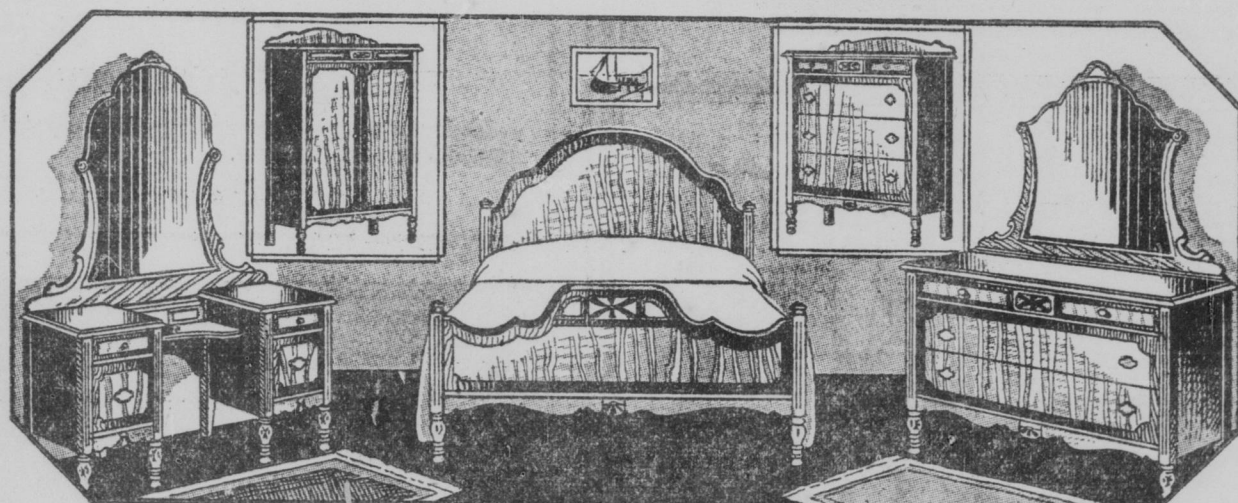
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