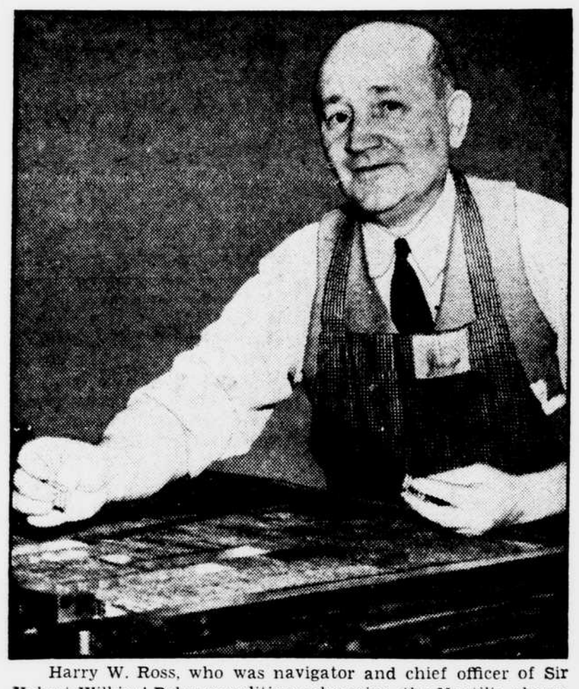
Sub's Navigator on Polar Trip Finds Setting Type Warmer



Harry W. Ross, who was navigator and chief officer of Sir Hubert Wilkins' Polar expedition submarine, the Nautilis, shown at work at The Star. —Star Staff Photo.

Once the chief officer and navigator aboard a submarine bound for the North Pole, 50-year-old Harry W. Ross now spends his time at the less adventurous but much warmer job of compositor on The Evening Star.

Mr. Ross, who says his seafaring days are all behind him, was chief officer on the submarine Nautilus when the undersea boat struck out for the North Pole under command of Sir Hubert Wilkins, the Australian explorer. The Nautilus got within 390 miles of the Pole—closer than any other ship ever got.

"That old boat leaked like a sieve when we first started her out," Mr. Ross confessed yesterday as he recalled the 1931 trip. "We had to hang buckets all over the ship to catch the water—and then come to the surface to get rid of the overflow."

Later, the Nautilus was caulked tighter, but she was never very seaworthy. The United States Navy Department advised that the vessel be sunk on completion of her epic-making voyage, and this was done in September, 1931, three miles off the coast of Bergen, Norway.

Setting type is more prosaic than plowing a ship under an ice ceiling anywhere from 8 to 10 feet thick, but Mr. Ross is glad to be back in the "ad" alley, where he sets type by hand. He learned his trade down in Seguin, Tex., not far from San Antonio. Now that the spirit of adventure is gone, he wants to make his home in Washington permanently, after rambling round the globe four times.

Along with printing and navigation, Mr. Ross is also a meteorologist and once worked in the Weather Bureau here. He intended to contribute some scientific data of his own on the Nautilus trip, but all the scientific data gathered, he says, would be rolled up, folded, compressed and wrapped in a galley proof.

"We had lots of excitement," Mr. Ross said. He recalls particularly the time when the engines broke down in midocean and the craft was rescued by the timely arrival of two American battleships, the Arkansas and the Wyoming, then on a midshipman practice cruise. The Wyoming towed the Nautilus to the Irish coast. From there a tug took the ship over to London, where repairs were made. That delayed the expedition, and when the Nautilus hit into the Arctic the wintry season was setting in, not the best of all times to make the trip.

Dual Register System Abandoned in Emergency

Under pressure of emergency employment needs, the Civil Service Commission has abandoned the dual register system, which provided separate registers for Government employes and persons outside the service who competed in the same examination.

The theory of the individual register for Federal employes was that an agency preparing to fill a vacancy would give preference to eligibles from this list before going outside the service for personnel.

In announcing the discontinuance yesterday, the commission said the procedure was causing delay and increased expense at a time when this was not justified, and that little use was being made of the separate lists. It was added that employes would not be the loser by the change, as those having special qualifications can be located through the placement service, and transferred when desired.

The first subway was built in London.

McCarran Would Set Up New Air Safety Board

By the Associated Press.

Calling attention to "four major air line crashes" in the last six months, Senator McCarran, Democrat, of Nevada, announced yesterday he would introduce legislation tomorrow to re-establish an "independent agency to control and regulate civil aeronautics in the United States."

The Nevada Senator asserted that the airline accidents demonstrated the "utter folly" of one of President Roosevelt's governmental reorganization orders which the Senator said resulted in "abolishing the air safety board." The order placed the Civil Aeronautics Authority within the Commerce Department.

Coins to Be Exhibited

An exhibition of 300 coins in various stages of preservation will feature a meeting of the Washington Numismatic Society at 8 p.m. tomorrow in the Washington Hotel. George S. Vanderwende, newly elected president, will preside.

Losses in War at Sea

By the Associated Press.

The following "box score" lists sea warfare losses reported during the 70th week of the war, from December 29 to January 4, inclusive:

	Sunk by— Subs. Planes. Warships.	Mines.	Other or Unknown Causes.	Tonnage.	Known Dead.	Missing.
Britain	7	--	1	54,875	48	--
Norway	4	--	2	34,689	9	--
Germany	1	--	--	8,204	--	--
Sweden	--	--	2	3,568	--	--
France	1	--	--	2,785	--	10
Total	13	--	5	104,121	57	10
Previously reported	613	233	354	4,357,234	8,503	7,205
Grand total	626	233	359	4,461,355	8,560	7,215

Losses by nations (includes naval vessels):

Britain, 557; Norway, 139; Germany, 105; Sweden, 80; Greece, 58; France, 54; Netherlands, 45; Denmark, 44; Italy, 40; Finland, 27; Belgium, 21; Estonia, 12; Yugoslavia, 8; Panama, 8; Spain, 5; Lithuania, 3; Poland, 2; Argentina, Egypt, Hungary, Iran, Japan, Latvia, Portugal, Rumania, Soviet, United States, 1 each. Total, 1,218.

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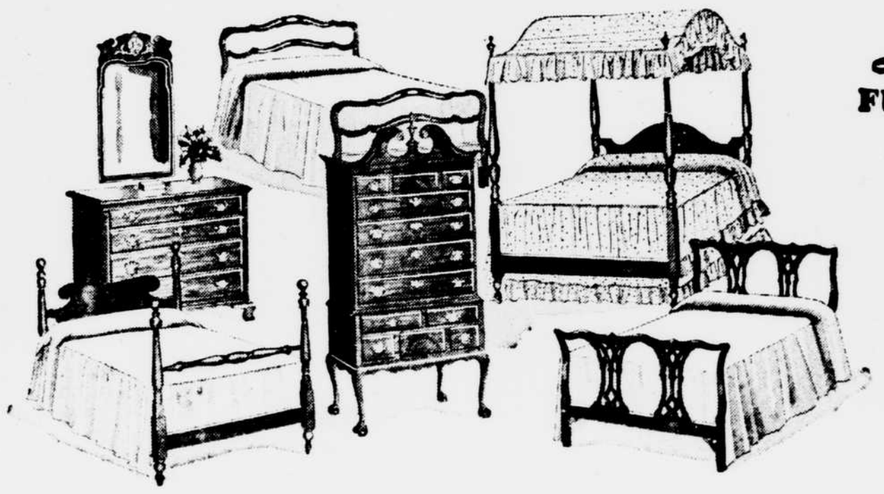

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BUREAU AND MIRROR, all mahogany (Bureau Base, $61.50, mirror, $26), complete $87.50

LADDER-BACK BED . . . twin or double, all Honduras mahogany $39.75

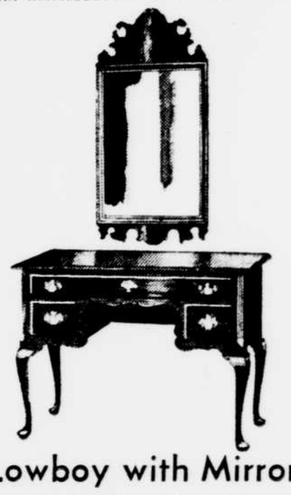
HIGHBOY . . . ten drawers, flame finial, brass hardware, ball and claw feet, all mahogany $125

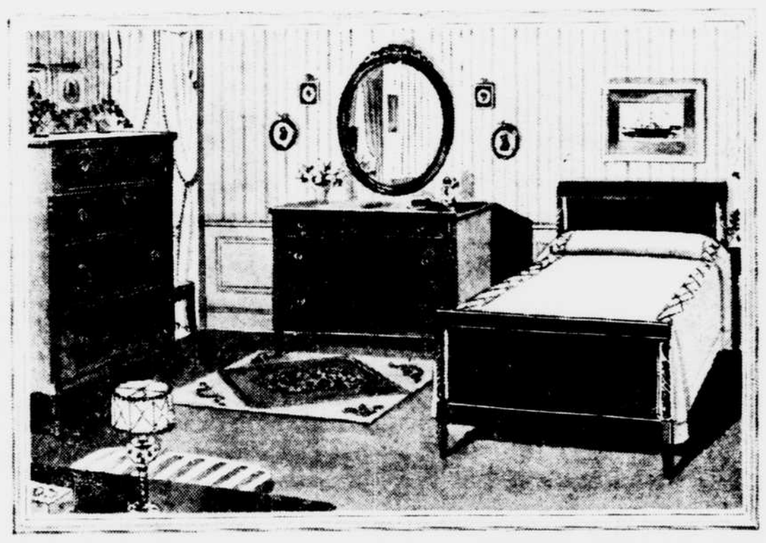
CANOPY BED . . . four-poster and canopy frame, mahogany (drapery not included) $61.00

CHAIR-BACK BED . . . all Honduras mahogany $39.75

Goddard-Inspired Chest

This is a Reproduction of a block-front chest by John Goddard, famous Rhode Island cabinet-maker of an earlier day; all mahogany, complete with mirror $134





The Charleston Group by Kindel

3 Pieces $199.50

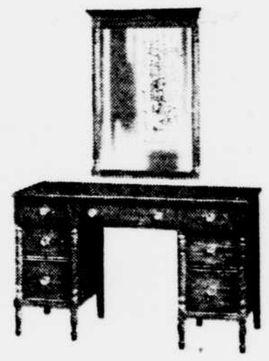
This all-mahogany group was selected by the editors of House & Garden for their "Federal Bedroom." So typically American in its inspiration, this Kindel group expresses all that is best in craftsmanship. It has just enough ornamentation, without being "fussy" and the finish is mellow and seemingly age-toned. Dresser with mirror, chest and bed at $199.50.

Highboy, $83.50

A Colonial Queen Anne type of genuine mahogany from our Salem Group of open stock pieces, height, 58", top, 35"x21".

Lowboy with Mirror

This Kindel piece may be used as a Dressing Table or as a console; all Honduras mahogany. (Base only $46, mirror, $19). Complete $65

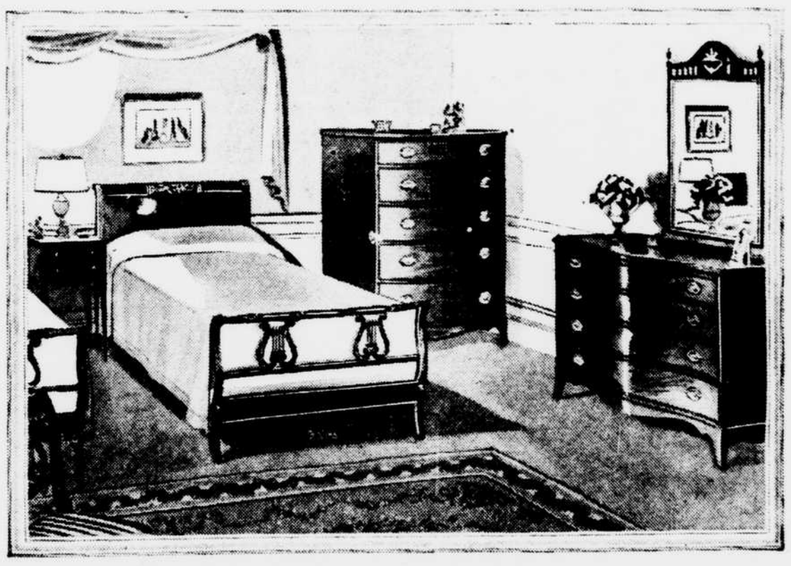


Charleston Vanity $92

Price includes the mirror. This piece matches the Charleston Group pictured in room at left. (Vanity Base only, $63.50; mirror, $28.50.)

Chest-on-Chest $126

This all-mahogany chest-on-chest is from the Kindel Colchester Group and it possesses ten convenient drawers—a precious piece.



The Belvedere Group by Kindel

4 Pieces (Twin Beds) $295

This Kindel ensemble embodies the finest details of some of the 18th Century's noblest designers. All mahogany and in that precious Kindel English Oxford finish, this group surely possesses the charm of English aristocracy. Dresser with mirror, chest and two beds at $295. Night Table is $24.50. Buy as many or as few pieces as you need for your room.

Below—THE BRIDE'S BEDROOM
featuring Kindel Reproductions

3 Pieces $353

This Chippendale-inspired Kindel Group was featured in House Beautiful Magazine not long ago as the Bride's Bedroom. It is only partially illustrated below. There are other companion pieces as is true of all of these groups pictured here. Dresser with mirror, Chest and Bed are $353; Chest Mirror, $21; Night Table, $21.

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