Before introducing his long-running Sweeney and Son in 1933, Alvah Posen made his debut in the comic strip world with Them Days Is Gone Forever, a light-hearted view-of-the-times that was syndicated in American newspapers from 1921 to 1927. Its innovative format featured modern scenarios in four frames—the first three progressing with rhyming lyrics, the fourth delivering the climactic daily refrain: “Them Days Is Gone Forever.” (The strip was later retitled Them Days Are Gone Forever). Above the strip ran a line of music to which the strip’s “lyrics” could be sung.

With gentle humor, Posen satirized the everyday foibles of human nature and the distinctly American rites of passage (leaving bachelorhood was a favorite)—and bade farewell to aspects of life “gone forever” in the 1920s, including low prices, legal alcohol, naive well-behaved children, and, as seen in the eight strips presented here, the demure tradition-bound woman of old.
Them Days Is Gone Forever

Chicago Daily Tribune, April 22, 1922 (top); June 29, 1922 (bottom)

United Feature Syndicate; permission request in process to Universal Uclick.
Chicago Daily Tribune, July 7, 1922 (top); August 21, 1922 (bottom)

Universal Feature Syndicate; permission request in process to Universal Uclick.
Chicago Daily Tribune, October 17, 1922 (top); January 25, 1923 (bottom)

Universal Feature Syndicate; permission request in process to Universal Uclick.