Timeline of the Formation of American Culture 1876-1919

1876

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Disputed presidential election between Republican Rutherford B. Hayes and Democrat Samuel Tilden; Tilden carried popular vote by about 250,000 but Republicans challenged ballots in 4 states, 3 of them in the South, giving election to Hayes. Whiskey-ring scandals among President Grant’s appointees; William “Boss” Tweed convicted of fraud in NYC; Colorado admitted as a state. Black militiamen massacred at Hamburg, S.C. in July; Geronimo (Goyathlay) begins his ten-year resistance against campaign to displace the Chiricahua Apaches of the Arizona Territory. Angered by the slaughter of the buffalo in the Montana Territory as well as by the encroachments by whites in the Black Hills Gold Rush, the Sioux, under Sitting Bull, defeat and massacre the 264-man Seventh Cavalry force under General George Armstrong Custer in the Battle of the Little Big Horn (June 25th). Wild Bill Hickock murdered (August 2) at Deadwood, Dakota Territory; James and Younger Brothers foiled in Northfield (MN) bank robbery.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Queen Victoria made empress of India; Korean independence declared; Ethiopian troops defeat Egyptian forces at Gura; Turks suppress Bulgarian insurrection; Serbia and Montenegro declare war on Turkey; Mexican revolution under Porfirio Diaz.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: Robert Koch discovers anthrax bacillus; Heinrich Schliemann excavates Mycenae; Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia opens; Alexander Graham Bell patents telephone; Thomas Alva Edison invents mimeograph; Hires Root Beer and Heinz Ketchup introduced; Budweiser Beer wins prize; Remington typewriter introduced; player piano demonstrated at St. Louis (see 1890); Stillson wrench patented; Eli Lilly Co. formed; Lydia Pinkham patents her Vegetable Compound; John Harvey Kellogg founds Battle Creek Reform Institute.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Johns Hopkins, University of Texas (Austin), and Texas A&M founded; Edward A. Bouchet (Yale ’74), first African American to receive Ph.D. at Yale; Melvil Dewey’s decimal system introduced. Felix Adler founds NY Society for Ethical Culture.

SPORTS AND RECREATION: National League formed; first tennis tournament in U.S.; Central Park completed in NYC; James Gordon Bennet introduces polo to US; Harvard Lampoon begins publication; Harvard’s F.W. Thayer invents catcher’s mask; Shriners founded. Englishman H.J. Lawson invents safety bicycle, with rear-driven gears.


DEATHS: A.T. Stewart, George Sand, Mikhail Bakunin.

1877

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Specially formed electoral commission decides for Hayes in disputed presidential election. Supreme court supports government regulation of business in Munn v. Illinois; Desert Land Act passed, ostensibly to encourage homesteading but used by land speculators and cattleman to purchase huge tracts at 25 cents an acre. Flight of Nez Perces Indians under Chief Joseph, 1600 miles to Canadian border; further removal of Chiricahua Apaches to San Carlos reservation, where summer temps. range as high as 140 degrees Great railroad strikes in July. Last federal troops leave South as Reconstruction ends.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Porfirio Diaz becomes president of Mexico (-1911); Russia declares war on Turkey, invades Rumania. Satsuma Rebellion repressed in Japan; famine in Bengal.
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: Copper wire invented; first telephone sold; Thomas Edison demonstrates hand-cranked phonograph; Singer cuts sewing machine prices in half; J.H. Kellogg introduces “granula;” Quaker Mill Co. begins in Ohio; first shipment of Chicago dressed beef by rail to Boston; first frozen beef shipped from Argentina to Europe; Boston entrepreneur Augustus Pope converts air-pistol shop into first bicycle factory. I.K. Funk & Co. (later Funk & Wagnals) formed; Washington Post begins publication; Chase National Bank founded; Cornelius Vanderbilt leaves $100 million fortune at his death.: 

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: U. of Detroit founded; American Museum of Natural History opens in NYC; Boston Library opens; Johns Hopkins establishes first university press; American Library Assoc. founded Henry O. Flipper, first black graduate of West Point.

SPORTS AND RECREATION: First Wimbledon tennis championship; first Westminster Kennel Club show in NYC; 1200 dogs (20 breeds) entered.


BIRTHS: Herman Hesse, Pancho Villa, Andre Maginot, Konrad Adenauer, Albert Schweitzer

DEATHS: Gustave Courbet.

1878

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Congress passes Bland-Allison Act over Pres. Hayes’s veto, requiring Treasury to buy $2-4 million worth of silver bullion for coinage. Greenback-Labor Party formed, nominates James Weaver (IA) for president. Democrats win both houses of Congress for first time since 1858. Yellow fever epidemic sweeps Gulf Coast, 4,500 dead in New Orleans alone; smallpox strikes Deadwood, where Martha “Calamity” Jane Cannary, 26, works heroically in men’s clothing to nurse the ill. William “Bat” Masterson, 24, captures notorious outlaw Dave Rudabaugh and is appointed US Marshal; Texas outlaw Sam Bass, 26, robs 4 banks near Dallas, is betrayed to Texas rangers and killed. Anthony Comstock, antivice crusader, uses “Comstock Law” of 1872 to arrest Anna T. S. Lohman (Mme Restell) for distributing contraceptives; she kills herself. American Bar Association formed.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Russo-Bulgarian force defeats Turks at Shipka Pass; Turks appeal for armistice. British fleet arrives at Constantinople at Sultan’s request. Treaty of San Stefano ends Russo-Turkish War; Britain and Austria-Hungary force Russia to revise treaty at Congress of Berlin: Serbia, Montenegro, and Rumania become independent states. War breaks out between Britain and Afghanistan. Two unsuccessful assassination attempts on German Emperor William I enable Bismarck to enact anti-socialist laws. Some 10 million Chinese die of famine in drought that has plagued Asia since 1876. World’s first birth control clinic opened in Amsterdam by suffragist Aletta Jacobs, 29.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: William Henry Welch, 28, opens first pathology lab -- at NY’s Bellevue Hospital. First use of iodoform as an antiseptic. Depression of 1873 continues: 10,000 businesses fail.. First telephone exchange and directory opens, in New Haven. Thomas Edison patents phonograph, forms Edison Electric Light Co.; gas company stocks plummet. David Hughes invents microphone.; J. Walter Thompson takes over 14-year old firm of Carlton and Smith, which he had joined in 1868; his first ad introduces Prudential’s “Rock of Gibraltar” trademark. Proctor and Gamble introduce “The White Soap,” which, 4 yrs later, will be renamed “Ivory.”. Cleveland paint-maker Francis H. Glidden develops varnish that will make his firm famous. Mohawk Carpet C. is founded in Amsterdam, NY. Chase & Sanborn of Boston seal first roasted coffee in cans. Paris Exposition.; Adolph Ochs, 20, starts Chattanooga Times; Hungarian emigré, Joseph Pulitzer acquires St. Louis Dispatch.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Duquesne U. and Mississippi State U. founded; Maximilian D. Berlitz opens his first language school, in Providence, RI.: Charles T. Russell, 26, Congregationalist minister founds the Jehovah’s Witnesses in Pittsburgh, preaching doctrine that Christ’s second coming came “invisibly” in 1874 and that the millennium will arrive in 1914.. In London, William Booth’s Christian Revival Association (1865) renamed Salvation Army
SPORT AND RECREATION: First Easter Egg Roll at White House.


1879

DOMESTIC EVENTS: President Hayes vetoes bill restricting Chinese immigration; US resumes specie payments suspended in 1873; Henry Adams and Benjamin “Pap” Singleton lead thousands of Southern freedmen and women (“The Exodusters”) to Kansas, despite white resistance. Congress grants women right to plead before US Supreme Court. Belva Lockwood, 48, becomes first woman to do so. Cornelius Vanderbilt brushes off a reporter with: “The public be damned.”

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: War of Pacific begins: Chile occupies Bolivian coast. Zulu Nation, founded by Shaka in 1816, is ended by British forces, who kill some 8,000 warriors and wound 16,000 more with new, breech-loading rifles. British occupy Khyber pass. Austro-German alliance engineered by Bismarck; French Panama Canal Co. organized by Ferdinand de Lesseps. Irish Land League formed to campaign for independence from Britain.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: Clarence King appointed director of US Geological Survey. Russian pathologist, Ivan Pavlov begins his reflex experiments with dogs. Thomas Edison demonstrates first practical incandescent bulb; arc-light streetlighting installed in Cleveland and San Francisco; George Selden applies for patent on “road vehicle” powered by internal combustion engine, without working model. Ira Remsen, 33, and his German student, Constantin Fahlberg, accidentally discover saccharin while performing coal tar experiments at Johns Hopkins. Gonorrhea bacillus isolated. Collapse of Tay Bridge in Scotland. Robert Gair introduces low-priced cardboard box; F.W. Woolworth, National Cash Register Co., Scott Paper Co., The May Company, McKim, Mead & White (architects), Paine, Webber, Jackson, Curtis and Bache & Co. (brokerage houses), and Aetna Insurance all have their beginnings. Metropolitan Life pioneers mass insurance.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Radcliffe founded; Chicago Art Institute opened; Carlisle Training and Industrial School for Indians (PA) founded by Richard Henry Pratt. In Boston, Mary Baker Eddy, pastor of Church of Christ Scientist; anti-Jesuit laws passed in France.


1880


SPORTS AND RECREATION: Women’s participation in sports increases noticeably: tennis, archery, croquet, riding, cycling, swimming. Billy Sunday credited with introducing term “charley horse,” after a horse he bet on pulled up lame. Sportswriter, Rex Mulford coins “hot corner” for third base. Bingo is developed from Italian lotto game of Tombola.


1881

DOMESTIC EVENTS: President James Garfield assassinated by Charles J. Guiteau, succeeded by Charles Alan Arthur. Tennessee passes second Jim Crow law segregating railroad cars, setting example for other Southern states. Federal Income Tax law of 1862 declared unconstitutional in Springer v. US. Shootout at the OK Corral outside Tombstone. William F. Bonney, 21 (“Billy the Kid”) is killed by Sheriff Patrick F. Garrett after he has killed 21 men.


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Tuskegee Normaland Industrial Institute (AL), Spelman College (GA), Marquette University (WI), U. of CT, and U of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School open. Andrew Carnegie donates funds for first of his libraries -- in Pittsburgh. Helen Hunt Jackson’s expose of government mistreatment of American Indians, Century of Dishonor; Henry Demarest Lloyd’s attack on Rockefeller’s Standard Oil Co. trust appears in Atlantic Monthly; Edward Tylor’s Anthropology; Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass banned in Boston.


1882

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Congress passes first Chinese Exclusion Act, barring Chinese labor from entering US for ten years; the law was regularly renewed; also voted to bar paupers, convicts and “defectives” from entering country. German immigration reaches peak. In March, Mississippi floods leave 85,000 homeless. Drought in western ranchlands. Poor crops result in high food prices, which in turn spur a wave of strikes for higher wages. Grover Cleveland (Dem.) wins NY governorship. Jesse James shot in head by fellow outlaw, Robert Ford, for reward. Hatfield-McCoy feud (Appalachia) spills over; not ended till 1888, when Kentucky authorities invade WV to seize several Hatfields.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Germany, Austria, and Italy sign Triple Alliance. British fleets bombards Alexandria; British troops land to “protect” Suez Canal from Egyptian nationalist forces; Cairo occupied. France claims northwest Madagascar as protectorate. Charles Stewart Parnell released from prison after promising to end boycotts; 4 days later, Britain’s new chief secretary and his assistant are murdered by Fenians; despite Parnell’s disavowal, British suspend trial by jury and give police extraordinary powers of search and arrest; dynamiting follows. An insurrection begins in Indochina against the French. Crop failures bring widespread starvation to Japan; recruiting agents will induce some 100,000 Japanese to emigrate to Hawaii’s sugar fields over the next 30 years. Britain’s Married Women’s Property Act passed in Britain.


1883

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Pendleton Act begins reform of US civil service; Congress lays foundation of modern navy by authorizing construction of 3 steel cruisers; Supreme Court declares Civil Rights Act of 1875 unconstitutional except in relation to jury duty and interstate travel.; on Nov. 18 US railroads establish standard time zones; Northwest Pacific RR completed; 71 die in Milwaukee’s Newhall House fire, worst hotel fire till 1946; drought strikes Northern Plains; 10,000 buffalo herd discovered and exterminated in Dakota territory; Scandinavian immigration peaks.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Bismarck introduces health insurance to Germany; British control of Egypt and French control of Tunisia assured; French war with Madagascar, acquire protectorate over Annam, Tonkin (Vietnam), conquer Upper Niger; Mahdi Mohammed Ahmed ibn-Seyyid Abdullah challenges Egyptian control of Sudan, attacks Red Sea ports. Orient Express: Europe’s first transcontinental train. Worldwide cholera pandemic begins, to last 11 years. Volcano, Krakatoa, erupts, taking 36,000 lives and sending ash cloud round the world.


SPORTS AND RECREATION: William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody organizes first Wild West Show; William K. Vanderbilt, 34, holds most lavish party ($250,000) yet in the US. Benjamin Franklin Keith and George Batchelder open first vaudeville theater in Boston, hire Edward Albee 29, as manager. Sons of the American Revolution organized. First indoor horse show, in NYC.


1884


INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: The Mahdi lays siege to Khartoum and Charles “Chinese” Gordon’s forces. Treaty of Valparaiso ends War of the Pacific (1879) with Chilean victory over Peru. Germany passes workmen’s compensation law to blunt socialist movement; London’s Toynbee Hall -- world’s first settlement house -- opens; France legalizes trade unions, divorces. British bill expands male suffrage. Gold discovered: Transvaal.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: F.A.J. Loffler isolates diptheria bacillus in Berlin; NY surgeon, William Halsted, discovers anesthetic properties of cocaine, becomes addicted. Leipzig gynecologist, Karl S.F. Crede, discovers that silver nitrate drops can prevent blindness in gonorrheal infected newborns; German physician Arthur Nicolaier isolates tetanus bacillus; Edward L. Trudeau pioneers open-air treatment of tuberculosis. German-American mechanic Ottmar Mergenthaler, 30, patents Linotype machine, which will revolutionize newspaper publishing. English engineer John Henry Patterson, 40, founds National Cash Register Co. in Dayton. NY insurance man Lewis Waterman, 47, invents first practical fountain pen. NY’s Dairylea Milk co-op formed.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Mississippi Industrial Institute and College, first state-supported women’s college, opens. NY’s Brearley School (for girls) established by Andover and Harvard graduate, Samuel Brearley, Jr. American Historical Assoc. and American Institute of Electrical Engineers founded. Fabian Society founded in London. Charles Russell starts Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society.


BIRTHS: Harry Truman, Damon Runyan, Sean O’Casey, Amadeo Modigliani. DEATHS: Bedrich Smetana

1885

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: British General Gordon and garrison massacred following gall of Khartoum to the Mahdi Mohammed Ahmed’s forces; Mahdi’s successor gains control of virtually all of Sudan;; Germany annexes Tanganyika and Zanzibar; Belgian king, Leopold II, assumes title of sovereign over Congo Free State (-1908), now Zaire; Britain establishes protectorates in Niger River region and occupies Port Hamilton, Korea. Louis Riel leads unsuccessful revolt to portest Ottawa government’s indifference to interests of Western Canadians -- is defeated and hanged for treason.


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Bryn Mawr College for Women and Mills College for Women (CA) open; U. of Arizona and Stanford University chartered. Georgia Institute of Technology and McAlister College (MN) founded. American Economic Assoc. and National Audubon Society founded.. Huckleberry Finn banned by Concord (MA) Library. Mormons split between monogamous and polygamous factions. Moderate Reform Rabbis, led by Isaac Mayer Wise, and more radical wing, led by David Einhorn, hammer out “Pittsburgh Platform” in united front against Conservative Rabbis..

SPORTS AND RECREATION: . George Swinnerton Parker, 18, founds Parker Brothers in Salem, MA with game called “Banking.” French engineer G. Juzan’s “Bicyclette Moderne” makes bicycling appropriate for Victorian women. John Fox introduces golf to US.


1886

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Strike wave for 8-hour day reaches peak: 1432 strikes involving 610,000 workers; climaxes with Haymarket bomb and subsequent panic. Federation of Organized Trades and Labor (1881) reorganized as the American Federation of Labor by Samuel Gompers and P.J. Maguire. Some 400 Chinese driven from homes during Seattle riots before Federal troops arrive. Last major Indian war ends with recapture of Geronimo. Following example of London’s Toynbee Hall (1884), Ethical Culturalist Stanton Coit, 29, founds the US’s first settlement house in two small rooms in NYC. Earthquake severely damages Charleston, SC. Statue of Liberty dedicated.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Britain annexes Upper Burma despite continued gaurilla warfare; William Gladstone’s third Liberal ministry introduces Home Rule Bill for Ireland; it is defeated. Parliament repeals Contagious Diseases Act following Josephine Butler’s campaign against its treatment of working-class women. Johannesburg becomes boom town as Transvaal gold rush continues; Cecil Rhodes founds Consolidated Gold Fields, Ltd. Anglo-German accord allows Germany to annex Tanganyikan hinterland and England to annex most of what is now Kenya; Britain authorizes Royal Niger Co. to administer what is now Nigeria. French suppress Senegalese rebellion. First Indian National Congress meets in Bombay.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: U. of Wyoming chartered. Richard von Krafft-Ebing, Psychopathia Sexualis. Theological liberalism condemned in trial of 5 professors at Andover Seminary; Ramakrishna, best known modern Hindu saint, dies;

SPORTS AND RECREATION: First international polo match in US, at Newport RI; first Tournament of Roses in Pasadena; Griswold Lorillard introduces tailless dress coat at first annual Autumn Ball of Tuxedo Club, Tuxedo NY.


BIRTHS: David Ben Gurion, Oskar Kokoschka, Diego Rivera, Paul Tillich, Karl Barth, , Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. DEATHS: Chester Alan Arthur, Franz Liszt, Leopold von Ranke

1887

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Congress authorizes Interstate Commerce Commission (1888); Dawes Severalty Act passed, dividing reservations into 160-acre family plots for Indians to promote assimilation. Pearl Harbor leased as naval station from Hawaii. Rural free deliveray begins. Women’s suffrage established in Kansas. A nativist group, the American Protective Association, is formed. in Clinton, IA. Terrible blizzards on Northern Plains.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Queen Victoria celebrates Golden Jubilee; first Colonial Conference held in London. Germany’s Prince von Bismarck warns Europe against war and calls for larger army.” France creates Union of Indochina. Secret Russian-German entente signed; Triple alliance of 1882 renewed; Anglo-Russian agreement on Afghanistan signed. Italian-Ethiopian War begins; Britain annexes Zululand; Macao ceded to Portugal.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: Heinrich. R. Hertz demonstrates existence of electromagnetic waves. H.W. Goodwin invents celluloid film; French engineering student, Leon Bolle, 18, invents first machine to automate multiplication via direct method. Emilie Berliner invents gramophone, improvement over Edison’s phonograph. Tokyo Electric Light Co. introduces electricity into Japan. Richard Sears moves to Chicago, hires watchmaker Alvah C. Roebuck, to market watches, etc through mail. Gimbel Brothers opens in Milwaukee; James W. Cannon founds Cannon Mills it Concord, NC; Wesson Oil has its beginnings in Southern Oil Co. of Philadelphia; Bristol-Meyers Co. has its origins in Clifton Pharmacy Co., NY. Grocer P.J. Towle introduces Log Cabin Syrup in St. Paul, MN; Ball-Mason Jars introduced by Ball Brothers, Muncie IN.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Clark University (MA), Catholic University (Wash, DC), Occidental College (CA), Pratt Institute (NY). Anne Sullivan, 20, of Perkins Institute starts work with Helen Keller, 2. Polish philologist, Lazarus Ludwig Zemenhof, 28, creates “universal language” of Esperanto; first congress of “criminal anthropologists” held in Rome. Bertillon System of fingerprint identification introduced to US.


1888

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Republican Benjamin Harrison (IN) defeats President Grover Cleveland (NY) in electoral vote while losing popular vote by 100,000 plurality; NYC’s Irish vote makes difference, as in 1884.. Louisville (KY): first locale to use Australian [secret] ballot. Congress reorganizes Bureau of Labor as non-Cabinet Department. Anti-Chinese riots break out again in Seattle.. Blizzard isolates NYC for 36 hours (Mar.12-14):20.9 inches, 400 lives lost. Another 400 die in Yellow Fever epidemic in Jacksonville, Fla. Washington Monument completed. British immigration peaks.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Kaiser Wilhelm I dies in Berlin, succeeded by grandson, Wilhelm II. Suez Canal declared open to all nations; Britain establishes protectorate over North Borneo and Sarawak, though North Borneo Co. continues to rule. Cecil Rhodes acquires exclusive mining rights in Matabeleland and Mashonaland; Arab rising in German East Africa; Brazil abolishes serfdom; British immigration peaks.


DEATHS: Matthew Arnold, Asa Gray, Louisa May and Bronson Alcott, Henry Maine

1889

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Indian land in Oklahoma Territory opened to white homesteaders. ND, SD, MT, WA admitted as 39th-42nd states. Wawoka, medicine man to Nevada Paintes, orders performance of ‘Ghost Dance’ prohibited by War Department. Western Hemispheric nations opens. Johnstown (PA) Flood (May 31) kills thousands. Rural interest rates reach 18-24%; discontented farmers form Southern Alliance. Former Texas outlaw, Belle Starr (Myra Belle Shirley) shot dead by person or persons unknown.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Influenza pandemic. France establishes protectorate over Ivory Coast; Italy claims protectorate over Ethiopia. Royal charter gives Cecil Rhodes’s British South Africa Co. almost unlimited rights and powers of government in area north of Transvaal and west of Mozambique. French revanchiste General Georges Boulanger flees Paris after rumored coup-d’etat. Archduke Rudolph is found dead with his 17-year old mistress in his hunting lodge, Mayerling. London Dock Strike extends unionism to laborers. Pedro II abdicates -- Brazil declared a republic.


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Barnard College, NY; Clemson College, SC; and the University of Idaho open; University of New Mexico chartered. 3% of population attends college. Thomas Huxley publishes Agnosticism. Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr found Hull House in Chicago.


DEATHS: Robert Browning, Jefferson Davis, Henry Grady.
1890

**DOMESTIC EVENTS**: Population: 62,947,714. Congress passes Sherman Anti-Trust Act to curtail monopolies, but with little initial impact. Sherman Silver Purchase Act supersedes Bland-Allison Act (1878) but continues government support of silver prices. McKinley Tariff Act increases US import duties to highest level yet - an average increase of 50%. United Mineworkers formed. ID and WY admitted to statehood; Mississippi passes poll tax and literacy test to prevent black vote. Sitting Bull arrested and shot; 350 Sioux men, women, and children massacred by Seventh Cavalry at Wounded Knee, SD. Widespread range wars between cattlemen and sheepmen.

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS**: World population: 1.6 billion. Wilhelm II dismisses Otto von Bismarck as first Chancellor. Cecil Rhodes becomes prime minister of Africa’s Cape Colony. Luxembourg splits from Netherlands upon death of Willem III. First Japanese elections -- franchise limited to 1% of population. Charles Stewart Parnell loses leadership of Irish National Party over his affair with Katherine O'Shea.

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE**: Berlin bacteriologist Emil von Behring and Shibasaburo Kitazato produce first tetanus and diphtheria antitoxins. Punch-card processing is pioneered by US engineer Herman Hollerith, 30, who draws inspiration from techniques of Jacquard Loom (1801) and player piano (1876); National Carbon Co. introduces first commercial dry cell battery under Ever Ready name. Rich iron ore deposits discovered in Minnesota’s Mesabi region by 46-year old prospector, Leonidas Merritt, 30; James Ward Packard, 27, and brother William, 29, start Packard Electric Co. at Warren, OH. Henry Avery produces first aluminum saucepan. Argentina defaults, causing near failure of Baring Brothers (saved by Rothschilds and Bank of England) and, in turn, a Wall St. panic when English investors dump US securities. In return for virtual control of Peru’s resources, W.R. Grace -- financier and two-term NYC mayor -- assumes much of the debt Peru had accumulated inits victory over Chile in the War of the Pacific. NY Consumers League established.


**SPORTS AND RECREATION**: Congress establishes Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks. First Army-Navy football game, at West Point.


**BIRTHS**: Dwight Eisenhower, Harry Hopkins, Ho Chi Minh, Charles de Gaulle, Boris Pasternak, Karl Capek, Franz Werfel

**DEATHS**: Cesar Franck, Arthur Rimbaud, Vincent Van Gogh

1891

**DOMESTIC EVENTS**: People’s (Populist) Party launched in Cincinnati; Jim Crow laws enacted in AL, AR, GA, TN. New Orleans lynch mob kills 11 Sicilian immigrants acquitted of murdering police chief. Office of Superintendent of Immigration established. 900,000 more acres of Indian land in Oklahoma opened to white settlement. Congress passes International Copyright Act giving British, French, Belgian and Swiss authors protection.
INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria, and Italy renewed for 12 years; Franco-Russian detente. Young Turk movement forms in Geneva. Coup d’état in Brazil brings Florians Peixoto as dictator. Civil war in Chile. Hawaii’s white elite sugar magnates, who control 80% of the arable land, form Hawaiian League to overthrow new queen, Lydia Liliuokalani. Famine in Russia. Earthquake in Japan kills 10,000.


SPORTS AND RECREATION: James Naismith, physical education director of Springfield (MA) YMCA Training College, invents basketball.


BIRTHS: Earl Warren, Sergei Prokofiev, Rudolf Carnap, Erwin Rommel DEATHS: Herman Melville, P.T. Barnum, George Bancroft

1892

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Democratic ticket of Grover Cleveland and Adlai E. Stevenson (IL) defeats Benjamin Harrison (IN) and Whitelaw Reid (NY), 5,554,414 to 5,190,802; Populist candidate James B. Weaver (IA) receives 1,027,329. Ellis Island opens Jan. 1 (-1954). Presidential decrees open 3 million acres of Arapaho and Cheyenne lands in Oklahoma and 1.8 million acres of Crow reservation in Montana to white settlement. Homestead Strike.(July 1-Nov.20). Boll weevil reported to have entered Texas. Cholera arrives in US. Lizzie Borden accused of murdering parents.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: British explorer, Sir Harry Hamilton Johnson, 34, subdues Angoni and Arab uprisings in Nyasaland; Abbas II, 18, succeeds Tewfik as Khedive of Egypt (-1914), is hostile to British influence and will eventually retake Sudan. French forces depose, Behanzin, King of Dahomey but encounter resistance from indigenous uprisings; French forces defeat the Fulani on the Upper Niger. Belgian forces subdue revolt of Arab slaveholders, introduce forced labor themselves. Australian troops suppress strikers at ports, mines, and sheep-shearing stations.

**EDUCATION AND RELIGION:** Heresy trial of Union Theological professor, Charles Briggs, results in his suspension from ministry and the Seminary’s severance of its Presbyterian ties. Ida B. Wells launches anti-lynching campaign in Memphis, receives death threats. Francis Bellamy composes “Pledge of Allegiance” for commemoration of Columbus’s “discovery” of America. Construction begins on NY’s St. John’s the Divine.

**SPORTS AND RECREATION:** In first title match prizefight with gloves, James John “Gentlemen Jim” Corbett, 26, scores knockout in 21st round over “Boston Strong Boy,” John L. Sullivan. Florida: first state to observe Jefferson Davis’s birthday (June 3). Vogue Magazine (NY) begins.


**BIRTHS:** Edna St. Vincent Millay, Josip Tito, Haile Selassie DEATHS: Walt Whitman, John Greenleaf Whittier, Alfred Lord Tennyson.

**DOMESTIC EVENTS:** Wall Street panic (June 27) punctuates economic depression: 600 banks fail; 15,000 businesses close; 74 railroads (including Reading) go into receivership. Grover Cleveland repeals Sherman Silver Purchase Act, returning US to gold standard; silver price plunges. White Hawaiian annexationists overthrow Queen Liliuokalani with support of US minister. John L. Stevens; armed marines land to “protect” US interests. Charles T. Kelly’s 1,500-man “army of the unemployed” arrives in Washington to demand relief from Congress. US. Women’s suffrage in CO.

**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:** Lobengula, king of the Matabele, leads a revolt against Cecil Rhodes’s British South Africa Co., but Leander Starr Jameson cuts the Matabele down with machine-gun fire and suppresses the revolt. Transvaal annexes Swaziland. France establishes colonies of Guiana and the Ivory Coast and a protectorate in Laos. James Keir Hardie, 37, a former miner, helps found the Independent Labour Party in Britain.


SPORTS AND RECREATION: J.P. Morgan commissions Stanford White to build Metropolitan Club (NY). Paris students witness world’s first striptease at Bal des Quatre Arts (Feb. 9); gendarmes intervene. Yale and Johns Hopkins introduce ice hockey to US.


BIRTHS: Cole Porter, Mary Pickford, Dean Acheson, Herman Goering, Mao Tse Tung, Jomo Kenyatta (?)

DEATHS: Rutherford B. Hayes, Francis Parkman, Edwin Booth, Fanny Kemble, Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky, Jean Martin Charcot, Guy de Maupassant

1894


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Radcliffe College for Women opens after 15 years of opposition from Harvard president Charles W. Eliot.


BIRTHS: e.e. cummings, James Thurber, Dorothy Thompson, Nikita Khrushchev, DEATHS: Oliver Wendell Holmes, R.L. Stevenson.

1895


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: London School of Economics and Political Science founded. Merger creates NY Public Library.


BIRTHS: Oscar Hammerstein, Babe Ruth, Lewis Mumford, Edmund Wilson, Buckminster Fuller, Carl Orff, Paul Hindemith, Juan Peron, Nicolai Bulganin DEATHS: Frederick Douglass, Jose Marti, Louis Pasteur, Berthe Morisot.

1896

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Republican William McKinley (OH), 53, defeats the Democratic and Populist candidate, William Jennings Bryan (NE): 7,104,779 to 6,502,925 (271-176 electoral) votes. The Supreme Court upholds racial segregation with the “separate but equal” doctrine in Plessy v. Ferguson. Utah admitted to statehood; Idaho amends its constitution to grant women’s suffrage. Rural free postal delivery established.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Boers capture L. Starr Jameson; Cecil Rhodes resigns premiership of Cape Colony, is later revealed to have engineered the Jameson raid on the Transvaal.. British forces take Coomassie in the Fourth Ashanti War, imprison Ashanti king. General H.H. Kitchener leads Anglo-Egyptian troops in reconquest of Sudan. Sierra Leone declared a British colony. French proclaim Madagascar a French colony. Abyssinians defeat Italians at Adowa, forcing Italy to sue for peace. Shah of Persia assassinated. On Crete Greeks foment revolt against Turkey; Turkish troops massacre Armenians following Armenian revolutionaries’ attack on Ottoman Bank. Japanese earthquake kills 27,000.


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Adelphi College (NY) founded; Canadian Red Cross established. Mary Eliza Terrell founds National Association of Colored Women. Nobel Prizes established. Former baseball player Billy Sunday begins evangelical career.


1897


INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: British Parliament censures Cecil Rhodes for Jameson raid on Transvaal. Britain threatens war over French incursions in Africa, sends troops to occupy Benin (Nigeria) in protest over human sacrifices, and agrees to arbitrate boundary dispute with Venezuela. Belgian forces reach Nile, defeat Sudan dervishes, but are challenged in September by a great mutiny as the Batetelas revolt along the Upper Congo in an insurrection that will last until 1900. Zanzibar abolishes slavery. German forces occupy part of North China following murder of 2 German missionaries. Armistice in Greco-Turkish war over Crete. Cubans insist on complete independence from Spain. Severe famine in India.


1898

DOMESTIC EVENTS: The Feb. 15 explosion and sinking of the US battleship Maine in Havana Harbor, killing 260, two months later precipitates the 112-day Spanish-American War. Assistant Secretary of the Navy Theodore Roosevelt authorizes Admiral Dewey’s destruction of the Spanish fleet in Manila Harbor; TR resigns to form Rough Riders. Peace protocol (Aug. 12) leads to formal Treaty of Paris (Dec.10) in which Spain cedes Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam, and, for $20 million, the Philippines. President McKinley signs Congressional resolution to annex Hawaiian Islands.
INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Russia, Britain, and France obtain concessions in China. Tzu-hsi, Dowager Empress of China, seizes power and revokes reforms as Boxers organize to resist westernization and Christianity. At Omdurman General Horatio Kitchener annihilates the army of Khalifa, Arab leader of the Mahdists; he then retakes Khartoum from the dervishes and forces the French to evacuate Fashoda on the White Nile. Emile Zola's pamphlet, J'Accuse, leads to his imprisonment but forces new trial for Captain Alfred Dreyfus, jailed for treason on Devil’s Island. Colonel Henry admits forgery of document that convicted Dreyfus in anti-Semitic plot, but Dreyfus will not be released and restored to rank till 1906. Italian anarchist assassinates Empress Elizabeth of Austria. Bubonic plague sweeps China and India, will kill 3 million in next decade.


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Northeastern University (MA) founded. Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations formed.

SPORTS AND RECREATION: Canadian-American yachtsman Joshua Slocum, 54, completes first one-man sail around the world in sloop, Spray.

ART, LITERATURE, AND MUSIC: German artist, Kathe Kollwitz, publishes her “Weavers” prints. John Duncan’s 80-foot arch and Stanford White’s columns grace Brooklyn’s Grand Army Plaza. National Institute of Arts and Letters founded. Henry James writes The Turn of the Screw; Stephen Crane publishes The Open Boat and Other Stories. Finley Peter Dunne, Mr. Dooley in Peace and War. H.G. Wells, The War of the Worlds; Oscar Wilde’s The Ballad of Reading Gaol. Konstantin Stanislavski opens Moscow Art Theatre; Arturo Toscanini appears at La Scala in Milan. Last year’s tune “There’ll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight” popularized by soldiers.


1899


INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Boer War begins in South Africa Oct. 12 as President Paul Kruger of the Boer Republic acts to block suspected British moves toward the Transvaal goldmines. Boer siege of Mafeking begins. West Africa’s Ashanti stage their last uprising against the British. Charles Maurras founds Action Francaise, a right-wing political movement, following defeat of anti-Dreyfusards. German Social Democrats abandon orthodox Marxism. Civil war breaks out in Colombia between conservatives and Panamanian separatists, will take nearly 100,000 lives by 1902.
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: German researchers perfect aspirin, to be first marketed in 1905 under Bayer tradename. NYC’s Nippon Electric Co. established in Japan, with 54% of stock owned by Western Electric. Andrew Carnegie consolidates his properties into Carnegie Steel. Leonard and Adolph Lewisohn found Amalgamated Copper Co. and purchase Anaconda Mine at Butte (MT), then form American Smelting & Refining Co as $75 million trust in competition with (Meyer) Guggenheim Exploration Co. E.I. DuPont de Nemours incorporates in DE, controls 95% of US gunpowder production; 30 US and Canadian firms merge to form International Paper Co. (NY) in rivalry with Union Bag & Paper, a $27 million trust. J.P. Stevens founded. Minor Keith and Boston Fruit Co. incorporate as United Fruit Co. American Sugar Refining Co. has near total monopoly. Carl Swanson, Swedish-American grocer, begins business in Omaha. David Wesson, 38, perfects his oil. Giovanni Agnelli founds FIAT. Henry Ford joins Detroit Auto Co. as chief engineer; Sebastian Spering Kresge, 31, begins chain-store empire in Detroit.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Simmons College (MA) and San Francisco State College founded. John Dewey publishes School and Society. Thorstein Veblen introduces concept of “conspicuous consumption” in his Theory of the Leisure Class. First International Women’s Congress held.


BIRTHS: Ernest Hemingway, Alan Tate, Hart Crane, Elizabeth Bowen, Francois Poulenc, Noel Coward, Jorge Luis Borges, Vladimir Nabokov. DEATHS: Horatio Alger, Dwight Moody, Alfred Sisley, Johann Strauss.

1900


INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: World population: 1.55 billion. Following the fall of Johannesburg and Pretoria, Boers resort to guerilla war against British, who annex Orange Free State and Transvaal. Lord Kitchener puts 120,000 Boer women and children in concentration camps, where 20,000 will die of disease and neglect. Labour Party formed in Britain; Tories come to power in famous “Khaki” election. Boxer Rebellion rocks China: 55-day siege of foreign legations in Peking relieved by international expeditionary force; Russia seizes Southern Manchuria. Italy’s Umberto I assassinated by anarchist. Nicolai Lenin returns from 3-year term in Siberia, begins publication of Iskra (Spark). Arthur Griffith organizes Sinn Fein in Ireland.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Carnegie Institute of Technology founded. College Entrance Examination Board founded. Sigmund Freud publishes The Interpretation of Dreams. Ellen Key, The Century of the Child. Shintoism reinstated in Japan. US: 12 million Catholics; 6 million Methodists, 5 million Baptists, 1.5 million Lutherans, 1.5 million Presbyterians, 1 million Jews, 700,000 Mormons, 80,000 Christian Scientists, 75,000 Unitarians.


BIRTHS: Aaron Copland, Thomas Wolfe, Kurt Weill, Ignazio Silone, Antoine de Saint-Exupery
DEATHS: Stephen Crane, Frederick Church, Friedrich Nietzsche, John Ruskin, Oscar Wilde, Arthur Sullivan

1901


INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Queen Victoria, 81, dies after a 64-year reign; Edward VII succeeds her. Commonwealth of Australia formed, establishes a “White Australia Policy” in its immigration laws. Boer guerilla war continues. Boxer Rebellion ends, with China obliged to pay indemnities to world powers.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Idaho State University and Whittier College (CA) founded. Andrew Carnegie gives NY Public Library $5.2 million to open its first branches. Rudolph Steiner founds Anthroposophy; Rabindrathe Tagore opens his Santiniketan School in Bengal.

SPORTS AND RECREATION: England legalizes prizefighting.


BIRTHS: Walt Disney, Margaret Mead, Hirohito, Sukarno DEATHS: Benjamin Harrison, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Giuseppe Verdi

1902


BIRTHS: John Steinbeck, Langston Hughes, Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. DEATHS: Wade Hampton, Bret Harte, Frank Norris, Albert Bierstadt, John Wesley Powell, Walter Reed, Cecil Rhodes, Emile Zola

1903

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Colombian Senate unanimously rejects Hay-Herran Treaty, which had been instigated by French engineer Philippe Jean Bunau-Varilla, American lawyer, William Cromwell, and industrialist Mark Hanna to reroute from Nicaragua to Panamanian isthmus (then part of Columbia). Bunau-Varilla then gives pro-canal Colombians a draft declaration of independence, a constitution, and a flag -- their “revolution” against Colombia is quickly recognized and protected by Theodore Roosevelt, and a new US-Panama Treaty places Canal Zone in US hands in perpetuity.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Famine in Russia stirs resentment against Czar Nicholas II. Led by Nikolai Lenin, Bolsheviks split off from Mensheviks at London Congress of Social Democratic Party. Serbian conspirators assassinate King Aleksandr Obrenovic, his wife, and 20 members of his court. Macedonian insurrection against Constantinople ends. British forces conquer Northern Nigeria. Emmeline Pankhurst and other suffragists found Britain’s Women’s Social and Political Union. Journalist Roger Casement reports Belgian atrocities against Congolese.


BIRTHS: Kay Boyle, George Orwell, Alan Paton DEATHS: James M. Whistler, Paul Gaugin, Camille Pissarro, Herbert Spencer

1904

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Republican Theodore Roosevelt (NY) wins re-election over Democrat Alton B. Parker by 7,628,834 to 5,884,401 (336-140 electoral) votes. Socialist Party candidate Eugene V. Debs (402,460); Prohibition Party nominee Silas Swallow (259,257). US acquires property of French Panama Canal Co.; TR appoints board to build it and announces that US has sole power to police Western Hemisphere. US takes control of Dominican Republic’s finances. Supreme Court breaks up Railroad Trust in “Northern Securities” case. Fire destroys 80 blocks of Baltimore.


SPORTS AND RECREATION: Third Olympiad, in St. Louis. Judo introduced to US. Cy Young pitches first perfect game. World Series called off because John McGraw refuses to let his Giants play Red Sox. Auction bridge invented. NY woman arrested for smoking cigarette on street.

**BIRTHS:** Ralph Bunche, James T. Farrell, Isaac Bashevis Singer, George Balanchine, Chirstopher Isherwood, Graham Greene, Marlene Dietrich, Alexi N. Kosygin. **DEATHS:** Lafcadio Hearn, Anton Chekhov, Anton Dvorak, Samuel Smiles, Paul Kruger, Theodor Herzl


**INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:** Russian forces surrender at Port Arthur and Mukden; Admiral Togo sinks 32 Russian ships in Battle of Tsushima Strait. Peace treaty signed with Roosevelt’s mediation. A Russian revolution begins at Winter Palace at St. Petersburg after violent repression of peaceful workers’ demonstration on “Bloody Sunday.” Potemkin mutiny at Odessa leads to general strike and creation of a parliament (Duma). **Nikolai Lenin** returns to Russia but Moscow Soviet is bloodily repressed at Christmas. The Duma is suspended and a wave of pogroms follows, killing 50,000 Jews by 1909. Norway separates from Sweden. Anglo-Japanese Alliance renewed for ten years. **Sun Yat-sen** organizes to expel Manchus from China.


**EDUCATION AND RELIGION:** $10 million gift launches Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. National Audubon Society founded.

**SPORTS AND RECREATION:** **Ty Cobb** begins his career with Detroit. Drastic rules revision to reduce violence in college football.


**BIRTHS:** Lillian Hellman, Robert Penn Warren, Jean-Paul Sartre, , Greta Garbo, **DEATHS:** John Hay, Lew Wallace, Jules Verne

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Britain’s launching of huge battleship, H.M.S. Dreadnought spurs Germany to enlarge its navy. British Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey, assumes secret “moral obligation” to support France in event of German attack. Britain forces Ottoman Turks to cede Sinai Peninsula to Egypt. Alfred Dreyfus restored to rank. Chinese imperial court agrees to a constitution. Finland, first to grant women’s suffrage.


BIRTHS: Clifford Odets, Samuel Beckett
DEATHS: Paul Laurence Dunbar, Susan B. Anthony, Carl Schurz, Henrik Ibsen, Paul Cezanne

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Theodore Roosevelt sends Great White Fleet on world cruise, concludes a “Gentleman’s Agreement” with Japan to exclude Japanese workers, and makes speech against “malefactors of great wealth.” US lands marines in Honduras to protect American lives and banana plantations during the nation’s war with Nicaragua. After run on banks (Oct.23), J.P. Morgan and government act to avert panic, including a $10 million gold shipment from Bank of England aboard newest and fastest ship, Lusitania. Oklahoma becomes 46th state.
INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria, Italy) renewed for six years. Franco-Japanese agreement to preserve “open door” in China. Japan obtains protectorate over Korea. First Nationalist Congress in Egypt under Mustapha Kemal. Revolutionary outbreaks in Russia suppressed; Nikolai Lenin leaves Russia. Austria and Norway grant universal suffrage. Kingston, Jamaica nearly destroyed by earthquake.


SPORTS AND RECREATION: The Tinkers-to-Evers-to-Chance infield helps the Chicago Cubs win the World Series.


1908


SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: Hermann Minkowski elaborates four-dimensional geometry. German chemist Fritz Haber invents process for synthesizing ammonia: important to explosives and fertilizer industry. German physicist Hans Geiger and British physicist Ernest Rutherford devise the Geiger Counter. Middle East oil production begins with William Knox D’Arcy’s strike at Masjid-i-Salaman. Houston entrepreneur Howard R. Hughes founds Hughes Tool Co. to exploit his monopoly of drill-bit technology. Continental Oil Co. has its beginnings with E.W. Marland’s strikes on Ponca Indian lands (OK). Henry Ford introduces his Model T at $850 with tires from Harvey Firestone. W.C. Durant founds AC Spark Plug Co. and General Motors. Max Kiss, founds the Ex-Lax Co. Many US banks close as depression deepens. Tokyo chemist Kikunae Ikeda isolates MSG. City engineer, William Mulholland, devises a plan to bring water from the Owens River to Los Angeles.


BIRTHS: Lyndon Baines Johnson, Nelson Rockefeller, Richard Wright, Claude Levi-Strauss, Simone de Beauvoir, Ian Fleming DEATHS: Grover Cleveland, Joel Chandler Harris, Edward MacDowell, Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov


INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Austria pays Turkey 2.2 million pounds indemnity in return for its recognition of Austria’s annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Young Turks depose Sultan Abdul Hamid. Russia invades northern Persia following deposition of Shah Mohammed Ali. King Leopold II of Belgium dies after 41-year reign, having amassed great wealth from exploitation of the Congo; Albert I succeeds him. General strike in Barcelona. Japan begins 36-year military occupation of Korea following assassination of Japanese Prince Hirobumi Ito by Korean nationalist.


1909
EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Sigmund Freud lectures in US. William James publishes A Pluralistic Universe. First kibbutz in Palestine.

SPORTS AND RECREATION: Tris Speaker, 21, begins his career with Red Sox. Shibe Park (Connie Mack Stadium) completed in Philadelphia.


BIRTHS: Barry Goldwater, Dean Rusk, Eudora Welty, Nelson Algren, Stephen Spender, Kwame Nkrumah
DEATHS: Edward Everett Hale, Frederick Remington, Charles McKim, Sarah Orne Jewett, John Millington Synge, Algernon Charles Swinburne, George Meredith

1910


SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: Chicago physician James Bryan Herrick isolates sickle-cell anemia. Halley’s comet observed. Minnesota, Mining, and Manufacturing Co. is founded at St. Paul. US copper trust (ASARCO) acquires Chile’s enormously productive Chuquicamata copper mine. Salomon Brothers brokerage house founded. Robert McCormick takes over Chicago Tribune, which he will turn into a major national newspaper. Robert L. Vann launches the influential black newspaper, the Pittsburgh Courier. The Elizabeth Arden Beauty Salon chain has its beginnings under Florence Nightingale Graham, 25, in NYC. Burberry introduces its Tielocken (Trench) coat. ILGWU wins 9-week strike by NYC cloakmakers. Some 2500 miners have died in coal mine disasters over the past 5 years. Average US workingman earns $15 per 54-60 hour week.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Southern Methodist University (TX), Kent State University (OH) and Bowling Green State University (OH) founded. Funded by the Carnegie Institution, physician Abraham Flexner releases critical report on Medical Education in the US and Canada, spurring $600 million reform effort over the next few years. Bertrand Russell and Alfred North Whitehead publish Principia Mathematica. $10 million gift funds Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Fundamentalist movement launched with publication of The Fundamentals: A Testimony to the Truth.
SPORTS AND RECREATION: Publisher William Boyce and illustrator Daniel Carter Beard launch Boy Scouts of America. YMCA leader, Luther Halsey Gulick founds the Camp Fire Girls; Lord Baden-Powell and sister Agnes found the Girl Guides in Britain. Whites attack blacks in Boston, NYC, Cincinnati, Houston and Norfolk following Jack Johnson’s $100,000 knockout of the Great White Hope, James Jeffries, in Reno July 4.


BIRTHS: Eero Saarinen DEATHS: Mark Twain, William James, William Graham Sumner, Mary Baker Eddy, Winslow Homer, Julia Ward Howe, John La Farge, Henri Rousseau, William Sydney Porter (O’Henry), Leo Tolstoy, Florence Nightingale, Robert Koch

1911

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Dissatisfied with Taft, progressive Republicans nominate Robert LaFollette (WI) for President. President Taft rejects Arizona statehood over its judge-recall law. US renews “Gentleman’s Agreement” with Japan but abrogates an 1832 treaty with Russia because of its refusal to honor passports of American Jews. Roosevelt Dam completed in Arizona. NYC’s Triangle Shirtwaist Fire claims 146 lives. Calbraith P. Rogers completes first transcontinental air flight in 84 days (3.5 days of flying time). Hiram Bingham discovers lost Peruvian city of Macchu Pichu.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Mexico’s president, Porfirio Diaz, is overthrown in a revolution that brings Francisco Madero to a 15-month presidency. Some 20,000 US troops ordered to Rio Grande border. A military coup in Honduras establishes a “banana republic.” Sun Yat-sen returns from exile and is elected President of the United Provinces of China by a revolutionary provisional assembly. Yangtze River flood kills 100,000; 30 million Russian peasants starve in famine. Russian Premier assassinated. Italy declares war on Turkey, bombs Tripoli coast. British House of Lords loses its veto powers. Limited British National [unemployment and health] Insurance. Japanese women’s liberation movement launched.


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Connecticut College for Women and Skidmore College for Women (NY) founded.

SPORTS AND RECREATION: First Indianapolis 500 Race; first Monte Carlo Rally.

BIRTHS: Tennessee Williams, Elizabeth Bishop, Ronald Reagan DEATHS: Carry Nation, Joseph Pulitzer, Gustav Mahler

1912


BIRTHS: Jackson Pollock, John Cheever, Lawrence Durrell  DEATHS: Wilbur Wright, Clara Barton, Daniel Burnham, August Strindberg

1913

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Outgoing President Taft vetoes immigration bill with literacy test attached. Woodrow Wilson inaugurated, refuses to recognize new Mexican regime after Victoriano Huerta deposes President Madero, who is shot “while trying to escape. 16th (income tax) and 17th (direct election of Senators) Amendments adopted. Federal Reserve Bank Act signed. Arsene Pujo’s (D.LA) House Committee on Banking and Currency releases expose of money trust. California passes Webb Alien Landholding Act barring Japanese-Americans from owning property. 5000 women’s suffragists march down Pennsylvania Avenue, led by Alice Paul (founder of National Woman’s Party) but are attacked by jeering men.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Assassination of Greece’s George I at Salonica ends his 50-year reign. Treaty of London resolves previous year’s six-week Balkan War between Ottoman Turks and Greek-Bulgarian-Serbian coalition; hostilities break out again, but Bulgaria is forced to cede territory in Treaties of Bucharest and Constantinople. Young Turks stage coup but are then purged. Chinese President Yuan Shik-K'ai betrays democratic promises and forces Sun Yat-sen to flee to Japan. South Africa’s Native Land Act gives 82.7% of land to whites. British suffragist, Emmeline Pankhurst imprisoned for placing bomb in home of David Lloyd George; goes on hunger strike. Norwegian women granted suffrage.


SPORTS AND RECREATION: Brooklyn’s Ebbets Field completed; NY Yankees take their name. First Notre Dame-Army football game: Knute Rockne stars. One-wall handball introduced. First adult crossword appears in New York World.


1914


SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: George Washington Carver reveals results of peanut experiments. Margaret Sanger coins term “birth control” in her pamphlet, Family Limitation, for which she is arrested. Ford introduces $5-day after threats of labor troubles. NY debutante, Mary Phelps Jacob, patents elastic brassiere. Clarence Birdseye pioneers fish-freezing. Gulf Oil distributes first automobile maps. Cleveland introduces first red/green traffic lights. William Wrigley, Jr. introduces Doublemint gum. Ad writer W.B. Laughhead invents Paul Bunyan and Babe, the blue ox, as instant folklore for Red River Lumber. Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union formed.

EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Pope Benedict XV succeeds Pope Pius X. American Jewish Committee formed.

SPORTS AND RECREATION: Yale Bowl completed (80,000). Jack Dempsey begins fighting as “Kid Blackey.” Mothers Day established.


BIRTHS: Jonas Edward Salk, Ralph Ellison, Randolph Jarrell, Tennessee Williams, Marguerite Duras
Dylan Thomas, Octavio Paz. Gypsy Rose Lee, Dorothy Lamour

DEATHS: Charles Sanders Peirce, George Westinghouse, John Muir, Arthur Thayer Mahan

1915

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: European war intensifies. Germany begins u-boat blockade of Britain. Britain attempts to seize Dardanelles from Turks, who, allied with Germany, threaten to block supplies to Russia. Turkey, meanwhile, accuses Armenians of pro-Russian sentiments, deploys 1.75 million, at least 600,000 starve to death in Mesopotamian desert. Britain’s Gallipoli campaign fails, with blame falling on Winston Churchill, 41, first lord of admiralty. Germans introduce chlorine gas at second Battle of Ypres. Italy turns on ally, Austria.


EDUCATION AND RELIGION: Emory University founded at Atlanta under the name Methodist College. Harvard’s Harry Elkins Widener Library opens as a mother’s memorial to the Titanic victim. National Birth Control League founded. Leo Franck lynched.


1916


INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Casualties mount in Europe. Britain withdraws from Gallipoli. Battle of Verdun takes 350,000 French lives and as many German; German fleet escapes British at Battle of Jutland. Lord Kitchener lost when HMS Hampshire sinks. Allied armies lose nearly 800,000 men and Central Powers 538,000 in 140-day Battle of the Somme. First use of tanks. American Escadrille established in Europe with 7 volunteer American pilots. T.E. Lawrence helps persuade grand sharif of Mecca, Husein Ibn-Ali to rebel against his allies, the Ottoman Turks, marking beginning of Hashemite dynasty. 2,000 Irish rebels are suppressed following Easter Rising in Dublin. Rasputin killed.


1917


INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: Russian troops mutiny March 10: strikes and riots force abdication of Czar Nicholas II and his brother, Michael, ending 304-year reign of Romanovs. Lenin arrives in Petrograd, where Bolshevik Revolution begins November 6, toppling provisional (Kerensky) government. Mutiny spreads to French troops after devastating losses, suppressed by General Petain, who executes 23 socialist and pacifist soldiers. British lose 400,000 in Battle of Paschendale. Turks lose Aqaba to Arab forces under Colonel T.E. Lawrence, and British invade Palestine. Arthur Balfour, Foreign Secretary, issues Declaration favoring establishment of Jewish homeland in Palestine.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMERCE: War Industries Board, under Bernard Baruch, orders all automakers to convert to war work. Meatless and wheatless days introduced; inflation at 17%. Philips Petroleum, Humble Oil, and Union Carbide launched. Japan’s Datsun motorcar has its beginnings in Kwaishinksa Motor Car Works (Tokyo); BMW (Bayerishche Motoren Werke) begins with motorcycle and airplane engines. US cigarette production reaches 35.3 billion a year, up from 15 billion in 1915. US has 40,000 millionaires, up from 4,000 in 1892.


1918

DOMESTIC EVENTS: On January 8, Woodrow Wilson announces his war aims, or “14 Points” (including a League of Nations) indispensable to a just peace, in order to counter revelations by Bolsheviks of secret Allied agreements to carve up the German Empire. Sedition Act passed against anyone hindering war effort by making false statements, obstructing enlistment, talking against production of war materials, etc. Sabotage Act passed, aimed at IWW. Eugene V. Debs sentenced to 10 years in federal prison for violating these acts. Third and Fourth Liberty Loan Drives launched. War Industries Board orders all auto manufacturers to convert to war work. Daylight Saving Time goes into effect. Meatless and wheatless days introduced. Inflation up 17% over previous year. “Spanish” influenza kills 500,000 in the United States. News of German surrender arrives at 3 a.m. November 11. Wilson sails for Paris Peace Conference. Supreme Court declares Federal Child Labor Law of 1916 unconstitutional. African Blood Brotherhood, radical black nationalist organization, founded.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: An outbreak of influenza -- the worst pandemic to afflict mankind since the Black Death -- sweeps through Europe, America, and Asia, killing 22 million -- 1% of the world’s population. Germany, Ireland, Sweden, Poland, and Canada grant women’s suffrage; Britain does too -- for women over 30. Russia withdraws from the war by signing the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk; Finns recapture Helsinki from Bolsheviks. Attempted assassination of Lenin. Czar and family executed in July. US sends troops to occupy Vladivostock. Revolution ends the Hapsburg monarchy in Hungary. Bulgaria’s Ferdinand I and Austria’s Karl I abdicate. The Polish Republic is proclaimed; the Yugoslav nation organized. Thomas Masaryk elected president of Czechoslovakia. Transylvania unites with Rumania. Moslem riots in Calcutta. British and Arab forces occupy Damascus; the French take Beirut. Britain rejects home rule for Ireland. German forces launch major western offensive in March at the Second Battle of the Somme but are stopped in June by combined US and French forces in the Second Battle of the Marne. 1,200,000 American troops under General John Pershing launch their first major counter-offensive in September in the Battles of Argonne and Ypres, and, combined with British tank attacks at Amiens, force Germans back to Hindenberg line. Mutiny breaks out in German fleet in October; Germany’s Wilhelm II abdicates November 8. German fleet surrenders. Armistice signed November 11.


1919

DOMESTIC EVENTS: Woodrow Wilson returns to US to campaign for the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations. Paralyzed by a stroke while on a swing through the West, he is unable to defeat the Senate isolationists, led by Henry Cabot Lodge (MA), who reject the Treaty and the League. The 18th Amendment (Prohibition) is ratified. The House of Representatives unseats Socialist congressman, Victor Berger (WI), and then declares his seat vacant after he is re-elected. Massive strikes in steel and other industries in US and Canada: 4 million on strike or locked out. Supreme Court upholds Eugene V. Debs’s conviction for sedition. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. formulates “clear and present danger” test for suppressing free speech in Schenck v. US. Red Scare begins in December under the leadership of Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer and his special assistant, J. Edgar Hoover, 24, who handles the deportation to Russia of Emma Goldman, Alexander Berkman, and 250 others. Race riots occur in 26 cities. Communist Labor Party founded in Chicago; American Legion formed in Paris. The 19th Amendment (Women’s Suffrage) adopted by Congress and sent to the states for ratification. International Labor Congress in Washington endorses 8-hour day. Famed 369th (Black) Regiment marches up NYC’s Broadway, while other black soldiers refuse to march at back of victory parade in St. Joseph, MO. Jane Addams, first president of The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom. Mary White Ovington, first women president of NAACP.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS: German fleet scuttled at Scapa Flow. Versailles Peace Conference opens January 18 with delegates from 27 victorious nations; resolves to create League of Nations aimed at collective protection, disarmament, labor legislation, and world health. Treaty signed June 28 obliges Germany to accept sole responsibility for the war, to return Alsace-Lorraine to France, to cede her colonies as mandates to the League of Nations, and to pay immense reparations in the form of money, ships, and coal. New German republic is proclaimed. Communist (Spartacist) uprising is suppressed in Berlin; its leaders, Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht, murdered in prison. Adolf Hitler founds National Socialist Party; Benito Mussolini forms Fasci del Combattimento. Italy grants women’s suffrage. Third International founded in Moscow to promote world revolution. Red Army drives British troops out of Murmansk, enters Estonia and the Crimea. Ignace Paderewski becomes premier of Poland. Rumania annexes Transylvania, invades Hungary, where it overthrows the new Communist government under Bela Kun, plunders the country, and then withdraws... Mustapha Kemal resists Greek and Italian troops, who have invaded his crumbling Ottoman Empire. Nationalist riots in Cairo. Anglo-Persian agreement at Teheran to preserve integrity of Persia. Nicaragua asks US protection from Costa Rica. Emiliano Zapata killed by Mexican government troops. Sinn Fein Members of Parliament proclaim an independent Irish Republic with Eamon de Valera president and with its own parliament (Dail Eireann), which the British suppress. General strike in Winnipeg, Canada. Louis Botha, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa, dies, is succeeded by Jan Smuts. Amritsar riots and massacre in India. Revolutionary May Fourth Movement breaks out in China in protest against concessions to Japan. W.E.B. DuBois organizes first Pan African Congress in Paris.

**EDUCATION AND RELIGION:** UCLA opens. Eastman School of Music and Julliard School of Music founded. Boston merchant Edward Filene establishes Twentieth Century Fund to advance research on economic questions. Abala Bose organizes the Nari Shiksha Samiti to foster education among women throughout India. Physician Alice Hamilton (industrial medicine) becomes first women to teach at Harvard Medical School. John B. Watson’s Psychology from the Standpoint of a Behaviorist. Karl Barth’s Epistle to the Romans launches Protestant dialectical theology.

**SPORTS AND RECREATION:** George Hansburg, 32, patents pogo stick. Jack Dempsey takes heavyweight championship from Jess Willard. Jim Thorpe finishes his 6-year career in baseball. Chicago “Black Sox” scandal after World Series thrown to Cincinnati. Grand Canyon (AR), Zion (UT), and Lafayette (ME) National Parks established. US gets first racing Triple Crown winner in Sir Barton.


**BIRTHS:** Liberace, Evita Duarte Peron, MacGeorge Bundy, J. D. Salinger, Doris Lessing, I. ris Murdoch, Pete Seeger, Merce Cunningham, Margot Fonteyn, Slim Pickens, Jackie Robinson, Abigail Van Buren, George C. Wallace, Malcolm Forbes, Robert Stack, Susan Hayward, Jennifer Jones, Nat “King” Cole, Tennessee Ernie Ford

**DEATHS:** Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick, J. ames McParlan, Theodore Roosevelt, John Reed, L. Frank Baum, F. W. Woolworth, Pierre Renoir, Carl Larsson, Ella Wheeler Wilcox, William Osler