

## CHAPTER ONE

### CHRONOLOGY OF THE CENTURY 1900-1999

1900

#### Arts and Entertainment

*Austria*—Gustav Mahler's Fourth Symphony premieres.

*France*—French painter Paul Gauguin paints in Tahiti (1891-93, 1895-1901); he will soon move to the Marquesas Islands (1901-03).

Henri Toulouse-Lautrec paints *La Modiste*.

Claude Debussy's *Nocturnes* is first performed.

*Italy*—Giacomo Puccini's opera *Tosca* opens.

*Russia*—Anton Chekhov's play *Uncle Vanya* has its premiere.

*Spain*—Painter Pablo Picasso begins his Blue Period (1900-14) while in Paris and Barcelona. Works include *La Vie* (1903).

*U.K.*—Edward Elgar's oratorio *The Dream of Gerontius* premieres.

*U.S.*—The cakewalk, a dance that originated among African-American slaves, becomes fashionable.

*World*—Novels include Joseph Conrad's *Lord Jim* (U.K.), Theodore Dreiser's *Sister Carrie* (U.S.), L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* (U.S.), Colette's *Claudine à l'école* (France), Gabriele D'Annunzio's *Il Fuoco* (Italy), and Joachim Maria Machado de Assis's *Don Casmurro* (Brazil).

#### Ideas

*Uruguay*—Philosopher José Enrique Rodó publishes the nonfiction book *Ariel*, in which he urges Latin America to retain its cultural values in the face of U.S. materialism.

*U.S.*—Political scientist Frank Goodnow publishes *Politics and Administration*.

#### Military

*China*—Continuing the Boxer Rebellion begun in 1899, an antiforeigner secret society called the *I ho ch'üan* ("Righteous Harmonious Fists"), or Boxers, occupies Peking and lays siege to foreign legations. An international force, with troops from Britain, France, Germany, Japan, and the U.S., is sent to stop the rebellion, which had been supported by the dowager empress.

*Philippines*—During the rebellion against U.S. rule (1899-1901), the U.S. military governor grants amnesty to insurgents.

*South Africa*—After several early Boer successes in the South African War (1899-1902), the British gain the edge, with victories at their besieged strongholds of Kimberley, Ladysmith, and Mafeking.

The British capture Johannesburg (May 31) and Pretoria (June 5) and annex the Orange Free State and the Transvaal. Boer forces fight back with guerrilla activity, while the British confine Boers in concentration camps.

### Politics

*Africa*—France and Italy sign an agreement giving the former rights over Morocco and the latter rights over Libya. Britain assumes direct control of the Royal Niger Company's territories, as its protectorates of Southern Nigeria and Northern Nigeria take shape.

*Ireland*—A massive nationalist demonstration demanding Home Rule takes place in Phoenix Park, Dublin.

*Italy*—An anarchist murders King Umberto I; the king's son Victor Emmanuel III succeeds him.

Politician Giovanni Giolitti begins financial and social reforms.

*Manchuria*—Russia annexes Manchuria.

*Spain*—In the face of agitation by Carlists, supporters of a rival dynastic claim to the throne, the government suppresses Carlist journals and clubs and suspends the constitution.

*Tonga*—Britain establishes a protectorate over Savage Island and Friendly Islands (now Tonga), despite protest by the indigenous king.

*U.K.*—The Labour Representation Committee is founded by a coalition that includes the Independent Labour Party, the Fabian Society, and trade unions. In 1906 it will become the Labour Party.

*U.S.*—President William McKinley is reelected.

The Social Democratic Party is founded; it will become the Socialist Party in 1901.

Hawaii becomes a territory.

### Science and Technology

*France*—Physicist Paul Ulrich Villard discovers gamma rays.

The first escalator is demonstrated at the Paris World Exhibition.

*Germany*—Physicist Max Planck founds quantum theory, introducing Planck's radiation law and the concept of quanta, or packets of energy.

Physicist Friedrich Ernst Dorn discovers the element radon.

Mathematician David Hilbert poses Hilbert's second problem: whether it can be proved that the axioms of arithmetic are consistent.

Ferdinand von Zeppelin flies the first of his rigid-frame airships, which will be known as zeppelins.

*U.K.*—Archaeologist Arthur John Evans excavates the palace of Knossos, Crete.

*U.S.*—Benjamin Holt invents the tractor.

Eastman Kodak introduces its one-dollar Brownie camera.

Walter Reed discovers the yellow fever virus and proves its link with mosquito bites.

**World**—German biologist Cal Correns, Dutch botanist Hugo de Vries, and Austrian botanist Erich Tachermak von Seysenegg independently rediscover the genetic laws of inheritance discovered by Austrian monk Gregor Mendel in 1866 and subsequently forgotten.

### Society

**France**—The World Exhibition in Paris is held (April–November).

The Paris Metro, begun in 1898, opens.

**Japan**—Shintoism is reinstated in Japan as a native counter to Buddhist influence.

**U.K.**—In London, American civil rights activist W. E. B. DuBois and others hold the first Pan-African Congress.

**U.S.**—The deadliest hurricane in U.S. history kills more than 6,000 in Galveston, Texas, and the Texas Gulf Coast.

The dollar goes formally onto the gold standard.

In Connecticut, businessman Louis Lassen introduces the hamburger, a sandwich of ground lean beef on toast.

Railroad engineer John Luther “Casey” Jones (1863–1900) dies at the throttle slowing down the *Cannonball Express* train as it crashes into a stopped train. He will go down in legend for saving his passengers’ lives.

The Automobile Club of America holds its first meeting and sponsors its first automobile show.

### Sports

**France**—The first automobile race with international competitors is held; the course runs from Paris to Lyon.

**U.S.**—In baseball, the American League forms, but the existing National League will not recognize it as a major league until 1903.

Dwight Davis and Holcombe Ward win the first Davis Cup tennis tournament.

William Muldoon is the first professional wrestling champion.

**World**—Women compete for the first time at the second modern Olympic Games, Paris.

## 1901 Arts and Entertainment

**Austro-Hungarian Empire**—In Prague (now part of Czech Republic), Czech composer Antonín Dvořák’s opera *Rusalka* premieres.

**Germany**—Thomas Mann publishes his first novel, *Buddenbrooks*.

**Norway**—Edvard Munch completes the painting *Girls on the Bridge*.

**Russia**—Anton Chekhov’s play *The Three Sisters* is staged.

Sergey Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor premieres.

**U.K.**—Rudyard Kipling publishes the novel *Kim*.

## *Facts About the 20th Century*

Edward Elgar composes the first of the five patriotic marches collectively titled *Pomp and Circumstance* (1901–30).

*U.S.*—Frank Norris publishes the muckraking novel *The Octopus*.

### **Ideas**

*U.K.*—Philosopher Bertrand Russell states Russell's paradox, an apparent contradiction in Ludwig Gottlob Frege's theory of classes.

*U.S.*—Booker T. Washington, an influential educator of African-Americans, publishes the autobiography *Up from Slavery*.

### **Military**

*China*—The Boxer Rebellion formally ends with the signing of a peace protocol, in which China is forced to pay an indemnity and permit the continuing presence of foreign troops.

*North Somaliland*—A British expedition routs forces of the "Mad Mullah" sect.

*Philippines*—U.S. forces take rebel leader Emilio Aguinaldo prisoner, putting a stop to major resistance against U.S. rule.

*Venezuela*—Colombian troops invade Venezuela; Venezuela responds by invading Colombia, with assistance from Ecuador and Nicaragua.

### **Politics**

*Australia*—The Commonwealth of Australia is created.

*Germany*—An assassination attempt on Kaiser Wilhelm leaves him with only minor wounds.

*Gold Coast*—Britain annexes the Ashanti Kingdom to form part of the Gold Coast (now Ghana).

*Japan*—The militarist, imperialist Black Dragon Society is founded.

*Russia*—In St. Petersburg, an anticzarist riot, sparked by anger over the excommunication of writer Leo Tolstoy, is put down by force. Similar riots occur in Moscow, Odessa, and elsewhere.

*Sudan*—The border between British-controlled Sudan and Italian-controlled Eritrea is fixed by agreement.

*U.K.*—Edward VII succeeds to the throne upon Queen Victoria's death.

*U.S.*—As he begins his second term, President William McKinley is fatally shot by anarchist Leon Czolgosz; Vice President Theodore Roosevelt succeeds him.

### **Science and Technology**

*Africa*—The okapi, a new species of mammal, is discovered.

*Austria*—Pathologist Karl Landsteiner discovers three of the four blood types and the basic principles governing safe blood transfusion. The fourth blood type, AB, will be discovered in 1902.

*France*—Chemist Victor Grignard discovers what will become known as Grignard reagents.

*Italy*—Italian electrical engineer Guglielmo Marconi broadcasts radio waves from England to Newfoundland, marking the invention of the radio.

*Netherlands*—Botanist Hugo de Vries uses the term *mutations* for the spontaneous genetic changes he describes.

*U.S.*—Thaddeus Cahill invents the electric typewriter.

### Society

*Germany*—Gottlieb Daimler introduces a new automobile, the Mercedes. The Mercedes automobile company will be founded in 1906.

*Sweden*—The first Nobel Prizes are awarded.

*U.S.*—J. P. Morgan founds the U.S. Steel Corporation, then the world's largest company. It is formed in part from Andrew Carnegie's sale of his steel company to Morgan; Carnegie thereafter devotes his life to philanthropy. This year, he gives \$5.2 million to the New York Public Library (founded 1895).

Oil is discovered at Spindletop near Beaumont, Texas, giving oil magnate John D. Rockefeller his first serious competition and sparking rapid growth in the Texas oil industry.

In the Oklahoma Land Rush, settlers flock to Oklahoma on a "first-come, first-claimed" basis after the U.S. acquires Indian treaty lands this year.

### 1902 Arts and Entertainment

*Finland*—Jean Sibelius's Second Symphony premieres.

*France*—Filmmaker Georges Méliès creates the pioneering *A Trip to the Moon*; Alice Guy-Blaché releases *Passion*. Both have been called the world's first feature film.

Claude Debussy's opera *Pelléas et Mélisande* premieres.

André Gide publishes the novel *L'Immoraliste*.

Claude Monet paints *Waterloo Bridge*.

*Ireland*—William Butler Yeats's and Lady Gregory's play *Cathleen ni Houlihan* premieres, with Yeats's beloved Maud Gonne in the title role.

*Italy*—Italian operatic tenor Enrico Caruso makes his first gramophone recordings for the Victor Company, a U.S. business.

*Russia*—Maxim Gorky's play *The Lower Depths* is produced.

*U.K.*—Joseph Conrad publishes the short novel *Heart of Darkness* and the novel *Youth*.

Arthur Conan Doyle publishes the Sherlock Holmes story "The Hound of the Baskervilles."

Beatrix Potter publishes the children's story "The Tale of Peter Rabbit."

*U.S.*—American-born Henry James, now living in Britain, publishes the novel *The Wings of the Dove*.

Edith Wharton publishes the novel *The Valley of Decision*.

In New York, photographers Alfred Stieglitz and Edward Steichen help found the Photo-Secession Group.

### Ideas

*Italy*—Philosopher Benedetto Croce publishes *Estetica*.

*Russia*—Revolutionary leader V. I. Lenin outlines his program for Marxist revolution in *What Is to be Done?*

*U.S.*—Jane Addams publishes *Democracy and Social Action*.

Helen Keller publishes *The Story of My Life*.

Psychologist and philosopher William James publishes *The Varieties of Religious Experience*.

Sociologist Charles Horton Cooley publishes *Human Nature and the Social Order*, which introduces the phrase “the looking-glass self.”

### Military

*Angola*—Portugal defeats a major rebellion in this colony.

*Arabia*—The Arabian Civil War (1902–25) begins in the Nejd region.

*Cuba*—U.S. occupation following the Spanish-American War (1898) ends. Though nominally independent, the Platt Amendment (1901) makes the country a virtual protectorate of the U.S.

*Macedonia, Ottoman Empire*—Macedonian insurgents rebel against Ottoman rule. Great Power mediation averts a general war.

*South Africa*—The South African or Boer War (1899–1902) ends with the Boers acknowledging British sovereignty in the Treaty of Vereeniging.

*Venezuela*—Britain and Germany seize Venezuela’s fleet and blockade the country, demanding payment of compensation for the 1899 seizure of their assets. The blockade, which is joined by Italy, will not end until 1903, after Venezuela agrees to submit European claims to American arbitration.

### Politics

*Finland*—Russian czar Nicholas II abolishes Finnish autonomy.

*Germany*—The Triple Alliance between Germany, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and Italy is renewed for 12 years from 1903.

*Ireland*—Twenty thousand people demonstrate against British rule in Phoenix Park, Dublin.

*Japan/U.K.*—The Anglo-Japanese Treaty is signed, strengthening ties between the two countries and marking an end to Britain’s policy of “splendid isolation.”

*Persia*—Russian influence in Persia (later Iran) grows with a 10 million-ruble Russian loan.

*U.K.*—A. J. Balfour becomes prime minister after the resignation of Lord Salisbury.

*U.S.*—President Theodore Roosevelt appoints Oliver Wendell Holmes to the Supreme Court.

## *Facts About the 20th Century*

premieres posthumously in Vienna, Austria.

*Ireland*—William Butler Yeats publishes the poetry collection *In the Seven Woods*.

*U.K.*—Samuel Butler's novel *The Way of All Flesh* is published posthumously.

Thomas Hardy begins publishing the epic verse-drama *The Dynasts* (1903–08).

*U.S.*—Filmmaker Edwin S. Porter releases *The Great Train Robbery*, considered the first American feature film and the first western.

Henry James publishes the novel *The Ambassadors* and the short novel *The Beast in the Jungle*.

Jack London publishes the novel *The Call of the Wild*.

Scott Joplin composes *A Guest of Honor*, the first ragtime opera.

Victor Herbert's operetta *Babes in Toyland* premieres.

### **Ideas**

*U.K.*—Philosopher George Edward Moore publishes *Principia Ethica*.

*U.S.*—Charlotte Perkins Gilman publishes *The Home: Its Work and Influence*.

W. E. B. DuBois publishes *The Souls of Black Folk: Essays and Sketches*.

### **Military**

*Morocco*—French forces in Algeria attack Moroccan border forces as the French begin to penetrate Morocco.

*Nigeria*—The British conquest of Nigeria (begun in 1900) is completed with the capture of Kano and Sokoto.

*Panama*—With U.S. support, Panama revolts, winning independence from Colombia.

*Tibet*—Francis Younghusband leads British Indian forces to Lhasa, forcing Tibet to make border concessions.

### **Politics**

*Canada/U.S.*—Outstanding boundary disputes between Canada and the U.S. territory of Alaska are settled by a British-American commission.

*Hungary*—Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Josef refuses Hungarian demands for greater recognition of ethnic differences within the Austro-Hungarian army, arousing protest in Hungary.

*Persia*—With Lord Curzon's tour of Persia and the signing of a new trade agreement, the British reassert supremacy in that country following recent advances in Russian influence (see 1902).

*Russia*—Meeting in London, the Russian Social-Democratic Workers' Party splits, with V. I. Lenin leading the extremist Bolsheviks against the more moderate Mensheviks.

Pogroms encouraged by the government result in the murder of about 50,000 Jews.

*Serbia*—Military conspirators murder King Alexander I and Queen Draga; Peter I becomes king.

## Science and Technology

**Denmark**—Danish explorer Knud Rasmussen leads the first of several expeditions to study Greenland and its people.

**France**—Meteorologist Léon-Philippe Teisserenc de Bort proposes the distinction between the troposphere and stratosphere.

Physiologist Charles-Robert Richer identifies the allergic reaction anaphylaxis.

**U.K.**—Physicists Ernest Rutherford and Frederick Soddy explain radioactivity as the product of the disintegration of atoms.

William Bateson (1861–1926) publishes *Mendel's Principles of Heredity: A Defence*, which applies 19th-century Austrian botanist Gregor Mendel's laws to animals.

Scottish cardiologist James Mackenzie invents the polygraph.

James Edward Ransome introduces the lawn mower.

**U.K./U.S.**—British mathematician Oliver Heaviside and American electrical engineer Arthur Kennelly independently predict the existence of the ionosphere, which will not be detected until 1924.

**U.S.**—American geneticist Walter Sutton proposes that hereditary material is located in chromosomes (1902–03).

## Society

**China**—Binding of women's feet ends in China as a period of military, economic, and social reform begins.

**Martinique**—The eruption of the volcano Mount Pelée kills 30,000 people.

**U.S.**—The Pepsi-Cola Company is founded.

The Texas Oil Company (Texaco) is founded.

**World**—Labor strikes occur in many countries, including France and Italy. In the U.S., a five-month strike by anthracite coal miners achieves some of the strikers' goals, including a nine-hour day and a wage increase. In Barcelona, Spain, a strike is suppressed with 500 strikers killed and a state of siege declared.

## Sports

**France**—M. Serpollet sets an automobile speed record of 74.5 mph (120 kph).

**U.S.**—John J. McGraw, known as "Little Napoleon," becomes manager of the New York Giants. This National League baseball team will win 10 league pennants and three World Series over 30 years.

## 1903 Arts and Entertainment

**Australia**—The Marie Cowan-A. B. Patterson song "Waltzing Matilda" becomes an unofficial national anthem.

**France**—Sculptor Camille Claudel exhibits the work *Maturity*.

**Germany**—German composer Anton Bruckner's unfinished Symphony No. 9 in D Minor



## Science and Technology

**France**—Physicist Marie Curie becomes the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize; for her research on radioactivity, she shares the Nobel Prize for physics with two other French scientists: her husband, Pierre Curie, and Antoine-Henri Becquerel.

**Germany**—Emil Hermann Fischer and Emil von Behring introduce barbiturates.

**Norway**—Explorer Roald Amundsen is the first to sail through the Northwest Passage, reaching the Pacific Ocean from the Atlantic.

**Russia**—Konstantin Tsiolkovsky publishes a seminal article on astronautics in which he suggests liquid oxygen for use as a propellant.

**U.S.**—At Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, Orville and Wilbur Wright invent the airplane as they achieve the first successful flight of an engine-powered, heavier-than-air machine.

## Society

**Ottoman Empire**—In Constantinople, an earthquake kills 2,000.

**Polynesia**—A tidal wave kills thousands.

**U.K.**—Emmeline and Christabel Pankhurst found the Women's Social and Political Union, which will become the leading British woman suffrage group.

**U.S.**—An executive order of President Theodore Roosevelt creates the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Henry Ford founds the Ford Motor Company, introducing its first automobile, the Model A.

The Harley-Davidson motorcycle is developed.

In Chicago, a fire at the Iroquois Theater kills 602 people, sparking nationwide revisions in fire codes for theaters.

**World**—Child labor laws are enforced in Germany and begin to be enacted in the U.S.

## Sports

**France**—Maurice Garin wins the first Tour de France cycling race.

**U.K.**—In tennis, Dorothea Douglass wins her first of seven singles titles at Wimbledon (1903, 1904, 1906, 1910, 1911, 1913, 1914).

**U.S.**—In baseball, the first World Series is held, as the American League's Boston Red Sox (Stockings) beat the National League's Pittsburgh Pirates by five to three games in an eight-game series. The two leagues form a national baseball commission.

## 1904 Arts and Entertainment

**Czech Lands**—Leos Janáček's opera *Jenufa* opens.

**France**—Henri Matisse paints *Luxe, calme et volupté* (1904-05).

**Greece**—Poet Constantine Cavafy publishes *Poems* (to be revised in 1910).

**Hungary**—Béla Bartók's *Kossuth* Symphony premieres.

**Ireland**—The Abbey Theatre is founded in Dublin.