

1890 in the United States

Events from the year **1890 in the United States**.

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Incumbents

Federal government

- President: Benjamin Harrison (R-Indiana)
- Vice President: Levi P. Morton (R-New York)
- Chief Justice: Melville Fuller (Illinois)
- Speaker of the House of Representatives: Thomas Brackett Reed (R-Maine)
- Congress: 51st

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Governors and Lieutenant Governors

Governors

- Governor of Alabama: Thomas Seay (Democratic) (starting December 1), Thomas G. Jones (Democratic) (starting December 1)
- Governor of Arkansas: James Philip Eagle (Democratic)
- Governor of California: Robert Waterman (Republican)
- Governor of Colorado: Job Adams Cooper (Republican)
- Governor of Connecticut: Morgan G. Bulkeley (Republican)
- Governor of Delaware: Benjamin T. Biggs (Democratic)
- Governor of Florida: Francis P. Fleming (Democratic)
- Governor of Georgia: John Brown Gordon (Democratic) (until November 8), William J. Northen (Democratic) (starting November 8)
- Governor of Idaho: George L. Shoup (Republican) (until December 18), N. B. Willey (Republican) (starting December 18)
- Governor of Illinois: Joseph W. Fifer (Republican)
- Governor of Indiana: Alvin P. Hovey (Republican)
- Governor of Iowa: William Larrabee (Republican) (until February 27), Horace Boies (Democratic) (starting February 27)
- Governor of Kansas: Lyman U. Humphrey (Republican)
- Governor of Kentucky: Simon B. Buckner (Democratic)
- Governor of Louisiana: Francis T. Nicholls (Democratic)
- Governor of Maine: Edwin C. Burleigh (Republican)
- Governor of Maryland: Elihu Emory Jackson (Democratic)
- Governor of Massachusetts: Oliver Ames (Republican) (until January 7), John Q. A. Brackett (Republican) (starting January 7)
- Governor of Michigan: Cyrus G. Luce (Republican)
- Governor of Minnesota: William R. Merriam (Republican)
- Governor of Mississippi: Robert Lowry (Democratic) (until January 13), John M. Stone (Democratic) (starting January 13)
- Governor of Missouri: David R. Francis (Democratic)
- Governor of Montana: Joseph Toole (Democratic)
- Governor of Nebraska: John Milton Thayer (Republican)
- Governor of Nevada: Charles C. Stevenson (Republican) (until September 21), Frank Bell (Republican) (starting September 21)
- Governor of New Hampshire: David H. Goodell (Republican)
- Governor of New Jersey: Robert Stockton Green (Democratic) (until January 21), Leon Abbett (Democratic) (starting January 21)
- Governor of New York: David B. Hill (Democratic)
- Governor of North Carolina: Daniel Gould Fowle (Democratic)
- Governor of North Dakota: John Miller (Republican)
- Governor of Ohio: Joseph B. Foraker (Republican) (until January 13), James E. Campbell (Democratic) (starting January 13)
- Governor of Oregon: Sylvester Pennoyer (Democratic)
- Governor of Pennsylvania: James A. Beaver (Republican)
- Governor of Rhode Island: Herbert W. Ladd (Republican) (until May 26), John W. Davis (Democratic) (starting May 26)
- Governor of South Carolina: John Peter Richardson III (Democratic) (until December 4), Benjamin Ryan Tillman (Democratic) (starting December 4)

- Governor of South Dakota: Arthur C. Mellette (Republican)
- Governor of Tennessee: Robert Love Taylor (Democratic)
- Governor of Texas: Lawrence Sullivan Ross (Democratic)
- Governor of Vermont: William P. Dillingham (Republican) (until October 2), Carroll S. Page (Republican) (starting October 2)
- Governor of Virginia: Fitzhugh Lee (Democratic) (until January 1), Philip W. McKinney (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Governor of Washington: Elisha Peyre Ferry (Republican)
- Governor of West Virginia: Emanuel Willis Wilson (Democratic) (starting February 6), Aretas B. Fleming (Democratic) (starting February 6)
- Governor of Wisconsin: William D. Hoard (Republican)
- Governor of Wyoming: Francis E. Warren (Republican) (until November 24), Amos W. Barber (Republican) (starting November 24)

Lieutenant Governors

- Lieutenant Governor of California: Stephen M. White (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Colorado: William Grover Smith (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut: Samuel E. Merwin (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Idaho: N. B. Willey (Republican) (until December), John S. Gray (Republican) (starting December 2)
- Lieutenant Governor of Illinois: Lyman Ray (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Indiana: Ira Joy Chase (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Iowa: John A. T. Hull (Republican) (until February 27), Alfred N. Poyneer (Republican) (starting February 27)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kansas: Andrew J. Felt (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky: James William Bryan (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana: James Jeffries (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts: John Q. A. Brackett (Democratic) (until January 4), William H. Haile (Republican) (starting January 4)
- Lieutenant Governor of Michigan: vacant
- Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota: Albert E. Rice (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi: G. D. Shands (Democratic) (until month and day unknown), M. M. Evans (Democratic) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Missouri: Stephen H. Claycomb (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Montana: John E. Rickards (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska: George D. Meiklejohn (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nevada: Frank Bell (Republican) (until September 21), vacant (starting September 21)
- Lieutenant Governor of New York: Edward F. Jones (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina: Thomas M. Holt (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota: Alfred Dickey (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Ohio:
 - until January 13: William C. Lyon (Republican)
 - January 13-January 31: Elbert L. Lampson (Republican)
 - starting January 31: William V. Marquis (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania: William T. Davies (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island: Daniel Littlefield (Republican) (until May 27), William T. C. Wardwell (political party unknown) (starting May 27)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina: William Mauldin (Democratic) (until December 4), Eugene Gary (Democratic) (starting December 4)

- Lieutenant Governor of South Dakota: James H. Fletcher (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee: Benjamin J. Lea (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Texas: Barnett Gibbs (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Vermont: Urban A. Woodbury (Republican) (until October 2), Henry A. Fletcher (Republican) (starting October 2)
- Lieutenant Governor of Virginia: John Edward "Parson" Massey (Democratic) (until January 1), James Hoge Tyler (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Lieutenant Governor of Washington: Charles E. Laughton (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin: George W. Ryland (Republican)

Events

January–June

- January–June period – George W. Johnson becomes the first African American to record phonograph cylinders, in New York.
- January 1 – In Michigan, the wooden steamer *Mackinaw* burns in a fire on the Black River.^[1]
- January 2 – Alice Sanger becomes the first female staffer in the White House.^[2]
- January 22 – The United Mine Workers is founded.
- January 25 – Nellie Bly completes her round-the-world journey in 72 days.
- February 24 – Chicago is selected to host the Columbian Exposition.
- March 2–7 – The Cherry Creek Campaign occurs in Arizona Territory.
- March 3 – The first American football game in Ohio State University history is played in Delaware, Ohio against Ohio Wesleyan University; Ohio State wins 20–14.
- March 8 – North Dakota State University is founded in Fargo, North Dakota.
- March 27 – A tornado strikes Louisville, Kentucky, killing 76 people and injuring 200.
- March 28 – Washington State University is founded in Pullman, Washington.
- May – National American Woman Suffrage Association established.^[3]
- May 2 – Oklahoma Territory is organized.
- May 31 – The 5-story skylight Cleveland Arcade opens in Cleveland, Ohio.
- June 1 – The United States Census Bureau begins using Herman Hollerith's tabulating machine to record census returns using punched card input, a landmark in the history of computing hardware. Hollerith's company eventually becomes IBM.
- June 12 – In Michigan, the wooden steamer *Ryan* is lost near Thunder Bay Island.^[1]
- June 20 – *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde published by Philadelphia-based Lippincott's Monthly Magazine.

July–December

- July 2 – The Sherman Antitrust Act becomes United States law.
- July 3 – Idaho is admitted as the 43rd U.S. State (see History of Idaho).
- July 10 – Wyoming is admitted as the 44th U.S. State (see History of Wyoming).

- July 13 – In Minnesota, storms result in the Sea Wing disaster on Lake Pepin killing 98.
- August 6 – At Auburn Prison in New York, William Kemmler becomes the first person to be executed in the electric chair.
- August 10 – In Boston, Irish-born poet John Boyle O'Reilly dies suddenly, aged 46. The death triggers a mass outpouring of grief and tributes across the country and the world.
- September – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints President Wilford Woodruff issues the "1890 Manifesto" officially advising against any future polygamy in the Church.
- September 25 – Sequoia National Park created.
- October 1 – Yosemite National Park created.
- October 11 – In Washington, D.C., the Daughters of the American Revolution is founded.^[4]
- October 13
 - The Delta Chi Fraternity is founded by 11 law students at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.
 - In Michigan, the schooner J. F. Warner is lost at Thunder Bay.^[1]
- November 29 – In West Point, New York, the United States Navy defeats the United States Army 24-0 in the first Army-Navy football game.
- December 24 – The Oklahoma territorial legislature establishes three institutions of higher learning University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, and University of Central Oklahoma.
- December 29 – Wounded Knee Massacre: Near Wounded Knee Creek, South Dakota the U.S. 7th Cavalry Regiment tries to disarm a Native American camp and shooting starts. 153 Lakota Sioux and 25 troops are killed; about 150 flee the scene.



December 29: Wounded Knee Massacre

Undated

- The United States city of Boise, Idaho drills the first geothermal well.
- The corrugated cardboard box is invented by Robert Gair, a Brooklyn printer who developed production of paper-board boxes in 1879.
- The Demarest Building, a commercial building on Fifth Avenue in New York City, is completed as the first with an electric elevator (installed by Otis).
- The march "High School Cadets" is written by John Philip Sousa.
- Brown trout are introduced into the upper Firehole River in Yellowstone National Park.

Ongoing

- Gilded Age (1869–c. 1896)
- Gay Nineties (1890–1899)
- Progressive Era (1890s–1920s)

Sport

- September 30 – The Brooklyn Bridegrooms clinch the National League pennant.

Births

- January 4 – Victor Adamson, Western film director, producer, screenwriter and actor (died 1972)
- January 22 – Fred M. Vinson, 13th Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (died 1953)
- January 28 – Robert Franklin Stroud, "Birdman of Alcatraz" (died 1963)
- February 18
 - Edward Arnold, actor (died 1956)
 - Adolphe Menjou, film actor (died 1963)
- February 24 – Marjorie Main, character actress (died 1975)
- February 27
 - Freddie Keppard, jazz cornet player (died 1933)
 - Art Smith, pilot (died in aviation accident 1926)
- March 11 – Vannevar Bush, science administrator (died 1974)
- March 21 – C. Douglass Buck, U.S. Senator from Delaware from 1943 to 1949 (died 1965)
- March 28 – Paul Whiteman, bandleader (died 1967)
- April 7
 - Marjory Stoneman Douglas, conservationist and writer (died 1998)
 - Harry W. Hill, admiral (died 1971)
- April 13 – Frank Murphy, politician and Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States (died 1949)
- May 1 – Laurence Wild, basketball player and 30th Governor of American Samoa (died 1971)
- May 11 – Woodall Rodgers, lawyer and politician, Mayor of Dallas (died 1961)
- May 15 – Katherine Anne Porter, author (died 1980)
- June 1 – Frank Morgan, character actor (died 1949)
- June 26
 - Oscar C. Badger II, admiral (died 1958)
 - Jeanne Eagels, actress (died 1929)
- July 22 – Rose Kennedy, philanthropist and matriarch of the Kennedy family (died 1995)
- July 26 – Daniel J. Callaghan, admiral (killed in action 1942)
- August 20 – H. P. Lovecraft, horror fiction author (died 1937)
- September 20 – Jelly Roll Morton, jazz pianist, composer and bandleader (died 1941)
- September 24 – Allen J. Ellender, U.S. Senator from Louisiana from 1937 to 1972 (died 1972)

- October 1
 - Katherine Corri Harris, socialite and actress, first wife of John Barrymore (died 1927)
 - Alice Joyce, silent film actress (died 1955)
 - Blanche Oelrichs, poet, second wife of John Barrymore (died 1950)
- October 2 – Groucho Marx, comedian (died 1977)
- October 8 – Eddie Rickenbacker, race car driver and World War I fighter pilot (died 1973)
- October 13 – Conrad Richter, fiction writer (died 1968)
- October 14 – Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th President of the United States from 1953 to 1961 (died 1969)
- October 20 – Sherman Minton, U.S. Senator from Indiana from 1935 to 1941, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1949 to 1956 (died 1965)
- October 25 – Floyd Bennett, aviator and explorer (died 1928)
- December 21 – Hermann Joseph Muller, geneticist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1946 (died 1967)
- December 25 – Robert Ripley, collector of odd facts (died 1949)
- December 26 – Uncle Charlie Osborne, Appalachian fiddler (died 1992)

Deaths

- January 2 – George Henry Boker, poet and playwright (born 1823)
- January 28 – Prudence Crandall, educationist (born 1803)
- February 22 – John Jacob Astor III, businessman (born 1822)
- March 2 – James E. English, U.S. Senator from Connecticut from 1875 to 1876 (born 1812)
- March 19 – John S. Hager, U.S. Senator from California from 1873 to 1875 (born 1818)
- April 1 – David Wilber, politician (born 1820)
- April 19 – James Pollock, politician (born 1810)
- April 30 – Marcus Thrane, author, journalist, and the leader of the first labour movement in Norway (born 1817)
- May 3 – James B. Beck, U.S. Senator from Kentucky from 1877 to 1890 (born 1822 in Scotland)
- May 15 – Edward Doane, Protestant missionary in Micronesia (born 1820)
- June 11 – George Edward Brett, publisher (born 1829)
- June 30 – Samuel Parkman Tuckerman, composer (born 1819)
- July 9 – Clinton B. Fisk, philanthropist and temperance activist (born 1828)
- July 10 – Thomas C. McCreery, U.S. Senator from Kentucky from 1868 to 1871 (born 1816)
- July 13 – John C. Frémont, soldier, explorer and U.S. Senator from California from 1850 to 1851 (born 1813)

- August 6 – William Kemmler, murderer, first person executed in the electric chair (born 1860)
- August 10 – John Boyle O'Reilly, poet, novelist, journalist and transportee (born 1844 in Ireland)
- September 8 – Isaac P. Christy, Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and U.S. Senator from Michigan from 1875 to 1879 (born 1812)
- September 30 – Frederick H. Billings, lawyer and financier (born 1823)
- October 7 – John Hill Hewitt, songwriter (born 1801)
- October 20 – Alfred B. Mullett, architect (born 1834)
- November 7 – Comanche, horse, survivor of Custer's cavalry at the Battle of the Little Bighorn
- December 15 – Sitting Bull, Native American chief (born c. 1831)
- Ann Leah Underhill, one of the Fox sisters, fraudulent medium (born 1814)

See also

- List of American films of the 1890s
- Timeline of United States history (1860–1899)

References

1. "Full List of Thunder Bay Region Shipwrecks (by name)" (<http://arquivo.pt/wayback/20091015061300/http://web1.msue.msu.edu/iosco/tbfullist.htm>). MSU Sea Grant Extension, Northeast District, Michigan State University. 2000. Archived from the original (<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/iosco/tbfullist.htm>) on 2009-10-15. Retrieved 2009-10-27.
2. "1890" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20100209191324/http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history.do?action=Article&id=95>). *This Day in History*. 2010-02-09. Archived from the original (<http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history.do?action=Article&id=95>) on 2010-02-09.
3. Cocks, Catherine; et al. (2009). "Chronology" (https://books.google.com/books?id=pvxD_LjXVRMC&pg=PR13). *Historical Dictionary of the Progressive Era*. Scarecrow Press. ISBN 978-0-8108-6293-7.
4. "A Brief History of the Founding of the DAR" (https://web.archive.org/web/20091015031713/http://www.dar.org/natsociety/archives_founders.cfm). National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Archived from the original (http://www.dar.org/natsociety/archives_founders.cfm#founding) on 2009-10-15. Retrieved 2009-10-27.

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