1902 in the United States

Events from the year 1902 in the United States.

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Incumbents

Federal Government

President: Theodore Roosevelt (R-New York)

• Vice President: vacant

Chief Justice: Melville Fuller (Illinois)

■ Speaker of the House of Representatives: <u>David B. Henderson</u> (<u>R-Iowa</u>)

• Congress: 57th

Governors and Lieutenant Governors

Governors

- Governor of Alabama: William D. Jelks (Democratic)
- Governor of Arkansas: Jeff Davis (Democratic)
- Governor of California: Henry Gage (Republican)
- Governor of Colorado: James Bradley Orman (Democratic)
- Governor of Connecticut: George P. McLean (Republican)
- Governor of Delaware: John Hunn (Republican)
- Governor of Florida: William Sherman Jennings (Democratic)
- Governor of Georgia: Allen D. Candler (Democratic) (until October 25), Joseph M. Terrell (Democratic) (starting October 25)
- Governor of Idaho: Frank W. Hunt (Democratic)
- Governor of Illinois: Richard Yates, Jr. (Republican)
- Governor of Indiana: Winfield T. Durbin (Republican)
- Governor of Iowa: Leslie M. Shaw (Republican) (until January 16), Albert B. Cummins (Republican) (starting January 16)
- Governor of Kansas: William E. Stanley (Republican)
- Governor of Kentucky: J. C. W. Beckham (Democratic)
- Governor of Louisiana: William Wright Heard (Democratic)
- Governor of Maine: John Fremont Hill (Republican)
- Governor of Maryland: John Walter Smith (Democratic)
- Governor of Massachusetts: Winthrop Murray Crane (Republican)
- Governor of Michigan: Aaron T. Bliss (Republican)
- Governor of Minnesota: Samuel Rinnah Van Sant (Republican)
- Governor of Mississippi: Andrew H. Longino (Democratic)
- Governor of Missouri: Alexander Monroe Dockery (Democratic)
- Governor of Montana: Joseph Toole (Democratic)
- Governor of Nebraska: Ezra P. Savage (Republican)
- Governor of Nevada: Reinhold Sadler (Silver)
- Governor of New Hampshire: Chester B. Jordan (Republican)
- Governor of New Jersey: Foster MacGowan Voorhees (Republican) (until January 21), Franklin Murphy (Republican) (starting January 21)
- Governor of New York: Benjamin Barker Odell, Jr. (Republican)
- Governor of North Carolina: Charles Brantley Aycock (Democratic)
- Governor of North Dakota: Frank White (Republican)
- Governor of Ohio: George K. Nash (Republican)
- Governor of Oregon: T. T. Geer (Republican)
- Governor of Pennsylvania: William A. Stone (Republican)
- Governor of Rhode Island: Charles D. Kimball (Republican)
- Governor of South Carolina: Miles Benjamin McSweeney (Democratic)
- Governor of South Dakota: Charles N. Herreid (Republican)
- Governor of Tennessee: Benton McMillin (Democratic)
- Governor of Texas: Joseph D. Sayers (Democratic)
- Governor of Utah: Heber Manning Wells (Republican)
- Governor of Vermont: William W. Stickney (Republican) (until October 3), John G. McCullough (Republican) (starting October 3)

- Governor of Virginia: James Hoge Tyler (Democratic) (until January 1), Andrew Jackson Montague (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Governor of Washington: Henry McBride (Republican)
- Governor of West Virginia: Albert B. White (Republican)
- Governor of Wisconsin: Robert M. La Follette, Sr. (Republican)
- Governor of Wyoming: DeForest Richards (Republican)

Lieutenant Governors

- Lieutenant Governor of California: Jacob H. Neff (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Colorado: David Courtney Coates (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut: Edwin O. Keeler (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Delaware: Philip L. Cannon (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Idaho: Thomas F. Terrell (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Illinois: William Northcott (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Indiana: Newton W. Gilbert (Republican)
- <u>Lieutenant Governor of Iowa: James C. Milliman</u> (<u>Republican</u>) (until January 16), <u>John Herriott</u> (<u>Republican</u>) (starting January 16)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kansas: Harry E. Richter (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky: vacant
- Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana: Albert Estopinal (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts: John L. Bates (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Michigan: Orrin W. Robinson (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota: Lyndon A. Smith (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi: James T. Harrison (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Missouri: John Adams Lee (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Montana: Frank G. Higgins (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska: vacant
- Lieutenant Governor of Nevada: James R. Judge (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of New York: Timothy L. Woodruff (Republican) (until end of December 31)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina: Wilfred D. Turner (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota: David Bartlett (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Ohio:
 - until January 13: John A. Caldwell (Republican)
 - January 13-May 1: Carl L. Nippert (Republican)
 - May 1-June 26: vacant
 - starting June 26: Harry L. Gordon (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania: John P. S. Gobin (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island: vacant (until month and day unknown), George L. Shepley (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina: James H. Tillman (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Dakota: George W. Snow (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee: Newton H. White (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Texas: James Browning (Democratic)
- <u>Lieutenant Governor of Vermont: Martin F. Allen</u> (<u>Republican</u>) (until October 3), <u>Zed S. Stanton</u>
 (Republican) (starting October 3)
- Lieutenant Governor of Virginia: Edward Echols (Democratic) (until month and day unknown), Joseph Edward Willard (Democratic) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Washington: vacant
- Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin: Jesse Stone (Republican) (until May 11), vacant (starting May 11)

Events

January-March

- January 3
 - The first <u>college football bowl game</u>, the <u>Rose Bowl</u> between Michigan and Stanford, is held in Pasadena, California.
 - Nathan Stubblefield demonstrates his wireless telephone device in Kentucky.
- January 8 A train collision in the <u>New York Central Railroad</u>'s <u>Park Avenue Tunnel</u> kills 17, injures 38, and leads to increased demand for electric trains.
- January 28 The <u>Carnegie Institution</u> is founded in <u>Washington</u>, <u>D.C.</u>, to promote scientific research with a \$10 million gift from Andrew Carnegie.
- February 9 Fire levels 26 city blocks of Jersey City, New Jersey.
- February 18 U.S. President <u>Roosevelt</u> prosecutes the <u>Northern Securities Company</u> for violation of the Sherman Act.
- February 22 Senators <u>Benjamin Tillman</u> and <u>John L. McLaurin</u>, both of <u>South Carolina</u>, have a fist fight while Congress is in session. [1] Both Tillman and McLaurin are censured by the Senate on February 28.
- February A commission on <u>yellow fever</u> announces that the disease is carried by mosquitoes.
- March 10 A Circuit Court decision ends <u>Thomas Edison</u>'s monopoly on <u>35 mm movie</u> film technology.^[2]

April-June

- April 2 The Electric Theatre, the first <u>movie theater</u> in the United States, opens in Los Angeles, California.
- April 7 The Texas Oil Company Texaco is founded.
- May 15 It is claimed that in a field outside Grass Valley, California, Lyman Gilmore achieves flight in a powered <u>airplane</u> (a <u>steam</u>-powered glider). There is no surviving evidence to verify this claim.
- May 20 <u>Cuba</u> gains independence from the United States.
- June 2 The <u>Anthracite Coal Strike</u> begins in the United States.
- June 15 The <u>New York Central</u> railroad inaugurates the <u>20th Century Limited</u> passenger train between <u>Chicago</u> and <u>New York City, New York</u>.
- June 17 The Newlands Reclamation Act funds irrigation projects for the arid lands of 17 states in the American West.
- June 24 <u>Target Corporation</u>, the department store chain, is founded.

July-September

■ July 1 – The <u>Philippine Organic Act</u> becomes law, providing that the lower house of the Philippine legislature will be elected after the insurrection ends.

- July 2 The Philippine–American War ends.
- July 8 The <u>United States Bureau of Reclamation</u> is established within the <u>U.S.</u>
 Geological Survey.
- July 10 The Rolling Mill Mine disaster in Johnstown, Pennsylvania kills 112 miners.
- July 17 Willis Carrier devises air conditioning in New York City.
- August 22 <u>Theodore Roosevelt</u> becomes the first <u>American President</u> to ride in an automobile, a Columbia Electric Victoria through <u>Hartford</u>, Connecticut.
- September 19 Shiloh Baptist Church disaster: 115 people are killed during a stampede at the church in Birmingham, Alabama.

October-December

- October 21 A 5-month strike by the United Mine Workers ends.
- October 24 Delta Zeta Sorority is founded at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.
- November 16 A newspaper cartoon inspires creation of the first <u>teddy bear</u> by Morris Michtom in the U.S.
- November 30 On the <u>American frontier</u>, the second-in-command of <u>Butch Cassidy's</u> <u>Wild Bunch</u>, <u>Harvey Logan</u> ("Kid Curry"), is involved in a shoot out in Knoxville, TN and escaped.
- December The <u>Venezuela Crisis of 1902–1903</u> occurs (until February 1903), in which Britain, Germany and Italy sustain a naval blockade on <u>Venezuela</u> in order to enforce collection of outstanding financial claims. This prompts the development of the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine.

Undated

■ The Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend, Indiana, begins life a duck pond. [3]

Ongoing

- Progressive Era (1890s–1920s)
- Lochner era (c. 1897–c. 1937)
- Philippine-American War (1899-1902)

Births

- January 4 John A. McCone, CIA Director from 1961 to 1965 (died 1991)
- February 13 <u>Blair Moody</u>, United States Senator from Michigan from 1951 till 1952. (died <u>1954</u>)
- February 27 <u>John Steinbeck</u>, author (died <u>1968</u>)
- March 24 Thomas E. Dewey, 47th Governor of New York, 1948 Republican presidential nominee (died 1971)
- April 2 <u>David Worth Clark</u>, United States Senator from Idaho from 1939 till 1945.
 (died <u>1955</u>)

- July 4 George Murphy, United States Senator from California from 1965 till 1971.
 (died 1992)
- December 5 Strom Thurmond, 103rd Governor of South Carolina (died 2003)

Deaths

- January 15 Alpheus Hyatt, zoologist and paleontologist (born 1838)
- February 18 Charles Lewis Tiffany, founder of Tiffany & Co. (born 1812)
- March 12 John Peter Altgeld, 20th Governor of Illinois (born 1847)
- March 14 Daniel H. Reynolds, Confederate Brigadier General (born 1832)
- April 3 <u>Esther Hobart Morris</u>, first women justice of the peace in the United States (born 1814)
- April 27 Julius Sterling Morton, 3rd United States Secretary of Agriculture (born 1832)
- May 5 Bret Harte, short-story writer and poet (born 1836)
- May 26 Almon Brown Strowger, inventor (born 1839)
- June 5 <u>Louis J. Weichmann</u>, chief witness for the prosecution in the trial of the assassins of Abraham Lincoln (born 1842)
- August 10 <u>James McMillan</u>, Canadian-born U.S. Senator from Michigan from 1889 to 1902 (born 1838)
- September 26 Levi Strauss, founder of Levi Strauss & Co. (born 1829)
- October 26 Elizabeth Cady Stanton, suffragist (born 1815)
- November 22 Walter Reed, U.S. Army physician (born 1851)
- November 27 George S. Cook, prominent early American photographer (born 1819)
- November 29 John Elliott Ward, politician and diplomat (born 1814)
- December 4 <u>Charles Dow</u>, founder of <u>Dow Jones & Company</u> and <u>The Wall Street</u> <u>Journal</u> (born <u>1851</u>)
- December 7 Thomas Nast, political cartoonist (born 1840)
- December 14 Julia Grant, First Lady of the United States (born 1826)
- December 22 <u>Dwight M. Sabin</u>, U.S. Senator from Minnesota from 1883 to 1889 (born <u>1843</u>)

See also

- List of American films of 1902
- Timeline of United States history (1900–1929)

References

1. Times, Special To The New York (23 February 1902). "SENATORS FIGHT ON SENATE FLOOR; McLaurin and Tillman of South Carolina Come to Blows. BOTH ADJUDGED IN CONTEMPT They Apologize, but Committee Will Pass on the Affair. Fisticuffs Followed McLaurin's Assertion That Tillman Had Lied About Him in the Course of Philippine Debate" (https://www.nytimes.com/1902/02/23/archives/senators-fight-on-senate-fl

- <u>oor-mclaurin-and-tillman-of-south.html</u>). Retrieved 12 November 2016 via NYTimes.com.
- 2. "Continued Legal Battles" (http://edison.rutgers.edu/mopix/legal.htm). Thomas A. Edison Papers. Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences. 2016-10-28. Retrieved 2019-10-24.
- 3. "About Us" (https://www.potawatomizoo.org/about-us/). Potawatomi Zoo. Retrieved 2019-10-24.

Further reading

- American Annual Cyclopaedia ... 1902 (http://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/0014618 04), NY: D. Appleton & Co. via HathiTrust
- "Domestic Chronology" (http://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b3142275?urlappend=%3Bs eq=239), Statistician and Economist, San Francisco: Louis P. McCarty, 1905, pp. 227–347 via HathiTrust. (Covers events May 1898-June 1905)

External links

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