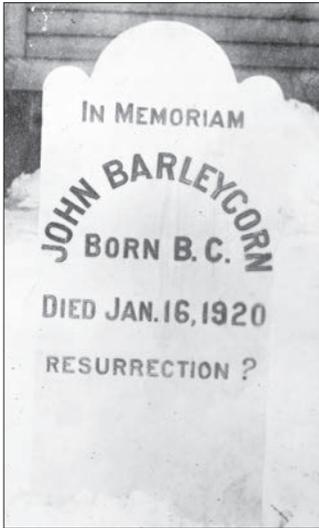


# 100 Years Ago

## NOTABLE NATIONAL EVENTS



The **Eighteenth Amendment**, otherwise known as Prohibition, went into effect January 17, after having been ratified by the required number of states the year before. Thus began the era of bootleggers, speakeasys, and gangsters. The amendment was repealed in 1933.

On May 2, the first game of the newly founded **Negro National Baseball League** was played in Indianapolis, Indiana. There were 24 teams. Missouri had two: the Kansas City Monarchs and the St. Louis Giants, which became the St. Louis Stars two years later. Due to the depressed economy,

the league folded in 1931 but a new league was organized in 1933.



After decades of attempts to secure the right to vote for women, the **Nineteenth Amendment** was adopted by Congress on August 26. Missouri was the eleventh state to vote for ratification, on July 3, 1919. Tennessee was the last of the required 36 states to ratify the amendment, on August 18, 1920.

The fall of 1920 ushered in another new era. In September, stores began stocking the first radios for domestic use. Westinghouse marketed a small set with two attached earphones for \$10.00. The company had a radio station in Philadelphia with the call letters of **KDKA** (although it used Z88 for the first few days of transmission) for communication between two of its plants.



Its notoriety derived from broadcasting the 1920 election returns as they came in with a live announcer. For better or for worse, it soon developed on-air commercials and is credited as being the first commercial radio station. The 1920 presidential election is also noteworthy for being the first national election in which women could vote. That contest featured three candidates: Republican Senator Warren G. Harding (picture below), Democratic Governor of Ohio James M. Cox, and Socialist Eugene V. Debs.

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**Deaths**

**Admiral Robert Edwin Peary, Sr.** (May 6, 1856-February 20, 1920) was a U. S. naval officer and explorer of the Arctic region. For almost 80 years it was accepted that Peary was the first man to reach the geographic North Pole during his 1909 Arctic expedition. In 1989, an English explorer, Wally Herbert, asserted that Peary missed the mark by about 60 miles.



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**Births**

**Ray Bradbury** was born August 22 in Waukegan, Illinois. Bradbury authored the best-sellers *Fahrenheit 451*, *The Illustrated Man*, and the *Martian Chronicles*, among numer-



**Mickey Rooney**, born Joseph Yule, Jr. on September 23, was an actor who appeared in over 300 film. He had early success as a child actor and as a juvenile made 16 films playing Andy Hardy. During a career that spanned nine decades, he appeared in several very successful films with Judy Garland and in *National Velvet* with Elizabeth Taylor. His first marriage was to Ava Gardner in 1942, which ended in divorce in 1943. This was

ous other novels. In its obituary of the writer in 2012, the *New York Times* credited him as “the writer most responsible for bringing modern science fiction into the literary mainstream”.

followed by seven more marriages, one lasting only 100 days. Rooney died in 2014.

Stanislaw Franciszek Musial was born November 21 in Donora, Pennsylvania. **Stan Musial**, nicknamed “Stan the Man,” had a major league baseball career of 22 seasons, all of them spent with one team—the St. Louis Cardinals—from 1941 to 1963, missing the 1945 season while serving in the Navy. Musial was a .331 lifetime



hitter. He was named Most Valuable Player three times during the 1940s. Renowned for his consistent hitting, he was also known for his good sportsmanship and personal modesty. President Barack Obama presented Stan with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award, in 2011. Stan Musial died in 2013.



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