

# 100 Years Ago

## NATIONAL NOTABLE EVENTS



On May 10, **J. Edgar Hoover** was appointed by President Calvin Coolidge as Director of the Bureau of Investigation (BOI), which Hoover was instrumental in reorganiz-

ing as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Hoover served as director of the BOI and FBI for 48 years, until his death in May of 1972.

**MGM Studios** was founded on April 17 by Marcus Lowe by combining Metro Pictures, Goldwyn Pictures, and Louis B. Mayer Pictures.



**Robert Frost** won his first of four Pulitzer Prizes for a book of poetry at the age of 50 on May 11. He is the only poet to win four Pulitzers. At left is Frost on his 85th birthday.



Left, Leopold; center, Clarence Darrow; right, Loeb

On May 21, **Nathan Leopold** and **Richard Loeb**, ages 19 and 18 respectively, kidnapped and murdered 14-year-old Robert "Bobby" Franks in Chicago, Illinois. The investigation, arrests, and "trial of the century" filled the front pages of metropolitan newspapers for much of 1924. Leopold and Loeb, college students from wealthy families, confessed ten days later, admitting that the thrill killing was their attempt to commit the perfect crime. Their lawyer, famous defense attorney **Clarence Darrow**, delivered an eight hour summation at the conclusion of the month long bench trial. The judge was persuaded to forego the death penalty and the pair received sentences of life plus 99 years. Loeb was murdered in prison in 1936 and Leopold was paroled in 1958.



Coolidge with Native Americans. (Library of Congress.)

On June 2, President Calvin Coolidge signed the **Indian Citizenship Act**. It granted citizenship to the indigenous peoples of the United States.



First Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

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**BIRTHS**



**Marlon Brando** was born April 3 in Omaha, Nebraska. After dropping out of school, he moved to New York at age 18 and studied acting. Considered by many as one of the greatest actors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, he won his first Academy Award for his role as Terry Malloy in *On the Waterfront* (1951)

and his second for his role as Vito Corleone (above) in *The Godfather* (1972).

**James Baldwin**, author and activist, was born on August 2 in the Harlem neighborhood of New York City. Baldwin's writing appeared in many forms: essays, novels, plays, and poems. While living in Paris (1948-1957), his first novel, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, was published and is considered his best work. James Baldwin died on December 1, 1987, in France.



**Carroll O'Connor**, born in New York City on August 2, pursued a career as an actor for over forty years. His signature role was as Archie Bunker in the TV series *All in the Family*. O'Connor won five Emmys and one Golden Globe.



**James (Jimmy) Earl Carter, Jr.** was born October 1 in Plains, Georgia. He graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy and served in the submarine service. He served in the Georgia State Senate and then as the Governor of Georgia. He was elected as the 39th President of the United States (1977-1981). After leaving office, Jimmy Carter established the Carter Center which promotes human rights. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002. Until the last few years, he wrote books, worked for the eradication of infectious diseases, and sawed and nailed for Habitat for Humanity.

**DEATHS**

**Woodrow Wilson** was the 28<sup>th</sup> president, 1913-1921. Prior to being president, he was the governor of New Jersey and the president of Princeton University. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1920 for his founding of the League of Nations. Wilson suffered a severe stroke while President and his health did not improve afterward. He died on February 3, 1924, at the age of 67.



**Caroline Ingalls** (above in 1860 wedding photo with husband Charles) died on April 20, aged 84. Caroline was the mother of Laura Ingalls Wilder and immortalized by her daughter's "Little House" books and the later TV series.

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