



PAF Express
Washington County PAF Users Group
From October 2005 Newsletter

The Year 1905 - One Hundred Years Ago

What a difference a century makes! Here are some of the U.S. statistics for the Year 1905:

- ★ The average life expectancy in the U.S. was 47 years.
- ★ Only 14 percent of the homes in the U.S. had a bath-tub.
- ★ Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.
- ★ A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost eleven dollars.
- ★ There were only 8,000 cars in the U.S., and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- ★ The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- ★ Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California.
- ★ With a mere 1.4 million people, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.
- ★ The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower!
- ★ The average wage in the U.S. was 22 cents per hour.
- ★ The average U.S. worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year. A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
- ★ More than 95 percent of all births in the U.S. took place at home.
- ★ Ninety percent of all U.S. doctors had no college education. Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as "substandard."
- ★ Sugar cost four cents a pound.
- ★ Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.
- ★ Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.
- ★ Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
- ★ Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.
- ★ Five leading causes of death in the U.S. were: (1) Pneumonia and influenza (2) Tuberculosis (3) Diarrhea (4) Heart disease (5) Stroke.
- ★ The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii, and Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet.
- ★ The population of Las Vegas, Nevada, was only 30!!!
- ★ Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and ice tea hadn't been invented yet.
- ★ There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.
- ★ Two out of every 10 U.S. adults couldn't read or write.
- ★ Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- ★ Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at the local corner drugstores. . . . Back then pharmacist said, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health." (Shocking!)
- ★ Eighteen percent of households in the U.S. had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.
- ★ There were about 230 reported murders in the entire U.S.