

## TimeLine 1910 – 1919

### 1910

- Boll Weevil Enters Alabama  
The Boll weevil, insect destroyer of cotton, enters Alabama from the west and wreaks havoc on cotton crops.
- Boy Scouts of American Incorporated  
<https://ieonline.microsoft.com/#ieslice>
- Alabama Population is 2,138,083

### 1911

- State Banking Department Established  
The Alabama Banking Department regulates all state chartered banks, trust companies, and various providers of consumer credit. A primary objective of the Department is to assure the citizens of Alabama that state-chartered financial institutions providing banking and other financial services are operated in a safe and sound manner.  
<https://wayback.archive-it.org/201/20140818144856/http://www.bank.alabama.gov/>
- State Court of Appeals Established
- State Highway Department Established
- State Purchases First Executive Mansion for Governor  
Before the purchase of the Governor's Mansion, the governors lived in private homes or even in local hotels during their terms of office. A special commission of seven members was authorized by Act#24 of the 1911 legislative session to contract for the erection, purchase, or improvement of a residence and the acquisition of grounds for a governor's home. They chose a home built in 1906 by Moses Sable which was an imposing Beaux Arts brownstone, located on the southwest corner of South Perry and South Streets in Montgomery. The Sable home cost the state \$46,500. Governor Emmett O'Neal (1911-15) was the first to occupy the mansion.  
<http://www.archives.alabama.gov/mansion.html>

### 1912

- Alaska Given Territorial Status
- The Shopping Bag Invented  
Walter H. Deubner who ran a small grocery store in St. Paul, Minnesota worked for four years to develop the bag. It could carry up to seventy-five pounds worth of groceries. By 1915, Deubner was selling over a million shopping bags a year at 5 cents each.
- Electric Blanket Invented by American Physician Sidney I. Russell

- First Traffic Light Created  
Lester Farnsworth Wire creates the first electric traffic light in Salt Lake City. Wire worked as a detective for the Salt Lake City police force.
- The Dixie Cup Developed  
Lawrence Luellen and Hugh Moore developed the cup. Its original name was the 'Health Kup,' changed to 'Dixie Cup' in 1919. The name came from a line of dolls made by the Dixie Doll Company.
- Whitman's Sampler Created  
The Sampler is now America's best-selling box of chocolates.
- Candy manufacturer Clarence Crane Develops Life Savers  
The first flavor was peppermint. He was looking for a candy that did not melt in the summer.
- Joy Morton Develops Morton's Table Salt,  
This salt was a new, free-running salt packed in a blue and white cardboard canister with an aluminum pouring spout.
- Woodrow Wilson Elected President of the United States
- The Titanic Hits Iceberg

<http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/titanic.htm>

### 1913

- Woodrow Wilson Sworn in as 28<sup>th</sup> President
- Woodrow Wilson visits Mobile
- Henry Ford Opens Production on First Assembly Line for Cars  
<http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/fords-assembly-line-starts-rolling>

### 1914

- Panama Canal Opens
- U.S. troops Intervene in Haiti
- Austria Invades Serbia  
<http://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1914.html>
- World War One Begins  
The Powers known as the Allies were Great Britain, France, Russia, Belgium, Italy, and Japan, along with the US who entered the war three years later. They were fighting against the Central Powers which included Germany, Austria- Hungary, Turkey, and Bulgaria
- Wilson Declares American Neutrality
- The First Mother's Day Observed
- December Truce Occurs During WWI  
A Christmas truce occurs between German and British soldiers in the trenches of northern France. All shooting stops as the soldiers exit their trenches, exchange gifts, sing carols and engage in a soccer game. This is

the only Christmas truce of the war, as Allied commanders subsequently forbid fraternization with orders to shoot any violators.

## 1915

### - *Lusitania* Torpedoed

A German U-Boat torpedoes the British passenger liner *Lusitania* off the Irish coast. It sinks in 18 minutes, drowning 1,201 persons, including 128 Americans. President Woodrow Wilson subsequently sends four diplomatic protests to Germany.

### - Compulsory Education Law passes in Alabama

### - Alabama "Bone Dry Law" Passes

Prohibition was a major issue in Alabama. The prohibition forces controlled the legislature which passed a bill to reinstate prohibition, submitting it to then Governor Emmet O'Neal on his last day in office. O'Neal ignored it and after the inauguration, the new governor, Charles Henderson, promptly vetoed it. The legislature, however, succeeded in passing the bill over his veto, killing his amendment for popular referendum and establishing prohibition in Alabama under what became known as the "bone dry" law of 1915. Consequently, Alabama was a dry state before the Federal Prohibition Amendment was ratified. The state remained dry from 1915 to 1933 when the twenty-first amendment to the Constitution, repealing prohibition, was ratified.

### - Alabama Legislature rejects State Constitutional Amendment for Woman Suffrage

## 1916

### - United States Establishes Military Government in Dominican Republic

### - US Troops Pursue Pancho Villa into Mexico

<http://www.history.com/topics/pancho-villa>

### - *Sussex* Attacked

The French steamer *Sussex* provided ferry service on the English Channel. On a crossing to Dieppe in March 1916, the ship was mistaken for a minelayer and torpedoed by a German U-boat. The *Sussex* did not sink; it was towed into the French port of Boulogne. Fifty persons were killed in the incident; no Americans lost their lives, but several were injured.

### - Julia Tutwiler Dies

Tutwiler was a college president, reformer and author of state song "Alabama."

### - Alabama National Guard Called to Duty on Mexican Border

While General John Pershing's troops searched for Pancho Villa, Alabama Guard was called.

- “Fighting” 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry of Alabama National Guard Became 167<sup>th</sup> US Infantry, part of 42<sup>nd</sup> ”Rainbow” Division  
<https://dmna.ny.gov/arng/42div/?id=history>
- Alabama National Guard Camp North of Montgomery Renamed Camp Sheridan  
This camp housed many American soldiers before transport overseas.

## 1917

- Bolshevik Revolution in Russia  
Lenin becomes leader (1917-24)
  - Puerto Ricans granted U.S. Citizenship
  - Woodrow Wilson Re-elected as President  
He was re-elected with the slogan, “He kept us out of war.”
  - Germany Announces Unrestricted Submarine Warfare
  - Germans Launch Major Offensive in France
  - Zimmerman Telegram Disclosed  
<http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/zimmermann/>
  - Russian Czar Overthrown
  - U.S. Declares War on Central Powers to Make the World “Safe for Democracy”  
After his re-election Wilson concluded that America could not remain neutral in the World War. On April 2, 1917, he asked Congress for a declaration of war on Germany. On April 4<sup>th</sup> the U.S. Senate voted in support of the measure to declare war on Germany. The House concurred two days later. The United States later declared war on Austria-Hungary on December 7, 1917.
  - Selective Service Act passes
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry of Alabama National Guard sent to France with “Rainbow” Division
  - American Red Cross Chapters Organized in Alabama for War Relief Activities
  - Alabama Council of National Defense Coordinates Work of 11 Subordinate Groups
  - US Government Constructs Nitrate Plants in Muscle Shoals  
These plants were created to make the US an independent producer of explosives (construction halted at the end of war).
  - National Influenza Epidemic  
This Epidemic took thousands of lives in the state, including at Camps Sheridan and McClellan
  - War Industries Board Created
  - Espionage Act Passes
- ## 1918
- Russia Signs a Separate Peace with Central Powers
  - Sedition Act passes

- U.S. Troops Repel Germans at Chateau Thieny and Rhiems
- U.S. Troops Launch Offensive in Argonne Forest
- Armistice Ends War (November 11)
- National League for Woman's Service Operates in Alabama
  - In Montgomery, Alabama the women respond to emergency calls and calls for war time service, including education of soldiers at Camp Sheridan.
  - <http://www.washingtonhistory.org/research/whc/milestones/aftersuffrage/minutewomen/nlws/>
- United States Government Begins Construction in Muscle Shoals
  - Wilson Dam and Hydroelectric Plant near former nitrate plants on Tennessee River at Muscle Shoals were begun.

## 1919

- The Boll Weevil Monument Dedicated in Enterprise, Alabama
  - The monument honors the insect that killed cotton plants and forced local farmers to diversify by planting more profitable crops such as peanuts. Even though the monument was in appreciation of the boll weevil, the weevil statue was not added to the monument until 30 years later.
  - [2007 Archives Week Art](#)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment to US Constitution Ratified
  - This Amendment prohibited manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages.
- Paris Peace Conference Convenes
  - The Paris Peace Conference convenes in January 1919 at Versailles just outside Paris. The conference was called to establish the terms of the peace after World War I. Though nearly thirty nations participated, the representatives of the United Kingdom, France, the United States, and Italy became known as the "Big Four." The "Big Four" dominated the proceedings that led to the formulation of the Treaty of Versailles, a treaty that ended World War I.

The Treaty of Versailles articulated the compromises reached at the conference. It included the planned formation of the League of Nations, which would serve both as an international forum and an international collective security arrangement. U.S. President Woodrow Wilson was a strong advocate of the League as he believed it would prevent future wars.

- League of Nations Formed
- Industrial Revolution Begins
- Treaty of Versailles Signed in Paris
- Senate Rejects Treaty of Versailles
  - After the Germans signed the Armistice in November 1918, Wilson went to Paris to try to build an enduring peace. He later presented to the Senate the

Versailles Treaty, containing the Covenant of the League of Nations, and asked, "Dare we reject it and break the heart of the world?" But the election of 1918 had shifted the balance in Congress to the Republicans. By seven votes the Versailles Treaty failed in the Senate.

- Soviet Union creates Comintern

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/290606/Third-International>