



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024

On This Date

1864 – Jos Montferrand died in Montreal. The French-Canadian lumberjack and voyageur was known for taking on 20 English troublemakers at once. He is commemorated in the folk song “Big Joe Mufferaw.”



1883 – The Orient Express passenger train set out on its first formal journey, delighting its passengers with the luxury equivalent to Europe’s finest hotels. Paris and Istanbul were the original endpoints of the train’s route.

1957 – The Soviet Union launched *Sputnik I*, the world’s first satellite, into orbit. This advancement fed fears that the U.S. had fallen behind in developing new technology, prompting John F. Kennedy to coin the term *missile gap*.

Did You Know?

Buster Keaton’s final silent film was *The Railrodder*, a comedy about his travels through Canada.

Quote of the Day

“A comedian does funny things. A good comedian does things funny.”

~ *Buster Keaton*

Happy Birthday!

Buster Keaton (1895–1966) was a pioneering American actor, comedian, and filmmaker, renowned for his silent film work and extraordinary physical comedy. Dubbed “The Great Stone Face” for his stoic expression, Keaton created and starred in acclaimed silent comedies of the 1920s including



Sherlock Jr., *The General*, and *Steamboat Bill, Jr.*

Keaton received an Academy Honorary Award in 1959. His work is celebrated and studied for its innovative use of visual gags, elaborate stunts, and a remarkable blend of humor and pathos.



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Today is World Animal Day, scheduled to coincide with the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the Catholic patron saint of animals. You don't have to be religious to take action for the welfare and care of animals.

Gadgets & Gizmos



Those who abhor folding clothes may find it worth spending \$1,000 for Foldimate, the clothes-folding robot. Simply clip clothes, feed them into the top receiver, and sit back as they come out folded from the chute below. Foldimate can fold 25 garments in just five minutes.

Buy a Vowel

H _ L _ R _ _ _ S

Extremely amusing

ANSWER: HILARIOUS

Think-tionary

aboulia

A. A mental disease that results in lack of willpower or motivation

or

B. A hidden, high mountain valley lush with vegetation

ANSWER: A. My aboulia was so severe that I could not even order a meal at a restaurant.

When Was It?

It was during this year that basketball star Michael Jordan returned to the NBA as part owner of the Washington Wizards. The last *Peanuts* comic appeared the day after Charles Schulz died. GPS was no longer restricted to the military and could now be used by the public. The U.S. presidential election between Al Gore and George W. Bush was inconclusive and eventually resolved by the Supreme Court. When was it?

ANSWER: 2000