



# THE DAILY CHRONICLE

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021

## On This Date

**1890** – Journalist Nellie Bly completed her round-the-world trip in only 72 days, beating the 80-day record of Jules Verne’s fictional character Phileas Fogg.



**1924** – The first Winter Olympics were held in Chamonix, France. Athletes from 16 nations competed. Sonja Henie, at just 11 years old, skated in the ladies’ figure skating competition.

**1927** – Jack Benny married Sadye Marks. She later changed her name to Mary Livingstone, the name of the character she had been playing on Jack’s radio show.



## Burns Trivia

Burns Night, honoring Scottish poet Robert Burns, is celebrated on January 25 with Burns supper. The prolific, charismatic poet also wrote the iconic New Year’s song “Auld Lang Syne.”

## Quote of the Day

“You’ve got to love what’s yours.”

~ *Alicia Keys*

## Happy Birthday!

**Alicia Keys**, born in 1981, is an American musician who grew up in the Hell’s Kitchen neighborhood in New York City. She began taking piano lessons and studying classical music as a young girl, quickly falling in love with music and singing. She began composing her own songs by



age 12 and signed her first record deal at 15. Her debut album didn’t come until 2001 but was worth the wait. *Songs in A Minor* was honored with five Grammy Awards (she now has 15) and launched her to superstardom. Some of Keys’ most popular singles include “Fallin’,” “You Don’t Know My Name,” and “My Boo,” a duet with R&B star Usher.



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**Today is Robert Burns Day**, when many will honor the life and legacy of the Scottish poet with a Burns supper. Bagpipers welcome guests, and poems accompany traditional Scottish dishes like Cullen skink and haggis.

## Centennial Memories

On this day 100 years ago, Czech playwright Karel Čapek debuted his science-fiction play *R.U.R.*, which introduced the word *robot* into the lexicon. R.U.R. stood for Rossum's Universal Robots, in reference to a factory that makes artificial people. Čapek was appalled by the carnage of World War I and distrustful of humanity's use of industrialization and technology. His word *robot* was derived from the Czech word *robota*, meaning "forced labor." In the play, the robots become superior in intellect, strength, and productivity and render their makers obsolete.

### Buy a Vowel

\_ N M \_ N T \_ \_ N \_ B L \_

Too embarrassing or shocking to  
be talked about

ANSWER: UNMENTIONABLE

## You Are What You Eat

San Francisco is famous for Silicon Valley, the Golden Gate Bridge, and... sourdough bread? In 1848, the California Gold Rush began in hills just north of San Francisco, making San Fran the epicenter of a 300,000-person migration. One of the most vital pieces of equipment for any prospector was sourdough bread starter, a miraculous foodstuff that could transform any old flour into a delicious and nutritious loaf. When Californians headed north to Canada for the Klondike Gold Rush, they took their bread starters with them, sleeping with the starters on cold nights to keep the fermenting yeast active.



## What's in a Name?

This Prohibition-era gangster was  
born George Kelly Barnes.

ANSWER: "Machine Gun" Kelly