

# Trivia

*did you know that ...*

More than 6,000 different kinds of apples are grown around the world.

*Farmers often plant tall, dense trees on the edges of fruit farms. These trees provide a windbreak, which helps prevent soil erosion.*

Seeds had to be scattered by hand until Jethro Tull's seed drill (developed in 1701) made it possible to plant seeds in rows, which could then be easily hoed.

*More than 100 agricultural crops in the U.S. are pollinated by bees. In fact, one out of three bites of food people eat is thanks to honeybees.*

The word "farm" is from the Old French *ferme*, meaning to "rent or lease" and the Latin *firmare*, "to fix, settle, confirm and strengthen."

*In 1892, John Froelich invented the first gasoline-powered tractor.*

The move from hand power to horsepower ushered in the first American Agricultural Revolution.

*New Zealand produces 1/3 of the world's supply of kiwi.*

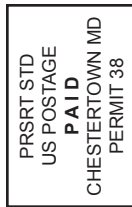
The tallest, biggest trees or bushes do not always yield the most fruit. Controlling the height of plants helps produce more fruit in less space.

*Today's farmers grow more than food and feed, they also grow crops that are processed into fuel. For example, corn can be made into ethanol and soybean oil can be made into diesel fuel.*

The Dust Bowl forced tens of thousands of farmers, known as Oakies, to leave their farms.

*In 1830, it took about 250 to 300 labor hours to produce a 100 bushels of wheat. In 1975, it took just 3¾ hours.*

(facts.randomhistory.com)



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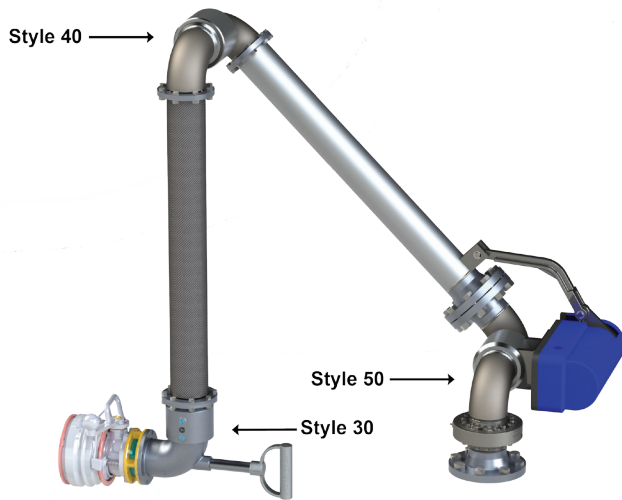
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## Dates in History

**1666** On September 2nd, in the early morning hours, the Great Fire of London broke out in the house of King Charles II's baker on Pudding Lane near London Bridge. It soon spread to Thames Street, where warehouses filled with combustibles and a strong easterly wind transformed the blaze into an inferno. When the Great Fire finally was extinguished on September 6, more than four-fifths of London was destroyed. Miraculously, only 16 people were known to have died. The Great Fire of London was a disaster waiting to happen. London of 1666 was a city of medieval houses made mostly of oak timber. Some of the poorer houses had walls covered with tar, which kept out the rain but made the structures more vulnerable to fire.

**1813** On September 7th, the United States got its nickname, Uncle Sam. The name is linked to Samuel Wilson, a meat packer from Troy, New York, who supplied barrels of beef to the United States Army during the War of 1812. Wilson stamped the barrels with "U.S." for United States, but soldiers began referring to the grub as "Uncle Sam's." The local newspaper picked up on the story and Uncle Sam eventually gained widespread acceptance as the nickname for the U.S. federal government.

**1985** On September 1st, seventy-three years after it sunk to the North Atlantic ocean floor, a joint U.S.-French expedition located the wreck of the RMS Titanic. The sunken liner was about 400 miles east of Newfoundland in the North Atlantic. American Robert D. Ballard headed the expedition, which used an experimental, unmanned submersible developed by the U.S. Navy to search for the ocean liner. The Argo traveled just above the ocean floor, sending photographs up to the research vessel Knorr. Argo was investigating debris on the ocean floor when it suddenly passed over one of the Titanic's massive boilers, lying at a depth of about 13,000 feet.

## On the Lighter Side

*customer:* How much is that duck?

*salesman:* He cost \$20.

*customer:* I'll take it. Will you send me the bill?

*salesman:* No way! You'll have to buy the whole duck.

I see evidence that things are getting worse in the banking industry. The other day I went into my bank and asked a teller to check my balance. She leaned out and pushed me.

A small child was describing his first ride in an elevator: "We got into a little room and the upstairs came down."

*girl:* You remind me of the ocean.

*guy:* Wild, romantic and restless?

*girl:* No. You just make me sick.

Our language is funny - a fat chance and a slim chance are the same thing.

A golfer, trying to get out of a trap, said to her competitor: "The traps on this course are very annoying, aren't they?" The second golfer, trying to putt replied, "They are, indeed, so would you please close yours?"

Redneck Computer Lingo:

*hard drive:* trying to climb a steep, muddy hill with three flat tires while pulling a trailer load of fertilizer.

*window:* a place in your truck to hang your gun.

*modem:* how you got rid of your dandelions.

*ROM:* delicious when you mix it with cola.