**2 January 1921** The Spanish passenger ship *SS Santa Isabel* strikes ground off the Isla de Sálvora in northeastern Spain and goes down quickly. Only 56 of 271 passengers and crew are saved.

**3 January 1921** Jean Sibelius (55) sends a telegram from Helsinki accepting a professorship at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York.

**4 January 1921** King Konstantinos of Greece announces his intention to renew the war against Turkey.

**5 January 1921** For the first time since the beginning of the Great War, a work of Richard Wagner (†37) is performed at the Paris Opéra.

**10 January 1921** Two Songs op.5 by Zoltán Kodály (38) to words of Berzsenyi and Ady, are performed for the first time, in Budapest.

Authorities in Zion City, Illinois ban jazz in public places.

**11 January 1921** After three days of fighting, Turks withdraw from Inönü and fortify their positions. The Greeks thereupon evacuate the town.

**13 January 1921** Three works by Ferruccio Busoni (54) are performed for the first time, in Philharmonic Hall, Berlin, conducted by the composer: *Altoums Warnung*, an appendix to the *Turandot Suite*, Divertimento for flute and orchestra op.52, and *Tanzwalzer* op.53 for orchestra.

**15 January 1921** Karol Szymanowski (38) sails from Liverpool for New York as part of a government-sponsored tour to promote Polish art. Along are Artur Rubinstein and Pawel and Zofia Kochanski.

**16 January 1921** Russia and Byelorussia sign an alliance unifying their military and economy.

Aristide Briand replaces Georges Leygues as Prime Minister of France.

**17 January 1921** Francis Poulenc (22) leaves the French military.

**18 January 1921** The imperial government of Turkey abolishes the courts martial of those accused of the Armenian genocide.

**21 January 1921** Nikola Pasic replaces Milenko Vesnic as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes.

Dissident members of the Italian Socialist Party form the Italian Communist Party in Livorno.

**22 January 1921** The first national congress of the NSDAP (Nazi party) is held in Munich.

**24 January 1921** Fevzi Cakmak Pasha becomes Prime Minister of the opposition government of Turkey.

Karol Szymanowski (38), Artur Rubinstein, and Pawel and Zofia Kochanski arrive in New York from Liverpool on a government-sponsored tour to promote Polish art.

Three new works are performed for the first time, in the Salle des agriculteurs, Paris: *Homenaje* for guitar by Manuel de Falla (44) and *L’accueil des muses* for piano by Albert Roussel (51), both in honor of Claude Debussy (†2), and Premier menuet for piano by Erik Satie (54). The Falla piece is played on harp-lute. See 8 March 1921.

**25 January 1921** Konstantin Päts replaces Ants Piip as Head of State of Estonia.

**26 January 1921** Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan all recognize the independence of Latvia.

**30 January 1921** Mustafa Kemal proclaims his government in Angora (Ankara) to be the only legitimate government of the Ottoman Empire.

A weeklong conference in Paris concludes with a decision on German reparations payments to be spread out over the next 42 years.

Incidental music to Rode’s play *The Mother* by Carl Nielsen (55) is performed for the first time, in the Royal Theatre, Copenhagen.

**3 February 1921** With an anti-Bolshevik government taking power in part of Mongolia, the independence of the country from China is reasserted.

**6 February 1921** Nikolaos Spirisonou Kalogeropoulos replaces Demetrios Rallis as Prime Minister of Greece.

**8 February 1921** Serenade op.4 for clarinet, violin, viola, and cello by Ernst Krenek (20) is performed for the first time, in Berlin.

United States Marines destroy the offices of the Managua newspaper *La Tribuna* after it published an article unfavorable to them.

In voting for the House of Assembly in South Africa, the South Africa Party, led by Jan Smuts, wins an absolute majority.

**10 February 1921** At a reception in London, Jean Sibelius (55) meets Ralph Vaughan Williams (48) for the first time.

**11 February 1921** Turkish nationalists under Mustafa Kemal take Aintab (Gaziantep) after a siege of ten months.

**12 February 1921** Sonata for piano, flute, oboe, and clarinet op.47 by Darius Milhaud (28) is performed for the first time, in Wiesbaden, the composer at the keyboard.

**14 February 1921** The Red Army invades Georgia with the plan of overthrowing the Menshevik government there.

In New York City, Jane Heap and Margaret Anderson face obscenity charges for publishing a portion of James Joyce’s *Ulysses* in the *Little Review*. They will be fined $50 each.

**17 February 1921** *Pastorale d’été*, a work for chamber orchestra by Arthur Honegger (28), is performed for the first time, in Salle Gaveau, Paris.

**18 February 1921** At a performance of Arthur Schnitzler’s play *Reigen* in Vienna, a stink bomb is thrown, causing the management to open the doors to air out the theater. With this, hundreds of anti-Semitic demonstrators enter and begin tossing projectiles and beating up the audience. Audience and protestors mount the stage and are met by blasts from fire hoses manned by the stage crew. The flow of water continues until the theatre is cleared. Several arrests are made.

**19 February 1921** Suite for cello and orchestra op.16bis by Camille Saint-Saëns (85) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**20 February 1921** Sonata for violin and piano no.1 by Ernest Bloch (40) is performed for the first time, in Aeolian Hall, New York.

**21 February 1921** The Red Army moves into Dushanbe.

Without a functioning government in Teheran, Brigadier General Reza Khan engineers a coup and takes power.

A conference of the wartime allies opens in London to discuss Greek claims in Anatolia.

At the invitation of Sergey Diaghilev, Igor Stravinsky (38) meets Vera de Bosset Sudeikina, a married Russian woman, in Paris. They hit it off immediately and will soon begin an affair.

**22 February 1921** The State Planning Commission, GOSPLAN is established in Russia.

Anti-Semites hurl stink bombs and insults at a performance of *Reigen*, a play by Arthur Schnitzler, in the Kleines Schauspielhaus, Berlin. Police, forewarned of trouble, manage to subdue the disturbance.

**23 February 1921** Russian sailors mutiny at Kronstadt, just off Petrograd, against shortages in food, pay, and livable conditions.

Oscar Fredrik von Sydow replaces Gerhard Louis de Geer af Finspång as Prime Minister of Sweden.

**24 February 1921** Petrograd workers strike over food and fuel shortages.

A Quintet for harp and strings by Arnold Bax (37) is performed for the first time, in Hampstead Centre.

Intermezzo for piano by Charles T. Griffes (†0) is performed for the first time, in Elmira, New York.

**25 February 1921** The Red Army enters Tiflis (Tbilisi), overthrowing the Menshevik government and setting up a Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic.

**27 February 1921** Martial law is declared in Petrograd to deal with growing strikes.

Crown Prince Georgios of Greece marries Princess Elizabeth of Romania.

Opposing communists and fascists riot in the streets of Florence.

The seventh of Béla Bartók’s (39) Eight Improvisations on Hungarian Peasant Songs op.20 for piano is performed for the first time, in Budapest by the composer. See 18 January 1922.

**28 February 1921** Karol Szymanowski (38) and Artur Rubinstein arrive in Palm Beach from New York where Rubinstein has a some engagements.

Septet for flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, french horn, double bass, and piano by Willem Pijper (26) is performed for the first time, in Amsterdam.

**1 March 1921** Mutinous Kronstadt sailors elect a non-Bolshevik Revolutionary Committee.

**2 March 1921** Bernardino Luis Machado Guimarães replaces Liberato Damião Ribeiro Pinto as Prime Minister of Portugal.

**3 March 1921** The *SS Hong Moh* strikes ground in heavy seas near Swatow (Shantou). After about eight hours, it breaks up resulting in the loss of about 900 people. About 100 are rescued.

**4 March 1921** Warren Gamaliel Harding replaces Thomas Woodrow Wilson as President of the United States. The 67th Congress of the United States convenes in Washington. President Harding’s Republican Party holds large majorities in both houses.

Two movements of the original version of a string quartet by William Walton (18) are performed for the first time, at the Contemporary Music Centre, London. See 5 July 1923.

*Indian Sketches*, for orchestra by Henry Gilbert (52), is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Boston. The critics like it.

**5 March 1921** Arthur Honegger (28) signs a contract with the publisher Sénart for three of his works. Sénart will be Honegger’s chief publisher until 1946.

*At the Abbey Gate* op.177 for baritone or male chorus and orchestra by Charles Villiers Stanford (68) to words of Darling is performed for the first time, in Royal Albert Hall, London conducted by the composer. It is the last time he conducts in public.

**6 March 1921** The Communist Party of Portugal is founded.

*Le nénuphar* op.13/3 for voice and orchestra by Charles Koechlin (53) to words of Haraucourt is performed for the first time, in Théâtre du Chátelet, Paris, 22 years after it was composed.

**7 March 1921** Karol Szymanowski (38) and Artur Rubinstein arrive in Cuba from Florida for a stay of five days. He finds the Cubans much more congenial than the Americans. This is the best part of his American tour.

**8 March 1921** Bolshevik attempts to take Kronstadt fail.

The Tenth Party Congress begins today in Moscow and runs through 16 March. The first purge will drop 250,000 members. During the Congress, Lenin announces the New Economic Policy.

President Ebert of Germany declares that the reparations demands by the Allies are impossible and that Germany can not and will not comply. Allied troops occupy Düsseldorf and Duisburg because Germany has not made its preliminary reparations payments.

As he leaves the Parliament building in Madrid, Prime Minister Eduardo Dato y Iradier of Spain is shot to death by three Catalan anarchists. He is replaced ad interim by Gabino Bugalial Araujo, conde de Bugallal.

*Homenaje* by Manuel de Falla (44) is performed for the first time in its original guitar setting, in the Teatro de la Comedia, Madrid. See 24 January 1921.

**10 March 1921** Crown Prince Carol of Romania marries Princess Helen of Greece.

Duke Ellington (21) meets his most important musical influence, Willie “the Lion” Smith, in the Capitol Palace, Harlem.

**11 March 1921** Turkish troops occupy Batumi.

02:00 Astor Pantaleón Piazzolla is born in rented rooms at Calle Rivadavia 2527 in Mar del Plata, Argentina, Republic of Argentina, the only child of Vicente “Nonino” Piazzolla, a barber, and Asunta Mainetti, a hairdresser.

**12 March 1921** The Supreme Council of the Allies decides on solutions to the Greece-Turkey rift, which include a modification of the Treat of Sèvres. These will not be agreed to by Greece or Turkey.

Ralph Shapey is born in Philadelphia, first of two children born to a cabinet maker. Both parents are immigrants from Russia.

*La Maumariée*, two songs for voice and piano by Willem Pijper (26), is performed for the first time.

**13 March 1921** Manuel Allendesalazar Muñoz de Salazar replaces Gabino Bugalial Araujo, conde de Bugallal as Prime Minister of Spain.

**14 March 1921** Soghomon Tehlirian, a 24-year-old survivor of the Armenian genocide, walks up to former Ottoman Interior Minister Talaat Pasha in Berlin, yells “This is to avenge the death of my family” and shoots Talaat dead. When the jury hears of Tehlirian’s experiences during the genocide, they will acquit him. The Turkish government will grant Talaat’s family a pension for his service to the nation.

Six IRA men are hanged by the British in Mountjoy Prison, Dublin.

A Suite for piano op.45 by Carl Nielsen (55) is performed for the first time, in Odd Fellow Palæet, Copenhagen.

**15 March 1921** Adli Yegen Pasha replaces Mohammed Tawfiq Nasim Pasha as Prime Minister of Egypt.

**16 March 1921** In order to save themselves from invading Turks, Armenian representatives sign the Treaty of Moscow creating the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic.

String Quartet no.1 “Rispetti e strambotti” by Gian Francesco Malipiero (38) is performed for the first time, in Rome.

**17 March 1921** 50,000 Red Army troops storm the mutinous sailors in Kronstadt. Of the 16,000 sailors, half escape to Finland, others are transferred, hundreds are shot.

A constitution based on those of the United States and France is adopted in Poland.

Dr. Marie Stopes opens the first birth control clinic in Britain, in Holloway, London.

**18 March 1921**  *SS Hong Kong* runs aground in the South China Sea killing about 1,000 of those on board.

The Treaty of Riga places an international boundary between Russia and Poland at the cease-fire line, roughly 150 km east of the Curzon Line, ending hostilities.

The Menshevik government of Georgia boards an Italian ship in Batumi and heads into exile, eventually in France.

**19 March 1921** After two days of heavy fighting, Georgian forces capture Batumi from the Turks.

*Surging the Wave Rushes Forward* for male chorus by Jean Sibelius (55) to words of Schybergson is performed for the first time, in Turku.

**20 March 1921** Residents of Upper Silesia vote on partitioning the province between Poland and Germany. Most (including many Poles) vote to join Germany but the eastern section opts for Poland.

**21 March 1921** *A Dangerous Maid*, a musical comedy by George Gershwin (22) to a book by Bell and lyrics by Ira Gershwin, is performed for the first time, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. It will never make it to New York.

**23 March 1921** The German government refuses to pay the specified reparations by the date demanded by the Allies, 1 May.

Three months after the initial battle, a larger Greek force assaults Inönü.

Ernest MacMillan (27) receives his first important notices as a conductor when he directs his Eaton Memorial Choir in Brahms’ (†23) *German Requiem* in Toronto.

**24 March 1921** Communists riot in the streets of Hamburg.

**25 March 1921** A Soviet republic is declared by Communists in Hamburg.

**26 March 1921** German authorities succeed in putting down the Communist revolt in Hamburg.

Former King Károly IV returns to Hungary in an attempt to take the throne.

**27 March 1921** Five Songs Without Words for voice and piano op.35 by Sergey Prokofiev (35) are performed for the first time, in New York.

**28 March 1921** The board of directors of the American Socialist Society meets and votes to tell the Rand School Symphony Orchestra that if it can not raise its own funds, the orchestra will be discontinued. This effectively ends the association of its conductor, Carl Ruggles (45), with the Rand School for Social Science.

**29 March 1921** Florence Smith Price (33) gives birth to her third child, a daughter, in Little Rock, Arkansas.

**30 March 1921** The Hungarian Parliament rejects the restoration of King Károly owing to the opposition of a number of surrounding countries.

**31 March 1921** After a week of fighting, the Turks counterattack at Inönü. The retake the high ground of Metristepe but fail to destroy the Greek army. The Greeks make an orderly retreat.

British coal miners go out on strike. Other unions threaten sympathetic job actions. The government, for the first time in British history, declares a nationwide state of emergency to deal with a strike.

**1 April 1921** Rufus Daniel Isaacs, Baron Reading of Erleigh replaces Frederick John Napier Thesiger, Viscount Chelmsford as Viceroy of India.

William Laurence Bergsma is born in Oakland, California, the son of William Joseph Bergsma and Helen Margaret Doepfner.

**2 April 1921** A review by A. Walter Kramer of the private publication by Charles Ives (46) of his Second Pianoforte Sonata “Concord, Mass. 1840-1860”and *Essays Before a Sonata* appears in *Musical America.* “And it is without doubt the most startling conglomeration of meaningless notes that we have ever seen engraved on white paper...”

**5 April 1921** 13:00 Alphons Johannes Maria Diepenbrock dies in Amsterdam, aged 58 years, seven months, and three days.

King Károly IV of Hungary (the former Emperor Karl) leaves the country for Switzerland after parliament refused to restore him to the throne.

**6 April 1921** *Kaspar Rucky*, for soprano soloist and female chorus by Leos Janácek (66) to words of Praházka, is performed for the first time, in Prague.

Andrew Welsh Imbrie is born in New York, son of Andrew C. Imbrie and Dorothy West.

**7 April 1921** Demetrios Gounaris replaces Nikolaos Spirisonou Kalogeropoulos as Prime Minister of Greece.

**8 April 1921** The first five of the six movements of *The Bard of the Dimbovitza* for mezzo-soprano and orchestra by Arnold Bax (37) to words of Vacaresco, are performed for the first time, in Queen’s Hall, London. See 9 November 1918.

**9 April 1921** Juho Hekki Vennola replaces Rafael Waldemar Erich as Prime Minister of Finland.

After a Requiem in the Obrecht-kerk, the mortal remains of Alphons Diepenbrock are laid to rest in the RK Begraafplaats Buitenveldert, Amsterdam.

**11 April 1921** The Emirate of Transjordan is created under the British mandate. Emir Abdullah ibn Hussein is proclaimed ruler under British mandate.

KDKA in Pittsburgh makes the first live broadcast of a sporting event in history, a boxing match.

**12 April 1921** The final version of the First Piano Sonata by Arnold Bax (37) is performed for the first time, in Wigmore Hall, London.

Quatre Petites Mélodies for voice and piano by Erik Satie (54) to words of Lamartine, Cocteau, Radiguet, and Anonymous are performed completely for the first time, in Galerie Georges Giroux, Brussels. See 19 December 1920.

**14 April 1921** István, Count Bethlen de Bethlen replaces Pál, Count Teleki de Szék as Prime Minister of Hungary.

**15 April 1921** Leaders of British transport and rail unions refuse to join the strike of the miners. The coal miners refer to the day as “Black Friday.”

**18 April 1921** *The Diary of the Young Man Who Disappeared*, a song cycle by Leos Janácek (66) to anonymous words, for alto and tenor soloists, female chorus, and piano, is performed for the first time, in Reduta Theatre, Brno.

**22 April 1921** Five Orchestral Pieces by Arnold Schoenberg (46) is performed in Paris. Maurice Ravel (46) and Francis Poulenc (22) are among the listeners. During the fourth movement a brawl breaks out in the audience involving Florent Schmitt (50) who leaves with a swollen face.

A New York physician is fined for publishing and distributing a book by Marie C. Stopes, a birth control advocate.

**23 April 1921** The Cello Sonata by Arthur Honegger (29) is performed for the first time, in the Salle du Conservatoire, Paris.

**27 April 1921** The wartime allies announce that they expect $33,000,000,000 in reparations from Germany.

**30 April 1921** Sextet for winds and strings by Otto Luening (20) is performed for the first time, in Zürich. Press and public respond enthusiastically.

**1 May 1921** Two May Day parades by rival groups of leftist Jews erupts into a fist fight in Jaffa. Police arrive to quell the disturbance. Arabs come out to aid the police. Word spreads that Jews are attacking Arabs and the Arabs in the city respond by arming themselves and pouring into the streets. They go on a rampage of killing, looting, and destruction through Jewish districts which lasts for days. Almost 100 people are killed, over 200 injured.

**2 May 1921** *Il piccolo Marat*, a dramma lirico by Pietro Mascagni (57) to words of Forzano, is performed for the first time, at the Teatro Costanzi, Rome, the composer conducting. While both communists and fascists are in the audience ready to demonstrate at the slightest offense, the work is a resounding success.

*Honor March of the Singing Brothers of Viipuri* for male chorus by Jean Sibelius (55) to words of Eerola is performed for the first time, in Viipuri.

**3 May 1921** Pursuant to the Government of Ireland Act of 1920, the province of Northern Ireland is created from six counties in Ulster.

Symphony no.4 for chamber ensemble op.74 by Darius Milhaud (28) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**4 May 1921** Poles in Silesia revolt against German rule for a third time. After several weeks of fighting, Poles will occupy large sections of Upper Silesia.

German Chancellor Konstantin Fehrenbach and his government resign over the size of reparation payments.

Percy Grainger (38) and his mother buy a house at 7 Cromwell Street in White Plains, New York, north of New York City. This will be his home for the rest of his life.

**5 May 1921** Sun Yatsen takes over sole command of the Nanking government of China from a military junta.

The victorious allies deliver an ultimatum to Germany. It must disarm completely, accept a schedule of reparation payments and try war criminals. If these demands are not met, the allies will occupy the Ruhr.

*Chant funéraire*, an orchestral work by Gabriel Fauré (75), is performed for the first time, on the occasion of the centennial of the death of Napoléon I, at the Hôtel des Invalides, Paris.

**7 May 1921** *With Proud Thanksgiving* for chorus and orchestra by Edward Elgar (63) to words of Binyon is performed for the first time, in Royal Albert Hall, London.

**8 May 1921**  Marine workers in Norway strike against wage cuts.

**9 May 1921** After accepting, withdrawing and then accepting a position at the Eastman School of Music, Jean Sibelius (55) finally turns down the offer.

*Sei personaggi in cerca d'autore* by Luigi Pirandello is first produced in Rome.

**10 May 1921** Josef Wirth replaces Konstantin Fehrenbach as Chancellor of Germany.

**11 May 1921** In an agreement signed in London, Germany accepts the terms of 5 May.

Led by Leninist members, the Socialist Party of Romania votes to join the Comintern and thus creates the Communist Party of Romania.

**12 May 1921** Students of Karl Goldmark give him a dinner at the Restaurant Esplanade in New York. Afterwards, several harmonizations of a chorale are played, anonymously. After one particularly dissonant example is performed, Goldmark points to Aaron Copland (20) and says, “You are the culprit.” It is Copland’s *Scherzo Humoristique: Le Chat et la Souris*.

**14 May 1921** A three day conference opens in Prague of the Left Social-Democratic Party. They create the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

In a general election in Italy, Liberal parties regain ground lost in 1919. The Socialists lose over 30 seats. 29 Fascists are returned.

**17 May 1921** *The Tale of the Buffoon (Chout)* op.21, a ballet by Sergey Prokofiev (30) to his own scenario after Afanasyev, is performed for the first time, in the Gaité Lyrique, Paris conducted by the composer. It is a great success. See 15 January 1924.

**19 May 1921** The Immigration Act is passed by Congress limiting immigrants from each nation to three percent of those residing in the United States in 1910. This favors northern Europeans.

**21 May 1921** Several Croatian parties leave the Constituent Assembly of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes to protest Serb domination.

Piano Quintet no.2 op.115 by Gabriel Fauré (76) is performed for the first time, by the Société National de Musique, Paris.

**23 May 1921** Trials of Germans accused of war crimes open in Leipzig.

**24 May 1921** Tomé José de Barros Queirós replaces Bernardino Luis Machado Guimarães as Prime Minister of Portugal.

Elections are held for the first parliament of Northern Ireland. Unionists win three-quarters of the seats.

*Le Gendarme incompris*, a comédie-bouffe by Francis Poulenc (22) to words of Cocteau and Radiguet, is performed for the first time, in the Théâtre des Mathurins, Paris.

*Le Piège de Méduse*, a lyric comedy by Erik Satie (55) to his own words, is produced for the first time, in Paris, conducted by Darius Milhaud (28). Satie tries to have the performance stopped. The actor Pierre Bertin is doing a too real impersonation of Satie.

**25 May 1921** The Irish Republican Army takes over the Dublin Customs House and sets it on fire. The building is chosen as a symbol of British power in Ireland. The fire will burn for five days.

**26 May 1921** Joining the marine workers, a general strike begins in Norway against wage cuts. It will not succeed and will peter out in a few months.

*Mediterranean* for piano by Arnold Bax (37) is performed for the first time, in Steinway Hall, London. See 13 November 1922.

Several selections from Dix petites pièces faciles op.61c and Douze petites pièces op.61d for piano by Charles Koechlin (53) are performed for the first time, in Salle de l’Ancien Conservatoire, Paris.

*Symphonic Rhapsody* op.14 by Howard Hanson (24) is performed for the first time, in Los Angeles conducted by the composer.

**27 May 1921** A concert by the Society for Private Musical Performances features the premiere of four waltzes by Johann Strauss (†21) arranged by Arnold Schoenberg (46), Anton Webern (37), and Alban Berg (36).

**28 May 1921** Nationalist riots erupt in Alexandria, Egypt.

France resumes diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

Gian Francesco Malipiero’s (39) first wife, Maria Rosa, dies. The death keenly affects him, even though the two are estranged.

**31 May 1921** The Charter of the International Composers Guild, organized by Edgard Varèse (37) and Carlos Salzedo in New York, is effected today.

The murder trial of Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti begins in Dedham, Massachusetts.

In Tulsa, Oklahoma a shoot-out erupts between white and black mobs over a rape suspect. Whites burn down three square kilometers of a black neighborhood. They also raid an ammunition dump and liberate some dynamite which they drop on a black neighborhood from airplanes. 30 blocks of the black district are destroyed by fire leaving thousands homeless. 25 whites and about 150 blacks are killed. Surviving blacks will be placed in a concentration camp and only allowed to leave to attend work. They will be issued passes for this purpose.

**3 June 1921** The trial of Soghomon Tehlirian, a 24-year-old survivor of the Armenian genocide, accused of the murder of former Ottoman Interior Minister Talaat Pasha, ends in Berlin. When the jury hears of Tehlirian’s experiences during the genocide, they acquit him. The Turkish government will grant Talaat’s family a pension for his service to the nation.

Charles Villiers Stanford (68) conducts at the Royal College of Music for the last time.

Torrential rains cause the Arkansas River to flood at Pueblo, Colorado. 1,500 people are killed.

**4 June 1921** Two stage works by Paul Hindemith (25) are performed for the first time, in the Landestheater, Stuttgart: *Mörder, Hoffnung der Frauen* op.12, an opera to words of Kokoschka, and *Das Nusch-Nuschi* op.20, a play for Burmese marionettes to words of Blei.

**6 June 1921** *Psychodiagnostik* by Hermann Rorschach is published in Bern. In it he describes the Rorschach Test.

*L’homme et son desir*, a ballet by Darius Milhaud (28) after Claudel, is performed for the first time, at the Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, Paris.

**9 June 1921** Aaron Copland (20) boards ship in New York for France to attend the Conservatoire americain at Fontainebleau.

Gabriel Fauré (76) contributes his last review to *Le Figaro*, of a production of Berlioz’ (†52) *Les Troyens*. He has contributed criticism to *Le Figaro* since 1903.

Two works for solo voice, chorus, and orchestra by Lili Boulanger (†3) are performed for the first time, in the Salle Pleyel, Paris: *Vieille prière bouddhique* for tenor, chorus, and orchestra to words translated by Karpelès, and *Psaume CXXIX*.

**10 June 1921** *Women in Love* by DH Lawrence is published commercially in London. It was published privately last year in New York.

Passacaglia for Orchestra op.1 by Anton Webern (37) is performed for the first time, in Bochum, Germany.

Symphonies of Wind Instruments by Igor Stravinsky (38) is performed for the first time, in Queen’s Hall, London. The work is dedicated to the memory of Claude Debussy (†3).

**11 June 1921** Communist deputies leave the Constituent Assembly of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, protesting the new constitution.

*Le roi David*, a dramatic psalm by Arthur Honegger (29) to words of Morax, is performed for the first time, in the Théâtre du Jorat, Mézières.

Two works by Heitor Villa-Lobos (34) are performed for the first time, in the Teatro Municipal, Rio de Janeiro: *A Lenda do Caboclo* for piano, and *Sertáo no estico* for voice and orchestra to words of Iberê Lemos. See 13 June 1921.

**12 June 1921** The Petrograd Philharmonia gives its inaugural concert, conducted by Emil Kuper.

**13 June 1921** Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras join to form the Federation of Central America.

The third act of the opera *Izaht* by Heitor Villa-Lobos (34) to words of Junior and Villalba Filho (pseud. Villa-Lobos), is performed for the first time, in the Teatro São Pedro de Alcântara, Rio de Janeiro along with the orchestral version of the composer’s *A Lenda do Caboclo*. See 11 June 1921.

**14 June 1921** *The Lark Ascending*, a romance for violin and orchestra by Ralph Vaughan Williams (48), is performed for the first time in its original orchestral setting, in Queen’s Hall, London in the inaugural concert of the British Music Society. See 15 December 1921.

*La belle excentrique*, a fantaisie sérieuse by Erik Satie (55), is performed for the first time, in the Théâtre du Colisée, Paris.

**15 June 1921** Greek forces in Turkey begin an offensive east towards the Sakariya River.

Darius Milhaud (28) publishes a review entitled “A bas Wagner” wherein he suggests that “Apart from some of his overtures, Wagner’s music should never be played in the concert hall.” He receives an avalanche of negative mail, “letters of remonstrance and insult.”

Aaron Copland (20) lands at Le Havre. On the trip from New York he has befriended a young painter named Marcel Duchamp.

**16 June 1921** String Quartet no.1 by Ernst Krenek (20) is performed for the first time, in Nürnberg. The work is a sensation, mostly negative.

**17 June 1921** Zigfrids Meierovics replaces Karlis Ulmanis as Prime Minister of Latvia.

**18 June 1921** Five members of Les Six, Arthur Honegger (29), Germaine Tailleferre, Darius Milhaud (28), Francis Poulenc (22) and Georges Auric, are brought together by Jean Cocteau, each to produce a section of the ballet *Les mariés de la tour Eiffel*, to his scenario. The work is produced at the Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, Paris. Audience reactions are strongly mixed. Aaron Copland (20) is in the audience, but he remembers it as 19 June.

**21 June 1921** Johann Schober replaces Michael Mayr as Chancellor of Austria.

In a concert of students of Franz Schreker (43) in the Konzertsaal of the Staatliche Akademische Hochschule für Musik, Ernst Krenek’s (20) Sonata for violin and piano op.3 is performed for the first time, the composer at the keyboard.

*Jongleurs* for two pianos by Francis Poulenc (22) is performed for the first time, at the Théâtre du Colisée, Paris.

The members of the Harvard Glee Club, including Virgil Thomson (24), disembark in Le Havre and are greeted at the Town Hall by cheering crowds and an official ceremony of welcome. They take the night train for Paris.

*Ziegfeld’s Follies of 1921* opens at the Globe Theatre with some music by Victor Herbert (62).

**22 June 1921** Otto Albert Blehr replaces Otto Bahr Halvorsen as Prime Minister of Norway.

Broadcasts of music from the Eiffel Tower begin today.

**24 June 1921** The League of Nations rules that the Åland Islands belong to Finland.

**25 June 1921** Aaron Copland (20) reaches the school at Fontainebleau.

Eamon de Valera, leader of the Irish Republicans, accepts an invitation from British Prime Minister Lloyd George to a conference to discuss a settlement in Ireland.

**26 June 1921** *Pravda* announces that 25,000,000 people are starving in Russia.

The Conservatoire americain opens at Fontainebleau. Nadia Boulanger (33) is among the faculty. The first to enroll is Aaron Copland (20). Present for the opening is the Harvard Glee Club including Virgil Thomson (24).

**27 June 1921** The Harvard Glee Club, including Virgil Thomson (24), gives a very successful concert in Paris.

**28 June 1921** A constitution for the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes is passed by the consituent assembly 223-35. 161 members boycott the vote, protesting the undemocratic proceedings.

A crippling three-month strike by Britain’s coal miners is settled.

*To Be Sung of a Summer Night on the Water*, two songs by Frederick Delius (59) for textless chorus, is performed for the first time, in Aeolian Hall, London.

**29 June 1921** Members of Red Justice, whose ranks include some Communist Party members, throw a bomb at Crown Prince Aleksandar of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, in Belgrade. The Prince survives.

**30 June 1921** The death penalty is abolished in Sweden for all crimes committed in peacetime.

The *Neue Wiener Presse* reports that the Austrian town of Mattsee, which passed a resolution that all Jews be forced to leave town, has requested that Arnold Schoenberg (46) produce proof that he is not a Jew (Schoenberg owns a summer home in the town). Although his certificate of baptism would be sufficient, the composer will decide to leave.

**1 July 1921** Ferruccio Busoni (55) begins a master class in composition in Berlin funded by the state of Prussia. It actually began unofficially last January. Among the students is Kurt Weill (21).

**2 July 1921** A joint resolution of Congress declaring the war with Germany to be over is signed by US President Warren Harding in Raritan, New Jersey.

**4 July 1921** Ivanoe Bonomi replaces Giovanni Giolitti as Prime Minister of Italy.

Five Irish Songs for voice and piano by Arnold Bax (37) are performed for the first time, in the London Coliseum, the composer at the piano.

*George White’s Scandals of 1921*, a revue with book by Baer and White, lyrics by Jackson, and five new songs by George Gershwin (22), is performed for the first time, at Nixon’s Apollo Theatre, Atlantic City, New Jersey. See 11 July 1921.

**5 July 1921** *Giove a Pompei*, an opera by Umberto Giordano (53) and Alberto Franchetti to words of Illica and Romagnoli, is performed for the first time, in Teatro Pariola, Rome.

**11 July 1921** After Bolshevik troops arrive in the country looking for whites, the government of Mongolia once again declares its independence from China.

A truce between Irish and British forces goes into effect in Ireland.

*George White’s Scandals of 1921*, a revue with book by Baer and White, lyrics by Jackson, and five new songs by George Gershwin (22), is performed for the first time in New York, at the Liberty Theatre. See 4 July 1921.

**13 July 1921** Maxim Gorky launches an appeal to the West on behalf of the All-Russian Famine Relief Committee.

*Suite from Pilgrim Tercentenary Project* for orchestra by Henry F. Gilbert (52) is performed for the first time, in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Reviews are good.

**14 July 1921** In Paris, Igor Stravinsky (39), married and the father of three, begins an open affair with Vera de Bosset Sudeikina, a wealthy Russian, presently in her third marriage.

In a politically charged atmosphere, anarchist immigrants Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti are convicted of bank robbery and murder in Dedham, Massachusetts.

**16 July 1921** Greeks defeat Turkish troops at Kütahya, 275 km northeast of Smyrna (Izmir).

Almost two months of war crimes trials conclude in Leipzig. Only twelve men have been tried, mostly junior officers and enlisted men. Six of them are found guilty and will serve prison terms.

**17 July 1921** *Introitus* for organ by Otto Luening (21) is performed for the first time at Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana.

**18 July 1921** French scientists Albert Calmette and Camille Guérin begin human testing of their BCG anti-tuberculosis vaccine.

**20 July 1921** *Music for the Plymouth Pageant* for chorus and piano by Arthur Foote (68) is performed for the first time, in Plymouth, Massachusetts in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the arrival of the Pilgrims to Plymouth.

**21 July 1921** Greek forces defeat Turks at Eskisehir, 200 km west of Ankara.

Members of Red Justice, whose ranks include members of the Communist Party, kill Milorad Draskovic, a former interior minister for the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. He issued the order of 29 December 1920.

Italian fascists, in an attempt to free one of their leaders from jail, are intercepted by police near Sarzana, 50 km northwest of Pisa. In the ensuing battle, 18 lives are lost and 30 people are injured.

Friedrich Koch writes to Jean Sibelius (55) telling him that Sibelius has been named an honorary fellow of the Academy of Fine Arts, Berlin.

**22 July 1921** Moroccan troops defeat the Spanish at Annoual (Anwal), 215 km southeast of Tangier, and take back much of the territory lost to Spain since 1909. Spanish commander General Manuel Fernández Silvestre commits suicide. (There are witnesses who claim this, although some say he was captured and executed. His body has never been found.)

**23 July 1921** Twelve delegates meet in Shanghai and in a week-long conference, found the Communist Party of China.

In an issue of *Musical America* dated today, Edgar Varèse (37) and Carlos Salzedo issue a manifesto for the International Composers’ Guild. They lay out the intentions of the guild, to present programs of modern music.

**29 July 1921** By a vote of 543 to 1, Adolf Hitler is elected chairman of the NSDAP (Nazis).

**31 July 1921** The First Festival for the Promotion of Contemporary Music opens in Donaueschingen. String Quartet no.4 by Alois Haba (28) is performed for the first time, at the Festival.

By a new law, Belgium is divided into two main monolingual areas, French and Flemish. In the Brussels metropolitan area, localities are free to choose their language.

**1 August 1921** String Quartet no.3 op.16 by Paul Hindemith (25) is performed for the first time, in Donaueschingen.

Sid Hatfield, Chief of Police of Matewan, West Virginia and supporter of the United Mine Workers, is murdered by Baldwin-Felts private detectives on the steps of the courthouse in McDowell County. The private detectives blame him for the deaths of seven of their comrades on 19 May 1920.

**2 August 1921** Enrico Caruso dies in Naples at the age of 48.

The temporary ban on the Communist Party is made permanent by the Parliament of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes.

Eight members of the Chicago White Sox are acquitted of throwing the 1919 World Series in a gambling scandal.

**3 August 1921** Commissioner of Baseball Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis bans all eight members of the Chicago White Sox who were acquitted yesterday. He also bans a player for the St. Louis Browns who heard of the scheme and bet on the games.

The Alcotts movement from the Piano Sonata no.2 by Charles Ives (46) is performed for the first time, in Hartford, Connecticut.

**4 August 1921** French engineer Edouard Belin makes the first transatlantic transmission of a photograph, by means of the device he invented, from Annapolis, Maryland to his laboratory in La Malmaison, France. It takes seven minutes.

**6 August 1921** On the stage of the Casino in Dieppe, Camille Saint-Saëns (85) gives a piano recital. At its conclusion, he addresses the audience saying, “It is 75 years since I first played in public. Today I have played for the last time.”

**7 August 1921** Karel Husa is born in Prague, Czechoslovakia the first of two children born to Karel Husa, Sr. and Bozena Dongresová-Husová.

Alyeksandr Blok dies in Petrograd at the age of 40.

**11 August 1921** *Le petit peloton* from the cycle for voice and piano *Historietas* by Heitor Villa-Lobos (34), is performed for the first time.

**14 August 1921** The People’s Republic of Tannu Tuva declares itself independent of China under Russian protection.

Antonio Maura y Montaner replaces Manuel Allendesalazar Muñoz de Salazar as Prime Minister of Spain.

**16 August 1921** King Petar I of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes dies in Belgrade and is succeeded by his son, Aleksandar I.

**21 August 1921** Famine relief agreements are signed between Russia, the American Relief Administration and the Red Cross.

**23 August 1921** Faisal I, son of King Husain ibn Ali, becomes King of Iraq to rule over three provinces of the former Ottoman Empire entrusted to the British.

Incidental music to Stayton’s play *Threads* by Frank Bridge (42) is performed for the first time, in St. James’ Theatre, London.

**24 August 1921** Greek troops begin an offensive across the River Sakarya, 150 km southwest of Ankara.

**25 August 1921** A treaty of peace between Germany and the United States is signed in Berlin. The treaty is necessary because the United States has not ratified the Treaty of Versailles.

**26 August 1921** Matthias Erzberger, German Minister of Finance and signer of the armistice, is shot to death by conservative extremists near Bad Griesbach in the Black Forest.

**28 August 1921** António Joaquim Granjo replaces Tomé José de Barros Queirós as Prime Minister of Portugal.

**29 August 1921** In the face of economic crisis, a state of emergency is declared in Germany.

About 13,000 coal miners battle a 2,000 man private army led by Sheriff Don Chafin of Logan County in the Battle of Blair Mountain, West Virginia. Chafin is financed by coal companies, who provide him with airplanes which drop bombs on the miners. Federal warplanes under General Billy Mitchell are also used against the miners.

**1 September 1921** The first 200 tons of American famine relief arrive in Petrograd.

Alban Berg (36) becomes the editor of the house journal of Universal Edition, Vienna, *Die Musikblätter des Anbruch.*

This month’s issue of *Vanity Fair* introduces the word “flapper.”

**2 September 1921** Federal troops arrive in Logan County, West Virginia. Leaders of the miners, not desiring needless bloodshed, tell their men to disperse. Somewhere between 50-100 men were killed in the Battle of Blair Mountain. Hundreds more were injured.

**3 September 1921** The two-day founding congress of the Communist Party of Belgium opens in Anderlecht. It is a union of two already existing parties.

**5 September 1921** The Greek offensive across the river Sakarya is halted by the Turks. Casualties in this action reach 50% on both sides. The lines change little but the Turks prevent the Greeks from reaching Ankara.

**6 September 1921** 16 Turkish accused war criminals escape from British detention on Malta.

Ruth Crawford (20) boards a train in Jacksonville, Florida for Chicago where she will attend the American Conservatory of Music.

**& September 1921** The Music History Section of the Russian Arts History Institute is founded.

**8 September 1921** 16-year-old Margaret Gorman wins the title of Golden Mermaid at the Inter-City Beauty Contest in Atlantic City, New Jersey. A year from now, she will be given the title Miss America.

The Overture in g minor for orchestra by Anton Bruckner (†24) is performed for the first time, in Klosterneuberg 58 years after it was composed.

Ruth Crawford (20) arrives in Chicago by train from Jacksonville, Florida to attend the American Conservatory of Music.

**10 September 1921** The Ayus Autobahn opens near Berlin. It is the first controlled-access highway.

**15 September 1921** Roger Sessions (24) departs Smith College in Massachusetts for Cleveland where he has been hired to teach at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

**20 September 1921** Anton Ponikowski replaces Wincenty Witos as Prime Minister of Poland.

**21 September 1921** A silo full of fertilizer explodes in (Ludwigshafen), Germany. As many as 700 people are killed, thousands injured. Up to 80% of the structures in Oppau are destroyed. The blast can be heard 300 km away.

*The Cat and Mouse*, a piano work by Aaron Copland (20), is performed for the first time, by the composer in a student recital at the Salle Gaveau, Paris. Upon hearing it, the publisher Jacques Durand buys it for 500 francs. It is Copland’s first work in print, titled *Scherzo humoristique.*

**22 September 1921** Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania are admitted to the League of Nations.

**23 September 1921** Two works for piano by Aaron Copland (20) are performed for the first time, in the Salle Gaveau, Paris: *Sonnet III* and Three Moods.

**25 September 1921** A State Institute of Musical Science is organized in Moscow.

**26 September 1921** Edvard Benes replaces Jan Cerny as Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia.

Voting for the Swedish Riksdag concludes. The Social Democratic Party increases its seats to 93 of 230 and other leftist parties make gains. Women are allowed to vote for the first time.

While attending the second-night performance of a production of Carl Maria von Weber’s (†95) *Der Freischütz* in Neustrelitz directed by his son Wolfram, Engelbert Humperdinck (67) suffers a heart attack. On his return home he suffers another heart attack.

**27 September 1921** Engelbert Humperdinck dies of a heart attack with complications of pneumonia, in Neustrelitz in the German Republic, aged 67 years and 26 days.

**1 October 1921** The earthly remains of Engelbert Humperdinck are laid to rest in Stahnsdorf, near Berlin.

**4 October 1921** Three songs for solo voice and string trio entitled *Merciless Beauty* by Ralph Vaughan Williams (48) to words attributed to Chaucer, are performed for the first time, in Aeolian Hall, London. Also premiered is *The Land of Lost Content*, a cycle for voice and piano by John Ireland (42) to words of Housman.

**5 October 1921** Lev Sergeyevich Termen (Leon Theremin) (25) gives his public debut with his new instrument which he calls the Etherphone, at the Eighth All-Union Electro-Technical Congress in Moscow. He plays a number of classical examples, including Tchaikovsky (†27) and Saint Saëns (85), and is given a thunderous ovation.

**6 October 1921** At a Conference of Governments in Brussels, some countries pledge aid to the starving millions in Russia, but others do not. They fear any aid to Russia would constitute support for the Bolshevik regime.

**8 October 1921** Three works for piano by Amy Cheney Beach (54) are performed for the first time, in New London, New Hampshire: *The Fair Hills of Eire* op.91, *The Hermit Thrush at Eve* op.92/1, and *The Hermit Thrush at Morn*, op.92/2.

**9 October 1921** Leos Janácek (67) writes to the married Kamila Stösslová that her love for her husband was the motivation for his opera *Kát’a Kabanová.*

Leos Janácek’s (67) symphonic rhapsody *Taras Bulba* is performed for the first time, in the National Theatre, Brno. It is a success.

**11 October 1921** Representatives of Hungary and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes meet in Venice to work out territorial differences, helped by Italy.

Psalm 22 in E flat for chorus and piano and *Das Lied vom deutschen Vaterland* for male chorus, both by Anton Bruckner, are performed for the first time, at St. Florian on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the composer’s death.

**12 October 1921** The League of Nations decides to divide Upper Silesia between Germany and Poland.

**13 October 1921** Karl Hjalmar Branting replaces Oscar Fredrik von Sydow as Prime Minister of Sweden.

The eight-year marriage of Arthur Lourié (30) and Yadviga Tsibulskaya, is annulled.

The Treaty of Kars between Russia and Turkey creates the border between the two countries, significantly limiting the size of Armenia. The Armenians are required to renounce the Treaty of Sèvres and the Wilson award, which guaranteed their independence in a country of 42,000 sq. km.

The Alphons Diepenbrock (†0) Fund is founded by Balthazar Verhagen. It will publish many of the composer’s works.

Igor Stravinsky’s (39) Study for Pianola is performed for the first time, in Aeolian Hall, London.

**17 October 1921**  *Hymne* for ten stringed instruments by Arthur Honegger (29) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**18 October 1921** Charles P. Strite receives a US patent for a pop-up bread-toaster with variable timer.

**19 October 1921** Portuguese Prime Minister António Joaquim Granjo and several other prominent politicians are kidnapped and murdered by men wearing sailors’ uniforms.

Richard Strauss (57) sails for the United States aboard the *Adriatic*. He is travelling with his son and the singer Elisabeth Schumann.

**20 October 1921** French representatives sign the Treaty of Ankara, recognizing the Ankara government of Turkey and pledging to evacuate their troops from southern Turkey. They will leave behind a large amount of military supplies, including aircraft.

Former King Károly of Hungary appears in the country for a second time, now at the head of an armed force. They march on Budapest.

A conference of ambassadors draws the boundary between Germany and Poland in Upper Silesia.

Manuel Maria Coelho replaces António Joaquim Granjo as Prime Minister of Portugal.

*Tintagel* for orchestra by Arnold Bax (37) is performed for the first time, in Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

**21 October 1921** *The Shiek*, a film starring Rudolph Valentino, is premiered in Los Angeles.

Several works by Heitor Villa-Lobos (34) are performed for the first time in the Salão Nobre, Rio de Janeiro: the Piano Trio no.3, the Quatour for harp, celesta, flute, alto saxophone and female chorus (performed under the title *Quarteto simbólico* ), *A Fiandeira* for piano, and the complete song cycle *Historietas*.

**22 October 1921** *Fanfare pour une fête* for two trumpets and percussion by Manuel de Falla (44) is performed for the first time, in London.

**23 October 1921** Great Britain agrees with the Ankara government of Turkey to exchange all the accused Turkish war criminals they hold on Malta for some British citizens held hostage by the Turks. The actual exchange takes place 1 November.

**24 October 1921** In the face of a mobilization in Czechoslovakia, the Hungarian government captures former King Károly and deports him. The Allies intern him on the island of Madeira where he will die next 1 April.

**26 October 1921** Aaron Copland (20) visits the Paris apartment of Nadia Boulanger (34) at 36 rue Ballu (now 3 Place Lili Boulanger) with some of his scores. Among them he plays “Jazzy”the last of his *Three Moods* for piano*.* Boulanger immediately accepts him as a student. Copland will call his studies with Mme Boulanger “the decisive musical experience of my life.” (Copland&Perlis 2012)

**29 October 1921** Albert Roussel’s (52) symphonic poem *Pour une fête de printemps* op.22 is performed for the first time, in the Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris.

**31 October 1921** A jury consisting of Walter Damrosch, Richard Aldrich, WJ Henderson, John Alden Carpenter (45), Walter Spalding, and Owen Wister chooses Leo Sowerby as the first fellow at the American Academy in Rome. Sowerby was not one of the 14 applicants.

*Horace victorieux*, a ballet by Arthur Honegger (29) to a story by Fauconnet after Livius, is performed for the first time, in a concert setting, in Lausanne. The audience is not impressed. See 28 December 1927.

**1 November 1921** The State Institute for Musical Science is officially established in Moscow from the Music Department of the People’s Commissariat of Education.

The American Academy jury chooses Howard Hanson (25) as the first Frederick Juilliard Fellow. He will study with Ottorino Respighi (42).

*Summer Music* for orchestra by Arnold Bax (37) is performed for the first time, in Queen’s Hall, London.

**2 November 1921** The American Birth Control League is founded in New York City led by Margaret Sanger.

*Anna Christie* opens in New York. They play gains fame for the playwright, Eugene O’Neill.

**3 November 1921** The Hungarian Parliament passes the Dethronement Act of the House of Habsburg. The family is removed from the Hungarian monarchy.

**4 November 1921** Japanese Prime Minister Hara Takashi is stabbed to death at the Tokyo Main Railway Station by a conservative extremist. Count Yasuya Uchida is named to replace him as Prime Minister.

Carlos Henrique de Silva Maia Pinto replaces Manuel Maria Coelho as Prime Minister of Portugal.

Charles Koechlin (53) visits Francis Poulenc (22) in the Rue de Monceau. They agree that Poulenc will receive lessons twice a week. Over the next nine months, Koechlin gives Poulenc 38 lessons.

Three Hymns op.71 by Richard Strauss (57) to words of Hölderlin are performed for the first time, in Berlin.

**6 November 1921** Czechoslovakia and Poland sign an agreement over Teschen (Cieszyn).

**7 November 1921** Two songs by George Gershwin (23) are performed for the first time, as part of the musical comedy *The Perfect Fool* in the George M. Cohan Theatre, New York: *My Log-Cabin Home*, to words of Caesar and DeSylva, and *No One Else but that Girl of Mine*, to words of Caesar.

**9 November 1921** In a declaration signed in Paris, the Conference of Ambassadors (France, Great Britain, Italy, and Japan) confirm the independence of Albania within its 1913 borders.

The National Fascist Party of Italy is founded in Rome to give a more organized and coherent voice to Mussolini’s movement.

Anton Webern (37) makes his debut as conductor of the Schubertbund, a male choral society in Vienna.

**11 November 1921** After a week-long trial, Arthur Schnitzler’s play *Reigen* is deemed decent by a Berlin court.

Radio station KYW begins broadcasting the Chicago Civic Opera.

On the third anniversary of the armistice, an unknown soldier is laid to rest amidst ceremonies in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington.

**12 November 1921** The Washington Conference on disarmament opens.

**13 November 1921** Count Korekiyo Takahashi replaces Count Yasuya Uchida as Prime Minister of Japan.

**14 November 1921** The Spanish Communist Party joins with the Spanish Communist Workers Party to form the Communist Party of Spain (PCE).

**16 November 1921** Pandeli Evangjeli replaces Ilias Vrioni as Prime Minister of Albania.

*Fantasia Contrappuntistica* for two pianos by Ferruccio Busoni (55) is performed for the first time, in the Beethovensaal, Berlin. The composer plays one part.

**17 November 1921** *Phantasy* for viola and orchestra by Arnold Bax (38) is performed for the first time, in Queen’s Hall, London. It is first performed under the name Concerto for viola and orchestra.

**20 November 1921** A general election in Belgium leaves the two leading parties, the Socialists and the Catholics, virtually unchanged in the Chamber of Deputies. But the Socialists make gains in the Senate and are only one seat behind the Catholics.

**22 November 1921** Great Britain reaffirms the independence of Afghanistan in agreements signed in Kabul.

**23 November 1921** *Kát’a Kabanová*, an opera by Leos Janácek (67) to his own words after Ostrovsky, is performed for the first time, at the National Theatre, Brno.

**25 November 1921** Hirohito becomes regent for his deranged father, Japanese Emperor Yatsuhito.

Duke Ellington (22) is persuaded to go on stage at the Convention Center in Washington to play for James P. Johnson, who is performing there. Ellington plays *Carolina Shout* and Johnson encourages the young man. The two men spend the night together talking well into the next morning. “What I absorbed on that occasion might, I think, has constituted a whole semester in a conservatory.”

**26 November 1921** The Third Symphony op.27 “The Song of the Night” for tenor, chorus, and orchestra of Karol Szymanowski (39), to words of Rumi (tr. Micinski), is performed for the first time, in London. It is a terrible performance with the tenor solo replaced by a cello and the chorus by an organ. See 11 April 1924.

**28 November 1921** Manuel de Falla (45) dedicates a newly published score of *El Amor Brujo* “To the Poet of the Andalusias, Federico García Lorca, from his true friend, Manuel de Falla.”

**1 December 1921** Riots break out in Vienna due to the precipitous devaluation of the Austrian currency and the lack of food. Fashionable districts, shops, and hotels are particular targets.

Convicted of eleven murders, Henri Landru is sentenced by a court in Versailles to death by the guillotine.

Gustav Holst’s (47) ballet music for his own unperformed opera *The Perfect Fool* is performed for the first time, in Queen’s Hall, London. See 14 May 1923.

*Poèmes des rivages*, a symphonic suite by Vincent d’Indy (70), is performed for the first time, in New York, conducted by the composer.

**2 December 1921** *Danse de chèvre* for flute by Arthur Honegger (29) is performed for the first time, in the Nouveau Théâtre, Paris.

**3 December 1921** Erik Satie (55) meets Man Ray at an exhibition of Man Ray’s paintings in Paris. Afterwards, walking along the street, the two go into a shop where they buy a flat iron, glue and a box of tacks. They return to the gallery and glue a row of tacks onto the surface of the flat iron. It is Man Ray’s first Dada sculpture.

**4 December 1921** A mistrial is declared in a San Francisco courtroom in the trial of Roscoe “Fatty” Arbuckle, accused of killing aspiring actress Virginia Rappe. The jury is hopelessly deadlocked.

**5 December 1921** Owing to the depreciation of the Austrian currency, the Society for Private Musical Performances ceases operations with a production of *Pierrot Lunaire* by Arnold Schoenberg (47). In three years, it has presented 117 concerts which included 154 contemporary works.

**6 December 1921** Qazim Kaculi replaces Pandeli Evangjeli as Prime Minister of Albania.

British and Irish negotiators agree to dominion status for Ireland and create the Irish Free State. The country will be self-governing but swear allegiance to the British crown.

Composer and pianist Jean Wiéner opens his Concerts Wiéner new music series in the Salle des Agriculteurs, Paris. He programs an hour of jazz with Billy Arnold and his band, a player piano version of *Le Sacre du Printemps*, and Darius Milhaud’s (29) Sonata for flute, oboe, clarinet, and piano op.47. Aaron Copland (21) is in the audience. Wiéner will recall that Maurice Ravel (46) enjoyed the performance very much but that Albert Roussel (52) walked out in protest.

A general election is held to choose the 14th Parliament of Canada. The Liberal Party of William Lyon Mackenzie King win a bare majority at the great expense of the Conservatives led by Prime Minister Arthur Meighan. The new Progressive Party stands for the first time, winning 58 seats. Agnes Macphail becomes the first woman elected to the Canadian Parliament.

Ernest Bloch (41) begins a ten-lecture series for the general public at the Cleveland Institute of Music through 25 April.

**7 December 1921** Hasan Prishtina replaces Qazim Koculi as Prime Minister of Albania.

Deux petites airs op.21 for voice and piano by Darius Milhaud (29) to words of Mallarmé is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**8 December 1921** Éamonn de Valera and two of his cabinet ministers express opposition to the recently signed Anglo-Irish agreement. However the cabinet will vote to recommend the treaty to the Dáil Éireann.

**10 December 1921** Albert Einstein is awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for applying Quantum Physics to the Photoelectric Effect.

Symphony no.3 op.71 for chamber ensemble by Darius Milhaud (29) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

Trois chorals op.76/1 for instrumental ensembles by Charles Koechlin (54) are performed for the first time, in Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris.

Romanza e Scherzoso op.54 for piano and orchestra by Ferruccio Busoni (55) is performed for the first time, in Basel Casino.

**11 December 1921** Abdul Khaliq Sarwat Pasha replaces Adli Yegen Pasha as Prime Minister of Egypt.

**12 December 1921** *Fanfare for a Hosting at Dawn* for orchestra by Arnold Bax (38) is performed for the first time, in Queen’s Hall, London.

*Mai-Dun* for orchestra by John Ireland (42) is performed for the first time, in Queen’s Hall, London.

*Esquisse d’une fanfare*, an overture to Act V of *Romeo and Juliet* by Francis Poulenc (22), is performed for the first time, in Queen’s Hall, London.

**13 December 1921** The Four-Power Treaty on insular Possessions is signed in Washington by representatives of France, Great Britain, Japan, and the United States. The signatories pledge to respect colonial holdings in the Pacific.

**14 December 1921** A plebiscite in Odenburg (Sopron) votes 65% for Hungary.

Ahmed Bey Zogolli enters Tirana at the head of his troops, proclaims martial law, and forces the Albanian Council of State to resign.

Ralph Vaughan Williams (49) conducts his first program as director of the Bach Choir. The concert, in Central Hall, Westminster, consists of cantatas.

**15 December 1921** Quintet for strings op.1 by Antonín Dvorák (†17) is performed for the first time, in Prague, fifty years after he composed it.

*Les cinq doits* for piano by Igor Stravinsky (39) is performed for the first time, in Salle des Agriculteurs, Paris.

**16 December 1921** Georges Theunis replaces Henri Carton de Wiart as Prime Minister of Belgium.

22:00 On his regular winter trip to Algiers, Charles Camille Saint-Saëns dies at the Hôtel de l’Oasis, aged 86 years, two months, and seven days.

Piano Concerto no.3 op.26 by Sergey Prokofiev (30) is performed for the first time, in Chicago, the composer at the keyboard.

**17 December 1921** Dumitru Take Ionescu replaces Alexandru Averescu as Prime Minister of Romania.

Vincent Persichetti (6) gives his first performance, in a piano recital at the Combs Conservatory in Philadelphia.

**20 December 1921** Francisco Pinto da Cunha Leal replaces Carlos Henrique de Silva Maia Pinto as Prime Minister of Portugal.

Aaron Copland (21) arrives in London for a brief visit during his European studies.

**21 December 1921** The *Lamoricière*, bearing the mortal remains of Camille Saint-Saëns, arrives in Marseille from Algiers. They are met by horsed soldiers and leaders of the city and thereupon transported to Paris.

**22 December 1921** Colombia ratifies the Thomson-Urrutia Treaty recognizing the independence of Panama and fixing borders.

**23 December 1921** US President Harding commutes the sentences of Eugene V. Debs and 23 others imprisoned under the Espionage Act.

*Krazy Kat*, a jazz pantomime by John Alden Carpenter (45), is performed for the first time, in a concert setting, in Orchestra Hall, Chicago. See 20 January 1922.

**24 December 1921** Ahmed Bey Zogolli forces the election of a new Albanian Council of State made up entirely of his followers.

A funeral mass is celebrated in the Madeleine, Paris to the memory of Camille Saint-Saëns. Two battalions of soldiers are called out to hold back the crowds. The Archbishop of Paris officiates and the music is by Charles Gounod (†28), Gabriel Fauré (76), and Saint-Saëns. The body is transported to Montparnasse Cemetery where, after orations, it is laid to rest.

**26 December 1921** Teatro alla Scala reopens for the first time since the Great War with Giuseppe Verdi’s (†20) *Falstaff* conducted by Arturo Toscanini.

**28 December 1921** White gold miners begin a strike against wage cuts in the Witwatersrand region of South Africa.

**29 December 1921** Liberal William Lyon Mackenzie King replaces Arthur Meighen as Prime Minister of Canada.

**30 December 1921** *The Love for Three Oranges* op.33, an opera by Sergey Prokofiev (30) to his own words after Gozzi, is performed for the first time, in the Chicago Auditorium, conducted by the composer. See 29 November 1925.

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