

Nn

Designed by Morris Fuller Benton for American Type Founders in 1908, **News Gothic** is closely related to his *Lightline* and *Franklin* typefaces. Subtle variations in stroke width and the two-storey design of the characters a and g add a human touch to its otherwise austere approach. Its large x-height, shallow descenders and slightly condensed style – together ensuring legibility at small sizes – made the face ideal for newspaper and magazine use.



Launched in 1935 as the largest and fastest passenger ship afloat, propelled by innovative turbo-electric engines driving four-bladed propellers, the French transatlantic liner **Normandie** was not a commercial success. In 1940 the ship was seized by the United States authorities at New York and renamed USS *Lafayette*. In 1942, while being converted to a troopship, the liner caught fire, capsized and sank. Although salvaged at great expense, restoration was deemed too costly and she was scrapped in 1946.

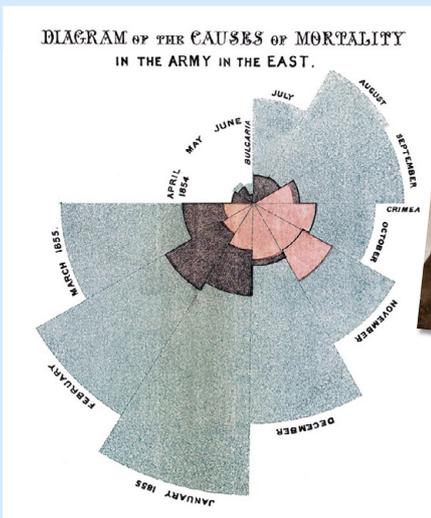


Used as a brand name by several cigarette manufacturers, **Navy Cut** referred to how Royal Navy sailors would prepare tightly bound bundles of uncured tobacco leaves, allowing them to mature under compression before shaving off the end of the roll to produce finely shredded extra strong tobacco ready for smoking.



N is for ... **NeXT Computer**

Forced out of Apple Computer in 1985 by the "business experts" he had brought into his company, Steve Jobs founded **NeXT** to develop a powerful workstation for academic research applications. The new company had a profound impact on the computer industry – Tim Berners-Lee used a NeXT computer and NeXTStep software in 1991 to create the prototype of the world wide web. Having got rid of the experts, the by then struggling Apple bought NeXT in 1996 for \$429 million, re-uniting Jobs with his original company.



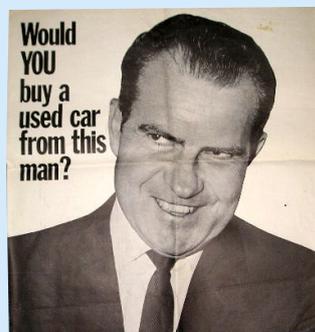
Besides her nursing activities in the Crimean War, **Florence Nightingale** was a pioneer in the visual presentation of information and statistical graphics. Unlike a standard pie chart her *polar area diagram* uses equal angle sectors of varying radius: by subdividing the sectors multiple comparisons can be made, such as the number and cause of deaths month by month in an army field hospital.



Born in 1868, **Nicholas II** was the last Russian Tsar. His reign saw economic and military collapse – defeat by Japan in the war of 1905 was followed by the disaster of war with Germany. Denied sanctuary in Britain after the October revolution of 1917, Nicholas and his family were murdered at Yekaterinburg in 1918.



Situated on the Niagara River, and the most powerful waterfalls in North America, with a height of 173 ft and a typical flow of more than 100,000 cubic ft per second, **Niagara Falls** lie on the US-Canadian border. Cliff erosion steadily moves the falls upstream at one foot per year. As part of the St Lawrence Seaway, the 27 mile Welland Canal links Lake Ontario with Lake Erie, allowing ocean going ships to bypass the falls and gain access to the Great Lakes.



As US President from 1969, **Richard Nixon** initially had great success – he withdrew US forces from Vietnam, opened diplomatic relations with China, signed a Missile Treaty with the USSR and enforced school desegregation. Nicknamed *Tricky Dicky*, his underhand tactics against political rivals, revealed after the *Watergate* break-in, made his position untenable and he resigned the presidency in disgrace in 1974, rather than face almost certain impeachment.