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June 15, 2010

Today in Labor History for the Week of June 14, 2010



June 14 The first commercial computer, UNIVAC I, is installed at the U.S. Census Bureau -1951

The UNIVAC I computer

June 15 The Metal

Trades Department of what is now the AFL-CIO is founded - 1908

The Congress of Industrial Organizations expels the Fur and Leather Workers union and the American Communications Association for what it describes as communist activities - 1947

Battle of Century City, as police in Los Angeles attack some 500 janitors and their supporters during a peaceful Service Employees International Union demonstration against cleaning contractor ISS. The event generated public outrage that resulted in recognition of the workers' union and spurred the creation of an annual June 15 Justice for Janitors Day – 1990

June 16

Eight local unions organize the International Fur Workers Union of U.S. and Canada. The union later merged with the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen - 1913

Railroad union leader and socialist Eugene V. Debs speaks in Canton, Ohio on the relation between capitalism and war. Ten days later he is arrested under the Espionage Act, eventually sentenced to 10 years in jail - 1918

National Industrial Recovery Act becomes law, establishes the right to unionize, sets maximum hours and minimum wages for every major industry, abolishes sweatshops and child labor - 1933

Inacom Corp., once the world's largest computer dealer, sends most of its 5,100 employees an e-mail instructing them to call a toll-free phone number; when they call, a recorded message announces they have been fired - 2000

June 17 Susan B. Anthony goes on trial in Canandaigua, N.Y. for casting her ballot in a federal election the previous November, in violation of



Susan B. Anthony

existing statutes barring women from the vote - 1873

Mary Harris "Mother" Jones leads a rally in Philadelphia to focus public attention on children mutilated in the state's textile mills. Three weeks later the 73-year-old will lead a march to New York City to plead with President Theodore Roosevelt to help improve conditions for the children - 1903

Twelve trade unionists meet in Pittsburgh to launch a drive to organize all steelworkers. It was the birth of the United Steelworkers of America (then called the Steel Workers Organizing Committee). By the end of the year 125,000 workers joined the union in support of its \$5-a-day wage demand - 1936

June 18

Union and civil rights leader A. Philip Randolph and others meet with Pres. Roosevelt about a proposed July 1 March on Washington to protest discrimination in war industries. A week later, Roosevelt orders that the industries desegregate - 1941

Labor History

continued from Front

June 19

Eight-hour work day adopted for federal employees - 1912

AFL President Sam Gompers and Secretary of War Newton Baker sign an agreement establishing a threemember board of adjustment to control wages, hours and working conditions for construction workers employed on government projects. The agreement protected union wage and hour standards for the duration of World War I - 1917

The first important sit-down strike in American history is conducted by workers at a General Tire Co. factory in Akron, Ohio. The United Rubber Workers union was founded a year later -1934

Help Needed for the "Poker Run"!

The day for the annual "Poker Run", is fast approaching and volunteers are needed! The annual United Way Poker Run will be held Saturday, August 28, 2010. If you are interested in participating as a volunteer to help staff the stops during the Poker Run, please call or text Bear Messick at 918-384-9765. The first meeting for volunteers will be held Wednesday, June 16, 2010 from 11:30-1:00, in the training room north of the Employee Service Desk, in the Administration Building. Please volunteer for the Poker Run and please attend this first informational meeting. Thank you for your support! (Bear Messick)

Come Join the TWU Veterans Committee and give your support for the Salute to the Vietnam Veteran, Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall Motorcycle Escort, Saturday June 26. Come participate in this honors convoy that departs Tulsa University, Chapman Commons area at 1000 traveling down historic Route 66. Registration and line up starts at 0800. There will be no stops on this escort. If your bike cannot make it the distance (137.5 miles approximately) without refueling, you may need to meet at one of the remaining pickup points. The first pickup point will be Depew, on Route 66 at the Conoco station; staging will begin at 1030. The second staging point will be in Shawnee, at the Fire Lake Grand Casino just off I-40; staging will begin at 1100. For more information on this event and more, visit http://www.operationoklahoma.org/. This escort is open to all riders; this is not about any club or organization, it is only about the 58,000 + names on the wall. Thank you all for joining in this escort. (Doug Jones, TWU Tulsa Base Communications Coordinator).

The Women's Day Massacre in Youngstown, Ohio, when police use tear gas on the women and children, including at least one infant in his mother's arms, during a strike at Republic Steel. One union organizer later recalled, "When I got there I thought the Great War had started over again. Gas was flying all over the place and shots flying and flares going up and it was the first time I had ever seen anything like it in my life..." - 1937

ILWU begins a four day general strike in sugar, pineapple, and longshore to protest convictions under the anti-communist Smith Act of seven activists, "the Hawai'i Seven." The convictions were later overturned by a federal appeals court – 1953.

WARNING! WARNING! WARNING!

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