



Industrial History: Dates and Events

1. Choose a date and event from the list.
 - use a variety of resources to gather information about the event:
 - everything leading up to the event
 - the important people involved in the event
 - the impact of the event on the industry of the region
 - the results of the event
 - the information may be written as a:
 - report or essay
 - newspaper article
 - informational brochure
 - create a visual presentation to showcase the event:
 - poster
 - mural
 - timeline
 - model or diorama
 - write your opinion of the impact of the event on regional history:
 - newspaper editorial
 - letter to one of the historical characters involved in the event
 - letter to a modern-day character
2. Choose 2 of the dates and events from the list.
 - create a timeline with the two events and other related events
 - create a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the two events
 - write an essay to compare and contrast the importance of the events and their impact on the region's economy and industry
 - show the interrelationships of the two events, showing the impact that each had on the other
3. Choose several of the dates and events.
 - write several newspaper articles about the events
 - create a front page newspaper with the articles
 - include an illustration ("photograph") for the front page



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- 1758 Pittsburgh is founded and named
- 1760 (approx.) Pennsylvania's bituminous coal industry started on Coal Hill
- 1807 the first steam-powered voyage, Robert Fulton's *Claremont*
- 1857 Bessemer Process invented
- 1860 completion of the Pittsburgh to Connellsville Railroad line and the start of the coke boom
- 1865 Act 228 is passed to establish the Coal and Iron Police
- 1869 Avondale Mine Disaster on September 6
- 1877 The Great Uprising railroad strike
- 1886 AFL established
* 1935 – CIO established
* 1955 – AFL and CIO merge
- 1891 Morewood Mine Massacre in April
- 1892 The Homestead Strike
- 1897 Lattimer Massacre on September 10
- 1901 Port Royal Mine Disaster on June 10
- 1902 The Anthracite Coal Strike in Scranton in May
- 1905 formation of the Pennsylvania State Police
- 1911 Lackawanna Anthracite Mine Disaster on April 7
- 1913 Ludlow Massacre
- 1919 Baltimore Tunnel Explosion on June 5



- 1919-1926 Jones & Laughlin phased out the beehive coke ovens and replaced them with by-product ovens
- 1947 Pittsburgh passed an effective smoke ordinance
- 1948 the Donora Inversion
- 1959 Knox Mine Disaster on January 22
- 1961 Centralia Disaster began in 1961, continues to the present
- 2002 Quecreek Mine Disaster on July 24
- 2006 Sago Mine Disaster on January 2



Labor History and Labor Unions

Labor unions were created in order to help the workers with work-related difficulties such as low pay, unsafe or unsanitary working conditions, long hours, child labor, and other situations. Workers often had problems with their bosses as a result of membership in the unions. Sometimes the unions organized strikes in order to try to change the conditions of the workers. Early strikes were rarely successful.

Choose one of the following situations from the early history of the labor movement. Use a variety of resources to research the situation you have chosen. Find out as much as you can about it and how important it was to coal mining and the economy of the region. Explain the impact of the situation on the coal industry, other industries in the Pittsburgh area, and the economy of the region.

Create a visual display to demonstrate the situation and its impact on the industry and economy of the region. You may choose any type of display to explain the situation.

Prepare a speech to explain the situation. Describe the good things that resulted because of the situation. Explain the problems and difficulties that resulted because of it.

Choose from among the following situations:

- 1828: Working Man's Party established – the world's first labor party;
- 1867: the first factory inspections for safety hazards implemented in Massachusetts;
- 1870: the first mine safety act passed in Pennsylvania;
- 1876: formation of the AAISW (Amalgamated Ass'n. of Iron & Steel Workers);
- 1881: FOTLU formed (Federation of Organized Trade and Labor Unions);
- 1882: the first Labor Day is celebrated on September 5, 1882, in New York City;
- 1886: FOTLU becomes the American Federation of Labor (AFL);
- 1890: the United Mine Workers organization is formed;



- 1891: coke oven workers strike in Pennsylvania for an eight-hour day, but the strike is unsuccessful;
- 1892: the Homestead Strike, including the Battle of Homestead;
- 1902: anthracite miners in Pennsylvania strike, unsuccessfully, for a wage increase and shorter work week;
- 1911: establishment of the National Safety Council;
- 1935: the Committee of Industrial Organizations (CIO) is founded by John L. Lewis;
- 1936: the Walsh-Healy Act is passed;
- 1936: the National Labor Relations Act, also known as the Wagner Act, is passed;
- 1937: Wagner Act tested with the Little Steel Strike;
- 1947: the Taft-Hartly Act is passed;
- 1955: the AFL and the CIO merge;
- 1959: the Landrum-Griffin Act is passed;
- 1964: the Civil Rights Act is passed;
- 1968: the United Auto Workers labor union withdraws from its membership in the AFL-CIO;
- 1969: the Construction Safety Act is passed;
- 1970: the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) is passed;
- 1972: passage of the Black Lung Benefits Act;
- 1974: the formation of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW);
- 1978: the Civil Service Reform Act is passed.