

THIS WEEK IN LABOR HISTORY

February 06

Ironworkers from six cities meet in Pittsburgh to form the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers of America. Their pay in Pittsburgh at the time: \$2.75 for a nine-hour day – 1896

Seattle General Strike begins. The city was run by a General Strike Committee for six days as tens of thousands of union members stopped work to protest pay reductions for shipyard workers - 1919

February 11

Fifteen thousand rubber workers strike in Akron, Ohio, protesting speed-up - 1913

Following the end of a 44 day sit-down strike in Flint, Mich., 48,000 GM workers win first contract - celebrated annually as “White Shirt Day” - 1937

February 12

Abolitionist Frederick Douglass born - 1817

U.S. railworkers strike against pay cuts - 1877

John L. Lewis, president of United Mine Workers of America and founding president of the CIO, born near Lucas, IA - 1880