

THIS WEEK IN LABOR HISTORY

March 29

“Battle of Wall Street,” police charge strikers lying down in front of stock exchange doors, 43 arrested - 1948

March 30

Chicago stockyard workers win 8-hour day - 1918

March 31

President Martin Van Buren issues a broadly-applicable executive order granting the 10 hour day to all those government employees engaged in manual labor. - 1840

Cesar Chavez born in Yuma, AZ.- 1927

April 01

United Mine Workers of America win 8 hour day - 1898

Strike of cotton mill workers begins in Gastonia, NC. During the strike, police raided the strikers’ tent colony; the chief of police was killed. The strike leaders were framed for murder and convicted, but later freed - 1929

400,000 members of the United Mine Workers strike for higher wages and employer contributions to the union’s health and welfare fund. President Truman seizes the mines - 1946

40,000 textile workers strike in cotton and rayon mills of six southern states, seeing higher pay, sickness and accident insurance, and pensions - 1951

Longest newspaper strike in U.S. history (100 days) ends in New York City. Nine major papers were shut down - 1963

Source: Union Communication Services, Inc.