

THIS WEEK IN LABOR HISTORY

June 12

260 die in Butte mine disaster; 14,000 strike against unsafe conditions – 1917

June 13

American Railway Union, headed by Eugene Debs, founded – 1893

Medgar Evers, civil rights leader, assassinated – 1963

June 15

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

National Industrial Recovery Act becomes law. Includes section guaranteeing the right to unionize – 1933

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 existing statutes barring women from the vote - 1873

Source: Union Communication Services, Inc.