

THIS WEEK IN LABOR HISTORY

July 26

In Chicago, 30 workers killed by federal troops, more than 100 wounded at the “Battle of the Viaduct” during the Great Railroad Strike - 1877

The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) took effect today. It requires employers to offer reasonable accommodations to qualified disabled employees and bans discrimination against such workers - 1992

July 28

Women shoemakers in Lynn, Mass. demand pay equal to that of men - 1869

Federal troops burn the shantytown built near the U.S. Capitol by thousands of unemployed veterans, camping there to demand a bonus they had been promised but never received - 1932

July 29

United Farm Workers force grape growers to sign contract after five-year strike - 1970

July 30

President Cleveland appoints a commission to investigate the causes of the Pullman strike. Four months later the commission issues its report, blaming Pullman and the railroads for the conflict - 1894

President Lyndon Johnson signs the Medicare Act, providing federally-funded health insurance for senior citizens - 1964

Former Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa disappears. His body has never been found - 1975

Source: Union Communication Services, Inc.