

THIS WEEK IN LABOR HISTORY

August 14

President Roosevelt signs the Social Security Act, providing, for the first time ever, guaranteed income for retirees and creating a system of unemployment benefits - 1935

Members of the upstart Polish union Solidarity seize the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk. Sixteen days later the government officially recognizes the union - 1980

Former AFL-CIO president Lane Kirkland dies - 1999

August 16

George Meany, plumber, founding AFL-CIO president, born - 1894

August 17

IWW War Trials in Chicago, 95 go to prison for up to 20 years - 1918

Hormel meatpackers' strike begins in Austin, Minn. - 1985

August 19

First edition of IWW "Little Red Song Book" published - 1909

Source: Union Communication Services, Inc.