

Citizenship Granted to Native Americans

On **June 2, 1924**, Congress granted citizenship to all Native Americans born in the U.S. Because the right to vote was governed by state law, until 1948 some states barred Native Americans from voting. In addition to extending voting rights to Native Americans, Congress created the Merriam Commission that was completed in 1928 and described how government policy oppressed Native Americans and destroyed their culture and society.

The poverty and exploitation spurred passage of the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act. This legislation promoted Native American autonomy by prohibiting allotment of tribal lands, returning some surplus land, and urging tribes to engage in active self-government. Rather than imposing the legislation on Native Americans, individual tribes were allowed to accept or reject the Reorganization Act. From 1934 to 1953, the U.S. government invested in the development of infrastructure, health care, and education, and the quality of life on Indian lands improved. With the aid of federal courts and the government, over two million acres of land were returned to various tribes during this period.

The First Woman's Rights Convention

On **July 19, 1848**, the First Woman's Rights Convention began in Seneca Falls, New York. The idea of holding a women's rights meeting had originated eight years earlier in London, England when Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott and other women delegates were barred from participating in the 1840 World Antislavery Convention.

The real planning and preparation for the event took place on July 13, 1848, when Stanton, Mott, Martha C. Wright, Jane Hunt, and Mary Ann McClintock met over tea and decided to hold a conference to promote women's rights. The following day they placed an announcement in the Seneca County Courier advertising a Woman's Rights convention on the following Wednesday and Thursday.

On Sunday, the women met to discuss an agenda. After enlisting Lucretia's husband, James Mott, to chair the meeting, they began to draft a "Declaration of Rights and Sentiments". Through the eve of the Convention, Stanton continued to write and revise the "Declaration" which she modeled after the Declaration of Independence.

Fort Necessity

On **June 4, 1754**, Colonial troops commanded by 22-year-old Colonel George Washington were busy constructing Fort Necessity. Washington's men built the fort to protect themselves from French troops intent on ousting the British from the territory northwest of the Ohio River. Washington's troops were surrounded at Fort Necessity, and forced to surrender to the French on July 3, 1754. This opening battle of the French and Indian War began a seven-year struggle between Great Britain and France for control of North America. Great Britain's success in this war helped pave the way for the American Revolution.

Fort Necessity National Battlefield is located in the mountains of southwestern Pennsylvania, about 11 miles east of Uniontown. The park comprises approximately 900 acres in three separate sites. The main unit contains the visitor center, the battlefield with the reconstructed Fort Necessity, and the Mount Washington Tavern.



Fort Necessity is now a national battlefield site. It was built in 1754.

Summer Anniversaries

Henry Ford

Automobile manufacturer Henry Ford was born **July 30, 1863**, on his family's farm in Dearborn, Michigan. From the time he was a young boy, Ford enjoyed tinkering with machines. He later worked as a part-time employee for the Westinghouse Engine Company. By 1896, Ford had constructed his first horseless carriage which he sold in order to finance work on an improved model.



1896 Quadricycle Ford Car



1917 Ford Model T Touring Car

Ford incorporated the Ford Motor Company in 1903. In October 1908, he offered the Model T for \$950. In the Model T's nineteen years of production, its price dipped as low as \$280. Nearly 15,500,000 were sold in the United States alone. The Model T heralds the beginning of the Motor Age; the car evolved from luxury item for the well-to-do to essential transportation for the ordinary man. Ford revolutionized manufacturing. Using a constantly-moving assembly line and subdivision of labor, Ford realized huge gains in productivity.

In 1914, Ford began paying his employees five dollars a day, nearly doubling the wages offered by other manufacturers. He cut the workday from nine to eight hours in order to convert the factory to a three-shift workday.

Ford's affordable Model T irrevocably altered American society. As more Americans owned cars, urbanization patterns changed. The United States saw the growth of suburbia, the creation of a national highway system, and a population entranced with the possibility of going anywhere anytime. Ford witnessed many of these changes during his lifetime, all the while personally longing for the agrarian lifestyle of his youth.

"Cy" Young

On **August 6, 1890**, baseball player Cy Young pitched his first professional game, leading the Cleveland Spiders past the Chicago White Sox.

Born Denton True Young in Gilmore, Ohio, on March 29, 1867, Young earned his nickname when a bystander observed that he could throw a ball with the force of a cyclone. He played for the Cleveland Spiders from 1890 until 1901 before moving to the Boston Red Sox in the American League. Young played for Boston until 1908, winning more than 20 games in 1904, 1907 and 1908. In 1909, he returned to Cleveland and had a record of 19 wins and 15 losses. In his final two seasons he went 7-10 and 7-9, retiring at the age of 44 after the 1911 season with the Boston Braves.

After retiring from baseball, Young lived on his Newcomerstown, Ohio, farm until his death on November 4, 1955, at 88. Among his greatest individual feats are a game

of May 5, 1904, when not one of the hard-hitting Athletics reached first base, and another June 30, 1908, when only one man got "on" in nine innings. In 1910 he won his 500th game, an unsurpassed record. Young was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1937.

The Alcatraz Prison

On **August 11, 1934**, a group of federal prisoners classified as "most dangerous" arrived at Alcatraz Island, a 22-acre rock outcropping 1.5 miles offshore in San Francisco Bay.

For the next twenty-nine years, the federal prison system incarcerated high-security prisoners at Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary. Alcatraz's most notorious inmates included Chicago mobster Al Capone, George "Machine Gun" Kelly, and Robert Stroud, memorialized in the 1962 film Birdman of Alcatraz. Very few convicts ever escaped Alcatraz, and it is unknown whether any ever survived the bracing water and treacherous currents of San Francisco Bay.

Alcatraz was an uninhabited seabird haven at the time of Juan Manuel de Ayala's 1775 exploration. He named it Isla de los Alcatrazes (Isle of the Pelicans). The U.S. acquired it in 1854, and used it to house military prisoners from 1868 to 1934.

The prison was abandoned in 1963 because of the expense entailed in supplying the island. Alcatraz became an important symbol

in the resurgent American Indian movement of the 1960s, when a group of Sioux Indians claimed ownership of the island based on an 1868 treaty granting Indians the right to claim any unoccupied government land. Native Americans occupied the island until federal marshals forced them to leave in 1971.

8 Hours A Day

On **August 20, 1866**, the newly organized National Labor Union called on Congress to mandate an eight-hour workday. A coalition of skilled and unskilled workers, farmers, and reformers, the National Labor Union was created to pressure Congress to enact labor reforms. It dissolved in 1873 following a disappointing venture into third-party politics in the 1872 presidential election.

Although the National Labor Union failed to persuade Congress to shorten the workday, its efforts heightened public awareness of labor issues and increased public support for labor reform in the 1870s.

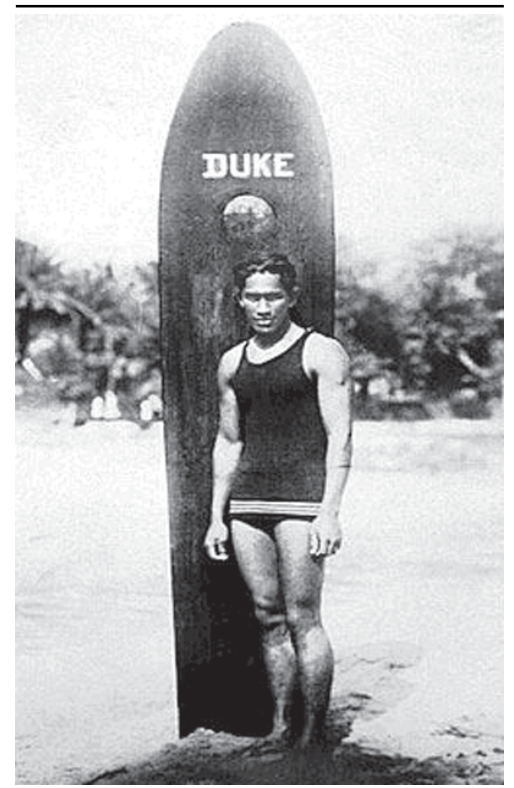
The Knights of Labor, a powerful advocate for the 8-hour day in the early 1880s, proved more effective. By 1886 the Knights of Labor counted 700,000 laborers and farmers among its members.



In 1886, a series of violent strikes waged by railway workers tarnished the union's reputation.

The decline of the Knights of Labor contributed to the rise of the American Federation of Labor, established under the leadership of Samuel Gompers in 1886. Progress toward an eight-hour day was minimal until 1933 when Congress enacted the National Industrial Recovery Act, an emergency measure taken by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in response to the economic devastation of the Great Depression. The Act provided for the establishment of maximum hours, minimum wages, and the right to collective bargaining.

The Father of Modern Surfing



Born **August 24, 1890**, Duke Kahanamoku was a blend of the old Hawaiian culture and the new: he spoke Hawaiian, ate poi, and spent much of each day in the water; he also competed internationally and acted in Hollywood.

Duke Paoa Kahinu Mokoe Hulikohola Kahanamoku went on to become a three-time Olympic gold medal winner in swimming, and the father of modern surfing. Kahanamoku swam using his unique combination of an Australian crawl stroke with a flutter kick to add speed. He also rode a sixteen-foot 114-pound surfboard, a longboard modeled on those of the ancient Hawaiian kings.

Kahanamoku participated in four Olympics and won 3 gold medals in water sports. His first gold was for the 100-meter free-style swim at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics where he also won a silver medal in the 200-meter relay event. Kahanamoku broke his own record at the 1920 Antwerp Olympics to win gold in both the 100-meter sprint and as a member of the U.S.'s 800-meter free-style relay team.

In the mid 1930s, Duke Kahanamoku was elected as Sheriff of the City and County of Honolulu, an office he held for thirteen terms before being appointed the city's official greeter. Duke died in January 1968.

The Marshall Plan

On **June 19, 1947**, representatives of 22 European nations met at the invitation of the British and French foreign ministers to participate in the design of a plan for rebuilding war-torn Europe. In a Harvard University commencement address two weeks earlier, U.S. Secretary of State George C. Marshall had called for a massive European aid package designed to stabilize the world economy and discourage the spread of communism. Over 12.4 billion dollars were transferred to Western Europe under the Economic Recovery Program known as the "Marshall Plan."

Even now a model for positive economic diplomacy, the Marshall Plan was a rational effort by the U.S. aimed at reducing the hunger, homelessness, unemployment, and political restlessness of the 270 million people in 16 nations in West Europe. Marshall Plan funds were not mainly directed toward feeding individuals or building individual houses, schools or factories, but at strengthening the economic superstructure.