

August 10

1821 President Monroe signed the bill admitting Missouri as the 24th state, after years of struggle over the balance of free and slave states in the union. When Missouri first petitioned Congress for admission in 1818, there were 11 free and 11 slave states. It took two Missouri Compromises before Maine was admitted as a free state, and Missouri was admitted with no restriction on slavery.

1861 The bloodiest battle of the Civil War west of the Mississippi took place at Wilson's creek, near Springfield. Union forces under General Nathaniel Lyon attacked the rebels under Ben McCulloch and Sterling Price. Lyon was killed in the battle. The rebels won, but could not pursue the retreating Federals. Missouri remained in Union hands. The Union lost 1,317 troops and the rebels lost 1,022.

1875 President Grant was in town on "private business connected with his interests in the county." The president insisted on no special receptions during his visit, but huge crowds followed him wherever he went.

1880 John Joseph Cochran was born in Webster Groves. He served in Congress from 1926 to 1947. The Cochran Housing Project and the Veteran's Administration Hospital on North Grand were named in his honor.

1886 The man who served as the tenth mayor of St. Louis died. Bernard Pratte served from 1844 to 1846. During his term, the first gas streetlights were installed and the stone paving blocks were put in place on the levee. Work also began on a city hospital.

1898 A citizen's committee appointed to plan the celebration of the centennial of the Louisiana Purchase proposed several ideas, including a grand naval review starting at St. Louis and heading to the Gulf of Mexico. A proposal for a world's fair here was dismissed as "inexpedient."

1902 The citizens of St. Louis were enthusiastically supporting Mayor Rolla Wells in his call to clean up the city for the world's fair. The *Globe-Democrat* reported that smoke from bonfires could be seen in every direction and vehicles of every type were being pressed into service to haul away dirt and trash that had given St. Louis a reputation as one of the dirtiest cities in the nation.

1903 Mrs. Jessie W. Riley, the station agent for the Wabash Railroad at Ferguson, was hailed as hero. The cupola from the station had blown down onto the tracks during a storm. She dashed out to flag down a commuter train just in time. She was hailed for doing her job as well as any man.

1904 The first vehicles from a 69-car caravan that had left New York City on July 25th began arriving in St. Louis, prior to "Automobile Day" at the fair. Many of the cars in the procession were still hopelessly mired in muddy roads in Illinois. The route was

changed to run through Collinsville and Edwardsville because the roads were marginally better.

1933 About 2,000 garment workers in St. Louis walked off the job. The strike spread to nearly all of the shops in the garment district along Washington Avenue. The violent strike was settled in September. The workers won recognition of their union, a key turning point in St. Louis labor history.

1945 Richard C. Muckerman bought controlling interest in the St. Louis Browns from Donald Barnes, who he succeeded as club president. Muckerman pledged to keep the team in St. Louis "as long as the fans wanted it."

1950 Edward Garner Lewis died at the age of 82. In 1902, the flamboyant Connecticut promoter founded a model city to be the headquarters of his publishing empire. He called it University City. Lewis spent his fortune defending allegations of fraud involving his mail order bank and fled to California in 1912.

1953 The second television station in St. Louis signed on the air with a broadcast of the annual "Community Chest" game between the Browns and the Reds. WTVI in Belleville broadcast on UHF Channel 54. It moved to St. Louis, switched to Channel 36 and changed call letters to KTVI in 1955. Broadcasts began on Channel Two in 1958.

1955 Stan Musial doubled off the Brave's Lew Burdette at Milwaukee, becoming the ninth player in major league history to get one-thousand extra base hits.

1977 The long awaited Museum of Westward Expansion opened under the Arch.

1989 A six-year construction project ended as the new US 40 Bridge over the Missouri was officially opened to traffic. The newer bridge carries eastbound traffic. The westbound bridge was built in the 1930's.

1999 Eight people were arrested at Veteran's Stadium in Philadelphia as J.D. Drew played there for the first time. Two batteries were hurled at Drew in the outfield. As a highly rated rookie in 1997, Drew and his agent Scott Boras turned down an \$11 million offer from the Phillies and instead signed with a minor league team. The Cardinals drafted him in 1998.

2000 A spectacular fire swept the Ameren UE plant in Venice, Illinois. No one was hurt, but the fire knocked out power to thousands of people on both sides of the river.