

January 10

1845 The city council passed an ordinance authorizing a committee to choose a site and plan a city hospital building. The first city hospital opened in June 1846 at 14th and Lafayette. The building burned in 1856. The second city hospital was destroyed by the 1896 tornado. The once-grand building that now stands abandoned was built in 1907.

1860 St. Louis School Superintendent Ira Divoll told the school board that a public library was a necessity. At the time, public libraries were virtually unheard of. The Civil War delayed Divoll's plans, but the "St. Louis Public School Library" was established in February 1865. The name was later changed to the St. Louis Public Library.

1862 Both U.S. Senators from Missouri were kicked out. Trusten Polk and Waldo P. Johnson were expelled for their pro-southern sympathies. Missouri was without representation in Congress for 46 days during the most critical period in U.S. history.

1885 The St. Louis Maroons were admitted to the National League. The Browns had played in the NL, but folded in 1876. They were playing in the American Association when the Maroons were founded. Two years later, the Maroons were sold to Indianapolis interests. The Browns would join the National League, and were later re-named after a different shade of red.

1887 The *Globe-Democrat* reported that St. Louis had one saloon for every 175 inhabitants and one church for every 28-hundred. The *Globe* said "This does not prove, as the casual reader might think, that St. Louis cares 16 times more for whiskey than religion, because a saloon holds comparatively few persons while a church can hold thousands."

1899 A group of 90 delegates from the states of the Louisiana Purchase met here to discuss an exhibition to mark the anniversary of the purchase. They voted in favor of holding the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in 1903. (The date was later pushed back a year)

1907 The McKinley Inter Urban Railway requested a franchise to enter St. Louis. The railroad planned to seek a charter from the federal government to build a bridge across the Mississippi. Many people think the bridge was named after President William McKinley, but it was named for the president of the railroad.

1924 A St. Louis county Grand Jury indicted 74 people for fraud during the 1922 primary elections. Several members of the county Republican "machine" were indicted along with some high-ranking county officials, a state official and one Democrat. Thousands of ballots from the election had been found in a cess pool.

1928 A jury returned a verdict in favor of the Cardinals in a lawsuit by a fan whose nose was broken by a homerun off the bat of "Sunny" Jim Bottomley. In his deposition, the

Cardinals first-baseman admitted that he was trying to hit a home run, but denied selecting which fan it would hit.

1945 Ozark Airlines began service, flying five-seater planes on a triangular route between St. Louis, Springfield, and Kansas City. H.D. Hamilton, who ran a bus line in the Ozarks, founded the airline. The green and white planes were a familiar sight to St. Louisans until TWA bought out Ozark in 1986.

1946 The Ford Motor Company filed an application with the county for permission to build a \$3 million automobile plant near Lambert Field. The company said the plant on a 90-acre tract on Highway 66 would be the second largest in the country.

1962 A dust fire led to an explosion and a huge blaze at the landmark Purina Chow plant at Checkerboard Square. The fire burned out of control for over 20 hours. Two workers died, 41 were hurt, and a fire captain died of a heart attack. It was seven below zero that day. That same day, off-duty firefighters had to be called in to fight a five-alarm fire at the historic Music and Arts Building in Gaslight Square and a three-alarm fire at the "absolutely fireproof" Ambassador Hotel.

1972 The Missouri House asked Mayor A.J. Cervantes to call a referendum on whether the St. Louis airport should be located in Missouri or Illinois. That same day, the airlines serving Lambert said the airport would run out of capacity by 1980, 1982 at the latest.

1982 The temperature here hit 15 below zero, the coldest reading in 64 years. Three deaths were blamed on the cold.

1998 The Postal Service unveiled a postage stamp honoring the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. The stamp showed the 26-story observation wheel and two kids enjoying an ice cream cone. Legend says that the ice cream cone was invented at the fair.

2001 TWA filed for bankruptcy and reached a \$500 million buyout agreement with American Airlines. TWA CEO William Compton said the deal would "protect substantially all of our thousands of employees."