

July 21

1836 A mob attacked the offices of the *St. Louis Observer*, a weekly Presbyterian paper. Editor Elijah Lovejoy was under fire for criticizing a lynching and denouncing slavery as a sin. Lovejoy would move his paper to Alton, where mobs destroyed three of his presses. A mob shot and killed Lovejoy as he defended a fourth press on November 7, 1837.

1865 Wild Bill Hickock shot and killed Dave Tutt in a gunfight in the town square of Springfield, Missouri over a gambling debt. Hickock hired a future Missouri governor, John Smith Phelps, to defend him. Wild Bill was able to escape jail time.

1873 Jesse James and his gang committed what is believed to be the first peacetime train robbery in the U.S. They held up The Long Island Express near Adair, Iowa. The railroad reported that the gang had escaped with \$6,000, to prevent the public from knowing how much money the trains carried. The actual amount was closer to \$65,000.

1901 A sportswriter for the *Globe-Democrat* commented on what he called "an unpleasant innovation permitted at league park." During a Cards game, they were selling beer to fans! The writer said, "It was doubtless the bilious practice was indulged in without the consent of Mssrs. Robison (The owners of the club) but it was indulged in, and caused considerable adverse comment."

1926 The city announced that a design for the proposed municipal auditorium also called for a 15,500 seat convention hall, with both facilities being served by the same stage. The only hurdle the building planners would have to overcome was to devise some sort of divider so the auditorium and opera house could be used at the same time.

1930 "The Millionaire Hobo" died. James How Eads was the grandson of the man who built the Eads Bridge. He founded the International Brotherhood Welfare Association, which tried to educate the "Knights of the Road" through Hobo Colleges in many major cities. The colleges were really lecture halls, where hobo philosophers debated. Eads felt they had first hand knowledge regarding the social issues of the day.

1937 Rogers Hornsby was fired as manager of the Browns for playing the ponies. Another former Cardinal star, "Sunny Jim" Bottomley, replaced him. Bill Veeck would bring Hornsby back to manage the Brownies in 1952.

1944 The Democratic convention nominated Harry S Truman, a failed haberdasher from Independence to be vice-president of the United States. St. Louis lawyer and 21st Ward Democratic Boss Robert Hannegan led the fight to remove Henry Wallace from the ticket and put Truman in. Hannegan rose to chairman of the Democratic National Committee as a reward for helping Truman narrowly win re-election to the Senate in 1940.

1946 A McDonnell F.H. One "Phantom" became the first jet airplane to take off from an aircraft carrier. The plane took off from the U-S-S Franklin D. Roosevelt.

1949 Al Hrabosky was born in Oakland, California. The relief pitcher became one of the more colorful characters in Redbird history, famous for his psych up routine and Fu Manchu mustache. In 1975, the Cardinals honored him instead with “Hrabosky Hbanner Hday.” He was traded to Atlanta in December 1977, after clashing with Vern Rapp over the manager’s ban on facial hair.

1954 The Missouri Highway Department announced plans for two new expressways. A controversial plan was okayed to extend the Daniel Boone Expressway from its present terminus at Brentwood Boulevard to the Red Feather Express Highway south of Forest Park. The state also approved plans for the Mark Twain Expressway between downtown and Lambert Field.

1959 TWA inaugurated its first non-stop jet service, from St. Louis to New York. The Boeing 707 set a record for the flight, at one-hour and 47 minutes.

1965 President Johnson pardoned former St. Louis patrolman Elmer Dolan. Dolan was convicted of perjury, for lying to a grand jury about the missing Greenlease kidnapping money in 1953. No reason was given for the pardon.

1969 At 12:54 p-m, as the "Eagle" lifted off from the moon, a tense crowd that included Mayor A.J. Cervantes watched a TV set up in the window of One Memorial Drive by KMOX TV. They were on their way back from a special moon mass, celebrated at the Old Cathedral by auxiliary bishop Joseph McNicholas. Robert Hyland, general manager of KMOX radio, read Psalm Eight.

1980 Thunderstorms finally brought the heat wave to an end. The death toll stood at 144. At least 110 people had died in the city of St. Louis alone.

1981 Six Flags Over Mid-America announced it was shutting down the Skyway ride forever. The park blamed lack of rider ship and the fact that the ride needed \$10,000 in maintenance. Three people died on the ride in 1978, when a cable snapped.

1982 Former *Today* show host Dave Garroway took his own life. Garroway lived in St. Louis from 1927 to 1935. He attended University City High School and Washington University.

1983 Ground was broken for the Union Station redevelopment project. The \$135 million facelift would transform the aging landmark into a tourist attraction, complete with retail shops, a food market and a luxury hotel.

1983 The National Hockey League approved the sale of the Blues to California businessman Harry Ornest and a group of local investors for \$12 million. Ornest pledged to keep the team in St. Louis.

2000 Former Missouri Senator John Danforth released the results of his special counsel investigation into the 1993 siege at Waco. Danforth found that the government agents did not start the deadly fire at the Branch Davidian compound.