LABOR CONFLICT IN THE INDUSTRIAL AGE CHART WITH TEACHER'S NOTES

	Summary of Event (What happened during each of these events?)	Significance (What do these events tell us about the relationship between labor, business, and government as the American economy became more industrialized?)
Haymarket Affair (1886)	 The Iron Molders Union in Chicago went on strike, demanding shorter workdays. Police opened fire on strikers who were trying to prevent strikebreakers from entering the plant, killing four strikers. At a meeting protesting these killings, police intervened and ordered the crowd to disperse, at which point someone threw a bomb into the crowd, killing several policemen. Eight radical leaders were charged with the crime, despite there being no evidence. 	 There was tension and conflict between workers and business owners. Workers were exploited for the benefit of the business owners. Business interests were being protected by the power of state and federal governments. Profit was being valued over people. Collective action was the way workers leveraged their power to negotiate with owners as well as attempted to leverage government to protect citizens rather than corporations. The economic system worked in a way that created a wealth gap between those who did the labor and those who owned the means of production.
Homestead Strike (1892)	 The AAISW and unskilled workers at a Carnegie steel plant called for a strike. Violent conflict broke out between the strikers and the Pinkertons hired by the company, and the Pinkertons were forced to retreat. Ultimately, the state militia was called out at the request of the company, and they broke up the strike and arrested the leaders, and the company would no longer hire union members. 	





Pullman Strike (1894)	 To support Pullman workers striking to protest wage reductions, the ARU refused to handle trains with Pullman cars, which crippled the national rail service. The federal government, at the request of the railroad operators, sent troops to rail stations to end the strike, resulting in violent conflict between strikers and troops. When this failed, the attorney general obtained a federal court injunction forbidding the union to strike, and when union leaders refused to abide, they were arrested and jailed, bringing the strike to an unsuccessful conclusion. 	 Business owners wanted to protect their "right" to pursue the production of goods without interference and believed the government should be used to protect their right to property. Workers believed that the power of the government should be harnessed to regulate business in order to protect the rights of workers.
Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire (1911)	 A fire broke out in the factory located on the top three floors of a ten-story building. The immigrant women working in this factory had been locked in to prevent unauthorized breaks, and when the fire department's ladders were unable to reach the top floors, women jumped from the building to their deaths or were burnt alive. While the ILGWU had successfully signed contracts with other businesses to provide safer working conditions, the Triangle Shirtwaist Company had not been one of them. 	

