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Title: Making connections with other labor movements across the nation

Subject Area: U.S. History 1-day lesson

State: Washington State

Introduction: As a way of connecting the events at Homestead, PA in 1892 to other noteworthy labor movements, students will examine what occurred during the Pullman Strike in Illinois, 1894, and of the Everett Massacre in Washington, 1916. This will demonstrate to students that the events at Homestead were not isolated, but part of a larger continuum of the labor rights movement.

State Standards: History 2: Understands and analyzes causal factors that have shaped major events in history.

Procedure:

1. Introduce the major historical figures of each of the three movements by using direct instruction and photographs of the individuals. This will create interest for students and make each person more real. Andrew Carnegie, Thomas Frick, Eugene Debs, George Pullman, Industrial Workers of the World. I do this simply by using the images contained in a Wikipedia article and discuss each briefly. I would also use Google Maps to demonstrate where the three sites are located. This again is designed to provide context for students and brings in a geographical component.

2. Students should read about each strike and take notes on the major components. Notes should include: Major parties involved, primary issue in dispute, what triggered violence, immediate results (deaths, injuries, etc.), lasting legacy. Each reading will take 5-10 minutes and may be done online or printed out for students. For Everett, there is a four-minute video that may be shown.

Homestead Strike of 1892: <https://www.history.com/topics/industrial-revolution/homestead-strike>

Pullman Strike of 1894: <https://www.history.com/news/labor-day-pullman-railway-strike-origins>

Everett Massacre of 1916: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0QWzsIdnAF4>

3. Discussion or short answer response questions:

1. What similarities were there in the three episodes that you read about?
2. What was the labor movement trying to achieve?
3. Did they go about achieving their goals in a productive way?
4. Why do you think that the violence occurred in all three instances?

4. Final Piece: Have students visit the website on labor violence in America:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union\\_violence\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_violence_in_the_United_States)

They should choose one more event in U.S. History (there are episodes as recently as 2015) and do brief research with notes to share out in small groups the next day.