


LABOR

As early as the 1860's, West Virginia's skilled workers were beginning to organize local unions in an effort to improve their wages, hours, and working conditions. The successes of the United Mine Workers in the Kanawha Valley in 1902 and the formation of the West Virginia Federation of Labor in 1903 marked the beginning of extensive and successful organizing movements in West Virginia's industries. Although not coterminal, the fortunes of organized labor in West Virginia have closely paralleled the waxing and waning in the fortunes of the United Mine Workers. This list of sources on labor's activities in West Virginia excludes publications on the United Mine Workers, as these references have been included in the section on the Coal Industry and Coal Miners.


