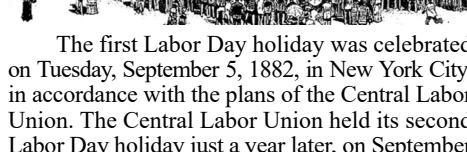


act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories.

More than one hundred years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers.

Some records show that Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and a cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, was first in suggesting a day to honor those "who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold."

But Peter McGuire's place in Labor Day history has not gone unchallenged. Many believe that Matthew Maguire, a machinist, not Peter McGuire, founded the holiday. Recent research seems to support the contention that Matthew Maguire, later the secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Paterson, New Jersey, proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. What is clear is that the Central Labor Union adopted a Labor Day proposal and appointed a committee to plan a demonstration and picnic.

[Click to read more](#)

A photograph of a modern high-speed train, likely a TGV, traveling on a track. The train is white with green accents and is moving towards the viewer. The background shows a clear blue sky and some distant structures.



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An architectural rendering of a proposed multi-story building. The building features a prominent glass facade and a large central atrium with multiple levels. The design includes a mix of materials, including wood paneling and glass. The rendering shows people walking on the various levels and on the street in front of the building, which is situated on a city block with other buildings and parked cars visible in the background.



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