

Saturday, May 9

ON THIS DAY



▲ **1901: Australia opened its first parliament in Melbourne** (*above is original plan, but dome was never built*)

1801: Former slave Toussaint Louverture established an independent republic in San Domingo

1896: The first Horseless Carriage Show, with 10 models on display, opened to the motor trade in London

1946: King Victor Emmanuel III of Italy abdicated in favour of his son, who became Umberto II. The monarchy was abolished barely a month into his reign

2008: Gunbattles erupted in Beirut as the government of Lebanon cracked down on Hezbollah militants