

ORGANIZED LABOR DECLARES FOR WAR

It Is Against United States Steel Corporation Because of Its Open Shop Policy.

GRAVE CHARGES AGAINST IT.

Claims It Makes and Unmakes Laws And Dominates Civic and Political Life.

Pittsburg, Dec. 14.—War was formally declared upon the United States Steel corporation by leaders of organized labor throughout the United States and Canada at the close of a two days' conference today. The decision to battle against the stand taken by the steel corporation in its policy of open shop was reached by the labor conferees after hours of debate.

At the conference Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, presided and, through him, the measure was put upon the record books of the executive council of the federation.

The grievances of organized labor against the steel corporation as set forth in the resolutions have been forwarded to President Taft, to the United States senate and to the house of representatives. Governors of the states in which the United States Steel corporation owns plants or has interests also will receive copies. The resolution in part follows:

THE RESOLUTION.
"A crisis in the affairs of labor has arisen. The gigantic trust, the United States Steel corporation, is using its great wealth and power in an effort to rob the toilers of their right of American manhood and of the opportunity to resist its further encroachment. Grown rich by the consent of the people of our country, this corporation, in its mad greed for still greater riches, sweeps aside, makes and unmakes law, its enactors and executors, and is now engaged in an effort to destroy the only employer-organization of its employees—standing between it and unlimited, unchecked and unbridled industrial, political, social and moral carnage. If there exists any virile power in our time and life to check the absolute autocratic domination of civil, industrial and political life of our people and our republic, it must be found in the indomitable will and mission of the much misunderstood and misrepresented organizations of labor.

"The United States Steel corporation has declared war on labor. In its secret councils this corporation has decided that the only obstacle to its complete sway—organized labor—shall be crushed. The labor organizations consist of its employees, the workers (their wives and little ones), human flesh and blood. It is by their labor that they live; they have no purpose other than safeguarding their lives, their character, their future, the safety of the republic and humanity.

FOES FACE TO FACE.
These factors now confront each other. By their purposes, attitude and actions must they be judged.

"On June 1, 1909, the United States Steel Corporation proclaimed its decree of hostility toward labor. The right of the workers to associate for their common protection was no longer to be recognized or tolerated. Accompanying that decree was a notice of a further reduction in the already scant wages of the workers.

"The decree went into effect July 1, 1909. We therefore urge that an earnest effort be made to thoroughly organize all employees in the iron, steel and tin-plate industries and subsidiary co-related trades. Owing to immediate pressing necessity caused by the present strike and the indefensible hostile attitude of the United States Steel corporation, we earnestly call on all national and international unions of America to send at least one organizer to assist in this work. We further urge and recommend that in all places where mills are located the central labor organizations appoint special committees with instructions to co-operate in this work. For educational purposes we recommend that this manifesto be made a special order in all central labor organizations at the first meeting in January, 1910.

RECOMMENDATIONS.
"We recommend that the executive council of the American Federation of Labor issue a circular to all unions of

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America and appeal for financial contributions to aid the striking iron, steel and tin-plate workers.

"We further recommend that the amount of such contributions should not be less than 10 cents per member.

"In view of the great wrongs perpetrated by the United States Steel corporation not only against the workers, but the public generally, we recommend that a committee be appointed by this conference to wait upon the president of the United States, the president of the United States senate, the speaker of the house of representatives and such members of either house of Congress as may be deemed advisable for the purpose of laying before them the grievances from which labor suffers at the hands of this corporation.

"At the instance of the United States Steel corporation, officers of local, municipal and state governments have unwarrantably tyrannized over citizens, invading the constitutionally guaranteed right of free assembly and free speech. We recommend that committees be appointed by this conference to wait upon the governors of states and such other official representatives of the counties and municipalities as are in control where the United States Steel corporation has plants located, for the purpose of presenting to these officials of great wrongs inflicted upon the people of these communities, and that the committees demand an investigation and, where charges made are substantiated by evidence, the officers responsible therefor be removed and the wrongs immediately righted.

"We appeal to all liberty-loving Americans for their moral and financial support.

(Signed): "James O'Connell, T. L. Lewis, W. L. Mahon, George W. Perkins, J. W. Hayes, Frank M. Ryan, T. Healy, Samuel Gompers, P. J. McArdie, Charles E. Lawler."

At the conclusion of today's conference the men said they had said all there was to be said when they had adopted the measure.

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Salt Lake City.

PAYNE PRAISES TAFT'S MESSAGE

First Time in His Recollection That a President Has Pointed Out Necessity of Economy.

HAS TILT WITH FITZGERALD.

Capt. Richmond P. Hobson Gives Warning That the Nation Is Not Prepared for War.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Taking up the president's annual message to Congress, the house of representatives today went through the formality of referring it and distributing it among the various committees.

Mr. Payne, who brought in the resolution for reference, offered an amendment providing that those paragraphs relating to appropriations be referred to what he designated as the "sleeping" committees on departmental expenditures, of which there is one for each department.

Explaining his amendment, Mr. Payne said:

"For the first time in my recollection, a president, in wise and well chosen words, has pointed out the necessity of economy in expenditures in the various government departments."

When Mr. Fitzgerald of New York interrupted Mr. Payne to question him about the amendment, the Republican leader sharply exclaimed:

"The gentleman from New York can never get rid of the idea that some one is trying to hoodwink somebody."

"I am sorry my colleague can never get rid of the idea of trying to hoodwink somebody with his resolutions," was Mr. Fitzgerald's retort. The amendment and the resolutions were adopted.

Warning of the nation's unpreparedness for war was given by Representative Hobson of Alabama in an extended speech in favor of a more liberal naval policy. His colleague, Mr. Richardson, made a speech of more than an hour's duration in advocacy of a liberal waterways policy, particularly affecting the Mississippi river and its tributaries.

Representative McDermott, Illinois, spoke briefly in favor of free wood pulp.

The District of Columbia appropriation bill, carrying an appropriation of more than \$10,000,000 for expenses of the District in the fiscal year of 1911,

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was reported, as were also several invalid pension bills. The latter were read and passed.

The house agreed to take a recess next Tuesday for the holidays, voting to reconvene on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

At 2:47 p. m. the house adjourned until tomorrow.

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New York, Dec. 15.—The imprint of a burglar's hand, found on a greasy

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