

Producers, Union Sign Steel Pact

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Steelworkers Union and the nation's big steel producers yesterday sealed their new pact ensuring peace in the industry at least for 2½ years.

The signing of agreements covering 11 major steel firms came in an atmosphere of good will, a far cry from the bitterness that marked most of the eight-month wage dispute.

Final touches were put on the pact after two top union bodies—its Executive Board and its 171-member Wage Policy Committee—had unanimously endorsed the settlement terms.

Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell, who along with Vice President Richard M. Nixon helped fashion the settlement, was present at the signing. He warmly congratulated both sides.

R. Conrad Cooper, chief industry negotiator, and David J. McDonald, union president, shook hands and buried the hatchet, and pledged to work for maximum and most efficient steel production.

"I want to tell the world," McDonald said, "if you think the American steel industry has been great, you ain't seen nothing yet. Watch us do a job."

Cooper, executive vice president of U.S. Steel Corp., said: "It's been a long struggle. It's over. We look forward to maximum cooperation to do the job we have ahead."

Several hundred union leaders cheered these comments and one and all trooped into a mass cocktail party hosted by the union.

The agreement, most of whose terms had leaked out beforehand, calls for a 30-month contract to July 1, 1962. It provides about 40 cents an hour in wage-benefit increases. The workers formerly averaged \$3.11 hourly earnings.

Substantial insurance, pension and other benefits became effective immediately. There is no immediate wage boost. But an increase ranging from 7 to 13 cents an hour becomes due on Dec. 1, 1960 and a similar pay raise on Oct. 1, 1961.

Living cost adjustments up to 6 cents an hour are provided following the first pay raise. But the living cost allowance can be reduced if insurance costs rise above union estimates.

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Political Battles Expected In Congressional Sessions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress toed the mark yesterday, set to take off into an election-year session of politicking, legislating and investigating.

The second session of the 86th Congress will get underway officially at noon Wednesday with preliminary ceremonies in the Senate and House.

The business of the year will start tomorrow when President Eisenhower goes before a joint session and delivers his annual State of the Union message. At that time, Eisenhower will outline what he would like the Democratic-controlled Congress to do in the last year of his two terms.

Eisenhower will send up his annual budget message on Jan. 18 and his economic report two days after that.

Since there are no organizing problems to be handled, the flow of legislation to the Senate and House likely will begin shortly after these three messages are out of the way.

Facing both houses early in the year is a battle over civil rights proposals — a battle that could split the Democratic party and influence significantly the Democrats' chances of putting their man in the White House.

Politicking, never absent on Capitol Hill, will be ever sharper this year as the legislators

move through the issues that confront them perennially, and probably some new ones.

The annual battle of the budget, foreign aid, defense policy, aid to education, help for economically depressed regions—all these and more lie ahead of Congress before its hoped-for adjournment ahead of the national nominating conventions next July.

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Train Wreck Kills 15, Injures 124

MONZA, Italy (AP) — A packed commuter train thundered across a temporary bridge in thick fog yesterday, careened into a sharp curve and hurtled off the rails. It piled up in a jumble of wreckage and torn bodies.

The Ministry of Transport said 15 persons were killed, and 124 injured. It previously had reported 25 dead.

Jammed with about 1000 passengers, the train had just cleared the temporary bridge on the outskirts of this auto-racing city 10 miles north of Milan.

The train, an electric locomotive and nine cars, was on its regular morning rush-hour run from Sondrio through Monza to Milan.

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DiSalle Swings Abroad Kennedy Bandwagon

WASHINGTON (AP) Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) hailed as a significant gain the announcement yesterday that Ohio's Gov. Michael V. DiSalle supports his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

"This is a significant and heartening step toward our goal," Kennedy said of DiSalle's announcement that he will run as a favorite son in Ohio's May 3 primary, seeking to sew up the 64-vote delegation for Kennedy.

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