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BEFORE 00.30 B.S.T. (i.e. FOR MORNING PAPERS) ON

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1942

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COMBINED BOARDS' STEEL COMMITTEE

The following statement has been issued simultaneously in  
Washington and London by the Combined Production and  
Resources Board and by the Combined Raw Materials Board.

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The United States, the United Kingdom and Canada today united in creating a Combined Steel Committee to squeeze every possible ton of steel out of existing plant facilities in order to fulfil the combined war production programme for 1943.

The Committee will treat the steel productive facilities and the munitions-making facilities of the three nations as though they were a single unit, to the end that the maximum impact of weapons of war can be brought against the enemy in 1943.

The Combined Production and Resources Board and the Combined Raw Materials Board, which joined in creating the Committee, announced that Mr. Hiland G. Batcheller would be Chairman of the Committee assisted by a staff of American, British and Canadian production experts.

The creation of the Committee resulted from a visit made by a United States Steel Mission to the United Kingdom under the auspices of the Combined Production and Resources Board. The Mission brought to light many concrete differences in the production and use of steel between the United States and the United Kingdom. It recommended that better results could be obtained in both countries by pooling technical information and production and distribution methods. Instructions given to the Committee are:

"1. To obtain, assemble and co-ordinate information on iron ore and scrap, iron and steel production and requirements of iron and steel of the United Nations in such form as will enable the supply and requirements position to be kept continuously under review by both Boards."

"2. To consider and make recommendations on the means of increasing production and improving the efficiency of the use of steel and distribution facilities in the United Nations including facilitating the exchange of technical information, information on trade practices and measures of conservation and limitation of use."

"3. To consider and make recommendations on unified systems of definitions and terminology."

"4. To undertake such special enquiries as may be directed by either Board."

"5. To recommend as necessary any action which should be taken by either Board to adjust supplies and requirements to one another."

Full membership of the Combined Steel Committee, which will work in Washington, will be:

Mr. Hiland G. Batcheller, Chairman, Chief of the Iron and Steel  
Division, War Production Board.

Major E.W. Senior, United Kingdom Iron and Steel Control and representing  
the British Ministry of Production.

Mr. Douglas Campbell, Combined Raw Materials Board.

Mr. Geoffrey Crowther, Combined Production and Resources Board

Mr. O. Heller, Iron and Steel Division, War Production Board.

Mr. Paul Homan, Combined Raw Materials Board

Mr. D.B. Collyer, Canadian Department of Munitions and Supply."