



The Men Who Built America

A Committee on American Industrialists



Description:

The Captains of Industry that were established during this time shaped our history and the very foundation of our modern America. Taking on the roles and responsibility of those special few who forged the American Infrastructure is not an easy task, and navigating the industrial gauntlet of progress will be challenging, but it is not undoable when paired with strong will and powerful resolve. It will take more than just money to build an empire, and with strong debate and stronger alliances, the steel kings and oil barons will emerge. Your bones may be weak, but your soul cannot be. The American people saw this time in history as the beginnings of opulent living, and it is entirely up to your decisions to tame the tides of history and make it so.

Letter From the Dais:

Hello delegates and welcome to BrewMUNC 2021,

Thank you all for attending Brewster High School's fourth annual Model United Nations Conference. We are very excited that you've shown interest in this specialized committee on the Men Who Built America.

My name is Owen Lennon. I am a senior at Brewster High School and the head chair of this committee. The captains of industry have always intrigued me as they shaped the dynamic of the United States capitalist economy. At this time industry, politics, and workers rights were all evolving. Amidst all of the political and social turmoil several captains of industry cornered their respective markets with ruthless and cut throat tactics. The up and coming climate of industrial scale manufacturing and big banking was being pioneered by the powerful capitalists such as John D. Rockefeller and J.P. Morgan, while others were just entering the sociopolitical minefield that was the industrialist battlefield. Trusts, monopolization, and unionized labor were all challenges these powerful industrialists had to navigate.

The turn of the 20th century was an era of crooks and great men, even though sometimes there was a fine line to draw between the two. The committee members are all powerful capitalists big and small. Some bankers, some industrialists, and all of them defining which type of man they will be. Ruthless tactics, risky deals, and backroom deals will decide the fate of the committee. Delegates are encouraged to use the full capabilities of a crisis committee and their portfolio powers to navigate what the committee throws at them. Your assigned delegation does not define every decision you make; however, while this is a historical committee, delegates are also encouraged to break from the scripts of history and have fun with their position.

Parliamentary Procedure & Mechanics

Overview: The committee will run on a speaker's list. The chair will recognize delegates wishing to speak, and motions will be entertained after each speech has elapsed. For procedural matters, a simple majority of 50% + 1 will be required and each delegate must vote either in favor or against; no abstentions will be entertained. No pre-set time limits on speeches are established; this determination, as well as any other particulars of procedure, is left to the discretion of the committee or the chair, as appropriate. The chair shall have final authority on all procedural questions and will occasionally entertain appeals.

Language and Attire: The working and official language of the committee shall be English. All delegates are expected to wear Western Business Attire.

Electronic Devices: All electronic devices not being utilized for committee purposes are prohibited from the committee room unless otherwise stated by the Chair. Timers and stopwatches are permitted. Please have your cameras on throughout the conference weekend. If there are issues with this, please contact your committee Chair.

Motion for a Moderated Caucus: Specifies the topic of debate, the length of the caucus, and the speaker's time. Much of the committee is expected to take place in a moderated caucus.

Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus: The committee may choose to move into an unmoderated caucus for a certain length of time, in which delegates may move freely about the room and speak to each other without direction from the Chair. However, it will be at the Chair's discretion to prohibit unmoderated caucus at certain times during committee.

Point of Order: May interrupt a speaker and can be raised when the delegate believes the rules of procedure have been violated by the Chair or another delegate. The chair will stop the proceedings of the committee and ask the delegate to provide warranted arguments as to which rules of procedure have been violated.

Point of Personal Privilege: May be raised when a delegate's ability to participate in debate is impaired for any physical or logistical reason (e.g. if the speaker is not audible). This point may interrupt a speech, and the dais will immediately attempt to resolve the difficulty.

Point of Inquiry: This point may be raised by a delegate who wishes to clarify any rule of procedure with the Chair. It may not interrupt a speaker, and a delegate rising to this point may not make any substantive statements or arguments.

Point of Information: This point may be raised by a delegate to either clarify a point or motion or to bring substantive information to the notice. It may not interrupt a speaker, and must contain only a statement of some new fact that may have relevance to debate. Arguments and analyses may not be made by delegates

rising to this point. A point of information may also be used to ask questions of a speaker on the general speakers list.

Right of Reply: May be invoked in the rare case that a delegate feels their personal dignity or integrity has been deliberately offended. This motion will be judged at the Chair's discretion

Motion to Suspend Debate: Suspends debate for a stipulated amount of time.

Motion to Adjourn: This motion brings the committee's deliberation to an end, and is only admissible when suggested by the Chair.

Motion to Introduce Documents: Puts the document on the floor to be debated by the committee. The sponsor(s) of the document will be asked to read the document and then, if deemed appropriate, the Chair will entertain a moderated caucus on the topic.

Motion to Divide the Question: This motion may be moved by a delegate to split a document into its component clauses for the purpose of voting. This may be done when a delegate feels that there is significant support for some clauses of the document, but not for the complete document.

Motion for a Roll Call Vote: A delegate may move to have the vote conducted in alphabetical order.

Motion for a Q&A Session: At the Chair's discretion, after a document has been submitted for debate, a delegate may motion for a questioning and answering session with the document's writer(s) to further understand the contents of the document. The rules of debate will be suspended for a session whose length is subject to the Chair's discretion.

Motion for Speakers For and Against: If it would help the proceedings of the committee, a delegate may motion for speakers for and against a document.

Motion to Enter Voting Procedure: Debate is suspended and the committee votes on the document(s) in question.

Amendments: After the first draft of a committee document has been introduced, delegates may move to amend particular clauses of the draft. If the amendment is supported by all the sponsors of the documents, it passes as a friendly amendment. Committee Documents represent the product of the committee's deliberations and their collective decisions.

Resolutions: Resolutions are standard orders. All direct actions taken by this committee require a resolution. Resolutions pass with a simple majority.

Between Delegates: Delegates can pass notes freely to other delegates within the committee or speak to other delegates during unmoderated caucus. However, talking during another delegate's speech is not permitted.

To the Dais: Delegates may also communicate with the Chair through notes. Delegates should feel free to write any questions or comments to the Chair that may improve the committee experience.

Position Papers

Position papers should detail what a position's stance on the various topics of debate are. A quality position paper also describes what the delegate intends on accomplishing during the course of the conference, which may include who they plan on allying with and what policies they plan on suggesting to the committee. Although an ample amount of information is provided in the prep packet, it is highly recommended that delegates conduct outside research on their own time prior to the conference in order to better gauge their position's opinions and possible course of action.

Position papers are *not* required to be eligible for awards in this committee. However, they are highly recommended in order for delegates to familiarise themselves with their objectives. Please type position papers using standard MLA format, double-spaced, size 12 Times New Roman font. A position paper of decent length typically ranges from one to one-and-one-half pages. Email a PDF file of your position paper to owen.lennon@brewsterschools.org. Please include your position name in the subject line of the email.

Historical Background:

Time of Committee: Summer 1903

As the American industrial society grows and evolves through the beginning of the 20th century, some key industrialists began to rise in influence and in fortune. The federal government has made its presence known amongst the mongoloids. The government, however, did not go unscathed from the presence of these powerful men. Corruption, conflicts of interest, and shady dealings plagued the government's staff.

While the economy was proving to be an up and coming boom, politicians and bankers tried to keep up with the rapid success of the industrial scene in order to prevent another economic crisis like the panic of 1901. Regulations and mandates were believed by some to be the only way to control the raging bull of wall street while many also held true to a more *Laissez Faire* mindset. Economic ideals and philosophies drove the outcomes of many decisions made in pretension to the massive amount of wealth some of these men were amassing.

The Sherman Antitrust Act combined with the increasingly eager President Theodore Roosevelt's desire to take down monopolies would show as the culmination of this; businesses would begin to crack, and those who aren't careful might find themselves behind bars rather than office walls.

It's also worth noting that with the strive for wealth comes the price of labor. Following the events of The Coal Strike in 1902, the government has kept a closer eye on how businesses go about treating their workers, and more and more have become emboldened to demand better conditions. Several other strikes have followed in their footsteps, such as the Oxnard Strike which had occurred in March.

Along with this inner turmoil, there lies potential in foreign affairs; while President Theodore Roosevelt has shown an inclination to solve issues with words rather than war, that is not to say there is no money to be made. Navigating the outer world and the inner world may prove increasingly beneficial -- so long as it's legal, of course.

Topics of Debate

1. Establishing a more stable role in Government

- a. It's no secret that the government is corrupt; without the right connections (or maybe even with the right ones), there's the issue of targeting from other businesses and, depending on what you practice, consequences should you be caught in your own act. If the government decides businesses are unable to be trusted and increase their monitoring and interference, there's a chance success will never reach the heights it has ever again; how you choose to mitigate this issue is up to you, whether that be from the inside or through your own outer tactics.

2. Trust-busting and Corruption

- a. It can be said that part of why the government has such little trust in industries and the people who run them is in part to the negative actions of those within them; some have been caught, but many have not in the government's eyes. Theodore Roosevelt is known to take great care in protecting the status of the consumer and considered to be ruthless when it comes to that of monopolies; should industries continue to show general disregard and lack of care when it comes to controlling trusts and reducing exploitation, it's safe to say they will not be able to enjoy the same liberties they are accustomed to.

3. Resolving the Labor issue and Preventing Further Strikes

- a. With the amount of large unionizations of workers demanding better pay and conditions, it's incredibly important that businesses take care when handling them. Poor media representation can very much kill a spark just as fast as it can start one, and with many teetering on the edge of protesting and strikes, it's crucial that industries pay special attention to these groups of people; expectations will be set, and with that will come consequences should they not be met.

4. Economic Regulations

- a. Following the Panic of 1901 with the first stock market crash, tensions are high between industries; a fight over the Northern Pacific Railway can be agreed upon as to blame for this crash, and because of this crash, many small investors found

themselves failing before they had even gotten a chance to stand. This event alone showed just how fragile success can be if you are not pre-established, along with the overwhelming power that pre-established industry men have over newcomers. Delegates, especially those of smaller financial influence, should seek to protect themselves lest they wish to be crushed underneath the boot of another.

Positions:

➤ J.P. Morgan:

American financier and industrial organizer, one of the world's foremost financial figures during the two pre-World War I decades. Part of one of the world's first billion-dollar companies, Morgan is a highly impactful man with connections to almost all parts of the business world, considered to be one of the most dominant businessmen out there.

➤ John D. Rockefeller Jr.:

Son and heir to John D. Rockefeller, the American industrialist and founder of the Standard Oil Company, which dominated the oil industry and was the first great U.S. business trust. Junior is currently serving as director of this company and is known to be a bit of a philanthropist.

➤ Andrew Carnegie:

A Scottish-born American industrialist, Carnegie is credited as having led the enormous expansion of the American steel industry in the late 19th century. Around the time of committee he's less involved than he had been when he was young, having sold or reformed his corporations and businesses. He's also known to be a heavy believer in philanthropy.

➤ Henry Ford:

With his recent success in the automobile industry, Ford is known to be gifted when it comes to the automobile and has received praise from many, Edison included. Ford has a more sympathetic view when it comes to the working class, though this is not to say he agrees with them entirely.

➤ Louis W. Hill:

Louis Warren Hill is an executive within the railroad industry. Currently he is known to be making heavy profit from mining within one of his properties, along with managing the Great Northern Railway. He shows willingness to expand farther from this, along with taking an interest in nature and potentially tourism.

➤ Will K. Kellogg:

An American industrialist in food manufacturing, Kellogg is renowned for his success within the cereal industry. Currently, he is running the Sanitas Food Company with his brother. Kellogg takes particular interest in providing healthier breakfast options for the people and can be considered somewhat of a philanthropist.

➤ Charles M. Schwab

An entrepreneur within the steel industry, Schwab is a talented and what some may describe as a sly man. Currently he is serving as the president of the United States Steel Corporation, though rumor has it tensions are high between the younger man and his older peers. A high and reckless spender, Schwab is a chaotic force to be reckoned with, especially within the industrial world.

➤ Oscar F. Mayer

A German immigrant, Mayer built himself from the ground up. With the help of his brothers, Mayer was able to run a successful butcher and sausage making business, one which he has transformed into a larger company named after himself. His company is known for its quality products and Mayer takes great pride and care in ensuring this.

➤ George Westinghouse Jr.

An American entrepreneur and engineer based in Pennsylvania who invented the railway air brake and was a pioneer of the electrical industry. Westinghouse is one of the top competitors within the electrical industry and has crossed paths with those of Edison and J.P. Morgan several times; his success is varying. Despite this, the impact his inventions have had is undeniable, and with that he holds a strong reputation.

➤ Robert R. McCormick

Robert McCormick comes from a wealthy family. A young and ambitious man, he is currently pursuing a career in law. His family has ties to the United States government and with this he has a strong understanding of it, along with strong beliefs of his own.

➤ Harry F. Sinclair

A former pharmacist, Sinclair is an interesting person to say the least. Having recently become interested within the oil business, he is currently a lease broker. Sinclair seems to know more than he lets on, his knowledge of the industry and his ambition to succeed making him a strong competitor within the race for wealth.

➤ William F. Stewart

A knowledgeable and talented craftsman, Stewart is the president of the Flint Body Company and the W.F. Stewart Company, both of which are run by his two sons respectively. He has shown strong interest in the automobile industry, specifically with the Buick Motor Company, and his Flint Body Company is a producer of wooden automotive bodies.

➤ Albert H. Wiggin

Described as a charming man despite his quiet nature, Wiggin is a banker with vice president experience. His extensive experience within the area despite his young age are what build his reputation, having been vice president of several institutions. Rumor has it he's one of many names within talks to take up a more powerful position for a certain bank, though of which is unknown. Regardless, his potential is undeniable.

➤ Eugene V. Debs

Some may call him infamous, and some may call him renowned. A well-known activist, Eugene has an interesting track record; he's accredited as one of the organizers behind the Pullman strike along with organizing several other unions and protests in his past. Recently, he's noted to have run for president following his release from prison and he continues to advocate, though now he is said to be a strong supporter of the Socialist party.

➤ Leland Stanford (currently alive for sake of committee)

An intelligent and educated man, Stanford is currently retired from his position as chairman of the Southern Pacific Railroad and president of Central Pacific Railroad. He remains a trusted informant, and some may say he still runs them in a sense due to the weight his words carry. Stanford has also served as governor for the state of California along with having a seat in the Senate. However, his reputation does not seem to match his impressive history, given his frowned upon tactics and less than polite comments regarding different races and workers.

➤ William Kissam Vanderbilt

Born into a large family of wealth, Vanderbilt currently manages their railroad investments along with indulging in his own personal endeavors. Taking a special interest in horses, Vanderbilt has most recently constructed the American Horse Exchange in New York City, along with being heavily involved within the horse-racing community as a whole.

➤ Maggie Walker

Maggie Lena Walker is an African-American teacher turned businesswoman. She is serving as the president of St. Luke Penny Savings Bank, having chartered it herself and the bank being led by both women and men. Walker also had established the Juvenile Branch of the Order earlier on, aiming to encourage education amongst younger people. She's an inspiration to many, and as such has great influence when it comes to minorities as a whole.

➤ George Jay Gould

The eldest son of the infamous Jay Gould, George has inherited a large fortune and control of the DRGW, along with the Missouri Pacific Railroad. Currently he is seeking to expand his railroads and the distances they reach, although the legality of which he attempts to do this is questionable at best.

➤ Horace Dodge

One of two brothers, Dodge is very rapidly making a name for himself in the automobile industry as a strong supplier and producer. The brothers are currently in contract with the Olds Motor Vehicle Industry, producing transmissions for them. Despite this, it's rumored Dodge is a bit unpleasant to work with, known for his aggressive tendencies.

➤ Walter Chrysler

Son of the famed Henry Chrysler, Walter followed closely in his father's footsteps, becoming a renowned mechanic and known to be adept when it came to solving problems many others couldn't. Currently, he's located in Trinidad, Colorado where he acts as the general foreman of the shops in the area.

➤ Thomas Edison

A remarkable man, Edison has created countless inventions and contributed greatly to the scientific community as a whole through the years. An adamant pacifist, Edison is also a thinker for the people; he expresses dislike of the gold monetary fund, along with being outspoken when it comes to loans and government funds.

➤ Andrew Mellon

Having worked in the banking industry since adolescence, it's safe to say Mellon is more than comfortable with business overall. Mellon boasts a substantial amount of investments within companies, though his pride and joy can be considered as the Mellon National Bank. Always eager to expand, Mellon is not opposed to more investments, so long as they show promise.

➤ Louis Chevrolet

A Swiss immigrant, Chevrolet is what many may call a 'small fish' of sorts. An avid racing enthusiast, Chevrolet is a skilled mechanic with special interest in the automobile industry (and money-making, of course). Chevrolet is currently working for a company known as De Dion-Bouton.

➤ Amadeo Gianini

The son of Italian immigrant parents, Gianini is especially passionate when it comes to opportunities for those not from the United States and the middle class. Having grown up as one of them, Gianini seeks to create a bank to benefit the 'little guy', those of lesser income who he believes are often overlooked.

➤ Lyman Stewart

President of the Union Oil Company, Stewart is heavily interested in continuing to expand his wealth and the company as a whole. Currently, his company is one of the top oil producers within the country, along with acting as heavy competition to that of the Standard Oil Company. Stewart is also a heavy supporter of the Christian religion and philanthropy.

➤ Paul Warburg

Currently partnered with Kuhn, Loeb & Co, Warburg is an experienced banker from Germany. His work experience is extensive, and with that comes his own ideals; Warburg is known to have criticized the American banking system heavily, harboring his own ideals of what should change and steps moving forward.

➤ Thomas J. Watson Sr.

Known for his persistence, Watson is a force to be reckoned with. Having badgered and clawed his way through the sales business, he has recently been appointed to run an NCR agency in Rochester, New York. Almost all of his attention and priorities are being poured into this agency in a striking attempt to revive the dying branch.

➤ James W. Johnson

An on the rise civil rights activist, Johnson is a unique character amongst the prominent businessmen in committee. Well-versed in law, Johnson has contributed a good portion of his life to informing the public of civil rights issues particularly in regards to race and America's past, along with what's in store for its future.

➤ Eugene G. Grace

Grace is working for Bethlehem Steel currently and is increasingly loyal to them; he seeks to climb the ranks from within and is incredibly self-assured with an impressive intellect.