

AFL-CIO Starts Impeach Drive

Washington

The AFL-CIO asked its 13.5 million members yesterday to urge their congressmen to impeach President Nixon immediately.

The labor federation, launching a nationwide campaign, released a bill of particulars of what it considers grounds for impeachment.

Among the reasons listed were charge that Mr. Nixon

has "consistently lied" to the American people, that he has "used the office of the Presidency for personal enrichment," brought dishonor on the office, violated the Constitution and caused "an erosion of public confidence in our democratic system of government."

"Until Richard Nixon is removed from office, we will not be able to get Watergate behind us," the AFL-CIO

statement said. "We will not be able to proceed with sober and constructive solutions to our economic and social problems at home or to the dangers of war in the world."

The White House last evening issued a sharp rebuke to AFL-CIO president George Meany.

"We are confident that the working men and women of the AFL-CIO will reject George Meany's unseemly attempt to manufacture impeachment fever against President Nixon," said Ken Clawson, the deputy director of communications. "The federation's action is ill-conceived and can only result in harming the nation at home and abroad."

DEMAND

The impeachment campaign among union members was an extension of the demand, voted by the AFL-CIO convention in Miami Beach October 22, that Mr. Nixon either resign or be removed from office.

"Since then, Mr. Nixon has given clear evidence he does not intend to resign (and) the AFL-CIO therefore calls for his immediate impeachment," the labor federation said.

The call came in a full-page statement in the AFL-CIO's weekly newspaper. It was designed to be used as a leaflet for mass distribution among workers at plant gates, union meetings and membership mailings, officials said.

URGED

The statement explained the impeachment procedure and urged union members to write their representatives in Congress and Chairman Peter Rodino of the House Judiciary Committee, which is considering several resolutions calling for impeachment.

Other items in the AFL-CIO bill of particulars were charges that Mr. Nixon had violated civil liberties, government surveillance targets, created a personal secret police and interfered with freedom of the press by means of wiretaps, FBI investigations and threats of punitive action.

Others included charges that Mr. Nixon secretly recorded conversations in his office, failed to keep promises for full disclosure of facts in the Watergate affair, secretly curtailed the FBI investigation of Watergate, involved the CIA in the Watergate coverup, and sought to keep from a federal court facts on the burglary of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

United Press