

unions seeking increases? What standards could be used in determining whether to investigate or hold hearings, what to pinpoint in factfinding or hearing reports, what recommendations to make? How could public participation be organized so as to produce confidence in reports but at the same time to produce enough support from the Government to carry weight with the parties affected? Could public authority be exercised with aggressive and continuing attention to public interests or would organs of administration become sluggish and weak in motivation? Would a continuing type of control, similar to utility control, be desirable for a few sectors of the economy? If so, for which sectors? Could agencies for administration of such controls maintain the independence and vigor needed for success?

(5) Government surveillance of price and wage increases would have political effects. New issues in politics would be created and these would relate to matters of intense interest to parties. The pressures on Government from labor and investor interests would be increased, and the political struggle among groups might be intensified. The political resistance to adverse Government actions on wages and prices would be great, so great in fact that it could be expected that only the power and prestige of the Presidency could be expected to carry weight against the resistance. And allegations of Presidential partiality toward particular groups would be unavoidable.

(6) The ultimate test of public surveillance would lie in the economic and social results. The surveillance would need to be exercised with consideration of multiple objectives, including not only that of price stability but the effects upon economic growth, employment, and purchasing power, national security, and justice to economic groups. To balance these objectives and give each its proper weight in a rapidly changing economy, and to conclude public consideration with the expedition required to avoid adverse effects on the economy, would constitute a large challenge to administrative and political authorities seeking to avoid inflationary wage and price increases.

The administrative difficulties and political consequences of public action, and the strong desire to maintain private decision on matters of wages and prices, has led to a great reluctance to consider means of public participation in these matters, even when production was impeded over a protracted period by a strike in a key industry. Patience may be an attribute of wisdom on matters of this kind. At the same time, the growth of market power leads inevitably to consideration of public participation. In the labor field provision for notice and for fact finding in emergencies is already part of public policy. The means of dealing with stoppage of industry, inflationary threats, and other types of situations created by the development of large organizations with economic power will be one of the most difficult areas of policy in the future.

It may be hoped that the threats from concentrations of economic power may be met by a variety of Government policies. A prime need is more effective enforcement of antitrust laws and amendments of these laws to insure more complete attainment of their purpose. Government policies which tend to support and strengthen the market power of groups need to be considered in terms of their effects on the power of these groups over the economy. Such developments would aim toward correction and prevention of all the manifestations of