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# NIXON'S MESSAGE LAUDED BY AIDES

## Both 'Do Nothing' and 'Do Something' Blocs Like It

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 18 —

Officials in the Nixon Administration who differ on the issue of whether the President should resort to "jawboning" to influence private price and wage decisions expressed satisfaction today with the President's message on the economy.

But there was also agreement that the mechanics of the price and wage surveillance by the Council of Economic Advisers were still not fully settled, and that this matter would be important in determining just how much "the spotlight of public opinion" would be brought to bear on specific industries or unions.

At present, it has been learned, the council's periodic reports are planned merely as austere, statistical tabulations of the major influences affecting the price level in a recent period.

In the long debate preceding the President's decision, disclosed in his message yesterday, the Treasury was a leading force on the side of "do something." Under Secretaries Charles E. Walker and Paul A. Volcker and Assistant Secretary Murray L. Weidenbaum all proposed plans. Maurice Mann, Assistant Director of the Budget also favored action on the "jawboning" or "incomes policy" front.

## Both Sides Satisfied

The main opponents—dubbed the "do-nothing" school—were George P. Shultz, the Secretary of Labor, and Herbert Stein, a member of the Council of Economic advisers. The chairman of the council, Paul W. McCracken, helped to work out the compromise, though he has long been a skeptic about the usefulness of jawboning.

"It was real progress — a very reasonable compromise," said one member of the "action" school today.

"I'm very satisfied," said a member of the "do-nothing" group.

It was regarded as possible, if not likely, that the whole controversy would arise all over again when the first reports of the Council of Economic Advisers were made to the new National Commission on Productivity, which will release them to the public.

The 23-man commission, or factions within it, may insist upon an analysis of the factors causing important price increases. Such an analysis would come much closer than the council has wanted to "pointing the finger" at specific industries and assessing such matters as the rate of profit and the rise of labor costs.

In no event will there be direct confrontations with individual companies or unions, as took place in the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations.

If experience is any guide, it may take many weeks before the President appoints the productivity commission. The first reports of the council cannot be made until after the commission has been named and has met. Meanwhile, the fact of a Presidential decision is likely to head off Congressional moves to enact legislation of one kind or another.

In another development today, the Democratic leadership was offered free time on the National Broadcasting Company network at 12:30 P.M. next Wednesday to reply to the President's message.