This PDF is a selection from an out-of-print volume from the National Bureau of Economic Research

Volume Title: Cost Behavior and Price Policy

Volume Author/Editor: Committee on Price Determination

Volume Publisher: NBER

Volume ISBN: 0-87014-190-2

Volume URL: http://www.nber.org/books/comm43-1

Publication Date: 1943

Chapter Title: Front Matter to "Cost Behavior and Price Policy"

Chapter Author: Committee on Price Determination

Chapter URL: http://www.nber.org/chapters/c2087

Chapter pages in book: (p. -21 - -10)

Cost Behavior and Price Policy

A STUDY PREPARED BY THE

COMMITTEE ON PRICE DETERMINATION FOR THE CONFERENCE ON PRICE RESEARCH

REPRINTED WITH THE PERMISSION OF NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH, NEW YORK

> UNIVERSITY MICROFILMS, INC. A SUBSIDIARY OF XEROX CORPORATION ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 1966

National Bureau of Economic Research NEW YORK · 1943

Copyright 1943 by National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc. 1819 Broadway, New York, N. Y. All Rights Reserved

Reprinted by Offset Lithography, 1947 and 1949, by Polygraphic Co. of America

Bound by H. Wolff, New York

PRICE STUDIES Number Four

,



2,006,218

Conference on price research. Committee on price determination.

Cost behavior and price policy, a study prepared by the Committee on price determination for the Conference on price research. New York, National bureau of economic research, 1943.

xix, 856 p. diagrs. 24^{cm}. (Half-litle: Conference on price research, Price studies. No. 4)

Bibliographical foot-notes.

ibrary of Congre

1, Prices. 2. Cost. I. Title.

43-8056

3-81.50

National Bureau of Beonomic Research, inc. 2,006,218 Conference on price research. Committee on price determination.

Cost behavior and price policy, a study prepared by the Committee on price determination for the Conference on price research. New York, National bureau of economic research, 1943.

xix, 856 p. diagra. 24^{cm}. (Half-title: (Conference on price research) Price studies. No. 4) Bibliographical foot-notes

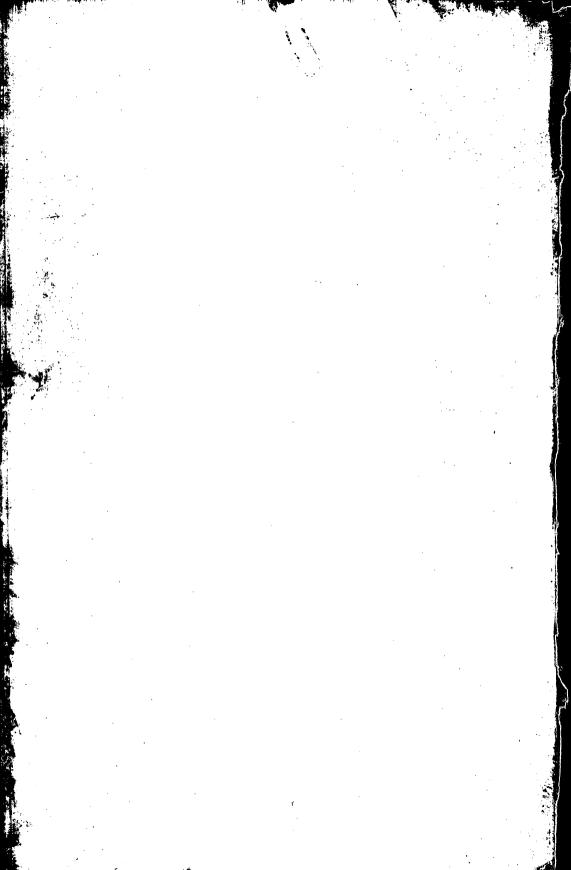
I. Title.

1. Prices. 2. Cost.

Library of Congress

TERIAL SUBMILIER

HU221.C57



CONFERENCE ON PRICE RESEARCH

Members

HENRY B. ARTHUR, Swift and Company ANNE BEZANSON, University of Pennsylvania JOHN D. BLACK, Harvard University ARTHUR R. BURNS, War Production Board JOHN CASSELS, Office of Price Administration J. M. CLARK, Columbia University MORRIS A. COPELAND, War Production Board RICHARD G. GETTELL, Office of Price Administration CHARLES O. HARDY. The Brookings Institution HARRY HOUGH, Stagg, Mather and Hough DON D. HUMPHREY, Office of Price Administration ARYNESS JOY, Bureau of Labor Statistics Edward S. Mason, Office of Strategic Services FREDERICK C. MILLS, National Bureau of Economic Research WALTER MITCHELL, Dun and Bradstreet EDWIN G. NOURSE, The Brookings Institution F. A. PEARSON, Cornell University A. F. W. PLUMPTRE, Canadian Legation HAROLD B. ROWE, Office of Price Administration GEORGE STIGLER, University of Minnesota O. C. STINE, Department of Agriculture WILLARD THORP, Associated Gas and Electric Corporation DONALD H. WALLACE, Office of Price Administration C. OLIVER WELLINGTON, Scovell, Wellington and Company ROSWELL H. WHITMAN, Office of Price Administration THEODORE O. YNTEMA, University of Chicago

Edward S. Mason, Chairman Bettina Sinclair, Executive Secretary

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH

OFFICERS

1949

C. Reinold Noyes, Chairman H. W. Laidler, President Harry Scherman, Vice-President George B. Roberts, Treasurer W. J. Carson, Executive Director Martha Anderson, Editor

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

D. R. Belcher, American Telephone & Telegraph Co. Oswald W. Knauth, New York City Simon Kuznets, University of Pennsylvania
H. W. Laidler, Executive Director, League for Industrial Democracy Shepard Morgan, Finance Adviser, OMGUS, Germany C. Reinold Noyes, New York City
George B. Roberts, Vice-President, National City Bank Beardsley Ruml, New York City
Harry Scherman, President, Book-of-the-Month Club George Soule, New York City N. I. Stone, Consulting Economist J. Raymond Walsh, WMCA Broadcasting Co. Leo Wolman, Columbia University
T. O. Yntema, Vice President-Finance, Ford Motor Co.

DIRECTORS BY UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT

E. Wight Bakke, Yale C. C. Balderston, Pennsylvania Arthur F. Burns, Columbia G. A. Elliott, Toronto H. M. Groves, Wisconsin R. B. Warren, Institute

Gottfried Haberler, Harvard Clarence Heer, North Carolina R. L. Kozelka, Minnesota Paul M. O'Leary, Cornell T. W. Schultz, Chicago te for Advanced Study

R. B. Warren, Institute for Advanced Study

DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Percival F. Brundage, American Institute of Accountants Arthur H. Cole, Economic History Association
Frederick C. Mills, American Statistical Association
S. H. Ruttenberg, Congress of Industrial Organizations Murray Shields, American Management Association Boris Shishkin, American Federation of Labor
Warren C. Waite, American Farm Economic Association Donald H. Wallace, American Economic Association

RESEARCH STAFF

Arthur F. Burns, Director of Research Geoffrey H. Moore, Associate Director of Research

Moses Abramovitz Harold Barger Morris A. Copeland Daniel Creamer David Durand Solomon Fabricant Milton Friedman Millard Hastay W. Braddock Hickman F. F. Hill Thor Hultgren Simon Kuznets Clarence D. Long Ruth P. Mack Frederick C. Mills Raymond J. Saulnier George J. Stigler Leo Wolman

RELATION OF THE DIRECTORS TO THE WORK AND PUBLICATIONS OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU

1. The object of the National Bureau of Economic Research is to ascertain and to present to the public important economic facts and their interpretation in a scientific and impartial manner. The Board of Directors is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the work of the Bureau is carried on in strict conformity with this object.

2. To this end the Board of Directors shall appoint one or more Directors of Research.

3. The Director or Directors of Research shall submit to the members of the Board, or to its Executive Committee, for their formal adoption, all specific proposals concerning researches to be instituted.

4. No report shall be published until the Director or Directors of Research shall have submitted to the Board a summary drawing attention to the character of the data and their utilization in the report, the nature and treatment of the problems involved, the main conclusions and such other information as in their opinion would serve to determine the suitability of the report for publication in accordance with the principles of the Bureau.

5. A copy of any manuscript proposed for publication shall also be submitted to each member of the Board. For each manuscript to be so submitted a special committee shall be appointed by the President, or at his designation by the Executive Director, consisting of three Directors selected as nearly as may be one from each general division of the Board. The names of the special manuscript committee shall be stated to each Director when the summary and report described in paragraph (4) are sent to him. It shall be the duty of each member of the committee to read the manuscript. If each member of the special committee signifies his approval within thirty days, the manuscript may be published. If each member of the special committee has not signified his approval within thirty days of the transmittal of the report and manuscript, the Director of Research shall then notify each member of the Board, requesting approval or disapproval of publication, and thirty additional days shall be granted for this purpose. The manuscript shall then not be published unless at least a majority of the entire Board and a two-thirds majority of those members of the Board who shall have voted on the proposal within the time fixed for the receipt of votes on the publication proposed shall have approved.

6. No manuscript may be published, though approved by each member of the special committee, until forty-five days have elapsed from the transmittal of the summary and report. The interval is allowed for the receipt of any memorandum of dissent or reservation, together with a brief statement of his reasons, that any member may wish to express; and such memorandum of dissent or reservation shall be published with the manuscript if he so desires. Publication does not, however, imply that each member of the Board has read the manuscript, or that either members of the Board in general, or of the special committee, have passed upon its validity in every detail.

7. A copy of this resolution shall, unless otherwise determined by the Board, be printed in each copy of every National Bureau book.

> (Resolution adopted October 25, 1926 and revised February 6, 1933 and February 24, 1941)

FOREWORD

This volume is the first report of a Committee established by the Conference on Price Research to study the process of price determination in business firms. The focus of the present study is on the behavior of costs in the firm. The Committee on Price Determination expects in subsequent studies to investigate other aspects of business price making.

> Edward S. Mason, Chairman, Conference on Price Research

• · • . •