firm evaluation of the role of concentration and unionization can be made.

TABLE 14.—*Ratio of indexes in specific industries relative to all manufacturing, 1957*

[1947–49 ratio=100]

Industry	Wholesale price	Output	Straight time hourly earnings	Labor costs per unit of output	Returns to capital	Concentration ratios (percent)	Estimated union strength (percent)
All manufacturing	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Highly concentrated, strongly unionized industries:							
Primary metals	132	90	107	119	113	81	75–100
Rubber	119	91	99	107	109	51	75–100
Stone, clay, and glass	118	99	102	103	117	58	50– 75
Electrical machinery	113	135	98	94	92	72	75–100
Motor vehicles	110	87	98	N.A.	100	96	75–100
Petroleum	102	96	102	100	91	99	50– 75
Highly concentrated, weakly unionized industries:							
Tobacco	103	79	104	98	139	100	25– 50
Chemicals	89	137	107	87	121	59	25– 50
Low concentration, strongly unionized industries:							
Nonelectrical machinery	125	93	102	119	96	31	75–100
Fabricated metals	115	92	102	122	74	19	50– 75
Paper	105	107	103	106	83	5	50– 75
Apparel	83	82	82	95	83	8	75–100
Low concentration, weakly unionized industries:							
Furniture	106	96	96	99	77	7	25– 50
Lumber	97	75	96	91	58	2	25– 50
Leather	88	78	90	96	102	2	25– 50
Food	86	83	104	107	90	22	25– 50
Textiles	74	73	85	81	52	12	0– 25

Source: App. C.

Nevertheless, at least some tentative observations may be made with respect to these figures. Perhaps the most striking are the trends in the primary metals industry. From 1947 to 1957, the wholesale price index rose to a level almost one-third higher than the price index for all manufacturing. Direct labor costs per unit rose by nearly 20 percent more, and returns to capital by 13 percent more than in all manufacturing. Yet these strong upward movements in relative prices, wages, and profit margins developed during a period in which output rose by considerably less than in manufacturing as a whole.[14]

Among the remaining industries within the highly concentrated, strongly unionized group, no similar clear trends are evident. In general, their price indexes rose by more than the average; this was not consistently related, however, to the movement of hourly earnings, labor costs, or returns to capital. Straight-time hourly earnings increased in all of these sectors by almost exactly the same amount as in manufacturing as a whole. In rubber and stone, clay, and glass, however, labor costs and capital returns both rose more than all manufacturing average; in electrical machinery and petroleum, on the other hand, the opposite was generally the case.

The two industries characterized by high concentration and weak union organization—tobacco and chemicals—reveal some interesting trends. In each of them, hourly earnings rose by more than the manu-

[14] For a much more comprehensive analysis of these trends and the causal factors underlying them, see Otto Eckstein and Gary Fromm, "Steel and the Postwar Inflation", Joint Economic Committee Study of Employment, Growth, and Price Levels Study Paper No. 2.