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Surplus Labour in Sparsely Populated Countries

— Black African Case —

by Katsu Yanaihara

It is mentioned that the problem of population pressure is not so serious in black Africa. However, the vent-for-surplus theory, which gives an explanation for the past rapid growth of production of some primary goods for export, is in fact based on the assumption of continuously, additional input of factors of production to those lines of productive activities. On the other hand, the cities in developing countries have become a powerful magnet for the people in rural area. The increasing flow of the people in to cities raises grave questions of employment creation for the absorption of the growing urban labour force.

There will be three conditions favourable to the emmigration of male adults with little influence upon foods production for self-sufficient living in the home region. The first lies in the possibility of making use of the difference of the cycle of agricultural calendar in the home and host regions. The second is the utilization of the division of labour by sex, which is quite common in this continent. The third is found in the behaviour of the villagers as target-farmer. They wish to keep a certain level of the foods production as a security for futur uncertainty, while maximizing cash earning by planting cash crops or migrating to other regions.

In all three cases, the additional input of labour by planting new crops or by migrating in dry season to other region demands ultimately the extension of labour hours at the sacrifice of leisure. In other words, the preference of leisure to goods by cash income in traditional society was relatively weak.

Even in black Africa, which is considered as a sparsely populated area, the local land shortage is generating a population pressure on residents in some savannah regions.

The villagers can have a choice between (1) transferring the field for cultivation to new land, (2) increasing labour input, (3) modifying agricultural technology, (4) purchasing of foods from outside area and (5) migrating to other regions.

The unused land is still abundant in relation to given technology, while the labour is possibly abundant in relation to the leisure. Especially, by choosing migration the people can exempt

from falling themselves in the local Malthusian trap.

Non-economic factors like the lure of the city can also explain substantial unemployment in cities in sparsely populated countries.

A Public Choice: Tax Revenues or Social Insurance Contributions for the Welfare State

by Seiji Furuta

Consensus among scholars of public finance has never been attained concerning the appropriate way of financing for the welfare state. This paper intends to clarify the reason why is it difficult to choose the revenue sources out of general taxes or social insurance contributions.

A detailed description of governmental services which can be classified according to the three categories suggested—public goods, services with external economies, and marketable services—is not readily available. However, a cursory examination of aggregate data suggests the following somewhat crude allocation of some of the major service categories just like O. H. Browlee made and admitted. On the left hand side of the following table, there are corresponding sort of revenue sources—general taxes, earmarked taxes, user charges, and public utility rates—which are considered different from the free market prices.

After examining characters of these categories of revenues and expenditures, it is attempted to find out one-to-one relationships among these corresponding categories by means of the cost-benefit analysis. Clearly, there are several limitations to the effectiveness of the analysis. The problems of measurement of benefits and the uncertainties are so great with many of the expenditures that quantification is almost impossible. Many of the expenditures have redistributive effects, benefiting some persons at the expense of others, and the cost-benefit analysis makes no contribution toward the establishment of the social welfare function that provides society's answer about the relative desirability of various patterns of income distribution.

Some economists argue that the Japanese social insurance program should be financed from general instead of earmarked tax funds upon the allocative and distribution viewpoints. Another economists suggest earmarking as a device to generate taxpayer support for expansion of

A Revenue-Expenditure Model of A Tax State

A. General Taxes

- Income Tax
- Consumption Tax
- Corporate Tax
- Death Duty
- Donation Tax
-
- Penalties

A'. Public Goods & Services

1. Central Government
 - a. General Government
 - b. National Security etc.
 - c. Public Assistances etc.
2. Local Government
 - a. General Control
 - b. Public Safety
 - (1) Police etc.
 - (2) Fire etc.

B. Earmarked Taxes

- Gasoline Tax
- Oil-Gas Tax
- City Planning Tax
- National Health
- Insurance Tax
-

B'. Services with External Economies

1. Central Government
 - a. Social Insurance Services, etc.
 - b. Roads, Air Ports, etc.
2. Local Government
 - a. Hospital, General Welfare, etc.
 - b. Public Health, Sewage, etc.
 - c. Elementary and Secondary Education

C. User Charges

- Reclamation Works
- Charge
- Social Insurance
- Contribution

C'. Marketable Services

1. Central Government
 - a. Postal Service
 - b. Highways
 - c. Higher Education
2. Local Government
 - a. Highways
 - b. Higher Education
 - c. Public Utilities

D. Public Utility Rates

- Postal Rates
- Transportation
- Rates
- Electricity Rates

E. Free Market Prices

E'. Private Goods & Services

certain governmental services. Following after studies on the economics of earmarked taxes made by J. M. Buchanan and C. Goetz, it is maintained that the choice of general taxes or social insurance contributions (i.e., earmarked taxes) should be rendered to the judgement of voting, at least, under the system of democracy. The writer also pointed out the similarity in the choice of incremental budgeting or zero-base one just like the one in the choice of general or earmarked taxes. It may be concluded that the social insurance contributions as a kind of earmarked taxes can be considered as a double edged sword which should be preferable but

careful to handle with.

On the Convexity of Multi-valued Mappings I.

by Ryūichi Watanabe

In Mathematical economics, the theories of convexity and multi-valued mappings have been repeatedly used as powerful analytical tools. The purpose of this paper is to show how we can define the convexity for multi-valued mappings on Banach spaces. In recent years, definitions of convex multi-valued mappings are given by Borwein [2], Brumell [4], Pshenichnyi [9] and others, but their definitions are too general in many of the applications. In this paper, by endowing a suitable ordering, we give a new definition of the concept, which is shown to extend many interesting properties of ordinary convex functions.

Contribution of a Firm and Optimal Entry

by Kunio Kawamata

The main purpose of this paper is to introduce the concept of "marginal contribution of a firm" and use it to derive conditions for the optimal entry in various industrial situations. We consider an economy with a finite number of goods but with a continuum of potential firms. The "marginal contribution of a firm" is defined roughly as (the limit as the measure of the firm approaches zero of) the difference between the maximal welfare that the economy can attain with the firm and that without it.

It turns out that when there are fixed costs, not all firms should produce positive outputs even though they have the same production technology. In the case where perfect competition prevails, the marginal contribution of a firm coincides with the profit of the firm, hence a optimal condition for entry is that the marginal firms should receive zero profit.

Our analysis stands in contrast with the previous studies by Kahn, Meade and Negishi in

that agents are considered in a non-atomic measure space. This approach, which follow the procedure of Aumann has the advantage that the marginal contribution of a firm can unambiguously be expressed in terms of the prices and the allocation of the economy, and that a similar analysis can be applied to the cases with external economies and public goods as well as with certain types of monopolistic agent.