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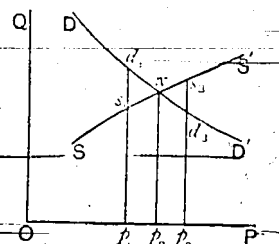
SUPPOSITION

tion will force prices up, thus producing an equation of supply and demand.

(3) The prices thus fixed tend to be proportionate to the expense of producing the several articles in the market. For if the market price of one article offers a higher rate of profit than the market price of another, investors will gradually abandon the production of the less profitable goods, and put their capital into the line which promises the higher rate, thus increasing the supply and diminishing the price at which it can be sold.

(4) The equation of supply and demand is thus a double process. First, a temporary adjustment of the demand to the supply by the commercial competition of merchants, which lowers (or in the converse case raises) the price until it corresponds to the MARGINAL UTILITY (q.v.); i.e. until it becomes just worth while for consumers to take the whole supply at the price in question. Then there is a more permanent though less accurate and universal adjustment of the supply to the demand, by the industrial competition of investors, which lowers, or raises, the price until it becomes proportionate to the marginal expense of production; i.e. until it becomes just worth while for producers to meet the whole demand at the price in question.

This is the theory of supply and demand as developed by the English political economists from Smith to Cairnes. Far greater precision was given by the adoption of the mathematical form of expression, which we owe, perhaps, most of all to Cournot (1838), Jevons (1871), and Marshall (1890). Cournot's curves, which are in some respects the best, have the form given in the cut. From an origin O lay off on an axis OP successive



prices Op_1, Op_2, Op_3 ; and from the extremity of these abscissae lay off ordinates, on any convenient scale, p_1d_1, p_2d_2 , &c., to represent the quantities demanded at these successive prices. Similarly lay off on the same scale, ordinates p_1s_1, p_2s_2 , &c., to represent the quan-

ties supplied at these prices. The two series of points thus determined will give respectively curves of demand and of supply. The intersection a of these two curves will represent the equation of supply and demand; the price p_x will be an equilibrium price, towards which, under the action of free competition, there will be a tendency to react in the face of temporary disturbances.

Literature: COURNOT, Recherches sur les Principes mathématiques de la Théorie des Richesses; MARSHALL, PRINC. OF ECONOMICS. For another form of the theory, developed by WALRAS and by CAIRNES, see RECIPROCAL DEMAND. (A.T.H.)

Supposition [Lat. *suppositio*, from *sub* + *ponere*, to place]: Ger. *Voraussetzung*, *Supposition*; Fr. *supposition*; Ital. *supposizione*, *presupposto*. (1) See HYPOTHESIS.

(2) One of the different regular ways in which a name may, in general, be used, so as to denote different objects.

The doctrine of *suppositio* is set forth in the *Summulae* of Petrus Hispanus and in most of the other similar mediaeval textbooks of logic. There are said to be five passions of terms. These are *supponibility*, *ampliability*, *restringibility*, *appellability*, and *distributability*. The definition of supposition is, '*Suppositio est acceptio termini substantivi pro aliquo*.' The term is called the *supponens*, the object the *suppositum*. A supposition is either *common* or *discrete*; the former being that of a general substantive term, the latter that of a proper name, or of a common noun accompanied by a demonstrative pronoun, as *this man*. A common supposition is either *natural* or *accidental*. The natural supposition is the acceptance of a common term for all the objects '*pro quibus aptum natum est participari*,' that is, for everything which it is adapted to signify; thus, in '*Man is mortal*,' *man* stands for or denotes everything past, present, or future, which the word '*man*' was invented to denote. An *accidental* supposition is where the application of a term is limited by its adjunct. Thus, if the verb is in a future or past tense, it will generally be only future or past individuals that are meant. Petrus Hispanus then goes on to divide accidental suppositions into *simple* and *personal*. Another way is to divide suppositions in general into *mixed* and *unmixed*. A supposition may be mixed in two ways. One way is when a compound term consists of words in apposition of which the acceptions are of different kinds, as where we say, '*The word man originally meant*

SUPRA — SUSO

a thinker.' Here the acceptance of '*word*' and that of '*man*' are of different kinds, the former denoting one of the objects which it was invented to denote, the latter not denoting anything but itself considered in its general employment. The other kind of mixed supposition is that of a term compounded of different nouns so that the denotation of the whole is determined by that of its parts; as where we speak of a *horse's shoe*. But if we say that a river makes a horse-shoe, the supposition is unmixed. Then unmixed supposition is either *material*, *simple*, or *personal*. *Material* supposition is that of a term taken as standing merely for all repetitions of itself, as *man* in the above example. *Material* supposition is either *discrete* or *common*; *discrete* when it refers to a particular instance of the occurrence of the term, when it is referred to as *this* or *that*; *common* when it does not refer to the special occurrence of the term merely. *Common material* supposition is either *determinate* or *confused*. Of the *determinate* a favourite example is '*Sortes est dictio dissyllaba*,' *Sortes* being the form which Socrates takes in logic. *Confused material* supposition is either *merely confused* (*confusa tantum*) or *confused and distributive*. Of the former an example is, '*Omne ly homo est nomen*.' *Simple* supposition is that which occurs when we say '*homo est species*' or '*homo convertitur cum visibili*.' As Petrussays: '*Suppositio accidentalis simplex est acceptio termini communis pro re universali significata per ipsum terminum*.' It was also held that the predicate term of an affirmative proposition has a simple supposition, because no *descensus* from it is admissible. Indeed wherever a term was undistributed it seems to have been held to have a simple supposition, except where the term was the subject of a particular proposition. *Personal* supposition is the acceptance of a general term for its particulars. It is either *determinate* or *confused*. *Determinate personal* supposition is that of the subject of a particular proposition. *Confused personal* supposition is either that of the subject of a universal proposition, which is confused a *necessitate signi*, or that of the predicate, which is confused a *necessitate rei*. The reason is that if '*Every man is an animal*,' every man has his own animality; and it is these animalitys for which the predicate supposes (*pro quibus supponit*). In that proposition, '*man*' supposes *distributive et mobiliter*, because descent from it is valid; but '*animal*' *immobiliter*, because descent

from it is not valid. This brief summary gives but a slight idea of the intricacy, weakness, and confusion of the doctrine. (C.S.P.)

Supra. Lat. prefix signifying above or upon. As in '*supraliminal*,' above the THRESHOLD (q.v.). (J.M.B.)

Supralapsarianism [Lat. *super* + *lapsus*, fall]: Ger. *Supralapsarianismus*; Fr. *supralapsarisme*; Ital. *sopralapsarianismo*. That doctrine of the order of the decrees which regards the decree of election as logically preceding those of the Creation and Fall, and as having its sole ground in the sovereign will and pleasure of God. See INFRALAPSARIANISM (also for literature). (A.T.H.)

Supraliminal: see SUPRA, and cf. THRESHOLD.

Supremacy (political): see SOVEREIGNTY.

Supreme Good: HIGHEST GOOD (q.v.); see also GOOD.

Surd: see PHONETICS.

Surdity [Lat. *surditas*, deafness]: Ger. *Taubheit*; Fr. *surdité*; Ital. *sordità*. Deafness. See DEAFNESS AND THE DEAF.

Surdi-mutism is a synonym for deaf-mutism, and *surditas verbalis* is a synonym for word-deafness. (J.J.)

Surface [Lat. *supra* + *facies*, face, through Fr.]: Ger. *Oberfläche*; Fr. *surface*; Ital. *superficie*. (1) Of an object: the outside.

(2) In mathematics: a spacial continuum of two dimensions. See SPACE. (J.M.B., H.B.F.)

Surplus Energy Theory: see PLAY, and cf. ART AND ART THEORIES.

Surplus Value [Lat. *super* + *plus*, more]: Ger. *Mehrwerth*; Fr. *plus-value*; Ital. *plus-valenza*, *plus-valore*. Excess of return above labour cost.

According to Marx, the chief exponent of this conception, a capitalist takes money, buys labour, and sells the products of that labour for more than he paid for the labour itself. The labour time spent is (according to Marx, who here follows Aristotle) the true measure of the value of the product. Any excess of price sold above price paid for labour represents a surplus value, created by the labour, but unjustly appropriated by the capitalist. Modern capital he regards as built up out of such appropriation of what really belongs to labour. See VALUE (economic). (A.T.H.)

Survival of the Fittest: see FITTEST (survival of), and EXISTENCE (struggle for).

Suso (or **Seuse**), Heinrich. (1295-1366.) Studied at Constance and at Cologne; became a Dominican, 1308. Greatly influenced