

# Contents

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Foreword .....	13
----------------	----

## Part I:

### Introduction to elementary economics of profit economies

Chapter I. Praeter-Economics: Wealth procurement by violence .....	33
--	----

Chapter II. Value, money and the economic system .....	39
--	----

Section 1. Value and value attribution .....	39
--	----

Section 2. Money and money creation .....	58
---	----

Section 3. The economic system .....	76
--------------------------------------	----

Chapter III. Wealth procurement by exchange .....	81
---	----

Section 1. Consumptive and investive spending: C-M-C' and M-C-M' .....	81
--	----

Section 2. The productive and the sterile economy .....	109
---	-----

Section 3. A tableau économique of modern capitalism .....	118
--	-----

Section 4. An original assembly .....	132
---------------------------------------	-----

## Part II:

### Ancient capitalism, the ascent of ancient prosthetics and their dilemmas

Chapter IV. Primitive society, civilization and the ancient master drama .....	137
--	-----

Section 1. Goods procurement in primitive society .....	137
---	-----

Section 2. Primitive society and civilization .....	138
---	-----

Section 3. The master drama of ancient capitalism: Land for peasants .....	144
--	-----

<b>Chapter V. Conservative-restorative policies and prosthetics in ancient capitalism</b> ..	149
Section 1. Conservative-restorative policies and prosthetics in ancient Greece .....	149
Section 2. Conservative-restorative policies and prosthetics in ancient Rome .....	164
Section 3. China: A glance at 2000 years of East-Eurasian ancient master drama .....	174
Section 4. The failure of conservatism/restoration, ancient prosthetics and their dilemmas .....	186

## Part III:

### The deficiency of employment-generating spending in modern capitalism

<b>Chapter VI. The master drama of modern capitalism: Employment for workers</b> .....	199
--	-----

<b>Chapter VII. The structural deficiency of employment-generating spending in modern capitalism</b> .....	201
Section 1. Circuit closure analysis .....	201
Section 2. Quesnay's dépenses-integrated "royaume agricole" .....	203
Section 3. Smith: An invisible hand over suppliers and customers .....	216
Section 4. Proudhon and Sismondi: Producers cannot buy their produce .....	221
Section 5. Malthus: Costs cannot buy value .....	227
Section 6. What Say said and Ricardo's Law of Say .....	233
Section 7. Marx's insufficient theory on insufficient employment-generating spending ....	242
Section 8. Keynes: Firms' deficient employment-generating spending as deficient remedy for consumers' deficient employment-generating spending .....	285
Section 9. Kalecki: Only capitalists can save capitalists .....	321
Section 10. Minsky: Liquidity and firms' employment-generating spending .....	331

<b>Chapter VIII. The deficient-productive-spending-syndrome</b> .....	343
Section 1. A merely abstract possibility of circuit closure in capitalism .....	343
Section 2. The drain of wealth out of the productive economy .....	351
Section 3. The deficient-productive-spending-syndrome .....	365
Section 4. Secondary dynamics and the deficient-productive-spending-syndrome .....	371

## Part IV: The prosthetics of modern capitalism and their dilemmas

<b>Chapter IX. Redistributive and expansive prosthetics</b> .....	375
<b>Chapter X. Redistributive prosthetics funded without money creation</b> .....	377
Section 1. Redistributive prosthetics funded with domestic taxation and expropriations ..	377
Section 2. Redistributive prosthetics funded with war, external violent wealth procurement and protectionism.....	388
Section 3. Redistributive prosthetics funded with redistributive debt .....	399
<b>Chapter XI. Expansive prosthetics funded with money creation in commodity money regimes</b> .....	407
Section 1. Expansive prosthetics funded with commodity money creation .....	409
Section 2. Expansive prosthetics funded with merchant credit money creation .....	411
Section 3. Expansive prosthetics funded with private bank credit money creation .....	417
<b>Chapter XII. Expansive prosthetics funded with money creation in state fiat money regimes</b> .....	431
Section 1. From commodity money regimes to state fiat money regimes .....	431
Section 2. State fiat money creation aside private bank credit money creation .....	436
Section 3. Expansive prosthetics funded with private bank credit money creation .....	439
Section 4. Expansive prosthetics funded with state fiat money creation .....	454
<b>Chapter XIII. The dilemmas of the prosthetics of modern capitalism</b> .....	481
<b>Afterword: An outlook in questions and answers</b> .....	489

## Appendix

<b>Conventions</b> .....	509
<b>List of Figures</b> .....	519
<b>References</b> .....	521



“Ehemals sah man mit ehrlicher Vornehmheit auf die Menschen herab, die mit Geld Handel treiben, wenn man sie auch nötig hatte; man gestand sich ein, daß jede Gesellschaft ihre Eingeweide haben müsse. Jetzt sind sie die herrschende Macht in der Seele der modernen Menschheit, als der begehrlichste Teil derselben” (*Friedrich Nietzsche*, Richard Wagner in Bayreuth, Abschnitt 6, 1876)

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“In the “entrepreneur economy” with, “on the one hand, of a number of firms or entrepreneurs possessing a capital equipment and a command over resources in the shape of money, and, on the other hand, a number of workers seeking to be employed.... the starting up of productive processes largely depends on a class of entrepreneurs who hire the factors of production for money and look for their recoupment from selling the output for money... A process of production will not be started up, unless the money proceeds expected from the sale of the output are at least equal to the money costs which could be avoided by not starting up to process... The firm... has no object in the world except to end up with more money than it has started with. That is the essential characteristics of an entrepreneurial economy.” (*John Maynard Keynes*, Collected Writings XXIX, page 63, 77, 78, 89 et seq.).

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The first economic experience of the author came when he was nine years old. The son of his grandparents' landlord, Armin, who lived one floor above, had a new gadget; namely, an old electric slot machine. The machine was exceptional in as much as it was – perhaps it was a relic from a more philanthropic age – programmed to *let you win*. This made Armin, who was already a very nice person in his own right, even more well-liked amongst his peer boys. The building's other kids, the author included, would visit him, more than they had ever visited him before, and never forget to bring some coins. He allowed them to play with his machine, and they would happily return with the pockets full of “Groschen”. Armin's father, Herr Jung, initially appeared to be glad about his son's increased popularity and silently refilled the machine for some time. Of course, the day came when the fun was over. If the winners take their winnings home, somebody must refill the ante...

