ONTWIKKELING VAN HET ECONOMISCH DENKEN

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Examenvoorbeeld

I. Beantwoord vraag (a) of vraag (b) naar keuze. (5 punten)

(a) Vergelijk de verdelingstheorie van Adam Smith met de verdelingstheorie van David Ricardo. Maak duidelijk op welke punten Smith en Ricardo van mening verschillen.

(b) Leg uit wat de essentie is van de Marxistische waardeleer en wat het zogenaamde 'transformatieprobleem' inhoudt. Geef aan wat de moeilijkheden zijn waarmee die theorie wordt geconfronteerd.

II. Leg uit en bespreek wat de belangrijkste bijdragen zijn geweest van Vilfredo Pareto aan de theorie van het algemeen economisch evenwicht. (3 punten)

III. Welke rol hebben Richard Cantillon en John Law gespeeld in de geschiedenis van het economisch denken? (3 punten)

IV. Leg uit wat de bijdragen zijn geweest van Arthur Cecil Pigou en Hugh Dalton aan de welvaartseconomie. (3 punten)

V. In "The General Theory of Employment" (*Quarterly Journal of Economics*, **51(2), Feb. 1937, pp. 212-213) schreef John Maynard Keynes het volgende over zijn voorgangers:**

It is generally recognized that the Ricardian analysis was concerned with what we now call long-period equilibrium. Marshall's contribution mainly consisted in grafting on to this the marginal principle and the principle of substitution, together with some discussion of the passage from one position of long-period equilibrium to another. But he assumed, as Ricardo did, that the amounts of the factors of production in use were given and that the problem was to determine the way in which they would be used and their relative rewards. Edgeworth and Professor Pigou and other later and contemporary writers have embroidered and improved this theory by considering how different peculiarities in the shapes of the supply functions of the factors of production would affect matters, what will happen in conditions of monopoly and imperfect competition, how far social and individual advantage coincide, what are the special problems of exchange in an open system and the like. But these more recent writers like their predecessors were still dealing with a system in which the amount of the factors employed was given and the other relevant facts were known more or less for certain. This does not mean that they were dealing with a system in which change was ruled out, or even one in which the disappointment of expectation was ruled out. But at any given time facts and expectations were assumed to be given in

a definite and calculable form; and risks, of which, tho admitted, not much notice was taken, were supposed to be capable of an exact actuarial computation. The calculus of probability, tho mention of it was kept in the background, was supposed to be capable of reducing uncertainty to the same calculable status as that of certainty itself; just as in the Benthamite calculus of pains and pleasures or of advantage and disadvantage, by which the Benthamite philosophy assumed men to be influenced in their general ethical behavior.

Bespreek en becommentarieer de argumenten die Keynes hier aanhaalt. (2 punten)

Succes.