

not so much meat but so much meat per year, not so much clothing but so much clothing per year; though it may be less obvious, it is equally possible to measure a community's standard of living in durable goods in the same manner. Now as the standard of living is conceived as a rate, the first section of the process, standing in a point-to-point correspondence with the standard of living, is also a rate and, indeed, an equivalent rate. No doubt there are lags between the two, and these lags vary from one category of goods to another. No doubt also there are instances of futile production in the first section; things are produced that no one wishes or that no one, with the means to obtain them, wishes. But allowance made for lags and for futile production, the rate of the standard of living coincides with the rate of the first section of the process.

Next, the possibility of ~~their~~ goods and ~~services~~ standing in a point-to-line correspondence with the standard of living is that they do not, in themselves, become elements in the standard of living but serve to accelerate the flow of elements in the first section. Spears and nets, farms and ships, machines and factories are part of no one's standard of living; their function is to raise the whole level of the standard of living, to effect an acceleration ~~and they do this~~ of the process in the first section, and thereby an acceleration of the rate that is the standard of living. In like manner the third section accelerates the second, the fourth section accelerates the third, and so on. Further, just as the standard of living is the consumer to the first section, so the first section is consumer to the second, the second is consumer to the third, and so on.