

✓ Quantity of Money and Prices.

C 4787

Among other functions which money has come to enjoy, is the important one of a common denominator of value: Commodities of all kinds, have, under the present economic conditions, their values expressed in terms of money. This expression of values in terms of money has been designated price.² From the nature of things it will thus appear that price, in its essence, is but the expression of a ratio, the ratio between commodities on the one side and the money metal used as a denominator of value on the other. A ratio being the relation of two contrasted substances. It is clear that whatever affects either of these substances will alter their ^{positions} relative, and so change the ratio. Applying this to the price ratio, we see, that whatever affects commodities on the one side, or the money metal on the other will ~~tend to~~ alter their relative positions and so affect price. An analysis of the general forces which affect either side will ~~show~~ ^{disclose}

1. James, Money & the Mechanism of Exchange, p. 5
2. Prof. Langbein - Lectures