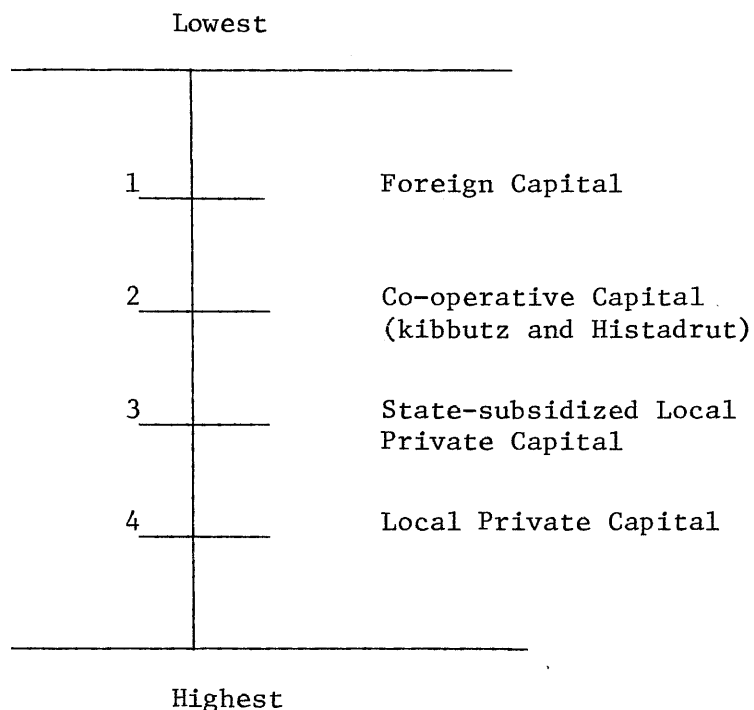


plus value created by other segments of the same class.

The rate of exploitation is an appropriate criterion for ranking productive capital because this criterion represents the essential relation between capital and wage-labor. By this criterion, the main capital sectors rank as illustrated by Scale 5.

Scale 5. Capital Hierarchy by Rate of Exploitation



In order to comprehend why these sources of capital rank in this way it is necessary to clarify two things: (1) profit/wage determination in theory: profit and wage stand in inverse proportion to each other. The share of profit increases in the same proportion in which the share of labor falls, and vice versa. Wages are not the share of the worker in the commodities produced by him. They are rather that part of already existing commodities with which the capitalist buys a certain amount of productive