RECENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSIA

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Recent economic developments in Russia by K. Leites & Harald Westergaard

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K. LEITES & HARALD WESTERGAARD

RECENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSIA



Publications of the
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
Division of Economics and History
John Bates Clark, Director

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR

At a conference held by the members of the Committee of Research of the Carnegie Endowment in Paris in September 1919 it was decided that a series of short monographs on the economic effects of the war in the countries that were directly engaged in it should be published in advance of larger works which had been planned. The present volume contains three of these monographs, which will be followed by others, the completed series constituting a highly useful compend of information concerning the economic effects of the great struggle. The three treatises now issued are so short and their subjects have so much kinship that it seems best to combine them in a single cover.

JOHN BATES CLARK, Director.

Recent Economic Developments in Russia

BY (K. LEITES

EDITED BY

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PREFACE

The author of the present publication on the economic condition of Russia during and after the World War has for a number of years carefully studied the economic development of his country and treated it in various investigations in Russian periodicals—thus in the weekly journal of the Russian Ministry of Finance—and in independent monographs. On the occasion of the revision of the Germano-Russian commercial treaty he was in 1912 sent to Berlin by the Government and after the outbreak of the War he moved to Denmark where he stayed for several years.

Even for a native of Russia it is not easy, of course, to form an objective opinion on the present happenings in Russia and especially when the investigations can not be carried on within the frontiers of that country. But the author's method contains in itself a guarantee of the correctness of the picture as he has founded his writing on public documents and drawn his information from the statistical reports in the official press of the Soviet Government. It is therefore to be hoped that the present publication will serve its purpose and contribute towards the understanding of the development in Russia.

HARALD WESTERGAARD.

June 11, 1922.

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PART I

GENERAL EFFECT OF THE WORLD WAR ON THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF RUSSIA PRIOR TO THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION