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## FOREWORD

**T**HE first three volumes published by the Conference on Research in National Income and Wealth consisted primarily of papers presented and discussion held at meetings of the Conference. This, the fourth volume in the series on Income and Wealth, is the first of another type—a monograph by an individual worker in the field.

As indicated in the Preface to the first volume, the Conference considers it one of its functions to stimulate and sponsor studies in the field of income and wealth measurement. Within the limits of the resources at its disposal the Conference can assist by indicating the fields in which research is needed, by offering technical advice and suggestions, by providing a forum where problems can be discussed and competent criticism obtained, and by publication of results. The series on Income and Wealth affords a medium for such publications and the Conference hopes that other monographs will follow this one.

From time to time during the preparation of this monograph Dr. Barger outlined before the Conference as a whole the problems on which he was working and discussed them with individual members. The interest of the Conference grew as the study progressed. In preparing the volume for the press, Dr. Barger has had the assistance of a special Conference advisory committee consisting of Messrs. O. C. Stine, Chairman, F. M. Cone, A. G. Hart and W. H. Shaw.

In sponsoring the publication of this monograph the Conference feels that, without endorsing the author's

method in detail or underwriting his results, it is making available a stimulating and useful study.

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