

FASCIST ECONOMIC POLICY

AN ANALYSIS OF
ITALY'S ECONOMIC EXPERIMENT

BY

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TO
MY FATHER AND MY MOTHER

PREFACE

THIS study is the product of a long acquaintance with Italian Fascism. My interest in the subject dates back to the days when, as a youth living in one of the larger Italian cities, I had the opportunity to observe at close range the early beginnings of the Fascist movement and its gradual rise to power. Student days at an Italian university and, more recently, the preparation at Harvard of a doctoral dissertation on Fascist economic policy have provided the incentive for intensive scientific work in this field. A visit to Italy made in the summer of 1936 for the purpose of completing the present volume has greatly facilitated the interpretation of recent Italian events.

To a large number of persons, to many more than I can mention here by name, I am indebted for assistance in the completion of this book. To my teachers at the University of Trieste and at Harvard I owe the debt which every student owes to those who are the first to guide him on the arduous paths of learning. To Professors F. W. Taussig and Edwin F. Gay of Harvard University, in particular, I am grateful for encouragement and inspiration during the early stages of the present work. To a large number of Italian scientists, business men, and government officials I am indebted for generous help and much valuable information. To Professor Alvin H. Hansen, of Harvard University, to Professors Frederick B. Garver and Eugen Altschul of the University of Minnesota, and to my friends and colleagues at St. Thomas, to Professor Stephen W. Mamchur in particular, I owe much for the valuable criticism and the many helpful suggestions which they have offered. To several American and European publishers I am indebted for permission to quote from copyrighted material. Finally, I must acknowledge with gratitude the financial aid granted for the completion of this work by the Social Science Research Council of New York and by the Administration of the College of St. Thomas.

W. G. W.

The College of St. Thomas
St. Paul, Minnesota
February, 1938

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