

is made abundantly clear in the August 1915 report to the tsar by the War-Navy Commission of the State Duma, as well as in other sources.

The author obviously has studied carefully the debates on foreign policy that took place in the Duma between December 18, 1912, and March 9, 1917. Her reporting of these is useful per se and also indicates some of the thoughts and feelings of the elements of Russian society represented in the Fourth Duma.

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THE RUSSIAN SEARCH FOR PEACE: FEBRUARY–OCTOBER 1917. By
Rex A. Wade. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1969. vii, 196 pp. \$6.50.

The tragic story Professor Wade recounts has been told before, but never with such lucidity. Hewing admirably to his central theme—"the leadership of the Petrograd Soviet after the February revolution and the leaders' struggle to evolve a peace program, to get it accepted as government policy and to implement it internationally"—he narrates dispassionately the sad tale of hope and frustration, idealism and naïveté that transpired. Rejecting the solution of a separate peace, the Soviet elaborated a program for a general negotiated peace. But Russia's Allies and Imperial Germany were by 1917 resolved to continue the war to a decisive military victory. The commitment of the Provisional Government to the Soviet formula after the formation of the First Coalition in May was vacillating. Even the Allied Socialists wavered in their support of Russian Revolutionary Defensism, variously unwilling to accept wholeheartedly the Soviet proposals or unable to force their governments to consider the revision of war aims. The call to convene an international conference of socialists at Stockholm was abortive. Nor were the Soviet leaders vouchsafed the benefit of time to advance their cause at home or abroad. The Russian people's overwhelming desire for peace would tolerate no delay. Meanwhile the Bolsheviks, capitalizing on the paralysis of their opponents' efforts to end the war and on the popular impatience for immediate domestic reform, seized upon each successive internal crisis to build their following and undermine confidence in the government.

Whether or not the moderate socialists could have held the line against Lenin without the complication of the war issue will, of course, never be known. But with it their cause was doomed. In their fateful struggle were all the elements of high tragedy.

Wade's documentation is impressive, and his summation is judicious. A series of remarkably fine sketches of the revolutionary leaders made by Iu. K. Artsybushev at the Moscow State Conference in August 1917 adds to the appeal of this small but authoritative volume.

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KRONSTADT 1921. By *Paul Avrigh*. Studies of the Russian Institute, Columbia University. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1970. 271 pp. \$8.50.

In March 1921 the years of revolution, civil war, and foreign intervention in Russia came to a close. The rationalizations for the Bolshevik monopoly of power in wartime no longer applied, and oppositional elements agitated for restoration of the Soviet democracy of 1917. In his clear and energetic narrative Paul Avrigh de-