

**THE GREAT MENACE:
AMERICANISM
OR BOLSHEVISM?**

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The great menace: Americanism or bolshevism? by George Whitefield Mead

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BY

GEORGE WHITEFIELD MEAD



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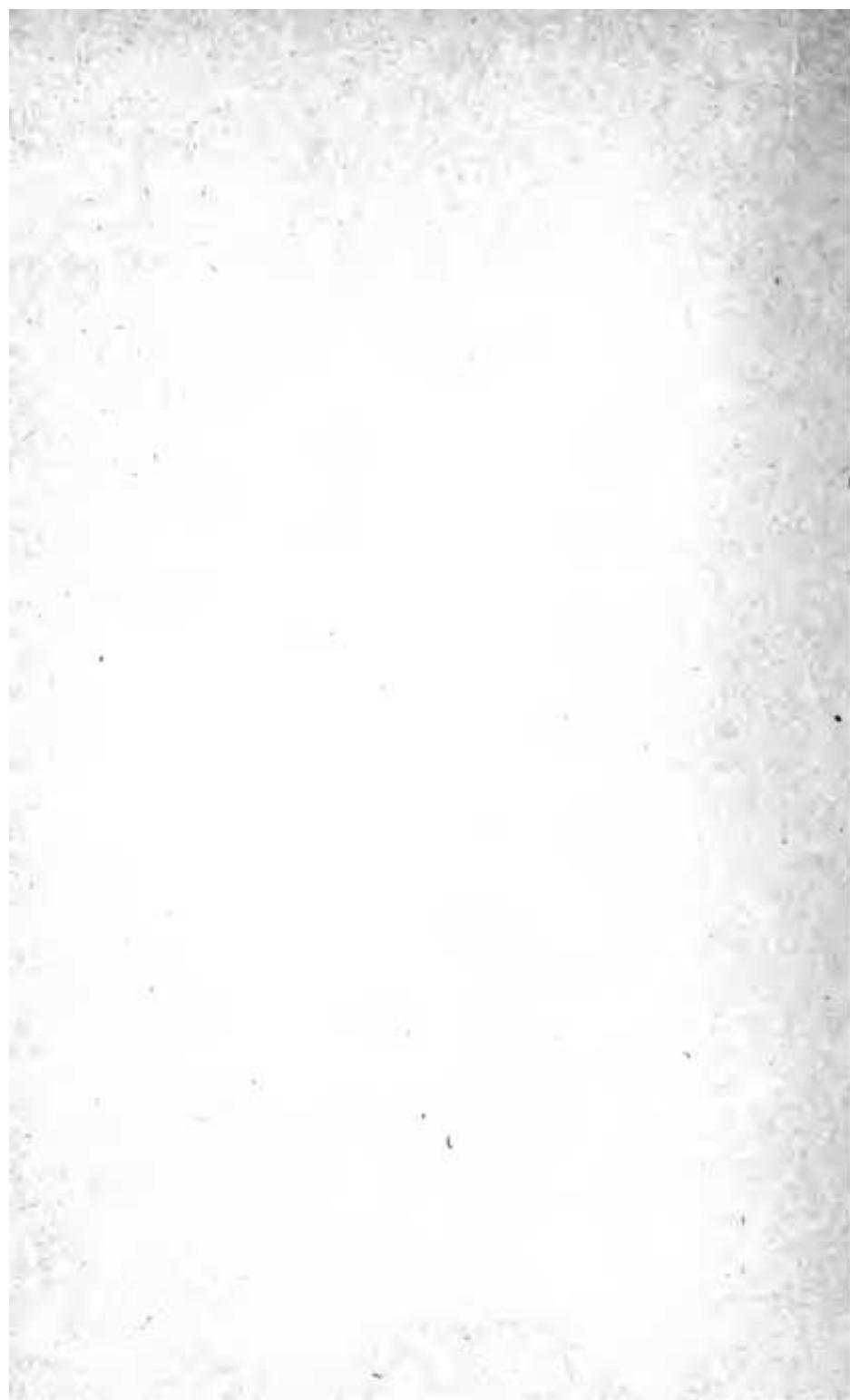
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VAIL-BALLOU COMPANY
BIRMINGHAM AND NEW YORK

DEDICATED
IN GRATEFUL AFFECTION
TO
THE THREE COMPANIONS
OF MY HOME:

My wife, who inspires and makes it;
Our boys, who sometimes return
to gladden and undo it.

2137105



FOREWORD

This book has been written in the belief that it will help in an immediate nationwide campaign of publicity of the disaster facing our country in the Great Menace.

The greatest peril of America is not ultra-radicalism, but indifference to it, a listless confidence that "it can't be done." In referring to the present active policy for "the confiscation of private property, the assassination of public officers, the burning of army barracks and police stations, the over-turn of the United States Government," the *New York Times*¹ makes this pertinent comment, "How much effect does this have on the 'ordinary American citizen?' It is nonsense. 'They can't do it?' Well, there are a good many of these offensive people in the United States; and they are not conscious that they can't do it. . . . They are endowed

¹ Editorial, Nov. 11, 1919, p. 12.

for their work of massacre and ruin by wealthy half-baked Americans. . . . As solid American citizens, *innocently believing* that what has been will continue to be, . . . we are inclined to grin tolerantly at the program, the energetic, fanatical, and ferocious program, of world-revolution of Russian adopters of Marxism.”

The *American Lumberman*, in calling attention to the Great Menace that imperils our country and that “many are consoling themselves with the thought that the good sense of the average citizen will prevail and that this danger will pass without any effort on our part,” declares that “THESE CITIZENS NEED TO BE AWAKENED FROM THIS SORT OF LETHARGY,” AND SHOCKED “OUT OF ANY FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY.”²

Hundreds of American newspapers and magazines could be quoted, citing facts which show that “outside of Russia the storm-centre of Bolshevism is in the United States,”³ and that Americans must “awaken to the danger,” and overthrow it or be overthrown by it.

² Issue of Oct. 18, 1910.

³ *Literary Digest*, Nov. 8, 1910, p. 15.

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When the American people are truly aware of the extent of the work of the Great Menace and of its real intent, they will most surely do what needs to be done, thoroughly and without delay. The immediate need, therefore, is publicity: to make *the facts* known, and to make known also certain things which the new age decrees must be done for the preservation of democracy and our home country with its sacred institutions. To that work this book is given.

GEORGE WHITEFIELD MEAD.

January, 1920.