

HOPE IN AMERICA

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Hope in America by John Strachey

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JOHN STRACHEY

**HOPE IN
AMERICA**

The Book and the Author

For a European to write a book about America is not unprecedented. As a rule, such a book contains the "delightful" impressions of some more or less distinguished visitor to the barbarian wilds of Manhattan and Main Street.

Much rarer is it for one of Europe's outstanding thinkers—a political scientist and economist of international reputation—to evaluate America for Americans. *Hope in America* is John Strachey's clear and full analysis of the United States of the New Deal and after.

Thousands of Americans from coast to coast have heard Mr. Strachey lecture. They have left the lecture hall with many doubts and many questions. Thousands more have read his books. Still they have wondered how, exactly, America fits into the picture. Is it different? What does Mr. Strachey think of the Roosevelt spending program? What should our foreign policy be?

These and the many other questions which Mr. Strachey has a genius for anticipating are answered in this volume. As always, they are answered in the simplest and clearest language. Not one technical table or sentence is in these pages, addressed to that four-fifths of the American people who work for wages or salaries.

John Strachey has become the leading Marxist spokesman to the middle classes of Britain and America—"the revolutionary ambassador that Marxism has sent to argue the proletarian cause," as someone has put it. Certain it is that to him is due, in great part, the credit for giving to "the man in the street" a clear conception of the case for socialism and of its program and organizations.

Now, in *Hope in America*, he shows how the struggle for power affects the United States and more specifically the individual American worker and salary earner. His program of political action will come as a severe shock to those who would expect a plea for an armed uprising.

Mr. Strachey is thirty-six years old. He has been in the United States five times. His books, particularly *The Coming Struggle for Power*, have had enormous sales, both here and abroad.

Books by John Strachey

THE COMING STRUGGLE FOR POWER
THE MENACE OF FASCISM
LITERATURE AND DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM
THE NATURE OF CAPITALIST CRISIS
THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF SOCIALISM
WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

Hope in America

John Strachey



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Introduction

I AM thirty-six years old. So I was brought up to believe that the world was getting better. But it is getting worse.

Over in Europe most people realize that the world is becoming a worse place to live in. You in America often use the phrase "Europe is done for." If you mean by that that the European continent has ceased to matter, and can be left out of account, you are, I am afraid, quite wrong. But if you mean that Europe is, at best, faced with terrible trials and struggles before she can again be a force for good in the world, then I think that you are right.

This book is written in the belief that America still has the chance of finding her way forward without going through all that seems to be in store for Europe. A chance. . . .