

Anathema Maranatha

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Many writers—principally Catholic—have observed and recorded the fact that Communism, sworn to destroy religion, is itself a Religion.

It has its own saints and martyrs, its own ritual and liturgy, its own sacraments and dogmata (perhaps we should say "propheet") in the singular, for the strictest sect of Communists recognizes only one prophet, Karl Marx, who is enshrined in the tomb of Lenin in the Kremlin Square at Moscow; its sacrifices, bloody human sacrifices called "purges"; it has an amazingly far-flung, active, zealous self-sacrificing Brotherhood of the Faithful, the Party; its Faith: it has its Index Expurgatorius; sacred dogmas, a fixed

of heart is a crime; conversion is apostasy.

Witness, as the latest example, the hue and cry over John Dos Passos. Whether he was actually a "comrade" or only a "ellow traveler" I don't know. But he has been radical enough to be an orthodox Leninist. And was a powerful propagandist for what he used to think a noble cause, the liberation of the proletariat by Marxian means. His instrument was his pen, his pen his purpose, and to tell the truth he wielded that instrument with considerable skill: not exactly literary skill but with a rough and ready skill like that of a street brawler rather than a professional boxer.

and formulated creed; in consequence it recognizes orthodoxy as the only religion. Stalin says Trotsky is a heretic; Trotsky reports that Stalin is an apostate from the true faith. They even have a god. That's strange because their avowed purpose is to destroy God. But as Voltaire said, "If we had no religion, we would have to invent one." Heavily the Voltairians ~~don't~~ must would read, "When men get rid of their gods, they invent new ones. Naturally the god they invent is not as good a God as the One that existed without their invention." But the Voltairians are in heaven; they worship, or pretend to worship, a conglomerate mass of manna called the "collective will." We know that they glory in a god of hate. So it goes; the parallelisms are unending. I have not space, all this has been said before.

A Dog for the Mission

WIVES OUT APOSTATES

The particular feature, however, of the Communist religion which has not been very much emphasized is the uncommunization and the anathema. And mark this: when Communists are anathematized, they are anathematized literally. That is to say, it exterminates. A Communist of the inner circle does not say "Comrades, I have a confession to make. I resign from this organization." He simply says: "I am a Resignation. I am not accepted. If a comrade loses the faith, he decompens if he can be before the assassins go him to the gallows, to the guillotine, or to Mexico. Even then he is pursued, kidnapped, murdered, if the long tentacles of the world-wide

So it is with poor Dos Passos. He wants to see how the Communist and communist literature treat him, look at the article in the August American Mercury where James T. Farrell. Farrell knows where he speaks. In fact from the beginning he has been a radical as Dos Passos. (Farrell confesses to "Radical" but not to Communist.) It is an illuminating statement, though very brief. It is a statement that will be viewed by some of our most "conservative" newspaper and magazines, no less than of the admittedly leftist publications, reflect the attitude of the world's confessions of even partial disillusion. His fate is foreshadowed in that of the hero of his novel, *The Adventures of a Young Man*.

As he was one of the inner circle, merely one-time admirer of Communism, or a sympathizer, or a fellow-traveller, he must not undergo a "change of heart" or a "conversion." Change

"Ora et Labora"

The late Pope Pius XI earnestly desired the building of a new social order. Courageous and zealous Catholics the world over

The reviewers simply won't have it. With them as with the most orthodox Muscovites, there must be no half-way loyalty. It's whole hog or none. The Moscow contingent in Spain sends Glenn

are working for that same goal. Yet the vastness of the work is at times almost discouraging, and the path is beset with certain dangers. Striving for justice and charity in the material order

brings Christians into contact with the things of earth. As a result there is at times a tendency to lose oneself in the maze of earthly considerations and to forget the supernatural goal and purpose that should animate all

Often it is hard to apply the principles of Catholic teaching when they conflict with natural or economic desires, but that does not excuse us from trying or

from fighting for what is right
and just.

As always, there must be pray-
er joined with work. Ork et la-
bora, pray and work this is the
motto of the ancient Church.
If Catholics are to sanctify the

peace.

As we faced about toward the
West,
Where folks may say "he's" gone
to rest,
A golden vision appeared to me

social order and bring about social reconstruction, they must base their efforts on enduring prayer, asking for light to know their objectives, to see them clearly and to follow them out. All this, without haste, indecision, or delay.

Deficit in Babies Called Alarming
Medical progress has cut the infant death rate by half, but it has also cut the number of babies born, according to a report by the U.S. Census Bureau.

infant death rate in twenty years
 from 200 deaths in each 1,000 live
 births to 50 deaths. "It is pos-
 sible that by more intensive
 work this mortality rate can be
 further reduced, but at best this
 can be only a small fraction of

the previous reduction," Doctor
Heimholz, President of the
American Academy of Pediatrics,
remarked. "There was a very
marked increase in the birth rate
immediately after the World
War, but this has gradually

dropped off. At present it is the lowest in the history of our country. It would seem that in spite of our best efforts in behalf of infants and children in recent years, we have a great deficit in babies at present. Now, with twice blessed are we as the all we trod.
Hands that are hid by a veil of blue
Choral Vespers with Benediction for myself and you.

As I ponder on this wondrous scene
In Kilgort's fair port realistic dream,
Let me climb the hill away to the East,
About East to the West Exploring

About face to the west, enjoying
 this feat
 Of a golden monstrance raised on
 high
 On a Sunday eve twixt earth and
 sky.

Christi Church closed the Music Extension course conducted by the Pius X School of Liturgical Music.

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Beatrice Lughino won the \$1,000 scholarship offered by the

Vespers and Benediction will close the Day
 With unseen hands and sea-blue sky.
 And this the Sabbath Day is done
 On a hill to the East, Ad Vitam Aeternam.

Alumnae for Loreto Academy,
Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Miss Mary Eva Henner, president
of the Niagaraeth Academy
Alumnae Association was prepar-

We can all afford to give freely the best that we have, because in giving it we have it doubly.--
Franklin.
