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## Editorial.

### Paganism versus Christianity.

IT is, and always has been, the custom of this Professional Journal to be non-political and non-sectarian in its affairs.

There comes a time, however, when a movement once considered merely political is found with alarming significance to extend its sinister designs far beyond the realm of politics, as, for instance, to-day we see the implacable advance of Communism which threatens the freedom of not only this country, but of the World!

Then it is a question of principle that all sections of society must fight for their freedom and their chosen way of life.

Communism, of course, is no new idea. Before the days of Christianity, in 428 B.C., Plato visualised Communism (*Encyclopædia Britannica*, Vol. 6, page 135)—“the most influential of all works of Utopian Communism was Plato's Republic; in Plato's Republic not only is private property abolished, but marriage also; children are educated by the State, Art is banished as seduction of the soul, the World is stripped of all ideologies mercilessly, ‘disenchanted’ and reconstructed rationally. The differentiation between the sexes also disappears.

“It is, however, too often forgotten that these radical measures are applicable *only* to two leading or ruling classes; the warriors and the (ruling) philosophers, who have to renounce any sort of private life, in order to carry out their duties properly.

“The citizens, however, on whose labour the whole communal life is based, who only produce, but do not rule, and can take no decisions of importance for the whole community, live the ordinary life, they can acquire property, they can and, indeed, should form families.”

So much for Plato's Communism; how different the savage, pagan teaching of Karl Marx and Engels, on which modern Communism is based and practised, and carried to extreme limits in a backward, distant land far from our shores, where the masses are enslaved under this soulless domination.

Further, the tentacles of Communism have spread throughout the world; so as to achieve their aims of world domination, the necessity of civil war as a first step to World Revolution is emphasised as a first principle.

Communists are the implacable enemies of freedom everywhere and in particular of this country, of the British Commonwealth and Empire, and of Western and Christian civilisation.

They are anti-democratic and seek by revolution the overthrow of free institutions, the setting up of a Communist dictatorship, and the permanent destruction of British Constitution.

They have already enslaved a third of Europe, are waging a ruthless war against Greece, are murdering our fellow countrymen in Malaya.

By impeding economic recovery of the Western nations through the suffering and poverty of the people, they prepare a fertile soil for Communist teaching.

Communist elections are a farce as no opposition is allowed, and only Communists are permitted to stand.

The most cruel fetters to be challenged in Communistic bondage are the studied persecutions of religious freedom, as exemplified in the recent trials in the Communist controlled countries of Europe.

Knowing all this, it is all the more disturbing that through ignorance of its real nature, Communism is alarmingly active in this country to-day. Its material promises, so alluring to the least spiritual and unthinking members of society, appear to wield extraordinary power, as evidenced in the persistent industrial sabotage, and the creeping in of Communists into key positions by subversive methods.

We quote from “Notes by the Way,” by Dr. Albert Peel, published in *The Christian World*, March 10th, 1949:

“It will be twenty years since Berdyaev wrote these words, yet it would be hard to find a sounder diagnosis for the world of to-day. They might well form the subject for discussion in Ministers' Fraternals and wherever students of sociology gather together:

“Social and political movements are dominated by principles of authority and violence, by the limitation of man's freedom. Man seems to be weary of spiritual freedom and is ready to renounce it in the name of force which will organise his life outwardly and inwardly. Man is weary of himself and wants to lean on the superhuman, even if this superhuman is a social collectivity. Many old idols are overturned in our times, but many new idols are being created. Man is made in such a way that he can live only through faith in God or through faith in ideals or idols. Actually man can never be a confirmed and absolute atheist. When he turns away from faith in God, he falls into idolatry. We behold the creation and worship of idols in all spheres—in science, in art, in political, national and social life. Thus, for instance, Communism is an extreme form of social idolatry.”

There is no doubt, therefore, that if Christianity is to triumph over the penetration and deadly assault of the Communistic faith in its true colours, it must be met by a stronger Christian faith.

This can only be done if we, individually, work to combat these evil forces, and in our determination spread the truth against the mastery of the whole of humanity body and soul by the unchristian and ruthlessly demoralising dictatorship of Communism, for “What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?” A.S.B.

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