

# BLACKFRIARS

(With which is incorporated *The Catholic Review*.)

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## EDITORIAL

IN wishing our readers a happy New Year, we have to thank them for the support that they have given us in the past year. The number of copies sold has steadily increased, the most pleasing result of their efforts that editors can know. Last year in January we began with the new impetus of the help given us by Mr. Stanley Morison and Mr. Eric Gill in the appearance of BLACKFRIARS, both its cover and its type. Since then we have been able to increase the number of the pages in each issue, and by using a thinner paper prevented this having too clumsy a bulk when the whole year comes to be bound. Moreover, during the past twelve months we have done our best, as we promised, to help our readers to a truer understanding of the problems of to-day and of the solutions that have been given of them by the Vicar of Christ. We have tried to take these honestly, boldly facing problems that need delicate treatment if they are to be dealt with so as to avoid offence. That you have supported us in this past year in spite of our occasional perhaps over-frankness of expression encourages us to continue as we have begun.

In this number it will be seen that we have included articles that take very different and indeed divergent points of view with regard to the solution of our social and economic ills. This has been done deliberately because we have no solution of our troubles other than that

proposed by the Holy Father himself. Only by a return to the true practice of Catholic teaching will the world be righted or rather find that it is healed. Yet we cannot but admit that some abatement meanwhile of the evil can be secured by purely political and social remedies. These are not really in the nature of remedies but only of palliatives.

To show our true mind on these matters and to help our readers to a deeper understanding of the situation and its cure, we shall devote our February number entirely to Communism, its meaning, implications, remedies. In this we have been helped by such well-known students of it as Nicholas Berdiaeff, Eric Gill, Fr. Watts, S.J., Fr. Prince, and, of our regular staff, by Fr. Victor White and Fr. Aelfric Manson. We anticipate a very large sale of this issue, so that those who desire extra copies should apply at once to the publishers for them. Our July number was completely exhausted within a few days of publication and many who wrote afterwards for copies were unable to obtain them. Hence we have all the more reason for urging all those who wish to have by them this Catholic conspectus of Communism, to apply early for copies for themselves and for other copies for those whom they think would benefit by a judicial treatise on this important subject that will be to the point and cover the whole ground.

As, the Holy Father is repeatedly urging us, it is no use merely denouncing Communism. We must take the trouble to understand why it came, what has caused its acceptance by so many and how to remove these causes, if we are to cure the world of it.

EDITOR.