

It is in the light of France's real ideal—of her vocation, not of her sins—that the tragedy of her present enslavement becomes intelligible. Her vocation is to real freedom, the freedom of the spirit; her sin is to turn this freedom into material licence and disorder. But neither Pétain nor Maurras nor Hitler nor any despotism can cure that disorder, for there is no law without justice, no order without liberty. No authoritarian order can cure the materialistic disorder which in France and in the whole world is crying for a remedy: only the free determination of every individual to live—and to see that others are allowed to live—by the spirit of justice and charity.

M. BENENSON.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of BLACKFRIARS.

SIR,—The very interesting article by Dr. Strauss in the August number of BLACKFRIARS contains two astonishing statements:

(a) 'The communist religion might be regarded as atheistic humanism.'

'Atheistic animalism' would be a more accurate definition, since Bolshevism seeks to degrade human beings to the level of mere animals. The Bolsheviks deny the existence of the soul and despise the intellect.

(b) 'It seeks to fulfil the second commandment.'

The doctrine and practice of 'Class War,' which is an essential part of the Communist religion, is diametrically opposed to the Second Commandment.

Yours truly,

MARY CATHERINE BAYNE, T.O.S.D.