
Forty Prophets.

Add forty prophets to the long list. They issued their Gospel Sunday, according to the Chicago Tribune, which states that the forty prophets of the "new religion" are "educators and religious leaders," one of them a Jewish rabbi; three names are mentioned: Prof. A. Eustace Haydon, of the University of Chicago; Prof. Roy W. Sellers, of the University of Michigan; and Rev. Raymond B. Bragg, of Chicago. The Tribune adds: "The name of the religion conserved in the new creed is known as humanism."

We look in vain for anything new or anything religious in the plan, whatever it is. God is out of the picture; "the humanist statement asserts that the universe is self-existing and was not created at all." (People said that in David's time, and he remarked: "The fool said in his heart, there is no God.") If there is no God there is no Revelation (quite naturally - and there is nothing new in that) and there is no distinction between matter and spirit (we seem to have heard that before).

There is no worship and no prayer (but a depression is a bad time to put that one over,) Instead, man will find "his religious emotions expressed in a heightened sense of personal life and in a cooperative effort to promote social well-being." (Sounds like Capone's philosophy - he kept Chicago in good humor by furnishing good beer.) This will free man from his "sentimentalism" which is confused by "wishful thinking."

"Reasonable and manly attitudes" will supplant "unreal hopes" in this new thing-a-ma-jig, and "man will learn to face the crises of life in terms of his knowledge of their naturalness and probability." (And that sounds like Solomon or St. Paul, who knew life and knew how to take it.)

Some one has given these prophets a bum steer. In the first place, humanism isn't a religion, and in the second place, it's dead. (They know that over in England, but the item must have been suppressed in the Chicago and Ann Arbor papers. Christopher Dawson gave the dainty corpse a very decent obituary two years ago, in his "Christianity and the New Age," and Chesterton said of it the year previous, while it was in the iron lung: "I do not believe that Humanism and Religion are rivals on equal terms. I believe it is a rivalry between the pools and the fountain; or between the firebrands and the fire. Each of these old intellectuals snatched one firebrand out of the undying fire; but the point is that though he waved the torch very wildly, though he would have used the torch to burn down half the world, the torch went out very soon.")

And in the third place (if the silly matter deserves three places), this is not time to talk nonsense, even to the alleged morons who constitute the American citizenry. Prof. Barnes was playing on the "ten commandments of the scientific spirit," and "mental and social hygiene," but he unstrung his harp when the country went broke. Farmers who string up judges and teachers who riot for pay are not going to be fooled by "sweetness and light" melodies; families of six that subsist on \$2.92 a week (plus bread) while a certain bank pays a dividend of over 200% are patient only because they believe there is a hell.

People must have a religion. That's about the only point the Forty Prophets got straight. But they want a religion with teeth in it. They want JUSTICE - and it takes heaven and hell to give complete justice!

PRAYERS: Deceased - Gus Meehan, '90, a distinguished alumnus and benefactor of the University; Judge Murphy, of Dowagiac, Mich. (a Bulletin fan); relatives of Philip Geoghegan and John Maloney; a friend. Ill - a friend of Hugh O'Brien, '30; a relative of Dave Flynn. Four special intentions; a thanksgiving (No. 16 - D.P.)

FOR BENGAL: "The Vagabonds", freshman musical show, \$256.18 (that's merry music for Bengal); a friend, California, \$10.