OPEN LETTER —
Dear Sodal - Sal -

This here is a special letter to all Sodal-Sals. It may not look very important but give a listen, won’t you?

A new year has begun and also a new edition to the "Draugas". This new addition is an exclusive page for Sodalists, and Sodalists alone. Sure it's a "super" idea and you like it, but — a problem confronts us, as usual.

Now, here is our problem — you see, we want each and every Sodalist to feel that she is a part of this page. We want each Sodality in the Lithuanian Sodality Union to have their say-so in the page. There is an entire page to be devoted to the Sodality each month and we want everyone and everything to be in it don't we? That is where you come in. It will be up to you to let us know about it or pass it on to your respective Publicity Committee Chairman so that she in turn will be able to give it to us.

Perhaps there is a dance, a party or someone outstanding in your parish that you want everyone else to know about. How about those Camera Friends walking around scaring everyone? Their "snaps" are probably terrible! We would like to have them. And say, how about that super-scintillating book review someone gave at your last meeting? We want all that and more too! Give us all the news, gossip and what have and we will kiss you on both cheeks and won’t even blush.

What would you like included in this page? I’ll bet a plug nickel that a million and two things popped into your mind when you read that sentence. How about letting us in on it?

Say hey, before we forget. We are looking for our name! Now we have no name for our page. We just can’t keep calling it “page”; that sounds out of sorts. Therefore, a name has to be found. We are offering a prize for the winning name. Seeing as most of you are brilliant characters or “brain” and you have a multitude of names to suggest we know we will have a tough job selecting one.

Now you know our problem — news suggestions and a name. Simply, not very, but you won’t let us down will you? The mailman has given fair warning that he will have to make a special trip to get all your ideas and suggestions to us so don’t the afraid of overloadimg the “poor” mailman.

Sit right down and put your 'brainstorm' with your name and address on a penny post card and send it to —

Miss Angela Cibulskis
2516 West 69th Street
Chicago 29, Illinois.

Thanks a lot — be seeing you next month!

Sodal — Sec.

Sodality Union Regular Meeting

Sunday, January 27th
Clieoro — The Chicago Sodality Union will hold its next meeting on Sunday, January 27th, at St. Anthony’s Parish Hall, Clieoro.

The meeting will be preceded by a Ping-Pong contest (at 2 p.m.) which is open to all Sodality. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. E. Abromavicius, whose topic will be "Three Days With The Trappists". The meeting promises to be very interesting and highlighted by many new proposals. All Sodality are cordially invited to attend.

RESERVE SUNDAY, February 10, 1946
for "Draugas" Concert and Valentine Dance at the
St. Agnes’ Auditorium
Archer Ave. and Rockwell

WORK BEGINS ON MONTE CASINO

"Sodality Section"

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1946

Let’s Finish The Job —
Buy More Victory
Bonds

What’s my name?

We’re looking for an attractive name for the Sodality Section. Do you have one? Send it in.

We’re giving away a very worthwhile price for the winning title. Send your suggestions to Angela Cibulskis, 2516 W. 69th St., or the ENGLISH PAGE, Draugas, 2354 South Oakley Ave.

U.L. Relief Director
Sails For Europe

Rev. Dr. Joseph Koniusz, the national president of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America, Inc., which is a member of the National War Fund, sailed for Europe December 11 on the Queen Elizabeth. This trip is being undertaken for the purpose of studying the conditions of war-torn Lithuania abroad, to determine the needs of Lithuanians in exile, of whom there are over 250,000, and at the request of other relief organizations, to report on the entire relief program regardless of creed or nationality.

Talking It Over

All of us have walked alone at night. Every one of us has felt the deep, heavy blackness crowding in from every side and pushing down upon him as he tramped the hard long road, — has felt the wet wind cutting the dark and lashed one's face with its whip. Just to walk like this for hours! Then all of a sudden a small splinter of light off to the left—blinks in the window of a farm house, and for some reason we know not what — we are warmed by it: we are no longer alone. For with that light there is life, and we are glad to know that it is there. We can walk on somehow strengthened by this needle of light away in the distance.

All of us have walked alone at night. In the midst of our friends and acquaintances and family at times we have felt alone. In the middle of a lighted room with the radio blaring and the chatter of voices, we have felt the strange darkness in the life of every man, on senses for a moment that indescribable grip of Life within life. Like that moment immediately after (Continued on page Four)
Aim, Purpose of a Sodality

The Sodality is definitely a religious society which from the very beginning was organized for personal holiness and Catholic Action or Lay Apostolate. Social life, which is whole-heartedly supported, has never been the goal of its existence for any Sodality. A Sodality that strives just for the sanctification of its members is not fulfilling all its purposes, just as a Sodality vitally progressing as an organism that is bent on extending a charitable hand towards all yet cares naught about the spiritual development of the young so long as it is fulfilling all its obligations.

The motto of the Sodality, "To Jesus Through Mary," can be applied to all Catholic spiritual and actual life. The Holy Hour we attend, the Sodality on Sunday, the dance or social, the informal discussion, the annual retreat or day of recollection, the book club — good novels at our disposal through the efforts of the Literature Committee, the stamp drive, religious article drive, skit witnessed, the play participated in, one and all can bring us closer to Christ through Mary. The Sodality aims at bringing Christ through Mary in our daily lives so that our Marian way of life may be lived twenty-four hours every day of the year and not just at a monthly meeting or communicant Sunday.

We learn to practice the ideals and virtues of Mary and Her Divine Son in the office, in the factory, at the dance, on the ball, at the recreation center, and at home, as well as in Church.

An interesting Sodality is an active, energetic Sodality. A dull Sodality is one with nothing particular to do. The active Sodality stresses the four purposes contained in the first and primary rule of the Sodality, namely:

1. Aiming to foster in its members an ardent devotion, reverence, and filial love towards the Blessed Virgin Mary, and through this devotion and protection of so good a Mother, it seeks...

2. To make the faithful gathered together under her name good Catholics, sincerely bent on sanctifying themselves, each in his state of life, and

3. Zealous, as far as their condition in life permits, to save and sanctify their neighbor, and

4. To defend the Church of Jesus Christ against the attacks of the wicked.

The four major aims of the Sodality are practically carried out by means of committees:

1. Devotion to Mary — Our Lady Committee.
2. Personal Sanctification — Eucharistic Committee.

The Marian way of life is a sure way to eternal happiness. The four aims, beconced by the four simple rules for gaining a bit of heaven, spell Eternal Salvation. Our every thought, word, and action should be motivated with these simple, but acute, reasons always before us: TO DO THE RIGHT THING — AT THE RIGHT TIME — THE RIGHT WAY — FOR THE RIGHT PURPOSE.

Thus, dear Sodalists, you will get from your Sodality only what you put into it. Each member of this fraction of this society contributing in an individual and collective way toward your own and your neighbor's growth. Do your part as well as you can and your work will be half done.

Mary — Maiden.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

The Sodality Section needs your help. Make it YOUR section by sending in a contribution — whatever you may consider interesting and useful. Then we won't have trouble getting this Section out once a month.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Medalist

If you have not seen "The Bells of St. Mary" then mark it down as a "must" for your screen entertainment. It has a plot, (really a rarity nowadays), good music, clean jokes; and of course there's Bing, too. There are quite a few hard punching truths in it, and one of the best is Sr. Mary Benedict's answer to a girl who wanted to be a nun, just to flee from the sordid world.

"A girl doesn't enter the convent just to escape from the world, but because she has found someone, more precious than the world can ever offer."

Isn't it true that we have forgotten Jesus as Someone very dear to us and His Love as the most priceless gift that we could ever have? A girl thinks of her future and pictures to herself a husband, not quite a Van Johnson, but almost like him. She pictures her home as a cozy nest. But how rarely does she ever see herself as true to Jesus and growing in love for him amid all the comforts that He gives and will give to Her? That must be the reason why even the wealthiest person is never content; for he is forever searching for a lasting joy and peace that just cannot be found amidst earthly things. The found amidst earthly things. The lasting and mundane peace and joy of heart can be found in the church just around the corner.

Erie Johnson, the new czar of the movie industry really pulled off a fast one when he recently said that the present Christian morals are antedated and that people will soon live according to morals taught them by the movie industry. Of all the insane remarks that we have ever heard, this is the "tops." Picture to yourself your neighborhood full of Mildred Pierce, where many a woman is a flibiste and the men are rakes. Even the pagan Romans sought and lived by a higher moral code. Oh, come now Mr. Johnson — are you kidding?

No teacher should be too severe with any pupil for day-dreaming. It is just a human weakness to find solace in our dream world where we can excel and find joy in our successes and happiness. Thus at sometime or other in our lives we must have dreamt and pictures ourselves as being martyrs, fleeing from persecutors, or leading adventurous lives. Nothing, however, that we ever dreamt of ourselves could be as terrifying and dreadful compared to the sufferings and terrors of our Lithuanians. Many of them have been exiled to the Urals or to far off Siberia to slave in the steel factories or in the lumber camps amid the most frightful conditions. They are the true martyrs of "1946", suffering the worst hardships just because they are Catholic Lithuanians.

Remember to say a prayer for them that our Mutual Heavenly Mother would succour them, and that her gentle grace would lighten their sad and weary hearts. May the gentle fingers of the Mother, the most kind wise aways their bitter tears and that wonderful smile of Hers bring a cheering hope to heart full of bitterness and pain.

WHAT IS A FRIEND??

What is a friend? A friend is one Who takes you by the hand... Who listens to your troubles and Who tries to understand... Who comforts you in sickness and Rejoices in your health... And who is always at your side In poverty or wealth... Who does not ask for payment or Expect the slightest share... And who will keep your secret when Entrusted to his care... A friend is one who really means The praises he presents... And criticizes only to Promote your competence... Who always serve you faithfully And is sincere and true... And who would merely like to have The same respect from you... — James J. Metcalfe.
STARTING with some back events, of the past few months, which are not so well known as all... The HALLOWEEN PARTY sponsored by the Senior Socialists under the Social Life Committee Chairman, ANN VENSWOLF, and her assistant, JEAN RÚNELLA, was a fun-filled evening for all. It was attended by the Junior Socialists as well as the Senior. Aside from the miscellaneous games, a jitterbug contest was conducted, refreshments served and two prizes given away in the costume show. GERALDINE ZABL, who wore a clown outfit received a prize for the funnest and VIRGINIA BALNÉS appearing in a sailor's garb walked off with the prize for the most original. HATTIE KANTUTIS representing a Colonial girl, received recognition for the most beautiful costume worn...

It was good to see our Spiritual Director, FATHER JULIAN GRIND, back with the Sociality at the December meeting, after a 6 week confinement at Loretto Hospital. We all wish him the best of health in this new year... Among the Corporal Wounds of Mercy, 26 SODALISTS, comprising a group of Jr's and Sr's, visited ST. VINCENZUS and got armfuls of toys and clothes for the orphans. Arrangements for this tour were made by the Eucharistic Committee Chairman, ADELLE ABRAMOVICIUS. The kind Sisters of Charity escorted us throughout the building, beginning with the top floor—a solarium, where we all had a chance to be with the 2 to 3 year olds at play... In continuing our tour, it was heart-breaking to find out that many of the tots' parents are known and their problems are court cases, therefore, the children are not up for adoption... These still in eris varying from a few days, weeks, and some months old were very tempting to pick-up and carry home as LIVE DOLLS; however, we were only spectators viewing them from behind glass partitions in the corridor. Some tots, of the hairy crawling and others of the standing age, stood in their eris

BRIDGEPORT SODALISTS At HALLOWEEN PARTY
giving to us and smiling as if to tell us they enjoyed our visit. Finally, the tour was concluded by a visit to the Chapel which is beautiful and reminded many of us of our Dear Alma Mater (S. C. A. of course).

It was on the same Sunday morning that the Socialists had served breakfast to the Holy Name Men's special event which was attended by the returned Servicemen and the wives of the parish's deceased Servicemen for whom a Memorial Mass was held. The tips received at the breakfast table amounted to $10 which the girls contributed to St. Vincent's Orphanage instead of dividing the money among themselves.

EVELYN DAMBRASKAS, former Vice-President and previous year's Secretary of the Sociality had left us as she stepped to the altar on Dec. 1, 1945 to receive the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony at the 10 o'clock Mass, with LT. (J. G.) JOHN J. REMENCHUS. A bridal shower for the Sociality was held in the Sociality Clubroom previous to the wedding day, where a number of Socialists gathered in bidding her farewell, extending their best wishes, and bestowing personal gifts as well as the usual gift from the Sociality... CHANCE BOOKS have been distributed a few months ago for raising a $50 Victory Bond and the deadline set for our January meeting... The SOCIALITY UNION CHRISTMAS PARTY which was to take place at the St. George Sociality Clubroom on Sunday, Dec. 30, at 2 o'clock was postponed however, the local PARISH SODALISTS had their ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY on that day as originally planned by the Sociality Union's Social Life Chairman, IRIS OŚMIUŚKAS, who also heads from Bridgeport and who was assisted by this parish's Social Life Committee Chairman, ANN VENSWOLF and the Prefect, VIRGINIA BALNÉS...

REGARDS FOR FUTURE EVENTS, our Prefect, and Social Life Committee Chairman with the assistance of all the members, have completed the preliminary plans for a WINTER FROLIC and DANCE to take place on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1946 at St. George Ballroom. Music will be furnished by BEX PAUL and his ORCHESTRA. Admission $1. Everyone is assured of a jolly evening of fun galore... If you hear a rustle with the breeze stirring out your way, just remember it's the Bridgeport Socialists, preening around getting ads, patrons, and selling tickets for the...
It’s Happened!

"I’m Falling In Love....."

ARRIAGE is a very serious i:ti:uation. It cannot be taken for granted. It creates a life-long obligation a permanent bond (although one would think otherwise after seeing what's been going on in the world today). Marriage, therefore, must be entered into not merely from the viewpoint of romance, but from that of practical consideration as well.

Some time ago I heard some girls (worrying about the man shortage) say, "We’re going to San Francisco to meet the first ship that comes in." From such a remark, one would think that all they want is a man. It would seem that there is no thought of love. Then, too, to fall in love, when people are not suited to each other, would be folly. Marriage should be based on reason. Love alone does not suffice.

Moralists have described love as a "temporary madness" (one fool after another), but is not merely growing insane, but only a time of excited feeling and emotion, where romance takes the place of reality.

When, therefore, you find yourself falling in love with any one, pause a moment at the threshold before this spirit of romance has a firm hold of you, and ask yourself whether reason and faith are in favor of such a choice. That is the time in which you are still master of yourselves and cat, and still avoid being swept off your feet by this powerful passion. Remember the old saying: "Look before you leap!"

Novelists and writers of plays who must, above all, make their plots interesting, are very fond of representing loving as something inevitable, so that when two fated people come together, the plot must work out, despite either of them. This is not quite true in real life. There is a preliminary stage in which young people are very strongly attracted to each other and are beginning to fall in love, but in which they are not so completely blind to each other's faults as not to be able to form a reasonable judgment. That is the time in which, you must weigh well the step you are taking and to see whether the person of whom you are growing fond is worthy and suitable to be your mate for life.

People who trifle with love and enter into romantic attachments without any intention of marriage are playing with fire and will burn themselves and others. Those who rush into a romantic attachment with the intention of marrying someone whom they hardly know (as those girls who intend to rush off to San Francisco).

So, a HAPPY, MERRY CHRISTMAS And a PEACEFUL, BRIGHT, NEW YEAR.

December 1946

Author

Viola Mae

Christmas Time

By Viola Mae

Christmas time is coming round

The air is full of cheer.

Joyous Yuletide carols sound
To skime out the New Year.

People are rushing to and fro
Buying and wrapping things,
Kids are all a wantin' to know
What dear old Santa brings.

Everyone's preparing for the holidays
With thankfulness and pleasure,

For in many, many ways
This Noel, truly is a treasure.

Most of are Armed Forces
Are back from the fighting fronts,
That's one of our happiness sources
Which we'll keep for months.

The sky is full of blessings
The earth is full of Peace,
The world is all rejoicing
And preparing for the feast.

Just a few days now
And at last it will be here,