Desert Church Is Haven
For Former Detroit Priest

By Douglas D. Martin

TUCSON, Ariz. — Out on the Arizona ranges, 20 miles from Tucson, is the beautiful little Catholic Church of Santa Rita in the Desert.

Here is the heart of the Valley of the Sun, a former Detroit priest, the Rev. Fr. George F. Jonaitis, ministered to a few faithful who live in or near the dying village of Vail.

Pastor of St. Peter's Catholic Church, 8300 Longworth Ave., Father Jonaitis was well known in Detroit in the early '30s. A Lithuanian by birth, he was educated in this country, volunteered in World War I and while serving as a chaplain with combat troops was seriously wounded.

His desert church was built by Mrs. George Beach from the fortune left her by her first husband, Jokeli Taka­mune, the Japanese scientist who discovered adrenalin.

Vail is scarcely more today than a name on the state map. Once it was a busy station on the line of the Southern Pacific.

But mines which had once hauled thousands of tons of ore to Vail for shipment finally lost their riches, Cattlemen began raising cattle and their beef to other points by truck. The railway station closed its doors. Merchants failed or moved away.

Only the little adobe church lived on. Santa Rita in the Desert can still recall its 110 villagehers, although it is seldom now that more than a dozen attend mass. But the religious ceremony goes on faithfully with all the dignity of a cathedral service.

The figure of the Blessed Virgin is a masterpiece of the hands of a Spanish sculptor. The stations of the Cross are fine mosaics, set into plain plastered walls.

The candles burn in golden bases made in Japan many years ago. Robes and vestments are the finest silk and satin and are hand sewn. But the chalice goes on faith with all the dignity of a cathedral service.

For Father Jonaitis, accustomed to an active life in busy, growing parishes in Detroit and Omaha, the days at Vail are long. But they are not without compensations.

"There is time for meditation and for reading," he said. He gestured toward the mountains. "This is the trail the saints trod. One remembers that it is humbling. It is a privilege to live and serve among such scenes of hallowed grandeur."

Natives Hear Opera
Trills Lost In Hills

ST. COLUMBANS, Nebr.—As an aid in his missionary work in the northern hills of Burma, Father Lawrence Hickey, Columban missionary, found a small portable radio very effective. With it he gained the interest of the hill tribes and it provided the way for talks about religion.

In a recent report to St. Columban's headquarters here, Father Hickey had this incident to relate:

"We produced the small portable radio and soon had the entire village for an audience. I chanced to pick up a coloratura soprano singing Italian opera. Thinking her acrobatic trills would be lost on these people, I hastened to turn the dial, but they begged me to allow her to continue. It was marvelous they said, but would I explain to them what joke she was pulling out the neck of the radio."

Necking Dangerous!!

NEW YORK.—A physician in a New York medical college clinic said today that some girls can't take it in the neck. His comment was in connection with a London coroner's ruling that a 22-year-old woman died because her sweetheart's brace-exerted pressure on a vulnerable nerve center in her neck.

What Befell the American Gifts in Lithuania?

The shipment of clothing and footwear collected in the United States and sent to Lithuania by the United Lithuanian Relief, Inc., a member agency of the National War Fund of America, reached Vilnius via Moscow. The local press barely mentioned the fact.

Even though an agency called the Red Cross, whose purposes and duties are unknown, functions in Lithuania, the shipment was not consigned to it. The entire shipment was taken over by the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

Something happened to the shipment in Moscow, because when it reached Lithuania, much of it bore labels of Russian firms and part consisted of war production products.

This shipment of relief supplies from the Lithuanian Americans is being distributed through the Central Committee of the Communist Party, and so the commissioners, their wives, high party officials and Russians brought into Lithuania for all sorts of purposes, have first choice. As a matter of fact, Commissar Gregorius, the Communist Party's chairman, was publicly reproached for having failed to send aid to Lithuania. The local press explained this by saying the entire village for an audience. They would not believe me when I insisted that she was not laughing but singing."

The University in Kansas received some men's and boys' coats, several suits, knitted goods, shoes, stockings and underwear for distribution to the students. The shoes appeared to be either of Russian or Lithuanian make, the underwear and clothing were substituted and bore Vilnius labels.

These gifts from America and the method of their distribution caused much discussion in Lithuania. The Lithuanians are of the opinion that their American friends and relatives should refrain from sending any further aid, at least for the time being, until they are guaranteed that goods would be fairly distributed and reach the needy people.

Arrests and Deportations

Mass deportations are not being affected on the scale comparable to those of 1941. Instead, people are imprisoned individually or in small groups and then taken to Russia. The transports to Russia start from Kaunas and Vilnius and usually take 3,000 or 3,500 people monthly, mostly farmers and workers. Everything, including clothing, is taken from them.
Alongside the widely publicized political contest between the great powers, there is another battle no less grim in progress. This is the battle for the lives and souls of over one million displaced men, women, and children of European origin whose conditions in their countries now destitute by Soviet Russia, these people do not dare to go back home. The Soviet Union and her satellites are stubbornly demanding that they be returned even by force. This is firmly opposed by the British and American governments, who know what is behind these Russian demands: the attempt to seize and exterminate these last remaining free representatives of that part of Europe which the Soviets consider as their own.

According to general estimates, of the 20,000,000 displaced people found in Europe after the cessation of hostilities, about 1,100,000 are still left homeless. In the last three months approximately 900,000 are in Displaced Persons Camps in the American and British zones of Germany and Austria, 50,000 in the French zone, the remainder in Italy, the Middle East, India and elsewhere. Half of them are reported to be Poles, the other Yugoslavs, Lithuanians, Estonians, Latvians, Ukrainians, Jews, etc.

The tragedy of these unfortunate victims of international bargains that have left Europe divided in two, is appalling. During the five years of struggle and suffering under the Nazi rule they waited and hoped for the day of Allied victory and liberation. But when V-Day came their country was war torn and with victory nor liberation for them. It was only then they discovered that while they were in Nazi prisons or labor camps, their homelands were sold away to Russian by the Allies, and their own future lives were a part of the bargain. These peoples fear of communist terror must have been great indeed, if in spite of persuasion by allied officials and constant propaganda sent to them by the respective puppet regimes, over one million chose the uncertain and homeless life of refugees rather than return to their communist controlled towns and villages.

The battle between the Soviet bloc and the Democracies about displaced people dates almost from the very day the war in Europe ended. It acquired special ferocity, however, since January, 1946, when it became the subject of a heated debate at the UN Social and Economic Council in New York. The Soviet and Democratic viewpoints clashed head-on and the Russians were outvoted on the main points. The basic principle adopted was: “that no person should be compelled to return home against his will.” A special committee of twenty two nations attempted to frame and ppare recommendations on the whole issue. But the same irrec commonly outweighed the views met again in the Committee and no agreement reached on any single point. As a result, the Committee continued its work until the end of May, the two hundred page report had only one unanimous decision to present; namely, that an International Organization to deal with the problem of refugees and displaced peoples be set up by the UN. This new organization is to be a separate body, not constituting a part of the UN.

The UN Economic and Social Council at Hunter College, Brooklyn, last week, now debating on the rules of this organization and here again it finds constant Soviet opposition. The Soviet motion, requesting that only their governments and not the new organization be permitted to advise the refugees and displaced people about conditions in their homelands, was outvoted eleven to five. It is to be feared that in this and other matters, the Soviets and their satellites will not give up but will continue their sabotage work.

While this cynical bargaining about the lives of hundreds of thousands of helpless people continues, their future looks ever more grim. Despite basic regulations which protect the refugees against pressure to return home, cases of deportations by force to the Soviet zone, recurrrently appear. What is still worse is that one does not know how soon the new international organization will start functioning. The UNRRA and military aid for refugees and displaced people is supposed to cease at the end of this year. In the meantime, the nd of people to care for is increasing and not diminishing. In the place of those few who decided to go home, countless people arrive from the Soviet zone fleeing communist terror. Many of them are displaced people who having returned home and finding conditions there unbearable, fled westward again. The American press recently reported that in the last three months, not less than 25,000 people entered the U.S. zone. Thus a new wave of human flight sweeps across Europe while the fate of victims of the past war is still unsettled.

**AN OPEN LETTER**

**Dear SODAL - SEC**

While the UN labora to map cut a workable program to insure world peace among nations, every individual must map out a program of peace for himself and for his family. The bloody hostilities, thanks be to God, are over, but if there is not real peace within the families living on every side of the globe then there is only a truce, a pause in hostilities. Without unity in the family, no world organization can hope for unity among nations.

Who will deny that there is continuous warfare in many families? Rights in the U.S. and perhaps in our own family? There is no shooting with guns or clashes with swords, but there is attack and counterattack with unkind words, self-seeking actions. There are frequent (and avoidable) irritations and squabbles. How often are pot-shots taken at one another by recalcitrant mistakes and mixed up? Are not petty grudges disrupting the peace of families for weeks at a time?

Then there are the teases around the house that grind one another's nerves to make a prisoner of one's friends and family. And those who angrily explode like booby-traps over trifles. All these and many other selfish manifestations are to be avoided by sort of kindness and a little patience and self-control. Without unity in the family, how can such a happiness exist anywhere? We must be the children of God, our Father.

**SODAL - SEC**

**TALKING IT OVER**

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From Here and There

It seems that everyone has been vacationing and there is very little news, but we'll tell you what we know...

There were quite a number of girls at the last two swimming parties in BRIDGEPORT at the BOY'S CLUB. Wonder who? Could it be the new HANDSOME life guard?

ST. GEORGE PARISH had their final pic-nic SUN-
DAY, August 18 and a good time was had by all.

ANN VENSLOW, our Social Life Chairman, received a bowling ALMOND from JIMMIE ZBORIL. From what we hear WEDDING BELLS will be ringing soon.

FATHER PRUNSKIS is heading for MEXICO for his vacation. Have a wonderful vaca-tion, FATHER, and tell us all about your trip when you return.

THE TOWN OF LAKE SODALISTS had a "WEEN-
NIE-ROAST" August 20. As an added attraction the girls invited their escorts.

FATHER JOHN VYNAUSKAS must have had a grand vacation. He needed a week to recuperate after it.

STELLA VENZELIS, ELEANORE LAURIN and ADELINE KARKLEIS were seen walking in high heels on a road in Indiana. Were you expecting a lift?

BERNICE STUPER and JOSEPH NED were married on August 3 at ALL SAINT'S CHURCH. Congratulations to the newlyweds!

Recipes? — Diets? — Music?

Yes, gal', it's a foods column or homemaker's column (whichever you prefer). I know of most your work and you just don't seem to get around to make all the fancy pastrу that you would like to. But, did you ever get serious about what to serve for that next meeting with the girls? Have you ever racked your brain trying to fix up a new table setting in that tiny dining room of yours? How about you pick your head up against a blank wall trying to figure out an original centerpiece for the table ac-
cording to the season? You probably have had at least one of these problems so, how about taking up one of our problems to us? I'm sure that our culinary staff will be able to help you out with your problem and solve it too.

Perhaps you are one of those girls who has a brain-
storm and that room of yours went beautifully, how about letting us know about it so that someone el-
said give it a try for some-
things different.

Take large crisp po-
tato chips and spread any of the following on each chip: Peanut butter Melted american cheese Cottage cheese and minced chives Cream cheese and water cress Mayonnaise — pickle relish Mayonnaise crabmeat Tuna fish Deviled ham Any type of bottled cream cheeses Just spread or sprinkle the spread of your choice on the large chips and serve. Some may be garnished by a sliced stuffed olive. The platter may be decorated with parsley.

When you try it out let us know how your guests liked our suggestion won't you?

HUMOR

Mrs. Newrich was fond of flowers especially liked the salvia, but was not very reliable in getting the names right. She was giving direc-
tions to her gardener. "On this side of the walk," she said, "I want you to put some salivas. Now what would you suggest for the other side?"

"Well, madam," answered the gardener solemnly, "may be it would be a good idea to put spitoonas there".

POLYNA STOSKA, opera and concert star, well known in American and Lithuanian circles, has left for a special invitational concert tour to Europe under the auspices of the USO Camp Shows. This will by Miss Stoska's third overseas trip entertaining the men of the Armed Forces, each trip being made exclusively by air. So far, she has approximately 65,000 miles to her credit, hav-
ing flown over the arctic circle three times and the equa-
tor two times. This will be her first flight over the Atlant-
ic Ocean, previous trips having been made by boat.

Miss Stoska anticipates a very busy season next year having been re-engaged by the New York City Center where she will again sing principal roles. Also she will make a coast to coast tour in the United States as a soloist with the orchestra of the Military Order of the Purple Heart under the direction of Randolph Jones.

...Mental Prayer...

Dear Lord Jesus—

The other day while browsing through some books and clippings I came across a little piece that seems to sum up anything I could ever try to put into words to You. It tells me how to be Christ-Like. It tells me how to become more and more pleasing in Your eyes. The little piece went something like this:

"Every time I look at me—
I seem to see only me in me. So that you may lind some and more pleasing in Your eyes. The little piece went something like this:

For You In me.

That Lord is my prayer. It isn't very much but it is the best way I know to tell you that I do so want to try and be better and better each day instead of getting worse. You will try and help me I know for you never re-

PHOTO / NEWS

"She said she had a headache." — W. T. Sutton, 74, Missouri farmer, whose 16-year-old bride disappeared after 2 weeks.

"American women are spoiled and I like 'em that way." — Harlow Smith, of Michigan, comparing V. S. and Jap girls.

"They are smoother, but have lost some of their dignity." — Cpl. at William Jewell College, Mo., on today's veterans as social-

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Guard That LOOK!

A while back it was, one of those lazy evenings we all revere in, the phone rang. I made a mad dash for it thinking about the possibilities of a date. I answered it with the most "honeyed" "Hello! you would ever want to hear; but it wasn't an Kathy from Cicero.

"Now Angela, she said, "you asked for cooperation, we are going to give it to you, but we are going to ask you for cooperation too."

At that I just knew something was brewing. My guess was right! Kathy asked me to be a guest writer.

Feeling very enthusiastic about the idea and quite honored, I began probing my brain cells for a subject to write about. Well, believe your 'I think I rummaged through subjects ranging from recipes to politics and still didn't get any further than when I first began. Should I write about something silly? Perhaps something about the present day problems? Maybe on — no, that wouldn't do either. Frankly I was stumped. But a promise was a promise so I resolved to try, try and try again.

After sprouting grey hairs, adding a few more wrinkles to my image and experiencing some horrifying nightmares I struck on a subject. That subject was you, yes, YOU — the Sodalist.

Looking at you, the Sodalist, outwardly there are the usual things one sees in a girl these days. A smear of lipstick, a smudge of powder, bright fingernails, a junk of jewelry dangling from the wrist, a jacquard sweater, pleated skirt and dancing to "jive" and "dream-dust". Seeing this, one commences to wonder how all of "this" can be a Sodalist, a daughter and be haloed in faith have personal sacrifices may seem to be too trivial a gift to give in return. That kind word you say about some one instead of lashing them. Yes, truly "The Look" is to what is different about the Sodalist. It is not the sort of "Look" that made Bacall in "Casablanca" what she is — that belongs to the past but "The Look" of the soul that makes the Sodalist different.

ALWAYS A TRUE SODALIST AND HAVE THAT "LOOK" — it's worth it. Angela.

Getting On

In the World

Pain and Killers

Ours is a day of pain-killing; popular analgesics are offered to us in omnipresent advertisements. It is one of those immortal ironies that the very age in which man's inventive genius found so many ways of killing pain, should be marked by innumerable methods of killing men. Suffering must come, sacrifice is inevitable; triumph of science will never suc ceed in upholstering the cross, which is the mark of Christ's disciple in the early Church or in the present day.

Thinkers whose minds are bailed in faith have received this truth, and have realized that no surface remedy can cure an internal illness of the human heart. "This is what the anguish of the present day requires before all else", M. Maccatin wrote. "the soul demands saints." G. K. Chesterton, remarking that societies collage and purposes go down in rolling ruin, asks: "What will remain? I will tell you. The Catholic saint will return."

May the Holy Spirit enlighten us to see our destiny with a true Sodalist's eyes? See the gleam of goodness, kindness? Eyes are the mirrors of your soul, someone once said. How very true those words are.

You no doubt have often sat in a street-car or bus and watched people. Their eyes speak to you more than their words. Some eyes lurk evilly at you, other eyes are wild, worried. Some are thoughtful, some are bleeding. At the eyes of a true Sodalist you see a cleanliness not found in other eyes. Her soul shines through her eyes. That is the difference I find. That is what makes YOU the Sodalist. That gleam of goodness, kindness comes from the thoughtfulness, consideration you give to others. Those little extra things you do for people without expecting something in return. That kind word you say about someone instead of lashing them. Yes, truly "The Look" is what is different about the Sodalist. It is not the sort of "Look" that made Bacall what she is — that belongs to the past but "The Look" of the soul that makes the Sodalist different.

PHR JULIAN

In Passing

Have you noticed the drive conducted by some of our daily newspapers against sordid, sordid actions, jewelry will be a steady road station in columns. The recent letter from a deportee made up of make-up of everything made of up of everything everyone else is made of. Then how can you distinguish her? Well, that's easy did you ever look at a great, that doesn't make it so. Buy Catholic books and read criticism of popular literature in Catholic magazines. In the long run, this will prove to be cheaper. Lastly, if you should ever feel stung, then give vent to your 're by sitting down and writing to the editor telling him of your disappointment and your candid opinion of the author.

September the eight is the Birthday of the Blessed Lady. Just as it is a gala day in heaven so it should be to each Sodalist. A Holy Communion, a special visit, some special sacrifice may seem to be too trivial a gift to give in return. That kind word you say about some one instead of lashing them. Yes, truly "The Look" is what is different about the Sodalist. It is not the sort of "Look" that made Bacall what she is — that belongs to the past but "The Look" of the soul that makes the Sodalist different.

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