

# AA EXCHANGE BULLETIN

NEWS AND NOTES ON ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS WORLDWIDE

VOLUME 2 Published by General Service Headquarters of A.A., P. O. Box 459, Grand Central Annex, New York 17 NUMBER 3

## GROUP DISPLAYS OF BOOKS SURVEYED

### NEW TRUSTEE

Prof. Harrison M. Trice of the School of Industrial and Labor Relations; Cornell University; has been elected to fill the vacancy in the roster of Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustees of the General Service Board of A.A. Recognized as an authority on the problem of alcoholism in the U. S., Prof. Trice has been an enthusiastic supporter of A.A. for many years.

### DuPont Repeats Network Telecast On A.A. Founders

"One Day At A Time," the duPont television show on the founding of A.A. that proved so popular when first shown in November, 1955; will be repeated throughout most of the U. S. on Tuesday, March 12th, the chemical company has announced. (In certain areas the program will be telecast at a later date, as indicated on the schedule appearing in this "Exchange Bulletin.")

The story, which was prepared with the assistance of a number of oldtimers who are familiar with A.A.'s first days, was widely acclaimed throughout the movement. Hundreds of requests for copies of the film were received and the duPont company made 40 prints available to local groups throughout the world on a loan basis. G.S.H. cooperation in publicizing the film does not, of course, imply Headquarters endorsement of the production.

In some areas where "One Day At A Time" will be shown, local television station personnel may call Intergroup offices or other group contacts for approval in mentioning a local A. A. telephone or post office box number in connection with the telecast. Traditionally, most groups accede to requests of this type, making it clear to the station representative that A.A. cooperates in such projects without endorsing any specific production.

Based on past experience, the March 12th show should attract an audience in the millions.

### Sponsorship Plans Also Studied

Does your group display A. A.'s basic text books at meetings?

How does your group go about the business of sponsoring a new member? Do you have a formal plan to assure the newcomer of a warm welcome to your group? Do you hand the newcomer any literature prepared specially to explain the operations of *your group* to him?

An informal questionnaire designed to shed light on this vital

phase of A.A. therapy appears on this page. Each Group Representative is urged to complete the questionnaire promptly and return it to G.S.H. so that results of the survey can be published in an early issue of the "Exchange Bulletin."

The survey was undertaken following analysis of hundreds of letters from groups throughout the world. These letters suggested that sponsorship is considered a solemn responsibility

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### Delegates Get Draft of Agenda For Conference

The preliminary agenda for the Seventh Annual General Service Conference of A.A. has been sent to Delegates for their study and comments prior to the four-day meeting Thursday, April 18, General Service Headquarters has announced.

During the Conference, Delegates will hear detailed reports on the operation of AA.'s worldwide service agencies, will review matters of general policy concerning the entire Fellowship and will take part in several panel discussions on methods of extending A.A. services. At least one meeting will be set aside for Area Delegates to meet by themselves, with no Headquarters staff personnel present.

In circulating the preliminary agenda, G.S.H. has reminded Delegates that there will be an opportunity for presentation of any topic not now on the agenda but which an Area may feel should be considered by the Conference.

### SPECIAL GROUP SURVEY

Fill out and return to P. O. Box 459, Grand Central Annex, New York 17, N. Y.

- A. DOES YOUR GROUP DISPLAY THE BOOK "ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS" AT GROUP MEETINGS? .....
- B. DOES YOUR GROUP DISPLAY THE BOOK ON "TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS" AT MEETINGS? .....

1. Does your group have a committee on sponsorship? .....
2. Are efforts made to assure that each newcomer to your group has a sponsor? .....
3. Has your group devoted a closed meeting to the subject of sponsorship during the past six months? .....
4. Is the G.S.H. pamphlet on "Sponsorship" available at all group meetings? .....
5. Does your group prepare any special printed or mimeographed material designed to make the newcomer feel "at home" in the group? .....
6. Is some one assigned to greet newcomers who may appear at open meetings, and introduce them to other members? .....

GROUP NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

If desired, please comment in writing on above points.

## Conference - Approved Material

### BOOKS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (The Big Book) NEW; REVISED EDITION \*\$4.50  
 \*Price to Groups: \$4.00; of this 50 cents is earmarked for A.A.'s Reserve Fund for World Services ← Note Price to Groups

THE TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS (Book on A.A. Principles by Bill W.) \*Price to Groups: \$2.50; of this 25 cents is earmarked for A.A.'s Reserve Fund for World Services \* 2.75  
← Note Price to Groups

### PAMPHLETS

THIS IS A.A. (Pocket-size introduction to A.A.)	.10
A.A.—44 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (Answers to key questions about A.A.)	.15
IS A.A. FOR YOU? (Twelve searching; enlightening questions & comments)	.05
YOUNG PEOPLE AND A.A. (Youth's stake in the recovery program)	.15
A.A. FOR THE WOMAN (Personal stories from woman's angle)	.15
A.A. TRADITION—HOW IT DEVELOPED (By Bill W.)	.15
SPONSORSHIP (Helping newcomers achieve sobriety)	.10
ALCOHOLISM THE ILLNESS (Two notable addresses by Bill W.)	.15
THE ALCOHOLIC HUSBAND (A message to wives)	.10
THE ALCOHOLIC WIFE (A message to husbands)	.10
THE ALCOHOLIC EMPLOYEE (Helping employers understand A.A.)	.15
A.A. AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION (An up-to-date survey)	.15
SEDATIVES AND THE ALCOHOLIC (Hazards of drugs in recovery program)	.15
SATURDAY EVENING POST REPRINT (1941) (One of the first "national" articles)	.10
FORTUNE REPRINT—A.A. (Comment by a distinguished magazine)	.10
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING REPRINT ("Letter to a Woman Alcoholic")	.10
"A.A.—44 Questions and Answers" (15c); Bill's recent Interpretation of "A.A. Traditions" (25c) and the "Fortune Reprint" (10c) are available in the following languages: Finnish—French—Norwegian—Portuguese—Spanish—Swedish.	

### SPECIAL

THE THIRD LEGACY MANUAL	\$ .35
YOUR ROLE IN THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE	FREE
STRUCTURE & SERVICES OF A.A.	FREE
WALLET CARDS (Steps & Traditions) plastic coated; 2 in. x 3½ in., per 100	3.50
WALLET CARDS (Serenity Prayer) plastic coated; 2 in. x 3½ in.; per 100	3.50
TWELVE STEPS; parchment paper for framing; 8½ in. x 12 in.	1.25
TWELVE TRADITIONS, parchment paper for framing, 8½ in. x 12 in.	1.25
SERENITY PRAYER, parchment paper for framing, 8½ in. x 12 in.	1.25
1 Set of the 3 parchment papers, listed above	3.50
LASKER AWARD CITATION, fine paper replica, 21¼ in x 14½ in.	2.50
LARGE TURNOVER PRESENTATION ON A.A.'s GENERAL SERVICES	25.00

### RECORDINGS

MILESTONES AHEAD (1953 Conference addresses by Bill W. and Mr. Bernard B. Smith; Chairman of The Board of Trustees—4 sides)	\$6.00
A.A.'s THREE LEGACIES (Bill W. reviews growth of fellowship—4 sides)	6.00
A.A.'s TRADITIONS (Key meeting of 1st International Conference—4 sides)	6.00

(All recordings are 12-inch long playing 33½ RPM)

## A.A. Literature Is Key Service At Headquarters

When General Service Delegates convene the Seventh Annual Conference in New York next month, they will probably hear that close to 50,000 copies of A.A. books and more than half a million copies of pamphlet literature were distributed by General Service Headquarters during 1956.

Whatever the final tabulations show, they will serve to highlight two important facts about the Headquarters Literature service program. First is the fact that G.S.H. publications year after year appear to fill a need for basic data on the Fellowship that could not be met in any other way. Second, and not so clearly understood by many members, is the fact that income from the sale of books and pamphlets is an important element in assuring continuation of Headquarters services to local groups and individual alcoholics throughout the world.

As Bill W. has pointed out, income from the sale of the Big Book was the only thing that kept the Headquarters office going during a number of years when group contributions failed to meet essential office expenses. Bill's books continue to be the financial mainstays of the literature program.

The full scope of the program is suggested in the box at the left, reproduced from a recent A.A. Publishing Company order blank.

A special effort is made to keep the program flexible at all times. New items are added only when local group interest suggests that a real need exists. Older pamphlets are either revised periodically or allowed to go out of print when group demand falls off. The success of this policy is indicated by the fact that distribution of nearly all pamphlets exceeds 20,000 copies annually. More than 100,000 copies of a single pamphlet were distributed last year; two other pamphlets had distribution in excess of 60,000 copies.

# Telecast Station and Time Schedules Shown

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1957

Station	City and State	Channel	Local Time
WAKR	Akron, Ohio	49	9:30
WOI-TV	Ames, Iowa	5	8:30
WAIM-TV	Anderson, S. C.	40	9:30
WLOS-TV	Ashville; N. C.	13	9:30
WLW-A	Atlanta, Ga.	11	9:30
WAAM	Baltimore, Maryland	13	9:30
WBLN	Bloomington, Ill.	15	8:30
WTTV	Bloomington, Ind.	4	9:30
WGR-TV	Buffalo, N. Y.	2	9:30
WCRG-TV	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	9	8:30
WBKB	Chicago, Ill.	7	8:30
WEWS	Cleveland, Ohio	5	9:30
WTVN-TV	Columbus, Ohio	6	9:30
WFAA-TV	Dallas Ft. Worth, Tex.	8	8:30
WDAN-TV	Danville, Ill.	24	8:30
WXYZ-TV	Detroit, Mich.	7	9:30
WSJV	Elkhardt, Ind.	52	9:30
KGEO-TV	Enid, Okla.	5	8:30
WFRV-TV	Green Bay, Wisc.	5	8:30
WTPA	Harrisburg, Pa.	71	9:30
WHTN-TV	Huntington, W. Va.	13	9:30
KMBC-TV	Kansas City, Mo.	9	8:30
WTVK	Knoxville, Tenn.	26	9:30
KOLN-TV	Lincoln, Nebr.	10	8:30
WLVA-TV	Lynchburg, Va.	13	9:30
KABC-TV	Los Angeles, Calif.	7	9:30
WKOW-TV	Madison, Wisc.	27	8:30
WMUR-TV	Manchester, N. H.	9	9:30
WISN-TV	Milwaukee, Wisc.	12	8:30
WTCN-TV	Minneapolis, Minn.	11	8:30
WSIX-TV	Nashville, Tenn.	8	8:30
WNHC-TV	New Haven, Conn.	8	9:30
WABC-TV	New York, N. Y.	7	9:30
WFIL-TV	Philadelphia, Pa.	6	9:30
KGW-TV	Portland, Ore.	12	9:30
WTVR	Richmond, Va.	6	9:30
KCCC-TV	Sacramento, Calif.	40	9:30
KGO-TV	San Francisco, Calif.	7	9:30
KING-TV	Seattle, Wash.	5	9:30
KREM-TV	Spokane, Wash.	2	9:30
WSUN-TV	Tampa, St. Petersburg, Fla.	38	9:30
KTVX-TV	Tulsa, Okla.	8	8:30
WMAL-TV	Washington, D. C.	7	9:30
WCNY-TV	Watertown, N. Y.	7	9:30
WILK-TV	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	34	9:30
WITN-TV	Washington, N. C.	7	7:30
WHIS-TV	Bluefield, W. Va.	6	8:30
KBTW	Denver, Colo.	9	8:30
KTVK	Phoenix, Ariz.	3	8:30
KATV	Pine Bluff, Ark.	7	9:30
KUTV	Salt Lake City, Utah	2	8:30
KJEO-TV	Fresno, Calif.	47	10:00
WTVW	Evansville, Ind.	7	9:30
WOC-TV	Davenport, Iowa	6	10:00
KOAT-TV	Albuquerque, N. Mex.	7	6:30
KRTP-TV	Chattanooga, Tenn.	3	9:30
KOLO-TV	Reno, Nevada	8	9:30
KFBC-TV	Cheyenne, Wyo.	5	6:00
WSVA-TV	Harrisonburg, Va.	3	7:30
WJTV	Jackson, Miss.	12	10:00

KELO-TV	Sioux Falls, S. D.	11	10:30
WMAZ-TV	Macon, Ga.	13	8:30
KOMU-TV	Columbus, Mo.	8	8:30
KRYR-TV	Bismark, N. D.	5	7:30
WTAP-TV	Parkersburg, W. Va.	15	10:30

## DELAYED TELECASTS

Station	City and State	Channel	Local Time
KPLC-TV	Lake Charles, La.	Wed. Mar. 13	7 10:00
KARD-TV	Hutchinson, Wichita, Kans.	" " "	3 10:00
WSAV-TV	Savannah, Ga.	" " "	3 9:00
KFBB-TV	Great Falls; Mont.	Thur. Mar. 14	5 8:00
WBOC-TV	Salisbury, Md.	" " "	16 10:30
KYTV	Springfield, Mo.	Fri. Mar. 15	3 7:30
WDAY-TV	Fargo, N. D.	" " "	6 8:30
KOOK-TV	Billings; Mont.	" " "	2 9:30
WSFA-TV	Montgomery, Ala.	Sat. Mar. 16	12 10:00
KPRC-TV	Houston, Tex.	" " "	2 10:00
WHBQ	Memphis; Tenn.	" " "	13 9:00
KENS-TV	San Antonio, Texas	" " "	5 10:00
WLW-TV	Cincinnati, Ohio	Sun. Mar. 17	5 10:30
KCBD-TV	Lubbock; Texas	" " "	11 10:00
WMTW	Mt. Washington; N. H.	" " "	8 9:00
WRGB	Schenectady; N. Y.	" " "	6 11:00
WIS-TV	Columbia; S. C.	" " "	10 10:30
WNEM-TV	Saginaw Bay City; Mich.	" " "	5 9:30
WHAS-TV	Louisville; Ky.	" " "	11 5:30
KOAM-TV	Pittsburg; Kans.	" " "	7 9:30
WNBF-TV	Binghamton, N. Y.	" " "	12 5:00
WRDW-TV	Augusta; Ga.	Mon. Mar. 18	12 8:30
WABT	Birmingham; Ala.	" " "	13 9:30
KIDO-TV	Boise; Idaho	" " "	7 9:30
WICU	Erie, Pa.	" " "	12 9:00
WCSH-TV	Portland, Maine	" " "	6 10:30
WSJS-TV	Winston Salem, N. C.	" " "	12 10:30
KTBS-TV	Shreveport, La.	" " "	3 10:30
WRAL-TV	Charleston, S. C.	Wed. Mar. 13	2 7:00
WUSN-TV	Raleigh, N. C.	" " "	5 10:30
KULA-TV	Honolulu, Hawaii	Sun. Mar. 31	4 9:30
WHEN-TV	Syracuse, N. Y.	Mon. Mar. 18	8 7:00
WFBG-TV	Altoona, Pa.	" " "	10 7:00
WTVJ	Miami, Fla.	Sat. Mar. 16	4 7:30

## A.A. In B. C. Has 104 Groups

Fourteen new groups were founded in British Columbia during 1956, making a total of 104 units currently active in the Canadian Province, according to the annual report appearing in the January "Lifeline," local A.A. publication.

The Vancouver Central Committee also reports distributing 250 copies of the Big Book and 10,000 pieces of pamphlet literature. Approximately 1,100

requests for information about A.A. were handled by the office, Mike S.; general secretary announces.

Preliminary plans have already been made for the annual British Columbia Conference of A.A. to be held during the Easter season. The Conference brings together General Service Representatives from a majority of the groups in the Province.

## Lack of A.A. In TB Units Noted In Survey

### NEW GROUPS

V. A. Hospital  
Sepulveda, Calif.  
State Hospital  
Bangor, Maine  
New Way Group  
State Hospital  
Crownsville, Maryland  
V. A. Hospital  
Lyons, N. J.  
V. A. Hospital  
Temple, Texas

More than half of the 26 hospitals covered in a recent study of the problem of alcoholism in TB facilities have no link with A.A. therapy. This finding, which suggests the need for continuing to "carry the A.A. message" to many in the institutional field, is documented in a special study by John R. Thurston of the V. A. Hospital, Madison, Wisconsin.

Eight of the hospitals now have patient groups;

Four utilize A.A. therapy through "outside" groups;

Three are "contemplating" formation of an A.A. group;

Four have discontinued groups which proved unsuccessful;

Seven have never tried A.A. therapy.

Comments attributed to hospital administrators who are not utilizing A.A. therapy suggest that members in many areas cannot afford to be complacent in assuming that all hospital officials recognize the potential value of the A.A. program.

Among the comments were the following: "Management is not convinced of the value of A.A. to this hospital . . . Local group not sufficiently active . . . Management is not convinced of value or need . . . A.A. is not needed or the need for it is not evident . . . A.A. has never been considered."

Offsetting these negative attitudes are the comments of administrators in hospitals with active A.A. groups. In all cases where specific comments were reported the formal evaluation of the A.A. program was favorable.

## N.S.W. GROUP THANK MINISTER BY REPAINTING HIS CHURCH

Practicing A.A. principles of helpfulness and cooperation "in all its affairs" is an important reality to the 40-member group in Cooma, New South Wales, Australia.

To show its appreciation to a local minister who had been responsible for introducing the first group member to the A.A. program, the group recently volunteered to repaint the minister's church. The repainting project occurred to the group when it was permitted to hold its first anniversary meeting in the church and learned that the building had not had a fresh coat of paint for 75 years.

"The boys really put their heart into it," Frank N. writes. "Helped by wives and some church members, in four weeks of night work and Saturdays, they made an amazing and beautiful change, an inspiration to the church members and most certainly to Rev. Kinmont. 'Amazing' is hardly adequate to express the happiness and satisfaction which we all gained."

The project, which consumed 20 gallons of paint and required erection of 30-foot scaffolding, brought "a tremendous amount of appreciation from the whole town," Frank writes.

## Check Displays And Sponsorship

(Continued from Page 1)

in some groups while other units virtually leave it to the newcomer "to find his own way" when he first seeks A.A. help.

Occasional letters indicate that a number of groups appear to have little or no interest in sponsorship or in interpreting the recovery program to the problem drinker who turns to A.A. for help.

At the other extreme is the example of an institutional group in the State of Washington whose planned approach to the problem of sponsorship includes production of a special mimeographed message welcoming the newcomer to the group and suggesting how he can benefit by full participation in group affairs.

It is hoped that all groups will cooperate in filling out and returning the attached questionnaire so that a detailed report summarizing sponsorship experience can be prepared.

### BULLETIN EDITORS

Ann . . . Conference, Groups,  
Loners  
Eve . . . . . Group Relations  
Hazel . . . Hospital & Prison  
Groups, Loners  
Anita . . . . . Group Relations  
Jane . . . . . Group Relations  
Lib . . . . . Information

## Outside or In, A.A. Still Helps

More than 90 per cent of the inmate A.A.'s who have been released from the Palmetto institutional group, Columbia, South Carolina, during the past seven years have "made good" in the outside world.

That's the estimate of Bob S., secretary of the group which recently marked its seventh anniversary. The group would welcome correspondence and A. A. literature from other members, Bob writes.

### NEW GROUPS

A total of 133 new local groups and 16 lone members were registered at General Service Headquarters during the period from January 17 to February 14. Of the new groups, 81 are in the United States and 13 are in Canada. The total does not include 5 hospital units and 4 prison groups registered during the same period.

Former General Service Conference Delegates will be glad to know that Vic M. of Sacramento, California, is recovering from a serious stroke. Although forced to retire from all activities, he continues to make progress at the home of his brother.

## Once Skeptical, Penologists Hail Program Results

### NEW GROUPS

Clive Honor Farm  
Grimes, Iowa  
House of Detention (M)  
Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Branch Workhouse  
Hampton Farms  
New Hampton, N. Y.

Sixteen dramatic testimonials to the fact that "A.A. works" for inmate alcoholics have been collected by the editors of "BAR-LESS," published by the Bar-Less Fellowship Group, Indiana State Prison, Michigan City, Indiana.

In their own words, a number of distinguished wardens and other noted penologists have recorded their respect and appreciation for the results obtained through use of A.A. therapy in their institutions.

An interesting theme recurs in a number of quotations: "A. A. was initiated with a tongue-in-cheek attitude," one warden wrote. Another noted, "When A.A. was started here back in 1947, I was frankly skeptical that it would survive, let alone that it would do any good for the men who joined."

In each case penologists who had "reservations" about A.A. in the beginning now admit freely that it has been of great value to them.

Areas represented in this informal collection of "notable quotes," include Indiana, Ohio, Oklahoma, Illinois, Utah, Minnesota, Texas, Iowa, South Dakota, Vermont, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan and the Province of Quebec, Canada.

General Service Headquarters would be interested in learning of other penologists' tributes to A.A. which may have come to the attention of "Bulletin" readers.

With the support of groups in Pocatello, Blackfoot and Idaho Falls, inmates of Blackfoot State Hospital, Idaho, have recently decided to form their own group.