



AA EXCHANGE BULLETIN

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE OF A. A.

October-November 1965



Vol. 10 No. 5

• 305 East 45th Street, New York 17 • Mail address: Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York 17 •

Open House For Bill's 31st Anniversary

Bill W.'s 31st anniversary will be celebrated October 2, 1965, with a dinner, meeting, and dance at the Hotel Americana, New York. Open house for *out-of-town visitors only** will be held at G.S.O. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at the hotel 3 to 5 p.m. Bill, Lois and General Service Office staff will all be on hand.

*Due to space limitation.

IN MEMORIAM

G. W. of Chappaqua, N. Y., volunteer editor of The Grapevine many years and always editor of its "Anecdote Bin," died suddenly in August.

FRANK AMOS, one of the original nonalcoholic incorporators of our first General Service Board (back in 1938), died in Chesterfield, Ind., in August. He was 83 years old and lived in St. Petersburg, Fla. He was publisher of the Cambridge (Ohio) Jeffersonian until he retired in 1952.

CAN YOU SPARE FIVE MINUTES TO HELP WITH 6,000 ALCOHOLIC PROBLEMS?

We get at G.S.O. about 6,000 requests for help each year from people who need A.A. help and don't know where to find it in their home towns.

Do you think we should refer them to the nearest hometown Group, or just throw their letters away and not answer?

If you want them to get help, you'll spend five minutes to make sure your Group responds to the letter it got from Archibald Roosevelt last month...reminding us that we agreed in Toronto, "Whenever anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."

Whether it's by your individual Birthday Plan gift, your Group's monthly pledge to G.S.O., or however you do it...the 5 minutes you use to help support G.S.O. will make it possible for us to keep on carrying the message worldwide to those who still don't know...plus the 600 Loners and over 37,000 A.A.'s behind walls (see P. 3), the men of the armed services, the 332 Internationalists, and all the others who are totally dependent on G.S.O. for A.A. contacts

...sobriety, and even life itself sometimes.

MONEY AND A.A.

"Money is a fact of life A.A. members can't dodge," an Oklahoma member writes us, "any more than they can dodge the fact that booze and bars still exist. I think in our meetings we should not clam up on money, but discuss it freely."

Apparently, many other members agree. As one from Connecticut put it, "Some of the best help I have got in my sobriety are Group discussions on how to devote all of life to chasing dough; and how contributions are needed in A.A. for coffee, meeting-place, rent, literature postage, etc. If we are going to act responsibly, surely we in A.A. have to grow up enough to discuss these facts realistically."

(continued on page 2)

I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help, I want
the hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.



* * *

OUR 30th ANNIVERSARY DECLARATION

Silk-screened in two colors on heavy cardboard, the declaration of A.A.'s 30th Anniversary Year and Convention shown here is now available for A.A. meetings and regional conventions. It measures about 19 in. by 29 in., and may be either hung on the wall or displayed on a table.

Order from G.S.O. at \$5.00 for three, \$4.00 for two, \$2.50 for one (price includes postage).

Also available is a new two-tone blue wallet card with the "I am responsible" declaration on one side and "Greetings from G.S.O." on the reverse. \$3.00 per hundred.



TRAVIS DANCEY, M.D.



VINCENT DOLE, M.D.



ROBERT W.P. MORSE

MEET OUR NEW TRUSTEES

The three distinguished nonalcoholic gentlemen pictured here are new members of our General Service Board.

DR. TRAVIS DANCEY, Montreal, Que., is the first non-A.A. (Class A) Trustee on the Board from Canada. He is Chief of Service, Psychiatry, at Queen Mary Veteran's Hospital, Montreal, and Adviser in Psychiatry to the Director General of Treatment Services, Canadian Department of Veterans' Affairs.

DR. VINCENT DOLE, New York,

is one of the world's foremost experts on addictions. He is a professor and senior physician at the Rockefeller Institute Hospital, and a well known author. He got his medical degree from Harvard Medical School, and his B.A. from Stanford University.

ROBERT W. P. MORSE, Oyster Bay, N. Y., is executive vice president and treasurer of the Dime Savings Bank of Brooklyn. Born in Nova Scotia, he became a U. S. citizen in 1921.

He replaces Leonard V. Harrison,

Old Lyme, Connecticut, elected Emeritus Trustee at the July 5 Board meeting in Toronto.

NEW CLASS B (A.A.) TRUSTEES are R. FAY B., North Dakota; FRANK R., Massachusetts; TOM B., Manitoba; and CHARLES ("ED") L., New York. Charles replaces Don G., Chappaqua, N.Y., whose four-year term was completed in July.

BAYARD P., New York, has been elected a director of A.A. World Services, Inc.

CAN YOU SPARE (from page 1)

Here are a few other letters we get on the subject:

"The only way to keep sobriety is to give it away, I was told in my early A.A. days 20 years ago. I can't do much of that in person any more but here are a few bucks to help G.S.O. keep on doing it."
Chicago, Ill.

"It's my second anniversary. When I came to A.A. my sponsor told me to let

G.S.O. know of my gratitude each year. Enclosed is a check for \$2.00 thanking you and the people like you for coming to the jail with cigarettes. I was out."—
Long Beach, Calif.

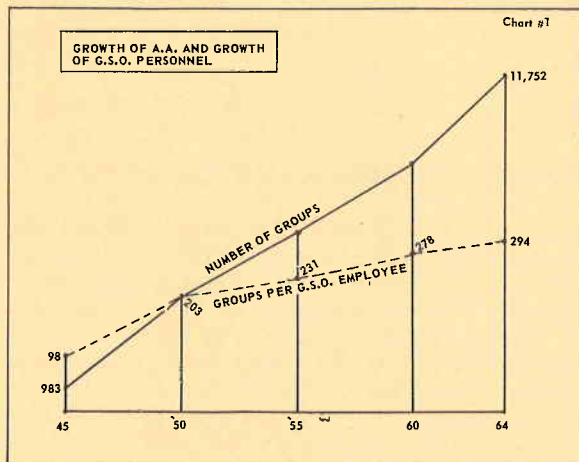
"The only value money has in A.A. is for 12th Step work. It's a vehicle through which we share the message of our experience with each other and with others who need it. And besides, it feels good to be self-supporting for a change."
Akron, O.

"I'm sending along seven bucks this year. Each year in A.A. gets better. I'm a grateful alcoholic, thanks to you folks for keeping me in touch around the world."

—Seaman en route to Saigon

FROM G.S.O.'s INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Right now we are printing "How A.A. Starts and Grows" in Portuguese for our *Brazilian* members... helping the *Mexico City* Intergroup print pamphlets and establish a separate G.S.O. to handle its printing... still advising the *San Salvador* and *Colombian* A.A.'s of our experience... helping a *Peruvian* by work on a simplified introductory pamphlet... advising about literature distribution in *Australia*... working with the Quebec General Service Committee... seeing what can be done to help A.A. in *Korea*... and regretfully accepting the resignation of Allan B., as our peerless chairman while gladly welcoming Niles P. into this job.



There are 12 times as many Groups today as in 1945. The number of services has increased greatly, too, in the same period. Today, however, there are 294 Groups for each G.S.O. employee, compared with only 98 in 1945.

October: "Convention Highlights" includes picture spread of the unbelievable crowd in the Maple Leaf Gardens, plus three pages of cartoons sketched in Toronto at A.A.'s 30th birthday party.

In addition: "I was a Real Spook" about a gal in a sheet going from door to door with empty glass! "A.A. and the Drug Addict" by the Rev. Kenneth R. Waldron, D.D.; "The Search for Ecstasy"

Gerald Heard's famous piece reprinted by popular demand; "They Thought He was Drunk"—a spine-chiller about a 12-year sober man who had brain damage.

December: John L. ("Dr. Jack") Norris, M.D., one of the nation's most famous industrial physicians and also nonalcoholic Chairman of our General Service Board, is author of "A Look at A.A."

IOWA: The Alano Club in Fort Dodge should be credited with \$60.00 and the Friday Nite Group \$70.00.

MINNESOTA: Credit of \$60.00 was given in error to the Winona Pioneer Group. The Directory should read: Winona Group \$60.00.

WASHINGTON: The Maritime #1 Group in Seattle should be credited with \$10.00 and the Maritime #2 Group \$46.32.

CANADA: The Laurier Group in Ottawa, Ontario should be credited with \$30.00 and the Tuesday-Friday Group \$115.18.

HOW TO HELP A.A.'s BEHIND WALLS

Over 37,000 A.A. members are locked up behind the bars of correctional facilities, hospitals, and rehabilitation centers. Almost none of them can buy the A.A. literature he needs to while away the long lonely hours; almost none of them can make casual phone calls to a sponsor, or get out to go to meetings the night he or she needs them.

Now all of us not behind walls, individuals and Groups, can help change that dreary situation. We can show our penned-up brothers and sisters they are not alone or forgotten if we'll just send them some mail occasionally—especially the A.A. pamphlets they need so badly.

* * *

The new A.A. Directories of "Groups in Correctional Facilities" and "Groups in Hospitals and Rehabilitation Centers" for 1966 will be mailed out this November to all such Groups, Central Offices, Delegates, and to Institutional Committees.

To get one for your Group, write G.S.O. They cost 50¢ each.

Pictured also are some of the A.A. pamphlets that have proved most helpful to alcoholics—those of us "outside" as well as those of us behind walls.

MEMO TO AN INMATE WHO MAY BE AN ALCOHOLIC (15¢) is a message from A.A.'s who have themselves been inmates. Their personal stories offer a new outlook to any inmate alcoholic who wants to share A.A.

ALCOHOLISM THE ILLNESS (20¢) contains three papers delivered before leading medical societies, clearly telling in everyday language how A.A. principles help people to recover from this disease.

A CLERGYMAN ASKS ABOUT ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (10¢) answers the questions most clergymen ask about A.A.

IS A.A. FOR YOU? (5¢) Twelve questions about drinking which show people whether or not they need A.A.

A.A. TRADITION—HOW IT DEVELOPED (15¢) What about Anonymity? Money? A.A. membership? Leadership? These and many other problems get thoroughly aired, and our customs explained—by Bill W.

SEDATIVES, STIMULANTS AND THE ALCOHOLIC (10¢) With the assistance of eminent doctors who are themselves in A.A., this pamphlet summarizes A.A. experience with these drugs.

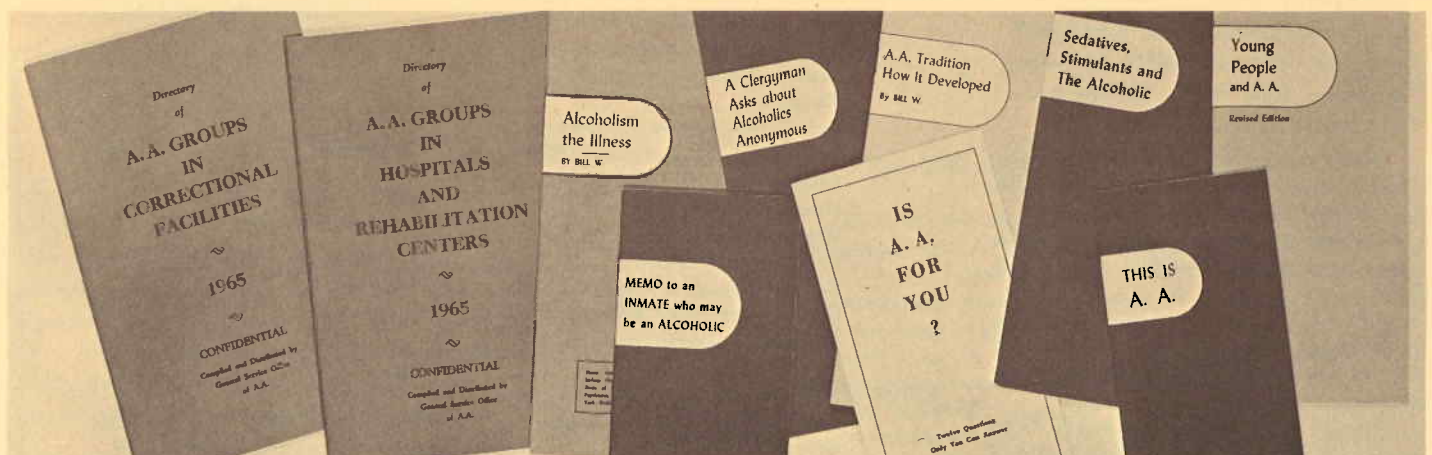
YOUNG PEOPLE AND A.A. (15¢) shows that there's no such thing as being "too young to be an alcoholic." Personal stories prove it.

THIS IS A.A. (10¢) is for anyone who thinks he may have a drinking problem.

SPECIAL GIFTS TO G.S.O.

MAY, JULY - SEPTEMBER

CANADA: Alberta Film Showing. . . \$	50.00
B.C. - 5th Annual Parksville Rally	99.00
Ontario - Luncheon of past & present Delegates - 1965 Convention	367.00
Saskatchewan - Indian Metis Round-up	42.25
<i>(Special Contribution from N.B., N.B. Round Up Com. in the amount of \$60.00 listed in last Bulletin, should read from North Battleford, Sask.)</i>	
FLORIDA: Clearwater - 1965 Florida State Convention	149.40
ILLINOIS: Dwight - 8th Annual Roundup	162.00
INDIANA: Elkhart Central Group 20th Anniversary	134.00
MISSOURI: 18th Annual St. Joseph 4th of July Picnic	25.64
NEW MEXICO: Ruidosa - State Convention	217.91
NEW YORK: Western Annual Spring Conference	60.65
OKLAHOMA: Oklahoma City State Conference	352.10
PENNSYLVANIA: Spring Conference of Cook Forest	700.00
RHODE ISLAND: State Assembly	100.00
SOUTH CAROLINA: Columbus - General Service Committee	300.00



Will Your Group Be Listed Correctly In The '66 Directory?

GROUP INFORMATION CARD									
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)									
1. CITY OR TOWN:	WHERE GROUP SHOULD BE LISTED IN DIRECTORY.	2. STATE OR PROVINCE	4. INDICATE NIGHT OF MEETINGS						
3. NAME OF GROUP:		GROUP	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

Very soon now your Group will receive this card. It is to be filled out and returned AT ONCE if you want your Group to be correctly listed in the new 1966 World Directory.

Loners, Internationalists and traveling A.A.'s have to rely on the Directory to keep sober. Please don't let them down. Be sure we get prompt, correct information on your Group.

Groups will be requested to return name of G.S.R. to receive mail in accordance with action of 15th G.S. Conference.

TO DELEGATES, EX-DELEGATES AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS: We count especially on *you* to be sure we get correct information on each Group in your territory.

FROM SANTO DOMINGO

"Your letters are a lifeline to the alcoholic on his own...."

"Thank you for your most prompt reply....I think that just knowing I could make contact at any time helped me make the adjustment to the situation down here much more easily...."

"The Embassy is closed for the time being because of the fracas, and mail service has been disrupted, but I haven't been alone at all...."*—P.L.*

FROM SAN SALVADOR

"I don't know if you know what happened in my country—the earthquake. Well, it was terrible. Our meeting place was destroyed and we were not able to save anything from there, but the pictures of Bill and Dr. Bob.

"My house was destroyed completely. I stood there speechless, just looking how everything fell and disappeared. I was desperate listening to the painful voices of those who lost their families in the disaster.

"Thank God, I did not lose my family and although I am now poor and protected only by God, I was able to keep my sobriety.

"I kept A.A. firmly in my heart. Even though we have no meeting place now, I

travel to other towns to assist other Groups and exchange experience, strength and hope."*—A.C.*

A.A. CALENDAR

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

- 2-3 – Montana State Conference, Commercial Club, 27th & 3 Avenue No., Billings, Montana
- 6-7 – No. California Council of A.A., San Jose, California. Write: Conference Secretary, 166 Geary Street, Suite 84, San Francisco, California.
- 8-10 – Skyline Conference, Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 8-10 – 15th S.W. Texas Area Conference, San Antonio, Texas. Write: Conference Headquarters, 919-20 Travis Building, San Antonio, Texas.
- 9 – 1st South Jersey Convention, Gloucester City Junior H. S. Gloucester City, N. J. Write: Convention Chairman, 600 White Horse Pike, Audubon, N.J.
- 21 – 19th Annual Banquet of A.A. Groups, Mosque Theatre Building, Newark, New Jersey. Write: Banquet Chairman, P.O. Box 575, Newark, N.J.
- 22-24 – 21st Annual Manitoba Roundup, Royal Alexander Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

- 22-24 – 15th Annual Arizona State Convention, Hiwayhouse Hotel, 1601 Miracle Mile Strip, Tucson, Ariz. Write: Convention Chairman, 1501 N. Miracle Mile Strip, Tucson, Arizona.
- 22-24 – Northeast Texas Area Conference, Downtowner Hotel, Longview, Texas. Write: Conference Committee, Box 2091, Longview, Texas.
- 29-31 – So. California Convention, Bakersfield, California.
- 29-31 – 12th Western Ontario Conference, Hotel London, London, Ontario, Canada. Write: Conference Chairman, P. O. Box 725, London, Ontario, Canada.
- 29-31 – Georgia 12th A.A. Convention, Dempsey Hotel, Macon, Georgia. Write: General Chairman, P.O. Box 2631, Macon, Georgia.
- 29-31 – 13th West Virginia State A.A. Conference, Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston, W. Virginia. Write: Conference Committee, P.O. Box 5216, Charleston, West Virginia.

NOVEMBER

- 5-7 – B.C.-Yukon Area Assembly, Gai Paree Supper Club. Write: P.O. Box 38, Station A. Vancouver, B.C., Canada.
- 6 – New England 25th Anniversary Banquet, Statler Hilton, Boston. Write: Banquet Committee, Room 227, 25 Huntington Street, Boston, Mass.
- 12-14 – 20th Annual Tri-State Convention, Washington Youree Hotel, Shreveport, Louisiana. Write: Convention Committee, 1711 Tulane Street, Shreveport, La.
- 12-14 – 5th Annual Tri-State Fall Convention, French Lick Springs Hotel, French Lick, Indiana.
- 13 – 25th Anniversary, Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Write: Banquet Chairman, 2218 First Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 19-21 – 4th State Convention, Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel, Honolulu, Hawaii. Write: G.S. Committee of Hawaii, P.O. Box 2384, Honolulu, Hawaii.

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GRATITUDE LUNCHEON

Representatives of national public news media and others who helped carry the A.A. message this year will be guests of our General Service Board at its annual Gratitude Luncheon in November.

The Board's Public Information Committee arranges this. Have you tried one for your community?