

BOX 4-5-9

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 19TH NORTH AMERICAN
GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE OF A.A.

Vol. 14 No. 3

Conference issue 1969

Group Conscience Guides A.A.

A.A. is in excellent shape as seen from the vantage point of the Board of Trustees and as reflected in its actions during the past year, Dr. John L. Norris, chairman, told delegates to the 19th General Service Conference.

Citing a number of policies established and problems solved during the past year, Dr. Jack said that the one major concern still facing the Board and the Fellowship as a whole was the fact that group contributions are still substantially below the cost of group services.

Noting that it is unity which "assures our future," Dr. Jack said that it sometimes seems that we concentrate too much on the "now," thinking too often of A.A. as "ours" when perhaps we should remember more frequently that it is "theirs" too. "For 'they' are the legions of alcoholics yet to come."

"We must all remember that A.A. is ours to give away—to pass on—and that unless we do, we lose it. Other generations will need A.A. as we need it now. Other people, other kinds of people whom we are not reaching, need it now. So with the help of God, we must pass our Fellowship along, unimpaired and indivisible. A.A. unity today becomes, in a very real sense, our sober pledge to the future," he said.

Pointing out that delegates to the Conference represented the group conscience of A.A. in North America, Dr. Norris said that as long as our real concern was for all of A.A. rather than for personal or purely local desires, our decisions will be right and A.A.'s future bright."

In the final talk of the Conference, Bernard B. Smith, a nonalcoholic trustee, spoke on the theme of the Group Conscience. "It was very early in the history of these Conferences that we became pro-

(continued on p. 8)

Delegates Discuss New Policies

New York, April 26 – Delegates representing the group conscience of A.A. members throughout the United States and Canada acted to provide new and improved services to members in virtually all areas of A.A. activity during the 19th General Service Conference which concluded here today.

Working through a five and one-half day series of almost continuous meetings at the Roosevelt Hotel, Delegates sought better ways of carrying the A.A. message to alcoholics who still suffer throughout the world.

Ninety delegates, elected by groups from every state and province, together with alcoholic and nonalcoholic General Service Board trustees, G.S.O. and Grapevine directors and staff members form the 128-member Conference. They act on behalf of the Fellowship to provide guidance to the Board, G.S.O. and Grapevine. Some Conference highlights:

PUBLIC INFORMATION – Reviewed new color TV public service announcement being made available to groups.

AL-ANON – Recognized special relationship with Al-Anon Family Groups and acknowledged debt of gratitude for assistance to families of alcoholics.

GRAPEVINE – Recommended that A.A. World Services and the A.A. Grapevine extend to each other the fullest cooperation in making the Fellowship aware of A.A. tools.

1970 CONVENTION – Approved progress being made on 35th Anniversary Convention, Miami Beach, July 3-5, 1970.

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE – Elected Warren S., Southern Coastal, Calif., and Charles D., Central Mich., as North American delegates to first A.A. World Service Conference in October.

G.S. BOARD – Elected Bill C., North-eastern, and John R., Western Canada, as regional trustee nominees.

INSTITUTIONS – Recommended that A.A. membership be restricted to admitted alcoholics, but that groups in institutions welcome narcotics addicts and others to inside *open* meetings, provided that they do not speak or otherwise participate.

LITERATURE – Approved final draft of the A.A. Service Manual and recommended that Institutions Directories be distributed every two years with yearly supplements.

POLICY – Approved resolution to avoid participation on radio or TV programs unless given adequate time for preparation, or unless it serves an A.A. objective, or the primary discussion is appropriate to A.A., and anonymity is guaranteed.

NEW A.A. SIZE

Spring 1969

	Groups	Members
United States	8,595	148,424
Lone Members . . .		150
Canada	1,556	21,629
Lone Members . . .		47
In Hospitals	648	18,548
In Prisons	891	33,775
Internationalists . .		344
	11,690	222,917
Overseas*	3,057	60,412
Totals.	14,747	283,329

*Estimated only, until Part II of the *World Directory* is published in August 1969.

(Including non-reported members, actual membership is estimated at more than 425,000 worldwide.)

Sharing by G.S.O. Staff

Each staff member has specific responsibilities. However, she does not work alone but through the "group conscience" of the entire staff.

Our primary service is correspondence. Thus we receive experience from groups, central offices, individual members, Loners, and others. This experience is, in turn, shared with others.

Each staff member is responsible for correspondence in the geographic areas to which she is assigned. In addition, each has a specific service assignment, such as, Institutions, Internationalists, Overseas, and Public Information, among others.

There are also a few standard responsibilities each staff member must assume, no matter what her assignment. Correspondence, for instance, is circularized for all to read. Thus staff members are kept up to date on what is happening in and around A.A.

There is also constant evaluation of the many newsletters, publications, reports, and other materials received from central service offices, local P.I.C.'s, prisons, and other agencies in the field of alcoholism which communicate with G.S.O.

In addition, each staff member serves as secretary of a Trustees' committee and a Conference committee, assuming responsibility for notices, agendas, and minutes of meetings.

Staff members meet weekly to share experience and to give each other guidance on unusual problems, report on trips to areas, discuss new trends in A.A., and to receive progress reports on current projects.

---Waneta N.
Staff Coordinator

More Committee Members

The past year has revealed a continuous flow of A.A. activity on the part of members in all Conference areas. One indication of this is the fact that there are some 1,400 committee members on the G.S.O. mailing list, an increase of 200 from 1968.

When the first Conference met in 1951, there were 37 delegates. At the 1969 Conference there are 90 whose continuing action helps to insure A.A.'s survival.

In accordance with a recent Conference recommendation that G.S.R.'s receive the group mailing from G.S.O., about 75% of the groups in the U.S. and Canada comply.

The Conference secretary is in touch with delegates, committee members and G.S.R.'s during the year on all matters pertaining to the Conference. As soon as G.S.O. is notified of the election of a General Service Conference Committee officer or committee member, he or she is placed on the mailing list and a Conference Kit is sent.

The Conference secretary prepares the *Quarterly Report* which gives the highlights of the General Service Board and Committee meetings held during the year and mails it to delegates and committee members.

She is responsible for preparation of the annual meeting each year, subject to approval of the vice chairman of the General Service Conference. She works closely with the Agenda/Admissions Committee where the actual planning starts. The committee meets during the Conference, and ideas and thoughts are shared throughout the year. Members reviewed all 1969 Conference agenda subjects and explored the current admissions procedures.

---Beth K.
Conference Secretary

1539 Institutions Groups

In 1969 we have 648 registered hospital groups with an approximate membership of 16,000 and 891 prison groups with 35,000 members. There are some 350 institutional sponsors registered and 102 Institutions Committees.

Services to institutional groups include yearly distribution of A.A. institutional directories, which enables groups to correspond with each other and exchange experiences. Complimentary literature is also distributed to new groups as well as to those which are unable to meet their own needs. In addition, these groups receive the *World Directory*, Box 4-5-9, and the *Institutions Bulletin*.

Personal correspondence shares our A.A. experiences with groups, individual members, administrators, sponsors, and others who want to know more about the A.A. help available for inmates and patients.

A tabulation of the 1968 questionnaire sent to all institutional groups indicates that groups on the "inside" are as a whole able to operate within the framework of the Traditions in much the same way as groups on the outside.

Problems faced by institutional groups include the fact that many hospital and prison administrators tend to lump alcoholism with other illnesses. Thus the mentally disturbed and the narcotic addict are often referred to A.A. because it seems to be the only available source of help. Another problem is in supplying literature to these groups, although there is less difficulty where there is an active institutions committee. There is also an increasing need for visual aids which are descriptive of the A.A. program.

---Ann M., Institutions

Services Tools Available

The primary responsibility of all employees at G.S.O. is to "share" the thousands of miracles of recovery, unity, and service available here, so that the A.A. message will reach still-suffering alcoholics and enrich the lives of those in A.A. today.

Some 1,650 new groups were added to G.S.O.'s mailing list last year. Each received complimentary literature and other material.

Box 4-5-9, a bulletin sharing A.A. news around the world, is compiled and mailed every other month to the G.S.O. mailing list. Through *Box 4-5-9*, A.A.'s are kept informed of new services, new literature, new trends in A.A., the growth and development of A.A. around the world, conferences and conventions and roundups, new and old A.A. problems and the overall thinking and experience concerning them, current G.S.O. activities, and as many of the shared experiences from letters as space allows. A G.S.R. column is included each issue and response has been gratifying. There are also special announcements which may be read to the group. *Box 4-5-9* is also distributed in French and Spanish.

The *World Directory* is in two parts this year, *Part I* covers the United States and Canada, while *Part II* lists A.A. groups in all other areas.

Guidelines contain suggestions and shared experience in specific A.A. service areas where problems can be avoided if the Traditions and previous experience are reviewed.

Also available from G.S.O. are filmstrips, films and tapes, which are listed on literature order blanks.

—Hazel R,
Service Coordinator

Publishing Activities Up

A.A.W.S. is a membership corporation and is responsible for the employment of G.S.O. personnel, for preparing and controlling the operating budget, and for publishing and distributing all Conference-approved books and pamphlets.

G.S.O.'s administrative group is made up of the chairman of General Services, the controller, staff members, and the other supervisors of departments. There are 43 full-time employees and eight part time. (This is exclusive of the Grapevine's personnel.)

PUBLISHING: Sales of A.A. literature continued to increase and so reflect the growth of A.A. In 1968 sales

were up 4.9% from 1967. After paying its own share of overhead, the publishing operation contributed \$65,000 in support of other services.

ACCOUNTING: Under the direction of Charles Columbia, the department processed 14,650 orders and 17,920 contribution remittances during 1968. Payrolls were also prepared, bills processed and paid, books kept, statistics maintained and analyses made of literature costs and payroll comparisons.

CLERICAL/STENO: Supervised by Kleina Jones and Madeline Whitlock, the department employs 14 girls, six of whom are secretaries and handle transcription of all correspondence and minutes. Three others work in a file unit. There is also a Spanish translator, a receptionist, a switchboard operator and a senior clerk.

SHIPPING: The year 1968 was another of greatly increased activity for Shipping. Al Cryan supervises seven full-time and six part-time employees. This year the department handled nearly 300,000 pieces of incoming and outgoing mail, including inquiries, group letters, contributions, and orders for books and pamphlets.

ARCHIVES: Nell Wing supervises the filing and indexing of all our books, pamphlets, tapes, reports and other items. She also serves as Bill's secretary, and production editor of the 3 editions of *Box 4-5-9*.

RECORDS: Under the direction of Rose Failla, the department set up records for 1,625 new groups and recorded some 9,150 changes of addresses in 1968. The compilation of four directories involved the accurate listing of more than 14,000 groups.

—Bob H., Chairman
A.A. World Services, Inc.

A.A.'s 35th at Miami Beach

A.A.'s 35th Anniversary year will be celebrated with an International A.A. Convention at Miami Beach, Florida, July 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1970. Plans are progressing and it promises to be a memorable get-together for A.A.'s and their families throughout the world.

The big meetings, in which Bill and Lois will participate, are to be held in the spectacular Convention Hall. The Fontainebleau Hotel will serve as A.A. headquarters. Large, daytime panel meetings, alkathons, and workshops will be held there. The Eden Roc Hotel will be headquarters for Al-Anon.

The convention theme is "Unity." The first registration and housing forms will be mailed from G.S.O. on October 15, 1969. Registration fee is \$6, with tickets for the opening dance and show, \$4. Housing will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

—Bob H.
Convention Chairman

1500 Spanish-Speaking Groups

There are some 1,500 A.A. groups throughout the Spanish-speaking world registered with G.S.O. However, there may be many more. We recently heard, for instance, that there are fourteen groups in Buenos Aires, although we only have two listed in the *World Directory*.

We are sure, however, that there is tremendous growth of A.A. in Spanish-speaking countries, especially in the Central American region. For example, in El Salvador, a country of three million people, there are 20,000 A.A. members. Furthermore, they travel from country to country by bus. Recently 60 of them went to Panama to carry the message. As the local group was not very active at the time, six decided to stay and work with them.

There are 25 central offices in the Latin countries. They service groups with literature, directories and twelfth-step work. There are also four Literature Distribution Centers in Latin America and one General Service Office in Colombia, which services all of South America. They print the Big Book in Spanish, along with 15 pamphlets, including "What Happened to Joe."

—Mary Ellen U.
Spanish-speaking areas

Problems Overseas the Same

The problems of A.A. groups and members outside the U.S. and Canada are basically the same as they are here. This was clearly revealed from a questionnaire sent to 16 countries.

Their most important problems: lack of unity; difficulty in financing General Service and central offices; apathy toward service by A.A.'s, and slow growth of A.A. due to little or no public information and literature distribution.

Still, A.A. is doing very well and growing at a slow but steady pace around the world.

South Africa now has the Big Book on tape and is also working on a tape library.

Australia is celebrating its 21st Anniversary this year.

South Vietnam, Thailand, and Japan report new and re-activated groups of service personnel.

India and Ceylon report very active groups in Bombay, Calcutta, and Colombo.

Italy reports a new group in Milan, but overall growth in that country is painfully slow.

Iceland has translated but not yet printed the Big Book.

Great Britain has an annual General Service Conference. There has been increased activity in public information, with several TV programs being shown, as well as radio programs and public meetings.

Germany, Belgium, and Switzerland have also found public meetings an effective way to carry the message. Such meetings are well attended by doctors, nurses, social workers, clergy, and other professionals.

—Midge M.
International (except Spanish)

World Service Meeting Set

The 18th General Service Conference approved the proposal for a World Service Meeting to be held in New York in the fall of 1969. Eleven countries and one zone have been invited to elect delegates to attend this meeting.

The World Service Planning Committee has been meeting regularly since last year to discuss plans and agenda for the meeting. As it stands, the agenda for the sessions will be separated into four categories for presentation and discussion: (1) Structure, (2) Finance, (3) Publishing, and (4) Services.

These sessions will be divided into three parts: (1) Presentation of G.S.O. experience, (2) Small roundtable discussions, and (3) Delegates' report on their experience. Theme of the meeting will be "Our Common Welfare Should Come First."

—Bob H. Chairman

Grapevine Circulation 52,000

Grapevine circulation climbed to 52,000 in 1968 from 49,000 at the end of 1967. This was for subscriptions only. Single sales of each issue generally run between 1,500 and 2,000 extra.

In October, a special issue about alcohol, alcoholism, and A.A., was quickly exhausted, and for the first time in its history the Grapevine went back to press with an order of 5,000. These copies were widely distributed among members of the medical profession.

In June the Grapevine will celebrate its 25th Anniversary. We are planning a special issue, emphasizing A.A. history as reflected through Grapevine articles. The October issue will salute the World Meeting to be held then in New York. We are also working on a possible "Best Cartoons from the Grapevine."

—Jack M. Editor
Paula C. Managing Editor

P.I. Activities Increase

During the past year the Public Information Committee worked in a variety of ways to help carry the A.A. message of recovery and to extend the hand of A.A. by providing information to the public.

The survey of A.A. membership in the United States and Canada was conducted and results were released at a press conference in Washington during the International Congress on Alcohol and Alcoholism. As a result, we received wide coverage in the press, radio, and television.

During the past year a number of national publications have carried important articles on alcoholism in which A.A. was mentioned favorably. Among them: *U.S. News & World Report*; *Look*; *Fortune*; *Dun's Review*; *Christian Herald*; *Real Story*; *Business Week*, and *Business Management*.

Information was furnished to the Bell Telephone Company for a film on alcoholism, to the Industrial Conference Board for a bulletin, and to the publication, *Jobs Overseas*, among others. A press release was sent out on the new comic pamphlet, "It Happened to Alice."

In addition, P.I. members prepared an outline for stimulating activities aimed at hard-to-reach alcoholics and guidelines for A.A. cooperation during Alcoholism Information Month. A color TV public service announcement was also completed and will be ready for distribution in the early summer.

There are many projects now in the works involving news stories, articles and pamphlets. Among the most important are the plans now taking shape for public information activities at the 35th Anniversary International Convention in Miami Beach in 1970.

Another project in the planning stage is a proposal for a survey on "What the Public Thinks of A.A.," which would find the most common misconceptions about A.A. on the part of the general public. We are also looking for better ways to reach industry as well as ways to carry the A.A. message to the college campus.

—Bayard P. Jr., Chairman
Trustees' Public Information Committee

New Literature Projects

The Trustees' Literature Committee, with the help and cooperation of the Conference Literature Committee, completed or continued work on a number of projects in the past year.

Among these was an entirely new version of "A.A. for the Woman." "It Happened to Alice," the comic-style pamphlet for women, has also been completed.

"Young People and A.A." with new stories has been completed and will be distributed shortly, while the pamphlet, "A.A. in the Armed Services," is in the works.

In addition, the illustrated "Traditions" pamphlet is being prepared. Work is also going forward to add up-to-date materials to "A.A. and the Alcoholic Employee" and "A.A. and the Medical Profession."

At the same time the committee is sending questionnaires to a selected number of groups and intergroups to determine literature needs, and work is going forward on the possibility of improving on the questions in "Is A.A. For You?" Other matters under consideration by the committee during the past year concerned preparation of material for oldtimers and material on danger signs that could lead to drinking.

—Austin MacCormick, Chairman
Trustees' Literature Committee

G.S.O. Sales, Income Increases

On the whole, the financial picture for 1968 was satisfactory. Net sales income for 1968 increased \$17,523 over 1967. Income from the sale of old products increased by \$39,045 (11.5%), while the income from the sale of new products ("The A.A. Way of Life" and "What Happened to Joe") showed an anticipated decrease that totaled \$21,522. Group contributions were in excess of 1967 by \$19,784. This is actually \$1,215 more than forecast. Total G.S.O. expenses for the year were up, but within 1.4% of the budgeted amount.

The committee reviewed the 1969 G.S.O. budget. Sales are expected to increase 3.4%, a normal average increase. The expenses of the publishing operation were budgeted 7.3% higher than 1968 actual. The increase in contribution receipts is forecast to be \$20,085 or 5.5% in excess of last year. Total office expenses are budgeted at 4.1% over 1968 and General Fund expenses 5.2% lower than 1968. The General Fund expenses were budgeted lower because of non-recurring expenses, such as the membership survey and the 28th International Congress on Alcoholism meeting. Also, a new filmstrip is not planned for 1969. Total net income is estimated to be \$12,600 (not taking into account a possible dividend from the Grapevine for 1969).

Traditions say that only A.A. members can make contributions which enable G.S.O. to carry on its worldwide services. Therefore A.A. is charged with the responsibility of supporting itself entirely on a real, every-member level. With this realization, I am sure that each group will help G.S.O. provide every needed service to an expanding Fellowship and solve the problem of a budget that doesn't quite catch up with growth.

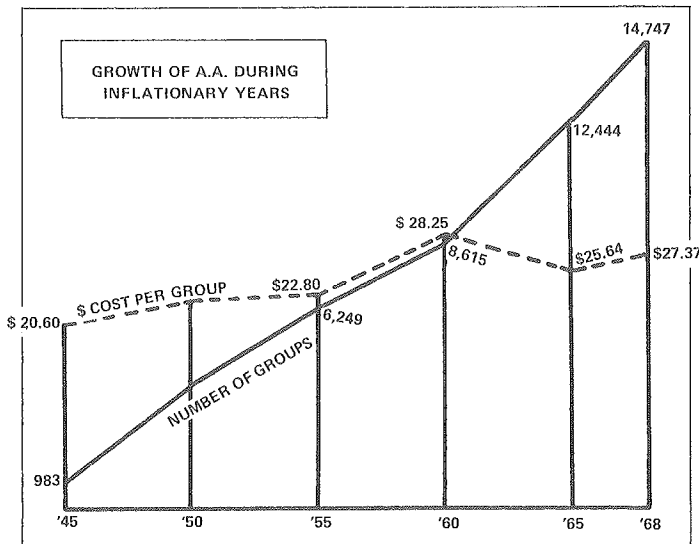
—Robert W.P. Morse, Chairman
Trustees' Finance Committee

Growth & Money at G.S.O.

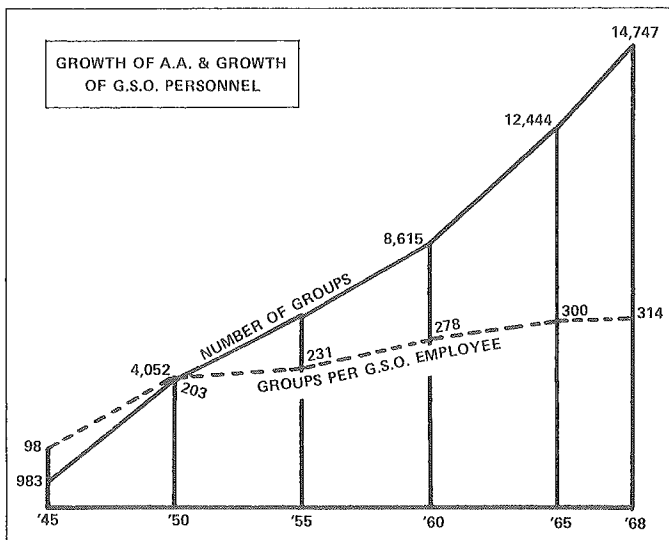
How efficient has been G.S.O.'s growth? In terms of personnel — in 1945 there was one employee for each 98 groups. Today, one employee serves each 314 groups.

During the past twenty three years, the G.S.O. budget has increased from \$20,000 to \$420,300 for services charged to the group contribution account. During that same period, cost of living increased 97%. Adjusting for this change in dollar value, we find that the cost of services per group actually showed a decrease from \$20.60 to \$14.46.

	Groups	Employees	Groups per Employee	\$ Cost per Group	Living Cost
1945	983	10	98	\$20.60	100
1950	4,052	20	202	22.06	139
1955	6,249	27	230	22.81	148
1960	8,615	31	278	28.25	165
1968	14,747	47	314	27.37	197



1. (Above) There are more than 15 times as many groups today as in 1945. The number of services has increased greatly, too, in the same period. Today, however, there are 314 groups for each G.S.O. employee, compared with only 98 in 1945.



2. (Above) During the years 1945 through 1968, the cost of living increased 97 percent. Constant striving for increased efficiency succeeded in keeping G.S.O. service cost per group to \$27.37 in 1968 compared with \$20.60 in 1945, an increase of only 33 percent.

1969 G.S.O. Budget

The budget for 1969 Operations of G.S.O. activities — Exclusive of the A.A. Grapevine — is as follows:

BUDGET

A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC.—PUBLISHING

INCOME

Sales	\$445,600*
Less: Cost of Products	173,800
Gross Profit from Sales	<u>271,800</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>184,600</u>
Excess of Income (Expense)	<u>\$ 87,200</u>

*Based upon the sale of:

- 44,000 Books—"Alcoholics Anonymous"
- 15,500 Books—"12 Steps & 12 Traditions" (Reg.)
- 5,600 Books—"12 Steps & 12 Traditions" (Pocket)
- 5,100 Books—"A.A. Comes of Age"
- 13,000 Books—"The A.A. Way of Life"
- Pamphlets & Miscellaneous Items

OFFICE EXPENSES — GROUP SERVICES

INCOME

Contributions	\$386,300
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TOTAL EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>420,300**</u>
Excess of Income (Expense)	<u>\$ (34,000)</u>

**Includes cost of General Service Conference—\$37,700.

GENERAL FUND—TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

INCOME

\$ —0—

TOTAL EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>40,600***</u>
Excess of Income (Expense)	<u>\$ (40,600)</u>

***Board Meetings, P.I.C. Expense, Special Projects, Etc.

The Publishing activity will contribute \$74,600 to the budgeted deficits.

1969 Grapevine Budget

Estimated income from subscription and other sales.....	\$221,000
Estimated expenses	<u>207,300</u>

Net income from operations	13,700
Interest from savings accounts	<u>6,000</u>
Net income	<u>\$ 19,700</u>

1968 Group Contributions

U.S.	# Gps. re-ported	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	# Gps. R.C.P.	% of Gps. on R.C.P.	Amount of Contrib.	Member-ship	Contrib's. per Capita	CANADA	# Gps. re-ported	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	# Gps. R.C.P.	% of Gps. on R.C.P.	Amount of Contrib.	Member-ship	Contrib's. per Capita
Alabama	68	47	69.2%	12	25.5%	\$ 2,949.44	1,187	\$ 2.48	Alberta	145	77	53.1%	9	11.7%	\$ 4,134.02	1,344	\$ 3.08
Alaska	34	19	55.9	6	31.6	1,008.50	334	3.02	Atlantic Prov.								
Arizona	118	68	57.6	15	22.1	3,441.24	1,435	2.40	New Brunswick	53	22	41.5	3	13.6	677.33	581	1.17
Arkansas	74	51	68.9	17	33.3	2,259.05	898	2.52	Newfoundland	19	9	47.4	1	11.1	398.74	146	2.73
California	1,258	757	60.2	234	30.9	46,605.69	27,767	1.68	Nova Scotia	60	35	58.3	7	20.0	1,293.08	676	1.91
Colorado	108	65	60.2	18	27.8	3,960.62	1,690	2.17	Prince Ed. Is.	23	12	52.2	1	8.3	587.00	319	1.84
Connecticut	177	109	61.6	21	19.3	7,427.95	2,983	2.49	British Columbia	205	103	50.2	12	11.7	4,947.56	2,476	1.88
Delaware	32	27	84.4	7	25.9	1,092.00	495	2.21	Manitoba	76	38	50.0	3	7.9	2,688.13	1,514	1.78
Dist. of Columbia	46	40	86.6	18	45.0	3,436.71	999	3.44	N.W. Territories	2	1	50.0	0	0.0	25.00	10	2.50
Florida	282	185	65.6	63	34.1	14,880.86	4,873	3.05	Ontario	448	266	59.4	49	18.4	17,162.08	6,250	2.75
Georgia	146	100	68.5	23	23.0	4,486.88	2,033	2.21	Quebec	375	174	46.4	29	16.7	4,574.41	6,644	.69
Hawaii	35	22	62.9	4	18.2	742.25	524	1.42	Saskatchewan	149	79	53.0	3	3.8	3,357.42	1,649	2.04
Idaho	36	23	63.9	3	13.1	785.90	372	2.11	Yukon Terr.	1	1	100.0	0	0.0	55.10	20	2.76
Illinois	550	486	88.3	36	7.4	11,090.37	11,755	.94	TOTAL for CANADA	1,556	816	52.4%	117	14.3%	\$ 39,899.87	21,629	\$ 1.84
Indiana	198	123	62.1	22	17.9	7,116.94	2,560	2.78	TOTAL for U.S. and CANADA	10,151	6,440	63.5%	1,367	21.2%	\$362,180.65	170,053	\$ 2.13
Iowa	107	67	62.6	12	17.9	5,668.60	2,109	2.69	FOREIGN								
Kansas	107	63	58.9	8	12.7	3,310.05	1,923	1.72	Foreign						\$ 2,351.87		
Kentucky	108	74	68.5	4	5.4	5,599.29	1,380	3.06	World Hello						95.70		
Louisiana	94	52	55.3	13	25.0	3,192.99	1,644	1.94	International								
Maine	57	42	73.7	6	14.3	1,590.50	632	2.52	Doctors						125.00		
Maryland	142	92	64.8	15	16.3	4,804.80	2,006	2.40	Hospital Gps.						1,380.73		
Massachusetts	281	147	52.3	28	19.1	8,473.09	5,418	1.56	Prison Gps.						239.50		
Michigan	381	214	56.2	46	21.5	17,646.53	6,406	2.76	Internationalists						686.79		
Minnesota	246	219	89.0	12	5.5	9,182.04	5,403	1.70	GRAND TOTAL						\$367,060.24		
Mississippi	48	25	52.1	5	20.0	1,237.50	654	1.89									
Missouri	160	101	63.1	15	15.0	5,714.60	2,143	2.67									
Montana	55	40	72.8	5	8.0	1,208.09	573	2.11									
Nebraska	75	53	70.7	8	15.1	2,388.45	786	3.04									
Nevada	51	27	52.9	7	25.9	1,519.75	756	2.01									
New Hampshire	36	22	61.1	8	36.4	1,435.10	503	2.85									
New Jersey	267	182	68.2	46	25.3	11,542.30	4,332	2.67									
New Mexico	63	31	49.2	3	10.0	1,890.78	1,091	1.73									
New York	583	379	65.0	120	31.7	30,484.60	10,120	3.01									
North Carolina	159	123	77.4	29	23.6	7,830.53	2,527	3.10									
North Dakota	46	28	60.9	3	10.7	934.90	454	2.06									
Ohio	456	265	58.1	39	14.7	13,479.75	8,946	1.51									
Oklahoma	109	85	78.0	46	54.1	5,479.48	1,613	3.40									
Oregon	106	87	82.1	21	24.2	3,576.40	1,113	3.21									
Pennsylvania	297	209	70.4	52	24.9	13,083.20	4,464	2.93									
Rhode Island	30	24	80.0	10	41.8	1,600.85	379	4.22									
South Carolina	80	53	66.3	10	18.9	3,038.40	1,279	2.38									
South Dakota	48	26	54.2	4	15.4	1,199.00	841	1.43									
Tennessee	84	54	64.3	8	14.8	2,500.00	1,422	1.76									
Texas	399	235	58.9	63	26.8	15,613.51	7,713	2.03									
Utah	51	33	64.7	11	33.4	1,094.63	725	1.51									
Vermont	31	24	77.4	3	12.5	1,756.45	411	4.27									
Virginia	145	97	66.9	28	28.9	6,670.05	2,318	2.88									
Washington	193	118	61.1	34	28.8	6,425.56	2,388	2.69									
West Virginia	51	33	64.7	7	21.2	1,684.50	575	2.93									
Wisconsin	213	136	63.9	16	11.7	6,144.11	2,546	2.41									
Wyoming	27	20	74.1	1	5.0	827.00	265	3.12									
Commonwealth of P.R.	44	18	40.9	4	21.2	819.00	612	1.34									
Canal Zone	2	1	50.0	1	100.0	275.00	28	9.82									
Bahama Islands	1	1	100.0	0	0.0	10.00	21	.48									
Virgin Islands																	
of U.S.	2	2	100.0	0	0.0	65.00	12	5.42									
Total for U.S.	8,595	5,624	65.4%	1,250	22.2%	\$322,280.78	148,424	\$ 2.17									

GROUP CONTRIBUTION COMPARISON -- 1968 - 1967

	# Gps. re-ported	# Gps. Contrib.	% of Gps. Contrib.	# Gps. R.C.P.	% of Gps. on R.C.P.	Amount of Contrib.	Member-ship	Contrib's. per Capita
U.S.A. 1968	8,595	5,624	65.4%	1,250	22.2%	\$322,280.78	148,424	\$ 2.17
U.S.A. 1967	8,484	5,386	63.5	1,234	22.9	303,822.06	142,566	2.13
Increase (Decrease)	111	238	1.9%	16	(.7)%	\$ 18,458.73	5,858	\$.04
Canada 1968	1,556	816	52.4%	117	14.3%	\$ 39,899.87	21,629	\$ 1.84
Canada 1967	1,411	782	55.5	171	21.9	36,984.70	19,695	1.88
Increase (Decrease)	145	34	(3.1)%	(54)	(7.6)%	\$ 2,915.17	1,934	\$ (.04)
U.S. & Canada 1968	10,151	6,440	63.5%	1,367	21.2%	\$362,180.65	170,053	\$ 2.13
U.S. & Canada 1967	9,895	6,168	62.3	1,405	22.8	340,806.76	162,261	2.10
Increase (Decrease)	256	272	1.2%	(38)	(1.6)%	\$ 21,373.89	7,792	\$.03

7

The A.A. Calender

19TH A.A. CONFERENCE (from p. 1)

MAY

- 23-25 - Ft. Williams, Ont., Ca. Write: Publicity Chm., Box 73, Ft. Williams
- 23-25 - Lake Whitney, Tx., Young People's Conf. Write: Conf. Secy., Apt. 215, 2611 Throckmorton, Dallas.
- 23-25 - Cook Forest, Pa., Cook Forest Conf. Write: Cook Forest Conf. 600 N. Chestnut St., Scottdale.
- 23-25 - Anaconda, Mt., A.A. & Alanon Spring Conf. Write: Anaconda Gp., Box 1192, Anaconda.
- 31 - Toronto, Ont., Ca., 1st Annu. Round-up of Young People in A.A. Write: Publicity Chm., Box 715, Postal Sta. F, Toronto.
- 29-June 1 - Daytona Beach, Fla., 13th Annu. Fla. State Conv. Write: Conv. Comm. Box 198, Holly Hill, Fla.
- 30-June 1 - Albuquerque, N.M. N.M. State Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., Box 1457, Albuq.
- 31-June 1 - Parksville, Vancouver, B.C., 9th Annu. Central & Upper Vancouver Island Rally. Write: Rally Secy., Box 151, Nanaimo, B.C.

JUNE

- 6- 8 - Palm Springs, Ca., Desert Round up. Write: Comm. Chm., Box 539, Palm Springs.
- 6- 8 - Oklahoma City, O., 28th Anniv. State Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., Box 53511, Oklahoma City.
- 6- 8 - Fremont, Nb., 10th Annu. State Conv. Write: Chm., Box 481, Fremont.
- 6- 8 - The Pas, Manitoba, Canada, Northern Manitoba Round Up. Write: Secy., Box 188, The Pas.
- 7- 8 - Des Moines, Iowa, West Central Regional Area State Conf. Write: Conv. Chm., 2004-53 St., Des Moines.
- 7- 8 - Winchester, Virginia, 4-State & D.C. Get-Together. Write: Chm., 1222 Franklin St., Alexandria, Va.
- 13-15 - Jackson, Ms., 23rd Annu. State Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Box 4773, Jackson.
- 20-22 - Craig, Co., Summer Regional Conf. Write: Conf. Secy., Rt. 2, Box 109-H, Berthoud.
- 20-22 - Maryville, Tn., 11th Area Annv. Write: A.A. Box 269, Maryville.
- 20-22 - Rye Beach, N.H., 4th N.H. Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Box 182, Portsmouth, N.H.
- 20-22 - St. Simons Island, Ga., 5th Annu. Golden Isles Weekend. Write: Chm., P.O. Box 508, Statesboro.
- 20-22 - Peterborough, Ont., Ca., 8th Annu. Cent. E. Area Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., Box 701, Peterborough.
- 21-22 - Akron, Ohio, Annu. Founders Day Celebration. Write: Intergroup Office, 41 S. High St., Akron.
- 27-29 - Jefferson City, Mo., Missouri Roundup Conf. Write: Mo. State Conf., Box 5243, Kansas City.
- 27-29 - Wawa, Ont., Can., Regional Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., Box 1117, 13 Arnott St., Wawa.
- 28-29 - Sacramento, Ca., Annu. Summer Conf. of Northern Calif. Coun. Write: Conf. Chm., 1140-35th Ave., Sacramento.

JULY

- 4- 6 - Penticton, B.C., Ca., 22nd Annu. Pacific N.W. Conf. Write: Pacific N.W. Conf., 1411 Ridgedale Ave., Penticton.
- 11-13 - Huntington, W. Va., 17th W. Va. Conf. Write: W. Va. Conf., P.O. Box 23, Huntington.
- 17-20 - Dallas, Tx., 24th Annu. Tx. State Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Box 1691, Dallas.
- 18-20 - Montrose, Co., Stateline Rally. Write: Conv. Chm., Box 488, Montrose.
- 18-20 - Alexandria, La., 12th Annu. State Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., 3712 Carl Road, Alexandria.
- 18-20 - Columbus, O., Ohio State Conf. Write: Conf. Comm., Box 8775, State St. Sta., Columbus.
- 25-27 - Philadelphia, Pa., 12th Int. Conf. of Young People in A.A. Write: 12th Int. Conf., 2202 St. James St., Philadelphia.
- 31-Aug. 3 - Decatur, Al., 14th Al., N.W. Fla. Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Decatur Inn, Box 2063, Decatur.

AUGUST

- 1- 3 - Little Rock, Ark., Ark. State Conv. Write: Conf. Chm., 304 E. 10th, Little Rock.
- 5- 9 - Chattanooga, Tn., 1969 Southeastern Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., Room 623 Chattanooga Bank Bldg., Chattanooga, Tn.
- 8- 9 - Morristown, N.J., Int. Doctors in A.A. Annu. Meeting. Write: Secy., IDAA, 1950 Volney Rd., Youngstown, Ohio.
- 15-17 - Medellin, Colombia, S.A., 10th Annv. Conv. Write: Apartado Aereo 4887, Medellin.
- 22-24 - Denver, Co., Co. State Conv. Write: Conv. Chm., 1641 So. Glencoe, Denver.
- 29-30 - Richmond, Va., Va. State Assem. Write: Va. State Assem., Box 12011, Seminary Sta., Alexandria.
- 30-31 - Portland, Ore., State Conf. Write: Conf. Chm., 232 N. Weidler St., Portland.

October 11, Bill's 35th Annv. Dinner, Hilton Hotel, N.Y. Write: Intergroup, Dinner Comm., 337 E. 33rd St., N.Y., N.Y.

foundly aware of the underlying strength of the power of the principles that guide us to the right and away from the wrong," he said,

"We learned in keeping with this definition of the group conscience that we must never seek compromise, but always certainty. We must never use the force of a majority. The strength of our Fellowship is such that it can always afford to delay changes until we know that such changes respond to the needs of all of A.A. and not to a simple majority."

Delivering the keynote talk at the Conference, Maurice R., regional trustee from the Southeast area, told delegates that their work may well be the contributing influence that will strengthen our Fellowship in the eyes and hearts of mankind, to provide a stabilizing influence toward living and strengthening factor in time of stress or danger.

Tom G., Delegate chairman from Manitoba, suggested that if each member of the Conference gave only the best that was in him "we will be able to fulfill our responsibility to the Fellowship in finding new and better ways to carry the message, in clearing and broadening the lines of communication and in entering new halls of understanding of the needs of others and of new ways in which we may serve and be of service."

BOX 4-5-9

This advance edition of the Box 4-5-9 is for immediate use of the 1969 delegates and area committee members. Same edition will be mailed to all groups May fifteenth.

JULY 1970

2,3,4 - 35th A.A. Anniversary and International Conv., Miami Beach, Florida.

Special Gifts to G.S.O.

ARKANSAS	
State Convention.....	\$ 280.00
CALIFORNIA	
Fullerton: Orange Co. Inst. Comm.	15.00
Northern Ca. Coun. of A.A.	900.00
Newport: Dists. 5,6 & 12.	10.00
San Diego: Central Gratitude Mtg.	56.52
Whittier: Whittier Workshop.....	10.00
KENTUCKY	
Paducah: 8th Tri-State Conv.	313.63
Lexington: 18th Annu. Ky. State Conv.	1,049.42
MASSACHUSETTS	
New England Conf.	200.00
MICHIGAN	
Pontiac: Grps. of Oakland Co.	59.00

NORTH CAROLINA	
Area 4 of N.C.	122.02
Durham: Tar Heel Mid-Winter Conf.	200.00
OREGON	
District #6.	10.00
SOUTH CAROLINA	
Georgetown: Waccamaw Area Grp.	27.00
TEXAS	
Midland & Odessa Grps.	41.45
WASHINGTON	
Seattle: Seattle Grps. Xmas Party.	167.38
CANADA	
Ontario: N.E. Area Conf.	268.86
Ottawa, Ont., Area Alkathon.	29.00
N.W. Ont. Committee.	131.69
Quebec: 1968 Que. Provincial Bilingual Conf.	600.00