

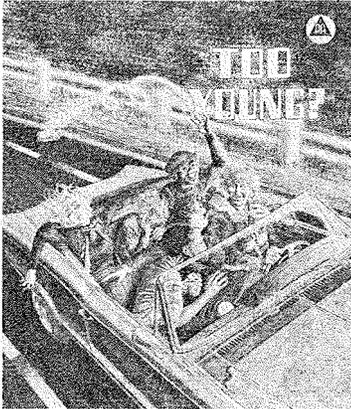
ABOUT A.A.

...a newsletter for professional men and women

July 1977

New for Teenage Drinkers

Helped by many teenagers in the U.S. and Canada, we are now publishing A.A.'s first pamphlet specifically for the under-legal-drinking-age problem drinkers. Here is its cover (which is actually in full color).



Demand for such an item has risen dramatically since we began work on it three years ago. The result is a cartoon booklet similar in style to the popular *MAD* Magazine.

Fortunately, we were given much advice on this publication, not only by young people both in and out of A.A., but also by experts with spectacularly successful records at reaching youthful readers. "Too Young?" is priced at 25¢ per copy (discount for large quantities).

It is not a booklet giving information on alcohol or instruction on drinking. Those subjects are outside A.A.'s province, of course. Instead, it shares the real experience of teenagers (12-18) who found they had drinking problems and turned to A.A. for help.

Many such youngsters are now happily sober in A.A. —not at all what was expected when a few middle-aged men got A.A. going some 40 years ago.

Doctors, Dentists, and Lawyers in A.A.

International Doctors (and dentists) in A.A. holds its annual gathering this year at the New York Hilton Hotel, Aug. 2-4. (A midwinter weekend session in Morristown, N.J., attracted large delegations from the British Isles and Canada.) For information, write I.D.A.A., 1950 Volney Road, Youngstown, OH 44511.

International Lawyers in A.A. has scheduled its third annual gathering Sept. 23-25 at the Royal York Hotel

in Toronto. For information, write I.L.A.A., Room 202, 111 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT 06103.

About Court Referrals to A.A.

For problem drinkers sent to A.A. by court programs, and for court officers making such referrals, we now distribute a brief information sheet about our Fellowship. It answers many common questions and clears up some misconceptions. A free copy is enclosed. If you need more, let us know.

New Filmstrip Explains A.A. System

"Circles of Love and Service" is a new, professionally produced color filmstrip that shows how the various units of A.A. structure fit and work together. In photographic scenes, actors play the roles of A.A. members, so no break of our anonymity (in the public media) Tradition occurs. Sketches and graphics are also used, to trace the structure from A.A. groups through area assemblies to the General Service Conference (of U.S. and Canadian A.A.) and the General Service Board (trustees). It runs slightly over 15 minutes, and a copy is available for \$6.50. Please state whether you want the sound track on record or cassette.

Estelle Succeeds MacCormick

To our regret, Austin MacCormick retired from our General Service Board last November. A eminent corrections specialist — leader for many years of the Osborne Association, former professor at the University of California at Berkeley, and consultant to many Federal and state corrections systems — Austin was one of the first to see the potential usefulness of A.A. behind iron bars and stone walls. He became one of our nonalcoholic trustees in 1949. Serving without remuneration, like all our trustees, he has given us invaluable hours of work and encouragement. Officially, he's now a trustee emeritus, but he still labors on the Corporate and Editorial Boards of our magazine, the A.A. Grapevine. (over)

Estelle Succeeds McCormick (continued)



We are proud to announce that W. J. Estelle Jr., director of the Texas Department of Corrections, was chosen in April to succeed Austin. Born in Indiana, he was educated in the public schools of California, where he also studied at Sacramento State College at Berkeley. He did graduate work at both Berkeley and Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Tex.

For 18 years, Estelle was employed by the California Department of Corrections, and was warden of Montana State Prison two years. He has taught in California at Lassen College, Susanville, and College of the Redwoods, Eureka. He is a member of seven professional societies concerned with criminal justice, corrections, and services to children and youth.

A.A.'s Traveling Exhibit

At any U.S. or Canadian national meeting of a professional group of any sort, we are glad to set up an A.A. information booth whenever asked. We would particularly welcome invitations from more such Canadian societies and associations. In large urban centers, the booth is manned by local A.A. members, and free literature is distributed.

You may have seen our display this year at meetings of the American Association of School Administrators (Las Vegas), American Personnel and Guidance Association (Dallas), National Catholic Educational Association (San Francisco), American Orthopsychiatric Association (New York), National Council on Alcoholism (San Diego), National Conference on Social Welfare (Chicago), United Federation of Teachers (New York), and National Education Association (Minneapolis).

If not, maybe we'll see you at one of these gatherings: Kentucky Association of School Administrators (Louisville, July 31-Aug. 2), American Bar Association (Chicago, Aug. 4-11), 107th Congress of Corrections (Milwaukee, Aug. 21-25), National Rehabilitation Association (Washington, Sept. 6-10), Alcohol and Drug Problems Association of North America (A.D.P.A.—Detroit, Sept. 25-29), and American Public Health Association (Washington, Oct. 30-Nov. 3).

We are also able now to furnish a table-top display for use at smaller gatherings, health fairs, etc. It need not be returned to us. It measures 29 inches high and 40 inches wide, has a double easel in the back, and can be folded in half for storage. A folding card table holds it easily, and no attendants are necessary. If you wish, you can probably get local A.A. members to be present to answer questions, or you may write to the A.A. General Service Office about arrangements. Leaflets about A.A. are also available for distribution. There is no charge for the display and leaflets.

When You Called A.A., Did You Get What You Wanted?

The number of calls from professional men and women seeking information about A.A., or referring clients, seems to be rising, we are delighted to note.

In April, at the annual meeting of our General Service Conference (a representative assembly), the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "In the spirit of cooperation, we should respond to all calls for help with information about A.A. whether the call comes from an alcoholic or from a professional calling for his patient or client."

Although the Conference — like any other A.A. body — has no authority over A.A. members and groups, its carefully thought-out Advisory Actions are a consensus of what is probably the best A.A. thinking available, and they do carry some weight.

We hope you are met with courtesy and information whenever, and wherever, you call or visit any A.A. group or facility. If not, please let us know. We'll try to help.

For the Medical Community

Two committees of the A.A. General Service Board are working together in an effort to improve A.A.'s communication with physicians. The trustees' Committees on Public Information and on Cooperation with the Professional Community have formed a new subcommittee for this specific purpose.

Know Anyone Who Wants This Newsletter?

Anyone working professionally in the field of alcoholism can receive this newsletter free simply by asking for it. To be on our mailing list, write G.S.O. (at the address on the front page).