

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Special Report for the Groups

on the

THIRD GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE of A.A.

New York, N.Y.* April 22-26, 1953

THE THIRD GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE OF A.A. brought together 75 Delegates, representing A.A. areas throughout the U.S. and Canada. For four days, late in April, these servants of the movement as a whole reviewed and appraised the activities of the General Service Office, offered suggestions for strengthening these services and considered a number of serious policy problems confronting the Society.

"We are standing on the threshold of maturity," Bill said in his opening remarks to the Conference. He was quick to add: "No one can say in truth that we are really mature yet. This process of maturing will go on as long as we last."

The Conference this year marked the beginning of a new cycle. No elected delegate this year had been present at the first Conference in 1951. Only half the delegates had served in '52. The Conference this year considered more subjects than had ever come before a similar gathering in the past. It provided more efficient methods whereby any A.A. area in the country could, without identification, if desired, place before the Conference any topic of movement-wide interest. And it expressed its convictions-with humility and maturity-on more basic policy questions than had confronted any previous Conference:

1. It rejected the idea of Congressional incorporation for A.A. because "we believe that spiritual faith and a way of life cannot be incorporated,"
2. It is recommended that the policy of seeking contributions at the rate of \$2.00 per member per year be continued and that further efforts be made to bring to the attention of the non-contributing groups the position of the General Service Headquarters as "the functional center of A.A."
3. It recommended that steps be taken to relieve Bill from the burden of writing periodically to the groups for contributions and that the growing maturity of the Society be expressed by making such appeals in the name of the Conference itself.
4. It requested continuation of the present program of revising and improving A.A. literature and made specific suggestions for new materials.

THE FOUNDATION'S TRUSTEES reported four changes in Board personnel...Mr. Archibald B. Roosevelt and Mr. Leonard V. Harrison (non-alcoholics) replace Mr. A. Leroy Chipman and Mr. Fulton Oursler (deceased)...New A.A. Trustees are Adam C. of Toronto and Clifford W. of Los Angeles...To more clearly identify A.A.'s publishing interests, the name of Works Publishing, Inc. has been changed to Alcoholics Anonymous Publishing, Inc....Harper & Bros. has been approved as distributors of Bill's new book to non-A.A. outlets, full copyright ownership being retained by A.A.

FINANCIALLY, the Society improved its position during the year but several continuing problems were noted: (1) There is still a deficit of about \$10,000 in the Group Contribution Fund, indicating that contributions from the groups over the years have not met the cost of providing services directly to the groups and in their behalf, (2) The A.A. Grapevine, while now operating in the black, still has a deficit of nearly \$24,000, (3) The balance of \$128,000 in the General Fund is still not enough to be considered a prudent reserve to insure continuity of Service Headquarters operations in the event of economic disturbances, (4) For the past two years contributions from the groups to the General Service Conference Fund have not been adequate to underwrite the meetings; grants from the Foundation have been necessary.

FIGURES SUGGEST the scope of Headquarters services during 1952: 115,000 letters and bulletins mailed out...13,000 packages cleared through mail room...30,000 inquiries of all types received and handled...28,000 copies of Big Book shipped out...498,000 pamphlets shipped, plus other printed material.

ONE OF MOST DRAMATIC MOMENTS of the Conference came when Bill displayed a specimen copy of "The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions," just off the press. At the 1952 meeting, Bill had outlined his plans for such a writing project. Now, exactly a year later, the delegates learned that the book not only had been completed but had resulted in an unprecedented wave of enthusiasm within the Society.

CIRCULATION OF THE GRAPEVINE is now 28,700. While it had been estimated that circulation would be higher, the monthly magazine was "in the black" during the past fiscal year as a result of new and more efficient operating procedures:

1. Use of a lighter-weight cover and other economies in use of paper
2. Changes in mailing methods, resulting in lower rates
3. Changes in the printing process used.

Plans are under way for a survey of reader interests, and to determine whether it may be feasible to compile a special anniversary volume featuring "the best from the Grapevine" during its first ten years of publication.

FOUR PANELS reviewed a variety of topics of general interest. Following are the panel titles and their highlights:

"The Role of A.A. and Its Members in State Programs" -- Agreed that: (1) "A.A. should always be on tap, but never on top," (2) Participation should always be as an individual, (3) Jealousies, resentments and controversial issues involving A.A. can be avoided by continuing reference to the Twelve Traditions.

"Relationship of Groups to Prisons & Hospitals" -- There are now 180 A.A. prison groups, 101 hospital groups. Headquarters Office now has special facilities to correspond and work with them. Experience shows that "remarkable results" can be obtained by groups and members who volunteer to bring the A.A. message to inmates. Greatest need: increased emphasis on the importance of sponsorship work with the man or woman who has been released from prison.

"Intergroup and Central Service Offices" -- Agreed: (1) Efficient Intergroup set-ups evolve slowly; (2) Agreement on administrative responsibility and "authority" is important; (3) Fair distribution of Twelfth Step work is crucial to success; (4) More offices are working more closely with General Service Headquarters.

"Foreign Groups, Internationalists and Loners" -- In five years Canadian and foreign groups have grown from 82 (with 2,000 members) to 773 (with about 15,250 members): Norway, 1,000 members; Sweden, 300; Great Britain, 1,000; Ireland, 330; Japan, 21; South America, 175. (All figures approximate). "Internationalists," seamen and other loners, now number more than 90. Canada has 426 groups with 7,800 members.

DELEGATES AT PREVIOUS CONFERENCES had repeatedly requested concise visual material that could be used to present the story of General Service Headquarters to local and area meetings. At the 1953 Conference, two new items were made available to Delegates:

1. A 25-page turnover presentation containing a simple statement of Headquarters services and raising one basic question: "Would A.A. be the same to the individual member, or to the still-suffering alcoholic, if these services were not available?" As requested by the Delegates, this presentation has been reproduced for Delegates and Area Committeemen who desire them.
2. A 12-panel folder, "Your General Service -- A Report to Those Who Share the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous."

BILL LED TWO DISCUSSIONS dealing with recurring "problems." One dealt with "Variations in Form of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" and the other with "Interracial and Foreign-Language Groups."

On Variations: "My feeling is that the more we insist on conformity, the more resistance we create. But if the Traditions and Steps reflect accurately what our experience has been, the alcoholic, no matter where in the world he may be, will eventually adopt the principles that will work the best for him. If our principles are correctly stated, he will adopt them. If any improvements are to come, who can say where they may come from?"

On Interracial: "The sole question is this: How can each locality, from the point of view of its own customs, afford a better opportunity to colored people to get well? The big thing each of us needs to remember ...is the respect that one section of A.A. ought to accord the other in the view they hold locally."

ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING SESSIONS considered how future alcoholic Trustees of the Foundation should be selected. It was pointed out that several distinct qualities are required in Trustees today, to enable them to cope with increasingly complex problems confronting the Foundation:

1. Specialized talents (law, medicine, public relations, finance, etc.)
2. Adequate time, to minimize hasty or erroneous decisions
3. Independence of thought and expression, "recognizing that Trustees serve the entire membership, not geographical areas."

The Conference agreed that the Board should feel free to designate the area from which a new Trustee might be selected, provided necessary qualifications are met.

BILL TOLD THE DELEGATES that there are now three fundamental aspects of the over-all problem of strengthening the services of the Headquarters office:

1. Strengthening of services designed to fill the basic A.A. premise that "every alcoholic deserves a chance."
2. Strengthening of the administrative facilities of the Headquarters office to assure efficient operations without placing an unduly severe burden upon a few volunteers.
3. Strengthening of the financial reserves of the Foundation to prevent recurrence of situations when book income had to be used to support services to the groups.

Bill placed before the Conference a recommendation of a special committee of Foundation Trustees that the Board have discretion and authority to provide at least part-time compensation to the president of Alcoholics Anonymous Publishing, Inc., or in any other situation, as needed, as a practical means of continuing and strengthening Headquarters services. The recommendation was approved unanimously.

ONE OF THE FEATURES of the Conference was the continuing emphasis on the Delegates' freedom to speak out on significant problems disturbing their areas, and to question any and all Headquarters Office operations. Four "unprogrammed" Forums were scheduled. In addition, all delegates were able to submit, anonymously, specific suggestions or criticisms that occurred to them during the course of the meeting.

Approximately 40 different suggestions were considered at full meetings of the Conference. They covered such topics as:

1. Possibility of notifying Conference delegates when anonymity "breaks" occur in their areas.
2. Permission to reprint "Grapevine" articles
3. Rest homes, hospitals and other facilities that mis-use A.A. name
4. What to do about an individual who, on the basis of specific incidents, seems to constitute a source of deep embarrassment to A.A. in his area.
5. Does an A.A. club constitute a group, for purposes of representation when Conference committeemen are being selected?

The disposition of these and other topics is recorded in the final report of the Conference, a 48-page document distributed to Delegates and Area Committeemen as source material for their own reports to local groups and area meetings. Experience following the past two Conferences shows that many groups set aside at least one meeting for review and discussion of Conference proceedings each year.

MR. BERNARD B. SMITH, non-alcoholic chairman of the Board of Trustees, closed the formal Conference sessions in words most delegates will long remember: "We, and the life we lead within the concepts of A.A., bring a message to this world, if the world will hear us, and that is that the spirit can take hold of our material world and completely transform it; that, despite the nature of this material world of ours, man need no longer slink in the shadows but, illumined by the flame of faith, can find the light by which to work and function, and by this light see a world dignified by human friendship, human decency and human devotion."

(Additional copies of "Conference Highlights" available at five cents each.
The Alcoholic Foundation, Box 459, Grand Central Annex, New York 17, N.Y.)

FINAL REPORT



Third

General Service Conference

of A. A.



1953

C O N T E N T S
REPORT OF THIRD GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE OF A.A.
1 9 5 3

THE SENSE OF THE CONFERENCE	1
THE MILESTONES AHEAD (Bill)	3
REPORTS	
Board of Trustees	6
Highlights of Financial Statements	7
General Service Headquarters Operations	8
The A. A. Grapevine	9
General Service Headquarters Literature Program	10
PANEL DISCUSSIONS	
The Role of A.A. and Its Members in State Programs	11
Relationship of Groups to Prisons and Hospitals	12
Intergroup and Central Service Offices	13
Foreign Groups, Internationalists and Loners	14
FORUM DISCUSSIONS	15
SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS	
Transmitting Conference Results to State Committees and Area Groups	20
Variations in Form of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions	21
Interracial and Foreign Language Groups	22
POLICY SESSIONS	
Criteria for Selecting Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation	23
Strengthening Headquarters Services	24
Congressional Incorporation	25
Proposed Change In Foundation Name	25
THE CONFERENCE, A.A. AND SOCIETY (Bernard B. Smith, Chairman)	26
CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS	30
APPENDICES	
I Financial Statements	36
II Contributions to General Service Headquarters Fund	40
III Contributions to Conference Fund	42
IV "Grapevine" Circulation	44
V Roster of Delegates	45
VI Trustees and Headquarters Staff	47
VII Committees of the Conference	48

THE SENSE OF THE CONFERENCE

What were the clearest notes, what thoughts and themes echoed most often in the hearts and minds of the men and women who comprised the Third Annual General Service Conference of A.A.?

By what unifying pattern or concept can the Conference be measured with greatest agreement, not only by those who took part in the meetings but also by our friends, in and out of A.A., to whose service the Conference idea itself is dedicated?

What was the "sense" of the Conference?

Experience warns us that generalities can be misleading, that judgment of the inner mental, spiritual and social reactions of our neighbors --- even when they are fellows in our recovery program --- can be deceptive.

Perhaps our conscious groping and searching for some precise phrasing of the Conference theme is, in itself, an expression of that theme.

"We are standing on the threshold of maturity," Bill said in his opening talk. But he was quick to add: "No one can say in truth that we are really mature yet. This process of maturing will of course go on as long as we last."

On the threshold of maturity, but not yet fully matured---and with only the great "collective conscience of A.A." to illumine the many paths that may lie beyond the threshold!

Thus has Bill, once again with insight to which so many owe so much, helped us to perceive who and what we really are, and where we really stand in this Society.

On the threshold of maturity, there is no shrinking from responsibilities. Surely that was true of this Conference.

On the threshold of maturity, individual attitudes and actions that might once have developed hastily and frozen uncompromisingly, are tempered by understanding that our highest assurance of being right lies in the "collective conscience" of the meeting. That, too, was most certainly true of this Conference.

As the following pages record, many serious and potentially divisive problems were presented to the Conference. Yet, at the close of this Conference, A.A. is almost surely stronger in understanding the importance of the spiritual principles that have always been guiding constellations. And we are stronger, too, in our understanding of the practical problems that have come with growth in numbers and with growth and improvement of the services to which our major premise of helpfulness has always committed us.

This year marked the beginning of a new cycle in General Service Conferences. No elected delegate this year had been present at the first Conference in 1951. Only half of the elected delegates had taken part in the 1952 meeting. The awareness, so often expressed, that the Conference idea and the Society were coming of age, could not therefore be associated with the conventional idea of personal tenure of office.

THE SENSE OF THE CONFERENCE (Continued)

In A.A., progress toward maturity cannot be reckoned in terms of personalities or length of service, however excellent. But that progress can be measured in each succeeding Conference as Delegates demonstrate, again and again, that they do not govern and do not legislate but act as servants of the entire movement in reflecting the "collective conscience" of the Society. As the Society itself has matured, Delegates have inevitably reflected that growth in their combined viewpoints and attitudes.

The Conference this year was notable in a number of ways. It considered more subjects than had ever come before a similar gathering in the past. It provided more efficient methods whereby any area in the country could, without identification if desired, place before the Conference any topic of movement-wide interest. It expressed its convictions on more basic policy problems than had confronted any previous meeting. And in doing so, it demonstrated the truth of the observation that the difference between a conviction and a prejudice is that you can discuss a conviction without getting angry about it.

In his remarks during the closing moments of the Conference, Mr. Bernard Smith, (non-alcoholic) Chairman of the Board of Trustees and of the Conference itself, suggested the underlying opportunity and responsibility that our growing maturity, if such it is, brings with it:

"Our Conferences are basically dedicated to the purpose of insuring that our Twelve Steps and our Twelve Traditions are insulated and protected, so far as possible, for all time; for the basis of our way of life is, after all, timeless. These Conferences serve, therefore, to insure that the concepts of life and of living which have brought us our recovery are available to all who may suffer from alcoholism today, one hundred or one thousand years from now."

In a very real way, the "sense of the Conference" may not be fully apparent until long after the close of its deliberations. Those who have taken part in the 1953 Conference shared great faith and great hope. Of these, the greatest is that some alcoholic among the millions who still don't know may be able to say, in gratitude: "They never once forgot the primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous."

THE MILESTONES AHEAD

Excerpts from Opening Talk by Bill

We are standing on the threshold of maturity, although no one can say in truth that we are really mature yet. This process of maturing will of course go on as long as we last.

I have been asked to speak on "The Milestones Ahead". I dislike the role of a prophet, for I certainly am not that; I have been mistaken too often. But I think that we can take a look ahead to some extent. For example, we can look at problems that occupy our immediate foreground. It is plain to all of us that unless this society can develop enough brotherhood and partnership amongst its members, we shall someday fall into disunity, and the basis of partnership and brotherhood has to be greatly improved personal relations.

It is true that the love of one drunk for another is wonderful to behold. When the stranger is on the doorstep and we carry our message to him, we don't think of personal reward in any ordinary sense. He isn't going to pay us; he may not even love us. We don't expect a thing except the inner glow which one gets from having love in our own hearts, and from offering the right kind of love to a fellow human being -- in our case, another drunk.

If he turns us down, we say, well, there are plenty more drunks. If he accepts our offer and carries it on, and we see no more of him, we say, "Isn't that wonderful?" If he returns to become our bosom friend, then we really are joyful. But we realize that that joy, that gladness, that satisfaction, are extra dividends of A.A. life. The really sustaining thing is that we receive God's love just in proportion as we have love for others and try to give that away. Thus, in our Twelve Steps, there is an expression of almost pure love, the kind of love that has no price-tag on it.

Consider what happens, though, when we move away from the Twelfth Step, and our relations with people become closer, including the whole subject of domestic relations.

How many of us are there now who can go home with the same kind of love for a faithful and long-suffering wife that we have had down at the club house for our alcoholic brother? Lots of us can, but lots of us can't -- not yet -- because there has been a profound distortion of family life due to our drinking. There is a whole area of personal relationships which has not only to do with sobriety, but with emotional sobriety. It has to do with the joy of living, and that is an area in which there is a vast amount to be learned and a vast amount to be done. Are we able "to carry these principles into all our affairs"?

We sometimes quarrel a great deal, not often about things that matter too much, but there is a great deal of unnecessary anger, ambition, pride, a tendency to dominate people, or a tendency to cling to people. All the problems of personal relationships which have to do with an emotional sobriety, a happy

THE MILESTONES AHEAD

(continued)

sobriety, are yet far from solution. When we have moved on and made a great dent in those problems, we shall have passed another milestone.

Then there is the problem of the complacent A.A. He comes in, he does good work, his family is reunited, his family is happy, his income is good, and he assumes that he is "cured". He thinks he's done his bit for A.A. Most of us know that this blissful state can't last too long. At some point life is going to present him with a great big lump he's not prepared to swallow. So he, and those who are coasting with him, might take another look at our Twelve Steps -- not just the First and the Twelfth, but all those in between, and try hard to apply them in all their affairs, and try harder to be more realistic about their obligations.

Consider also this matter of sponsoring new people. Since we have grown large in numbers, the careful attention that we used to give is perhaps sometimes denied new people. They come into our larger meetings. They wander about. Our sponsorship is still occasionally defective. We can do much about improving it. We can remember the kind of chance that somebody gave us, and the desire can again burn in us to give that next fellow his chance, and not leave the job to somebody else.

To be prudent is not necessarily to be fearful. Curiously enough, this Society as a whole has never had a problem which has cut clear across it. The individual has been beset with problems, and he has survived. So have groups. So have areas. But A.A. as a whole has never been cut across by a great problem or a great calamity. We are living in a world which sometimes seems largely filled with nothing but problems and calamities, and for all of these last seventeen or eighteen years God has spared our fellowship anything that looks like a big problem. This has permitted our reputation to be made secure in the public mind. We are now prepared to meet serious problems as they come, and it is not fearful to say that such problems will undoubtedly come someday to A.A. as a whole.

Just take one problem -- not too serious -- and let us try to think how we would behave if it occurred. I know of an author who is a humorist on the sarcastic side. Two or three years ago he got material together for a funny book about A.A. which would have roundly ridiculed us. The book was never published, because he found too many of his old writing cronies in A.A., and they discouraged him. But suppose that he had published this book?

You know what our first reaction would have been. It would have been a reaction of great rage. "He can't do this to us!" But does that necessarily have to be our reaction? When we are unfairly criticized, loudly criticized at some time in the future, or actually attacked, are we prepared to take such attacks in silence, and in dignity, with no thought of retaliation? And if there is any truth in such an attack, can we humbly say, "That is so. This Society stands corrected."?

THE MILESTONES AHEAD

(continued)

Today the world is full of political divisions, warring philosophies, warring nations. Supposing that those divisions cut deep in this country sometime, and our Society as such starts to quarrel. Shall we find the wisdom and grace at such a time to say, "No. Traditionally, these are matters on which A.A.s can never quarrel within the confines of this Society. This is the sort of quarrel that can destroy us, and the chance for sobriety and a new way of life for all who might come."

Conceivably we might one day have a religious division. I don't believe we will, but we might. Much will depend on how we shall act then. Much will depend on what this body, the conscience of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, says and does at such a critical juncture.

Personally -- and this may seem strange -- I think we are ready to meet these problems. I think we can manage them, and I think so because of what I see here before me. I see God, speaking through the group conscience, in this room. I feel that our guidance will be true and that the voice of Alcoholics Anonymous will remain clear, that its conscience is now so experienced and so well related to a Higher Power that it can apprehend the right thing to do at the right time. Despite all the perils of the road ahead, I know that you share with me an utter confidence about our future.

There is one more temptation to which this movement may be subjected. All around us men are commencing to say, "Why, this A.A. thing is a lot more than a cure for drunks. It's a way of life that could save civilization." Mr. Herbert Hoover, several years ago, paused in the middle of a policy talk and pointed to this Society as one whose spirit ought to animate the whole world. A fellow from the United Nations told me the other day that ideas that he had drawn from the A.A. tradition had transformed the whole status of relief work in Greece. The week before, a man came in who is a very noted philosopher in this country. He said to me, "Bill, I begin to sense that A.A. has a deeper destiny than just sobering up drunks. It may be a spearhead of a new religious evolution."

At first that sort of thing made me feel good. It made me feel ambitious! I thought, well, now that we're on the way to sobering up all the drunks in the world, why not sober up all the people in the world, emotionally speaking?

Then prudence intervened and said to me, as I know it must have said to you, "These are things that we should never say about ourselves. The more we mind our own business, the more we offer with success what we have to the next alcoholic, the longer we shall last and the larger will be our usefulness, even to the world outside."

To you of this third General Service Conference, I say welcome, and may God speak in your conscience. May your voice be clear and true, and may the great service heart of Alcoholics Anonymous which beats in the center of this gathering continue to beat for so long as God shall need us.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Four changes in the personnel of the Board of Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation, involving two non-alcoholic members and two alcoholics, have taken place during the past year. Mr. Archibald B. Roosevelt and Mr. Leonard V. Harrison have succeeded to the posts formerly held by Mr. A. LeRoy Chipman and Mr. Fulton Oursler (deceased) as non-alcoholic Trustees. On the alcoholic side, Adam Capeling of Toronto and Clifford Walker of Los Angeles replace Dick Stanley and Jerry McComber. Dick Stanley retires from the Board under the policy of rotation whereby no alcoholic serves more than four years. Jerry McComber died unexpectedly last Winter.

In order to more clearly identify A.A.'s publishing interests, the name of Works Publishing, Inc. has been changed to "Alcoholics Anonymous Publishing, Inc.," in line with suggestions presented by the General Service Committee. The new name has already been used in Bill's new book, "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions," and in other recently approved literature.

Conforming with long-standing policy, the Trustees declined to accept a bequest made in the will of a resident of San Antonio, Texas. Based on expressions from the membership, the Trustees several years ago adopted the policy of declining all gifts from outside sources, and all gifts in excess of \$100 from A.A. members.

After long and careful consideration, and following a poll of Conference members, the Trustees approved the publishing firm of Harper & Bros. as distributors of Bill's new book to non-A.A. outlets. The Society retains full ownership of the copyright and remains the actual publisher. The new arrangement will benefit the movement by getting increased attention for a basic document on fundamental principles of the Society, and through certain printing and distribution economies. Within ten days after announcement of the new book had been sent to the groups, orders for nearly 6,000 copies had been received at General Service Headquarters.

The Trustees also authorized the translation of three A.A. pamphlets (A.A.--44 Questions & Answers, "Fortune" reprint and A.A. Tradition) into the following six languages.

French	Swedish
Spanish	Norwegian
Finnish	Portugese

Translation costs will be met out of reserve funds of the Foundation.

Of particular significance to 1953 Conference delegates was the report that the Trustees had approved the underwriting of Conference costs to the extent of \$10,000, because insufficient contributions had been received from the groups.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Comprehensive financial statements for A.A.'s three service corporations (Works Publishing, Inc., The A.A. Grapevine, Inc. and The Alcoholic Foundation, Inc.) appear as separate items in the Appendix to this report.

Significant features of the various reports, noted during the presentation of financial data to the Conference, may be summarized as follows:

WORKS PUBLISHING: Total assets increased from \$70,060 at the end of December, 1951 to \$71,822 for the most recent calendar year. Net sales of books increased by more than \$5,000 to a total of \$67,599. Pamphlet sales increased nearly \$10,000 -- from \$26,940 in 1951 to \$36,411 in 1952. Gross profit from sales was up more than \$6,000 to \$57,759.

Net income for the year was \$33,902, a slight decrease from the \$35,159 recorded the previous year. The decrease can be attributed in part to the payment of writing, editing and research fees for published material on which the corporation has reason to expect continued sales over a period of years.

THE ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS GRAPEVINE: Total sales were \$79,031 during 1952, nearly \$5,000 more than in the preceding twelve months. Editorial costs rose slightly, from \$48,897 in 1951 to \$51,154 in 1952, but were offset partially by a decrease in circulation and business expenses, from \$24,632 to \$23,934.

Net profit for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1953 was \$3,942, compared with an operating profit of only \$593 the previous year. This enables the Grapevine to reduce its deficit, incurred through advances from the Foundation and through necessary use of unearned subscription funds, from \$27,918 at the beginning of the fiscal year to \$23,975 at the end of business March 31, 1953.

THE ALCOHOLIC FOUNDATION, INC.: Contributions received and credited to the Group Contribution Fund totalled \$106,195 in 1952, compared with \$97,585 the previous year. As the result of a decrease in General Service Office expenses, it was possible to reduce the deficit of this Fund to \$9,715.

The balance in the General Service Conference Fund at the end of 1952 was \$929. (A grant of \$6,000 was received from the General Fund for the 1952 Conference and a larger grant was necessary to underwrite the 1953 Conference.)

The balance in the General Fund was \$128,000, an increase of \$23,000 over figures for the preceding year but still not enough to be considered a prudent reserve to insure continuity of Service Headquarters operations.

GENERAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS OPERATIONS

Statistical

The following figures suggest the scope of Headquarters services to the Society during 1952:

115,000 letters and bulletins mailed out
 13,000 packages cleared through mail room
 30,000 inquiries of all types received and handled
 28,000 copies of the Big Book shipped out
 498,000 pamphlets shipped, plus other printed material

Production of "Handbook & Directory"--Conference guidance was sought on the problems of (1) getting groups to return Directory listing cards more promptly and (2) deciding at which point a non-responsive group should be dropped. In line with the spirit of other Conference discussions, most delegates advised caution in dropping a listing. Delegates agreed to develop the best possible local procedures for encouraging group secretaries to return cards promptly. It was also agreed Headquarters would consider the possibility of enclosing a postpaid return envelope when the 1954 cards are sent out.

Policy on appeals for Contributions. Delegates were asked to consider in the light of Bill's views on the growing maturity of the Conference and of the movement as a whole, whether it might now be wise for the regular letters on contributions to be sent out from Headquarters in the name of the Conference, rather than in Bill's name. The prevailing opinion seemed to be summed up in these words from the floor.

"I believe that A.A. has come of age. As Bill said, we have to look ahead to the milestones that are before us. And while none of us are prophets, we can expect certain things to happen. We have to look to the future. We have to provide for eventualities. We all know that every one is mortal, that we cannot expect Bill to be with us all the rest of the period of A.A. We have to plan now and get ready for the time when Bill will no longer be with us. I don't like to speak about this any more than any one else does, because A.A. without Bill is unthinkable at the present moment, the same as it was with Dr. Bob. But we have to be prudent and look ahead. Now is the time for us to start just as though Bill's guiding light were not with us any longer, and have it so that in the future we are not dependent on that personal appeal from Bill. We have grown up. It's time for us to take responsibility right now. I know that Bill's name is magic -- always will be -- but we are the servants of the groups all over the U.S. and Canada, and we as servants are ready now to ask them for their help."

The Conference approved a motion that the next appeal for contributions be sent out in its name. It was understood that, should the appeal not succeed, Bill will write a letter later in the year.

THE A.A. GRAPEVINE

Improved and more efficient operating procedures put A.A.'s international journal safely "in the black" during the past fiscal year although circulation growth fell far below expectations, the editor of the "Grapevine" reported.

Operating profit for the year just ended was \$3,942, compared with \$593 during the preceding twelve-month period. It was emphasized, however, that substantial loans advanced by The Alcoholic Foundation to keep the magazine afloat in previous years still remain to be liquidated.

Changes during the past year were summarized as follows:

1. Use of the letterpress process (reproduction directly from type or plates) rather than the offset process previously used.
2. Use of a lighter-weight cover and economies in the use of paper.
3. Changes in mailing methods designed to qualify the magazine for advantageous second class mailing rates.

Circulation of the "Grapevine" is now 28,700, representing an increase of 429 copies over circulation totals a year ago. It had been estimated, following last year's General Service Conference, that a minimum of 6,000 new subscriptions might be added during the year. This was based on results obtained following the first Conference in 1951, when delegates were largely instrumental in bringing in approximately 7,000 new subscriptions.

Present renewal rate on subscriptions is 58%, compared with 64% a year ago. Approximately two-thirds of all subscriptions are received through group secretaries, 19% come in via the special blanks inserted in the magazine and the remaining 15% are the result of individual letters. It was emphasized that bulk subscription orders received from group secretaries are the most economical to handle.

Although more than 160,000 copies have been mailed out in the new wrappers identifying the magazine with A.A., fewer than ten subscribers have questioned this procedure, the "Grapevine" staff reported.

Plans are now under way for a careful "readership survey" to determine how effectively current editorial policy is meeting the needs and interests of the membership. Another project, on which Conference delegates will be polled, involves the possibility of compiling a special volume featuring "the best from the Grapevine" during its first ten years of publication.

GENERAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS LITERATURE PROGRAM

Literature developed at General Service Headquarters in accordance with recommendations made by the 1952 Conference, were reviewed under two major classifications: (1) Bill's long-range writing project and (2) new pamphlets requested by the groups and comprehensive revision and editing of certain existing pamphlets.

Bill exhibited to the Conference a sample copy of "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions," his first full-length commentary on A.A. since the writing of "The Big Book." Shipments of books to groups ordering them was scheduled to begin about two weeks after the close of the Conference, he said.

Bill also reported that substantial progress had been made in collecting, reviewing and editing informal recordings of personal stories for future editions of "The Big Book." When the book was originally written, he pointed out, there were fewer than 100 members in A.A. and the selection of personal stories in the current edition does not adequately reflect the wide variety of histories now represented in the movement. The new cross section of personal experiences is designed as a more faithful representation of A.A.

Bill reiterated his hope that a beginning can be made on a preliminary outline history of A.A. It may be impossible to record the detailed history of the movement impartially for a number of years, he reminded the delegates. Meantime, he said, preliminary research is already under way to establish factual records on major milestones in the birth, growth and development of the Society.

The secretary of the Foundation Literature Committee reported that the following items have been released for distribution to groups since 1952

<u>Item</u>	<u>Release date</u>	<u>Copies distributed, to March 31, 1953</u>
A.A. FOR THE WOMAN	5/5/52	47,836
THE ALCOHOLIC EMPLOYEE	7/22/52	25,204
SATURDAY EVENING POST (New format)	9/15/52	(
FORTUNE (New format)	9/15/52	(27,000
YOUR THIRD LEGACY	10/15/52	5,954
SEDATIVES AND THE ALCOHOLIC	10/15/52	19,139
A.A.--44 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS	12/ 7/52	47,993
THIS IS A.A.	2/16/53	17,189
STRUCTURE & SERVICES OF A.A.		
SERVICE--YOUR THIRD LEGACY		
SECRETARY'S HANDBOOK (New format)		

During the past year, the need for certain special material and for several additional pamphlets (or complete revisions of existing pamphlets) has been expressed by a number of groups. Items in this category are: (1) Revision of Medicine Looks at A.A., (2) Pamphlet on Young People and A.A., (3) Revision of "About the Alcoholic Husband," (4) Pamphlet dealing with problem of "slips," (5) Basic editorial material for use by local groups, upon request, in latters' contacts with newspapers, and (6) Basic script material for use when local radio or television time is made available to groups.

THE ROLE OF A.A. AND ITS MEMBERS IN STATE PROGRAMS

How can the A.A. name be kept disassociated from state programs?
Should A.A. groups endorse or oppose bills presented in state legislatures?
What should a local group do if an outside agency uses the A.A. directory for mailings not connected with A.A.?
Should A.A. "group representatives" attend meetings of social agency councils?

These and related questions were discussed by a General Service Headquarters secretary and three delegates at the opening panel discussion. From their comments evolved the following suggested pattern of principles and procedures covering this recurring problem?

1. A.A. should always be on tap, but never on top. Experience suggests that local groups or individuals should never seek to claim special attention as authorities on the subject of alcoholism. They should be willing to contribute whatever they can to the solution of this important social problem but they should never presume to dominate activities in this area on the strength of their association with the Society.
2. Participation should always be as an individual. Participation is a personal matter. Members should not attempt to break their anonymity, or let it be broken for them, since the welfare and reputation of the Society as a whole would be involved. It is important to bear in mind at all times the tested A.A. tradition of not endorsing or opposing anything or anyone.
3. Jealousies, resentments and controversial issues involving A.A. can be avoided by continuing reference to our Traditions. Examples were cited of A.A. being listed erroneously as a beneficiary of a local Red Feather campaign and of agencies which apparently did not appreciate the help A.A. could offer to alcoholics. These problems can be minimized or eliminated completely if A.A.'s understand the value of past experience in similar situations, expressed in our Traditions, and if they help others who are working in the field of alcoholism to understand them too.

In general, it was agreed that many state programs have benefited through the participation of A.A.s as individuals and that it would not make sense to withhold such help, when requested.

RELATIONSHIP OF GROUPS TO PRISONS AND HOSPITALS

There are now 180 A.A. prison groups with 9,304 members and 101 hospital groups, with 2,253 members. This total of more than 11,600 members in prisons and hospitals alone is greater than the total A.A. membership at the time when many Conference delegates were first introduced to A.A. Recognizing the importance of these groups, General Service Headquarters has, in effect, created a separate "department" to correspond and work with them.

It is now clear that groups of this type have two specific needs that can be met most effectively through local group action: (1) the need for visitors, speakers and sponsor-contacts, and (2) the need for literature. (The rapid growth of groups of this type makes it impossible to continue to supply literature without charge).

General Service Headquarters helps these groups directly in a number of specific ways. It answers the many inquiries which reveal the "institutional" groups' deep interest in A.A. Traditions and general principles. It assists in the exchange of prison publications. It provides, upon request, "Suggestions for the Formation of an Inmate Group." It provides excerpts from comments on A.A. by recognized penologists for use in situations where a prison administration may hesitate to work with A.A. It serves as a clearing house of prison-group experience through an "Exchange Bulletin." And its research has resulted in material covering inmate privileges and restrictions in prisons through the country.

Experience has shown, according to one panel speaker, that even in situations where prison authorities are at first reluctant to "admit" A.A., remarkable results can be obtained, not only with inmates but in earning the support of administrative personnel.

Another panel speaker pointed out that, like "outside" A.A.s, most prisoner members did not appreciate the nature of their problem until some one "carried the message" to them. An important phase of this work, he added, is to try to help prisoners overcome resentments and learn to live with their fellow-inmates. "The great need is for more participation and help on our part when prisoners come out. They need personal attention and personal introductions to groups."

Sponsorship of the hospital inmate when he emerges into the outside world is taken for granted but there is still a need to do more to help the ex-inmate, it was agreed. The A.A. member can be a vital link in the full rehabilitation process. When the parolee makes the grade in A.A. and continues to follow the A.A. way of life after he leaves prison, he is paving the way for many thousands of others who will be seeking and deserving of a fresh start in life. There is a tremendous need and opportunity for true sponsorship.

"When we think of the members in our prison groups, we might well recall the little sign seen so often where A.A.s meet: BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD."

INTERGROUP AND CENTRAL SERVICE GROUPS
AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE GROUPS, CLUBHOUSES AND
GENERAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS

Speakers familiar with the growth of Intergroup and Central Office facilities in Massachusetts, Illinois, California, Maryland and Canada participated in this panel discussion. While certain variations in operating principles and procedures were disclosed, there was general agreement on the following points:

1. Efficient Intergroup set-ups evolve slowly. Central offices are created to fill certain needs that are usually clearly apparent to the participating groups but the procedures for making those offices work efficiently and economically usually have to be learned through gradual trial-and-error experience.
2. Agreement on Administrative Responsibility and Authority is Important. Occasionally Intergroup offices are established without clear understanding of who is responsible for certain functions, or who best represents the combined interests of all groups participating in the activity. It is obviously impossible to establish hard-and-fast rules covering this problem. Frequently, major decisions can be entrusted to some one working full-time in the office. In other cases, "authority" should be vested in a rotating steering committee. The important thing is to have a clear understanding of the problem and of possible solutions as early as possible in the life of an Intergroup operation.
3. Fair distribution of Twelfth Step work is crucial to success. Care should be taken to avoid burdening particular individuals or groups with an unnecessarily heavy load of follow-up calls.
4. More offices are working more closely with General Service Headquarters. While many individual members may not yet understand fully the difference between metropolitan Intergroup services and services rendered on an international scale by General Service Headquarters, the trend is toward increasing liaison. Intergroup offices are coming to appreciate the special services that Headquarters can perform and are relying upon those services to a greater degree than ever before.

FOREIGN GROUPS, INTERNATIONALISTS AND LONERS

In five years A.A. foreign groups including Canada have grown from 82, with a membership of approximately 2,000, to 773 with a total membership of more than 15,520. Excluding Canada, present tabulations show 323 groups comprising 7,349 members outside the United States. Following are typical highlights on the growth of A.A. worldwide:

NORWAY -- More than 1,000 members in Oslo; have their own publication, "The Alcoholic."

SWEDEN -- Approximately 300 members. Some slight variation in A.A. as we know it. Use only "Seven Steps." Use "must" ("of necessity") in some phrases.

FINLAND -- A.A. developing rapidly, assisted by Finnish-Americans here.

GERMANY -- Three groups, comprising armed forces personnel, totalling about 25 members.

FRANCE -- One group in Paris, originally started by three members of the American colony. Recently added its first native Frenchman. Second group now being planned in Toulon.

GREAT BRITAIN -- London has its own Intergroup office which publishes a newsletter and now plans British edition of the Big Book. About 900 members in England. Scotland has an Intergroup office and Wales has a small group in Cardiff.

IRELAND -- Now about 300 members. Clergy cooperating, following some original reluctance.

SOUTH AFRICA -- Recently held first territorial conference, bringing together representatives from a wide area. Plans afoot to sponsor non-European groups.

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND -- A.A. activity "really zooming." Intergroup in Sidney.

JAPAN -- Now 21 members in Tokyo group, sparked by efficient secretary. Other groups being planned outside of Tokyo. (Three members in Korea)

SOUTH AMERICA -- About 175 members, mostly in Brazil, with eight groups. New group planned in Buenos Aires. Chile has a hospital group.

NASSAU -- Two groups, representing different races, working together harmoniously.

HAVANA -- Many inquiries received as result of recent magazine article.

INTERNATIONALISTS AND LONERS -- Now 91 members of "Internationalists," seamen, "and they are growing all the time." Many loners scattered over the globe and some in tuberculosis sanitarium in this country.

 THE DELEGATES SPEAK

One of the features of the 1953 General Service Conference was the continuing emphasis on the delegates' freedom to speak out on significant problems disturbing their areas, and to question any and all General Service Headquarters operations.

Four "unprogrammed" Delegates Forums were scheduled for presentation and discussion of problems, not already on the agenda, which might affect A.A. generally. In addition, each delegate had an opportunity to deposit in a "Gripe Box" any specific complaints or suggestions designed for the welfare of the Society as a whole.

With allowances for overlapping and duplication of certain problems, the following summarizes key issues presented to the Conference by delegates themselves and indicates the disposition of each problem:

<u>Question</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
1. Possibility of notifying Conference delegates when anonymity breaks occur in their areas, and also letting delegates have copy of letter sent annually to press-radio-TV on Tradition of anonymity.	Headquarters will send Delegates copy of "annual letter"; difficult to set rigid system covering local cases.
2. Written comment invited discussion on suggestion that A.A. could "get along" without the Foundation or services.	No discussion by delegates.
3. Suggestion that more time be given delegates to poll their areas when Headquarters requires advisory opinions.	Chair agreed this important and will be done, explained exceptional time factor in case of Bill's new book.
4. Will Headquarters strive to operate Conference as simply, economically as possible?	All delegates urged to suggest in writing, within 60 days, what curtailments or changes they might like to see.
5. Availability of certain Conference talks on tape records in two speeds?	To be investigated.
6. How can use of "name" speakers be discouraged at group meeting level?	Agreed that this is matter best left to autonomy of local groups.
7. What about meetings where admission fee (\$1) is charged?	No discussion by delegates.
8. Possibility of 2nd International Conference?	Agreed that subject might be considered by a local area during year.

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| 9. Should Conference Committee procedures be changed? | Agreed, best continue "as is." |
| 10. Possibility of preparing simple guide for those who may not be quite clear as to duties, responsibilities in Conference set-up. (From group reps. to delegates). | Moved and approved that this be done. |
| 11. Who should be continuing liaison with Headquarters? | Following discussion, agreed not wise to formalize any rigid system. |
| 12. Possibility that special problems might be created as result of development of interest in activities associated with memory of Matt Talbot. | Bill reviewed background. Matt Talbot was an alcoholic who achieved sobriety in Dublin about a generation ago. Credited with many good works. Now in process of being canonized as a saint by the Catholic Church. "Matt Talbot Society" developed to sponsor spiritual "retreats," enjoyed by many of the differing faiths. Problem arises only when "Sons of Matt Talbot," in field of alcoholic therapy, are linked to, or identified with, A.A. - a factor not involved in this particular case. Discussion from floor suggested that this matter can be handled as it arises <u>locally</u> , using tolerance, tact, <u>informational</u> procedures. Agreed that this is best approach. |
| 13. Request for a Conference ruling on a local area committee problem. | Agreed that Conference, since it cannot govern, has no authority on local matters. Comment from floor reminded delegates that procedures in "Third Legacy" pamphlet "work well." |
| 14. Possibility of discussing problems involved in sponsorship programs. | Suggested that new booklet on "Sponsorship" may answer many questions. |
| 15. Permissible to reprint Grapevine articles? | Yes, but copyright laws should be observed, permission obtained from editors. (Never yet denied). |
| 16. Can Grapevine subscription blanks be made more generally available? | A number of procedures being explored continually, within economic limits. |
| 17. Can value of Grapevine to new members and to groups generally be emphasized more. | Suggested that material in new "Handbook & Directory" may help on this. |
| 18. Permissible to translate Grapevine articles for use in Canadian French-language paper? | Agreed. |

19. Can Grapevine pages be numbered consecutively on an annual basis, for permanent filing?
Not feasible now; may be possible when and if circulation doubles.
20. Would it be desirable and possible to lighten tone of Grapevine, as one method of attracting increased circulation?
Subject will be studied and a lighter approach used, if this appears appropriate.
21. The suggestion was made that the phrase "no fees or dues" be taken out of the description of A.A. because (1) "it is redundant" and (2) "being frequently misunderstood, it is a detriment to collections of modest operating expenses."
Bill referred to basic meanings of the words as used in A.A. "Fee" being understood as something paid for something received; "Due" being understood as a requirement of admission or selection to something. In A.A. no one is forced to pay to receive the help we can offer; membership is not contingent upon payment of dues. Hence the "no fees or dues" phrase reflects as accurately as possible how we operate. It does not, of course, mean that the recovered alcoholic should not be asked to share the cost of essential A.A. activities when he is able to do so.
22. Discussion was sought on the subject of rest homes, hospitals or other facilities which seemingly misuse the A.A. name.
Bill recalled early days when "great fears" arose, occasionally with considerable justification. Experience has shown, he said, that facilities which abuse the A.A. name do not usually survive. Members can be helpful in such matters, Bill suggested, by letting it become more widely known that A.A. does not have facilities of this type.
23. Consideration was asked of a detailed case involving an individual who is reckoned, on the basis of specific incidents, as a source of deep embarrassment to A.A. in one section of the country.
A six-page letter summarizing the situation was read to the delegates. The delegate presenting the matter offered additional comments on the seriousness of the situation as it appeared to some in his area; he also pointed out that, obviously, the person in question had done some good. Bill suggested that three factors "work for A.A." in cases like this: (1) Time, (2) Knowledge of the facts by the groups and (3) Public opinion, when it is informed. It is important, he said to remember that very, very few of those who appear to "promote" themselves in A.A. are "100% phony"; most of them actually do some good, and believe they are doing great good. So the important thing is to avoid the temptation to anger, to "punish" or to let such issues become matters of public controversy.

25. It was suggested that Canadian contributions to the General Service Conference be listed by Provinces.

Agreed that this would be done in the future.
25. Possibility of holding Conferences in June instead of April (to permit travel with school age children, for example)?

Chair explained that, after careful study of possible dates, the decision to hold Conferences in the third week in April was made on the basis that the date permits Trustees of the Foundation to consider Conference developments at their Annual Meeting on the fourth Monday in April.
26. One delegate reported an opinion that the new literature was possibly over-priced and "too professional-looking."

Full, open discussion from the floor failed to disclose evidence of support for this position. All delegates who spoke to this question said reaction to literature in their areas had improved during the past year. It was also noted that publishing costs generally had increased in recent years. The sense of the meeting was that the format and price structure of current literature were meeting the needs of the Society.
27. Suggestion was made that A.A.s might avoid involvement in discussion of diets for alcoholics and similar matters requiring professional knowledge.

No discussion.
28. Where more than one group meets in a Clubhouse, how should votes be allocated for Conference area committee representation?

General sense was that so long as individual groups with separate secretaries are involved, each group is entitled to one vote. (Based on several case histories).
29. Does an A.A. Club constitute a group?

It was the sense of the meeting that, based on case histories, the soundest procedure is to consider as groups only those units whose primary function is to help the alcoholic to recover, as distinguished from providing recreational or other facilities.
30. Is there any fixed time at which area committee people and delegates are assumed to have taken office?

Importance of local autonomy in such matters was emphasized, but the question will be accorded further study.

31. Question was raised as to difficulty of maintaining anonymity, under certain circumstances. Related to this was a general suggestion that policy on anonymity may require clarification.

Discussion brought out the fact that it is obviously difficult for some A.A.s, particularly those active in public affairs, to preserve their anonymity in the sense of general public knowledge of their affiliation. At the same time it was emphasized that there is a fundamental difference between this word-of-mouth identification of an individual A.A., and exploitation of or by the individual himself at the level of press, radio, and other media, of his association with the Society.
32. Many groups were willing to forego any discount advantage in handling group sales of Bill's new book on "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions." In view of this, why is the 50-cent discount being granted?

Bill explained that the whole problem of pricing A.A. literature is linked to the broader problem of providing adequate reserves for the "Foundation," reserves "which I believe are not now adequate." He noted that approximately two-thirds of the Conference areas, in a special survey, had consented to forego the discount but that this proportion was not believed to be sufficient, in view of the basic policy problems involved. The broad question of the Foundation reserves, as essential to survival of Headquarters services, requires further study, Bill declared, before specific pricing principles can be said to have the full understanding of the movement.
33. Could the Big Book be made available in a pocket-size edition?

Yes, it could be, was Bill's comment, based on frequent reference to this problem as a result of questions received over the years. But, he emphasized, this question, too, is related to other broad factors pertaining to the Foundation's ability to serve the movement, and all these factors should be considered together.

TRANSMITTING CONFERENCE RESULTS TO STATE COMMITTEES AND AREA GROUPS

In previous years, at the request of Delegates, the Headquarters office prepared and distributed (at cost, or slightly less) copies of a special film strip outlining General Services of the New York office. While these have been used in nearly every State, it was felt that the problems of locating a projector and arranging other special facilities warranted experimenting with some more suitable form of "reporting back to the grass roots."

As a result, two new items have been made available to Delegates and area committee people: (1) A 25-page turnover presentation in a combined easel and carrying case and (2) A 12-panel folder, "Your General Service--A Report to those who share the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous."

The turnover presentation contains a simple statement of the main features of Headquarters services and raises one basic question: "Would A.A. be the same to the individual member, or to the still-suffering alcoholic, if these services were not available?" It suggests that these services deserve consideration along with the two other major legacies of A.A.: The Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions.

The folder on "Your General Service" describes 10 main activities of the General Service Headquarters, devoting less than 200 words to each service:

1. Handling of Correspondence
2. Work with Lone Members and "Internationalists"
3. Service to Institutional Groups
4. Preparation and Distribution of Literature and Recordings
5. Publication of the "A.A. Grapevine"
6. Publication of the "Handbook and Directory"
7. Help on Traditions and Group Problems
8. Handling of the General Service Conference
9. Preservation of sound Public Relations for A.A.
10. Participation of Staff people in State and Area Conferences

At the request of a number of Delegates, the turnover presentation (originally produced and lettered by hand for the Conference session) will be reproduced for the use of delegates who desire them, at a cost of \$25. per copy, representing less than actual production costs.

The new folders will be available at five cents a copy, with primary distribution restricted to Delegates and area committee people for the six weeks period following the Conference.

VARIATIONS IN FORM OF THE TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS

Bill said he proposed to consider "whether this program of ours is frozen as solid as an ice cube, or whether there is any elasticity in it, whether we are going to get into this business of insisting on conformity, whether we are going to get into the business of creating an authority that says: 'These Steps and Traditions have to be this way.'"

For the first four years, A.A. had a word-of-mouth program that could be summed up in six steps. As the Big Book was being prepared, it became apparent that the principles of the new program had to be stated, as well as the personal stories. In bed one night, Bill began to write out the steps, sensing only that the "original six" would have to be broken down to make them specific enough and concrete enough for "the distant reader."

"To my surprise, they came rather quickly and when I had finished, I found they were twelve. It seemed to me that this was quite a happy thought...and that is all I thought about it at the time. I was only trying to break the program up into such small pieces that nobody would miss an essential point."

When the Twelve Steps were presented to the other alcoholics in New York, Bill said, a great uproar developed. "My sin was that I had varied the six into twelve!" And a lot of people objected to the references to God in the new steps, as originally presented. "Because of this, we finally got around to the idea of the 'Higher Power' or 'God as you understand Him.' So the Twelve Steps themselves were a tremendous variation, not in principle, but in the manner of stating them."

This pioneering story is now being reenacted in distant lands. In one country, the Steps have been altered somewhat in phrasing and reduced to seven. "Do you think we should tell those people: 'You can't belong to Alcoholics Anonymous unless you print those Twelve Steps the way we have them?' No. They are merely going through the old pioneering process we had to go through ourselves."

Bill told of his surprise when he was presented with a proposed draft of revised Steps to be used in working with seamen who, he has been assured, "were not going to take the Twelve Steps the way they are written." Examining the "revision", he was amazed to note that they corresponded, number for number, with the six steps in the original A.A. word-of-mouth program!

"Where variations of the Traditions are concerned, we've gone up and down like a window shade. We even have a Tradition that guarantees the right of any group to vary all of them, if they want to. Let's remember, we are talking about suggested steps and traditions. And when we say each group is autonomous, that means that it also has a right to be wrong."

"My feeling is that the more we insist on conformity, the more resistance we create. But if the Traditions and Steps reflect accurately what our experience has been, the alcoholic, no matter where in the world he may be, will eventually adopt the principles that will work the best for him. If our principles are correctly stated, he will adopt them. If any improvements are to come, who can say where they may come from?"

INTERRACIAL AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE GROUPS

Before throwing the session open for discussion from the floor, Bill remarked that, with particular reference to colored groups, our Society has evolved an approach to the total situation that seems to be more effective than some other approaches. "With whatever personal persuasions we have, each of us wants these good people to have, as far as possible, exactly the same opportunity we had. But we do have a lot of different customs and situations in different parts of this country, and this is no place to get up and tell ourselves how very broadminded we are. The sole question is this: How can each locality, from the point of view of its own customs, afford a better opportunity to colored people to get well?"

Typical comments in response to Bill's suggestion to "swap ideas" follow:

Florida: "We haven't had any upsets over this question. We have had eight or ten requests for help from colored people in the past year. They don't want anything except to quit drinking. They want to learn something about A.A."

North Carolina: "I don't think this question should be on the agenda. I don't believe the colored people in North Carolina are alcoholics."

Kentucky: "We have the problem of both the South and the North. After some trouble getting colored groups started, lately a successful one has taken hold and now has about 15 members. Sometimes the Negroes who have been exposed to some of the Northern influences...are super-critical of their own race."

Washington, D.C.: "The colored group in Washington is doing quite well. It has been our experience that one of the things to be avoided is for well intentioned people to try to introduce colored teams into a meeting as a surprise, particularly in areas where there is a rigidly-drawn color line."

New Jersey: "I can't ever get close to a colored man on an A.A. basis -- and the colored man sometimes doesn't seem to have confidence in other colored people...perhaps their chief difficulty in getting the program."

Arizona: Referred to the existence of Indian and Spanish-speaking group problems in his area and noted recent evidence of progress.

Minnesota: Referred to experience with Chippewa Indians in his area and suggested they may not be typical alcoholics.

SUMMARY BY BILL: "The big thing each of us needs to remember concerning this phase of our program is the respect that one section of A.A. ought to accord to the other in the views they hold locally. As a dyed-in-the-wool Northerner, I must confess I have come to appreciate the Southern point of view and I have had to admit that I once had a great many unfounded prejudices and questionable viewpoints."

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING TRUSTEES OF THE ALCOHOLIC FOUNDATION

Introducing this subject, Mr. Bernard Smith, (non-alcoholic) Chairman of the Board of Trustees, pointed out that the need for criteria has grown as A.A. has grown and as the Conference concept has evolved. Trusteeship is basically a service--and service rendered by a Trustee must be consonant with the needs of the entire Society. While the Board still has the full legal right to continue the policy of self-perpetuation that sufficed in early years, it is no longer felt that the needs of the Society in this matter can be filled adequately without recourse to certain qualification standards.

Three distinct qualities are required in Trustees today:

1. Specialized talents in such fields as law, medicine, writing, public relations, finance and similar vocations.
2. Adequate time to devote to the increasingly complex affairs of the Society, so that hasty or erroneous decisions can be minimized.
3. Independence of thought and independence of expression, recognizing that Trustees serve the entire fellowship, not geographical areas.

Various concepts of the criteria that should be established, and the procedures for carrying them out, have been advanced. In essence, they can be summarized as follows:

The Board could designate an area from which a new Trustee would be selected and ask the area to nominate a number of candidates, with no specifications attached. This would, as Bill suggested, only aggravate the problem of "handpicking" of men.

Or the Board could ask the area to designate one candidate, with the understanding that certain specific qualifications are to be met. It would be understood, further, that if the area involved could not produce a candidate with top qualifications, in a particular field, the Board would then pass its request for a candidate along to a second area.

With special reference to alcoholic Trustees, Bill noted the "obvious benefit" of having on the Board an adequate number of Trustees from the New York area who can be available for counsel between quarterly meetings. But, he emphasized, the only "mandatory requirement" is to find "the right people in the right places at the right time." In the first days of the Foundation, when problems were relatively simple, it was enough to have experienced A.A. old-timers. There will always be a need for the common-sense that an old-timer can bring to the Board, but today other equally pressing needs for service must also be met. Therefore, the Conference, was being asked for help in recognizing and defining the needs and in suggesting procedures for meeting them.

Following the brief presentation by Mr. Smith and by Bill, the Conference adopted unanimously a resolution recommending that the Board follow a plan of designating areas from which future Trustees would be selected, subject to specifications relating to the over-all service functions of the Board. (Text in "Advisory Actions" section of Appendix.)

STRENGTHENING HEADQUARTERS SERVICE

Bill's report and presentation was devoted to three fundamental aspects of the over-all problem of strengthening the services of the Headquarters office:

1. Strengthening of services designed to fill the basic A.A. promise that "every alcoholic deserves a chance."

An example of this, Bill pointed out, are the various steps now being taken to broaden A.A.'s outreach to foreign language groups. Translation of basic pamphlets is already under way. And while it is considered good policy that A.A. retain control of its book literature, permission has already been granted in some foreign language areas for temporary mimeographed reproductions of the Big Book. The need for better service to alcoholics who are unable to read original editions of A.A. literature is a matter of deep concern.

2. Strengthening of the administrative facilities of the Headquarters office to assure efficient operations without placing an unduly severe burden upon a few volunteers.

The Tradition of paying for essential professional services was established with the hiring of the first janitor in the old New York clubhouse, Bill suggested. At each stage of the expanding pattern of A.A. services, the attempt to depend exclusively on volunteers inevitably had one of two results: Either the volunteer system failed to work as well in practice as it sounded in theory, or large numbers of members expected, from a few volunteers, sacrifices of time and effort that they were unwilling or unable to give themselves.

In the case of Works Publishing (now A.A. Publishing, Inc.) four successive crises had arisen through unreasonable dependence on the volunteer system. It was possible, Bill thought, that a similar crisis might one day arise in the case of the Grapevine.

After careful consideration, Bill, representing a special committee of Trustees, was recommending that the Board have the authority and discretion to provide at least part-time compensation to the president of "Works," as a practical means of continuing and strengthening Headquarters services. (Resolution supporting the above suggestion was adopted unanimously. Text in "Advisory Actions" section later in this report).

3. Strengthening of financial reserves of Foundation to prevent recurrence of situations when book income had to be used to support office.

Bill asked the delegates to consider, for action at some future date, a proposal designed to provide both a "floor" and a "ceiling" on Foundation reserves. Income from group contributions, he pointed out, has been able to support office services only three times in a dozen years.

"CONGRESSIONAL INCORPORATION" and "PROPOSED CHANGE IN FOUNDATION NAME"

At the 1952 Conference a motion was made and seconded that, subject to consideration of the Trustees, steps be taken to incorporate the Society by an Act of Congress. There was extended an impressive discussion of both sides of the question, following which the motion was tabled. A subsequent motion requested the Trustees to appoint a Special Committee to study the problem and submit recommendations at the 1953 Conference.

The Committee chairman reported that his group had studied, as carefully as it was able to, the divergent views expressed a year ago. He recalled that the issue first came under consideration by the Trustees eight or nine years ago, when A.A. was growing at a rapidly accelerating rate, and when a number of A.A. groups and corporations were being formed, some by persons who appeared to be using the name for selfish purposes. After a number of suggestions had been made for protecting the A.A. name, it was finally thought that if incorporation in any form were desired for protective purposes, the sound approach would be through an Act of Congress. Apparently the deterring factor to such action before this time has been the question whether A.A., as a spiritual faith and a way of life, really belongs in the field of incorporation.

Based on nine specific conclusions concurred in by all members of the Special Committee, the Committee recommended that Alcoholics Anonymous does not incorporate.

(Resolution supporting this recommendation adopted unanimously. Text of Committee conclusions and recommendation appears in "Advisory Actions" section).

That the "collective conscience of A.A." is more than a mystic phrase was well demonstrated when the Conference was asked to consider a proposal, previously reviewed by the Board of Trustees, to change the name of The Alcoholic Foundation to "Alcoholics Anonymous International, Inc."

After more than 30 of the Delegates had commented on the proposal, it became clear that, while the Conference as a whole was not opposed to a change, it sought a full measure of assurance and conviction that the name ultimately chosen would be "the right one."

From these comments, it became equally apparent that the name should, in a manner that could be left to final determination at the discretion of the Board, express more of the service aspects of the Trustees' work, and less of the Inter-national aspects.

A resolution expressing this approach was adopted unanimously by the Conference. (Text in "Advisory Actions" section).

THE CONFERENCE, A.A., AND SOCIETY

Excerpts from Closing Talk by Bernard B. Smith, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

The Third Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is now drawing to a close. In these last four days we have found ourselves engaged in the disposition of many problems affecting A.A., some apparently mundane, and others manifestly spiritual. However we may react to the nature of the problems that came before this Conference, we have never flinched from the obligation which we as conferees owe to the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous, and actually to all of human society.

Let us remember that in keeping with the concept of the Twelfth Step, we in this room owe an obligation not only to those of this generation that suffer from alcoholism, but to generations of alcoholics yet unborn.

History is unfortunately replete with evidences of spiritual movements that, after the generation in which they were built had ended, lost their vigor, saw their purposes become diverted, and their spiritual sources begin to dry up. These Conferences serve, therefore, to insure that the concepts of life and of living which have brought us our recovery are available to all who may suffer from alcoholism today, one hundred or one thousand years from now.

And so we are charged with an obligation -- an obligation that stems from our Twelfth Step, that the spiritual message of A.A. can be brought for all time to all those who need it and are capable of receiving it. We in A.A. want to insure that the spiritual base of A.A. never is destroyed by the lust for power, fame, money or prestige. We must continue to direct our purposes to guarantee to all who may suffer, now or in the future, that there will never be a government in Alcoholics Anonymous -- a government in which there can be power or fame or prestige. We must insure, through these Conferences, that no principles or practices are adopted as part of the life and traditions of A.A. until they have been tested by the hearts and by the minds of the entire Society of Alcoholics Anonymous.

This Conference has an obligation that in my judgment is not limited, however, to the service of the millions who now suffer from alcoholism and the many millions more who will suffer in the generations that will follow us. If there is one thing that impresses itself upon the consciousness of a so-called non-alcoholic trustee, it is the fact that the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous are principles which constitute a message for the spiritual health of human kind. For the real message that we are delivering to society is not that we who were sick are now well, that we who once drank too much now do not drink at all.

Our real message to society is that we have found a way to live in God's world. While the discarded bottle may be the yardstick of our recovery from alcohol it is by no means the measure of our spiritual health. Our message to the world is not that we have succeeded in ceasing to drink, but that in so ceasing to drink we have succeeded in learning to live.

THE CONFERENCE, A.A., AND SOCIETY

(continued)

Let us take the concept of anonymity. I can remember when the reason for the name "Alcoholics Anonymous" was based on the fear of human beings to admit to the world that they had once been afflicted with alcoholism; yet within a relatively short space of time the word "anonymity" as a device to hide one's past as an alcoholic has disappeared. I know of no alcoholics in A.A. who are today not proud of their affiliation with the Society. The concept of anonymity today means to all of us the humility that comes with the willingness to serve without hope of gain or recognition or reward. If only all of human society could accept this concept of humility as we practice it in serving humanity -- if only the willingness to serve was based on our concept of anonymity, instead of for reasons of pride or social distinction, how much richer would society become!

The life of the A.A. member is, by its nature, a rich one. Who can enjoy health better -- who really knows the nature of health -- who has not been seriously ill? Who can know faith better than he who denied it, and in denying it, abandoned life; and then, in reasserting life, deliberately chose to meet that life armed with faith? Who can appreciate temporal time more than one who once stood on the edge of time, prepared to have time close out his life forever? For the alcoholic who has joined us has made a choice. He could have refused to continue to accept the things we cannot change, and thus have run away from reality. That is why the A.A. is a richer human being than he who has not, out of the depth of suffering, had a freedom of choice, whether to live as one of God's creatures, or to continue to deny life.

So many of us in this world spend our days working and dying, but never knowing or feeling in the true sense the life of the spirit. So many of us live, and will continue to live, a life of conflict, of emptiness, of self-destruction and despair; some of us escape by becoming automatons, living on the margins of life. Recovery came to us only when the spiritual message of A.A. reached us. We found it possible to transcend the society in which we live, for we at last found a means for giving meaning to our place in this world and to our functioning within it.

A leading Swiss psychotherapist, in a book recently published in which he sums up his thirty-five years of practice, has this to say in support of our faith: "Man is so deeply embedded in his egoism and isolation that only a humble self-surrender to God, the personal God, can really bring about a liberation and transformation. It is faith which binds man to God, and through Him to all creatures. In this way the true community comes into being."

There is another message which A.A. has for a sick society. This message is implicit in our 24-hour concept...the concept of asking an individual who has found his life unmanageable because of alcohol to refrain from drinking for 24 hours. That is all that the individual with a drinking problem is asked to do --

THE CONFERENCE, A.A., AND SOCIETY

(continued)

and yet, I have learned in these years in A.A. that this simple concept of 24 hours has far greater significance than the simple statement "I will not drink for 24 hours" would connote....Goethe expresses it: "Yes! To this thought I hold with firm persistence -- the last result of wisdom stamps it true. He only earns his freedom and existence who daily conquers them anew."

Let me mention something else A.A. has to give to society, if that society finds it possible to receive it -- and that is the concept of honesty, of truth and of freedom. For all these concepts, within A.A., are one. We in A.A. recognize that truth is not a scientifically demonstrated theorem, but rises out of an intuitive grasp of eternal truth to which one must hold on to survive. It is because we have learned that the basic principles of A.A. are basic truths that the disciplined observance of these principles has brought us sustained recovery from alcohol.

Now let me turn to another concept of A.A. that has in it a great message to the world. And that is our great Twelfth Step. What is this Twelfth Step but an extension of the fundamental principle of all faiths, namely "Love thy neighbor as thyself"?

We in A.A. do not rest while our neighbors are enslaved by alcohol and the destruction it brings. We are engaged in a spiritual struggle, one that is ceaseless and undying. We are concerned with the lives of our neighbors, and we do something about it. When the rest of society ceases to be indifferent to the suffering of their neighbors, ceases to sanction human desolation and begins to live in keeping with the spirit that infuses A.A., we can have greater hope for the world.

There are today leaders of thought in society who hold to the proposition that human beings cannot live the life of the spirit and still function under the jungle laws of competition in an industrial society. I contend that the lives of the members of the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous disprove and completely demolish this proposition and disclose its inherent falsity. I believe that a world which will take the time to examine the evidence that A.A. provides will find that the life of the spirit can be lived in keeping with the need for compliance with the economic laws of society.

For we in A.A. know, as the rest of the world must learn, if it is to survive, that in this age of industrialization, of atom bomb and hydrogen bomb, this electronic age, man if he is to function as man must remind himself that he is a spiritual animal. Man must have faith, must have his values. We can live like automatons -- we can cease to feel that life has meaning -- but when one of us believes that life has no meaning, it is because something has happened to us, not to life. All of us who have known suffering, the dread isolation of our days

THE CONFERENCE, A.A., AND SOCIETY

(continued)

with alcohol, and have survived, have learned that we cannot deny life without losing what life holds for us; we must be able to take life's venom and its sweetness, its cowardice and its valor, its suspicions and its trusts, its pains and its joys -- for that, after all, is what human existence is. A.A. has taught us that we can accept this existence when lived in terms of the life of the spirit.

We who have learned to live through A.A. can remember -- for we talk of it at our meetings -- of the days when faith was giving way to fear, hope to despair, and love to distrust. With the help of those who had found recovery within A.A., and who practiced the Twelfth Step, based on the concept "Love thy neighbor as thyself", distrust turned to love, despair to hope, and fear to faith. But I say again that the important aspect of our recovery -- and our message to society -- is that each A.A., in becoming one of us, made a decision to abandon fear, to abandon despair, to abandon distrust. For he had a choice, and that was to go on the way he was going, and that was the easier way. But he made the choice -- a choice to live within the maximum of his capacity, in keeping with God's will and the doing of His will.

For we who once suffered and now live within the protective society of A.A. have learned through A.A. that man evolves only in terms of persons and people, in friendships, in shared agonies and in shared happiness.

We, and the life we lead within the concepts of A.A., bring a message to this world, if the world will hear us, and that is that the spirit can take hold of our material world and completely transform it; that despite the nature of this competitive, material, mechanistic world of ours, man need no longer slink in the shadows, but, illumined by the flame of faith, can find the light by which to work and function, and by this light see a world dignified by human friendship, human decency and human devotion.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS

REPORT of the COMMITTEE on CONGRESSIONAL INCORPORATION of A.A.

We have reviewed all of the arguments pro and con on this subject, have discussed it with many members of A.A. within the Conference and outside of it and have come to these conclusions:

1. The evils which caused the question to arise have largely abated.
2. It would create by law a power to govern which would be contrary to, and violative of, our Traditions.
3. It would implement the spiritual force of A.A. with a legal power, which we believe would tend to weaken its spiritual strength.
4. When we ask for legal rights, enforceable in Courts of Law, we by the same act subject ourselves to possible legal regulation.
5. We might well become endlessly entangled in litigation which, together with the incident expense and publicity, could seriously threaten our very existence.
6. Incorporation could conceivably become the opening wedge that might engender politics and a struggle for power within our own ranks.
7. Continuously since its beginning and today, A.A. has been a fellowship and not an organization. Incorporation necessarily makes it an organization.
8. We believe that "spiritual faith" and a "way of life" cannot be incorporated.
9. A.A. can and will survive so long as it remains a spiritual faith and a way of life to all men and women who suffer from alcoholism.

Therefore, keeping in mind the high purpose of the General Service Conference as expressed by the Chairman last year when he said "We seek not compromise but certainty", your Committee unanimously recommends that Alcoholics Anonymous does not incorporate.

REPORT OF AGENDA COMMITTEE

It was felt that the panels conducted by the Secretaries and including various Delegates' remarks were a highlight of this year's Agenda and should by all means be carried into next year's program.

It was felt that whenever controversial issues arise after due discussion and to avoid needless hassling on the Conference floor and to avoid postponement and where apparently no conclusion is imminent, the chair should immediately select a Committee of second-year Delegates from the hat and ask them to retire to another room, talk the matter over and come back with a recommendation.

The Agenda Committee, on behalf of the rest of the Delegates, would like to thank Marian Mallet for the splendid job she did over the past year to make the Third General Service Conference the success that it is.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS

(continued)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE

The Committee on Literature respectfully recommends:

1. A new pamphlet for young alcoholics, including a few personal experience stories.
Revision of "Medicine Looks at A.A." up-to-date, with up-to-date
2. medical and psychiatric thinking, but retaining the references to Dr. Tiebout.
3. Change the title of the pamphlet, The Alcoholic Husband, to cover the dual objective of both the alcoholic husband and alcoholic wife; for example, The Alcoholic Husband or Wife; change the contents to conform where necessary.
4. A new pamphlet, "Are Slips Necessary?" with the recommendation that, because of the seriousness of the subject, a draft of such proposed pamphlet be sent to all delegates for study, comment and suggestions, and for further deliberation at the 1954 Conference.
5. A series of stock newspaper stories that may be sent to any group for publication in local newspapers, including the following:
(a) An introductory story for new groups, (b) an announcement story for open meetings, (c) a story of AA in serial form, with installments approximating not more than 1000 words each.
6. It is requested that all delegates send at once to Helen B. clippings of stories that have appeared in their areas, including installment stories.
7. A series of stock radio scripts for dispatch to local groups on request. In this connection, all delegates are asked to send immediately to Helen B. any radio scripts used in their respective areas that may be available.
8. A supplement for the Third Legacy pamphlet clarifying the suggested duties and responsibilities of group Third Legacy representatives, State or Panel Committee members and Conference Delegates.
9. Request Delegates, in their reports to their groups, to stress the listing of all Foundation literature in the Handbook of Secretaries and Group Directory.
10. Ask the Delegates to weigh this question for submission to the 1954 Conference: Does the Conference feel it should depart from its purely textbook program by printing non-textbook literature such as the "24 Hour Book of Meditation?"

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS

(continued)

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee of the 1953 General Service Conference of A.A. finds that while Group Contributions for the support of the General Service Headquarters increased by 9% in 1952 in comparison with 1951, which is directly attributable to the efforts of the Delegates and their Committees, in the first quarter of 1953, however, such contributions have decreased by 15% as compared with the first quarter of 1952. In 1952 contributions were received from only 57% of the Groups listed in the 1953 Group Directory. The indebtedness of \$24,000 to The Alcoholics Foundation was reduced to \$20,000 in January 1953.

Contributions to pay the cost of the annual General Service Conference have declined steadily from the first Conference through the third from \$10,300 to \$7,900. The deficit of the 1951 Conference was \$1,400 while the deficit in 1953 is estimated at \$10,000. Contributions to the Conference Fund have been received from 25% of the Groups.

The other source of income of the General Service Headquarters is the sale of literature, records, etc., which provides the surplus which has financed deficits in contributions for office expenses and Conference costs.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the policy of seeking contributions at the rate of \$2.00 per member per year be continued and that further efforts be made to bring to the attention of the non-contributing groups the position of the General Service Headquarters as the functional center of the A.A. movement as well as the remaining indebtedness of \$20,000 to The Alcoholic Foundation, Inc.
2. That Delegates and State Committeemen continue their fine work in emphasizing to the groups the importance of the General Service Conference in relation to the policies and responsibilities of the A.A. movement as a whole so that the need for the financial support will be understood.
3. That for the time being, no reduction be made in selling prices of pamphlets. In view of the feeling expressed by the Conference in reference to any future need for increasing the reserve fund that the Delegates and Committeemen review with the groups in their areas, the possible question of selling books to the groups at the retail price should such future need arise.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS

(continued)

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON POLICY

The Committee recommends:

1. That Committeemen elected during the year be put on the General Service Conference Mailing list in February. And that the Delegate be put on the mailing list as soon as Headquarters is notified of his election.
2. That Delegate representation should not be changed during the first five year period.
3. That the Third Legacy pamphlet should continue to be followed in determining Delegate representation.
4. That during the five year period, all ex-Delegates remain on General Conference mailing list.
5. That Groups who have not corresponded with Headquarters for two years or more be taken off the mailing list; and that the names of such Groups be referred to State Delegates for follow-up purposes.
6. That any Group with a regular Secretary, registered with Headquarters, shall be entitled to one vote in a State Assembly Meeting.
7. That Delegates remain in office for a full two-year term, expiring in April.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES' COMMITTEE

The Committee on Trustees met and selected Victor Kerslake from Michigan as Chairman for the coming year. Andy Palmersheim of Montana reported the procedure followed last year. The Committee discussed its responsibilities for the coming year and concluded that no formal report was now in order.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS

(continued)

THE CONFERENCE ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY ACTIONS:

On Policy Declarations:

No policy should be declared or action taken on matters liable to gravely affect A.A. as a whole unless by consent of at least three-quarters of the members present. A mere majority should not authorize action.

On Conference Officers:

The Chairman and President of the Board of Trustees, the Chairman of the General Service Committee, and the Conference Secretary should act as Conference Officers. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees automatically becomes the Conference Chairman; the Chairman of the General Service Committee automatically becomes Vice Chairman, and the Conference Secretary is selected from Foundation personnel.

On Delegates and Groups:

It is recommended that in areas with more than one Delegate, the General Service Headquarters will be advised of the name and location of groups served by each Delegate.

Duties Involved in Conference Service:

The Conference approved preparation by Headquarters of a simple guide in the form of a brief pamphlet.

Appeal for Funds

The next appeal for contributions from the groups should be made in the form of a letter over the name of the General Service Conference.

Criteria for Selection of Trustees

This Conference recommends that the Board of Trustees feel free to choose the area from which a Trustee is to be selected and to recommend the qualifications the prospective Trustee should possess. This Conference further expresses its complete confidence in, and appreciation of, the ability of the Board to act in this matter.

On Compensation for Activities to Strengthen Headquarters Services

This Conference approves the recommendation that the Board of Trustees be authorized to provide part-time compensation for the President of Works Publishing, Inc. (Alcoholics Anonymous Publishing, Inc.) or in any other situations, as needed.

On Change of Name

This Conference approves plans of the Trustees for changing the name of The Alcoholic Foundation to a new designation using "Alcoholics Anonymous" coupled with a suitable word, that word not to be "international."

INDEX TO APPENDICES

	Page
I Financial Statements	36
II Contributions to General Service Headquarters Fund.	40
III Contributions to Conference Fund	42
IV "Grapevine" Circulation By States.	44
V Roster of Conference Delegates	45
VI Trustees & Headquarters Staff.	47
VII Committees of the Conference	48

WORKS PUBLISHING, INC.
COMPARATIVE INCOME STATEMENT
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1952 AND 1951

	<u>1952</u>		<u>1951</u>
Sales	\$ 111,475.64	\$	94,227.99
Cost of Sales	<u>53,715.67</u>		<u>42,877.87</u>
Gross Profit from Sales	\$ 57,759.97	\$	51,350.12
Office Expenses:			
Salaries	59,743.63		61,227.60
Postage and express	12,371.74		9,851.26
Rent and electricity	11,500.84		11,009.26
Printing, stationery, telephone and other expenses	<u>19,199.16</u>		<u>24,414.77</u>
	102,815.37		106,502.89
Less: Portion paid from Group Contributions	92,439.18	10,376.19	97,603.67
			8,899.22
Other Expenses:			
Editing and research	6,702.38		
Bedford Hills expense accounting and other	<u>6,779.28</u>	<u>13,481.66</u>	<u>7,291.27</u>
			<u>7,291.27</u>
Total Operating Expenses	23,857.85		16,190.49
<u>NET PROFIT FOR YEAR</u>	<u>33,902.12</u>		<u>35,159.63</u>

BALANCE SHEET

	<u>December 31, 1952</u>		<u>December 31, 1951</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Cash	20,446.80		15,488.84
Accounts receivable	16,424.26		13,044.18
Inventories	32,450.00		41,526.24
Other assets	<u>2,501.00</u>		<u>1.00</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>71,822.06</u>		<u>70,060.26</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL</u>			
Accounts and accruals payable	10,204.99		7,345.31
Capital Stock	500.00		500.00
Earnings Retained in Business:			
Balance January 1	\$ 62,214.95	\$	42,055.32
Net income, as above	<u>33,902.12</u>		<u>35,159.63</u>
	96,117.07		77,214.95
Dividends paid	<u>35,000.00</u>		<u>15,000.00</u>
Balance, December 31	61,117.07		62,214.95
<u>TOTAL CAPITAL</u>	<u>61,617.07</u>		<u>62,714.95</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL</u>	<u>71,822.06</u>		<u>71,060.26</u>

THE ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS GRAPEVINE, INC.
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND DEFICIT
FISCAL YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 1953 AND 1952

	March 31, 1953		March 31, 1952	
<u>INCOME</u>				
Subscription income earned	\$	50,086.69	\$	46,209.38
Other Sales		<u>28,944.87</u>		<u>27,914.98</u>
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>		\$ <u>79,031.56</u>		\$ <u>74,124.36</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
Editorial and printing				
Printing and mailing		36,660.50		36,218.24
Salaries		11,606.16		9,790.16
Rent, telephone and other		<u>2,887.50</u>	51,154.16	<u>2,889.24</u>
				48,897.64
Circulation and business:				
Salaries		14,094.70		12,553.07
Postage and office supplies		3,934.08		6,088.48
Rent, telephone and other		<u>5,906.14</u>	<u>23,934.92</u>	<u>5,991.26</u>
<u>Total Expenses</u>		<u>75,089.08</u>		<u>73,530.45</u>
<u>Net Income for Year</u>		3,942.48		593.91
<u>DEFICIT FROM OPERATIONS</u>				
Balance, April 1		(27,918.90)		(28,512.81)
Balance, March 31 - See below		<u>(23,976.42)</u>		<u>(27,918.90)</u>
<u>BALANCE SHEET</u>				
	March 31, 1953		March 31, 1952	
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash	\$	16,021.52	\$	9,362.93
Accounts receivable		1,531.52		1,300.81
Deferred charges - printing				
April issue, mailing and				
office supplies, rent, etc.		5,268.78		5,317.41
Equipment, less depreciation		<u>3,351.03</u>		<u>4,613.03</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>		\$ <u>26,172.85</u>		\$ <u>20,594.18</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Accounts and accruals payable	\$	3,785.65	\$	3,085.86
Advanced by the Alcoholic				
Foundation, Inc.		13,660.00		13,660.00
Deferred subscription income		<u>32,702.62</u>		<u>31,766.22</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>		50,148.27		48,512.08
<u>CAPITAL AND DEFICIT</u>				
Capital stock		1.00		1.00
Deficit from operations -				
see above		(23,976.42)	(23,975.42)	(27,918.90)
<u>LIABILITIES LESS DEFICIT</u>		<u>26,172.85</u>		<u>20,594.18</u>

Parentheses denote red figures

THE ALCOHOLIC FOUNDATION, INC.
STATEMENT OF INCOME, EXPENSES AND PRINCIPAL OF FUNDS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1952 AND 1951

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1951</u>
<u>GROUP CONTRIBUTION FUND</u>		
Contributions received	\$106,195.59	\$ 97,621.54
General Service Office Expenses	92,439.18	97,639.37
Excess of Income (Expense)	13,756.41	(17.83)
Principal of Fund		
Balance, January 1 (deficit)	(23,471.70)	(23,453.87)
Balance, December 31 (deficit)	<u>(9,715.29)</u>	<u>(23,471.70)</u>
<u>GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE FUND</u>		
Subscriptions received	\$ 9,732.50	\$ 10,100.23
Grant from General Fund	6,000.00	1,601.99
Other income	324.90	1,362.86
Travel expense	4,595.69	3,714.71
Hotels, meals and meetings	9,273.36	3,425.18
Other expenses	2,358.41	5,166.09
Excess of Income	16,227.46	12,305.98
(Expense)	(170.06)	759.10
Principal of Fund		
Balance, January 1	1,099.29	340.19
Balance, December 31	<u>929.23</u>	<u>1,099.29</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>		
Dividends, Works		
Publishing, Inc.	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Interest on savings		
accounts	1,643.78	1,029.02
Grant to Conference Fund	6,000.00	1,601.99
Expenses of Trustees'		
Meetings	3,086.08	2,041.79
Rent, accounting and other	4,376.24	4,073.66
Excess of Income	13,462.32	7,717.44
Principal of Fund	23,181.46	8,311.58
Balance, January 1	104,825.23	96,513.65
Balance, December 31	<u>128,006.69</u>	<u>104,825.23</u>

THE ALCOHOLIC FOUNDATION, INC.
BALANCE SHEET
DECEMBER 31, 1952 AND 1951

	<u>1952</u>		<u>1951</u>	
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>GROUP CONTRIBUTION FUND</u>				
Cash	\$ 25,536.46		\$ 10,430.55	
U. S. Savings Bonds (at cost)	<u>37.50</u>	\$ 25,573.96	<u>37.50</u>	\$ 10,468.05
<u>GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE FUND</u>				
Cash	3,285.75		3,983.14	
Expenses prepaid for following Conference	535.94			
Due from other Funds and affiliated companies	<u>51.10</u>	3,872.79	<u>147.65</u>	4,130.79
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>				
Cash	89,424.69		66,204.61	
Prepaid expenses, etc.	425.00		459.62	
Investments in and advances to affiliated companies and Funds	<u>38,161.00</u>	<u>128,010.69</u>	<u>38,161.00</u>	<u>104,825.23</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>		<u>157,457.44</u>		<u>119,424.07</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
<u>GROUP CONTRIBUTION FUND</u>				
Due other Funds and affiliated companies		\$ 35,289.25		33,939.75
<u>GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE FUND</u>				
Accounts payable	\$ 88.28			
Income deferred for following Conference	<u>2,855.28</u>	2,943.56		3,031.50
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>				
Due affiliated company		<u>4.00</u>		
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>		<u>38,236.81</u>		<u>36,971.25</u>
<u>PRINCIPAL OF FUNDS</u> (See Exhibit "C")				
GROUP CONTRIBUTION FUND	(9,715.29)		(23,471.70)	
GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE FUND	929.23		1,099.29	
GENERAL FUND	<u>128,006.69</u>		<u>104,825.23</u>	
<u>TOTAL PRINCIPAL</u>		<u>119,220.63</u>		<u>82,452.82</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PRINCIPAL</u>		<u>157,457.44</u>		<u>119,424.07</u>

Parentheses denote red figures

CONTRIBUTIONS BY GROUPS
to the
GENERAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS FUND
in 1952

<u>State</u>	<u>Member- ship</u>	<u>No. of Groups</u>	<u>No. of Groups Contributing</u>	<u>% of Groups Contributing</u>	<u>Amount of Contribution</u>
Alabama	1,207	36	22	61%	743.50
Arizona	503	31	22	71	854.00
Arkansas	934	50	26	52	686.00
California	13,966	451	303	67	14,092.77
Colorado	1,078	57	35	61	1,132.19
Connecticut	1,037	50	31	62	1,489.00
Delaware	372	15	10	66	246.00
Dist. of Columbia	773	7	5	71	600.00
Florida	2,423	111	79	71	3,755.09
Georgia	948	38	19	50	876.96
Idaho	405	18	11	61	437.00
Illinois	7,380	307	165	54	3,160.50
Indiana	1,481	99	66	66	2,209.10
Iowa	2,101	73	40	55	2,367.00
Kansas	1,201	59	29	49	1,144.00
Kentucky	787	42	23	54	965.00
Louisiana	960	32	15	47	674.00
Maine	699	35	20	57	668.30
Maryland	922	43	31	72	1,332.50
Massachusetts	2,458	124	72	58	3,100.15
Michigan	4,352	189	101	53	4,443.00
Minnesota	1,756	75	38	50	2,771.66
Mississippi	687	32	21	66	1,053.00
Missouri	2,101	49	35	71	2,947.75
Montana	441	21	11	52	196.00
Nebraska	394	33	26	79	610.00
Nevada	197	8	3	38	95.00
New Hampshire	255	23	12	52	266.00
New Jersey	2,341	123	70	57	2,697.99
New Mexico	498	28	18	64	396.38
New York	7,427	294	179	61	8,025.98
North Carolina	1,860	92	55	60	2,053.50
North Dakota	441	26	19	73	551.00
Ohio	8,031	299	159	53	6,050.33
Oklahoma	1,170	40	29	72	1,518.00
Oregon	694	42	24	57	747.24

CONTRIBUTIONS BY GROUPS
to the
GENERAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS FUND
in 1952

(continued)

<u>State</u>	<u>Member- ship</u>	<u>No. of Groups</u>	<u>No. of Groups Contributing</u>	<u>% of Groups Contributing</u>	<u>Amount of Contribution</u>
Pennsylvania	3,208	174	111	64	\$3,724.00
Rhode Island	228	18	8	44	194.42
South Carolina	959	58	30	52	912.60
South Dakota	535	25	16	64	598.11
Tennessee	788	37	20	54	1,054.33
Texas	4,311	193	114	59	4,963.50
Utah	886	42	21	50	533.00
Vermont	372	20	13	65	527.00
Virginia	1,754	67	45	67	2,366.25
Washington	1,380	81	59	73	1,672.87
West Virginia	713	42	25	60	853.50
Wisconsin	2,089	109	64	59	2,310.50
Wyoming	141	20	10	50	207.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	91,644	3,938	2,360	60%	\$94,873.47
Hospital Groups	2,324	98			192.50
Prison Groups	9,304	176			305.06
	<hr/>	<hr/>			
	103,272	4,212			
59 Countries (CANADA)					
Outside the U.S.A.	15,269	713	267	37	9,755.63
Internationalists	91	-	-	-	152.00
Anonymous Donors	-	-	-	-	968.36
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	118,632	4,925	2,627	57%	\$106,247.02
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

CONTRIBUTIONS BY GROUPS
to the
1953 CONFERENCE FUND

April, 1953

<u>U. S. A.</u>	<u>No. of Groups</u>	<u>No. of Groups Contributing</u>	<u>% of Groups Contributing</u>	<u>Amount of Contribution</u>
Alabama	36	5	14%	\$35.00
Arizona	31	8	26	40.00
Arkansas	50	5	10	39.00
California	451	105	24	909.50
Colorado	57	16	30	85.00
Connecticut	50	10	20	55.00
Delaware	15	2	13	15.00
Dist. of Columbia	7	4	60	32.00
Florida	111	37	33	255.00
Georgia	38	11	29	70.00
Idaho	18	5	30	30.00
Illinois	307	97	30	500.00
Indiana	99	19	20	145.00
Iowa	73	13	20	90.00
Kansas	59	13	25	85.00
Kentucky	42	7	17	58.00
Louisiana	32	8	25	55.00
Maine	35	4	11	20.00
Maryland	43	16	37	95.00
Massachusetts	124	19	15	155.00
Michigan	189	67	35	407.50
Minnesota	75	20	27	140.00
Mississippi	32	11	34	65.00
Missouri	49	9	18	50.00
Montana	21	8	38	60.00
Nebraska	33	9	27	70.00
Nevada	8	1	13	10.00
New Hampshire	23	5	22	30.00
New Jersey	123	31	25	221.00
New Mexico	28	3	10	20.40
New York	294	84	29	596.67
North Carolina	92	29	32	202.00
North Dakota	26	11	43	65.00
Ohio	299	44	15	292.50
Oklahoma	40	14	35	100.00
Oregon	42	11	26	65.00

CONTRIBUTIONS BY GROUPS
to the
1953 CONFERENCE FUND

April, 1953

(continued)

<u>U. S. A.</u>	<u>No. of Groups</u>	<u>No. of Groups Contributing</u>	<u>% of Groups Contributing</u>	<u>Amount of Contribution</u>
Pennsylvania	174	50	29	\$303.33
Rhode Island	18	2	11	15.00
South Carolina	58	17	33	135.00
South Dakota	25	9	36	55.50
Tennessee	37	8	22	65.00
Texas	193	42	22	273.50
Utah	42	11	26	75.00
Vermont	20	7	35	40.00
Virginia	67	18	26	125.00
Washington	81	22	27	160.00
West Virginia	42	7	17	50.00
Wisconsin	109	31	28	210.00
Wyoming	20	2	10	25.00
U.S.A. Totals	3,938	987	25%	\$6,495.90
<u>CANADA</u>				
Alberta	24	5	21	32.00
British Columbia	77	43	56	400.00
Manitoba	16	3	19	25.00
New Brunswick	29	2	7	20.00
Nova Scotia	30	6	20	40.00
Ontario	147	27	18	185.18
P. E. I.	2	1	50	10.00
Quebec	59	6	10	50.25
Saskatchewan	39	6	15	35.00
CANADA Totals	426	99	21%	\$797.43
<u>OUTSIDE THE U.S.A. AND CANADA</u>	-	-	-	26.00
	4,364	1,086	25%	\$7,319.33

GRAPEVINE CIRCULATION

PERCENTAGE BY STATE AND PROVINCES

UNITED STATES							
State	A.A. Pop.	Total G.V.'s.	% of Mem.	State	A.A. Pop.	Total G.V.'s.	% of Mem.
Alabama	1,207	222	18%	Tennessee	788	241	31%
Arizona	503	195	39	Texas	4,311	1,260	29
Arkansas	934	282	30	Utah	886	233	26
California	13,966	3,254	23	Vermont	372	128	34
Colorado	1,078	297	28	Virginia	1,754	567	32
Connecticut	1,037	365	35	Washington	1,380	480	35
Delaware	372	75	20	West Virginia	713	290	41
Dist. of Col.	773	252	33	Wisconsin	2,089	670	32
Florida	2,423	779	32	Wyoming	141	63	45
Georgia	948	269	29				
Idaho	405	133	33	Hospital Groups	2,324	(Included in	
Illinois	7,380	1,174	16	Prison Groups	9,304	States above)	
Indiana	1,481	603	41				
Iowa	2,101	513	24	<u>Total U. S.</u>	103,272	26,222	29%
Kansas	1,201	368	31				
				CANADA			
Kentucky	787	264	34				
Louisiana	960	167	17	<u>Province</u>	<u>A.A. Pop.</u>	<u>Total G.V.'s.</u>	<u>% of Mem.</u>
Maine	699	248	36	Alberta	398	101	26%
Maryland	922	301	33	British Col.	1,299	332	26
Massachusetts	2,458	1,045	43	Manitoba	464	173	38
Michigan	4,352	1,021	24	New Brunswick	597	106	18
Minnesota	1,756	682	39	Newfoundland	47	12	26
Mississippi	687	195	28				
Missouri	2,101	580	28	Nova Scotia	566	123	22
Montana	441	89	20	Ontario	2,640	915	35
Nebraska	394	271	69	Pr. Edward Is.	77	56	73
Nevada	197	65	33	Quebec	1,155	266	23
New Hampshire	255	128	50	Saskatchewan	592	143	24
New Jersey	2,341	857	37	Yukon Terr.	9	1	11
New Mexico	498	148	30	<u>Total Canada</u>	7,844	2,228	28%
New York	7,427	2,884	39				
North Carolina	1,860	570	31	OTHER			
North Dakota	441	115	26	58 Countries			
Ohio	8,031	1,285	16	outside U. S.			
Oklahoma	1,170	460	39	and Canada	7,425	351	5%
Oregon	694	268	39	Internationalists	91		
Pennsylvania	3,208	1,220	38				
Rhode Island	228	93	41	<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	118,632	28,700	24%
South Carolina	959	263	28				
South Dakota	535	183	34				

GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE
ROSTER OF DELEGATES
1953

Abare, Lois, 296 Tremont Street, Barre, Vermont
Abshire, F. W. First National Building, Tulsa, Oklahoma
Bacheller, Chet, Endicott Hotel, Concord, New Hampshire
Backus, August, Fox Lane, Fox Point, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Baldree, Aaron, 53 East Market Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Bancroft, Dave, 755 Gratton Street, Ville St. Laurent, Que., Canada
Banville, William, 805 Richmond Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland
Barber, George, 54 Woodrow Avenue, Columbus, Ohio
Barnard, Thomas W., 4341 58th Street, San Diego, California
Bears, Walter M., Box 71, Charlottetown, P.E.I., Canada

Bennett, E. J., 10 B, 405 Assiniboine Avenue, Winnipeg, Man., Canada
Black, R. D., Box 603, Palestine, Texas
Bowers, Floyd, 327 Sierra Boulevard, Roseville, California
Bowman, Don, 630 Bellaire, Denver, Colorado
Brooke, Hilliard, Box 551, Phoenix, Arizona

Brown, R. Fay, 118 Avenue B West, Bismarck, North Dakota
Brown, Walter, 617 North 5th Street, New Westminster, B. C., Canada
Caldwell, Maurice, 181 Waterman Street, Providence, Rhode Island
Card, Emily, Chestnut Street, Ashland, Massachusetts
Cardell, Daryl, 109 Osborne Avenue, Margate, New Jersey

Cawley, William, 95 Belvedere Street, Springfield, Massachusetts
Chamberlain, Chuck, 316 South Elm Drive, Beverly Hills, California
Clark, Fred, Box 97, North Webster, Indiana
Clarke, Warren O., 145 East Lee Avenue, Maplewood, Louisiana
Colquhoun, Joe, 315 Voorhees Avenue, Buffalo, New York

Craig, James B., Box 32, Monroe City, Missouri
Daniel, Neely, 116 Greenwood Avenue, Decatur, Georgia
Dooley, Robert, 18239 Appoline, Detroit 35, Michigan
Dunaway, W. George, 12218 106th Street, Edmonton, Alta., Canada
Evans, Edward, 214 Safety Building, Toledo, Ohio

Evans, Virgil, 311 North Monroe, Green Bay, Wisconsin
Farrar, Charles, Postmaster, Station A, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Fautsch, Louis, 815 Roshek Building, Dubuque, Iowa
Folk, E. E., 806 South Third, Laramie, Wyoming
George, Jack, 662 Marne Road, Erie, Pennsylvania

Haswell, Philip, 1317 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida
Hoare, W. C., Box 1027, Astoria, Oregon
Hudson, Edward, 1001 Perry - Brook Building, Austin, Texas
Hughes, Rex, 1066 D Street, Provo, Utah
Ingram, Rowland B., 1322 West 4th Street, Wilmington, Delaware

ROSTER OF DELEGATES

(Continued)

Irvine, Wesley, 1523 Taylor Avenue, Bronx, New York
Jones, Richard, 10 Bunker Avenue, Yorkville, New York
Justice, John W., Box 592, Cheraw, South Carolina
Kerslake, Victor, 373 Benjamin, S. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan
Knox, Jack, Nashville Banner, Nashville, Tennessee

Lunt, Arthur, 200 McRae Drive, Toronto, Ont., Canada
MacGregor, H. Scott, Box 144, Staunton, Virginia
Macy, Ethel, Box 373, Route 1, Barberton, Ohio
Madden, George B., 1412 West Sunset, Decatur, Illinois
Madsen, A. D., 1145 Ada Avenue, Idaho Falls, Idaho

Moore, Reginald, River Glen, Farmington, Connecticut
Muzzy, Ray, 437 West Military, Fremont, Nebraska
Nason, Z. Miles, 771 New Brotherhood Building, Kansas City, Kansas
Palmersheim, Andy, 8 North 29th Street, Billings, Montana
Penrose, Bud, 21 Farrington Place, Rochester, New York

Peters, D. L., 617 West 84th Street, Seattle, Washington
Posey, O. K., 2700 Polk Street, San Francisco, California
Rehill, J. R., Kamsack, Saskatchewan, Canada
Robertson, Arthur E., Deer River, Minnesota
Schadt, Fred, 17 South Crescent, Maplewood, N. J.

Schif, Donald R., 426 West Orleans, Paxton, Illinois
Simmons, Leo, 216 Alcott Road, Louisville, Kentucky
Simpson, Robert E., 3205 25th Street, Lubbock, Texas
Storke, Charles, 2816 Northern Parkway, Baltimore, Maryland
Strickland, Vernon D., Box 26, Rich Square, North Carolina

Taylor, Robert, 116 Adams Street, Mankato, Minnesota
Thompson, R. W., Box 163, Gulfport, Mississippi
Titus, W. Roy, 830 Eleventh Avenue, Huntington, West Virginia
Trolan, Jack, Box 171, Gainesville, Florida
Turner, George, 7610 South Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois

Utterback, James, 31 Kenduskeag Avenue, Bangor, Maine
Weatherford, Lewis H., 1427 University Avenue, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
Weir, Tom, Gould, Arkansas
Wolner, Bill, Box 1204, Huron, South Dakota
Wright, Carl, 731 First Avenue, North, Texas City, Texas

TRUSTEES AND HEADQUARTERS STAFF

1953

Non-Alcoholic

Mr. Jack Alexander
1901 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mr. Frank Amos
South Salem
New York

Mr. Frank Gulden
50 Elizabeth Street
New York, N. Y.

Mr. Leonard V. Harrison
105 E. 22nd Street
New York 10, N. Y.

Dr. John Norris
Eastman Kodak Company
Rochester 4, New York

Mr. Archibald Roosevelt
200 East 66th Street
New York, N. Y.

Mr. Bernard B. Smith
551 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dr. Leonard V. Strong, Jr.
133 East 58th Street
New York 22, N. Y.

Alcoholic

Jonas Andersen
420 East 23rd Street
New York, N. Y.

Adam Capeling
761 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, Ont., Canada

Henry F. Grieme
60 E. 42nd Street
New York, N. Y.

Earl Treat
2410 Marcy Avenue
Evanston, Illinois

Clifford Walker
1163 Ocean View
Whittier, Calif.

Thomas Yutzy
182 West 4th Street
New York, N. Y.

Henry Zoeller
87-10 Clover Hill Road
Hollis, L. I., New York

General Service
Headquarters Staff

Marian Mallet

Helen Brown

Lib Symington

Ann Macfarlane

Eve Lum

A. A. Grapevine
Staff

J. Seegar Heavilin

John A. Dunlop

Sigurd P. Sandmore

Louise Shonts

Katherine Swentzel

COMMITTEES OF THE 1953 CONFERENCE

Finance

Nason, Kan.
Simmons, Ky.
Hoare, Ore.
Haswell, Fla.
Lunt, Ont.
Baldree, Pa.
(Lum - Sec.)

Literature

Brooke, Ariz.
Knox, Tenn.
Ingram, Del.
Bowers, Cal.
Banville, D. C.
Posey, Cal.
Taylor, Minn.
(Brown - Sec.)

Agenda

Daniel, Ga.
Rehill, Sask.
Colquhoun, N. Y.
Macy, Ohio
Chamberlain, Cal.
Schadt, N. J.
(Macfarlane - Sec.)

Conference Report

Utterback, Me.
Barber, Ohio
Brown, B. C.
Schif, Ill.
Simpson, Tex.
Trolan, Fla.
(Bugli - Sec.)

Policy

Bacheller, N. H.
Bancroft, Que.
Thompson, Miss.
Weir, Ark.
Abshire, Okla.
Backus, Wisc.
Wolner, S. D.
(Mallet - Sec.)

Trustees

Evans, Wisc.
Palmersheim, Mont.
Bennett, Man.
Craig, Mo.
Wright, Tex.
Kerslake, Mich.
(Symington - Sec.)

The Alcoholic Foundation
141 East 44th Street
New York 17, N. Y.