

Good News

Vol. II
No. 3

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By Alcoholics Anonymous, San Francisco Fellowship

March
1952

Here's Timetable For March 15-16

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1952
(Fifth Annual Conference, Northern California Council of AA)

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.—Registration of delegates from the odd numbered districts of the Northern California Council of AA in the Little Theatre, Governor's Hall, State Fair Grounds, Sacramento. (District No. 5 of San Francisco, north of Market Street and west of Van Ness Avenue, will be represented.)

7:00 to 8 p.m.—Election of representatives from the odd numbered districts to serve on the Council for the next six months, to be held in the same hall.

8:00 to 8:15 p.m.—Opening of the general session of the Fifth Annual Conference of the Council in Governor's Hall, main ballroom, with invocation by Dr. Robert Ferguson, pastor of the Fremont Presbyterian Church of Sacramento, and address of welcome by the chairman, Floyd B. of Roseville; open to AA's, their families and friends; admission by ticket only.

8:15 to 8:45 p.m.—AA address by Marian M., general service secretary of the General Service Office in New York City.

8:45 to 9:45 p.m.—AA address by the Rev. Ralph Pf., of Indianapolis, Ind., assigned to work among alcoholics by the bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Indianapolis.

9:45 p.m.—The Lord's Prayer, led by the chairman.

10:00 p.m. to the end of the evening—Reception and buffet supper, with

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AAs Urged to Send Ticket Requests for Sacramento Meet

Sacramento will be Mecca for AAs of Northern California during the week-end of March 15 and 16. They will flock to the Capital City to hear two outstanding AA speakers and attend two important sessions—the Fifth Annual Conference of the Northern California Council of AA and the first biennial session of Panel 2 of the General Service Conference of AA—both in Governor's Hall, State Fair Grounds. On the eve of the gatherings the conference committee issued the following announcements:

1. The deadline on mailing orders for admission tickets to the Saturday night session is Wednesday, March 5. Orders postmarked that date will be filled by return mail.

2. Residents outside Sacramento who have not yet made hotel or motel reservations should do so at once because the Legislature will be in session and rooms will be in demand. They may write or telephone the chairman of the AA housing committee, Len J., at the Hotel Berry, Eighth and L Streets, Sacramento.

The conference committee, meeting in Sacramento February 17, learned that some groups, particularly the San Francisco groups, were tardy in ordering tickets to hear Rev. Ralph Pf. of Indianapolis, the noted AA priest, and Marian

M., General Service Secretary of New York.

A special appeal went out to neighborhood secretaries of San Francisco, pointing out that the groups of other cities made it possible for San Francisco to have the two great AA gatherings last year in the War Memorial Opera House. In fact, it would have been impossible to stage the meetings without the support of other cities. So San Francisco groups in turn were asked to reciprocate, and support the Sacramento gatherings.

Individuals who have been unable to place orders through neighborhood secretaries may obtain tickets at the Central Office, 406 Sutter Street, Room 311, or at the Alano Club, 111 O'Farrell Street. Tickets are necessary for admission to the principal meeting Saturday night. They are not for sale, but a subscription is asked to cover the cost of the conference.

Sacramento AA's are making

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Sacramento to Be Mecca for AAs Mar. 15-16

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plans for the entertainment of visitors from all parts of Northern California at what is expected to be the biggest AA gathering of the area ever held outside San Francisco.

Out-of-town visitors will be guests at open houses held throughout the weekend at both the Alano Club, Twenty-eighth and N streets, and at the AA Center, 2001½ L Street. A reception and elaborate buffet supper will be held in Governor's Hall at the close of the principal meeting Saturday night.

Big Parking Space

Any visitor who can't find his way around or who needs transportation to the Fair Grounds may inquire at either club or center, or at the desk of any of the principal hotels, or of the chairman of the housing committee, Len J., at the Berry Hotel, Eighth and L streets. Visitors with their own cars will find plenty of parking space at Governor's Hall—room for 1000 cars.

The first business of the weekend will be at the Little Theatre, Governor's Hall, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday. It will be the registration of delegates from the odd-numbered districts of the Council, who at 7:30 will name their representatives to serve on the Council the next six months.

Among the districts involved is No. 5, which embraces the San Francisco area north of Market Street and west of Van Ness Avenue. The district includes these groups: West Portal, Sunset, Park Vista, Hill Top, Golden Gate, Young People's, St. Francis Men's, Fillmore, Park-Presidio, Pacific Heights, Marina and Sea Cliff.

Principal Meeting

At 8 p.m. the principal meeting for which admission tickets will be required, will open in the Main Ball Room of Governor's Hall. The invocation will be given by Dr. Robert Ferguson, pastor of the Fremont Presbyterian Church of Sacramento, a staunch friend of AA's.

The address of welcome will be given by the chairman, Floyd B., of Roseville, who is widely known not

Here's Timetable For March 15-16

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the Council as host, in the Little Theatre, Governor's Hall.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 1952

(First biennial session of Panel 2 of the General Service Conference of AA)

9:00 to 10:00 a.m.—Registration in Governor's Hall of delegates from groups in Panel 2, composed of District 1, 2 and 11 of the Northern California Council (roughly the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys.)

10:00 a.m.—Opening of the session by the temporary chairman, Bob R. of San Francisco.

10:05 to 10:45 a.m.—Address on the General Service Conference and the General Service Office by Marian M. of New York.

10:45 a.m.—Business of the panel, conducted by delegates only; AA's who are not delegates may attend as observers.

only in the valley, but in San Francisco, where he has spoken several times.

At 8:15 he will present Marian M., general service secretary in the General Service Office in New York. When Bill W. was here in October, he said all AA's of the west should have the opportunity to hear Marian. She will make the trip to California under a special dispensation from her doctor following an operation early in February. Because of her health, she will be unable to address any other meetings while here.

Devotes Time to AA

Marian is expected to speak on AA for half an hour, to be followed by Rev. Ralph Pf. of Indianapolis, one of the outstanding AA speakers in the country. Father Ralph joined AA in Indianapolis eight years ago. In 1947, the archbishop of the Catholic Diocese of Indianapolis released him from all parish work so he could devote his full time to AA.

In recent years he has spoken on AA in forty states of the country. He was heard in Southern Califor-

nia, Arizona and New Mexico in 1949, but was not heard in Northern California. He is the author of the widely read Golden Book series, which has helped many an alki to a better understanding of the spiritual depth of AA.

Father Ralph's talk will be followed by the closing ceremony, the reading of the Lord's Prayer. At 10 o'clock will come the reception and buffet supper in the nearby Little Theatre. It will continue as long as the assembled AA's care to eat, drink coffee and engage in the traditional session that is both an avocation and a vocation—arm's length AA.

Panel 2 Meeting

The Sunday morning session will be held also in Governor's Hall and will be for the purpose of organizing Panel 2 of the General Service Conference and naming a delegate to New York. It will open with the registration of delegates between 9 and 10 a.m. The delegates will be the authorized representatives of the groups in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. They will be armed with credentials from their respective secretaries. They also will signify whether or not they will be available for service on the Panel 2 Committee or as delegate to the General Service Conference in New York next month.

Only the authorized delegates may take part in the business of the meeting, but all other AAs will be welcomed as observers.

The meeting will open at 10 a.m. with an explanatory statement by Bob R. of the West Portal Group of San Francisco, temporary chairman. Bob was invited to act in that capacity because of his experience in conducting the organization meeting of Panel 1 in San Francisco last March, and because of the manner in which he functioned.

Marian to Speak

Marian M. will again appear, this time being invited to speak on the Third Legacy, the general services performed by the New York office and the General Service Conference. She also will be present to

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San Francisco Story Told . . . in February Grapevine

San Francisco and other Northern California AA's seized upon the February issue of the Grapevine and, after reading it, stored it away among their cherished AA possessions.

The issue was devoted completely to AA of the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas. One-half the pages were filled with the Los Angeles story and the other half with the story of San Francisco, Oakland, Northern California and San Quentin. The San Francisco story of the early days of the group was sketchy by force of circumstances, as no records of the group were kept, but it was at least the first attempt to set down a local AA history in printed form.

The name of only one of the early day AA's was indicated in the story, that of the late Ted C., who always has been looked upon as the originator of the San Francisco group. He passed away a decade ago.

Pictures and Sketches

The story was illustrated with pictures and sketches. Introducing the San Francisco section was a full page picture of the patio of the Telegraph Hill Community Center at 1736 Stockton Street, which was the first formal meeting place of the pioneers. The North Beach Group of today now meets in the same quarters.

Other pictures were of the Alano Club at 111 O'Farrell Street. All were taken by Turner R., a former newspaper photographer who was associated with the San Francisco Fellowship for about a year, but who is now in Tacoma.

The sketches, including an amusing cartoon representing Powell street near Market, were by Glenn G., an artist formerly of New York, who now lives in Palo Alto. One of the sketches was the artist's impression of the deadend street leading to the first clubhouse at 137 Harlan Place. Another gave some idea of the long climb to the second clubhouse at 143 Bush Street.

Hotel Lobby Gathering

The story revealed that the first AA "missionary" to visit here was one Ray W., an early New York member, who was in San Francisco

AA Open House At Sacramento

Open house for all AAs, their families and friends will be held in Sacramento the weekend of March 15 and 16 at the Alano Club, Twenty-eighth and N Streets, and at the AA Center, 2001½ L Street.

Any out-of-town visitor who can't find his way around or wants transportation to the Fair Grounds may telephone either of those facilities or inquire at the desk of any hotel. Any member without hotel reservation at this late date may write or phone Len J., chairman of the AA housing committee, Hotel Berry, Eighth and L Sts., Sacramento.

in November, 1939, and met in the lobby of the Hotel Clift with Ted C. and a few other early birds. Ted at that time lived at the home of Mrs. Z. T. Oram on Potomac Street, where the first early meetings were held.

The identities of some of the pioneers mentioned in the story have been revealed locally. The ex-Cleveland man who had some AA in the East in 1939 is Ned C., who only recently left with his wife Nina to make his home in Pasadena.

The girl and man who came in through Dr. Percy Poliak and who later became the first AA bride and bridegroom are Fred and Amy C. They have taken part in all phases of AA activity, and when the neighborhood group movement started, they became early members of Midtown, Marina and North Beach groups. Fred made the first contact with Dr. Theodore Miller, director of the Napa State Hospital, and thus initiated all the state hospital projects of the north. It was Amy who took the early telephone calls.

First Secretary

The first formally elected secretary was John C., and he was in office during the rush of calls that stemmed from Jack Alexander's Saturday Evening Post story of

March 1, 1941. He later served a year's term as treasurer of the Alano Club. The man who was chairman at that first open meeting is Bob C., for years active in the Fellowship and now a resident of Sausalito with his AA wife, Margaret. The man who found the meeting place on Telegraph Hill was Mickey O'S.

The spread of the San Francisco Group to other towns started when Charlie P., Nic N., Russ R., Lyle A. and Bill F. started the Oakland Group. The second girl in the group, Jo F., went on to Phoenix to help start AA there. She later returned here. Another early girl, Pauline C., went to the fledgling Oakland Group and then the new Richmond Group. Still another, Louise Mac L., along with Phil M., a former secretary, started the first Marin Group.

Down the Peninsula

The Palo Alto man who went from the San Francisco Group to introduce AA to the peninsula was Verne F. One of his first babies was Dave D. of Palo Alto. A San Francisco member, Dane K., went to Santa Cruz in 1944 and interested Harry B. The pair drove the round trip of 146 miles between San Francisco and Santa Cruz every Wednesday night and every Friday night for a month in 1945 before they started the Santa Cruz Group. Dane went on to form a new group in a little Colorado town, and Harry is still active in Santa Cruz.

The traveling man who went to Eureka to carry the message is Leo M., still a member of Midtown. Among other early founders are Walter H. of Santa Rosa and Bernie B. of Vallejo. Both of the latter were sponsored out of Oakland, but the San Francisco Group sent emissaries to their first meetings.

The Los Angeles story in the Grapevine made a half-hearted claim that Los Angeles started the San Quentin Prison group in 1943. Here are the circumstances as known in San Francisco:

A pioneer AA of Los Angeles named Les F. visited San Quentin in 1942 in the interests of a parole

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Sacramento Meet Set for March 15

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attempt to answer any questions that might be asked by the delegates. The panel then will proceed to its organization.

Hal G. of Sacramento presided at the conference committee meeting in the Sacramento AA Center at 2001½ L Street on February 17, with Jack I. as secretary-treasurer of the Northern California Council. Also present were Muriel P. and Vic M. of Sacramento, Jim C. of Oakland, Phil H. of Napa and O.K. P. of San Francisco. Lauren P. of San Jose and Homer T. of Pacific Grove were unable to attend.

Meeting conjointly with them was a Panel 2 sub-committee composed of Muriel, Vic, Hal and Marvin L. of Sacramento, Ed S. of Chico, Ed F. of Marysville, Flyod B. of Roseville and Gordon W. of Stockton. Jack Van B. of Fresno sent word that he could not attend but advised that the groups of Fresno and Tulare counties were being fully advised of the arrangements for March 15 and 16.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S

The end of a perfect month . . . better attendance, good speakers . . . Bill J., Sandy H., Ruth and Bill T., and Rusty F. . . wonderful AA.

The Young People's Group of the S. F. Fellowship is rapidly growing in size and in group harmony.

The group has two bonds for the young drinkers: Youth and an understanding of the young alcoholic problem.

An open invitation is extended to all alcoholics to visit our group on Monday evenings at the Unitarian Church, corner of Franklin and Geary streets.

—BILL J.

February Grapevine Tells Story Of San Francisco's Early AA Days

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for an inmate. While there he met Archie Lyons, former member of the old State Parole Board, interested Lyons in AA and gave him a copy of the Big Book.

Big Book in Library

Lyons read the Big Book and put it in the prison library. There it fell into the hands of an alcoholic inmate known as Ric. The latter wrote to the New York office of AA, which forwarded the inquiry to the young San Francisco Group. Several members of the local group visited San Quentin, interviewed officials and Ric.

In the local party were Rod M., a former group secretary; Jim N., a former Fellowship treasurer; Van B., Ray J. and Ernie D. All are still around except Ernie. Another man in the party, who shall remain unidentified for obvious reasons, was named chairman of a committee to promote the San Quentin project, but he collapsed under his heavy responsibilities and sought surcease in the bottle.

Meanwhile, Julian Alco, a former San Quentin chaplain and member of the State Parole Board, investigated AA for the Governor and gave it a high recommendation. When the first committee chairman eased himself out, Jim N. was elected to succeed him, and thus became the first actual chairman. For months the little San Francisco group was split over the project, some members fearing inmate graduates from across the bay eventually would take over their group. Subsequent history proved their fears unfounded.

Two Hang On

During the winter of 1942-43, Jim made the trip to San Quentin every other week, accompanied only by Bob G., later secretary of the Fellowship. They persisted until by the summer of 1943 the project was well underway and when Bill W. was here in November, 1943, he accompanied the San Francisco committee on a visit to a flourishing group.

While information for the Grapevine was being gathered, the New York office went back into its files

and discovered the first inquiry from San Francisco was made in June, 1939. Others were received in the fall and led to the meeting with Ray W. of New York in November, 1939.

In those early days, the New York office directed inquiries to the home addresses of Ted C., Ned C. and Amy C., who at that time was Amy R. And then in January, 1941, was revealed the first formal address of the San Francisco group—P. O. Box 4492, San Francisco, California.

DAYTIME

The Daytime Group meets at Tradition House, 505 Market street, every Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 3:30.

It is conducted for those who find it more convenient to attend daytime meetings, and is a discussion group with special attention given to beginners. The discussions are concerned with basic AA, such as the Twelve Steps and their application to the various problems brought up.

The meetings have enabled many to obtain a better understanding of AA and its principles; and the number of babies who have been helped to find the program has been gratifying.

Beginners or those who find it difficult to understand some part of the program are cordially invited to attend. We are sure they will find the meetings fruitful and that their afternoon will be well spent.

—JULIA D.

MARINA

Our group, though small, has had some interesting discussions. A visitor from another group remarked recently on the informality of our meetings and the sense of belonging that it gives to the alki seeking an answer to his problem.

Claire R. paid a visit to the West Portal Group recently, and Tom B. was the host. Lois L., Captain Ed, Dick F. and Dorothy P. are regulars at all our meetings.

Our discussions of AA are based on the principle, "Keep it simple."

—TOM C.

PARKSIDE

Every group seems to have one or two members who are the workers of the group. The rotation of duties arrives frequently for the same members of a small group, and Parkside is no exception. Larry R. has been one of our excellent workers, and he certainly has contributed his share to the success of our group. We are going to lose him, but our loss will be the peninsula's gain. He is moving to San Mateo. Parkside will always have a warm place in its heart for Larry and will hold him to his promise to visit the home group occasionally.

One of Larry's recent jobs was to fill in an extra month as chairman and he again gave us a fine panel of speakers. For one program he had Thelma H. and her friend from the New York and Los Angeles Groups, Kay M. For other programs he had Ivan S. of the Mission Group, and Bernie and Edna B., AA newlyweds. For the family meeting he had Ruth G. of the Family Group and O.K.P.

Jim L. and Charlie W. have been elected to our steering committee. Illness took its toll in February, but we are happy to announce that Elaine, Mary, Helen and Carl are back with us—and healthy.

Al R. and Harriett joined our group, and of course we welcome them to our exclusive society. Byron of Seattle was among our visiting firemen in February. George M. celebrated his third year of twenty-four-hours-at-a-time sobriety. Congratulations, George.

Bob Ly (old faithful, but not so old) is our delegate to the Central Committee. He and Helen, two of the founders of the group, have efficiently filled every job in the group at least once, and on occasion have given over their home for meetings. If medals were given for service, they'd rate quite a few.

Many of our members enjoyed the St. Valentine's party at the Alano Club. The Golden Gate Group proved to be an excellent host. Many thanks to both the club and the group.

The door is open every Friday night at 8:15 at the clubhouse, Wawona street and Twentieth avenue. So pay us a visit. —BOB L.

Central Body Sets Up Schedule Of Terms on Standing Committees

The Fellowship Central Committee, at its February meeting, adopted a schedule for service on the most important standing committees of the Fellowship to insure regular rotation in the various chairmanships.

As an example, Jane D. of the Daly City Group and Ernie G. of the South of Market Group were named to the committee on committees to assist the present chairman, Al H. of Park Vista. Jane, who was named to serve four months, will automatically succeed Al to the chairmanship. She will in turn be succeeded by Ernie, who was named to serve eight months. A new committeeman will be named as each term expires.

The institutional committee, of which Bill G. of Golden Gate is chairman, will have sub-committees serving all the institutions of this area now visited by the San Francisco Fellowship.

It is planned to have nine fully qualified members to serve on the

hospital committee with the chairman, Dorothy M. of Midtown. A sub-committee of that group will be the blood bank chairman, who is Myrl G. of Polk Gulch and Sunday Night Groups. She reported thirty-three pints of blood now on deposit in the AA blood bank.

Other important standing committees are: Finance, Joe K. of Park Vista, chairman; program, Jim J. of West Portal, chairman; publicity and public relations, Charlie R. of Sunset, chairman.

As Joaquin A. of the Golden Gate Group had been returned to the Central Committee as his group's delegate, he was re-elected to serve six months on the steering committee, on which he had served only one month. Other members of the steering committee and their terms are: George K. of the Mission, one month; Lynn S. of Park-Presidio, two months; Harry G. of Sunset, three months; Art R. of Daly City, four months; Betty L. of Hilltop, five months.

MIDTOWN

Midtown's steering committee is in a state of "frantic serenity" with preparations for our sixth anniversary party March 27. Julian C. has been asked to be master of ceremonies for the evening. He has selected as speakers Camel O'B. and Eddie F. The hostesses for the evening will be Margaret L., Peggy C. and Kay P. The men greeters will be Ray H., Dan R. and O.K. The hostesses and greeters all were once active in Midtown.

Our very dear Charley S., coffee maker par excellence for six years, is busily occupied with Hugh McC., our mathematical wizard, estimating the number of cups of coffee a given number of people will drink, then figured into quarts, gallons and pounds of coffee. Our Secretary, having learned easy does it, is of the opinion one should just leave Charley to his guessing. That way, it always comes out even. And such good coffee too.

Frances C. and Art S. have birthdays this month, which will be re-

membered as usual with a cake on March 7. Despite the rains and Bus strike, February at Midtown was an interesting month. Anna M. was chairman and had so many good speakers that it was necessary to double them up at times.

John S. of Mission and Lou C. of the Fellowship spoke February 7. On February 14 we had Harley H. of Downton. He was the first speaker Anne had heard in AA. So they did considerable reminiscing, to the delight of the rest of the group. On February 24 we had Bill M. of Golden Gate and Lynn C. from Minnesota.

Hugh McC. will be chairman for March and Rosemond C. for April. All speakers of their selection will be posted in good time at the Alano Club.

The new-old Secretary is Bea D., drafted for the next six months with the understanding that some member find time and inclination to take over in August, else Midtown will be secretary-less.

—BEA D.

WEST PORTAL

A letter from Jewel and Lawton E., who now are making their home in Sacramento, brings word that Lawton has been made steamfitter foreman with a prominent contracting firm in the capital city.

Newest member of the group is Byron F., who came to San Francisco recently from Chicago, where he was active in AA.

Apropos of nothing, the group has five members each with the front name of Jim. Only thing we can think of is to warn prospective parents pondering on names for expected offsprings that alcohol seems to be poison to guys with that cognomen.

More or less of a steady visitor is Myron T. of the Sunset group. Some of the guys and gals from Parkside also come over to see us now and again.

Oldtimers whose presence we've been missing: Paul T. (he's in the Army Reserve). Leah R., Ed S., Marie C., Ed C., Jack W., Mary H. and a few others whose names slip the mind.

Rose D. has one of those awful night shifts that preclude her regular attendance but she does make it now and again.

Bob R. and Jim McA. are the West Portal group delegates to the Northern California Conference to be held in Sacramento.

A recent visitor was Robby R. of the Fellowship-at-Large. Louie C. also is among those who came to see us.

One of the February highlights was a pitch by Millie Lou D. of our own outfit. Her straight-from-the-shoulder approach to the program is most stimulating and encouraging to newcomers and veterans alike.

Just in case anyone is not aware of the fact, the West Portal Group meets every Monday night at the Eth-El-Bert restaurant, 215 West Portal avenue.

Our meetings are most informal. Sometimes there is merely a discussion, led by the chairman and sometimes there is a talk by a member from another group.

We have no set formula. Neither do any of us have any communicable diseases of which we are aware. In other words, we have a lot of fun staying sober and wel-

come AA's from anywhere, any time.

We haven't seen Clint M. since he moved to Tiburon but we know he is still alive because his by-line continues to appear regularly.

—DON K.

SUNDAY NIGHT OPEN

Our Chairman's Manager (how's that for "no organization"?), Steve H., really turned up something special during February as far as the panel of speakers is concerned. Curly M., our chairman, found that his work prevented him from getting around to enough groups to get acquainted with speaker material, so he deputized Steve to take over this task. These are the results:

February 3 we had Ruth W. from Downtown and George R., from Daytime. George is also connected with the State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation with special attention to alcoholics. He asked the assistance of those members of AA who have personally received help in trying to keep up the alcoholic program, which is in danger of being discontinued owing to a disagreement on the part of one of the newly appointed doctors as to its value. The doctor in question considers alcoholics as unfit people, hopeless from the standpoint of rehabilitation.

February 10 brought us that great team of Mickey and Ed A. of Alameda. Alameda County was also represented February 17 when Ed S. and King P. of Oakland were the speakers.

We were extremely fortunate on February 25 to be able to hear Lynn C. of the Hazelden Foundation in Minneapolis, who took over from Jane D. of Daly City.

BIG BOOK winners for the month were: Harry G. of Downtown; Carl G., a beginner; Jennie W., a beginner, and Bill B., a visitor, who gave his book to Roland W., also a beginner.

Our lovely secretary, Georgina V., will have extra tickets available at the next meeting for those who decide at the last minute they will be able to go to the Northern California Council Meeting on March 15. Hope to see all of you there!

—MYRL G.

LAGUNA HONDA

It was gratifying last month to see the increasing number of visitors to our wonderful group.

Our own Tim S., who is a patient at the Home, has been attending in his wheel chair, and has even given us a short pitch. Incidentally, Tim would love to have more visitors. His ward is 03.

Another AA present in a wheel chair was Jack D., an oldtimer in the San Francisco Group. In December, 1943, Jack and the late Bob C. were appointed a committee to locate quarters suitable for a club. They located and rented our first clubhouse at 137 Harlan Place.

Our speakers last month included Frank D. and Tim T. of Twelfth Step House; Ruth and Ray M. of Golden Gate; Bonnie and Art G. of the Fellowship; Mack M., Charlie R. and Lucille P. of Sunset; and Fred and Amy C. of the Fellowship.

We can promise you more fine speakers in the future and their names will be posted on the Bulletin Board at the Alano Club. We'll be looking forward to your visit.

—RUTH G.

SOUTH OF MARKET

Group programs have been considerably strengthened with the return of Joe O'B. from New York. Joe was chairman of our first meeting in February.

George H. and Neil C. have returned to activity South of Market and are in charge of the speakers' program for the months of March and April, respectively.

The following program has been set for March:

March 1—Chairman, Ralph C.; speakers, Peggy S. and Charles R. of the Sunset Group.

March 8—Chairman, Frank C.; speakers, Shaelan R. and Roland of the S. F. Fellowship.

March 15—Chairman, Virginia R.; speakers, Bill J. and H. J. of the S. F. Fellowship.

March 22—Chairman, Eddie K.; speakers, Julian B. and Madelyn B. of Hill Top Group.

March 29—Chairman, Dick B.; speakers, Thelma H. and Luther S. of the S. F. Fellowship.

All meetings begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. and last one hour.

JIM O'C.

Central Meeting March Programs

In addition to well known San Francisco AAs, a party of visitors from the Redwood City Group will appear on the Wednesday night Central meetings at 111 O'Farrell Street during March. They will be here March 19.

The Central Meetings, held at 8:15 p.m. each Wednesday in the downstairs auditorium at 111 O'Farrell Street, are open to AAs, their families and friends. The programs for March have been announced by Jim J., program director, as follows:

March 5—Chairman, Jack I., Park Vista Group; speakers, Joe W., San Francisco Fellowship, and Harley H., Downtown Group.

March 12—Chairman, Bob A., Young People's Group; speakers, Bill J., Downtown Group, and Neil C., Park Vista Group.

March 19—Chairman, Charles W., Redwood City Group; speakers, Paul M. and Dr. Paul S., Redwood City Group.

March 26—Chairman, Eddie E., San Francisco Fellowship; speakers, Ruth W., Downtown Group, and Cy A., North Beach Group.

FILLMORE

The Sunday afternoon habit of visiting the Fillmore Group at Sutter and Lyon streets, is growing among members of the Fellowship and their non-alcoholic relatives. That is a good day of the week and a good time of day, apparently, for many seeking the uplift of an AA meeting. The visitors not only hear good AA at the meetings but digest it during the visiting hours afterward.

The group is happy to have received numerous calls lately from new men and women, and what we call our regular membership is growing.

Visiting speakers at Fillmore in February included John S. of Mission, George N. of Pacific Heights, Paul G. of Sea Cliff and Capt. Jack W. of Pacific Heights. March opened Sunday, March 2, with a visit and talk by Bob G., former central secretary, who led a good discussion meeting afterwards. —ED G.

DOWNTOWN

February activity was marked primarily by excellent attendance with the ever important presence of those making their first meeting and visitors from points as widespread as Toledo, Ohio, and Eugene, Oregon. A summary of the month's attendance follows: total for the month, 129; new members (first meeting), 6; visitors, 16.

Speakers for the month were Evelyn O., Hilltop Group; Jack C., Marina; Sam H., Fellowship; Jack H., Marshall Islands. Jack H., introduced by Art S., is the man who was the lone AA on Kwajalein for three and a half years.

It was suggested by Jack W., Steering Committee Chairman, that those members who could not attend the Sacramento Conference and who were financially in a position to do so make a contribution to cover at least one ticket. The suggestion was accepted and a deduction was made from the collection February 26.

Lynn W. has been elected treasurer, succeeding Eldon B. —ED C.

LOU C. NOW BENEDICT

Lou C., the young-old mariner, has joined the ranks of the benedicts. He was married the evening of February 18 to Virginia R. of the Golden Gate Group. The ceremony was performed by Judge H. A. van der Zee at his home. Lou has been a visitor and a speaker at most of the groups in the city, but he has identified himself principally with the Maritime, Golden Gate and Sunday Night Groups. He is an active member of the Alano Club.

SUNSET

The Sunset Group has acquired two members who were formerly affiliated with AA in Saudia Arabia. Mr. and Mrs. Lex N. who returned to San Francisco after four years in the Far East have affiliated themselves with the fog-bound group!

TRADITION HOUSE

Our Friday Night Group has followed out its New Year's plan to become more familiar with our Big Book. Meanwhile, the Tuesday Nighters are discussing the Sermon on the Mount, beginning with the Lord's Prayer.

Recently we purchased the Cleveland Conference records of Dr. Bob's last pitch, and that of Bill W. which followed. These records were played on our new record player on Sunday afternoon, February 17, and 23 of our Family enjoyed the occasion. It is planned to add other records of a similar trend. The Napa Group lent us the Ruth B. records which were played on several occasions. This, too, we shall add to our record library.

For the month of February Tradition House has furnished a 24-hour, round-the-clock Saturday-through-Sunday crew of baby-sitters for the new venture at St. Joseph's Hospital. It has been our privilege to help the good Sisters in their efforts to emulate the work done at Knickerbocker Hospital in New York and St. Thomas in Brooklyn.

The stairway has been painted now and a bamboo curtain placed on the downstairs door.

—BETSY G.

BUSH AND BILLIE MOVE

Bush and Billie C. of the Golden Gate Group, one of the most active AA couples in the Fellowship, have moved to Los Angeles, to which Bush has been transferred by his employers. Billie was secretary of the Golden Gate Group and a member of the tele-service committee at the time of her departure. She has been succeeded at Golden Gate by Avice A. Bush was one of a series of redheaded secretaries of Golden Gate that did so much to stimulate that group into the largest in the city. He was chairman and reorganized the Fellowship Hospital Committee in 1951. Billie also was a member of the Beginners' Committee on which she has been succeeded by Peg. F.

Homer T. of the Sunset Group made a hurried trip to Los Angeles to be at the side of his mother who was taken suddenly ill.