



Good News



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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

DECEMBER
1961

Stanford Law Dean to Speak At Xmas Party

One of the five December meetings sponsored by the Central Office of San Francisco Inter-County Fellowship will be highlighted by a special Christmas address delivered by the Dean of Stanford University's Law School, Dr. Harry W. Rathbun.

Dr. Rathbun, a long-time friend of Bill W's., and whose inspiring Yuletide messages have been heard by thousands of AA's throughout California, will speak Friday, December 22, at 8:30 p.m. at the Building Service Center, 240 Golden Gate Avenue.

The December calendar is an outstanding series of five excellent programs arranged by Program Chairman Myrl G. She has gathered the following speakers to windup an eventful year of fine AA and "outside" speakers for each of the 52 Fridays of 1961. Here's the roster:

FRIDAY, DEC. 1—Ernie B., Park-Presidio Group and a member of the H & I Committee, and Stan R., Peninsula Twelfth Step House.

FRIDAY, DEC. 8—Hazel L., Vallejo Groups, and Neil C., Parkside Group.

FRIDAY DEC. 15—Katy B., Alameda, and Harold D., Mission Group.

FRIDAY, DEC. 22—Jack H., Palo Alto Friday Group and Dr. Harry Rathbun.

FRIDAY, DEC. 29—Joe B., Alameda Alano Group, and John D., Alameda Alano Group.

Extensive alterations to the building at 240 Golden Gate Avenue which have been underway for several months—have been completed. The structure has been beautifully remodelled and refurbished including the hall where the "Big Open" meeting has taken place for many years. Air conditioning, seating, public address system and sound-proofing has been added to make it probably the best AA meeting place

Nat'l Alcoholism Week Observed by Santa Clara AAs

A panel discussion entitled, "Our Common Purposes and Problems Concerning Alcoholism in our Community" highlighted a special public meeting sponsored by Santa Clara County Inter-Group Service Council of Alcoholics Anonymous.

In recognition of National Alcoholism Week, the panel session was held Sunday, November 26, at Trinity Episcopal Church, Second and St. John Streets, San Jose, Calif.

Participating were Reverend William G. Murdock, pastor, Trinity Episcopal Church; Dwight M. Bissell, San Jose's Health Officer; Herschell Morgan, San Jose Central Labor Council—all non-alcoholics.

Members of Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon who served as panelists were Cliff H., Jack H., Jeanne S., Helen G., and Ben E.

Cake and coffee was served following the panel meeting but no kitty or collection was taken.

New Location For Breakfast Group

Effective immediately, San Francisco-Marin County Breakfast will meet at a new location in the Edgewater Inn, Corte Madera Shopping Center. Group meets each Sunday starting with breakfast at 11:30 a.m. Open meeting starts immediately after at 12:30 p.m. Meeting lasts one full hour.

Swimming at Edgewater Inn pool is available anytime after 1:30 p.m. You can make a Sunday holiday after these really fine, down-to-earth AA meetings. Bring the family. Enjoy an afternoon picnic.

on the Pacific Coast.

Your attendance will be rewarded by the quality of the programs plus hearing them under the most favorable auspices.

Al-Anons Meet Sunday, Dec. 10

A special seminar focusing on World Wide Service will be held Sunday, December 10, starting at 12:00 noon, at St. Boniface Church Auditorium, 133 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, under the auspices of the Avenue Al-Anon Group.

Specific purpose of the gathering is to help all members of Al-Anon to acquire a better understanding of Al-Anons World-Wide Service which will enable them to "carry the message" and to gain a more concise knowledge of Al-Anon's important position in the program of AA.

All committeemen, General Service Group Delegates and Al-Anon members are urged to attend. The one-day program is designed to provide a compact understanding of Al-Anon's function in this field. The program is as follows:

1. Jean S., San Jose, "Purpose of the Meeting."
2. Helen B., California State Delegate to World-Wide Service, "World-Service and Al-Anon."
3. Question and Answer period.
4. Refreshments at 1:30. Seminar recesses for one hour.
5. Jack I., Central Secretary, S.F. Inter-County Fellowship.
6. Priscilla C., secretary, California Assembly, World - Wide Service, who will discuss "Ways and Means of Carrying the Message."
7. John C., Northern California Council Chairman, Al-Anon.

Jack I. has chosen to tieup AA with Al-Anon with the subject titled, "AA World Service and What It Can Mean to Al-Anon." Al-Anon's Northern California Council Chairman, John C., will explain, "What World-Wide Service Means to Me Individually, and What it Can Mean to all Al-Anon Groups."

AAs will have a special event program in an adjoining room, arranged by the San Francisco Central Office for AA members

Alano Club Maps Gala New Year's Party and Dance

San Francisco's Alano Club, scene of many a gay party, has planned another affair that bids to top all of 'em. The big AA club at 414 Grant Avenue is planned to greet the New Year with a bang on Sunday, December 31, starting anywhere from noon on, but officially starting at 8:00 p.m.

Here's the Bill of Fare: Fancy hats, noise-makers, balloons and leis for the ladies; serpentine, fancy decorations, free door prizes, buffet luncheon, balloon bags with prizes—dancing from 9:00 p.m. 'til the wee small hours.

Already a Decorating Committee is casting about for the most artistic and spectacular decor to properly fit the "spirit of the New Year." A Luncheon Committee is mapping plans for a sumptuous buffet and the Mello-Daires are tuning up horns and wood-winds to play the best dance music they ever tootled.

In addition to the big New Year's Party, the Mello-Daires have been engaged to play for these affairs:

SATURDAY, DEC. 9—San Jose Alano Club, 1139 Minnesota Street, San Jose.

SATURDAY, DEC. 16—Christmas Dance at the S.F. Alano Club, 414 Grant Avenue, San Francisco.

SATURDAY, DEC. 30 — Three Counties Fellowship Meeting and Dance at Santa Cruz.

Open for engagements are Saturday, Dec. 2, and Saturday, Dec. 23. Anyone wishing to contact the Mello-Daires, 1568 18th Avenue, San Francisco.

Special Request

The Central Office of S.F. Fellowship requests that when the terms of group secretaries expire that the office be notified. Many times the outgoing secretary fails to do this with the result that the new secretary doesn't exactly know what is needed and required in his or her new AA job. Sometimes several months elapse before the office discovers the change. This results in a disservice to the group.

National Magazine Outlines St. Louis Clinic for Alcoholics

Methods and procedures for caring for the sick alcoholic is graphically described in an article, "Clinic for Alcoholics" in the September issue of Hospital Topics, a national magazine which circulates among the Nation's hospital administrators, doctors, and nurses.

Written by Thomas P. Fox, associate administrator, St. Anthony's Hospital, St. Louis, Mo., the article relates, in part:

AA Assists

"In late 1957, St. Anthony's Hospital decided to introduce a clinic for alcoholics. Together with Alcoholics Anonymous, the hospital worked out a program designed to provide medical, spiritual, and psychological assistance for these patients.

"The specific program adopted included the following regulations: (1) the patient must be accompanied by a member of AA, and the organization must remain in attendance as long as the doctor in charge deems it necessary; (2) the hospital must be contacted prior to admission and no patient is accepted on Sundays, or after 7:00 p.m. on weekdays; (3) if the patient has his own physician, it is preferable that the doctor call the hospital and arrange for admission; (4) the doctors in the clinic will determine if the patient is to be hospitalized or treated as an outpatient; (5) transient cases and repeaters will not be accepted, with the exception of those in the latter group who have made some progress since their last hospital visit; and (6) each patient is expected to pay his bills either through hospitalization insurance or by his own means."

The Way Back

Fox continues by relating certain interesting experiences which have been encountered but expresses the opinion that the plan is worthwhile and productive. He closes by saying, "The way back is long and difficult for these patients, but tolerance, patience, firm kindness, and encouragement on the part of the hospital staff (and the AA sponsors) can be compelling factors in the complete rehabilitation."

Surf Group Maps Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party of the Surf Group is scheduled for Monday, December 18, 8:30 p.m. at Community Church, 34th Avenue at Noreiga Street, San Francisco. The large social hall will be used to accommodate all A.A. members who wish to attend.

Speaker for affair will be Jim M. from North Highlands, California, former Delegate to the General Service Conference in New York from Coastal Panel No. 2. He will be introduced by Stan W., visiting chairman from Fairfax, California.

Coffee will be served from 7:30 p.m. with a buffet following the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

OBITUARIES

AA members throughout the state are mourning the deaths of the following persons whose activities in Alcoholics Anonymous directly or indirectly influenced the lives of many of us.

"MOTHER" H — non-alcoholic friend of all AAs in the early days of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous in San Francisco; beloved mother of Ray H., Pacific Heights Group.

MAX S. — long-time member of San Jose group and a great bulwark in H & I activities.

CART T. — active San Carlos member.

FRANK N. — assistant to the manager of the Alano Club, San Francisco; greatly liked and admired by club members and hundreds of visitors whom he befriended.

Good News shares the bereavement and grief of those left behind.

Humboldt-Del Norte to Hold Annual Dinner

The annual Family AA Dinner-Meeting sponsored by the Humboldt-Del Norte Central Committee will be held Sunday, December 10, at Redwood Acres in Eureka, according to our north coast reporter.

A complete course turkey dinner, catered by Pete P. of Pete's Steak House in Eureka will be served, family style, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Immediately following dinner, Cliff P., of the Eureka Thursday Night group and producer-actor member of the Burl Players thespian club, will direct an appropriate skit using AA members as the cast. Other member-furnished entertainment has been scheduled.

A panel-type meeting, composed of eight panelists selected from the Gold Beach and Brookings, Ore., groups, and the Crescent City, Arcata, Eureka and Fortuna groups, will take up at 7:45.

The Eureka 60-minute Discussion group is in charge of decorations, while the Eureka Municipal group will handle table arrangements.

Shirley D. and Jim K. of the Fortuna group are chairman and co-chairman, respectively.

Our correspondent reports that arrangements have been made to accommodate at least 250 members, their families and invited guests. A special invitation is extended to everyone.

New Year Party

Santa Clara Inter-Group Council is planning a gala New Year's Eve Meeting and Buffet Dinner to greet 1962.

The buffet will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., followed by a group meeting scheduled for 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Dancing and entertainment is slated for the balance of the evening "Happy Jack" S. has arranged the entertainment features.

Affair take place New Year's Eve., Sunday, December 31, at 1121 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose, Calif.

Don't Misuse It

Don't get the notion that AA is composed of 100 per cent sanctified characters. We're not all saints. As in any organization, whatever you name, a few louses sneak in.

Therefore, it is imperative that the AA World Directory be used strictly for AA business, only. There have been cases where it has been misused. Misused for purposes of exploitation, greed, personal aggrandizement and other selfish motives.

The World Directory is labeled "confidential." Don't leave it out of your hands unless you are certain beyond doubt that it is being used for AA purposes.

GROUPS ELECT SECRETARIES

The following new secretaries have been named to head groups affiliated with S.F. Inter-County Fellowship:

Saturday Night Group—Ralph S.; Mission Group—Rod H.; Redwood Citid Group—John M.; San Mateo No. —Nira N.; Downtown-Monday—Kathy M.; Alano Women's Virginia C.; Santa Rosa Serenity—Blanche S.; Burlingame Men's—G. N. H.; Crossroads—Martha C.; Uptown—Rhea E.; and Pacifica—E. S.

A letter of welcome was directed to each by the central secretary of S.F. Inter-County Fellowship, accompanied by a copy of the "Secretary's Handbook" and also the pamphlet "Partners in AA."

Good News wishes each of the group secretaries a happy and rewarding term of office. This is an opportunity for service and the Group Secretary's job is a highly important office.

Other All-Spanish Bay Area Groups

Elsewhere in this issue is a piece of news concerning Spanish-speaking AA. To meet the rising need for all-Spanish groups in the Bay Area and carry the message to Latins who, like the rest of the world, are not exempt from the ravages of alcoholism, here are the addresses of two other all-Spanish groups:

The Latin-American Group, 3198

G.G. Group Sets 'Super' Meetings

Estelle R., secretary, Golden Gate Group, sends out a clarion call for a host of ex-members of the old, original Golden Group, pioneer in the AA movement in San Francisco.

She points out that due to changes of meeting places and other circumstances beyond the control of any individual, attendance has dropped. But Estelle also truthfully said:

"Golden Gate Group in the annals of AA has a splendid record of achievement; a history that should not be permitted to be forgotten nor die. We are one of the oldest groups in San Francisco and the number of people who first found the blessings of AA in Golden Gate Group are legion. We are calling upon those whose hearts we know are filled with gratitude and with memories of goodwill and happiness—to revisit Golden Gate Group. They will find it as they first knew it."

Golden Gate now meets in fine quarters in the Social Hall of the Episcopal Church, Fifteenth and Julian Avenue, between Mission and Valencia Streets. Bus service is excellent and after-AA meeting accommodations are splendid.

She said, "We have some real 'super' meetings lined up for December, for instance: Tuesday, December 5—Jack I., Central Secretary, will speak; Tuesday Dec. 12, Charlie R., Palo Alto, is speaker; Tuesday, Dec. 19—Paul G., Mill Valley, will be at the rostrum, and on Tuesday, Dec. 26, Walter M., from Sacramento is Guest Speaker.

Regular Tuesday meetings held throughout the year in a permanent meeting place with meetings starting at 8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome, especially former Golden Gaters.

16th Street, San Francisco, and the Oakland Latin-American Group which meets each Tuesday at 8:00 p.m., at the In-Between Club, 4710 East 14th Street, Oakland.

A conservative figure estimates the number of Spanish-speaking people in the Bay Area at some 250,000, and at least 90,000 in San Francisco County.

"Caribbean Crusaders" Carry Message to Remote Areas

The November issue of Good News published a letter from Harry O., titled "Guadalajara Is 'Trap' for Alcoholic." Harry is one of the "charter members" of the Caribbean Crusaders. Following publication of Harry's letter, several other Caribbeaners wrote, among them Gordon Mac D., who said, "We have about 580 AAs working on Caribbean Crusade, which was started by several of us three years ago. Enclosed is a list of our most active workers in this campaign to help the Southern Hemisphere AA's." —Editor.

This confidential, partial list includes names of AAs who have indicated an interest in work now going on in Caribbean, Central, and South American areas to strengthen, extend, and unify AA. There are many others. Keep this list. You may use it for continuing the good work.

David Rae
6811 Jefferson Davis Highway
Richmond 34, Virginia

Carlos Camera, E.
Apartado 20925
Mexico City, Mexico

Richard Caron
Box 418
Robesonis, Pennsylvania

P. A. Butler
Casillo 303
Tacna, Peru, South America

William Fistler
104 Berpherdstraat, San Nicholas
Aruba, Ned. Antilles

Reginald Gordon
Box 203
Port of Spain, Trinidad, W.I.

Hector Gilligan
5898 Rivadavia
Buenos Aires, Argentina, South America

Whitford Carter
Apartado Postal 314
Cuernavaca, Mexico

Teajilio Vega Cuadro
Jinotaps-Canozo
Nicaragua, C. A.

Lewis Edwards
Scarborough
P.O. Tobago, W.I.

Mrs. Rosemary Dunfold
Manteo, North Carolina

Michael Mann
127 Castle Road
Nahant, Mass

Jack Garnett
P.O. Box 809
Monterey, California

Antonio Lampe
Quinto "Marie"
Calle Monagas, Punto Fijo
Edo Falcon, Venezuela

Alberto Graf
Ramon Alcazar 26A
Mexico 1, D.F.

Hal Hughes
Amity Press
2607 Sixth Avenue

Nestor Lomba
223 N. W. 40 Street
Miami, Florida

Richard Junor
6 Prince William Street
Plaisance Village
British Guiana

Paul Dwyer
American Embassy
Tegucigalpa, Honduras, C.A.

Father Joseph Rickert
Padres de Maryknoll
San Pedro Necta, Huehuetennango
Guatemala, C.A.

57 Herstelling Housing Scheme
East Bank Demara
British Guiana, S. American

Mrs. Marion Meacham
12th Step Service
322 N. Church Street
Charlotte, N. C.

Daniel T. Goundan
Jardine Trace
El Dorado, Trinidad, W.I.

Rev. Lawrence Purdy (non AA)
Naparima College
San Fernando, Trinidad, W.I.

Pedro Martijn
Box 616
Willemstat, Curacao, Ned. Antilles

Jackville O. Mallins
96 Sandford Road
Ranelagh, Dublin, Ireland

Ken Powell
14 Ocean View Avenue
Bourmouth Gardens
Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

German Pereira
Box 122
Ponce Puerto Rico

Miguel Angel Rodos
11 Av 11-70 Zona 1
Guatamala City, Guatamala, C.A.

Father Robert Maynar (nonAA)
Carillo Puerto, Quintana Roo
Mexico

Billy Sotomayor
AA Drawer A
Diablo Heights, Panama Canal Zone

Enrique E. Tillit
Barranco-Cajamarca, 417
Lima, Peru, South America

Leroy Williams
Ebenezar
Rock Hill, S. Carolina

Joaquin Vargas B.
Lago Chalco 60-7
Mexico 17, D.F.

Cyrus Wilkins
Palm Beach Road
Hastings, Barbados, W.I.

N. G. Janki
Lot No. 1 Craal Street
Georgetown, British Guiana
South America

Jose Luis Torregrosa
WKAQ TV, Box 5096
Puerto de Tierra Sta
can Juan, Puerto Rico

Lionel Woodward
P. O. Box 209 Montego Bay
Jamaica, W.I.

Cristobal Quesada
1207-20 North East Street
Puerto Nuevo, Puerto Rico

Edward T. Fitzgerald
16 Calle Poniente Y 25 Av Sur
San Salvador, El Salvador
Central America

Gordon MacDougall
RFD No. 3
Conn.
Knollcrest, New Fairfield, Conn.

Al Gomez
22 Knox Court, Box 163
Champlian Hts., St. John
N.B. Canada

Joaquin Espinosa Garcia
AA de Yucatan
Grupo Panteon Florida
Calle 65 No. 701 x 95
Merida, Yucatan, Mexico

Thomas Walton
2304 4th Avenue
Richmond, Virginia

John Meurling
Olmos Y Contraros 7
Col Periodista
Lomas Sotele Mexico 10, D.F.

Batt Batkins
210 N. Madison Street
Richmond, Virginia

Kathleen Doherty
2814 Montecito St.
Los Angeles 31, Calif.

J. Antonio F. Diaz
Calle Obispo Marraquin
Sonsonate, El Salvador, C.A.

Christopher Nath
5 Quesnal Street
Arima, Trinidad, W.I.

George Sumner
9 La Sieva Terrace
Marival, Port of Spain
Trinidad, W.I.

H. T. Olmsted
Calle Cuautitlan No. 460
Chapelita
Guadalejira, Jal, Mexico

Harold O'Connor
6 First Avenue
Mr. Lambert
Trinidad, W.I.

Norman Walker
Bulawayo
Southern Rhodesia, Africa

Richard Blake
Crossroads
North Swdausesy
New Hampshire

John S. Gardner
7 Sheppard Avenue
Bowring Park
Liverpool, England
Lawrence Haebrecht
3920 Beekman Street
Cincinnati, Ohio

Robert Smith
One Orchard Street
Marblehead, Mass.

CONTRA COSTA GROUPS ACTIVE

The recently-formed Contra Costa AA Center, 528 Palm Drive, at the end of Arthur Road, in the Vine Hill Section of Martinez, California, is entering its third month of existence with promise of being a successful venture in every respect.

Each Saturday at 8:30 p.m. a group of AA people in Contra Costa County conduct an open meeting. The first Saturday is hosted by the San Pablo Friendly Fellowship; the second, Martinez takes over; the third, Pittsburg does the honors; the fourth, the Pleasant Hill group presides; and months with five Saturdays in them, the fifth Saturday is ear marked for the Alanon groups to conduct.

This arrangement not only gives an overall picture to the suffering alcoholic of the way the AA movement in the county is helping so many people, but is providing opportunities for more AA people to get into important Step Twelve work.

In addition to the open meetings held weekly, the local group of AA, Martinez, conducts a closed meeting on Wednesdays of each week.

The Alanons of Martinez also meet the same night in a different section of the building. Chris C. is the Secretary of the Martinez group, and reports new faces appearing at each meeting.

The telephone is manned from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. by various members of the AA groups in the county ready to route a Twelve Step worker to any sufferer calling for help from Antioch on the north, to Danville on the south.

Aurelio Romeo del Valle
Lerma 94-4
Col Cauhtemoe
Mexico, D. F.

Nicanor Vega B.
Apartado Postal 21251
Mexico, D.F.

These people want to hear from you. . . . A letter may save a life, an idea may save a hundred. Let's write. . . .

New All-German In Karlsruhe

Germany now has two all-German AA Groups — one in Munich, the other in Karlsruhe. The General Service Office, N.Y., received a note from Walt B., in Munich, saying, "we recently became aware that a new all-German group was under-way in the other city. This was important news to us, so Max, Richard, Harry and Willi of the Munich all-German Group, and Chuck and I from the American Group here, lost no time in arranging to drive up to one of their Saturday night meetings."

They made the trip last weekend. Needless to say, their arrival caused quite a stir. This was the first visit between two all-German AA Groups. There were seven regular members of the Karlsruhe Group present, although they have as many as 20 members. The visit was a great surprise to them and they treated the Munich bunch royally. Said Walt:

"After the Saturday night meeting we talked until 2:00 a.m., met for breakfast on Sunday and kept talking until noon when we had to return to Munich. I think a great deal was accomplished. We left what literature we had, and one German translation from the GSO, and State-side AA talk."

Rutgers to Hold Alcoholic Study

A Summer School of Alcoholic Studies will be held at the new Rutgers Center of Alcoholic Studies in New Brunswick, N.J., July 1-July 26, 1962.

These studies are continuation of studies first conducted in 1943 and held annually at Yale University through 1961.

In its first session at Rutgers, faculty, administration, curriculum, and overall educational philosophy will remain substantially similar to those of previous years.

The July seminar will include lectures by specialists drawn from social sciences, medicine and psychiatry, religion, education, and public health; workshops for physicians, public health personnel, case workers, psychologists, clergy, nurses, educators, probation, parole and correctional officers, and supervisors in industry, community leaders.

Enrollment is limited to 300 students. For prospectus, write Mrs. Esther W. Henderson, registrar, Summer School of Alcoholic Studies, Rutgers University, 35 College Avenue, New Brunswick, N. J.

The "Why" of Conferences

It has probably crossed the minds of some AA members — particularly newcomers — the meaning and purpose of AA Conferences. Sacramento Fellowship, on Saturday and Sunday, October 7-8, was host to the latest NCC at Memorial Auditorium, Sacramento, which was acclaimed a well-organized, highly interesting gathering in every department. From their monthly bulletin "By The Way," we reprint their thoughtful version of the "Why" of AA conferences.—Editor.

There are numerous reasons for holding NCC conferences. Members have their own individual reasons for attending. Certainly they provide an ideal way of "communicating" on a regional basis. They provide top-level speakers which few local groups can bring to their communities.

They bring together AA's from a wide radius — to play together — to learn together. We greet friends we haven't seen since the last conference, and we make new ones whom we hope to meet at succeeding conferences.

Just about the time when we seem to be hitting an all-time low in AA, a conference comes along. We attend! What happens? **We're inspired all over again with our sole and only goal — to carry the message to the still-suffering guy or gal who wants "out" but doesn't yet know there is a way.**

Also, these conferences help stamp out the stigma, in the minds of non-alcoholics, of being an alcoholic. So our conference workshops teach us how we can be of greater service not only to each other, but to those who come as newcomers to our door. We are taught to go to those — that cannot come to us — because they are patients and inmates of hospitals and institutions.

They, too, deserve to get those two life-saving words: Alcoholics Anonymous.

"... BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD"

"THERE BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD, GO I" is an old quote often used to remind the world to have compassion and tolerance for the unfortunate. AA has adopted the phrase to promote humility in our approach to the Steps of the program. It emphasizes the point of our helplessness in regard to alcohol; that we have been relieved of our difficulty thru the action of our Higher Power; that daily we must ask for this Grace and daily we must cooperate with it. Cooperation with the Grace of God includes our willingness and effort to improve daily living and our willingness to help the alcoholic who is still suffering.

"FIRST THINGS FIRST" tells us to take care of our own sobriety before and above all else; for without sobriety, we can accomplish little. "LIVE AND LET LIVE" is sage advice. Many times the so-called reformed drunk becomes an avid crusader, out to rid the world of the evil, "alcoholic." Our primary aim in AA is to maintain our individual sobriety, and secondly to aid those who seek our help. The inventory is a personal inventory, not

the other fellows.

"EASY DOES IT" is sometimes an easy way out to a slip. It shouldn't mean an easy approach to the working of the program. It ought, rather, to mean an open mindedness and willingness to listen to others, even though we may not understand fully or agree. It ought to mean persistent rather than complacency. Tolerance in the world is manifested with sneering contempt and a long-suffering attitude of superiority. We, in AA, who have frequently been on the receiving end of that kind of tolerance, ought to show a loving kindness and a desire to help with understanding.

"WE GIVE TO GET" — A.A. is a seeming paradox with the blind leading the blind, and is difficult to understand in its simplicity. We must be selfish in our approach and yet unselfish in our living; we give to get; we pray and commit ourselves to the will of God and still we must work the program with an effort as though it depends only on our effort. We laugh together at our past mistakes and yet we learn to avoid them in the future. Our only aim is sobriety and yet we are

not content until we acquire serenity.

One of the finest descriptions of the type of serenity we seek and means to achieve it is expressed in the Prayer of Saint Francis, which follows. It is used by many AA groups as their group prayer.

Lord, make me an instrument of

Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me know love,

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, let me bring light;

And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much

Seek to be consoled, as to console;

To be understood, as to understand;

To be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

In pardoning, that we are

pardoned, and

It is in dying, that we are born to eternal life.

By Joe D in Alky Argot

Tape Recordings

The November issue of Good News carried a detailed story relative to the extensive tape library maintained by Dave B., of Oakland.

Inadvertently, the name of Bill M., 2103 Miller Avenue, Modesto, was omitted. He informs Good News that he too has an extensive Tape Library with the same tapes as stocked by Dave and still makes copies for AA people as does Dave.

Recordings of the keynote talk made by Gene B., at our Seventh Annual Banquet (San Francisco, Saturday, October 28, Sheraton Palace Hotel) and Eve M., at Sacramento, November 16, are also available.

Bill M. has spent more than four years of arduous painstaking labor in accumulating his very fine Tape Library. Groups or individuals who want tapes may order from Bill M., 2103 Miller Avenue, Modesto, Calif.

H & I BROAD-SIDES

OUR FRIEND MAX

Any eulogy of this man would be a very hollow thing when compared to the activities of Max while he was visiting with us. He leaves us with many precious gifts. One in particular is Mabel. We can only hope she will continue with us and share things with us. Max, we'll miss you.

JANUARY 15 MEETING

Point Richmond Group has extended an invitation to hold our meeting at their clubhouse, January 15, 1962. We are pleased to accept their hospitality. More detailed information will be forthcoming at a later date together with data on transportation, how to get there, etc.

RANDOM SHOTS

Again, we'd like to remind Area Chairmen to please get their 1962 schedules to our H & I secretary immediately. It is essential we have this data in order that the new

schedules be ready for distribution at the January 15 meeting.

P.S. News items from Areas and Area Chairmen are in hot demand. Send what you have to the attention of Budd C. We'll see that it's forwarded pronto, to the attention of Good News editor. We'll get lots more press notices if we send something in. "Don't expect a cargo to come in if you don't send out a ship."

H & I AT VALLEJO

Our meeting at 820 Marin Street on November 5 was a very pleasant and informative day. Attendance was not all that could be desired but many of the faithful made the meeting a definite success. John N. of Alameda graciously accepted the assignment of filling out the unexpired term of Max as co-chairman responsible for our service to the institutions. It would be greatly appreciated if all questions and information pertaining to this section of our committee be directed to John, c/o P. O. Box 4032, San Francisco 1, California.

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Caribbean Crusade Founding of Organization Is Outlined

By Gordon Mac D

Caribbean Crusade started in January, 1959, when the writer visited the West Indies and met a number of AA group secretaries. These people felt that Alcoholics Anonymous should be expanded, strengthened, and integrated; that Caribbean AA's could operate more as a unit. They decided a program for this purpose should be developed.

Help from Home

As a first step they asked for help in securing more books and literature for the area. Five hundred dollars was raised in the United States by AA group contributions for this need. General Service Office, New York City, generously aided with many letters, phone calls information and mailing of books and pamphlets.

One hundred and twenty-five books, and large quantities of literature have already been sent. By virtue of the work done by AA's in the area, 30 radio programs in four languages have been broadcast or arranged; more than 50 newspaper articles—again in four languages—have appeared.

World-wide Aid

In sending the books we chose hospitals, libraries, doctors, clergy, editors, radio officials and health officers. Written acknowledgements and pledges of assistance have been received from over 50 cases. Help has come from all over the planet including Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Ireland and Canada, to mention only a few places.

EDITORIAL LET'S ALL ANTE UP THREE BUCKS

This is an appeal from the General Service Office, New York. For the information of those in AA who do not know, the function of the General Service Office of AA is to keep Alcoholics Anonymous together in one piece—a unified, living organization. It is the belief of some AAs that if GSO didn't function properly, Alcoholics Anonymous could easily founder. Lets' keep it healthy—and alive. —Editor

To our very dear friends:

As you know, we as AAs are sharing with you in the responsibility of spreading our message of hope to the still sick alcoholic. To get this done in the most efficient manner MONEY is needed.

We feel that we are partners with you in our work here at your General Service Office. And when we use the word "our" we really mean it. Books, pamphlets—our World Directory—our General Service Conference (insurance for the future growth and development of our beloved fellowship)—our help to new groups in the United States and Canada—our sharing of A Aexperience world-wide—our services to Institutional Groups, Loners, Seamen—our work to carry AAs message to those outside AA so that they too may help us to make AA known to our fellow alcoholics—our work to make translated literature and the Big Book available in languages other than English (So that AA can grow in non-English speaking countries)—all these and many more services for AA need to be paid for.

Many of you know this and have helped and are helping. For this we are truly grateful; but, if we are to be partners, let's all be partners and share in this work which is so vital to A.A.

You have received Archie Roosevelt's letter and know that as of September we had received only 44% of our \$237,800 budget. Now we would like to join with him in letting you know that we need your help to meet expenses for 1961.

If you haven't already put your \$3.00 in the hat for GSO, won't you do so at once? Then we can do our part, with you, in letting others have what we have been given so freely.

Thank you right now. AAs don't usually have to be asked twice when the need is there.

May your holidays be a happy time. We all join in sending affectionate greetings.

Ann, Eve, Anita,
Beth, Lby, Hazel

Over 8,000 letters and pieces of mail have been exchanged, and over 80 of the groups in the area have joined the Crusade .

Important Step

Probably the most important step in the Crusade for now, and the future, was the publishing of a Caribbean edition of the publication CHIT CHAT in three languages, Spanish, Papiemento (native language of the Dutch Antilles) and English.

Three men accomplished this. Richard C., Reading, Pa., the publisher; Pedro M. Curacao, N.A.; and Hector G. Buenos Aires. Chit Chat (bi-monthly) is now going to 250 people located in every spot in the Caribbean where AA is known.

Many New Members

Finally, reports at hand show that at least 2,500 new members have joined AA in this area during the past 16 months, and 25 new groups have been started. The effort has been expanded to include Central and South America.

'Big Book' In Spanish at \$1.75

Spanish-speaking groups in the Bay Area and "groups" in Mexico, Central and South America, now obtainable at \$1.75 per copy from Jack G., Gay Aridians, P.O. Box 809, Monterey, Calif.

Also, the General Service Office, P. O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York City, has Spanish translations of the AA Background Editorial, and radio/TV material. This material is for AA groups and committees for use in their contacts with news editors, radio, and TV station managers in seeking publicity for AA as public service programs, featuring AA.



“...and on earth
peace, good will
toward men!”

