



HAPPY NEW YEAR



Good News



JANUARY,
1971

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By the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

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No. 1

"AA Today" — San Francisco January 9th

Public A.A. Symposium — St. Mary's Cathedral

Many Prominent People On Program

The public symposium "AA Today", sponsored by the San Francisco District of Alcoholics Anonymous General Service at the New St. Mary's Cathedral, the afternoon and evening of Saturday, January 9, 1971, will present what is possibly the longest list of prominent citizens ever found on any alcoholic program in Northern California.

Judge Emmett Daly, long time AA Friend, will speak on the subject, "What AA Does" at a Welcoming Meeting at 1:00 p.m., with Jim M., Past A.A. Trustee from Sacramento, speaking on "What is AA?" at the same meeting.

Guest Speaker, Chuck C., Laguna Beach, will address the closing meeting at 8:30 p.m. on the topic: "The Life of Service in A.A." Between these opening and closing meetings, from 2:15 to 4:00 p.m., seven workshops and informational meetings will discuss how Alcoholics Anonymous may co-operate in helping the problem drinker. Workshop Leaders, and AA Chairman Bill G., will summarize the discussions meeting at 4:15 p.m. (See program page 5).

A total of 33 people are listed on the program. These include Judges, Doctors, Social Workers, Businessmen, Priests and AA workers, and a number of young people, both AA's and Al-Anons.

The Hospitality Room at St. Mary's on Cathedral Hill will open at noon, and coffee will be served. Dinner break will come about 5:30 p.m. There are a number of good restaurants close by on

KQED-FM To Broadcast "AA Meeting Of The Air"

Radio Station KQED-FM will broadcast an "A.A. Meeting of the Air" live from San Francisco every evening from 8 to 9 p.m. (88.5 on FM dial) according to the Secretary's Newsletter from the Intercounty Fellowship office in San Francisco. The meeting was authorized by the Central Service Committee, with Leo L. coordinating the programs.

Any group which is interested in bringing members to put on the one-hour meeting is urged to contact the Central Office Secretary, who will pass the information on to Leo. There is a warm-up period before the broadcast, so that by the time the program goes on the air the member is briefed in how and what to do.

Any group in the Intercounty Fellowship may participate. How about **your** group?

Van Ness Avenue, and parking will be no problem on Saturday.

Bill W. Seriously Ill (Letter from Dr. Jack)

New York, N.Y.
December 3, 1970

Dear A.A. Friends:

We know you feel particularly close to Bill and are concerned about the condition of his health. He has not been in the office since the Convention in Miami Beach, and has been in and out of the hospital in Mt. Kisco, New York, which is just a few miles from his home in Bedford Hills.

As of today, he is in the hospital. His condition is serious. Of course, it varies from day to day, but the outlook is doubtful. Lois is holding up well, and we know both she and Bill are grateful for your good thoughts and prayers.

I visit briefly with them whenever I'm in the city, and speak with them by telephone also from home. We feel sure God will take care of them in the best way possible and I will be in touch with you again if his condition changes.

Regards from all at G.S.O.

Sincerely,

John L. Norris, M.D.
Chairman,
General Service Board.

NEWS OF AA DOINGS IN FRESNO

By GRACE A.

FRESNO'S AA's GREET NEW YEAR WITH "I WILL" RESOLUTIONS!

Many of Fresno's dedicated AA members, those members who will devote their time and energy to the management and affairs of the various AA activities, are part of the "I Will" contingent.

George D. is Secretary of the Central Service Office, with Opal B. as Office Manager; Joe F. and Mary Pat A. complete the staff.

Mike W. and Eunice S. are co-chairmen of the active AA Answering Service, operated by volunteer members on a 24 hour basis.

The January Inter-group meeting will be held on Saturday, January 9th, 8:30 p.m. at St. John's Church, 9th and Love Streets. Bob O., Secretary of the Survivors Group, will head the committee hosting the meeting.

New Secretaries taking the helm for the coming year:

Barbie J.—the Village Group;
Jules A. — Hugh Getty Group;
Mary B. — Powder Puff Group;
Ed G.—Monday Nite Alano Club.

Innovated in 1970 with success, the three noon hour meetings, Monday, Thursday and Friday, will be continued at the Alano Club, with Secretaries Jean, Mary B. and Dave. At these meetings emphasis is placed on the message given in the daily 24 Hour Book.

Manuel C. is Secretary of the Saturday Night Group at the Alano Club. This group welcomes Mexican Americans, and the response during the past year has been most gratifying.

Due to the resignation of Joe M. who is being transferred to Southern California, Max M. has resumed management of The Alano Club, acting also as Treasurer. Bob L. is President of the Club.

Howard T., Chief Chef of the Club, and Gene will host the January Alano Club dinner, which will be followed by bingo, white elephant sales and dancing.

HAVE A GLORIOUS NEW YEAR!

Good News First Class

—mail, that is! If you want to get GOOD NEWS promptly instead of waiting for 3rd class (permit) mail, send in 60c either money or stamps and we will put your name on the First Class Mail list.

RENO WILL HOST 14th CONFERENCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE

The young people in A.A., in and around the City of Reno, Nevada, will host the 14th International Conference of Young People in A.A. the weekend of June 18-20, 1971, according to Richard L., Conference Chairman, who says in part, in a letter to GOOD NEWS.

"Last August four young members of A.A. went to Fort Worth, at which time we submitted a bid to acquire the 14th International Conference of Young People in A.A.—We were successful, and now the hard task of getting the news around the country is on us. I hope you can assist us or let me know who can. I know the GOOD NEWS is read by a great number of people."

"Our theme is 'The Three Legacies of A.A.' One day will be set aside for each one. It must be stressed that there is no age limit, 'under 40' and over, also that Al-Anons and Alateens play an important role."

"The only real different aspect of this Conference will be the fact that we are going to have an outside, Western Style Barbecue instead of the traditional chicken dinner. Thank you,"

The conference will be held in Pioneer Theatre Auditorium in Reno. For reservations and infor-

"BY-THE-WAY" SACRAMENTO CCFAA

The regular 'Second Saturday of the month Speaker Meeting' this month will be held instead on the Third Saturday, January 16th, 8:00 p.m., in the Clunie Club House, Alhambra and 'F' Streets, Sacramento. Stockton Midtown will be the Host Group.

Guest Speaker at this meeting will be Dr. Stencil Johnson, Crisis Clinic, Medical Health Department, Sacramento Medical Center. The AA speaker on the same program will be Gene D. of the Myrtdale Groups in Calistoga.

The CCFAA Group Delegates monthly meeting will also be held the same Saturday, in Room A, upstairs at the same Clunie Club House, at 4:00 p.m. The change in both meeting date and place was necessary to avoid conflict of dates with the General Services Public Meeting, "AA Today" at the New St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco on January 9, 1971.

Group 3 will have Red K. of San Francisco as their Guest Speaker on Saturday, January 30, 1971, according to Rae F., Secretary.

The 'First Sunday' speaker meeting on January 3rd, in the Recreation Hall at Weimer Medical Facility, at 7:00 p.m. will present a husband and wife team, an excellent program according to Gene D., Secretary.

The Lodi Group will also present a 'team', Bob and Sybil C. of Los Angeles, at their meeting on Friday, January 29, 1971.

The Marysville Thursday noon open group at 824-4th Street, and the Yuba City Tuesday Night open group at the YMCA, both have been discontinued, according to Secretary Roger N. of the Marysville Two Street Group.

Note: The Marysville Tuesday Night meeting is still going!

mation write Conference Committee, P.O. Box 698, Reno, Nevada, 89504.

"THE PITCH"

(California Northern Interior Area
of General Service)

The Fall meeting of the California Northern Interior Area of General Service was held in Sacramento on December 6, 1970. Attendance was very good, although there were some districts not represented.

Ralph W. who has served the Area as Delegate to New York for the past year, submitted his resignation effective December 31, 1970, "for personal reasons". He made a short talk on the need for Unity, based on the Twelve Traditions. There was a unanimous expression of gratitude to Ralph for a job well done.

Jim M. of Carmichael, past Trustee and Delegate, gave a talk which stressed the need for care in the selection of Delegates and Trustees. Bob B. of Redding, the Alternate Delegate, was ratified as New York Delegate to fulfill the remaining year of Ralph's term, and Annette F., Fresno, who is serving as Secretary, will also fill the unexpired term as Alternate Delegate.

As the area has no available candidate for nomination to the office of Regional Class B. Trustee, it was agreed that the Interior Area would endorse the nomination of Stan W. of Fairfax for Trustee.

A review of the group contributions to New York shows that there are some 'deadhead' groups in our area. These are groups which contribute nothing to General Service in New York, nor to the local level, but at the same time they expect and receive the services of A.A.

GSR's and Committee members, please check with your group and see to it that "We are self-supporting" through our own contributions.

(Signed) Bob B.

(Editor's note — see "Is Your Group Being Subsidized?" page 4)

Calendar of Coming Events

January 9—General Service event, "AA—Today", new St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco.

Feb. 26-28, 1971—7th All Gal A.A. Conference, Broadview Hotel, Wichita, Kansas. Write: Conference Chairman, 3805 South Broadway, Wichita, Kansas 67216.

March 5-7—Santa Maria, California, 4th Pacific Region General Service Assembly.

March 13-14—Redding, California, Northern California Council Spring Conference.

June 4-5, 1971 — San Francisco Central All-groups 25th Anniversary celebration.

June 18-20, 1971—Reno, Nevada. 14th International conference of Young People in A.A. P.O. Box 698, Reno, Nevada, 89504.

DALY CITY GROUP 8th ANNIVERSARY

The Daly City Group of AA will celebrate their 8th Birthday at their meeting Wednesday Evening, January 13th, 1971, 8:30 p.m., in the Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 80 Wellington Street, opposite City Hall in Daly City.

Art K. from Pasadena will be the Guest Speaker for the occasion, with Barbara I. of Fremont the Guest Chairman. Father Mullen, Pastor of the Church, will give the Invocation.

Refreshments will be served both before and after the meeting. There is plenty of parking space in back of the Church. "The magic number is eight!"

PENINSULA ALL-GROUPS FINE JANUARY PROGRAM

With five Saturdays in the month the Peninsula All-groups has lined up an imposing list of speakers for January, as follows:

January 2—Arnold R., S.F. Fellowship; Host, Redwood City Thursday.

January 9—Connie C., Emerald Hills; Host Group, Emerald Hills.

January 16—John R., San Carlos Friday; Host Group, same.

January 23—Bill G., Surf Group, S.F. Host, Brisbane Sunday.

January 30—Rollin W., A.R.A.—S.F. Host, Menlo Park Friday.

Meetings are held at 8:30 p.m. in the Recreation Room of St. Matthews Church, Baldwin and El Camino, San Mateo. Coffee is served both before and after meetings.

FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The San Pablo Friendly Fellowship at 1426-13th Street will hold their first business meeting of the New Year on Tuesday, January 5, 1971. A feature of this meeting will be the election of officers.

Other activities this month include a Sunday Morning breakfast served from 9 to 12 noon on January 3rd and a pot-luck dinner Saturday, January 9th, from 6:30 p.m. 'til?

Regular weekly speaker meetings are held every Friday night, the January dates are the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. A special discussion meeting will be held on New Years night, January 1st.

ESPECIALLY FOR NEWCOMERS

Both Meetings held at 1755 Clay St., San Francisco—8:30 pm
Coffee — Refreshments — Arm's Length A.A. after each Meeting

MONDAY BEGINNERS

Speaker Meeting with
Questions and Answers

THURSDAY BEGINNERS

Speaker—Discussion Meeting

"THE LINK"

(California Northern Coastal Area
of General Service)

The Area Committee held its monthly meeting on Thursday, December 3, 1970, when the newly elected officers for 1971-1972 were installed. The meeting was held at the Oakland East Bay Alano Club, 319-14th Street, Oakland. Subsequent monthly committee meetings are scheduled for the third Thursdays of the month at the same Alano Club, in Oakland.

Congratulations were offered to Gerald L. and his host committee for the Berkeley Election Assembly last November. They fed about 200 people at noon, and approximately 300 more in the evening. It was estimated that about 400 members and their friends attended the evening meeting.

The forthcoming General Service event, "A.A. — Today" in San Francisco on January 9th at the new St. Mary's Cathedral, Gough and Geary Streets, was summarized as "A program for outsiders to find out what AA does for the problem drinker."

Looking ahead to the NCC Annual Spring Conference in Fresno March 13-14, the Coastal Area will program the General Service meeting on Saturday, March 13th, from 1 to 2:15 p.m. The program will feature both a man and a woman

Is YOUR Group Being Subsidized?

Dear Friends in A.A.,

If it's not contributing to Intergroup, Central Office or G.S.O.—then yes, your group **IS** being subsidized. Because it's accepting services, but letting other groups foot the bill.

Some A.A.'s might even think that the non-contributing groups are in violation of our tradition of self-support. **If they take but never give, they sure as heck aren't self-supporting!** All groups utilize services provided by G.S.O., for example, but only 63% contribute anything towards the cost of those services. Turning that one over, this means that 37% of the groups are getting a free ride!

G.S.O. neither wants or expects groups that can't afford it to contribute. But let's be honest — how many of these have we? If we mean

what we say about "wanting the hand of A.A. always to be there," then we should be willing to help **PUT** A.A.'s hand there.

Last year G.S.O. received 92,747 letters, and sent out 85,705 individual pieces of mail. It answered 5,925 inquiries, helped place over 6,500 stories or news items about A.A. in magazines and newspapers. More than 15,000 World Directories were mailed out to the groups, as well as over 200,000 other pieces of service literature. All of this, and much more, was made possible by contributions sent in by the groups.

We hope you'll help us to continue to provide these services to all who want or need them. If yours already is a contributing group, please accept our gratitude for your help. But, if your group hasn't yet contributed, but can now afford to, won't you do so now?

Jim A., Coastal Area Delegate;
Bob B., Interior Area Delegate.
(From General Service, N.Y.)

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PROGRAM — "AA TODAY" ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL—SAN FRANCISCO JANUARY 9, 1971

12 Noon—Hospitality Room Open.

1:00 P.M.—Welcome and Remarks.

"What is AA?" — Jim M., Sacramento

"What AA Does"—Judge Emmett Daly, San Francisco.

2:00 P.M.—Coffee Break.

2:15 P.M.—Workshop Sessions.

1 — AA and Health:

Dr. M. F. Stock, Napa State Hospital

Dr. Gil Ayotte, Public Health

Dr. Jack D. Gordon, Mt. Zion Hospital

Mary Connelley, R.N., Laguna Honda Hospital

2 — AA and the Law:

Federal Judge Gerald S. Levin

Superior Judge Robert W. Merrill

Municipal Judge Charles E. Goff

Cecil C., Hospital & Institutions Committee

G. W. Sheldon, Court School Committee.

3 — AA and the Employee:

Mrs. Florette Pomeroy, Council on Alcoholism

A. J. Sullivan, Petroleum Industry

Keith Kelly, United California Bank.

Frank Huddleston, Hughes Aircraft Company.

4 — AA and the Family:

Panel of Al-Anon and Alateen members.

5 — AA and Young People:

Jack G., Ken K., Art E., Pat E., Roberta S.

6 — AA and Social Service:

Fr. Kenneth M. Gearhart, Henry Ohlhoff House

Jane O'Toole, Stepping Stone House

Allen Skinner, A.R.A. First Step Home.

Earl Dombross, New Start Center.

Joe Ridgeway, Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Jack Schafer, Senior Social Worker

7 — AA, The Spiritual Path:

Monsignor Clement J. McKenna, St. Patrick's Church

Frances L., Frances C., Arnold R., Chester W.

4:15 P.M.—Summary of Panel Discussions.

Chairman—AA Speaker, Bill G., San Francisco

Workshop Leaders

5:30 P.M.—DINNER BREAK

8:30 P.M.—Closing meeting:

Guest Speaker, Chuck C., Laguna Beach

Topic: "The Life of Service in AA."

All General Meetings — Main Auditorium.

Workshop Sessions — Adjacent Side Areas.

The secret of happiness is in knowing that we live by the law of experience. We find greatest joy, not in getting, but in expressing what we are.

There are tides in life's ocean; what comes in depends on what goes out.

ALCOHOLISM HAS NO EQUAL

Alcohol will take the stains out of old summer clothes, also old winter clothes; it will take the clothes off a man's back, shoes off his feet, food from his table; and take the ones he loves away.

Inter-County Fellowship Presents Two Couples On Friday All-Groups Meets

The Central Friday Night All-Groups Meeting program for January, with five meetings starting with New Years Night, the 1st, will present a series of most interesting meetings and speakers. Paul G., Secretary of the Inter-County Fellowship, will be one of the speakers on Friday, the 1st, with Elrene A. the other.

Bill and Jan Y. of Corte Madera, and Ron and Vera M. of San Francisco, two husband and wife teams, will speak on the 15th and 29th respectively. Jack B. of Monterey, with Betty R., will form the program on the 8th, and Tim H. Sr., with Pat H. of San Rafael on the 22nd of January complete the month's program.

The Alumni Group will celebrate its 2nd Anniversary on Wednesday, January 13th, meeting at the Lutheran Church, 33rd Avenue and Ulloa Street, at 8:30 p.m. Speaker will be Father Tom, with Bill S., Chairman, and Gene D., Calistoga, for Chapter 5. Refreshments will be served.

Due to the annual refinishing of the club house floors, January 4th to 15th, the Sunday Wawona Group will not meet on January 10th and the Parkside Group will not meet on Thursdays, January 7th and 14th.

Starting on Wednesday, January 6th, the Ambassadors Group will change its meeting time from 8:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Sunday Night Closed Beginners' Group in Boyes Springs has changed its name to "The GOOD NEWS Group, meeting at the National Bank Building, 18294 Sonoma Highway, Boyes Springs.

At a party a woman remarked to her husband: "That's the fifth time you've gone back for more punch. Doesn't it embarrass you at all?"

"No," he answered, "I keep telling them it's for you."

DOCTOR BOB — TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Editor's note) Robert H. Smith, our Dr. Bob, passed away over 20 years ago (8-8-79—11-16-50). Perhaps the most important thing he left us, other than his work and cooperation with Bill W., co-founder, is his summation of the A.A. program, made in his talk at the First AA Convention, Cleveland Auditorium, July 30, 1950. First reprinted in GOOD NEWS issue of November, 1957, we reprint it again for the benefit of the thousands of members who have come to us since then.)

"My good friends in A.A. and of A.A. I feel I would be very remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to welcome you here to Cleveland not only to this meeting but those that have already transpired. I hope very much that the presence of so many people and the words you have heard will prove an inspiration to you — not only to you but may you be able to impart that inspiration to the boys and girls back home who were not fortunate enough to be able to come. In other words, we hope that your visit here has been both enjoyable and profitable."

"I get a big thrill out of looking over a vast sea of faces like this with a feeling that possibly some small thing that I did a number of years ago played an infinitely small part in making this meeting possible. I also get quite a thrill when I think that we all had the same problem. We all did the same things. We all get the same results in proportion to our zeal and enthusiasm and stick-to-itiveness. If you will pardon the injection of a personal note at this time, let me say that I have been in bed five of the last seven months and my strength hasn't returned as I would like, so my remarks of necessity will be very brief."

"But there are two or three things that flashed into my mind on which it would be fitting to lay a little emphasis; one is the **SIMPLICITY** of our program. Let's not louse it all up with Freudian complexes and things that are interesting to the scientific mind but have very little to do with our actual AA work. Our Twelve Steps when simmered down to the last, resolve themselves into the words **LOVE** and **SERVICE**. We understand what love is and we understand what service is. So let's bear those two things in mind."

"Let us also remember to guard that erring member — the tongue, and if we use it, let's use it with

(Continued on page 8)

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, we want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, **WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.**

Doctor: I'm sorry to have to tell you this, but your wife's mind is gone."

Husband: "Well, that's not surprising! She has been giving me pieces of it for years."

AM I A BUILDER?

I watched them tearing a building down,
A gang of men in a busy town.
With a ho-heave-ho and a lusty yell
They swung a beam, and a side-wall fell.
I asked the foreman, "Are these men skilled,
And the men you'd hire if you had to build?"
He gave a laugh and said, "No, indeed,
Just common labor is all I need,
I can easily wreck in a day or two
What builders have taken a year to do."
And I thought to myself as I went away,
Which of these roles have I tried to play?
Am I builder who works with care,
Measuring life by the rule and square?
Am I shaping my deeds to a well-made plan,
Patiently doing the best I can?
Or am I a wrecker who walks the town,
Content with the labor of tearing down?

YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS

September 21, 1897, The New York Sun responded to a little girl's letter in what has come to be considered a classic editorial. Good News reproduces her letter and the Sun's ever-new editorial in the spirit of the season.

The little girl wrote:

DEAR EDITOR:

I am 8 years old. Some of my friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says: "If you can see it in the Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O'HANLON
115 West Ninety-fifth Street

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give our life its highest beauty and joy. Alas, how dreary would be the world if there was no Santa Claus. It would be

as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-

like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which

(Continued on page 8)

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FATHER BARNEY NOW AT STAR LODGE HOSPITAL

Beginning right after New Years, Father Barney, well known Priest-Speaker, will be in residence at Star Lodge Center Hospital, 5271 Scotts Valley Drive, Scotts Valley 95060 in Santa Cruz County, according to a letter received from Bill and Hazel O. The letter says, in part,

"In addition to conducting Retreats in the area, Father Barney will be conducting classes in the Twelve Steps at the Lodge, and generally assisting with the therapy which is available at the Lodge for acute and chronic alcoholism."

Owners Bill and Hazel feel Father Barney's residence will be a great addition to the Lodge, which is a State licensed facility, recently approved for Campus. They send greetings, and hope that their many friends in A.A. will stop in for a social visit and renew old ties.

GIVE GOOD NEWS

A subscription to **GOOD NEWS** makes a wonderful and economic gift. It comes each month for \$1.80 a year, or first class for \$2.40.

Give a subscription to a friend! You'll be glad you did!

H & I BROADSIDES

By George R., general chairman,

Northern California Hospital & Institution Committee

Our last 1970 General Meeting of the Hospital and Institution Committee was held in Modesto on November 29, 1970 at the Freeway Fellowship. Despite stormy weather, there was an excellent turnout for the meeting. The morning session was devoted to reports from Treasurer Walter R., Librarian Leonard L., Secretary Juanita M., and all of the Area and Regional Chairmen. At this session it was decided to change our financial reports to a calendar year, starting January 1, 1971. Presently our financial year is July through June.

The afternoon session, chaired by Cecil C., San Francisco Regional Chairman, was utilized for questions and answers on pertinent topics and problems of the many facilities covered. Also a proposed letter explaining the purpose of the "pink cans" was read by Cecil and a favorable acceptance was given by the Committee for its use. Copies will be sent to all interested individuals.

The H and I Committee have a substantial number of tapes of conference speakers in our library. These tapes are available for H and I work in our various facilities, and can be secured by contacting Russ M. at 1915 Franciscan Way, Richmond, 94805. These tapes are available and should be used more often. Let Russ know when you need them and he will make them available.

Quite often questions are raised concerning meetings, procedures and other pertinent points regarding H and I members going into the various facilities. It appears that many members have not read our brochure on "How It Works" which is available to all members of the H and I Committee. If you do not have a copy please get one either from your Area Chairman, our Secretary Juanita M., or our Librarian Leonard L. This is a "must" for all contact chairmen.

This brochure was prepared over a period of years by the H and I Committee and covers the "do's and don'ts" of H and I work. These suggestions are based on "that which many years experience has taught us" and should simplify and clarify the procedures for those who are participating in carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to those who are confined.

Our next General Meeting will be held in Sacramento, February 7, 1971 at the State Parole Building, 819 19th St. Our host, Ed O., Area IV North Chairman has secured use of the building and promises a good turnout from his area for the meeting. Let's get off to a good start for 1971 by all attending the Sacramento meeting. The meeting will be held at the usual time — morning session 10 a.m. to 12 Noon—afternoon session 1 to 3 p.m.

Our Secretary has moved — her new address is 27 Monterey Drive, Daly City, California 94015. Telephone No. 756-3105.

BUT OF COURSE!

During a hot spell in New York a panhandler collapsed on the street. Immediately a crowd gathered and began offering suggestions.

"Give the poor man a drink of whiskey," a little old lady said.

"Give him some air," said several men.

"Give him a drink of whiskey," said the little old lady.

"Get him to a hospital," someone suggested.

"Give him a drink of whiskey," said the little old lady.

The babble continued until all at once the victim sat up.

"Will you all shut up and listen to the little old lady!" he hollered.

YES! VIRGINIA

(continued from page 6)
childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can push aside the curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing less real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God! He lives forever. A thousand years from now he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

DR. BOB

(Continued from Page 6)
kindness and consideration and tolerance."

"And one thing more; none of us would be here today if somebody hadn't taken time to explain things to us, to give us a little pat on the back, to take us to a meeting or two, to have done numerous little kind and thoughtful acts in our behalf. So let us never get the degree of smug complacency so that we're not willing to extend or attempt to, that help which has been so beneficial to us, to our less fortunate brothers. Thank you very much."

News Events from S.F. Alano Club

LET'S MAKE SEVENTY-ONE A REAL FUN YEAR!

Get involved in the swinging activities of your Alano Club—
Start by attending our dances and parties — then find out about the new "happenings" planned for our enjoyment!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9th—First Dance Party of the New Year!
Start the New Year dancing to the music of the Dry Notes. Surprise door prizes, too!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23rd—Dance again! The Dry Notes playing for your pleasure. Enjoy more surprise door prizes!!!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30th—TRADITIONAL BIRTHDAY PARTY!
Come and help celebrate the January AA Birthdays! Cake and coffee! Dancing, too!!! (If you have a favorite dance tune, let us know and we'll play it.)

That's it for January—SEE YOU!!!

SAN FRANCISCO ALANO CLUB

414 GRANT AVENUE CORNER BUSH STREET

AREA 4 NORTH H & I COMMITTEE LUNCH MEETING SATURDAY, JANUARY 9th

The next Hospital and Institutional Committee Meeting in Area 4 North will be held on Saturday, January 9th, a luncheon meeting at Smorgy Boys Restaurant, 6501 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael (near Marconi), the times, lunch at 12:30 p.m. with the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Luncheon Committee Chairman Kent W. says, "Spread the word to all members of A.A. about this meeting. We get much more done in a nice atmosphere like this than at a plain old business meeting."

Also note; the next General H & I Committee meeting will be held in Sacramento at the Parole Building on 19th Street the 7th of February, 1971. This meeting does not get to the Sacramento Area very often, so all A.A. members should plan to attend.

"Our only problem," said the husband ruefully, "is that we didn't save enough during the Depression to see us through this prosperity."

— Christian Science Monitor

EUREKA AREA NEWS

The General Service Committee held its monthly meeting for December on the 9th. Ann U. was elected Treasurer.

The schedule for the film "Bill Discusses the 12 Traditions" will be as follows: Tuesday, January 5th, Rio Dell; Wednesday the 6th, Eureka Alano Club; Saturday, January 9th, Episcopal Church, 14th and H Streets, Eureka, and on Sunday, the 10th, in Crescent City.

The Humboldt-Del Norte Central Committee met on Sunday, December 13th. The speakers Bureau reported a busy month, with six speakers on 3 days at Humboldt State College, 3 to parents without partners, 2 speakers to a symposium entitled "Many Faces of Alcoholism," held at Humboldt State College Nov. 13-14, and 2 speakers to Arcata High School.

The Answering Service reported 29 calls in November.

The New Years Eve party at the Alano Club was a great success.