



Good News



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YOUNG PEOPLES MEET TERMED SUCCESS

The 16th Annual Conference of Young People in AA might well have been the largest gathering of its kind held in San Francisco for some years, according to the local sponsoring committee.

The conference held at the St. Francis Hotel on July 6-8, drew some 1300 registrants from 27 states of the U.S. and five provinces of Canada. Better than 60 percent of those attending were under 30 years of age.

The three day event, themed "Getting Your Sobriety Together", was covered by nine news gathering organizations, and substantial stories were published in all of the three major bay area dailies. A local television station also covered part of the gathering.

The avowed purpose of the convocation was to help younger AA members realize they are a part of the larger unity of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Bay Area conference committee stated.

The committee's statement continued, "the fact that the San Francisco Districts of General Service have already gone on record as expressing appreciation for a job well done, and that the conference was formally supported by the Area General Service and members of the central office staff of the Inter-county Fellowship are indications that the goal of this gathering was achieved."

The gathering comprized some twenty meetings of AA, Alanon and Alateen, and a major banquet.

The Advisory Council of Young Peoples Conferences chose Indianapolis, a three time bidder, as the site of the 1974 conference. Atlanta and Boston were other bidders.

(See Woodland Page 3)

ARA INTO DETOX WORK

The Alcoholics Rehabilitation Association of San Francisco last month officially entered the non-medical detoxification field, and is accepting detox clients at First Step house, 1035 Haight Street.

Entry into detoxification was one of two major steps taken to expand ARA's rehabilitation service. The other was the conclusion of arrangements for expense-free, professional public relations campaign to attract funding for a "graduate house" and other major projects.

Referral arrangements have been made with a number of unions and other organizations having alcoholism programs, ARA president Pete Mott announced. He added that clients will also be accepted "off the street"

They will be fed and housed separately, and kept apart from the regular residents of the house, "at least for the first 48 hours," Mott said.

Eventually, he explained, a separate dormitory will be devoted to detoxification. In the mean time, smaller rooms are being used.

Alcoholism Setup Is Critized

Note: The figure quoted for ARA is approximately \$8,000 high.

San Francisco agencies spend four times as much money rehabilitating alcoholics as do private non-profit agencies in The City. And the private groups do a better job.

This allegation and others were made yesterday by the Citizens Alcoholism Advisory Committee to the City's Mental Health Advisory Board.

The Alcoholism Committee also claimed an overabundance of clinics for the skid row inebriate and almost

(continued on page 8)

FRIDAY ALL GROUPS MARKS 27th YEAR

The San Francisco Friday All Groups will mark its 27th anniversary with a meeting and party on August 17. Ginney G., popular AA speaker from Los Angeles will be featured. The gathering will be hosted by the All Groups Committee.

Other speakers and host groups for August are:

August 3rd—Ron B., Pleasant Hill; Park Presidio;

August 10th—Darryl D., Menlo Park Monday, Sunday Wawana;

August 24th—Pete and Marialice M., First Step—Brisbane Breakfast;

August 31—Ruby H., Mill Valley—Parkside.

All meetings are in the Star King Room of the Unitarian Church, Franklin and Geary Streets, San Francisco, and are open. There is coffee and arms length before and after. The doors open at 7:30, the meeting begins promptly at 8:30.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

By Helen

The San Jose All-groups monthly meeting will be held Saturday Night, August 11th, at the Alano Club, 1122 Fair Ave. The event will be sponsored this month by the San Jose Intergroup.

A dance will be held after the meeting; donation for Club Members is \$1.25, and non-members will pay \$1.50.

The Fellowship office, 255 South Second Street, provides 1,200 hours of AA Fellowship each month, according to their Secretary.

There are two meetings each day; at 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. In addition there are meetings at 11:00 p.m. both Friday and Saturday evenings.

SPECIAL PROGRAM TO SHOW AA "INSIDES"

Who does what in AA? What do the GSO, H and I and other working groups do? How is AA held together?

These and other questions will be answered at a special "Inside AA" program at 1 p.m., August 25 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Geary and Gough Streets, San Francisco. A comedy skit will also be featured.

The idea of the program is to strengthen AA unity and help generate interest in AA service committees by explaining the purpose and function of each group.

The first half of the meeting will include an introduction and discussions of the functions of the Hospitals and Institutions Committee and the General Service Organization. Following a fifteen minute break there will be talks on the Northern California Conference and the Central Service Organization. The afternoon will conclude with the one act skit.

This is one of a series of meetings recently initiated following complaints of apathy and ignorance on the part of the general AA membership.

MARIN TELESERVICE

There will be no change in the traditional Marin County teleservice arrangements.

This was the decision made at the recent semi-annual San Francisco Intercounty Group Delegates meeting, heading a vote of 200 out of 344 Marin County AA members to continue the 20 year old policy of listing the San Francisco teleservice number in the Marin County phone book, rather than installing a San Rafael to San Francisco hook-up at a minimum of \$1336 annually, or turning answering services over to the San Rafael "Telephone Group" of AA.

The vote was taken by questionnaire, with 22 out of 29 groups responding. One group did not vote on any of the three alternatives. Another requested other alternatives which were not available.

Ninety-four members okayed the San Rafael-San Francisco line, while 49 voted to turn service over to the Telephone Group.

There's hope for us all in "AA's" Fellowship —

Even humor, joy, warmth — plus companionship!

It doesn't cost a dime — I'll have you know —

But please don't forget to toss in some dough.

"AA" All The Way —
"Anonymous Alcoholic"



FRESNO NOTES

Jed R.G. of Hanford led off the July Fresno Area AA birthday list with 25 years. Close behind were Harry L., 23 years; and Ed H., 18 years. It was 13 years for Vera G. and Dano B. and 12 years for Howard T. Others, whose anniversaries ranged from the eighth to the first were: Nancy H.; Irene H.; Marvin L.; David C.; Jack Van M.; Ed B.; Jerry M.; Nora P.; Jerry St. L.; Don S.; Bobbie C.; Kathryn Y.; Josie H.; and Edwin R.

LeRoy G. of the Fresno area died June 16, and Barbara J. recently underwent surgery.

After approximately two years, an Alateen group for older children of alcoholics has been formed in Fresno. Meetings are held each Wednesday at the Veterans Hospital.

Most Convicted 102s Continue to Drive

In one recent survey, it was found that 60 percent of the drivers with a sever drinking problem stayed on the road after their licenses had been suspended or revoked.

Police officials said that because of increasing pressure in the last decade to deal with violent crime, they have had to shift manpower out of traffic enforcement. Regular men on the beat, they say, rarely have time to go after drunken drivers.

The police motivation is also affected by the apathy of the general public. "If you get shot in a holdup, there's concern"... (Inspector John Boyer explained. "If you get killed by a drunk in a car, people ask, 'so what else is new?'"

Mrs. Betsy Fitzsimmons Rahn, a municipal court judge in the affluent suburban community of Walnut Creek, near San Francisco says "many judges have kissed off the drunken driver charge. They are caught in a squeeze play of rising case loads and higher court decisions saying 'you must spend more time to do justice,' she said. "The first thing judges try to get rid of is the drunken driver case." Many judges are also reluctant to suspend a license because in the suburbs and rural areas, where there is little mass transportation, an individual without a car is often all but immobile. In the case of a drinker, they feel this would only aggravate the problem.

From the New York Times,
via Silver Dollar.

DOC DAILEY

Doc Dailey, for many years Central Office secretary in Portland, Oregon, died June 22. He will be missed by his many friends in Northern and Southern California.

Problems

There is a far too prevalent inclination in our fellowship to be annoyed by the fellow who is weighed down by his problems in life. Patient listening is not an inherent human virtue. It must be cultivated. Some who feel that there is a reasonable limit to patience with such people, may be justified. But who will step forward and define the proper limits of patience? Those of us who have achieved some measure of serenity while facing our problems, have more justification perhaps than others.

Many people have a relative peace of mind because of an ability to ignore problems. Remember that all of us came here with one big all engulfing problem that had us whipped. We acquired that problem because of ducking the realities of life. Literally we jumped out of the frying pan into the fire. The fact that we got back at all is a miracle of spiritual healing by God as we understand Him.

The griddle of life is chock full of problems. It was meant to be so. If you are sailing through your sober life with equanimity, the probability exists that you are so doing because you are not facing up squarely to the full reality of life and the responsibility it entails.

All of us need a deep sense of responsibility. First we need to take charge of our own lives to the very best of our ability. To the extent that we do, we become less of a charge on others.

Having reached that point we must then move on to our responsibility toward others. We should have a constant awareness of the time when we were whipped and helpless, and but for willing, eager help from others, we might have perished.

That one in our midst, who in the early years of sobriety is constantly burdened with what to him is the smothering weight of insoluble difficulty, is the one who most needs our help.

Well can I recall the kindly patient ears of a few people that were imposed upon by me. Often there were some bits of wisdom, some of which remains alive and real to me

right down to the present. But more often there was nothing more than a quiet, kindly listening while the unburdening of a tortured soul went on endlessly.

The person weighted with his burden in life, may have an exaggerated view of it, but at least he is aware of it. Given the thoughtful hearing and advice which is at least well intended by us, he may one day meet the full impact of life squarely and well. If he does, then he may be helping us tomorrow.

Surely he is closer to the fullness of life's significance, than is the one who achieves a mock serenity, which is really complacency that comes through brushing off the problems of life.

When you are in that little back room of conscience where self-inventories are taken, look at the truth about your own success in solving problems. It may breed in you a new tolerance and understanding for him who is weighed down.

From Central Bulletin

Peninsula All Groups

Following is the Peninsula All Groups Schedule for August. All meetings are open, and are held at St. Mathews Episcopal Church, Baldwin and El Camino, San Mateo, Saturdays at 8:30 p.m.

August 4th—Curley F., Mountain View—Sunnyvale Open;

August 11th—Jen McKay, Brisbane—San Bruno Discussion;

August 18th—Art M., Hillsdale—Hillsdale;

August 25th—Patty K., Sacramento—Emerald Lake.

Coffee and arms length before and after each meeting.

Jack Irving Reprints

The reprints of Jack Irving's article, "The Responsibilities of a Group Secretary" are now available for those wishing copies. The bulk rate is 50¢ a dozen, but single copies will be sent free to GOOD NEWS subscribers upon request. Address GOOD NEWS, 166 Geary Street, Room 84, San Francisco, Calif. 94108. Remittance must accompany bulk orders; stamps acceptable.

OPENING PRAYER

Our Father, we come to You as a friend. You have said that where two or three are gathered together in Your name, there You will be in the midst. We believe that You are here with us now. We believe this is something You would have us do, and that it has Your blessing. We pledge with You always to be honest, and to search our hearts for weaknesses and errors that we may deserve Your help. We believe that You want us to be real partners with You in this business of living, accepting our full responsibilities and certain that the rewards will be freedom and growth and happiness. For this we are grateful. We ask You at all times to guide us. Help us daily to come closer to You and grant us new ways of living, of gratitude.

Amen

From AHS Pathfinder

WHY A REBOUND GROUP?

To help those who are sicker than others; the faltering AA; the perplexed AA; the mixed up AA. To help him or her get back on the ball—to get back on the program—to get this way of life which can really be such a happy one.

This is AA within AA.

People who are in the same boat as you are.

You're a slippee? You've been thoughtless? You've had a relapse?

These people did too! And they're sober today.

NO MATTER HOW MANY SLIPS, IF YOU REALLY WANT TO GET SOBER AND STAY SOBER HERE'S HOW.

Here's an opportunity to talk over your troubles, openly, honestly, with people who know what you're going through, because they went through it themselves!

HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN FIND OUT—from your own kind of people—HOW TO MAKE AA WORK FOR YOU!

Just as the primary principle of AA is one drunk helping another, so it is in the Rebound Group—just one repeater helping another...and that's

WHY A REBOUND GROUP!

Because Nobody's Perfect!

(We are not our brother's keeper...we try to be our brother's brother.)

From Secretary's News Letter

H & I BROADSIDES

By Jerry G., General Chairman
Hospital and Institution Committee
of Northern California

This is my first attempt at a venture of this nature, to be honest, I would like it to be someone else's responsibility, but I had better stop procrastinating and put some action behind a little reality ... I got the job.

First, on behalf of the Northern California Hospital and Institution Committee, we would like to thank Kim M. for doing one fantastic job while being General Chairman, and if I know Kim he will continue to give us a helping hand.

Recently, the 1973-74 H & I schedule books were released to the 16 areas. The combined efforts of many people were responsible for getting the books in their final state. Kim M. and his able assistant Woody A. probably had the biggest job of organizing, typing and mimeographing. The books were assembled and bound by guys from San Francisco, Bart B., Little Steve, Herman B., Steve W., and Mike, all were under the kind direction of George R. of Concord. We thank these people for putting some action into the program.

The last General H & I meeting was held at the Santa Rosa Alano Club. A good turnout was on hand for the distribution of the Pink Schedules and reports from regional and area Chairman. One of the many interesting reports was that Les P. of San Francisco who told us of a new program in San Mateo County involving the San Mateo County Adult Division of the Probation Department, who wants H & I to help in forming Rap Sessions with probationers and parolees on a voluntary basis. From all reports it is a success.

Mel B. of Santa Clara was recently elected chairman of Area 7. He fills the position vacated by Bill L. Mel has been very active in H & I work for the past 4 years and has done a particularly good job at the Veterans Hospital in Menlo Park. Mel told of the progress of the new

NEWS COPY DEADLINE 15th OF THE MONTH

The deadline for GOOD NEWS copy has been set as the 15th of the month prior to publication, according to Jim A., New Business Manager.

Jim hopes that this will make it possible to produce the paper in time to get it into the hands of subscribers by the first of the month. He asks the cooperation of all offices and individuals.

Send in the news by the 15th!

REMEMBERING!!

From the "original multilith volume" of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*: (Now reposing in the safe in the Central Office)

Here is the way Steps three, seven and twelve appeared in the "multilith copy" copy before the book itself went to press.

Step 3—Made a decision to turn our lives over to the care AND DIRECTION of God as we understood him.

Step 7—Humbly, ON OUR KNEES, asked him to remove our shortcomings HOLDING nothing back.

Step 12—Having had a spiritual EXPERIENCE as the result of THIS COURSE OF ACTION we tried to carry this message to OTHERS, ESPECIALLY alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

I would suspect that the changes between the multilith copy and the printed book were for the best.

S.F. Secretary's News Letter

GOOD NEWS 7-1-73 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Cash on Hand 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 73	\$ 321.38
Receipts	2,038.10
	2,359.48
Disbursements	2,250.02
Balance — 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 73	\$ 109.46

LONELY EAGLES

Not infrequently a recurring thought has been—What has happened to the literally thousands of men and women to have crossed the threshold of *Alcoholics Anonymous*' open door, attained sobriety and still practice abstinence, yet rarely are seen at meetings?

From time to time an accusing finger is pointed, charging apathy and complacency, or a judgment is rendered of ingratitude—none of which are within our province to assess since none of us really have the capacity to look into a person's heart or mind to determine the motivation or lack of it.

Rather, it could well be, we need to look into ourselves to determine what our contribution has been to stimulate that person to seek renewal within the group.

It has been our observation and experience that too often and too long we have placed these middle-timers, long-timers and old-timers on a pedestal to assume the mantle of sovereignty like the great bald eagle—monarch over all he surveys. And generally these people have been elevated to the pedestal much to their dislike.

But even the sovereignty of the eagle is incomplete without the eaglets in the nest, otherwise his dominion is threatened by the extinction brought on by loneliness, for none, not even the great eagle, is thoroughly self-reliant.

Sometimes our thoughts lead us to the near-conclusion that those of us in the nest are prone to draw the strength, hope and experiences of the eagle on the pedestal and not share our own strengths, hopes and experiences so necessary to his day-to-day renewal.

True, some eagles tend to pontificate in their sovereignty but isn't it better that we consider this a cover up for their feeling of loneliness of perhaps inadequacy and need for a renewing strength which is in our power to fulfill? Much better that we give than reject!

It is not uncommon for us to become cloaked in the mantle of strength of our contemporaries in our new found happiness, thus perhaps excluding those who were here so that the happy way might be shown us.

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Good pg 4

Life Would Be Perfect If...

One of the factors that sent many of us diving for the bottle of cur-all in our drinking days was frustration. And a frequent reason for our frustration was our expectation — or, more likely, our demand — for perfection.

We wanted perfection in life as a whole and in every facet and factor of it — or else...We expected perfection in our friends, bosses, wives, children — at least as far as their dealings with us were concerned. And when they acted like normal human beings and were not perfect (by the standards we laid down) we took this as a slight aimed at us or another of life's dirty tricks and, feeling hurt and let down, withdrew ourselves from mankind's reach and slid off into the fog of alcohol.

What we were doing, in fact, was throwing a childish tantrum because things didn't seem to be going the way we thought they should and life was so far from perfect. Instead of lying on the floor kicking and screaming like a frustrated child, we took our revenge on the crummy world by retiring from it to our own little fantasyland where everything was perfect by our definition and we were king.

And while we wallowed around in the bottle, the world, of course, went on its merry way quite well without us.

Sobriety has shown us the need for tolerance in all things. And attaining a tolerant attitude is a matter of growth — it seldom, if ever, happens overnight. In fact, the amount of tolerance we acquire as we move along the way is a good measure of the development of our maturity.

"Not many people can truthfully assert that they love everybody. Most of us must admit that we have loved but a few; that we have been quite indifferent to the many. As for the remainder — well, we have really disliked or hated them."

"We AA's find we need something

(continued on page 6)

LETTER TO AN ALCOHOLIC FRIEND

Dear Friend,

We have talked a lot since you first phoned for help. I have told you of my experiences both before and after I met AA and you have met other members, and heard their experiences at Group meetings. You admit you are an alcoholic, that your last visit to hospital was because of drink and not for the measles, and from all you have told me the indications are that you are an alcoholic. Whether you really accept this is something only you can know.

I am sorry therefore that you have decided to carry on drinking, to try to avoid the consequences of drinking as an alcoholic. Before, therefore, your mind becomes clouded up again, before you lose the benefit of a few days pause in your drinking, may I ask you to try to face squarely what these consequences are going to be.

MONTEREY ANNIVERSARY

In observance of the fifth anniversary of the opening of their Central Office, the Monterey Bay Area Intergroup will host a Buffet Dinner to be held in conjunction with the regular monthly Tri-County Birthday meeting in Carmel, August 25th.

Scheduled speaker is Jack T. from Beverly Hills.

Seating will be available for those who may want to attend the meeting only.

Dinner tickets may be purchased by writing Monterey Bay Area Central Office, Box 1974, Monterey, Cal. 93940. There will be dancing after the meeting.

CLIFFORD PETERSEN

Clifford E. "Cliff" Petersen died suddenly at his home in Eureka, July 11.

Cliff came to AA in Eureka at the 111 "G" Street Group approximately 20 or 21 years ago and was very active for years. He helped and sponsored many present members. In July 1970 he helped to organize the Myrtle town Alumni Group in Eureka, of which, he was an active member.

Cliff's wife, Nadine, died on June 25th of this year after a long illness. He is survived by his son Jerry.

You are never going to enjoy drinking again. The fact that you phoned us shows that deep down inside you is a sickness of soul from which you will never escape. Each period of remorse will be unhappier and unhappier. I know, for this was my experience.

You will shortly lose your job—and in your case a career—and it will be the first of many jobs you will lose if you go on drinking. You tell me you are good at your job, that this is the reason your behaviour is tolerated, the reason that those around you protect you. But are you as good at your job nowadays as you think you are? Was it yesterday your boss congratulated you—or a year ago? And is it you that your fellow workers protect—or is it your wife and family? No man is indispensable. This you will learn if you go on drinking. I did.

You will shortly lose your wife and family. For a long time now she has been going to Alanon, finding help and knowledge there, trying to do all the right things, to understand your illness, in the hope that one day you might go to AA. She was glad when you did, hopeful that the curses she receives from you in drink, the poverty she has put up with, the lack of friends around the house, the fears for your children, would disappear. She is very near breaking point. One day she will go. Mine did.

You will shortly be in serious financial difficulty. So far, you are just keeping your head above water, but only because of your wife. Once she goes so will any form of financial

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LIFE (continued from page 5)
much better than this in order to keep our balance. The idea that we can be possessively loving of a few, can ignore the many, and can continue to fear or hate anybody at all has to be abandoned, if only a little at a time.

We can try to stop making unreasonable demands upon those we love. We can show kindness where we had formerly shown none. With those we dislike we can at least begin to practice justice and courtesy, perhaps going out of our way at times to understand and help them."

Our everyday life can provide its share of petty irritations and frustrations for recovered alcoholics as well as for everyone else. We are not being realistic if we expect it to be perfect simply because we have stopped being boozers and have made an effort to catch up with the rest of society.

But if we face up to these little annoyances or hurts in a grown-up way, we will find that they fall into their true perspective and that they are not very important at all compared with the great sweep of the canvas of our life.

So let's nip very firmly in the bud any tendency to expect the perfect life just because we have put the cork in the bottle and let's start enjoying our new ability to appreciate the one we have. Life doesn't have to be perfect to be good.

A little thought will show us that it is ridiculous and arrogant to expect to attain full perfection in anything. There is only One who can claim such excellence. We are human beings. We can only keep on trying, day by day, to move towards His beacon.

TAPE LIBRARIES: Tapes of AA Talks and Entire Conference Programs:

MIDWEST TAPE LIBRARY — Bill O'N, Box 4259 University Station, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308. Phone 692-7898. Reel to Reel.

COTTON J. TAPES, 1623 Main Street, Lubbock, Texas 79401. Cassettes, 8 track and reel to reel. Also available on tapes, narrated by professionals, The Big Book The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, AA Comes of Age, and the Third Legacy Manual. (For members who are blind, have poor eyesight, or for some reason cannot read for themselves).

HESS TAPING & TAPE LIBRARY — 1110 W. 30th St. South Wichita, Kansas 67217. Cassettes, 8 track, and reel to reel.

PITCH (cont. from page 4)

Santa Clara County Evaluation and Referral Center at Agnew State Hospital. Three meetings a week, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday nights. Ward 44. The meetings have been well attended, with thoughts in the same area.

Roy H. has been appointed as Regional Chairman of the Southern Coastal Region. Roy held this position a couple of years ago and I am sure he will do a great job.

Lots of time, effort and travel has gone toward the second annual Hospital and Institutional Conference of California being held in Bakersfield on November 16, 17, 18. Now would be a good time to mark that week-end on your calendar, fill in a registration blank and send in your \$1.00 Donation, which helps to defray initial Conference costs of deposits and printing, etc., etc., etc.

The next general H & I Meeting will be held in Sacramento, August 26, 1973. At the Parole Board Office, 819 - 19th Street at 10 o'clock a.m. See you there.

EAGLES (continued from page 4)

It is distressing indeed, when we hear or learn that an eagle has fallen from his lofty, lonely pedestal, likely because he has replayed his tape which records the words: "Don't think; Drink!" and it is always in wonderment if a timely word, gesture or telephone call of friendliness might have precluded the fall.

So much is heard these days of togetherness, and it is our thought this is not confined merely to the marketplace—but to the isolated places which individuals often build for themselves and for each other.

Ours is a message to be carried to the still suffering alcoholic, and no less a message of life in which we reach out to all of our fellows that there may be a coming together in fellowship and shared happiness.

Eaglets need to be fed and shown how to fly, but the mighty eagle needs nurturing as well!

From "Central Bulletin" Cleveland

It's not hard to succeed, if you try your best —

If things get somewhat tough — let "God" do the rest.

Remember "easy does it" — but don't loaf on the job —

'Cause then you just might wind up another "Drunken Slob!"

"AA" All The Way —

"Anonymous Alcoholic"

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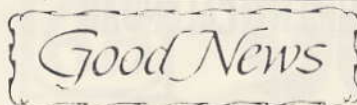
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THE STEPPER

Mike, of Oakland writes that he felt a little guilty about not going to the aide of a very swacked caller. "Should I have gone?" he asks.

Well, if you like being the captive audience for a long drunken recital or tear jerking session, why no? But it's not likely your 12 step visit would do anyone much good at that point. As a general rule, it's better to say "call back tomorrow, when we can talk sensibly." Of course, there are emergency exceptions, but not many.

LETTER (continued from page 5)
solvency. Then you will lose your home, your furniture either through the bailiffs or because you sell and pawn for money—always to straighten things out, really for drink. I know, because I did. And one day you will wake up in a doss house—and find it difficult to believe it is you who is really there. I know because I did.

Please be clear about all this. All this will happen if you go on drinking. All this is the material progression of the illness. All this happened to me, and thousands like me.

Yet there is no need for you to go through the hell I and these others did. There is no need for you to endure one moment more of misery. The answer to all your worries, all your fears, all your future, is in your hands now—here in AA.

Take it before it is too late, because, perhaps by the time you want it again it will be too late. That too happens—I know, because I have seen it.

Yours in AA,
A MEMBER

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA H & COMMITTEE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

JANUARY 1, through JUNE 30, 1973

DONATIONS

Total Donations	\$5,214.45
Balance January 1, 1973	3,743.36
	<hr/> \$8,957.81

DISBURSEMENTS

A.A. World Service (Literature)	\$2,812.80
Miscellaneous Items	115.13
Postage and Telephone	330.98
Petty Cash	327.39
Returned Checks	297.95
Stationery and Supplies	48.87
Riteway Printing	157.73
Rent — Alamo Club, Santa Rosa	16.19
Freeway, Modesto	16.00
P.O. Box 4032 (to 6-30-74)	21.60
Tapes, etc., J. Hopkins	49.25
Total Disbursements	<hr/> \$4,293.89
Balance July 1, 1973	4,663.92
	<hr/> \$8,957.81

SPLINTERS

Note: A few months back we invited readers to use GOOD NEWS to tell their AA stories. Lynn and Ted S., of El Paso, Texas are our first takers. Generally, we shy away from poetry, but we think this is exceptional.

Alcohol, cunning, baffling, crept into my life,
Stole my peace of mind and left me endless strife.
Each of these encounters took of me their toll,
Heartaches that lingered, splinters in my sole.

Impatience and self pity, fear of things to come,
Intolerance, dishonesty, times of feeling glum,
Guilt and resentments, lack of self control,
All pestering splinters deep within my soul.

Now there's fulfillment which comes to me each day,
Brings me peace of mind, chases worries all away.
The Twelve Steps played a special role,
Pulling one by one the splinters from my soul.

Faith brought the answer, trust in AA and God.
Dwell in His presence, walk the path He tread.
Open up your mind, and let Him make you whole,
You'll find sobriety and serenity,
Something for your soul.

FORT MILEY MEETING

There is a new speaker discussion at Fort Miley Hospital, 8 p.m. Wednesdays, in the solarium on the second floor.

The hospital is at 42nd Avenue and Clement Street, San Francisco.

If anyone is interested in helping the ARA initiate a detoxification center, treatment program and long term live-in recovery residence for both the public inebriate and the employed alcoholic please write the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Association, 1035 Haight Street.

ALCOHOLISM (cont. from page 1)
no facilities for the 95 percent who are hidden alcoholics, that is, alcoholics who keep their jobs and drink at home and in the bar rather than on the street.

\$187,000

The committee was especially disturbed by some \$187,000 in state funds made available to the City this year, most of which was never used and must be sent back to Sacramento.

The blame for the alleged errors in the alcoholism program was alid to Dr. Richard Shore, director of the Bureau of Alcoholism at the county health department. Shore did not attend yesterday's meeting but was reached later for comment.

Shore conceded that the ill-fated Themis House, a half-way house for alcoholics that closed down after six months of operation, cost much more to operate than the private agencies. But he argued that the \$85,000 allotted for the dozen residents and out-patient care was used for a different purpose.

"We provided an intensive psychological milieu treatment program," he said.

Private agencies include Stepping Stone, which spends approximately \$35,000 a year on 12 resident patients, and the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Association which has a \$70,000 budget to care for 47 resident alcoholics.

S.F. Examiner—Chronicle
6-10-73

HELP WANTED: Alcoholic Recovery House Resident Manager. Need couple (man recovered alcoholic, at least 5 years continuous sobriety) in small mountain town in Sierras, halfway between Sacramento and Lake Tahoe. \$500.00 month plus room and board. Position available September 1st. Replies necessary by August 1st. Send resume to: House Chairman, Rt. No. 1, Box 44-A, Shingle Springs, Ca. 95682.

ALANO CLUB AUG. ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

Dances — Parties — Games — Prizes — Frivolity — Fun — Fellowship

Donation — \$1.25

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4 —

First dance of the month — to music of Bill Gryder's Velvet Four — Come and bring your friends — Prizes have been upgraded — Have you seen the newly redecorated Club?

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18 —

Mid-month dance — Come and cut a rug to the tunes of Bill Gryder's Velvet Four — Fine prizes round out the evening — Top this off with AA Fellowship and what more can you ask!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 —

AA Birthday dance — share the excitement of AA Birthdays with your fellow AA friends — Fine records — and Cake — and Coffee —

SAN FRANCISCO ALANO CLUB
414 Grant Avenue, Near Bush Street

Attendance averages from 100 to 125 — So come and visit with old friends — and meet new friends at our dances. We'll be there to give you a warm welcome!

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1, 1973 through June 30, 1973

Balance on Hand 12-31-72	\$3,359.74
Deposits	8,682.93
	<u>\$12,042.67</u>
Expenses by check	8,441.67
Balance on Hand 6-30-73	<u>\$ 3,601.00</u>

RICHMOND CONFERENCE June 8, 9 and 10, 1973

INCOME

Registrations	\$ 972.00
3 Collections	1,450.11
Snack Bar	957.74
Miscellaneous	<u>286.75</u>
	<u>\$3,666.60</u>

EXPENSES

Rentals	\$ 640.00
Speaker	528.56
Snack Bar	432.70
Printing, Mailing, etc.	533.38
Stage Electrician	153.75
Sound Operator	126.00
Music	155.00
Literature	110.00
NCC & Conference Com.	140.68
Miscellaneous Expense	<u>112.74</u>
	<u>\$2,932.81</u>

NET GAIN \$ 733.79

A check for \$867.44 has been sent to the New York Office.
(signed) Anne S., Secretary