

AA Grapevine, November 1951

"Formal recognition of AA's success in treating alcoholism as an illness and in blotting out its social stigma."



The Lasker Award Statuette . . . replica of the classical Winged Victory of Samothrace, symbolizing victory over death and disease... now occupies a place of honor in your General Service Office.

1951 LASKER AWARD

Presented, October 30, in San Francisco, to the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous for Distinguished Service in the Field of Public Health.

No AA anywhere can be unmindful of the tremendous significance to himself and to the 'millions who don't yet know' of this, the greatest public honor to come to AA thus far. We are also grateful to the Lasker Committee for the manner of its presentation. Bernard L. Smith, non-alcoholic Chairman of our Foundation, accepted and Bill (introduced anonymously as an early member,) responded. Thus AA had been accorded national recognition. . . and our Eleventh Tradition had not only been preserved but had been underlined with the quiet dignity of AA selflessness.