

MAY 1953

Special Announcement

(Editor's Note: As promised last month, we are pleased to bring you a special advance notice from General Service Headquarters announcing publication of Bill's new book, "The Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions." The Traditions appeared serially in The Grapevine in the past twelve issues.)

After nearly eighteen months of writing, editing, and pre-publication detail, "The Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions" is about to be released. In this new volume, regarded by those familiar with the project as the most important AA publication since the "Big Book" first appeared in 1939, Bill draws upon his long experience, and upon that of other early members, to set forth his profound yet spirited interpretation of the fundamental principles of AA.

Step by Step, Tradition by Tradition—in nearly 200 deeply stirring pages—Bill offers his unique insight into the full meaning of each of AA's tested guideposts ... the Twelve Steps through which individuals have achieved sobriety and the Twelve Traditions through which our group structure has been maintained and strengthened.

Advance interest has been so great that arrangements have been made to issue the book in two editions—one for distribution by AA groups, and another for bookstore distribution to the general public by Harper and Brothers. AA retains full control and copyright ownership of both editions through Works Publishing, Inc.

When the book is released for sale in late May or early June, the bookstore price will be \$2.75, and our agreement with Harper's is that no books will be retailed for less than that price.

To AA groups only, the book will be sold for \$2.25, enabling the groups to realize fifty cents on each copy re-sold to individuals. (Although two-thirds of General Service Conference delegates in a recent poll felt that this book ought to be sold without profit to the groups, to help build an adequate Foundation reserve, neither Bill nor those at Headquarters felt this to be sufficient consent on a matter of such importance; hence the above discount.)

Orders are now being accepted, by mail only, and all shipments will be made as soon after May 10 as possible.