September 1947

Clinics to Highlight Convention in Memphis

Two thousand members of Alcoholics Anonymous are expected to gather in Memphis, Tenn., this month for the third annual Southeastern Regional Convention, September 19-20, at which Bill W. will be the principal speaker.

A unique feature of the convention will be a series of clinics to be held each morning on a variety of group and individual problems such as: Club Room Management; Meetings; Methods of 12th Step Work.

Data for the clinics was obtained in questionnaires sent out to southeastern groups and has been correlated for presentation by discussion leaders. Eight clinics have been scheduled.

Other activities include a steamboat ride on the Mississippi, a barbecue in the park, both open and closed meetings, and an informal, special pow-wow. A.A. members are invited to bring wives, husbands, families and friends, for whom the schedule provides plenty of activities.

The meeting will be held in the Memphis Auditorium. According to Maryan H., chairman of the convention committee, registration will begin Thursday afternoon, September 18, with an informal gathering of early registrants scheduled for that evening.

Vern W., chairman of the reservation and registration committee, says that the registration fee of $5, payable on arrival, includes a ticket for the steamboat ride and the barbecue; extra tickets may be purchased for friends for $1 each. Hotel reservations may be made through P.O. Box 1364, Memphis, Tenn.

In one of a number of bulletins sent out to members by the convention committee, the chairman said: "We are in no sense endeavouring to promote a national convention or set Memphis up as headquarters for such a meeting. However, we feel that A.A.s from regions other than the Southeastern will be interested and that much can be gained by an exchange of ideas by A.A. from widely different sections of the country."