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A QUESTION AND AN ANSWER

AT A RECENT MEETING of **Our group** the question of a paper-back edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* came up, one that should retail at 25¢ to 50¢. It was the opinion of all present that such a book would be far better, and do more for AA, than the present very expensive book. Many newcomers to AA simply cannot afford the present price of the Big Book, whereas they could well afford and would gladly pay 25¢ to 50¢. There are many AAs in this area (some on the program for several years) who do not have a Big Book for the reason, so they say, that they cannot afford it.

In addition to AAs, there are many non-AAs who would buy the book if displayed on newsstands at a low price. This market alone would absorb many copies yearly of a paper-back edition. If more non-AAs knew more about AA, they would

know what to tell their alcoholic relatives and friends . . . Many of the world's masterpieces, formerly too high-priced for the average person, are now widely distributed and read since made available in paper-back editions at 25¢ to 50¢.

The Burlingame Group would like to see this subject in the Grass Roots section. If the majority of the groups feel as Burlingame does, then we should have a paper-back edition pronto.

The Burlingame Group sends all good wishes, and hopes the idea will be well considered and received.

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Ed. note— To answer this question (raised at nearly every General Service Conference) we quote from the 1957 Conference Report: ". . . the loss of book revenue might impair GSH services. Book profits have meant the difference between continuing or curtail^{ing} these services a number of times."