

December 1948

MORE than 2,000 members of Alcoholics Anonymous and guests jampacked the main ballroom of the Hotel Commodore, New York City, recently to celebrate the organization's 14th anniversary.

The event, an annual banquet, was sponsored by the New York Inter-group Association of A.A.

For the first time in A.A.'s history many of its earliest friends and supporters met under one roof with Bill W. and Bob S., founders of the movement.

Among the early friends were Dr. W. D. Silkworth, formerly of Towns Hospital, Manhattan, and now in charge of the alcoholic ward of Knickerbocker Hospital, Manhattan; Dr. Harry M. Tiebout, well known psychiatrist of Blythewood, Greenwich, Conn.; and Dr. Samuel M. Shoemaker, pastor of the Calvary Episcopal Church, Manhattan.

Austin MacCormick, former commissioner of correction for New York City, and now the director of the Os-

borne Association, Manhattan, was the principal speaker. Mr. MacCormick spoke of the good A.A. had done and also of the excellent work the organization is doing in many penal institutions throughout the nation.

Other speakers were members who told personal stories of experiences in living before and after joining A.A.