

April 1954

## *Groups Schedule*

### *Pre-Conference Discussions*

DELEGATES to the Fourth General Service Conference of AA, scheduled to convene in New York April 21-25, are busy gathering the opinions and ideas of groups in their areas, according to correspondence and regional publications received at General Service Headquarters.

The seventy-five Delegates, half of whom are veterans of last year's Conference and the other half newly selected at special area meetings for a two-year term in accordance with AA's principle of rotation, will meet in closed sessions at the Hotel Commodore in New York City, for five days of intensive discussion and reports, recommendations and resolutions.

AA groups from coast to coast in the United States and Canada have been holding special meetings to consider matters slated to come before the Conference, and to add questions or subjects not covered by the nine specific proposals which will be acted on by Delegates at the Conference.

These proposals, originating from various sources, include such items as changing the name of The Alcoholic Foundation, publishing a pamphlet on the role and attitude of older members, listing prison and hospital groups in the AA Directory, and reviewing the matter of book discounts. They were sent out in February to Delegates and Committeemen for review and discussion among the membership in their area.

In addition to acting on the nine proposals, the Delegates will 1) receive and evaluate reports on AA's national and international service arms; 2) discuss problems and questions raised by Delegates at the Conference on advice from their areas; 3) consult with Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation and General Service staff on the best ways of carrying the AA recovery message at the national and international level.

The General Service Conference—designated by AA's founders Dr. Bob and Bill as the Third Legacy of Alcoholics Anonymous (to stand with the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions as cornerstones of strength)—is the link between AA's more than 5,000 groups and The Alcoholic Foundation, which has served as custodian of AA's traditions, publications, and movement-wide services since 1938. (See pages 24-25 March 1954 *Grapevine*.)