

February 1968

Remembering Dr. Bob

From San Mateo, Calif.:

Sixteen years have passed since Dr. Bob left for his Big Meeting, and today there are only a very few members of AA remaining who knew Dr. Bob personally. Each year there are fewer references made to him in our press and in our conversations, and I have noticed that several publications in recent years have referred to him as the Number Two AA. No reference to Dr. Bob is further from the truth.

When our co-founders met for the first time in Akron, Ohio, an indivisible union was formed which became the cornerstone on which the structure of Alcoholics Anonymous was built. Each man assumed the duties he was better qualified to perform, and no two men ever complemented each other more completely than Dr. Bob and Bill W. did.

During his lifetime, Dr. Bob hospitalized and sponsored more than five thousand men and women, who became the hard core of AA, and this alone qualifies him for eternal recognition as a co-founder of AA. Since I knew Dr. Bob personally and am indebted to him for many good things in my life, I feel it is a great privilege to remind those who refer to Dr. Bob as the Number Two AA that he was not Number Two, but, with Bill, Number One.

DEWEY S.