

KEE, C. WOL. SPEAK. JUDGE C. (TOWN CLUB) 2612 President

# CENTRAL BULLETIN



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1007 SCHOFIELD BLDG., CLEVELAND 15, OHIO

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## Editorial -Worry ☉

Worry, which often starts as a figment of the imagination, can become a disruptive force that robs us of peace of mind, cripples our spirit and cramps our lives.

This fact, the truth of which has been established by the experience of each one of us, demonstrates how decisively our mental attitude and our emotional balance govern our physical actions.

Arthur Somers Roche expressed this idea in different words when he said that "worry is a thin stream of fear trickling through the mind. If encouraged, it cuts a channel into which all other thoughts are drained."

This is particularly the case with us alcoholics. We never were satisfied with a thin stream of anything. We had to have the channel and one big enough to wallow in. Its the same whether it be liquor, our frame of mind, our pet ideas and prejudices or what have you. We are people who "shoot the works" and "go the whole hog" in whatever we undertake.

It is to be expected, then, that having attained sobriety, we will not at once also achieve balance and perspective and proportion in all aspects of our lives. That takes time and patient effort.

This is not to excuse this Tendency to worry or fret. It should not be indulged and coddled. It should be eliminated. But saying so is easier than doing it.

There are some elementary guide posts available:

ONE — Matters about which we worry seldom if ever turn out to be as bad as they seem in our minds. We build up imaginative, horrific possibilities that never come about.

However bad the problem which worries us may be, it cannot possibly be so bad that it can not be solved with the help of that Higher Power which brought us to sobriety. With that Power on our side and it is there or we wouldn't be sober and sane—we have nothing to fear.

TWO—We must guard against the inclination to swing to the opposite extreme and assume a "devil may care" attitude toward the problems of life. While this may eliminate the worry it goes so far that it mistakes ordinary responsibilities for fretting and dangerously neglects them.

THREE—We must use our heads, employ common sense, to attain the balance that is necessary to a full life. We must learn to distinguish between a baseless worry and an essential responsibility.

FOUR—It is incumbent on us to remember that all of life's problems are as subject to change, alteration, amendment, improvement and growth as was the overwhelming problem of alcohol. If we approach other problems in the same open frame of mind, with the same desire for a solution, the quest will not be in vain.

Instead of allowing the fear that is worry to eat away the walls of our mind, we should make assurance and certainty (those qualities that are open to all men who have faith in the Higher Power) the materials with which we construct a new and better life.

(Continued on page two)

## Goal - Integrity

"Why is it so easy for me to be bad, when I know I should want to be good?" In substance, this question was aimed at a speaker at one of our recent meetings, by a member. "It seems," he continued, "that every day I'm more aware of how simple it would be to ruin the decent reputation I've managed to develop since I quit drinking, by one slip backward into my former behavior pattern. It worries me!"

The speaker properly pointed out that our habituation pattern set during our loose drinking days, which was steadily lowering day after day, was caused by our rebellion against discipline—the discipline of self as well

as that of the ordinary standards of church or society. Getting by with it by not being caught and punished, or, if being caught, getting off with less punishment than we had feared, lulled us into feeling that we were beyond these laws—that we were special people entitled to special privileges.

As we gambled with the trust and faith and love of those near and dear to us we became inured to criticism and even contempt and later sickening-to-take derision. But being wilful and selfish as well as being obsessed with a wrong sense of self-importance we continued in our pattern — until the dawn came!

With this awakening came the horrible feeling of inadequacy-of being unable to change our habits and win the approval of those persons who meant something to us. Persons who would be tolerant and patient, understanding and sympathetic.

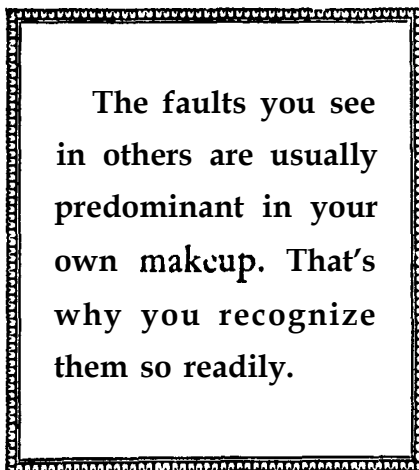
The question was an honest question from an honest man who worried about his temptations. He thought he alone was beset with these problems of daily correcting a habit pattern of years. Drinking was no longer a problem with him. Measuring up to long dormant high principles and religious standards required a greater effort than he expected.

As Judge Jim C. mentioned in his talk at the Consolidated meeting, we must supplant good habits with bad ones and train ourselves daily. This new habituation, if earnestly applied and with the help of God can achieve results commensurate with the extent of desire and the persistence of the person trying it. We shouldn't expect to change a pattern of 20 or more years overnight or even in a year or two without it being a conscious effort.

Let's not measure our standards by those of the world and peoples in it, but set our goal according to the Absolutes which guided and still guide our founders. Let us each day try to be perfect in love-in purity-in honesty and in unselfishness. We won't and can't reach perfection, but if we try real hard we won't need to ask the question which opened this article.

Integrity should be our goal.

A southern town had two churches across the street from each other. "Couldn't those churches be combined?" a visitor asked. "Not very well," was the reply. "That church over there says, 'There ain't no hell,' and this one says, 'The hell there ain't.'"



## CONSCIENCE

The popular novelist, Albert Payson Terhune once admitted that like the well-known Scotsman, he had a conscience that was not powerful enough to keep him out of mischief but only powerful enough to keep him from enjoying it. The first manifestation of this quality Terhune experienced in his early childhood. He stood accused of eating an entire bowlful of lump sugar. "Did you do it?" his mother demanded. "Yes," wailed the young culprit, "but I cried all the time I was eating it."

### "TWELFTH STEP KID"

With Charley, it was love at first sight! He became the group's "12th Step Kid"—hospitalizing 'em, riding herd on 'em afterward—Charley loved it. And, around the group, Charley was considered a darn good A.A.

I guess the rest of us are more guilty than Charley for what developed. Most of us are busy and Charley seemed not only to have the inclination, but the time also. So we were glad to let him go to it. Then gradually it came out that things weren't so hot in Charley's home.

Not enough money was coming in. Not nearly enough. His wife waited patiently for Charley to settle down. But Charley continued to ride the pink clouds. New men had come into the group, ready and eager for 12th Step work. But Charley continued his frantic rushing around—on a "binge" of self aggrandizement. "Playing God"—and mesmerizing himself.

He couldn't be pinned clown. Instead he shrugged off his obvious responsibilities, falling back on the excuse that he was a "sick" man—that his 12th Step work was his "medicine." And, besides look at all the people he was helping!

Some of us tried to talk to him. It was plain that Charley was merely substituting one excess for another. He was still "escaping", even though his new escape bore the label of the wonderful 12th Step. Frankly, we didn't know what to do. So we just kept talking—and hoping. Somewhere along the line Charley snapped out of it. He about faced, got himself a respectable job which he does rather expertly.—A. S., Little Neck, L. I.,

The Grapevine, December.

## HUNTINGTON, W. VA.

The Huntington, W. Va., group happily announces the opening of its new club house on 1038 Fifth Ave. They hold meetings on Sunday at 3:00 P. M., and Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 P. M.

All meetings are closed meetings except Saturday at which wives of members are welcome. The first Saturday of each month is set aside for meetings to which the general public is also invited.

Doors are open every day and evening to AA visitors.

## BOWLING NOTES

In the East Side League the Mt. Pleasant No. 1 team succeeded in wresting the lead from Allendale, leading by one game. Borton Blacks are in third, one behind Allendale. Doan Tigers, in tenth place have high team single with 962. St. Clair Lakeviews, in fifth place (four games out of first) are tops for three with 2595. This is as of January 14th.

We have standings of the Thursday West Side League for January 6th which shows the Suburbans in first place with 46 points and Addison in second with 45. The Corinthians, in seventh place with 38, were hot in one game with 973, and the Addisons cracked a respectable 2740 for a three game total. Roy E. of Brooklyn leads the individuals with a 193 average. (Must be a pro!) He also has a high three total of 683.

The Lorain Yanks are in first place in the Friday League, which position they've maintained since opening night. Bill O'R. is justly proud of this. They met the second place 8005 club shortly after the first of the year and took all four points from them to stretch their lead to 9 points. A record was established on January 21st when 21 two hundred games were rolled. Art S. or 8005 twice has bowled 267, high in league.

(Continued from page one)

We will come to look back on our worries and fears as strange attributes of a strange existence. We will find that it was as needless and harmful to be subservient to them as it was to be the victim of alcohol.

## STELLA MARIS HOME

Over-zealous members, desiring to promote benefits for Stella Maris Home are advised to contact the officers of the Home before planning. Unfortunately it was announced in the last issue of the Bulletin that a New Year's Eve party would be held with Stella Maris as the beneficiary. Consent for this was not secured from the authorities governing the Home and the party was cancelled. Any legitimate project will be properly announced by the Board, which expresses great appreciation for the past generosity.

A new building has been acquired and a rehabilitation program for both men and women is in the immediate future. Full details were not available at press time.

## CONSOLIDATED MEETING

A splendid crowd, estimated at 550 persons, listened to an inspiring talk by Judge Jim C. at its January 16th quarterly Consolidated Meeting at Towne Hall, 2612 Prospect.

Jim emphasized the need of maintaining sobriety after attaining it, and the need for conviction in knowing that this would be an impossible thing to do without the help of God. He advocated devoting a portion of every day to prayer.

Making it a habit of doing good often enough and regularly would alter the pattern of any one's behavior. He maintained that it was impossible to consort with the Devil and worship one's God at the same time. It's either one or the other.

The next quarterly meeting will be April 24th, the Sunday after Easter. An invitation has been extended by the Chagrin Falls group to hold this meeting there. It is being considered by the committee and will be discussed at the February 1st meeting of Central Committee.

## ASHTABULA CHANGES LOCATION

The new location of the Ashtabula Group is at 449 Lake Ave., corner West 5th St., over Silvercraft Jewelry. The hall is open every evening for AA's. Three Ashtabula groups are now consolidated.

The meetings are held Wednesdays at 8:00 P. M., and on Saturdays at 8:00 P. M., a social night is provided with lunch and entertainment.

## COLORED GROUPS CONSOLIDATE

The two colored groups, Outhwaite and Pioneer, have consolidated and they have adopted Outhwaite as their title. They meet Thursday evenings at 8:00 and Sunday afternoons at 4:00 P. M. at \$100 Kinsman Rd., side entrance.

They've done marvelous work in the community.

## NEW GROUPS

The Hilliard group held its first meeting on Wednesday, December 1st and meets in Faith Lutheran Church, Hilliard and Woodward at 8:30 P. M. Larry A. was first secretary and was succeeded by Joe F. in January. It is a mixed group.

The Fairview Park group held its first meeting on Tuesday, January 18 at 8:30, in the Fairview Baptist Church, Lorain Ave. and W. 212th St.

The Detroit Monday group held its first organization meeting at 8023 Detroit, on Monday, Jan. 24th at 8:30 P. M.

The Geneva group meets Sunday evenings at 8:30 in Jack Burd's Hospital, 237 S. Broadway, Geneva, O.

## ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

Borton group will honor its founder, Clarence S., one of the early pioneers in the AA movement, on his eleventh anniversary of complete sobriety on Monday, February 14th at 9:00 p. m. A cordial invitation is extended to all former Borton members to attend.

The meeting will be held in East Cleveland Congregational Church, Page and Euclid. A gala affair is being planned.

SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Franklyn S. of Doan Men's Group was named Moderator at the January meeting of Central Committee. Serving with him will be Roy G. of Clark as Vice-Moderator, and Bert, M. of Doan Men, Treasurer. These men will serve for one year.

Balance in the treasury was \$14.20 with one bill for \$15.45 to be paid.

Hospital Chairman Frank W. reported that visitors from Norwalk and Tiffin were much impressed with our methods. Burd's Hospital in Geneva, O., (30 So. Broadway) was admitted to Approved Hospital List.

Support was urged for Consolidated Meeting, Jan. 16th. Secretary Joe K. requests the secretaries of each group mail Central Committee representative's names as well as those for Hospital Committee to him, care AA District Office, 1007 Schofield Bldg.

## AKRON HAS NURSING HOME

A former Clevelander, Coe G. advises us that she and Tish T. have been operating a nursing home for women only since August 16, 1948. They have a reputable doctor in attendance who is especially interested in alcoholism. All patients must be sponsored.

The place is called Alpha Rest Home and is located at 452 Celtic Ave., Akron. Phone, Plaza 5179.

## CHARLESTON, W. VA.

Many Clevelanders will be interested to learn that Ed. W. has relinquished his position as manager of the Alcan Center in Charleston, which includes the hospital and club quarters. Ed. was tireless and devoted and much of Charleston's success can be attributed to him. He accepted a new position at Virginia Beach. His successor is Fred W., a capable and sincere AA who also has shown great ability as administrator.

New settees for the lounge and new light fixtures have made a noticeable improvement in the club's appearance.

They have resumed their monthly open meetings which are held on Saturdays. Patrick McG. of Washington was a recent speaker and made a profound impression, according to Sherel A. W., chairman.

The Charleston Gazette is publishing long, intelligent editorials appearing bi-monthly to educate the public on the understanding of alcoholism. Excellently written.

## MILES-UNION

Well over 200 attended the joint New Year's eve party which was acclaimed as being the best ever given. Both groups delved deep into their kitties to provide food, fine favors and door prizes.

Attendance is increasing so rapidly at, Miles Men's group, they are considering moving to more spacious quarters. But they like the smell of flowers so much they postpone what seems inevitable.

## DOAN MEN

We visited Doan Men to hear Charley K. as he celebrated his eighth anniversary on January 19th. His story revealed what a courageous fight he was forced to make eight years ago and a miraculous recovery.

We also learned that Bunny S., after serving faithfully for two years as secretary, was finally relieved of his burden by Bill T., the former sailorman. Bill also will make an excellent secretary for this truly remarkable group which attracts about 200 men weekly.

We missed the regular news item in these pages. It used to appear regularly. We hope it will be forthcoming.

## LEE-MONDAY COMES HOME

The Lee-Monday group returned to its original habitat on Monday, January 10 in the First Presbyterian Church, E. Cleveland at Nela and Euclid.

Completely modernized and redecorated and with new lighting fixtures, the rooms are very attractive. All AA visitors are welcome.

The group of course expressed its appreciation to Dr. Francis Sayre of St. Paul's Episcopal Church for the quarters used in the interim.

## CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE

In the Office news letter to secretaries the Operating Committee and staff expresses appreciation for the support which it has been accorded during the past year, and stands ready to serve in any way possible during this next year.

A new list of group secretaries was mailed to each secretary during the past week. Any correction or change should be sent in to the office immediately. Phone number is still CHerry 7387.

During the month of December your District Office received 66 calls for help which were turned over to 33 Groups. Your reports back to the Office show that 50 were receptive to first contact and that 4 were not ready at this time. Three of these calls proved to be A.A. cases, and in 9 instances no contact was possible. In the same period 51 general services involving use of Office facilities were performed for members and groups, 6 speakers were supplied, and 43 sets of literature were sent, out to persons requesting information about Alcoholics Anonymous.

## ELYRIA CELEBRATES SIXTH

The sixth anniversary of the well established Elyria group will be celebrated in St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Middle and Third on Wednesday, February 2, at 8:00 P. M. The speaker will be Franklyn S. of Doan Men's group of Cleveland. Dancing and entertainment will follow the meeting.

## LORAIN COUNTY CONSOLIDATED

Speaker for the monthly Lorain County Consolidated meeting, Sunday evening, February 6, will be Leonard K. of Borton group, Cleveland. Townsend Hall, 108 Middle Ave., Elyria at seven o'clock.

## WOMEN'S THURSDAY

Quite a bit of social activity was indulged in by the Thursday Afternoon Women's Group during and since the holidays. They were hostesses to a children's party on December 26th and persuaded Pat. C. to act as Santa Claus, and who distributed toys and gifts as Howie L. did a masterful job as B.I. C. A social was held on December 30th and on New Year's Eve an excellent orchestra and entertainment kept the crowd in an excellent humor, thanks particularly to Howie L. who again did a masterful M. C. job.

Open House will be held on Sunday, February 6 at 4:00 P. M. The speaker will be Dick S. of Akron. Entertainment and refreshments follow meeting.

## EIJCLID-WADE

The new secretary of the Euclid-Wade group is efficient and popular Dale W.

The group again lavishly entertained 197 children at their annual Christmas Party, supplying them with gifts and entertainment.

157 adults saw the New Year in with great gusto at the festive Annual Banquet and Party. Such yelling. John C. is program chairman for January.

## WARRENSVILLE INFIRMARY

Members are invited to help Infirmary inmates on Thursdays by George F. R. who has organized a new group. They hold their meetings in the Administration Bldg. at 7:00 P. M. Assembly at the Tower Clock just prior is suggested.

## JOLIET PENITENTIARY

We received season's greetings from the Fellowship of Alcoholic Prisoners which interested and pleased us a great deal. Our good friend and former "barb," W. Roy W., with fellow Chicagoans was greatly instrumental in organizing AA groups in Joliet prison. Six groups, comprising 133 members, are meeting regularly and are taking an intense interest in the program in the three prisons.

## PARMA FRIENDS — PLEASE NOTE

Friends of Parma should know that the Saturday, Feb. 5th meeting will be held in Parma Community Hall, Ridge Road and Ridgewood at 8:30. This is for this one night only.

### CLEVELAND GROUP MEETINGS

#### MONDAY

ADDISON—St. Francis School, E. 71st and Superior.....	8:30
BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid.....	8:45
DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:30
FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry.....	8:30
LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd., Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE—Community Center Bldg. Detroit Ave. and St. Charles.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit.....	8:30
LEE MONDAY—First Presb. Church, E. Cleve., Nela and Euclid.....	8:30
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain.....	8:30
MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill.....	7:30
PEARL—Corpus Christi Church Basement, Stickney at Pearl.....	8:30
SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrensville.....	8:30
SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway.....	8:30
UNION—12907 Union Ave.....	8:30
WEST 25th ST.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St.....	8:30
MEDINA, O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House.....	8:30
WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—EAST SIDE—Glenville Hall, 10421 St. Clair.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd. Christ., W. Blvd. & W. 101.....	8:30

#### TUESDAY

ARCADE—Euclid Ave. Baptist, E. 18th & Euclid.....	8:30
CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud.....	8:30
CLARK—4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs.....	8:30
EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle.....	8:00
EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit Dinner at 7:00 P. M.—Meeting.....	8:30
EUCLID-WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid.....	8:30
FAIRVIEW PARK—Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 212th St.....	8:30
MILES-LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles.....	8:30
MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd.....	8:30
SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road.....	8:30
SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior.....	8:30
WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain.....	8:30
WEST SIDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th.....	8:30
LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts.....	8:00
PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street.....	8:30
STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall.....	8:30

#### WEDNESDAY

BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave.....	8:30
BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd.....	8:45
COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.....	8:30
DENISON—7403 Denison Ave.....	8:30
DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance.....	8:45
EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St.....	10:00 A. M.
GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction.....	6:30
BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third.....	8:00
LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave.....	8:30

#### THURSDAY

ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave.....	8:30
ANGLE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave.....	8:30
BROADWAY—55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall.....	8:30
COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough Road, East of Coventry.....	8:30
EAST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—Emman. Church, Euclid at 86.....	9:00
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:00
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain.....	8:30
OUTHWAITE—(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman.....	8:30
THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave.....	2:00
WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building.....	7:00
WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave.....	10:30 A. M.
WYANDOTTE MENS—Church of the Redeemer Andrews and Detroit (rear).....	8:30
BEREA, O.—Fine Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland.....	8:30
EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway.....	8:30
LORAIN TRAINING—AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....	8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor.....	8:30

#### FRIDAY

CEDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St.....	8:15
GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall.....	8:30
MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St.....	8:30
NORTHEAST—2028 E. 105th St.....	8:30
ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit.....	8:30
WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall W. 116-Detroit.....	8:30
BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church.....	8:30
CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St.....	8:30
CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O.....	8:30
EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd.....	8:30
LORAIN-AVON—1112 W. Erie St., Lorain, O.....	8:30
MENTOR, O.—Mentor Way Villa.....	9:00

#### SATURDAY

BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad.....	8:30
CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th.....	9:00
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:30
LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit.....	8:30
MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair.....	8:30
PARMA—St. Charles Church Basement, Charles and Ridge.....	8:30
REDWOOD—Lutheran Church, Oriole and E. 260th St.....	8:30
TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St.....	8:30
VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather.....	8:30
W. S. SOCIAL CLUB, 4427 Pearl Road.....	8:00
WINDEMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront.....	9:00
8005 GROUP-8005 Lorain Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third.....	8:30
OBERLIN, OHIO-K. of P. Hall.....	9:00

### BOWERY CORPS

Commissioner Donald McMillan officially dedicated the new Bowery Corps located in the heart of Cleveland's Skid Row, Saturday evening, January 15th, before a capacity crowd. It was an enthusiastic audience too of Salvation Officers, Advisory Board members, special guests, and a large showing of the forgotten men of Skid Row. Brigadier Edward Carey, Divisional Commander, was the Master of ceremonies, and introduced the Commissioner and Mrs. McMillan.

Congratulatory addresses were made by Judge Lewis Drucker, of Municipal Court, an ardent believer in any civic project to meet the problem of alcoholism, by Mr. Hal Griswold, Chairman of the local Advisory Board. Howard B. and Major Peter J. Hofman of the Social Center, the man responsible for starting the work for alcoholics on the row, all of whom were enthusiastic for the new Bowery Corps, and promising to give the fullest possible support to Captain and Mrs. Marshall in this new challenge. The Social was also represented by a large delegation of men who have found recovery through the Skid Row meetings. Two members of the Corps Converts Club were introduced and gave their personal testimonies, as did Stanley G. and Frank McG, members of the Yearling Club of the Center. The fine Temple Band, aided and abetted by several of the visiting officers, gave a very splendid account of themselves, and were most enthusiastically received.

When people ask me whether I think the A.A. program will work, I am tempted to ask them in reply whether they think a spade will work. A spade works only if somebody works it.

### THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL-NO. 22



#### SUNDAY

COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.....	7:30
DOAN MEN'S TRAINING MEETING—2028 E. 105th St.....	3:00
LAKEVIEW—CYO Hall St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair.....	8:00
MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park.....	7:00
NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St.....	8:30
OUTHWAITE (Negro)—7100 Kinsman.....	4:00
SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave.....	2:00
TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:00
WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Cooley Farms Recreation Room.....	10:00 A. M.
GENEVA, O.—Burd's Hospital 237 S. Broadway.....	8:30
LORAIN, OHIO—Stag, AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....	10:00 A. M.

1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370..... 8:30

3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370..... 8:30

Key: LITH ANNIV. CLARENCE J.  
AT BORTON GROUP

# CENTRAL BULLETIN



Vol. VII-No. 5

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## "As Others See Us"

Not because we wish to be flattered or to chastise ourselves with possible criticism, but more in order to get perspective on our attitudes and actions, now that we are sober, it is sometimes salutary "to see oursel's as others see us!" as Robert Burns, himself a candidate for Alcoholic Anonymous, so ardently wished.

An opportunity to do so comes in an account of the recent seventh anniversary dinner of the New Castle, Pa., chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous published in The News of New Castle. Written by Bart Richards, a veteran of The News staff, the report presents one of the most objective viewpoints by an outsider that we have read.

Richards, as we learned in talking with him after the meeting, had heard about AA but entertained only the vaguest ideas as to its aims and purposes. He walked into the assignment of covering the meeting "cold" and the result is a tribute to his ability.

"One might have thought such a gathering," Richards wrote, "would be marked by a hesitancy to admit their former fondness for liquor, or that they might have been turned suddenly into rabid reformers. Neither was true."

Thus the reporter got the idea at once that members of this league are neither embittered sour-pusses nor Mrs. Grundys. Recriminations and regrets contribute not at all to living the new life. Today we are happy and find joy in what we do.

"At no time," says the New Castle newspaper man later in his report, "was there any suggestion of pride in their accomplishments, only gratitude and humility and a desire to aid some one else through their own experiences."

The philosophy of AA could not be better put in fewer words.

Sharing the newspaper man's belief that a reformer is just a chap who condemns the other fellow for doing what the reformer would like to do but lacks the intestinal fortitude to carry out, Richard returns to that theme:

"The approach of the organization to the liquor habit is not that of the reformer or the evangelist, nor yet the 'do-gooder' attitude. The strength of the organization is in mutual understanding of a common problem, and a willingness to lend a hand just as each of them were lent a hand in time of need. \* \* \*"

Revealing his own feelings, Richards continues:

"Professionally this was just another dinner in a list that runs into many hundreds. But this dinner had something that called out more than just a professional interest. It was marked by an old fashioned virtue of which the world could use more of just now. They call it honesty.

"As a news article covering a current event, this article has violated some of the fundamental rules of journalism. At times perhaps it has smacked something of a review and here and there has been a little editorializing,

(Continued on page two)

## Hot Potato

One of our old-timers, greatly concerned about what he called "destructive trends" in several groups in Cleveland visited us and demanded that the Bulletin "do something to stop that which would destroy the AA movement in Cleveland!"

He stated that several groups which attracted great crowds were actually only using AA as a blind for operating high-stake gambling dens. He also stated that one had recently been raided by the police and that another was due for a raid since slot-machines had been installed as a means for defraying high rental expense.

Using Bill W's invulnerable "Twelve Traditions of AA"

ns his right to demand an expose, this crusader for "the return to 'sanity' and old fashioned AA meetings" insisted that we bring this out in the open as a warning to other groups who were planning on "streamlining" their meetings so as to cater to larger crowds whose penchant was gambling.

We recognize this as an extremely hot potato.

Dedicated to preserve the traditions of AA and to maintain cooperation among the 87 groups in Cleveland who, though autonomous, must be guided by group opinion, we remind you of Bill's warning, so as to bring each group to an examination of itself and its aims and purposes.

Is the group's major and prime purpose, the discussion and development of the AA program? Or are entertainment, cards and extra-curricular activities that which occupies most of

the time of the members?

We hear of too many instances where excellent AA floor discussions have been disrupted by noisy murmurings of impatient people who wanted the meeting to close so they could get to their cards.

Our visitor also complained about the many fund-raising activities such as raffles and drawings. He believed they were desecrating and cheapening the name of AA. We pointed out that some of these groups had great overhead and these drawings were found necessary to help pay the rent. His reply was that if a big treasury was their object, they were trending on dangerous ground. Better that they retrench in their expenses and rededicate themselves to what they were ostensibly organized for-AA.

We believe that 90 per cent of our groups are operating according to the best traditions of AA. But we do think that we had better check up on ourselves as well as our groups more often. If gambling is getting out-of-bound?, check it or eliminate it altogether. No group should gamble on the fair name of AA and drag it in the mud, as these two offending groups have done. Nothing will destroy the respect of the public for AA more quickly than a continuance of this trend and a repetition of raids by a very indulgent and long-suffering police department.

Let's reconsecrate.

Instead of learning just the tricks of the trade, why not actually learn the trade.

### “ \* \* \* AS OTHERS SEE US ”

(Continued from page 25)

which any journalistic sophomore can tell you is wrong. But it seemed the way to do it.”

We will try to keep our simplicity, our humility, our sincerity, our honesty. We may do it in our own way, just as Richards wrote his story in his own way. We'll stay sober as long as we follow this formula. The old fashioned virtue, of which Richards spoke, will find adherents even outside AA as long as honest newspaper men view men and events with such objectivity.

### GRATITUDE

I have decided to double my financial contributions to AA this year. I intend, over the course of the year, to give at least twice as much as I contributed in 1948.

While I am a poor man, measured by the standards which prevail now in this world, I am rich in benefits obtained through my association in Alcoholics Anonymous. I have a little money in the bank. A ridiculously small sum it would seem to the average man my age, but it doesn't seem so terribly small to me. You see, the last few years in which I have been practicing AA are the only years in which I have been able to accumulate anything at all. Before I stopped being all "active alcoholic" . . . a drunkard, I had nothing but debts, and sickness, and doubt and fear and general hopelessness.

Now I And that there are so many things in life I can appreciate that I never even knew existed when I was a problem drinker. My home is happy, I am myself, a happy and reasonably contented man. I am understanding true values in living for the first time.

I have not paid AA enough, either in money or service. I feel that I have been unconsciously cheating a little bit. I thought that if I went to the meeting every week and put in \$1 when the hat was passed I was doing my full share.

But no matter how much service or money I find I am able to contribute, I'll never for a moment forget that this organization belongs just as much to the fellow who can only contribute 10 cents a week as it does to me. There are many who will be able to give more in both service and money than I shall ever be able to provide, but I don't feel they have any greater claims, or obligations, in connection with AA than I have.

What a joke! I used to 'belly up to the bar and shout that I was buying drinks for the house . . . set 'em up for everybody. In five minutes by the clock I used to get rid of a \$10 bill in that bumptious manner a good many times every year. So when I became an AA I thought for a long while that I would contribute \$1 a week, the price of two highballs or one round of beer for a handful of the boys. I felt rather noble, even about this.

Now I know better. Frankly, I have been cheating. My sobriety profits, even for a poor guy who has to work for his living are hundreds of times more than I have contributed to AA.

So I'm going to double it at once. Maybe, as I get a little more accustomed to the idea of paying my own way in all things, I'll triple it. It wouldn't hurt me a bit to quintuple it.

And the same applies to service, too. I hope to be a better AA in the rest of 1949 and in the years to come.

I do believe that each of us should examine his status in life, and his conscience, and give more in proportion to what AA has been worth to him. But if there are those amongst us who do not have one red cent to spare . . . let no one of us ever forget for a moment, AA is just as much his as it is anyone's. AA needs its members, broke or affluent, and they need AA. It's for us all, and let no one ever forget it.

-Camel Club Chronicle, Marshalltown, Ia.

### COMPLIMENTS

Among the many letters and notes which accompany renewals are many complimentary and heartening ones. We modestly refrain from printing them all, but here's one which tickled us—"I surely don't know of a better Christmas present to buy myself. My wife and I enjoy reading our Central Bulletin. Season's greetings. Thanks for everything-Florence and Edward V."

### RUBBER BALLS AND TERMITES

I started to write about rubber balls and stone walls, then I got to thinking about termites. Now I'm all confused. Maybe I can get it straightened out. Perhaps there is some connection between them.

It's like this. I once saw a kid trying to throw a rubber ball through a stone wall. You know what happened. The ball hit the wall and bounced back. But the kid either wouldn't or couldn't learn. He kept throwing the ball with all his strength until finally it flew back and conked him right on the snozzola. Then he yelled bloody murder as though someone had done him dirt and wondered what had happened to him.

I also knew a man once who had a very fine house. He was justly proud of it and never missed an opportunity to show it to his friends--from cellar to garret.

However, the man went home one evening and to his dismay found his beautiful home very snugly packed in the cellar. What had happened? Termites. Unbeknownst to my friend these tiny bugs had crept into the underpinning of his home and had kept gnawing away until it collapsed.

In AA we find some who remind us of the boy with the rubber ball. They go around bouncing their gossip off the character of their fellow A A's. Most of the time this idle gossip does just what the rubber ball did. It bounces right back and smacks the fellow who threw it in the nose. It is fortunate that there are some people one just can't talk about. Their character is such that gossip always bounces off and that is true of most AA's. And somehow or other the few phonics are soon known even without the gossip mongers. So it all adds up to the fact that the only fellow the gossip hurts is himself.

Which brings us to the matter of the termites. This gossip is a most insidious termite. It destroys two of the principal beams which support an AA's own character--tolerance and the fourth step.

Moses came down from Sinai with the ten commandments. Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, while the founding fathers fashioned the Constitution. Aside from rare instances such as these, it is not given to any man to set a standard of conduct for another. And to find fault continually with others is the surest way to destroy one's own popularity. The fourth step says, "take an inventory of yourself," not the other fellow.

My grandma used to say "A dog that'll fetch a bone will carry one"--But there I go again. Pretty soon I'll have more figures in this piece than a Roxy Chorus.

What I'm trying to get across is the philosophy of mv. grandpappy, who always said, "IF YOU CAN'T SAY SOMETHING GOOD ABOUT A MAN, KEEP YOUR BIG TRAP SHUT! , !"

-Herschel G. II.

### DRUNKENNESS TREATISE

We've seen this before, somewhere, but we don't believe we have published it--this very old "Treatise on Drunkenness," author unknown. It was sent in by William A., of Park Heights. "Drunkenness expels reason, drowns memory, defaces the brain, diminishes strength, inflames the blood, causes external, internal wounds, is a witch to the body, a devil to the soul, a thief to the purse, the beggar's curse, the wife's woe, the children's sorrow, the picture of a beast and self-murderer who drinks to others good health and robs himself of his own."

The guy that wrote that must have known an alcoholic! And didn't like what he saw, apparently.

### RIINSTREL FOUNDER DIES

Just as n-e were going to press we learned that Bill McClintock, n-ember of Euclid-Wade, died in Crile Hospital of Cancer. Hospitalized in December, he died Saturday, February 20th. He will be buried on February 22. Bill spent many arduous hours in building the Mack's Merrie Minstrels, who annually provide a lot of entertainment. Started five years ago, these shows have become an institution and have enabled many Cleveland AA's to develop latent histrionic abilities.

Bill will be missed and it will be difficult to replace him.

### DISTRICT OFFICE NOTES

Your District Office received the following letter from the Secretary of the Dublin, Ireland Group and felt that it might be of interest to some of the Fellowship to write to him.

"Dear Cleveland:

One of our visitors gave me, by chance as he was not from Ohio, a copy of your booklet "A Way of Life." I would be very grateful if you could spare us a few copies, as it is really excellent. I enclose a few of our leaflets as a matter of interest.

We have just started our third year of existence and have some 75 members. We have also started Groups in Belfast and elsewhere, and hope to get more going shortly. We hear from a few Groups in Ohio, but have not so far had the pleasure of a letter from Cleveland. Perhaps you might make that deficiency good? I find our Group gets great advantage out of these letters from other AA's all over the world, especially the new men, who are brought to realize the world-wide appeal of the Fellowship. I expect you have some Irish there. A good percentage of members in the States seem to come from here originally. Wishing your Groups all prosperity and good health in 1949,

Yours sincerely,  
Sackville O'C. M.  
Hon. Secretary, Dublin Group"

Anyone interested in establishing a correspondence with the Dublin Group can call the Office for the address.

During the month of January, 68 calls for help were received by your District Office which were turned over to 33 Groups. Your reports back indicated 56 were receptive to contact, 6 were not ready and not interested, in 5 cases no contact was possible and 1 was not an AA case. In the same period 53 liaison services to Groups were performed, 41 requests for literature were filled and 9 speakers were supplied.

### THE BULLETIN

The February mailing list of the Central Bulletin is 1903 which includes 65 group subscriptions of 5, 10 and 15, as well as 157 which expire in February.

We no longer have a "circulation manager," so we would appreciate cooperation from group secretaries in maintaining the circulation or increasing it.

In order to produce the Bulletin at one dollar per year, quite a bit of service is rendered without pay. The editors naturally receive nothing, nor does the mailing clerk (our wife) who devotes many precious hours maintaining the addressograph plates as well as the addressing itself. Valuable aid in inserting and mailing is rendered by Stewart I., who faithfully and cheerfully devotes a day to this menial task.

We take this opportunity for thanking the many Bulletin Boosters in most of the groups for their continued cooperation.

### BOWLING LEAGUES

On February 18th, the Friday West Side 7:30 Shift League showed the Lorain Yanks still in first place but with five points lead over the 8005's, Pearl No. 1 crept up steadily and is but seven points behind the leaders. Eleven points separated them a month ago. In the 9:30 shift, Berea and Collinwood were tied for the lead a month ago with Angle in third and Trinity in fourth place. On February 18th we find Trinity and Angle tied for first with 55 points, leading Collinwood by one point and desolate Berea by six. Such is fame!

The Thursday League shows Addison comfortably situated in first place with a four-point lead over Suburban. Roy E. of Brooklyn continues to be the individual star with a 196 average for the season. George W. leads with a nice 259 single.

In the East Side League, the fight between Allendale and Mt. Pleasant No. 1 team is a dandy with Allendale being on top for the time being by one game.

### ERIE

The Erie, Pa. group has engaged Judge Jim C. as its anniversary speaker on March 20th (Sunday) at 2:30 p.m.

### DOAN DATA

A new news reporter, Larry S., has determined to restore news about Doan in these columns each month. Formerly of Salt Lake City, Utah, and a newspaper man, he will be a welcome asset to this large group which averages 200 men in attendance each meeting.

Many visitors attended our 8th anniversary meeting, February 16, and enjoyed the uninhibited and inspiring lead of veteran Harry R., one of the founders of the group.

### CLARENCE PACKED 'EM IN

Sickness prevented our covering the eleventh anniversary celebration of Clarence S., held at Borton Group on February 14th. We learned by the grapevine that many old-timers attended and were treated to a most memorable and jolly meeting which ended in the late evening with surprisingly good barber-shop harmony.

Wonderful crowd-wonderful spirit-wonderful meeting.

### LORAIN AVE. — THURSDAY

After several years of faithful service as secretary, popular Vernie H., asked to be relieved. One of the founders of the group, Tom T. is now at the helm and assures his usual cooperation.

### LEE — WEDNESDAY

Wynn W., hardworking secretary of the Lee-Wednesday Group, celebrated his 8th anniversary rather quietly on the second of February. Corny V. celebrated his third on February 9th.

### HELP! POLICE!

Cleveland will lose some extraordinary protection between the hours of 8:30 and 11:00 p. m. on Saturday, March 5th, when six of its stalwarts, brave men and true, (who just incidentally are members of AA) will appear on a AA panel at Trinity Group, 3525 W. 25th St.

These six outstanding men, each enjoying years of uninterrupted sobriety are Harold S., Tommy F., Paul S., Jack N., Joe D., and Frank W. (the latter two are ex-cops). Should be a novel meeting.

### THURSDAY LADIES

Making her first lead, Burnest H., offered very impressive and constructive thoughts at the Thursday Afternoon Women's Group on Thursday, February 17. A hard working AA couple, Bess and George DeL., was feted on Feb. 19th on their first anniversary in AA.

### NEWBURGH

"Judicial Night" will be observed by the Newburgh Group on Sunday, February 27th, when Judge Jim C., Bailiff Pete McN. and John B. of the mayor's office will appear on a panel. This should be a very interesting meeting with these highly capable and brilliant men ready to answer the many varied questions posed to them.

Newburgh Group meets in St. Catherine's Hall, 3443 E. 93rd at 8:30 sharp.

### PEARL GROUP

Judge Jim C. was signed for life at the fifth anniversary of the Pearl Group on February 7th. He was the group's initial speaker and has inspired the group each year since then. Attendance was over 100.

### EAST SIDE WOMEN MOVE

Future meetings of the East Side Women's Group will be held in Emmanuel Church Basement, 8610 Euclid Ave., at 8:30 P. M.

### JOLIET

W. Roy W. journeyed over to Cleveland from Chicago last month to report that the Joliet Penitentiary activity has grown to 207 in 10 groups. There are 30 men working on this great reclaiming project. The old prison has 800 inmates and 80 of these are receiving the program. Last month 87 applied for membership and 74 were culled out as good prospects.

"You were brought in here for drinking," lectured the police sergeant to the inebriate. "Thash mighty fine, Sarg," replied the culprit, "lesh get started."



# CLEVELAND GROUP MEETINGS

## MONDAY

- ADDISON—St. Francis School, E. 71st and Superior.....8:30
- BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid.....8:45
- DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave.....8:30
- FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry.....8:30
- LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd.,  
Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting.....8:30
- LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE—Community Center Bldg.  
Detroit Ave. and St. Charles.....8:30
- LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit.....8:30
- LFE MONDAY—First Presb. Church, E. Cleve., Nela and Euclid.....8:30
- LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain.....8:30
- MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill.....7:30
- PEARL—Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd.).....8:30
- SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrensville.....8:30
- SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway.....8:30
- UNION—12907 Union Ave.....8:30
- WEST 25th St.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St.....8:30
- MEDINA O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House.....8:30
- WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O.....8:30
- WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid.....8:30
- WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd. Christ., W. Blvd. & W. 101.....8:30

## TUESDAY

- ARCADE—Euclid Ave. Baptist, E. 18th & Euclid.....8:30
- CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud.....8:30
- CLARK—4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs.....8:30
- EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle.....8:00
- EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit  
Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting.....8:30
- EUCLID-WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid.....8:30
- FAIRVIEW PARK—Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 212th St.....8:30
- MILES-LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles.....8:30
- MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd.....8:30
- SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road.....8:30
- SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior.....8:30
- WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain.....8:30
- WEST SIDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th.....8:30
- LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts.....8:00
- PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street.....8:30
- STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall.....8:30

## WEDNESDAY

- BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave.....8:30
- BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd.....8:45
- COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.....8:30
- DENISON—7403 Denison Ave.....8:30
- DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance.....8:45
- GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd.....8:30
- LEE ROAD—First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd.....8:30
- WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction.....6:30
- BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave.....8:30
- ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third.....8:00
- LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave.....8:30

## THURSDAY

- ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave.....8:30
- ANGLE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave.....8:30
- BROADWAY—55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall.....8:30
- COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough  
Road, East of Coventry.....8:30
- EAST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—Emman. Church, Euclid at 86.....9:00
- GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....9:00
- LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain.....8:30
- OUTWAITE—(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman.....8:30
- THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave.....2:00
- WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building.....7:00
- WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave.....10:30 A. M.
- WYANDOTTE—Redeemer Hall, Andrews and Detroit (rear).....8:30
- BEREA, O.—Fine Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland.....8:30
- EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O.....8:30
- GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway.....8:30
- LORAIN TRAINING—AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....8:30
- PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor.....8:30

## FRIDAY

- CFDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St.....8:15
- GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St.....8:30
- LEE ROAD—2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall.....8:30
- MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St.....8:30
- NORTHEAST—2028 E. 105th St.....8:30
- ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit.....8:30
- ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month.....8:30
- WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall W. 116-Detroit.....8:30
- BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church.....8:30
- CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St.....8:30
- CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O.....8:30
- EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd.....8:30
- LORAIN-AVON—1112 W. Erie St. Lorain, O.....8:30
- MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church.....8:30

## SATURDAY

- BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad.....8:30
- CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th.....9:00
- GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....9:30
- LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit.....8:30
- MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair.....8:30
- PARMA—St. Charles Church Basement Charles and Ridge.....8:30
- RFDWOOD—Lutheran Church, Oriole and E. 260th St.....8:30
- TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St.....8:30
- VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather.....8:30
- W. S. SOCIAL CLUB, 4427 Pearl Road.....8:00
- WINEMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront.....9:00
- 8005 GROUP—8005 Lorain Ave.....8:30
- ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third.....8:30
- OBERLIN, OHIO—K. of P. Hall.....9:00

"I notice you have put down Mr. O'Reilly's name as a charter reference," observed the boss as he scanned the applicant's letter asking for a job. "Do you think he makes a good reference?"

"Well, I don't know about that," replied the applicant, "but he's quite a character."

"If you are a married man, who absolutely must drink liquor, start a saloon in your own home.

Be the only customer and you will not have to pay for a license. Give your wife \$15 to buy a gallon of whiskey. There are 128 glasses in a gallon. Buy your drinks from your wife.

When the first gallon is gone, your wife will have \$30 to put in the bank and \$15 to start in business again.

If you live 10 years and continue to buy all your booze from your wife and then die with snakes, your widow will have enough to bury you decently, bring up your children, buy a house and lot, marry a decent man and forget all about you.—Makes Sense.

### LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS

- Alcoholic Abstinence Nursing Home (MEIrose 1635) (M).....8023 Detroit Ave.
  - Betty's Home (St. Hubside 4692) (M).....3480 Scranton Road
  - Charity Hospital (Main 9400) (MW).....Central and E. 22nd St.
  - Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 8998) (MW).....7809 Euclid Ave.
  - Deaconess Evangelical Hospital (Florida 0070) (MW).....4233 Pearl Rd.
  - East Cleveland Clinic (Glenville 3244) (MW).....13240 Euclid Ave.
  - Farrington's (St. Hubside 8374) (M).....6037 Pearl Rd.
  - MacGillis Nursing Home (RA. 2556) (MW).....1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
  - St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M).....7911 Detroit Ave.
- (M) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.

### SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

### THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL—No. 23



### SUNDAY

- COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Avenue.....7:30
  - DOAN MEN'S TRAINING MEETING—2028 E. 105th St.....3:00
  - LAKEVIEW—CYO Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair.....8:00
  - MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park.....7:00
  - NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St.....8:30
  - OUTWAITE (Negro)—7100 Ili sinan.....4:00
  - SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave.....2:00
  - TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave.....8:00
  - WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison.....8:30
  - WARRENSVILLE—Cooley Farms Recreation Room.....10:00 A. M.
  - GENEVA, O.—Burd's Hospital 237 S. Broadway.....8:30
  - LORAIN, OHIO—Stag, AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....10:00 A. M.
- 1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....8:30
- 3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....8:30



# CENTRAL BULLETIN



Vol. VII-No. 6

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March, 1949

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## Editorial - Temper ☉

Temper is bad business. An outburst of it frightens other people; it often antagonizes them. It leaves the person who indulges in it weak and sheepish.

People who tend toward extremes in their living and in their relationships with others, and this comprises all alcoholics, are prone to express themselves violently.

Many of us have found that sobriety has not, as a matter of course, brought that serenity of disposition toward which all of us should strive.

Very often dry binges are started by fits of temper, and angry outbursts come during depressed spells. The two are associated. The introvert, will harbor his resentments, the extrovert will allow them to blow up externally. In either case the cause is the same and the result practically identical. The only difference is that the voluble extrovert may frighten people more than the sullen introvert.

Now these outbursts, often caused by inconsequential acts, slips of the tongue or rolling of the eyes, are evidence that complete sobriety has not yet been attained.

If we try to implement Step Four: "Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves," many of us would find that temper is one of the defects of character, a very active and challenging one, delaying the making over of our lives.

In this habit of temper, an emotional valve whose escaping steam often scalds others, we need help just as in the habit of drinking. We find assistance against both in the same source: the Higher Power which controls our destiny.

But before we frankly tackle a defect with the honest aim of eliminating it, we must know its nature. A great help to this end is the famous classic, "The Greatest Thing in the World," by Henry Drummond.

The greatest thing in the world, briefly, is love. And the greatest threat to it, in Drummond's view, is temper. We quote a few of Drummond's time-tested sentences:

"It is not in what it (temper) is alone, but in what it reveals. This is why I take the liberty now of speaking of it with such unusual plainness. It is a test for love, a symptom, a revelation of an unloving nature at bottom. It is the intermittent fever which bespeaks unintermittent disease within; the occasional bubble escaping to the surface which betrays some rottenness underneath; a sample of the most hidden products of the soul dropped involuntarily when off one's guard; in a word, the lightning form of a hundred hideous and unchristian sins. For a want of patience, a want of kindness, a want of generosity, a want of courtesy, a want of unselfishness, are all instantaneously symbolized in one flash of temper."

These are strong words. This is a heavy indictment. Even those of us who believe that Drummond, for effect, may have overstated the charge will have to admit to his basic truth. This bad business of temper is a problem, for those of us afflicted with it, that cannot be smoothed over or by-passed. With the help of a Higher Power it can and will be solved in order to make more complete the happiness of sobriety.

## Stumbling Block ☉

Probably the greatest stumbling-block a person faces who is considering AA is in admitting he is an alcoholic. Seething with remorse, self-recrimination, fear, self-pity and self-justification he still clings to a fast-ebbing hope that he might work out this problem, if given more time, more consideration and more understanding.

Admit he's an alcoholic? No, no, no! He could still convince his wife or his boss that he really meant it this time! If they'd only give him just one more chance. As soon as those jitters left him, he'd be alright!

How often we listened patiently to these last throes of holding on to the questionable "drinking-privilege"-the

drinks that were so necessary to instill courage and self-confidence-not so many next time, of course, but just a few at the right time.

Yes, we fought the inevitable too before we finally capitulated. We sensed that the faith, trust and confidence of those people whose good opinion we desired was at a too-critical stage and something had to be done.

So we were sympathetic and understanding. No use in arguing with him that he was wrong. No use in trying to convince him he was an alcoholic. How wisely our founders worded that First Step-Admit YOU are powerless over alcohol and that alcohol has made YOUR life unmanageable. And by getting him finally to agree to that qualification and by keeping him on that thought, we steered away from that "horrible" alcoholic qualification.

We believe that there are many active in AA who instinctively shudder at being called an alcoholic. It is understandable, for we know that many had succeeded in covering their weakness from a goodly number of their acquaintances. The old habit of maintaining a good front stems from natural pride in trying to make a good impression.

Isn't it possible that we sub-consciously have a conception in our mind of what we thought an alcoholic was? Such as a bum, an outcast, filthy, diseased, craven and unfit for human society? We believe that normal people have that conception and now that we're approaching normalcy, maybe we have a tendency to forget that we qualified as such once in awhile in the eyes of some who saw us at our worst.

So let's not worry about it. Let's just analyze and check ourselves on Step No. 1 and be ready to thank God he left us the buttons to apply the other eleven.

Give yourself the "once over"-maybe you'll locate the trouble.

If you're wrong and insist you're right, you're left.

### NEW MAILING ADDRESS

To eliminate confusion and to expedite delivery of mail, a postoffice box has been hired to receive all mails pertinent to Central Committee activities, such as Central Bulletin, Hospital Committee, Consolidated Meeting Committee and such mail which is for group dissemination. The box number is 6712. Zone 1.

It is practically a Jaw in life that when one door closes to us another opens. The trouble is that we often look with so much regret and longing upon the closed door that we don't see the one which has opened.

### VALUED OLD TIMER PASSES AWAY

Cleveland area ~~su~~tered a great loss when one of its valued members, Joe L. C. passed away, March 4th. Formerly a member of Borton and more recently a member of Shaker, Joe was reputed to be one of the most thorough and painstaking sponsors in this area. A keen student, in his over nine years of unswerving constancy to AA principles, Joe contributed much to AA in service and devotion. He will be sorely missed.

### CONSCIENCE CAUSES SLIPS?

Not so long ago an AA friend of ours told us about a fellow who has been in AA for some years. He has had as many slips as almost anybody we ever knew who kept on coming back to the meetings after sobering up. This fellow, when in his cups, likes to brag about how he used to help other businessmen to avoid tax debts which they legitimately owed the government. Now we all know that when one plays fast and loose with fidelity in one matter, the chances are very likely that he adopts the same shady attitude about other things.

Is it not barely possible that here we hit upon the real reason why this particular individual manages to have but brief periods of sobriety? Is it within the realm of the reasonable that he has not yet made up his mind to forsake those former ways of trickery and fraud?

We do not believe a man can come into AA; get his sobriety and keep it, if he persists in those actions in his everyday dealings with his fellow men which upset him inwardly-which caused him to be conscience stricken.

- The Screwball.

### OHIO STATE PENITENTIARY

During a visit by one of Cleveland's exceedingly active AA's, Al F., of Lee Road, Friday, he learned that the 4000 inmates of Ohio State Prison had access to a library which lacked the AA book. A very interested Warden Ralph Alvis, promised cooperation in acquainting the inmates with the tentative program.

Al in the meantime is attempting to enlist the cooperation of the Columbus groups in establishing groups in the prison and maintaining supervision. He is now in the process of raising money to supply the project with 100 books.

The great success of the Joliet Prison venture is spurring him in his effort.

### ALCOHOLISM STUDY

The Committee on Problems of Alcohol of the Welfare Federation of Cleveland will hold a workshop session in Hotel Carter on Tuesday, April 19th. with the opening session at 9:30 a. m. in the English Room.

A luncheon will be served in the Grand Ball Room at 12:00 Noon with Anton J. Carlson, Ph.D., M.D. of the University of Chicago as the featured speaker. A third session will be held from 2 to 4 p. m.

While this study is held primarily for social workers, probation officers, members of the clergy, judges, doctors and nurses, it should interest our members who wish to broaden their activity as it affects community welfare.

### JUDGE DRUCKER OPENS COURSE

Judge Lewis Drucker, of Cleveland Municipal Court, will conduct an eight-week course on "Alcoholism: Its Causes and Control;" at Cleveland College, the downtown center of Western Reserve University, starting Friday, March 18th. The judge has made an intensive study of the subject of alcoholism and is considered in many quarters as one of the best informed in the country on the subject.

The course will include information about the factors that lead to alcoholism, methods of treating the disease, and the role of the community in controlling the problem.

### GOING TO TEXAS?

A Tri-State Conference of AA will be held April 22, 23 and 24, at Amarillo, Texas, and promises to be quite an affair. Speakers include Dr. Bob S., of Akron, co-founder. Further information can be secured by contacting the Downtown Office, in case you're heading that way.

### HOT POTATO

The "Hot Potato" article in last month's Bulletin evidently stirred up quite a bit of discussion, and we are glad that the article was so well taken in many circles. Naturally there were loud repercussions from some quarters, but that was to be expected.

No one likes to be stopped in doing something which he feels is alright. Sometimes, blinded to consequences, our over-indulgence affects others. If we go to extremes in anything, we are selfish. If we are selfish we are definitely unfair to others and they get hurt.

If gambling becomes an obsession and tends to destroy the finer instincts, such as family devotion, unselfishness, responsibility, honesty, health care, etc., then it deserves serious contemplation on the part of a person who has found his spiritual answer in AA. Otherwise he's just substituting one vice for another. If gambling has made YOUR life unmanageable to the extent that you have to lie and cheat at home and at work, you'd better rededicate yourself to Step III, and use the Daily Plan to keep you from this other destroying temptation.

It's harder, according to one who was involved recently in a miserable financial mess because of mad devotion to cards, to stop gambling than drinking. We believe it.

So if you are in trouble, read Step I, replacing the word "alcohol" with the word "gambling" and if you want the answer badly enough, just follow the other eleven steps and your success will be as astonishing as it was for overcoming alcohol.

It's a TOUGH tight, but ought to be a cinch for a GOOD AA.

### WHAT'S THE USE?

"Man comes into this world without his consent, and leaves it against his will. During his stay on earth his time is spent in one continuous round of contraries and misunderstandings by the balance of the species.

In his infancy he is an angel; in his boyhood he is a devil; in his manhood he is everything from a lizard up; in his duties he is a darn fool; if he raises a family he is a chump; if he raises a small check he is a thief, and then the law raises the devil with him; if he is a poor man, he is a poor manager and has no sense; if he is rich, he is dishonest, but considered smart; if he is in politics you can't place him, as he is an undesirable citizen; if he goes to church, he is a hypocrite; if he stays away from church, he is a sinner and damned; if he donates to foreign missions, he does it for show; if he doesn't, he is stingy and a tight wad.

When he first comes into the world, everybody wants to kiss him; before he goes out, they all want to kick him.

If he dies young there was a great future before him; if he lives to a ripe old age he is simply in the way and living to save funeral expenses.

This life is a funny road, but we all like to travel it just the same."

If you're going to jump at conclusions you can't always expect a happy landing.

### NOSTALGIA

We received a letter from G. Dewey S., now residing in Glendora, California, in which he describes how he misses his Cleveland and Lakewood friends. Typical of all of us, he has forgotten the names and addresses of the many persons who flash through his thoughts as he sits in reverie.

His "lonely heart" address is 651 East Alosta Ave., Glendora, Calif. Even if you're jealous of his proximity to Hollywood, overcome it and write to him.

### CALIFORNIA TO CLEVELAND

Paul G., formerly of Gordon Square, and now operating an AA nursing home in Sacramento, Cal., at 1430 Eye St., compliments us on the Bulletin which he reads avidly for news from "home." He opened the home in December, 1947, and states he's doing well. His friends in Cleveland should be glad to hear this.

SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

### DOWNTOWN OFFICE ELECTS

Thirty groups were represented at the regular quarterly meeting of the Downtown Office Advisory Committee on February 24th, and heard the annual report read which further impressed them as to the great need for its place in the community.

Hardworking Frank L., of Miles Men's group was elected to board membership for a three-year term supplanting Dick T., who gave valiant service during his incumbency. Other members of the Advisory Committee are Leo S., of Berea Thursday and Harry B., of Edgelake. Leo S. was named chairman.

Office activity during the 11% day period from November 1, 1948 to February 20, 1949 showed that 249 requests for contact were turned over to 69 Groups.

Reports: 201 receptive to first contact  
19 not ready  
22 no contact possible  
7 not AA cases

249

149 sets of informative literature mailed out on request.  
195 services involving use of office facilities rendered to individuals and Groups.  
21 speakers supplied.  
38 Group contributions received.

### DOAN DATA

A packed house, with many standing, heard Charley S. give a masterful and impressive lead at the March 9th meeting. As a matter of fact more chairs will have to be purchased to accommodate the better than 200 men who attend the weekly Wednesday meetings.

Bill T., our diligent secretary, is disturbed over the listing in the secretaries' roster which shows him residing at 1890 Garfield Rd. It should be 1870. If you want your mail to reach him, you'd better correct it on your sheet. His wife wonders whether he's living a double life, besides having two addresses.

The Sunday Training Meetings have been discontinued because of lack of interest and support.

### BOWLING

The Lorain Yanks, who have enjoyed the rarified atmosphere in first place of the Friday West Side (7:30 shift) AA Bowling League since the season started are beginning to feel a draft. It's a hot one, for both Pearl No. 1 and 8005 are close on their trail. Only four points separate the former from the leaders, while 8005 only has one more to grab.

In the Friday (9:30 shift), Trinity finally overcame Collinwood during the month and is leading them by five points. Angle No. 3 snuck in unnoticed and unheralded (except by themselves) and is in second place, three points behind Trinity.

Allendale holds a lead of only three games over Mt. Pleasant No. 1, in the East Side League, with Euclid Wade Hearts and Glenville No. 1 each one game behind the other in third and fourth places respectively.

There was no report from the Thursday League.

### TRINITY NIGHT SADDENED

"Police Night" attracted 350 to 400 people at Trinity, Saturday evening, March 6th.

A rather somber note was struck, however, which was reflected in every heart, for the chair of very popular, industrious Lt. Paul S. was vacant. Paul was called to his eternal rest Friday, February 25th, and was buried Tuesday, March 1. His death came suddenly from a cerebral hemorrhage.

After a minute of respect for his memory was observed, the six speakers, each now or formerly connected with the local police department spoke with great feeling of Paul's devotion to man and to his God.

Paul will be sorely missed by his associates as well as his family.

### P A R M A

The group listened to three outstanding and "aged" westsiders in three successive evenings last month. They were Tommy F., the policeman, Cliff B., the inn-keeper and Warren C., the milkman. Great meetings.

### CONSOLIDATED MEETING

Town Hall, Sunday, April 24th at 4:00 P. M.

The April Consolidated meeting will be held in Town Hall, 2612 Prospect Avenue, Sunday, April 24th, at 4 p. m. This departs from the usual custom of holding it on the third Sunday of each month.

At the Central Committee meeting it was pointed out that the third Sunday fell on April 17th, which was Easter Sunday, but the members felt that this would make little difference, and accordingly voted to hold it on that date.

However, the program committee found that the hall was not available on the 17th and was forced to change the date to the 24th.

The speaker will be Frank M. of Youngstown, who has a remarkable message to offer. A very able, sincere and humble speaker, he will leave a lasting impression on every listener.

### CENTRAL COMMITTEE

A generous offer by the Frank E. Durant Painting & Decorating Co. to paint and decorate Room 370 of the Hanna Bldg. was accepted by W. T. Grogan Co., managers of the building. This offer was tendered through Central Committee which has been given this meeting room twice a month free for many years. The painting company offered to do this in appreciation for what AA had done for one of their important staff members.

Regular business was attended to. Treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$81.25 which was gratifying. A dollar more should be added to this total which was sent by Al K. of Charlestown, W. Va., who was so concerned about our treasury on reading the Central Bulletin that he sent in the dollar to help pay our bills. Thanks Al. We're alright now.

### ALLENDALE ONE YEAR OLD

On Thursday, the 21st of April, Allendale will celebrate its first anniversary with Corny V. and Wynn W. as speakers. An added entertainment feature will be the 1949 Sweethearts on Parade with twelve individual acts. Food will be plenteous.

### TWO NEW SATURDAY GROUPS

Two new Saturday night groups were formed during the past month and are warranting their existence by attracting many visitors.

St. Colimibkill's group meets at 8:30 p. m. in St. Columbkil's School Hall, 2642 Superior Avenue.

Gospel Center group meets in the Center, located at 6920 Lexington at 8:30 p. m.

### NEW WOMEN'S GROUP STARTS

A new women's group held its first meeting on March 3 and has as its members a goodly number of highly esteemed women. They will meet every Thursday evening at 8:00 p. m. and will welcome any woman alcoholic. Meetings are held in West Park Baptist Church, 15218 Lorain Ave.

Mrs. Edna K. is the initial secretary.

### OTHER GROUPS CELEBRATE

The Tiffin group celebrated its fifth anniversary on February 8th, with 70 in attendance. Guests came from Toledo, Fostoria, Fremont, Bloomville, Bucyrus, Attica, Plymouth and Parma-Cleveland. Roy B. of Toledo, was the speaker.

The Galion group celebrated its sixth anniversary on Saturday, February 26th.

### GLENVILLE

After being forced to close for two weeks due to lease difficulties, the Glenville group reopened its doors at 10421 St. Clair Ave. Regular meetings will be held, as in the past, Thursdays at 9:00 p. m. and Saturdays at 9:30 p. m.

A new house committee and secretary (Pat C.) invites all AA members and their families to stop in and visit.

His thoughts were slow, his words were few  
And never formed to glisten,  
But he was a joy to all his friends  
You should have heard him listen.

### Cleveland Group Meetings

#### MONDAY

- ADDISON—St. Francis School, E. 71st and Superior.....8:30
- BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid.....8:45
- DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave.....8:30
- FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry.....8:30
- LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd.,  
Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting.....8:30
- LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE—Community Center Bldg.  
Detroit Ave. and St. Charles.....8:30
- LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit.....8:30
- LFE MONDAY—First Fresh. Church, E. Cleve., Nela and Euclid.....8:30
- LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain.....8:30
- MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill.....7:30
- PEARL—Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd.).....8:30
- SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrensville.....8:30
- SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway.....8:30
- UNION—12907 Union Ave.....8:30
- WEST 25th ST.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St.....8:30
- WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O.....8:30
- WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid.....8:30
- WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd. Christ., W. Blvd. & W. 101.....8:30
- MEDINA, O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House.....8:30

#### TUESDAY

- ARCADE—Euclid Ave Baptist E. 18th & Euclid.....8:30
- CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud.....8:30
- CLARK—4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs.....8:30
- EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle.....8:00
- EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit  
Dinner at 7:00 P. M.—Meeting.....8:30
- EUCLID-WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid.....8:30
- FAIRVIEW PARK—Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 212th St.....8:30
- MILES-LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles.....8:30
- MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd.....8:30
- SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road.....8:30
- SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior.....8:30
- WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain.....8:30
- WEST SIDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th.....8:30
- LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts.....8:00
- PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street.....8:30
- STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall.....8:30

#### WEDNESDAY

- BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave.....8:30
- BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd.....8:45
- COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.....8:30
- DENISON—7403 Denison Ave.....8:30
- DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance.....8:45
- EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St.....10:00 A. M.
- GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd.....8:30
- LEE ROAD—First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd.....8:30
- WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction.....6:30
- BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave.....8:30
- ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third.....8:00
- LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave.....8:30

#### THURSDAY

- ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave.....8:30
- ANGIE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave.....8:30
- BROADWAY-55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall.....8:30
- COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough  
Road, East of Coventry.....8:30
- GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....9:00
- LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain.....8:30
- OUTHWAITE—(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman.....8:30
- THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave.....2:00
- WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building.....7:00
- WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave.....10:30 A. M.
- WEST PARK WOMEN—West Park Baptist Church, 15218 Lorain.....8:00
- WYANDOTTE—Redeemer Hall, Andrews and Detroit (rear).....8:30
- BEREA, O.—Fine Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland.....8:30
- EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O.....8:30
- GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway.....8:30
- PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor.....8:30

#### FRIDAY

- CFDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St.....8:15
- GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St.....8:30
- LEE ROAD—2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall.....8:30
- MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St.....8:30
- NORTHEAST—2028 E. 105th St.....8:30
- ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit.....8:30
- ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month.....8:30
- WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall W. 116-Detroit.....8:30
- BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church.....8:30
- CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St.....8:30
- CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O.....8:30
- FUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd.....8:30
- LORAIN-AVON—1112 W. Erie St. Lorain, O.....8:30
- MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church.....8:30

#### SATURDAY

- BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad.....8:30
- CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th.....9:00
- GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....9:30
- GOSPEL CENTER—6920 Lexington Ave.....8:30
- LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit.....8:30
- MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair.....8:30
- PARMA—St. Charles Church Basement Charles and Ridge.....8:30
- REDWOOD—Lutheran Church, Oriole and E. 260th St.....8:30
- ST. COLUMBKILL'S—School Hall, 2642 Superior.....8:30
- TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St.....8:30
- VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather.....8:30
- W. S. SOCIAL CLUB, 4427 Pearl Road.....8:00
- WINDERMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront.....9:00
- 8005 GROUP—8005 Lorain Ave.....8:30
- ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third.....8:30
- OBERLIN, OHIO—K. of P. Hall.....9:00

### CONNEAUT

The Men's group members showed off their skill to their wives in preparing and serving a supper prior to their meeting Tuesday, March 8th. Several of the wives confided in us that they were contemplating turning over this department of their home chores to their husbands in whom they had now discovered this surprising latent talent. Nice way for them to act! Tsk!

Visitors were there from nearby Ashtabula. Fine group—grand people.

A man rushed up to the bookmaker and placed a \$5 bill on a 20 to 1 shot. The horse won and the bookie gave the bettor \$105 in \$5 bills. The man examined every bill very carefully, which made the bookmaker angry.

"What's the matter, mister? Afraid of counterfeits?"  
"No, not at all. I just wanted to make sure the one J gave you wasn't here."

#### LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS

- Alcoholic Abstinence Nursing Home (MEIrose 1635) (M).....8023 Detroit Ave.
  - .....3480 Scranton Road
  - Betty's Home (SHadyside 4692) (M).....Central and E. 22nd St.
  - Charity Hospital (MAIn 9400) (MW).....7809 Euclid Ave.
  - Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 8998) (MW).....4233 Pearl Rd.
  - Deaconess Evangelical Hospital (FLorida 0070) (MW).....13240 Euclid Ave.
  - East Cleveland Clinic (GLEenville 3244) (MW).....6037 Pearl Rd.
  - Farquharson's (SHadyside 8374) (M).....560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
  - MacGillis Nursing Home, (RA. 2556) (MW).....7911 Detroit Ave.
  - St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M).....
- (M) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.

### THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL—No. 24



#### SUNDAY

- COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Avenue.....7:30
- LAKEVIEW-CYO Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair.....8:00
- MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park.....7:00
- NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St.....8:30
- OUTWAITE (Negro)—7100 Kinsman.....4:00
- SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave.....2:00
- TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave.....8:00
- WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison.....8:30
- WARRENSVILLE—Cooley Farms Recreation Room.....10:00 A. M.
- CEN EVA, O.—Burd's Hospital 237 S. Broadway.....8:30
- LORAIN, OHIO—Stag, AA Social Center, 700 Broaway.....10:00 A. M.

- 1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....8:30
- 3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....8:30

FOR AUTHORITATIVE AA INFORMATION  
AND LITERATURE

AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE-1007 Schofield Bldg. CH 7387

## Editorial-Passport

A passport is a necessary document for all who travel in foreign lands. It identifies the bearer, establishes nationality and citizenship beyond dispute, gets him past frontiers and barriers and is the means of bringing him safely home.

As the writer of these lines undertakes a two-months journey in the Near East and Europe the thought comes to mind that more important than the paper which proclaims citizenship, is the unwritten passport which says: I am a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

In a national passport there are provisions as to what the holder may or may not do. Certain countries cannot be entered, certain regulations must be observed in others.

In an alcoholic's passport there are provisions, too. They are the Twelve Steps. Imperative is the injunction: With the help of God I will not take a drink today. Indulgence is a realm whose frontier is forever closed.

Now a national passport creates respect. It lends prestige. It announces that the bearer is one of a great group of people that is powerful and decent.

An alcoholic's passport, although those with whom he comes in contact may not know he possesses it, also inspires respect. Its possession is evident alone in the conduct of the bearer.

There will be times when high officials, with the best intentions of hospitality, will offer a drink. Ordinary people, to show their good will, will pass the cup. It is then that the alcoholic must call on his unseen passport for protection.

Some people, especially among those abroad where drinking is considered natural, may be offended. But most will respect the wishes or perhaps they think the idiosyncrasies of the foreign visitor. But whether he offends socially or not, the bearer must observe the regulations.

Violation of the provisions of a national passport entail its confiscation. The same is true with an alcoholic's passport. Violation brings the loss of all the privileges and prerogatives of sobriety, of citizenship in the great fellowship of A. A.

There is a difference, however, between the passport which opens doors and permits travel abroad, and the passport carried by an alcoholic. When the weary traveler returns home he can put aside the little document until such time as he wishes to wander again. The alcoholic can never lay down his passport. It must be with him always. It is just as necessary at home as it is overseas, for the great dream of sobriety, the land where blessings are without number, the region where visions of yesteryear become the realities of today, knows no national frontier, no geographic restrictions, no passing of time.

Loss of a passport is to be guarded against with the greatest vigilance. Loss entails great difficulties in the case of a national document. What it entails for the alcoholic needs no recounting—the loss of identity, revocation of citizenship in the league, condemnation to wandering in the wasteland as a man without a spiritual country. So those of us who have been fortunate enough, by the grace of God, to be issued an alcoholic's passport to sobriety and happiness will guard it with our very lives.

## Constancy

We read a quite humorous story in the New York Herald Tribune's "Views of Sport" column by writer Red Smith. It was titled "A Very Pious Story." In it he described a horse player who couldn't win a bet—who wore patches on his pants from the way even odds-on favorites ran up the alley when he backed them. Completely licked, he sought advice and was told to change his errant ways, go to church, become a decent God-fearing and respectable citizen, and maybe his luck would change.

Questioning whether he dared bother heaven with his troubles or whether they understood horse-racing up there, he decided to do it. So he went to church, sat attentively, joined in the hymn singing and put his buck on the collection plate and went back to his room to wait for "the sign." But none came in the night.

Next day he goes to the track, but he don't buy a scratch sheet or racing form. He just takes the program and studies the field, waiting for "the sign." But no inspiration came right away, so he doesn't bet on the first couple races.

Suddenly, as he's looking them over for the third, something tells him to bet on Horse No. 4. "Lord, I'll do it," he says, and he rushes down to put the last fifty bucks he'll ever be able to borrow on Number Four to win and he goes back to his seat waiting for the race to begin.

Throughout the race he gets excited and he orders the jockey through his newly found medium what to do and to his joyous amazement everything he asked for came through.

As the horses came down the stretch, the horseplayer became worried and he says, "Now Lord, now we move. Tell that kid to go to the stick"! Sure enough the boy outs with his bat and really "scouges" the horse who lays his ears back and really digs in.

He closes ground stride by stride, but the kid in front also puts his horse to a drive. "Please Lord," the guy says "please let my horse get out in front. Gimme one call on the top end anyway, please!"

Number 4 keeps coming. At the eighth pole he's got the leader collared. He's past him! He's got the lead by two lengths.

"Thank you, Lord," the guy says, "Now I'll take him from here. Come on you blankety, blankety blank!"

The story struck us as being apropos of some AA encounters. In desperation all of us sought help frantically and with little faith that AA had the answer for us. But we went through with the program. What did we have to lose. We'd try anything in our desperation.

And as the miracle began to happen and we joyfully saw our problems solved, one by one—job back, health restored, family reconciled, new friends, old friends forgiven us, we forgot the Solver of our problem, and started to run our own life again. Back to the old rat-race of deception, evasion of responsibilities.

Small wonder that so many have trouble. Are we fickle or inconstant by nature? How many bumps do we

(Continued on page two)

### GETTING EVEN

The only fellow you should try to get even with is the fellow who has done you some good.

## CONSTANCY

(Continued from page one)

have to take before we finally realize that we must remain constant if we truly want to live and to be an asset to the community rather than a liability?

The Third Step must be applied daily—yes hourly, if necessary, to train us into constancy. It means effort and concentration, but the reward is great, if we want it badly enough.

### THE ALKYS' TWELVE STEPS

From the April issue of the Grapevine we reprint a very humorous satire on the Twelve Steps but which portrays in remarkable succinct fashion the twisted mind of a true alcoholic who wants no part of the program. It was submitted by J. F. D. of Wilmington, California.

The first line in the fifth chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous reads as follows:

"Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path."

In taking my inventory I found that I followed a path to destruction which I have condensed into 12 Steps assuring anyone in doubt that I became a candidate for A. A. by thoroughly following this path. They are as follows:

- (1) I stated that I could hold my liquor and was master of my life.
- (2) Believed I was sane and rational in every respect
- (3) Decided to run my own life and be successful in all my undertakings.
- (4) Made a thorough and searching inventory of my fellow man and found him lacking.
- (5) Admitted to no one, including God and myself, that there was anything wrong with me.
- (6) Sought through alcohol to remove my responsibilities and to escape from the realities of life.
- (7) Got drunk to remove these shortcomings.
- (8) Made a list of all persons who had harmed me, whether imaginary or real, and swore to get even.
- (9) Got even whenever possible, except when to do so would further injure me.
- (10) Continue to find fault with the world and the people in it and when I was right, promptly admitted it.
- (11) Sought through lying, cheating and stealing to improve myself materially at the expense of my fellow man, asking only for the means to get drunk or stay drunk.
- (12) After having had a complete moral, physical, and financial breakdown as the result of this kind of living, I tried to drag those who were dear to me down to my level and practiced these reasonings in all my affairs.

It should be understood that this inventory in its essence, is mine alone. Any resemblance to that of anyone else is purely coincidental.

Incidentally the Grapevine is a wonderful publication and easily worth the \$2.60 per year which it costs. Mail subscription to A. A. Grapevine, P. O. Box 85, Knickerbocker Station, New York 2, N. Y.

A prominent St. Paul doctor made a very impressive speech recently on the subject of "Alcoholism". Among other things the doctor said alcoholics, suffering a craving for liquor, could appease their appetites by eating candy. It just happened the doctor's speech was aired by a local network and the broadcast was heard by the doctor's wife. The physician returned to his home that evening, tired after a hard day's work, "I'm exhausted", he said to his spouse. "I made a speech this morning and saw dozens of patients this afternoon. Could you bring me a nice Martini cocktail?" His wife returned from the kitchen a few minutes later. She carried a tray on which reposed a cocktail glass. The thirsty doctor lifted it to his lips then paused as he saw its contents — a half dozen chocolate bonbons.

## ALCOHOLISM IS A DISEASE

In Los Angeles, a jury in Superior Judge J. Frank Moroney's court unanimously decided that chronic alcoholism with accompanying mental deterioration is a disease—not a habit.

By its decision George R. 58, former auto works owner and a patient in Camarillo State Hospital since 1945, is entitled to monthly disability payments from the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Co.

The company had opposed a suit brought by the patient's guardian, on the ground that alcoholism could not be considered a sickness. The guardian stated that R had taken out two disability policies in 1926 with the company and that the company had refused to make the \$350.00 monthly payment.

Both the company and the plaintiff produced physicians in court who gave varying opinions as to the proper designation of alcoholism.

In returning the verdict after two hours deliberation members of the jury disclosed that they had disagreed themselves on a question submitted by the judge asking whether alcoholism, not accompanied by mental symptoms can be considered a disease.

The majority, nine, said it did not. Two said it is, and one member abstained from voting. Ultimately a unanimous verdict was returned.

### CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Quite a large crowd attended the April Central Committee meeting and heard the treasurer report a respectable balance of \$103.46. They also heard the Central Bulletin report which stated that 1873 March Bulletins were mailed to subscribers plus 80 to Downtown Office and three welfare institutions. The editor pointed out that monthly subscription expirations averaged 150 and that renewals and new subscriptions just about kept pace thanks to the diligence of most secretaries.

A protest was offered by members of the Alcola Club 6409 Detroit Avenue, who objected to the "Hot Potato" article which appeared in the February Bulletin and demanded a retraction. Reference was made in this article to gambling trends in A.A. groups and specifically referred to one which had been raided by the police. The complainant explained that the club had been harassed by police and that the wife of Darby W., manager, had been taken in for questioning, but had been released because of lack of cause. The club has been conducted as a haven for A. A. who sought companionship. Over 500 people are members and scarcely 20 play cards. A television set affords many great diversions. According to Darby W., it has been operating at a great personal loss. Quite a number arose to defend the need of the club, ideally located within easy access to all westaiders and people downtown. They do not operate under the name of Alcoholics Anonymous, in spite of the article which appeared in the Cleveland Press which indicated that it did. The Bulletin regrets that our informants gave only part of the picture and herewith apologizes for conveying a damaging impression of the work which this club is doing.

The Consolidated Meeting Committee reported their plans for publicizing the quarterly meeting of April 24, at which Frank M. of Youngstown will speak. A good crowd is expected at Town Hall, 2612 Prospect Ave. at 4 p.m. It will be an open meeting.

### CAPTAIN EASY

We have been following the fortunes of Captain Easy in the comics and are wondering whether the cartoonist has read the A. A. book or has followed the fortunes of an A. A. member. Very familiar technique is portrayed.

### ADDISON CHANGES SITE

The Addison group now meets in spacious Westminster Church, located on the northeast corner of Addison road and Wade Park Ave., at 8:30 p. m., every Monday evening.

Food for thought: Many resolutions—but never a decision.

## WARRENSVILLE INFIRMARY

An earnest plea is being made for sustained visitor and worker support in the women's alcoholic ward at Warrensville. These women need help and encouragement and many of them are sincerely interested in learning more about A. A.

Hilda H. of Broadway-55th who has devoted incredible energy in building interest in this work, is being forced to the sidelines because of ill health. Mrs. Iva J. W. is the new chairman and pleads for speakers who will come to address and counsel the inmates. They meet Thursday evenings at 7 p. m. in the Administration Building, enabling the visitor plenty of time for later activity, as only one hour is permitted at the Infirmary.

## SUPERIOR GROUP

Our energetic and hard-working chairman, Hal P. really lined up a fine slate of speakers for the Superior Group for the month of April. On successive Tuesdays we are privileged to hear Frank W., Jim B., Pete McN., and Frank S. Taken as a whole the slate may be considered a course of basic education in A. A. for any new man or woman and brush-up course for those older in the program.

## EUCLID-WADE PLANS PICNIC

Quite a few new faces are in evidence at the regular Tuesday night meetings of the Euclid-Wade group.

Plans are under way for the annual picnic which will be held July 10, at Wiggins Lake. The Lee Road, Friday group is collaborating as in the past. All A. A.'s in this area are welcome.

In charge of the picnic are Max L. and Jimmie J. of Euclid-Wade. They will be aided by Bill F. of Lee Road Friday and criticized by Ed B. of the same group.

There will be games for children, swimming under supervision of a life-guard and other activities.

Incidentally, July 10, will mark the seventh anniversary of the Euclid-Wade group.

## OBERLIN CHANGES SITE AND NITE

The Oberlin group has made two vital changes. They now meet in American Legion Home, located at South Main and Hamilton Sts. at 8:30 p. m. on Fridays. They formerly met on Saturday evenings.

## TAPCO ORGANIZES

Twenty-two employes of the Thompson Products Co. have organized a plant group and titled it the Tapco Group. They held their first meeting on Thursday, March 17th. The secretary is Melville S. of Mentor, O., and the first chairman is Larry S. of Chardon. The group is for employes only.

## MILLERSBURG

The Millersburg Ohio Group, located near Wooster, has summoned quite a few Cleveland speakers in recent months. They now meet in the basement of St. Peter's Catholic Church on South Monroe St. This since April 12.

## GLENVILLE

A new fifteen inch television set has been purchased and installed in the Glenville club rooms and all AA members are welcome to watch the show any evening.

Rev. McM. impressed the group in his first lead. His story made a deep and profound impression on the listeners.

## MANSFIELD

The Mansfield Tuesday night group attracted a great crowd which included members from Marion, Bucyrus Galion, Ashland, Loudenville, Mt. Vernon and other groups. Warren C. of Cleveland, ten years dry, was the attraction. The theme of his talk was "AA's Assets and Liabilities."

## NEWBURGH

The seven year anniversary of Johnny McG was observed by many of his friends at the April 17th meeting of the Newburgh group, in St. Catherine's Church, 3443 East 93rd St. Johnny's faithfulness and steadfastness was rewarded.

## AA DISTRICT OFFICE

While the principal purpose of your District Office is to make it easy for people interested in learning about the program of Alcoholics Anonymous to obtain information and contacts, it also serves the membership of Alcoholics Anonymous. Following is a list of some of the ways in which the District Office serves members of A. A. Your District Office

1. Simplifies city-wide intergroup communication.
2. Serves as a point of contact between A. A. and the anonymity of the membership can be preserved.
3. Supplies out of town visitors with meeting information.
4. Is a source of information for Cleveland members as to A. A. activities and contacts in other cities
5. Serves as a point of contact for members of A. A. in other cities who are interested in communicating with members of A. A. in Cleveland.

Since the last meeting of the Office Advisory Committee on February 20, 1949, your Office has received 62 requests for A. A. contact which were turned over to 26 Group Secretaries. Their reports show that 48 of these were receptive to first contact, 9 were not ready at this time, and in 5 cases no contact was possible. In the same time 11 speakers were supplied, 42 sets of literature were mailed out to persons seeking information about the program, and 61 various services involving use of Office facilities were performed for members and Groups. Budget approved November 18, 1948, \$10,070.00. Contribution: received to April 6, 1949, \$3,616.01.

## BOWLING NOTES

The bowling season is nearing its close in all four leagues, and prize distribution will be made at the inevitable banquets which seem a necessary part of league activity.

For the forty teams which bowl at the Franklin Alleys a banquet will be held May 12, at 7 p. m. in the Allerton Hotel, Mather Room. It is open to all A. A.'s and friends. To make reservations before May 5, one should call SHAdySide 9566.

The Addison group leads the tied Suburban and Valley View teams in the Thursday league by eight points and are apparently coasting in. Jerry W. cracked a beautiful 278 game to pull his average up to 173, quite a distance from Roy E., who holds a neat 195 average. Incidentally Roy is a member of the Denison group.

In the Friday, 7:30 Shift League, the Lorain Yanks are still in first place, but their lead is challenged by Pearl No. 1 and 8005 No. 1 who are tied for second place, a scant three points in the rear.

In the Friday 9:30 Shift League, Angle No. 3 is in first place, leading Trinity. by two points. The scrap will probably be between these two teams to the finish as Berea, in third, is quite a bit in the rear.

In the Eastside League, Allendale leads Mt. Pleasant No. 1 by live games. Arcade lags two games behind in third place.

## CROSSROADS ATTRACTS HUGE CROWD

Over 350 people helped the Crossroads group celebrate its fourth anniversary on Saturday, March 12. St. Patrick's Day was prematurely observed as significant favors were passed out to each person.

After a splendid talk by Irishman Johnny G., of Glenville, entertainers took over and made the occasion a most memorable one.

## RYAN'S HOSPITALIZE WOMEN

Announcements were sent to all groups that Ryan's were opening a hospital for women. Objections of neighbors to a hospital caused its' closing after a week. Women patients are accepted at 8023 Detroit, completely segregated from men patients.

SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE.



## Cleveland Group Meetings

### MONDAY

ADDISON—Westminster Church, N.E. Cor. Addison & Wade Park.....	8:30
BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid.....	8:45
DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:30
FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry.....	8:30
LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd. Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE—Community Center Bldg. Detroit Ave. and St. Charles.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit.....	8:30
L E E MONDAY—First Presb. Church, E. Cleve. Nela and Euclid.....	8:30
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain.....	8:30
MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill.....	7:30
PEARL—Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 Steckney (E. of Pearl Rd.).....	8:30
SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrenville.....	8:30
SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway.....	8:30
UNION-12907 Union Ave.....	8:30
WEST 25th ST.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St.....	8:30
WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd. Christl. W. Blvd. & W. 101.....	8:30
MEDINA, O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House.....	8:30

### TUESDAY

ARCADE—Euclid Ave. Baptist, E. 18th & Euclid.....	8:30
CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud.....	8:30
CLARK—4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs.....	8:30
EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle.....	8:00
EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit Dinner at 7:00 P. M.—Meeting.....	8:30
EUCLID-WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid.....	8:30
FAIRVIEW PARK—Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 212th St.....	8:30
MILES-LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles.....	8:30
MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd.....	8:30
SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road.....	8:30
SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior.....	8:30
WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain.....	8:30
WEST SJDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th.....	8:30
LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts.....	8:00
PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street.....	8:30
STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall.....	8:30

### WEDNESDAY

BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave.....	8:30
BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd.....	8:45
COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.....	8:30
DENISON—7403 Denison Ave.....	8:30
DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance.....	8:45
EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St., 10:00 A. M.....	10:00 A. M.
GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction.....	6:30
BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third.....	8:00
LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave.....	8:30

### THURSDAY

ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave.....	8:30
ANGLE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave.....	8:30
BROADWAY-55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall.....	8:30
COVENTRY-Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough.....	8:30
GLENVILLE-10421 St. Clair.....	9:00
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain.....	8:30
OUTHWAITE—(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman.....	8:30
THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN-6409 Detroit Ave.....	2:00
WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building.....	7:00
WEST SIDE-7403 Denison Ave.....	10:30 A. M.
WEST PARK WOMEN—West Park Baptist Church, 15218 Lorain.....	8:00
WYANDOTTE—Redeemer Hall, Andrews and Detroit (rear).....	8:30
BEREA, O.—Fine Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland.....	8:30
EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway.....	8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor.....	8:30

### FRIDAY

CEDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St.....	8:15
GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St.....	8:30
LEE ROAD-2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall.....	8:30
MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St.....	8:30
NORTHEAST-2028 E. 105th St.....	8:30
ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit.....	8:30
ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month.....	8:30
WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall, W. 116-Detroit.....	8:30
BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church.....	8:30
CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St.....	8:30
CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O.....	8:30
EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd.....	8:30
LORAIN-AVON-1112 W. Erie St., Lorain, O.....	8:30
MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church.....	8:30
OBBERLIN, O.—American Legion Home, S. Main and Hamilton.....	8:30

### SATURDAY

BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad.....	8:30
CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th.....	9:00
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:30
GOSPEL CENTER—6920 Lexington Ave.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit.....	8:30
MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair.....	8:30
PARMA—St. Charles Church Basement, Charles and Ridge.....	8:30
REDWOOD—Euclid Lutheran Church, E. 260 and Oriole.....	8:30
(Three blocks south of Lake Shore Boulevard)	
ST. COLUMBKILL'S—School Hall, 2642 Superior.....	8:30
TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St.....	8:30
VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather.....	8:30
W. S. SOCIAL CLUB, 4427 Pearl Road.....	8:00
WINDEMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront.....	9:00
8005 GROUP—8005 Lorain Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third.....	8:30

## LORAIN CONSOLIDATED

On Sunday, May 1st, grizzled and dynamic Jack C., of Rocky River, will give one of his forthright and effective talks before the Lorain County Consolidated Meeting in Townsend Hall, Elyria, at 7:00 p. m. A large crowd is expected.

Plans are being made for a banner spring meeting for the June 5th Consolidated meeting. Groups from a fifty mile radius will collaborate. See May issue of Bulletin.

A bedraggled bum was hauled before the court on a charge of drunk and disorderly conduct. The court attendant handed up the bum's record to the Judge. After studying the record for a moment, the Judge cleared his throat and said: "My man, this is the fifth time you have been before this court on the same charge within six months." The bum replied tearfully, "Gee, Your Honor, nobody's perfect".

### LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS

Alcoholic Abstinence Nursing Home (Melrose 1 6 3 5) (M)	
Betty's Home (Shady Side 4692) (M).....	8023 Detroit Ave.
Charity Hospital (Main 9100) (MW).....	3480 Scranton Road
Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 8998) (MW).....	Central and E. 22nd St.
Deaconess Evangelical Hospital (Florida 0070) (MW).....	7809 Euclid Ave.
East Cleveland Clinic (Glenville 3244) (MW).....	4233 Pearl Rd.
Farrughson's (Shady Side 8374) (M).....	13240 Euclid Ave.
MacGillis Nursing Home (R.V. 2556) (MW).....	6037 Pearl Rd.
St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M).....	1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
	7911 Detroit Ave.

(M) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.

## THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL—No. 25



Say Bill! Do you ever wish you could drink again? After all these years, certainly one ought to be able to become a social drinker, now that you got your self in hand.

### SUNDAY

COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Avenue.....	7:30
LAKEVIEW—CYO Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair.....	8:00
XI ISTITUTE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park.....	7:00
NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St.....	8:30
OUTWAITE (Negro)—7100 Kinsman.....	4:00
SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave.....	2:00
TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:00
WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Cooley Farms Recreation Room.....	10:00 A. M.
GENEVA, O.—Burd's Hospital, 237 S. Broadway.....	8:30
LORAIN, OHIO—Stag. AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....	10:00 A. M.

### 1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH

CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....	8:30
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....	8:30

### FOR AUTHORITY AA INFORMATION AND LITERATURE

AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE—1007 Schofield Bldg.....CH 7387

HE. LON. MCE...  
Hershel H. (Citizen 1744)

# CENTRAL BULLETIN

INTELLIGENCE • HONESTY  
PURETY • LOVE  
AA

Vol. VII-No. 8

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May, 1949

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## Editorial- Inventory

In the absence of Spencer I, regular monthly writer of the editorial which appears in this column, we are reprinting an article which met with great favor in our July, 1945 Bulletin. Spencer is still overseas in the Near East, gathering material for his regular column.

The article was gleaned from a talk by Franklin S. of Doan Men's Group as he discussed the benefits he had obtained since adopting AA's way of life.

He said AA had taught him to *think*. Where he had lived a life of irresponsibility, careless of the opinions and needs of others, he was now conscious of his responsibilities as a citizen and a neighbor.

It has taught him *humility*. Brought up in a fine Christian atmosphere, he misused his family's station in the community. He laughed at discipline and made his own laws. AA taught him to respect law and the rights of others,

It brought him *self respect* and with that the respect of others.

It taught him *honesty*. White lies and small deceits grew into mammoth proportions from which he could not and, finally would not extricate himself. They led to the inevitable loss of friends and trust of his family.

It taught him *gratitude*. His ego-centric self never permitted this except as a pose. He had never been really sincere.

It taught him *tolerance*. Quick to anger and resentment over any attempt at discipline or a curbing of his anti-social pursuits made him intolerant to any suggestions. Pity or compassion was alien to his nature.

It taught him *rectitude*. Good moral conduct in others always irritated him. The people who practiced it were hypocrites-church paraders. He has now learned to obey his conscience.

It brought him *peace of mind*. Gone are the sleepless nights, the tears and phobias of an alcoholic-diseased mind. Gone are the worries about making amends, or the nerve-racking planning over how to avoid making them. With peace of mind naturally came tranquility and happiness which never had been his lot during and (before his drinking days.

It brought him *faith*. Distrust and disbelief in all that was good — in God and man — in ideals and standards and motives. This resurrected faith, beautiful to feel, made life worthwhile.

It brought *friendships*. Hundreds of acquaintances, whom he had once considered friends, and who couldn't understand him finally left him to go his willful way. He had used them selfishly and then abused them. In AA he found that by associating with 'people who spoke "his language" and by daily applying their principles he could find friends — and keep them.

It gave him a *job*. Always shirking responsibilities and being geneally opinionated and rebellious to the discipline of (business, he lost many jobs. So many, that he stopped working entirely. He has now found the key to abundant

(Continued on page two)

## Fagged Out

We wish we had heard Dr. Norman Vincent Peale of New York when he addressed the Cleveland Advertising Club here the past week. We understand he made a profound impression on the overflow crowd which he addressed. Sprinkled in the audience were several members of our fellowship, several of whom called us to give us bits of the wisdom he imparted.

One of them was impressed with what we will use as the subject of our editorial and we humbly recognize our inadequacy in plumbing the depths of the subject. But it will give us something to think about and each of our readers can add as he will: FAG.

The first letter represents *Fear*, with worry its counterpart. Fear means lack of faith. It means lack of courage. It means lack of hope. Certainly if we truly and honestly dedicated ourselves to the Higher Power — God — when we accepted the Third Step and turned our lives and wills to His care, we should not be afraid. For He offers us "no broken or helpless reed, but His own hand, sufficient for the need."

The second letter represents *Anger*. Anger, uncontrolled is akin to hatred and destroys the soul. Most of us, impetuous and quick to resentment, have great difficulty in achieving tolerance and understanding. That we must achieve this if we would have health of mind and body and consequently peace of mind is only logical. That means we must learn to be patient, recognizing ever that we cannot expect to mold everybody and everything to our way of pleasing. We must learn to judge carefully and unselfishly on what is

right-on what is fair. We cannot be selfish. We must learn to give way.

The third letter represents *Guilt*. Errors of the past all too often remain in one's consciousness with constantly recurring accusation. Even when these errors have been atoned for and expiated: there remains this shred of doubt in some person's mind to simmer and grow beyond all logical proportion. Dr. Peale stated that it was not only important that God forgive us, but that we forgive ourselves by completely tossing it out of our minds as finished business. Our faith should convince us that our error is forgiven. In some instances we might have a sense of guilt when it need not be. In this case he advised visiting an able counsellor for a thorough discussion. Very often this mistaken sense of guilt is unwarranted and once brought to light will snap the chains with which the soul was fettered.

If you're "fagged", take an inventory and revive yourself by hopping back on the AA train which will bring you to your destination, rested and happy, and at peace with your God and your fellowman.

● SPECIAL CONSOLIDATED MEETING

CHAGRIN FALLS

SUNDAY, JUNE 19th . 4 P.M.

## INVENTORY

(Continued from page one)

living — giving the best he has, honestly and sincerely — all the time.

"AA" has brought out in man the innate character he possesses, and the measure of his happiness is in appreciating the many blessings by constantly recognizing their Source.

### ARE YOU BORED??

Are you bored? Do you wish you could find a place to indulge in some hobby in the evening — learn a new trade — putter with tools — anything to take away the ache of loneliness?

The Hospital Committee under Frank W. and Herschel H. has discovered such a place and believes it will more fully round out the rehabilitation problem of lonely new and old AA's who want something to occupy their time besides visiting hospitals or playing cards or "what have you."

At the Cleveland Rehabilitation Center, a Community Fund project which during the day is used to teach crippled and maimed persons to support themselves, Miss Belle Greve, director, has offered the facilities for evening use to AA's.

Starting Tuesday evening, May 24th at 7:30 p. m. to 10:00 p. m., classes will be started in cabinet making, wood working and upholstering. Sewing classes for women will also be made available if enough will come to warrant engaging a teacher. Classes in public speaking will also be organized.

After several hours of "hobbing" coffee and doughnuts will be served and a round table AA discussion will be held.

If you're a square peg in a round hole, come up on Tuesday and maybe you'll find your answer.

The cost of the instructors will be met by the participants.

### OHIO PENITENTIARY

On Sunday, June 19th, a group of 25 will initiate weekly meetings in Ohio State Penitentiary at Columbus. The meeting has been arranged for by the Columbus groups. A party of five from Cleveland, headed by Al F. of Cleveland, who first interested Warden Alvis in the rehabilitation program and who has been diligently raising funds to purchase sufficient books to sustain the program there as well as in other penal institutions.

Each Sunday a group of about five will trek to Columbus to give of their talents. Only twenty-five are permitted at one time for the present.

### SALVATION ARMY ACTIVE

An action-compelling printed circular titled "The Time to Quit is Now" distributed in westside fertile territory by members of the Cedar and Eagle groups has brought highly satisfactory results. A new group in the midst of this territory located at 2042 West 26th St., has been formed and meets Monday nights at 8:00 o'clock. Capable Dick W. of the Eagle Training group is in charge. Edgar F. has taken charge of the Tuesday meetings.

### GOOD EXAMPLE

We appreciate the fine support Bill W., secretary of the Willoughby group is giving the Bulletin. He sent in a check for \$2.00 for 20 May Bulletins to be given to members of his group who tell him they never had seen this fine paper! Tsk! Tsk! Must be new members. He also asked for twenty subscription cards.

A long, lanky, hatless individual in a state of joyful inebriation came sailing merrily into the City Hall, and dropped anchor before the window of the Registrar of Births and Deaths.

"Good morin' gentlemen," he sang out: "I wanna register the birth (hic) of twins."

"Why do you say 'gentlemen?'" asked the man behind the window. "Can't you see I'm alone here?"

"Alone?" shouted the astonished father. "Only one of you? Then I'd better go home and take another look. Maybe it isn't (hic) twins after all."

## ANONYMITY — WHY?

I sometimes wonder if we do not place the wrong emphasis on the "Anonymous" feature of our program.

I know that when the fellowship began, it had no name. Apparently it was not until after the "Big Book" was written that the search for a title began, and it was an extensive search. Finally the name "Alcoholics Anonymous" was chosen and that was the name given to the book.

Since then, it has been the assumption that the word "Anonymous" was chosen in order to shield the members from the outside world. Apparently many were hesitant to admit that they were alcoholics, and particularly so when it came to admitting the fact to the world in general. Hence, so long as their identity remained secret except within the confines of the membership, they felt more or less secure.

No doubt this was one of the reasons for adopting the word "Anonymous" in the title. I feel, however, that there is another more important reason and I am sure it must have been the impelling reason when the name was chosen.

Let us consider the facts.

The only part of our program that even faintly resembles a ritual is the closing of all meetings with the Lord's Prayer. Other than that, each group is on its own.

Have you ever considered the setting of the Lord's Prayer and what goes before it? Turn to the 6th chapter of St. Mathew and read the Scriptures that immediately precede the Lord's Prayer. You will find these admonitions:

"Do not thine alms before men."

"When thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee as the hypocrites do."

"When thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth, that thine alms may be in secret."

We are also admonished not to pray in public places as the hypocrites do, nor to use vain repetitions as the heathen do, but are admonished that if we do our alms in secret, we shall be rewarded by the Power which understands our innermost thoughts and secrets, and that our secret prayers shall be heard by Him who "Knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask Him." In praying we are told to retire in our closet and close the door.

The paragraph continues: "After this manner, therefore, pray ye, 'Our Father which art in Heaven . . .'"

Thus, we see that these admonitions as to charity, prayer and other good works constantly remind us that they are things of the heart. They are not for the purpose of exhibiting our goodness before others.

That is the essence of AA. The inventory or self-appraisal is made within the inner recesses of the heart and conscience and not for public display. Twelfth step work should be done quietly and unostentatiously. In other words, we should constantly follow the precepts laid down in the Scriptures immediately preceding the Lord's Prayer.

Since those who devised the Twelve Steps place such emphasis on the Lord's Prayer, it seems inconceivable that they should not have also read those admonitions which precede it. If they did, they must surely have felt that while the word "Anonymous" may have concealed the identity of the members of the fellowship from the outside world, still that did not seem to be the principal purpose.

Evidently the principle thought behind the word "Anonymous" was to encourage our members to do their good work quietly and secretly, not for show, not in order to win the acclaim of their fellowmen, but in order that within the inner recesses of the heart, they might have the satisfaction of knowing that they had indeed done good things. It was not so much, therefore, for the purpose of shielding the member from the gaze of the world as it was to permit him to retire within himself and, through contemplation and meditation and the doing of good work secretly, to remove those "defects of character" which had caused his trouble in the first place.

It places one squarely upon his own responsibility with his God. To me, that is the real significance of anonymity.

Herschel G. H.

SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

## DISTRICT OFFICE NOTES

The Advisory Committee of the Cleveland District Office met at Hotel Cleveland on Thursday evening, May 19th, at 8 o'clock. This was the third quarterly meeting of the fiscal year.

During the month of April your District Office received 54 calls for AA contact. These calls were turned over to the Secretaries of 34 Groups. Reports back show that 39 of these persons were receptive to first contact and that 9 were not ready at this time. In 5 cases no contact was possible and 1 was found not to be an AA case. Also in the month of April, 61 services involving use of Office facilities were performed for AA members and Groups, 8 speakers were supplied and 44 requests for informative literature were filled.

Since November 1, 1948 orders have been filled for literature published by your District Office originating from 21 states and from Canada, Eire, Nova Scotia and the Canal Zone.

## OUTHWAITE CELEBRATES

Cleveland's pioneer colored group will celebrate its third anniversary on Sunday, June 5th at 4:30 p. m., in Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman Road. They have been responsible for the establishment of groups in several other cities in Ohio, as well as being highly successful in this city.

They deserve our prayerful support and extend an invitation to all Cleveland AA's to help make their anniversary celebration a joyous one.

## DOAN DATA

It was a hot and sultry evening, May 4th, when two happy Irishmen took over the rostrum to give one of the finest leads we have had the pleasure of hearing. Coming in the fellowship without benefit of hospitalization, (the hard way) they recounted their experiences with rare humor. Yes, Steve W. and Leo C. gave Doan a meeting which made a definite impression on all of the great crowd which heard them and laughed with them.

We are grateful to Bill T., our secretary, for providing us with a new Television set. Get your ringside seats early for forthcoming fights.

## WEST PARK WOMEN

The schedule of speakers for the month of June are as follows: June 2, Warren C.; June 9, Harry D.; June 16, Crawford W.; June 23, Father P. B. of Vermilion; June 30, Herb T. This is an array of talent secured by Marian W., chairman, and should provide a variety of approaches. Sophia Farquharson, a non-alcoholics operator of an AA nursing home was the speaker for May 26th.

## REDWOOD

No meeting will be held on June 25th because of a wedding has been scheduled for that evening in the church.

There will be an open meeting on June 11th at 8:30 p. m. with Jean F. of the Chardon group and a non-alcoholic teacher and educator on the rostrum. Everyone is invited.

Meetings are held in the Lutheran Church at Oriole and East 260th St.

## LORAIN MONDAY

The celebration of Lorain Monday's group's eighth anniversary combined with Tom D's ninth on Monday, May 16th, was saddened by the sudden death of Tom's father on the Saturday before. The speakers were Judge Jim C. and Warren C. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Tom.

## ALLENDALE TEAM CHAMPS

The Allendale five survived the lusty challenge of Mt. Pleasant No. 1, Arcade and Addison by closing the season on top with 62 wins and but 37 defeats. Mt. Pleasant No. 1 won 58, while Arcade and Addison tied for third with 56 games won. Borton Black and Superior No. 2 tied for first in high three team total with 2599. St. Clair-Lakeview being third with four less pins. Doan Tigers slammed out a 942 game for high single. High three individual went to M. of Glenview with 685 who also hit one single game for high of 276.

## SPECIAL CONSOLIDATED MEETING

Chagrin Falls High School Auditorium  
Sunday, June 19th, 4 p. m.

Last January, the Chagrin Falls group asked Central Committee to hold the April consolidated meeting in Chagrin Falls, believing that the beauties of Chagrin Falls in the spring would lure many Clevelanders from their quarters. But the inclement weather which was direly predicted for April frightened the committee and the invitation was reluctantly refused. However, persistent Mr. R. suggested a meeting in June and the offer was accepted.

So let's show our appreciation and pack the High School Auditorium where the meeting will be held. Seven hundred can be accommodated.

The speaker will be Herschel G. H., a prominent Clevelander who has made great contributions to the progress of AA in this area. His philosophy of life and its adaptation to the program is a thing to hear.

## AKRON HOST

The fourteenth anniversary of AA will be celebrated in the town of Akron, the cradle of AA on Sunday, June 12th in Goodyear Hall.

We regret that information as to speakers, etc., was not made available to us, but undoubtedly group secretaries will receive more detailed information. But the date and place are definite as previously stated.

## LORAIN COUNTY BIG MEETING

A large crowd is expected to attend the June Consolidated meeting of the Lorain County groups in Elyria, Sunday, June 6, at 7 o'clock. The meeting will be held in Townsend Hall, 108 Middle avenue. The speaker will be the nationally known editor of the Cleveland Press, Louis B. Seltzer, who contributed one of the finest analyses of the AA program it has been our pleasure to enjoy in the Grapevine. This article will be reproduced in the June issue of the Bulletin incidentally. His brother Charles, secretary of the Berea group, will also speak. Cleveland groups are cordially invited to attend.

## NEW CHICAGO PUBLICATION

Our Chicago reporter, former Clevelander W. Roy W., of Doan Men sent us a copy of the maiden issue of HERE'S HOW, the official organ of the Chicago Area AA's.

We predict a great future of popularity for this publication providing the editorial staff continues its major league style in writing. We liked it. Costs a dollar a year. You can subscribe by writing to the Editor, Suite 1101, 123 Madison St., Chicago 2, Illinois.

## ASHTABULA

A new group known as the Ashtabula Saturday night group was started. It meets on three Saturdays each month with a Sunday afternoon meeting following the fourth Saturday. They have attracted good crowds.

C. R. M. is secretary.

## WARREN CLUB MOVES

The Warren, Ohio, Twenty-four Hour Club and Group have moved to new quarters at 141 East Market Street, a spot located in the heart of downtown Warren. The rooms are on the second floor of the building.

Meeting nights are Wednesday and Sunday at 8:30 p. m., with a social gathering every Saturday night. Club rooms are open every day from 9:00 a. m. until after midnight.

All AA's are welcome. The telephone number is Warren 47502. R. B. O'M. is the group's secretary.

## FOUR BROTHERS LEAD

On Saturday, May 28th, the four F's will offer a combined lead at the Parma Group meeting. They are brothers Jerry, Michael, Bill and John F. of Southeast Group.

## STELLA MARIS

A financial report arrived from Stella Maris, Inc., which pleased us and should please our readers. Financially solvent to the extent of over \$2500.00 with five more months to go to complete the year, it has provided the astonishing number of 2582 days care of men at the home. Splendid achievement, we say.

Cleveland Group Meetings

MONDAY

- ADDISON-Westminster Church, N.E. Cor. Addison & Wade Park...8:30
BORTON-E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid...8:45
DETROIT MONDAY-8023 Detroit Ave...8:30
FAIRMOUNT-St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry...8:30
LAKE SHORE-Legion Hall, 1372, Warren Rd., Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting...8:30
LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE-Community Center Bldg., Detroit Ave. and St. Charles...8:30
LAKEWOOD MEN'S-St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit...8:30
LEE MONDAY-First Presb. Church, E. Cleve., Nela and Euclid...8:30
LORAIN AVE.-Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain...8:30
MARINE HOSPITAL-E. 124th and Fairhill...7:30
PEARL-Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd.)...8:30
SHAKER HEIGHTS-Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrensville...8:30
SOUTH EAST GROUP-Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway...8:30
UNION-12907 Union Ave...8:30
WEST 25th ST.-Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St...8:30
WILLOUGHBY-Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O...8:30
WOMEN'S-East Side-Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid...8:30
WOMEN'S-West Side-West Blvd. Christ., W. Blvd. & W. 101...8:30
MEDINA, O.-St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House...8:30

TUESDAY

- ARCADE-Euclid Ave. Baptist, E. 18th & Euclid...8:30
CHARITY-Last Tues. of each month-Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud...8:30
CLARK-4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs...8:30
EAGLE TRAINING-Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle...8:00
EDGE LAKE-Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit Dinner at 7:00 P. M.-Meeting...8:30
EUCLID-WADE-Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid...8:30
FAIRVIEW PARK-Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 212th St...8:30
MILES-LEE-Hout Hope, Church, E. 164th, north of Miles...8:30
MT. PLEASANT-Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd...8:30
SMITH-WILSON-Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road...8:30
SUPERIOR-Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior...8:30
WEST PARK-West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain...8:30
WEST SJDE MEN'S-St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th...8:30
LORAIN, O.-Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts...8:00
PAINESVILLE, O.-Stag-33 N. State Street...8:30
STRONGSVILLE, O.-Town Hall...8:30

WEDNESDAY

- BAXTER AVE.-6527 Baxter Ave...8:30
BROOKLYN-K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd...8:45
COLLINWOOD-14709 St. Clair Ave...8:30
DENISON-7403 Denison Ave...8:30
DOAN MEN'S-2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance...8:45
EAST SIDE MORNING-2028 E. 105th St...10:00 A.M.
GARFIELD HEIGHTS-Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd...8:30
LEE ROAD-First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd...8:30
WARRENSVILLE-Women's House of Correction...6:80
BEDFORD, O.-Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave...8:30
ELYRIA, O.-St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third...8:00
LORAIN, O.-ANTLERS-St. Mary's School, Reid Ave...8:30

THURSDAY

- ALLENDALE-St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave...8:30
ANGLE-St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave...8:30
BROADWAY-55th-Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall...8:30
COVENTRY-Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough...8:30
GLENVILLE-10421 St. Clair...9:00
LORAIN AVE.-Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St at Lorain...8:30
OUTHWAITE-(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman...8:30
THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN-6409 Detroit Ave...2:00
WARRENSVILLE-(Infirmary) Administration Building...7:00
WEST SIDE-7403 Denison Ave...10:30 A. M.
WEST PARK WOMEN-West Park Baptist Church, 15218 Lorain...8:30
WYANDOTTE-Redeemer Hall, Andrews and Detroit (rear)...8:30
BEREA, O.-Fines Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland...8:30
EAST LAKE-Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O...8:30
GENEVA, O.-Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway...8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.-33 N. State St., Third Floor...8:30

FRIDAY

- CEDAR-Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St...8:15
GORDON SQUARE-St. Helena's Hall, 1567 W. 65th St...8:30
LEE ROAD-2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall...8:30
MILES MEN'S-Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St...8:30
NORTHEAST-2028 E. 105th St...8:30
ROCKY RIVER-St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit...8:30
ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL-First Friday of each month...8:30
WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE-St. Rose's Hall, W. 116-Detroit...8:30
BEREA-Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church...8:30
CHAGRIN FALLS, O.-American Legion, E. Orange St...8:30
CHARDON, O.-Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O...8:30
EUCLID, O.-Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd...8:30
LORAIN-AVON-1112 W. Erie St., Lorain, O...8:30
MENTOR, O.-Mentor Methodist Church...8:30
OBERLIN, O.-American Legion Home, S. Main and Hamilton...8:30

SATURDAY

- BROADWAY MEN'S-St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad...8:30
CROSSROADS-Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th...9:00
GLENVILLE-10421 St. Clair...9:30
GOSPEL CENTER-6920 Lexington Ave...8:30
LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite-Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit...8:30
MATT TALBOT-St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair...8:30
PARMA-St. Charles Church Basement, Charles and Ridge...8:30
REDWOOD-Euclid Lutheran Church, E. 260 and Oriole...8:30
(Three blocks south of Lake Shore Boulevard)
TRINITY-Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St...8:30
VALLEY VIEW-Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather...8:30
W. S. SOCIAL CLUB, 4427 Pearl Road...8:00
WINDEMERE-East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront...9:00
8005 GROUP-8005 Lorain Ave...8:30
ELYRIA, O.-St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third...8:30

VERMILION

Meetings have been resumed in Vermilion and are held in St. Mary's Hall every Monday night at 8:30.

GIGGLES

An artist painting in the country had a farmer spectator. "Ah," said the artist "perhaps you too are a lover of the beauties of nature. Have you seen the gold fingers of dawn spreading across the eastern sky, the red-stained, sulphurous islets floating in the lake of fire in the west, the ragged clouds at midnight, blotting out the shuddering moon?"

"Nope" said the farmer, "not lately. I've been on the wagon for over a year."

Did you know that 4,076 people died from gas last year? 29 inhaled it. 47 put a match to it. 4,000 stepped on it.

About the only time mathematics falls down is after you've been subtracting from a fifth.

LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS

- Alcoholic Abstinence Nursing Home (ME)rose 1635 (M)
Betty's Home (SH)adyside 4692 (M) " " " " 8023 Detroit Ave.
Charity Hospital (MA)in 9400 (MW) " " " " 3480 Scranton Road
Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (EX)press 8998 (MW) " " " " 7809 Euclid Ave.
Deaconess Evangelical Hospital (FL)orida 0070 (MW) " " " " 4233 Pearl Rd.
East Cleveland Clinic (GL)enville 3244 (MW) " " " " 13240 Euclid Ave.
Farquharson's (SL)adyside 8374 (M) " " " " 6037 Pearl Rd.
MacGillis Nursing Home (RA) 2556 (MW) " " " "
1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M) " " " " 7911 Detroit Ave.
(M) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.

THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL - No. 26



SUNDAY

- COLLINWOOD-14709 St. Clair Avenue...7:30
LAKEVIEW-CYO Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair...8:00
MISTLETOE-MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park...7:00
NEWBURGH-St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St...8:30
OUTWAITE (Negro)-7100 Kinsman...4:00
ST. COLUMBKILLES-School Bldg., 2642 Superior...9:30
SPONSORSHIP MEETING-Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave...2:00
TRAINING MEETING-8023 Detroit Ave...8:00
WEST SIDE-Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison...8:30
WARRENSVILLE-Cooley Farms Recreation Room...10:00 A. M.
GENEVA, O.-Burd's Hospital 237 S. Broadway...8:30
LORAIN, OHIO-Stag, AA Social Center, 700 Broaaway...10:00 A. M.

- 1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH
CENTRAL COMMITTEE-Hanna Building, Room 30...8:30
3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE-Hanna Building, Room 30...8:30

FOR AUTHORITATIVE AA INFORMATION AND LITERATURE
AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE-1007 Schofield Bldg....CH 7387

# CENTRAL BUSINESS BULLETIN

Vol. VII—No. 9

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June, 1949

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TENCENTS PER COPY

## Journey to Safad

Every alcoholic, if he would **escape** the hot valley of drunkenness and reach the cool air on the heights of sobriety, must make his journey to Safad.

This ancient city, **crowning** a mount&n top in Northern Galilee, is the *one* of which Jesus said that a city **set** upon a hill cannot be hid. **Safad** seems to cling precariously to its peak, **but** it is firmly planted. For hundreds of years men have journeyed to it. Once it was the center of Hebrew learning after the Roman destruction of Jerusalem. The Crusaders came this way and built a castle fortress **on** the summit, the remains of which are still **plain**. Safad dominates the **country** round about. **From the summit** one can see for miles down the whole length of the **Sea** of Galilee to the Jordan River and beyond. **From** here the traveler can pick his **route** in any direction.

The trip from the hot and **odorous** Arab bazaars of Acre on the Coast, through the rising countryside to the foothills of the **Galilean** mountains, is not unlike the **experience** of an alcoholic. And to make the journey helps to impress some truths **on the mind**. Hill unfolds out of hill in **Galilee** in what **appears** to be endless succession. Then there are sudden, **sharp**, precipitous drops and deep **valleys**. Our lives have **been** like that; periods when everything **seemed** on the **up grade** only to be **let down** **sharply** again because we were afflicted with a **disease** that for **ages** baffled man.

At last **there** comes into view the **white** and pink city of **Safad**, gleaming on its mountain **top** in the bright sunlight. It can be seen for miles. One **has a view** of it one moment and **the next** it is cut **off** by a turn or a dip in the road. At first Safad seems unreal, like an **artist's** conception of a medieval city drawn in pleasing, soft pastels. **One** has the feeling that the view is an **illusion** and certainly unattainable.

After the alcoholic has had enough ups and downs and sharp turns and discouragements he begins to **get a view** of the fact that sobriety may be possible, but it is very far off and, for **him**, he believes, possibly unattainable. A sane, sober **life** seems to be the cruelest kind of illusion.

At **last one** comes into a broad, sweeping valley which **is** the approach to the mountain on which Safad rests. Now sight is **never** lost of the city, but the road to it is not straight. It turns and twists and doubles back on **itself** a disheartening number of times.

When, at last, we admit that sobriety is possible and, sincerely want to achieve it, we are often faced with **obstacles**. The turns in our road are the **Twelve Steps**. Each one brings us nearer to the summit. There is no **marching** straight up the mountainside. We must **plod along** until at **last we** stand at the top.

This is not the end of our journey. We have reached

(Continued on page two)

## News from Ireland

(Special Correspondence)

DUBLIN. Ireland-Two and a half years ago the only member of Alcoholics Anonymous among the 400,000 inhabitants of this historic City was a visiting *American* of Irish origin. **Connor F.** of Philadelphia.

On **June 10**, back to the "Old Sod" for another holiday, **Connor F.** addressed the Dublin chapter which now **numbers 104** members.

It was the privilege of your correspondent to be present

at this **unexpected Founder's Day** and also to address the **Dublin** group. The meeting was quite unorthodox from the Cleveland point of view. **Connor F.** conveyed greetings to the group and recalled **episodes** of its origin. Then your **correspondent** was called on for a lead. After that he was asked if he would mind **talking for ten** minutes about **his travels** in Israel, Greece, Italy and France. Then **Connor F.** was **again** asked to speak and **he gave some** details of his drinking career. There was no comment, but a "bull session" was held on **both A. A.** and foreign affairs over the inevitable tea.

The story of the Dublin group's beginning is pertinent. It shows what can be done by a little initiative and how great **results** come from but sincere beginnings.

In November, 1946, when **Connor F.**, an **ex-saloon keeper** of **Philadelphia**, was in **Dublin** on a visit, he was enjoying his then three and a half years of sobriety and thinking that **A. A.** could do a job here. He was **vacationing**, however, not only physically but mentally until he read a letter in the **Evening Mail** from a **Father Dunlee** of Australia, an associate

member of **A. A.**, who said something should be done in the Irish capital to aid alcoholics. That prodded **Connor F.** into action. He **wrote** a letter to the **Evening Mail**, giving a box number, **asking** for prospects. He got **some** queer replies for a **time**, because the paper had switched the **box numbers**. **One** offered to trade twin beds for a large **double bed**. **Connor F.** found his first prospect in a nursing home. **Richard P.** was a candidate, **sure** enough, and he answered the letter in the hope of getting out of the hospital. It happened, however, that once out he saw **the light** and **became** the first member of **Dublin**. He still is active.

The **first meeting**, with **seven** or eight interested prospects, was held on **November 26, 1946**. In addition to a growing membership, the **Dublin** group **now** has its own monthly paper, a well written mimeographed product, "**The Road Back**," under the editorship of the secretary, **Sackville O'C. M.** whose widespread correspondence **made** him known in **Cleveland** and was the cause of attracting your representatives to **Dublin**.

The hottest **political** issue in **Ireland** today is **partition**, the separation of the **Ulster** counties, still loyal to the

(Continued on page two)

I WILL

I will start anew this morning with a higher, fairer crowd.

I will cease to stand complaining of my ruthless neighbor's greed.

I will cease to sit repining while my duty's cull is clear.

I will waste no moment whining and my heart shall know no fear.

I will look sometimes about me for the things that merit praise.

I will search for hidden beauties that elude the grumbler's gaze.

I will try to find contentment in the paths that I must tread.

I will cease to feel resentment when another moves ahead.

I will not be swayed by envy when my rival's strength is shown.

I will not deny his merit, but I'll try to prove my own.

I will try to see the beauty spread before me, rain or shine.

I will cease to preach YOUR duty and be more concerned with MINE!

## I MUST TRY — SOMEHOW

"There, but for the *Grace* of God, go I."

Singularly **true**. Inspiringly rich. That sentence.

One which **forever** goes through my mind. Walking down a street, seeing a blind man. Or some one of God's other **children** with warped bodies or ill-used minds. Or, staggering like a broken reed in the storm set up by alcoholic confusion.

Why should I feel especially **smug** or comfortable in the presence of another's tragedy? Why should I not, instead, try, somehow, to do something about it?

Granted that I, for example, am, and always have been, and perhaps always will be, a teetotaler. Liquor and my strange biology don't mix. I don't get drunk. I get sick—deathly sick.

Chronic alcoholism is just **as much** an illness, as desperate an illness, as any of the others for which hospitals, doctors, nurses and specialists have been established in this country.

The man, or woman, you see, **staggering unkept**, undependable, **completely** lost, unrepresentable, absolutely down and out—that man or woman is **as good** as you or I, **impelled** by as fine ideals, ambitions and hopes as you or I; **as keenly** concerned about family and friends and place in society, as you or I. The difference is—sickness, genuine illness—just as certainly a **biological weakness**, and spiritual deficiency, as any other person afflicted and **devalued** of body and spirit, by any other illness.

Sure it takes **patience**. Sure it takes **stern** measures. Sure it even **takes**, sometimes, stark blunt reality in dealing with a **person** thus afflicted by this devastating illness. **Sometimes** it works. **Sometimes** it doesn't. **Sometimes**—most of the time—the cure is **locked** up in the person's own heart, in his contact with his God; in his **reliance** upon **some** Power bigger, vaster, **stronger** than himself.

I have seen men go all the way down. Not part way. All the way. **My** heart went out with **them**. At last, smothered, beaten, frustrated, weak, **they** reached out, **voluntarily**, for the hand of God, and, always, His hand clasped theirs, and **lifted** **them** back to good health—a good health in all **respects**, physical, spiritual, psychological, moral.

In my years as an editor I have had **some** of those who are **closest** of all to me, **my best** and dearest friends, my most inspiring and **ablest** associates, fall ill of chronic alcoholism. **Nothing** can tear out a man's heart worse than to **see** that happen.

Nothing, by the same token, can elevate, inspire and **make one** feel happier than to **see** those same men, with the help of God, **restore themselves** and be restored, to **complete** good health, and all it **means**—and come back all the way.

And when they do come back, they are **better men** and women than the rest of us—a statement I make advisedly. They are stronger. Their **belief** in the **eternal** truths of human existence and divine guidance is stronger and more deeply-rooted. Their impulses, their sympathies, their **strengths**, are all **better**, and their inner **resources** ampler than **ever** before. They are **better** friends. They are **better** business associates. They are **better** citizens. They are better **parents**, and husbands, and wives, and sons and daughters. They **have** been through a **terrible** illness, and by strength and **deep belief** they **have made** themselves well and **strong**.

Thus I say to **those** who may be **struggling** with friends or associates afflicted by this illness which strikes men and women down as far as men and women sometimes can possibly go—stay with **them**, somehow: Be with them, **somehow**. Handle them in your own way, **somehow**. But, above all else, stay with **them**. They need **you**—more than any other sick person **needs** the help of a stronger person.

Be prepared, for anything. But; in **being** prepared, help with anything. **The time** will **come**, inevitably, when

the hand of the sick, and weak, and utterly exhausted and defeated man or woman will **come**, voluntarily, feebly at first, and then by **increasing** degrees of strength and will, seeking for **God** and for **you**.

God will be there.

And so, too, should you!

—L.B.S.

*Reprinted from the February issue of the A. A. Grapevine, an international publication of Alcoholics Anonymous.*

## JOURNEY TO SAFAD

(Continued from page one)

sobriety, not the end of the wad. For as we stand **there** looking **out** to all points of the compass, we can choose what we wish to do—a privilege that was denied us when we were bound to alcohol. We can pick our road: **We** can journey down the other side of the mountain and skirt the beautiful waters of Galilee to Tiberias and the Jordan and beyond. Or we can **turn** in the other direction and strike out for greater heights toward Mount **Hermon** whose perpetually snow-covered **peak** seems to float in the sky. **We** can go down to Capernaum **where** Jesus and his disciples did so much of their **work**. There is no limit to the possibilities before us.

**There** is no limit, either, to the **possibilities** in life before the **sober** alcoholic. Once he has made his **journey** to Safad he can remake his future by following the road he believes will be the most inviting, the most useful. **After** Safad the valleys and twistings and turnings of the road have no terror **because** the traveler, having seen, knows **where** he is going.

## NEWS FROM IRELAND

(Continued from page one)

British crown, from the republic. It is a matter of heated **debate**. But **there** is no line of separation in A. A. Just a year ago the Dublin group went to **Belfast**, capital of Northern Ireland, and organized a 'group there. Neither politics nor religion can **affect** the **bond** that brings alcoholics together. This has **been** demonstrated here in a manner that could be effectively copied by **other** people not afflicted with alcoholism: The **Dublin** group has started a **new** and different Irish revolution.

## IN THE MAIL

In every month's mail which comes to **your** editor's desk are notes and letters which we wish we could **share** with our **readers**. Many are of the type which add to our incentive to continue.

There have been many discouraging and **disheartening** moments when we feel ready to chuck the task overboard. We wonder if the effort is worth while . . . whether we're **just** feeding our vanity. We sense our inadequacy in **putting** into Print the compelling and moving ideas presented by the speakers we've heard in the many meetings we attend. And just when we're low and dispirited, a card, a letter or a telephone call **comes** which changes our mood and we produce another issue.

In our files are contributions of **prose** and poetry to which the contributor undoubtedly gave a good deal of thought. We wish we could publish it all. Some of **them** are very good. Some of them in our humble **judgment** are **trite** and, not worth publishing. Some of them are too long for their value content. Everything contributed is read **and** we hope our readers will continue to send in their material and not be too resentful if we cannot **publish** it for some reason or other.

One pathetic letter signed enigmatically by "A Wife of an 'Alcoholic' that would not accept AA", intrigued us almost to the point of writing an article on the **subject**, follows:

"My contribution to the Bulletin. 'Big shot.' It's very difficult for a guy I know to understand anything. The only **thing** he has no trouble getting straight is whiskey."

Just those few bitter words **express** so much—**heart-ache**, disillusionment, lost patience, **hopelessness**. If **she** had signed **her name**, **we** would **have** **rushed** out to help **her**, for **the letter** moved us so.



## MRS. ANNE SMITH

Beloved Anne Smith, the wife of Dr. Bob, passed on to her eternal reward on June, from a heart attack which she suffered on a plane carrying her and Doc on a vacation trip in Texas. Her tremendous contribution to the cause of A. A. could never be measured. Her faith and her calm, staunch, unwavering spirit inspired all who had the good fortune to know her. Our deep sympathy goes out to Doctor Bob, whose present ill health is of great concern to all of us. But the powerful, pervading influence of Anne's faith in God will sustain Bob in his irreplaceable loss. Accepting with sincerity those things he cannot change is now ingrained in his daily philosophy of life.

## AKRON CELEBRATION

The fourteenth anniversary of A.A. was observed in Goodyear Hall, Akron, Ohio, on Sunday, June 12th by over 600 people. Visitors from neighboring states were present in goodly number. Among these were several from Connecticut.

Ethel M. of Barberton was the first speaker and she spoke eloquently of the help and understanding which the wives of the early members had rendered. She pleaded for continued sympathy and understanding of the present great influx of women alcoholics.

Bill D., affectionately titled the quinen-pig of A. A., was his usual inimitable self as he regaled the responsive crowd with his "that reminds me of a story" inserts.

Dick S., representing Bill W. who was unable to attend closed the meeting with appropriate remarks.

## EAST SIDE WOMEN

A very appreciative woman is Adele R. She became chairman for her group in May and asked us to help her thank the speakers she had chosen and who had rendered such signal service to her group. They were Bill D. of Wednesday Lee; Phyllis C. of West Side Women; Franklyn S. of Doan Men's, a panel of four which included Elizabeth B. of Borton, Percy E. and Margaret H. of West Side Women's and Billie O'D. of Wednesday Lee; Jean L. of East Side Women.

An open house is planned for the near future at which the male contingent will be more than welcome.

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Quite a spirited discussion took place at the May 7 Central Committee meeting on the newly established rehabilitation program arranged for by the Hospital Committee. Fear was expressed that the major purpose of A: A., that of sobering men and women, was being diverted with extraneous programs, therefore watering our effectiveness. The proponents of the plan argued that any means which would continue a person in his sobriety merely augmented A.A.. One of the opponents expressed the fear that outside agencies were trying to ride on the coat tails of A. A. for political or other reasons, and felt it his duty to warn us.

Because the impression seemed to have been made that Central Committee had sponsored this project, it was clarified by motion that this project be strictly one to be furthered by only those interested in it.

The condition of the treasury is healthy, there being \$213.93 in the coffers.

Central Bulletin reported a drop of 90 in its circulation. Secretaries were urged to act.

## GROUP CHANGES NAME

Because many secretaries had difficulty in pronouncing St. Columbkil, that group has changed its name to Sterling. It still meets in that church's school hall at 2642 Superior on Sundays at 8:30.

## DOAN DATA

Your reporter used the wrong word in announcing that secretary Bill T. had provided the new television set in last month's Bulletin. Bill selected the set. He says he can't even afford one for himself, much less provide one for the group. His wife wanted to know how come?

## ANNUAL AA PICNIC

Wiegand's Lake, Sunday, July 10

The annual picnic of Euclid-Wade and Friday-Lee will be held in Wiegand's Lake Park, Sunday, July 10. The park is located on Route 87 (Kinsman Road), one and one-half miles from Chillicothe Road in Russell Center.

A baseball game will be on at 12:00 noon. Games for young and old will occupy most of the afternoon. There will be dancing in the evening. Swimming is possible, with a life guard on duty.

For those not having transportation, buses will leave from the rear of Calvary Church at E. 79th and Euclid from 10 to 11 a. m.

Coffee and soft drinks will be available. For further information, call Express 9758. Everyone is welcome, of course.

## AA DISTRICT OFFICE

The third quarterly meeting of the Office Advisory Committee for the year 1948-1949 was held on May 19, 1949 at Hotel Cleveland. At this meeting the chairman of the Office Operating Committee thanked the secretaries and Group delegates attending the meeting for their co-operation and support and read the following report of work done at the District Office since the start of the current fiscal year:

Services to members and groups 334; speakers supplied 40; literature requests filled 254; 388 calls for help turned over to 66 groups; 313 receptive to AA program; 37 not ready; 31 no contact possible; 7 not AA cases.

The chairman also announced that contributions for the support of the District Office amounting to \$4,659.98 had been received from members and groups since November 1, 1948, and in view of the fact that the approved budget for 1948-1949 is \$10,080.00, asked that every effort be made to keep contributions coming in to the office during the summer months.

## VALLEY VIEW CHAMPS

The Valley View team with Ted R. as captain, won the big traveling bowling trophy by emerging champions of the 40 team leagues bowling in Franklin Recreation on Thursday and Friday nights. The cup was awarded at the bowling banquet held in Allerton Hotel with 170 people present.

A captains' meeting will be held Sunday, July 10 at the alleys for the next year's plans.

## GENEVA CHANGES

The Geneva group now meets at 7:30 p. m. Sundays in its new quarters at 412 South Broadway.

## CIRCULATION DROPPING

Renewals have dropped off at an alarming rate and we are again beseeching our readers to talk up the Bulletin to their friends. We feel sure that once a member is a subscriber, he will continue to be one and that our single reminder is often overlooked. We need you. We hope you need us. How about each reader making it a point to get another subscriber for us this month? We'll appreciate it.

## NEWS FROM SPENCER

Both articles on the first page were furnished by our greatly missed Spencer I, who will be returning to Cleveland shortly, after an absence of over two months. The visit to Ireland was so interesting, we gladly moved inside to "make way for the Irish."

## BOOMERANG

"At her request you gave up drinking?"

"Yes."

"And you stopped smoking for the same reason?"

"I did."

"And it was for her that you gave up dancing, card parties and billiards?"

"Then why didn't you marry her?"

"Well, after all this reforming, I decided I could, do better."

Man is the only animal you can skin more than once.

### Cleveland Group Meetings

#### MONDAY

- ADDISON—Westminster Church, N.E. Cor. Addison & Wade Park 8:30
- BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid 8:45
- DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave. 8:30
- FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry 8:30
- LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd., Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting 8:30
- LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE—Community Center Bldg., Detroit Ave. and St. Charles 8:30
- LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit 8:30
- LEE MONDAY—First Presb. Church, E. Cleve., Nela and Euclid 8:30
- LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain 8:30
- MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill 7:30
- PEARL—Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd.) 8:30
- SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrensville 8:30
- SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway 8:30
- UNION—12907 Union Ave. 8:30
- WEST 25th ST.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St. 8:30
- WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughbybby.O. 8:30
- WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid 8:30
- WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd. Christ., W. Blvd. & W. 101 8:30
- MEDINA, O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House 8:30

#### TUESDAY

- ARCADE—Euclid Ave. Baptist, E. 18th & Euclid 8:30
- CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud. 8:30
- CLARK—4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs 8:30
- EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle 8:00
- EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting 8:30
- EUCLID-WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid 8:30
- FAIRVIEW PARK—Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 217th St. 8:30
- MILES-LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles 8:30
- MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd. 8:30
- SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road 8:30
- SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior 8:30
- WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain 8:30
- WEST SIDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th 8:30
- LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts. 8:00
- PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street 8:30
- STRONCSVILLE, O.—Town Hall 8:30

#### WEDNESDAY

- BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave. 8:30
- BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd. 8:45
- COLLINWOOD—147.09 St. Clair Ave. 8:30
- DENISON—7403 Denison Ave. 8:30
- DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance 8:45
- EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St. 10:00 A. M.
- GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd. 8:30
- LEE ROAD—First Epc. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd. 8:30
- WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction 8:30
- BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave. 8:30
- ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third 8:00
- LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave. 8:30

#### THURSDAY

- ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave. 8:30
- ANGLE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave. 8:30
- BROADWAY—55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall 8:30
- COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough 8:30
- GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair 9:00
- LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain 8:30
- OUTHWAITE—(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman 8:30
- THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave. 2:00
- WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building 7:00
- WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave. 10:30 A. M.
- WEST PARK WOMEN—West Park Baptist Church, 15218 Lorain 8:00
- WYANDOTTE—Redeemer Hall, Andrews and Detroit (rear) 8:30
- BEREA, O.—First Episc. Church, Bagley Ave., S. side of Eastland 8:30
- EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O. 8:30
- GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway 8:30
- PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor 8:30

#### FRIDAY

- CEDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St. 8:15
- GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 61th St. 8:30
- LEE ROAD—2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall 8:30
- MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St. 8:30
- NORTHEAST—2022 E. 105th St. 8:30
- ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit 8:30
- ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month 8:30
- WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall, W. 116-Detroit 8:30
- BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church 8:30
- CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St. 8:30
- CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O. 8:30
- EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd. 8:30
- LORAIN-AVON—1112 W. Eric St., Lorain, O. 8:30
- MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church 8:30
- OVERLIN, O.—American Legion Home, S. Main and Hamilton 8:30

#### SATURDAY

- BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad 8:30
- CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th, 9:00
- GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair 9:30
- GOSPEL CENTER—4920 Lexington Arc. 8:30
- LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit 8:30
- MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri church, E. 62nd and St. Clair 8:30
- PARMA—St. Charles Church Basement, Charles and Ridge 8:30
- REDWOOD—Euclid Lutheran Church, E. 260 and Oriole 8:30
- (Three blocks south of Lake Shore Boulevard)
- TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St. 8:30
- VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th. and Starkweather 8:30
- W. S. SOCIAL CLUB, 4427 Pearl Road 8:00
- WINDEMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront 9:00
- 8005 GROUP—8005 Lorain Ave. 8:30
- ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third 8:30

### GIGGLES

Papa Hog wandered down to the brewery and found a big puddle of beer that had been poured out. When he staggered home, Mama Hog met him and quickly shunted him around the barn, out of sight of the baby pigs. With a furious grunt she exclaimed: "You shameless thing! Whnt do you mean by making such a human being of yourself before the children."

I'd like to be a could-be if I could not be an are;  
 For a could-be is a may-be with a chance 'of reaching far.  
 I'd rather be a has been than a might-have-been, by far,  
 For a might-have-been has never been, but the has-been was an are!

#### LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS

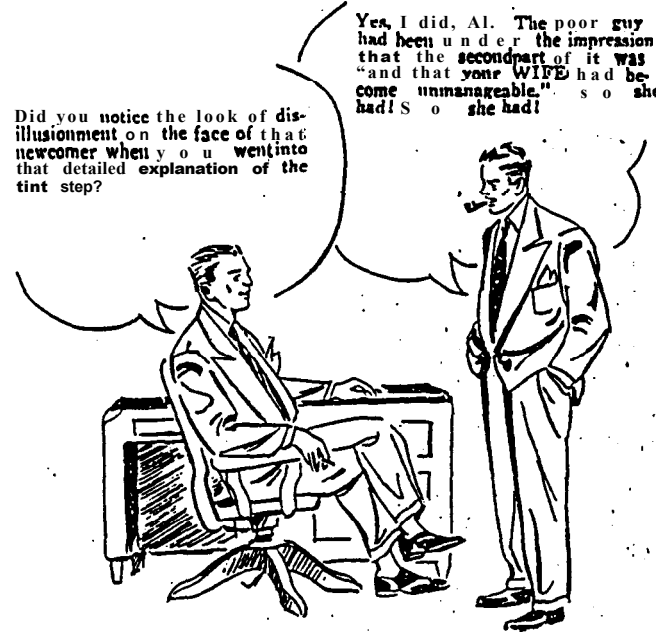
- Betty's Home (SHadyside 4692) (M) 1480 Scranton Road
- Charity Hospital (MAIN 9400) (MW) Central and E. 22nd St.
- Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 8998) (MW) 7809 Euclid Ave.
- Deaconess Evangelical Hospital (FLorida 0070) (MW) 4233 Pearl Rd.
- East Cleveland Clinic (GLEnville 3244) (MW) 13240 Euclid Ave.
- Farquharson's (TUXedo S1882) (M) 6037 Pearl Rd.
- MacGillis Nursing Home (R. A. 2556) (MW) 1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
- Ryan's Nursing Home (MElrose 1635) (M) 8023 Detroit Ave.
- St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M) 7911 Detroit Ave.
- (Xi) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.

#### FOR AUTHORITYATIVE AA INFORMATION AND LITERATURE

AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE-1007 Schofield Bldg.—CH 7387

### SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

### THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL — No. 27



#### SUNDAY

- COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Avenue 8:30
  - LAKEVIEW—CYO Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair 8:00
  - MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park 7:00
  - NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St. 8:30
  - OUTHWAITE (Negro)—7100 Kinsman 4:00
  - STERLING—St. Columbkil's School Hall, 2642 Superior 8:30
  - SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave. 2:00
  - TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave. 8:00
  - WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist W. 99th and Madison 8:30
  - WARRENSVILLE—Cooler Farms Recreation Room 10:00 A. M.
  - GENEVA, O.—112 South Broadway 7:30
  - LORAIN, OHIO—Stag, AA Social Center, 700 Broadway 10:00 A. M.
- 1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
 CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370 8:30  
 3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
 HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370 8:30

## Editorial- Justification

What have I done today to justify my own recovery?

It's a pertinent question that we should put to ourselves more often than we do. Especially is such a unilateral inquiry needed by those of us who have been sober a few years. It is so easy to slip into the belief that, because we have something of a record of sobriety, we can sit back like patriarchs and let the younger men do the work. No special privileges come with seniority in Alcoholics Anonymous.

When we reach the point where we believe we are conferring a boon upon humanity just because we refrain from making a general nuisance of ourselves we have reached a dangerous stage. Our thinking has become unhinged. And we incur the risk of betraying ourselves as insufferable egotists.

Never must we forget that sobriety is not a great accomplishment in which we can take pride. Sobriety has merely brought us to that line behind which we should never have slipped. We forget sometimes that sobriety is the normal condition of most people. And we should not expect anyone to roll out the red carpet, scatter roses at our feet or crown our enlarged brow with laurel because we have succeeded at last, with the help of God, in being normal.

Our gratitude for sobriety should be unbounded. But it cannot find honest expression if we just inflame our imaginations with the illusion that we are unsung geniuses for becoming dry. It can find expression only if we engage in activities which justify our recovery.

This suggests, immediately, twelfth step work. By helping the other fellow to regain a normal existence we are engaging in the fundamental method of retaining our own sobriety.

This, however, is not the only way. Great stress is laid in the other steps on the need to remold character. This means that in addition to making ourselves more normal people we will treat those around us—family, friends, business associates and just ordinary men and women we meet every day—with more consideration than has been our custom. We will remember that they are sensitive human beings, too. We will keep in mind that they have problems and troubles and worries and hopes and aspirations like us. We will discover that, contrary to all previous convictions, we are not the center of the universe.

Then we will begin to justify our recovery by acquiring, slowly but firmly, that sense of humility which recognizes the worth of our fellow man. We will see that tolerance must be extended to others if we are to enjoy it, from others.

Does it not stand to reason that it is impossible for long to watch, entranced, our own image in the pond? This practice will have disastrous results. Sooner or later we will get dizzy and fall in.

We must turn around, forget ourselves, face the world and the people in it, especially those who need the help that only we, who by our experience and the grace of God, are equipped to give them.

*(Continued on page two)*

## Sincerity Counts

Big as a grizzly bear and about as well poised, the man on the rostrum didn't seem to belong there at all. He couldn't talk worth a hoot. His grammar was atrocious, his delivery poor, his manner diffident. He essayed no oratory, and it was passing strange that he held this audience of 300 men and women in the palm of his ham-like hand. Sincerity explained it. It showed in the sparkling eyes and the quiet tones of this self-effacing gent who was well-groomed and expensively dressed but was definitely the outdoorsy type and fairly exuded well being. He was an ex-drunk, accent on the first syllable. He was no public speaker, but he had things to say.

"So this psychiatrist gave it to me cold," he spoke into the microphone. "He said I was a faiee and a liar and never intended to quit whiskey. He said I was opinionated and obnoxious, that I had come to be analyzed but had wound up pointing out HIS faults. He said I was wasting his time and he wouldn't take my last few bucks because already I'd lost my job and wife and home and hocked most of my things."

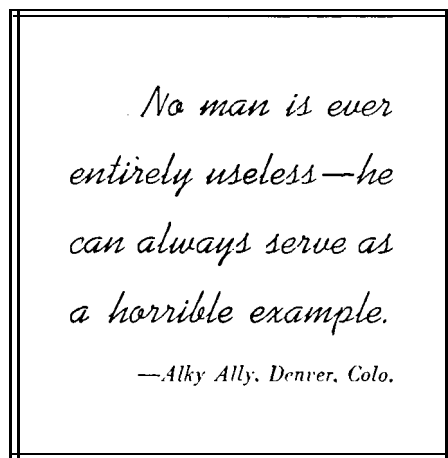
Back in the 20th row, a newcomer in AA, hunched forward and listened hard. He, too, was presently jobless and wifeless and all but penniless.

"I asked him what I was supposed to do now," the big guy went on. "and he said nothing—nothing at all. Just get drunk and stay drunk, and die drunk. It didn't matter to this bird—this psychia-

trist. He and I were washed up. So I shrugged and said okay. I knew it all the time. I was hopeless and so what? I would say that! I went out of there and for the first time in my life, I tried to follow somebody's advice. I got drunk and stayed drunk and only missed dying drunk because the noose I'd fashioned in my drunkenness was too loose. I awoke in a souse-trap and it was there I met up with Alcoholics Anonymous."

The newcomer in the 20th row marveled at the big fellow's utter candor. He hadn't quite realized yet that about two-thirds of the listeners were alcoholics and had been as bad as the speaker; and the others were wives and husbands of ex-drunks and they, too, had been through the wringer. "You see," nudged the newcomer's sponsor, "in a setting like this, with everyone understanding and everyone on an equal footing, a guy just naturally lets his hair down. Every man and woman in this room knows alcoholism is not a disgrace but a disease." The speaker was making it clear that his first "souse-trap" contact with AA had been four years ago. What he said about his return to sobriety, his moral rehabilitation, his regained self-respect, his gratitude was brief and simple yet tremendously dramatic. What he didn't say was even more impressive. For the man had attained humility—not the kind you talk about but the inward kind—and that, it developed, is one goal of every AA member. This big man, so ill at ease in the public eye, had found the power somewhere to rise from depths of suicidal despair to retrieve his family's lore, his rightful place in society and a good job in his chosen craft. Along the way he had discarded the big-shot complex

*(Continued on page two)*



## JUSTIFICATION

(Continued from page one)

There is not one aspect of our daily lives! in addition to what work we may do for fellow **alcoholics**, in which we cannot apply some part of the twelve steps and thus **justify** the recovery which it has been our privilege to gain.

## REHABILITATION

Though we subconsciously rebel at the word "rehabilitation" in our AA work, as it **applies** to most of us, the fact remains that each of us **HAVE** been rehabilitated in lesser or greater degree. By changing our course of living in eliminating alcohol from our diet, and by accepting the prescribed formula of rehabilitation which AA offered in its "way of life", we **bettered** our lives and the lives of others. There's no **question** in the minds of our friends that some mysterious force changed us—changed us for the [better-rehabilitated] us. So though our conceit causes us to feel revulsion of accepting it, let's face it honestly.

Our tried and tested major recommendation for rehabilitation of the neophyte in AA is insistence that he digest the twelve steps, accept and apply them . . . ~~that~~ he attend meetings regularly so as to absorb the philosophy of successful AA's . . . that he do twelfth step work in helping others.

But recognizedly there are varying degrees of acceptance of this program. Some find the simple program too staid for their nervous energies. Some groups solved this with extra social activities. Card playing became an acceptable **diversion** and unfortunately in many cases become an extravagant obsession.

Some became interested in hobbies and influenced others, to the extent that an organized program is in successful operation at Cleveland Rehabilitation Center, its facilities **being** granted us by a greatly interested welfare officer, Miss Belle Greve. A class of 10 is studying effective **public** speaking under a highly capable instructor. Another class is **engaged** in cabinet making and refinishing and another **surprisingly** large one in upholstering. It's astonishing how quickly the evening passes and how much really exceptional work is finished in such a short period of time. Each Tuesday at seven o'clock **brings** new persons seeking a better use of his idle time and an outlet of energy.

It has been argued that this does not belong in the AA program. But the proponents of the plan argue that anything which brings **AA's** together and keeps them **sober** is good. Bowling leagues and minstrel shows also fill this important need for bringing AA's together for mutual protection.

The activity in Ohio State Penitentiary is another wonderful interest-consuming project. It impressed the several Clevelanders who helped in the project, with the 18 or 20 Columbus members. There were 120 well-screened prisoners in attendance at the July 3rd meeting. Franklyn S. of Cleveland spoke. Following are some of his interesting observations . . . only those whose records show an incidence of alcohol as a cause of their crime are accepted . . . not a single person with a sex-crime is accepted . . . the men will soon select their own officers for their own programs . . . at present the Columbus groups' committee is furnishing bimonthly speakers and advisors . . . good, **intelligent** discussion period at this meeting . . . one and a half hour session is the rule, though this July 3rd meeting to the surprise of everyone was **permitted** to go 15 minutes longer . . . Warden **Alvis** is enthusiastic about the program? . . . congratulatory telegrams from San **Quentin** and **Michigan** State prisons were read . . . The meetings for the present are held on the first and third Sunday of each month at two o'clock. Visitors must be in the **penitentiary gates** reception room at 1:45 P. M. If you plan to go, advise Bert P., Jefferson Hotel, Columbus, O. He is the temporary secretary.

Is this a departure from the AA program? We think not. When you stop to consider how many times crimes are committed when under the influence of alcohol, we all can thank God that He mercifully protected most of us

from paying for crimes which many of these unfortunates are incarcerated for.

We had the genuine pleasure of a most interesting visit with an ex-prisoner of Ohio State Penitentiary. His crime was forgery. Well educated and with a good income, gradually alcohol and high living developed habits which he could not control, and he ended in the pen. For six months he reviled the forces which inflicted this **humiliation** on him, until he finally came to the realization that he was to **blame** and that alcohol was the contributing factor. He eventually became editor of the prison newspaper. We are printing a piece he wrote at our request which follows this article. We have written at **unusual** length on an important subject. But we sincerely believe that AA's duty lies in utilizing every agency for getting and **keeping** a person sober, supplementing, not replacing the daily plan.

## I KNOW THAT MAN!

The echo of my footsteps in the long corridor acted as **unnecessary**, drum beats to the singing I could hear. I **paused** and **listened** attentively, Men's voices—the auditorium must have been filled with folks-singing a deeply moving spiritual hymn. My spine tingled icily—tones of fine music, voices, gave me a heady feeling. I stood still until the "Amen" had closed the song.

My "invitation" had read: **Candle-light services** at nine, Christmas morning. Desk work delayed me. I did not enter the stage-area of the auditorium until after the candles had been lighted and another hymn was gathering enthusiasm with each chord.

Parting the curtain at the organ side of the platform I peered into rows of rhythmically moving, lighted, candles. There were thousands of them. My mind quickly compared the scene I was viewing with similar spectacles—Hollywood Bowl, Trinity Cathedral and so on. None presented the sincerity I saw in each man's face lighted and shadowed by candles that Christmas morning! If hearts can be worn on sleeves, the hearts of those men were mirrored in the **expression** on their faces.

There was every type of face a man can have. I wondered where I'd seen this man, or that one, before! I was certain I knew three in the second row; there was a fellow along the aisle that looked like Jim Brady down at **The Bank**, the man at the organ was a sure-ringer for **Don McElroy** of the Electric Company.

My "picking out faces I know" stopped when the auditorium was suddenly lighted by huge ceiling fixtures. The song had ended. The men sat down. Now, now I could see why that was not Jim Brady, not Don McElroy or any of the other men I thought of when I looked at the candle-lighted faces . . . all **THESE** men wore the same kind of shirts, the same color trousers, there were no tirs nor coats! I was on the stage of the penitentiary's chapel, the men out on the tiers or benches were prisoners!

While the candles were lighted and I saw only the faces of men . . . I could not have known they were prisoners in our state's penitentiary.—John E. K.

## SINCERITY COUNTS

(Continued from page one)

which had stamped him as "opinionated and obnoxious," and had substituted a new and humble self-appraisal, a **NEW** sense of values which rewarded him with serene contentment."

"Can I do all this?" the newcomer asked wonderingly. "Not alone," his sponsor quickly replied. "But if you actually use the tools AA will supply, you can't fail. **Man**, look around you. Some of this program you must **Lake On FAITH** at the outset. But as to its effectiveness—here is the living, breathing proof. "I can't believe they ever kicked the gong around like I did," murmured the impressed newcomer, but his sponsor just laughed.

—Alky Alky, Denver, Colo.

## SUBSCRIPTION LAG

Though quite a few members responded to our last month's plea for subscriptions, the net loss for the month was 60, as we had an unusual number of expirations in **June—172**. In July 198 subscriptions expire and we again plead for sustained support.

## SCIENCE TELLS US

In a relatively homoneous group of men and women, we find a wide divergence of personality between people who said they drank moderately and those who said they never touched the stuff. The drinker is more moody, cynical, argumentative, stubborn, pessimistic and restless than the non-drinker and feels more misunderstood. Tests have shown conclusively that drinkers like the company of other drinkers and are particularly interested in exciting pastimes like playing poker and attending murder trials, and in the opposite sex. The elbow-benders are considerably more materialistic and selfish, less loyal to friends, fonder of money-of which they have less. Most of them had unhappy childhoods, but as adults they consider themselves generous and affectionate. Tests credit them with a keener sense of humor than non-drinkers. The drinking man easily condones unconventional behavior, and he seems to be more liberal politically and more international-minded. But he has more race prejudice and frequently maintains that woman's place is strictly in the home. Married people tend to drink more than bachelors, and contrary to popular belief that a college education stimulates interest in the bottle, the tests indicate that college graduates drink less than non-collegiates.

## AA DISTRICT OFFICE

A man who called the office recently for help saying that he had never had an AA contact seemed to know a great deal about AA procedure. We asked him how come and he told us. Some years ago a stranger asked his assistance in locating a Madison Avenue street address. Accompanying the inquirer our friend found himself at an AA meeting. He had not felt that he needed AA at that time but had never forgotten what he heard, hence call to office.

Office work report for June 1949: 81 general services rendered to members and groups; 12 speakers supplied; 27 requests for informative literature filled; 53 requests for contact turned over to 30 group secretaries: 39 were receptive to first contact; 5 were not ready to accept the program; 6 AA contact attempted without success and 3 were not AA cases.

## TRINITY

On Saturday, August 6th, three generations of AA will be represented by "grandpa" Clarence S., the man who brought AA to Cleveland and with 11% years of constancy as his record; Clarence sponsored Charlie S., whose nine years have been crowded with great service; Charlie "fathered" Kenny J. six years ago and Aurie K. six months ago and they as "grandsons" also have made excellent contributions to AA's success. These four will each give short leads. Should be an interesting session.

On August 13th the group will be addressed by two Amishmen who have many friends in this area. They are Mose Y. of Fredericksburg and John M. of Millersburg. Both have a fine sense of humor with a sound and firm grasp of the program. Ought to bring quit a crowd. for a number of their Amish friends and wives will attend.

The group extends a welcome to all AA. Trinity meets at 3525 West 25th St., just north of the junction of Scranton and West 25th St. Time 9:00 P. M.

## CHARDON CELEBRATES THIRD

The Chardon group assembled a large crowd to help celebrate its third anniversary on July 15th. Jack D., one of the oldest AA's in experience made a most impressive talk. The wives cooperated beautifully by supplying an excellent repast. Bill T, secretary, was quite proud of the event.

## BROOKLYN

Schedule of the Brooklyn group which meets Wednesdays in K. of P. Hall on Broadview Rd., at 8:45 sharp, is as follows: July 27th, Mrs. Jean F. of Chardon, August 3rd, an extra special surprise. Be there! August 10th, the four F. brothers. Everybody welcome.

We heard that according to a Cleveland saleslady, brassieres come in five sizes—small, medium, large, WOW and YE GODS!

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

But six groups remembered that the Central Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month, even if it occurs on the day after a holiday. The importance of each group sending an able representative to this committee regularly cannot be emphasized too much. Central Committee is the official voice of all groups in the Greater Cleveland area. Its decisions on activities necessarily concern each group, whether they subscribe to it or not. So far it has made surprisingly few mistakes and on the credit side it has contributed much to the maintenance of AA's fine traditions and standards. But obviously, should this small element of the faithful lose interest and stay away, AA would gradually deteriorate. So, group secretaries, get your representative there on August 2nd. It really is important.

There will be no hospital meeting during the summer. Next meeting September 20th.

## FORMER CLEVELANDER WRITES

Frank W., former secretary and founder of the South-east group, and who was exceedingly active in Cleveland AA circles before illness necessitated his seeking another climate, advises us that he finally got a second group started in Tucson, Arizona. It's called the University Square group and meets in Congregational House, 824 North Second Ave., Tucson. Frank's address is Box 87, Route 4. Phone 048-J4.

Any Clevelanders touring through Tucson will be assured a royal reception from lonely Frank.

## GIGGLES

Willie got a zero on his history test. He says the question was "Why did the pioneers go into the wilderness?" And the teacher told him his answer was very interesting but incorrect.

A middle-aged woman lost her balance and fell out of a window into a large garbage can. A Chinaman passed by and seeing her, said "Melicans velly wasteful: that woman good for ten years yet."

An old drunkard from the Panhandle saw so many pink elephants and purple snakes that he hired a hall and put up a sign, "25c to see the Zoo." A couple of customers resented the fact that they saw nothing but four bare walls and swore out a complaint. The sheriff took the warrant and set out to make the arrest. The old drunkard hauled out his jug and offered the sheriff a drink. The sheriff took three snifters and paid him \$600 for half interest in his show.

A girl was sitting at a bar drinking and after she had four drinks she began to feel good. At the other end of the bar sat a young man watching this girl and when he saw how she felt he went over to her and said, "Would five make you dizzy?" She answered, "The price is 0. K., but the name is Daisy."

"Cats and people are funny animals Cats have four paws but only one maw. People have forefathers and only one mother. When a cat smells a rat he gets excited, so do people. Cats carry tails and a lot of people carry tales, too. All cats have fur coats. Some people have fur coats and the ones who don't have fur coats say catty things about the ones who have them."

Sort of funny, when a garageman makes a mistake, he adds it to your bill. When a preacher makes a mistake, nobody knows the difference. \*When a lawyer makes a mistake, it was just what he wanted because he has a chance to try the case all over again. When a judge makes a mistake, it becomes the law of the land. When a doctor makes a mistake, he buries it. But when the editor makes a mistake . . . good night! The whole world knows it!

"And what's your husband's average income, Mrs. Brown?" "About midnight, usually."

### Cleveland Group Meetings

#### MONDAY

ADDISON—Westminster Church, N.E. Cor. Addison & Wade Park.....	8:30
BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid.....	8:45
DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:30
FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry.....	8:30
LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd.....	8:30
Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE—Community Center Bldg.....	8:30
Detroit Ave. and St. Charles.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit.....	8:30
LEF MONDAY—First Presb. Church, E. Cleve., Neja and Euclid.....	8:30
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain.....	8:30
MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill.....	7:30
PEARL—Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 1/2 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd).....	8:30
SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrenville.....	8:30
SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway.....	8:30
UNION—12907 Union Ave.....	8:30
WEST 25th ST.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St.....	8:30
WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd. Christ., W. Blvd. & W. 101.....	8:30
MEDINA, O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House.....	8:30

#### TUESDAY

ARCADE—Euclid Ave. Baptist, E. 18th & Euclid.....	8:30
CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud.....	8:30
CLARK—4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs.....	8:30
EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle.....	8:00
EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit.....	8:30
Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting.....	8:30
EUCLID-WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid.....	8:30
FAIRVIEW PARK—Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 212th St.....	8:30
MILES-LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles.....	8:30
MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd.....	8:30
SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road.....	8:30
SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior.....	8:30
WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain.....	8:30
WEST SJDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th.....	8:30
LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts.....	8:00
PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag-33 N. State Street.....	8:30
STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall.....	8:30

#### WEDNESDAY

BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave.....	8:30
BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd.....	8:45
COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.....	8:30
DENISON—7403 Denison Ave.....	8:30
DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance.....	8:45
EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St.....	10:00 A. M.
GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction.....	8:30
BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third.....	8:00
LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave.....	8:30

#### THURSDAY

ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave.....	8:30
ANGLE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave.....	8:30
BROADWAY—55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall.....	8:30
COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough.....	8:30
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:00
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain.....	8:30
OUTHWAITE (Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman.....	8:30
THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave.....	2:00
WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building.....	7:00
WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave.....	10:30 A. M.
WEST PARK WOMEN—West Park Baptist Church, 15218 Lorain.....	8:00
WYANDOTTE—Redeemer Hall, Andrews and Detroit (rear).....	8:30
BEREA O.—Five Acts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland.....	8:30
EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway.....	8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor.....	8:30

#### FRIDAY

CEDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St.....	8:15
GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall.....	8:30
MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E., 116th St.....	8:30
NORTHEAST—2028 E. 105th St.....	8:30
ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit.....	8:30
ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month.....	8:30
WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall, W. 116—Detroit.....	8:30
BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church.....	8:30
CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St.....	8:30
CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O.....	8:30
EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd.....	8:30
LORAIN-AVON—1112 W. Erie St. Lorain, O.....	8:30
MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church.....	8:30
OBERLIN, O.—America Legion Home, S. Main and Hamilton.....	8:30

#### SATURDAY

BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad.....	9:00
CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th.....	9:00
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:30
GOSPEL CENTER—6920 Lexington Ave.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD Sat. Nit-Redeemer Hall, Andrew, near Detroit.....	8:30
MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair.....	8:30
PARMA—St. Charles Church Basement, Charles and Ridge.....	8:30
REDWOOD—Euclid Lutheran Church, E. 260 and Oriole.....	8:30
(Three blocks south of Lake Shore Boulevard)	
TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St.....	8:30
VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather.....	8:30
W. S. SOCIAL CLUB, 4427 Pearl Road.....	8:00
WINDERMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront.....	9:00
8005 GROUP—8005 Lorain Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third.....	8:30

### GIGGLES

An old "Toper" who has lost all his week ends for the last thirty years, recently approached our front porch in a series of intricate maneuvers calculated to bring him in line with the steps. When he saw me sitting there he waved, paused for a moment to rest against a stiff breeze blowing around the corner, and moaned, "Sawful. Simply awful. Wazziscountry-comin'to?" "Whats the trouble?" I asked. "Do you realize," he said "tha' inna las' six months the cost of living has gone up a dollar and a half a quart?"

A good memory is one that is so poor you can't remember what you worried about yesterday!

#### LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS

Betty's Home (SHadyside 4692) (M).....	3480 Scranton Road
Charity Hospital (Main 9400) (MW).....	Central and E. 22nd St.
Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 8998) (MW).....	780 9 Euclid Ave.
Deaconess Evangelical Hospital (Florida 0070) (MW).....	423 3 Pearl Rd.
East Cleveland Clinic (Glenville 3244) (MW).....	1324 O Euclid Ave.
Farquharson's (Tuxedo 5-1882) (M).....	6037 Pearl Rd.
MacGillis Nursing Home (RA. 2556) (MW).....	1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
Ryan's Nursing Home (AlErose 1635) (M).....	8023 Detroit Ave.
St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M).....	791 1 Detroit Ave.

(M) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.

#### FOR AUTHORITATIVE AA INFORMATION AND LITERATURE

AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE—1007 Schofield Bldg.....CH 7387

#### SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

### THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL — No. 28



#### SUNDAY

COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Avenue.....	7:30
LAKEVIEW—Cyo Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair.....	8:00
MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park.....	7:00
NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St.....	8:30
OUTWAITE (Negro)—7100 Kinsman.....	4:00
SPERLING—St. Columbkil's School Hall, 2642 Superior.....	8:30
SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave.....	2:00
TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:00
WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Cooley Farms Recreation Room.....	10:00 A. M.
GENEVA, O.—412 South Broadway.....	7:30
LORAIN, OHIO—Stag, AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....	10:00 A. M.

1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370..... 8:30  
3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370..... 8:30

# CENTRAL BULLETIN



Vol. VII-No. 11

BOX 67 12, CLEVELAND 1, OHIO

August, 1949

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00 PER YEAR

TEN CENTS PER COPY

## Editorial-B. R. B. Attacks Any Shortcomings ?

Some of us, years after we have accepted the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, may suffer recurrent attacks of B.R.B.

This is a pernicious ailment that is a hangover from drinking days. Its symptoms are a general debility, a lack of interest in anything and a lackadaisical loitering, waiting for something to happen.

B.R.B. is the Bar Room Blank. We became infected with it when perched on a high stool, our feet on the rail, our elbows on the bar, we gazed at the wall, the mirror which sent back an horrific image of a drunk, or a row of bottles and developed that vapidity of mind which, we thought, marked us out among our fellows as mental giants.

We suffered from a lack of anything to do, we were bound by the fact that we weren't going anywhere and we waited, half interested, for something to happen.

B.R.B. stands for a general lack of purpose in life. Sufferers discovered that they never got anywhere and the only thing that ever happened was that they got drunk again.

Now that we are sober some of us fall into the blank wall stare again. We decide to do nothing and wait for something to happen.

Had this ailment attacked the men who started Alcoholics Anonymous you and I still would be drunks if we were so much as still alive.

You'll only get somewhere if you get up and go. In drinking days there was no purpose in life important to us other than to get another drink. Now, if our thinking is straight, the idea of a drink is the most ridiculous notion. Now, we have a purpose in life: to stay sober ourselves and to help sober the fellow who is afflicted as are we. With such a job before us there is no excuse for not going somewhere.

This in mundane terms, can be translated into visiting prospects, visiting the hospitals and attending meetings. On another but still important plane it can be interpreted as increasing social relations with those other members of the group who have become our new friends.

There is no excuse for any member of Alcoholics Anonymous ever saying that he has no place to go.

Likewise the motion of waiting for something to happen is silly. Go out and make something happen! Get some poor devil sober and see what happens, not only to him but to his family, his friends, his business associates.

The depressions that bring on attacks of B.R.B. should be assessed for what they are—temporary moods that we have not yet learned to avoid. As time goes on they will be less and less frequent, if we try sincerely to follow the program. They are the result of negative thinking. They are fingers of the past vainly trying to touch us again. If only we will remember at such times that in becoming members of Alcoholics Anonymous we have given up nothing worthwhile and gained everything that counts we will be able to dissipate these attacks before they settle on us. We have pain, fun, happiness, peace of mind, fellowship, friends, joys, inspiration and experience. All this because we have taken the antidote to attacks of B.R.B.—given of ourselves.

He had a "mad on". Sitting apart from others and with a dour expression on his face he silently implied that he wanted to be left alone.

We were fascinated. We couldn't resist sneaking a glance at him to see if the speaker's impressive tall; wasn't having any effect on him. But there wasn't any change. As a matter of fact his face seemed to set in deeper lines.

We weren't in a too happy mood ourselves that evening. In fact we had gone to the meeting to hear this particular speaker to forget our troubles and irritations. We wanted to be cheered up.

The speaker was analyzing the twelve steps. Doing a beautiful job of it, too. For a two year man he'd come a long way to be in constant demand as a speaker. He was eloquent, seemed to be sincere and held his crowd's attention with a fine admixture of humor.

He laid great stress on making a complete surrender and upon working the twelfth step. Good sound AA alright. Heard it often.

But suddenly we were shocked into realizing that the speaker was disturbing us. Our conscience was telling us that we should listen. He had backtracked to emphasize step number seven—the step that contained the fewest words in all twelve. He maintained that in this one step we had the essence of the entire program and yet most AA's were inclined to relax on this one and finally forget to follow through. We peeked

over to our morose friend and saw that the statement had disturbed him too.

The speaker insisted that most of us wore our humility as a cloak; that if all of us were truly humble we would never complain, nor could we ever have resentments or hatred in our hearts. That if we completely surrendered and accepted ALL of AA, that this meant steadfastly, daily applying EVERY STEP and not skipping ANYONE. In Step Seven "We humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings". Did we?

Hear, Hear! Who was this upstart? What right did he have to tell us old-timers that we wore our humility as a cloak! Our dour-faced friend and we each had longer than seven years in this movement! And this neophyte was trying to shove this down our throats?

The speaker added to our indignation when he made the assertion that most alcoholics were fickle and emotionally unable to remain constant, and without daily impressing ourselves with the need for humility we would lose it and become smug and complacent, oblivious to the fact that we were lapsing back into the habit of running our own lives to suit ourselves without conferring with Him to Whom we had once humbly committed our lives.

Remove our shortcomings? Did we? Had we taken the trouble to check with others what was offensive in us? Or, having checked had we honestly tried with the help of God to remove them? How many shortcomings had we removed permanently?

Well, the shock was great. The guy hit us smack between the eyes. It hit our friend too. Both of us re-

(Continued on page two)

*A good way to widen  
out the straight and  
narrow path would  
be for more people  
to walk on it.*



## ANY SHORTCOMINGS?

(Continued from page one)

luctantly tried to defend ourselves with self-justification, but we "were licked. We knew it.

And with serious thoughts in our hearts, both of us wended our way homeward, he to his part of the town and I to mine. And we both fell on our knees that night, knowing the speaker was right, humbly asking God's forgiveness for letting slovenly thinking disturb the minds which once had been dedicated to Him in all sincerity.

How do we know our friend did this?

We have a telephone.

## THE REBIRTH OF CONSCIENCE

It is fairly evident that ours is a program wherein the greatest good can come to those in greatest need. It would seem too that in AA a man must want—he must hunger for our way of life—before he can fully enjoy its benefits. Merely looking for "something" is one thing, but searching for it with conscience as a lantern to guide us is another. When self-respect is in the balance—when alcoholism is undermining\* its very foundations—when we are down to the vestiges of the things we hold sacred—something within us seems to cry out. It is this still small voice that has prompted many in the past decade and a half to seek an answer in the promise of AA. The number of those who in honesty and all humility accepted the AA way of life are legion—for them it was the "rebirth of conscience"—a conscience long stifled and submerged by the distress and despair that overwhelms the alcoholic. Yes, a man must want—want desperately it seems before he is really willing to let his conscience be his guide. Somewhere it is written a man must be born again—perhaps in this respect man and his conscience is one.

## SIGNPOSTS TO HAPPINESS

The ingredients of happiness are so simple that they can be counted on the fingers of one hand. Happiness comes from within, its foundations are simple goodness and a clear conscience. Selfishness is its real enemy, but to make another happy is to be happy one's self. It cannot be bought—in fact money has little to do with real happiness. Further we shall never find it in crowds—but it is often found in the contemplations of solitude. The discovery of certain individual qualities depends on whether we take personal inventories—we can only improve ourselves through their development—so for peace of mind we must begin with self analysis. No one can ever be happy unless he is reasonably satisfied with himself.

William Henry Channing's prescription for happiness is as follows: "To live content with small means—to seek elegance rather than luxury—and refinement rather than fashion—to be worthy, not respectable—and wealthy, not rich; to study hard, think quietly, talk gently, act frankly; to listen to the stars and birds, to babes and sages, with open heart; to bear all cheerfully, do all bravely, await occasions, hurry never; in a word, to let the spiritual, unbidden and unconscious, grow up through the common".

-The Lifeline, Vancouver, B. C.

## VISITOR FROM HOUSTON

A former Cleveland member, Elliott K., dropped in for a visit recently. Upon his return to Houston, Texas, he wrote one of the nicest letters it has been our good fortune to receive. He wrote in part . . . "I didn't fully appreciate the value of my visit to Cleveland until I got back to Houston. It must have been the quality of AA which Cleveland radiated. It was a good shot in the arm for both Eleanor and me. We owe an eternal debt to the AA's of Cleveland, more to some than to others, but with and through the help of God we hope to repay them in a small measure by the things we do, and fully through our prayers for each and everyone."

Both are active in their adopted city, and Eleanor hopes, through her women's group, to secure beds in a nursing home in the near future. Spade work has been done and the operator is evincing interest.

Houston will celebrate its tenth anniversary in January.

## WHAT'S THE WEIGHT ?

Discussing resentments, a guy named X gave me an excellent No-Resentment formula. It was a simple one. You always ask this question every time you see anger or resentment coming your way:

How much does it weigh?

X said he used to blow his top about everything. He said he had his top-blowing mechanism so well worn that the best lubricating oil could not have made it work any better. Sometimes all that was required to set it off was the failure of someone to like the same movie he did, or the same author he approved. If he said he liked cow-dance music, and the other guy said he didn't, X put him down as a fool and an enemy.

When it came to such momentous matters as: "Could Dempsey lick Louis?" X said he had the valve working so slick he would actually get white in the face with anger if the other fellow said: No, he didn't think Dempsey could lick him. The matter of whether or not people should be permitted to wear Zoot Suits, really had him burning, as did the question of Frank Sinatra's vocal ability, or was Bob Hope a jerk, or not a jerk.

But, what really got him, he said, was any deviation from the normal in human conduct. To have someone step in front of him in a waiting line, or grab the best seat, or whistle at his girlfriend, or tell something he told them not to tell, could infuriate him to the point of homicide.

"The amazing thing about it," X said, "was, that when it happened to someone else and they were offended, I couldn't figure it. I couldn't see why anyone should get mad about anything—unless it happened to me."

Then, after attending an AA meeting where the matter of resentments had been thoroughly threshed around, X really went to work on the thorn in his character defect. He looked it over from every angle. He lay awake most of the night, looking himself in the face. He said he never was much of a spital guy but he did consult his Creator on this important item, because he knew how vital it was in his life pattern. He knew the anger poison he was always generating within himself would sooner or later throw him into a long drunk—maybe the last one—with a snake sitting on his chest.

"Anyway," X said, "I received an answer to prayer that was satisfactory to me, and has followed me ever since that night. I received the impression that Deity gave me a quiet smile and something in the nature of a wink. I am not being facetious or sacrilegious, nor do I lay any claim to great piety. I am talking about the human impression I received."

"It boils down to this: Every time a situation arises that lifts the blood pressure and makes you steam, quickly ask yourself how much it weighs. If you practice you get like Joe Dimaggio or any other good hitter who has a quick eye. You see it coming, and instantly you swing on it with the weight test. "How much does it weigh?" Blooey! The thing is gone!

"Nothing gets my gnat any more," X said, (and he looks it, and acts it. "You know he is telling the truth), nothing disturbs me to any extent, because I found out practically all of the things we get heated about are of no consequence; and if they are at all important, getting heated only hinders our ability to handle them. The next time you see a mad coming up, give it, the old weight test. It won't weigh nothing."

I believe him and I'm going to try it. But right now I am distressed because he said: "it won't weigh nothing." I don't like double negatives. Now, why didn't he say: "anything." -Sioux Falls (S.D.) Alconaire.

## CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

A self-appointed lady supervisor of village morals accused a workman of having reverted to drink, because "with her own eyes" she had seen his wheelbarrow standing outside a public house.

The accused man made no verbal defense, but the same evening I placed his wheelbarrow outside her door and left it there all night.

## HOBBY CENTER

The Hobby Center is enjoying continued interest in spite of the great heat and vacations of both staff and AA's themselves. Completion of work projects elicited both surprise and praise and led to more elaborate efforts. Your editor himself has repaired four of his own dining room chairs, two of which were completely "kaput". What a pleasure it is to work with the most modern equipment and tools at hand and in the right places, too. Several more can be accommodated by the wood-working instructor. The upholstery class is nearly filled. More can be accommodated in the public speaking class which is enthusiastically appreciated by those who are concentrating their efforts in that department.

If you're bored stiff and want to pass 2% to 3 hours productively at a ridiculously low cost, come some Tuesday night and enroll. Seven o'clock at the Cleveland Rehabilitation Center, 2239 East 55th St. Only AA's and their wives are eligible. "Coffee and" is served

## NEW GROUP

At 8:30 p. m. on Thursday, September 1st, a new group will make its influence felt in the Cleveland area. It will be quartered in Glenville Congregational Church, corner Eddy road and St. Clair avenue. At its initial meeting, to which everyone is cordially invited, Joe D., a delightful Scot., will be the speaker.

## LORAIN • AVON MOVES

The Lorain-Avon group, meeting Friday evenings at 1112 Erie St. for many years had to move because of remodeling of their premises and will hold its meetings at the AA Social Center until further notice. The Center is located at 700 Broadway, Lorain. The new secretary is Wm. R. Telephone 4986.

## GORDON SQUARE

A large and enthusiastic gathering observed the seventh anniversary of the Gordon Square group on August 7th. With former secretary, Ed. B. as chairman, were speaker's Harry R. (who led the group's first meeting seven years ago), Pat. W. and Art P., both past secretaries of the group and Jim C.

## POPULAR CLEVELANDER MOVES

Quite a few groups gave farewell parties to wish good-bye to popular hardworking Matt T., who leaves August 13 for a new and greatly responsible position in Grand Rapids, Mich. That area will soon feel Matt's presence for he fairly exudes AA daily. We will miss him. He was a loyal and devoted friend to all whose good fortune it was to know him. Congratulations, Grand Rapids.

## ORCHARD GROVE

Stanton McD., popular former secretary in past years was prevailed upon to take the job again. Art S., former secretary led the August meeting. He expressed some excellent thoughts, and one deserves special mention. At least it impressed us. In analyzing the difficulty of so many in overcoming a desire for drink, he stated, "You HAVE the power to ABSTAIN from alcohol but you do NOT HAVE the power to CONTROL it. So right.

## BROADWAY • 55th STREET

Over 250 attended the basket picnic of the group on July 31st at Burdek's Farm on Cannon Road. Forty cash prizes and ten door prizes, including a Treasure Hunt, highlighted a happy day which closed with dancing.

Who said you can't be sober and have a good time at a picnic? Which would be preferable—a big head afterward or a clear head filled with happy memories which will last for weeks and weeks?

## BROOKLYN

One of the founders of the group, Charley S. was treated to a gratifying surprise on Wednesday, August 3, when the group observed his ninth anniversary of uninterrupted sobriety. Friends from other groups were notified quietly and their attendance was a tribute to a devoted worker. M. a. n. of Charley's "babies" was there. A grand surprise to a grand fellow.

Speakers for the balance of August are Tom V., one of the first Cleveland AA's on August 17. Bob T. on August 24, and Bill B., long active in Lorain, Ohio, on August 31.

## CLEVELAND AA DISTRICT OFFICE

The operating committee of the district office wishes to thank the members of Alcoholics Anonymous in the Cleveland area for their prompt action in the present financial emergency at the district office. Your cooperation is deeply appreciated.

1948-49 budget—\$10,070.00, Received August 5, 1949—\$5,980.19. Needed—\$4,089.81.

In accordance with the custom established in the past two years the meeting of the advisory committee which would normally be held on August 18th will be postponed until September 15th. It is felt that this later date will not conflict with vacation schedules.

Reports on the 34 calls for help turned over to 21 groups during the month of July show that 26 were receptive to first contact, that 5 were not ready to accept the program, and that in 3 cases it was impossible to locate the caller. In addition, during the month 63 general services were performed for members and groups, 20 requests for informative literature were filled, and 8 speakers were supplied.

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The embassassing financial condition of the down-town office was the major subject of discussion at the August 2nd meeting and a suggestion was favorably received that the September 18th Consolidated Meeting be dedicated to its benefit, and that a speaker of note be secured for this meeting. Unsuccessful efforts were made to engage a renowned speaker from Indianapolis. Another suggestion which probably will be adopted by the committee is a panel of old-timers discussing the twelve steps. It was recommended that Central Committee pay all expenses of the meeting and all proceeds be donated to the Central Office.

## TRINITY

The Amishmen won the hearts of all of the great crowd which heard their philosophy and expressions of gratitude toward AA. The speakers were Mose Y. of Fredericksburg and John M. of Millersburg.

Chas. and Louise S. of Allendale will speak on August 20. Whitey M. of Cedar and Arcade, August 27. Ben T. of Union, September 3. No speaker for September 10, but a floor show and gala entertainment will be offered.

## BORTON OBSERVES TENTH

The first Cleveland AA group, the Borton, celebrated its tenth anniversary on Monday, August 15th with organizer Clarence S., and Jack D. as its outstanding speakers. While the anniversary celebration was a bit premature to the actual date, it was advanced in honor of T. E. Borton, now of Hollywood, Cal., who magnanimously offered his home for a meeting place of the early pioneers. His kindness, generosity and sympathetic understanding was an inspirational incentive to the small band of hopeless, beaten alcoholics who sought a meeting place. This kindly gesture of Mr. Borton is the more remarkable for the fact, that he himself was not afflicted or addicted.

Toni F., former secretary was in charge and made an excellent chairman.

## MEDINA

The Medina group celebrated its first anniversary on August 14th in American Legion Home. Bill D. of Akron was the speaker at the afternoon meeting after which a supper was served.

## ETHEL HAFEMEISTER

One of the most ardent non-alcoholic women workers who devoted endless hours in the early stages of AA as well as the latter stages passed away on August 11th, suffering a heart attack while comparatively young. Before the down-town office was established, she with her husband received most of the frantic telephone calls for AA help, twenty-four hours each day. Her great patience and cheerful devotion to this thankless task which she rendered without complaining won her thousands of friends all over the country.

We will miss Ethel Hafemister, God bless her.

## QUARTERLY CONSOLIDATED MEETING

Towne Hall, 2612 Prospect Ave.  
Sunday Afternoon, September 18, at 4:00 P. M.

Cleveland Group Meetings

Table listing Cleveland Group Meetings for Monday, including ADDISON-Westminster Church, BORTON-E. Cleve. Cong. Church, DETROIT MONDAY-8033 Detroit Ave, FAIRMOUNT-St. Paul's Episcopal, LAKE SHORE-Legion Hall, LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE-Community Center Bldg., LAKEWOOD MEN'S-St. Peter's Episc., LEE MONDAY-First Presb. Church, LORAIN AVE.-Banater Hall Annex, MARINE HOSPITAL-E. 124th and Fairhill, PEARL-Corpus Christi Basement, SHAKER HEIGHTS-Christ Episc., SOUTH EAST GROUP-Holy Name Hall, UNION-12907 Union Ave, WEST 25th ST.-Marvel Hall, WILLOUGHBY-Presbyterian Church, WOMEN'S-East Side-Emmanuel Church, WOMEN'S-West Side-West Blvd. Christ., MEDINA O.-St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House.

TUESDAY

Table listing Cleveland Group Meetings for Tuesday, including ARCADE-Euclid Ave. Baptist, CHARITY-Last Tues. of each month-Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud., CLARK-4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs, EAGLE TRAINING-Salvation Army, EDGELAKE-Community Center Bldg., EUCLID-WADE-Calvary Presbyterian Church, FAIRVIEW PARK-Fairview Baptist, MILES-LEE-Mount Hope Church, MT. PLEASANT-Eastview Cong. Church, SMITH-WILSON-Nativity School, SUPERIOR-Immaculate Conception, WEST PARK-West Park Baptist church, WEST SIDE MEN'S-St. Patrick's Hall, LORAIN O.-Community Hall, PAINESVILLE O.-Stag-33 N. State Street, STRONGSVILLE O.-Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY

Table listing Cleveland Group Meetings for Wednesday, including BAXTER AVE.-6527 Baxter Ave., BROOKLYN-K of P Hall, COLLINWOOD-14709 St. Clair Ave., DENISON-7403 Denison Ave., DOAN MEN'S-2028 E. 105th St., EAST SIDE MORNING-2028 E. 105th St., GARFIELD HEIGHTS-Trinity Baptist, LEE ROAD-First Eng. Luth., ST. JAMES-(Colored) St. James A.M.E., WARRENSVILLE-Women's House of Correction, BEDFORD O.-Y. M. C. A., ELYRIA O.-St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, LORAIN O.-ANTLERS-St. Mary's School.

THURSDAY

Table listing Cleveland Group Meetings for Thursday, including ALLENDALE-St. Paul's Episc. Church, ANGLE-St. Malachi's Church, BROADWAY-55th-Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall, COVENTRY-Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, EDDY ROAD-Glenville Congregational Church, GLENVILLE-10421 St. Clair, LORAIN AVE.-Banater Hall Annex, OUTHWAITE-(Negro) Woodland Center, THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN-6409 Detroit Ave., WARRENSVILLE-(Infirmary) Administration Building, WEST SIDE-7403 Denison Ave., WEST PARK WOMEN-West Park Baptist Church, WYANDOTTE MEN'S-Redeemer Hall, BERA O.-Fine Arts Club, EAST LAKE-Vine and Campbell, GENEVA O.-Townsend Hall, PAINESVILLE O.-33 N. State St.

FRIDAY

Table listing Cleveland Group Meetings for Friday, including CEDAR-Salvation Army, GORDON SQUARE-St. Helena's Hall, LEE ROAD-2056 E. 105th, MILES MEN'S-Stag Group, NORTHEAST-2028 E. 105th St., ROCKY RIVER-St. Christopher's Hall, ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL-First Friday, WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE-St. Rose's Hall, BERA-Social room of Berea Cong. Church, CHAGRIN FALLS O.-American Legion, CHARDON O.-Thrasher House, EUCLID O.-Holy Cross Church, LORAIN-AVON-AA Social Center, MENTOR O.-Mentor Methodist Church, OBERLIN O.-American Legion Home.

SATURDAY

Table listing Cleveland Group Meetings for Saturday, including BROADWAY MEN'S-St. John's Luth. Church, CROSSROADS-Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, GLENVILLE-10421 St. Clair, GOSPEL CENTER-6920 Lexington Ave., LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite-Redeemer Hall, MATT TALBOT-St. Philip Neri Church, PARMA-St. Charles Church, REDWOOD-Euclid Lutheran Church, TRINITY-Trinity Evangelical Church, VALLEY VIEW-Community Center, W. S. SOCIAL CLUB-4427 Pearl Road, WINDERMERE-East Cleveland Women's Club, 8005 GROUP-8005 Lorain Ave., ELYRIA O.-St. Andrew's Episc. Church.

LAKEWOOD MEN'S GROUP

Speakers for the balance of August will be Jack C., outspoken old timer of Rocky River and our group who will speak on the 22nd and Spencer I., editorialist for Central Bulletin and incidentally foreign editor of the Cleveland Plain Dealer, just recently returned from Europe, on the 29th. Both should be outstanding meetings. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Detroit and West Clifton, Lakewood at 8:45 p. m., Mondays.

EAST SIDE WOMEN

Jean L. chairman for July, was particularly proud of her choice of speakers and felt that inasmuch as they had served her so well they should be mentioned. They were Asa E. of Collinwood, Walter C. of Union, Lou and Chuck S. of Borton. The help she received in the kitchen was also appreciated.

An Open House meeting will be held in early October.

NEW COLORED GROUP

A new colored group was started in the fertile Cedar area by Joseph H. and others. About 50 attended the opening meeting Wednesday, August 10th. Judge Jim C. was the speaker. The intense enthusiasm and sincerity of these people is truly inspiring. Joe is a member of the Thursday and Sunday Outhwaite group, and wants to nullify the last excuse Cedarites have been giving him by bringing the meetings closer to them.

The group is titled the St. James and meets in St. James A.M.E. Church at 8101 Cedar avenue at 8:30 p. m. They will welcome any visitor.

SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL - No. 29



Table listing Cleveland Group Meetings for Sunday, including COLLINWOOD-14709 St. Clair Avenue, LAKEVIEW-CYO Hall, MISTLETOE-MacGillis Home, NEWBURGH-St. Catherine's Church, OUTHWAITE (Negro)-7100 Kinsman, STERLING-St. Columbkil's School Hall, SPONSORSHIP MEETING-Glenville Group, TRAINING MEETING-8023 Detroit Ave., WEST SIDE-Trinity Methodist, WARRENSVILLE-Cooley Farms Recreation Room, GENEVA O.-412 South Broadway, LORAIN O.-Stag AA Social Center.

1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH CENTRAL COMMITTEE-Hanna Building, Room 370 8:30 3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH HOSPITAL COMMITTEE-Hanna Building, Room 370 8:30 FOR AUTHORITY AA INFORMATION AND LITERATURE AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE-1007 Schofield Bldg. CH 7387

## Think and Be Sober

## Traditions

"This is a thinking program."

Esperience verifies this description of the work of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is a phrase coined by Jack D. and all of us, whatever the length of our sobriety, should bear it always in mind.

It is easy to forget that thoughts are things, as some early philosopher who knew his business said. If the thought is sobriety, the man or woman who thinks it and keeps thinking it is a sober man or woman.

All life is thought. You must think to keep alive. Yet too many of us allow great areas of our thinking facilities to dry up because others do our thinking for us.

In many activities this is not too dangerous. The traffic light thinks for us when we cross the street. A radio commentator may think for us on baseball. A newspaper columnist may think for us on political affairs.

This lazy habit can be indulged with comparative safety in these and some other fields. Especially is this so with the traffic light because it is mechanical and the commentators, we hope, are honest.

No one, however honest or well-intentioned he may be, can think sobriety for us. There we have to go to work with our own gray matter. If we refuse or even get lax, the consequence is patent—we are no longer sober. We may go on a dry binge or we may get drunk.

The imperative necessity of doing our own thinking is illustrated most sharply, we believe, in the case of new men who have trouble.

When they stumble at the beginning it is invariably because they didn't think before taking the first drink. This is the common story. They find themselves in tempting circumstances. They follow a mechanical habit pattern of years. If they think at all it is the screwy notion that one won't hurt. But 99 times out of 100 it is because the thinking process has been dulled or deadened altogether.

The program is not automatic. The best intentioned friends in the world cannot do everything. The alcoholic must want sobriety and he must think sobriety in the tight spots. He must use his head at least to the extent of calling for help to God, to his sponsor and other members.

Thinking sober is a concomitant of the desire for sobriety.

Decision embraces thinking. We must look to God at the beginning to help in that decision, to help us think.

We must command a desire not to drink and that entails thinking in terms of staying away from liquor. There can be no reservations. The mental holdouts in our mind impede thinking. They must be got rid of with God's help.

Then the determination comes. We have learned to think. In time we can and must apply the process to all the problems that have beset us as alcoholics. We can think our way back to decent living. We can use the brain that God gave us. Indeed, the more you think of it, the clearer it is that the Twelve Steps fundamentally constitute a thinking program.

We were surprised the other day when a fellow-member, whom we thought should have known better, asked us what we meant by AA traditions. He'd never heard of them! And we can now see that we've taken a lot for granted. We personally have avidly read most of the material which is sent out from the New York office and usually from the pen of Bill, the founder, and we unconsciously assumed others were as interested as we were.

AA is loosely knit. Wisely so, perhaps, considering the temperament of its subscribers. There are no rules and regulations. The twelve steps are our guide and their

interpretation is up to the individual. Isn't the growth of AA therefore the more phenomenal? Many groups have been formed in localities with nothing to guide them but at times casual correspondence with the New York office.

In the foreword of Bill's pamphlet titled, "AA Tradition," the opening paragraph reads in part: "How shall we AA's best preserve our unity? When an alcoholic applies the "Twelve Steps" of our Recovery Program to his personal life, his disintegration stops and his unification begins. The Power which now holds him together in one piece overcomes those forces which has rent him apart. Exactly the same principle applies to each AA group and to Alcoholics Anonymous as alcoholics. So long as the ties which bind us together prove far stronger than those forces which would divide us if they could, all will be well. We shall be secure as a movement; our essential unity will re-

main a certainty . . . But AA unity cannot automatically preserve itself. Like personal recovery, we shall always have to work to maintain it. . . . So we who are older in AA beg you who are newer that you ponder carefully the experience we have already had of trying to work and live together. We would like each AA to become as much aware of those disturbing tendencies which endanger us as a whole as he is conscious of those personal defects which threaten his own sobriety and peace of mind. For whole movements have, before now, gone on benders too. . . . We need not become Pharisees. But each of us can search his conscience to see if he is doing anything which could harm our essential solidarity. Should we each do this honestly, the collective conscience of our AA movement will be true." We suggest reading the entire pamphlet available at the AA District Office.

During the past month Cleveland members and groups were greatly aroused when a private social club composed of AA members planned a clambake and decided to print an elaborate program. It hired a professional telephone solicitor who succeeded in selling a considerable number of "ads" to Cleveland business men in this program. The solicitation was skillfully worded. However, by inference it implied that AA was breaking away from its traditional policy of not seeking or accepting monies from outside sources. In many instances the persons solicited quickly reacted to their long withheld suspicions that AA was not the idealistic movement people were tell-

(Continued on page two)

### Faith

*Blind unbelief looks at the ground and sees nothing but bare wilderness and arid wastes. Courageous faith looks up to see the dew of heaven falling into open mouths as angel's food. When a man forgets, he becomes faithless and skeptical. When his memory is sharpened, faith revives, and courage returns.*

## TRADITIONS

(Continued from page one)

ing them it was, but a typical racket after all. Many, however, sensibly called AA members or the AA district office and were given the correct picture.

If a club or group cannot maintain itself on its income, it either should rouse its members to action or realize that probably there is no need for its existence.

The principles and traditions of AA must be upheld.

## PEACE OF MIND

Spiritual relaxation can bring joy. Try to find some time each day to let yourself fall under the spell of God's healing wisdom. You can find relaxation even in the midst of the mad rush of city life as you walk along the streets. Do not occupy your mind with your troubles, but form the habit of saying "Isn't it glorious? God is with me! He will see me through." . . . Submitted by Ted R., Valley View Group.

## BE A BULLETIN BOOSTER

Accompanying this Bulletin is a subscription card. We are making a frank appeal to you for help in increasing our subscription list, which has dropped to a low of 1485.

But for the many gratifying letters of appreciation which we receive from subscribers as they renew, we would be inclined to question the value of the Bulletin as we scan the list for June and July. In June, for instance, 172 subscribers expired and 95 did not renew. In July, 198 expired and 131 did not renew. Why? We recognize a common fault of procrastinating and many have renewed after a lapse of several months, but we do need constant and loyal local support.

If you like the Bulletin, won't you give it a boost? If you don't like it, tell us why and we'll try to improve it. If you care to help, use the accompanying card by approaching a non-subscriber and urging him or her to sign up. If you need more cards and are willing to help some more, advise us, and we'll mail more cards pronto.

This issue is number 12 of Volume VII, completing seven years of publication.

That's 84 months of broadcasting the philosophy of AA and disseminating news of group activities. Lots of fun and lots of headaches meeting deadlines.

## CANADIAN GROUP COMPLIMENTS US

We were gratified to hear from the lips of Freddie S., manager of Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic, that the Lock-lift group of Peterborough, Ont., was using the Central Bulletin editorials as the basis of the discussion in their meetings. Fred and his wife, Vi., dropped in to visit this group and made one of their delightful combined leads on August 16th.

## OHIO STATE PENITENTIARY

It was a most interesting experience speaking before the 134 Fellowship of Alcoholic Prisoners in the state prison in Columbus Sunday, September 4th. Twenty-five Ah's, four from Cleveland, after being duly searched were led to the massive auditorium which would probably hold an audience of 3000. The prisoners filed in and took their seats, and we were greatly interested in their appearances and their attitudes.

We chose as our subject "A Message of Hope and Encouragement," and evidently it was what they wanted, for it was one of the most attentive audiences it has been our pleasure to speak to.

We offered figures which have impressed us so forcibly, which graphically prove how fortunate AA members are in being given the opportunity. Out of four million alcoholics, 80,000 have embraced the fellowship of AA. So two percent were singled out by God so far to receive this gift. Two percent is two out of one hundred. And, we warned, one of these two so favored would have trouble and the other would remain constant. The one having trouble comes back into the fold after from one to countless slips-if he lives and keeps his sanity.

How many of us deserved to be there? Those of us out of "the Pen" had all been guilty of entertaining the same thoughts which finally led to actual deeds by those incarcerated. So let's be compassionate and be ready to help these men when they come out, fortified with the AA way of life and free from the poisonous feelings of revenge on society.

## CONSOLIDATED MEETING

The Fall Consolidated meeting held on September 18th drew an excellent crowd in spite of the rain which fell shortly after noon. Those that attended were given a rare treat by the eleven outstanding Cleveland AAs who were assigned one of the twelve steps. In the absence of one, steps 8 and 9 were combined.

Each of the speakers had records of uninterrupted sobriety, the youngest being eight years in AA and the oldest thirteen. The combined years totalled over one hundred years, thereby presenting a century of experience.

Step 1 was ably analyzed by Jaclc D. who stressed the importance of a continuing decision and complete surrender. Step 2 was Pete McN's assignment and a more beautiful spiritual analysis could not have been offered. He stated in part "that the basis is a spiritual experience; to think and act properly; to live as we should live." Step 3 was simply and ably analyzed by Attorney Ed. B. who astounded everyone by speaking but three minutes of his allotted five. He urged "complete, not partial, surrender. . . not only when things are tough or the future black, but continuous. Our whole life will be reflected in the kindness, unselfishness and morality; Step 4 found the chairman, Franklyn S., introducing himself. He urged being finally completely honest with ourselves . . . to pull no punches . . . to check ourselves on egotism, greed, selfishness, envy, jealousy and hatred . . . that we weren't masters of our own destiny . . . that to bring out the inherent decency in character growth required daily and perpetual inventory; Step 5 was analyzed by Wynn W., who stressed close sponsor-member relationship. He painted a graphic picture of wiping the slate clean—of maintaining the clean inner front to match the outer . . . you can't be dirty inside and hope to appear clean on the outside; Step 6 was masterfully handled by Bill O'R., who urged replacing bad habits with good habits and by steadfastly replacing the bad, we would be rewarded with happiness, peace of mind and a newly aroused sense of well being and security; Step 7 was beautifully analyzed by Tom V. He stated that clearing the conscience should remind us of possible future shortcomings, being human. We should be particularly conscious of the following petitions in the Lord's Prayer . . . "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us," "lead us not into temptation" and "deliver us from evil." Steps 8 and 9 were humorously and powerfully analyzed by Harry R., who felt perfectly at home in taking "double headers." He argued convincingly that all problems could be solved with the twelve steps, four absolutes and the ten commandments; Step 10 was ably analyzed by eleven year Charley E. He too warned against the evils of resentment, self-pity and discouragement and advised going to God for guidance for the restoration of hope, serenity and peace of mind . . . that one goes either forward or backward; never standing still, so we should seek the better life and improve our character; Step 11 was perfectly explained by Judge Jim C. who stressed the importance of not only attaining sobriety, but maintaining it. That prayer and meditation was of transcendent importance in maintaining a daily contact with God and achieving a constant awareness of His nearness; Step 12 was properly assigned to Clarence S., whose record of achievement will probably never be matched. He pointed to the others who had preceded him as miracles of spiritual experiences. He stressed the fact that these men had maintained their lengthy sobriety by not stopping with the eleven steps—they had carried on in gratitude by helping others . . . Can't stop with just a spiritual experience . . . isn't enough . . . we must carry the message to others. We should also do it because of a newly-awakened sense of duty, deeming it a privilege to serve our fellowmen. This privilege was a responsibility—if we didn't assume it, you and I, very soon there would be no AA.

Truly a marvelous meeting. Attendance 375 to 400. Disappointing proceeds of \$94.15 were turned over to the AA District Office.

The fellow who lives on a bluff deserves a good shove.

SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Twenty six groups answered roll call as the September 6th meeting of Central Committee was called to order.

After committee reports, a discussion was held on the subject of money solicitation by the **Alcola Club**. A member reported a personal investigation of the methods used in which the following points were brought out: (a) The danger of this solicitation setting a precedent for future activities of a similar nature. (b) The advisability that there be no hint of internal friction in AA at the public level.

A resolution was passed to select a permanent action committee which would be empowered to act on any future similar problem. This committee was to prepare an advertisement which was to appear in each local paper setting forth the aims and purposes of Alcoholics Anonymous.

This committee, composed of Harry D., Sidney A. and Dick S. prepared a statement which appeared in Cleveland newspapers on Thursday, September 8th.

In substance it stated that AA was fully supported by voluntary contributions from its own members only. Any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous was unauthorized, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals or other outside agencies.

The advertisement then gave added information of what our aims and purposes were.

A lesson to all of us was gained in this instance. Attendance and representation at the monthly Central Committee meeting is not compulsory, but we believe this project would not have been undertaken if a strong, vigilant and alert interest had been shown in the monthly meetings. When trouble brews the turnout is good. Let's forestall trouble by maintaining a solid front in maintaining our ideals.

## DOAN DATA

The group was saddened by the loss of one of its most loyal members, Ralph (Old Buck) Burkholder. He died of a cancer September 5th. He will be sorely missed, not only at Doan, but at the Warrensville Workhouse, where he accomplished great things in the AA activity there. One of his last visitors was former secretary W. Roy W., now of Chicago, who also favored us with 3 visits.

Speakers for August were Glenn J. B. of Lee Monday; Phil B. of Independence; Chuck W. of Euclid Wade; Corney V. of Lee Wednesday; Ed. G. H. of Euclid-Wade.

The first meeting of the group was held November 1, 1941.

## NEW GROUP TO START.

The Ansel Road group will hold its first meeting on Friday evening, October 14th in St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 9205 Superior. Joe V. is the secretary.

## ARCADE

Judge Jim C. observed his ninth anniversary of uninterrupted sobriety two weeks before the actual date at the September 6th meeting of the group. Good old Jim has made us tremendously proud of him. His prominent position in public life has not affected his devotion to the AA meetings and twelfth step work. Long may he live.

## LAKEWOOD MEN'S

Pete McN., old timer in AA, was an outstanding speaker at the September 12th meeting. He stated in part that the only reasons some people don't drop to Skid row are the strengths of the economic and family ties.

Good crowds are continuing to malce this group their objective on Monday evenings.

## EDGELAKE

Members attending the September 19th meeting of the group were given a dramatic, detailed account of the Noronic disaster in Toronto as John T. described his miraculous escape and that of his wife. Both escaped injury but were still visibly suffering from the terrible ordeal. It was a deeply moving tale and everyone in the group joined sincerely in the devout prayer of thanks which was offered for their deliverance.

## AA DISTRICT OFFICE

At the September 22nd meeting, 37 groups were represented. The \$10,000 budget for 1950 was approved. The operating committee was increased from three to seven members.

During the month of August 55 calls for help were received and turned over to 27 groups. 42 of these were received. 6 were not ready, 2 were not AA cases and in 5 cases no contact was possible, 33 requests for literature were filled, 38 general services were performed and 14 speakers were supplied.

Probably of interest to our members is that on two known occasions when the telephone operator had some one on the phone obviously under the influence of alcohol and had difficulty in determining what was wanted, sensibly called the special operator who promptly connected him with the most obvious place—the downtown office—successfully.

## WOMEN'S GROUP CHANGES NAME

The group known as the West Park Women's group has changed its name to the Lakewood Women's group. It now meets in Lakewood United Presbyterian Church, 12601 Detroit avenue. where, starting on October 6th, meetings will be held each Thursday evening at 8:30 P. M. Nancy W. is the secretary.

Any woman desiring help with her drinking problem may call Orchard 1555 or Clearwater 9389.

## UNION GROUP MOVES

Judge Jim C. will be the speaker as the Union group moves to its new quarters in the rear building of American Legion Hall, at 13913 Kinsman road, at the junction of Union avenue, Monday, October 3, 8:30 P. M.

Everyone is invited to attend the "house-warming."

## GLENVILLE CLAMBAKE

Inasmuch as Glenville did not hold a picnic this year, the group will hold a combination clambake and dance on Sunday, October 2, in the club quarters, 10421 St. Clair Avenue.

The bake will be served at 3:00 P. M. and dancing to Hal P.'s Orchestra will start at 6:00 P. M.

It promises to be a big day for AA members and their friends.

## FORMER SECRETARY DIES

John Thomas Lowry, former secretary and one of the organizers of the Gordon Square group passed away suddenly from a heart attack September 10th. He leaves a loving memory to a host of friends.

## BOWLING SEASON IS ON

All three leagues have begun their seasons with the East Side League composed of 24 teams, the Thursday West Side with 12 teams and the Friday West Side with 16 teams.

Bill H., secretary of the East Side league was prompt with his report, showing Doan Bears undefeated in 6 games, with Smith-Wilson and Arcade right behind them with 5 wins and one loss. Euclid-Wade has high single game of 932.

## EAST CLEVELAND CLINIC

The ward for alcoholic patients has been closed, and no more alcoholic patients will be admitted until further notice.

## WOMEN HOLD OPEN HOUSE

The East Side women's group will hold an Open House meeting on Monday, October 10th at 9:00 P. M. in Emanuel Episcopal Church Auditorium, 8614 Euclid Avenue.

Franklyn S. will be master of ceremonies. The panel of speakers will include Warren C. of Lake Shore, Harry D. of Edgelake, Frank K. of Union and Wynn W. of Lee Wednesday.

Everyone is invited, alcoholics, their spouses and friends. A social hour with refreshments will be held in the church basement after the meeting.

The August chairman, Eileen S., thanks Bess and George D., Matt T., Bob S., Mother P., and Mary F. for their excellent leads during August.

The Medina group now meets on Tuesday nights. Same time. Same place.

Cleveland Group Meetings

MONDAY

- ADDISON—Westminster Church, N.E. Cor. Addison & Wnde Park 8:30
BORTON—F. Cleve. Cong. Church, Face & Euclid 8:45
DETROIT MONDAY—8021 Detroit Ave. 8:30
FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry 8:30
LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd. 8:30
LAKEWOOD-ORCHARD GROVE—Community Center Bldg. 8:30
LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit 8:30
LEE MONDAY—First Presb. Church, F. Clew., Nela and Euclid 8:30
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain 8:30
MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill 7:30
PEARL—Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd) 8:30
SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc. Church, 3451 Warrenville 8:30
SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway 8:30
UNION—American Legion Hall, 1391 Kinsman (in rear) 8:30
WEST 25th ST.—Marvel Hall, 2853 W. 25th St 8:30
WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O. 8:30
WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid 8:30
WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd. Christ., W. Blvd. & W. 101 8:30

TUESDAY

- ARCADE—Euclid Ave Baptist E. 18th & Euclid 8:30
CLIA RITY—Last Tues. of each month—Chnrty Hosp. Nurses' Aud. 8:30
CLARK—1105 Clark An. Upstairs 8:30
EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle 8:00
EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detmit 8:30
EUCLID WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid 8:30
FAIRVIEW PARK—Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 27th St. 8:30
MILES-LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles 8:30
MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd. 8:30
SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road 8:30
SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior 8:30
WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain 8:30
WEST SIDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th 8:30
LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts. 8:00
MEDINA O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House 8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street 8:30
STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall 8:30

WEDNESDAY

- BAXTER AVE. & S27 Baxter Ave. 8:30
BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd. 8:45
COLLINWOOD-14709 St. Clair Ave. 8:30
DENISON—7401 Denison Ave. 8:30
DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance 8:45
EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St. 10:00 A. M.
GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd. 8:30
LEE ROAD—First Enc. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd. 8:30
ST. JAMES—(Colored) St. James A.M.E., 8401 Cedar 8:30
WARRENSVILLE-Women's House of Correction 6:30
BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave. 8:30
FLYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third 8:00
LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave. 8:30

THURSDAY

- ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave. 8:30
ANGLEST, Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave. 8:30
BROADWAY-55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall 8:30
COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough 8:30
EDDY ROAD—Glenville Congregational Church, Eddy & St. Clair 8:30
CLENVILLE-10421 St. Clair 9:00
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain 8:30
OUTHWAITE—(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman 8:30
THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave. 2:00
WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building 7:00
WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave. 10:30 A. M.
WEST PARR WOMEN—West Park Baptist Church, 15218 Lorain 8:00
WYANDOTT MEN'S—Redeemer Hall, Andrews & Detroit (rear) 8:30
BEREA O.—Fine Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland 8:30
EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O. 8:30
GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway 8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor 8:30

FRIDAY

- ANSEL ROAD—St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 9205 Superior 8:30
CFDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St. 8:15
GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St. 8:30
LEE ROAD—2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall 8:30
MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St. 8:30
NORTHEAST—2028 E. 105th St. 8:30
ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit 8:30
ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month 8:30
WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall, W. 116-Detroit 8:30
BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church 8:30
CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St. 8:30
CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O. 8:30
EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd. 8:30
LORAIN-AVON—AA Social Center, 700 Broadway 8:30
MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church 8:30
OBERLIN, O.—American Legion Home, S. Main and Hamilton 8:30

SATURDAY

- BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad. 8:30
CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th, 9:00
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair 9:30
GOSPEL CENTER—6920 Lexington Ave. 8:30
LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit 8:30
MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair 8:30
PARMA—St. Charles Church Basement, Charles and Ridge 8:30
REDWOOD—Euclid Lutheran Church, E. 260 and Oriole 8:30
(Three blocks south of Lake Shore Boulevard)
TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St. 8:30
VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather 8:30
W. S. SOCIAL CLUB, 4427 Pearl Road 8:00
WINDEMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront 9:00
8005 GROUP—8005 Lorain Ave. 8:30
ASHTABULA, O.—K. of P. Hall, Elm Ave. 8:30
FLYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third 8:30

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

Everyone who has attended any one of the AA training classes at The Cleveland Rehabilitation Center is invited to come back any Tuesday evening for a social hour.

As you know, only members of an AA group are admitted to the classes and because space is limited, only those who have attended any classes are invited to the social hour.

YOUNGSTOWN CELEBRATES NINTH

The Youngstown groups will observe their ninth anniversary on October 9th with a dinner at 6 o'clock. The dinner will be held in the Youngstown YMCA building.

Preparations are being made to handle a crowd of 350. Tickets for the dinner cost \$2.50 per plate. Committee members in charge are Ray W., Earl H., Orlo H., and Larry S.

THE LIFE OF AL AND BILL — No. 30



- SUNDAY
COLLINWOOD-14709 St. Clair Avenue 7:30
LAKEVIEW—Cyo Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair 8:00
MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park 7:00
NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St. 8:30
OUTWAITE (Negro)—7100 Kinsman 4:00
STERLING—St. Columbkil's School Hall, 2642 Superior 8:30
SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave. 2:00
TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave. 8:00
WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison 8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Cooler Farms Recreation Room 10:00 A. M.
GENEVA, O.—412 South Broadway 7:30
LORAIN, O.—(Stag) AA Social Center, 700 Broadway 10:00 A. M.

- 1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH
CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370 8:30
3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370 8:30
FOR AUTHORIZATIVE AA INFORMATION AND LITERATURE
AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE—1007 Schofield Bldg. CH 7387

- LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS
Betty's Home (SHadySide 4692) (M) 3480 Scranton Road
Charity Hospital (MAInn 4400) (MW) Central and E. 22nd St.
Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 3998) (MW) 7809 Euclid Ave.
Farquharson's (TUxedo 5-1882) (M) 6037 Pearl Rd.
MacGillis Nursing Home (RA. 2556) (MW) 1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
Ryan's Nursing Home (MElrose 1635) (M) 8023 Detroit Ave.
St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M) 7911 Detroit Ave.
(M) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.



# CENTRAL BULLETIN



Vol. VIII-No. 1

BOX 67 12. CLEVELAND 1. OHIO

October, 1949

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## The Almost League

If you are a **member** of the **Almost League** it is time to resign and join the company of those who belong to Alcoholics Anonymous without reservations, mental or alcoholic.

What's the **Almost League**? Well, its membership consists of **people** who are almost but not quite sober. They're not quite drunk, either. They're a **little** sober and a **little** drunk. When they're sober you'll often find them at an AA meeting. **When** the urge to take a **little** touches **them** you'll find **them** in the basement of their **house** or sneaking in or out of a joint, looking cautiously about to **make** sure they are not observed by any of the boys or **girls** who are steady **because** they wish to remain in their good opinion.

Such conduct is rationalized by these Almosters in this fashion: It is **better** to **sober** up a **dozen** times (after having **been** drunk an **equal** number of times, of course) than to be drunk all **the** time.

A little sobriety, like a **little** education, can be a dangerous thing. The **dummy** who doesn't know his way around is sooner or later **going** to **tumble** into a vat full of hops or get tangled up with a still.

We are reminded of the World War complaint that this and that was "too **little** and too **late**." A **little** sobriety is too little. It is also too **late** and unless something is **done** about it, it soon will be too bad because the **Almo**ster will soon be out like a hoot owl at high noon.

What is **required** to get out of the **Almost League** is not an improvement in **degree** but an improvement in kind. A **little** sobriety, **unlike** some **other** things, **does** not go a long way. It doesn't go at all. A **little** sobriety just won't work. What is **essential** is **complete** sobriety.

Patience should be **exercised** with the **Almo**ster. Of course he won't come around until he sees the stupidity of his reasoning himself. We can, however, by the right approach, help him to **see** his mistake and perhaps **persuade** him to resign from the **Almost League** and join the real outfit.

This **desirable** end **never** will be accomplished by barking at him, brushing him off or doubting his **desire** to gain **sobriety**. That he **sobers** up once in a **while** is an indication of his intent. We should capitalize on that intent. We should **remember** what stumblers most of us **were** before we decided this controlled business was just plain alcoholic nonsense in the **end**.

You can't generalize about everybody. Each case **requires** its special treatment. That's **where** the sponsor or prospective sponsor must use **intelligence** instead of following the rule of thumb. Some Almosters can be talked into honest membership in AA and others must be given more rope until they are **ready**.

I remember a traveling companion I **once** had. He was certainly an alcoholic, but the periodic variety. Late one night, **leaving** Paris by air, we were **seated** at the counter, which was also a bar, at the Orly airfield. There **were** other **people** in the party of **travelers**. One of **them** was a **young** minister who was nominally in **charge**.

My companion, already **high**, having made **the** most of his **last** day in the **French** capital, was ordering another

(Continued on page two)

## Dead Center

Knowing nothing about automobiles except being able to **steer** 'em with passable efficiency after pushing a button, **getting** the engine roaring and engaging the **gears**, we are **suckers** of the worst kind when we see a stalled car, as we stop to offer help. If **the** hood of the stalled car is up, we peek into **the** car's innards, ask **inane** questions and usually wind up **offering** to push the stalled car to **the** nearest garage or gas station. (Must be the Boy Scout in us.)

Sometimes **the** owner of the **crippled** car knows his onions and persuades us to use our awkward bulk to help rock the car. He knows that the gears are in "dead **center**" and with rhythmic rocking to and fro, **the** gears **mesh** and the car is **ready** to go. It's always a miracle to us, for as we stated in **the** opening paragraph, we know nothing about the mechanism of a car.

That happens to human beings too. **Plagued** with over-work, fatigue and worry, minds occupied with an **overland** of **responsibility**, their mental **gears** deadlock and seemingly nothing budges them. They've got to be rooked out of dead center.

As pressure mounts so mounts the blood pressure. Tempers **become** **frayed** and outbursts are often the **fore-runners** of a great deal of business, family or social maladjustments.

What should a person do when he reaches **dead** center? We have **struggled** with this problem for a **long** time and are honestly seeking an

answer. **When** discussing it with others, we find that **we're** not **alone** in **experiencing** it. **We're** afraid to admit what might be **the** truth—that we haven't gotten our **house** in **order**. That our mind has **been** cluttered with too many things which **have** been left undone.

We **have** a yen for tacking up "action **now**" signs on **the** wall at our desk. You know **the** kind—"Do it now" or "So much to do, so little done," etc., but after a while they **lose** their effectiveness, because they're seen so often. Someone removed **one** which we always liked **particularly**, titled "Silence-Genius at Work". We suspect our good wife whose judgment at times **seems** unwarrantly severe.

But this "dead **center**" thing can be deadly. It's **frustrating** as well as aggravating. **When** this mood hits us, we must take an honest inventory of ourselves. Are we **tired** because of lack of **sleep**? Do we take sensible steps in **getting** regular rest? Are we taking proper care of our physical **needs**? Do we squander the time which should be **devoted** to duty to such an extent that there is a mountain of undone tasks awaiting us and which we **dread** starting on? "So much to do, so little done!"

An hour ago, we took this inventory. We are a **week** late again in getting out the Bulletin. We had absolutely **no** **idea** what we **were** going to put in this column. We **were** at **dead** center. We sat at our **desk** with pencil poised, said a long **prayer**, and **as** always, our pencil moved. We **hope** you'll understand.

Thanks for giving us your **shoulder** to weep on. We'll honestly try to **clean** up our **other** neglected details, so we can **come** up with **some** inspirational subject next month.

That's a promise.

SAVE SALES TAX STAMPS FOR DOWNTOWN OFFICE

## THE ALMOST LEAGUE

(Continued from page one)

drink. I was seated next to him. The minister heard and rushed over shouting imprecations and saying my friend could not have another drink, he would not permit it! The well-oiled traveler slowly turned around on his stool, looked to the chap who would reform him the old way and in precise words, clipped as only a drunk can clip them, asked:

"What did you sny, boy?"

The crushing blow came when I told the reformer to run along while I bought my friend a drink. Later I explained to him the psychology of us alcoholics. He saw the light. The companion is an Almoater. Some day, when he is through playing around and has had enough bumps, he'll be in the big league.

## PAY AS YOU ENTER

Have you noticed how eager we are to impress upon the newcomer in AA that it is not a religious organization in any sense of the word, and then almost in the same breath emphasize the importance of the Second Step.

Chances are good too, that the newcomer hears the same evening an exposition of one of the steps concerned with the spiritual aspect. We can't escape it fellows—we admit that we are powerless ourselves when we enter AA. Who in hell is looking after us now, Frankenstein?

It reminds us of a story related to us by a gentleman of the cloth recently.

In some churches it is the custom to collect the sent offering before the service, at the door. This Sunday a meek looking individual scurried past the collectory plate at which the burly pastor was standing sentinel. "Hey," the pastor yelled "Where's your ten cents for your seat?" "Oh I was at the early service," explained the meek individual, "I am just going in to deliver a message to my wife." "Well alright," said the pastor, "Go ahead, BUT DON'T LET ME CATCH YOU PRAYING."

And the moral, pf that is as the Red Queen said to Alice, "Taking up a collection isn't the only religious observance at A.A meetings."

—Bluenose Bulletin, Halifax, N. S.

## OHIO PRISON NOTES

Encouraged by the results obtained in Columbus State Prison, in the Alcoholics Fellowship estblishctd there three months ago, Supt. W. F. Amrine of the London Prison Farm, London, Ohio, permitted the establishment of a group activity there. The first meeting was held Sunday, October 9th and will be held thereafter on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Clevelanders are urged to support this activity. If any group or individual can or will contribute literature or books to this group it will be greatly appreciated. These may be sent to Supt. Amrine or to the Central Ohio Group Fellowship at 1122 Atlas Bldg., Columbus, Ohio.

## TOMORROW

He was going to be all that he wanted to be—tomorrow. None would be kinder or braver than he—tomorrow. A friend who was troubled and weary, he knew, Who'd be glad of a lift—and who needed it, too . . . On him he would call and see what he could do—tomorrow. Each morn he stocked up the letters he'd write—tomorrow. And thought of the folks he'd fill with delight—tomorrow. And hadn't one minute to stop on his way— More time I will have to give others, he'd sap—tomorrow. The greatest of workers this man would have been—tomorrow.

But, in fact, he passed on, and he faded from view, And all that he left here when living was through Was a mountain of things he intended to do—tomorrow.

## GIGGLES

A little man came into the office of a psychiatrist. "I was wondering," the little man said timidly, "if you couldn't split my personality for me.

The doctor looked puzzled: "Split your personality? Why would you want that done?"

Tears tumbled down the little man's face. "Oh, doctor," he wailed, "I'm so lonesome!"

## AA DISTRICT MEETING

The Advisory Committee meeting of the AA District Office was held on September 22. 37 groups were represented.

The budget of \$10,000.00 was approved after lengthy, intelligent discussion. Many erroneous impressions were cleared up and a better enthusiastic understanding of the great need of this office was effected.

The chairman submitted three plans for contributions by a Group Pledge—A specified amount payable monthly if so desired and taken from the Group's treasury.

By a Regular Monthly Collection Taken Up by the Group—Effective in Groups where attendance is for the most part transient; also in Groups with limited membership.

By a Personal Pledge—One member of the Group appointed to contact personally every member listed on the Group's roster to give them the opportunity to make a direct contribution.

All delegates were urged to visit the office to fully acquaint themselves with office procedure.

Elmer L. of Edgelake, member of the committee which established the office pointed out that with the increased growth of AA in Cleveland and corresponding greater demands on the office, that the operating committee be increased from three to seven members. He felt that the burden of responsibility was too great to be borne by three. He pointed out too that this move would offer greater interest and would increase cooperation and financial support.

Accordingly it was resolved to elect two members with terms expiring on February 1, 1951; two February 1, 1952 and three on February 1, 1963. A three man nominating committee was selected and will submit these names at the November meeting.

Following is an activity report of the office from the beginning of its fiscal year to September 16th.

536 calls for help were received which were turned over to 74 groups of these; 412 were receptive to first contact; 56 were not ready when contact was made; 51 no contact possible; 17 not AA cases.

During the same period: 593 general services to members and groups were performed; 328 requests for literature and information were filled; 78 speakers were supplied.

Contributions and sales tax stamps received from all sources total \$7,003.69.

The time for the annual AA census is now at hand and we should like to ask you to estimate as accurately as possible during the next few weeks the number of active members in your Group. Shortly after the first of November the Office will phone you to get this figure. Your cooperation in taking this census will be greatly appreciated as it is our only way of determining AA growth in Cleveland from year to year.

## PLEA BRINGS GREAT RESPONSE

We were gratified to see the tremendous response to our plea for help in building up the Bulletin subscription list. A veritable flood of dollars came in. But when they were duly entered on the subscription list, we were a bit crestfallen. Our plea for help must have been misinterpreted, for over 60% of the responses were from subscribers whose subscriptions didn't run out until January, February, July or even August! These have been duly advanced to their new expiration date.

Those cards were enclosed with a hope that friendly subscribers would use them in interesting their friends who were not subscribers or whose subscriptions had lapsed. If you want to, you can send in the new name without a card—with a new dollar, of course.

But thanks, good people, for your splendid response. Continue on in being a loud Bulletin Booster, so we can stay near or over that 1600 line.

## GEORGE PETTIBONE

George Pettibone, a member of Edplake for the past nine years and a most regular member of the Benvin Restaurant noonday AA luncheon group passed away last week and was buried November 21. He was highly esteemed and beloved by all who had the good fortune of knowing him. May he rest in peace.

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Twenty-four groups were represented among the 30 attending the October Central Committee meeting presided over by vice-moderator Roy G.

Highlights of the meeting: Treasury shows a balance of \$268.11 with all bills paid to date. . . Hospital Committee announced literature purchased for distribution in hospitals was made possible through revenue from the sale of AA pins. They also announced the sale of East Cleveland Clinic which ended our hospitalization of AA patients. Doctor's Hospital is being contacted. Charity Hospital is now charging only \$10 in addition to hospitalization, which covers medical fees. . . The Action Committee reported that letters were sent to civic organizations explaining Alcoholics Anonymous principles, particularly affecting money solicitation.

The next meeting will be on November 1, 1949.

## ORCHARD GROVE OBSERVES TENTH

The Lakewood Orchard Grove group, the first westside Cleveland group, will observe its tenth anniversary on Monday, November 14th at 8:30 P. M. in Community Center, St. Charles and Detroit, Lakewood.

Many groups on the West Side are offshoots of this venerable group, and invitations have been sent to all to join in the affair. Secretaries will be introduced and honored and a prominent speaker will be on the program. Refreshments will be served and there will be entertainment.

Nelson D., the coal man, will be in charge of the affair.

## THIRD SHIFTERS

The "third-shifters" of The Thompson Products Co. have started a group which meet on Thursday mornings at eight o'clock, right after work. They have contacted Fisher Body and also extend a hearty welcome to others whose work hours prevent them from attending regular meetings. They meet in the home of Barney B., at 1465 East 219th St Phone him at KE. 4836 for further particulars.

## LAKWOOD WOMEN CHANGE AGAIN

The Lakewood Women's Group, who last month changed its name from West Park to its present moniker, found its newly selected meeting place conflicting with the Wyandotte Men's group meeting on Thursday evenings. So they changed their meeting night and place.

Their new meeting place is in the United Presbyterian Church, located at 12601 Detroit Ave., at Lakewood Ave., and on Monday nights at 8:30.

Billy W., program chairman announces the following imposing list of speakers for the coming six weeks: Oct. 24, Mary L., Brooklyn; Oct. 31, Charlie S., Trinity; Nov. 7, Pete McN., Lee Monday; Nov. 14, Art G., Trinity; Nov. 21, Frank K., Union; Nov. 28, Franklyn S. Doan.

## ANSEL ROAD

Judge Jim C. experienced a thrill when he returned to the church of his childhood to lead the opening meeting of the newly organized Ansel Road group. Over 200 people listened intently as the Judge dramatically painted a word picture of his colorful life from altar boy in that very church to great civic heights, down to the depths of depravity and through AA up to where he belongs. Sot a cough was heard throughout this stirring lund.

Much is expected from this fertile territory.

## BROADWAY • 55th

Over 300 people joined in celebrating the group's fourth anniversary on Thursday, September 29th. As in each of its previous occasions, Frank S. of Doan was the leader, with Johnny H. as master of ceremonies. Sec'y Ed. H. was in charge.

The entire collection of 8G5.20 was given to the AA District Office.

## DOAN DATA

During September, Doan was favored with a quartet of exceptionally good leaders. They were Corney V., Paul E., Hank W., and Jim A. The attendance is gratifyingly large.

Al. D. is the newly appointed hospital representative. John L. is the new Bulletin reporter. (We hear he made an impressive lead on October 5. — Ed.)

## BOWLING NEWS

After winning nine straight without a loss, the Doan Bears finally proved they weren't supermen, losing five of their next six games. Glenville No. 3 team is setting the pace with 12 wins and three losses. Smith-Wilson is but one game behind them in second place. L. P. was hot several weeks ago with a three game total of 716 and high single game of 270. Nice bowling.

In the Friday West Side early shift league, the Lorain Yanks are far ahead of their nearest competition with 15 points. Their nearest competitors are Pearl No. 2, Angle No. 1 and 2 who show only 12 points each. T. E. L. leads the league with 179 average, having a high single game of 235.

In the Friday West Side late shift. Addison is way out in front with 19 out of a possible 20 points. Collinwood is second with 13 points. "No initial" C-y leads the league with 175 average, with 211 as his high single game.

No news from the Thursday league.

## EAST SIDE LADIES

The open house meeting of the East Side Ladies was a great success, attracting many visitors from neighboring cities. They almost filled the spacious (and gracious) Emmanuel Church at East 86th and Euclid.

Franklyn S. of Doan was the able master of ceremonies and was introduced by Helen O'M., who was chair-lady of the meeting. The speakers were Jacl D., Wynn W., Harry D., Frank K. and Judge Jim C., who was summoned from the audience.

A happy social hour completed a delightful evening.

Trinity members invite you to enjoy their hospitality.

## TRINITY

A Round Table panel consisting of Harold S., Arcade; Corney V. of Lee Wednesday; Harry W. of Lake Shore and Jack S. of Wyandotte will endeavor to answer questions from the audience on Saturday, Nov. 5, at 9 P. M. On Nov. 12th, Jack G. of Erie, Pa., will be the speaker and on Nov. 19, Clifford F. of Wooster will lead.

## ADDISON HOLDS SHOW

On Monday, November 14th the Addison group will provide an entertainment and show in Westminster Presbyterian Church, Addison Rd. and Wade Park Ave. Everyone is welcome, says Clarence S.

## PROPOSED NEW GROUP

An invitation is extended to attend the initial meeting of a new group in Mayfield Village. The meeting place is Village Hall, SOM Center Road and Wilson Mills Road on Tuesday, October 25 at 8:30 P. M. Irl V. B. of the U. S. Coast Guard is the organizer. His telephone number is PO. 5518.

## PARMA MOVES

The Saturday night Parma group has moved across the street from its old meeting hall, to Parma Public Library, 5850 Ridge Road. John L. of Doan will be the speaker on October 22.

## YOUNGSTOWN

Twenty different cities and towns were represented by close to 400 people who attended Youngstown's ninth anniversary, Sunday, October 9th in Central Y. M. C. A. The speakers were Fred and Vi. S. of Cleveland with attorney Ed. B. as a masterful master of ceremonies. It was quite an affair.

Harry D., editor of Cleveland Central Bulletin will be the speaker at the November Consolidated meeting, Sunday, November 20th at 8:00 P. M. in the Y. M. C. A. on North Champion St.

## LORAIN OHIO NEWS

The Lorain County Consolidated monthly meetings started again on Sunday, October 2 in the AA Social Center, Lorain, Ohio. Tom G. of Cleveland was the excellent leader. The next meeting will be held on Sunday, November 6 in the same place, 700 Broadway. Bill T. of the Birtges St. Colored group will speak. He has an extraordinarily good message well worth hearing.

A dance will be held in the Center on Saturday, Nov. 12th to which all AA's are invited. Admission is but fifty cents per person.

### Cleveland Group Meetings

**MONDAY**  
 ADDISON—Westminster Church, N.E. Cor. Addison & Wade Park, 8:30  
 BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid-----8:30  
 DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave.-----8:30  
 FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry-----8:30  
 LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd.,  
 Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting-----8:30  
 LAKEWOOD (Orchard Grove)—1417 St. Charles, nr. Detroit-----8:30  
 LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit-----8:30  
 LAKEWOOD WOMEN—United Presby. Church, 12601 Detroit-----8:30  
 LEE MONDAY—First Presb. Church, II Cleve., Nela and Euclid, 8:30  
 LORAIN AVE.—Bnanner Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain-----8:30  
 MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill-----7:30  
 PEARL—Cornus Christi Basement, 4202 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd.) 8:30  
 SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc. Church, 3451 Warrenville-----8:30  
 SOUTH EAST CROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway-----8:30  
 UNION—American Legion Hall, 13913 Kinsman (in rear)-----8:30  
 WEST 25th ST.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St.-----8:30  
 WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O.-----8:30  
 WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid-----8:30

**TUESDAY**  
 ARCADE—Euclid Ave Baptist, E. 18th & Euclid-----8:30  
 CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud. 8:30  
 CLARK—4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs-----8:30  
 EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle-----8:00  
 EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit  
 Dinner at 7:00 P. M.—Meeting-----8:30  
 EUCLID WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid-----8:30  
 FAIRVIEW PARK—Fairview Baptist, Lorain and W. 27th St.-----8:30  
 MILES LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles-----8:30  
 MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd.-----8:30  
 SMITH-WILSON—Notrinity School, 9510 Aetna Road-----8:30  
 SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior-----8:30  
 WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain-----8:30  
 WEST SIDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th-----8:30  
 ELYRIA (Colored)—335 Columbus St.-----8:30  
 LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts.-----8:00  
 MEDINA, O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House-----8:30  
 PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street-----8:30  
 STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall-----8:30

**WEDNESDAY**  
 BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave.-----8:30  
 BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd.-----8:45  
 COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.-----8:30  
 DENISON—7403 Denison Ave.-----8:30  
 DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance-----8:45  
 EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St.-----10:00 A. M.  
 GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd.-----8:30  
 LEE ROAD—First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd.-----8:30  
 ST. JAMES (Colored)—St. James A.M.E., 8401 Cedar-----8:30  
 WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction-----8:30  
 BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave.-----8:30  
 ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third-----8:00  
 LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave.-----8:30

**THURSDAY**  
 ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave.-----8:30  
 ANGLE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave.-----8:30  
 BROADWAY—55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall-----8:30  
 COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough-----8:30  
 EDDY ROAD—Glenville Congregational Church, Eddy & St. Clair-----8:30  
 GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair-----9:00  
 LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain-----8:30  
 OUTHWAITE (Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman-----8:30  
 THIRD SHIFTERS—Res. Barney H., 1465 E. 219th St.-----8:00 A.M.  
 THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave.-----2:00  
 WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building-----7:00  
 WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave.-----10:30 A. M.  
 WYANDOTTE MEN'S—Redeemer Hall, Andrews & Detroit (rear)-----8:30  
 BERA, O.—Fine Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland-----8:30  
 EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O.-----8:30  
 GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway-----8:30  
 PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor-----8:30

**FRIDAY**  
 ANSEL ROAD—St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 9205 Superior-----8:30  
 CEDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St.-----8:15  
 GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St.-----8:30  
 LEE ROAD—2056 E. 105th, K. of P. Hall-----8:30  
 MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St.-----8:30  
 NORTHEAST—2028 E. 105th St.-----8:30  
 ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit-----8:30  
 ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month-----8:30  
 WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall, W. 116-Detroit-----8:30  
 BERA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church-----8:30  
 CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St.-----8:30  
 CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O.-----8:30  
 EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd.-----8:30  
 LORAIN-AVON—AA—Social Center, 700 Broadway-----8:30  
 MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church-----8:30  
 OBERLIN, O.—American Legion Home, S. Main and Hamilton-----8:30

**SATURDAY**  
 BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad-----8:30  
 CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th,-----9:00  
 GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair-----9:30  
 GOSPEL CENTER—4920 Lexington Ave.-----8:30  
 LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit-----8:30  
 MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair-----8:30  
 PARMA—Public Library, 5850 Ridge Road-----8:30  
 REDWOOD—Euclid Lutheran Church, E. 260 and Oriole-----8:30  
 (Three blocks south of Lake Shore Boulevard)  
 TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St.-----8:30  
 VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather-----8:30  
 WINDEMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakewood-----9:00  
 8005 GROUP—8005 Lorain Ave.-----8:30  
 ASHTABULA, O.—K. of P. Hall, Elm Ave.-----8:30  
 ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third-----8:30

### WEST SIDE—SUNDAY

The West Side Sunday night group advises that their meetings will start promptly at eight o'clock starting November 6. They meet in Trinity Methodist Church, West 49th and Madison.

### COLORED GROUP IN ELYRIA

Wilbert Y., enthusiastic colored member of Elyria, organized a Colored group which met for the first time in early September, 35 to 40 attended the meeting. They meet at 335 Columbus St. on Tuesdays.

### COMMITTEE OPERATES HOSPITAL

A committee of eight AA's have been operating MacGillis Nursing Home for the past two months. Members are Clint C., Harry R., Jim B., Glen B., Mike M., Dr. C., Eileen S. and Adele R.

Convict: How long you in for?  
 New Cellmate: Ninety-nine years. How long you in for?  
 Convict: Seventy-five years.  
 Cellmate: Then you take the bed near the door—you're getting out first.



### SUNDAY

COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Avenue-----7:30  
 LAKEVIEW—CYO Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair-----8:00  
 MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park-----7:00  
 NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St.-----8:30  
 OUTHWAITE (Negro)—7100 Kinsman-----4:00  
 STERLING—St. Columbkil's School Hall, 2642 Superior-----8:30  
 SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave.-----2:00  
 TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave.-----8:00  
 WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison-----8:30  
 WARRENSVILLE—Cooley Farms Recreation Room-----10:00 A. M.  
 GENEVA, O. 412 South Broadway-----10:30  
 LORAIN, O.—(Stag) AA Social Center, 700 Broadway-----10:00 A.M.

1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
 CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370-----8:30  
 3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
 HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370-----8:30

FOR AUTHORITATIVE AA INFORMATION  
 AND LITERATURE  
 AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE-I 007 Schofield Bldg.—CH 7387

### LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS

Betty's Home (SHadyside 4692) (M 1 - - 4 8 0) Scranton Road  
 Charity Hospital (MAin 9400) (MW) Central and E. 22nd St.  
 Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 8998) (MW) 7809 Euclid Ave.  
 Farquharson's (TUxedo 5-1882) (M) 6037 Pearl Rd.  
 MacGillis Nursing Home (RA. 2556) (MW)  
 Ryan's Nursing Home (MElrose 1635) (M) 1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park  
 St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M) 8023 Detroit Ave.  
 (M) men only, (MW) m e n and women, (W) women only.

# CENTRAL BULLETIN

UNSELFISHNESS • HONESTY  
PURITY • LOVE  
A.A.

Vol. VIII-No. 2

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November, 1949

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## Giving Thanks

All of us have known people—possibly we have been associated with them in family or business—who are never happy. They always are looking for something. Only the glamorous, the dramatic, the exotic or the material pleases them. What enjoyment they derive from these sources is temporary. These qualities fail to satisfy. Tomorrow, they hope, something that really will make them happy will turn up.

In a perverse sort of way these unfortunates put all the emphasis and all their energies, spiritual and emotional, on the constitutional right to "the pursuit of happiness." They are eternally pursuing. They never catch up. Happiness eludes them.

The reasons are plain. These people entertain only the vaguest ideas of what constitutes happiness. They have not grown up to the point where they realize that happiness is a state of mind. A man laid low by permanent illness, though he live in a mansion with a retinue of servants, is unhappy compared with the healthy fellow who may dwell in the meanest house on the meanest street in town. Happiness to these [pursuers] is something like a new necktie or a box of candy. It has to be expressed in tangible terms. The material objects that give joy are not in themselves happiness, only an expression of it in some instances.

These seekers after the big, these people who have emotional rabbits in their trousers, would deny vehemently the fact that happiness is composed of many ingredients, all of them small and unspectacular.

Happiness is not something leased and lent. It must be earned, it must be paid for, item by item. And these items consist in the ability to appreciate the little and the simple things in life. They consist of a willingness to help others in little things. They consist, not in longing for more and more, but in giving thanks, as the popular expression puts it, for small blessings.

Sometimes these blessings are not so small. Only the thanks are small by comparison. Too often we are prone to take happiness for granted. We are inclined to think of it as an inalienable right and it is no such thing.

All of us would be happier if we gave thanks for what we have instead of waiting until something believed to be better comes along. In this frame of mind the so-called better will never be received.

Those of us who are alcoholic have no right to grumble, even silently, about what we want but may not have. We have been given the greatest gift that contributes to happiness—sobriety.

Sometimes we may get depressed because all the material things we believed we were entitled to did not come our way when we gave up alcohol with the help of a Higher Power.

The improvements in the house, the new car, the better job may still be in the future. We are stunted in our spiritual growth, indeed, if we think that these material aspects of our lives must be attained before we can be happy. We have the wagon of our lives hitched to the wrong star if such is the case.

Sobriety is so undeniably the basis of our lives that

(Continued on page two)

## Petition

"There's one thing about this program I can't seem to get," stated an earnest member of four months as he rose, obviously impressed by the spiritually moving address of a group speaker, to ask the question, "how can I properly learn to pray? I've prayed all my life, yet I find it difficult to feel assured that my prayers are heard. The kind of life I've lived, I don't deserve to be heard."

That was a tough question to answer. Obviously this man was sincere and honest. What did he lack? His remarks implied that he had found a necessary and basic quality—humility. For unless we truly become humble we cannot properly place ourselves in a "receptive mood to receive an answer. What he probably lacked was sufficient faith.

A complete and careful study of the twelve steps and honest, sincere application of them will provide a progressive program in supplying an answer, was the advice given.

If we truly admit to being powerless—and truly means honestly—and turn to a Higher Power for help and have the sublime faith of a completely helpless person who would even grasp at a straw to keep from being submerged, we are more likely to be receptive to His gracious help than if we just accepted it casually as our dower right.

For when, and only when, we actually turn our entire lives over to the care of God as we understand Him, and remembering that He placed us on this earth for some definite purpose, the which we can only find through daily devoted contact with Him, are we on our way to discovering Him.

Our program is a Daily Program: Simple it is, with a daily rededication to our promise to Him that with His help we will try not to offend Him. He has given us a behaviour guide—the Ten Commandments. We cannot chisel even a little sin on the excuse that we are human and imperfect and so are entitled to a little sinning now and then. A deliberate and wilful breach of His commandment begets a troubled soul. Man, being by nature imperfect, can and does break many of God's laws without deliberately planning to do so.

If we truly look upon God as a loving God—a forgiving God, indulgent, compassionate and understanding—and if we honestly and sincerely want Him to help us, we will try every means to contact Him.

Somewhere we read advice on contacting Him. It was suggested that we try to achieve absolute quietness. That we then try attuning our minds to contact Him just as though we were tuning in on a much desired radio program—one we simply had to hear because it held an important and vital message. How careful we would be to eliminate all outside noises and how delicately, we would turn the dial. If we truly want to contact our Almighty God, we can, with what should be a great fidelity of purpose.

With our prayers of petition, let's not forget the prayers of thanksgiving, adoration and praise. These are probably more important, for if we are truly His subjects we will accept with serenity His judgment as to our needs.

The fellow who lives on a bluff deserves a good shove.

## GIVING THANKS

(Continued from page one)

nothing should be allowed to detract from the happiness it has brought. To keep that happiness, to appreciate it and enjoy it to the fullest, we must give thanks every day, we must show our thankfulness by helping others similarly afflicted. Happiness is a continuing process, it is not a static condition, and being thankful for it is one way of guaranteeing its continuation.

### Holiday Warnings-Don't Take That First Drink.

#### JAY WALKING IS DANGEROUS TOO

We clipped the following excerpt from an article which appeared in "The Brighter Side" of Waterloo, Iowa. We believe it has an excellent message:

"Our thinking and behavior pattern is as absurd and incomprehensible with respect to the first drink as that of an individual with a passion, say for jay-walking. He gets a thrill out of skipping in front of fast-moving vehicles. He enjoys himself a few years in spite of friendly warnings. Up to this point you would label him as a foolish chap having queer ideas of fun. Luck then deserts him and he is slightly injured several times in succession. You would expect him, if he were normal, to cut it out. Presently he is hit again and this time has a fractured skull. Within a week after leaving the hospital a fast moving trolley car breaks his arm. He tells you he has decided to stop jay-walking for good, but in a few weeks he breaks both legs.

On through the years this continues, accompanied by his continual promises to be careful or to keep off the streets altogether. Finally he can no longer work, his wife gets a divorce, he is held up to ridicule. He tries every-known means to get the jay-walking idea out of his head. He shuts himself up in an asylum, hoping to mend his ways. But the day he comes out he races in front of a fire engine, which breaks his back. Such a man would be crazy, wouldn't he?

You may think our illustration is too ridiculous. But is it? We, who have been through the wringer, have to admit if we substituted alcohol for jay-walking, the illustration would fit us exactly. However intelligent we may have been in other respects, where alcohol is involved, we have been strangely insane. It's strong language -but true."

#### GLEANINGS FROM OTHERS

We still like to think the best definition of the spiritual sittle of AA is something about like this: "If the experience which I have had makes life happier, more useful and more satisfactory, not only to me but to those whom I love and to the world at large, then I have indeed known the Grace of God."-The Screwball.

Some troubles are like bee stings; they're only .03125 of an inch long and the rest is imagination.

Let each of us be diligent about taking the inventory--but be sure it is his own and not the other fellow's.

#### COLUMBUS HOLDS ANNUAL AA DAY

Preparations are being made to seat 1700 people at the annual Central Ohio AA day meeting in Columbus, Ohio, on Sunday, November 20th at 3 p. m.

The meeting will be held in Central High School, 75 South Washington Boulevard, just across the Scioto River from the State Office Building.

Speakers will be Mrs. Jean F. and Paul K. of Chardon, Ohio (Cleveland) and C. Frank C. of New York City.

This will undoubtedly be an outstanding occasion.

#### A MISUNDERSTANDING

We received an erroneous impression from a member of the committee and in the October Bulletin published a statement saying: "Eight AA's were operating MacGillis Hospital," which, they would like to have retracted.

The eight AA's named are an "advisory committee." Their duty is to keep MacGillis Hospital informed, concerning the philosophy and teachings of AA.

They do not receive any remuneration. MacGillis Hospital is owned and operated by Angela MacGillis.

We regret the interpretation of the message we received and trust this item will clear up the misunderstanding.

## A CHALLENGING PROGRAM

1. Just for today I will try to live through this day only, not to tackle my whole life problem at once. I can do things for 24 hours that would appall me if I had to keep them up for a lifetime.
2. Just for today I will be happy. This assumes that what Abraham Lincoln said is true, that "most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." Happiness is from within; it is not a matter of externals.
3. Just for today I will try to adjust to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires. I will take my family, my business, and my licks as they come and fit myself to them.
4. Just for today I will take care of my body, I will exercise it, care for it, nourish it, not abuse it nor neglect it, so that it will be a perfect machine for my bidding.
5. Just for today I will try to strengthen my mind. I will learn something useful. I will not be a mental loafer. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.
6. Just for today I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn and not get found out; I will do at least two things I don't want to do, as William James suggests, just for exercise.
7. Just for today I will be agreeable. I will took as well as I can, dress as becomingly as possible, talk low, act courteously, be liberal with praise, criticize not at all, nor find fault with anything and not try to regulate or improve anyone.
8. Just for today I will have a program. I will write down what I expect to do every hour. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. It will eliminate two pests-hurry and indecision.
9. Just for today I will have a quiet half hour all by myself and relax. In this half hour sometimes I will thank God, so as to get a little more perspective to my life.
10. Just for today I will be unafraid, specially I will not be afraid to be happy, to enjoy what is beautiful, to love and to believe those I have, love me.

Central Ohio Fellowship, Columbus, O.

#### HOBBY CENTER

Several open houses will be held at the Cleveland Rehabilitation Center at 2239 E. 55th Street (between Cedar and Central!) to acquaint Cleveland AA members with this worthwhile Hobby Shop. Everyone will have an opportunity to visit classes in Public Speaking, Cabinet Making and Upholstering and see them in operation, starting at 7:30 p. m.

A regular AA talk and social hour with coffee and donuts will follow.

### Holiday Warnings--Don't Take That First Drink.

#### AA DISTRICT OFFICE

Four new members were added to the Office Advisor Committee at the November 10th meeting. Jack D., Franklyn S., Tony K. and Hershel H. All are very conscientious and able men.

#### WEST SIDE WOMEN

Through pure carelessness, one of our very important women's groups were omitted in the last Bulletin roster of groups. We hasten to put it back on the list.

They still meet in West Boulevard Christian Church, West Boulevard and W. 101st Street at Madison on Monday evening at 8:30 p. m.

#### OSCAR MINSCH

Oscar Minsch, former hardworking secretary of the Denison group, died on October 31st from a complication of diseases. During his six and one-half years of uninterrupted sobriety, Oscar contributed much to the activity in Twelfth Step work. He was only 48 years old at his death. To his bereaved family, of wife Gertrude and six children, we offer our heartfelt sympathy. Cleveland will miss him, too.

### TEN YEAR SECRETARY RETIRES

Elmer L., secretary of the Edgelake and old Lake Shore group for the past ten years, will officially retire in the capacity which he held so efficiently on Tuesday, December 6. He will address the Edgelake group on that night.

Owing to pressing business demands on his time, he was forced to make this decision.

This will come as quite a shock to all Clevelanders who had just naturally identified the group as Elmer L's group. Possessed of a whimsical sense of humor, he however made his group a model which many patterned after. It will be difficult to find as able a successor. This successor will be named by the Operating Committee on December 6th.

### DOAN DATA

John L., correspondent for Doan Men's group, reports himself as the October 5th leader; Charlie Z. of Glenville on the 12th; M. R. of Eddy Road on the 19th; Ed. RI. of Lee Road on the 26th. Each delivered in excellent fashion.

### Holiday Warnings-Don't Take That First Drink.

#### THIRD ANNIVERSARIES

Broadway Men's group celebrates its third anniversary on Sunday, November 20 at 3 p. m. in St. John's Lutheran School Hall, Cable Avenue, off Broadway, second street south of East 55th Street.

Speakers will be Bill RI. and Harold S. Good entertainment and refreshments will follow.

The Superior group also celebrates its third on Saturday evening, November 19th in Immaculate Conception Hall, at East 43rd and Superior, at 9 p. m.

Entertainment will include dancing to Hal Pickett's Orchestra.

#### MILES MEN AND UNION

Miles and Union will collaborate in holding their ninth annual Bingo Party and Turkey Raffle on Saturday night, November 19 at Novak's Hall, 12907 Union Avenue.

This annual affair is very popular and attracts members from practically every group in the Cleveland area. Their generous prizes and excellent food, plus fine entertainment always brings them back.

Frank L. of Miles Men and Walter C. of Union are in charge. The activities start at 9 p. m.

#### WINDEMERE

Meeting in one of the nicest meeting halls in the state, this very fine young group deserves real support each Saturday night. The speakers are always excellent. There is no card party after the meeting.

The meetings are held in East Cleveland Women's Club, Lakefront Road, off Euclid Avenue at 9 p. m. sharp.

Bob B. of Wednesday Lee speaks on Saturday, November 19th.

#### BEREA THURSDAY

Meeting starts promptly at 8:30 sharp in the Berea Thursday group. Many of our members observe an early curfew hour. Visitors are always welcome at this charming group.

#### TRINITY ANNIVERSARY

On Saturday, December 3, Trinity will observe its second anniversary with an imposing panel of speakers. Each of the speakers have contributed tremendously in time and effort to the AA program during the past eleven years. They are Mrs. Kate N., Elizabeth B., Clarence S., Warren C., Jack D. and Pete McN.

An organ recital from 8 to 8:30 will precede the speakers.

The affair will be held in Trinity Church, 3523 West 25th Street.

Beginning Saturday, November 26th and until further notice, the last Saturday of each month, the Trinity group will hold a square dance. There will be no speaker on these nights.

Only 200 people can attend. Tickets at one dollar each will be sold in advance. There will be no tickets sold at the door. Pappy Doyle's Band will provide the music and entertainment.

Reservations can be made through Art G., at SII. 0286.

### CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Better attendance and greater representation marked the November 1 meeting of Central Committee.

A proposal relating to the recent unfortunate breach of "AA etiquette" viz., public solicitation was thoroughly discussed and intelligently acted upon. To circumvent a repetition of this offense, the Action Committee was empowered to insert an advertisement in all Cleveland papers at least twice a year to remind the public of AA's tradition and policy.

Regarding the action of the Ohio State Legislature in establishing a Commission on Alcoholism with the view of establishing clinics, the Moderator summed up the opinions expressed as follows: . . . that in his opinion, discussions of this sort constitute the basic purpose for which the Central Committee exists, emphasizing the fact that Central Committee is a forum for exchange of opinion and not in any sense a governing body. He invited the delegates to refer this matter to their respective groups and to continue the discussion further at the next meeting of Central Committee on December 6, 1949.

### CEDAR CELEBRATES FIFTH

The Cedar group, an excellent adjunct of the Salvation Army, celebrated its fifth anniversary Saturday evening, November 12 in Calvary Presbyterian Church with a sumptuous banquet prepared and served by members of the group.

Plaudits were many and particularly to deserving Maj. Peter Hoffman, whose dogged persistence made the group a model which has been copied in cities like Cincinnati, Akron, Youngstown, Dayton, Erie, and Philadelphia, Pa. Delegations from these cities attended the affair.

Clarence S., who gave much of his time and advice to the Major was the main speaker and was his usual inspiring self. Short talks were given by representatives of the above mentioned cities.

Very impressive affair and well attended.

### BROOKLYN

Speakers for November are Ben It., November 9; Judge Jim C., November 16; Rube F., November 23 and Paul IL., November 30. An outstanding quartet. Meetings in Brooklyn K of P. Hall, Broadview near W. 25th start promptly at 8:45 p. m. Everybody is welcome, of course.

### LAKESIDE MEN'S

Speakers for November are Art M. of Loudenville, November 7; Bill O'R. of Lorain, Monday, November 14; Carl M. of Berea, Thursday, November 21 and Charlie E. of Doan on November 28.

A bouquet must be tendered to Harold O'B., chairman and Walter S., for reviving this excellent men's group. From an average attendance of 17 prior to their taking office, an average of 54 has been maintained. Excellent twelfth step work.

### NEW QUARTERS FOR FAIRVIEW PARK

The Fairview Park group held its first meeting in its new quarters in Masonic Hall, 22082 Lorain Road on November 1.

They start their meetings promptly at 8:30 each Tuesday evening.

A New Year's eve party will be held in the new quarters.

### Holiday Warnings-Don't Take That First Drink.

#### BOWLING NOTES

The East Side League was given a surprise bonus last week by the St. Clair-Eddy Recreation Company. Three turkeys were presented to three bowlers who bowled the most pins over their average for that night. Winners were B-s of Smith-Wilson, with 126 pins over his average; R. R-s of Arcade No. 2, with 120 over and Ray hl-11, 106 over. The East Side League has 24 men and 8 women teams. Arcade No. 2 led after November 4 with 19 games won and 8 lost followed by St. Clair-Lakeview with 18 and 9.

In the Thursday West Side League, Collinwood, with 21 points leads Brooklyn with 20. Valley View No. 2, East-West and Berea are tied for third with 19 points each. Tight race. Two Collinwood bowlers, John L---h and Al H-k are battling it out for high individual average with 181 and 180 respectively.



### Cleveland Group Meetings

#### MONDAY

ADDISON—Westminster Church, N.E. Cor. Addison & Wade Park.....	8:30
BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid.....	8:45
DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:30
FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry.....	8:30
LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd., Dinner at 7:00 P. M., Meeting.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD (Orchard Grove)—1417 St. Charles, nr. Detroit.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD WOMEN—United Presby. Church, 12601 Detroit.....	8:30
LEE MONDAY—First Presb. Church, E. Cleve., Nela and Euclid.....	8:30
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain.....	8:30
MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill.....	7:30
PEARL—Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd.).....	8:30
SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrenville.....	8:30
SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway.....	8:30
UNION—American Legion Hall, 13913 Kinsman (in rear).....	8:30
WEST 25TH ST.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St.....	8:30
WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd Church, W. Blvd. & W. 101.....	8:30

#### TUESDAY

ARCADE—Euclid Ave Baptist E. 18th & Euclid.....	8:30
CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud.....	8:30
CLARK—4105 Clark Ave., Upstairs.....	8:30
EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle.....	8:00
EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit Dinner at 7:00 P. M., Meeting.....	8:30
EUCLID WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid.....	8:30
FAIRVIEW PARK—Masonic Hall, 22082 Lorain Road.....	8:30
MILES LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles.....	8:30
MT. PLEASANT—Eastview Cong. Church, 15615 Kinsman Rd.....	8:30
SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aetna Road.....	8:30
SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior.....	8:30
WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain.....	8:30
WEST SIDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th.....	8:30
ELYRIA (Colored)—335 Columbus St.....	8:30
LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts.....	8:00
MEDINA, O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House.....	8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street.....	8:30
STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall.....	8:30

#### WEDNESDAY

BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave.....	8:30
BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd.....	8:45
COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.....	8:30
DENISON—7403 Denison Ave.....	8:30
DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance.....	8:45
EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St.....	10:00 A. M.
GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd.....	8:30
ST. JAMES—(Colored) St. James A.M.E., 8401 Cedar.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction.....	6:30
BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third.....	8:00
LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave.....	8:30

#### THURSDAY

ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave.....	8:30
ANGLE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave.....	8:30
BROADWAY—55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall.....	8:30
COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel Scarborough.....	8:30
EDDY ROAD—Glenville Congregational Church, Eddy & St. Clair.....	8:30
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:00
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain.....	8:30
OUTHWAITE—(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman.....	8:30
THIRD SHIFTERS—Res. Barney B., 1465 E. 219th St.....	8:00 A.M.
THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave.....	2:00
WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building.....	7:00
WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave.....	10:30 A. M.
WYANDOTTE MEN'S—Redeemer Hall, Andrews & Detroit (rear).....	8:30
BEREA, O.—Fine Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland.....	8:30
EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
GENEVA, O.—Townsend Hall, Main St., west of Broadway.....	8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor.....	8:30

#### FRIDAY

ANSEL ROAD—St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 9205 Superior.....	8:30
CEDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St.....	8:15
GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—2056 East 105th St., K. of P. Hall.....	9:00
MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St.....	8:30
NORTHEAST—2028 E. 105th St.....	8:30
ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit.....	8:30
ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month.....	8:30
WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall, W. 116-Detroit.....	8:30
BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church.....	8:30
CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—American Legion, E. Orange St.....	8:30
CHARDON, O.—Thrasher House, Water St., Chardon O.....	8:30
CONNEAUT, O.—J. of L. E. Hall.....	8:30
EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, E. 200th and Lake Shore Blvd.....	8:30
LORAIN-AVON—AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....	8:30
MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church.....	8:30
OBERLIN, O.—American Legion Home, S. Main and Hamilton.....	8:30

#### SATURDAY

BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad.....	8:30
CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th.....	9:00
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:30
GOSEL CENTER—6920 Lexington Ave.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrews, near Detroit.....	8:30
MATT TALBOT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair.....	8:30
PARMA—Public Library, 5850 Ridge Road.....	8:30
REDWOOD—Euclid Lutheran Church, E. 260 and Oriole.....	8:30
TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St.....	8:30
VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather.....	8:30
WINDEMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront.....	9:00
8005 GROUP—8005 Lorain Ave.....	8:30
ASHTABULA, O.—K. of P. Hall, Flm Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third.....	8:30

### LORAIN COUNTY

Bob S. of Erie, Pa., will be the speaker at the December 4th monthly Lorain County Consolidated meeting which will be held in Lorain Social Center at 7 o'clock in the evening.

### NEW AA SOCIAL CLUB

On December 3rd, a new AA social club will open under the name of Alan Club, Inc. The air conditioned quarters are located at 1820 East 79th Street. Open from 10 a. m. to 1 a. m.

### BLOOMFIELD HOSPITAL

Several Clevelanders visiting Detroit, Mich., returned with glowing praise of Detroit's newly established hospital for the treatment of alcoholics, titled Bloomfield Hospital. It is an imposing mansion located on Woodward Avenue at Square Lake Road.

Eight registered nurses—four day and four night—are in constant attendance. It is state approved and co-operates with AA.

Detroit has needed a place like this for some time.

### Holiday Warnings—Don't Take That First Drink.



#### SUNDAY

COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Avenue.....	7:30
LAKEVIEW—CYO Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair.....	8:00
MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park.....	7:00
NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St.....	8:30
OUTWAITE—(Negro)—7100 Kinsman.....	4:00
STURLING—St. Columbkil's School Hall, 2642 Superior.....	8:30
SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenville Cong. Church, 10421 St. Clair Ave.....	2:00
TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:00
WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Cooley Farms Recreation Room.....	10:00 A. M.
GENEVA, O.—412 South Broadway.....	7:30
LORAIN, O.—(Stag) AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....	10:00 A. M.

1st TUESDAY EVERY MONTH	
CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....	8:30
3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH	
HOSPITAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....	8:30
FOR AUTHORITATIVE AA INFORMATION AND LITERATURE	
AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE—1007 Schofield Bldg.....	CH 7387

#### LIST OF COOPERATIVE AA HOSPITALS

Betty's Home (SHadyside 4692) (M).....	3480 Scranton Road
Charity Hospital (MAIn 9400) (MW).....	Central and E. 22nd St.
Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 8998) (MW).....	7809 Euclid Ave.
Farquharson's (TUXedo 5-1882) (M).....	6037 Pearl Rd.
MacGillis Nursing Home (RA. 2-5566) (MW).....	1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
Ryan's Nursing Home (MElrose 1635) (M).....	8023 Detroit Ave.
St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M).....	7911 Detroit Ave.
(M) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.	

# CENTRAL BULLETIN



Vol. VIII—No. 3

BOX 6712, CLEVELAND 1, OHIO

December, 1949

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## Christmas - 1949

*Gifts gratefully received, gifts joyously given—these are the tokens of Christmas, marking as they do, the advent of that great Light which fell upon the world more than nineteen centuries ago.*

*If whatever our several beliefs about that illumination may be, we of AA are agreed that we are again permitted to joyously give and gratefully receive. To us, in a sense, every day is Christmas. For, by God's Grace, we may now daily bestow upon each other that most precious gift—the gift of life itself.*

*So then, Merry Christmas indeed. In that happy wish for us all, Lois and Dr. Bob affectionately join.*

*The entire staff of Central Bulletin—Spencer and Stewart I, and Harry and Louise D. extends its sincere season's greetings to all its splendid supporters. May the ensuing year bring peace and happiness to you all.*

## Christmas Spirit

Christmas is not a holiday or a season, but a Spirit, a Spirit that should be in our hearts at all times. We as members of Alcoholics Anonymous have a fine set of principles which can be applied to making this Spirit eternal. What I have to offer does not require perversion of them. Rather the application of them, I believe, is in a strict sense the true Christmas Christian Spirit.

Here they are. I hope you will agree with me:

We admit that because of that Child born nearly two thousand years ago in Bethlehem, our lives have become more beautiful.

We believe that only because of His power we can acquire the sanity to feel the Spirit of Christmas.

We decide that by obeying His will as we understand it, our Christmas Spirit will be unending.

We search fearlessly in our hearts for the evil He would have cast out, thereby making room for the Christmas Spirit.

We admit, not only to Him, but to ourselves and to others our wrongdoings, cleansing our soul for the Spirit of Christmas.

We humbly ask Him to remove our defects of character, also ask Him to erase our shortcomings, enabling us to put behind us those childish thoughts of Christmas as a day of revelry and allow us to think as grown men and women of what constitutes the true Spirit of Christmas.

We are willing and we do make restitution wherever possible to those people we have harmed, thus becoming imbued with the real Spirit of Christmas.

We continually take personal inventory of ourselves, admitting when we are wrong, thus allowing us to acquire the humility to accept the Spirit of Christmas.

We improve our conscious contact with God through prayer and meditation, going directly to the true source of the Christmas Spirit for real understanding.

Having had this enriching spiritual enlightenment, we try to carry this Christmas Spirit to others at all times and to practice these principles in all our affairs, for such is the Spirit of Christmas.

—Robert E. B., Lee Road Wednesday Group.

## Our Obligation

A public hearing was combined with the third meeting of the newly appointed Ohio Commission on the Problems of Alcohol in Toledo, Ohio, Friday, December 16th.

An invitation was extended to several Clevelanders, (your editors included) to attend. Only other very important commitments prevented our participation. We believe it our duty to keep our membership informed as to how they can fit into the program which the State has undertaken.

The terrific increase in alcoholism all over the country should cause every thinking person to pause. Prohibition we have tried and we may be forced to try it again, as organized "dry agencies" seem to be meeting with increasing success in creating dry counties in Ohio and elsewhere.

We who were the products of the "the great experiment" know that prohibition is not the answer. Education in schools, in churches, and particularly in homes is the only answer to this age-old problem. We who learned to drink during the prohibition era never were taught HOW to drink sensibly.

The Ohio Commission was set up to educate each community with the findings of great authorities on the problems of alcohol. We believe its personnel is splendidly equipped to do the job it was assigned. One of our very prominent AA's in Lisbon, Ohio, "Buzz" W., a member of the Ohio Legislature used his own experience in telling the House of Representatives about chronic alcoholism.

For 15 minutes, while the crowded chamber listened in hushed silence, Representative Clarence (Buzz) W. described what he went through when he "sipped dainty drinks with red cherries and drank the dregs of the gutter."

He was speaking in support of a bill creating the nine-man commission to study the problem of chronic alcoholics. The commission was to consider the feasibility of constructing state institutions to treat alcoholics.

A salesman by profession, Buzz W. said he was able to cure himself of the drink habit eight years ago, through the medium of AA. But many others, he said, were not so fortunate. The drunkard, he pleaded, must be pitied and helped—not merely censured and jailed.

After hearing him, the Ohio House approved the bill

(Continued on page two)

## OUR OBLIGATION?

(Continued from page one)

115 to 1 and sent it to the Senate where it was eventually passed.

This committee is seeking advice, particularly from Cleveland. Certainly we should offer suggestions. Let's not pass up this great opportunity to prevent the next generation from experiencing the hell we all suffered and caused our families to suffer.

Why should we wait, as someone thoughtlessly observed, until they qualified for AA before we should help. That, in our humble opinion is narrow, selfish and bigoted thinking.

Intelligent cooperation with this Commission which could be a boon to our community and our state, we believe is our duty and our opportunity to greater achievement.

Judge Lewis Drucker, who is not an alcoholic, but who is however one of the best informed persons in this area on the alcoholic personality is a member of this Commission. He would appreciate our advice and cooperation.

Incidentally, he has been assailed by one of our local newspapers for illegal practices in sentencing several drunks to longer terms than the prisoner legally observed. Possibly legally he may have been at fault, but in his great heart he was not, if we know this unusual judicial officer as well as we believe we do. There are many in AA who owe their return to sanity and decent living to Judge Drucker.

Let's be fair. Let us utilize every means to combat the evil which leveled us. We never learned how to drink intelligently. Had we all been properly, honestly and intelligently informed on the problems of alcohol, probably a great majority of us would not have seared our lives. Let's not despise or censure those who are trying to prevent the spread of alcoholism.

Our greatest gift is our experience. Let's treasure it and share it, by helping those who need our help—lifting those who have stumbled and fallen and by policing the paths of those to come our way, removing every stumbling-block which might cause them to fall.

### || A B I T ||

**Habit is a cable. We weave a thread of it every day and at last we cannot break it.—Horace Mann.**

**Get the habit of taking inventory of yourself, and include the following:**

Have I been friendly and helpful to anyone with an alcoholic problem?

Has this caused him to come back to me for help or advice? If so, he may be forming a habit which will make him a better person for life.

What did it cost me? Only the time and effort to be helpful.

That person will get a glow in his heart everytime he thinks of you.

If a problem makes him fearful, especially if it is an alcoholic problem, he ran always think happily, "I'll go to Jones, he's always ready to help with such things."

This person has now formed a habit which is going to be mutually beneficial—to him and most certainly to you.

People who have an hour to spare, usually spend it with somebody who hasn't. Why not spend your spare hour with an alcoholic who needs it.

He who has no fire in him cannot warm of hers.

## ANOTHER SECRETARY RETIRES

Well known and highly efficient Wyn. W. will retire as secretary of the Lee Road Wednesday group which he has so capably served for about seven years. On Wednesday, December 28, he will give an accounting of his stewardship. Business has made such demands on his time, that he finally had to regretfully relinquish the service which he took such great interest in. The group will miss him sorely.

## AA COUPLE HITS JACKPOT

Fairview Village came into the national headlines as members Ola and Ernie P. hit the \$25,000.00 sweepstake prizes on the Stop the Music Shorn last week. Both are active members of the Fairview group and we're proud and happy with them.

## DOWNTOWN OFFICE MOVES

The Operating Committee announces that on December 14th the District Office moved from the Schofield Building to its new location at 780 The Arcade. The telephone number, CHerry 7387, remains the same.

The new office is in the Euclid Avenue side of The Arcade, and is accessible from both Superior and Euclid Avenues. The Operating Committee feels that this location will be convenient to both East Side and West Side Groups. A cordial invitation is extended to visit the new quarters in the near future.

During the month of November 64 calls for help received at the Office were turned over to 33 Groups. The reports from Group Secretaries indicate that of these 53 were receptive to first contact; 5 were not ready; 4 could not be located when contact was attempted; and 2 were not AA cases.

In the same time 63 general services were performed for members and groups; 12 requests for literature and information were filled and 9 speakers were supplied.

## A GOOD JOB FOR SOME ONE

A six month's old member, living in Madison, Ohio, is seeking help in getting a group started in his town. Burdened with the responsibility of caring for a wife and three young children with another expected soon, he finds it difficult to trek to neighboring towns for his AA which he avidly wants. On December 7th, 21 AA's from neighboring towns helped him organize a group in his farmhouse at 80 Union Ave. It will accommodate 35 people. What he needs is a staunch "big brother" well versed in AA traditions to guide him in this little city of plenty prospects. So far Clevelanders have been the speakers. How about you able people in Painesville, Conneaut, Ashtabula? Here's a splendid chance for one or two of your men who want to do twelfth step work. Ernie J. S. is the man who seeks assistance. He has chosen Wednesday evenings at 8:30 as a time for meetings, since this night does not interfere with other groups in neighboring towns.

## INTERESTING DATA

On December 6th, Elmer L. sang his swan song (who ever heard a swan sing?) as secretary of the Edgelake group. Ten years of extraordinary and efficient service which set a high standard for all groups in Cleveland was his singular contribution. The good sized crowd which attended his meeting attested to the esteem in which he was held.

A great fellow for detail, Elmer brought forth some interesting historical data which merits your interest. In his ten years, as secretary 530 persons were registered as members. 94 are active Edgelake members, 260 are active in other groups, 26 have died and 150 are questionable. Accordingly, of the living, 70% are actively associated with AA.

He paid special tribute to his wife, Grace, who received many calls at home during the day and night uncomplainingly. One memorable call came from Portland, Oregon at 1:00 a. m. He facetiously remarked that the \$2.00 fee for the marriage license was the best investment he'd ever made.

He outlined the early history of AA in Cleveland. The first meeting being at Al G's home on Nov. 13, 1939. His second and third at Borton, Nov. 20 and 27. Helped form Orchard Grove December 4, 1939, which outgrew its quarters by September, 1940. Two new groups formed in Sept., 1940, Berea and Westlake. Soon after Avon, Lorain, Elyria, and the first Cleveland Women's group were started. Westlake transferred to Lake Shore Hotel July 21, 1941. In its five year record under Elmer, there were 255 registrations of which 75 were active in the group, 15 deceased, 100 active with other groups and 65 not accounted for. Of the living 73% were active in AA.

The Lake Shore group moved to Lakewood Community Center in July, 1946. In March, 1947, the Edgelake group was formed, Lake Shore moving to American Legion quarters and Edgelake retaining the meeting place.

Paying special tribute to Clif H. and Don G. as well as others, a great secretary bowed out of his job and turned it over to his successor, loyal, devoted George Patrick O'H.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTIES

Practically every group in the Cleveland area is arranging a Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve party and we wish we had room to list them all with their added attractions. We believe it should suffice to suggest that you contact your group or any other and then make your plans accordingly. Last year, notices of parties came to us too late for listing and we were unjustly charged with discrimination. If you're from out-of-town and want to attend a Cleveland area party, contact the downtown office, Cherry 7387, and they will help you decide.

## BOWLING NEWS

Valley View, No. 2 champs of 1948-49, broke a tie for first place in the Thursday league by adding three points to their total, as Brooklyn added none. Suburban, which was in fourth place hopped up to second place by cornering all four points to threaten Valley View No. 2. Joe B. holds high single with 254 and this score belies his lowly 148 average for the season. Al. H. and John L. are tied for individual leadership with 178 average each.

The Friday night early shift has the Clark group leading the league with 42 points. In second place is Angle No. 1 with 37. Frank T. of Pearl, sporting a mediocre 144 average, soared to great heights in one game to capture high single honors with a mighty 247 game. Art S. of Clark steadily maintains his 177 average to lead the individuals, though Al S. of Lakewood is pressing him with 175.

Addison has its competitors cockeyed as it enjoys a 13 point lead over second place Denison in the late shift Friday league. Probably Jim C's leadership has a lot to do with it. Jim sports a 164 average with a snazzy 244 game as one of his highlights. Bill S. of Addison, of course, helps a plenty with an average of 177 which tops the individuals.

Any male member wishing to bowl on the 7:30 or 9:30 Friday night shifts may do so by contacting Bill R., secretary, at the Franklin Alleys, 1775 West 25th St., any Friday night or by phoning him at SHadyside 9566.

Arcade No. 2 won only two and lost four as Glenville No. 3 won four and lost two to climb into a tie for first place with them. Glenville No. 4 and St. Clair Lakeview are each but one game behind the two leaders. Makes a grand battle in this league.

Andy P. sports a beautiful three game total of 716 with 270 as his high single.

## MAYFIELD VILLAGE

The new Mayfield Village group meets every Tuesday evening at 8:30 in Dahlgren's Restaurant, on S.O.M. Center Rd. (Rt. 91) and Wilson Mills Rd., 400 feet south of the stop light. Among their speakers were Charley E. and Johnny C. of Doan and Pete McN. of Lee Monday.

Irl B., secretary issues an invitation to all AA's to attend.

## IVANHOE SANITARIUM

We had the distinct pleasure of visiting an alcoholic hospital which in our opinion embodies the ideal treatment of the patient. It is the Ivanhoe Sanitarium in Milwaukee, Wis.

Ideally located in a fine residential section of Milwaukee, the beautiful modern two story stucco building provides beds for six to ten patients.

The staff includes a noted psychiatrist, a highly reputable physician, three registered nurses and is under the supervision of an AA whose zeal has contributed much to Milwaukee's great success. A well educated man of high ideals, David D. is making the rehabilitation of alcoholics his life work.

The course of treatment lasts eight weeks and the results have been phenomenal. Thorough intelligent indoctrination in AA and a complete understanding by the patient of his problem has made the percentages of success unusually high.

The cost for the complete course is \$300.00. For what the patient receives in service and results, we believe its a bargain.

## CONSOLIDATED MEETING

Towne Club, 2612 Prospect Ave.

Sunday, January 15, 1950, 4:00 P. M.

Dr. John L. L. of Dover, Ohio, will be the speaker at the January Consolidated Meeting of the Cleveland area on January 15th, in Towne Club, 2612 Prospect Ave. at four o'clock.

During his many years of experience in AA he has given much of his time with great effectiveness. From many sectors of Ohio we hear that he is an outstanding speaker with a real message. A full auditorium should be his reward for coming to Cleveland.

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

No election was held at the December meeting of Central Committee. Officers will be elected at the January 3rd meeting. It is hoped that a goodly number of Cleveland groups will be represented.

The Hospital Committee announced the opening of Mary Mount Hospital for sponsored AA patients. Two private rooms with three beds in each room are available.

An item in the Cleveland Plain Dealer relative to the murder of the proprietor of an AA Social Club in Youngstown brought a request from Howard W., proprietor of Alcola Club that the Action Committee demand a clarification of this item to clear the name of Alcoholics Anonymous. The AA Social Club of Youngstown is the Afro-American Club. (Subsequent information reveals that our Youngstown members have acted upon the matter.)

## Holiday Warnings — Don't Take That First Drink.

## NEW WEST SIDE GROUP STARTS

On Wednesday, November 30, the Alcola Group had its first meeting with over 75 men and women attending to hear Johnny M. of Wyandotte. Subsequent speakers were Bob McG. Everett C., Bob B., Sam C. and Kitty M. On December 28 Blackie W. of Doan Men's will give his Seaman's lead.

This group also has a Saturday morning group which meets at 10:00 a. m.

Both groups meet at 6409 Detroit Ave.

## LORAIN COUNTY

The Lorain County groups will hold their regular monthly consolidated meeting on the first Sunday in January. If you've looked at your 1950 calendar already you will note that the first Sunday falls on January 1st. The speaker will be Harry L. T. of Columbus.

The meeting will be held in AA Social Center, 700 Broadway, Lorain, Ohio, at 7:00 P. M.

## NEW! — DIFFERENT!

Watch for announcement early in '50 of new policy for group meetings at the Clark Group, 1105 Clark Ave. In the meantime, hear Roy E. of Denison Dec. 20; George B. of Collinwood December 27, Bob M. of Clark January 3. (His first.)

## LAKESWOOD MEN'S GROUP GROWS

Attendance at our first two December meetings broke all previous records, due probably to such excellent drawing cards as Corny V. of Lee Wednesday and Bill D. of Akron. The last meeting of '49 will be held on December 19th when Wilson S. of Edgelake leads. Our own Wm. Van L. will open the 1950 season on January 2.

Our speakers are announced one month in advance on a double mailing card to our members and friends who asked to be placed on our mailing list. Saves us three to four mailings and has proved to be most effective.

## LISTING CHANGES

Ansel Road group advanced its Friday meeting starting time to 9:00 o'clock sharp.

Mt. Pleasant group has disbanded.

Third Shifters group has disbanded.

Painesville Sunday night group meets at 33 N. State St. at 8:00 P. M.

Geneva changes meeting place to Legion Hall, Park and South Eagle, Sunday nights at 7:30. They no longer meet on Thursday nights in Townsend Hall.

**Cleveland Group Meetings**

**MONDAY**

ADDISON—Westminster Church, N.E. Cor. Addison & Wade Park.....	8:30
BORTON—E. Cleve. Cong. Church, Page & Euclid.....	8:45
DETROIT MONDAY—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:30
FAIRMOUNT—St. Paul's Episcopal, Fairmount and Coventry.....	8:30
LAKE SHORE—Legion Hall, 1372 Warren Rd.....	8:30
Dinner at 7:00 P. M. Meeting.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD (Orchard Grove) 1417 St. Charles, nr. Detroit.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD MEN'S—St. Peter's Episc., W. Clifton & Detroit.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD WOMEN—United Presby. Church, 12901 Detroit.....	8:30
LEE MONDAY—First Presb. Church, E. Cleve., Nela and Euclid.....	8:30
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th at Lorain.....	8:30
MARINE HOSPITAL—E. 124th and Fairhill.....	7:30
PEARL—Corpus Christi Basement, 4202 Stickney (E. of Pearl Rd).....	8:30
SHAKER HEIGHTS—Christ Episc., Church, 3451 Warrensville.....	8:30
SOUTH EAST GROUP—Holy Name Hall, 8328 Broadway.....	8:30
UNION—American Legion Hall, 13913 Kinsman (in rear).....	8:30
WEST 25th ST.—Marvel Hall, 2858 W. 25th St.....	8:30
WILLOUGHBY—Presbyterian Church, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—East Side—Emmanuel Church, 8610 Euclid.....	8:30
WOMEN'S—West Side—West Blvd. Christ., W. Blvd. & W. 101.....	8:30

**TUESDAY**

ARCADE—Euclid Ave Baptist E. 18th & Euclid.....	8:30
CHARITY—Last Tues. of each month—Charity Hosp. Nurses' Aud.....	8:30
CLARK—4105 Clark Ave. Upstairs.....	6:30
EAGLE TRAINING—Salvation Army, E. 9th & Eagle.....	8:00
EDGE LAKE—Community Center Bldg., St. Charles and Detroit.....	8:30
Dinner at 7:00 P. M.—Meeting.....	8:30
EUCLID-WADE—Calvary Presbyterian Church, E. 79 & Euclid.....	8:30
FAIRVIEW PARK—Masonic Hall, 22082 Lorain Road.....	8:30
MAYFIELD VILLAGE—Dahlberg's SOM Center & Wilson Mills.....	8:30
MILES-LEE—Mount Hope Church, E. 164th, north of Miles.....	8:30
SMITH-WILSON—Nativity School, 9510 Aerna Road.....	8:30
SUPERIOR—Immaculate Conception, E. 43rd and Superior.....	8:30
WEST PARK—West Park Baptist Church, W. 152nd and Lorain.....	8:30
WEST SIDE MEN'S—St. Patrick's Hall, Bridge at W. 38th.....	8:30
ELYRIA (Colored) 335 Columbus St.....	8:30
LORAIN, O.—Community Hall, 23rd and Beech Sts.....	8:00
MEDINA, O.—St. Paul's Episcopal Parish House.....	8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—Stag—33 N. State Street.....	8:30
STRONGSVILLE, O.—Town Hall.....	8:30

**WEDNESDAY**

ALCOLA—6409 Detroit Ave.....	9:00
BAXTER AVE.—6527 Baxter Ave.....	8:30
BROOKLYN—K of P Hall, 3316 Broadview, east of Pearl Rd.....	8:45
COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Ave.....	8:30
DENISON—7403 Denison Ave.....	8:30
DOAN MEN'S—2028 E. 105th St., 2nd floor, side entrance.....	8:45
EAST SIDE MORNING—2028 E. 105th St.....	10:00 A. M.
GARFIELD HEIGHTS—Trinity Baptist, E. 94th and Garfield Blvd.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—First Eng. Luth., Derbyshire and Euclid Hts. Blvd.....	8:30
ST. JAMES (Colored) St. James A.M.E., 8401 Cedar.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Women's House of Correction.....	6:30
BEDFORD, O.—Y. M. C. A., Tarbell Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middle and Third.....	8:00
LORAIN, O.—ANTLERS—St. Mary's School, Reid Ave.....	8:30

**THURSDAY**

ALLENDALE—St. Paul's Episc. Church, 15837 Euclid Ave.....	8:30
ANGLE—St. Malachi's Church, 2549 Washington Ave.....	8:30
BROADWAY-55th—Our Lady of Lourdes School Hall.....	8:30
COVENTRY—Fairmount Presbyterian Chapel, Scarborough.....	8:30
EDDY ROAD—Glenville Congregational Church, Eddy & St. Clair.....	8:30
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:00
LORAIN AVE.—Banater Hall Annex, W. 120th St. at Lorain.....	8:30
OUTHWAITE—(Negro) Woodland Center, 7100 Kinsman.....	8:30
THURSDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN—6409 Detroit Ave.....	2:00
WARRENSVILLE—(Infirmary) Administration Building.....	7:00
WEST SIDE—7403 Denison Ave.....	10:30 A. M.
WYANDOTTE MEN'S—Redeemer Hall, Andrews & Detroit (rear).....	8:30
BEREA, O.—Fine Arts Club, E. Bagley Rd., 3 drs. east of Eastland.....	8:30
EAST LAKE—Vine and Campbell, Willoughby, O.....	8:30
PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State St., Third Floor.....	8:30

**FRIDAY**

ANSEL ROAD—St. Thomas Church, 9205 Superior Ave.....	9:00
CEDAR—Salvation Army, 2181 E. 55th St.....	8:15
GORDON SQUARE—St. Helena's Hall, 1367 W. 65th St.....	8:30
LEE ROAD—2056 East 105th St., K. of P. Hall.....	9:00
MILES MEN'S—Stag Group, 4141 E. 116th St.....	8:30
NORTHEAST—2028 E. 105th St.....	8:30
ROCKY RIVER—St. Christopher's Hall, Lakeview off Detroit.....	8:30
ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL—First Friday of each month.....	8:30
WEST SIDE YOUNG PEOPLE—St. Rose's Hall, W. 116-Detroit.....	8:30
BEREA—Social room of Berea Cong. Church, Seminary and Church.....	8:30
CONNELT TAO.—P.O. of A. and I. Legion, E. Orange St.....	8:30
EUCLID, O.—Holy Cross Church, W. 200th and Harrison Blvd.....	8:30
LORAIN, WYON—AA Social Center, 700 Broadway.....	8:30
MENTOR, O.—Mentor Methodist Church.....	8:30
OBERLIN, O.—American Legion Home, S. Main and Hamilton.....	8:30

**SATURDAY**

ALCOLA—6409 Detroit Ave.....	10:00 A. M.
BROADWAY MEN'S—St. John's Luth. Church, Cable at Broad.....	8:30
CROSSROADS—Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, East 18th.....	9:00
GLENVILLE—10421 St. Clair.....	9:30
GOPEL CENTER—6910 Lexington Ave.....	8:30
LAKEWOOD Sat. Nite—Redeemer Hall, Andrew, near Detroit.....	8:30
MATT TALBCYT—St. Philip Neri Church, E. 82nd and St. Clair.....	8:30
PARMA—Public Library, 5850 Ridge Road.....	8:30
REDWOOD—Euclid Lutheran Church, E. 260 and Oriole.....	8:30
TRINITY—Trinity Evangelical Church, 3525 W. 25th St.....	8:30
VALLEY VIEW—Community Center, W. 7th and Starkweather.....	8:30
WINDEMERE—East Cleveland Women's Club, 1747 Lakefront.....	9:00
8005 CROUP—BOOS Lorain Ave.....	8:30
ASHTABULA, O.—K. of L. Hall, Elm Ave.....	8:30
ELYRIA, O.—St. Andrew's Episc. Church, Middle and Third.....	8:30

**GIGGLES**

"Gimme a dime for a cup of coffee?" asked the hobo of the plain-clothes man.  
 "Do you ever work?" said the P. C. man.  
 "Now and then." "What do you do?"  
 "This and that." "Where?"  
 "Oh, here and there."  
 The plain-clothes man took him to the police station.  
 "When do I get out of here?" wailed the hobo.  
 "Sooner or later," growled the desk sergeant.  
 —Social Center Chatter.

Two revellers in a bar were discussing life.  
 "I had the funniest dream last night," said one. "I dreamed that suddenly about a thousand little men were dancing on top of my body. They had pink caps and green suits and funny red boots that curled up in the front."  
 "Yes," agreed the other, "and there was a tinkly little bell at the toe of each of the boots."  
 "How do you know that?" asked the first reveller in surprise.  
 "There are a couple of them still sitting on your shoulder," said the other.  
 —Kabletram.

**Holiday Warnings Don't Take That First Drink.**



**SUNDAY**

COLLINWOOD—14709 St. Clair Avenue.....	7:30
LAKEVIEW—CVO Hall, St. Aloysius Church, E. 109th & St. Clair.....	8:00
MISTLETOE—MacGillis Home, 1560 Mistletoe at Wade Park.....	7:00
NEWBURGH—St. Catherine's Church, 3443 E. 93rd St.....	8:30
OUTWAITE (Negro)—7100 Kinsman.....	4:00
STERLING—St. Columbkil's School Hall, 2612 Superior.....	8:30
SPONSORSHIP MEETING—Glenview Group, 10421 St. Clair Ave.....	2:00
TRAINING MEETING—8023 Detroit Ave.....	8:00
WEST SIDE—Trinity Methodist, W. 99th and Madison.....	8:30
WARRENSVILLE—Cooley Farms Recreation Room.....	10:00 A. M.
PAINESVILLE, O.—33 N. State Street, Third Floor.....	8:30
LORAIN, O.—(St. 1st).....	9:00 A. M.
CENTRAL COMMITTEE—Hanna Building, Room 370.....	8:30

**3rd TUESDAY EVERY MONTH**  
**HOSPITAL COMMITTEE** Hanna Building, Room 370..... 8:30  
**FOR AUTHORITATIVE AA INFORMATION AND LITERATURE**  
 AA CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE 780 The Arcade..... CH 7387

**LIST OF COOPERATING AA HOSPITALS**

Betty's Home (Shady Side 4692) (M).....	3480 Scranton Road
Charity Hospital (Main 9100) (M W).....	Central and E. 22nd St.
Cleveland Alcoholic Clinic (Express 8998) (M W).....	7809 Euclid Ave.
Farquharson's (Uxedo 5-1882) (M).....	6037 Pearl Rd.
MacGillis Nursing Home (RA. 2556) (MW).....	1560 Mistletoe Dr. at Wade Park
Ryan's Nursing Home (Melrose 1635) (M).....	8023 Detroit Ave.
St. John's Hospital (Woodbine 5750) (M).....	791 1 Detroit Ave.
(M) men only. (MW) men and women. (W) women only.	