

March, 1993 meeting authorized the general manager to implement a plan incorporating the principle of parity.

*Litigation:* A.A.W.S. settled the real estate brokerage litigation immediately after the August board meeting.

*Contract Dispute:* The contract dispute with the writer of the A.A. History Book, which arose following the 1992 Conference, was settled.

*Book Distribution:* In 1992, we sold 245,400 (or 10.1 %) fewer units than 1991. Total book sales to A.A. purchasers were 166,720 (or 12%) fewer books than the previous year.

*Foreign Literature Assistance:* The board approved the cost of approximately \$10,780 to typeset, proofread and print 1,000 copies each of pamphlets in Bulgarian, Hungarian, Latvian and Romanian. The Foreign Literature Assistance Budget included \$10,000 for "unanticipated expenses." The board approved \$25,000 to edit, typeset, proofread and manufacture 1,000 copies of the Swahili Big Book. As the Twelve and Twelve was not done in 1992, there were sufficient funds to apply to the production of this translation. The board agreed to publish the Ukrainian translation of the Twelve and Twelve, and the Farsi translation of the Big Book. The central office in Oahu, Hawaii, has offered to bring a mimeographed translation of the Tagalog Big Book up to standard, and will send the translation here to be checked.

The committee appointed a subcommittee to propose a policy and recommendations regarding foreign literature assistance.

*Pricing:* Hungarian pamphlets ("Is A.A. for You?", "44 Questions." and "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic") were priced at \$.75, \$2.35, and \$1.90. "The A.A. Group" in Hungarian, and "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic" in Bulgarian were priced at \$2.80 and \$1.75 respectively. Four pamphlets in Romanian ("Is A.A. for You?", "This is A.A.," "Understanding Anonymity" and "If You are a Professional") were priced at \$1.45, \$1.95, \$1.65 and \$1.55, and "44 Questions" in Latvian at \$2.35.

The new P.I. video, "A.A.—Rap With Us," was priced at \$15.00 and the TV P.S.A.s at \$10.75. The cassette version of "A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate" was priced at \$2.25. Posters in Spanish of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions were each priced at \$6.55. The Big Book in Danish (in two volumes) priced at \$26.25; Spanish hardcover Big Book was priced at \$5.00; the Swahili Big Book at \$14.00; and the Ukrainian Twelve and Twelve at \$7.95; Spanish "Pass It On" at \$14.15; and Lithuanian Twelve and Twelve at \$5.25. Spanish "Markings on the Journey" video-cassette was priced at \$16.00. The 20% discount applies to all these materials.

Also priced were Spanish VHS cassettes of "Bill's Own Story" and "Bill Discusses the' Twelve Traditions," each at a weekly rental of \$35.00 and long-term lease of \$80.00.

*The American Sign Language video:* The ASL Big Book video was priced at \$38.00. The 20% discount applies.

*Spanish Literature:* Service pieces continue to be translated into Spanish.

*Fulfillment Time:* The Publications Department analyzed a selected sample of literature orders and found that orders are shipped within 3-4 days of receipt and received within 6-8 days.

*Prices on Miscellaneous and Foreign Items:* The board approved the recommendation of the committee to raise prices on miscellaneous items such as: literature racks, cassette albums, Steps and Traditions shades, and books published by foreign G.S.O.s. We were selling some of these items below our cost. This increase was effective in mid-March.

*Fourth Edition of the Big Book:* The committee will discuss producing a Fourth Edition of the Big Book, an issue which is also being addressed by the trustees' Literature Committee.

*Foreign Literature Assistance:* The committee appointed a subcommittee to propose a policy and recommendations regarding foreign literature assistance.

*Director Candidates:* The committee interviewed four candidates for A.A.W.S. director. Two were recommended to the A.A.W.S. Board which, in turn, approved the recommendations and forwarded the names to the trustees' Nominating Committee.

*World Service Meeting:* This meeting was held in New York City, October 26-28. In attendance were 39 delegates from 22 countries, the trustees-at-large from the U.S. and Canada, and five representatives from G.S.O. It was a wonderful, sharing, spiritual experience. The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Cartagena, Colombia, October 1994.

*Directors:* As of May 1992, Ann Bruning replaced Jan Whitney as trustee-director, and Peter Brock replaced Hugh Freyer as director. The board accepted the resignation of Everett Smethurst, and John Quinn was elected to fill this vacancy.

*Consultant:* Gary Glynn was invited to serve as a consultant on the A.A.W.S. Board, and to have an active role on the Salary and Budget Committee, for a period of one year, which commenced with the March 1992 meeting.

*Individual Birthday Plan:* This computer-monitored plan, which was instituted in 1991, was discontinued per 1992 Conference Action.

*Highlights:* The board approved sending a monthly communications piece, summarizing its board meeting, to all Conference members. The piece is entitled "A.A.W.S. Highlights."

**Little Big Book:** A private organization, which calls itself Intergroup World Services, Inc., has been selling an abridged version of the Big Book. We have written to the delegates, central offices and World Service Meeting delegates explaining that this is not a G.S.O. publication. The publisher has been contacted explaining the board's concerns, and we are waiting to hear from them.

*A.A.W.S. Inventory:* The board met for the purpose of taking its inventory. The questions were grouped into two parts: 1) The A.A.W.S. Board as a service provider, and 2) the A.A.W.S. board member. At the conclusion, the board as a whole, and as individual members, felt renewed and recommitted to be the best it can be. <ft will work even harder to provide responsible service with humility, reliant on help from a Higher Power in conducting all its affairs.

*Medallions:* Per Conference Action, the office conducted and prepared a feasibility study exploring all the issues related to possible methods by which medallions may be made available to the Fellowship. The results were provided to the General Service Board.

*Open House:* Since such a function would primarily attract members from the Northeast, it was felt that A.A.W.S. should ask for input from the General Service Board or Conference before going forward,

*Regional Forums:* A.A.W.S. directors and G.S.O. staff members coordinated and attended five Regional Forums in 1992:

Western Canada, in Vancouver, B.C.; Pacific, in Santa Clara, CA;

Eastern Canada, in Hull, Ottawa; Special Forum, in Whitehorse,