

group/central offices and area committees for literature orders, but will investigate an 800 number for all A.A. purchasers.

Two Guidelines will be discontinued — "Armed Services," and "On Current Usage of A.A. Directories."

Copyright and Trademark Matters: Following a special phone conference with the trademark attorney, Friday evening, April 23, 1993 (Conference week), the A.A.W.S. Board adopted a recommendation for submission to the General Service Board meeting the following day:

A.A.W.S., Inc., unanimously supports the following recommendations:

- That there be an orderly withdrawal, with deliberate speed, from the lawsuit in California.
- That we contact all who have agreed to refrain from infringement of the circle and triangle in the past to let them know of this decision at an appropriate time.
- That we analyze the necessary steps involving modifying our position, including how to handle the use of the circle and triangle on literature, and prepare a statement, to be reviewed by A.A.W.S., and distributed to those who may need to address this issue.

Following the May A.A.W.S. meeting, an executive session was held for the purpose of a conference call. In addition, the treasurer of the General Service Board, our attorney, and the chair of the General Service Board were present by phone. At the conclusion, the A.A.W.S. Board unanimously agreed to prepare a proposed additional statement regarding the circle and triangle, to be forwarded to the chair of the General Service Board for submission to all trustees.

An ad hoc committee of the General Service Board and the A.A.W.S. Services Committee were assigned the task of preparing a revised policy statement regarding trademarks and copyrights for presentation to the 1994 Conference. A draft of A.A.W.S. Policy on Identifying Marks was brought to a sharing session, called by Jim Estelle, on Friday, January 28, 1994. Invited to the discussion were the General Service Board, A.A.W.S. and Grapevine directors, Conference Committee chairpersons and G.S.O. and Grapevine staff. Also addressed were topics peripheral to litigation, including Intergroup World Services, Inc. (IWS).

The A.A.W.S. Services Committee met jointly with the ad hoc committee of the General Service Board in February 1994, at which time they discussed a policy statement with regard to trademark protection and copyrights. This was presented to, and accepted by, the A.A.W.S. Board to be presented to the Conference in April.

Intergroup World Services, Inc. (IWS): The board reviewed and approved for transmission to IWS, Inc. a letter from our attorney regarding IWS approaching New Zealand with an offer to print A.A. literature for them. The letter clarified that the Big Book is not in the public domain everywhere in the world. Further, it was stated that the Third Edition of the Big Book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, and all of A.A.W.S.'s other titles are protected by registered copyright in the United States. Also, their request to include the Twelve Traditions in their mini-Big Book was denied, as well as their request to reprint a Russian translation of the Big Book, as we have been supplying Russian A.A. with as many Big Books as they can use for several years now, at no charge.

The General Service Board received a letter from IWS, Inc., stating that they intended to publish *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, notwithstanding their knowledge that it was copyrighted by A.A.W.S. At the January board meeting, the board unanimously voted that following referral of the letter to



A.A.W.S. from the General Service Board, a letter should be forwarded to IWS, Inc., advising that A.A.W.S. would take such action as might be necessary to prevent infringements of its copyrighted material. Following the General Service Board meeting, a letter was sent to IWS, Inc., and they have responded that they will not publish a Twelve and Twelve at this time.

IWS, Inc. has now published a new mini-edition of the Big Book. This edition uses the title ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS on the cover. The board agreed that a letter go out from the General Service Office asking that they discontinue the use of the title ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, and that they delete the language "The gray areas are not A.A. General Service Conference-approved" which appear on the copyright page of their book, as this may lead people to believe that the General Service Conference is in some way involved with this mini-edition. Also, it has been brought to our attention that IWS is soliciting mini-Big Book orders in Canada. The letter requested they discontinue the sale and distribution of the mini-edition in Canada. This is a violation of our Canadian copyright which is still in effect. It was suggested that a brief letter also be sent to delegates, alternate delegates, intergroup/central office managers, World Service Meeting delegates and overseas general service offices regarding our communications with IWS, Inc.

Mexico General Service Board: At the request of the General Service Board, Mexico, A.A.W.S. authorized a letter expressing no objection to the Mexican General Service Board taking action, as necessary, to prevent infringement of copyrighted literature in that country. The right to such action has been granted to the Mexican General Service Board under the terms of a licensing agreement given to them October 4, 1990.

International: George Dorsey and Danny Mooney attended a Regional Service Meeting in Obregon, Mexico, March 18-21. Over 3,000 were in attendance. Lois Fisher attended Uruguay's Second International Conference for Women in A.A., held September 11-12. There were more than 70 women in attendance from Argentina, Chile and Paraguay. Lois participated a question and answer session with six members of their board.

George Dorsey attended the European Service Meeting (ES) in Frankfurt, Germany, October 15-17. There were 39 attended representing 21 countries. Some represented long-established general service boards, while others were from newly-formed service structures. There was some discussion on service structure issues, but the heavy emphasis was on carrying the message, countries assisting each other, and Traditions questions.

Staff member John Grant and John Kirwin, assistant controller, visited Cartagena, Colombia, the site of the 1994 World Service