

May 10, 1981

To all members of Narcotics Anonymous:

WE HAVE A BOOK! At long last our book, Narcotics Anonymous, is a reality. The proposed text was approved by the fellowship on May 3, 1981, at our World Service Conference in Los Angeles. This event is one of the most significant in the history of N.A. since it will certainly change the nature of our fellowship. Years of work have gone into achieving this goal, and this book is truly the result of a fellowship-wide effort.

We have a book, but we also have another task before us. We must now publish our approved manuscript and get it into circulation. We have received an outside offer to publish the book; however, we want to avoid this alternative if possible. We feel that the profits from the sale of our book should go to help support our services, not to someone else.

We've done some homework, and have checked with typesetters, printers, and bookbinders as to the cost of publishing ourselves. We estimate that the first 10,000 copies will cost about \$40,000. Our first reaction to this figure was one of horror; how can we possibly raise that much money? Fortunately, we've been taught to pray for Serenity, Courage, and Wisdom. There is a simple, practical way that we can raise the money we need, avoid outside entanglements, and stay within our Traditions. We presented this solution to the World Service Conference and were given the go-ahead to try, so here it is.

The first 2000 copies of our book will have a special cover, be numbered, and will have a title page that identifies it as a "Special First Edition Copy." This limited edition is going on sale as of the writing of this letter, and it can be ordered until August 10, 1981. Each copy of our Special First Edition will cost \$20.00, payable in advance. (The regular edition will probably sell for about \$10.00.) If we can sell 2000 copies at \$20.00, we can raise the \$40,000 we need to go to press. These Special First Edition copies are a one-time offer; they will never be produced again. We're not asking for donations; we're asking for orders. If you want one, and if you want to be a part of getting our book into print, please fill out the enclosed order form and send it to us as soon as you can, but definitely before August 10th. You will receive a receipt by return mail. Your money will be placed in a special account until we have enough to go to the printer. Then one of three things will happen. If we don't get enough advance sales within three months, your money will be refunded. If we get close to enough, we'll try to go to press anyway and keep our fingers crossed. If we sell more than 2000 copies we will print enough Special First Editions to cover our orders, and use the extra money for future printing costs.

This approach puts the responsibility for our book where it belongs: on you, on me, on each of us. It puts the profits from our book where they belong: supporting our services and our growth. In this way we can really be fully self-supporting. Remember we're not asking for donations; we want sales. I've already ordered my copy of our Special First Edition.

I WANT OUR BOOK !!! --- HOW ABOUT YOU ???

Yours in fellowship,