

1945

Apr., Earl Treat, Pioneer member and founder of AA in Chicago (whose story is *He Sold Himself Short*), suggested that Bill codify the Traditions and write essays on them for the Grapevine. Initially, the Twelve Traditions were called *Twelve Points to Assure Our Future*. (AACOA 22, 203, GTBT 54-55, 77, SM S8, PIO 306, LOH 20-24)

Aug., the Grapevine carried Bill's first article (titled *Modesty One Plank for Good Public Relations*) setting the ground work for his campaign for the Traditions. The July Gv edition had an article by member C.H.K. of Lansing, MI about the Washingtonians. Bill used this article to begin his essay commentaries. (Gv 1945)

1946

April, the Grapevine carried the article *Twelve Suggested Points for AA Tradition*. These would later be called the long form of the Traditions. (AACOA viii, 96, 203, LOH 20, 154, GV)

1947

August, in his Grapevine Traditions essay on "AA Self-Supporting," Bill wrote "Two years ago the trustees set aside, out of AA book funds, a sum which enabled my wife and me to pay off the mortgage on our home and make some needed improvements. The Foundation also granted Dr. Bob and me each a royalty of 10% on the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, our only income from AA sources. We are both very comfortable and deeply grateful." (Gv Aug. 1947)

Dec., the Grapevine carried a notice that an important new 48 page pamphlet *AA Traditions* was to each group and that enough copies were available for each member to have one free of charge. (Gv Dec. 1947)

1949

As plans for the 1st Int'l Convention were under way, Earl T., founder of AA in Chicago, suggested to Bill that the *Twelve Points to Assure Our Future* would benefit from revision and shortening. (AACOA says it occurred in 1947) Bill, with Earl's help, set out to develop the short form of the Traditions. (AACOA 213, GTBT 55, 77, PIO 334, www)

Nov., the short form of the Twelve Traditions was printed in the AA Grapevine. (LOH 96)

1950

July, AA's 15th anniversary and 1st Int'l Convention at Cleveland, OH. Est. 3,000 attendees. Registration was \$1.50 per person. (AACOA 213, BW-RT 308, PIO 338). The Twelve Traditions were adopted unanimously by the attendees by standing vote. (AACOA 43, LOH 121, PIO 338)

1953

June, the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* was published. (GTBT 37) Bill W. described the work as "This small volume is strictly a textbook which explains AA's 24 basic principles and their application, in detail and with great care." Bill was helped in its writing by Betty L. and Tom P. Jack Alexander also helped with editing. It was published in two editions: one for \$2.25 for distribution through AA groups, and a \$2.75 edition distributed through Harper & Brothers for sale in commercial bookstores. (AACOA ix, 219, PIO 354-356)