

September 1965

On the Grapevine —**Best of Bill**

AA's co-founder, Bill, has written often for the Grapevine's readers over past years. When the editors were trying to get a count of all the pieces by Bill that have appeared in the magazine, we wondered, should we count short messages? Should we add in articles about AA organization? We decided no. Finally, we totalled over 50 longer, thoughtful records by Bill of how our Twelve Step program for recovery looked to him at various times, what his own experience with it was proving to be. Even this reduced count puts up an impressive mark for other contributors to shoot at!

And it reminds us to make public, now, our thanks, as editors, for Bill's continuing interest in the Grapevine and the great help he has given us — all of us who have revolved in and out of these editorial chairs over the years.

About a year ago, we began to think of printing readers' favorites of Bill's articles in separate form so that they would be readily available now that some of our back issues containing them are sold out. We chose five articles on subjects which are no strangers to any of us — Fear, Faith, Honesty, Humility, and Love — and had them printed in small booklets (3½ by 5½ inches) all packaged in a little envelope. We hope to add others to the package from time to time, so we gave the group of articles the overall title, "The Best of Bill."

Would AA readers like this way of presenting Bill's words to keep at home or give to others? We just returned from the Convention in Toronto, where the "Best of Bill" was introduced to the more than 10,000 people who attended this exciting, important and exhausting gathering of AAs around the world. The Grapevine had two booths on the Convention floors which were in continual danger of capsizing beneath the waves of AAs rushing back and forth to panel meetings. We're pretty certain thousands never saw our booths, or our new "Best of Bill" packet. But we are also certain (because we counted) that thousands stopped to look and to buy. We hope you will like the "Best of Bill," too. Turn the page to see about prices and ordering.

— *The Editors*