

BILL AND BOB

The spark was struck



Bob met Bill on Mother's Day, May 12, 1935, at Henrietta Seiberling's home. The two Vermonters had a lot in common — most significantly, their alcoholism. Bob later said of Bill, "[He] was the first living human with whom I had ever talked who knew what he was talking about in regard to alcoholism from actual experience." As Bill put it, "The spark was struck." He stayed in Akron for three more months.

A still from a rare film of Bill W. and Dr. Bob at Stepping Stones in the early 1940s.



Now Alcoholics Anonymous tackles the LADY SOUSE Problem

How this most unusual group of reformed drunks meets the added opportunity to help, because of the increase in feminine tipping (shows by hospital records and by women's feet on the bar rails)

MEMBERS attribute the increase in feminine tipping directly to the increase in women's tipping. Whether the reason, the lady herself is a problem.

chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous that among little organizations of men-and women-who offer many social parties, have in many cases finally tried out John D. Rockefeller's theory.

The group was founded in New York City some years ago, with a hundred members. Today it has a membership of 200 members scattered throughout the United States and who either have helped or are in the process of helping the Drunken Ramble for members of the organization, the better and the other sufficient willpower to cure men and women.

The six addicts whom Captain Steffen took under his blue-coated wing apparently had both the necessary

eighteen from New Jersey reported almost daily in the ranks of the "A.A." for the organization, complete even in the group.

The "case" is a simple one and each acquires strength through regularity and they are expected to drink with each other. They speak in detail the practices with which alcoholism affected them and never divulge themselves in telling of the drink and their. As one of the group now states, "I am very disappointed that each in his own 'territory' was at a mental state 'area.' And it did not help the

alcoholics were referred to as "souses" and "elbow benders." And compromises sometimes needed to be made: Bill allowed a photograph of himself and other A.A.s to appear, without captioning, in a March 1941 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post* because he knew how important the article was to A.A.'s future. Jack Alexander, early on, the... ver, especially... and the press

84 ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Αλκοολικοί Ανώνυμοι

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十二个步骤与十二个传统

ATENDO

ARCHIHIID AMINIHIUAJ

AA - BÓKIN

الكلجهاى گانم

The Travels of the Big Book

Big Books, top row, left to right: Icelandic, Thai and simplified Chinese; bottom row, left to right: Greek, Farsi, and Mongolian. Spread: Swahili.

Interior spreads from *A Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous.*