



Alcoholics Begin Young

"I feel that drinking and being a young alcoholic is just being a part of the crowd."

What is it like being a young alcoholic in high school? Upon interviewing one, the answers came out like this.

"Well, my parents don't care. They are so pre-occupied on doing their own thing. Drinking is an American pastime. It's like baseball, apple pie, hot dogs and french fries."

"I first started drinking when I was about 13. My big brother and all of his friends were drinking, and so I tried it too. I only started drinking heavily about two years ago when I was a sophomore. When it started it was only sociable but now it's more than that."

"Alcoholics live in a complete different world. My goal in life is to try to get to that next drink."

It's really fun being drunk. Everything is so make-believe. Really it's fun.

"I have often thought about seeking help, but I just haven't

found the time yet. I am really ashamed."

John is a fictitious name, but the story holds true to a number of students in the area.

Alcoholics Reach Recovery In AA

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is a worldwide fellowship of men and women who help each other stay sober. They know what the illness feels like, and they have learned how to recover. An A.A. member can never become "a former alcoholic" or "an ex-alcoholic" but he can become a "recovered alcoholic."

Alcoholics Anonymous usually holds two types of meetings once or twice a week. "Open" meetings are held for the members and their relatives or friends. They give their testimonies and other problems. "Closed" meetings are for members only. They discuss their problems and how they can learn to cope with them. Meetings are opened with a serenity prayer and closed with the Lord's Prayer. There is always coffee served at the meetings along with refreshments served at the end.

Members of Alcoholics

Anonymous have a system for keeping sober. This system challenges the members to try to see who can receive the most chips. When they join, each person receives a white chip and thereafter a different chip for the amount of time they can stay sober. A metallic chip is given for 30 days, a red chip for three months, a green chip for nine months, a blue chip for a year, and every year after that a blue chip.

The members have a list of 12 steps which is their "Guide For Living." They learn these steps and try to practice them in their daily life. Alcoholics have lived in a different world from other people, and now that they have recovered, the alcoholics have to learn how to live with people again.

The members have five slogans printed on plaques that they try to live by. They are: Live and Let Live; But for the

TV Supplies Info

Information on Alcohol and its problems may be obtained from many sources including television. Television can supply the public with a visual view of how an alcoholic really lives. Two special programs concerning alcohol will be presented on television soon.

"Drink, Drank, Drunk" is a special program about alcohol. The presentation features Carol Burnett and will appear on Monday, Jan. 10, at 7:00 p.m. The next night North Carolina's Alcohol Problem will be presented at 7:00 p.m.

Both of these programs may be watched on educational television stations such as channels 2, 4, 27, 25, 26, 33, 39, and 58.

Grace of God; Think, Think, Think; Easy Does It; and First Things First. These plaques are posted at every meeting.

Minors Buy Brew

From the days of the rum-runners, bootlegger, and still operator, there are descendants! Who? Why the under-18 youths who desire to "sip the brew" on Friday and Saturday nights (at least). Anyone who is "cool" can check out the places where brew can be bought with "no questions asked," according to several Senior High students.

These students, who wish to remain anonymous, report that the object then is to "make a run" to the store. If it is a group of guys involved, then is usually the biggest, the oldest looking, who go in. If on a date, then the guy will usually go in — unless of course, the girl has a fake I.D. On the way in, they report, they check for cars with radio antennas, permanent license plates, and Plymouth Furies (i.e., usually ABC cars).

Since the sources will not be identified, the frequency of underage persons purchasing alcohol cannot be ascertained.

However, in talking over the subject with ABC officials, reporters found that the problem of underage youths purchasing alcohol is over-

rated. The officials say that those who are underage and attempt to purchase "brew" rarely succeed, and those who do are few and far between. According to ABC officials, experience in handling such cases is their greatest asset. Certain methods they use to ascertain a person's correct age, which are guarded like military secrets, help the officials to keep the underagers' success rate extremely low.

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