

3/12

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

When the Mayor, Councillor Schlapobersky, asked me to deputise for him this evening, to attend and open your Convention, it gave me great pleasure to accept, as I realised I was being given an opportunity to meet members of your organization, and to learn something of the great contribution you are making to those needing assistance and fellowship.

In the name of the City I bid you welcome. We are happy you have chosen Johannesburg as the venue for this, your Sixteenth Convention, and for the celebration of the 21st anniversary of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous in South Africa. I offer my congratulations on the attainment of your majority, and express the wish that your organization will continue its good work for many years to come.

I was aware that you were part of a world movement, but what I did not know, and what possibly some of your guests may not know, is that there are 14,000 groups in existence in ninety countries, with a membership of over 400,000. I also learned that step one for an alcoholic was to admit he was powerless over alcohol, that he sincerely wanted to do something about it, but realised help was needed to overcome his difficulties. This is his moment of truth - an admission requiring strength of purpose, moral courage and fortitude - but once his powerlessness is admitted, he is brought into contact with the devoted and unswerving help of dozens of new friends, for in this movement of yours no man is an island unto himself, and any man endeavouring to help himself starts off on the road that eventually leads to the helping of others in similar distress. And this is a wonderful thing, for no matter how powerful a man's intellect, his imagination, he can never place himself in another's shoes, and it is only the person who has suffered and overcome a similar difficulty who can, with true, warm-hearted understanding, reach out and help a fellow in distress.

I have read the twelve steps, not once, not twice, but several times, and I can appreciate what effort, what determination and what courage each and every one must have to abide by the decision taken, and I have nothing but admiration and respect for every trier, for every winner.

That there is a Divine Intelligence guiding and helping I have never doubted, and this power, coupled with man's earnest endeavour will enable him to surmount his difficulty, especially if helped by understanding friends.

It is my sincere wish that your deliberations at this Convention will be stimulating, instructive and of far-reaching effect, for it is most necessary that the work of your organization be brought forcibly to the public view, thereby assisting in the understanding of the illness and the help that is available to the patient. It is also so very necessary for those who work in lonely places to gain fresh resolve from meeting others, and participating in the developing plans of your organization.

I wish you all success, and it now only remains for me to declare the Sixteenth Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous open.

JOHANNESBURG:

April 11, 1968.

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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

It is my sincere wish that you will be successful in your efforts to secure the cooperation of the various groups and individuals who are active in the anti-communist movement.

Very truly yours,

Walter D. Byrd, Director of the National Security Council, is pleased to hear of your interest in the work of the National Security Council. It is my sincere wish that you will be successful in your efforts to secure the cooperation of the various groups and individuals who are active in the anti-communist movement.

Miss Nancy (Howard)
4/24/62

Very truly yours,

Walter D. Byrd, Director of the National Security Council, is pleased to hear of your interest in the work of the National Security Council. It is my sincere wish that you will be successful in your efforts to secure the cooperation of the various groups and individuals who are active in the anti-communist movement.

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

3/12 of your organization
7/12/68

When the Mayor, Councillor Schlapobersky, asked me to deputise for him this evening, to attend and open your Convention, it gave me great pleasure to accept, as I realised I was being given an opportunity to ~~meet what~~ ~~attend the~~ ~~important subject~~, of a very important organization and the ~~work it is doing~~. *great contribution you are making to those nearby assistance and fellowship.*

In the name of the City I bid you welcome. We are happy you have chosen Johannesburg as the venue for this, your Sixteenth Convention, and for the celebration of the 21st anniversary of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous in South Africa. ~~May~~ I offer my congratulations on the attainment of your majority, and express the wish that your organization will ~~move from strength to strength~~. *continue its good work for many more years.*

I was aware that you were part of a world movement, but what I did not know, and what possibly some of your guests may not know, is that there are 14,000 groups in existence in ~~nineteen~~ *hundred* countries, with a membership of over 400,000. I also learned that step one for an alcoholic was to admit he was powerless over alcohol, that he sincerely wanted to do something about it, but realised help was needed to overcome his difficulties. This is his moment of truth - an admission requiring strength of purpose, moral courage and fortitude - but once his powerlessness is admitted, he is brought into contact with the devoted and unswerving help of dozens of new friends, for in this movement of yours no man ~~is~~ is an island unto himself, and any man endeavouring to help himself starts off on the road that eventually leads to the helping of others in similar distress. And this is a wonderful thing, for no matter how powerful a man's intellect, his imagination, he can never place himself in another's shoes, and it is only the person who has suffered and overcome a similar difficulty who can, with true, warm-hearted understanding, reach out and help a fellow ~~sufferer~~. *in distress*

I have read the twelve steps, not once, not twice, but several times, and I can appreciate what effort, what determination and what courage each and every one must have to abide by the decision taken, and I have nothing but admiration and respect for every trier, for every winner. ~~That~~

That there is a Divine Intelligence guiding and helping I have never doubted, and this power, coupled with man's earnest endeavour will enable him to surmount ^{his} ~~any~~ difficulty. *especially if helped by understanding friends.*

It is my sincere wish that your deliberations at this Convention will be stimulating, instructive and of far-reaching effect, for it is most necessary that the work of your organization be brought forcibly to the public view, thereby assisting in the understanding of the illness and the help that is available to the patient. I wish you all success, and it now only remains for me to declare the Sixteenth Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous open.

It is also so very necessary for those who work in lonely places to gain fresh resolve from meeting others and participating in the developing plans of your organization.

JOHANNESBURG:

April 9, 1968.

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A/A

MAG EK, IN DIE NAAM VAN ONS STAD, U ALMAL HIER VANAAND
 VERWELKOM. ONS IS BLY DAT U JOHANNESBURG GEKIES HET, AS DIE PLEK
 VIR HIERDIE, DIE SESTIENDE KONVENSIE, ASOOK DIE ^{celebration} VIERING VAN DIE
 EEN-EN-TWINTIGSTE VERJAARSDAG VAN DIE ^{foundation} STIGTING VAN ALKOHOLISTE
 ANONIEM IN SUID-AFRIKA. A.P.

MAG EK DIE ORGANISASIE VAN HARTE GELUK WENS MET SY MONDIG-
 WORDING EN DIE WENS UITSPREEK DAT SY GOEIE WERK, IN DIE JARE WAT
 VOORLE; VERDUBBELD SAL VOORTGAAN.

EK HET NOG NOOIT DAARAAN GETWYFEL DAT DAAR 'N GODDELIKE
^{direction-management} LEIDING/BESTUUR EN HULP IS NIE, EN DAT HIERDIE ^{together} MAG TESAME MET
^{human-moral-attent-endeavour} ERNSTIGE MENSLIKE POGINGS DIT MOONTLIK MAAK VIR HIERDIE INDIWIDU
^{wise-discreet} OM SY MOOILIKHEDE TE OORKOM MET DIE HULP VAN VERSTANDIGE VRIENDE.

direction-management
guidance

human-moral-attent-endeavour

wise-discreet

3/1a

*God grant me the serenity
To accept things I cannot change,
Courage to change things I can,
And wisdom to know the difference.*

Just for

TO-DAY



GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 23005
JOUBERT PARK, JOHANNESBURG

(Alcoholics Anonymous)

CRAFT PRESS, PTA. 13366

Just for to-day I will try to live through this day only, and not tackle my whole life problem at once. I can do something for twelve hours that would appal me if I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for to-day I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, that, "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

Just for to-day I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires. I will take my "luck" as it comes, and fit myself to it.

Just for to-day I will try to strengthen my mind. I will study. I will learn something useful. I will not be a mental loafer. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

Just for to-day I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn, and not get found out; if anybody

knows of it, it will not count. I will do at least two things I don't want to do — just for exercise. I will not show anyone that my feelings are hurt: they may be hurt, but to-day I will not show it.

Just for to-day I will be agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk low, act courteously, criticise not one bit, not find fault with anything, and not try to improve or regulate anybody except myself.

Just for to-day I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly but I will have it. I will save myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for to-day I will have a quiet half hour all by myself, and relax. During this half hour, some time, I will try to get a better perspective of my life.

Just for to-day I will be unafraid. Especially I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful, and to believe that as I give to the world, so the world will give to me.

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