

president of the North Conway Institute, an interfaith, totally ecumenical fellowship of lay people and clergymen.

We have been studying, praying, working, and waiting for a new or more effective way for the churches and synagogues of the United States to help all people prevent alcohol problems.

In addition to my responsibilities with the North Conway Institute, which is now permanently located in Boston, Mass., I am also a member of the newly created task force on alcohol problems of the National Council of Churches, which was created to do two things:

(A) Study the report of the federally financed cooperative commission on alcohol problems with special emphasis on Dr. Thomas Plaut's Book, "Alcohol Problems: A Report to the Nation," and

(B) To recommend to the National Council of Churches and through the National Council of Churches of Christ, United States of America, to its constituent members, a broad, comprehensive program to prevent problem drinking.

In addition to my role as a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church and a full-time professional worker in our Lords' vineyard, I am also a very grateful recovered alcoholic who, along with my wife and children and other members of my family—especially my mother and brothers and sisters—wish to express our deep gratitude to this distinguished committee and to you, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Kyros, and other members of this committee, and to the other Members of the 99th Congress and to the present administration for the privilege of adding my words of strong support for H.R. 15758.

Starting in 1951, in a small mountain village in the White Mountains of northern New Hampshire, an ever-increasing group of competent and dedicated church people have been planning out a church program. After 10 years in New Hampshire and the neighboring State of Maine, and in Congressman Peter Kyros' neighboring State of Maine, His Eminence Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston asked the religious leaders of the Greater Boston area to help sponsor our North Conway Institute program. We plan to do four things:

I will quote from "Alcohol and the American Churches," published by the North Conway Institute in 1967.

We call upon the people of God to join efforts in an ecumenical spirit to attack this major social problem by action in four areas:

A. THE PASTORAL CARE OF ALCOHOLICS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE COMMUNITY WHERE THEY LIVE

Each congregation must bring to the alcoholic and his family a redemptive ministry based on compassionate understanding and loving concern which seeks to help them withstand the stress, tension and anxiety of modern life by providing hope, acceptance, and spiritual guidance to a reliance upon God.

B. ALCOHOL EDUCATION OF THE ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY'S OWN CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

We urge all religious bodies to place a new emphasis on the importance of educating their constituents with regard to the personal and social issues involved in drinking.

C. ALCOHOL EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The ecumenical community should take the initiative in seeking the cooperation of other community organizations in the sponsorship of educational activ-