

THE POST WORKS AGAIN

these two pages are for your help. Read them. Follow their advice. And let us hear from you.

about the year's programs

WITHIN a short span of your memory, something has happened to our normal way of life in America. Although you high school students of 1943-44 are not very old, you can remember without difficulty the time when there was an abundance of food of all descriptions, when rationing boards did not exist, when probably the funnies and the sports events, instead of the war communiques, were the most interesting sections of the newspaper, when your family could jump in the car and go wherever it chose to drive. And when boys and girls could make definite plans for the future which they were reasonably sure would be carried out.

You will agree that there have been many adjustments in our way of life since these conditions were common.

We look to the future, to the days after the war is over, and we are uncertain. On every side we hear warnings against inflation and the havoc it can cause in post-war America. We know that there will be heavier taxes to shoulder before our war spending can be paid for. We wonder about the jobs that will be open to us after the war is over.

Or we wonder about the days that lie between now and peace. What will our part in the war do to us? Will those in high school today go into active service in the armed forces?—The seniors, very likely. The sophomores and freshmen, perhaps.

The future, then, even the near future, is shrouded in uncertainty for us.

But life has always been uncertain. Here lies its thrill. No one of us knows what exciting adventures lie ahead. But we can look forward to them.

And we can get ready to meet them and win through.

It is because of the need for *each individual* to adjust himself to what lies ahead that we have decided to devote our programs this year to helping the individual Allied Youth Post member make these adjustments.

Achieving a balanced personality is a big job. We believe that learning about alcohol will aid Allied Youth members. Through these pages we hope to add to your knowledge and to your development.

THE POST has been looking forward to this first meeting of the year. The new students in the school and others who come to an Allied Youth meeting for the first time are interested in knowing just what Allied Youth does. It is very important that this first meeting should be well planned and should run smoothly.

First, the president should greet the old and new people in an informal, short talk.

Next, a number of talks should be planned to give a picture of Allied Youth's aims, its ways of carrying them out, and some specific plans for this year. These talks will probably be made by officers or committee chairmen. They should be clearly presented because the interest of the new people will depend on their first impressions regarding Allied Youth's worth. These people want to know if Allied Youth deserves their support and their time. It does. So prove it.

The first talk should be, "Why Do We Study About Alcohol?" The following points are outlined to help the speaker with his presentation:

1. It is a personal problem we meet in life, either right now or in the near future. Examples should be given describing situations which young people meet.

2. So many different opinions are held regarding alcohol that we are interested in obtaining unbiased information from which we may make our decisions.

3. Drinking is regarded as a community and national problem. It has been called the greatest public health problem that is not being systematically attacked. Therefore, we should find out about it.

The next talk should point out: "What Allied Youth Has To Offer". These points are suggested for the speaker:

1. It is an organization set up solely to help young people find out about alcohol. Its plans and program are carried out by high school young people, while there is the backing of a national organization which suggests helps for the individual Posts. Young people are urged to search for facts themselves and to make their own decisions about alcohol.

2. It is a social group which finds its good times without using alcohol. Describe briefly some of the good times the Post has had.

The program chairman is the next speaker. We are suggesting "Achieving a Balanced Personality, Helped By Alcohol Facts (note the editorial commenting on this) as this year's theme. The chairman will probably want to an-

nounce the subject of each month's program. By announcing the entire year's program at this time, we feel that the Post will be able to make better plans for the year:

October: What Alcohol Is

November: Health

December: Mental Fitness

January: Education

February: Work

March: Social Adjustment: traffic

April: Social Adjustment: good times

May: Conclusion and Review

Following the outline of the year's educational programs, the social chairman may indicate some of the plans for the year. Beginning in October THE ALLIED YOUTH will present new and interesting suggestions for successful parties.

In order that the Post may run smoothly through the year, all necessary business should be attended to at this first meeting. Any offices or committees that have not been filled should be taken care of.

It is also important that all the old and new people meet each other. Go around the room, asking each person his name, class, interests, and hobbies. If any of the new people are from out of town, have them tell where they are from. A friendly spirit at the beginning of the year will mean a Post group spirit throughout the year that helps get things done.

End the meeting with a refreshment period.

WE HAVE been wondering how we could give more service to our Allied Youth Posts. And the thought has occurred that we need to develop a POST EXCHANGE (or This Worked Here) column.

Here we intend to give you the answers to some of the problems you encounter in planning your Post activities.

But this column cannot be successful without the help and suggestions of many Posts across the country. You have had experience which will help other Posts. So be sure to see to it that your information is sent to us so that it may be relayed to many other Posts. At the same time those other Posts will be able to help you with some of your knotty problems.

Next month as the football season swings in we are going to give suggestions in answer to this question Allied Youth was asked:

"Even after games there is drinking by members of the squad, as well as other students. What can an Allied Youth Post do to help with this 'After the Game' problem?"

Posts also face these problems: