

## **Muncie, Indiana**

(1946)

### **MUNCIE & INTER - COUNTY GROUP**

The above group was started in September 1946 by Jack B. Union City, Indiana and Bob H. Dunkirk, Indiana. These two having been introduced to AA in other cities, were brought together through the efforts of the New York Office.

It was decided to start the group in Muncie, in as much as the larger metropolitan area seemed to offer better opportunities for growth. The first few members, however, all came from the outlying communities near Muncie, and the name of the group was therefore selected to suggest this.

Mrs. Chloe T., of the Muncie Mission, was extremely helpful at the organization of the group. Our first meeting place was in the Muncie Mission, where we tried to be of help to the transients, and also the permanent residents of this mission. The earliest members came from Hartford City, Winchester, and New Castle Indiana, and it was some months before the movement started to make itself felt in Muncie proper.

After about a year in the Muncie Mission, it was felt that the nature of our meeting place had a tendency to discourage attendance of Muncie people, and accordingly we moved to the YMCA. In this location members from Muncie finally started to attending, as well as people from Yorktown, Montpelier, and Dunkirk. After about one year at the YMCA location, the meeting hall became inadequate, and clubrooms were secured. This later proved to be unsatisfactory, and another move took us to the present location. The membership now varies from about 50 to a low of 25. It is about evenly divided between Muncie people, and those from outlying communities.

In 1949 there were about 8 persons from New Castle attending meetings in Muncie, and they decided to start their own group, which has grown to a very prosperous group in that city.

Some of the early members were Joe L. Muncie, Jim R. Yorktown, Don S. and Joe S. Hartford City, Arthur H. of Dunkirk, and Eldridge H. and Dorothy D. of Muncie.

A check of the files shows that approximately 200 people have attended our meetings at different times, and we feel that about 80% of these have attained sobriety, although they have stopped attendance at meetings.

One unfortunate aspect of the movement in the city of Muncie is the fact that there has always been a very poor spirit of co-operation between the newspapers and other aspects of the community, and the AA group here. This is exceptional, we feel, and has somewhat handicapped our growth.