

Agni Yoga Society, Inc., is not a business corporation, keeping record of profit and loss, and assets and liabilities. We are a non-profit corporation, filing a yearly report with the Government showing income and disbursements. We cannot have profits and are not required to list assets. Our balance sheet at the end of each year is an itemized account showing either an increase or decrease in the amount carried over from previous year. Our income so far has been largely donations, and, like other non-profit corporations, we are supposed to show disposal of funds entrusted to us, to show that everything is being expended in activities and purposes proclaimed when we incorporated. We are not supposed to have profits, continually rising from year to year, such as a business tries to develop by constant adjustments in planned buying and selling, etc. A non-profit organization is supposed to maintain a safe margin of support for operation, either through a Trust Fund or donations secured or pledged yearly. Some of their activities may be income-bringing, such as lectures or book sales, but these are rarely self-supporting. Usually they are considered separate parts of the year's program of spending, and an item that shows only a small deficit may be abandoned next year in favor of one which shows a large deficit, if the latter contributed more towards the stated aims of the organization. The Directors are Trustees of the funds available, either in the form of a set amount renewed each year by donations or a fixed Trust Fund.

We inherited \$1,000 and a supply of publications in the beginning. (See ledger) These were our only assets. We were not required by law to list any assets and due to special difficulties in Connecticut it was almost impossible to make inventory of the books and evaluate them. We deposited the \$1,000 in the bank, thus establishing, as the Chairman explained at the meeting, a "Publication Fund" or "Agni Yoga Fund", which we try to safeguard by pledging donations at the beginning of each year to cover planned expenditures. This Agni Yoga Fund is our margin of support, and consists of the original \$1,000 plus any increase in it which may develop from year to year through booksales, memberships, donations, etc.

"Deficit Financing" would be quite unfitting for Agni Yoga Society. Our work is controlled by forces spiritual, not financial. The reins are held by the President of Agni Yoga Society, to whom the Work in America is entrusted at present. We conform to the law of the land, and operate within our means. If the Work is to expand, the means must be increased. We have been given to understand that there are possibilities. It is up to us to realize that they cannot be brought into life in America without money. But the money must be put into the hands of the Society - must be expended through the Society - otherwise the possibilities will remain only possibilities, and sooner or later will disappear altogether, as time is a potent factor.

Any non-profit organization may receive a donation at any time for a special purpose; for printing, for instance, a book which furthers the aims of the organization. Two items may appear on the books in the year's financial record - \$2,000 donation in one place and \$2,000 to the printer in another. Funds are thus converted into books, and the organization's responsibility turns to the disposal of the books. They are really not assets but a responsibility. In our case they are a sacred trust, as mentioned at the meeting. The Agni Yoga Books are to be spread, not sold for profit. The cost of books is lumped together with cost of stationery and listed under printing. It is not an investment. It is an expenditure. Book sales are clear gain, just like donations. Of course, it would be wise to keep an inventory of books to be sure none are lost or stolen, but to

evaluate them and calculate profit or loss each year in terms of ordinary business such as "cost of goods sold", "rate of sale", "overhead", etc. would be wrong, as, for instance, many services which in a business would be salaried are in our case donated freely and completely just as are printing costs.

Under the law our book supply would become <sup>monetary</sup> assets only if and when we should dissolve. Their monetary value need not be calculated until then. Our only other assets would be bank account and the painting recently donated by the Directors, "Himalaya".

On January 1, 1948 we 9 directors were sole owners of a bank account of \$1,430.56, the remaining supply of "Aum", "Heart", "Hierarchy", "Fiery World", vol. 1 and 2 and the painting. Agni Yoga Associates are not legally members of the corporation. 1/9th share in the painting alone, it seems, would invite a reciprocal move in the way of a donation or pledge for 1948 - as it becomes increasingly inequitable to expect only 2 or 3 out of 9 equal owners to finance the operations. The legal status of the Connecticut book and reproduction supply, and some manuscripts for future publication, is undetermined, but we are really rightful custodians and will try to continue as such.

Let us, therefore, not think of assets and dissolution, but let us put our thoughts and efforts into preserving and continuing Agni Yoga Society. In determining "where we stand", let us apply broad measures and not try to calculate too closely the monetary value of remaining books and estimate running profit or loss in a business sense, in view of the fact that, as well as free donations of book costs, there are time and services rendered gratis which cannot be estimated, as well as invaluable manuscripts for future publication, and let us remind ourselves that in reality we "stand" before the Lord as servants of humanity. From this view point, we are not "losing" money as we go along", but we are expending donations in a wise and efficient discharge (this demands inventory of "Aum", "Heart", "Hierarchy", "Fiery World", vol. 1 and 2 and future publications) of our duty as Trustees of the given Teaching.

It still remains our duty at present to pledge donations to cover the reasonable budget presented by the Chairman at the Annual Meeting. Our financial standing on January 1st is as stated in the annual report, which reflects a \$370.05 increase in cash balance during 1947.