

January 23, 1985
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Karin and Sisters in BL,

As our fiscal year in P.E.O. is drawing to a close, it is time for me to compose my Presidents letter and to report on the many activities and happy occasions we have shared together. Our yearbook committee had "Say It With Songs" as our theme for each program and delighted us with some original words to familiar tunes at our meetings. As a result of this super music, we are thinking of forming a Singing Sisters group.

This year our membership grew with the addition of two dimitts. Marge Moore from BW, Decatur, Ill., and Lois Benton from CO, Wausau, Wis., We were sorry to lose four members to other states. They include Donna Hudson to North Carolina; Ann Hedlin to Minn., Marion Rice to Vermont; and Carle Thomas to Colorado. We had one initiate, Cathy Nelson, the daughter of our own Ann Nelson and the Grand-daughter of Florence Nordholm. This is a thrilling first for our chapter. Our membership now totals 54 with ten non-resident members.

Our gifts to P.E.O. projects this year include \$50.00 to Cottey College; \$50.00 to the Educational Fund; \$50.00 to I.P.S.; \$50.00 to Wis. Cottey Scholarships; \$100.00 to Program for Continuing Ed.; and our local Continuing Education grant of \$200.00 to Kay Garcia.

The daughters of three of our members were married this past year and we entertained them at lunches and presented them with a ~~silver~~ silver candle snuffer. Edna Riemen has not been well this year and has suffered a broken hip, from which she is recuperating. Our hearts went out to Chris Roethe, a brave lady, who had to undergo a leg amputation. She is doing well and even came to a meeting.

In October, we were pleased to have Nelva Jean Krammer, our State First Vice Pres., as our guest for our exemplification. It is good to get to know our State Officers a little better and she commended us for our ritual work. We, in BL, are very proud of Cathy Barker as she starts out on her first step up the ladder of the State board. We're also proud of Jane Secord who is writing for the State Historical Society. Our thanks go to Helen Sivertson for her work with our new Madison P.E.O. directory.

Some highlights of the year include our Fun Day in July with golf, swimming and lunch; our Continuing Ed. program in April with Cathy Wilson, Madison and Mishiko Kawakuba of Japan; Making Ginger-bread houses with Stephany; Seeing China with Jo and Connie and our delightful B.I.L. Xmas party at the home of Mimi and Ron Koenig. Our Xmas meeting with music by Evelyn and I also seemed to be a hit.

We are a chapter of busy, active women and to bring us into a closer relationship with each other, we have Special Sisters. Hopefully these Special Sisters will get together outside of the Chapter. Since we are so large, we need to keep building and growing in sisterly love.

It has been a pleasure for me to serve as your president this past year. My thanks to one and all for your many helping hands.... your love and co-operation made my year a happy one.

With My Love In P.E.O.,

Virginia Mahanquist