

January 8, 1953.

Dear Sisters,

Chapter B.L. began its year on May 3rd. With the help of Marion Peterson and the reciprocity board and in the presence of the State officers and more than 100 Madison P.E.O.s we were organized. Beulah Haugen, state organizer, presided at the meeting. Four girls were initiated and thirteen demits renewed their vows. One of the highlights of our year was the receiving of our charter at State convention. Six of our group went with our delegates to La Crosse to stand in convention opening day. It was a great thrill to not only have Alice Reinhardt, supreme organizer, present to congratulate our chapter but to receive our charter from the hands of Winona Reeves, one of P.E.O.s most famous and beloved members.

Early in the year Carolyn Dauner joined us as a demit from Chapter I.R. Iowa. But during the summer we were sorry to see Joyce Bull move to Des Moines, Iowa and Jean Pierce move to Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

We began our meetings in October with a membership of 18, a treasury in need of help, and every member acting on a committee. Our first meeting was a memorable one as that evening we initiated Mary Heine. She was to have been a charter member but was unable to be with us at the May meeting. In November, Jane Dorschel, state organizer visited us and helped us all in a delightful way. Also in November Frances Bright demitted to our chapter from Chapter AX in Madison.

A highlight of the Christmas season was the Christmas auction. With timely and clever items and a lively auctioneer the project went over so well that we hope to repeat its success another year. Another project in behalf of our treasure is the travelling basket that goes from one member to another filled with a "specialty of the house". A sealed box contains donations from the recipient of the basket and is to be opened at the close of the year. Our B.I.L. party in January promises to be a good get-acquainted affair and show much talent among the B.I.L.s.

The program committee not only put together our booklets themselves but planned wonderful contents. One of the things that I feel is outstanding is that each person who has a program has given particular thought and effort and much of themselves to the program. Truly they are showing the talent they possess.

I want to thank each member for thier patients and help in making our chapter a unified, going concern. We came with little experience but together I feel we are learning more and more about P.E.O. The officers haveworked hard to learn their duties and have performed them well. My "thank you" too, to each member of a committee. Starting a new chapter is a great challenge and an enriching experience. I know that this first year has taken much time and effort from all of the members and I appreciate very much your giving willingly and graciously of yourselves to this year in P.E.O.

Our goals as a chapter are still a bit hazy. Our projects for peace participation, P.E.O. help in our community, growth of our chapter, extending courtesies to Madison's many unaffiliates, are all ideas which we hope to make active in the months to come. We are more or less on a "shake down cruise" but the spirit of each member is an inspriration and I believe that the spirit of P.E.O. is guiding us in the right direction.

Yours in P.E.O.

*Betty Jensenholm*

*Challenge*