

Madison, Wisconsin
25 January 1967

Dear Virginia and Sisters in Chapter BL:

When we became members of PEO, we answered "I do" in making our vows and accepting definite obligations. While any appraisal of a chapter must take into account our growth as individuals, which only we alone can truly measure, it also must include a report of our stewardship as a group. Here, then, is the response of Chapter BL to the challenge of growth which our Sisterhood affords us.

In May 1967 Chapter BL will be 15 years old. Our membership includes 37 busy, civic-minded resident members and 8 non-residents. During the past year we have welcomed into our chapter by dimit Catherine Barker of Chapter O, Wisconsin; Elizabeth Weber of Chapter CN, Illinois; and Dorothy Batt of Chapter JU, Illinois. We were delighted when non-resident Marilyn Anderson returned to Madison last summer and resumed her former status.

BIL promotions meant that we said reluctant good-byes to Marilyn Lott and Shirley Okerstrom, as well as to Edna Riemen when retirement plans took her and her BIL to Florida. We miss these fine members but are sure our Sisters in Lincoln, Nebraska; Traverse City, Michigan and Ft. Myers, Florida are benefitting by our loss.

Last Spring our programs were concerned with "The Future" -- as it affects the University of Wisconsin, Foods, Madison's new Public Library and Civil Rights. These we found both informative and entertaining.

In June, Jane Stark and I had the privilege of attending the State Convention in Eau Claire. One highlight for me was the election of my convention roommate and long-time friend Mary Higley to the State Board. She is a dedicated PEO and will serve our Sisterhood well, I know.

Our chapter increased its support of PEO projects by 80% this year to send \$35 to IPS, \$60 to Cottey College, \$20 to the Cottey Library and \$20 to the Educational Fund. We also supported the Wisconsin Scholarship Fund through our purchase of the stationery allotted to us.

Our Yearbook committee worked diligently through the vacation period to produce a program, using as its theme "Our Year of Concern". The theme was well chosen in more ways than one when the printing company to whom it had been entrusted changed hands and our chairman spent the month of October with many a moment of mental anguish wondering if our yearbooks would ever come, and what they'd look like when they did arrive. However, we've found that a few printing errors have not affected the quality of our programs.

We started out in October considering "Our Concern for International Students" which not only outlined the areas in which their needs are greatest but offered us opportunity to serve as our time and talents allowed. On Nov. 9th with Sally Fleming as our gracious hostess we invited PEO guests to share an outstanding musical program given by our own Betty Land, Mary Lou Hogan, Fran Bright and Helen Tower as we considered "Our Concern for the World of Musical Opportunities." On Dec. 14th our able and enthusiastic Welfare Projects committee prepared a delicious Italian dinner for us, followed by a "white elephant" auction which not only entertained us but added \$73 to our treasury for PEO projects. At our last meeting Elizabeth Ruklic of Chapter BY outlined for us the many areas of opportunity for service in the YWCA.

We are looking forward to initiating Florence Nordholm's two daughters at our Founders' Day meeting, feeling that this is a most fitting time to introduce them to our PEO heritage.

Chapter BL's responsibilities for the Madison Reciprocity Board this Fall were publicity for the Fall Luncheon and compilation and distribution of the new Madison PEO Directory. In both instances chapter members gave generously of their time and talents to assist our two representatives on the Board in fulfilling these assignments.

At convention one of the banquet speakers admonished us to "keep a green bough in your life and you will always have song birds." PEO has been just such a branch in my life these past 24 years, and the songbirds have been countless. May your life as a PEO be so blest and filled with music.

Lovingly in PEO

Charlotte M. King
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