

President's Letter
Chapter BL, Madison

February 26, 1975

Dear Sharon and Sisters in Chapter BL:

It is a just and fair appraisal of Chapter BL to say that it has grown in stature this past year. It has reached higher dimensions not only in the implementing of our P.E.O. Projects, but Chapter BL has grown in a way not easily measured. It has used its mind to evaluate carefully its concerns, its heart to encompass those concerns, and its physical body to reflect the total awareness of those concerns. Chapter BL has opened wider the doors of its thinking processes and actions toward those with whom it is intimately associated as well as toward those not as well known.

Chapter BL has contributed \$165. to our P.E.O. Projects: \$45., Wisconsin Fund for Cottey College; \$25., International Peace Scholarships; \$15., Educational Loan Fund; \$30., Cottey Junior College; \$50., Continuing Education. Also, as a result of a careful study made by our Continuing Education Chairman, Carol Wilson, Chapter BL gave \$150. to Denis Diecker, a blind girl, to enable her to take a Spanish course which was essential to her in her teaching assistant position.

With much happiness we initiated Evelyn Jennings and Joan Borgwardt and received Donna Hudson by dimit from Chapter CI, Michigan. With a great sense of loss we granted a dimit to Mary Simmons and Lois Schleuter to affiliate with Chapter AQ, Arizona and BI, New York respectively. It was also very difficult to see JoAnne Hedlin move to St. Paul and Ann Olsen to Ashland, but we enjoy hearing from them and wish them every happiness in their new homes. Our membership now includes 45 resident members and 8 non-resident members.

We enjoyed another "first" within Chapter BL when Mildred Wedemeyer announced that she and her Nominating Committee had decided to tap the power of the past presidents' league and was nominating past president Beth Ross for the position of Guard.

Each member of Chapter BL is worthy of special mention, for she is active in her church, she participates in the work of the schools, or she donates many hours to all kinds of volunteer organizations that function well only because of the many charitable hearts that abound. Chapter BL will remember well:

The \$1000.00 check presented to our own Brailist, Betty Land, by First Wisconsin National Bank of Madison for use in the work of the Madison Volunteer Brailist, Incorporated; also, the fact that Chapter BL has a second Certified Brailist in its midst----Jane Stark.

The kudos awarded Jean Clausen for her seven years' work as editor of the Badger Doctor's Wife, to Hazel Weeden for her not-so-small continual contributions through her sewing abilities to the Shriners' Crippled Children's Hospitals, to Helen Sivertson on her appointment as secretary of the

State Medical Auxiliary, and to Dorothy Leon as delegate to the American Lutheran Church National Convention in which she represented a large area of church membership.

Chapter BL has been made aware of the news from Cottey, meeting after meeting, and it owes a sincere thank you to Dorothy Leon. Also, we are in debt to Charlotte King who once more admirably represented us when she hurried to the State Convention at Oshkosh two days before her daughter's wedding to give her fine report as chairman of the Special Assistance Fund. Jane Rogers, too, has ably represented Chapter BL on the Reciprocity Board, and her efforts were not small in making the Tea for Unaffiliates held at Roberta Weaver's on September 24th a success. Jane was also responsible for and produced a fine Directory Supplement.

Every member of Chapter BL will remember how easily and well assignments were carried out: the tasty luncheon Gen Busse and the Welfare Committee greeted us with early in the fall; the Social Committee's arrangements for dinner and play seemed to highlight P.E.O.'s belief in discretion, for Connie Todd received a letter thanking the "Theatre Guild" for its patronage. Surely, Chapter members will remember the exposure it had to conditions of living long ago----yes, Chapter BL will cherish the memory of the warmth in the hearts that gave those programs and the reciprocal warmth in the hearts that listened as all tried to reconstruct how it was in Colonial America, 1620-1776. For all of this, tribute should be given to Trudy Bangsberg and the Program Committee.

We are looking forward to Chapter BL's privilege in being able to send a delegate to the Supreme Convention in Boston this year, and we send her in love.

I have considered it a singular privilege to have served this Chapter in this office, and it is my only wish to be worthy of the kind thoughts expressed to me. It is my sincere hope that Carol Wilson may find it possible at a future time to continue in office.

Affectionately in P.E.O.,

Florence Nordholm
Florence Nordholm

President, Chapter BL, 1974-75