

February 24, 1986

Dear Nelva Jean and Sisters in BL,

It is always rewarding to go back over pleasant activities and events in the life of our chapter. It has truly been a privilege for me to serve as president of BL this past year.

We began the year with a slight change in our meeting times. This we did to try to increase our attendance at meetings and to accommodate those who work, those who seek warmer weather during the winter months and those who do not wish to attend evening meetings. We are meeting once a month throughout the year except for three months when we meet twice. In July and August we are getting together for an early dinner meeting and therefore are able to eliminate several meetings in the cold winter months.

Our theme for the year is "Reach Out" and that is exactly what our chapter is doing --"reaching out" to each other and the community in many ways. One of the ways we have reached out this year is to a Continuing Education recipient, Anita Kapell. Florence Nordholm has worked diligently in obtaining help for Anita in her last year of schooling at Madison Area Technical College. Anita received \$750 from International and \$400 from our local chapter.

On April 24, 1985, we initiated Carol Malmquist, the daughter-in-law of Virginia. Virginia was very perceptive and volunteered to act as president during initiation, as my reign had just begun. During the year we gave up four of our members to other chapters: Donna Hudson to Chapter R, Charlotte, N.C.; Marion Rice to Chapter A, Burlington, Vermont; Carla Thomas to Chapter EA, Denver, Colorado and Mary Lou Hogan to Chapter F, Santa Fe, New Mexico. We now have 52 resident members and 9 non-resident members.

I am very sorry to report that Nancy Ragatz has found it necessary to become an inactive member on March 1, 1986. She has not been able to attend meetings for years and felt it was the best move for her at this time.

Our gifts to P.E.O. projects this past year included \$50 to Cottey College; \$50 to the Educational Loan Fund; \$50 to IPS; \$50 to the Wisconsin Cottey Scholarship Fund and \$115 to Continuing Education.

Four daughters of chapter members were married last summer. Two of these daughters, Susan Batt and Cathy Nelson, are members of Chapter BL. They changed their names to Susan Racine, who remained in Madison, and Kathy Koester who is now a non-resident member living in St. Paul, Minn. Sara Rose and Jane Secord graciously offered to entertain these brides with a "coffee", a gift from the chapter and our best wishes.

In October, we invited Madison unaffiliates to hear the International Convention report given by delegate Dorothy Leuning, BC, Madison. Doris Kaplan and Mary Jo Heck accepted our invitation.

Edna Riemen had her 90th birthday party on December 18, 1985 at the Edgewater Hotel. About 17 of her BL sisters joined her to celebrate. Mary Lou Hogan arrived in Madison in time to be with us and also to report on her new life in Santa Fe. It was a very special time for Edna and for those who could be with her.

And now, Nelva Jean, we are looking forward in the next year to P.E.O.'s challenge to stretch and grow and we welcome the "year of the butterfly" and we will "test our wings".

Lovingly in P.E.O.,

Carol Wilson, President