

February 11, 1974

Dear Edith and Members of BL,

The past two years, as president of BL, have truly "flown by" for me. They have been a real pleasure, mostly because I have had the chance to know each one of you a little better. We now number 45 active resident members, and 8 non-resident members, with an average attendance of 27. Last summer we were sorry to lose Betty Sarig and Mary Simmons, but since they both sound so happy in Arizona we cannot begrudge their leaving. Isabel Hughes, after many years on our non-resident list, has decided to become inactive, but on the plus side, we welcomed Emma Kresge from Chapter KB, Iowa. Emma and daughter, Jane Secord, make our third mother-daughter combination. When we add the Nordholm and Weber "girls", I wonder if we're setting a record in Wisconsin with our total of eight active mother-daughter members. Record or not, they're three terrific combinations!

Our 1973 fall season began with a lovely salad luncheon preceding our first October meeting. We enjoyed another delicious luncheon on October 31st, the day that Marian Wolfe, 2nd Vice-President of Wisconsin State Chapter, made her official visit to BL. Marian was generous in her praise of our chapter and gave us all a feeling of some of the real meanings of P.E.O. in her inspiring message to us.

Devotion has been evident in Chapter BL in many ways this year. Officers and committees have functioned so smoothly that we almost take for granted our fine programs and "fun" meetings. Four talented musicians stand out in my memory; in December, Virginia Malmquist and Evelyn Jennings created a real holiday mood with their spirited singing; and in January, Mary Lou Hogan and Betty Land entertained us with their superb piano duets. (The way they stay together is really amazing.) Phyllis Norem's poetry was a rare treat at our Christmas meeting, and "most fun" award goes to Beth Ross for her "Happy Birthday" program. Clever Kris Roeths and the program committee aptly titled this one "With a Will to be Merry".

We continue to enjoy raising money by means of a bridge marathon and the informal "stitch and study" group. However, a more intense effort was made at Jean Clausen's garage sale -- a two day affair which added well over \$100.00 to our welfare fund. This year we contributed \$115 to our P.E.O. projects, but our newest interest is the Continuing Education for Women Program. Carol Wilson's education committee is now screening applicants, since we have \$250.00 to be used for this purpose.

Our P.E.O. star reminds me a little of the comet, Kohoutek, which turned out to be a "visual bust for the layman". To the casual observer, our star may be the symbol of just another women's club. But like Kohoutek, which "delighted the scientists using the world's largest telescope", there is a great deal more to our star than meets the eye. We who wear it, are the ones with a telescope - our own insight - so we are able to see what P.E.O., and its star, are really all about!

Lovingly in P.E.O.,

Jane

Jane Rogers,
President, Chapter BL