



# SOCIETY OF PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATORS, Inc.

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November 30, 1961

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Dear SOPHE Fellows:

Since all of you could not be in Detroit for our twelfth Annual Meeting I am particularly anxious to send you some of my thoughts and those of the Board in the beginning days of our 1961-62 term of office. We are indeed so anxious that you have an early report that, as you can see, we are using the old stationery. Since you have not yet received a mail report of the election, it is my privilege to tell you that at the business meeting Sunday afternoon the following were elected: President-Elect, Jeannette Simmons; Vice-President, Thomas H. Roberson; Secretary, Ruth Richards; Trustees for two-year terms - Doris L. Davenport, John McCormick and Daniel Sullivan. Miss Frances Ogasawara was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Historian, created by the resignation of Netta Wilson.

Of course it is difficult to communicate the enthusiasm of people meeting together and sharing ideas but you should know there was a wonderful spirit among those present. It was a pleasure to welcome and become acquainted with new members along with members who have joined SOPHE in previous years and for whom this was the first opportunity to attend an annual meeting. The Detroit-area Program and Local Arrangements Committee did a splendid job and are truly to be commended for their ideas and hospitality.

Since many of you are undoubtedly concerned about the total SOPHE membership, I am excerpting from the 1961 membership Committee Report: "This year has been a year of decision for Fellows! With SOPHE dues increased from \$7.50 to \$25.00 per annum, there has been a changing picture in our membership. -- Roughly, it looks as though membership might be in the vicinity of 370 to 375 to date. -- It will be noted that resignations are counterbalanced by the number of new applications for Fellowship -- the total membership picture does not differ greatly from last year."

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The Board was particularly gratified by this response from the Fellows and for this expression of support for the proposed program. It went hand in hand with excellent participation on regular committees and in undertaking special assignments which resulted in some very exciting advances being made.

Howard Hough, our Newsletter Chairman, hopes to have the first issue in the December mail with news of the major points of the Annual Meeting. The Board Highlights are also scheduled for distribution next month. But until these arrive you should know about two big points in our Program of Work for 1962.

In early December you will receive a ballot for voting on By-Laws changes which will enable the establishment of local chapters. We are also in a position to move ahead in employing a part-time Executive Director. These two activities are seen as methods of improving the administration of the Society, including better service to you as members.

Of course this letter cannot contain the kind of detail that will answer all your questions so additional communication are planned to clarify these and other proposals. If they do not answer yours, let us know. Your Board of Trustees is most anxious to receive inquiries, requests and suggestions for action from all the Fellows. We want to make this coming year one of progress and increased support of our Society, and in turn, we trust that you will feel that SOPHE is increasingly serving you.

Very sincerely yours,

*Mary Armstrong*

(Mrs.) Mary P. Armstrong  
President