

## STRENGTH THROUGH EDUCATION

TONIGHT ANOTHER CHAPTER HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN THE LIFE OF CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL. ONE YEAR AGO PRESIDENT MAURINE WATSON, ASKED TO PROVE WITH HER THAT "LUCK IS WHAT WE MAKE IT" BY THE UNSTINTING USE OF LEADERSHIP, UNDERSTANDING, CONFIDENCE AND KNOWLEDGE. WE SET HIGH GOALS. SOME HAVE BEEN REACHED AND OTHERS ARE YET TO BE REALIZED BUT IT HAS BEEN A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENT AND GROWTH.

PRESIDENT MAURINE, YOU HAVE GIVEN UNSELFISHLY OF YOUR TIME, ENERGY AND DEVOTION TO OUR ORGANIZATION AND WE ARE TRUELY GRATEFUL. AS YOU STEP INTO THE RANKS OF PAST PRESIDENTS AND TAKE YOUR PLACE IN OUR HISTORY, OUR LOVE AND GRATITUDE GO WITH YOU. MAY YOUR PATH ABOUND WITH SHAMROCKS AND FOUR-LEAF CLOVERS.

THE ENDING OF ONE ERA MEANS THE BEGINNING OF ANOTHER AND TONIGHT WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR WITH A NEW INTERNATIONAL THEME. AS MEMBERS OF AN ORGANIZATION WHOSE PURPOSE IT IS TO BE BETTER INFORMED IN THE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES OF OUR CHOSEN FIELD, WE CAN READILY IDENTIFY WITH OUR NEW THEME, "STRENGTH THROUGH EDUCATION."

THE WORD "STRENGTH" MEANS DIFFERENT THINGS TO DIFFERENT PEOPLE. TO SOME IT MEANS PHYSICAL POWER, TO OTHERS INTELLECTUAL POWER, TO STILL OTHERS GREAT RESOURCE OR STRENGTH THROUGH NUMBERS. NO MATTER WHAT INTERPRETATION OR MEANING YOU WISH TO CONVEY, YOU AND I ARE VERY AWARE AND CONSCIOUS OF WHAT STRENGTH THROUGH EDUCATION HAS DONE AND CAN DO FOR CW-I. EDUCATION HAS BEEN THE BACKBONE OF OUR PURPOSE AND THROUGH IT WE HAVE ALL GAINED A MEASURE OF STRENGTH.

MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF STRENGTH ARE NEEDED TO ENABLE US TO FACE DIFFERENT SITUATIONS AND CIRCUMSTANCES. WE MUST HAVE PHYSICAL STRENGTH TO CARRY US THROUGH THE DAILY ROUTINES OF LIVING AND PERFORMING OUR DUTIES. WE NEED MENTAL AND INTELLECTUAL STRENGTH TO FACE SQUARELY THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY'S BUSINESS WORLD AND TO MAKE THE PERFORMANCE OF OUR DUTIES ONE OF SELF-FULFILLMENT AND SUCCESS.

JUST AS THERE ARE MANY KINDS OF STRENGTH, THERE ARE MANY SOURCES FROM WHICH WE MAY DRAW THAT STRENGTH. CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL WAS FOUNDED ON THE BELIEF IN STRENGTH THROUGH EDUCATION SO LET US CONSIDER SOME OF THE SOURCES OF STRENGTH AVAILABLE TO US THROUGH OUR MEMBERSHIP IN CW-I.

AS BUSINESS WOMEN WHO WANT TO BE--NOT JUST ADEQUATE BUT EXCELLENT---IN OUR JOBS, WE GET A SENSE OF STRENGTH FROM A FEELING OF PREPAREDNESS. BY KNOWING THAT WE ARE WELL INFORMED ON NEW TRENDS IN OUR INDUSTRY AS WELL AS THE BEST WAYS OF DOING THE OLD AND FAMILAR. KEEPING ABREAST OF CHANGES ENABLES US TO KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM EFFICIENTLY AND INTELLIGENTLY. WITH NEW LEGISLATIVE CHANGES A CONSTANT, WE DARE NOT TO BE LESS THAN WELL INFORMED AND WELL PREPARED. A SENSE OF PREPAREDNESS IS CERTAINLY A SOURCE OF STRENGTH.

ANOTHER VERY IMPORTANT SOURCE OF STRENGTH IS FRIENDSHIP. WHAT CAN GIVE ONE A GREATER SENSE OF INNER SECURITY AND STRENGTH THAN FRIENDSHIPS AND FRIENDSHIP WITH OTHERS IN THE SAME PROFESSION MAKES US STRONGER BY THE MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE. SINCE THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS AND UNITY, OUR ASSOCIATION WITH OTHERS IN CREDIT PROFESSION GIVES US GREATER IMPACT AND EFFECT IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY. ALTHOUGH THIS

ASSOCIATION BENEFITS US GREATLY PROFESSIONALLY, WHO COULD PROPERLY EVALUATE THE PRICELESS ASSET OF THE PERSONAL FRIENDSHIPS WE HAVE GAINED?

PROGRESS AND PERSONAL GROWTH IS THE AIM OF ALL. EACH ONE OF US HAS THE NEED TO FEEL THAT WE ARE ATTAINING SOME MEASURE OF GROWTH EACH DAY. THE ASSURANCE THAT WE ARE GROWING IN PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND ACHIEVEMENT GIVES US A VERY REAL SENSE OF INNER STRENGTH AND MOTIVATION FOR EVEN GREATER EFFORTS.

WE HAVE LOOKED AT SOME OF THE SOURCES OF STRENGTH FOR US AS INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS. LET US LOOK NOW TO THE RESOURCES FROM WHICH WE DRAW THE STRENGTH THAT MAKES OUR ORGANIZATION GREAT. THE SOURCE OF STRENGTH AND VITALITY OF ANY ORGANIZATION IS IN ITS INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP AND LOCAL CLUBS. WITHOUT THEM THERE WOULD BE NO REASON FOR AN INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. IT IS BECAUSE OF THEM AND TO SERVE THEM THAT WE HAVE INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS. TO DO THIS EFFECTIVELY, THERE MUST BE INFORMATION FLOWING FROM CLUB TO DISTRICT TO INTERNATIONAL. ONLY WHEN THE NEEDS AND WISHES OF THE CLUBS ARE MADE KNOWN TO INTERNATIONAL CAN THEY BE MET.

OUR DISTRICT PRESIDENTS ARE THE VITAL FACTORS IN THIS FLOW OF INFORMATION AND EDUCATION FROM CLUB TO INTERNATIONAL AND BACK. EACH DISTRICT PRESIDENT REPRESENTING THE CLUBS IN HER DISTRICT, IS AWARE OF THEIR FEELINGS IN MATTERS PERTAINING TO ORGANIZATION AND IS THEREFORE REPRESENTATIVE OF THEM. AS A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SHE IS KNOWLEDGABLE REGARDING INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING. WE LOOK TO HER TO REFLECT THE THINKING OF HER DISTRICT; THEREFORE SHE IS INDISPENSIBLE TO US AS A RESOURCE AND A SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.

TONIGHT WE SHALL USE THE ELEPHANT AS THE SYMBOL OF OUR NEW PRESIDENT'S THEME. ALTHOUGH WE THINK OF THE ELEPHANT AS SYNONYMOUS WITH GREAT PHYSICAL STRENGTH, HIS STRENGTH IS NO GREATER PROPORTIONATELY THAN THAT OF MAN. HIS STRENGTH COMES FROM HIS SIZE AND RESOURCES, SO DOES THE STRENGTH OF CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL COME FROM ITS SIZE AND THE USE OF ITS RESOURCES.

AS I CALL THE NAME OF EACH DISTRICT PRESIDENT, WILL YOU PLEASE COME FORWARD AND REPRESENT OUR SOURCES AND RESOURCES OF STRENGTH.

DISTRICT ONE _____	DISTRICT EIGHT _____
DISTRICT TWO _____	DISTRICT NINE _____
DISTRICT THREE & FOUR _____	DISTRICT TEN _____
DISTRICT FIVE _____	DISTRICT ELEVEN _____
DISTRICT SIX _____	DISTRICT TWELVE _____
DISTRICT SEVEN _____	DISTRICT THIRTEEN _____

AS PRESIDENT OF YOUR DISTRICT YOU AUTOMATICALLY BECOME A DIRECTOR OF CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL. WILL YOU PROMISE TO EXERCISE GOOD JUDGEMENT IN EVERY MATTER REFERRED TO YOU AND DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO KEEP THE HIGH PRINCIPLES AND IDEALS OF YOUR DISTRICT? IF YOU ACCEPT YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS A DIRECTOR OF CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL, PLEASE ANSWER BY SAYING "I WILL."

NOT ONLY IS THE ELEPHANT A SYMBOL OF STRENGTH, AN ELEPHANT WITH THE TRUNK TURNED UP IS EVEN SAID TO BE AN OMEN OF GOOD FORTUNE. EACH OF OUR OFFICERS WILL BE PRESENTED THE SYMBOL OF OUR THEME, AN ELEPHANT WITH UPTURNED TRUNK.

TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_

AS THE TREASURER YOU ARE THE GUARDIAN OF OUR FINANCIAL STRENGTH. YOURS IS A RESPONSIBILITY THAT REQUIRED CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE CORPORATION. AS TRESURER YOU WILL REVIEW ALL VOUCHERS AND SEE THAT A REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE CORPORATION BE MADE AT REGIALAR INTERVALS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. DO YOU ACCEPT THE OBLIGATIONS OF THIS OFFICE?

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_

AS SECRETARY YOU REPRESENT THE STRENGTH OF CONTINUITY OF OUR ORGANIZATION. YOUR DUTIES REQUIRE THAT YOU ACCURATELY KEEP THE MINUTES OF ALL MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND CORPORATE ANNUAL MEETING. THE HISTORY YOU WILL RECORD WILL BE A SOURCE OF STRENGTH ON WHICH WE BUILD. DO YOU ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY?

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

AS MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN YOU REPRESENT STRENGTH THROUGH THE GROWTH OF OUR ORGANIZATION. IT WILL BE YOUR DUTY TO PROMOTE GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP AS YOU WORK WITH THE DISTRICT THIRD VICE PRESIDENTS. DO YOU PROMISE TO ENCOURAGE OUR LOCAL CLUBS TO WORK DILIGENTLY IN PROMOTING CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL THEREBY INCREASING OUR MEMBERSHIP?

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

AS EDUCATION CHAIRMAN YOU REPRESENT STRENGTH THROUGH EDUCATION. THE DISTRICT SECOND VICE PRESIDENTS WILL BE MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMITTEE. SINCE THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF OUR ORGANIZATION IS OUR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM, IT WILL BE YOUR DUTY TO INSPIRE AND STIMULATE THE DESIRE FOR GREATER KNOWLEDGE THROUGH THE STUDY OF OUR MANUAL. YOU WILL ALSO ASSIST THE PRESIDENT WHENEVER CALLED UPON, OR PERFORM SUCH OTHER DUTIES AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY REQUIRE. DO YOU ACCEPT THESE RESPONSIBILITIES?

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

AS EXTENSION CHAIRMAN, YOU REPRESENT THE STRENGTH TO BE GAINED THROUGH THE ORGANIZATION OF NEW CLUBS. IT IS ALSO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE PRESIDENT AND TO ACT IN THE EVENT THAT SHE IS UNABLE TO DO SO. YOU WILL NEED TO STAND READY TO ASSIST YOUR PRESIDENT WITH HER DUTIES AND CARRY OUT ALL SERVICES REQUESTED BY HER OR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. WILL YOU GIVE US YOUR PLEDGE TO FULFILL THESE OBLIGATIONS TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY?

PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

YOU REPRESENT THAT MOST IMPORTANT STRENGTH OF LEADERSHIP. YOU HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO THE HIGHEST OFFICE IN CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL BECAUSE YOU ARE WELL QUALIFIED TO ASSUME THE MANY RESPONSIBILITIES AND PRIVILEGES ATTENDANT UPON THAT OFFICE. YOU HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE IN OTHER OFFICES WHICH GIVE YOU A CLEAR CONCEPT OF WHAT LEADERSHIP MEANS TO CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL. YOU ARE THE PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE CORPORATION AND SHALL SUPERVISE THE BUSINESS AFFAIRS OF THE CORPORATION. THE STRENGTH OF LEADERSHIP AS EVIDENCED BY YOU, WILL LEND ADDED STRENGTH TO THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

\_\_\_\_\_, WILL YOU ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF CREDIT WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL AND PLEDGE TO PROMOTE THE GROWTH AND WELFARE OF OUR ORGANIZATION BY STRENGTH THROUGH EDUCATION?

WILL THE MEMBERS PLEASE STAND.

THESE ARE YOUR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 1977-1978. THEY REPRESENT A SOURCE OF SUPPORT AND STRENGTH THROUGH EDUCATION. THEY WILL MOVE FORWARD IN

THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSES OF CREDIT  
WOMEN-INTERNATIONAL. WILL YOU PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT AND COOPERATION TO THESE  
NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS BY SAYING "I WILL."

IT IS MY GREAT HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO PRESENT OUR NEW PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_.