Dedication of

NEW SHEAF OF WHEAT

by RUTH ADAMS, P.M., (Arizona)

MATRON:

Tonight we are to dedicate our new Sheaf of Wheat for the station of Ruth. Each step taken forward, and every contribution to make our Chapter more beautiful is worthy of our thoughts and prayers. Anything we do or say to make the occasion live in memory is our privilege and duty.

Sister Conductress and Sister ________, will you present the new Sheaf.

(CONDUCTRESS brings the new Sheaf and she and a Past or Grand Ruth stand close to Ruth’s station forming a triangle with Ruth who rises and moves back of her chair.)

CONDUCTRESS: (holding out new Sheaf)

The Sheaf is the emblem of plenty which, from its distinct and minute parts, teaches us that by patient industry, gleaning here a little and there a little, we may accumulate a competency to support us when the infirmities of age unfit us for the fatigues of labor.

It is with the greatest pleasure that I hand you this new Sheaf for the use of our Chapter.

(Cond. gives Sheaf to Ruth who holds it until after she has spoken)

PAST or GRAND RUTH: (Removes old sheaf from pedestal)

We realize that all things become infirm with age and so this sheaf which has been in use in ______ Chapter for many years has now reached the infirmity of age. But, we have learned well the lesson of Ruth and, by gathering here a little and there a little, have provided a new Sheaf to adorn the pedestal at the station of Ruth. Ruth’s devotion to Naomi is an inspiration to us all to be steadfast, constant and true.

RUTH: (holding out new Sheaf)

I am grateful to receive this new Sheaf, the emblem of Ruth's constancy and devotion to duty. While she humbly gleaned in the fields of grain to support herself and the aged Naomi, she was noticed by the owner of the fields, Boaz. Their love story is touching and beautiful. To their marriage a son was born, and so this line was carried down through the years till Jesus was born in Bethlehem - a descendent of our heroine Ruth. It is an honor to place this symbol of her devotion upon our pedestal.

(places new Sheaf on pedestal and takes her seat)

MATRON: ***

Let us unite in prayer.
CHAPLAIN:  (from her station)

Our Father, we thank Thee for giving us such women as Ruth, whose story, found in our Holy Bible, teaches that honor and justice which she portrayed in her life. Behold this Sheaf, dedicated to Thee. Let the light of Thy countenance shine upon it and bless it to the use and purpose for which it is intended. Open our hearts to the spiritual teachings of Ruth's story, and abide with us always. Amen.

PATRON:

Every dedication carries a promise from every heart that we will labor for perfection and to strengthen our promise tonight to this new Sheaf, join with ne in giving the sign and then the pass of Ruth.

(All give sign of Ruth and pass)

MATRON:

Together we will continue to share the blessings of our Chapter and add beauty to beauty and strength to strength, and may our constancy and friendship be brighter for this new emblem dedicated here tonight. *

(Chapter seated)