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OUR PEDESTAL COVERS
Ceremony for Presenting Pedestal Covers.

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Nine members, or girls, are used in presenting covers. The one who presents cover to Worthy Matron enters first from outer door, and marches on line south of Altar, taking position on line between dais and Altar. The other eight enter and form line back of Esther's chair, timing march so line is formed at same time as first one reaches East. When all are in position, one in East bows and line back of Esther's chair divides, those with Adah's and Electa's covers leading. They march east on line north and south of labyrinth, taking position by those to whom they are to present covers. When all are in position, they in turn face those to whom they are presenting the gift, and present them as follows, handing the cover to the one addressed as soon as they finish speaking.

To Worthy Matron:

Upon your table in the East our gavel rests secure,
In justice and in mercy, it will our ways assure;
And as our Chapter in it's work with beauty must be blest,
We give this for your pedestal whereon your gavel rests,
It's lovely color guides the way as it shines from afar,
And leads us ever onward to our own dear Eastern Star.

To Associate Matron:

As you stand ready in the west your loyalty to show,
And as you strive to follow on, the way of truth to know,
May we give you this little gift for work that is well done,
And may it shine in luster as does the effulgent sun,
And when upon your pedestal you use it at it's best,
May it be of service to you as it beautifies the west.

To Conductress:

As you present the way of truth where others may be led,
May this cover on your pedestal it's beauty ever shed;
As you within our labyrinth lead all others on the way,
May it be near to guide you on, that you may never stray.

To Associate Conductress:

As you prepare all those who come within our Chapter room,
May the beauty of this little gift give cheer, and never gloom;
As you assist all on their way to follow truth and light,
May it prepare and lead you on in all our paths aright.

To Adah:

With Adah's love we give to you a color that is true,
Upon your table may it rest, an emblem of the blue,
Which represents the cloudless sky when it is at it's best,
And on it's folds may you now place the sword and veil in rest.

To Ruth:

Upon your table may you place this color of the gold,
And tell us of that story that has been so often told;
And may the sheaf from day to day reflect it's gentle rays,
To guide us on to constancy in all Ruth's humble ways.

To Esther:

Because of Esther's courage, we now give to you the white,
For she was such a noble Queen to dare to do the right;
And may it on your table give to crown and scepter, too,
A gleam of royal beauty for the one who proved so true.

To Martha:

I give to you the ray of green in nature's beauty rare,
It gives to us a promised hope beyond this life of care;
Beneath the broken column may it to us ever give
The trustful faith of Martha, that our souls shall ever live.

To Electa:

May the beauty of this cover on your pedestal now shed
It's rays of charity and love in colors of the red;
And may the cup that rests thereon with truth and love o'er flow,
That we may learn Electa's ways, and love to others show.

Prayer by Chaplain at Altar. (All stand and turn toward Altar.)

Our Father in Heaven, we thank Thee for every good and precious gift which we realize comes from Thee. May we use these pedestal covers which we have just received, not only for the purpose of making our Chapter room more attractive, but that we may, through their use, be given a greater inspiration to be more worthy of our beautiful Order. We ask Thy blessing upon our Chapter. May it be strengthened and guided by Thy Holy Spirit in ways of happiness and paths of peace. In the name of our Christ we ask it.

Amen.

Organist plays soft music, and those who have received gifts offer arm to the one who presented her gift, and with other officers they form circle around Altar, the Chaplain remaining in position at Altar.

Song by officers at Altar:

Tune: "Blest be the Tie that Binds".

As we surround Thy throne
We thank Thee Lord of all,
We know that by Thy love alone
All gifts on us befall.

May we these gifts receive,
And use them in Thy way;
May we on Thy dear name believe,
And follow Thee each day.

Officers return to stations as music of song is played softly. Those who presented gifts march to west and are seated or retire.

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