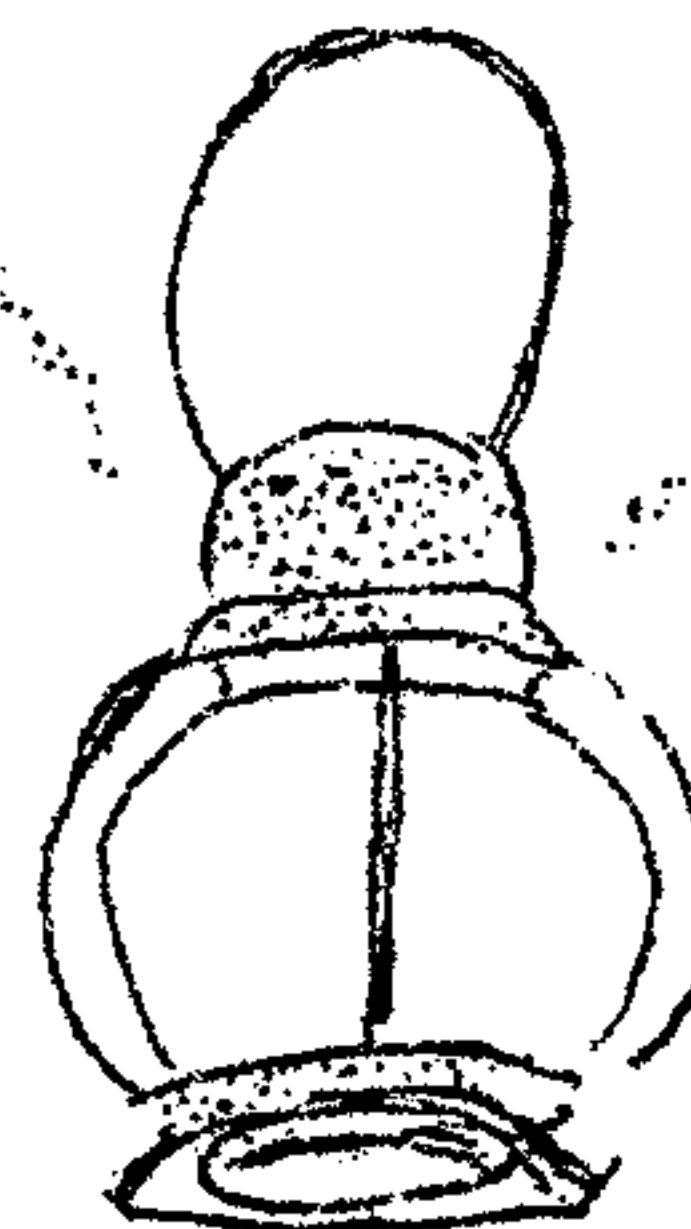


# The Lantern of Faith

Speech for Installation

by Lena G. Henderson



I appreciate the honor you have conferred on me tonight and hope I may prove worthy of your confidence.

This has been a beautiful ceremony. I thank you, Sister-----, for the thought and time you spent in planning the ceremony.

-----, I'm glad to have you as my Worthy Patron and know I can rely upon your help during the year.

My sincere thanks to the Chapter for their gift, to the installing officers and all who had any part in this installation.

Many, many years ago a beautiful new star appeared in the eastern sky. It shone down upon a humble manger where the infant Christ lay. The Christ who brought us the new law of love and forgiveness and the hope of redemption for all mankind.

The star was a thing of wonder to the wise men with their riches and to the simple shepherds in the field, and, more wonderful still, was the Babe whom they came to worship. We have taken the Star as the symbol of our order and strive to be worthy of it's pure light.

The Order of the Eastern Star is founded upon the teachings of the Bible and among those teachings, fidelity, and purity are stressed again and again.

I have chosen the blue of fidelity and white for purity as my colors for this year.

I shall try to be faithful to our order in all things that I do as Worthy Matron. I shall try to be pure and just in any decisions I may be called upon to make.

II Corinthians Verse 7, reads-"We walk by faith not by sight". I have chosen this as my motto for this year.

I ask for the loyal co-operation of all--officers and members in whatever we undertake this year. A chain is only as strong as it's weakest link. If you are not an officer, do not think of yourself as "only a member". We could not have a chapter without members, and the more faithful you are in attendance, in protesting, in being true Eastern Stars, the better our chapter will be.

"Because the road was steep and long  
And through a dark and lonely land,  
God set upon my lips a song  
And put a lantern in my hand."

----Joyce Kilmer

My lantern bears the light of faith--faith in my fellow man and in God. I ask,--this year,--will each of you help me carry this lantern of faith,--in our work here and in all our dealings with our fellow man?