I shall remember this evening always. The warmth and sincerity of our Installing Officers has made this event a monument to fraternal love and a challenge to higher and more complete service. This Incoming Group of Officers joins me in a heartfelt expression of thanks to all of you who have helped to make this occasion so meaningful to us all.

Recently, I have tried to decide what makes particular events worth recalling. In my own experience, I find that the events and occasions which bring me the most pleasure in memory are those which were surrounded with warmth and hospitality. Warmth and hospitality are two of the ways in which individuals express their love for one another. It is for this reason that my attention has been directed to the fifth point of the Star, Electa.

The story of Electa emphasizes Love. Electa had mastered the art of loving people for what they are. When a stranger knocked at Electa's door she accepted the individual as a fellow human being worthy of the love of another human being. Loving people for what they are is quite different from loving people for what they might be. It is also quite different from loving people for what they could become. It is very different from loving people for what they might be able to contribute to our own lives.

Loving people for what they are is accepting people as they are, with their strengths, with their weaknesses, with their capacity to love, with their capacity to hate, and with their capacity to share with us the human experience.

The story of Electa emphasizes the necessity that exists for individuals to love the moral truths. Loving the moral truths means that the individual is willing to search for the meaning that lies hidden within these truths. Loving the moral truths means that the individual is dedicated to ways and means of applying these truths in his own life. Further, one cannot really love a moral truth until he endeavors to share his understanding with another human being.

Electa had learned the true meaning of moral truths. Her whole life was a tribute to this understanding. Further, Electa was not satisfied with the understanding of the moral truth herself. She realized that she had a responsibility to exemplify these truths in her own life. She realized also that it was her obligation to share these meaningful truths with her fellow man.

Throughout the coming year, this corps of officers will try to make every fraternal experience one which will be remembered for its warmth and hospitality. We shall make every effort to increase our capacity to love people for what they are and not for what they could be. We shall dedicate our efforts to the seeking out of the moral truths. More than this, we dedicate ourselves, as individuals, to the task of applying these understandings in our own lives.

We shall endeavor to share with you our highest understanding of what the eternal moral truths are. We extend to you, our fellow members and friends, a most cordial invitation to join us in this effort to make the lessons of Electa more meaningful in our own lives during the coming year.
Tonight, we humbly dedicate ourselves
    To the loving of people for what they are,
For as we are able to love each other
    We add lustre to the lessons of the Star.

May we not consider our fellow man
    In terms of what he might possibly be.
May we make the effort to understand
    Where he needs the help of you and me.

May we learn to be more willing to share
    The sorrows and griefs of those we know.
May we make a wider use of our beliefs
    In our own lives as we continue to grow.

May we, like our Electa, love the truth
    And seek to share it with one another.
May we be dedicated to the challenge
    Of accepting every person as a brother.

Let us work the whole year through
    To discover the truth and its beauty.
Let us accept the challenge to love
    As life's noblest and grandest duty.