PREPARATION—
All officers except the Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron are in the ante rooms. Officers may wear short crepe paper capes of red, white and blue, over white dresses. Or wear arm bands of these colors. The Flag is in the West. Rolls of red, white and blue ribbon are placed on the stations of Electa, Esther and Adah, respectively.

MUSIC—
For all marching use, "Stars and Stripes Forever", "God Bless America", "America", "Star Spangled Banner".

At the first strains of the music the officers enter and perform the drill as shown in the diagram below.

When figure two has been reached the lines stop. Music changes to "God Bless America". The Matron calls up the Chapter. The Flag bearer marches west, secures the flag and takes it to a position before the Altar. The lights in the Chapter room are lowered. If a spot light is available it is turned on the flag. A choir, or soloist sings, "God Bless America", as a prayer.

At the close of the song the music is again in march time. The flag is taken to the East and placed in its standard. The flag bearer resumes her station.
The Matron seats the Chapter.
The Patron rises and addressing the Chapter speaks:
Sisters and brothers, we believe in the United States of America, as a government of the people, by the people and for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the government; a democracy in a Republic, a perfect Union, one and indissoluble, established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity, for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. We therefore believe it is our duty to our country to love it, to support its constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag and to defend it against all enemies.
The Worthy Matron calls up the Chapter saying, "Let us unite in singing one verse of "America". The Chapter is then seated. The officers continue their march as shown in the following diagram.

When figure three has been reached the officers stop. The person in the apex of the V says:

We have formed the V for Victory
'Tis our emblem of freedom for every land,
So let us take courage and make it stand
And work to have all nations free.

At the close of the verse the officers make figure four, which seats them in their stations.

A patriotic song may be sung here as a solo or by choir.

A chord is played as a signal for Electa, Esther, Idah, Conductress, Associate Conductress and Associate Matron to rise. The Associate Conductress, Associate Matron and Conductress march to the stations of Electa, Esther and Idah, respectively. The first two stand on the outside of the chairs, the Associate Matron stands behind Esther's chair.

When these positions have been reached the Associate Conductress steps forward and addresses Electa saying:

Sister Electa, what is the patriotic significance of your station?

Electa speaks:

The color appropriate to my station is red, the same red of courage which we find in our National emblem. It teaches us to meet life squarely and without fear. It admonishes us to hold fast to our faith in God, our Country and our fellowmen. As Electa upheld the cross from being trampled under foot, so let us uphold our flag from being trampled upon by dictators of cruel and ungodly nations. Sister Associate Conductress takes this red ray of courage (hands her the roll of red ribbon) to the station of loyalty, that its color may be blended with the white ray of Purity.

The Associate Conductress takes the roll of red ribbon and marches to Esther's station where she presents one end of the ribbon to the Associate Matron who stands behind the chair. The Associate Conductress
THE PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICE BUREAU
ELMA WASHINGTON

The Red, White and Blue.

then unwinds the ribbon as she goes back to Electa's station. She remains there holding her end of the ribbon. Electa is seated.

The Associate Matron steps to Esther's side and speaks:

Sister Esther, what relation does the color of your station bear to our Flag?

Esther speaks:

White stands for loyalty and purity—as does the white bars in our beautiful flag. Esther was willing to give her life for her people and their just cause. Shall we who live today do less for our country? Let us be loyal and steadfast to our country and to our flag as was Esther of old, remembering also that a pure and upright life is necessary as a part of a pure and upright nation.

Sister Associate Matron, take this emblem of purity and loyalty to the blue ray, that its colors may be blended with those of fidelity and truth. The Associate Matron passes Esther the end of the red ribbon while she goes to Adah's chair and presents one end of the white ribbon to the Conductress. She then unwinds the ribbon as she returns to her place. With the assistance of Esther the red and white ribbons may be pinned together, or they may be tacked securely with a thumb tack to the back of Esther's chair. Otherwise the Associate Matron stands behind the chair and holds them, making the apex of the triangle. (Be very careful not to drop ribbons) This part of the ceremony should be done slowly and with dignity, having suitable background music. Esther is seated.

The Conductress speaks to Adah saying:

Sister Adah, why does your ray remind us of the field of blue in Old Glory?

Adah:

The blue of this station and the blue of our flag signify fidelity, valor and truth. Our country needs these virtues in its people. Let us be among the first to exemplify them at all times in our lives. Let us be willing to sacrifice our lives if need be for the cause of truth and brotherhood mankind. The fidelity of Adah, as the valor and courage of our great leaders, Washington and Lincoln, should be an inspiration to us at all times.

Sister Conductress, take this emblem of truth to the station of the red ray, that the three beautiful colors of our flag may be united in one triangle of patriotism and love.

Conductress gives Adah her white ribbon and goes about half way across the triangle to meet Associate Conductress (This is done so as not to walk in front of the altar) They unwind the ribbon each holding one end and return to their positions. Adah is seated.

When the above ceremony has been performed a complete triangle of red, white and blue is made.

The Worthy Patron speaks: (The Associate Patron may take this)

Sisters and brothers, before us we have the epitome of all that is worth while in life. The triangle was the earliest emblem of Christianity. Here we see a triangle of our National Colors which hold unspeakable significance for us all and without which we could have neither hope of national happiness nor security. And within this emblematic triangle we
No 902 The Red, White and Blue

The Red, White and Blue page 4

have the Altar upon which rests the Holy Book, from which all great truths of life are derived. A Book containing the highest ideals known to man, So let us be mindful of its teachings-let us live by its precepts. By thus doing we will naturally acquire those desirable virtues which are brought out in the meaning of our flag. Then like Oliver Wendell Holmes, we shall be able to say within ourselves—For me let it be—"One Flag, One Heart, One Nation forever more."

Music—"Stars and Stripes Forever". The three Star Points rise. Adah and Electa take the blue ribbon while Conductress and Associate Conductor march West with the red and white ribbons and form a V with them in the West. The Associate Matron makes the apex of the V. At the same time Adah and Electa march West carrying the blue ribbon between them. When they reach the West side of the Altar they wind the ribbon as easily as possible and return to their stations. As the music continues the Matron calls up the Chapter. The Flag bearer carries the flag to the opening of the V. The Matron announces that all will join in singing one verse of the national anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner".

The Matron then speaks:
"Liberty and Union, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable."

The Flag bearer retires the flag. The two Conductresses wind the ribbons and all taking part in ceremony are seated.