

RAINBOW II

Center each table with a maypole of colored ribbons. Center the installation table with a larger maypole, each of the colored ribbons extending to a candle of the same color for each officer. New officers will stand in a semicircle by the table.

Installing officer will address the audience: The time has come for a change in administration and we must bid adieu to the officers who have served you well. We thank them for their accomplishments and for the time, energy and dedication they gave to uphold the fine traditions of this organization. As we now look forward to a new administration--to new ideas, initiative and enthusiasm--let us all renew our faith in the aims and purposes of our club and pledge our loyalty and support to the women who will be installed as the officers of (club name).

When asked to install these officers, I wondered what theme would be fitting for the occasion. Looking about, it seemed to me that the fine qualities we seek in our leaders--cooperation, faith, enthusiasm, sincerity, friendliness, loyalty, vision and integrity--are beautifully represented by the colors of the rainbow. The rainbow is a symbol of hope and promise. It assures us that in spite of clouds and storms, the sun is always shining.

To see a rainbow, we must be between the sun and the rain. From above, you may see it as a complete circle, from ground level, we see it as a semicircle--a bow. Raindrops act as tiny prisms and mirrors to break up the sunlight into colors of the spectrum and send colored light back to the eye. Each raindrop has many colors and many rainbows, sending colored light at certain angles, form a complete rainbow of vivid, bright exciting color.

Imagine for a moment what a drab world this would be without color. How depressing if all the beauty of nature and our surroundings appeared to us only in black and white, if all clothing were a dull gray and if the food we so enjoy because of its appetizing color suddenly became a colorless monotone.

In fact, color is so important to us that we project color meanings into expressions of our attitudes and feelings. Occasionally we're so mad we "see red" or perhaps, we are "green with envy." Have you ever felt "blue" one day and "in the pink" the next? Maybe "once in a blue moon" you've had a red-letter day" and came through with "flying colors." Well, your "flying colors" are waiting for you in our rainbow.

A rainbow has seven colors. However, each color so gradually changes hue, value and intensity that it is difficult to tell where one color ends and another begins. They blend together. May each of you, according to the symbolism of your particular color, offer your best effort to blend together to make a beautiful rainbow for (club). (Light candle of first officer to be installed.)

_____, as **Parliamentarian**, your pink candle signifies faith; faith in your organization and faith in your fellow officers and members. You will act in an advisory capacity on matters of procedure and be well acquainted with the club bylaws. A Parliamentarian advises but does not make decisions. Will you please light the candle of the Treasurer.

_____, as **Treasurer**, you have taken the green candle which signifies integrity. Your office is an important one. You must be familiar with the money-raising ethics of the club and it is your duty to keep the treasurer's books with honesty and accuracy. You are expected to also keep the members informed of the financial status of the club and see to it that all financial obligations are met. Will you please light the candle of the Corresponding Secretary.

_____, as Corresponding Secretary, you will hold the yellow candle signifying friendliness as you are the written word of the club. You will answer all correspondence promptly and efficiently in a manner that reflects a favorable light upon the club. Please light the candle of the Recording Secretary.

_____, as Recording Secretary, you will hold this red candle which signifies sincerity. Yours is the task of recording the action taken by the club. Many times these minutes will be referred to, therefore, they must be accurate and precise. You are the keeper of the records, not so much of what is said but, indeed, of what is done. Will you light the candle of the Second Vice-President?

_____, as Second Vice-President, your blue candle exemplifies loyalty, being constantly aware that new people with new ideas are necessary to any organization. Your efforts will be directed to encouraging and educating new members in the objectives and policies of the Federation. Please light the candle of the First Vice-President.

_____, in taking the orange candle which signifies cooperation, it will be your duty to assist the President at all times and be ready to take her place when she cannot be present. It is your duty to hold the interest of your club members through varied and entertaining programs. As First Vice President (Dean of Chairmen), it is your duty to keep the department chairmen informed and to guide them in their reporting responsibilities. Will you all, together, light the President's rainbow colored candle.

_____, as President, your candle is a blending of all the colors of your officers, showing that you as leader must express all qualities symbolized by these varied colors. You must have faith, loyalty, enthusiasm, sincerity, friendliness, integrity and a spirit of cooperation. A woman who would be a leader must have understanding, unlimited patience and an ability to carry on toward her goal with a never diminishing enthusiasm. Your responsibilities are great but they can bring much joy and satisfaction. And now, do each of you pledge to perform faithfully the duties of your office. If so, answer "I do." With acknowledgement of this pledge, you are now installed as officers of the (club) for the year

In closing, let us recall God's message to Noah, *"I will set My rainbow in the clouds and this shall be a sign unto you."* It was a covenant of his love and presence—a symbol of hope for all times. As installing officer, my very best wishes are with you for a most successful club year.