



Gilbert's
PROGRAM IDEAS OF
LASTING SIGNIFICANCE

DEAREST TIES

3266

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NOVELTIES • SUPPLIES FOR LODGES
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THE DEAREST TIES



Past Presiding Officer in charge of meeting begins, with a serious, appreciative tone. She addresses Past Presiding Brother Officer being welcomed.

A tie may be of any size
A tie may be of any hue.
But, the dearest sweetest tie
Binds all of us to you.

A Past Presiding Brother interrupts with a respectful but very confidential tone.

With your permission, dear sister,
We boys would like to have the floor.
We'd like to welcome this brother,
For we've a surprise in store.

You see, we've noticed that he needs
Things to drape beneath his chin.
We've noticed that the ties he wears
Are getting threadbare, wearing thin.

THE DEAREST TIES

We wanted to do something special
To honor this very special man.
With your kind indulgence,
May we execute our plan?

Past Presiding Officer in charge looks miffed but nods her head in agreement. A second Past Presiding Brother rises, holding a very old dilapidated looking tie in his hand, and then he addresses Junior Past Presiding Brother.

Now, this tie, Brother Past
Might not look like very much.
But, it's held up for years and years
Of meetings, conferences and such.

I wore this dear tie of mine
To seventeen dinners of chicken and peas.
And then to ten of scallops and ham,
To countless potlucks, so if you please.

Don't raise your eyebrows and look
With disdain, dismay nor askance,
Wrap it around your neck to wear
To your next fraternal dance!

THE DEAREST TIES

This brother offers gift with much dignity and returns to his seat looking regretfully back towards the tie he has just given away. Another Past Presiding Brother rises and addresses the Junior Past Presiding Brother.

I too have a special tie for you,
Got it for Christmas back in thirty-nine.
It's been the mainstay of my wardrobe.
I must say it wore real fine!

I kind of hate to part with this.
We've been through a lot together.
We've fixed flats and carried paraphernalia
From place to place in all kinds of weather.

We've sat in rigid silence through,
Speeches, Welcomes, and Greetings,
We've stayed up when exhausted,
Sweeping the hall after meetings.

A fellow gets attached to a tie like this
It's almost like a friend you know.
Feels nice and comfortable and looks,
Pretty much all right wherever you

THE DEAREST TIES

This brother retires and another brother approaches carrying a box of old ties. Each of the ties has a little note pinned to it describing an occasion suited to the wearing of the tie. (Unusual, humorous, or especially decorated ties add to the humor of the occasion.) Each note could bear the signature of the "friend" donating the tie.

A Real Eye Catcher
For a Night Out with the Boys
What the Well Dressed Man Wears
The Dime Store's Best
For the Man of Distinction
Only One of Its Kind
Just the Ticket for Traveling
Ideal for Ice Cream Socials
Tie Carefully to Cover Worn Spot
Practically New
Perfect for Card Parties
Dandy for Rummage Sales
Just the Thing for Square Dances
Excellent for Pot Lucks
Grand for Board Meetings

THE DEAREST TIES

All the Past Officers felt the same.

They all wanted to give you a tie.
Some couldn't select just one to give
So the number of ties began to multiply.

And the Past Sisters loved the idea.

They started to clean out every drawer,
Before we really knew what had happened.
Brother, we had ties for you by the score.

Everyone wanted to make a presentation.

Give it personally with a little rhyme.
But, with the number of ties we've got,
We simply did not have enough time.

So I've been selected to do the honor

To give you these gifts and to also say
That the grand job you did as Brother
Was perfection in every single way.

We welcome you to this association

Of Past Officers with pleasure
We hope you've enjoyed our little fun
And that each of your ties you'll treasure.

THE DEAREST TIES

Junior Past Presiding Officer then selects ties with notes pinned on them and reads them aloud to the group.

membership in fraternal organizations. Thus, something of a human nature, introduced before or during the ceremony by the presiding officer — even an embarrassing situation for the teller — “breaks the ice” and enlivens the meeting. A starter: “Something funny happened to me on my way to lodge (or chapter) tonight.”

The use of suitable quotations is a good practice in holding attention. In our work quotations from the Bible are always appropriate. According to the theme they can be readily selected by referring to the Cyclopedic Concordance section.

Poetical quotations are used to enhance the subject matter. If you don't happen to have a suitable book at home, ask your library for a copy of a good book of poems.

Whenever feasible always bring the person being honored, into the picture. A few facts, gleaned in advance, could put additional sparkling personalization into the ceremony or address.

The same principle of referring to a member's or visitor's background, when being honored, generally applies. Take a business man — an opportunity to mention in a praiseworthy way his experience or accomplishments. Getting the material in advance is not difficult. The “to-be-honored” generally requires little prompting. This individualization helps convey the feeling this is a ceremony written *solely* for the person honored.

Some ceremonies may be used as ceremonies or addresses. One or more persons may take part simply by dividing the paragraphs among the participants. You may use line or appointed officers. Or certain selected members or officers of the lodge auxiliary. Uses are set only by the *limits of your imagination*. It's worthy of consideration.

After all, each ceremony justifies giving it all you've got — that it may be a credit to *you and your chapter or lodge*. Expressing you, it is *your ceremony* — informative and entertaining.

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