

## **Ceremonies** New Farmers of America

## **Opening Ceremony**

**President:** (Raps with gavel.) This chapter will come to order. We are holding a meeting of the Chapter of New Farmers of America. Are all officers at their stations, Mr. Vice-President?

Vice-President: I shall call the roll of officers to ascertain whether they are at their station and report back to you, Mr. President.

(The arrangement of the room may be modified to suit local conditions.)

**Vice-President:** (Calling the roll of officers.) The Reporter

**Reporter:** Stationed at the flag of the United States of America.

**Vice-President:** Why at the flag?

**Reporter:** As the flag covers America, so should I strive to cover the country with information in order that the public may know that the New Farmers of America is a National Organization that is found in many of the States having rural high schools.

Vice-President: The Treasurer

**Treasurer:** Stationed at the picture of Booker T. Washington.

**Vice-President:** Why at the picture of Booker T. Washington?

Treasurer: I keep records of receipts and disbursements just as Washington kept his Accounts-carefully and accurately. I encourage thrift among the members and strive to build up our financial standing through savings and investments. Booker T. Washington was better able to serve his countrymen and posterity, because he was financially independent.

**Vice-President:** The Secretary

**Secretary:** Stationed at the boll of cotton.

**Vice-President:** What are your duties there?

Secretary: I keep an accurate record of all meetings and correspond with other secretaries wherever cotton is grown and New Farmers are organized.

Vice-President: Mr. Adviser.

Adviser: Stationed at the owl.

**Vice-President:** What stationed at the owl?

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**Adviser:** the owl is the time-honored emblem of knowledge and wisdom. Being older than the rest of you, I am asked to advise you from time to time as the need arises. I hope that my advice will always be based on true knowledge and ripened with wisdom – Mr. Vice-President, why do you keep a plow at your station?

Vice-President: The plow is the symbol of labor and tillage of the soil. Without labor, neither knowledge nor wisdom can accomplish much. My duties require me to work for this organization in ever way possible. I preside over meetings in the absence of our president, who stands beneath the rising sun, and assist him at all times in directing the work of the chapter.

**Adviser:** Why is the president stationed beneath the rising sun?

Vice-President: The rising sun is the token of a new era in agriculture. If we will but follow the leadership of our president, we shall be led out of the darkness of selfishness and into the glorious sunlight of brotherhood and cooperation. Mr. President, all officers are at their stations.

**President:** The secretary will call the roll of members. (Secretary rises and calls roll.)

**Secretary:** All present are members in good standing in this organization, Mr. President, or they are otherwise authorized to be here? (All stand at three raps of gavel.)

**President:** Thank you. New Farmers, why are we here?

All: To practice brotherhood, honor rural opportunities and responsibilities, and develop those qualities of leadership which a New Farmer of America should possess. (Take seats.)

**President:** May we accomplish our purposes. I now declare the Chapter of New Farmers of America duly opened for the transaction of business, or attention to any matters which may properly be presented.

### The Closing Ceremony

President: Mr. Secretary, have you any record of further business which should be transacted?

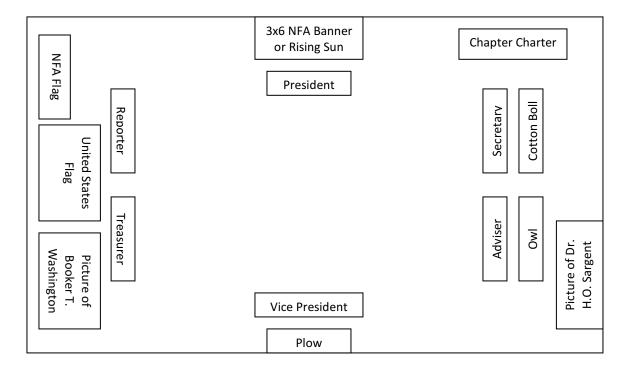
**Secretary:** I have none, Sir.

President: Does any member know of any new or unfinished business which should properly come before this meeting? (If no answer, proceed as follows): We are about to adjourn this meeting of the \_Chapter. As we join with our fellow students, classmates and friends, let us be diligent in labor, just in our dealings, and in all things be honest, and above all play fair.

Fellow members, join me in a salute to our flag. (Raps three times with gavel to call members to stand.)

All: (At Salute) "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

**President:** I now declare this meeting adjourned. (Raps with gavel as meeting is adjourned.)



### **Paraphernalia**

- 1 American Flag
- 1 Picture of Rising Sun or NFA Banner
- 1 Plow (miniature)
- 1 Bunch of cotton balls
- 1 Picture of Dr. H. O. Sargent
- 1 Owl
- 1 Gavel and Block
- 1 Official Secretary's Book
- 1 Official Treasurer's Book
- 1 Scrapbook
- 1 Chapter Charter
- 1 NFA Flag
- 1 Straight stick of native wood