

Home Mission Society.

11911

AN ORDINANCE to define the Constitution and alter the name of The Church Society of the Diocese of Sydney, and to provide for the more effectual management of the said Society and for other purposes.

Preamble.

WHEREAS an Organization known as The Church Society was founded in the year 1856, and has ever since carried on the work for which it was established AND WHEREAS it is expedient by Ordinance to define the Constitution and alter the name of the Organization, and to provide more effectually for the management of the Funds thereof The Synod of the Diocese of Sydney in pursuance of the powers in that behalf conferred upon it by the Constitutions for the management, and good government of the Church of England in the State of New South Wales, ordains and rules as follows:—

1.—*Title of the Society.*

The Title of the Society shall be The Home Mission Society (otherwise known as The Church Society of the Diocese of Sydney.)

2.—*Definitions.*

In this Ordinance unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter—

The "Society" means The Home Mission Society (otherwise known as The Church Society of the Diocese of Sydney.)

The "Archbishop" means the Archbishop of the Diocese of Sydney, or in his absence his Commissary, or if the See be vacant the Administrator of the Diocese.

The "Council" means the Council of The Home Mission Society (otherwise known as The Church Society of the Diocese of Sydney.)

"Parochial Association" or "Auxiliary" means an Association or Auxiliary formed in a Parish in accordance with Rules, Regulations, or By-laws made under this Ordinance.

*Home Mission Society.*3.—*Objects.*

The objects of The Society are:—

To provide wholly or in part for

- The Stipends of Clergy and Catechists,
- The training and support of Lay Evangelists,
- The work of Women in the Church,
- Pensions for aged and infirm Clergy;

To assist—

Clergymen and Catechists to reach their destinations
by payment of passage money,

Poor Parishes or Districts in discharging pecuniary
obligations imposed upon them or the Clergymen
licensed to any such Parish or District by Ordinance
or Resolution of Synod,

In the erection or repair of Churches, Rectories and
School Houses;

To regulate and control, as Branches of The Society—

The Church Buildings Loan Fund,

The Mission Zone Fund,

The Church of England Welcome Agency for Oversea
arrivals;

Any other Church Fund which may be transferred to or
brought under the control of the Society by virtue
of any Ordinance of Synod or otherwise.

To make provision for the regular payment of Parochial
Stipends;

To undertake any other work that may properly be
brought within the scope of the Society.

4.—*Membership.*

Every member of the Church of England subscribing not
less than twelve shillings annually shall be a member of The
Society and entitled to vote at all General Meetings on the pay-
ment of subscription for the current year.

5.—*Patron.*

The Council may elect a Patron of The Society.

*Home Mission Society.**6.—Management.*

The Society shall be under the management and control of a Council consisting of—

- (a) The Archbishop who shall be President (*ex officio*).
- (b) The Dean of Sydney and the Archdeacons who shall be Vice-Presidents (*ex officio*).
- (c) An Honorary Clerical Secretary.
- (d) An Honorary Lay Treasurer.
- (e) Twelve Clergymen elected by Synod.
- (f) Twelve Laymen elected by Synod.
- (g) Six Members nominated by the Archbishop.
- (h) Representatives of Parochial Associations.
- (i) The Organizing Secretary.

7.—Election of Council.

The Clerical, Lay, Nominated, and Parochial members shall be elected or nominated in manner following:—

Twelve Clergymen and twelve Laymen shall be elected by Synod at this present Session;

At the Session of Synod in 1912, the four Clergymen and four Laymen who have had the smallest record of attendances at Council Meetings during the then preceding 12 months shall retire, and Synod shall elect four Clergymen and four Laymen who shall hold office for three years, and until their successors are elected;

At the Session of Synod in 1913, the four Clergymen and four Laymen of those first elected who have had the smallest record of attendances at Council Meetings during the then preceding 12 months shall retire, and Synod shall elect four Clergymen and four Laymen who shall hold office for three years, and until their successors are elected;

At the Session of Synod in 1914 all the remaining Clergymen and Laymen of those first elected shall retire, and Synod shall elect four Clergymen and four Laymen, who shall hold office for three years, and until their successors are elected;

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Thereafter at every Annual Session of Synod the four Clergymen and four Laymen whose term of office is expiring shall retire, and Synod shall elect four Clergymen and four Laymen to hold office for three years, and until their successors are elected;

Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election;

Of the members first nominated by the Archbishop two shall retire in each of the years 1912 and 1913 namely, those who have had the smallest record of attendances at Council Meetings during those respective years, and the remaining first nominated members shall retire in the year 1914. The Archbishop shall in every year nominate two members, in place of those retiring, who shall hold office for three years and until their successors are nominated;

The members so nominated retiring annually in and after the year 1914 shall not be eligible for re-nomination until after the expiration of one year;

In the event of any question arising as to the retirement of elected or nominated members of the Council in consequence of an equality of number of attendances at Council meetings or otherwise, such question shall be determined by lot at such time and place and in such manner as the Council shall decide, and its decision shall be final;

Every Parochial Association contributing not less than Fifty Pounds (inclusive of offertories) in any year to The Society may elect one representative, who shall have a seat and vote in the Council for twelve months ending on the 30th day of April then next ensuing, and every Parochial Association similarly contributing to The Society not less than One Hundred Pounds in any year may elect two representatives.

8.—*Vacancies.*

Any vacancy occurring amongst the elected members of the Council may, if the Synod be not in Session, be filled by the Standing Committee appointing some person to act until the Session of Synod next ensuing, when the Synod shall elect some person to serve for the remainder of the term which the vacating

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member might have served; and any vacancy occurring amongst the nominated members shall be filled by the Archbishop.

If an elected member of the Council shall be absent from the Meetings of the Council for three months in succession without the permission of the Council, he shall thereupon cease to hold office and the vacancy shall be reported to the Standing Committee.

9.—*Council may act Notwithstanding Vacancies.*

All acts done by the Council or by any person acting as a member of the Council or of any Committee thereof shall, notwithstanding that there is any vacancy in their body or that it be discovered that there was some defect in the election or appointment of such Council or Committee or person acting as aforesaid, be as valid as if there was no vacancy or as if such Council or Committee or person acting as aforesaid had been duly elected or appointed.

10.—*Secretary and Treasurer.*

At each Annual Session the Synod shall elect one (Honorary Clerical Secretary and one Honorary Lay Treasurer of The Society. In the case of a vacancy occurring in the office of Secretary or Treasurer the vacancy shall be filled by the Standing Committee, if the Synod be not in Session.

11.—*Financial Year.*

The Society's Financial Year shall be from the 1st day of April till the 31st day of March next following. The Annual Meeting shall be held as soon thereafter as practicable, when a Report of the principal transactions during the past year and a Statement of Accounts shall be laid before the Meeting, and also before Synod at its ensuing Session.

12.—*Audit.*

Once at least in every year the accounts of The Society shall be examined, and the correctness thereof ascertained by one or more Auditor or Auditors appointed by the Synod.

13.—*Parochial Associations and Auxiliaries.*

The Clergymen and Churchwardens in each Parish or District in the Diocese are expected to establish a Parochial Association or an Auxiliary in connection with The Society.

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14.—*Collections.*

The Synod hereby recommends that on a Sunday in May and November in each year collections on behalf of The Society shall be made at the morning and evening services in every Parish Church and at every other place where Divine Service is held, and the Churchwardens or other responsible body of each Parish or place shall within one calendar month forward the amount of such collections to the Honorary Treasurer.

15.—*Trustee.*

The Church of England Property Trust, Diocese of Sydney, shall be and is hereby constituted The Trustee for and on behalf of the Society.

16.—*Investments.*

All moneys belonging to The Society and available for investment for or on account of The Society may be invested by the Church of England Property Trust, Diocese of Sydney, in the purchase of freeholds, messuages, lands or hereditaments, in the State of New South Wales, or in any stocks, funds or securities of or guaranteed by the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, or by the Government of any State thereof, or by the Government of New Zealand, or on mortgage of freehold property in any part of New South Wales, with power from time to time to vary any such investments for any other or others of them, and pending such investment may be deposited at interest with the Savings Bank of New South Wales or with any Government Savings Bank, or with any joint stock company or corporation carrying on the business of bankers in Sydney.

17.—*Powers of Council.*

The Council shall have the management and disposal of all moneys and other property contributed subscribed bequeathed or devised to The Society, or otherwise belonging to The Society, and of the income and revenues of The Society (not diverting any of the moneys or property the subject of any specific trust or specifically appropriated by the donor thereof).

18.—*Appointments of Officers.*

The Council may appoint and remove the Organizing Secretary and all other paid Officers of The Society and define their

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duties and fix their remuneration or other emoluments as may from time to time be deemed expedient.

19.—Provisional Council.

This Ordinance shall come into operation upon its being assented to, and until the elected members of the Council shall be elected under this Ordinance the existing Committee of The Church Society shall constitute a Provisional Council of the Society, and shall have authority to exercise and fulfil the powers and duties conferred by this Ordinance on the Council. Upon the election by Synod of the elected members the Council shall be deemed to be constituted and the members of the Committee of The Church Society shall cease to hold office, and the Council shall forthwith take the place of the said Committee and all paid officials at present employed by the said Committee shall be paid officials of the Council and the Council shall have the charge and administration of all the affairs of The Society.

20.—Power to make Rules, etc.

The Council may make Rules, Regulations, or By-Laws, for carrying out the provisions of this Ordinance and respecting matters not herein provided for and particularly for:—

- (a) The management of the funds of The Society and the regulation of its work.
- (b) Regulating proceedings at meetings of the Council and a quorum necessary for the transaction of business.
- (c) Regulating applications for and the making of Grants and the conditions thereof.
- (d) Regulating the management of the Pension Fund and the applications for and the making of Grants of pensions.
- (e) For the establishment of Parochial Associations and Auxiliaries.
- (f) Regulating the management of the Church Buildings Loan Fund.
- (g) Regulating the management of the Mission Zone Fund.
- (h) Regulating the management of the Church of England Welcome Agency for Oversea Arrivals.
- (i) Regulating the management of any other Church Fund which may be under the control of the Society.

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- (j) For the receipt of all sums of money payable to The Society and for banking the same.
- (k) For the passing of accounts for payment, and for the signing of cheques.
- (l) For any other object which can properly be brought within the scope of The Society.

21.—*Repeal.*

The Rules of Synod passed on the undermentioned dates relating to The Church Society are hereby superseded, namely:—

23rd August, 1867,
 27th June, 1870,
 9th September, 1887 (Two),
 17th April, 1888,
 15th August, 1893,
 30th September, 1897,
 25th August, 1905 (Two),

and the Objects and Rules of Parochial District Associations as heretofore published.

22.—*Short Title.*

This Ordinance may be cited as "The Home Mission Society Ordinance of 1911."

I certify that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as reported.

EDW. H. ROGERS,

Chairman of Committees.

We certify that this Ordinance was passed this 28th day of September, 1911.

E. CLAYDON } *Secretaries of*
 W. R. BEAVER } *Synod*

I assent to this Ordinance,

JOHN CHARLES SYDNEY.

29th September, 1912.