

APPENDIX 3

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN IRELAND ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1928 (18 & 19 GEORGE V., CAP. V.)

An Act

To give statutory effect to the Constitution of the Religious Body known as the Methodist Church in Ireland and to provide for the alteration and amendment of same, to confer additional powers upon the Annual Conference of said Church, to confer additional powers upon the Statutory Trustees incorporated by the Methodist Church in Ireland Act, 1915, to enable trusts to be declared in favour of such Church, to provide for Conduct of Proceedings of Conference and other purposes in relation thereto.

[4th June, 1928.]

WHEREAS in or about the year 1739 John Wesley, late of Lincoln College, Oxford, Clerk in Holy Orders, founded a religious Society of which the members subsequently became generally known by the name of Methodists or Wesleyan Methodists, which Society was introduced into Ireland in the year 1747;

And whereas diverse buildings in Great Britain and Ireland commonly called Chapels, with a message or dwelling house, schoolhouses or other appurtenances were from time to time given or conveyed by the said John Wesley and other persons to Trustees upon trust (inter alia) to permit and suffer such person and persons and for such time and times as should be appointed by the Yearly Conference of the people called Methodists in London, Bristol, or Leeds, and no others to have and enjoy the said premises for the purposes of preaching and expounding God's Holy Word;

And whereas for the purpose of rendering effectual the trusts created by the said several gifts and conveyances, and that no doubt or litigation might arise with respect to the same, or the interpretation or true meaning thereof, the said John Wesley executed a Deed Poll of Declaration dated the 28th day of February, 1784, which said Deed was duly enrolled in the High Court of Chancery in England;

And whereas the said Deed Poll contained a Declaration by the said John Wesley that the Yearly Conference of the people called Methodists had always theretofore consisted of the preachers and expounders of God's Holy Word, commonly called Methodist Preachers in connection with and under the care of the said John Wesley whom he had thought expedient to summon to meet him in London, Bristol or Leeds to advise with them for the promotion of the Gospel of Christ to appoint the person so summoned and the other preachers and expounders of God's Holy Word, also in connection with and under the care of the said John Wesley, not summoned to the said Yearly Conference, to the use and enjoyment of the said Chapels and premises so conveyed upon trust as aforesaid, and for the expulsion of unworthy and admission of new persons under his care and into his connection to be preachers and expounders as aforesaid and also of other persons upon trial for the like purpose. And the Deed Poll further declared that the several persons to the number of one hundred therein named being preachers and expounders of God's Holy Word

under the care and in connection with the said John Wesley had been and then were members of the Yearly Conference according to the true intent and meaning of the said several gifts and conveyances wherein the words Conference of the people called Methodists are mentioned and contained and that the said several persons therein mentioned and their successors for ever to be chosen as hereinafter provided were and should for ever be construed, taken and be the Conference of the people called Methodists nevertheless upon the terms and subject to the regulations hereinafter prescribed and the Conference so defined, and consisting solely of Preachers became known as the Legal Conference;

And whereas the Deed Poll provided for the assembly yearly of the Legal Conference, for the filling of vacancies, and for the maintenance of the number of Members of Conference at one hundred and other like matters and also provided that the act of the majority shall be taken to be the act of the whole Conference and contains the following clauses as to the powers of the Legal Conference:

"Eighth: The Conference shall and may expel and put out from being a member thereof, or from being in connection therewith, or from being upon trial, any person member of the Conference or admitted into connection, or upon trial for any cause which to the Conference may seem fit or necessary and every member of the Conference so expelled and put out shall cease to be a member thereof to all intents and purposes as though he was naturally dead, and the Conference immediately after the expulsion of any member thereof as aforesaid shall elect another person to be a member of the Conference in the stead of such member so expelled:

"Ninth: The Conference shall and may admit into connection with them, or upon trial, any person or persons whom they shall approve to be Preachers and Expounders of God's Holy Word, under the care and direction of the Conference, the name of every such person or persons so admitted into connection or upon trial as aforesaid, with the time and degrees of the admission, being entered in the Journals or Minutes of the Conference:

"Tenth: No person shall be elected a member of the Conference who hath not been admitted into connection with the Conference as a Preacher and Expounder of God's Holy Word as aforesaid for twelve months:

"Eleventh: The Conference shall not nor may nominate or appoint any person to the use and enjoyment of or to preach and expound God's Holy Word in any of the Chapels and premises so given or conveyed, or which may be given or conveyed upon the trusts aforesaid who is not either a member of the Conference or admitted into connection with the same, or upon trial as aforesaid, nor appoint any person for more than three years successively to the use and enjoyment of any Chapel and premises already given or to be given or conveyed upon the trusts aforesaid, except ordained Ministers of the Church of England:

"Twelfth: That the Conference shall and may appoint the place of holding the yearly Assembly at any other city, town or place than London, Bristol, or Leeds, when it shall seem expedient so to do:

"Thirteenth: And for the convenience of the Chapels and premises already, or which may hereafter be given or conveyed upon the trusts aforesaid, situate in Ireland or other parts out of the Kingdom of Great Britain, the Conference shall and may, when and as often as it shall seem expedient, but not otherwise, appoint and delegate any member or members of the Conference, with all or any of the powers, privileges, and advantages hereinbefore contained or vested in the Conference, and all and every of the acts, admissions, expulsions, and appointments whatsoever of such member or members of the Conference so appointed and delegated as aforesaid, the same being put into writing and signed by such delegate or delegates, and entered in the Journals or Minutes of the Conference, and subscribed as after mentioned, shall be deemed, taken, and be acts, admissions, expulsions, and appointments of the Conference to all intents, constructions and purposes whatsoever from the respective times, when the same shall be done by such delegate or delegates notwithstanding anything herein contained to the contrary.

And whereas for many years the Society of the people called Methodists otherwise known as the Methodist Church in Ireland has had its own Conference held yearly in Dublin, Belfast, or Cork, which included the members of the Legal Conference appointed as a delegate pursuant to Clause thirteen of the Deed Poll, who alone had the power to admit, expel and appoint Preachers in connection with the Methodist Church in Ireland and deal with the matters reserved to the Legal Conference all other matters arising in Ireland being dealt with by the Conference as provided by the Constitution for the time being;

And whereas the Constitution of the Methodist Church in Ireland has been duly enrolled;

And whereas divers buildings, Chapels, Schools, Halls, messuages and dwellinghouses in various parts of Ireland are now held by trustees upon various trusts for the use of such Preachers in connection with the Methodist Church in Ireland, as the Legal Conference should from time to time appoint;

And whereas by reason of the contemplated amalgamation of the Wesleyan Methodist and other Churches in England the Legal Conference may shortly cease to exist;

And whereas it is expedient that all powers and authorities vested in and exercisable by the Legal Conference in respect of the Methodist Church in Ireland should henceforth be vested in and exercisable by the Conference of the Methodist Church in Ireland;

And whereas under the eleventh Clause of the Deed Poll it is provided that no person except ordained Ministers of the Church of England may be appointed for more than three years successively to the use and enjoyment of any Chapel, and it is expedient that such limitations of appointment should be altered as hereinafter provided;

And whereas by the Methodist Church in Ireland Act, 1915, a Body Corporate was created with perpetual succession and a Common Seal under the name of "The Trustees of the Methodist Church in Ireland" with power to hold and receive lands, money or other property given, conveyed or otherwise assured to them to be applied in accordance with the trusts declared in reference thereto or affecting the same and with power to act as custodian trustees of property for the time being vested in or belonging to the several trusts and funds connected with the Church or

any of them as the Conference might direct subject to any trust charge or obligation affecting same and as far as no special trust charge or obligation should extend then upon such trusts and for such purposes as the Conference should from time to time direct;

And whereas from time to time real or personal property which has been or may be granted, assigned or devised or given, subscribed or bequeathed, in trust for some purpose or charity connected with the Methodist Church in Ireland, or for the endowment, use or benefit of the said Church, or of some Circuit, Chapel, Mission, Organisation, Charity, Fund, or other object connected therewith, has or may become vested in persons who are unable or unwilling to act as trustees, or who do not in fact act, or who for some other reason are unsuitable and it is desirable that in all such cases unless such persons have been specifically named by the donors, testators or subscribers it should be lawful for the Conference to require that such property, real or personal, should be vested in or transferred to the trustees of the Methodist Church in Ireland:

And whereas it is expedient that in the case of all real or chattel real property whether hitherto transferred to them, or hereafter to be acquired by them, the Trustees of the Methodist Church in Ireland should have the fullest power, with the sanction of Conference to sell, grant, lease, mortgage, exchange, or otherwise dispose of the same and should also have power to appoint local trustees to administer any property vested in them.

And whereas in the case of certain trust property the trusts whereof have been inadequately declared it is desirable in order to secure the uniformity of the trusts that the trustees of any property should be empowered to adopt the statutory trusts as hereinafter contained;

And whereas the Conference at its Annual Meeting held at Dublin commencing on Tuesday the 14th June, 1927, and the Legal Conference at its Annual Meeting held at Bradford on the 15th day of July, 1927, have approved of the alterations and amendments proposed to be made by this Act;

And whereas the Methodist Church in Ireland, being one united Body with members and property throughout the whole of Ireland desires to have such purposes carried into effect by Acts of the respective Legislatures having jurisdiction;

And whereas the purposes aforesaid cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament.

MAY IT THEREFORE PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY

That it may BE ENACTED AND BE IT ENACTED BY THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Commons of Northern Ireland in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows (that is to say):—

1. In this Act unless there be something in the subject matter or context repugnant to such meaning: The expression "the Church" or "the Methodist Church in Ireland" means the Religious Body formed by the Union of the several Societies in Ireland of the people called Methodists in the connection established by the late Reverend John Wesley collectively known as the Wesleyan

Methodist Society in Ireland with the Primitive Wesleyan Methodist Society of Ireland and such other persons and Societies as have since adhered thereto or united therewith or may hereafter adhere thereto or unite therewith.

The expression "the Conference" or "the Irish Conference" means the yearly Conference of the Church composed of Representatives in accordance with the Constitution of the Church for the time being.

The expression "the Legal Conference" means the yearly Conference of the people called Methodists established pursuant to the provisions of a certain Deed Poll executed by the late Reverend John Wesley, dated the 28th day of February, 1784, and hitherto held in Great Britain.

The expression "the Deed Poll" means the said Deed Poll.

The expression "the Constitution" means the Constitution of the Church for the time being.

The expression "Special Resolution" means a resolution of the Conference of which notice has been given to the Secretary thereof at the preceding Conference and which has been passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the members present and voting at a Meeting of the Conference in any year and confirmed as a Special Resolution by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the members present and voting at a Meeting of the Conference held in the next succeeding year, provided that not less than one-half of the total members of the Conference are present and voting.

The expression "Minister" means a preacher who is a member of the Conference, or admitted into connection therewith.

The expression "Circuit" means an area defined as such by the Conference including the Chapel or Chapels therein and constituting the charge of a Minister appointed in accordance with the Constitution as Superintendent thereof.

The expression "Superintendent Minister" means the Minister appointed in accordance with the Constitution as Superintendent of a Circuit.

The expression "the Statutory Trustees" means the Trustees of the Methodist Church in Ireland incorporated by the Methodist Church in Ireland Act, 1915.

The expression "Statutory Trusts" means the Trusts set forth in the Schedule hereto.

2. From and after the commencement of this Act the several powers and authorities declared by the Deed Poll or any other deed instrument or Act to be vested in or exercisable by the Legal Conference shall in relation to the Methodist Church in Ireland and the purposes thereof be vested in and exercisable solely by the Irish Conference in accordance with the Constitution; and the Deed Poll whenever referred to or incorporated shall be deemed and construed to have been modified and amended accordingly.

3. The Constitution of the Church is the Constitution contained in the first Schedule to a certain Deed Poll dated the 12th day of December, 1927, executed in duplicate under the hand and seal of William Henry Smyth of Dewsbury, Earlswood Road, Belfast, M.A., President of the Methodist Church in Ireland and Vice-President of the Conference, duly enrolled in the High Court of Justice in the Irish Free State on the 14th day of December, 1927, and in the High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland on the 15th day of December, 1927, and the said Constitution shall continue to be the Constitution of the Church subject to such alterations and with such amendments as may from time to time be made in manner hereinafter provided.

4. It shall be lawful for the Conference from time to time to alter or amend the Constitution by Special Resolution in such manner as the Conference shall think fit. Copies of every such Special Resolution, certified by the President and the Secretary of the Conference for the time being to be true copies of a resolution duly passed and confirmed as a special resolution, shall, within three months from the confirmation thereof, be duly enrolled in like manner as the Original Constitution contained in the said Deed of the 12th day of December, 1927, and when so enrolled shall become operative as from the date of the confirmation of such Resolution as a Special Resolution.

5. The Conference, in accordance with its Constitution for the time being, shall continue to make all appointments from year to year, but it shall be lawful for the Conference—notwithstanding anything contained in the Deed Poll or any other deed or instrument—to appoint any Minister.

(a) To the use and enjoyment of any Chapel or premises belonging to, or held in trust for the purposes of, the Church for five years successively or such other period as may be fixed by the Constitution for the time being.

(b) To any institution or department or to the use and enjoyment of any premises declared by the Conference to be used for the purpose of a Mission for any number of years successively.

6. It shall be lawful for the Conference from time to time to make, vary and revoke such rules and regulations as may be deemed expedient for the general conduct and control of its proceedings and the management by Committees or otherwise of the business entrusted to it, and further to appoint such and so many Committees as it may consider necessary or desirable and to delegate to such Committees all or any statutory or other powers, discretions or authorities vested in it, save such as are expressly required by this Act to be exercised by a Resolution or Special Resolution of the Conference, and any Committee so appointed shall in the exercise of the powers, discretions or authorities delegated to it conform to any rules and regulations which may from time to time be made by the Conference.

7. If at any time, any property, real or personal, which has been or may be granted, assigned or devised or given, subscribed or bequeathed in trust for any purpose or charity connected with the Church or for the endowment, use or benefit of the Church, or of any Circuit, Church, Chapel, Mission, Organization, Charity, Fund or other object connected therewith is not vested in trustees duly appointed by name and able and willing to act it shall be lawful for the Conference by Resolution to declare that the same shall vest in or shall be vested in or transferred to the

Statutory Trustees who shall thereupon take all further steps (if any) necessary to give effect to such resolution and all other persons (if any) in whom the same is vested or who shall have the custody thereof for the time being shall convey, assign or transfer and shall hand over the same forthwith pursuant to such resolution, and the receipt of the Statutory Trustees shall be a good and sufficient discharge to the persons, transferring the same in respect of the property transferred, and such property when so vested in or transferred to the Statutory Trustees shall be held by them upon the trusts affecting the same.

8. Notwithstanding anything contained in the deed or instrument under which the same is held the Statutory Trustees in respect of all property vested in them of whatsoever kind, and wheresoever situate, may exercise all or any of the powers following, that is to say the Statutory Trustees may from time to time with the sanction of the Conference sell, grant in fee farm, lease exchange or otherwise dispose of the same or any part thereof on such terms and in such manner as they think fit or mortgage any property vested in them, and may enter into, execute and do all contracts, assurances and things necessary or proper in that behalf and every such disposition as aforesaid may be made either absolutely in consideration of any price or in consideration of any annual rent or rents to be made payable as the Statutory Trustees direct or partly for a sum of money and partly for such rent or rents as aforesaid as the Statutory Trustees think fit and the Statutory Trustees may afterwards sell any rent so to be made payable and any such rent and the proceeds of any such disposition shall thenceforth be held upon the trusts theretofore affecting the property so disposed of.

9. It shall be lawful for the Statutory Trustees with the sanction of the Conference from time to time to appoint by deed local Trustees to administer in accordance with the trusts thereof any property for the time being vested in the Statutory Trustees and at any time in like manner to revoke the appointment of all or any of such local Trustees and every local Trustee so appointed shall be bound to account to the Statutory Trustees.

10. It shall be lawful for the Trustees, or for a majority not being less than three-fourths in number of the Trustees in whom at any time any Church, Chapel, Manse or other real or chattel real property is vested in trust for the Church or any charity or purpose connected therewith to execute a Deed declaring that the property so held by them shall henceforth be held upon the statutory trusts set forth in the Schedule to this Act and thereupon such property shall thenceforth be and be deemed to be held upon and with and subject to the trusts, powers and provisions declared and contained in the said Schedule instead of the trusts, powers and provisions upon and with and subject to which the same was previously held.

11. A copy of any consent, approval, sanction, decision, Resolution or Special Resolution of the Conference or any Committee thereof which shall be signed by the President or Vice-President, and by the Secretary or Acting Secretary for the time being of the Conference shall be received as *prima facie* evidence of such consent, approval, sanction, decision, Resolution or Special Resolution having been duly given, made or passed as the case may be and of the validity of the same in all Courts and before all Justices, Officers and persons whomsoever.

12. Nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to limit or curtail the rights, powers or privileges of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland in relation to Charitable Donations and

Bequests or, without the consent of the Ministry, to affect any property vested in or under the control of the said Ministry.

13. This Act may be cited as the Methodist Church in Ireland Act (Northern Ireland), 1928.

SCHEDULE REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING ACT

STATUTORY TRUSTS

Upon Trust that all and singular the lands and premises together with all buildings (if any) erected or to be erected thereon shall be used and occupied according to the nature thereof for all or any of the purposes hereafter mentioned that is to say:—

- (a) As a Church, Chapel or House of Worship or as a site for a Church, Chapel or House of Worship, for the use and benefit of the Methodist Church in Ireland to the intent that the Church and the several members thereof may therein have God's Holy Word preached and expounded and all other Christian acts and ceremonies done and performed and meetings held in accordance with the usage of the Methodist Church in Ireland.
- (b) As a Schoolroom or Schoolhouse, or as a site for a Schoolroom or Schoolhouse, to the intent that the Church may have a School or Schools or Sunday School conducted in such Schoolroom or Schoolhouse in accordance with Resolution from time to time passed by the Conference and either subject to the exclusive control of the Conference, or subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Ministry of Education, as the Conference shall by resolution decide.
- (c) As a Minister's residence, or as a site for a Minister's residence, to the intent that the same may be used and occupied as a residence by the Minister or Ministers appointed to the Circuit for the time being wherein such premises shall be situate or by such Supernumerary Minister or Minister on Probation as may be permitted by the Conference to reside therein rent free.
- (d) As an Orphanage, Almshouse, Institution or Hall for Charitable or religious purposes, or as a site therefor, to the intent that the same may be used and occupied for the use and benefit of the Church and any Charitable purpose in connection therewith.
- (e) As a Burial ground for the interment of members of the Church and such other persons as the Conference may permit to be buried therein in accordance with such Rules and Regulations as the Conference may make or approve.
- (f) For such purpose or purposes, being Charitable purposes, in connection with the Church for which the trust premises may have been, or may be, given or acquired, or for such other charitable purpose in connection with the Church as the Trustees or the majority of them may at any time with the sanction of the Conference determine

Provided always that the Trustees shall permit and suffer such Minister or Ministers as shall be appointed to such Circuit from time to time in accordance with the Constitution to have and enjoy any Church, Chapel or House of Worship on the said premises for the purpose of Preaching and expounding God's Holy Word and for the doing and performing of all other Christian acts and ceremonies and holding Meetings therein and shall permit and suffer any Dwelling House thereon to be enjoyed by any Minister permitted by the Conference to reside therein as a residence for himself without any interruption whatever and shall not permit him to sub-let or alienate in any way and shall permit and suffer the establishment and carrying on of any such School or Schools, Orphanage, Almshouse or other Institution and the holding of meetings and other functions upon the said premises for the use and benefit of the Church or any Charitable purpose in connection therewith subject to the approval and under the control of the Conference and not otherwise.

Provided further that the Trustees shall permit to be held in the said Church, Chapel or place of Worship, School or other buildings only such meetings as are usually held on or in premises belonging to or held in trust for the Methodist Church in Ireland and such other Meetings as may be approved by the Superintendent Minister and by the Trustees and are not contrary to any regulation made by the Conference.

Provided however that the Trustees may permit such other person or persons duly approved or appointed by the Superintendent Minister according to the usage of the Church to preach in such premises and also such other person as may be appointed in accordance with the Constitution to fill any vacancy in the Circuit but this proviso is subject to any regulation made by the Conference.

Provided always however that no Minister or person appointed or permitted as aforesaid shall preach, maintain, propagate or teach therein any doctrine or practice contrary to the statement of belief contained in the Constitution for the time being.

Provided always that it shall be lawful for the Trustees in accordance with any statutory provision in that behalf and with the sanction of the Conference to transfer any school or school property to any educational authority either absolutely or for any term and with or without reserving any right of control to the Trustees or to the Conference as the Conference may sanction.

And upon further Trust from time to time to stand possessed of any income available for the purposes of the trust upon trust thereout to pay the rent, rates and taxes (if any) and other outgoings lawfully payable in respect of the said property and also the costs and charges of insuring and keeping insured the said property against loss by fire or such other risks as the Trustees think proper and in repairing, improving and keeping the said property in good repair and condition and to retain and reimburse themselves all costs, charges and expenses lawfully incurred and paid by them in or about the due execution of the trusts and to pay all other proper charges and expenses in connection with the trust premises.

And upon further Trust to apply from time to time and at any time any surplus money in the hands of the Trustees which in the opinion of the Trustees may not be required for the purposes aforesaid for the furtherance of the work of the Church in the Circuit in which the trust property is

situated or for such other purposes in connection with the Church as the Trustees with the sanction of the Conference may from time to time determine.

And it is hereby declared that it shall be lawful for the Trustees or the majority of them at any time with the sanction of the Conference:

- (a) To Mortgage the Trust premises or any part thereof respectively to any person for securing the repayment of such sum of money as it may be necessary to raise or borrow for expenses incurred or to be incurred in the due execution of the Trusts and purposes aforesaid or any of them.
- (b) To grant in fee farm, demise or let the whole or any part of the trust premises which shall not at the time be used or required for any of the purposes aforesaid for any other purpose which shall be approved or sanctioned by the Conference in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by the majority of the Trustees and sanctioned by the Conference.
- (c) To sell and absolutely dispose of the trust premises or any part thereof freed and discharged from the trusts herein contained and in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by the majority of the Trustees and sanctioned by the Conference.

And the Trustees or the majority of them are hereby empowered to take such steps and do all such acts and things as may be necessary for carrying out any such mortgage, letting, sale or other disposition as aforesaid.

And the Trustees shall apply any capital money which shall arise from any such sale, grant in fee farm, demise or letting in or towards the discharge of incumbrances and liabilities whether personal or otherwise lawfully contracted or occasioned in the execution of the trusts hereof or with the sanction of the Conference for or towards purchasing or procuring a more eligible piece of ground and erecting or acquiring buildings and premises in Ireland to be used for all or any of the uses, trusts and purposes aforesaid or such of them as shall be then subsisting or capable of taking effect, or for such other charitable purposes in connection with the Church as the Conference shall determine.

And it is hereby declared that the receipt of the majority of the Trustees shall in all cases of payment made to them or any of them as such Trustees be a full discharge to the person paying the same for all moneys therein acknowledged to have been received by any such Trustees as aforesaid, and that it shall not be incumbent upon any Purchaser, Mortgagee or Lessee of the premises or any part thereof to inquire into necessity, expediency or propriety of any Mortgage, sale, demise or other disposition thereof made or proposed to be made by the Trustees nor to see to or be answerable or accountable for the application, loss or mis-application of the purchase or other money for which a receipt or receipts shall be so given as aforesaid.

And provided further that when any Trustee shall resign his office of Trustee or refuse or become incapable to act in the trusts or reside out of Ireland for twelve months continuously or become bankrupt or insolvent or cease to be a member of the Methodist Church in Ireland or be called

upon by a resolution of the Conference to resign the office of Trustee he shall be deemed and taken to have thereby vacated his office of Trustee or otherwise the number of the Trustees of any property shall be reduced below four or sooner if by the continuing trustees or the majority of them it shall be deemed advisable the said continuing trustees shall within twelve months after such reduction shall take place by deed nominate and appoint a sufficient number of persons then members of the Church as trustees of such property for the purpose of administering the aforesaid trusts. But in case such continuing trustees or the majority of them shall fail to make such appointment within the time aforesaid after the trustees of such property shall have been reduced below four in number then it shall be lawful for the Superintendent Minister of the Circuit in which the trust property is situate by deed under his hand and seal in accordance with the regulations of the Conference to appoint trustees (of whom he himself may be one) for the purposes aforesaid and to vest the trust property or cause the same to be vested in such new trustees jointly with the continuing trustees if any.

Provided always that it shall be lawful for the Trustees on the nomination of the Superintendent Minister to appoint from time to time and remove from office such and so many officers paid or unpaid as they may consider requisite and expedient to assist them in the control and management of the Trust property.

Provided always that the business of the Trustees shall be transacted at Meetings of the trustees which shall be held from time to time as occasion may require and any question or matter arising shall be decided by the votes of a majority of those persons present (being a quorum) and entitled to vote. And in any case in which the consent of a majority of the Trustees for the time being is specifically required, under the provisions hereinbefore contained, to the doing of any act it shall not be necessary that a majority of the Trustees should be present at a meeting of the Trustees provided the consent in writing of a majority of the Trustees is obtained before doing such act.

And it is hereby declared that it shall be lawful for the Conference from time to time to make such rules and regulations for the holding of and conduct of the business at the Trustees Meetings as they shall think fit and from time to time to annul, amend or alter the same and without in any way limiting the scope of the power above conferred it is hereby further declared that such rules and regulations may make provision with regard to:

- (a) The appointment of a Chairman of such meeting who may be a Minister who is not one of the trustees.
- (b) Such Chairman having an original or casting vote or both.
- (c) The number of Trustees who shall form a quorum.

And the Trustees at their meetings and in the transaction of their business shall conform to any such rules and regulations as are in existence or as the Conference may from time to time make or sanction.

Provided always and it is hereby expressly declared that nothing hereinbefore contained shall be deemed or taken to authorise the Trustees to permit or suffer the trust premises or any part thereof to be used or occupied, or to apply the income or proceeds thereof or any part thereof or permit

the same to be applied, otherwise than for the advancement of religion or education or for the relief of poverty or for other purposes being charitable purposes in connection with the Methodist Church in Ireland.

In the foregoing Statutory Trusts the expression "the Trustees" shall include the continuing trustees or other the Trustees for the time being the singular shall include the plural; "person" shall include any body of persons or body corporate and the words and expressions "The Church," "The Methodist Church in Ireland," "The Conference," "The Constitution," "Minister," "Circuit" and "Superintendent Minister" shall have the same meaning respectively as in the Methodist Church in Ireland Act (Northern Ireland), 1928.