39 929 678 230.

SYDNEY SOCIETY OF THE NEW CHURCH

Established 1875 Incorporated 1886

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

"What doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to humble thyself to walk with thy God?"

MICAH vi. 8.

"All religion has relation to life, and the life of religion is to do good."

SWEDENBORG.

SYDNEY:

1952

SYDNEY SOCIETY OF THE NEW CHURCH

Registered under 37 Vic. No. 19

Officers
(Elected at Annual Meeting, Nov. 27th, 1893.)

Leader:

Ashfield.

Assistant Leader:

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Librarian:
(Appointed by Committee)

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. -The name of the Company is "THE SYDNEY SOCIETY OF THE NEW CHURCH".

2. -The registered office of the Company will be in Sydney.

3. -The objects for which the Company is established are:-
Firstly. -To worship the Lord Jesus Christ, and to proclaim that He is Jehovah in His Divine Humanity, being the Creator, Redeemer and Regenerator of man; Father, Son and Holy Spirit in One Person, as soul, body and proceeding operation are one man.
Secondly. -To cultivate a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, or those Books of the Old and New Testament which contain a continuous Interior-Divine sense as revealed by the science of correspondence.
Thirdly. - To shun evils as sins against God, and to cultivate a life of disinterested usefulness and universal charity.
Fourthly. -To circulate the theological works of Emanuel Swedenborg, and such other writings as advance the life and doctrines of the Lord's New Church: and otherwise to assist as far as possible, in disseminating the heavenly doctrines of the New Jerusalem. 4. -Every Member of the Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Society, in the event of the same being wound up during the time that he is a Member, or within one year afterwards, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Society and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up the same, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributions amongst themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding five shillings.
5. -The whole of the profits (if any), or other income of the said Society, to be applied in promoting its objects; and payment of any dividend to its Members is prohibited. (See Amendment)

We the several persons whose names are subscribed are desirous of being formed into a Company in pursuance of this Memorandum.

Amendment dated 13th March, 1988.
"That in The Memorandum of Association in Clause 5 after the word "prohibited" there be added the following: If on the winding up or dissolution of the association there remains, after the satisfaction of all of its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the association but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the association and which shall also prohibit the distribution of its or their property among its or their members, such institution or institutions to be determined by the members of the association at or before the time of dissolution or in default thereof by the Chief Judge of such court as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter."

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

1. The Company for the purpose of registration is declared to consist of one hundred Members.

2. The Committee hereinafter mentioned may, whenever the objects of the Society require it, register an increase of Members.

NATURE OF SOCIETY.

3. The Society is established for the diffusion and advancement of religion, and with the following objects:-

a. To worship the Lord Jesus Christ and to proclaim that He is Jehovah in His Divine Humanity, being the Creator, Redeemer and Regenerator of Man, Father, Son and Holy Spirit in One Person as soul body and proceeding operation are one man.

b. To cultivate a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures or those Books of the Old and New Testament which contain a continuous Interior-Divine sense, as revealed by the science of correspondence.

c. To shun evils as sins against God, and to cultivate a life of disinterested usefulness and universal charity.

d. To circulate the works of Emanuel Swedenborg, and such other writings as advance the life and doctrines of the Lord's New Church; and otherwise to assist as far as possible in disseminating the heavenly doctrines of the new Jerusalem.

MEMBERS.

4. The following persons are hereby declared to be members:-

H. N. Armstrong, A. E. Arnold, Daniel Ashby, Benjamin Backhouse, Lydia Backhouse, Sarah Baldwin, Alfred Biden, Ernest Biden, F. W. Biden, Mary Biden, Ernest Braby, John Le Gay Brereton, Mary Le Gay Brereton, Mary Ann Brown, Elizabeth Brown, Nellie Brown, Florence Brown, Joseph Bugg, W. H. Butchart, Julius Buddee, Thomas Carpenter, Louise Cecil, Alexander Cole, Annie Cole, L. S. Cooper, I. C. Cooper, James Dunsmore, Catherine Dunsmore, Elizabeth Evennett, Fanny Evennett, Henry C. Frost, Emma Frost, Charles E. Gordon, Isabella C. Gordon, Robert C. Gordon, Amy N. Gordon, Caroline T. Gordon, George Hilton, C. J. Hurley, John Ingram, N. Ingram, H. W. Jackson, Tresa A. Jackson, H. Jones, Katie R. Keen, W. F. Keen, - Kelly, Hannah Lambert, Jane Logan, Frank E. Lonsdale, Joseph Massey, Charles McIntyre, Ellen McIntyre, M. Meredith, J. H. Mitchell, William Moore, Richard Morse, Thomas Morse, M. A. Newman, William Newman, Jun., Edward Newton, James Newton, Jacob Pitman, Caroline M. Pitman, W. G. Rendall, Ernest Rollason, Mary Sindon, W. J. Spencer, George Staples, Frederick Stuntz, Mary Tongue, Jane Turner, Donald Vernon, Ellen Vernon, A. B. Walker, Frederick Webster, Eleanor Whittaker, John Whittaker, James Wilson, Rose Wilson, George Williamson, James Williamson, - Williamson, Eliza E. Wood, Florence E. Wood, Isabel M. Wood, Isaac Wyld.

All other Candidates for Membership must be proposed by one Member and seconded by another at any Meeting of the Commitee, and shall be entitled to sign the Roll Book if accepted by a majority of the Committee, who shall have regard to the advice of the Minister or Leader; and such Candidates must avow their belief in the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, the holiness of the Word, the necessity of shunning evils as sins against God, and leading a life of universal charity; and any Member of any New Church Society throughout the world, may, upon presenting a satisfactory recommendation from the minister or leader of such Society, (signed within six calendar months from the date of presentation thereof), to the minister or leader or any Member of the Committee of this Society, be admitted a Member of this Society at any meeting of the Committee.

MEMBERS WITHDRAWING.

5. Any Member who does not give notice to the Secretary three months previously to the Annual General Meeting of his intention to withdraw from the Society shall be considered as a continuing Member: but if a Member absent himself from the meetings or fail to subscribe or to communicate officially with one of the officers of the Society for the period of 12 calendar months, his or her name may be struck off the roll. But if any Member or Honorary or Corresponding Member shall wilfully infringe any of the general rules of the Society, or the by-laws or regulations of the Committee, or be guilty of any conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Society, the Committee shall have power to call a Special General Meeting for the purpose of determining whether the name of such Member or Honorary or Corresponding Member shall be erased from the roll of Members; such Special General Meeting shall be called by a resolution of the Committee and by circular only, stating the object, but not the name of the Member or Corresponding Member, Honorary or Subscribing; but in all other respects shall be governed by the general rules of the Society.

RIGHTS OF MEMBERS.

6. Every Member shall be entitled to vote at any General Meeting, and may (subject to any by-laws and regulations that may be established) attend all lectures and meetings of the Society, and have access to the libraries, reading rooms, and other public rooms of the Society.

OFFICERS.

7. There shall be certain officers of the Society, that is to say, a Committee: consisting of, aChairman of Committee, a Secretary, a Treasurer and not less than 4 nor more than 7 members including the Minister, who shall be chosen by the Members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting out of Members of the Society; but the following persons shall be the first Committee - Henry William Jackson, Leader; Ernest Braby, Secretary; James Wilson, Treasurer; Daniel Ashby and William Frederick Keen, Committeemen, who shall respectively hold offices until the day hereinafter appointed for the holding of the first Annual General Meeting of the Society.

8. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancy existing on the Committee from time to time until the next Annual General Meeting and such new Committeemen shall be subject to election as the other Committeemen but all acts of the Committee ion the meantime to be lawful and binding on the Society. A Minister may be appointed at the Annual General Meeting or at any Special General Meeting called for that purpose for such period as decided at that Meeting and such Minister shall be an ex officio member of the Committee. If a Minister is not appointed a Leader shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

THE MINISTER-DIVINE WORSHIP.

9. The Minister or Leader with such available assistance as he may find requisite shall administer all things relating to Divine Worship harmoniously with such resolutions concerning it, as may from time to time be adopted by the Society. He shall also keep a correct register of all baptisms, marriages and interments at which he or his representative may be called to officiate, in books set apart for the purpose, and attest them with his signature.

EXTRAORDINARY VACANCY OF MINISTER OR LEADER.

10. In the event of a vacancy occuring in the Ministry or Leadership, by death, resignation or otherwise, such vacancy shall be temporarily supplied by the Committee: but every appointment of a permanent Minister or Leader shall be made at any Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting of the Members which shall have been duly called for that purpose.

SECRETARY.

11. The Secretary shall attend to the correspondence, keep the roll book with the names and addresses of Members, and give each Member notice in writing of the General Meetings of the Society at least seven days before they are held, and take or cause to be taken minutes of orders made and proceedings taken at such meetings; he shall also perform the ordinary duties attaching to this office harmoniously with such resolutions as may from time to time be adopted by the Society.

TREASURER.

12. The Treasurer shall receive and keep a correct account of all moneys, pay accounts passed by the Committee, and perform the ordinary duties attaching to this office harmoniously with such resolutions as may from time to time be adopted by the Society.

LIBRARIAN.

13. The Librarian (who shall be appointed by the Committee) shall have charge of the books, publications, etc., belonging to the Society, and shall favour their circulation with due regard to their preservations, in accordance with such resolutions as may from time to time be adopted by the Society.

DETERMINATION OF QUESTIONS.

14. All questions (including those of discipline) shall be determined by a majority of the Members present at any Meeting, except in the case of Election of Officers, when any Member may vote by proxy. In case of an equal number of votes on a division, the Chairman shall have a casting vote only.

VACANCY.

15. Whenever a casual vacancy occurs in any of the offices, it shall be filled up by the Committee of the Society. The person chosen to fill any vacancy shall be qualified under the foregoing sections previously to being elected to such office, and shall hold the same for such period only as the officer in whose stead he is chosen would have held the office if the same had not been vacated.

POWERS OF COMMITTEE.

16. It shall be lawful for the Committee of the Society to do the following things:-
Firstly - To apply any moneys in their hands or under their control in purchasing, taking on lease or otherwise acquiring, any lands or buildings suitable to the objects of the Society, or in erecting any suitable buildings on any land that may be acquired by them, or in enlarging or otherwise adapting to the purposes of the Society any buildings.
Secondly - To appoint an Honorary Secretary from their own body.
Thirdly - To appoint and remove all Teachers, Lecturers, Officers not elected at the Annual General Meeting, Paid Officers and Servants, and to fix the amount of their remuneration.
Fourthly - To decide upon the propriety of communicating to the Society any papers which may be sent to be read at discussional meetings, and to direct the publication of any paper so read, and of other transactions.
Fifthly - To provide a Lecture Hall and to grant the temporary use of such hall to any person or body of persons and upon such terms as they may think expedient.
Sixthly - To admit the public to the lectures, and to the social, scientific, and all other meetings of the Society, upon such terms as they may determine.
Seventhly - To apply the income of the Society in such manner as they may think most conducive to the objects of its establishment.
Eighthly - To make regulations and by-laws for the government of the Society for the manner of electing its officers, members, teachers, pupils, and servants, and for the determination of their several duties, and respecting the grounds of expulsion of Members and the mode of such expulsion.
Ninthly - To alter from time to time any by-laws or regulations and to annex reasonable penalties for the breach of any by-law or regulation but no by- law shall be made or altered except at a meeting of the Committee of the Society specially summoned.
Tenthly - To sell and exchange any portion of the moveable property of the Institute and to apply the moneys produced by any sale, in the acquisition of any other moveable property available, in furtherance of any of the objects of the Society.
Eleventhly - To lease any premises for the temporary occupation of the Society until the buildings about to be erected are completed.
Twelfthly-To invite any persons not permanently resident in Sydney and who are distinguished in religion, science literature or the arts, whether natives or foreigners, to be honorary or corresponding Members of the Society.

Thirteenthly - To exercise all powers of the Society except in relation to such matters as are hereby directed to be done at a General Meeting.
Fourteenthly - To sell real property not required by the Society for such price or prices and in such manner as the Committee may see fit, and to apply the proceeds thereof as the Committee may advise towards the advancement of the objects of the Society.
Fifteenthly - To borrow money on (for the object of the Society) security of mortgage of any real or personal property of the Society, or by the issuing of scrip or otherwise as they may see fit.

MEETINGS.

17. The Committee of the Society may hold meetings at such times and places as they may appoint, but they must hold a meeting at least once in the course of every three months. They may adjourn any meeting as they may think proper and at any time any two members may require a Special Meeting of the Committee of the Society to be called upon giving such notice as may be decided by any by-law.

QUORUM.

18. Business shall not be transacted at any meeting of the Committee of the Society, unless there are present at the commencement and close of the business, at least three members.

CHAIRMAN OF MEETINGS.

19. The Chairman of the Committee shall be entitled to take the Chair at any meeting; and in his absence, the Members present shall choose some one of their number to be Chairman of the Meeting.

QUESTIONS BY MAJORITY.

20. All Questions shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present and in case of an equal division of votes the question shall be adjourned to the next meeting.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE.

21. At the meetings of the Committee of the Society, minutes of each Member's attendance shall be entered in a book and signed by the Chairman.

MINUTES.

22. The Committee of the Society shall cause minutes of all orders made and proceedings taken by them to be duly entered in books to be from time to time provided for the purpose, and kept under the superintendence of such Committee; and every such entry shall be signed by the Chairman of that or the succeeding meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES.

23. It shall be lawful for the Committee of the Society to appoint one or more Sub-Committees consisting of such number of members of the Society as they think fit; and they may grant to such Sub-Committees respectively power on behalf of the Society, to do any acts relating to the affairs of the Society which such Committee could lawfully do, and which they may from time to time think proper to entrust to them.

MEETINGS OF SUB-COMMITTEES.

24. The said Sub-Committees may respectively meet from time to time, and may adjourn as they may think proper for carrying into effect the purposes of their appointment; but no such Sub-Committee shall exercise the powers entrusted to them, except at a Meeting at which there shall be present such quorum as may be fixed for that purpose by the Committee of the Society; and at every Sub-Committee meeting, one of the Members present shall be appointed Chairman, and all questions shall be determined by a majority of votes of the Members present, and in case of an equal division of votes, the question shall be adjourned to the next meeting.

THE COMMON SEAL.

25. The custody of the Common Seal of the Society, and the power to use the same on behalf of the Society, shall be vested in such person or persons as the Committee of the Society may from time to time appoint.

AUDITORS.

26. An Auditor of the Society shall be appointed by the members at the Annual General Meeting and if a vacancy occur at any time the Committee shall elect an Auditor until the Annual General Meeting.

AUDITORS' DUTIES.

27. It shall be the duty of the Auditors to receive from the Committee of the Society, the periodical accounts and balance sheet hereinafter required to be presented to the Members, and to examine the same with vouchers, bank books, or other documents, and to report thereon to the Annual General Meeting.

THE FIRST AUDITORS.

28. Robert Charles Gordon, of North Shore, and William Henry Butchart, of Sydney, shall be the first auditors of the Society.

FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

29. The first Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society shall be held in the month of November one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six; and the future Annual General Meetings in the month of November in each succeeding year, and all General Meetings shall be held at such places as may be appointed by the said Committee.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

30. Seven days' public notice at the least of the Annual General Meeting in each year shall be given by advertisement in the Sydney newspapers, or such one or more of them as the Committee of the Society may select, and shall be posted up in the Hall or Reading Rooms of the Society; such notice to specify the place, the day, and the hour of the meeting, and also, if any business other than the matters hereby directed to be done by the Annual General Meeting be intended to be transacted, the nature of such business.

BUSINESS AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

31. No matters except such as are hereby directed to be done at the Annual General Meeting shall be transacted at any such meeting, unless notice of such matter has been given in the advertisement announcing such meeting.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS.

32. Every General Meeting of the Members of the Society other than the Annual General Meeting shall be called a Special Meeting; and such meetings may be convened by the Committee of the Society at any time.

NOTICE OF BUSINESS AT SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

33. No Special Meeting shall enter upon any business not set forth in the notice by which it was convened.

TEN MEMBERS TO REQUIRE SPECIAL MEETING.

34. Ten Members of the Society may by writing under their hands at any time require the Committee of the Society to call a Special Meeting of the Society; and such requisition shall fully express the object of the meeting required to be called, and shall be given to the Secretary of the Society; and upon receipt of such requisition, the said Committee shall call a meeting accordingly; and if for one calendar month after the receipt of such requisition, the Committee of the Society fail to call such meeting, the said ten Members may themselves call the same, by giving seven days' public notice thereof.

SEVEN DAYS' NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING.

35. Seven days' public notice at the least of any Special Meetings shall be given by advertisement in the Sydney newspapers, or such one or more of them as the Committee of the Society may select, and shall be posted up in the Hall or Reading Rooms of the Society; such notice to specify the place, the day, and the hour of the meeting, and the purpose for which the meeting is called.

CHAIRMAN AT GENERAL MEETINGS.

36. At every meeting of the Society, whether it be the Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting, the Members present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of such meeting.

VOTING.

37. The votes at General Meetings, except on the election of officers, to be provided for by by laws, shall in the first place be taken by show of hands and the Chairman shall declare the result. Any Member demurring to his decision may demand a poll which shall be immediately taken and the Chairman shall declare the result. Every proposition at any such meeting shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the members present, the chairman of the meeting being only entitled to vote if there be an equality.

MATTERS AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

38. Matters directed to be done at the Annual General Meeting are as follows-
First - confirmation of minutes of last Annual Meeting, the reception of the reports of the proceedings of the Society during the preceding year, and the adoption of Balance Sheets.
Second - The election of the Committee and make such appointments as required by these Articles.
Third - Any business of which due notice has been duly given and any other business as is hereinbefore provided for.

ACCOUNTS.

39. The Committee of the Society shall cause full and true accounts to be kept of all sums of money received or expended by them, or by any persons employed by, or under them, and of the matters for which sums of money have been received or expended.

CLOSING OF ACCOUNTS.

40. The Accounts shall be closed in each year on the thirtieth of September, or on such other day as the Committee of the Society may determine, and shall be balanced and audited fourteen days at the least before the Annual General Meeting in each year; and forthwith on the accounts being so balanced and audited, an exact balance-sheet shall be made up, exhibiting a true statement of the financial condition of the Society, and such balance-sheet shall be printed and a copy thereof sent to each member of the Society previous to the Annual General Meeting.