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FRIDAY, 7 MAY, 1954

At the Court of Saint James, the 29th day of April, 1954.

PRESENT,

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret.

Lord Privy Seal.

Viscount Swinton.

Miss Horsbrugh.

Mr. Selwyn Lloyd.

Sir Thomas Dugdale.

Mr. Hopkinson.

Whereas Her Majesty, in pursuance of the Regency Acts, 1937 to 1953, was pleased, by Letters Patent dated the 20th day of November, 1953, to delegate to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal and the Earl of Harewood, or any two or more of them, as Counsellors of State, full power and authority during the period of Her Majesty's absence from the United Kingdom to summon and hold on Her Majesty's behalf Her Privy Council and to signify thereat Her Majesty's approval of anything for which Her Majesty's approval in Council is required:

And whereas the Church Commissioners have duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a Scheme bearing date the 14th day of May, 1953, in the words and figures following, that is to say:—

"We, the Church Commissioners, acting in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Measures, 1923 to 1952, the Pastoral Reorganisation Measure, 1949, and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners (Powers) Measure, 1938, now humbly lay before Your Majesty in Council the following Scheme which we have prepared with the consent of the Right Reverend Alwyn, Bishop of Winchester (in witness whereof he has signed the Scheme), for effecting the union of the benefice of Rockbourne and the benefice of Whitsbury, both situate in the diocese of Winchester.

"SCHEME.

"1. *Union of Benefices.* The benefice of Rockbourne and the benefice of Whitsbury shall be permanently united together and form one benefice with cure of souls under the style of 'The United Benefice of Rockbourne with Whitsbury', but the parishes of the said benefices shall continue in all respects distinct.

"2. *Taking effect of union.* The union shall take effect on the next avoidance of the benefice of Rockbourne if the incumbent at that time of the benefice of Whitsbury shall have been instituted to the benefice of Whitsbury subsequently to the date of the publication in the London Gazette of any Order of Your Majesty in Council affirming this Scheme, or if instituted before that date shall, with the approval of the bishop, consent to become the incumbent of the united benefice but if he shall have been instituted to the benefice of Whitsbury before that date and shall not so consent, or if the bishop shall

not approve, then the union shall take effect immediately upon the next vacancy of the said benefice of Whitsbury following such avoidance of the benefice of Rockbourne and the then incumbent of the said benefice of Rockbourne shall become the first incumbent of the united benefice.

"3. *Parsonage House.* (a) Without prejudice to the exercise, before the date when the union shall take effect, of any of the powers conferred by the Parsonages Measures, 1938 and 1947, the parsonage house at present belonging to the benefice of Whitsbury shall, if at that date it so belongs, be the house of residence for the incumbent of the united benefice pending the provision of a more suitable house therefor.

"(b) Upon the date when the union shall take effect the parsonage house at present belonging to the benefice of Rockbourne, if at that date it so belongs, and upon the provision of a more suitable house as aforesaid the parsonage house at present belonging to the benefice of Whitsbury, if at that date it so belongs, and the sites and appurtenances of the said houses and the grounds heretofore usually occupied and enjoyed therewith, shall be sold and disposed of by us at such time or times and in such manner in all respects as to us shall seem expedient.

"(c) So much of the net proceeds of the sales of the said houses as, after consultation with the bishop for the time being of the said diocese, we shall deem sufficient shall be applied by us towards the cost of providing or acquiring a more suitable house as the house of residence for the incumbent of the united benefice as aforesaid and any balance of the said net proceeds shall constitute and form part of the Expenses Fund of the diocese of Winchester established pursuant to the said Union of Benefices Measures.

"4. *Patronage.* In every series of three successive turns of presentation to the united benefice after the union has taken effect the patron of the benefice of Rockbourne shall have the first and third turns and the patron of the benefice of Whitsbury shall have the second turn.

"5. *Diversion of Endowments.* Upon the union taking effect a part of the endowments of the united benefice, namely a capital sum sufficient to produce a sum of £110 per annum upon the date of the publication in the London Gazette of any Order of Your Majesty in Council affirming this Scheme, being part of a larger capital sum at present held by us on behalf of the benefice of Rockbourne, shall be severed and diverted from the benefice of Rockbourne and from the united benefice and shall be transferred to and become vested in us to be held as part of and for the benefit of our General Fund and in consideration of the said transfer we shall make out of the said General Fund such periodical payments to the diocesan stipends fund of the diocese of Winchester as we from time to time determine to be equitable having regard to the value of the said endowments."

And whereas the provisions of the Union of Benefices Measures, 1923 to 1952, the Union of