

*Young Men's Christian Association.***No. 22 of 1920.****An Ordinance to Incorporate the Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo.***(As amended by No. 13 of 1921.)*

[Date of Governor's assent : October 7, 1920.]

[Date of commencement : October 7, 1920.]

WHEREAS an association, called and known as "The Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo," has heretofore been established at Colombo for the purpose of effectually carrying out and transacting all matters connected with the said association according to the rules agreed to by its members :

Preamble.

And whereas the said association has heretofore successfully carried out and transacted the several objects and matters for which it was established, and has applied to be incorporated, and it will be for the public advantage to grant the application :

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor of Ceylon, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows :

1 This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo Ordinance, No. 22 of 1920."

Short title.

2 From and after the passing of this Ordinance the President, Vice-President, and members of the Board of Directors for the time being of the said Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo, and such and so many persons as now are members of the said Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo or shall hereafter be admitted members of the corporation hereby constituted, shall be and become a corporation with continuance for ever under the style and name of "The Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo," and by that name shall and may sue and be sued in all courts; with full power and authority to have and use a common seal and to change and alter the same at their pleasure.

Incorporation of Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo.

3 The general objects for which the corporation is constituted are hereby declared to be to promote the spiritual, intellectual, social, and physical welfare of the young men of Colombo, including the promotion among them of science and literature, their instruction, the diffusion amongst them of useful knowledge, and the foundation and maintenance of libraries and reading rooms, gymnasia, and other features for general use among the members.

General objects of the corporation.

4 (1) The affairs of the corporation shall, subject to the rules in force for the time being of the corporation as hereinafter provided, be administered by a Board of Directors consisting of the President and the Vice-President respectively of the corporation and not less than ten other Directors, to be elected respectively in accordance with the rules for the time being of the corporation.

Board of Directors.

Young Men's Christian Association.

(2) All members of the corporation shall be subject to the rules in force for the time being of the corporation.

(3) The first Board of Directors shall consist of H. L. de Mel, Esq., C.B.E., J.P., President; W. A. Cole, Esq., Vice-President; B. W. Leefe, Esq., Honorary Treasurer; F. B. Ekanayake, Esq., Recording Secretary; Hon. Sir Anton Bertram, Kt., K.C.; G. S. Schneider, Esq., K.C.; M. J. Cary, Esq., J.P., U.P.M.; Dr. Richard de Silva, M.R.C.S.; E. B. Denham, Esq.; C. Brooke Elliot, Esq.; C. R. Jansz, Esq.; S. J. C. Kadirgamar, Esq.; Rev. W. J. Noble; J. A. Rode, Esq.; Wm. Wadsworth, Esq., B.A.; and G. A. Wille, Esq.

Power to
make rules.

5 It shall be lawful for the corporation from time to time, at any general meeting of the members and by a majority of votes, to make rules for the admission, withdrawal, or expulsion of members; for the imposition of fines and forfeitures for breaches of rules; for the conduct of the duties of the Board of Directors and of the various officers, agents, and servants of the corporation; for the procedure in the transaction of business; and otherwise generally for the management of the affairs of the corporation and the accomplishment of its objects. Such rules when made may, at a like meeting, be altered, added to, amended, or cancelled, subject, however, to the requirements of section 7.

The rules in
schedule to be
the rules of the
corporation.

6 Subject to the provisions in the preceding section contained, the rules set forth in the schedule hereto shall for all purposes be the rules of the corporation; provided, however, that nothing in this section contained shall be held or construed to prevent the corporation at all times hereafter from making fresh rules, or from altering, amending, adding to, or cancelling any of the rules in the schedule hereto or to be hereafter made by the corporation.

Amendment of
rules.

7 No rule in the schedule hereto, nor any rule hereafter passed at a general meeting, and no decision come to by the corporation in general meeting, shall be altered, added to, amended, or cancelled, except by a majority of the members present and voting at any subsequent general meeting.

Property
vested in
corporation.

8 On the coming into operation of this Ordinance all and every the property belonging to the said Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo, whether held in the name of the said Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo or in the name or names of any person or persons in trust for the said Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo, shall be and the same are hereby vested in the corporation hereby constituted, and the same, together with all after-acquired property, both movable and immovable, and all subscriptions, contributions, donations, fines, amounts of loan, and advance received or to be received, shall be held by the said corporation for the purposes of this Ordinance, and subject to the rules in force for the time being of the said corporation.

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9 All debts and liabilities of the said Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo existing at the time of the coming into operation of this Ordinance shall be paid by the corporation hereby constituted, and all debts due to, and subscriptions, contributions, and fines payable to, the said Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo shall be paid to the said corporation for the purposes of this Ordinance.

Debts due by and payable to the corporation.

10 The seal of the corporation shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of two of the members of the Board of Directors, who shall sign their names to the instrument in token of their presence, and such signing shall be independent of the signing of any person as a witness.

The seal of the corporation to be affixed.

11 The corporation shall be able and capable in law to take and hold any property, movable or immovable, which may become vested in it by virtue of any purchase, grant, gift, testamentary disposition, or otherwise, and all such property shall be held by the corporation for the purposes of this Ordinance, and subject to the rules for the time being of the said corporation, with full power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of the same.

Corporation may hold property, movable and immovable

12 Nothing in this Ordinance contained shall prejudice or affect the rights of His Majesty the King, his heirs and successors, or of any body politic or corporate, or of any other persons, except such as are mentioned in this Ordinance, and those claiming by, from, or under them.

Saving as to rights of His Majesty and others.

[§ 2, 13 of 1921.]

SCHEDULE

Rules of the Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo.

Article 1.

(a) *Name and Object.*—The name of this association shall be "The Young Men's Christian Association of Colombo."

(b) The object of this association shall be to promote the social, physical, intellectual, and spiritual welfare of the young men of Colombo.

Article 2.

(a) *Membership.*—The active and associate members of the association shall be men who shall be elected as hereinafter provided for.

(b) Any man may become an active member who is in full communion with a Protestant Christian Church. All others shall be associate members. Only the active members shall be entitled to vote and hold office.

(c) It shall be the duty of each member to co-operate heartily with the Board of Directors in the work of the association.

(d) Any member who is found guilty of conduct opposed to the constitution or spirit of the association may be suspended or expelled by a vote of four-fifths of those present at a meeting of the Committee of Management of the branch to which he belongs, subject to an appeal to the Board of Directors.

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Article 3.

(a) *Board of Directors.*—There shall be a Board of Directors not exceeding eighteen, one-third of whom shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting of the association for a term of three years, or until their successors shall have entered upon their duties.

(b) The Board of Directors shall appoint three of its members, whose successors are not to be elected to be a nominating committee, to make nominations for Directors on behalf of the Board. Other nominations must be endorsed in writing by ten active members. All nominations must be posted up on the bulletin board of the various branches of the association at least one week before the annual meeting.

(c) The Board of Directors at its regular monthly meeting in February shall elect by ballot from among its members a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, and a Recording Secretary. The said officers shall hold office for the Board of Directors and for the association for one year, or until their successors shall have been elected and have entered upon their duties.

(d) There shall be a General Secretary of the association, and such other Secretaries as may be deemed necessary appointed by the Board of Directors on such conditions as the Board in each case shall determine. The General Secretary shall act under the Board of Directors as its executive officer, and shall have general oversight of the whole work of the association.

(e) The Board of Directors shall meet monthly. Special meetings may be convened by the President or by the General Secretary at the written request of three members. Notice of at least five days may be required for a meeting. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

(f) In case of any vacancies occurring in any of the offices or in the Board of Directors, the Board shall have the power to fill vacancies for the unexpired terms.

(g) The Board of Directors shall have power to make by-laws for its government and for the government of branches of the association.

(h) The Board of Directors may from time to time appoint such standing and special committees as it may deem necessary.

(i) The Board of Directors shall hold and administer for the purposes of the association all property belonging to the association. It shall not be lawful in any manner to mortgage, encumber, or charge such property without the previous consent in writing of the International Committee of Young Men's Christian Association of North America.

Article 4.

(a) *Duties of Officers.*—It shall be the duty of the President, and in his absence of the Vice-President, to preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and at all business meetings of the association, and to conduct all business on behalf of the association. He shall be *ex officio* a member of all committees.

(b) The Treasurer and Branch Treasurers shall receive and have charge of all moneys of the association, and shall disburse the same under the direction of the Board of Directors. They shall report at each regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

(c) The Recording Secretary shall keep full minutes of all business meetings of the association and of the Board of Directors.

Article 5.

(a) *Meetings.*—There shall be two regular business meetings of the association each year. The annual meeting shall be held during the first week of February, notice of which shall be posted in all the branches at least one week previous to the date of the meeting. The anniversary meeting of the association shall be held during August or September of each year. The report of the Board of Directors and statements of accounts duly audited by an auditor elected by the members shall be presented at the annual meeting.

(b) Special meetings of the association may be called by the President at the written request of ten members, or by order of the Board of Directors, notice of at least one week being given by mail to each member.

(c) Ten members shall constitute a quorum.

Article 6.

(a) *Branches.*—The Board of Directors may at such times and places as may seem to it advisable establish branches in the city and suburbs and discontinue same at any time. The branches shall be under the entire control of the Board of Directors under such by-laws as the Board may from time to time adopt.

(b) Each branch shall be managed by a Committee of Management, the Chairman (who shall be a member of the Board) and the Treasurer of which shall be appointed by the Board.

Article 7.

Amendments.—This constitution can be amended or altered only by a vote of three-fourths of the active members present at any regular meeting of the association, provided that such amendment shall have been previously approved by the Board of Directors, and shall have been proposed in writing at a previous regular meeting of the association.
