

CHAPTER xcvi.

An Act to empower the West Cheshire Water A.D. 1924.

Company to acquire additional lands and to raise further capital to increase the charges of the Company and for other purposes.

7th August 1924.

WHEREAS the West Cheshire Water Company (in this Act called "the Company") were incorporated by the West Cheshire Water Act 1884 (in this Act called "the Act of 1884") and are by the West Cheshire Water Acts and Order 1884 to 1911 empowered to supply water within the limits and to the extent mentioned in the said Acts and Order:

And whereas by the West Cheshire Water Act 1911 (in this Act called "the Act of 1911") provision was made that from and after the first day of November one thousand nine hundred and twelve all water supplied from the Hooton pumping station of the Company to consumers within the Company's limits of supply should be softened by Clark's process or such other process or method as should be at least as applicable and efficacious or so mixed with other water that it should not exceed ten degrees of hardness according to Clark's scale:

And whereas the water so supplied from the said Hooton pumping station since the said first day of November one thousand nine hundred and twelve has been so softened by a process other than Clark's process that the same has not exceeded ten degrees of hardness according to Clark's scale:

And whereas the Company made application to the Minister of Health pursuant to the provisions of the Water Undertakings (Modification of Charges) Act 1921 for an Order modifying the statutory provisions regulating the charges to be made by the Company for the purpose of meeting the increase in the costs and charges of and incidental to the carrying on of the undertakings of the Company attributable to circumstances arising since the fourth day of August one thousand nine hundred and fourteen which were beyond the control of and could not have been reasonably avoided by the Company and the Minister caused an inquiry to be held into the said application:

And whereas by the West Cheshire Water Company (Modification of Charges) Order 1923 (in this Act called "the Order of 1923") it was provided that until the thirty-first day of December one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five the provisions of the Act of 1884 and of the Act of 1911 should be modified so as to authorise the Company to charge in respect of water supplied by them for domestic purposes in respect of every watercloset beyond the first and every bath and for water supplied by measure rates sums or prices not exceeding by more than thirty-seven and one half per centum the corresponding maximum rates sums or prices prescribed by the said Acts:

And whereas the maximum rates and charges for the supply of water by the Company for domestic and other purposes prescribed by the Acts of 1884 and 1911 are under post-war conditions inadequate to enable the Company either to pay a reasonable dividend on the capital already subscribed or to raise further capital for the purposes of their undertaking and it is expedient that the maximum rates and charges provisionally authorised by the Order of 1923 should continue in force until such time as they shall be revised under and subject to the provisions of this Act:

And whereas as a condition of the making of the Order of 1923 the Company undertook with the Minister to apply to Parliament in the present session for a Bill (inter alia) to empower the Company to raise the capital necessary for substituting a new process for that at present in use for softening the water supplied by the Company from the said Hooton pumping station to

acquire additional lands and to make additional water charges to cover the cost of the said substitution and it is expedient to confer upon the Company the powers contained in this Act in reference to the matters aforesaid:

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And whereas the authorised and issued capital of the Company is as follows:—

Authority.			Amount authorised.	Remaining to be issued.	
The Act of 1884 The Act of 1911	-	-	£ 80,000 47,500	$egin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	£ s. d. Nil 3 14 0
Total -	_	-	127,500	127,496 6 0	3 14 0

And whereas by the Act of 1911 the Company are authorised to borrow on mortgage of their undertaking any sum or sums not exceeding in the whole one-third part of the amount of the capital of the Company which at the time of borrowing has been issued or raised but the Company have not borrowed any moneys under the authority of the said Act:

And whereas the Company have expended on capital account sums largely in excess of the amounts raised by them under the powers hereinbefore referred to and further capital expenditure will require to be incurred from time to time for the general purposes of their undertaking:

And whereas it is expedient that the Company should be authorised to raise additional capital and to borrow further moneys and that such other financial provisions should be made as are in this Act contained:

And whereas it is expedient that further powers should be conferred upon the Company as provided by this Act:

And whereas plans of the lands by this Act authorised to be acquired and also a book of reference containing the names of the owners or reputed owners lessees or reputed lessees and of the occupiers of the lands required or which may be taken for the purposes or under the powers of this Act were duly deposited

A.D. 1924. with the clerk of the peace for the county of Chester and are hereinafter respectively referred to as the deposited plans and book of reference:

> And whereas the objects aforesaid cannot be attained 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 Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows (that is to say):—

Short and collective titles.

1. This Act may be cited as the West Cheshire Water Act 1924 and the West Cheshire Water Acts and Order 1884 to 1911 and this Act may be cited together and are in this Act referred to as the West Cheshire Water Acts and Order 1884 to 1924.

Incorporation of Acts.

- 2. The following Acts and parts of Acts (so far as the same are applicable for the purposes and are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act) are hereby incorporated with this Act:—
 - (1) The Lands Clauses Acts:

Provided that any question of disputed compensation under this Act or any Act incorporated therewith (other than a question required to be determined by two justices) shall be determined by a single arbitrator to be agreed upon between the Company and the person claiming the compensation or in default of such agreement appointed by the President of the Surveyors' Institute on the application of either party;

- (2) The Waterworks Clauses Acts 1847 and 1863 (except the words "with the consent in writing "of the owner or reputed owner of any such "house or of the agent of such owner" in section 44 of the Waterworks Clauses Act 1847):
- (3) The clauses and provisions of the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 with respect to the following matters (namely):—

The distribution of the capital of the Company into shares;

The transfer or transmission of shares;

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The payment of subscriptions and the means of enforcing the payment of calls;

The forfeiture of shares for non-payment of calls;

The remedies of creditors of the Company against the shareholders;

The borrowing of money by the Company on mortgage or bond;

The consolidation of the shares into stock;

The general meetings of the Company and the exercise of the rights of voting by the shareholders;

The making of dividends;

The giving of notices; and

The provision to be made for affording access to the special Act by all parties interested:

And Part I. (relating to cancellation and surrender of shares) Part II. (relating to additional capital except the provisions thereof which limit the rate of dividend on preference capital) and Part III. (relating to debenture stock) of the Companies Clauses Act 1863 as amended by subsequent Acts.

- 3. In this Act unless there be something in the Interpresubject or context repugnant to such construction the tation. several words and expressions to which meanings are assigned by the Acts wholly or partially incorporated therewith have the same respective meanings And—
 - "The Company" means the West Cheshire Water Company;
 - "The limits of supply" means the limits of the Company for the time being for the supply of water;
 - "The undertaking" means the undertaking for the time being of the Company;
 - "The directors" means the directors of the Company;

- "The Act of 1884" and "the Act of 1911" mean respectively the West Cheshire Water Act 1884 and the West Cheshire Water Act 1911;
- "The Order of 1923" means the West Cheshire Water Company (Modification of Charges) Order 1923.

Power to acquire lands.

4. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Company may enter upon take and use such of the lands in the parish of Childer Thornton delineated on the deposited plans and described in the deposited book of reference as may be required for the undertaking.

Period for compulsory purchase of lands.

5. The powers of the Company for the compulsory purchase of lands for the purposes of this Act shall cease after the expiration of three years from the passing of this Act.

Additional capital.

6. The Company may from time to time raise additional capital to such amount as shall be sufficient to produce after taking into account the premiums or discounts (if any) which may be obtained or allowed respectively on the issue or re-issue thereof an amount not exceeding in the whole eighty thousand pounds by the creation and issue of further ordinary or preference shares or stock or wholly or partially by either of those modes.

Limit of profit on additional ordinary capital.

7. The Company shall not in any one year pay out of their profits any larger dividend on any ordinary capital raised under the powers of this Act than seven pounds in respect of every one hundred pounds actually paid up of such capital as shall be issued as ordinary capital and six pounds or such higher rate as may be approved by the Board of Trade in respect of every one hundred pounds of such capital as shall be issued as preference capital unless a larger dividend be at any time necessary to make up the deficiency of any previous dividend which shall have fallen short of the said sum of seven pounds per centum per annum.

Abatement of dividends on ordinary capital.

8. If in any year the net revenue of the Company applicable to dividend shall be insufficient to pay the full amount of the prescribed maximum rates of dividend on each class of ordinary shares or stock in the capital

of the Company the holders of each such class of shares A.D. 1924. or stock shall be entitled to participate in dividend in respect of that year equally up to a rate of seven per centum per annum according to the amount paid up or deemed to be paid up on the shares or stock held by them respectively.

9. Except as by this Act otherwise provided any Additional ordinary or preference shares or stock created under capital to the section of this Act of which the marginal note is be part of "Additional capital" shall form part of the general general capital of the Company and the holders thereof respectively in proportion to the amount of their shares or stock shall subject to the provisions of this Act be entitled and subject to the same powers provisions liabilities rights privileges and incidents as other holders of ordinary or preference shares or stock as the case may be of the Company Provided that except as may be otherwise expressly provided by the resolution creating the same no person shall be entitled to vote in respect of . any such preference shares or stock.

10. All ordinary or preference shares or stock New stock created under the powers of this Act shall be issued to be sold in accordance with the provisions of section 22 (New by auction shares or stock to be sold by auction or tender) of the or tender. Act of 1911 Provided that the said section shall have effect as if the words "seven days" were inserted in subsection (2) (a) of that section instead of the words "twenty-eight days."

11. The Company may from time to time subject Power to to the provisions of this Act borrow on mortgage of borrow. the undertaking any sum or sums not exceeding in the whole one half of the moneys which at the time of borrowing have been raised by the creation and issue of shares or stock under the powers of the section of this Act of which the marginal note is "Additional capital" but no sum shall be borrowed in respect of any capital so raised until the Company shall have proved to a justice of the peace before he gives his certificate under the fortieth section of the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 that the whole of the amounts payable in respect of the shares or stock at the time issued together with any premiums (if any) realised on the sale thereof have been fully paid up.

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Additional borrowing powers in respect of existing capital.

- 12.—(1) The Company may also from time to time subject to the provisions of this Act borrow on mortgage of the undertaking without the certificate of a justice of the peace any sum or sums not exceeding in the whole the sum of sixty-three thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds.
- (2) Section 24 (Power to borrow) of the Act of 1911 is hereby repealed.

Debenture stock.

13. The Company may create and issue debenture stock subject to the provisions of Part III. of the Companies Clauses Act 1863 as amended by the Companies Clauses Act 1869 and of section 14 (Power to create debenture stock) of the Act of 1884 Notice of the effect of the said section 14 shall be endorsed on all mortgages and certificates of debenture stock.

Priority of money raised on mortgage or debenture stock over other claims.

14. All money to be raised by the Company on mortgage or debenture stock under the provisions of this Act shall have priority against the Company and the property from time to time of the Company over all other claims on account of any debts incurred or engagements entered into by them after the passing of this Act Provided always that this priority shall not affect any claim against the Company or their property in respect of any rentcharge granted or to be granted by them in pursuance of the Lands Clauses Acts or in respect of any rent or sum reserved by or payable under any lease granted or made to the Company which is entitled to rank in priority to or pari passu with the interest on their mortgages or debenture stock nor shall anything in this section contained affect any claim for land taken used or occupied by the Company for the purposes of the undertaking and works of the Company or injuriously affected by the construction thereof or by the exercise of any powers conferred on the Company.

Appointment of receiver.

15. Section 25 (For appointment of receiver) of the Act of 1911 is hereby repealed as from the passing of this Act but without prejudice to any appointment heretofore made or to the continuance of any proceedings then pending.

The mortgagees of the undertaking may enforce payment of arrears of interest or principal or principal and interest due on their mortgages by the appointment

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of a receiver and in order to authorise the appointment of a receiver in respect of arrears of principal the amount owing to the mortgagees by whom the application for a receiver is made shall not be less than ten thousand pounds in the whole.

16.—(1) The Company may issue as redeemable Issue of preference shares or stock or debenture stock all or any of the preference shares or stock or debenture stock which they are authorised by the West Cheshire Water Acts and Order 1884 to 1924 or any of them to create and issue and which have not been issued before the passing of this Act and the resolution authorising the creation and issue or the issue as the case may be of such redeemable preference shares or stock or debenture stock (all of which are in this section referred to as "stock") shall specify the terms and conditions on which the stock shall be redeemed and max create and issue all or any debenture stock which they are by those Acts or any of them authorised to create and issue so as to be redeemable on such terms and conditions as may be specified in a resolution of the Company passed by a special meeting convened for the purpose.

redeemable preference capital and debenture stock.

- (2) If it is so provided in the resolution the Company may-
 - (a) Call in and pay off the stock or any part thereof at any time before the fixed date of redemption; and
 - (b) Redeem the stock or any part thereof either by paying off the stock or by issuing to the holder of any stock subject to his consent other stock in substitution therefor;

and may for the purpose of providing money for paying off the stock create and issue (subject as regards preference stock to the provisions of section 22 (New shares or stock to be sold by auction or tender) of the Act of 1911) or for the purpose of providing substituted stock create and issue (freed from the said provisions) new stock (either redeemable or irredeemable) or re-issue stock originally created and issued under this section Provided that the creation and re-issue for the purpose of any particular class of stock does not make the total nominal amount of such stock exceed the amount of that class of stock which the Company are for the time

being authorised to create save so far as such creation and issue is for the purpose of paying off stock created and issued under the provisions of this section or of providing stock substituted for the same thereunder.

. (3) The Company shall not redeem out of revenue any redeemable preference shares or stock or debenture stock created or issued under this section.

Minimum amounts of holdings of stock.

- 17.—(1) Any ordinary stock preference stock or debenture stock of the Company may be issued and held in amounts of ten pounds or of any multiple of ten pounds and not otherwise and the Company shall not be under any obligation to register a transfer of any such stock which would reduce the holding of stock of that class of the transferor below or make the holding of stock of that class of the transferee any amount other than ten pounds or a multiple of ten pounds.
- (2) Notice of this enactment far as applicable shall be stated in all certificates of ordinary or preference stock or debenture stock of the Company as the case may be.

Receipt in case of persons not sui juris.

18. If any money is payable to a shareholder stock-holder mortgagee or debenture stockholder being a minor idiot or lunatic the receipt of the guardian or committee of his estate shall be a sufficient discharge to the Company.

Application of moneys.

19. All moneys raised under this Act including premiums shall be applied only to purposes to which capital is properly applicable and any sum of money which may arise by way of premium from the issue of shares or stock under the provisions of this Act (after deducting therefrom the expenses of and incident to such issue) shall not be considered as part of the capital of the Company entitled to dividend Provided that all such sums shall for the purpose of determining the powers of the Company to raise money by borrowing or the amount which the Company may carry to any reserved or other fund but for no other purpose be reckoned as part of the paid-up capital.

Application of existing capital.

20. The Company may apply to the purposes of this Act to which capital is properly applicable any moneys which they are already authorised to raise and which may not be required by them for the purposes for which the same were authorised to be raised.

21. The Company shall within twelve months after the passing of this Act or within such further period as the Minister of Health on the application of the Company or any local authority whose district is wholly or partly situate within the limits of supply may allow discontinue the process at present in use for softening the water supplied from the Hooton pumping station of the Company to consumers within the limits of supply and shall soften the said water by Clark's process or some other process (not being the process at present in use) at least as applicable and efficacious as Clark's process or mix the said water with other water so that in any case the said water shall not exceed the degree of hardness prescribed by section 10 (As to softening of water) of the Act of 1911.

Substitution of means of softening.

22.—(1) From and after the passing of this Act Increase of section 36 (Rate at which water is to be supplied for charges &c. domestic purposes) of the Act of 1884 as amended by section 12 (Amendment of section 36 of Act of 1884) of the Act of 1911 and section 14 (Price of supply by

measure) of the Act of 1911 shall be read and construed as if the respective rates and charges provided for by the said sections were increased by thirty-seven and

one half per centum.

- (2) From and after the first day of January or the first day of July as the case may be next following the date upon which the substitution of a new softening process or method in accordance with the provisions of the section of this Act of which the marginal note is "Substitution of means of softening" is brought into use the said sections of the Acts of 1884 and 1911 shall be read and construed as if the respective rates and charges provided for therein were increased by ten per centum in addition to the thirty-seven and one half per centum hereinbefore provided for.
- (3) The Order of 1923 shall be and the same is hereby repealed.
- 23. In the event of the Minister of Health being Revision of satisfied at any time that the cost of labour and materials rates. or other circumstances affecting the undertaking have substantially altered he may if he thinks fit on the application of the Company or of a local authority having jurisdiction within the limits of supply by order vary

(either by way of increase or decrease) the rates and charges for the supply of water authorised by subsections. (1) and (2) of the last preceding section of this Act In the event of the basis of rating of lands and premises within the limits of supply in force at the passing of this Act being substantially altered the Minister of Health may if he thinks fit on the application of the Company or of a local authority having jurisdiction within such limits made at any time after the expiration of fifteen months from the date when such altered basis first becomes effective by order vary either by way of increase or decrease the rates and charges for the supply of water for the time being in force under the provisions of this Act Provided that the rates and charges prescribed in any order made under this section shall be of such respective amounts as to provide (after paying all proper expenses of and in connection with the working management and maintenance of the undertaking and making good depreciation and paying all other costs charges and expenses (if any) properly chargeable to revenue including the interest on any mortgages or debenture stock of the Company and the dividend on the preference capital of the Company) a reasonable return on the ordinary capital of the Company.

Water rates to be paid half-yearly.

24. Notwithstanding anything in section 70 of the Waterworks Clauses Act 1847 contained the Company shall be entitled to demand payment of water rates in advance by equal half-yearly payments on the first day of January and the first day of July in each year Provided that no person shall be compellable to pay water rates so demanded for any longer period in advance than three months.

Water rates payable by owners of small houses. 25. Where a house supplied with water is let to monthly or weekly tenants or tenants holding for any other period less than a quarter of a year the owner instead of the occupier shall if the Company so determine pay the rate for the supply but the rate may be recovered from the occupier and may be deducted by him from the rent from time to time due from him to the owner:

Provided that no greater sum shall be recovered at any one time from any such occupier than the amount of

rent owing by him or which shall have accrued due from A.D. 1924. him subsequent to the service upon him of a notice to pay the rate.

26.—(1) Notwithstanding anything in any Act or Special Order relating to the Company contained a person shall not be entitled to demand or continue to receive from the Company a supply of water to any caravan shack hut tent or other like structure unless he has agreed with the Company to take a supply of water by meter and to pay to the Company such minimum annual sum as will give them a reasonable return on the capital expenditure incurred by them in providing the supply or supplies required by him and will cover other standing charges incurred by them in order to meet the possible maximum demand for his caravan shack hut tent or structure and will yield a reasonable return on the cost of the water consumed or used by him and unless he has secured to the reasonable satisfaction of the Company by way of deposit or otherwise payment of such a sum as may be reasonable having regard to the possible maximum demand of such person for his caravan shack hut tent or structure.

terms for supplies to caravans shacks and huts.

- (2) The sum to be so paid and the security to be so given shall be determined in default of agreement by a court of summary jurisdiction who may also order by which of the parties the costs of the proceedings before them shall be paid and the decision of the justices shall be final and binding on all parties.
- 27. The provisions of section 35 of the Waterworks Amendment Clauses Act 1847 shall in their application to the Company be read and construed as if the one-tenth part of the expense of providing and laying down pipes mentioned Clauses Act in that section were one-sixth part of such expense and 1847. as if the period of three years mentioned in that section were five years.

of section 35 of Waterworks

28. Notwithstanding anything in the Companies Meetings of Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 or in any Act relating to Company. the Company the Company may by a resolution of a general meeting at any time determine that the future ordinary meetings of the Company shall be held once only in each year in such month as the directors may from time to time determine and the Company may from time to time in like manner alter or rescind any such resolution.

Interim dividends and annual accounts.

- 29. If and so long as the ordinary meetings of the Company shall be held once only in each year—
 - (a) It shall be lawful for the directors to declare and pay in any year an interim half-yearly dividend out of the profits of the Company on the ordinary and preference capital of the Company without the sanction of a general meeting Provided that the amount of any interim half-yearly dividend shall not as the case may be exceed one half of the amount of the maximum dividend on the ordinary capital or one half of the annual dividend assigned to the preference capital in respect of which the interim dividend is declared:
 - (b) The balance sheet and accounts made up by the Company in accordance with section 116 of the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 shall relate to the transactions of the Company in the course of the preceding year.

Closing of transfer books.

- 30.—(1) The directors may close the register of transfers for a period not exceeding fourteen days previous to the declaration of any dividend and they may close the registers of transfers of mortgages and debenture stock for a period not exceeding fourteen days previous to each date at which the interest thereon shall be payable and in the case of any such register they may fix a day for closing the same of which seven days' notice shall be given either by circular to each proprietor or by advertisement in a newspaper circulating in the limits of supply.
- (2) Any transfer of stock or mortgages made during the time when the register of transfers of such security is so closed shall as between the Company and the person claiming under the same but not otherwise be considered as made subsequently to the declaration of any such dividend or the payment of any such interest as the case may be.

Managing directors.

31.—(1) The directors may appoint one or more of their body to be managing director or managing directors of the Company either for a fixed term or without any limitation as to time and may remove or dismiss him or them from office and appoint another or others in his or their place or places.

Water Act, 1924.

(2) A managing director shall not while holding that office be subject to retirement by rotation and shall not be taken into account in determining the rotation of retirement of directors but if he ceases to hold the office of director from any other cause he shall ipso factor immediately cease to be a managing director.

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- (3) The remuneration of a managing director shall from time to time be fixed by the directors and may be by way of salary or commission or participation in profits or by any or all of those modes.
- (4) The directors may entrust to and confer upon any managing director such of the powers exerciseable by the directors and subject to such conditions as they may think fit and may from time to time revoke withdraw alter or vary all or some of such powers.
- 32. Notwithstanding anything in the Companies Contracts Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 no person shall be by directors. disqualified from being a director of the Company by reason of his holding any office or place of trust or profit under the Company or by reason of his being interested in any contract with the Company nor shall any director be required to cease from voting or acting as a director by reason of his accepting any such office or place of trust or profit or becoming interested in any such contract Provided that in the case of his being or becoming interested in any contract with the Company whether such interest shall arise before or after his appointment as a director the nature of his interest in the contract shall be disclosed by him at the meeting of the directors at which the contract is determined on if his interest then exists or in any other case at the first meeting of the directors after the acquisition of his interest or after his appointment and also in the next annual report of the Company and that no director shall as a director vote in respect of any such contract and if he does so vote his vote shall not be counted but this prohibition shall not apply to any contract by or on behalf of the Company to give to the directors or any of them any security by way of indemnity.
- 33. From and after the passing of this Act no Notice of person not being a retiring director of the Company candidature shall be eligible to be elected a director of the Company of or opposiat any general meeting of the Company unless notice in tion to re-

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election of director.

writing is given to the secretary or left at the principal office of the Company fourteen days at least before the day of election that such person will be proposed for election as a director of the Company and the secretary of the Company shall during such fourteen days and on the day of election fix a copy of every such notice so delivered in some conspicuous place in such office. Any such person must have been the holder of the qualifying amount of shares or stock for at least three months prior to his election. In the case of a retiring director or directors notice of opposition to his or their re-election shall be given in like manner.

Maintenance of common pipe.

34. Where several houses or parts of houses in the occupation of several persons are supplied with water by one common pipe belonging to the several owners or occupiers of such houses or parts of houses the said several owners or occupiers shall be liable to contribute the amount of any expenses from time to time incurred by the Company in the maintenance and repair of such pipe and their respective proportions of contributions shall be settled by the engineer of the Company.

Company not bound to supply several houses by one pipe.

35. The Company shall not be bound to supply more than one house by means of the same communication pipe and they may if they think fit require that a separate pipe be laid from the main pipe into each house supplied by them with water:

Provided that this section shall not apply in the case of any houses erected after the passing of this Act by any local authority which the local authority shall require the Company to supply by means of one communication pipe for each block of not more than six houses but separate stop-cocks shall be fixed for each such house.

Company to connect communication pipes with mains.

Act relating to the Company the Company shall have the exclusive right of executing any works on any of the water mains of the Company for connecting any communication or service pipe therewith and the Company shall on the request of any owner or occupier of any premises who is entitled to be supplied with water by the Company execute on any such main any work which shall be necessary to connect the communication

or service pipe of such owner or occupier therewith and A.D. 1924. any expenses incurred by the Company in so doing shall be repaid by the owner or occupier so requesting and shall be recoverable summarily as a civil debt.

37. Every person who shall wilfully (without the Penalty for consent of the Company) or negligently close or shut off any valve cock or other work or apparatus belonging to the Company whereby the supply of water shall be interfered with shall (without prejudice to any other right or remedy of the Company) be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding five pounds and the Company may in addition thereto recover the amount of any damage by them sustained Provided that this section shall not apply to a consumer closing a valve fixed on his communication pipe.

closing valves and apparatus.

38. The Company may require that dwelling-houses Cisterns. erected after the passing of this Act at a higher level than fifty feet below the service reservoir from which they are supplied shall be provided with cisterns holding forty-eight hours' supply and the Company shall not be bound to supply such houses until such cisterns are provided.

39.—(1) For the purpose of constructing altering Temporary repairing emptying cleansing or examining any reservoir discharge of aqueduct line of pipes or other work for the time being water into belonging to them the Company may cause the water streams. belonging to them the Company may cause the water in any such work to be temporarily discharged into any available stream watercourse or ditch.

Provided that any water so discharged shall so far as may be reasonably practicable be free from mud or solid or offensive matter.

- (2) In the exercise of the power conferred by this section the Company shall do as little damage as may be and shall make full compensation to all persons for all damage sustained by them by reason or in consequence of the exercise of such power the amount of such compensation to be settled in case of difference by arbitration under and pursuant to the provisions of the Arbitration Act 1889.
- 40.—(1) The directors may grant such gratuities Power to pensions or allowances or make such other payments as grant penthey may think fit to any employee of the Company or sions &c.

A.D. 1924. where in their opinion adequate provision is not otherwise made to the widow or family or any dependent of any such employee.

- (2) The directors may enter into and carry into effect agreements with any insurance company or other association or company for securing to any such employee widow family or dependent as aforesaid such gratuities pensions allowances or payments as are by this section authorised to be granted or made and may for all or any of the purposes of this section apply the funds and revenues of the Company.
- (3) In this section the word "employee" includes any officer or servant.

Donations subscriptions &c.

41. The directors may subscribe or make donations to infirmaries or hospitals and to convalescent homes and similar institutions and to any industrial exhibitions and to the benevolent and accident and sick funds of the employees of the Company and may for any of those purposes apply the funds and revenues of the Company.

Dwellinghouses for employees offices &c.

42. The Company may purchase or take on lease houses and cottages for any of their employees and offices and showrooms for the purposes of the undertaking and may erect fit up maintain and let any such building upon any lands for the time being belonging or leased to the Company.

Scheduled agreement confirmed.

43. The agreement made the twenty-second day of July one thousand nine hundred and twenty-four between the urban district council of Bebington and Bromborough the urban district council of Ellesmere Port and Whitby and the rural district council of Wirral of the first part the West Cheshire Water Company of the second part the Wirral Water Works Company of the third part and the West Cheshire Water Company Limited of the fourth part set forth in the Schedule to this Act is hereby confirmed and made binding on the parties thereto.

Costs of Act.

44. All costs charges and expenses of and incident to the preparing for obtaining and passing of this Act or otherwise in relation thereto shall be paid by the Company and may in whole or in part be charged against revenue.

The SCHEDULE referred to in the foregoing Act.

A.D. 1924.

An Agreement made the twenty-second day of July one thousand nine hundred and twenty-four between The Urban District Council of Bebington and Bromborough The Urban District Council of Ellesmere Port and Whitby and The Rural District Council of Wirral (hereinafter called "the said Councils") of the first part The West Cheshire Water Company (hereinafter called "the Company") of the second part The Wirral Works Company (hereinafter called "the Wirral Company") of the third part and The West Cheshire Water Company Limited (hereinafter called "the Limited Company") whose registered office is situate at No. 2a Price Street Birkenhead in the county of Chester of the fourth part.

Stamp
Ten

shillings.

Whereas the Company was incorporated by the West Cheshire Water Act 1884 and are possessed of an undertaking for the supply of water to and within the limits and to the extent mentioned in the West Cheshire Water Acts and Order 1884 to 1911:

And whereas the Wirral Company were incorporated by the Wirral Waterworks Act 1859 and are possessed of an undertaking for the supply of water to and within the limits and to the extent mentioned in that Act and in the Wirral Waterworks Act 1911:

And whereas the limits of supply of the Company and the Wirral Company overlap and the limits of supply of the Company and of the Wirral Company both include an area (hereinafter called "the common area") comprising the townships of Lower Bebington Prenton Noctorum and so much of the township of Higher Bebington as is outside the boundaries of the county borough of Birkenhead:

And whereas in the year 1885 the Company and the Wirral Company agreed under the provisions of section 32 (For protection of the Wirral Waterworks Company) of the West Cheshire Water Act 1884 that only the Company should supply water in the common area:

And whereas a Bill is being promoted in Parliament by the Company in the present session under the name or short title of

"the West Cheshire Water Bill" (hereinafter referred to as "the pending Bill") for an Act to empower the Company to acquire additional lands and to raise further capital to increase the charges of the Company and for other purposes:

And whereas the said Councils have severally presented petitions to the House of Lords praying to be heard in opposition to the pending Bill:

And whereas it is the intention of the said Councils to promote a Bill in Parliament in the session of 1925 (hereinafter referred to as "the proposed Bill") for an Act to constitute a water board for West Cheshire (hereinafter called "the Board") and to empower the Board (inter alia) to acquire the undertaking of the Company and certain works of the Wirral Company used jointly by the Company and the Wirral Company:

And whereas the Company have agreed with the said Councils for the sale of their water undertaking and the Wirral Company have agreed with the said Councils for the sale of their said works to the Board upon and subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter contained and in consideration of such agreement and of certain amendments being made in the pending Bill the said Councils have agreed to withdraw their petitions against the pending Bill:

And whereas the Limited Company from time to time purchase and hold certain stocks of pipes valves hydrants and other fittings for and on behalf of the Company:

Now these presents witness that it is hereby agreed between the parties hereto as follows:—

1. Subject to the sanction of Parliament being obtained as hereinafter provided the Company shall sell and the Board shall purchase as a going concern the undertaking of the Company freed and discharged from all debts of the Company save as hereinafter mentioned The expression "the undertaking of the Company" means:—

The wells waterworks reservoirs mains pipes apparatus machinery plant (fixed and moveable) and other works and conveniences with all the lands and buildings estates powers rights interests easements privileges choses in action books writings plans drawings specifications chattels and effects and other real and personal estate property assets and effects vested in or belonging to or had or enjoyed by the Company on the day of transfer (as hereinafter defined) for the purposes of or in respect of their undertaking for the supply of water but shall not include cash in hand or with the bankers of the

Company the contingency and renewal fund of the Com- A.D. 1924. pany or such sums of money as may be due to the Company in respect of water rates or water rents or other debts owing to or accruing due to the Company prior to or on the day of transfer and recoverable by the Company on revenue account in accordance with the provisions of clause 10 of this agreement.

- 2. The day of transfer shall be the quarter day next following the day three months after the day upon which the proposed Bill shall receive the Royal Assent or such other day as may be agreed upon between the Board and the Company which day is hereinafter referred to as "the day of transfer" and the Company shall (save as hereinafter mentioned) carry on their business as heretofore until the day of transfer at their own risk and for their own profit.
- 3. Except as hereinafter provided the Company shall pay or remain responsible for all the debts and liabilities of or attaching to the undertaking of the Company up to or on the day of transfer including such mortgages debentures or debenture stock as shall be owing by the Company on the day of transfer The Company shall indemnify the Board against all such mortgages debentures and debenture stock and all interest thereon and all such other debts and liabilities of the Company and against all claims and demands in respect thereof.
- 4. All contracts and agreements which the Company shall have entered into before the day of transfer and which may be subsisting on that day shall be taken over and performed and fulfilled by the Board who shall indemnify the Company from all claims and demands thereunder:

Provided that no increase of the salaries wages or bonuses of any officers servants or workmen of the Company shall be made (except in accordance with any current decision of the Lancashire and Cheshire Counties District Council (No. 9) for the waterworks undertakings industry) nor shall any agreements with consumers for supplies of water on special terms be entered into extending beyond the day of transfer (other than the usual agreements under section 35 of the Waterworks Clauses Act 1847) except with the approval of the chairman for the time being of the Bebington and Bromborough Urban District Council but such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

- 5. The consideration for the sale shall be the sum of 194,000l. which shall be paid or satisfied as follows:—
 - (a) As to the sum of 44,000l. by the payment by the Board to the Company on the day of transfer of the sum of 44,000l. in cash; and

- (b) As to the sum of 150,000l, by the payment by the Board to the Company on the day of transfer of the sum of 150,000l, in cash or at the option of the Board by the issue by the Board to the Company or to the Company's nominees of 150,000l, of stock (hereinafter called "the said Water Board Stock") charged upon the undertaking and revenues of the Board and bearing interest as from the day of transfer at the rate of 5 per centum per annum.
- 6. The interest upon the said Water Board Stock shall be payable upon the first day of April and the first day of October in each year until redemption and the said Water Board Stock shall be issued and transferable in multiples of one pound.
- 7. The said Water Board Stock shall be redeemed at par by the Board at the expiration of 50 years from the day of transfer or (at the option of the Board) at the expiration of a period equivalent to that prescribed by the Act authorising the acquisition of the undertaking of the Company for the repayment of the said Water Board Stock but the Board may redeem the said Water Board Stock or any part thereof at par at any time after the expiration of five years from the day of transfer on giving not less than three months' previous notice in writing to the holders thereof of their intention to redeem the same or may purchase such stock or any part thereof by agreement with the holders at any time.
- 8. It is hereby expressly declared that the Board shall not at any time create or issue any mortgage stock annuity or other security ranking either as to principal or interest in priority to the said Water Board Stock but any such mortgage stock annuity or other security may be issued so as to rank pari passu with the said Water Board Stock:
- 9. Upon payment of the said sums of 44,000l. and 150,000l. to the Company or as the case may be upon the payment of the said sum of 44,000l. to the Company and upon the issue to the Company or to the Company's nominees of 150,000l. of the said Water Board Stock the sale hereby agreed upon shall be completed and the undertaking of the Company shall be transferred to and vested in the Board and if the said Councils so desire such transfer and vesting may be effected by virtue of the proposed Bill The title of the Company and of the Wirral Company shall commence with the several conveyances or other assurances to the Company and to the Wirral Company respectively All costs and expenses of and incident to the said transfer and vesting shall be paid by the Board.

- 10. The Company shall be entitled to all rates rents profits A.D. 1924. and sums of money and shall discharge and pay all outgoings and liabilities in respect of the undertaking of the Company accruing due up to or which shall have accrued due or become payable prior to or on the day of transfer and the Board shall be entitled to all rates rents profits and sums of money and shall discharge and pay all outgoings and liabilities in respect of the undertaking of the Company accruing due as from or which shall accrue due or become payable after the day of transfer and where necessary for the purposes of this clause all revenues and outgoings shall be apportioned between the Company and the Board Provided that all water rates meter rents and other charges paid or payable in advance in respect of any period subsequent to the day of transfer shall belong to the Board and the Company shall pay to the Board the amount of such rates rents and charges as have been received by them prior to the day of transfer and all rates rents profits and sums of money accruing to the Company on the day of transfer in respect of the undertaking of the Company but not at that date actually due or payable shall when due be recoverable by the Board who shall pay to the Company the proportion of all such rates rents profits and sums of money so recovered which shall be attributable to the period prior to the day of transfer.
- 11. The Company shall sell and the Board shall purchase the moveable stock in trade stores and other materials belonging to the Company on the day of transfer so far as the same may be suitable for use in connection with the undertaking of the Board and the Board shall pay to the Company the cost price thereof as shown by the books of the Company.
- 12. Subject to the sanction of Parliament being obtained as hereinafter provided the Wirral Company shall sell and the Board shall purchase free from incumbrances (a) the wells boreholes pumping station and works constructed by the Wirral Company at Prenton in the county of Chester (b) the reservoirs and rising main constructed in connection therewith (c) the lands edged yellow and the mains coloured red on the plan signed by Cecil Edward Maples on behalf of the Company and the Wirral Company and by Thomas William Francis on behalf of the said Councils and (d) all rights powers and privileges of the Wirral Company to take or receive water from the said wells boreholes pumping station works reservoirs rising main and lands.

The transfer contemplated by this clause shall be effected contemporaneously with the transfer of the undertaking of the Company.

The consideration for the sale shall be the sum of 20,006!. which shall be paid or satisfied by the payment by the Board to

the Wirral Company on the day of transfer of the sum of 20,000*l*. in cash or at the option of the Board by the issue by the Board to the Wirral Company or to the said Company's nominees of 20,000*l*. of Water Board Stock of the same class or description in all respects and with the same rights and subject to the like terms and conditions as that which may be issued to the Company under the provisions of this agreement.

- 13. The Limited Company shall sell and the Board shall purchase the stocks of pipes valves hydrants and other fittings belonging to the Limited Company on the day of transfer so far as the same may be suitable for use in connection with the undertaking of the Board and the Board shall pay to the Limited Company the cost price thereof as shown by the books of the Limited Company.
- 14.—(a) The Company shall duly maintain and manage the undertaking of the Company in the ordinary course of business until the day of transfer and shall keep and on the day of transfer deliver up the same to the Board in fair working order as a going concern.
- (b) The Wirral Company shall duly maintain all works referred to in clause 12 hereof (as the same may be altered renewed or improved by the works referred to in the schedule to this agreement) in the ordinary course of business until the day of transfer and shall keep and on the day of transfer deliver up the same to the Board in fair working order.
- (c) Except as hereinafter expressly provided the Company shall not as from the date of this agreement without the consent of an engineer to be appointed by agreement between the Company and the said Councils or failing agreement by the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers expend any capital moneys incur any new capital expenditure or carry out any new permanent works.
- (d) The consent referred to in paragraph (c) of this clause shall not be necessary in the case of any capital moneys (including legal and engineering expenses) reasonably expended by the Company subsequent to the thirty-first day of December one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three in respect of the works referred to in the schedule hereto notwithstanding that the contracts in relation to or involving the expenditure of such capital moneys may have been entered into prior to that date and the Board shall on the day of transfer repay to the Company the amount of such capital moneys.
- (e) If after the date of this agreement the Company shall with such consent as aforesaid incur capital expenditure or con-

struct new permanent works for the purposes of the undertaking of the Company the Board shall on the day of transfer repay to the Company the amount of such capital expenditure.

A.D. 1924.

- (f) The Board shall pay to the Company interest upon the capital expenditure referred to in paragraphs (d) and (e) of this clause calculated from the date or dates on which such capital expenditure was made to the date of actual completion of the purchase at such rate (not exceeding one per centum per annum over bank rate) as the Company shall have paid or be liable to pay in respect of any bank overdraft by means whereof such capital expenditure shall have been provided or if the same shall not have been provided by means of a bank overdraft then at the rate of 5 per centum per annum Provided that such interest shall not be payable on the capital moneys expended on the provision of new softening plant and land in connection therewith in respect of any period after the date on which such new softening plant is brought into use.
- (g) Upon the proposed Bill being promoted by the said Councils the Company shall support any application which may be made to the Minister of Health by any of the said Councils under the clause of the pending Bill of which the marginal note is "Substitution of means of softening" for the extension of the period proposed to be prescribed by that clause for the discontinuance of the process at present in use for softening the water supplied from the Hooton pumping station of the Company and the substitution of other means of softening such water.
- 15. If from any cause other than the wilful default of the Company the transfer is not completed on the day of transfer the Board shall pay to the Company interest at the rate of five and one half per centum per annum on so much of the said sum of 194,000l. as shall be paid in cash from the day of transfer until the actual date of completion.
- 16. The Board shall pay to the Company by way of compensation for the loss of office sustained by the undermentioned officers of the Company the following sums:—

	·					£
Directors			• • •			1,750
Managing	director				• • •	1,500
Auditors		• • •		•••	• • •	110

17.—(a) Every officer and servant (other than directors managing director and auditors) in the regular employment of the Company or the Wirral Company in connection with their respective undertakings immediately before the day of transfer a

A.D. 1924. list of whom at the date of this agreement showing their present salaries or wages has already been supplied to the said Councils. (herein referred to as "an existing officer" and "an existing servant '') shall as from the day of transfer become an officer or servant of the Board and shall hold his office or situation by the same tenure and upon like terms and conditions under the Board as he would have held the same under the Company or the Wirral Company if the sale of the undertaking of the Company or the said works and other property of the Wirral Company as the case may be had not taken place and while performing the same duties shall receive not less salaries wages or pay than he would have been entitled to from the Company or the Wirral Company if the sale of the undertaking of the Company or the said works and other property of the Wirral Company as the case may be had not taken place.

- (b) Every existing officer and existing servant shall perform such duties in connection with the water undertaking of the Board as they may be required to perform by the Board.
- (c) The Board may abolish the office or situation of any existing officer or existing servant which they deem unnecessary and any existing officer or existing servant required to perform duties such as are not analogous or which are an unreasonable addition to those which as an officer or servant of the Company or the Wirral Company he was required to perform may relinquish his office or service.
- (d) Every existing officer or existing servant whose office is so abolished or who so relinquishes his office or service as aforesaid or who otherwise suffers any direct pecuniary loss in consequence of the undertaking of the Company or the said works and other property of the Wirral Company as the case may be being transferred to the Board shall be entitled to be paid by the Board compensation for such pecuniary loss regard being had to the conditions on which his appointment was made the nature of his office or employment the duration of his services and any other circumstances affecting the case.
- (e) Subject to the provisions of this agreement the provisions contained in section 120 of the Local Government Act 1888 relating to compensation to existing officers shall apply to any claim for compensation by an existing officer or an existing servant as if references to the Board and the Board's funds were substituted in that section for references to the county council and county fund and as if in subsection (7) of that section the expression "county council" included any local authority as defined by the Local Loans Act 1875 water board or water company.

- (f) If within a period of five years after the day of transfer the services of any existing officer or existing servant are dispensed with by the Board because his services are not required and not on account of misconduct or incapacity or the salary of any such officer or servant is reduced on the ground that his duties have been diminished in consequence of the undertaking of the Company or the said works and other property of the Wirral Company as the case may be being transferred to the Board the officer or servant shall be deemed to have suffered direct pecuniary loss in consequence of the transfer of the undertaking of the Company or the said works and other property of the Wirral Company as the case may be to the Board.
- (g) In computing the time of service of any existing officer or existing servant for the purpose of determining the compensation to which he is entitled under the foregoing provisions the period during which he has been in the service of the Company or the Wirral Company as the case may be shall be included and where any existing officer or existing servant was temporarily absent from his employment whilst serving in His Majesty's forces during the war such period of temporary absence shall be reckoned as service under the Company or the Wirral Company as the case may be provided he was in their employment immediately before and after such service.
- (h) In the event of the Board obtaining authority to establish a superannuation scheme for their officers and servants they shall use their best endeavours to secure that regard shall be had to the periods referred to in paragraph (g) of this clause for the purpose of determining any superannuation allowance to which any existing officer or existing servant who enters the service of the Board is entitled.
- 18. The said Councils shall promote and use their best endeavours to procure the passing in the session of 1925 of a Bill with such clauses as may be necessary to carry this agreement into effect and to provide for the winding up and dissolution of the Company and of the Wirral Company As from the date of this agreement the Company and the Wirral Company shall aid and assist the said Councils in obtaining the said intended Act and shall give to the said Councils every facility which may be reasonably required in that connection and in furtherance of these objects shall at the request and cost of the said Councils supply to the said Councils such information particulars and evidence in the possession of the Company or the Wirral Company as the case may be or of any of their officers or servants as the said Councils may reasonably require and the Company and the Wirral Company by themselves their officers and servants

shall at the request and cost of the said Councils support the said intended Act by evidence or otherwise. The Company and the Wirral Company shall be at liberty to appear on such Bill for the purpose of securing the insertion therein of any provisions which are reasonably necessary to give full effect to the provisions of this agreement and any reasonable costs charges and expenses incurred by the Company or the Wirral Company for that purpose shall be repaid to such Company by the Board.

The Wirral Company shall not oppose the inclusion in the said Bill of a provision repealing their power to supply water in the common area.

For the purposes of this agreement the promotion of the proposed Bill by any one or more of the said Councils shall be deemed to be the promotion thereof by the said Councils.

- 19. On and from the passing of the Act giving effect to this agreement the duly authorised officer or officers of the Board shall have reasonable access to the offices of the Company the Wirral Company and the Limited Company during office hours and may inspect the books papers records and writings of the said companies and make themselves acquainted with the affairs of the said companies preparatory to the taking over of the undertaking of the Company and the said works and other property of the Wirral Company on the day of transfer and the said companies shall direct their secretaries or other officers to give to the said officer or officers such assistance and information relating to such affairs as they may reasonably require.
- 20. This agreement is made subject to the approval of the shareholders of the Company and the Wirral Company and of Parliament and to such alterations as Parliament may think fit to make therein and shall be scheduled to the pending Bill but in the event of a Committee of either House of Parliament making any material alteration in this agreement it shall be competent to the said Councils or the Company or the Wirral Company by notice in writing to that effect given to the other parties to this agreement to withdraw this agreement from the pending Bill and the same shall thereupon be absolutely determined.
- 21. On and after the completion of the transfer the Company and the Wirral Company shall subsist only for the purpose of winding up their affairs including payment of interest and distribution of the purchase money and the stock of the Board and all matters of and incidental to such winding up.
- 22. The Company and the Wirral Company shall on the day of transfer deliver to the Board all books deeds agreements

engineers' opinions and reports plans descriptions of works A.D. 1924. vouchers letters books and records of the business and proceedings necessary for the management of the undertaking of the Company or the said works and other property of the Wirral Company as the case may be but they shall not be required to hand over the minute books of the directors of the Company and the Wirral Company or any books and papers relating exclusively to the shareholders in and the constitution of the said companies Provided always that the Company and the Wirral Company their solicitors and agents shall be entitled to have access to and take copies of all documents handed over so far as the same may be necessary for the purposes of the Company and the Wirral Company or the winding up thereof.

- 23. This agreement is also made subject to the completion of the sale of a certain part of the undertaking of the Wirral Company (other than the works lands rights and powers to be purchased by the Board) to the mayor aldermen and burgesses of the county borough of Birkenhead and unless such completion shall take place this agreement and every clause hereof shall be void and of no effect.
- 24. If the proposed Bill be not passed by Parliament in the session of 1925 this agreement and every clause hereof shall be void and of no effect.
- 25. If any question difference or dispute shall arise with reference to this agreement or the construction thereof or as to anything herein contained or as to the rights liabilities or duties of any party hereunder the same shall be referred to an arbitrator to be appointed (failing agreement between the parties concerned) by the President for the time being of the Society of Parliamentary Agents and the provisions of the Arbitration Act 1889 or any statutory modification thereof shall apply to such reference and arbitration and to this agreement as if it were a submission to arbitration under that Act.

In witness whereof the said parties hereto have caused their respective common seals to be hereunto affixed the day and year first above written.

The SCHEDULE hereinbefore referred to.

	-	£
(1)	Distributing mains (year ending 31st	•
	December 1924)	3,000
(2)	Distributing mains (year ending 31st	-
	December 1925)	3,000
(3)	Trunk mains (year ending 31st	•
	December 1924)	12,257
(4)	Trunk mains (year ending 31st	•
	December 1925)	13,496
(5)	Engine and other works at Prenton -	43,000
(6)	Provision of new softening plant and	
.,	land in connection therewith	The sum requisite.
(7)	Works required to comply with section	
	35 of the Waterworks Clauses Act	
	1847	The sum requisite.

The common seal of the Bebington and Bromborough Urban District Council was hereunto affixed in the presence of

L.S.

ALFRED ASHBY

Alfred J. Pugh

Two members of the Council.

THOMAS SPROAT

Clerk to the Council.

The common seal of the Ellesmere Port and . Whitby Urban District Council was hereunto affixed in the presence of



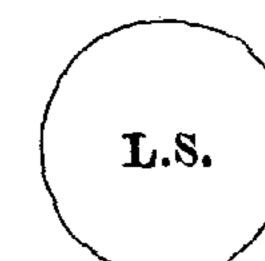
THOMAS H. BATE

Chairman of the Council.

THOMAS WM. FRANCIS

Clerk to the Council.

The common seal of the Wirral Rural District Council was hereunto affixed in the presence of



E. A. Roberts

Chairman of the Council.

D. Bunting

Clerk to the Council.

[14 & 15 GEO. 5.]

West Cheshire Water Act, 1924. [Ch. xcvi.]

Passed under the common seal of the Wirral Water Works Company in the presence of

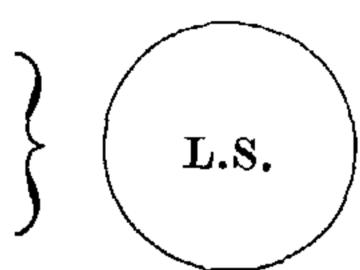
L.S.

A.D. 1924.

CECIL E. MAPLES
WM. S. McDowell
Directors.

A. J. Robinson Secretary.

Passed under the common seal of the West Cheshire Water Company in the presence of



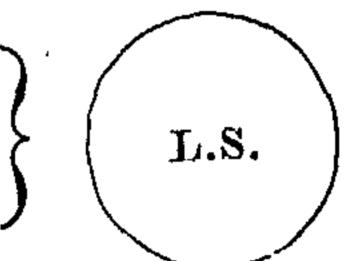
WM. THOMSON F. W. ARCHER

Directors.

A. J. Robinson

Secretary.

Passed under the common seal of the West Cheshire Water Company Limited in the presence of



PHILIP H. LOCKWOOD J. C. MAPLES

Directors.

A. J. Robinson

Secretary.

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WILLIAM RICHARD CODLING, Esq., C.V.O., C.B.E., the King's Printer of Acts of Parliament

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