



Friendly Societies Act 1896

1896 CHAPTER 25

PRIVILEGES OF REGISTERED SOCIETIES

32 Exception of societies from corresponding Societies Acts, &c

- (1) A registered society or branch or a meeting of a registered society or branch shall not be affected by any of the provisions of the Unlawful Societies Act, 1799, or of the Seditious Meetings Act, 1817, if in the society or branch or at the meeting no business is transacted other than that which directly and immediately relates to the objects of the society or branch as declared in the rules thereof ; but the society or branch, and all officers thereof shall, on request in writing by two justices of the peace, give to such justices full information of the nature, objects, proceedings, and practices of the society or branch.
- (2) If the society or branch when so required fails to give such information as aforesaid the provisions of those Acts shall, so far as applicable, be in force in respect of the society or branch.

33 Exemptions from stamp duty

Stamp duty shall not be chargeable upon any of the following documents:—

- (a) Draft or order or receipt given by or to a registered society or branch in respect of money payable by virtue of its rules or of this Act:
- (b) Letter or power of attorney granted by any person as trustee for the transfer of any money of a registered society or branch invested in his name in the public funds :
- (c) Bond given to or on account of a registered society or branch or by the treasurer or other officer thereof:
- (d) Policy of insurance or appointment or revocation of appointment of agent or other document required or authorised by this Act or by the rules of a registered society or branch.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

34 Transfer of stock standing in name of trustee

- (1) In any of the following cases, namely:—
- (i) where a person being or having been a trustee of a registered society or branch, and whether appointed before or after the registry thereof, in whose name any stock belonging to that society or branch transferable at the Bank of England or Bank of Ireland is standing, either jointly with another or others, or solely—
 - (a) is absent from the British Islands; or
 - (b) becomes bankrupt or files any petition or executes any deed for liquidation of his affairs by assignment or arrangement, or for composition with his creditors ; or
 - (c) becomes lunatic or is dead; or
 - (d) has been removed from his office of trustee; or
 - (ii) if it is unknown whether such person is living or dead,
- the chief registrar may, on application in writing from the secretary and three members of the society or branch, and on proof satisfactory to him, direct the transfer of the stock into the names of any other persons as trustees for the society or branch.
- (2) The transfer shall be made by the surviving or continuing trustees, or if there is no such trustee, or if the trustees refuse or are unable to make the transfer, and the chief registrar so directs, then by the Accountant General or Deputy or Assistant Accountant General of the Bank of England or Bank of Ireland, as the case may be.
- (3) The Bank of England and the Bank of Ireland are hereby indemnified for anything done by them or any of their officers in pursuance of this section against any claim or demand of any person injuriously affected thereby.

35 Priority on death, bankruptcy, &c. of officer

- (1) In the following cases, namely—
- (a) upon the death or bankruptcy of any officer of a registered society or branch having in his possession by virtue of his office any money or property belonging to the society or branch ; or
 - (b) if any execution, attachment, or other process is issued, or action or diligence raised against any such officer or against his property,
- his heirs, executors, or administrators, or trustee in bankruptcy, or the sheriff or other person executing the process, or the party using the action or diligence respectively shall, upon demand in writing of the trustees of the society or branch, or of any two of them, or of any person authorised by the society or branch, or by the committee thereof, to make the demand, pay the money, and deliver over the property to the trustees of the society or branch in preference to any other debt or claim against the estate of the officer.
- (2) In this section the expression " bankruptcy " shall include liquidation of a debtor's affairs by arrangement in England, cessio bonorum of a debtor in Scotland, and a petition for arrangement with creditors in Ireland ; and the expression " trustee in bankruptcy " shall include a judicial factor in Scotland, and an assignee in Ireland.

36 Membership of minors

- (1) The rules of a registered society or branch may provide for the admission of a person under twenty-one years of age as a member.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

- (2) Any such member may, if he is over sixteen years of age by himself, and if he is under that age by his parent or guardian, execute all instruments and give all acquittances necessary to be executed or given under the rules, but shall not be a member of the committee, or a trustee, manager, or treasurer of the society or branch.

37 Subscriptions to hospitals

A registered society or branch may subscribe out of its funds to any hospital, infirmary, charitable or provident institution, any annual or other sum which may be necessary to secure to members of the society or branch and their families the benefits of the hospital, infirmary, or other institution, according to its rules.