

Bishop's Appointment, 1914.

BISHOP'S APPOINTMENT ORDINANCE, 1914.

1914. No. 6.

Preamble.

Whereas it is expedient to make provision for the appointment of a person as Bishop of Grafton in the event of a vacancy in the See. Be it therefore ordained by the Synod of the said Diocese as follows:—

Vacancy—Resignation—Death.

1. In the event of the Bishop resigning and of his resignation having been accepted he shall signify the same to the Senior Clergyman in highest ecclesiastical rank in the Diocese, upon which the said Clergyman shall within sixty days communicate to the Metropolitan the fact of such resignation. In the case of the death of the Bishop or of a vacancy arising from any other cause the Senior Clergyman as aforesaid shall immediately report the vacancy to the Metropolitan, who shall in either case issue a mandate to the said Clergyman to summon a Special Meeting of Synod for the election of a Bishop for the Diocese, of which Synod the said Clergyman shall be President, and of which Special Meeting one month's notice shall be given.

Special Meeting of Synod.

2. When the Synod shall have assembled the roll shall be called and a vote taken upon the question whether the Synod shall proceed to Delegation or Election.

Delegation.

3. In the event of Delegation, the President shall then take a vote as to whom the Delegation shall fall upon.

Election.

4. In the event of Election the members of Synod shall each if they desire to do so propose on nomination papers the names of one or more persons not exceeding three being Bishops or Priests canonically qualified. Such papers shall be handed folded to the President and the names shall be placed on the nomination list in alphabetical order.

Voting.

5. Voting papers with the names of those who have been duly nominated shall be given to members of Synod who shall each erase every name except one. The two names having most votes shall then be put to the Synod and the name having a majority of both orders shall be the name of the Bishop elect. In the event

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of neither having such majority the names shall be again put to the Synod. Should there still be no majority of both orders the Synod shall adjourn for not less than 24 nor more than 48 hours. On re-assembling the two names shall once more be put and if then there be no majority of both orders the Synod shall proceed to vote as a whole and the name having a majority of votes shall be the name of the Bishop elect. In these proceedings the President shall not vote except in the event of an equality of votes in the voting of the whole House in which case he shall have a casting vote only.

After Election.

6. When any person shall have been duly elected as hereinbefore provided and his consent shall have been obtained the President shall transmit the name of such person together with a certificate of his election to the Metropolitan and shall cause intimation of such election to be publicly made in every Parish Church in the Diocese during the time of Divine Service on some Sunday within four weeks following receipt of such intimation according to the form herein prescribed as follows:—

Whereas the Reverend (or Right Reverend) _____ has been elected by the Synod Bishop of this Diocese subject to the confirmation of the Primate and Bishops of the Dioceses of Australia and Tasmania. Notice is hereby given that if any of you know any just cause or impediment why he should not be admitted to that sacred office ye are in writing to declare the same to the Metropolitan within one week from this date at the same time undertaking to appear personally before the Metropolitan and Bishops in support of such objection at such time and place as the Metropolitan may appoint.

And every such declaration shall be signed by the person or persons making it as well as countersigned by two adult male communicants of the Church as witnesses to the good character of such person or persons. And before such objection or objections shall be entertained the Metropolitan shall take such security for costs from the objector or objectors as he may deem fit.

Ineffective Election.

7. When any election shall by reason of refusal of acceptance death or incapacity be declared by the Metropolitan to be of no effect the Synod shall proceed de novo in either of the manners hereinbefore prescribed.

Time for Making Objection.

8. All questions touching the validity of any proceedings in the election of a Bishop shall be submitted to the Metropolitan

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before the person appointed be consecrated or translated and the Metropolitan shall decide thereon. After consecration or translation no objection shall be admitted.

Confirmation of Election.

9. Before any person be deemed the lawful Bishop of the Diocese his appointment shall be confirmed as provided in the Determination of the General Synod for the confirmation of Bishops in force in the Diocese for the time being.

Short Title.

10. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Bishop's Appointment Ordinance 1914."

Interpretation Clause.

11. The terms "Primate" and "Metropolitan" in this Ordinance shall be interpreted to mean the Primate for the time being and the word Metropolitan shall mean the Metropolitan for the time being or in his absence or vacancy of the Metropolitan See the senior Bishop of the Province of New South Wales.

I assent to this Ordinance

22nd June, 1914.

CECIL H. GRAFTON.