

THIS IS THE LAST WILL Of me CHARLES EDWARD NEWTON of Watling Gate Timperley in the County of Chester Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Civil Engineer which I make this twenty third day of July one thousand nine hundred and thirty six hereby revoking all other wills and testamentary dispositions by me heretofore made 1. I appoint my friend and Solicitor Percy Hilton of 32 Brazemose Street in the City of Manchester and my friend Frank Bell of Ellisland Stockport Road Timperley aforesaid Executors of this my Will 2. I give to the Urban District Council of Altrincham in the County of Chester (hereinafter called (the Council))

(1) All that my dwellinghouse and residence known as Watling Gate Timperley aforesaid together with the land forming the site thereof and occupied therewith which said land consists of (a) a plot of land containing seven thousand eight hundred and se-venty six square yards purchased by me in September one thousand eight hundred and ninety three from the Trustees of my late Father's Will and (b) a plot of land containing seven hundred and twenty six square yards conveyed to^{me} by a Conveyance made the thirtieth day of March one thousand nine hundred and thirty five between Herbert Greenhalgh Lonsdale of the one part and myself of the other part (ii) A plot of land (adjoining the before-mentioned land) containing two thousand one hundred square yards being part of the land conveyed to me by a Conveyance made the fourteenth day of May one thousand nine hundred and thirty six between Margaret Newton of the first part myself of the second part Laura Newton of the third part and myself of the fourth part I declare that the Council shall hold the said several plots of land hereinbefore given to the Council Upon trust for the perpetual use thereof by the public for the purposes of a park or pleasure grounds and for the purpose of exercise and recreation and that the same said several plots of land shall be added to the land recently presented by

me and my sisters the said Margaret Newton and Laura Newton to the Council for the purposes of a park And I further declare that the Council shall hold the said dwellinghouse Upon trust to use the same or permit the same to be used for any civic purpose such as a branch library and/or welfare centre and that part of the house may if the Council so desires be used as an official residence for one or more of the Council's employees and the said dwellinghouse shall not be sold let or occupied by a private individual or private individuals And I direct that the Council shall allow my housekeeper Lily Bell to remain in occupation of the said dwellinghouse or part thereof free of rent rates and taxes and other out-goings of a like nature for a reasonable time after my death (say three months) to enable her to make arrangements for her future habitation (iii) The following pictures namely:- (a) The big picture known as "Achilles" (b) The water colour of Rosthern Church by H. Meadows (c) The undoubted "Hondecoeter" (d) The large geological map on the wall of my sitting room and (e) such other of my pictures as the Council may desire to have and preserve in the Council's gallery and select within three calendar months from my death (iv) The "Halberd" and warden's staff in my hall which is said to have been used in ancient mayoral processions in Altrincham to be placed by the Council in the Altrincham Museum (v) Such of my books as the Council's Librarian shall within three calendar months from my death select 3. I give to the Corporation of Nelson in the County of Lancaster (through their Water Engineer) all my plans and papers relating to the Nelson Water Works 4. I request my Executors to look over all the remaining plans and papers in my Office or elsewhere and if the said Frank Bell shall think it desirable to retain any relating to local matters such as drainage etc he may if he thinks fit hand the same over to the Surveyor of the Altrincham District Council 5.

I give free of duty to my housekeeper the said Lily Bell such of my household furniture and articles or effects of domestic or household use or ornament as she shall within three calendar months from my death select and which in the opinion of my Executors shall be suitable for and sufficient to furnish a small dwellinghouse for herself 6. I direct my Executors to purchase in the name of the said Lily Bell an annuity of one hundred and thirty pounds free of duty for the life of the said Lily Bell to commence from my death and be payable quarterly and in

the meantime until such annuity shall be purchased and in lieu thereof to pay a like annuity out of the income of my residuary estate to the said Lily Bell 7. I give to Mrs W. D. Thomas

(wife of the Reverend W. D. Thomas of Congleton) the beautiful settle in my hall which she gave to me and my dear wife and if

the said W. D. Thomas would like to have any other memento of my dear wife I give to her such articles or article as she

may select 8. I give ~~me~~ ^{and other} all my gardening/tools including my motor mowing machines to my gardener Herbert Bradburn provided he shall be in my service at the time of my death and not be under notice to leave whether given or received 9. I give the following pecuniary legacies namely:- To my godson John Newton the sum of one hundred pounds To my friend Walter Eskrigge of Woodheyes Estate Sale the sum of one hundred pounds To my friend J. H. Baldwick Town Clerk of Nelson the sum of Two hundred pounds To my friend J. A. Cowley Clerk of Northwich Urban District Council the sum of Two hundred pounds To my housemaid Annie Warburton the sum of twenty five pounds provided she shall be in my service at the time of my death and not be under notice to leave whether given or received To the said Frank Bell if he shall prove my will the sum of one hundred pounds To Florence Driver of 59 Liverpool Road Cadishead the sum of Fifty Pounds 10. I give the following charitable legacies that is to say:-

I direct my Executors or Executor to call in or otherwise convert into money the Nelson Corporation Bond for Two thousand pounds which I hold and I give the proceeds subject to the payment of duty to or for such charitable institution or institutions preferably the Reedyford Hospital or other charitable object or objects in the Borough of Nelson in the County of Lancaster as my acting Executors or Executor may in their or his absolute discretion select and to be paid to or for such institutions or objects if more than one in such proportions as my said Executors or Executor may think proper To the Altrincham Provident Dispensary and Hospital the sum of Five hundred pounds To Dr. Barnardo's Homes the sum of Five hundred pounds To Manchester Boys and Girls Refugees & Homes the sum of Five hundred pounds To Henshaw's Blind Asylum Manchester the sum of Five hundred pounds To the Royal School of Deaf and Dumb at Old Trafford Manchester the sum of Five hundred pounds To St Mary's Hospital Manchester the sum of Five hundred pounds To the Cheshire branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals the sum of Two hundred and fifty pounds To the Manchester Home for Lost Dogs the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds To the Altrincham Police Court Mission Willow Tree Road Altrincham aforesaid for rescue and preventive work the sum of one hundred pounds

11. I direct my executors or executor to sell call in and convert into money all my real and personal estate not hereby otherwise disposed of and out of the proceeds of such sale and calling in and out of my ready money to pay my funeral and testamentary expenses and debts and the legacies and purchase the annuity given by this my Will or any Codicil hereto and the duty on any legacies hereinbefore given free of duty and I give the residue of the said moneys to or for such charitable institution or institutions or other charitable object or objects in England as my acting Executors or Executor may in their or his absolute

discretion select and to be paid to or for such institutions or objects if more than one in such proportions as my said executors or executor may think proper and for the guidance of my said executors or executor but without imposing any legal obligation and or fetter on their or his discretion I desire to express the ~~wish~~ wish that in selecting such charitable institution or institutions they will bear in mind local and provincial institutions such as Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies etc and particularly The Benevolent Fund of the Institution of Civil Engineers Great George Street Westminster 12. I authorise and direct my Executors to determine what properties or articles pass under any specific devise or bequest contained in this my will or any Codicil hereto and to determine the identity of any person or persons society or societies institution or institutions intended to benefit under any bequest contained in this my Will or any Codicil hereto and to determine all questions or disputes which may arise as to the construction of my will or any codicil hereto and all questions and matters of doubt arising in the execution of the trusts of this my Will or any Codicil hereto And I declare that every such determination whether made upon a question actually raised or implied in the acts and proceedings of my Executors (y shall be conclusive and binding on all persons societies and institutions interested under this my Will or any Codicil hereto And I also declare that every person society and institution claiming under my will or any codicil hereto upon the request in writing of my Executors shall execute and do at the expense of my estate all such instruments acts and things as may be proper for carrying such determination into effect and in the event of the wilful neglect or refusal of any such person society or institution to do so upon such request as aforesaid or if any such person society or institution shall commence or procure any other person society or institution to commence any action or

other legal proceedings for determining any such question or dispute as aforesaid then I declare that such person society or institution shall forfeit all benefits hereby or by any Codicil hereto given to such person society or institution and the same not being residuary or a share of residue shall fall into my residuary estate 13. I declare that my Executors may employ and remunerate Solicitors Accountants Valuers Brokers and other Agents for the transaction of any business of whatever nature required to be done in the execution of the trusts hereof including the receipt and payment of money but not including the exercise of any discretion And I further declare that the said Percy Hilton shall be employed as Solicitor in the trust and that he and any other executor or trustee for the time being hereunder being a Solicitor shall be entitled to charge and be paid all usual professional or other charges for any business done by him or his firm in the premises whether in the ordinary course of his profession or business or not and although not of a nature requiring the employment of a Solicitor

IN WITNESS whereof I have to each sheet of this my Will contained ^{three} in this and the preceding/sheets of paper set my hand the day and year first above written

SIGNED by the above-named Testator as and for his last) Will in the presence of us both being present at the same) CHARLES EDWARD time who at his request in his presence and in the presence) NEWTON of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses)

Dorothy M. Walters Clerk with Mellor Hilton & Co Solicitors Manchester

H. G. Chorlton Wharmton Towers Greenfield Yorkshire Solicitors Clerk

THIS IS A CODICIL made by me CHARLES EDWARD NEWTON of Watling Gate Timperley in the County of Chester Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Civil Engineer this twenty seventh day of April

one thousand nine hundred and thirty seven to my will which bears date the twenty third day of July one thousand nine hundred and thirty six I give to the Urban District Council of Altrincham in the County of Chester (hereinafter called "the Council") All that plot of land situate in Leys Road Timperley aforesaid containing two thousand four hundred and seventy three and one third square yards or thereabouts being the remainder of the land conveyed to me by the Conveyance made the fourteenth day of May one thousand nine hundred and thirty six referred to in Clause 2 (11) of my said Will and I declare that in case the Council shall sell the said plot of land (which they shall be at liberty to do if they so desire) the proceeds of the sale thereof shall be applied at the discretion of the Council (a) in adapting and maintaining the dwellinghouse known as Watling Gate for the civic purposes for which it is by my said will directed to be devoted and/or (b) in improving the usefulness of the Altrincham Public Library by the purchase of books or in improving the said Library in any other manner the Council or its Library Committee may think fit And in all other respects I confirm my said will IN WITNESS whereof I the said Charles Edward Newton have hereunto set my hand the day and year first above written

SIGN-ED by the above-named Testator as a Codicil)

to his Last Will in the presence of us both present) CHARLES EDWARD NEWTON
 at the same time who in his presence ~~and~~ at his request)
 and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed)
 our names as witnesses)

Lily Bell Watling Gate Timperley Spinster Housekeeper

Lily Yates Watking Gate Timperley Spinster Housemaid

PROBATE MANCHESTER 4th October 1937

certified to be a correct copy.