ק"ק כנסת ישראל

United Synagogue

LAWS AND BYELAWS

OF THE

BURIAL SOCIETY

WOBURN HOUSE
UPPER WOBURN PLACE
LONDON, W.C.1

JUNE, 1955

LAWS AND BYELAWS

OF THE

Burial Society of the United Synagogue

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL ON
APRIL 2nd 5632—1872.

1st revision: March 24th, 5661—1902.
2nd revision: January 30th, 5666—1906.
3rd revision: June 2nd, 5715—1955.

With a Preface relating the history of the Society and of the United Synagogue Cemeteries.

THIS SOCIETY IS NAMED

חברת גמילת חסדים דק"ק כנסת ישראל

(The Burial Society of the United Synagogue)

And was formed in pursuance of the Scheme to the United Synagogues Act, 1870, for the burial of persons of the Jewish Religion.

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ק"ק כנסת ישראל

UNITED SYNAGOGUE

חברת גמילת חסדים דק"ק כנסת ישראל

The Burial Society of the United Synagogue

COMMITTEE

(at the date of the adoption of these revised Laws and Byelaws, 28th April, 1955).

THE PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENTS, TREASURERS, TREASURERS OF THE BEQUESTS & TRUSTS FUNDS, and CHAIRMAN OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE (all ex-officio)

Treasurers of the Burial Society:

SIDNEY SPANJER, ESQ. — A. WINGATE, ESQ.

Elected by the Council:

B. I. BECKMAN, ESQ., B.A. — B. RAPERPORT, ESQ., C.C.
J. CINNA, ESQ. — L. M. SAMUEL, ESQ.
R. ENOCH, ESQ. — H. A. SIMONS, ESQ.
A. LISSACK, ESQ. — S. STARK, ESQ.

Representatives of the Constituent Synagogues:

H. WILSON, ESQ.	(Great)
A. BRESH, ESQ.	(New)
H. KRAMER, ESQ.	(Bayswater)
H. WATERMAN, ESQ.	(Central)
S. WATERMAN, ESQ.	(Borough)
DR. H. W. OPPENHEIMER	(St. John's Wood)
P. WEINER, ESQ.	(East London)
M. VICTOR, ESQ.	(North London)
L. CHARKHAM, ESQ.	(New West End)
A. HERTZBERG, ESQ.	(Dalston)
H. SHARPE, ESQ.	(Hammersmith)
H. SUMERAY, ESQ.	(Hampstead)
L. SONTAG, ESQ.	(Hackney)
S. MENDELSON, ESQ.	(Stoke Newington)
M. NISENBAUM, ESQ.	(Brondesbury)
F. J. WILLIAMS, ESQ.	(Brixton)
M. LAUFER, ESQ.	(Golders Green)
J. ALBERG, ESQ.	(Cricklewood)
C. E. GAVENTA, ESQ.	(Hendon)
M. LEHRER, ESQ.	(Willesden)
A. FISHMAN, ESQ., LL.B.	(Hampstead Garden Suburb)
H. M. LEAF, ESQ.	(Dollis Hill)
P. WOOLFSON, ESQ.	(Finchley)
J. LAITNER, ESQ.	(Edgware)

Representatives of the District Synagogues Council:

M. BECKER, ESQ. — H. WEBBER, ESQ., F.C.A.
P. LOWI, ESQ. — I. L. ZINKIN, ESQ.

Representatives of the Affiliated Synagogues Committee:

A. ASHLEY, ESQ. — J. GOLDBART, ESQ.

PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION

Although numerous amendments to the Laws and Byelaws of the Burial Society have been adopted by the Council from time to time, no major revision has been undertaken since 1906. Since that date the activities of the United Synagogue have expanded both in size and in scope, and during the passage of years numerous matters which were not covered by the original Laws and Byelaws had to be met by new Byelaws or amendments to the existing ones.

As a consequence the "patchwork" condition of the existing Laws and Byelaws made them difficult to handle in the day to day affairs of the Society and in 1947 the Treasurers of the Burial Society came to the conclusion that the time had come when a complete revision was necessary. They therefore advised the Burial Committee to recommend the Council that this revision be undertaken.

In order to facilitate this formidable task, the Treasurers of the Burial Society authorised a preliminary survey by a working party consisting of members of the Secretariat of the Burial Society and in 1950 a first draft was completed and laid before the Treasurers. The Treasurers then reported to the Burial Committee on the steps taken, and the Committee decided that, having regard to the complexity of the task and to the considerable amount of detailed work involved, the Council should be recommended to set up a Sub-Committee of five persons to undertake the task of the complete revision of the Laws and Byelaws. In order to make this small body as representative as possible, it was recommended that the Sub-Committee should consist of the two Treasurers of the Burial Society together with one member of the Council who was not a member of the Burial Committee; one member of the Burial Committee who was not a member of the Council; and one member of the Burial Committee who was also a member of the Council. The Sub-Committee was to be asked to report to the Burial Committee, and, in due course, to the Council.

In June 1951 the Council adopted the recommendation of the Burial Committee and appointed Messrs. Maurice Hyams, B.Sc., F.C.A., and Sidney Spanjer (Treasurers of the Burial Society), B. I. Beckman, B.A., Arnold Hertzberg and S. C. Levy. In June 1953, on Mr. Hyams becoming Treasurer of the United Synagogue, his successor, Mr. A. Wingate, joined the Sub-Committee and at the

express desire of the Sub-Committee, Mr. Hyams remained a member.

Even with the help provided by the first draft prepared by the working party the Sub-Committee found it necessary to hold meetings at frequent intervals from September 1951 to January 1955. In fact, the Sub-Committee met on sixty-two occasions in all.

The policy adopted by the Sub-Committee was to adhere as closely as possible to the original Laws and Byelaws and only to depart from the original wording where, either in the interest of clarity or in conformity with present day practice, this seemed advisable. The form of the Byelaws of the Constituent Synagogues in regard to the numbering of Clauses and grouping into Sections was followed. In earlier editions scales of charges were incorporated in the Laws and Byelaws and this necessitated an amendment every time the scales were altered. In this edition authority for making charges is included but the scales themselves will be determined from time to time.

The provisions of the Funeral Expenses Scheme are contained in Section L and have been so drafted as to be self-contained so that copies may be separately printed and made available to any contributor to the Funeral Expenses Scheme.

The Sub-Committee decided to include in this new edition of the Laws and Byelaws the original Historical Preface written by Mr. Philip Ornstien, Secretary of the United Synagogue from 1899 to 1920, and to continue the Historical Preface to bring it up to date.

The Committee wish to place on record their appreciation of the valuable assistance given by Mr. Philip Goldberg, Secretary of the United Synagogue from 1920 to 1946, not only in the compilation of this latter preface but in having participated in the task of the original working party which prepared the first draft of the revised Laws and Byelaws.

The members of the Committee also wish to pay special tribute to one of their number, Mr. S. C. Levy, who gave most valuable assistance in the drafting of the new Laws and Byelaws and by so doing made their task much lighter.

All meetings of the Sub-Committee were attended by Mr. A. H. Silverman, the Secretary of the United Synagogue, Messrs. L. Wilson and W. Norwood, the Assistant Secretaries, and by Mr. G. Seeley, the Clerk to the Burial Committee. The Sub-Committee wishes to express its appreciation of the valuable services rendered to it throughout by these officials.

HISTORY OF THE BURIAL SOCIETY AND OF THE CEMETERIES OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE FROM 1870 TO 1902

by Mr. PHILIP ORNSTIEN

(*Secretary of the United Synagogue from* 1899 *to* 1920)

THE publication of a revised Code of Laws and Byelaws of the Burial Society of the United Synagogue presents a fitting opportunity to make a brief survey of the measures taken for the decorous and reverent burial of the dead. From time immemorial, this self-imposed and sacred trust has been scrupulously and religiously carried out by Jews, and has been maintained in every country throughout their dispersion. Old times have changed, but the old custom of לוית המת remains as firmly implanted in the breast of the present-day Jew as it was in that of his forebears of centuries ago.

Prior to the foundation of the United Synagogue, the three City Synagogues, the Great, the Hambro' and the New, had their separate Cemeteries, and each had a Burial חברה, which, although connected with the Congregation, was governed by a special code of laws peculiar to itself. In those days, the Synagogues had two classes of members, viz., בעלי בתים, Privileged Members, with full rights of membership, and תושבים, Seatholders, who were "considered as belonging to the Congregation", but with no privileges, beyond that of occupying seats for which they paid. All other persons were called אורחים, or Strangers. A portion of the Cemetery was set aside exclusively for the burial of Privileged Members, and no charge was made to them for ground for interment. Seatholders were buried in the part allocated to "Strangers" and were compelled to pay for graves, but, by the payment of a fee which had to be fixed by the respective Presidents, non-members could secure a grave in the ground reserved for members. At the time referred to, it was the practice to keep night watchmen at the Cemeteries, "to guard against robbery of the graves". In the instance of the Burial Society of the Great Synagogue, a special rate of 4s. per annum for this purpose was levied on all males belonging to the Congregation from the age of 16 and upwards. In 1863, in pursuance of a law passed by the Vestry of the Great Synagogue, a revised Constitution of "The Burial Society of the Congregation of the Great Synagogue" was published. The mem-

bership was still limited to Privileged Members, who became, *ipso facto,* members of the Burial Society on payment of a compulsory admission fee of £2 2s., which was reduced, in certain cases, to £1 1s. The admission fee for the son of a Privileged Member was 10s. 6d., and a similar fee was levied on a non-member, whether a Seatholder or a "Stranger", who married a daughter of a Privileged Member, upon his becoming a Privileged Member. In every instance, the members of the Society had to pay the following annual subscription:—

Males	10s. each
Members' Wives	8s. „
Widows and Unmarried Females	8s. „

The payment of the fee for "watching the Cemetery", seems to have been abolished, but every official—honorary and salaried—was subject to fines and other pains and penalties. For refusing to serve the office of Treasurer, there was a fine of ten guineas, and members accepting office and resigning the same before the expiration of the term for which they had been elected, had to pay a double fine. Any member seeking redress against an Honorary Officer was subject to a fine not exceeding five guineas, if the Committee, appointed to inquire into the alleged grievance, found that the complaint was not justified.

The Laws of the Burial Society of the Hambro' and New Synagogues were almost identical in terms with those of the Great Synagogue, except that the annual contribution was less, and an annual fee of 8s. for "watching the burial ground" was maintained. כהנים had to pay an extra annual fee in lieu of "watching", and their neglect or refusal to comply subjected them to "exclusion or fine, as the Wardens and Treasurers may think fit".

In the early days of the New Synagogue, it was incumbent upon every male person belonging to that Congregation between the ages of 21 and 60 years (excepting those who were charged for "watching") to undertake the duty of watchmen. Two persons, chosen and appointed to watch the burial ground for every night throughout the year, had to repair to the Cemetery to watch on a specified night and hour, and had to conform to regulations exhibited in the watch-house. The penalty for non-compliance was a fine or exclusion from the Congregation. In addition, a person not of the Jewish persuasion was engaged to watch. The watchmen were armed, and no person was allowed in the Cemeteries after dusk without an order from the President. The Laws descended into the minutest detail. For instance, the duties and emoluments, etc., of the Rabbi of the Burial Society are set out in four pages of printed matter. There was a fee payable for almost every con-

ceivable duty, and one regulation enacts that he is to have "annually, independent of his salary, one chaldron of coals". Similarly, in the Laws of the Burial Society of the Hambro' Synagogue, referring to the then customary observance of יום הכניסה, it is stipulated that the שמש shall, on the termination of the Fast, provide a breakfast for each person who has attended the ceremony, and shall be allowed 1s. 6d. per head.

One of the many advantages accruing to the Community from the Amalgamation of the Synagogues was the re-organisation of the Burial Societies, inasmuch as the separate and distinct organisations were brought under one management, and finally under the supreme control of the Council of the United Synagogue.

Among certain powers contained in the Scheme to the United Synagogue Act was the formation of a Society to be called "The Burial Society of the United Synagogue", the constitution of the Society and the conditions and privileges of membership being determined by the Council, and the Burial Committee being subject to its control.

The following are the clauses in the Scheme of the United Synagogue Act of 1870, upon which the constitution of the Burial Society of the United Synagogue was based:—

21. There shall be a Society, which shall be called "The Burial Society of the United Synagogue". The constitution of the Society and the conditions and privileges of membership shall, subject to the provisions in relation thereto contained in this Scheme, be determined by the Vestry.

22. There shall be no distinction as to the place of interment between privileged members of the United Synagogue and others, provided always that nothing herein contained shall prejudice the rights of property of persons who have acquired, or prevent persons from hereafter acquiring, land as sites for graves.

23. Two Treasurers of the Burial Society shall be elected annually by the Vestry from among the members of the Burial Society. They shall be Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue.

24. The Treasurers of the Burial Society shall have the general superintendence of the receipt and expenditure of moneys on account of the Burial Society.

It may be remarked that Clause 22 was modified in 1880, at the time of the abolition of Privileged Membership, when the Scheme to the United Synagogue Act was amended, and the consequent amendment incorporated in the Clause referred to, which now runs as follows:—

22. There shall be no distinction as to the place of interment between persons who are Privileged Members at the date of the passing of these resolutions and other members of the United Synagogue, or between members of the United Synagogue and others, or between persons belonging to any of the preceding classes as between themselves. Provided always that nothing herein contained shall prejudice the rights of property of persons who have acquired, or prevent persons from hereafter acquiring, land as sites for graves.

Clause 23 was also amended at the time of the revision of the United Synagogue Act, and is as follows:—

23. Two Treasurers of the Burial Society shall be elected in the year 1881, and in every alternate year thereafter, by the Council, from among the members of the Burial Society. They shall be Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue. The present Treasurers of the Burial Society shall hold office until the time in the year 1881 at which the treasurers of the Burial Society to be elected under this Clause shall commence to hold office.

The United Synagogue Act was approved by Parliament on the 14th July, 1870. The first meeting of the "Provisional Vestry of the United Synagogue" (now known as the "Council") constituted under Clause 8 of the Scheme for the Union of the Synagogues, was held on August 11th, 1870. At that meeting, it was decided that the administration of the several Burial Societies should continue, *pro tem.*

On the 14th December, 1870 (the first meeting of the elected members of the Council), it was resolved:—

> "That the following Sub-Committee of nine be appointed to consider what steps should be taken to form the Burial Society of the United Synagogue, also to investigate the whole subject of Burials in the grounds of the Synagogue, and the arrangements necessary for conducting the same under the amalgamation, and to report to the Council:—Messrs. Joseph Abrahams, N. S. Joseph, David Benjamin, Simeon Oppenheim, Henry Solomon, Samuel Montagu, David Davis, Jacob Levy, and Joseph Isaacs. That meanwhile the present Burial Society and Officers continue to perform their functions as heretofore."

At the outset of their labours, the Sub-Committee were deprived by death of the assistance of Mr. Joseph Abrahams, who was for many years one of the Treasurers of the Burial Society of the Great Synagogue, and whose intimate knowledge of the matters referred to the Sub-Committee would have been of the greatest value.

Mr. David Benjamin, since deceased, was appointed Chairman of the Sub-Committee. The difficulties with which the Sub-Committee had to deal were immense, inasmuch as the manner of regulating the burial affairs in each of the three City Synagogues was different, and it was no easy task to assimilate the various arrangements, charges, and duties of officials, so as to bring the whole matter into line. Eventually, a Scheme was devised, and after passing through many stages and long discussions, the first Code of Laws and Byelaws for the government of the Burial Society of the United Synagogue was adopted by the Council on April 2nd, 1872.

The composition of the Burial Committee consisted of two Treasurers of the Burial Society (who, in accordance with the United Synagogue Act, are Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue) and five Committeemen to be elected by the Council, and, in addition, each Board of Management of a Constituent Synagogue elected one of its members to serve on the Committee. The President and Vice-Presidents of the Council and the Overseers of the Poor are members, *ex officio,* of the Committee.

The first Burial Committee elected by the Council consisted of the following gentlemen:—

Messrs. Jacob Levy and Samuel Levy (Treasurers of the Burial Society), David Davis, N. S. Joseph, M. Van Thal, Jun., Marcus Pool, and Solomon L. Solomons.

The Burial Committee held their first meeting on June 3rd, 1872.

It was soon apparent that the duties and responsibilities which were thrown upon them were by no means light. Many questions of management involving vested interests had to be boldly grappled with, and many abuses sanctioned by time had to be eradicated. The claims of old and earnest employees had to be met, whilst, on the other hand, it was felt—and felt justly—that some of the minor officials were unfitted for the positions which they held. This latter class of official had been demoralised by the pernicious system of payment by fees and tips, and it was a prodigious task to undo the evil which time and custom had sanctioned, and to instil into the officials a feeling of self-respect, as well as a sense of the sacredness of the duties which they were called upon to perform. Complaints of misconduct were frequent. A few stringent "examples" in the shape of dismissals had to be resorted to. The fee system was abolished. A fair weekly wage was substituted. Among other things, suitable attire was insisted upon. The standard of employees was gradually levelled up, with the result that for many years past no well-founded complaint has been made of indecorous conduct at houses of mourners or at funerals.

In the new Code of Laws just passed, a further step is made in the direction of placing the minor official on a more independent footing, and of making him feel that good conduct will not pass unrewarded. Hitherto, no matter how many years a person had been employed in the capacity of Bearer or Watcher, no matter how faithfully the duties were discharged, there was no provision either for old age, or, in the event of death, for his widow and children. The new Laws do away with this hardship, and are but an act of justice to old and tried employees.

Another legacy of neglect which was bequeathed to the Burial Society was the disordered state of the old Cemeteries. In some, no pathways existed; in others, portions of the pathways were taken up with graves. Constant attention is given to the disused Cemeteries, but for the reasons stated, no radical change can be made in their condition for fear of desecrating a grave. Although there has been some improvement, yet at times the Cemeteries present a very forlorn and unsightly appearance, brought about through years of neglect and the absence of systematic arrangement and control. The older Cemeteries are now seldom, if ever, visited by relatives of persons whose remains are interred therein. "Gone and forgotten" may be aptly applied to the majority, and the phrase is used in no disparaging sense, inasmuch as the descendants of the deceased are far removed by lapse of years. During the last few years, several hundreds of letters have been addressed to relatives of deceased persons, calling attention to the decayed condition of tombstones, and suggesting that the stones be put in decent repair, but in very few instances has the suggestion been adopted, and this has happened only in the case of those who are near relatives of the deceased. In the course of time, even these few tombstones will have to take care of themselves. As the monuments become dangerous and the tombstones decay, the Burial Committee from time to time have the *débris* carefully laid on the graves. The question is by no means an easy one for solution. In the course of time, it may be necessary, as it is certainly desirable, that the Cemeteries should be properly levelled and planted, the tombstones and *débris* removed, and a series of tablets erected containing the names of those buried. On more than one occasion, the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association has approached the Burial Committee with the view of converting the older Cemeteries, which are situated in the congested districts of East London, into properly laid out gardens, but Jewish sentiment has not yet gone so far as to see its way to adopt the proposals made to them. It may happen that as time goes on, it will be acknowledged that reverence for the dead can be better shown by making God's Acre a well-kept and beautiful garden, than by permitting it to become a ruin and a place of stagnant vegetation.

An important innovation in the management of the Burial Society was the creation of different classes of funerals. This reform was effected in 1876, when First-class, Second-class, and Charity Funerals were instituted. Prior to that date, there were no separate classes, and a person had either to pay the full burial charges or to sue *in formâ pauperis* for a reduction, or for a Charity Funeral. The alteration has been greatly appreciated, and moreover, has been the means of inculcating the important lesson of independence. It is however, but right to mention that the charge made for a Second-class Funeral does not cover the cash outlay incurred, apart from the question of the cost of ground and establishment charges.

In 1877, certain representations were made by the Burial Committee as to the desirability of abolishing the practice of reciting a formula called מחילה ("asking pardon") of the corpse on its arrival at the cemetery. It was urged that the custom was superstitious, and with the consent of the Rev. Dr. N. M. Adler, the late Chief Rabbi (ז"צ"ל), it was discontinued.

Another point which gave rise to some question of feeling was the abolition of palls and mourners' cloaks. These appurtenances were, of course, used indiscriminately in cases of death from infectious and non-infectious diseases, and almost necessarily carried with them from house to house the insidious germs of fatal maladies. Some opposition was raised to the abolition, but it was felt that the solemnity of a funeral could receive no augmentation from the use of a pall, nor could the feelings of the mourners be affected in any degree by the wearing of a black cloak. The origin of the former custom is stated to have emanated from the desire to hide from the public view the plain wooden coffins which, in the majority of instances, are used in Jewish funerals, and the latter from the desire to cover the garments of poorer mourners who might feel ashamed to attend the funerals of relatives, or the Synagogue on the Sabbath during the week of mourning, in their usual attire.

The Burial Committee have also dealt successfully with the question of Premature Burials; they have approached the Ecclesiastical Authorities with the view of shortening the period of Shiva, although their efforts were not crowned with success; they have been instrumental in assisting in the establishment of Mortuaries; and they have encouraged working arrangements between the United Synagogue and Non-constituent Synagogues for burial rights of their members in the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue. Arrangements of this character are now in force with the following bodies:—

North-West London Synagogue.
Poplar Synagogue.
Sandy's Row Synagogue.
Spital Square Synagogue.

A proposed working arrangement for the interment of members of the West London Synagogue of British Jews in the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue, which had been agreed to by the Councils of the two bodies respectively, was unfortunately frustrated by the opposition of certain members of the "Reform" Synagogue when submitted to a general meeting of the members for ratification, in accordance wtth the constitution of that body. This unhappy and unforeseen result of amicable negotiations between the managing bodies of the two institutions was rightly deplored by the leaders of both Congregations, as a setting back of the hands of the clock, inasmuch as the interment of deceased members of both Congregations in one Cemetery would have been regarded as fixing the final seal of reconciliation to the unhappy schism which took place in the ranks of the Community in the year 1840. It is, however, a pleasant duty to record the fact that the refusal of the rank and file of the members of the West London Synagogue to confirm the burial arrangement referred to, has not disturbed the friendly relations of the governing bodies of the two institutions. In the matter of Charity Funerals, the Council of the West London Synagogue has contributed for many years past a sum of £50 towards the cost of burial of the poor.

The Burial Committee have likewise encouraged the formation of Burial Benefit Societies in connection with Constituent Synagogues. These Societies, the membership of which is confined to members of the respective Constituent Synagogues, are allowed a rebate of ten per cent. off the charges for Second-class Funerals, as well as other special privileges. At the present time, two such Societies are in existence, viz., one in connection with the East London Synagogue and the other with the South Hackney Synagogue.

The members of Friendly Societies generally come under the "most favoured treatment" policy, and by a recent arrangement the Secretaries of these Societies are recognised by the Burial Society, so that an alleged grievance has been removed, and there is a direct working arrangement between them and the Burial Committee. It is eminently desirable to foster a spirit of friendly feeling with these important organisations, and with this object a scheme has been lately propounded whereby, if brought to fruition, it may be possible, under certain conditions, that all qualified members of

duly recognised Friendly Societies will be enabled to acquire certain rights and privileges of the Burial Society.

A revised and amplified edition of the Burial Service was published in 1896.

The work of the Burial Society has increased commensurately with the growth of the Community; statistics are given in the Table printed on page 37.

Since the formation of the Burial Society, the Council of the United Synagogue has purchased two Cemeteries, one at Willesden and the other at Plashet, whilst the Cemetery at West Ham has been extended.

The following is a brief history of the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue:—

Hoxton Cemetery.

Hoxton Cemetery, situated in Hoxton Street, Hoxton Old Town. —The land was originally acquired in 1707, when it was described as being in Hogsden, in the Parish of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. A lease for 150 years from March 25th, 1707, was granted to Mr. Marcus Moses, of London, Jeweller, for the sum of £120 and a rental of 10s. per annum. In 1767, a further lease was granted for 110 years, to date from the expiration of the original lease in 1857, to Mr. Henry Isaacs, Merchant, of London, the consideration money being £80, a continuation of the annual rental of 10s. and a further stipulation that a sum of £5 per annum be paid for any shed, erection or building that might be put up on the site. The lease of this Cemetery will therefore expire in 1967. The rental is paid yearly by the Burial Society to the Trustees of Berman's Charity. The Cemetery formerly belonged to the Hambro' Synagogue. At the date of the Amalgamation it was found that there were no Trustees of the property, and accordingly application was made to the Charity Commissioners for the vesting of the property in Trustees, and the necessary authority was given on October 28th, 1873. The last interment took place in the Cemetery in 1878, the remains of the then old Cemetery Keeper being, by request, buried there, but for many years prior to that date no interment was made in the ground.

Alderney Road Cemetery

Alderney Road Cemetery, situated in Alderney Road, Globe Road, Mile End.—It appears from the records of the Great Synagogue that in 1748, Moses Hart ("Moses of Breslau") the Founder of the Great Synagogue, and Aaron and Naphtali Franks were

appointed a Sub-Committee for the purpose of buying land for a Cemetery. In 1749, the freehold of a site, described as being situated in Three Colt Yard, in Mile End and the Hamlet of Mile End Old Town, in the Parish of Saint Dunstan, Stepney, was acquired for the sum of £174, and vested in the following Trustees appointed by the Great Synagogue:—Moses Hart, St. Mary Axe, Gentleman; Aaron Franks, Bishopsgate Street, Gentleman; Elias Levy, Bishopsgate Street, Merchant; Naphtali Franks, Billiter Street, Gentleman.

It is, however, certain that a Jewish Cemetery must have existed contiguous to the site above referred to, for many years prior to 1749. From an old deed in the possession of the United Synagogue it appears that on February 2nd, 1696, Benjamin Levy, Merchant, of London, acquired a lease of 1,000 years, of property in the neighbourhood of Globe Road which is described as being "partly upon a piece of ground called the Jewish Buriall Place". The exact date of the opening of this "Buriall Place" is doubtful, but it is certain that interments took place there in the beginning of the Eighteenth Century. Moses Franks, one of the principal supporters of the old Great Synagogue, was buried there in 1710, and the Burial Ground was then known as the "Cemetery of the Dutch Jews", in contradistinction to the Spanish and Portuguese Cemetery, the term "Polish or German" Jews being evidently of later origin. A remarkable fact, to which the attention of contemporary historians and archaeologists was directed, was the practice of the section, then known as Dutch Jews, of covering the ground with a stratum of earth of sufficient depth to make fresh graves when the Cemetery was full. There is every appearance that this plan was adopted, inasmuch as the south-west section of the ground and a portion behind the present Caretaker's Lodge seem to have been artificially raised. Reference is also made to this custom under the heading of Brady Street Cemetery.

Describing the Jewish Cemeteries in London, one authority, towards the end of the Eighteenth Century, states:—

"In the Cemetery belonging to the Dutch Jews, the rows are not kept so regularly, and the tombs resemble more than in our burial grounds. The inscriptions are entirely Hebrew. . . The Dutch Jews are equally averse from disturbing the bones of the dead, and if the Cemetery is full, they cover it with a stratum of earth of sufficient depth to make fresh graves, but the Portuguese always purchase new ground. The Cemetery belonging to the Dutch Jews was set apart for that purpose, about the beginning of the present (eighteenth) century."

The comparison of the rows of tombs in the first sentence refers

to the rows of graves in the Portuguese Cemeteries in Mile End Road, and the explanation of the remark that the tombs "resemble more than in our burial grounds" is found in the fact that the Sephardi gravestones were, and are, always flat. It is worthy of note that the inscriptions on the tombs of the early members of the Ashkenazi Community were "entirely Hebrew". In this respect they differed from the tombstones in the Bevis Marks Congregation, where the inscriptions were partly in Hebrew and partly in Spanish or Portuguese.

It is a matter of interest to recall the fact that this Cemetery contains the remains of many Jewish celebrities. One of the first interments of which any record can be traced is that of Rabbi Jacob Eliahu Ha-cohen d'Azevedo, who was buried in 1705. Others are: Rabbi Aaron Hart (1754), Rabbi Dr. Falk (1782), Chief Rabbi Solomon Schiff (1792), and a number of the Franks family, including Moses Franks, buried 1710, Abraham Franks (1748), Philas, wife of Naphtali Franks (1765), and Aaron Franks (1777). Philas Franks is reputed to have been a great beauty, and her portrait was painted both by Sir Joshua Reynolds and by Gainsborough. Isaac Franks, who died in 1734, left several Bequests to the Great Synagogue, including an annuity of £10 to be paid to the Cemetery Keeper for the time being. The Bequest is now represented by £337 19s. India Three per Cent. Stock, and the conditions of the Bequest are, in the main, carried out. Moses Hart, "Moses of Breslau", was buried here in 1756, Dr. Hart Wessels, M.D., in 1767, Dr. Nathan Mitchell, M.D., in 1785, Benjamin Woolf Franklin, great-grandfather of Mr. Leonard B. Franklin, the present Treasurer of the Burial Society, in 1785, and Mrs. N. M. Adler, the first wife of the late Chief Rabbi, in 1853.

The d'Azevedo before mentioned is reputed to have been an important member of the Portuguese section of Jewry. In the Rev. Dr. Gaster's interesting Memorial Volume of the History of the ancient Synagogue of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews, a certain Joseph Coen d'Azevedo appears in the list of thirteen signatories who protested against the exclusion from the Synagogue of certain members who had petitioned the authorities against a Sermon, "Dialogues de Providencia", delivered in the Synagogue by Haham Nieto in 1703. Dr. Gaster relates that the incident created great bitterness, and many of the signatories to the protest withdrew from the Congregation. Perhaps this regrettable circumstance is responsible for the fact that besides the d'Azevedo referred to, the remains of other members of the Portuguese Community were interred in the Cemetery of the "Dutch Jews". At all events, the matter is worthy of notice. The Cemetery was closed for interments in 1852, and there is a Caretaker's Lodge on the site.

Hackney Cemetery

Hackney Cemetery, situated in Lauriston Road, South Hackney, formerly known as Grove Street, Hackney.—The Cemetery belonged to the Hambro' Synagogue. It was presumably acquired in 1788, but there is no deed in the possession of the United Synagogue to establish this fact. The earliest available document, dated May 20th, 1852, recites the prayer of Solomon Cohen, of Fenchurch Street, London, Stationer, and Alexander Isaacs, of Hatcham, County of Surrey, Esquire, Surviving Trustees of the Jews' Society called the Hambro' Synagogue, "to grant to them a piece of land late part of the waste of this Manor of Hackney, commonly called the 'Lord's Hold', situate on the east side of Grove Street . . . . opposite the copyhold property of the said Solomon Cohen and Alexander Isaacs". This Prayer was granted on payment of a yearly quit rent of 1s. and certain fines. This deed evidently relates to an extension of the property hitherto held by the Trustees of the Hambro' Synagogue as a Burial Ground. By Deed dated June 8th, 1852, Trustees of the combined area were admitted as tenants, as the deed quaintly states, "by the rod at the Will of the Lord according to the custom of this Manor by Copy of Court Roll by the yearly rent of five shillings and one shilling suit of Court customs and other rents and services thereof heretofore due and of right accustomed And they give unto the Lord for a fine for such their Estate and Entry in the premises the sum of Four pounds fourteen shillings and sixpence as appears in the margin And fealty is respited And so saving always the right of the Lord they the said Trustees are admitted tenants of the premises in form aforesaid." In 1886, the Cemetery was closed for burial by Order in Council, except "in such reserved grave spaces in the Burial Ground as have never before been buried in, and which, when opened, are free from water". There is a Caretaker's Lodge on the site.

Brady Street Cemetery

Brady Street Cemetery, Whitechapel.—This Cemetery, originally known as Ducking Pond Lane, Bethnal Green, and at one time, as North Street, Whitechapel, is now disused. A portion of the Cemetery belonged to the Great Synagogue, and a portion to the New Synagogue.

By an Agreement, dated 1761, Moses Jacobs and Lazarus Jacobs, of Little Duke's Place, silversmiths; Henry Samuel, Great Duke's Place, furrier; Abraham Judah, Chiswell Street, colour maker; Lazarus Levy, Woolpack Alley, Houndsditch, jeweller, and Levy Bartharha, Houndsditch, dealer in linen, acquired a lease for 95 years, at an annual rent of £12 12s., of "a

certain brick field situate on the north side of Whitechaple Road, between the Ducking Pond there and Bethnal Green Church in the Parish of St. Mary, Whitechaple, to be used as a burial ground, containing by estimation one acre, more or less". By Deed, dated 1791, Henry Lee, Bishopsgate Street Without, Mordecai Levy, Great Surrey Street, Blackfriars, morocco manufacturers, "the present Elders of the Society of New Dutch Jews in Leadenhall Street", and others, whose names are recited in the Deed, obtained a further lease of the land for 95 years, from the expiration of the former 95 years, at a yearly rent of 5s., on condition of paying £50 within 30 years from the date of the first lease. On the 5th April, 1836, the freehold was purchased for £500. In 1795, the Great Synagogue purchased the freehold of the land on the west side of Ducking Pond Lane for £600.

According to an old Register Book of the Great Synagogue, it would appear from the initial entry that the first interment at this Cemetery took place in 1796—presumably this must have been in the newly-acquired ground, inasmuch as by the Deed of 1761, above referred to, the lease of a Burial Ground was acquired in that year.

Among the interesting interments at this ground may be mentioned Rabbi Lipman Spier, Dr. Wolf Yonker, Moses Jacob, founder of the New Synagogue, buried in 1781, and Benjamin and Abraham Goldsmid, the great financiers and philanthropists; the learned David Levi, the author of "Rites and Ceremonies of the Jews" and of the "Lingua Sacra", buried in 1801, Chief Rabbi Solomon Herschell, in 1842 (whose monument was restored by the Burial Society as recently as October, 1900); Levy Barent Cohen (1808) and his wife Lydia Cohen (1819), parents of the late Judith Lady Montefiore and Baroness Hannah de Rothschild; Baron Nathan Mayer de Rothschild (1835), Baroness Hannah de Rothschild (1849), and Isaac Cohen (1845), father of the late Baroness Mayer de Rothschild, and of Miss Anna Louisa Cohen and Miss Lucy Cohen.

The whole site of the Cemetery at Brady Street is not on the same level, one portion being raised by several feet of earth so as to form a Cemetery above a Cemetery. Thus there are graves beneath graves, and in places there are two tombstones erected back to back to mark the remains of the interment of different persons on the same site, although not in the same grave. Certain portions of the ground which were not used for burial purposes have been let on building lease for a term of years. The Solomon's Almshouses also stand on a portion of the site. There is a Caretaker's Lodge. The Cemetery was closed for interments in 1858.

In the year 1900, the Great Eastern Railway sought to acquire possession of certain portions of the Cemetery for the extension of their line. The proposals were objected to by the Council. Certain Clauses in the Bill were subsequently mutually arranged which prevented any desecration of the Cemetery, and protected the interests of the United Synagogue, the Company consenting to pay a sum of £1,500 as compensation for the privilege of erecting a span or bridge over a corner of the Cemetery, and Solicitor's and Surveyor's Costs. The deposit money (£150) for the privilege has been received, and the balance has to be paid when the construction of the bridge is proceeded with.

West Ham Cemetery

West Ham Cemetery.— The land for a Burial Ground at West Ham was originally acquired by the authorities of the New Synagogue. By an Indenture dated 15th March, 1856, between Samuel Gurney of Upton, in the County of Essex, of the one part, and Laurence Myers of Bedford Place, Russell Square, Laurence Levy of 28 Finsbury Square, Lewis Raphael of Bedford Place, and Sampson Lucas of Gloucester Place, Hyde Park, the freehold of a piece of land, 4 acres, 1 rood, and 25 perches in extent, being "part of a Close called the Twenty-Seven Acre piece", was purchased for the sum of £1,432. A Sub-Committee, representing the Great and New Synagogues, was subsequently appointed for the purpose of dealing with the question of burials, and at a meeting of that Committee held on the 30th March, 1857, an arrangement was come to whereby it was agreed, *inter alia*, that the New Synagogue should convey to the Great Synagogue three-fifths of the ground at West Ham for burial purposes, that the purchase-money and all expenses incurred in reference to its acquisition, as well as the cost of the buildings to be erected, should be paid in the same ratio, and all future expenses defrayed in like proportion. It was further agreed to appoint a Conjoint Burial Board of Management, to be composed of five members of each Synagogue, with power to make Bye-laws, and to elect all persons for the respective offices of the House and Ground, and discharge them when necessary, the Board of Management to be biennially elected. The erection of the House, Buildings, and the laying out of the ground were left to the Management of the Board. It was likewise agreed that if the proportion of ground of either Synagogue should be filled up before that of the other, the Synagogue whose ground was so filled should have the option of purchasing from the other a portion of their vacant ground, not exceeding the like proportion of the same as is now allotted, and at a like proportion of purchase-money for the ground, together with such proportionate sum of money for the cost of the buildings thereon erected, as such extra piece of ground

would bear to the whole. An important Article in the Agreement provided that "if any future purchase of ground for burial purposes should be made by one Congregation, the other shall have the option of joining in the said purchase, on the same principle and conditions as are herein entered into." It is interesting to note that the conditions of this Clause in the Agreement provide for the continuance of a joint Burial Board, and, in a measure, seals the friendly compact which had invariably existed between the two important City Synagogues of the Ashkenazi or "Dutch" Jews. A further point of interest, especially to the members of the Council, is that the Agreement referred to is signed by Mr. E. I. Sydney, the then President of the New Synagogue, and father of Mr. Algernon E. Sydney, the genial and learned Solicitor of the United Synagogue. By an Indenture, dated the 26th November, 1857, between Trustees appointed by the New Synagogue on the one part, and Trustees appointed by the Great Synagogue on the second part, the formal compact between the two Synagogues, embodying the terms of the above-mentioned Agreement, was entered into. This Indenture recites the fact that the necessity for acquiring the land at West Ham had arisen owing to "an order having been made under the authority of the Act in that behalf, for the discontinuance of burials in the Burial Ground theretofore used in connection with such [New] Synagogue, and the use of the said piece of land [at West Ham] as a Burial Ground has been duly approved pursuant to the said Act in that behalf by one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and whereas the said piece of land being of considerably greater extent than is required by the said New Synagogue for the purpose aforesaid, and the Congregation or Synagogue called the Great Synagogue having also been required to discontinue burials in the Burial Ground heretofore used in connection with that Synagogue, it was agreed that the New Synagogue should sell and convey to the Great Synagogue, and that Synagogue should purchase and take, three-fifths" of the land.

The Order directing the discontinuance of the Burial Ground of the two Congregations is not amongst the Deeds relating to the properties of either the Great or New Synagogue, but it is presumed that the Order related to the joint Cemetery in Brady Street, Whitechapel. Hitherto there has been a very general belief that no Jewish Cemetery in the Metropolis had been closed by Compulsory Order, but that such act had been spontaneous on the part of the Managers of the Community. It is, however, clear from the extract of the Deed above cited that such an Order was made. Moreover, a similar Order was made in the instance of the Cemetery in Lauris-Road, South Hackney. The Architect of the Jewish Burial Board was Mr. H. H. Collins.

Although it was imagined in 1856, when the land at West Ham was acquired, that the Burial Ground would be of sufficient dimensions for Communal purposes for a reasonably lengthy period, it became apparent, within 15 years of its opening, that the estimate of the requirements of the Community in this respect had been miscalculated. The acquisition of the Cemetery at Willesden, in 1871, and its opening in 1873, relieved to a small extent only, the demand for graves at West Ham, and in 1874 the Burial Committee called the attention of the Council to the great rapidity with which that Cemetery was being filled up, and the pressing necessity that would speedily arise for burial accommodation in the East End of London. The Council gave that Committee power to endeavour to acquire land adjacent to the West Ham Cemetery. Negotiations were at once set on foot and, as a result, six acres of freehold land were purchased for the extension. The cost of the extension was as follows:—

Cost of Land	£3,000 0 0
Purchase of access, erection of walls, paths, drainage, etc.	1907 13 5
	£4,907 13 5

The whole of this sum was provided by the United Synagogue from its own funds without having recourse to public appeal.

In due course the old chapel, over which was situated the Keeper's residence, and other buildings were demolished. New corrugated-iron buildings were erected on the extension land, and the carriage entrance placed in that portion. A new Keeper's Lodge was built on a portion of the frontage in Buckingham Road, the remaining portion being fenced off and made available for letting on building lease. Mr. N. S. Joseph was engaged as Architect.

The dimensions of the Cemetery, including the original portion and the extension, is somewhat more than 10 acres. It is nearly full, and only persons who have acquired reserved ground are now buried therein. The Cemetery contains the remains of many influential members of the community. The late Baroness Evelina de Rothschild is buried therein, and a handsome Mausoleum was erected in her memory by her husband, Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, who was interred adjacent to his late wife's grave in 1898. The last funeral of importance in the Cemetery was that of the late Rev. Dayan Spiers.

Willesden Cemetery

Willesden Cemetery, Pound Lane, Willesden.—In the early part of 1871 the Council gave attention to the question of providing extra burial accommodation in the Metropolis. On the 8th May in that year, they requested the Executive Committee to consider the desirability of obtaining land for a Cemetery in the West End of London, or for enlarging the Cemetery at West Ham. Subsequently, the Executive Committee reported in favour of purchasing land in the West End, and the Council approved the recommendation. By Deed, dated March 14th, 1872, certain land, about 12 acres 16 perches in extent, situated in the parish of Willesden, in the County of Middlesex (formerly part of the Mapesbury Prebendary Estate), was acquired from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners by Sir Anthony de Rothschild, Bart., Henry Edward Beddington, Esq., Lionel Louis Cohen, Esq., and Samuel Montagu, Esq. This land was conveyed on September 29th, 1873, by the purchasers, to ten Trustees appointed by the Council, to hold the site for the purposes of a Cemetery. Prior to its acquisition, a licence, dated November, 1871, was obtained from the Home Office authorising the "site, consisting of 9 acres as a Cemetery for the Jews of London, on condition that it be liable to the operation of any Order in Council that may be deemed necessary". The remainder of the estate, about 3 acres 16 perches, which is not licensed for burial purposes, is outside the existing boundary wall, and is available for letting on building lease.

The subjoined statement shows the cost of the site and buildings, and how the outlay was met:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Purchase of Land ...	3,500	0	0	Subscriptions from the Public and Interest on Deposit Account	6,957	3	8
Erection of Chapel, Lodge, and other Buildings	2,846	19	9	Sale of Stock ...	2,200	0	0
Erection of Walls and Gates (part only was walled in) ...	1,242	10	0				
Making Roads, Draining, Fencing Part of Land, Planting, etc.	1,567	13	11				
	£9,157	3	8		£9,157	3	8

The above expenditure represents the outlay at the time of the acquisition of the site, since which date large sums have been incurred for drainage, improved lavatory accommodation, completion of erection of boundary wall, road-making, etc. Mr. N. S. Joseph acted as Architect.

The first interment in the Cemetery was that of the late Mr. Samuel Moses, of 19 York Terrace, Regent's Park, and it took place on Sunday, the 5th October, 1873 (ערב סכות 5634), on which day the Burial Ground was duly consecrated by the Rev. Dr. Nathan M. Adler, Chief Rabbi (ז"צ"ל). In accordance with Jewish custom, the Chief Rabbi, with other כהנים, assisted in digging the first grave. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. A. L. Green, the then Minister of the Central Synagogue, and by the Rev. Dr. Hermann Adler, the then Minister of the Bayswater Synagogue. Among those who attended the Opening Ceremony was the late Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart. The Consecration of the Cemetery on the day named, owing to the burial referred to, was somewhat hurriedly arranged and gave rise to manifestations of certain ill-feeling on the part of some members of the Council, and formal notice of a Vote of Censure on the President and Vice-Presidents of the institution was given by Mr. S. A. Hart, a member of the Council. At a meeting held on the 4th November, 1873, the Chairman (Sir Anthony de Rothschild) explained that the Honorary Officers, having received a request to permit the interment of Mr. Samuel Moses, whose dying request was represented to them to be that he might be interred at Willesden Cemetery, gave the necessary authority, and they regretted the short notice within which the required arrangements had to be carried out prevented that publicity being given to the fact of the first interment which would have been desirable. Notwithstanding this explanation, the vote of censure was moved, but was not seconded. In its stead, a motion was moved and carried by 33 to 22 votes, to the effect that the meeting having heard the explanation of the reasons which induced the President and Vice-Presidents to sanction the opening of the Willesden Cemetery, considered such to be satisfactory. This regrettable incident, which marked the opening of the Cemetery, was then closed.

The Cemetery has now been open nearly twenty-nine years, since which date the remains of many influential members of all sections of the Community have been interred therein. It is acknowledged to be one of the best-kept burial grounds in the Metropolis, and it has set up a standard of excellence which the more modern Jewish Cemeteries in London have endeavoured to emulate. For many years after its opening a comparatively small number of burials took place in the ground, but with the increase of the Jewish population in the West, West Central and North-Western districts of London, the number of interments has grown, and is likely to increase in the future. From a rough calculation, it is computed that the ground will last about twenty years longer.

Plashet Cemetery

Plashet Cemetery, White Post Lane, now known as High Street North, Manor Park.—On the 20th June, 1883, the Burial Committee directed the attention of the Council to the rapid manner in which the West Ham Cemetery Extension, which was opened in 1877, was being filled up. It was pointed out that the matter would become urgent in a few years, owing to the difficulty of obtaining available vacant sites for Cemeteries within a reasonable distance of the Metropolis, and the Council were advised that early steps should be taken to secure a new burial ground in the Eastern district of London. Several years were spent in fruitless endeavours to obtain eligible sites, Walthamstow, Edmonton, and other eastern districts being visited for the purpose, but without success. Eventually, in 1887, the option to purchase the present ground at Plashet was secured, and the necessary authority to proceed was given by the Council. By an indenture dated the 13th May, 1888, between Isabella Charlotte Gurney, of Sprowston Hall, in the county of Norfolk, widow, and two others, on the one part, and the Right Hon. Nathan Mayer Baron Rothschild, of New Court, St. Swithin's Lane, and eight others, of the other part (all being Trustees appointed by the Council), "all that piece or parcel of freehold land situated and being in the parish of East Ham, in the county of Essex, and bounded towards the east by White Post Lane", was definitely purchased. The extent of the ground is 14 acres and 20 perches or thereabouts, with a frontage of 560 feet to White Post Lane (High Street North). The Deed of Purchase stipulated, among other matters, "that no part of the said several pieces or parcels of land . . . shall be used at any time hereafter for any purpose other than a Cemetery or Burial Ground, and that no building shall without the previous consent in writing of the said Vendors be erected during 20 years computed from the 16th December, 1887, except a Mortuary House, Chapel, Lodge and other appurtenance buildings".

The Home Office licence, dated 28th March, 1888, and signed by Godfrey Lushington, expressed the Secretary of State's "approval of the site selected for the Jews' Cemetery at East Ham . . . consisting of 14 acres 20 poles of land situate in an open position in the parish of East Ham".

It is of antiquarian interest to note that according to an Ordnance Map, a turning in White Post Lane, situated within a quarter of a mile from the Cemetery, is, or was, known as "Jews Farm Lane". In addition to the acquisition of the site, an access at the western extremity of the Cemetery, abutting on Bristol Road, was purchased.

The following are particulars of the cost and how the money was raised:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Cost of Site (at £425 per acre)	6,111	18	3	Donations from the Public	3,989	15	1
Cost of Access ...	55	5	0	Provided by the United Synagogue ...	8,038	10	7
Erection of Boundary Walls	1,619	0	0	Builders' Proportion towards Compensation for Disturbance of Tenant ...	14	0	0
Erection of Buildings, Making Roads, Planting, etc. ...	3,519	0	11				
Architect's Commission, Solicitor's Costs, Compensation for Disturbance of Tenant	737	1	6				
	£12,042	5	8		£12,042	5	8

The Cemetery was duly consecrated on Sunday, the 4th October, 1896, כ"ז תשרי 5657, the Ceremony of Consecration being performed by the Rev. Dr. Hermann Adler, Chief Rabbi, and the Prayers intoned by the Rev. M. Hast, the First Reader of the Great Synagogue. The first interment took place in the ground on Sunday, the 8th November, 1896, ז' כסלו 5657.

In 1898, part of the vacant frontage in White Post Lane (High Street North) was let on Building Lease for a term of 99 years, a sum of £400 and Solicitors' Charges having to be paid by the Council to Gurney's Trustees for the removal of the restriction in the Deed of Conveyance precluding the parting with or letting the land on building lease. The money derived from the letting of the land is held by the Burial Committee, and is set aside so as to form a fund for the acquisition of future sites for burial purposes.

The first Code of Laws and Byelaws for the government of the Burial Society was passed by the Council on April 2nd, 1872. This Code was revised on November 7th, 1893, and various additions were made from time to time. Some laws had become obsolete, some had become unworkable, and many others were defective. It was therefore decided at a meeting of the Burial Committee held on May 2nd, 1901, that, instead of patching up the Code, it should be revised in its entirety, and a Sub-Committee consisting of the following members was appointed for the purpose of carrying out this duty:—Messrs. Isaac A. Joseph and Leonard B. Franklin, the Treasurers of the Burial Society, Messrs. L. Bamberger, M. Duparc, and B. S. Ellis.

This Sub-Committee, of which Mr. Leonard B. Franklin was

elected Chairman, held many meetings, and the result of their deliberations is to be found in the appended Revised Code. Their work was, with few modifications, agreed to by the Burial Committee, who on the 9th December, 1901, resolved to submit the Code to the Council for approval. In due course this was effected, and at a meeting of the Council held on the 24th March, 1902, it was resolved:—

"That the revised Code of Laws and Byelaws be and is hereby adopted."

In making this brief survey of the history of the formation of the Burial Society of the United Synagogue, and the work achieved by the Burial Committee since its constitution, it can be readily understood that the multifarious points of administration cannot well be dwelt upon in detail. It may, however, be remarked that they demand and receive close scrutiny and care, so that the machinery of management may run with all possible smoothness. At no time is it more necessary to deal attentively and considerately with the requests and wishes of members than when, unfortunately, they are compelled to claim the services of the officials of the Burial Society. In those times of trouble and sorrow, when the feelings of mourners are somewhat overstrung, small differences are likely to be regarded as serious grievances, which, in more favourable circumstances in life, would be lightly passed over, and consequently every consideration and attention should be paid to their smallest wish. It has been remarked that constant presence in the death chamber is apt to dull the ordinary sense of feeling for sorrowing mourners, and make men callous. As a truism, this may be correct, and is a factor which has never been absent from the minds of the Managers of the Burial Society. The policy of the Burial Committee has been to instil into the minds of the officials the sacredness of the duties they are called upon to discharge, and to inculcate the important lesson of attention and courtesy.

In conclusion, it is hoped that the foregoing pages may prove useful for historical reference as the work achieved by one department of the United Synagogue. When the history of that institution as a whole shall be written, a task which the writer hopes one day to be able to accomplish, it will be acknowledged that its rise and development will form an interesting chapter in the history of the Anglo-Jewish Community.

HISTORY OF THE BURIAL SOCIETY AND OF THE CEMETERIES OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE FROM 1902 TO 1953

The limited space available puts out of question anything in the nature of a continuous record of the Society's progress since the year 1902, at which date Philip Ornstien's Preface to the "Laws and Byelaws of the Burial Society" closed. It is only possible to give glimpses of the steady growth of the work of the Burial Society, built on such excellent foundations, and of the service which it renders to the Jewish Community of London and the surrounding district—a Community immensely greater and more widely spread than that of 1902.

At that time, the United Synagogue comprised fourteen Constituent Synagogues. Its constitution made no specific provision for Synagogues of lesser status, but there had lately come into being an "Associate Synagogues Scheme" whose main aim was to render assistance in the provision of Synagogues (but not in their upkeep) which might be founded outside the very congested Whitechapel area. The Scheme had, by 1902, brought four such Congregations into association with the United Synagogue, viz.:— the East Ham & Manor Park, South-East London, West Ham and Poplar Synagogues. Their members were accorded rights of burial in the United Synagogue Cemeteries, by virtue of small contributions to the Burial Society.

There were a few other London Synagogues which were accorded Burial Rights only, the more important of these being the North-West London Synagogue in Kentish Town and the Sandys Row Synagogue in Bishopsgate.

Between 1902 and 1915, the number of Constituent Synagogues had increased from fourteen to seventeen, the newcomers being Stoke Newington, Brondesbury and Brixton. Soon after the close of the first World War, Golders Green Synagogue reached Constituent status. The rapid expansion of London led to an increase in the number of new congregations established in the suburbs. Many of these sought recognition and aid from the United Synagogue and, as a result, the Council of the United Synagogue adopted, in 1927, the "District Synagogues Scheme" under which such Synagogues and their members could actually form part of the United Synagogue, and take a share in privileges and responsibilities which hitherto had been confined to the Constituent Synagogues and their members.

The task of obtaining ground for the provision of new Cemeteries has always been a heavy responsibility for the Burial Society. In 1905, additional ground adjoining Willesden Cemetery was obtained as an extension, and afforded the extra space which was becoming urgently required.

In 1907, the Society's efforts to replace the rapidly filling grounds at Plashet and West Ham Cemeteries were successful, in that within a mile of Plashet Cemetery, some 25 acres of ground were purchased and authorised for use as a Cemetery, and development was commenced in 1913; the 1914-18 War made it necessary to suspend further work. By the end of the War, however, the need for this new Cemetery was even greater, and the necessary work went ahead rapidly. On the 12th January, 1919, the new East Ham Cemetery was consecrated by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. H. Hertz, assisted by Dayan L. Mendelsohn, and was brought into use. Permanent buildings, designed by Mr. W. H. Ford, who was then the Surveyor to the United Synagogue, were consecrated by the Chief Rabbi and opened by Mr. Albert M. Woolf, O.B.E. (Vice-President of the United Synagogue), on 18th May, 1924.

From 1911 onwards, when the East End of London was thickly populated with Jewish families, and while there was an influx of immigrants from abroad, the Burial Society arranged for visitors to houses of mourning to augment the efforts of the regular clergy in the area. This arrangement continued in force for many years under the direct auspices of the Society, but later the responsibility was transferred to the Welfare Committee of the United Synagogue, whose Ministers undertook these duties.

Among the heavy casualties of the 1914-18 War there were, of course, a large number of Jewish men and women. At Willesden Cemetery there is a small plot containing the graves of some overseas soldiers and a nurse, who died on active service, and in addition, there are many individual graves of British soldiers who also gave their lives. In conjunction with the Imperial War Graves Commission, the Burial Society maintains this plot and the individual graves, thereby ensuring that the last resting places of these servicemen and women are carefully tended.

In 1926, the Council approved arrangements for the acquisition of the freehold of the Hoxton Cemetery at that time held on a lease which was due to expire in 1967.

In 1927, changes at Plashet Cemetery enabled an additional section to be made available for further interments; and a few years later, changes at West Ham Cemetery provided some 500 additional spaces.

A field of 1¾ acres belonging to the United Synagogue, which adjoined Willesden Cemetery and which had been utilised for other purposes, was brought into use in 1926, and at the same time, great improvements were made at this Cemetery. It had been found that there was insufficient shelter for the large number of visitors, and it was decided to incorporate with the proposed war memorial—which was to take the form of a "Roll of Honour"—an extension to the front of the Prayer Hall, in which the Roll of Honour would be housed. This building, which has since been known as the "Portico", was completed, together with the war memorial, in 1930.

In 1927, the Society's efforts were again successful in the choice of ground on the north-east side of London to be utilised at some future date as a Cemetery, when the purchase of ground at Waltham Abbey, Essex, known as Honey Lane Farm, was completed. Some 23½ acres became available, under the authority of the Ministry of Health, for use as a burial ground.

A history of the Burial Society would be incomplete without some reference to the development of the United Synagogue Funeral Expenses Scheme. As far back as 1902, there existed in one or two Constituent Synagogues "Burial Benefit Societies", the objects of which were to enable Synagogue members, who so desired, to provide, by means of small regular contributions, against the cost of funerals for their immediate relatives and themselves.

Membership of the United Synagogue carried with it the right of burial in a Cemetery of the United Synagogue, but until the introduction of the Funeral Expenses Scheme the charge for a funeral fell upon the relatives of the deceased.

At the end of 1929, the Council of the United Synagogue adopted a suggestion that a Scheme should be drawn up whereby membership of the United Synagogue should carry with it the right to the provision of funeral expenses, where desired, in addition to Burial Rights. The Burial Committee thereupon appointed a special sub-Committee to consider the matter and in 1931 the Funeral Expenses Scheme was adopted by the Council of the United Synagogue in July of that year. The advantages of this Scheme were immediately apparent, and many of the local Burial Benefit Societies became merged in the Scheme.

The continued movement of the population to the very outskirts of London made it desirable in 1931 for the Council to adopt an "Affiliated Synagogues Scheme", which granted affiliation to small Congregations, including burial rights to its members.

About this time also the Burial Committee arranged for male and female Attendants to be available at the London Hospital where there were a large number of Jewish patients, to afford comfort where possible during their last hours and to administer the last rites. These arrangements, in addition to affording consolation to the deceased and the relatives, were also of assistance to the Hospital staff. In 1936, the number of attendants was doubled to enable these services to be carried out also at the Hackney and St. Peter's Hospitals. In this humanitarian work, the United Synagogue was joined by the Federation of Synagogues, which bore a proportion of the cost involved.

Since 1872 there has been a tax on tombstones for the purpose of the general maintenance of the Cemeteries; in 1934 an addition of 5% was made to this tax for the specific purpose of assisting Jewish religious education in London in accordance with a Scheme then approved by the Council. The product of this additional tax has been paid annually to the Central Committee for Jewish Education and subsequently to the London Board of Jewish Religious Education.

The efforts made over a period of years to provide a burial ground for the ultimate replacement of Willesden Cemetery were successful in 1937 when 48½ acres of ground were purchased on the arterial road at Bushey, Herts. Plans were in the course of preparation for the development of the ground, approval having already been obtained from the Ministry of Health for the land to be used for burial purposes, when the outbreak of War in 1939 made it necessary for the scheme to be postponed.

In 1938, on the retirement of the Superintendent of Willesden Cemetery, the Burial Society took over the contractual responsibility for the upkeep of specific tombstones and graves. This arrangement was extended to the other Cemeteries when the respective Superintendents retired.

In Mr. Ornstien's Preface, mention is made of the fact that many celebrities were buried in the Alderney Road Cemetery. In 1939, a special commemoration stone recording the location of several of the graves of the early leaders of the Ashkenazi community in this country was consecrated by the Chief Rabbi and some of the graves have been marked by small plaques.

When War broke out in 1939, the Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue were invested with the powers of the Council and of its various Committees, including the Burial Committee. The Burial Committee did not meet again until January 1943.

It is of interest to record that one of the first actions of the Honorary Officers was to consult with the Chief Rabbi for a ruling in the event of steps having to be taken for emergency and mass burials.

The evacuation of the population from London, and other great cities, consequent on the outbreak of War, led to the Jewish community being dispersed far more widely over the whole country. Members of London Synagogues were encouraged to form themselves into United Synagogue Membership Groups where, by maintaining their contribution to their respective London Synagogues, they had, without further charge, the rights which they possessed at the Synagogues to which they belonged in London. No less than 22 Membership Groups were established during this period, and the services of the Burial Society had, therefore, to be greatly extended.

From 1940 onwards, London was a continuous target for enemy bombing. Cemeteries all over London were frequently bombed, and great damage was caused to many memorials. At Willesden Cemetery, the Rothschild Mausoleum was completely destroyed. No less than 21 high explosive bombs fell in the East Ham Cemetery, and the Cemetery Lodge was severely damaged. At Plashet Cemetery, the Prayer Hall was destroyed as was a subsequent temporary building erected to take its place. At Brady Street Cemetery and Alderney Road Cemetery damage was caused to the boundary walls.

In the fire-raid of 11th May, 1941, in which the City of London suffered so heavily, the Burial Society offices, which had been at St. James's Place since 1906, were destroyed. The work of the Burial Society, nevertheless, went on, despite staff and all other difficulties. Emergency accommodation was provided at Head Office, until temporary quarters could be made available in the precincts of the Great Synagogue.

In 1943, it became urgently necessary to commence development of the new Cemetery at Bushey as Willesden Cemetery was filling up more rapidly than had been expected, occasioned principally by the increase in membership of the United Synagogue in the districts of North-West London. Building and planning restrictions left no alternative but to proceed with a modified scheme. This involved developing some 7½ acres of land which under normal conditions would not have been developed until later. Authority was also granted for the erection of buildings of a temporary nature, constructed with prefabricated materials, owing to the prohibition of the use of bricks, steel and other building materials.

It was not until 1945, however, that even this simple scheme could be proceeded with. After many difficulties, it was at last found possible to bring the Cemetery into use, despite the fact that it proved impossible to instal electricity or gas lighting and heating, a difficulty which was overcome by the use of slow combustion stoves and oil lamps.

On 7th September, 1947 (22nd Ellul, 5707) the Bushey Cemetery was opened by Sir Robert Waley Cohen, K.B.E., President of the United Synagogue. The Cemetery was consecrated by Dayan H. M. Lazarus, Deputy for the Chief Rabbi, Dayan I. Abramsky, Dayan Dr. I. Grunfeld, Dayan M. Swift, and the Rev. B. Paletz, and as part of the Ceremony, a token burial of disused religious books took place.

Thereafter, Bushey Cemetery was brought into full use for the burial in rotation of persons who, during their lifetime, had not secured reserved spaces at Willesden Cemetery. One object of this was to delay the final closing of Willesden Cemetery thereby enabling members whose close relatives are buried there to reserve grave spaces for their families and themselves.

For some considerable time, the Treasurers had been concerned with the problem of instability of tombstones, caused by the settlement of their foundations. In 1947, a solution to the problem was found by the insertion of prefabricated concrete blocks into the grave, before burial takes place. This system of foundations was formulated by a member of the Head Office staff, and the design of the blocks was patented (Patent No. 665615). Great interest was displayed in this new method, and the Burial Society made the blocks available, on licence, to other Jewish Burial Societies in London.

In 1948, the Council adopted a report on the relationship of Non-Constituent Synagogues with the United Synagogue, terminating the Associate Synagogues Scheme, which had come into existence in 1899, and which had served its purpose for nearly half a century. The Associate Synagogues in existence on that date were invited to enter into closer association with the United Synagogue by enrolling as District Synagogues or Affiliated Synagogues, and to share in the responsibilities of their sister Synagogues in the United Synagogue.

Among the recommendations adopted was one that no new agreements be entered into with any Congregation for the provision of burial rights only, and that in all cases burial rights would be conditional upon the Congregation concerned contributing to

the general purposes of the United Synagogue. Another consequence of the adoption of the Report was that membership of the Funeral Expenses Scheme (which had previously been voluntary) became an integral part of membership, with provision for members to contract out if they so desired.

In 1948, the United Synagogue purchased Adler House, Adler Street, E.1, and after major reconstruction of the interior of the building, the Burial Society moved into a suite of offices specially planned for it.

An item of particular interest occurred in 1950 when, at the instance of the Dover community, the War Damage Commission agreed to pay to the United Synagogue compensation for the loss by war damage of the Dover Synagogue. It was a condition of the arrangement that the United Synagogue would undertake the future maintenance of the Dover Jewish Cemetery, a small ground 220 ft. long by 110 ft. wide. 105 interments had already taken place in that Cemetery and there were approximately 250 vacant spaces left. Twelve members of the Dover Synagogue have continued their burial rights in the Cemetery by paying their (Dover) Synagogue contribution to the United Synagogue. Since the transfer has taken place, there have been several burials in the Dover Cemetery, and the Burial Society has made the necessary local arrangements to keep the Cemetery in good order.

In 1950 the approval of the local authority was obtained, subject to certain restrictions, for the land at Waltham Abbey, which was acquired in 1927, to be used as a Cemetery.

In 1951 when the 5th edition of the Prayer Book "Services for use at the Burial Ground" was almost exhausted, the Chief Rabbi, Rabbi Israel Brodie, was invited to revise the book. This revision was completed and a 6th edition renamed "Services for use at the Cemetery" was issued in 1952.

In that year it was at last found possible to improve the amenities at Bushey Cemetery by the installation of electricity in all the buildings to take the place of oil lamps, and of a central heating plant for the Prayer Hall in place of the slow combustion stoves originally installed there.

A new Prayer Hall was also erected at Plashet Cemetery in 1952 to replace the two which were destroyed during the Second World War.

The Burial Society has always provided by far the greatest proportion of charity funerals in the London area, and this essential

service to the Community continues. During the years preceding the 1939-45 War, it had been the practice to have more than one class of funeral but gradually this practice was eliminated.

Earlier in this history, reference has been made to the maintenance of war graves of the 1914-18 War. Similar arrangements were made in regard to graves of Service personnel of the 1939-45 War, and special plots were made available at Willesden Cemetery and at East Ham Cemetery for this purpose.

From time to time advantage has been taken by the Burial Society of all the latest methods of mechanisation in order to carry out more efficiently the various tasks involved in the maintenance of Cemeteries, and great improvements have thereby been effected.

At the end of 1953 when this history is being written, there are no less than 79 Synagogues associated with the United Synagogue with a total of over 30,000 families entitled to the services of the Burial Society.

The following is the list of gentlemen who have served the office of Treasurer of the Burial Society since its inception:—

Jacob Levy, Esq.	1872-1875
Samuel Levy, Esq.	1872-1879
Joseph Magnus, Esq.	1875-1897
Morris Van Thal, Esq.	1879-1881
Simon Simons, Esq.	1881-1899
Isaac A. Joseph, Esq.	1898-1902
Leonard B. Franklin, Esq., O.B.E., J.P.	1899-1919
W. T. Leviansky, Esq.	1902-1916
Sir Herbert B. Cohen, Bart., O.B.E. ...	1916-1919
Arthur L. Lazarus, Esq.	1919-1927
Joseph Prag, Esq., J.P.	1919-1929
Lawrence Levy, Esq.	1927-1936
A. J. Jacobs, Esq.	1929-1937
H. Gledhill, Esq.	1936-1942
F. A. Rossdale, Esq., B.A., LL.B. ...	1937-1946
M. Hyams, Esq., B.Sc., F.C.A. ...	1942-1953
Sidney Spanjer, Esq.	1946-
A. Wingate, Esq.	1953-

BURIAL STATISTICS

Year	Total No. of Interments	Members	Commuted Members	Zedakah Funerals
1871-4	2969	Full details not available		
1875-9	4562	971	3591	2388
1880-4	4972	971	4001	2425
1885-9	5940	1033	4907	3276
1890-4	7790	1129	6661	4687
1895-9	8744	1036	7708	5141
1900-4	9003	1026	7977	4702
1905-9	8495	1054	7441	4416
1910-14	7043	1193	5850	2909
1915-19	6994	1376	5618	1990
1920-24	5373	1658	3715	1098
1925-29	5187	2024	3163	790
1930-34	5698	2327	3371	934
1935-39	6457	2715	3742	1073
1940	1893	614	1279	450
1941	1631	541	1090	314
1942	1438	495	943	172
1943	1411	547	864	113
1944	1552	673	879	139
1945	1512	741	771	78
1946	1562	773	789	72
1947	1449	698	751	88
1948	1354	731	623	72
1949	1391	738	653	92
1950	1359	672	687	101
1951	1384	708	676	72
1952	1360	730	630	49
1953	1353	708	645	44
1954	1332	714	618	18

LAWS AND BYELAWS OF THE BURIAL SOCIETY

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C.	GOVERNMENT.
D.	RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.
E.	GRAVES.
F.	FUNERALS.
G.	TOMBSTONES AND ENCLOSURES.
H.	BANKING AND ACCOUNTS.
I.	CEMETERIES FUND.
J.	CEMETERIES REPARATION FUND.
K.	CEMETERIES MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT.
L.	FUNERAL EXPENSES SCHEME.
M.	APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS, SALARIED OFFICERS AND OTHER EMPLOYEES.
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ק"ק כנסת ישראל

United Synagogue

LAWS AND BYELAWS OF THE BURIAL SOCIETY

Established pursuant to the Scheme for the United Synagogue scheduled to the Act of Parliament (33 & 34 Vict. Ch. 116)

Provisions indicated by marginal references as "Laws" may be amended by the Burial Committee subject only to the confirmation of the Council of the United Synagogue; and provisions indicated by marginal references as "Byelaws" may be amended by the Burial Committee subject to such amendments being reported to the Council of the United Synagogue.

SECTION A. CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY

NAME:

A.1. The name of the Society is:—The Burial Society of the United Synagogue, in Hebrew **Law**

חברת גמילת חסדים דק"ק כנסת ישראל

hereinafter referred to as "the Society".

MEMBERSHIP:

A.2. Membership of the Society and all rights and privileges arising therefrom are restricted to persons of the Jewish Religion. **Law**

A.3. Subject to the conditions contained in these Laws and Byelaws, such membership shall comprise the following categories :— **Law**

(a) **"Contributing Members"**—being persons who shall have effected membership at a Constituent or other Synagogue of the United Synagogue or being persons duly enrolled as Assessed Members of the United Synagogue in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme to the United Synagogues Act.

(b) **"Commuted Members"**—deceased persons on whose behalf membership has been acquired subsequent to decease, and before burial.

(c) **"Other Members"**—persons who are members of Synagogues which are not Synagogues of the United Synagogue and who are admitted to the rights and privileges of the Society on the terms set out in A.4. (c) hereof.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

A.4. (a) **"Contributing Members"**—The appropriate amount payable to the Society as the contribution for its rights and privileges in respect of a Contributing Member shall be such percentage of the membership contribution received by the Synagogue and paid to the United Synagogue as shall be determined from time to time by the Council of the United Synagogue (hereinafter referred to as "the Council") and in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulations of the United Synagogue relating to its Constituent and Non-Constituent Synagogues. **Law**

(b) **"Commuted Members"**—The appropriate amount payable to the Society as the contribution for its rights and privileges in respect of a Commuted Member shall be an amount, payable on demand, to be decided in each case by the Treasurers of the Society at their discretion, regard being had to the circumstances of the deceased person and his family, and to the contributions which might reasonably have been expected from the deceased if membership of the United Synagogue had been maintained from the age of 30 years.

(c) **"Other Members"**—The appropriate amount payable to the Society by a Synagogue which is not a Synagogue of the United Synagogue as the contribution for its rights and privileges in respect of "Other Members" shall be as determined in each case by the Council, and shall be conditional upon a sum being paid in respect of every member of such Synagogue as a contribution towards the general and charitable purposes of the United Synagogue.

SECTION B. RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY

B.1. (a) All matters connected with the religious administration of the Society shall be under the supervision and control of the Chief Rabbi. **Law**

(b) The provisions in (a) above shall apply to the forms of prayer, religious rites, ceremonies and ministrations within the purview of the Society; accordingly all specifically religious questions arising on such matters shall be referred by the Society, through its Treasurers or Secretary, to the Chief Rabbi

SECTION C. GOVERNMENT

GENERAL:

C.1. The Society shall be subject to the control of the Council. **Law**

C.2. The government of the Society shall be vested in a Committee (known as "the Burial Committee" and hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") consisting of two Treasurers, to be elected biennially by the Council in accordance with the provisions of Clause 9 of the Scheme to the United Synagogues Act, and the following other persons :— **Law**

(a) The President and the Vice-Presidents and other Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue, *ex-officio.*

(b) The Chairman of the Building Committee of the United Synagogue, and the Treasurers of the District Synagogues Council, *ex-officio.*

(c) Ten persons to be elected biennially by the Council in accordance with its Standing Orders and Regulations from among the members of Constituent Synagogues.

(d) One representative of each Constituent Synagogue being a member of, and appointed by, its Board of Management, at the first meeting of the Board after its election.

(e) Six representatives of the District Synagogues Council, to be elected from time to time by that Council under the provisions of the District Synagogues Scheme.

(f) Two representatives from the Affiliated Synagogues Committee of the United Synagogue, to be elected from time to time by that Committee under the provisions of the Affiliated Synagogues Scheme.

C.3. The proceedings and decisions of the Committee shall not be invalidated by the existence of a casual vacancy or vacancies, nor through the number of persons elected under Law C.2. (c), (d), (e) and (f) falling short of the full number of persons intended to be elected, unless the vacancies unfilled shall at any time exceed **Byelaw**

seven without steps having been taken by the Treasurers to cause the vacancies or some of them to be filled.

C.4. A casual vacancy or vacancies in the representation prescribed in Law C.2. (c), (d), (e) or (f) may be filled (for the remainder of the term of office of the person whose place is to be filled) by such procedure as the Council shall from time to time prescribe. **Law**

C.5. The Secretary of the United Synagogue and the Assistant Secretaries of the United Synagogue shall be the Secretary and the Assistant Secretaries respectively of the Society. **Law**

C.6. The Committee may appoint Sub-Committees for any purpose within the Committee's purview. The Reports and any Recommendations of such Sub-Committees shall be laid before the Committee. The Committee may accept or reject any such Report or Recommendations wholly or in part. **Byelaw**

C.7. (a) The Committee or any Sub-Committee or the Treasurers may invite to any of its or their meetings the Honorary Solicitor to the United Synagogue who, if present, shall be entitled to give his view upon a matter in debate, but without power to vote. **Byelaw**

The provisions of this clause may be extended similarly to any other person whose assistance the Committee, any Sub-Committee or the Treasurers desire.

(b) The Committee or any Sub-Committee shall be entitled to the presence and assistance at any of its meetings of persons employed by the Council or Committee, regard being had to other calls upon the time of such persons.

C.8. The Committee shall have such powers and duties in regard to the appointment, and termination of appointment of officials, salaried officers and other employees specified in Laws M.1., M.2. and M.3., as the Council may from time to time determine. **Law**

C.9. The Committee through its Treasurers shall direct and superintend the officials, salaried officers and other employees of the Society in the performance of their duties. **Law**

POWERS AND DUTIES OF TREASURERS

C.10. The Treasurers shall have the general superintendence of the receipt and expenditure of monies on account of the Society and the general superintendence of the affairs of the Society, subject to the provisions of any Law or Byelaw relating thereto that may from time to time be in force. They shall also have such specific powers in relation to officials, salaried officers and other employees as are set forth in this and the other relevant sections of these Laws and Byelaws. **Law**

C.11. The Treasurers shall prescribe the forms of Burial Registers, Tombstone Records, Reserved Plots and Graves Registers, Sectional Diagrams, and other permanent records to be kept by the Sexton and by the Cemetery Superintendents and shall take steps from time to time to see that the entries to be made therein are correctly and promptly recorded. **Law**

C.12. The Treasurers or any person or persons duly authorised by them shall have the right to inspect the membership records and books of account of all Synagogues of the United Synagogue. **Law**

C.13 The Treasurers shall have such other powers and duties in connection with tombstones, allocation of ground in the Cemeteries, charges in respect thereof, and otherwise, as are set forth in the relevant sections of these Laws and Byelaws. **Law**

MEETINGS

C.14. (a) Subject as hereinafter provided, all Meetings of the Committee or any Sub-Committee shall be convened by order of the Treasurers for such days and hours as they shall think fit. **Law**

(b) Within ten days after the receipt of a requisition signed by not less than seven members of the Committee, and stating therein the subject to be considered, the Treasurers shall, unless the President or one of the Vice-Presidents of the United Synagogue rule that the subject matter of the requisition is ultra vires the Committee, convene a meeting of the Committee for a date not more than twenty-one days after the date of receipt of such requisition.

If the Treasurers shall, without the subject matter of the requisition being ruled to be ultra vires, fail to convene such meeting within ten days after the receipt of such requisition, then the Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue, or one of them, or the Secretary or one of the Assistant Secretaries of the United Synagogue shall, at the request in writing of seven members of the Committee, convene such meeting for a date not later than fourteen days after receipt of such request.

C.15. A summons, containing a notice of the time appointed for holding a meeting and of the principal matters to be dealt with, shall be forwarded to every member of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee at least seven days prior to such meeting; provided that a meeting may be convened at less than seven days notice in case of urgency. **Law**

C.16. At meetings of the Committee seven shall form a quorum. If at the expiration of fifteen minutes after the hour for which the meeting was convened a quorum shall not be present, the meeting shall be adjourned to such date and time as the Treasurers shall appoint. **Byelaw**

C.17. At every meeting of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee one of the Treasurers present shall be Chairman. In the absence of both Treasurers one of the other Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue, if present, shall be Chairman; otherwise the members present shall appoint one of their number to be Chairman pro tem. **Law**

C.18. Voting shall be by show of hands unless the meeting shall deem it expedient to have the voting taken by ballot. The Chairman shall be entitled to speak and vote on all matters, acts, and questions, in addition to having a casting vote in cases of equality of votes. **Law**

C.19. The ruling of the Chairman on all points shall be conclusive. **Law**

C.20. No motion for a grant of money or expenditure from the funds or income of the Society, or for any variation in salary or pension, shall be moved at any meeting of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee unless notice thereof, and particulars of the amount or variation, shall have been included in the summons convening the meeting at which it is to be considered. The Chairman may rule that any such motion be referred to the Treasurers for consideration and report to the Committee, whereupon the further consideration thereof shall be adjourned, without further debate, until the next meeting of such Committee or Sub-Committee. **Law**

CONTRACTS

C.21. (a) A member of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee shall not vote or take part in the discussion by the Committee or any Sub-Committee of any matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, a pecuniary interest. **Law**

(b) It shall be the duty of a member of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee having directly or indirectly a pecuniary interest in a matter under consideration to declare such interest in writing to the Treasurers when the matter is first considered. It shall be the duty of the Treasurers to report such interest to the Committee at the meeting at which the matter is first before the Committee.

(c) In a case where a member of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee becomes directly or indirectly interested in a contract after it has been considered by the Treasurers he shall declare such interest at the first meeting of the Committee or Sub-Committee held after he becomes so interested.

(d) For the purpose of sub-clauses (b) and (c) hereof a general notice given by a member of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee to the effect that he is a member of a specified company or firm and is to be regarded as interested in any contract which may, after the date of the notice, be made with that company or firm, shall be deemed to be a sufficient declaration of interest in relation to any contract so made; provided that no such notice shall be of effect unless it is given at a meeting of the Committee or of the Sub-Committee or the member takes reasonable steps to

secure that it is brought up at the next meeting of the Committee or Sub-Committee after it is given.

(e) Should a member of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee fail to comply with the foregoing provisions, the Committee may at any time after the facts have come to its notice resolve that his membership of the Committee or of that Sub-Committee shall cease.

(f) Nothing herein contained shall be taken to prejudice the operation of any rule of law concerning the rescission of contracts in respect of which full disclosure has not been made.

(g) For the purposes of the foregoing provisions a member of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee shall be deemed directly or indirectly to have a pecuniary interest in a matter under consideration if a contract is proposed to be entered into with him, or with a firm in which he or his wife is a partner, or with a private company of which he or his wife is a director or in which he and/or his wife holds or hold an interest, or with a person, firm or company by whom the member is employed.

C.22. (a) Where a contract, in which a member of the Committee or of any Sub-Committee has, to the knowledge of the Treasurers, directly or indirectly a pecuniary interest, is submitted to the Council for approval then the interest of that member shall be disclosed to the Council. **Law**

(b) A member of the Council or any of its Committees or Sub-Committees accepting employment from the Committee shall, prior to accepting such employment, resign his seat on, or cease to be a member of, the Council or such Committee or Sub-Committee, as the case might be.

PROPERTIES

C.23. The Committee is charged with the care and maintenance of all the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue and the buildings and equipment thereof and shall arrange for periodical inspection of the same by a Sub-Committee or by individual members of the Committee. Reports in writing of such inspections and any recom- **Byelaw**

mendations shall, in the first instance, be laid before the Treasurers who shall submit the same to the Committee. Inspection of each Cemetery shall be made at least once each half year but in the case of Disused Cemeteries inspection shall be made at least once yearly.

C.24. Subject to the control of the Council, all matters affecting the light, air and other easements appertaining to the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue, Cemetery buildings and lands and buildings acquired for use as Cemeteries, or affecting directly or indirectly the value of or the rights appertaining to such property, and all matters involving structural alterations, additions, repairs thereto or demolition thereof shall be deemed matters outside the province of any Committee other than the Burial Committee. **Law**

C.25. The Treasurers or the Committee may consult a Surveyor with regard to any of the matters specified in Law C.24. **Byelaw**

C.26. The Committee may by resolution authorise the employment of an architect or other expert consultant **Byelaw**

(a) to advise or to prepare plans, sketches or layouts of a preliminary nature, the fee in each case to be limited to such preliminary matters;

(b) to prepare plans, specifications and, if necessary, bills of quantities in connection with proposed new buildings, additions, alterations or renovations on the basis that the fee for such services and for the supervision of the proposed works shall not, without the approval of the Council, exceed the recognised professional scale of remuneration and that the amount of the fee is included in the amount of the estimate approved by the Council for the works in question.

C.27. The following provisions shall have effect with regard to the execution of repairs, decorations, renovations, alterations, improvements, enlargements or renewals of the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue or the buildings or equipment thereof or the authorisation of expenditure in connection with the acquisition or intended acquisition of new Cemeteries, namely :— **Law**

(a) In the case of works the cost of which is not likely to exceed £20 the Treasurers or one of them may authorise the execution thereof; provided that in the case of urgency one of the other Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue or the Chairman of its Building Committee may exercise the authority in the absence of the Treasurers.

(b) In the case of works the cost of which is likely to exceed £20 but not to exceed £100 an estimate (or, where the cost exceeds £50, not less than two estimates) shall be obtained and submitted to the Committee. A resolution of the Committee approving the acceptance of an estimate shall provide that the order for the execution of the works shall be given by the Superintendent of the Property Department of the United Synagogue and that the works shall be executed under the supervision of and to the reasonable satisfaction of the said Superintendent, who is to report to the Committee on the completion of the works. Provided, however, that in the case of urgency, the Treasurers or one of them may, with the consent of the President or one of the Vice-Presidents of the United Synagogue, exercise the powers of the Committee as aforesaid, in which case the matter shall be reported to the Committee at its next meeting for record and ratification.

(c) In the case of works the cost of which is likely to exceed £100 not less than three tenders (or where the cost exceeds £500 not less than four tenders) shall be obtained and submitted to the Committee. If the Committee approve the acceptance of a tender it shall resolve that the Council be recommended to accept the tender on such conditions as the Committee considers proper.

(d) All tenders shall be obtained by the Secretary and if likely to exceed £200 the tenders shall be obtained only from firms on an approved list and shall be made returnable to the Committee, sealed and distinguished, and shall be opened and listed by the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary in the presence of one or both of the Treasurers or (in their absence) one of the other Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue.

(e) "Approved List" shall mean the list of contractors from time to time approved by the Building Committee of the United Synagogue.

TRUSTEES

C.28. All the real and leasehold properties, Cemeteries, sites, endowments and all the investments of or on behalf of the Society shall be held in the manner provided by the United Synagogue and shall belong to the United Synagogue (for the purposes and benefit of the Society) together with such other monies, equipment and other possessions as shall at any time be in the hands of the Society or its officers or Trustees. **Law**

SUPPLIES

C.29. The following provisions shall have effect with regard to the purchase of funeral equipage and supplies for the carrying out of the objects of the Society and all orders therefor on behalf of the Committee shall be signed by the Secretary or one of the Assistant Secretaries :— **Law**

(a) Where the cost is not likely to exceed £20 the Treasurers or one of them may authorise the provision thereof; provided that in the case of urgency one of the other Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue may exercise the authority in the absence of the Treasurers.

(b) Where the cost is likely to exceed £20 but not to exceed £100 an estimate (or, where the cost exceeds £50, not less than two estimates) shall be obtained and submitted to the Committee. Provided, however, that in the case of urgency, the Treasurers or one of them may, with the consent of the President or one of the Vice-Presidents of the United Synagogue, exercise the powers of the Committee as aforesaid, in which case the matter shall be reported to the Committee at its next meeting for record and ratification.

(c) Where the cost is likely to exceed £100 not less than three tenders (or where the cost exceeds £500 not less than four tenders) shall be obtained and submitted to the Committee.

If the Committee approves the acceptance of a tender it shall resolve that the Council be recommended to accept the tender on such conditions as the Committee considers proper.

Provided, however, that where the Committee desires to renew a contract for funeral equipage or supplies which by reason of the value of that contract requires the approval of the Council, the Committee may resolve that the Council be recommended to renew such contract (with or without variations, as the case may be) without tenders being obtained, and the Council may resolve accordingly.

C.30. The Committee shall arrange for the provision of prayer books and prayer or Psalm cards as may be approved by the Chief Rabbi for use at the Cemeteries. **Byelaw**

SECTION D. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

D.1. Six months after enrolment as a member of a Synagogue of the United Synagogue (or as an Assessed Member thereof) and after payment of not less than 6 months contribution in respect of such membership a Contributing Member shall be entitled to the rights and privileges hereinafter set forth and to any other rights and privileges hereafter created, subject to the discharge of all financial obligations to the Synagogue, the United Synagogue and the Society. Provided that the qualifying period of six months specified in this Law and in Law L.2 (b) shall be waived for any person over the age of 35 who, on becoming a member of the United Synagogue, produces evidence that immediately prior thereto membership of a Synagogue not under the United Synagogue, and of its Burial Society, had been maintained for a continuous period of at least five years, or if under that age for a continuous period of at least two years. **Law** (Amended 9/11/195

D.2. Subject to the provisions of Law D.1. hereof, and the provisions hereinafter contained, the rights and privileges of a Contributing Member of the Society shall be as follows :— **Law**

(a) A grave in rotation without charge at a Cemetery of the United Synagogue available, at the time of death, for burials in rotation.

(b) The right, upon payment of the appropriate fee at the time of reservation, to a reserved grave or graves, that is to say a grave space or grave spaces reserved during the lifetime of the person or persons for whom reservation is effected.

(c) The right, upon payment of the appropriate fee at the time of selection, to a selected grave, that is to say a grave space selected after the death of the person for whom the grave is selected.

(d) The right, upon payment of the appropriate fee at the time of reservation, to reserve a family plot, that is to say, a plot containing not less than 4 contiguous grave spaces.

(e) A funeral as defined in Law F.1. In the case of a Contributing Member not being a Qualified Contributor to the Funeral Expenses Scheme (as defined in Section L) this right shall apply upon payment of the funeral charges applicable at the time of burial.

(f) The right, subject to the provisions of Section G hereof, to the erection and consecration of a tombstone upon payment of the appropriate fees in respect thereof.

(g) The right, subject to the provisions of Section G hereof, to the erection of a monumental enclosure within the boundaries of a family plot upon payment of the appropriate fees in respect thereof.

(h) The right to the services of a Minister and of the appropriate officials of the Society at a funeral in a Cemetery of the United Synagogue of a Contributing Member or of a member of his or her family, as defined in Laws D.3. and D.4., and at the consecration of a tombstone in memory of such person.

(i) A contribution towards the cost of a grave space of such sum as the Council of the United Synagogue shall from time to time determine to be paid to the Contributing Member or to his or her estate where the death of such member or a member of his or her family as defined in Laws D.3. and D.4. occurs outside the Home Counties and the interment takes place in a Cemetery of a provincial or foreign Jewish Congregation.

D.3. The foregoing rights and privileges shall in the case of a male Contributing Member extend also to the following members of his family being of the Jewish religion, that is to say : — **Law** (Amended 3/12/1962)

His wife and their unmarried children (including stepchildren or legally adopted children) except males who have attained their 21st birthday.

D.4. The foregoing rights and privileges shall extend to the children (as defined in Law D.3.) of a female Contributing Member but shall not extend by virtue of her membership to the husband of such female Contributing Member. **Law**

D.5. Upon the death of a married male Contributing Member whose financial obligations to his Synagogue, the United Synagogue and the Society shall have been discharged, all the rights and privileges set forth in Law D.2. shall extend to the members of his family as defined in Law D.3. without further contribution by them to the Synagogue, the United Synagogue or the Society, but nothing herein contained shall affect the provisions of Section L hereof relating to contributions to the Funeral Expenses Scheme. **Law**

D.6. Upon the remarriage of the widow of a deceased Contributing Member she shall cease to be entitled to the said rights and privileges but their children as defined in Law D.3. shall continue to be so entitled. **Law**

D.7. Upon the death of a female Contributing Member or the widow of a deceased Contributing Member their children as defined in Laws D.3. and D.4. shall continue to be entitled to the said rights and privileges. **Law**

D.8. The rights and privileges in respect of a Commuted Member are restricted to such member alone and shall be as follows :— **Law**

(a) A grave in rotation without charge at a Cemetery of the United Synagogue available, at the time of death, for burials in rotation or a selected grave at the fee applicable at the time of selection.

(b) A funeral as prescribed in Law F.1. upon payment of the funeral charges applicable to a Commuted Member.

(c) The right, subject to the provisions of Section G hereof, to the erection and consecration of a tombstone upon payment of the appropriate fees in respect thereof.

(d) The right to the services of a Minister and of the appropriate officials of the Society at the funeral, and at the consecration of the tombstone.

D.9. The widow of a Commuted Member and any children of their marriage shall not be entitled to any of the rights and privileges of the Society but such rights may be acquired on the widow becoming a Contributing Member. **Law**

D.10. The rights of Other Members shall be such as may be agreed from time to time between the Synagogues of which they are members and the United Synagogue. **Law**

SECTION E. GRAVES

LAY-OUT

E.1. Each Cemetery shall be laid out in Sections in accordance with plans approved by the Committee. Such lay-out, including the position of paths, may with the approval of the Committee be varied. **Byelaw**

E.2. (a) The siting of graves shall be as prescribed in sectional diagrams approved by the Treasurers. **Byelaw**

(b) Graves shall be dug side by side in consecutive rows with a space of not less than 18in. between each row. Not less than 12in. of soil shall separate the bases of any two adjoining graves of adults.

DIMENSIONS

E.3. Graves shall have a surface width not exceeding 37in. and a surface length not exceeding 78in., except in any special case. The depth of every grave shall be equal to the length of the coffin and shall in no case be less than 4ft. deep. **Byelaw**

RESERVED GRAVES

E.4. (a) A grave space or spaces may be reserved in such part of a Cemetery as shall be allocated for that purpose by the Treasurers at their discretion, upon payment of the appropriate fee, by a Contributing Member or by or for any person who is or becomes entitled to the rights and privileges of the Society. **Byelaw**

(b) The reservation of a grave space shall continue only so long as the person in whose name the same is reserved remains entitled to the rights and privileges of the Society.

(c) The name of the person for whom the grave space is reserved must be stated in Hebrew and English at the time of reservation and be entered in the official Reserved Graves Register at the office of the Sexton and of the Cemetery concerned.

(d) The right of burial in a reserved grave space shall not be

transferable, except with the approval of the Treasurers, and on such terms as they may determine.

(e) The right of burial in a reserved grave may be relinquished with the approval of the Treasurers and on such terms as they may determine.

SELECTED GRAVES

E.5. A grave space or spaces may be selected in such part of a Cemetery as shall be allocated for that purpose by the Treasurers at their discretion, upon payment of the appropriate fee, for any member or for any person entitled to the rights and privileges of the Society. **Byelaw**

FAMILY PLOTS

E.6. (a) A family plot may be reserved in such part of a Cemetery as shall be allocated for that purpose by the Treasurers at their discretion, upon payment of the appropriate fee by a Contributing Member or by or for any person who is or becomes entitled to the rights and privileges of the Society. **Byelaw**

(b) The reservation of a family plot shall continue only so long as the person in whose name the same is reserved remains entitled to the rights and privileges of the Society.

(c) It shall not be necessary to state, at the time of reservation, the names of those who may be buried in a family plot, but the right of burial in a plot may extend, subject to the Laws and Bye-laws of the Society, to any of the undermentioned persons of the Jewish religion being relatives of the person by whom or in whose name the reservation has been made :—

> Grandparent, Parent, Spouse, Issue, Stepchild, Legally Adopted Child, Brother, Sister and Spouse of any of the foregoing.

(d) The right of burial in a family plot for any other person not of the relationship specified in (c) above may be granted by the Treasurers on such conditions as they may determine.

(e) Burial in a family plot for any person who, at the time of

death, is not entitled to the rights and privileges of the Society shall be conditional upon Commuted Membership being acquired for such person and upon such other conditions as the Treasurers may determine.

E.7. (a) A person by whom a family plot has been reserved may, by Will or otherwise, nominate any of the persons prescribed by Byelaw E.6. who are to have the right of burial in the plot. A nomination made by such person may be revoked by him. **Byelaw**

(b) In the event of a person who has reserved a family plot failing to nominate the persons prescribed by Byelaw E.6. who are to have the right of burial in the plot, the right of nomination shall, for a period of 14 years from the death of the reserver, be vested in and may be exercised by his legal personal representatives, who may nominate themselves, if within the prescribed relationship.

(c) If the right of nomination shall not have been fully exercised within that period, the Treasurers shall be empowered to make any further nominations upon application by or on behalf of any persons prescribed by Byelaw E.6.

(d) The decision of the Treasurers in regard to any of the matters relating to the reservation of family plots or nominations for burial therein shall be final.

GENERAL

E.8. Special sections of a Cemetery may be designated by the Committee for the burial of persons who, in the opinion of the Treasurers, have rendered outstanding service to the Community. The charge to be made for reservations in such special sections, whether for a reserved or selected grave or for a family plot, shall be at the discretion of the Treasurers. **Byelaw**

CHARGES

E.9. Subject to the approval of the Council, the Committee shall from time to time fix the scale of charges to be paid by Contributing and Other Members and persons claiming rights and **Law**

privileges of the Society through them and on behalf of Commuted Members, in respect of the reservation or selection of grave spaces or family plots. Until otherwise resolved by the Council the scale of charges authorised at the date of the coming into force of these Laws and Byelaws shall continue to be applicable.

E.10. No extra charge shall be made for graves abutting on paths in the case of כהנים and care shall be taken that graves for כהנים and their families shall be so placed as to enable relatives to visit them. **Law**

OWNERSHIP OF GROUND

E.11. The acquisition of a reserved or selected grave, or of a family plot, shall only give the right of burial therein and the right to place and maintain thereon a tombstone and other permissible objects. The ownership of all Cemetery ground shall remain vested in Trustees appointed by the Council to hold the same for the United Synagogue to the uses of the Society. **Law**

E.12. If a grave shall fall into decay or disorder the Committee shall have the right to remove any overgrown or decayed shrubs, or other débris, as occasion might require, on giving notice to one of the relatives or personal representatives of the deceased, if known, otherwise the right of removal may be exercised without notice. **Byela**

SECTION F. FUNERALS

DEFINITION OF FUNERALS

F.1. A funeral shall consist of :— **Law**

The performance of the Tahara in accordance with the prescribed rites.

The provision of plain shrouds, and a plain coffin.

The preparation of the grave.

The provision of a motor hearse and one Mourners' car, or in the case of children under 8 years of age, the provision of a combined hearse and car.

The attendance of a Minister and all necessary officials (exclusive of Watchers).

F.2. No arrangements for a funeral may commence until the Sexton, on behalf of the Society, shall have actually received :— **Law**

(a) The requisite certificate, issued by the Registrar of Births & Deaths under the Births & Deaths (Registration) Act 1926, (or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof), and, if an inquest shall have been ordered, the Coroner's Order for burial. This requirement applies to still-births and infants surviving less than thirty days, but not to interments under Law F.14.

(b) An order signed by a relative or other appropriate person accepting financial responsibility for the funeral, save only in a case where, after diligent enquiry, there appears to be no relative or other person available to accept such responsibility.

F.3. No interment shall take place without the order in writing of the Sexton. **Law**

F.4. The Sexton shall fix the times of funerals, allowing sufficient intervals to elapse between the arrival of funerals at the Cemeteries. **Law**

F.5. In a case where death was due to an infectious disease, the Burial Service shall take place in the open air. **Law**

F.6. The Committee shall from time to time fix the scale of charges to be paid for funerals by Contributing and Other Members and persons claiming rights and privileges of the Society through them and on behalf of Commuted Members. Until otherwise resolved by the Committee the scale of charges authorised at the date of the coming into force of these Laws and Byelaws shall continue to be applicable. **Law**

F.7. The following extra services may be provided and shall be subject to such additional charges as shall be laid down from time to time by the Committee :— **Byelaw** (Amended 3/12/196

Additional Mourners' cars
Covered or lined coffin
Special linen shrouds
Bricked grave
Watchers (if available—See Byelaw O.1.)

Any expenses beyond those normally incurred for a funeral shall be the subject of an additional charge.

F.8. Where the mileage covered for a funeral is in excess of such limit as may from time to time be arranged by the Committee with its contractors, an additional charge, to be fixed by the Treasurers, shall be made for the funeral. **Byelaw**

F.9. All charges for funerals shall be payable in advance and shall be rendered on an official printed and numbered Funeral Account (which shall include any additional items such as Synagogue Account or Commutation Fee) and be signed, on behalf of the Treasurers, by the Sexton. No receipt will be recognised unless on an official printed and numbered receipt form. **Byelaw**

F.10. The Treasurers may, upon application being made to them through the Sexton and after due enquiry, remit a portion of the charges if they deem it proper to do so in a particular case. **Byelaw**

F.11. Arrangements may be made, at the discretion of the Treasurers, for a funeral to be pre-paid either by one payment or by instalments. **Byelaw**

F.12. Applicants for a funeral, unable to pay the whole cost at the time of a funeral, may at the discretion of the Treasurers pay part thereof forthwith and the balance by such instalments as may be determined by the Treasurers. **Byelaw**

F.13. Where there is no relative or other person willing to accept responsibility for the cost of a funeral, such funeral may be provided by the Society on the authority of the Treasurers, and application for the funeral expenses shall be made by the Sexton as follows :— **Byelaw**

(a) For persons in respect of whom a death grant is payable as provided in Sec. 22 (5) of the National Health Insurance Act, 1946, (or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof) to the local office of the Ministry of National Insurance.

(b) For persons in respect of whom a death grant is not payable as aforesaid, and where death occurs in a hospital or an institution, to the appropriate hospital or institution authority, in accordance with the provisions of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, (or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof).

(c) For persons in respect of whom a death grant is not payable as aforesaid and where death does not occur in a hospital or institution then the Treasurers shall take such steps as are appropriate to recover the cost of the funeral or may direct that the interment shall take place without charge.

F.14. The Society shall not make any arrangements whatever for cremation. Where cremation is nevertheless to take place a Service may be held at the house prior to the removal of the body, and if the ashes be encoffined then interment may take place at a Cemetery of the United Synagogue and the Burial Service shall be conducted there at the time of the interment. **Law**

F.15. The Treasurers shall waive the charges normally payable for a funeral and a grave in respect of an official, salaried officer or other regular employee of the United Synagogue, its Synagogues, or the Society, and for a funeral and a grave in respect of the wife, unmarried daughters, and unmarried sons under 21 years, respectively, of any such official, salaried officer or other regular employee. **Byelaw**

SECTION G. TOMBSTONES AND ENCLOSURES

MONUMENTAL MASONS

G.1. Only bona fide Monumental Masons approved by the Committee shall be permitted to carry out work in any Cemetery of the United Synagogue. For the purpose of these provisions only those who hold reasonable stocks of raw materials and execute all work (including the preparing and inscribing of tombstones) in their own workshops and erect tombstones without the employment of sub-contractors shall be deemed to be bona fide Monumental Masons (hereinafter referred to as "Monumental Masons"). **Byelaw**

G.2. The Treasurers may withdraw approval of a Monumental Mason without ascribing any reason therefor. Any such withdrawal of approval shall be subject to ratification by the Committee. **Byelaw**

G.3. Monumental Masons must comply with all the Laws and Byelaws of the Society, and with any decisions that may be made, from time to time, by the Committee. **Byelaw**

G.4. Monumental Masons shall refrain from soliciting orders for tombstones in any manner whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, until after the period of Shivah ends. This provision shall apply equally in cases where the mourners are not sitting Shivah. **Byelaw**

G.5. The officials, salaried officers and other employees of the United Synagogue and of the Society are strictly prohibited from recommending or showing favour to any Monumental Mason, directly or indirectly, and from being concerned in any way whatsoever with the placing of an order with a Monumental Mason. **Byelaw**

EXECUTION OF WORK IN CEMETERIES

G.6. No tombstone or appurtenance shall be erected or installed in a Cemetery of the United Synagogue, nor shall any alteration or addition be made to any existing tombstone or appurtenance, nor shall work of any kind within any such Cemetery (other than cleaning of tombstones and appurtenances) be performed by a Monumental Mason or other contractor unless written permission shall have been previously granted by the Treasurers or the Sexton in respect thereof. **Byelaw**

APPLICATIONS FOR PERMISSION TO ERECT TOMBSTONES

G.7. Application for permission to erect a tombstone or to install an appurtenance or for the alteration of or addition to an existing tombstone or appurtenance at a Cemetery shall be made in writing on an official Application Form to be obtained from the Sexton. **Byelaw**

G.8. Every Tombstone Application Form shall include the following :— **Byelaw**

(a) A perspective drawing or photograph of the proposed tombstone (including any appurtenances).

(b) The dimensions thereof.

(c) The nature and origin of the stone to be used for the tombstone.

(d) The full text of the proposed inscription.

G.8. (e) Deleted 3.12.1962

(f) Such other particulars as the Committee or the Treasurers shall require.

G.9. The Sexton may require a scale drawing of a tombstone to be provided. **Byelaw**

G.10. In respect of any Tombstone Application Form the Sexton may require production by the Monumental Mason of the Applicant's signed order. **Byelaw**

G.11. If for any reason a Tombstone Application Form shall be found not to be in order, or if the particulars shall not be approved, the Sexton shall return the Form to the Applicant or his nominee stating in what respects the Form requires amendment and that the Form should be again submitted after amendment. **Byelaw**

G.12 Deleted 3.12.1962

as to the amount payable to the Monumental Mason the Sexton shall refer the Application to the Treasurers.

G.13. (a) Every Tombstone Application Form shall be signed by the Applicant. An Application may be signed :— **Byelaw**

(i) By a person entitled to the rights and privileges of the Society by virtue of the deceased's membership; or

(ii) By one of the legal personal representatives of the deceased; or

(iii) By one of the next of kin of the deceased; or

(iv) By the person who accepted responsibility for payment of the expenses of the funeral; or

(v) By some other person approved by the Treasurers.

(b) Where more than one Tombstone Application is received in respect of the proposed erection of a tombstone and each such application is made by a person entitled under the foregoing provisions to make the same then the Treasurers shall, after affording the Applicants an opportunity to be heard, decide which application shall be proceeded with and the decision of the Treasurers shall be final.

PERMITS

G.14. If the Tombstone Application Form appears to be in order, and the design and inscription shall have been approved, then on payment to the Society of the appropriate scale fee, together with any funeral charges and any arrears outstanding to the Synagogue, the United Synagogue or the Society, a numbered Permit shall be issued to the Monumental Mason or the Applicant. **Byela**

G.15. If, after a Permit has been issued, a Tombstone Application Form shall be found to have been incorrect in any material particular then the Treasurers may, at their discretion, declare such Permit invalid. **Byela**

G.16. No alteration or addition shall be made to an existing tombstone or to any appurtenance unless a Supplementary Permit shall have been previously granted in respect of such alteration or addition. **Byela**

G.17. A Supplementary Permit shall not be granted to any person unless the application therefor is made by the person to whom the original Permit was granted or the consent in writing of such person is produced to the Sexton. If the person to whom the original Permit was granted is dead, or in other special circumstances, the Treasurers may, at their discretion, issue a Supplementary Permit to a person other than the original Applicant. **Byelaw**

G.18. A Supplementary Permit shall not be issued by the Sexton until the appropriate scale fee shall have been paid, together with any funeral charges and arrears due to the Synagogue, the United Synagogue or the Society. **Byelaw**

G.19. No tablet or other device shall be placed on a grave to record the death or burial of any person other than the person interred therein without the permission of the Treasurers. The inscription on a tombstone may be augmented to include a reference to the death of a relative buried in an adjacent grave to that of the deceased. **Byelaw**

G.20. No tombstone or appurtenance shall be brought into any Cemetery of the United Synagogue until a Permit shall have been issued by the Sexton in respect thereof. **Byelaw**

G.21. No tombstone or appurtenance shall be removed from any Cemetery of the United Synagogue until a Permit shall have been issued by the Sexton in respect of such removal. **Byelaw**

FEES

G.22. Subject to the approval of the Council, the Committee shall from time to time fix the scale of fees to be paid in respect of the erection of any tombstone or appurtenance or the alteration of or addition to any tombstone or appurtenance. Until otherwise resolved by the Council, the scale of fees authorised at the date of the coming into force of these Laws and Byelaws shall continue to be applicable. **Law**

G.23. In computing the amount of the scale fee in respect of the alteration to a tombstone the cost shall be deemed to be the amount actually payable to the Monumental Mason, excluding the Society's fees. **Byelaw** (Amended 3/12/1962)

tombstone or appurtenance shall be deemed to be the amount actually payable to the Monumental Mason excluding the Society's fees and the Society's charge for provision of the tombstone foundation stabilizer.

G.24. The Council shall from time to time determine the proportion, if any, of the tombstone fees to be contributed by the Society towards Jewish Religious Education. **Law**

G.25. Where any addition or variation to a tombstone is ordered from a Monumental Mason within six months after the date of payment of the Society's fee, a further fee shall be payable. The amount of such further fee shall be either the scale fee chargeable on such addition or variation alone, or else the difference between the scale fee originally paid and the scale fee that would have been paid had the addition or variation formed part of the original work, whichever is the greater. In all other cases, any addition or variation shall be treated as a separate piece of work, and the fee in respect thereof shall be in accordance with the scale for the time being in force. **Byelaw** (Amende 3/12/19

G.26. (a) Where permission is granted for the substitution of an existing tombstone by another of larger dimensions or of materials subject to a higher fee, the fee payable shall be the difference between the original fee for the existing tombstone and that payable in respect of the new one under the scale in force at the time of the substitution. **Byelaw** (Amende 3/12/19

(b) Where permission is granted for the substitution of a decayed or damaged tombstone, the Treasurers may at their discretion waive payment of the scale or any fee where the substituted tombstone is identical in material, design and specification with the decayed or damaged tombstone.

(c) The provisions of these Laws and Byelaws, so far as they relate to Applications for Permission to erect Tombstones, and to Permits, shall apply in the case of proposed substituted tombstones.

G.27. The Treasurers shall waive the fees normally payable in respect of a tombstone and other monumental work in connection with the grave of an official, salaried officer or other regular employee of the United Synagogue, its Synagogues, or the Society, **Byela**

and in connection with the grave of the wife, unmarried daughters, and unmarried sons under 21 years, respectively, of any such official, salaried officer or other regular employee.

G.28. The Treasurers may, after due enquiry, remit a portion of the fees, if they deem it right to do so in a particular case, upon application made to them through the Sexton. **Byelaw**

ENCLOSURES

G.29. (a) Where a monumental enclosure is placed round a family plot or round a reserved space or spaces prior to any burial therein, the appropriate scale fee shall be payable. **Byelaw** (Amended 3/12/1962)

(b) Where a monumental enclosure is placed round a family plot or reserved grave, subsequent to the erection of a tombstone, the scale fee payable thereon shall be calculated as if the enclosure had formed part of the original work.

(c) The use of chains or rails for enclosures shall not be permitted.

G.30. Permission to enclose a reserved space or spaces or a family plot does not include permission to utilise any ground outside the stipulated size of the space or spaces or of the plot. Except in the case of a family plot, no grave may be enclosed with a grave in another row. **Byelaw**

FOUNDATIONS

G.31. A tombstone foundation stabilizer, which shall be of a type approved by the Committee from time to time, shall be inserted in every grave prior to the interment taking place, except in those graves where the Cemetery Superintendent deems it impossible for this to be done. Where a tombstone foundation stabilizer has been inserted by the Society in a grave prior to the interment, a charge therefor shall be made to the Monumental Mason erecting a tombstone on the grave of such amount as shall from time to time be fixed by the Committee. **Byelaw**

G.32. Where a tombstone foundation stabilizer has not been inserted in a grave prior to the interment taking place, a foundation **Byelaw**

shall be built of such design and specification as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Treasurers. A tombstone shall not be erected until the Superintendent of the Cemetery shall have inspected and approved such foundation.

G.33. In addition to the foregoing, the following conditions must be observed:— **Byel**

(a) A tombstone not exceeding one ton in weight shall be erected on a rectangular reinforced concrete frame or on a solid York landing stone with a minimum thickness in either case of three inches.

(b) A tombstone exceeding one ton but not exceeding two tons in weight shall be erected on a rectangular reinforced concrete frame or on a solid York landing stone with a minimum thickness in either case of four inches.

(c) A tombstone exceeding two tons in weight shall be erected on a reinforced concrete slab with a minimum thickness of four inches.

G.33 (e) The frame, landing stone or slab shall be provided by the Society and a charge therefor shall be made to the Monumental Mason erecting a tombstone on the grave of such amount as shall from time to time be fixed by the Committee. **Added** (3/12/1

DIMENSIONS AND CONSTRUCTION

G.34. The overall height of a tombstone shall not, save in exceptional circumstances and only with the special permission of the Treasurers, exceed :— **Byel**

(a) On a single grave 5 feet 6 inches.

(b) On more than one grave 6 feet 6 inches.

G.35. Except in a family plot, a tombstone on a single grave shall not exceed 2 feet 9 inches in width; on a double grave 5 feet 9 inches in width, and on three graves 8 feet 9 inches in width. In any other case, the width of the tombstone shall be decided by the Treasurers. **Byel**

G.36. Except in the case of a family plot or a child's grave, where a grave is covered by a ledger or surrounded by kerbs, the **Byel**

overall length, including kerbs, headstone, frame, landing stone or slab and any other monumental work, shall be 6 feet 6 inches.

G.37. All headstones shall be of solid natural stone with a minimum thickness in any part of 2½ inches. In the case of a headstone exceeding 5 feet in height overall the thickness shall be not less than 3 inches in any part. A canopy headstone shall not be erected unless it be to match an existing canopy headstone on the adjoining grave of another member of the same family. Headstones comprising more than one piece of material shall have all pieces dowelled together in the Monumental Mason's workshop before delivery to the Cemetery. **Byelaw** (Amended 3/12/1962)

G.38. Where a headstone or other monument includes a boxed base such base shall be made from material not less than 1½ inches thick, dowelled with metal, and filled in with solid reinforced concrete. The width and thickness of a base shall be greater than the width and thickness respectively of the headstone or monument in order to provide adequate support. The stone used for the construction of a boxed tomb shall not be less than 2½ inches thick. **Byelaw** (Amended 3/12/1962)

G.39. (a) A ledger (i.e. a cover slab) on a single grave shall be in one piece, and shall have a minimum thickness of 1½ inches. **Byelaw**

(b) A ledger covering more than one grave may consist of more than one piece of stone. Each piece of stone shall have a minimum thickness of 1½ inches and the joint between each piece shall be supported by brickwork resting on the frame, landing stone or slab.

(c) A ledger consisting of crazy paving shall have each piece of stone firmly embedded in reinforced concrete and shall have a minimum thickness of 3 inches overall.

(d) A ledger shall not be made from laminated material.

G.40. Where a grave is covered by chippings the same shall be of natural stone (not artificially coloured) or of green glass and shall be laid on a reinforced concrete slab not less than 2 inches thick placed inside the kerbs or risers directly on top of the frame, landing stone or slab, and the chippings shall be of sufficient quantity adequately to cover the reinforced concrete slab. **Byelaw**

G.41. (a) A stone riser (i.e. a surround supporting a ledger) shall be not less than 3 inches wide and 3 inches deep. **Byelaw**

(b) A stone kerb (i.e. a surround not supporting a ledger) shall be not less than 3 inches wide and 6 inches deep.

(c) Each side riser or kerb shall be in one continuous length.

G.41. (d) Cornerposts shall be secured by dowels to the landing stone except in the case of a ledger or slab covering a reserved space. **Added** (3/12/1962)

G.42. A monumental enclosure shall not exceed 3 feet above the surrounding ground level unless the Treasurers shall otherwise permit. The Treasurers may, at their discretion, and upon such terms as they think fit, permit the planting of a hedge in the place of a monumental enclosure. **Byela**

G.43. Caen, Bath or other soft stone shall not be utilised in the construction of a tombstone. **Byela**

G.44. Artificial stone shall not be utilised in the construction of a tombstone except with the permission of the Treasurers. **Byela**

G.45. The use of lime mortar is prohibited. **Byela**

G.46. Where cramps are used in the construction of a tombstone, they shall be of copper only. **Byela**

G.47. Vases or other ornaments liable to be broken shall not be fixed or placed so as to abut on the edge of a grave, whether as part of a tombstone or otherwise. **Byela**

G.48. An emblem or design which is forbidden by Jewish Law or which, in the opinion of the Treasurers, is objectionable or undesirable shall not be incorporated in the structure of a tombstone. **Byela**

INSCRIPTIONS

G.49. The propriety and orthography of inscriptions and of designs and emblems on a tombstone shall be subject to the approval of the Treasurers, whose decision shall be final. The name in Hebrew of the deceased and the Hebrew ת"נ"צ"ב"ה (or שלום) must form part of every inscription. The dates according to the Jewish and Civil eras shall be permitted in the inscription. **Law**

G.50. Where the proposed inscription includes the names of children of the deceased, the applicant shall sign a declaration that the inscription includes the names of all the children of the deceased who are alive at the date of the declaration. The inclusion of any names other than a parent or spouse shall be at the discretion of the Treasurers. **Byela**

G.51. Every tombstone shall have inscribed thereon : — **Byelaw** (Amended 3/12/1962)

The official numbering of the grave (hereinafter referred to as the indication) which must be cut in and blackened (or inlaid with lead) in letters one inch in height near the top right-hand corner of the front kerb or, if there is no front kerb, near the bottom of the headstone or tomb.

If the nature of the stone is such that the indication cannot be cut in and blackened (or inlaid with lead) it shall be inscribed in the same way as the epitaph.

[illegible] than ½ inch in height and of normal width.

If the nature of the stone is such that the indication and the Monumental Mason's name cannot be cut in and blackened (or inlaid with lead) they shall be inscribed in the same way as the epitaph.

G.52. Where the name of any Organisation appears in the proposed inscription, by reason of that Organisation providing burial or tombstone benefits, the Sexton shall satisfy himself that it is by the express desire of the next-of-kin or of the deceased. The inclusion of the name of any such Organisation shall be subject to the approval of the Treasurers. **Byelaw**

ERECTION

G.53. Before commencing work on the erection of a tombstone or of any appurtenance at a Cemetery, the Monumental Mason must hand to the Superintendent the Permit issued by the Sexton in respect of such work. **Byelaw**

G.54. (a) Work at a Cemetery on or in connection with tombstones must be completed with all reasonable dispatch. **Byelaw**

(b) The erection of a tombstone or of any appurtenance stated in a Permit must be completed in every respect not less than ten days before the date fixed for the Consecration.

CONSECRATION

G.55. Not less than 28 days' notice must be given to the Sexton of the date and time at which it is proposed to consecrate the tombstone. The Sexton shall, as far as possible, arrange for a Hall at the Cemetery to be made available and for a Minister to officiate. **Byelaw** (Amended 3/12/1962)

G.56. In the case of the consecration of a tombstone in memory of a late member (or of the immediate relative of a member) of a Synagogue of the United Synagogue the Sexton shall, at the earliest opportunity, send a formal notification of the Cemetery, date and time to the Ministers of the Synagogue concerned. **Byela**

GENERAL

G.57. A temporary name-plate, 12″ x 9″ in size, bearing in painted letters the name of the deceased, date of death, and the indication of the grave, may be placed and allowed to remain on a grave for a period not exceeding eighteen months from the date of burial, or, with the consent of the Treasurers, for a longer period. The name-plate must be fixed to a support firmly embedded in the earth on the grave. No tombstone fee shall be charged in respect of a temporary name-plate. **Byelaw** (Amended 9/11/195 Deleted 16/2/67

G.58. Every tombstone must be kept in good order and condition by the relatives of the deceased. If it fall into decay, the Treasurers shall have the right, after giving notice to any known relative, to remove any broken or damaged portions or any débris, or to remove the tombstone itself or any section thereof. The right of removal may be exercised, without notice, in an emergency or if there be no relative whose address is known. **Byela**

G.59. Where a grave has become overgrown with weeds or other verdure, the Treasurers may take such steps as they deem desirable to remove the same and to prevent the further growth thereof. **Byela**

G.60. The written authority of the Treasurers must be obtained for the photographing of any tombstone in a Cemetery of the United Synagogue, save where the photograph is being taken by a relative of the person in whose memory the tombstone in question was erected. **Byela**

SECTION H. BANKING AND ACCOUNTS

H.1. The banking account of the Society shall be kept at the Westminster Bank Ltd. or with such other Bankers as the Council may from time to time resolve. The account shall be designated "United Synagogue Burial Society Account", into which all monies received on behalf of the Society shall be paid, and from which all disbursements shall be made. **Law**

H.2. All orders for payment on the Account shall be signed by any two of the following :— **Law**

The Treasurers of the Burial Society
The President of the United Synagogue
The Vice-Presidents of the United Synagogue

or by one of them together with the Secretary or one of the Assistant Secretaries of the United Synagogue.

H.3. The Society may, on the authority of a resolution of the Council, make advances to other funds of the United Synagogue for the purposes of those funds or borrow money for the purposes of the Society. **Law**

H.4. The Accounts of the Society shall be made up to the 31st December in each year and, after having been duly audited by the Auditor appointed by the United Synagogue, shall be laid before the Committee together with the Annual Report. The Accounts and Annual Report shall, in due course, be submitted to the Council. **Law**

SECTION I. CEMETERIES FUND

I.1. The fund called the "Cemeteries Fund" (established prior to the coming into force of these Laws and Byelaws) shall be and stand invested in the names of Trustees or a Trust Corporation appointed or to be appointed from time to time by the Council. The capital and income of the said Fund shall be applied for the purposes of acquiring, developing and extending land and buildings and for adapting, equipping, repairing and improving the same for Cemeteries. **Law**

I.2. There shall be added to the corpus of the Cemeteries Fund : **Law**

(a) The annual interest and other net income arising from the investment of its capital funds; and

(b) Such appropriations out of the other funds of the Society available for the purpose as shall be approved from time to time by the Council on the recommendations of the Committee.

SECTION J. CEMETERIES REPARATION FUND

J.1. The fund called the "Cemeteries Reparation Fund" (estab- **Law**
lished prior to the coming into force of these Laws and Byelaws) shall be and stand invested in the names of Trustees or a Trust Corporation appointed or to be appointed from time to time by the Council.

J.2. The Society may accept capital contributions by way of **Law**
gifts or bequests for the upkeep and reparation of tombstones and graves, and for keeping the Cemeteries generally in good order, provided that any such gift or bequest does not seek to create a trust for the upkeep of a specific tombstone or grave only. Capital contributions received as aforesaid shall be paid to the credit of the Cemeteries Reparation Fund.

J.3. The capital of the Cemeteries Reparation Fund shall be **Law**
invested in securities authorised by law for the investment of trust funds.

J.4. The income from the investments representing the Ceme- **Law**
teries Reparation Fund shall be paid to the Cemeteries Maintenance Account and be applied towards the cost of the upkeep and reparation of tombstones and graves and for keeping the Cemeteries generally in good order.

SECTION K. CEMETERIES MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT

K.1. There shall be a Cemeteries Maintenance Account into which shall be paid :— **Law**

(a) The income from the investments representing the Cemeteries Reparation Fund.

(b) All sums (other than capital) received by the Society for the purpose of repairing and renovating tombstones and planting graves in accordance with the scale of charges from time to time fixed by the Committee.

K.2. There shall be charged against the Cemeteries Maintenance Account all expenditure in regard to the following :— **Law**

(a) The general maintenance of the Cemeteries as may from time to time be authorised by the Committee.

(b) The upkeep of those tombstones and graves for which payments have been made under Law K.1.(b).

(c) Such proportion of the general administration expenses of the Society as the Treasurers may, from time to time, deem appropriate.

(d) Charges, including amortisation, on any advances made to the Society by the Council for expenditure deemed necessary or desirable for the fulfilment of any of the purposes of the Cemeteries Reparation Fund or of the Cemeteries Maintenance Account.

K.3. The Treasurers may, at their discretion, deal through the Cemeteries Maintenance Account with monies received and payments made for the provision of foundations for tombstones or for the removal and/or replacement of tombstones. Such receipts and payments, if not brought into the Cemeteries Maintenance Account, shall be dealt with in the Society's Cash Account. **Law**

K.4. At the close of each financial year, the total of income and expenditure of the Cemeteries Maintenance Account for that year shall be brought into the Society's Cash Account for that year, to the intent that any deficit for the year on the Cemeteries Maintenance Account shall be a charge upon the said Cash Account, and that any surplus for the year on the Cemeteries Maintenance Account shall be applicable and applied in the same way as other income brought into the said Cash Account. **Law**

SECTION L. FUNERAL EXPENSES SCHEME

L.1. The Funeral Expenses Scheme (established prior to the coming into force of these Laws and Byelaws) shall bear the cost of a funeral at one of the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue of a Qualified Contributor (as hereafter defined) or of his dependents (as hereafter defined). **Law**

L.2. For the purposes of the Funeral Expenses Scheme (in this Section referred to as "the Scheme") the following expressions shall have and bear the meanings ascribed to them, and not otherwise, namely :— **Law**

(a) **"Contributing Member":** A person who has effected membership at a Constituent or other Synagogue of the United Synagogue or is a person duly enrolled as an Assessed Member of the United Synagogue in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme to the United Synagogues Act or a person who, on the coming into force of these Laws and Byelaws, contributes to this Scheme by virtue of membership of a Synagogue having Burial Rights in the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue.

(b) **"Qualified Contributor"** : A Contributing Member of the Society who has been registered as a contributor to the scheme for a period of not less than six months and who has paid contributions for that period, or is to be regarded as a Contributing Member under the provisions of Law D.1. (Amended 9/11/1959)

(c) **"Dependents"** : The wife of a Qualified Contributor and their unmarried children (including stepchildren and legally adopted children) except males who have attained their 21st birthday. (Amended 3/12/1962)

(d) **"Funeral"** : A funeral shall consist of : — (Amended 9/11/1959)

The performance of the Tahara in accordance with the prescribed rites.

The provision of plain shrouds, and a plain coffin.

The preparation of the grave, and the provision subsequently of a grave-surround.

The provision of a motor hearse and one Mourners' car, or, in the case of children under 8 years of age, the provision of a combined hearse and car.

The attendance of a Minister and all necessary officials (exclusive of Watchers).

L.3. Subject to the provisions of Laws 9, 10, 11 and 12 of this Section, all Contributing Members of the Society shall, unless otherwise provided, pay such annual Funeral Expenses Scheme contribution, which shall form an integral part of the Synagogue contribution, as the Council of the United Synagogue shall from time to time determine. **Law**

L.4. The rights and privileges of the Scheme are restricted to persons of the Jewish religion. **Law**

L.5. On the death of a Qualified Contributor who, at the time of his death is entitled to the rights and privileges of the Scheme, his widow shall continue to be entitled to the rights and privileges of the Scheme during her widowhood for herself and their unmarried children (including stepchildren and legally adopted children) except males who have attained their 21st birthday so long as the appropriate Funeral Expenses Scheme contribution shall be maintained. **Law** (Amended 3/12/1962)

L.6. On the remarriage of a widow who is entitled to the rights and privileges of the Scheme in accordance with the provisions of Law L.5. such widow shall cease to be so entitled unless her husband on remarriage is or becomes a Qualified Contributor, or she herself becomes a Qualified Contributor. **Law**

L.7. On the death or remarriage of a widow of a Qualified Contributor the rights and privileges, as defined in Law L.5., of their unmarried children shall cease unless the appropriate Funeral Expenses Scheme contribution shall continue to be paid by or on behalf of such unmarried children. **Law**

L.8. On the remarriage of a Qualified Contributor in respect of whose deceased wife funeral expenses have been borne by the Scheme, the second wife and her children by any former marriage shall not qualify as dependents for the purposes of the Scheme until the Qualified Contributor shall have paid to the Treasurers:— **Law**

(a) in respect of such second wife such capital or annual sum as the Treasurers at their discretion may require; and

(b) in respect of such children such sum as the Treasurers at their discretion may require.

Provided however that no additional contribution in respect of the

second wife or her children by any former marriage shall be required to be paid by a Qualified Contributor on such remarriage to a widow whose former husband was at the time of his death a Qualified Contributor entitled to the rights and privileges of the Scheme and the widow has continued as a contributor to the Scheme until the date of her remarriage.

L.9. A Contributing Member of the Society shall be bound to contribute to the Scheme unless he or she had attained the age of 70 years on the 1st April, 1949 or has attained that age on first becoming a Contributing Member or signs a declaration in the form from time to time prescribed by the Treasurers. **Law**

L.10. A person about to join the Scheme shall furnish to the Treasurers such evidence of age as the Treasurers may reasonably require. In the case of an applicant who has attained the age of 50 years, evidence of age shall accompany the application for membership. **Law** amended 1/7/71

L.11. A person who had attained the age of 70 years on 1st April, 1949 or has attained that age on first becoming a Contributing Member shall not be admitted to the Scheme. **Law**

L.12. A person about to join the Scheme who has already attained his or her 50th birthday, shall pay such entrance fee as the Council of the United Synagogue shall from time to time determine. **Law** (Amended 9/11/1959) 1/7/71

L.13. All the rights and privileges of a Qualified Contributor and of his or her dependents shall be liable to be forfeited if :— **Law**

(a) In the case of such a contributor whose Synagogue account is payable yearly or half-yearly such account, or any part thereof, be unpaid for 12 months after the date when the same shall have become due and payable; or

(b) In the case of such a contributor whose Synagogue account is payable otherwise than yearly or half-yearly such account, or any part thereof, be unpaid for 13 weeks or more; or

(c) In the case of such a contributor who is a member of an Affiliated Synagogue whose Synagogue account is payable yearly or half-yearly such account, or any part thereof, be unpaid for

12 months after the date when the same shall have become due and payable, or whose Synagogue account is payable otherwise than yearly or half-yearly such account, or any part thereof, be unpaid for 13 weeks or more.

L.14. (a) A Qualified Contributor whose Synagogue account is in arrear as aforesaid shall be notified by letter to that effect by the Secretary of the Synagogue and requested to discharge such arrears within one month. If the arrears be not discharged within that period, the Secretary of the Synagogue shall notify such contributor by letter that if the arrears be not discharged within 14 days after the posting of such letter such contributor and his or her dependents will forfeit all rights and privileges under this Scheme. If such arrears be not discharged within the said period of 14 days then, subject to the discretion of the Treasurers, such contributor shall thereupon forfeit all rights and privileges under the Scheme and all benefits thereunder and shall have no claim whatsoever under the Scheme and his or her name shall be removed from the register of Qualified Contributors. **Law**

(b) Any notice required to be served by the Secretary of a Synagogue pursuant to the foregoing provisions may, if the Treasurers so direct, be served by the Society.

L.15. A person whose name has been removed from the register of Qualified Contributors as aforesaid shall not again be admitted as a Qualified Contributor except with the consent of the Honorary Officers of the Synagogue concerned and the express approval of the Treasurers and then only as a new contributor and upon the terms applicable to a new contributor. **Law**

L.16. If an Affiliated Synagogue shall itself be in arrear for three months or more with the payment of contributions received from its members in respect of this Scheme the Treasurers shall notify the Honorary Officers or the Secretary of that Synagogue that unless the monies due to the Society be paid within one month the rights and privileges of the members of that Synagogue under the Scheme will be suspended, and if such arrears be not paid within the said period then, subject to the discretion of the Treasurers, the rights and privileges under the Scheme of the members of that Syna- **Law**

gogue shall be suspended until the said arrears shall have been paid by the said Synagogue.

L.17. Within one month after the rights and privileges of a Qualified Contributor who is a member of an Affiliated Synagogue shall have been suspended pursuant to the provisions of Law L.16. the Treasurers shall send or cause to be sent to such contributor a notice of such suspension and shall inform such contributor of the steps to be taken by him or her to cause such suspension to be removed, and if such contributor fail within one month after the posting of such notice to act in accordance therewith, then, subject to the discretion of the Treasurers, such contributor shall thereupon forfeit all rights and privileges under the Scheme and all benefits thereunder and shall have no claim whatsoever under the Scheme and his or her name shall be removed from the register of Qualified Contributors. **Law**

L.18. (a) The rights and privileges of this Scheme do not include **Law**

(Amended 3/12/1962)

(i) The cost of the conveyance of a deceased Qualified Contributor or dependent from the place of death to the place from whence the cortege will depart.

(ii) The cost of any mileage covered for a funeral in excess of such limit as may from time to time be arranged by the Committee with its contractors, except where the funeral takes place at the Cemetery nearest to the Congregation of which the deceased Qualified Contributor or dependent was a member at the date of death.

(b) The Society may render assistance in arranging for the conveyance to London of a deceased Qualified Contributor or dependent from outside the Home Counties, but the Society shall not be responsible in any way for such arrangements or the cost thereof.

(c) Any charges incurred by the Society in relation to the matters aforesaid shall be payable by the person ordering the funeral.

L.19. Where the cost of a Watcher has been incurred the Society shall on proof of expenditure pay, by way of additional benefit, such sum as the Committee shall from time to time determine towards the cost of the services of a Watcher. The Committee may at any time, on financial grounds, suspend this provision. **Law**

L.20. Subject to the provisions of Law L.18. the Society shall **Law**

arrange, free of charge, for the removal and burial of the stillborn child of a Qualified Contributor.

L.21. The Treasurers may, at their discretion, authorise the payment of such sum as shall from time to time be authorised by the Committee towards the cost of the funeral of a Qualified Contributor or of a dependent where the death of such person occurs outside the Home Counties and the interment takes place at a Cemetery of a provincial or foreign Jewish Congregation and the cost of such funeral is borne by a relative or relatives of the deceased. The payment (which shall be in addition to any payment to be made by the Society in respect of the cost of a grave space) shall be made to the Qualified Contributor or to the relative or relatives of a deceased Qualified Contributor (as the case may be) by whom the expenses of the funeral were borne. **Law**

L.22. All entrance fees and periodical contributions to the Scheme and the annual interest and other net income arising from the investment of its capital funds shall be paid or transferred to an account of the Society called the "Funeral Expenses Scheme Account". There shall be paid from the said account:— **Law**

(a) The charge for each funeral provided under the Scheme at the rate from time to time fixed by the Committee.

(b) The amount (if any) paid to a Watcher pursuant to Law L.19.

(c) The amount (if any) paid to a Qualified Contributor or other person pursuant to Law L.21.

(d) Such administration and other charges and expenses as the Treasurers may from time to time authorise.

L.23. After providing for such current and contingent liabilities and making such other provisions including assistance towards the development and extension of Cemeteries as the Committee, on the recommendation of the Treasurers, shall deem appropriate or necessary, the excess of receipts over payments in each calendar year shall be invested and added to the capital of the Funeral Expenses Scheme Account. If in any calendar year the payments and provisions as aforesaid exceed the receipts for that year then the deficit shall be charged to the Burial Society Cash Account and shall be recouped to that Account from the excess of receipts over payments of the **Law** (Amended 16/7/195

Funeral Expenses Scheme Account in any subsequent year. Provided, however, that the Council may on the recommendation of the Committee resolve that the capital of the Funeral Expenses Scheme Account be resorted to for the purpose of making good the deficit in any year.

L.24. The Treasurers may at their discretion waive the whole or part of an entrance fee payable pursuant to Law L.12. or permit the payment thereof to be made by such instalments as in the circumstances they shall think proper. **Law**

L.25. The Treasurers may at their discretion waive the whole or part of the contribution payable by a Qualified Contributor for a period of one year or for such further or other period as the Treasurers shall think fit if the Treasurers are satisfied that the financial circumstances of such contributor warrant the exercise of such discretion. **Law**

L.26. In the event of an emergency or of circumstances not provided for in the Scheme, the Treasurers shall be empowered to act as they deem best. **Law**

L.27. The provisions of this Scheme may be altered from time to time in the same way as the Laws of the Society. **Law**

SECTION M. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS, SALARIED OFFICERS AND OTHER EMPLOYEES

M.1. The Committee shall have the power to recommend to the Council the appointment of the following officials to carry out the various duties associated with the Society as it may deem necessary, namely :— **Law**

Kabronim Ministers
Sexton
Assistant Sexton
Cemetery Superintendents

Such officials shall be required to contribute to the United Synagogue Officials' Superannuation and Widows' & Children's Pensions Fund.

M.2. The Committee, on the recommendation of the Treasurers, shall have power to appoint the following salaried officers :— **Law**

Assistant Cemetery Superintendents
Tahara Attendant/Bearers
Female Tahara Attendants
Groundkeepers
Attendants on those dying in Hospital

The Assistant Cemetery Superintendents and Tahara Attendant/Bearers shall be required to contribute to the United Synagogue Officials' Superannuation and Widows' & Children's Pensions Fund.

The Committee may, at its discretion, make such arrangements as regards retirement benefits as they may deem advisable for Female Tahara Attendants on their retirement at such age as the Committee may approve, or when they shall leave the service of the Society, and the Committee shall also have discretion to require Female Tahara Attendants during their service to make such contribution towards retirement benefits as the Committee shall deem appropriate.

M.3. The Treasurers shall have power to appoint the following other employees :— **Law**

Sexton's Office Clerks
Cemetery Clerks
Gravediggers
Gardeners
Labourers

M.4. A person appointed pursuant to Laws M.1. and M.2. shall be required to enter into such agreement of service, or accept such letter of appointment as to the performance of his or her duties, tenure of office and the salary attached thereto, and to other matters connected with such duties or office, as shall be required by the Committee. **Law**

M.5. It shall be a condition of the appointment of a Sexton, Assistant Sexton, Cemetery Superintendent, Assistant Cemetery Superintendent, Tahara Attendant/Bearer, Female Tahara Attendant, Sexton's Office Clerk and Cemetery Clerk that he or she shall have been accepted for fidelity insurance at a normal rate of premium. **Law**

M.6. The Council, the Committee or the Treasurers, as the case may be, shall have power to terminate the appointment of any official, salaried officer or other employee of the Society whom they respectively shall have appointed. **Law**

M.7. No person (other than a person who is already a contributor to the Officials' Superannuation and Widows' & Children's Pensions Fund) shall be accepted as a candidate for the office of Kabronim Minister, Sexton, Assistant Sexton, Cemetery Superintendent, Assistant Cemetery Superintendent, Tahara Attendant/Bearer or Female Tahara Attendant until he or she shall have undergone a medical examination by one or more medical practitioners appointed by the Treasurers for the purpose of ascertaining the physical fitness of the candidate. **Law**

M.8. (a) An official shall not be retained in office after having attained the age of 65 years except by resolution of the Council, on the recommendation of the Committee. Any recommendation **Law**

of the Committee for retention of the services of such an official shall state the reasons for the same.

(b) A salaried officer in respect of whom contributions are made to the United Synagogue Officials' Superannuation and Widows' & Children's Pensions Fund, shall not be retained in office after attaining the age of 65 years except by resolution of the Committee, on the recommendation of the Treasurers. Any recommendation of the Treasurers for retention of the services of such a salaried officer shall state the reasons for the same.

M.9. No official or salaried officer of the Society shall engage in trade or business or undertake extraneous employment except with the consent of the Committee upon the recommendation of the Treasurers and only upon such terms and conditions as the Treasurers shall determine. **Law**

M.10. No person in the employ of the Society shall be concerned or interested financially in any contract for the erection of a tombstone or in any person, firm or company (other than a public company) contracting with the Society. **Law**

M.11. (a) A person in the employ of the Society seeking special leave of absence on medical grounds for a period exceeding one month shall submit to the Treasurers a full medical report in support of his or her application. The Treasurers may grant leave of absence upon such terms as they consider reasonable in the circumstances. **Law**

(b) If a person in the employ of the Society shall have been on continuous sick leave for a period exceeding three months, or shall have been unable, from time to time, to perform all the duties of his or her office on account of recurrent ill health, the Treasurers may require such person to submit himself to a medical examination by a medical practitioner nominated by the Treasurers. Upon receipt of the medical report, the Treasurers may make such recommendation to the Committee as to the further employment of such person as they deem fit.

M.12. A person in the employ of the Society shall not canvass any member of the Council, or of the Committee, in respect of any question concerning salary, grant, pension or promotion. **Law**

M.13. (a) If a person in the employ of the Society be or appear to be guilty of misconduct or neglect of duty or of a breach of his contract of service or of these Laws and Byelaws, one of the Treasurers (or in the absence of both Treasurers one of the other Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue) may suspend such person. **Law**

(b) If the complaint be in respect of an official, one of the Treasurers (or in the absence of both Treasurers one of the other Honorary Officers of the United Synagogue) shall refer the matter to the Salaried Officers' Committee of the Council which shall meet within seven days after such suspension. The notice convening such meeting shall state the purpose thereof and a copy of such notice shall be forwarded by post to the official concerned who shall also be informed that he may attend the meeting and explain his conduct or send a statement in writing to the Secretary to be read at the meeting. The Salaried Officers' Committee, after considering any explanation offered by the official shall report its findings to the Burial Committee and may recommend to the Council that the official be reinstated or dismissed or may make such other recommendation as they shall in the circumstances think proper, and in the case of a recommendation for dismissal may also recommend that no salary be paid to the official from a specified date.

(c) If the person suspended is a salaried officer or an employee appointed by the Treasurers then within 7 days after such suspension the Treasurers shall give notice in writing to the person suspended requiring him or her to attend before them, or one of them, at a time and date appointed by the Treasurers, to explain his or her conduct, or to send a statement in writing. The Treasurers shall consider any oral or written statement made by the said person before deciding what further steps should be taken in the interests of the Society. In the case of a salaried officer the Treasurers shall not act upon their decision without first obtaining the approval of the Committee.

M.14. A person in the employ of the Society shall not be eligible for election as a member of the Committee. **Law**

M.15. (a) In the case of urgency the Treasurers may, without the sanction of the Committee, appoint a person temporarily to perform ministerial or administrative duties for a period not exceeding 3 months. At the meeting of the Committee next following such appointment the Treasurers shall report the same, together with the terms thereof and the duties of the person so appointed, and the Committee may terminate such temporary appointment, or may extend the same with or without amendment of the terms thereof for a period not exceeding 12 months from the date of the commencement of the appointment. **Law**

(b) Save as aforesaid a person shall not be employed by the Society temporarily to perform ministerial or administrative duties without the sanction of the Committee. The prospective period of appointment, duties and remuneration, together with the name of the person proposed to be appointed shall be submitted to the Committee for approval, and if such approval be given, with or without amendment of the terms thereof, the temporary appointment may be made accordingly, but in no case shall such temporary appointment be made for a period exceeding 12 months.

(c) Subject to the approval of the Council, any temporary appointment as aforesaid may be extended by the Committee for not more than 2 consecutive periods of 6 months each. A temporary appointment as aforesaid subsisting at the end of 24 months from the commencement thereof shall automatically expire and shall not be capable of further extension or renewal.

(d) A person proposed to be appointed temporarily to perform ministerial or administrative duties shall before commencing such duties confirm in writing to the Secretary of the United Synagogue that he or she has read the whole of this Law and that he or she fully understands the same.

SECTION N. DUTIES OF OFFICIALS, SALARIED OFFICERS AND OTHER EMPLOYEES

MINISTERS

N.1. **Kabronim Minister:** The Kabronim Minister shall officiate at such funerals and consecrations of tombstones at the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue as the Treasurers may, from time to time, direct. He shall have the duty of approving the correctness of inscriptions on tombstones and shall carry out such further duties as the Treasurers may decide. **Law**

N.2. **Synagogue Ministers:** (a) In the case of the death of a person entitled to the rights and privileges of the Society, it shall be the duty of one of the Ministers of the Synagogue of the Contributing Member through whom such rights and privileges were acquired or of the Synagogue of which such person was a member (as the case may be) to attend at the house of mourning and to proceed with the cortege to the Cemetery and to officiate thereat. **Law**

(b) It shall also be the duty of one of the Ministers of such Synagogue to officiate at the consecration of a tombstone in memory of the person aforesaid.

(c) It shall be the duty of the Ministers of the Synagogues of the United Synagogue, if required by the Treasurers, in case of need, to officiate at the funeral of any person, or at the consecration of any tombstone, at any of the Cemeteries of the United Synagogue.

(d) In accordance with the Byelaws of the Synagogues of the United Synagogue, it shall be the duty of the Boards of Management of Synagogues to ensure that such duties for the Society as shall devolve on the Ministers of the Synagogues shall be duly performed.

(e) In the case of the funeral or consecration of a tombstone of a Commuted Member, the duty of officiating shall devolve on such one of the Ministers of the Synagogues of the United Synagogue as shall, from time to time, be deputed for that purpose by the Treasurers.

N.3. The Committee, or the Treasurers on its behalf, may appoint, and fix remuneration for, persons of suitable character and ability to attend at certain hours at the Cemeteries on Tisha B'av, on the Sundays during the month of Ellul and on other special occasions in order to read, if requested by any person visiting the Cemeteries, such prayers as are appropriate to the occasion. The persons so appointed shall be under the supervision of the respective Superintendents, and shall not in any circumstances accept any fee or gratuity other than the official remuneration so fixed and provided by the Society. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to ensure that no unauthorised person shall, for fee or reward, hold himself out to conduct prayers in the Cemetery. **Byela**

N.4. The Kabronim Minister and all Ministers shall wear the official robes as prescribed by the Council when officiating at funerals and consecrations of tombstones. **Law**

SEXTON, ASSISTANT SEXTON, AND BURIAL OFFICE STAFF

N.5. It shall be the responsibility of the Sexton to ensure that all Laws and Byelaws relating to funerals and the consecration of tombstones are strictly adhered to. **Law**

N.6. The Sexton shall be responsible for the safe custody and good order and condition of all records, books of account and other property of the Society entrusted to his care, and shall ensure that all movable articles belonging to the Society are duly recorded in an inventory. **Law**

N.7. The Sexton shall make the necessary arrangements for the performance of all duties and religious rites connected with funerals. He shall see that all customary rites and forms are duly observed and that all employees concerned with funerals conduct themselves in a decorous and reverent manner and shall report any alleged case of misconduct or complaint to the Treasurers. **Law**

N.8. The Sexton shall have the general supervision of his office staff, Tahara Attendant/Bearers, Female Tahara Attendants, Attendants on those dying in Hospital, and such other persons as are employed through his office. **Law**

N.9. There shall be an Assistant Sexton who shall assist the Sexton in all his duties and, in the absence of the Sexton, shall act in his place. **Law**

N.10. The Sexton and Assistant Sexton shall perform such further duties as the Treasurers may, from time to time, direct. **Law**

N.11. There shall be appointed such other staff as, in the opinion of the Treasurers, may be necessary for the proper administration of the Sexton's Office. **Law**

N.12. The Sexton shall, prior to making arrangements for burial, ascertain that any financial obligations attaching to the right to such burial, shall have been discharged. **Law**

N.13. The Sexton shall promptly enter in a burial register, to be kept at the Sexton's Office of the Society, full particulars of all burials. **Law**

N.14. The Sexton shall collect all charges directed by the Treasurers to be payable through his office to the Society and shall arrange to bank daily all monies and cheques received to the credit of the Banking Account of the Society. **Law**

N.15. The Sexton, Assistant Sexton and the staff of the Sexton's Office shall not, in any circumstances, accept any fee, reward or favour from any Monumental Mason, person, firm or company interested in any work or supplies connected with the Society in any way. **Law**

N.16. An official, salaried officer or other employee shall not solicit or receive gratuities. **Law**

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENTS*

N.17. Each Cemetery of the United Synagogue shall be in the charge of a Cemetery Superintendent whose duties shall be as set forth in these Laws and Byelaws, with such variations in and addi- **Byelaw**

*The duties of Groundkeepers of disused Cemeteries appear under a separate heading in this Section.

tions to such duties as may be made from time to time by the Council, or the Committee or the Treasurers.

N.18. The Superintendent shall acquaint himself with the Laws and Byelaws of the Society and shall comply with the provisions thereof and with all instructions issued to him from time to time by the Treasurers. **Byela**

N.19. The Superintendent shall be generally responsible to the Treasurers and Committee for the supervision of the Cemetery and control of its staff, for the conduct (within the Cemetery) of all funerals, for keeping the Cemetery in good order, for promptly recording all entries to be made in the Registers and other books, and for affording to mourners, Ministers and visitors all possible help and guidance. The Superintendent shall also be responsible for the carrying out of all obligations of the Society, officially notified to him from time to time, in respect of the upkeep of tombstones and the planting and care of graves. **Byela**

N.20. The Superintendent shall exhibit at the Cemetery a general plan thereof which shall be furnished to him by the Secretary, and which plan shall indicate clearly any part of the enclosed ground not licensed for interment. He shall also keep and preserve in his office sectional diagrams of every part of the ground available for graves or reservations, such sectional diagrams to be furnished to him by the Secretary. **Byela**

N.21. No interment shall take place until the Superintendent is in possession of an order in writing from the Sexton. **Law**

N.22. The Superintendent shall enter in the Burial Register, on the day of its occurrence, every interment at the Cemetery, such entry to include the name in English and, where known, in Hebrew; the last known address of the deceased; the number of the grave and the row wherein the same is situated, and the date of interment in Hebrew and English. He shall also make such other entries as are requisite on the sectional diagrams and in the Reserved Graves Register. **Law**

N.23. The Superintendent shall complete and despatch forthwith to the Sexton the confirmatory notification of the interment. **Law**

N.24. The Superintendent shall ensure that every grave is regularly and visibly numbered in accordance with the official sectional diagrams, and shall ensure that entries in the Burial Register correspond with the numbers of the graves. **Law**

N.25. The Superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring that graves are prepared in good time, of proper length, width and depth, in accordance with the requirements of Byelaw E.3. and with the information furnished to him in writing by the Sexton in every case. He shall provide appropriately for the interment of the remains in the case of a כהן. He shall personally inspect, well before the arrival of the cortege, each grave that has been prepared, so as to ensure that it is correct in all respects. He shall also see that every care is taken to protect adjoining graves and tombstones. **Byelaw**

N.26. The Superintendent shall meet the cortege on arrival at the Cemetery and shall be present at the Religious Service and the interment, at which he shall assist if necessary. He shall see that every grave is promptly filled and left tidy, and shall arrange for the reverent burial of still-born children and children less than 30 days old. **Byelaw**

N.27. The Superintendent shall ensure that every tombstone is erected in strict conformity with the Laws and Byelaws and with the details contained in the Application Form and shall report accordingly to the Sexton prior to the consecration. If in the opinion of the Superintendent there is some doubt as to the correctness of the Declaration concerning the actual amount to be paid to the Monumental Mason for the tombstone, he shall include in his report a statement to that effect. **Byelaw**

N.28. The Superintendent shall, whenever possible, be present at every consecration. **Byelaw**

N.29. The Superintendent shall be responsible for keeping the Cemetery buildings clean and in good order, and ready for use with **Byelaw**

all necessary heating, lighting, ventilation, prayer books and other equipment. He shall frequently inspect all the buildings, outhouses and equipment, also the boundary walls and fences, the drives, main paths and other paths, the Sections in use, the nursery ground and the undeveloped parts of the ground, and shall report to the Secretary any defects which in his opinion require attention. He shall take note of any unauthorised intrusion into or encroachment upon the Cemetery or its boundaries, and report the same to the Secretary.

N.30. The Superintendent shall be responsible for the safe custody and good order and condition of all records, books of account and other property of the Society entrusted to his care, and shall ensure that all movable articles belonging to the Society are duly recorded in an inventory. **Law**

N.31. The Superintendent shall be present at, and if necessary assist at, every male Tahara performed at the Cemetery. He shall ensure that all the necessary articles of equipment are available for any Tahara to be performed at the Cemetery. **Byela**

N.32. The Superintendent shall be responsible for the temporary removal and subsequent replacement of any monumental masonry in connection with an interment or exhumation. This work shall be undertaken only on the written instructions of the Sexton and shall be subject to any conditions which may be imposed by the Treasurers. **Byela**

N.33. The Superintendent shall promptly report to the Secretary any case where urgent attention to a tombstone is necessary or is likely to be needed. He shall take steps to avoid risk of injury to visitors or other persons that may arise from the collapse of or damaged condition of a tombstone. He shall also report to the Secretary the steps taken by him. **Byela**

N.34. In the event of damage to a tombstone the Superintendent shall forthwith investigate the matter and forward a report to the Secretary together with written statements and other relevant facts or observations. He shall also record the details in the Damaged Tombstones Register and the steps taken. **Byela**

N.35. The Superintendent shall take all steps reasonably necessary to prevent any act in the nature of desecration of a grave or tombstone. He shall not be required to remove any token of an impermanent nature placed upon a grave unless, in his opinion, such token is incongruous or unsightly. He shall not require the permission of the legal personal representatives or relatives to remove from a grave such incongruous or unsightly objects or dead flowers or artificial wreaths with broken glass. **Byelaw**

N.36. The Superintendent shall not, in any circumstances, solicit or accept any fee, reward or favour from any Monumental Mason, person, firm or company interested in any work or supplies connected in any way with the Cemetery. **Law**

N.37. The Superintendent shall not solicit or receive gratuities. **Law**

N.38. The Superintendent shall not, directly or indirectly, undertake any renovation or repair of any tombstone or other work, or upkeep of any tombstone or grave in any Cemetery, except on behalf of the Society and upon instructions from the Secretary. The Superintendent, as a full time official of the Society, shall not engage in any trade or other profession nor shall he undertake any extraneous duties without the prior written consent of the Treasurers. **Law**

N.39. The Superintendent shall ensure that all gates and doors are properly secured every evening, and take charge of the keys. He shall not allow any person, other than an accredited person engaged in the discharge of his duty, to enter the Cemetery during the hours when it is officially closed. **Byelaw**

N.40. The Superintendent shall reside either in the Cemetery Lodge or at such other place as the Committee shall approve. **Byelaw**

N.41. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to ensure that at no time shall the Cemetery be left unattended. **Byelaw**

N.42. The Superintendent may utilise as a kitchen garden, such plot of ground in the Cemetery as the Committee may allow for **Byelaw**

the purpose subject to the following conditions, and such other conditions as the Committee may decide :—

(a) Such user shall be solely for the domestic purposes of the Superintendent and his family residing with him and in no case shall any of the produce be sold or offered for sale.

(b) The permission for such user shall be subject to termination by the Treasurers at any time by one month's written notice and without any liability for compensation.

טהרה ATTENDANT/BEARERS AND FEMALE טהרה ATTENDANTS

N.43. (a) **Tahara Attendant/Bearers :** It shall be their duty to wash and clothe the corpse in the case of a male and to place it in the coffin; and in all cases to place the coffin in the hearse, follow the funeral to the Cemetery, remove the coffin and lower it into the grave and perform such other duties in connection with a funeral as may be required of them. **Byela**

(b) **Female Tahara Attendants :** It shall be their duty to wash and clothe the corpse in the case of a female and place it in the coffin, and to perform such other duties in connection with the funeral as may be required of them.

N.44. One of the Tahara Attendant/Bearers or one of the Female Tahara Attendants shall, on each occasion, be appointed by the Sexton to take charge of the Tahara Attendants and to be responsible for the efficient and decorous performance of all duties, and to report any untoward incident or complaint to the Sexton. **Byela**

N.45. Disinfectants shall be used before and at a Tahara in such manner as shall be directed. No person assisting at a Tahara shall smoke while so engaged. **Byela**

N.46. Every Tahara Attendant shall wear the prescribed uniform whenever engaged in the performance of his or her duties. **Byela**

N.47. A Tahara Attendant shall not solicit or receive gratuities. **Law**

ATTENDANTS ON THOSE DYING IN HOSPITAL

N.48. The duties of Attendants shall be :— **Byelaw**

(a) To attend whenever the hospital staff regard as imminent the death of a Jewish patient at the hospital, and to remain, whether by day or night, to recite the last prayers.

(b) Upon death having occurred, to carry out the prescribed Jewish rites in regard to the body, and to supervise and assist in the reverent removal of the body from the ward to the hospital mortuary, and there remain for a brief period, but not otherwise to act as a Watcher.

(c) To comply at all times with the rules of the hospital.

(d) Not without the consent of the Sexton to delegate their duties.

N.49. An Attendant shall not solicit or receive any fee or gratuity whatsoever from any person connected with the deceased. **Law**

GROUNDKEEPERS OF DISUSED CEMETERIES (i.e. Cemeteries at which it is intended that no further interments shall take place).

N.50. The provisions of Clauses N.18, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39 and 40 of this Section shall apply to Groundkeepers with the substitution of the word "Groundkeeper" where the word "Superintendent" appears therein. **Byelaw**

N.51. The Groundkeeper shall be generally responsible to the Treasurers and Committee for the supervision of the Cemetery, for keeping the Cemetery in good order, for promptly recording all entries to be made in the Registers and other books, and for affording to visitors all possible help and guidance. The Groundkeeper shall also be responsible for the carrying out of all obligations of the Society, officially notified to him from time to time. **Byelaw**

N.52. The Groundkeeper shall be responsible for keeping the Cemetery buildings clean and in good order. He shall frequently inspect all the buildings, out-houses and equipment, also the boundary walls and fences, the drives, main paths and other paths, and shall report to the Secretary any defects which in his opinion re- **Byelaw**

quire attention. He shall take note of any unauthorised intrusion into or encroachment upon the Cemetery or its boundaries, and report the same to the Secretary.

N.53. The Groundkeeper shall not, directly or indirectly, undertake any renovation or repair of any tombstone or other work, or upkeep of any tombstone or grave in any Cemetery, except on behalf of the Society and upon instructions from the Secretary. **Byela**

N.54. The Groundkeeper may utilise as a kitchen garden such plot of ground in the Cemetery as the Committee may allow for the purpose subject to the following conditions, and such other conditions as the Committee may decide :— **Byela**

(a) Such user shall be solely for the domestic purposes of the Groundkeeper and his family residing with him and in no case shall any of the produce be sold or offered for sale.

(b) The permission for such user shall be subject to termination by the Treasurers at any time by one month's written notice and without any liability for compensation.

SECTION O. WATCHERS

O.1. The Committee shall (through the Sexton) use its best endeavours to obtain, for those desiring it, the services of a Watcher for the period between the death and the funeral. Provided that the Society shall not in any way be responsible for the services, competence or conduct of any Watcher. **Byelaw**

O.2. The Sexton shall, at all times, display at his office the names and address of Watchers regarded as competent and suitable, and the scale of fees payable to such Watchers by the families or individuals who engage them. The scale of fees shall be such as shall, from time to time, be approved by the Committee on the recommendation of the Treasurers. **Byelaw**

O.3. The Committee may pay to each approved Watcher a retaining fee at such rate per month as they may, from time to time, decide. **Byelaw**

O.4. A Watcher shall not be permitted to take into the room occupied by a corpse any food or drink, except in accordance with the Jewish Law as to מחיצה. **Law**

O.5. A Watcher shall not solicit or receive any gratuity whatsoever from any person connected with the deceased, nor shall he stipulate for the payment of fees in excess of the authorised scale. **Law**

SECTION P. CEMETERIES—GENERAL

P.1. The Cemeteries shall be open daily to visitors at 9 a.m. and closed at dusk, but in no case shall they remain open after 6 p.m. The Cemeteries shall be closed on Sabbaths and Holydays and from one hour before the Sabbath or Holyday commences. **Byel**

P.2. No workman or materials shall be admitted within the Cemetery before 8 a.m., or on Sabbaths or Holydays or one hour before the commencement thereof. **Byel**

P.3. No workman or visitor shall remain in the Cemetery after sunset, nor later than 7 p.m., whichever is the earlier, except with special permission which shall be granted only in exceptional circumstances. **Byel**

P.4. Persons within the precincts of a Cemetery shall comply with the provisions of the Laws and Byelaws and the Regulations of the Society relating thereto. .The Superintendent or Groundkeeper may require any visitor, employee, workman or other person misbehaving or showing irreverence or incivility or otherwise failing to observe the provisions hereof to leave the Cemetery. Any such person may thereafter be refused admission to the Cemetery. **Law**

P.5. Persons within the precincts of a Cemetery shall wear suitable head covering. **Byel**

P.6. Admission to a Cemetery of motor cars, lorries, carts and other vehicles shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent or Groundkeeper and subject to such regulations as the Committee may, from time to time, prescribe. **Byel**

P.7. The Superintendent or Groundkeeper shall be entitled to examine the contents of any vehicles entering, or in, or leaving the Cemetery. **Byel**

P.8. No person shall solicit orders in a Cemetery for the purchase, erection or repair of monumental work, or for planting or tidying a grave or for the supply of flowers or other articles; and **Law**

any person acting in breach of this Law shall be required to leave the Cemetery, and may be refused admission thereafter.

P.9. Charity boxes shall be kept in suitable positions at each Cemetery for the receipt of voluntary offerings. The amounts so received shall be appropriated to such charitable purposes of the United Synagogue as the Committee, on the recommendation of the Treasurers, shall designate from time to time. **Byelaw**

P.10. No person shall appeal for or collect money for any purpose whatsoever in, or at the entrance to, any Cemetery. **Byelaw**

P.11. Notices or posters shall not be displayed or placed in any of the Cemeteries or Cemetery buildings, other than notices or posters of the Society or of the United Synagogue received by the Superintendent or Groundkeeper with official instructions from the Secretary for the display thereof. **Byelaw**

SECTION Q. MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Q.1. A person concerned with the arrangement or conduct of a funeral or consecration service shall not solicit or receive gratuities. **Law**

Q.2. No Minister other than an accredited Minister of the United Synagogue or of a Synagogue connected with the United Synagogue shall participate in any Religious Service in any Cemetery of the United Synagogue without prior permission of the Treasurers. **Law**

Q.3. No exhumation shall take place except in accordance with the procedure laid down by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, and with the prior approval of the Chief Rabbi. **Law**

Q.4. In the event of an exhumation and removal of the remains from the Cemetery or to another part of the Cemetery taking place :— **Law**

(a) Prior to the exhumation any tombstone erected upon the grave shall be removed and the responsibility for such removal shall be that of the person requiring the exhumation.

(b) No refund shall be made in respect of the fee paid for a reserved or selected space.

(c) No refund shall be made of any commutation fee paid in respect of the interment.

(d) A tombstone in memory of the person exhumed may not be erected or re-erected on the grave space.

(e) The use of the grave space shall revert to the Society.

Q.5. The Committee shall have power to enact, alter, or repeal the Laws of the Society, but no such enactment, alteration or repeal shall be acted upon until the same has been ratified by the Council. **Law**

Q.6. The Committee shall have power to enact, alter or repeal Byelaws. Any such enactment, alteration or repeal shall be reported to the Council. **Law**

Q.7. The Committee shall not entertain a motion for the amendment or repeal of an existing Law or Byelaw or for the enactment of a new Law or Byelaw unless notice of the intention to move the same appears in the summons convening the meeting at which it is to be considered. **Law**

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