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TUESDAY, 29 JULY, 1924.

Whitehall, July 29, 1924.

Amongst the matters discussed at the Imperial Conference, 1923, was the question of the precedence of the High Commissioners in London. In accordance with the undertaking then given (see Page 17 of Cmd. 1987), the matter was examined and suggestions were put forward, with His Majesty's approval, by the late Government for the consideration of the Dominion Prime Ministers and the Government of India. These proposals have proved generally acceptable, and His Majesty has now been pleased to direct that the High Commissioners for Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Irish Free State, Newfoundland and India should be given precedence, on ceremonial occasions, according to the following principles:—

(a) When British or Dominion Ministers, being at the time members of their respective Cabinets, are present, the High Commissioners should take precedence immediately after them; this precedence is subject to the qualification that the High Commissioner should not on any occasion be given a precedence higher than that accorded by the Table of Precedence to Secretaries of State.

(b) When no members of the British or Dominion Cabinets are present, the High Commissioners should take precedence immediately after that accorded by the Table of Precedence to Secretaries of State.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 25th day of July, 1924.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Act, 1919, and of the Union of Benefices Measure, 1921, duly prepared, and laid before His Majesty in Council, a Scheme, bearing date the 1st day of May, 1924, in the words and figures following, that is to say:—

“ We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, acting in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Act, 1919, and of the Union of Benefices Measure, 1921, have prepared, and now humbly lay before Your Majesty in Council, the following Scheme for effecting the union of certain neighbouring Benefices, that is to say, the Benefice (being a Rectory) of Templeton, the Benefice (being a Rectory) of Loxbeare, and a portion of the Benefice (being a Vicarage) of Withleigh, all of which Benefices are situate in the County of Devon and in the Diocese of Exeter:—

“ Whereas Commissioners appointed at our request by the Right Reverend William, Bishop of Exeter, pursuant to the provisions of the said Union of Benefices Act, 1919, to inquire into and report upon the union of the said two Benefices of Templeton and Loxbeare