

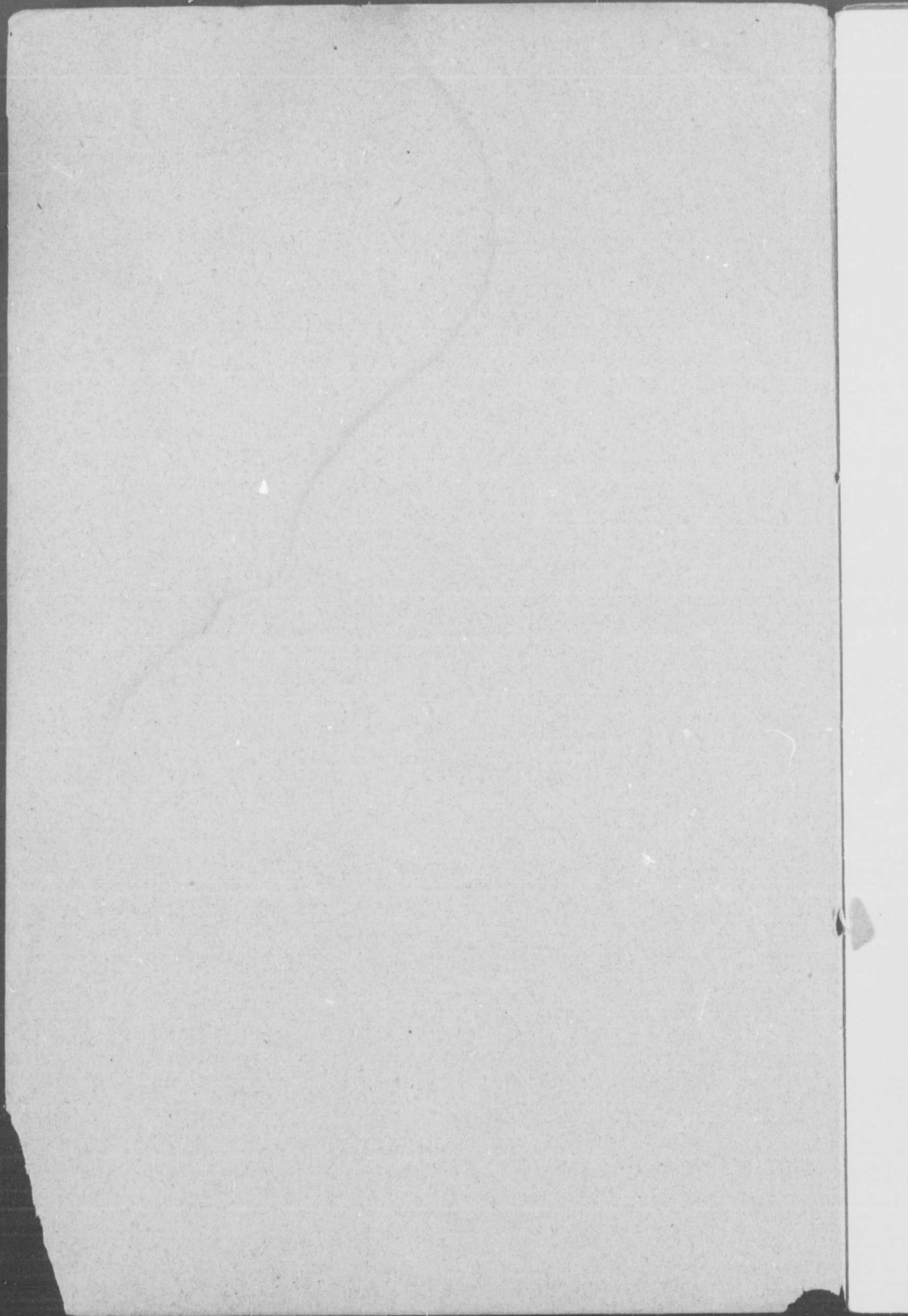
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Constitution and By-Laws  
of the  
United Empire Loyalists' Association  
of Canada

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF ONTARIO, 1897.  
INCORPORATION AMENDED, 1913.



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CANADIANA

## United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

### OFFICERS, 1913

#### PRESIDENT

COLONEL G. STERLING RYERSON, M.D.

#### VICE-PRESIDENTS

LIEUT.-COLONEL GEO. A. SHAW,      LIEUT.-COL. WM. HAMILTON MERRITT,  
COLONEL GEORGE T. DENISON,      MR. R. S. NEVILLE, K.C.,  
MRS. J. S. DIGNAM.

**HONORARY GENERAL SECRETARY**      **HONORARY GENEALOGIST**  
MISS HELEN M. MERRILL.      MR. E. M. CHADWICK, K.C.

**HONORARY TREASURER**      **HONORARY LEGAL ADVISER**  
MR. A. R. DAVIS.      MR. C. E. MACDONALD.

#### HONORARY CHAPLAIN

REV. CANON MACNAB.

#### CENTRAL COUNCIL

REV. CANON A. BROWN, HALIFAX.      COLONEL A. H. MACDONALD, GUELPH.  
MR. L. V. CHIPMAN, ANNAPOLIS      COLONEL HUGH MCLEAN, M.P.,  
ROYAL, N.S.      ST. JOHN, N.B.  
MRS. JOHN J. GEMMEL, OTTAWA.      MR. E. B. MERRILL, MOOSE JAW.  
LIEUT.-COLONEL J. J. GREGORY,      MR. HUGH MUNRO, M.P.P.,  
LACOMBE, ALTA.      ALEXANDRIA  
LIEUT.-COLONEL R. W. GREGORY,      SIR JOHN BEVERLEY ROBINSON,  
ST. CATHARINES.      EDGEWATER, N.J.  
MR. GEORGE H. HAM, MONTREAL.      LT.-COL. H. C. ROGERS, PETERBORO.  
MR. E. B. L. HILL, VANCOUVER.      MR. H. S. SEAMAN, WINNIPEG.

The following ten Members of Council with the Officers form the Executive Committee.

MR. J. STEWART CARSTAIRS, TORONTO.      MR. F. O. LOFT, TORONTO.  
CAPTAIN V. A. HALL, TORONTO.      MR. C. E. MACDONALD, TORONTO.  
MRS. R. STEARNS HICKS, TORONTO.      MR. E. A. MACLAURIN, TORONTO.  
MAJOR W. NAPIER KEEFER, TORONTO.      MISS CATHARINE MERRITT, TORONTO.  
MR. R. E. A. LAND, TORONTO.      MRS. EDMUND PHILLIPS, TORONTO.

#### INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

COLONEL G. STERLING RYERSON,      MISS MERRILL,      MR. A. R. DAVIS.

#### PUBLISHING COMMITTEE

THE PRESIDENT,      THE SECRETARY,      THE TREASURER.

#### LADIES' COMMITTEE

MISS CAREY,      MRS. R. W. HICKS,      MISS EMILY MERRITT,  
MISS LAURA CLARKE,      DR. AMELIA JOHNSTON,      MISS LAURA RYERSON,  
MISS DICKSON,      MRS. F. C. LAW,      MISS STRATHY,  
MRS. FORSYTH GRANT,      MRS. F. O. LOFT,      MRS. J. D. TYRRELL.

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

### NAME AND CHIEF SEAT

I. The organisation shall be known as the "United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada," hereinafter referred to as the General Association, and its chief seat shall be at Toronto.

### OBJECTS

II. The objects of the Association shall be :—

(a) To unite together, irrespective of creed or political party, the descendants of those families who, during the American Revolutionary War of 1775 to 1783, sacrificed their homes in retaining their loyalty to the British Crown ; and to perpetuate this spirit of loyalty to the Empire.

(b) To preserve the history and traditions of that important epoch in Canadian history, by rescuing from oblivion the history and traditions of the Loyalist families before it is too late.

(c) To collect together in a suitable place the portraits, relics, and documents relating to the United Empire Loyalists, which are now scattered throughout the Dominion.

(d) To publish a historical and genealogical journal, or annual transactions.

### ORGANISATION. CENTRAL COUNCIL

III. The governing body of the Association shall be called the Central Council ( hereinafter named the Council ) numbering 24 persons who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Association, together with the Presidents and Secretaries of each branch, who shall be supernumerary and ex-officio, but shall have votes in the Council. The Council shall meet as often as the interests of the Association require, five members to form a quorum, and a majority vote shall determine the result of any action under consideration. The President may call a meeting of the Council at any time or one may be called upon two weeks' notice by requisition in writing of nine members of the Council.

### BRANCHES

IV. The Council shall establish, or authorise, provincial or local branches and adopt rules, regulations and forms for organisation and operation of these branches, and shall define the relations between the Central Council and the provincial and local branches and their respective powers and duties.

Each provincial or local branch shall receive a Warrant of Authorisation from the Council together with regulations for its guidance. No Branch will be recognised and no warrant will be issued to it until organisation is completed by the election of its officers, who shall consist of a president, two vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer and executive committee of not more than six members, and a ladies committee of not more than twelve members. Members of local branches may become members of the General Association on the payment of the regular annual fee to the Central Council, or may become life members on payment of the regular fee established by that body.

**QUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS**

V. All persons of either sex resident in Canada, or any British subject, who can trace their lineal descent by either male or female line from United Empire Loyalists, shall be eligible for ordinary membership, provided they be persons of good repute and be considered by the Association desirable persons to be admitted to membership. The wives or husbands of ordinary members, who are not otherwise qualified for membership, may be elected Associate members, but are not entitled to vote. Charter members shall be those members who joined prior to and including the regular meeting in April, 1897. They shall have the letter "C" placed before their names on the roll of members. No person under 21 years of age shall be entitled to full membership.

**ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

VI. (a) Application for membership in this Association must be made according to the prescribed form, signed by the applicant, be recommended by two members, and be accompanied by the annual fee (which shall be returned if the application is withdrawn or the candidate be not elected). This application shall be read to the Association at a regular meeting and be referred to the Investigating Committee, which shall report at a subsequent regular meeting. The fact of such application shall be stated by the Secretary in the call for the next regular meeting.

(b) If the Investigating Committee are satisfied with the qualifications of the candidate in all respects, and their decision is unanimous, the same shall be reported at the next or any subsequent regular meeting of the Association, whereupon the

candidate shall be declared elected, unless a ballot is called for, which demand may be to the Secretary without signature.

(c) If the Investigating Committee are not satisfied with the evidence of qualification of the member by descent, they shall notify the proposer of such candidate, and request him to furnish further evidence, and the application shall stand in abeyance until the same is furnished to the satisfaction of the Committee. If the Committee or any one member thereof shall be of the opinion that the candidate does not possess the proper qualifications of good repute and of desirability for admission to membership, the Committee shall report the case to the Executive Committee who, after consulting with the Investigating Committee, shall decide whether to request the proposer to withdraw the name of the candidate, or to proceed with the application, and in the latter case the election shall be by ballot.

(d) If a ballot be taken the chairman of the meeting, the Secretary and the Senior Lady present, of the Executive Committee, shall act as scrutineers. Paper ballots shall be provided, on which the voters shall write "yes" or "no" and deposit the same in the ballot box or other receptacle provided. One negative in five shall exclude.

(e) Any person well and publicly known, being or having been holder of any public office or position, and being of good repute in all respects, may be elected a member without the usual formalities by the unanimous consent thereto and to the suspension of Rules for that purpose by the members of the Association present at any meeting, provided there be not less than twenty-five members then present.

(f) The Association shall have power by the vote, (by ballot) of three-fourths present at a special meeting called for the purpose to expel any member for cause shown. Provided that he or she shall previously have been notified of any complaint made or reason advanced rendering the continuance of his or her membership undesirable and shall have been (by the Executive Committee) afforded reasonable opportunity of explanation or refutation of the charge made or reason alleged.

#### FEES

VII. The annual membership and the associate membership fee shall be one dollar. A family—*viz*: husband, wife, and



children residing at home and under 21 years of age,—shall pay two dollars per annum, payable in advance.

The annual fees shall be due on January 1st in each year.

Any member or associate member being one year in arrears may be struck off the list of members by the Executive Committee.

No member shall be entitled to vote at election of officers who is more than one year in arrears for dues.

Any person eligible may become a life member by paying the sum of \$25, and shall be exempt from further payments.

#### **OFFICERS**

VIII. The office bearers shall consist of a President, five Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall be a lady and who will act as presiding officer of the Ladies Committee, a General Secretary, a Treasurer, a Legal Adviser, and a Genealogist, and if required, an Assistant Secretary may be appointed by the Executive Committee.

#### **HONOURARY VICE-PRESIDENTS AND MEMBERS**

IX. (a) All sons and daughters of United Empire Loyalists now living shall be Honourary Vice-Presidents of the Association.

(b) Distinguished men and women, descendants of United Empire Loyalists, non-resident in the Province, may be elected by a majority of those present at a meeting, as Honourary Vice-Presidents; such Vice-Presidents shall not be liable for the annual fee.

(c) Members of the Association, gentlemen or ladies, who, in the opinion of a two-thirds majority of the meeting, have rendered distinguished service to the Association may be elected Honourary Members.

The name of such member or Honourary Vice-President must be proposed and seconded at a regular meeting at least four weeks before the date of election.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

X. The Council may appoint from among its members an Executive Committee of ten, three being ladies, five to form a quorum, who shall have and exercise all the powers of the Council. The president, vice-presidents, secretary and treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the executive committee. The two members whose names appear first on the list shall retire each

year, but shall be eligible for re-election. The president shall act as chairman or in his absence, a vice-president or a member of the committee.

**THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE**

XI. Shall consist of four members, three of whom shall form a quorum.

**THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE**

XII. Shall consist of three members, the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

**THE LADIES' COMMITTEE**

XIII. Shall consist of twelve members, five of whom shall form a quorum. They shall arrange all matters submitted to them by the Association or by the Executive Committee, to whom they shall respectively report. The four members whose names shall appear first on the list shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

XIV. All officers and Standing Committees of the Association shall be elected at the annual meeting, or as soon thereafter as conveniently may be, if for any reason such election cannot take place at the annual meeting. And such officers and committees shall hold office until the next annual meeting, or until their successors are elected; vacancies occurring during the year may be filled by election as may be required. Special committees may be appointed at any regular or special general meeting. Where it is not otherwise stated the officers and members of committees shall be gentlemen.

The immediate Past President shall be an *ex-officio* member of the Executive Committee, and the immediate Past Lady Vice-President shall be an *ex-officio* member of the Ladies' Committee for one year after they cease to hold their offices.

Nominations for all offices and the Standing Committees of the Association shall be made one month prior to the annual meeting. All officers and Standing Committees of the Association shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, but where only one name for any office, or only the required number to compose any Standing Committee, have been placed in nomination, a ballot shall not be taken, but the person or persons so nominated shall be declared duly elected.

**BADGES**

XV. The Badge of the General Association shall be the badge of the local branches and may be obtained from the general secretary on payment of the prescribed price. Application must be made through the local secretary who must certify that the applicant is in good standing in the branch.

**DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

XVI. The President shall be chairman of all meetings at which he shall be present, and in his absence one of the Vice-Presidents shall take the chair.

In the absence of the Vice-Presidents, the members present shall elect a chairman for the meeting.

XVII. The Treasurer shall hold in trust the funds of the Association, which shall be deposited in the name of the Association in a bank approved by the Committee. He shall receive all moneys, pay all accounts that are properly certified as correct, and shall present, when required, from time to time a statement of accounts.

XVIII. The Secretary, or the Assistant Secretary shall attend all meetings, shall take the minutes of the proceedings, shall be responsible for the safe custody of all papers, books, and other property, and under the direction of the Executive Committee shall conduct the general business of the Association. He or she shall receive all monies which will be transmitted to the Treasurer.

**MEETINGS**

XIX. The annual general meeting for the election of office-bearers, and the transaction of the business of the Association, shall be held in the city of Toronto, on the date of the regular meeting in January in each year.

The regular meetings other than the May and October meetings shall be held on the second Thursday in every month, except during such summer months as may be thought desirable not to meet by the members present at the regular meeting in May. The May meeting shall be held on or about May 18th, the anniversary of the landing of the Loyalists at St. John, N.B., in 1784, and the October meeting on October 13th, the anniversary of the Battle of Queenston Heights, shall be held on or about, or as near thereto as possible.

Meetings may be held at such an hour and place as the Executive Committee appoints, of which due notice shall be sent to every member.

XX. General meetings other than the regular monthly meetings may be called for the reading and discussion of papers, and for the transaction of business.

XXI. Extraordinary or urgent business may be transacted at any meeting without special notice, when considered absolutely necessary by a three-fourths majority of those present.

XXII. At all general meetings, whether special or annual, fifteen members shall form a quorum.

#### PAPERS

XXIII. Papers on subjects relating to the objects of the Association, and to cognate subjects, may be read by members, or by others who may be requested to do so, at any regular meeting or any special meeting called for this purpose.

Papers shall not exceed twenty minutes in length, but the time for reading may be extended by vote of the members.

All papers read shall become the property of the Association.

All ordinary members of the general Association, who are not in arrears for dues, and all honorary members shall receive a copy of the ANNUAL TRANSACTIONS, a family subscriber shall receive one copy only.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

- XXIV. 1. Reading of Minutes.  
 2. Reading of Correspondence.  
 3. Passing of Accounts.  
 4. Propositions for Membership.  
 5. Reports of Committees, — Executive, Investigating, Publishing, Ladies'.  
 6. Election to Membership.  
 7. Notices of Motion.      8. General Business.  
 9. Election of Officers.    10. Reading of Papers.

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

XXV. The foregoing Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of any meeting, but notice of motion for such amendment must be given at least four weeks previous to the discussion of the same, of which notice the Secretary shall duly inform every member.

## **REGULATIONS FOR BRANCHES**

The following Rules and Regulations for Branches have been adopted for the guidance of Branches.

I. The Officers of a Branch shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, an Honorary Secretary and an Honorary Treasurer. There shall also be an Executive Committee.

II. All Officers and all Members of a Branch shall be elected or appointed in such manner as the Branch shall determine, and all must qualify as members of the Association, either as local members or as members of the General Association, or both, but general membership does not entitle a member to join a local branch without paying local fees.

III. Immediately upon organisation of a Local Branch it shall communicate the names of the officers and members to the General Secretary.

IV. The Central Council shall issue a Warrant to each Local Branch duly organised, authorising the members to use the name and badge of the Society.

V. No Local Branch shall be recognised and no Warrant issued until the organisation of such Branch is completed by the election or appointment of its officers and committee.

VI. Each Local Branch shall be self-governing and self-supporting, subject to the Rules and Regulations. It shall make such standing orders as may be suitable for the transaction of its business, and shall confine its activities to the objects of the Association as defined by the Constitution.

VII. Each Local Branch shall set and collect its own annual fees, but shall pay \$2.00 a year to the Central Council to assist in covering the general expenses of the Association.

VIII. The Local Branch shall, upon receiving its Charter pay to the Central Council the sum of \$5.00 for the costs thereof.

IX. The Central Council will furnish to each member a certificate of membership.

X. Each Local Branch shall furnish to the Central Council a report of its work not later than November 1st in each year, so that it may be included in the ANNUAL TRANSACTIONS.

XI. The Central Council reserves the right to revoke a Charter and to demand its return if after careful investigation it should be shown that such Branch has acted in a manner contrary to the principles of the Association, or because through lack of interest in its affairs the Branch is dormant; and the Charter shall thereupon be returned to the Central Council.

XII. Each member of the General Association who is not in arrears for annual dues shall receive a copy of the ANNUAL TRANSACTIONS.

## FORM OF APPLICATION FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS

To be filled in and returned to the Honourary Secretary

Name of Candidate (in full)      Mr. Mrs. Miss      Address  
 Proposed by      Seconded by      Name of Candidate's  
 U. E. L. Ancestor.      Date of arrival in Canada of U. E. L.  
 Ancestor, and where settled :      at

### PARTICULARS OF RELATIONSHIP OF THE CANDIDATE

1. Father (name in full)      Residence      Profession or occupation
2. Mother (name in full)      Her Maiden Surname
3. Name of Grandfather through whom U.E.L. descent is  
     claimed      Residence
4. Name of his wife      Her Maiden Name
5. Great Grandfather      and state whether he is the U. E. L.  
     ancestor or, if not, what relation to him, as son or grandson :
6. State names of uncles and aunts of the U.E.L. descent (living  
     or not) and names of husbands of aunts married (with address):
7. State names of brothers and sisters (living or not) and names  
     of husbands of sisters married (with address):
8. Names of children (give address):

If there are any circumstances of interest regarding the U.E.L. ancestor and his public services, or connected with his coming to Canada, state them briefly below.

## FORM OF BEQUEST

TO THE

*United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada*

I give and bequeath to the Executive Committee of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada for the time being, the sum of \$      to be applied, at the discretion of the Executive Committee of the said Association, towards the objects of such Association; and I direct that the said sum shall be paid, free of legacy duty, out of such part of my personal estate as may be legally bequeathed for charitable purposes.