PREFACE TO THE TENTH EDITION.

In the preparation of this edition, the editor has attempted to state the law as modified or supplemented by the decisions extending over a period of seven years. The most important of those are those relating to the Hindu Law of Inheritance (Amendment) Act, 1929, and the Hindu Women’s Right to Property Act, 1938.

Under the former Act the question whether a half-sister was included in the term “sister” was at first the subject of conflicting decisions until Full Bench decisions settled the conflict in the particular High Courts. However, the Privy Council finally settled the matter in *P. M. Karuppayammal v. Meenamuthi* (1943) Mad. 235, holding that the half-sister is also an heir under the Act but is postponed to a full-sister. In another case the Judicial Committee (*Mt. Sahodra v. Ram Babu* (1942) 69 I.A. 145) held that the Act applied even to provinces where the sister and others were not formerly heirs.

The Hindu Women’s Right to Property Act, 1938, has been held by the Federal Court to be *ultra vires* as to agricultural property. There are other important decisions on the Act though some of them require further consideration.

The law relating to Bandhu Succession continues to give rise to conflicting decisions. The Bombay High Court agrees with the Allahabad High Court and differs from the Madras High Court in the interpretation of *Ramchandra v. Vinayak*. The Madras High Court in a Full Bench decision affirmed its former decision that the Bandhuship is not confined to four families and to four kinds of descendants as held by the Allahabad High Court.

The law relating to accumulations by a widow has received further development by recent decisions of the Privy Council and it was found necessary to effect alterations in the text.

The decision in *Har Naraini Kunwar v. Sajjan Pal Singh* (1940) All. 719, is important. It applies an earlier decision of the Board, *Amrit Narayana Singh v. Gaya Singh* (1918) 45 Cal. 500, which by inadvertence was omitted in the former editions of this work.
The law relating to adoption followed by divesting of property has given us another important decision of the Judicial Committee Ananta Bhikkappa v. Shanker Ramachandra (1943) 70 I.A. 232 and several decisions in Bombay and Nagpur.

The rights of illegitimate sons of a junior member to maintenance out of an impartible estate is the subject of a decision by the Privy Council in Raja Velugoti Kumar Krishna Bahadur v. Rajendra Rao (1942) Mad. 419.

The provisions of the Hindu Married Women's Right to Maintenance Act, 1946, have been incorporated in the text.

The delay in bringing out this edition for which there is urgent need is partly due to war conditions and I have been asked to express regret that it has become necessary to raise the price of the book owing to the high cost of production.

The editor desires to record his grateful appreciation of the assistance rendered to him by Mr. Vepa P. Sarathi, Advocate, Madras High Court, and Mr. J. C. Bhat, Advocate, Bombay High Court.

V. R.

June 1946.