The following rules will regulate the succession of Sailo chiefs and clans.

1. The eldest legitimate son of a ruling chief will inherit the lands of his father's village unless such eldest son has already been accommodated in an independent village.

2. Youngest sons will inherit their father's property according to custom.

3. If an eldest son settled in an independent village dies without any issue the next eldest legitimate son will succeed.

If the eldest son dies with male issue his own eldest son will succeed, a period of regency being declared if necessary, and no other younger brother of the deceased can contest the succession.

4. If a chief dies leaving only "Hmeifas" or illegitimate sons the above rules will operate against claims by the deceased's younger brothers.
5. It is open to a chief to move the Superintendent to disinherit a son who normally succeed him in which case the Superintendent is required to call a Panchayat will consist of members of whom two will be nominated by the chief and two by the son and one by the Superintendent. The Superintendent will come to a finding and after settling out the relevant factors in the case will submit his recommendations to the Commissioner for orders.

The Government is not departing in any way from usual practice and custom whereby except in the case of Headman a ruling chief will ordinarily be succeeded by his normal heir. In the case of Headmen the Government still as of old will only permit a son to succeed if the succession is clearly in the best interests of the Government and the people concerned. At the same time I take this opportunity of reminding all chiefs that were heredity is not in itself the only factor weighing with Government in the appointment of chiefs to succeed to ruling chief on the death of the latter. The Government expect chiefs to advance with people to show an ever increasing felicity for the welfare of their villagers not by mere lips service but by concrete acts. The standard of weighing evidence in cases brought before them for settlement should improve so that chiefs awards will be
increasingly more accurate and fair. There are today certain chiefs who are quickly losing control of their villagers by their weakness and carelessness in discharging the duties of a chief. To such chiefs I say here and now that they must look to their laurels and take steps at once to improve their administrations of their villagers or it may be found that the interest of Government and the people can no longer best be served by the continuance of the chieftainship in their hands or those of their sons.

Sd/-A. G. McCall, I.G.S.
Superintendent, Lushai Hills
1936.