

BJÖRNSSON, SVEINN, President of Iceland; born Feb. 27, 1881, in Copenhagen; son of Björn and Elísabet (Sveinsdóttir) Jónsson; educated at Reykjavík College, 1900; University of Copenhagen (Law) 1907; married Georgia Hoff-Hansen, Sept. 2, 1908; six children - Björn, Anna, Henrik, Sveinn, Ólafur, and Elísabet. His Excellency began his career in 1907 as Advocate to the Superior Court of Iceland; Advocate to the Supreme Court of Iceland, 1920; Icelandic Minister to Denmark, 1920-24; Advocate to the Supreme Court of Iceland, 1924-26; Icelandic Minister to Denmark, 1926-41; Regent of Iceland, 1941-44. He was elected President of Iceland, June 17th, 1944, and reelected in 1945 for a period of four years, from August 1st 1945 to July 31st 1949. He was Chairman of the Board of Directors of Icelandic Steamship Co., 1914-20 and 1924-26; Manager of the Icelandic Fire Insurance Co., 1916; Director, Icelandic Sea Insurance Co., 1919-20 and 1924-26, and of numerous industrial and fishing companies of Iceland. He was a Member of Town Council of Reykjavík, 1912-20; Member of Icelandic Parliament, 1914-16 and 1920; First President of Icelandic Red Cross, 1924-26; Member of Advocates Society and several other societies. He served as Special Envoy to the United States of America, 1914; Special Envoy to London, 1915; Head of the Icelandic Delegation at the Genoa Conference, 1922; Conference for United Europe, Genova 1929 and 1930, Conference for Codification of International Law, The Hague 1930; And ^{at} the Monetary and Economic Conference in London, 1933; Conference for Mesh and Fishing Regulations, London 1938. Delegate for Iceland in the International Council for Study of the Sea from 1938 to 1944; Special Envoy for Iceland in negotiating commercial treaties with Norway, Great Britain, Spain, Germany, Italy and Greece. Among orders and distinctions conferred upon him are the Grand Crosses of all the Scandinavian nations, the Gold Medal of The Icelandic Millennium Celebration, the Gold Medal of the Icelandic Scandinavian Society, etc. His hobbies are angling, golf. Residence: Bessastadir. Office: Parliament Bldg., Reykjavík, Iceland.