

The Act creating the Commission was amended several times, but the latest amendment is that made by Chapter 990 of the Acts of 1945 when the terms of the Commissioners were increased from four to six years.

The work of the Commission involves determining what occupations are covered; investigating reports of accidents, and adjudicating claims for compensation arising under the Law. Hearings are held throughout the State in contested cases.

Since the passage of the Workmen's Compensation Law in 1914, some important changes were made in 1931 and 1939, upon the recommendations of committees appointed by the Governor for that purpose, and were concurred in by representatives of employees, employers and insurance carriers. Other notable amendments were enacted by the General Assembly in 1943 and 1945, the most important of which were the increase of temporary total disability payments from \$20.00 a week to \$23.00 a week; the increase of permanent total disability awards from \$6,000.00 to \$7,500.00; the increase of total benefits to dependents from \$5,000.00 to \$6,500.00; the broadening of the law in hernia cases; the increase of the amounts payable under permanent partial disability from \$18.00 to \$20.00 per week, and the establishment of a Second Injury Fund.

The entire expense of the Commission is borne by the private insurance companies which write compensation insurance, self-insurers, and the State Accident Fund; while the cost of operating the State Accident Fund is borne by the policyholders insuring in the Fund.

Chapter 465 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, 1939, amended the Law to provide compensation for disability or death, resulting from a listed schedule of occupational diseases. This amendment provides that there shall be a Medical Board consisting of three members who shall be licensed physicians in good professional standing, two or whom shall have had at least five years practice in the diagnosis, treatment and care of industrial diseases, and one of whom shall be especially trained in roentgenology, and who shall have had at least five years practice and experience. They shall be appointed by the Governor, with the approval of the Senate, from a list of nominees to be submitted by the Deans of the Medical Departments of the University of Maryland and of the Johns Hopkins University and by the Council of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, each of these three agencies to submit a list of at least three persons, two of whom shall be especially experienced in occupational diseases, and one of whom shall be an experienced roentgenologist. One of said members shall be designated as Chairman of the Medical Board by the Governor. The term of office of a member of such board shall be six years.

| Name | Term Expires | Postoffice |
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| Chairman | Vacancy | Baltimore |
| Dr. John W. Pierson | 1949 | Baltimore |
| Dr. Nathan B. Herman | 1947 | Baltimore |

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COMMISSIONERS OF STATE ACCIDENT FUND

Telephone: PLaza 4788

| Name | Term Expires | Postoffice |
|--|--------------|------------|
| John A. Sherman, Chairman | 1947 | Baltimore |
| William B. Leberz, Vice-Chairman | 1948 | Frederick |