

THE STATE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT COMMISSION

741 Equitable Building, Baltimore.

Name.	Term Expires.	Postoffice.
Commission:		
Robert H. Carr, Chairman.....	1935.....	Baltimore
Omar D. Crothers.....	1933.....	Elkton
George Louis Eppler.....	1931.....	Cumberland
Secretary, Albert E. Brown, Baltimore.		

Governor appoints three, not more than two of whom shall be of the same political faith, one for 6 years, one for 4 years, and one for 2 years, and as these terms expire the successor is appointed for 6 years. The Governor designates the chairman. (Ch. 800, 1914.)

The State Industrial Accident Commission is charged with the duty of administering the Workmen's Compensation Law. The law provides, first, for the payment of compensation to employees injured in certain extra-hazardous employments, and to their dependents in case of death; second, that all employers in such occupations shall secure the payment of such compensation by insuring their liability in a stock company, or the State Accident Fund, or by proving to the satisfaction of the Commission their financial ability to pay the compensation.

The business of the Commission is to administer the Workmen's Compensation Act and involves determining what occupations are included, receiving reports of accidents, receiving, investigating and adjudicating claims arising under the Act. Hearings are held in contested cases. In addition to these duties, the Commission administers the State Accident Fund, which is provided by the Act as one of the methods by which employers must insure.

During the year ending October 31, 1928, there was a total of 41,636 industrial accidents reported to the Commission. This was 4,291 cases less than the number reported in the preceding year. Out of this number there were 14,647 claims filed for compensation, of which 144 were claims in fatal accidents, as against 15,322 claims filed during the year ending October 31, 1927, 189 of which were claims in fatal cases. As a result of last year's work, there was paid out to injured employees and their dependents the sum of \$1,419,168.65, which included the payment of compensation, funeral and medical expenses, etc. In addition to the amount herein mentioned, there was \$361,647.77 paid for medical expenses in cases where there was no claim for compensation.

When the General Assembly of Maryland in 1914 passed the Workmen's Compensation Act, they recognized the fact that employers might be put in the position where they would not be able to comply with the Act due to the fact that the private insurance companies would refuse to carry their risk. Furthermore, they felt that inasmuch as this form of insurance was compulsory under the State Law, that they should provide a place where the insurance could be secured at practically the cost of writing this form of insurance. They, therefore, created the State Accident Fund to be administered by the State Industrial Accident Commission.