

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION COMMISSION

Chairman: Melvin L. Fine, 1959
 Daniel T. Doherty, 1958; Helen Elizabeth Brown, 1962;
 R. Duncan Clark, 1961; Lester H. Crowther, 1963
 DeLancey B. Scrivner, Secretary
 Edward C. Jones, Director of Claims
 Meyer M. Ohen, Legal Assistant

Members of Medical Board:

Chairman: James Frenkil, 1959
 Whitmer B. Firor, M.D., 1961; John Sheldon Eastland, M.D., 1957
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By amendment effective February 1, 1958, the State Industrial Accident Commission, created in 1914, will become The Workmen's Compensation Commission. Under the same amendment the Commission is to be composed of five members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Initial appointments are to date from February 1, 1958, and to be for periods of eight, nine, ten, eleven, and twelve years respectively. Thereafter, all terms are to be for twelve years. Like its predecessor, the Commission is to administer the Workmen's Compensation Law. It is to hear contested cases and hold hearings throughout the State; it is to receive reports of accidents and adjudicate claims for compensation arising under the law; and it is to investigate companies and firms which fail to carry insurance under the terms of the Act. The Chairman is to sit on the trial of cases when his administrative and executive functions permit (Code 1951, Art. 101, secs. 3-13; 1957 supp., Art. 101, secs. 1, 2).

In recent years the General Assembly has made many important changes in the Workmen's Compensation Act. Among the most important have been the increase of temporary total disability payments (weekly) from \$32.00 to \$35.00 (effective June 1, 1957, \$40.00); the increase of permanent total disability payments (weekly) from \$35.00 to \$40.00 (effective June 1, 1957) and the total amount from \$12,500.00 to \$15,000.00 (effective June 1, 1957, \$20,000.00); the broadening of the law in hernia cases; establishment of a Second Injury Fund; and removal of the limitations as to the payment of medical expenses. In 1951, the Act included many additional employments; also, for the first time, Maryland came to be what is known as a nonscheduled State for Occupational Diseases (Code 1951, Art. 101, secs. 20, 30, 32-34; 1957 supp., secs. 14, 20, 35, 67).

Medical Board For Occupational Diseases

The Medical Board for Occupational Diseases was established in 1939. The Governor appoints the members of the Board for six-year terms with the approval of the Senate, from lists of nominees submitted by the Deans of the schools of medicine of the University of Maryland and the Johns Hopkins University and by the Council of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland. Each of these agencies submits a list of three persons, two of whom are experienced in occupational diseases, and one of whom is an experienced roentgenologist. Each appointee to the Board must be a licensed physician in good professional standing; two must have had at least five years practice in the treating, diagnosis, and care of industrial diseases; and the third must have been trained in roentgenology and must have had five years practice and experience. The Governor designates the Chairman of the Board. The Board hears and ad-