

By law effective February 1, 1958, the State Industrial Accident Commission, created in 1914, became the Workmen's Compensation Commission. The Commission is composed of five members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Initial appointments date from February 1, 1958, and are 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 administers the Workmen's Compensation Law. It hears contested cases and holds hearings throughout the State; it receives reports of accidents and adjudicates claims for compensation arising under the law; and it investigates companies and firms which fail to carry insurance under the terms of the Act. The Chairman sits on the trial of cases when his administrative and executive functions permit (Code 1957, Art. 101, secs. 1, 2, 5, 16, 38-40).

In recent years the General Assembly has made many important changes in the Workmen's Compensation Act. Among the most important have been acts increasing maximum temporary total disability payments to \$40.00 weekly; increasing maximum permanent total disability payments to \$40.00 weekly; and increasing the maximum total payable for total disability to \$20,000.00. Other laws have broadened the law in hernia cases; established a Second Injury Fund; and removed limitations on payments 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 1957, Art. 101, secs. 20-36, 66).

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 adjudicates all claims for compensation for disability caused by an occupational disease. The decisions of the Board are subject to review by the Workmen's Compensation Commission (Code 1957, Art 101, secs. 26-29).

Appropriations	1959	1960
General Funds	\$364,807	\$429,243
Staff: 63.		

COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE ACCIDENT FUND

Chairman: Albert W. Quinn, 1963
 Vice-Chairman: Joseph D. Weiner, 1961
 Secretary: Edward F. O'Malley, 1964

Abraham Watner, 1960; Thomas J. Hatem, 1962

Richard K. Coggins, Superintendent
 M. Katherine Sahn, Assistant Superintendent
 U. Theodore Hayes, Attorney to the Board