

missioners any surplus above the sum of two thousand dollars in his hands, in such public bonds as said Commissioners may direct, and to credit such fund with the interest derived therefrom; and upon the retirement from office or any disqualification to act of such Treasurer the entire fund, including such bonds, and the books and papers pertaining to such fund, shall be delivered by such Treasurer to his successor in office, who shall receipt for the same.

SEC. 8. All assignments of claims for relief money provided in this Act and all assignments of claims against any operator for injuries received by an employee in the discharge of his duty or for disability or death (provided such operator shall not have been in default in compliance with the provisions of this Act at the time of such injuries, disability and death) shall be null and void, and said claims shall not be subject to attachment, garnishment or other legal process.

SEC. 9. No suit or action shall lie or be brought or maintained against any operator for or in respect of the death of any employee whose personal representatives shall have accepted the relief money provided for in this Act, and no such suit or action shall be brought before the expiration of six months from the date of the employee's death, nor while any suit brought by the personal representative for such relief money, is pending. In case any suit or action is brought against any operator by any person claiming damages for or in respect of injury or disability received in the discharge of his duty as an employee of such operator, all right and claim of such person to any payments out of the fund shall be thereby forfeited. When any person claiming that he has sustained injury or disability, shall accept any relief money, provided for in this Act, for and in respect of such injury or disability or shall commence any suit against the County Commissioners for such relief money, the operator in whose employ such person sustained the injury or disability shall be exempt from liability therefor, and thereafter no suit or action shall lie or be brought or maintained against such operator for or in respect of such injury or disability or death resulting therefrom. Provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to cases, where the operator has been in default in compliance with the provisions of this Act at the time of the injury, disability or death.

SEC. 10. If any suit or action be brought against any operator for or in respect of any injury or disability received by an employee while in discharge of his duty or for death resulting therefrom, including death from contact with mine gases, and said operator shall appear and defend such suit or