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(f) The possession of an age certificate, duly issued and transmitted to the employer by the school authorities of the school district in which a minor resides, shall be conclusive evidence to the employer of the minor's age as certified therein.

(g) If neither party has elected not to be bound by the provisions of article three of the act to which this act is an amendment, in the manner prescribed by section three hundred and two of said act, they shall be held to have agreed to be bound by the provisions of this act, and to have waived any other right or remedy, at law or in equity, for the recovery of damages for injuries occurring under the circumstances herein described.

ARTICLE IV

PROCEDURE

*Section 401. The term "employer," when used in this article, shall mean the employer as defined in article one of this act, or his duly authorized agent, or his insurer if such insurer has assumed the employer's liability, or the State Workmen's Insurance Fund of this Commonwealth if the employer be insured therein.

The department shall be deemed a "party in interest" in any proceeding under this article before a referee, the board or any court involving any claim for compensation, a part of which is payable by the Commonwealth under the provisions of this act.

Section 402. [Repealed by Act No. 482, Acts of 1951, effective Jan. 2, 1952.]

Section 403. (a) All proceedings before the board or any referee, and all appeals to the board, shall be instituted by petition addressed to the board. All petitions shall be in writing and in the form prescribed by the board.

(b) All petitions, all copies of agreements for compensation, and all papers requiring action by the board, shall be mailed or delivered to the department at its principal office.

Section 404. The department shall, immediately upon their receipt, properly file and docket all petitions, agreements for compensation, findings of fact by the board or any referee, awards or disallowances of compensation, or modifications thereof, and all other reports or papers filed with it under the provisions of this act or the rules or regulations of the board.

Section 405. Immediately upon receiving from the board or any referee any award or disallowance of compensation, or any modification thereof, or any other decision, the department shall serve a copy thereof on all parties in interest.

Section 406. All notices and copies to which any party shall be entitled under the provisions of this article shall be served by mail, or in such manner as the board shall direct. For the purposes of this article any notice or copy shall be deemed served on the date when mailed, properly stamped and ad-

* As amended by Act No. 65, 1941 P. L. 125; and by Act No. 482, Acts of 1951, effective January 2, 1952.