

Unquestionably, these hypothetical untreated patients would never have regained their function as quickly as those treated. For this reason, there would have been an increased number of weekly compensation checks. This would have constituted more expense to the State Insurance Fund—especially after these cases had been returned from the Industrial Commission for more treatment and/or more disability rating. However, this is only speculative and is presented only for the sake of argument.

INCREASE IN INCAPACITY RATING AFTER PHYSICAL MEDICAL TREATMENT

It is interesting to note, as shown in table 2, that there were 101 patients who showed an increase in incapacity rating after discharge from the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. This increase amounted to an average of 11.9 per cent of the hand.

TABLE 2.—Increase in Individual Incapacity Rating After Physical Medicine Treatment

Incapacity of Hand Before and After Treatment, per Cent									
Patient	Group	Case	Before		After		Difference		Weeks Before Treatment
			M*	PM*	M	PM	M	PM	
1	1	1034	5	5	13	5	8	0	6
2		1459	40	40	60	40	20	0	4
3	2	1043	5	15	13	15	8	0	6
4		1486	30	30	35	30	5	0	3
5		409	10	10	13	10	3	0	2
6		859	3.5	12	5	5	1.5	-7	4
7	3	54	20	40	40	40	20	0	3
8		23	5	5	5.5	5	0.5	0	4
9	4	162	15	15	25	15	10	0	7
10		281	0	50	10	10	10	-40	2.5
11		237	0	20	30	20	30	0	14
12		1412	20	20	30	5	10	-15	2
13		1575	75	100	85	100	10	0	8
14		1433	65	85	70	85	5	0	4
15	5	125	0	15	10	15	10	0	12
16		440	0	10	5	10	5	0	6.5
17		472	4	40	5	5	1	-35	2
18		996	20	20	25	20	5	0	12
19	6	196	70	100	90	90	20	-10	3
20		239	10	10	25	10	15	0	2
21		116	60	80	90	80	30	0	3
22		690	15	15	20	10	5	-5	4.5
23	7	1109	14	50	20	50	6	0	7
24		1117	15	60	33	33	18	-27	9
25		1195	7.5	7.5	10	7.5	2.5	0	6
26		1408	0	33	40	10	40	-23	8
27		1606	10	30	12	15	2	-15	6
28		1690	60	60	90	60	30	0	6
29		1965	5	5	5.5	1.5	0.5	-3.5	3
30		603	90	100	100	100	10	0	2
31	8	367	30	30	35	30	5	0	7
32		674	5	14	8	12	3	-2	4.5
33		746	12	12	15	12	3	0	8
34		1349	3	25	10	5	7	-20	6
35		1362	5	5	10	5	5	0	8
36		1867	40	60	74	30	34	-30	8
37	9	647	0	20	5	15	5	-5	3.5
38		1045	2	9	5	5	3	-4	8
39	10	1583	10	60	30	33	20	-27	4
40	11	73	25	25	30	25	5	0	9
41		634	0	33	35	5	35	-28	2
42		1417	0	15	15	10	15	-5	3
43		1476	30	30	20	33	-10	+3	0
44		1685	60	60	80	60	20	0	5
45		1738	33	33	40	15	7	-18	5
46		1778	60	60	75	60	15	0	10
47	12	88	5	5	7.5	5	2.5	0	4
48		249	0	15	15	15	15	0	16
49		145	20	33	22.5	10	2.5	-23	4
50		85	60	60	100	60	40	0	6
51		642	0	37	22	15	22	-22	0.5
52		783	20	60	60	30	40	-30	11

* M stands for incapacity determined by the Medical Division; PM, for incapacity determined by the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.