

FILE NAME: Insurance Industry (INS)

DATE: 1936 May 16

DOC#: INS039

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Article from The Weekly Underwriter -
Occupational Disease Rulings

Strong cases

SMART PEDESTRIAN MANNERS

GEORGE D. WEBB DIES AFTER ACTIVE CAREER

Member of Noted Chicago Firm of
Conkling, Price & Webb—Power
in Casualty Affairs

CHICAGO, May 12.—The death of George D. Webb, one of the most widely known casualty and surety men, occurred at his home in Oak Park, Chicago, late Monday afternoon. About three weeks ago Mr. Webb was stricken with a heart attack and weakened gradually until his death. He was 70 years of age.

One of the founders of the unusually successful agency firm of Conkling, Price & Webb, general agents for the London Guarantee & Accident and the Fidelity & Deposit, Mr. Webb was a pioneer in the casualty and surety field and at that time had the reputation of being one of the few agents who had a thorough knowledge of casualty and surety lines. He played a prominent role in all activities affecting casualty and surety lines, and had a great influence on the administration of the business through its various organizations. A native of Iowa, having been born at Anamosa, Ia., on May 9, 1866, he lived practically all his life in Oak Park where he was active in civic affairs.

In 1893 when the American Casualty Insurance & Security Co. of Baltimore failed, Mr. Webb, with Benjamin H. Conkling and Frederick A. Price, found themselves out of work as the office of James W. Nye, general agent in Chicago represented the defunct company.

This young and aggressive trio immediately formed the firm of Conkling, Price & Webb, having secured the general agency of the London Guarantee & Accident, which had only recently entered the United States. The territory of the new agency firm was Illinois, Indiana and Missouri.

From the start Mr. Conkling and Mr. Price were great producers, while Mr. Webb supervised the conduct of the Chicago office, directed the underwriting and gave what time he could to production. A short time afterwards Mr. Webb was successful in securing the first general agency contract ever made by the United States Fidelity & Guaranty, which gave their office casualty and surety facilities of an unusual type at that time.

The firm of Conkling, Price & Webb proved to be far more successful than even the most enthusiastic friends of the young partners predicted and it was not long before this firm commenced to wield a large influence in casualty and surety affairs.

In 1909 when the United States Fidelity & Guaranty commenced going largely on a branch office basis, Conkling, Price & Webb resigned as its representatives in Chicago and took the general agency of the Fidelity & Deposit. Later Mr. Webb's ability received recognition from the Fidelity & Deposit when he was elected to its board of director. Mr. Webb was one of the strongest supporters of the Insurance Federation of America and was a leader in the organization of the National Association of Casualty & Surety Agents, which he served in various capacities.

Mr. Conkling retired from active business several years ago and Mr. Price was killed in an automobile accident last October, leaving Lew H. Webb as the only active member of the original founders. The firm continues to be just as great a factor, as four partners have been taken in in recent years.

INVESTIGATOR ARRESTED

Ambulance Chasing Charged

Raymond Ariola, 27, a lawyer who has been employed by the Dewey Investigating Committee, which is charged with the duty of ending "racketeering" in New York City, was arrested charged with "ambulance chasing" in connection with his negligence law practice. His brother, Dr. Leo A. Ariola, and Saul A. Schwartz, another attorney, were also taken into custody on the same charge. Each of the informations against the three men contains three counts involving misdemeanors.

Raymond Ariola resigned from Mr. Dewey's staff several weeks ago, while his brother resigned from the staff of Columbus Hospital in East Ninetieth Street about the same time. The two lawyers shared offices at 191 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn.

Support Mr. Fort

Franklin W. Fort will get considerable support from insurance men who reside in New Jersey in the primaries of the Republican party in Jersey next Tuesday at which delegates to the national convention will be named.

The fact that Mr. Fort is opposing Gov. H. G. Hoffman is beside the point. Mr. Fort is an insurance man and in politics has always been strongly supported by his many friends in the fraternity who are Republicans and who like the policies advocated by Mr. Fort.

Occupational Disease Rulings

CHICAGO, May 14.—Considerable wonderment prevails regarding the effect of latest adverse ruling by Illinois Supreme Court on two suits for occupational disease compensation appealed respectively from Cook and Lake counties. Lower court decisions denying claims against Libby-Owens-Ford Glass Company and Johns-Manville were affirmed.

Takes New Offices

American Casualty Chicago branch is now in Insurance Center Building in Chicago.

LIKE THE ONE HOSS SHAY

George W. Oyler, for 39 years a trusted employee of the Wrought Iron Range Co., of St. Louis, pleaded guilty to embezzling \$8,074 from his employer, starting in 1934, which was the thirty-seventh year of his employment with that company.

Plan Accident Meeting

CHICAGO, May 14.—Big plans are under way for National Accident and Health Association annual meeting co-jointly with Health and Accident Underwriters Conference at Edgewater Beach Hotel, June 2-3. W. Dwight Mead, Pacific Mutual, Seattle, president of national association, will direct annual election nominations following usual practice. E. H. Ferguson, Great Northern Life, Chicago, executive secretary, will announce detailed program next week, the association officers state.

Lloyds Appoints New Agency

CHICAGO, May 14.—London Lloyds expanded in Chicago with appointment of General Insurance Agency as licensee, bringing total above fifty firms serving the British organization, through Strickland, Luck & Co.

Predicts Rate Cut

CHICAGO, May 14.—Prediction by Gus Bartels, chief investigator of the automobile detail, state's attorney office, at Cook County Field Club meeting, was that another automobile theft rate reduction by companies operating here would come by June 30.

E. B. Finnegan Dies

CHICAGO, May 14.—Edward B. Finnegan, Glens Falls special, formerly Slipner & Finnegan, managers Metropolitan Casualty, is dead.

INSURANCE EXECUTIVES

In filling vacancies or making additions to your staff.

We Recommend for Your Consideration—

Our staff of attorneys, underwriters, claim adjusters, investigators, accountants, bookkeepers, stenographers, clerks and other skilled casualty and surety workers.

Curtailment of Liquidation Bureau, New York State Insurance Department, makes available services of many experienced employees.

MAX A. JAMESON
CHIEF OF BUREAU
111 JOHN STREET
NEW YORK CITY
BEEKMAN 3-5110

LOUIS H. PINK
Superintendent of Insurance