

THE PENNSYLVANIA OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE ACT

Several of the more important as well as more descriptive portions of the act are here presented in an effort to acquaint the public with its general provisions.

THE present Act was approved by Governor Arthur H. James, on June 21, 1939, and amended June 12, 1941.

It applies to disabilities and deaths caused by occupational disease as defined in the act, resulting from employment within this Commonwealth, irrespective of the place where the contract of hiring was made, renewed, or extended, however, it does not apply to any such disabilities and deaths resulting from employment outside of the Commonwealth.

The term "occupational disease," as used in this act, means only the following diseases:

- (a) Poisoning by arsenic, lead, mercury, or manganese, their preparations or compounds, in any occupation involving direct contact with, handling thereof, or exposure thereto.
- (b) Poisoning by phosphorous, its preparations or compounds, in any occupation involving direct contact with, handling thereof, or exposure thereto.
- (c) Poisoning by methanol, carbon bisulphide, hydro carbon distillates (naphthas and others), or halogenated hydro carbons, or any preparations containing these chemicals or any of them, in any occupation involving direct contact with, handling thereof, or exposure thereto.
- (d) Poisoning by benzol, or by nitro, amido, or amino derivatives of benzol (dinitro-benzol, anilin, and others), or their preparations or compounds, in any occupation involving direct contact with, handling thereof, or exposure thereto.
- (e) Caisson disease (compressed air illness) resulting from engaging in any occupation carried on in compressed air.
- (f) Radium poisoning or disability, due to radio-active properties of substances or to Roentgen-ray (X-rays) in any occupation involving direct contact with, handling thereof, or exposure thereto.
- (g) Poisoning by, or ulceration from, chromic acid, or bichromate of ammonium bichromate of potassium, or bichromate of sodium, or their preparations, in any occupation involving direct contact with, handling thereof, or exposure thereto.
- (h) Epitheliomatous cancer or ulceration due to tar, pitch, bitumen, mineral oil, or paraffin, or any compound, product or residue of any of those substances, in any occupation involving direct contact with, handling thereof, or exposure thereto.