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ADMINISTRATION OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAWS AS THEY RELATE TO THE PNEUMOCONIOSES

Moderator: Theodore C. Waters

Panel Members: James L. Hill
William L. Connolly
B. E. Keu[illegible]le
Earle T. Andrews
Lloyd E. Hamlin, M. D.

SUMMARY

Workmen's Compensation Sessions

Theodore C. Waters

CONCLUSION OF THE SYMPOSIUM

Summary of the Medical Sessions and Remarks

Arthur J. Vorwald, M. D.

(2:30 to 5:30 P. M. - Sept.26, 1952)

BY MR. WATERS:

Gentlemen, will the gentlemen in the back part of the room kindly come forward and be seated. I have two announcements to make. Doctor Vorwald has requested me to announce that Doctor Alvin A. Rush will be driving to Michigan by way of Watertown and Rochester. He has available room to take care of two passengers and will be very glad to take two passengers with him. Doctor Rush, I believe is in the audience and if anyone would be interested in that invitation, please speak to him promptly.

LAW OFFICES
MULLIKIN, STOCKBRIDGE & WATERS
10 LIGHT STREET
BALTIMORE 2

TELEPHONE
LEXINGTON 8880

SON E. MULLIKIN
S. STOCKBRIDGE
ODORE C. WATERS
S J. MC GRATH, JR.
N S. HEBB, III

ODORE C. WATERS, JR.

October 1, 1952

Dr. Arthur J. Vorwald, Director
The Trudeau Foundation and
The Saranac Laboratory
P. O. Box 551
Saranac Lake, New York

Re: Saranac Symposium - Legal Sessions
Thursday Afternoon and Friday Morning

Dear Art:

I believe that all the participants in the program left copies of their papers as presented with the stenotypist. I gave to her a copy of my remarks on the subject of "Concepts of Disability Under Workmen's Compensation Statutes" and have in my possession a copy of the papers of [illegible] and Mr. Goldbeltz. I do not have a copy of the papers presented by [illegible], Mr. Forbes, Mr. Semple, Dr. [illegible] and Mr. [illegible]. If for any reason you need copies of any of these papers, I would suggest that you write directly to the participants in the program or I will do so at your request.

This will dispatch my responsibility in connection with the Thursday and Friday sessions; but if I can be of any further assistance to you, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Theodore C. Waters

TCW:BH

Do not have copy
W.S.

Do not have paper
W.S.

Commission's Library of Work mentioned for

SON E. MULLIKIN
S B. STOCKBRIDGE
DORE C. WATERS
S J. McGRA JR.
S. HOBB, II

DORE C. WATERS, JR.

LAW OFFICES
MULLIKIN, STOCKBRIDGE & WATERS
10 LIGHT STREET
BALTIMORE 2

TELEPHONE
LEXINGTON 5850

October 1, 1952

Dr. Arthur J. Vorwald, Director
The Trudeau Foundation and
The Saranac Laboratory
P. O. Box 551
Saranac Lake, New York

Re: Saranac Symposium
Panel on Workmen's Compensation

Dear Art:

At the time of the conduct of the Panel on Workmen's Compensation, I believe that each participant handed to the stenotypist a copy of his remarks. I have a copy in my own files; and if the stenotypist does not have them, I would be glad to send those copies on for her use.

For her additional assistance, I am enclosing herewith copy of my introductory remarks at the Symposium.

You will recall that Mr. Andrews was not able to be present and Commissioner Otto Wisely of Utah substituted.

With respect to the question and answer period, I would like very much to have the opportunity of editing that discussion so that no errors may be made with respect to the remarks of the participants.

Sincerely yours,

Theodore C. Waters

TCW:BH

Enclosure

Stenotypist's note

The second announcement is that, due to airplane schedules this afternoon, we must conclude the afternoon session by 4:30. I'm very sorry to have to tell you that, but several or two of the participants in the panel have reservations on that plane and I understand that several of the members in the audience are in a similar situation.

Well, we come now to what I believe is and should be one of the most interesting sessions of the Symposium, dealing with the panel upon the subject of the Administration of Workmen's Compensation Laws. This panel deals with the laws primarily as they relate to the compensation for the pneumoconioses.

The parties in interest subject to that administration, are four, the employee, the employer, the insurance carrier and the public. Industrial workers have their primary contact with the administration of American jurisprudence before our various compensation commissions, and the successful administration of these laws is a matter of concern to all of the four parties whom I have just identified.

One of the speakers this morning referred to the fact that more claims came before our compensation commissions than any combination of claims or suits that come before our law courts, so I think that that statement is very significant, and may I say just a word with respect to our procedure this afternoon.

I shall introduce each participant in the panel and he will make a brief statement as to his point of view in the administration of the law. This will be followed by the presentation of prepared questions to the participants in the panel. We feel that that will better enable them to develop their subject and their discussion to your interest. Following the prepared questions, the audience will be invited to direct questions to the panel and to participate in the discussion. No one has been told what to say and what not to say. This is an open forum. It is your meeting as members in attendance at this Symposium.

Even though we may disagree, and I happen to know that among these five gentlemen sitting up here, there is substantial disagreement with respect to various features of the administrations of the law, we still expect the individual opinions so expressed, and we hope that the discussions presented will lead to an open and frank discussion of the various phases of the subject.

May I ask those in the audience who desire to present questions, to do so in a form as simple and direct as is possible. Bear in mind that this subject today is subject particularly to limitations of time. It is hoped that when these questions are directed to the panel, not one but several of the members will participate and join in their answers, but limitations as to time require that not more than two minutes be given to those answers, and your

cooperation in that respect will be deeply appreciated.

The first speaker upon the program has served with distinction as a member of the Workmen's Compensation Commission of the State of Michigan for many years, and in that capacity, he has served a distinct public office in the administration of his job. Compensation laws are complex. We lawyers happen to make them so, both as they relate to the letter of the law and its interpretation, and they have presented peculiar problems to those who are charged with their administration.

The State of Michigan, with its vast industry, has experienced all of those problems that we have been discussing here during the course of this symposium. James L. Hill became Legal Advisor to the Commission in 1936. Therefore, you recognize the length and the importance of his service. Since that time, he has been serving as one of its members. He is also a past president of the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions and brings to us a wealth of experience, not only in the formulation of legislation, but in the administration of the laws. It is my pleasure to introduce to you, Commissioner Hill.

BY COMMISSIONER HILL:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: It's an honor and a privilege to be here. I'm grateful for the opportunity