

Paul W. Houck Chairman

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BOARD

The Workmen's Compensation Board is a quasijudicial body within the Department of Labor and Industry, whose primary function is to hear claims and appeals in disputed cases arising under the Workmen's Compensation Law.

The Board consists of three members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for terms of four years, the terms of office, however, continuing until a successor is appointed. One of the mem-

bers is designated by the Governor as Chairman of the Board. The Secretary of Labor and Industry is ex-officio a member.

The Board is assisted in its work by referees located in designated districts throughout the Commonwealth. The referees are likewise appointed by the Governor for terms of four years or until their successor is appointed and their appointments are confirmed by the Senate. The number of referees is determined by the Governor and the Secretary of Labor and Industry. There are at present thirteen ref-

erees, two each in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and one each in Pottsville, Lancaster, Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport, Altoona, DuBois, Kane and Greensburg.

The Board and referees comprise a distinct departmental administrative body under the Administrative Code, and perform their respective duties independently of the Secretary of Labor and Industry or any other official of the Department, except that all clerical, stenographic and other assistance required by the Board and referees is appointed by the Secretary of Labor and Industry.



John L. Morrison Board Member

METHOD OF PROCEDURE

All proceedings are instituted by petition or appeal directed to the Workmen's Compensation Board. Claims for compensation are assigned by the Board to a referee in the district in which the case arises, for hearing and determination. From the decision of the referee an appeal may be taken, within ten days after notice of the referee's decision, to the Board; and from the Board, within ten days after notice of the Board's decision, to the Common Pleas Court; and there-



Joseph E. Fleitz Board Member

after to the Superior Court, within thirty days after entry of judgment. The judgment of the Superior Court is final unless an appeal therefrom is allowed as in the case of other judgments of that tribunal.

In addition to original claims for compensation, all compensation agreements are subject to proceedings by petition for review, modification, termination, suspension, or reinstatement. These petitions are assigned to referees in the first instance from whose decisions appeals may be taken to the Board and to the courts as heretofore indicated.

When an appeal is taken to the Board, the referee