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Compensation Facts

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NEWS NOTES

Frederick E. Wadhams, for twenty-four years treasurer of the American Bar Association, died at his home in Albany, New York, last month.

The South Dakota Association considered the matters of bar incorporation and establishment of a judicial council, but deferred action at its recent annual meeting.

Attorney Fred J. Traynor of Devils Lake presented the subject of Bar Incorporation to the Montana state meeting in July, as a result of which a resolution favoring such incorporation was passed.

Cleveland offers, as another variation from the usual defense of indigent prisoners plan, the following substitute for the Public Defender; appointment by the President of the Bar Association, with approval of the Executive Committee, "of a list of twenty-five high-minded, conscientious and capable trial attorneys willing to accept assignment for the defense of indigent prisoners, and that the courts be requested to make all assignments from this list."

The Kansas City Star, noting the wide discussion among bar associations concerning the simplification of laws and legal procedure, remarks editorially: "From the standpoint of results, the details of such discussions are of great importance, but from the standpoint of general encouragement the fact of such discussion is most striking for the moment. For this is an instance of the concentration of thought and effort given to a more expeditious and effective process for our courts. Progress necessarily will be slow, as all legal reform is, but progress surely must come from so much thought and purpose."

COMPENSATION FACTS

There appears to be much of misunderstanding among attorneys as well as laymen concerning the provisions of the North Dakota Workmen's Compensation law as compared with other states. This is particularly true with respect to the matter of compensation benefits. The following facts are, therefore, presented in the hope that they will be read and remembered:

1

The maximum payments that may be and have been awarded to the dependents of a workmen killed in the course of employment are:

Ohio	\$ 6,500.00
Minnesota	7,500.00
South Dakota	3,000.00
Montana	5,000.00
North Dakota	30,000.00 plus

2

The maximum award in case of injury causing permanent total disability is as follows:

Ohio	\$ 3,750.00
Minnesota	10,000.00
South Dakota	3,000.00
Montana	5,000.00
North Dakota	30,000.00 plus

3

Under the North Dakota law there is no limit, either as to time or amount, for which medical and hospital care is to be provided, and there are a number of cases on record in which this item has run considerably over \$3,000.00. Minnesota while not limiting the amount that may be paid, provides that medical and hospital care shall be supplied for a period of not exceeding 90 days in ordinary cases. South Dakota provides such care for a period of 12 weeks, and fixes the maximum amount at \$150.00. Montana provides for 2 weeks, with a maximum of \$100.00.

4

The schedule for specific injuries shows the following maximum awards that may be and have been made in the respective states:

	Ohio	Minn.	Mont.	S. D.	N. D.
Loss of One Eye	\$1,875.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,600.00
Loss of Arm at					
Shoulder	3,750.00	4,000.00	2,500.00	3,000.00	6,240.00
Loss of Hand.....	2,812.50	3,500.00	1,875.00	2,250.00	5,200.00
Loss of Thumb	1,125.00	1,200.00	375.00	750.00	1,200.00
Loss of Index Finger	656.25	700.00	250.00	525.00	780.00
Loss of Foot	2,343.75	3,000.00	1,562.50	1,875.00	3,640.00

A pertinent question that may be asked, following this review of facts, is: How long can North Dakota continue to maintain its maximum benefits so far above other states and keep premium rates within reason?

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The new executive committee of the Bar Association consists of the following officers and appointive members:

- President, W. A. McIntyre, Grand Forks
- Vice-President, Aubrey Lawrence, Fargo
- Secretary, R. E. Wenzel, Bismarck
- 1st District, V. R. Lovell, Fargo
- 2nd District, Horace Bagley, Towner
- 3rd District, W. H. Hutchinson, LaMoure
- 4th District, Aloys Wartner, Harvey
- 5th District, O. B. Herigstad, Minot
- 6th District, W. H. Stutsman, Mandan.