

Bill No. 89 of 1948.

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR COMPENSATION TO BLIND
WORKMEN FOR INJURIES SUSTAINED AND
INDUSTRIAL DISEASES CONTRACTED IN
THE COURSE OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT

NOTE.

The purpose of this Bill is to encourage the employment of blind workmen in certain occupations without the Accident Fund maintained by the Workmen's Compensation Board being fully liable for all the compensation which may become payable as the result of accidents. The Canadian National Institute for the Blind is to determine the nature of the work that a blind workman may do and the proper placement of the workman. When the compensation, etc., payable to the blind workman as the result of the accident exceeds fifty dollars, the excess will, in the ordinary case, be paid or refunded to the Accident Fund out of General Revenue. In cases where by arrangement the employers themselves pay the compensation to their workmen, the said excess is paid out of revenue to the employer.

W. S. GRAY,
Legislative Counsel.

(This note does not form any part of the Bill but is offered in explanation of its provisions.)

BILL

No. 89 of 1948.

An Act to Provide for Compensation to Blind Workmen for
Injuries Sustained and Industrial Diseases Contracted
in the Course of Their Employment.

(Assented to _____, 1948.)

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of
the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta,
enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Blind Workmen's Compensation Act*".

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (a) "Blind workman" means a workman as defined by *The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1948*, possessing a central visual acuity of his better eye reading 6-60 or 20-200 or less, either with or without glasses;
- (b) "Board" means the Workmen's Compensation Board;
- (c) "Department" means the Department of the Provincial Treasurer;
- (d) "Employer" means an employer as defined by *The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1948*, who has in his employ a blind workman;
- (e) "Full cost of compensation" means and includes compensation, burial expenses, the cost of furnishing medical aid and all other amounts payable under or by virtue of *The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1948*, by reason of a blind workman meeting with an accident for which he would be entitled to compensation under the said Act, and includes the capitalized sum or present value of the sum required as determined by the Board to provide for future payments of compensation to the workman or his dependants;
- (f) "Institute" means the Canadian National Institute for the Blind with head office situated in the City of Toronto.

3. Where the full cost of compensation exceeds fifty dollars, the Department shall in the case of industries coming under Schedule 1 of *The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1948*, (except those industries in which the employers

are individually liable to pay the compensation), pay the excess of the full cost of compensation over and above fifty dollars to the Board by way of reimbursement to the Accident Fund as defined by the said Act; and in the case of industries in which the employers are individually liable to pay compensation, pay the same to the employer, such payment or payments to be made out of the General Revenue Fund upon receiving from the Board a certificate of the full cost of compensation, which certificate may be accepted by the Department without further proof.

4. In making any award to a blind workman for injury by accident under *The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1948*, the Board may have regard to any previous awards made to him for injury under the said Act.

5. The assessment on an employer to be levied by the Board on the wages of a blind workman may be fixed by the Board at such an amount as may be deemed fair, having regard to the provisions of *The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1948*.

6.—(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2), the Institute shall have exclusive jurisdiction as to the nature of the work a blind workman shall do and as to the proper placement of such workman.

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Board, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may designate any other organization or institution to exercise the powers and perform the duties assigned to the Institute under this Act, and thereupon this Act shall be read as though the name of the other organization or institution was substituted for the Institute.

7. Officers of the Institute shall have access at all reasonable times to the place of employment of a blind workman with the knowledge and consent of the superintendent, foreman, or person in charge.

8. The Institute shall provide the Board, upon request, with all such certificates or other material as may be required by the Board in the fulfilment of its duties.

9. This Act shall come into force on the day upon which it is assented to.

FIFTH SESSION
TENTH LEGISLATURE
12 GEORGE VI
1948

BILL

An Act to Provide for Compensation
to Blind Workmen for Injuries
Sustained and Industrial Diseases
Contracted in the Course of Their
Employment.

Received and read the

First time.....

Second time

Third time.....

HON. MR. MAYNARD.
