



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Division of Industrial Accidents*

*18 Tremont Street, Boston 8*

WHEN REPLYING  
PLEASE QUOTE I.A.B.  
FILE NO.  
ATTENTION OF:

November 12, 1952

Retyped on July 26, 1955 with  
designation Division instead of  
Department.

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 81

TO: ALL INSURERS, SELF-INSURERS, AND TO ALL PUBLIC UNITS SUBJECT  
TO GENERAL LAWS (TER. ED.) CHAPTER 152, SECTIONS 60 TO 75  
INCLUSIVE.

The Board has reviewed those cases which have involved the payment of compensation for disfigurement under Section 36 (h) of the Workmen's Compensation Act for the loss by amputation of a hand, or finger, or parts of fingers; with the purpose in view of setting up a schedule therefor, and thereby providing for the more prompt and uniform payment of such compensation.

The Board is of the opinion that proper and equitable compensation for such disfigurements should be paid in accordance with the schedule published herewith. This schedule shall apply to either hand.

It will be noted that when disfigurement involves more than one finger that the compensation payable therefor is greater than the added compensation for each individual finger, it being considered that a combination of amputations of fingers, or parts thereof, constitutes a greater degree of disfigurement. Combinations not covered by the schedule shall be listed for determination by the Board, or a Member thereof, as heretofore, unless parties agree as to the amount payable.

Where the loss is the distal joint, or a combination of the distal joints, the amount payable shall equal 50 per cent of that payable for the entire finger, or their combinations; and where the loss involves two joints the amount payable shall equal 90 per cent of the amount payable for the loss of the finger, or the combinations of the fingers involved; except that in the case of the loss of the distal joint of the thumb, the amount paid shall be 13 weeks at \$20.00.

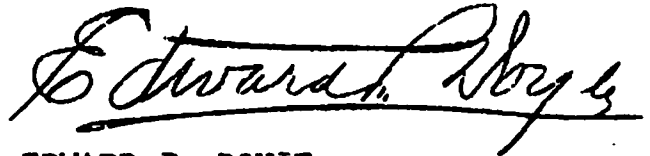
Insurers, self-insurers, and others having obligations of insurers, in cases involving such disfigurements to the hand or its fingers, shall forthwith review all cases now pending for

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hearing; and those in which such disfigurement compensation has not been paid, and execute agreement for the payment of such compensation, in accordance with the schedule herewith published in the same manner and form as other agreements to compensation, and file two copies thereof with the Board. Copies of all medical reports not already submitted to the Division shall be filed in all such cases.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Edward P. Doyle". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

EDWARD P. DOYLE,  
Secretary

Retyped by BMI

SCALE OF PAYMENTS FOR DISMEMBERMENT  
FOR THE AMPUTATION OF A HAND, OR ITS FINGERS  
OR PARTS THEREOF

The numerals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, shall designate respectively the following:

- 1 - Thumb
- 2 - Second or Index
- 3 - Third or Middle
- 4 - Fourth or Ring
- 5 - Fifth or Little

1	HAND					<u>NO. OF</u> <u>WEEKS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>AMOUNT</u>
						85	\$1700
	Fingers and Combinations						
2	1	2	3	4	5	85	1700
3	1	2	3	4		75	1500
4	1	2	3		5	71	1420
5	1	2		4	5	71	1420
6	1		3	4	5	71	1420
7	1	2	3			59	1180
8	1	2		4		59	1180
9	1	2			5	55	1100
10	1		3	4		59	1180
11	1		3		5	57	1140
12	1			4	5	57	1140
13	1	2				44	880
14	1		3			44	880
15	1			4		44	880
16	1				5	40	800
17	1					20	400
18	1	(Distal)				13	260
19		2	3	4	5	75	1500
20		2	3	4		60	1200
21		2	3		5	55	1100
22		2		4	5	55	1100
23		2	3			37	740
24		2		4		37	740
25		2			5	35	700
26		2				16	320
27			3	4	5	55	1100
28			3	4		39	780
29			3		5	34	680
30			3			16	320
31				4	5	32	640
32				4		16	320
33					5	12	240