January 13, 1956 (OPINION)

ELECTRICIANS

RE: Licenses - Wiring by Owner of Building Open to Public

This is in reply to your letter of January 10, 1956, requesting an opinion of this office in regard to whether a person, who does not hold a North Dakota electrical wiring license may install electric wiring for lights, heat, or power in buildings which he owns, which are open to the public for gatherings or occupancy, such as, for example, motels or merchandising stores.

The statutory requirements for electrical wiring licenses are embodied in sections 43-0909 and 43-0920 of the North Dakota Revised Code of 1943 as amended to date by chapter 282 of the 1955 Session Laws. The pertinent parts of these statutes are as follows:

"Section 43-0909. LICENSE REQUIRED; EXAMINATION; BOARD TO ISSUE LICENSE.) Every person, partnership, company, corporation, or association that undertakes or offers to undertake with another to plan, lay out, supervise, install, make additions, make alternations or make repairs, in the installation of wiring, apparatus, or equipment for electric light, heat, or power, shall apply to the board for a license.*

"Section 43-0920. CONTRACT FOR INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICAL WIRING AND INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT MADE WITH MASTER ELECTRICIAN.) No contract, agreement, or undertaking with another for the installation of electrical wiring or the installation of electrical parts of other apparatus shall be entered into by anyone not a master electrician. * * *"

You will note that both statutory provisions refer to undertakings "With another". It is, therefore, our conclusion that where one undertakes installation upon his own premises, in buildings which he owns, even though such premises and buildings may be open to the public, such as, for example, motels or general merchandising stores, he is not by the above statutory provisions required to hold a North Dakota electrical wiring license.

LESLIE R. BURGUM

Attorney General