

**OPINION  
51-132**

August 17, 1951           (OPINION)

PLUMBING

RE: License of Plumbers Employed by Railroad

Your letter of August 17, 1951, to the Attorney General has been received.

In this letter you ask the opinion of this office whether plumbers employed by the Great Northern Railway in the State of North Dakota are subject to the provisions of the North Dakota Plumbing Code.

You state that said plumbers do not work in railroad roundhouses or on engines owned and operated by the railroad company. The work performed by these plumbers in question is done all over the railroad line and consists of connecting the keeping in repair plumbing in depots, section houses, etc., and in some instances depots include living quarters for depot agents. The work performed by these plumbers is of the same nature as that which is done by other plumbers; that is, in general, connecting of the buildings noted above to city water and sewer systems owned and operated by cities and municipalities.

One purpose of the Plumbing Code is to insure and protect the public health. It was enacted under the police power of the state and along the same line municipalities have ordinances regulating the profession of plumbing.

By reason of the fact that the health and safety of the citizens of the State of North Dakota are involved, it is our opinion that anyone performing the work outlined in your letter is bound by the provisions of the Plumbing Code.

ELMO T. CHRISTIANSON

Attorney General