1856 OPINIONS

It is a cardinal rule of law in this state that where a statute is plain and unambiguous there is no room for judicial interpretation. It, therefore, is not a question as to what is a just procedure between the two political subdivisions, in view of the facts, but rather the only question is as to what the Legislature said, and, as hereinbefore pointed out, it has expressly stated that the county from which an inmate is committed shall bear the expense of the patient under the circumstances you mention.

In specific answer to your inquiry, it is my opinion that where a child is committed to the Fairmount Children's Home in Stark County and later committed by the Juvenile Court of said county to the state institution for the feeble-minded, by the express terms of Section 1815-12, General Code, the county of Stark is liable for the support of said child, notwithstanding said child was committed to said home from Columbiana County.

Respectfully,
GILBERT BETTMAN,
Attorney General.

2721.

APPROVAL, LEASE TO RESERVOIR LAND AT INDIAN LAKE FOR COTTAGE SITE AND DOCK LANDING PURPOSES—JOHN N. STEPHENSON

COLUMBUS, OHIO, December 26, 1930.

HON. PERRY L. GREEN, Director, Department of Agriculture, Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Sir:—This is to acknowledge the receipt of a recent communication from your department, submitting for my examination and approval, a certain reservoir land lease in triplicate, which has been executed by the State of Ohio, through the Conservation Commissioner, by the terms of which there is leased and demised to one John N. Stephenson, of Russell's Point, a certain parcel of state reservoir land at Indian Lake, for a term of fifteen years.

Said parcel of land, which is thereby leased for cottage site, docklanding and business purposes, is situated in the east half of Section 36, Town 6, South, Range 8, East, Logan County, Ohio, and is more particularly described as follows:

"Commencing at a point in the westerly shore line of Orchard Island Road that is 390 feet northerly from the northerly abutment of the Orchard Island Bridge as measured along the westerly shore line of said road; thence westerly at right angles, 40 feet to the true place of beginning; thence continuing westerly on the same line, 100 feet to a point; thence northerly parallel to said roadway, 300 feet, to a point; thence easterly at right angles, 140 feet, to said westerly water line of Orchard Island Road; thence southerly along the said westerly water line of said road, 40 feet to a point; thence westerly at right angles, 40 feet to a point; thence southerly parallel to the said Orchard Island Road, 260 feet, to the place of beginning and containing 31,600 square feet, more or less."

By said lease there is also granted to the lessee therein named, the right to construct a driveway across the channel between the Orchard Island Road and the above described property and there is also granted to said lessee the privilege of conducting any legitimate business in connection with said boat landing that may be approved by the Commissioner of the Division of Conservation.

Upon consideration of the terms and provisions of said lease, which calls for an annual rental of \$50.00, in semi-annual installments of \$25.00 each during the term of said lease, I find that said lease has been properly executed, and that the provisions thereof are in conformity with the terms of Section 471, General Code, and with those of other statutes relating to leases of this kind. Said lease is accordingly hereby approved by me with respect to its execution, legality and form, as is evidenced by my approval endorsed upon said lease and upon the duplicate and triplicate copies thereof, all of which are herewith returned.

Respectfully,
GILBERT BETTMAN,
Attorney General.

2722.

DEPENDENT CHILDREN—FATHER LIVING BUT MOTHER DECEASED— LEGAL SETTLEMENT ATTAINED AFTER TWELVE MONTHS' RES-IDENCE WITH GRANDPARENTS, EVEN THOUGH FATHER RE-SIDES IN ANOTHER COUNTY.

SYLLABUS:

Children whose mother is dead, and who have lived with their grandparents in a given county for a period of twelve months without relief, have a legal settlement in such county, notwithstanding their father resides in another county.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, December 26, 1930.

Burcau of Inspection and Supervision of Public Offices, Columbus, Ohio.

Gentlemen:—This will acknowledge receipt of your recent communication, which reads as follows:

"In a case where children are left with their grandparents in one county, their mother being deceased and their father having removed to another county, and the grandparents are no longer able to support the children, may temporary or partial relief be granted by the trustees of the township in which the grandparents reside or would the township or municipality of the other county in which the father resides be liable for such relief."

Section 3477, General Code, defines legal settlement, which is one of the basic elements which must exist to authorize poor relief, as follows:

"Each person shall be considered to have obtained a legal settlement in any county in this state in which he or she has continuously resided and supported himself or herself for twelve consecutive months, without relief under the provisions of law for the relief of the poor, or relief from any charitable organization or other benevolent association which investigates and keeps a record of facts relating to persons who receive or apply for relief."

It is a fundamental principle of law in this state that the domicile of the father is the domicile of the infant and remains such while the father lives, unless, of course, the guardianship is divested by reason of a statutory proceeding or otherwise. In case the father dies, then the mother becomes the natural guardian, and in