

arose as to the authority of the city council of the City of Cleveland to disburse funds of the municipality by a contribution to the support and maintenance of a so-called "Conference of Ohio Municipalities." The city council passed a resolution providing for the payment of the sum of one hundred dollars to one George Hoffman, secretary of the "Conference of Ohio Municipalities" as dues from the city of Cleveland for membership in that association for a portion of the year 1924. In connection therewith the court said:

"It must be conceded that there is no express provision of the charter of the city of Cleveland relative to the contribution from the treasury of the city to a fund made up of contributions of various municipalities for the purposes enumerated in the constitution of the 'Conference of Ohio Municipalities' and no general provision from which authority may be inferred to expend the funds of the city to assist in creating and maintaining an organization with offices and officers entirely separate from those of the city selected by representatives of various municipalities of the state with salaries and expenses also fixed by them."

The suit was an original action in mandamus, wherein the court was asked to grant a writ of mandamus ordering the Director of Finance of the city of Cleveland to draw a voucher for the amount which the council of the city had authorized to be paid for the purpose mentioned. The writ was denied.

Sometime ago there was submitted for my consideration the question of whether or not a charter city might legally expend its funds for services and periodicals of an organization known as a "Conference of Ohio Municipalities" in the absence of a specific charter provision. In response to which question there was rendered Opinion No. 109 under date of February 21, 1929, in which it was held that a charter city could not legally expend its funds for services and periodicals of an association known as a "Conference of Ohio Municipalities" in the absence of specific charter provision, following the holding in the *Semple* case, *supra*.

Although, as I said before, I do not have before me the exact type of organization and the purposes of the Bureau of Public Personnel Administration of Washington, D. C., or the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada, or the National Municipal League of New York City, my information with respect to the said institutions is that they are very analogous, both in organization and purpose, to the "Conference of Ohio Municipalities" and I therefore feel that the decision of the Supreme Court in the *Semple* case is controlling.

Respectfully,

GILBERT BETTMAN,  
*Attorney General.*

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1454.

APPROVAL, NOTES OF STOKES TOWNSHIP RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, MADISON COUNTY—\$50,000.00.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, January 27, 1930.

*Retirement Board, State Teachers Retirement System, Columbus, Ohio.*