

3326.

## SOLDIERS' RELIEF COMMITTEE—TOWNSHIP AND WARD—UNAUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE COMPENSATION FOR THEIR SERVICES.

## SYLLABUS:

*No authority exists whereby the members of a township or ward soldiers' relief committee may be compensated for their services.*

COLUMBUS, OHIO, June 15, 1931.

HON. ALVIN F. WEICHEL, *Prosecuting Attorney, Sandusky, Ohio.*

DEAR SIR:—Your recent request for my opinion reads as follows:

“In regard to Section 2934 of the General Code of Ohio, can the Soldiers' Relief Commission employ the committee named in Section 2934 on a remunerative basis to secure such list of ex-service men in their respective wards and townships?”

Section 2934, General Code, reads as follows:

“Each township and ward soldiers relief committee, shall receive all applications for relief under these provisions, from applicants residing in such township or ward, examine carefully into the case of each applicant and on the first Monday in May in each year make a list of all indigent soldiers, sailors and marines, and of their indigent parents, wives, widows and minor children, including widows of soldiers, sailors and marines who have remarried, but again have become indigent widows, who reside in such township or ward, and including the soldiers, sailors and marines of the Spanish-American war, or of the world war, and their wives, widows, indigent parents, minor children and wards, who have been bona fide residents of the state one year, and of the county six months, next prior to such first Monday in May, and who, in the opinion of such relief committee, requires aid, and are entitled to relief under these provisions.”

This section was formerly Revised Statutes 3107-51.

In an opinion found in Volume V of Opinions of the Attorney General for 1900-1904, p. 27, the then Attorney General, in construing R. S. 3107-51, after reviewing several authorities, held that “the commissioners have no right to allow these several ‘Soldiers’ Relief Committees’ any compensation for their services nor even pay them for money expended by them in the performance of their duties.”

While this section was subsequently amended in 94 O. L., 158, 107 O. L., 26, 108 O. L., Pt. 1, p. 633, and 113 O. L., 466, no change has been made in this section or in relative sections which might authorize the payment of compensation to township or ward soldiers' relief committees.

In view of the foregoing, I believe that the holding of the opinion above referred to is still in force and effect.

Respectfully,

GILBERT BETTMAN,

*Attorney General.*