4709.

APPROVAL, BONDS OF CITY OF IRONTON, LAWRENCE COUNTY, OHIO—\$16,353.26.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, October 27, 1932.

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

4710.

MEMBER—TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES — PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING INTO CONTRACT TO FURNISH GROCERIES UPON ORDER OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES.

SYLLABUS:

A member of a board of township trustees furnishing groceries upon order of the board of township trustees and receiving compensation therefor from such board, is subject to the provisions of Sections 12910 and 12912, General Code, which prohibit a member of a board of township trustees from being interested in a contract or profits of a contract for the purchase of property or supplies for such township.

Columbus, Ohio, October 28, 1932.

HON. CHARLES S. LEASURE, Prosecuting Attorney, Zanesville, Ohio. DEAR SIR:—Your recent request for my opinion reads:

"Your opinion upon the following set of facts is requested for the reason that the same proposition has arisen several times in this county and it involves the proper handling of public funds.

One B. is the owner of a general store in Harrison Township, Muskingum County. He also holds the office of township trustee in the township. The trustees in handling poor relief, issue what has been termed script or orders upon grocers and other merchants for merchandise.

I should like to know whether or not the board of trustees can issue orders to needy persons for provisions upon this store which is operated by Mr. B. In my search of the Code I do not find anything directly against such. There are certain penal sections in which a township officer can have no interest in contracts or jobs of work. My inquiry is whether or not these orders to the poor for provisions come within these sections of law and are a violation of them and if there is any section of the civil code which prohibits the same."

Section 3476, General Code, provides that the trustees of each township shall afford at the expense of such township public support or relief to all persons therein who are in condition requiring the same.

Section 12910, General Code, is as follows: