

1262.

APPROVAL, BONDS OF SELMA RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, CLARK COUNTY—\$12,000.00.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, November 15, 1927.

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

1263.

TAX AND TAXATION—OIL AND GAS LEASES—COUNTY AUDITOR MAY REQUIRE STATEMENT OF AMOUNT OF PRODUCTION TO BE USED IN DETERMINING VALUATION.

SYLLABUS:

1. *Amount of production may be considered by the county auditor, in connection with other elements of value in assessing oil and gas leases for taxation.*
2. *The county auditor may require from the lessees a statement of the amount of production of oil and gas wells, to be used by him as an element in determining valuation; upon refusal to furnish said information the county auditor may obtain the same otherwise, by the means provided by law.*

COLUMBUS, OHIO, November 15, 1927.

The Tax Commission of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

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

“Enclosed we send you:

Copies of three leases under which The Cambridge Glass Company, as assignee and lessee, operates certain gas wells on the lands of Clinton L. Brill situated in Guernsey County and on lands of Alice M. Brown in the same county.

Copies of returns made by said lessee to the auditor of said county on a form of tax report prepared and prescribed by this commission.

Copy of letter of said lessee company to the auditor of said county refusing to complete said returns or furnish any further information.

Feeling as he does that failure at this juncture would result in his being unable to get returns from other operating companies, the auditor has appealed to the tax commission for assistance and guidance in the matter. On its part the commission wants to make no mistake and therefore it asks you to examine the whole method of taxing gas wells in Ohio to see if the same is in accordance with law.