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OPINIONS

3888

APPROVAL, REFUNDING BONDS, YORK TOWNSHIP RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, UNION COUNTY, \$10,000.

Columbus, Ohio, January 6, 1923.

Department of Industrial Relations, Industrial Commission of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

3889.

DEAF, BLIND AND CRIPPLED CHILDREN—HOW INSTRUCTED—HOUSE BILL NO. 200 (109 O. L. 257) CONSTRUED.

- 1. The director of education has power and authority under H. B. 200 (109 O. L., 257) to specify standards for the conduct of classes for the deaf, blind and crippled, which standards may include the services of visiting teachers who shall investigate and advise upon the home conditions of pupils for members of these classes, or children who they think should enter such classes. As to whether such visiting teachers should be employed for this service by local boards of education and then claim reimbursement for such expenditure from state funds, lies within the discretion of the superintendent of public instruction in charge of the administration of this act.
- 2. If the superintendent of public instruction decides after careful investigation that an office and clerical service is required in a school district where special day classes for the blind are operated he has authority to approve such expenditures under the head of "Current Operating Cost" since, under the provisions of section 7757 G. C., the superintendent of public instruction shall be the final authority in deciding all questions relative to what constitutes current operating cost of schools for the deaf, blind and crippled.
- 3. Inasmuch as the director of education is the final authority in deciding all questions relative to what constitutes special appliances and current operating cost (section 7757 G. C.,) it is his duty and he has authority to require that all items of expenditure under these headings shall be submitted to him for his approval before the expense is incurred, in order that the appropriation made by the General Assembly for any given year shall not be exceeded, and that such appropriation made by the General Assembly from the public funds shall have a proper check placed upon it.
- 4. The duty of examining into the correctness and propriety for state reimbursement for items of cost arising under the special act providing for the education of deaf, blind and crippled (H. B. 200) properly devolves upon the director