

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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March 29, 1948

To I. A. Trueworthy, Chairman, State Park Commission

I received your letter of March 22nd, which clarifies the contents of the form letter which was drafted in the Park Commission office and sent to you for signature.

You state that Mr. Doyle brought up the question as to whether the Park Commission members individually or as a body could be held responsible for injuries received through accidents on Park property.

You are not individually liable for personal injuries received through accidents on the Park properties; and of course the State cannot be sued. Any person who claims negligence on the part of State officials would be obliged to appeal to the legislature through a Resolve, which would be referred to the committee on claims.

I agree with you that you were wise in not permitting the installation of rifle ranges at the Parks, as often accidents occur on the National Guard Ranges where civilians are injured and come to the legislature for redress. This happened a few years ago on the Auburn National Guard range, when stray bullets struck some civilians who were in back of the range on civilian property.

Ralph W. Farris
Attorney General

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