

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Senate Document

No. 137

S. P. 268

In Senate, February 6, 1929.

Referred to Committee on Claims and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Nickerson of Waldo.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE

RESOLVE, in Favor of Emmerson J. Hills and Alice S. Hills
of Belmont for Damages.

Resolved: That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of five thousand dollars, and the same be paid to Em-
3 merson J. Hills and Alice S. Hills, sole heirs-at-law of
4 Vinal E. Hills, deceased, all of Belmont, as full settlement
5 for damages for the death of the said Vinal E. Hills, whose
6 death was the result of an accident caused by a moose, a
7 wild animal protected by the laws of the State of Maine.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On August 13, A. D. 1927, Vinal E. Hills, an unmarried son of Emmerson J. Hills and Alice S. Hills, was engaged with his two brothers and also with Carl A. Towers, in harvesting hay in a field belonging to William Fenwick in Lincolnville, Waldo county, Maine. Vinal E. Hills had been pitching hay onto the load and was just in the act of getting up onto the load of hay and had just taken hold of the top rail of the rack with his hands and his feet were clear of the ground, when a bull moose emerged from the woods a short distance from where they were working. The moose bellowed and the horses, a pair of horses weighing twenty-eight hundred pounds, were suddenly and extremely frightened and jumped and started to run. One of the other boys hung on to the reins and stopped the horses as soon as he could, but they ran some five hundred feet or thereabouts into a section of the field full of rough ground and cradle knolls and just before they were stopped, Vinal was thrown violently from the rack onto the ground. Attempting to roll from in front of the rear wheel, he rolled under the rack and the end of a bolt which protruded through the reach or stretcher connecting the two axles, was driven into his back in the region of the kidneys. As quickly as the horses could be controlled and the wagon removed from over him, he was placed upon some hay, assistance was summoned, and he was rushed to the Bradbury Memorial hospital in Belfast. This was on August 13, 1927.

At the hospital he was given every care and attention and on August 22nd he was operated on by Dr. Eugene D. Tapley of Belfast. He lived until September 24, 1927, a month and eleven days after the injury.

His father, Emmerson J. Hills, is 65 years old, and his mother, Alice S. Hills, is 55 years old and she is an invalid. The family is extremely poor; they own no property but have a life lease of a small place in Belmont, worth about \$400.

Vinal E. Hills was twenty-seven years old when he was injured, had always lived at home and was the main-stay and support of the family.