

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - E I G H T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 403

H. P. 949

House of Representatives, February 9, 1937.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Dennison of East Machias.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-SEVEN

RESOLVE, in Favor of George A. Johnson, of East Machias.

George A. Johnson; compensated. Resolved: That there be, and hereby is, appropriated the sum of \$15,000 to be paid to George A. Johnson, a minor, of East Machias, to compensate him for permanent injuries received by a truck owned by the state of Maine.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

George Alfred Johnson, aged 6½ years, was on May 24, 1933 seriously and permanently injured by a truck belonging to the state of Maine. On account of this accident, this boy has been confined to hospitals as follows: Machias hospital, 8 months, 10 days; Chipman hospital, 9 days, and Peter Bent Bridgman, 5 trips—4 months, 12 days; 27 days; 7 days; 1 day; 7 days. He now has to go to Peter Bent Bridgman where the operations were performed, once in 3 months.

Very serious and complicated operations have been performed and today this little boy is left an invalid requiring constant care from someone for life.

This case has never been settled; the insurance company about 8 months from date of accident offered a settlement of \$2200, which at that time would have paid the actual bills and allowed about \$450 for care of boy for life. On account of the seriousness of this accident and the then delicate condition of the boy, the parents could not accept. To date the expenses alone caused by this accident have been in the neighborhood of \$5000.

The insurance company now offers a settlement of \$3200 which, of course, is entirely inadequate. This family, consisting of the mother, father, little boy and little girl, when this great tragedy came to wreck their home forever, were comfortably situated, owning a small farm, a gravel bank that brought them returns yearly and a separate 75 acre piece of woodland. Today, the creditors have taken everything including their home and reduced this family so that Mr. Johnson is working on a government relief project at \$44 a month.