

# Jurors Return Civil Verdict For \$35,000

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A Negro boy who was seriously burned in a freak accident in 1960 was awarded \$35,000 damages late last night by a Mobile Circuit Court jury following a five-day trial.

The award, believed the largest ever made to a Negro in an Alabama damage suit, was in a \$200,000 suit filed for young Joseph P. Guy against Alabama Power Co., Johnny Gulley and Mrs. Gladys Pertrantis.

An additional \$5,000 award was made to the youth's father, Criss Guy, for medical expenses.

The suit stemmed from an accident Oct. 8, 1960, in which autos driven by Gulley and Mrs. Pertrantis collided at Washington Avenue and Elmira Street, resulting in a power line snapping nearby.

The 2,400-volt line fell on young Guy, who was playing and caused permanent injuries.

The verdict was against Gulley, who allegedly ran a stop sign, and Alabama Power Co., charged with being neglectful in providing proper protective equipment to de-energize high-voltage lines on contact with the ground.

There was no verdict against Mrs. Pertrantis, represented by attorney Walter M. Cook.

The Guys were represented by attorneys Robert T. Cunningham and Richard Bounds in the suit before Judge Joseph M. Hocklander.

Alabama Power Co. was represented by attorneys Thomas E. Twitty Sr. and Robert Collins while Gulley's attorney was Alex T. Howard.