

stall, Stoke-on-Treat, was given 14 days in which to pay the fine. Inspector H. Winn, prosecuting on behalf of the British Transport, said that on the defendant's own admission he left his own ship on August 7 at Rotterdam. He then went by train to the Hook of Holland and boarded the British Railway vessel ss Duke of York.

On reaching Parkeston Quay, Witham went on to the boat deck but remained there until all the passengers had disembarked.

**ALLOWED TO GO**  
He then left the ship. As he was leaving the gangway of the vessel he was questioned by a railway official, but as he did not produce a landing card was thought to be a member of the ship's crew and was allowed to go.

Witham was later seen by Sgt. Birch of the Railway Police, and asked where he was going. Witham said he was looking for somewhere to get a cup of tea. "Sergeant Birch was not satisfied with this reply," said the inspector, "and he was taken to the police office for further questioning."

Asked if he had travelled over on the day boat earlier that same morning, Witham replied, "Yes." He admitted having not paid the fare. "He was then taken to the police station and subsequently charged," said the inspector.

On oath Witham told the magistrates, "I wanted to get my leg seen to, I have varicose veins. I have had a terrible amount of pain with it."

**tree man gets  
probation**

by Mistle magistrates on Wednesday.

Chief Inspector W. E. Docker said that a Mrs. J. E. Larter was pushing her baby in a pram on the path by the river at Lawford when she saw a man approaching on a bicycle about 200 yards away.

When he was about 100 yards away he jumped off his bicycle and went into some near-by bushes. As Mrs. Larter passed she glanced at the bushes, as the man had not come out of them.

She saw Bird committing the offence. She felt very frightened, so she picked up her baby and ran to a near-by cinema, where the manager telephoned the police.

When seen by the police and cautioned, Bird had said, "Yes; I know. There must be something wrong with me." He admitted committing a similar offence before.

In a statement he said he was very sorry for what he had done and wanted some help with his trouble.

In 1950 he had been placed on probation for a similar offence, when he had responded to hospital treatment.

Called by Mr. C. Cox for the defence, Bird's fiancée, Miss Jane Fisher, of The Firs, Wrabness, said she had been engaged to Bird for 3½ years and they intended to marry soon, despite his trouble.

Bird was placed on two years' probation, with the condition that he underwent medical treatment. He was ordered to pay 4s. costs. The Chairman of the Bench, Miss K. Daniels, told him, "You are engaged to a fine young woman. Stick to her, and don't let her down."

**EVADED CUSTOMS  
DUTY, FINED £40**

Harwich Magistrates on Tuesday fined Deryck Clive Eason, of 1, Gordon-road, Manor Park, London, £20 on a charge of evading Customs duty on a camera, and a further £10 on a combined charge with Douglas Geoffrey Wallis, of the Royal Queen's Lancers, of Bovington Camp, Wareham, Dorset, of evading duty on a further camera. Wallis was also fined £10 on the joint charge.

Both men pleaded guilty.

**STRAYING COWS  
COST HIM 10s.**

John Wetherspoon McNair, of Bragmarsh Farm, Bradfield, was summoned at Mistle Court on Wednesday for allowing eight cows to stray on the Harwich-road at Bradfield. The summons was served under the Highway Act of 1864 under which a fine of 5s. per cow—maximum 30s.—may be imposed. McNair was fined 10s.

**ROVER** THE '60'  
A 2 litre 4-cyl. model with exceptionally low running costs.

**HAMMOND** TELEPHONE 11

**MOTORS LTD**

FRINTON-ON-SEA

**'ACCIDENTAL DEATH'  
VERDICT ON  
ARMY OFFICERS**

**FROM PAGE ONE**

and was walking with his wife by the Cliff-road Cafe a motor-cycle carrying two persons came up the hill. It was accelerating rather rapidly through the gears and travelling of its offside of the road.

"They were making a shrieking sound as they swerved into us," said witness, "but I was unable to get the number. It was a silvery coloured Triumph twin travelling at about 30 to 40 miles an hour."

Witness said the riders "appeared to be rather happy," and he took it they were showing off. They were on the offside of the centre of the road and were whooping.

**SPEEDOMETER JAMMED**

P.c. Davies, of Harwich, said that at 10.45 p.m. on the day of the accident he was on duty about 50 yards to the Harwich side of the traffic lights. He saw a motor cycle come out of Kingsway, go through the traffic lights apparently jumping the red lights, and go off towards Colchester on its offside of the road. The machine had a silvery tank.

Later he went to the scene of an accident which had occurred 80 yards to the Harwich side of the Parkeston road junction. On arrival he found that two men had been removed to the hospital, and lying on its side on the footpath was a motor cycle which appeared to be similar to the one he had seen earlier. The front of the machine—forks, handlebars, etc.—was extensively damaged, and the speedometer had jammed at 65 miles an hour.

Four feet from the motor cycle, and close in to the offside kerb was a large pool of blood. The fence of 248 Main-road was damaged, and in the gateway was another large pool of blood.

**BLOOD SPLASHES**

Standing in the road on its nearside, facing in the direction of Harwich, was an Austin taxi, its nearside wheels three feet from the kerb, its front extensively damaged, and the front near-side wheel pushed right back under the nearside front door.

There were blood splashes on the top of the nearside front door.

There was glass and debris over about 100 feet of the road.

Pathologist at Essex County Hospital, Colchester, Dr. Nicholas, said he carried out post mortem examinations on the two men on July 21.

In the case of Captain MacDonald there were multiple fractures of the face and jaws, and congestion of the brain and lungs. The cause of death was rupture of the aorta and fracture of the skull. Lieutenant Caws had a compound fracture of the scapular, congestion of the lungs and cerebral contusions, but there was no injury to the skull.

Adjutant of Headquarters Movement Control, Captain William John Jones, said he was acquainted with the two men who were both instructors. He last saw Captain MacDonald alive at 6.30 on the evening of the accident, and Lieutenant Caws shortly afterwards at the officers' mess. At 11.30 p.m. he came to the hospital and identified them.

Lieutenant Caws was an experienced motor cyclist, and used to ride the machine when he went swimming. This was the first occasion that he had known Captain MacDonald to ride on it, said witness.

John Richard Dean, a labourer of Berkshire, who had been spending a training period at the

Transit Camp, said he and two friends were near the entrance to the Hospital when the motor cycle passed them on the wrong side of the road, going in the same direction as themselves, at about 30 to 35 miles an hour.

He saw the approaching side lights of another vehicle, which was also going at about 30 miles an hour, and they seemed to meet head on. There was no change of position on the road by the motor cycle, and the riders seemed to be thrown through the air over the taxi.

The collision occurred about 40 yards from them. One man was lying in the road, one was in the hedge, and the machine was lying in the gutter.

**HEARD A CRASH**

John Davis, a student, of 12, The Close, Dovercourt, said he was walking towards Ramsey on the offside footpath. He saw the taxi and thought it was moving at about 40 miles an hour. It was in the middle of the road as it came past the top of Parkeston-road, then it came into its left hand side as it continued on.

He did not see the motor cycle until he heard the crash, then he saw it lying in the road. He went to the man lying on the road and then went to the hospital for help.

Mrs. Peggy Southgate, of 18, Shaftsbury-avenue, said the taxi overtook her as she was cycling down the road. It was going fast but not exceeding fast. She was following the taxi when she saw a terrific light in front of the bonnet and saw the motor cycle flying through the air.

A body came down quite close to me," said the witness, "and debris and glass, and I think a number plate came down near me."

**LABORATORIES' REPORT**

P.c. Leonard Rookyard said that the police laboratories report showed that Captain MacDonald had received a consumption of alcohol to the equivalent of six pints of beer, or ten fluid ounces of spirits, and Caws had received 4½ pints of beer or seven fluid ounces of spirits.

Driver of the taxi, George Frederick Rice, of 14 Laurel-avenue, said he was coming from the Transit Camp, and was travelling with his side lights on at about 30 miles an hour. He passed the top of Parkeston-road and saw a single light coming towards him on his (witness) offside. There, it was approximately near the Royal Hotel.

"The motor bike shot right across the road from its offside to my nearside," said the witness. "When I saw it coming towards me my nearside wheels were approximately four feet from the kerb at the wide part of the road."

Witness said the crash was "all over in a flash." He took his foot off the accelerator but the next thing he knew was that the windscreen had smashed, the engine was racing and he could not see where he was going. He put out his clutch and braked, but the accelerator had jammed so he switched the engine off.

**JURY'S SYMPATHY**

He got out of the taxi and went back and saw the bodies of two men. There was no other traffic on the road. The motor cycle was about 200 feet from him when it came across at him. "I continued in the same line," he said.

After deciding on their verdict, the jury expressed sympathy to the relatives through their foreman, and the Deputy Coroner, Mr. Sutton, and Mr. Cutting endorsed the remarks of sympathy.