

COWBRIDGE CRASH HORROR

Fight for hours to free trapped driver

Runaway lorry's trail of havoc

POLICE, firemen and ambulancemen fought for hours today to free the occupant of a car crushed by a steel-carrying lorry in Cowbridge.

The crash, described by one police spokesman as "the worst I have ever seen," horrified motorists and pedestrians on their way to work.

Missed engine by a few yards

A Llanelly steel erector drove over a level crossing, missing a moving locomotive by only a few yards. Cardiff magistrates were told they fined David R. Morgan, of Gwelfor Road, Llanelly, £10 and ordered him to pay £3 3s costs for driving without due care and attention.

Police constable Leslie Coombes said Morgan had a previous conviction in 1954 for driving without due care. Mr. C. J. Geidard, prosecuting, said Morgan drove across the level crossing in East Moors Road, Cardiff, in front of a moving locomotive which missed him by only a few yards.

Morgan, who denied the offence, said he thought he had plenty of time to drive over the crossing safely. He said the locomotive was at least nine to 10 yards away.

WEATHER OUTLOOK
Mostly dry with variable cloud, but slight drizzle in places this afternoon. Sunny intervals. Wind south-westerly light or moderate. Temperatures near normal.

LIGHT-UP (CARDIFF)
8.05 p.m. to 6.14 a.m.
Sun sets 7.35 p.m., rises 6.44 a.m.

LATE TIP FROM THE COURSE:
SARAPE (Newbury, 3.30)

The lorry, travelling from the direction of Cardiff, over-ran the car near the traffic lights. It was over two hours before rescue workers were able to uncover the crushed vehicle.

The lorry left a trail of damage behind it. It overturned another car, hit a wall, brought down one telegraph pole and left another leaning at a crazy angle.

Women warned to move away

Special winching equipment and several recovery vehicles were required to move the load of steel coils before the lorry could be raised off the wrecked vehicle.

A police spokesman said: "At the moment we just don't know how many people are in the car. It is in a terrible mess."

As police began winching the lorry away to uncover the car they appealed over loudspeakers for sightseers, particularly women, to move away.

Later it was revealed that the car, a Ford Consul, was carrying one man, who was dead.

The lorry is owned by A. M. Walker and Co. Ltd., of Cosby, Leicestershire. The driver was unhurt.

The occupants of the car which was overturned, were a Barry local government officer, Mr. Ken Thomas and his

teenage daughter, whom he was taking to school. Both scrambled out unhurt.

Mrs. Alice Jones, of Eastgate Street, Cowbridge, said "The car overturned right in front of my door. I had them in for a cup of tea. They seemed to take it very well indeed."

Mrs. Thomas, who works at the post office in Cowbridge, heard of the accident and rushed to the scene to find her husband and daughter safe.

Mr. Thomas said: "I know I'm lucky to be alive. I was coming from Pontyclun and the car which was struck was travelling behind me, we turned into the main street and then I heard this bang behind me."

Mr. Thomas was taking his daughter, Heather, to the bus stop at Cowbridge, where she catches a bus to Porthcawl Convent School.

Three-mile queue of traffic

"I have the impression that the lorry, after hitting the car behind me, struck my car on the side and turned us over into the gutter on the outside of the road. Heather and I just scrambled out through the doors on our hands and knees."

"Neither of us is hurt, we've just got a few scratches each." Mr. Thomas lives at Lilac Cottage, Trehermyll.

Because of the crash traffic piled up along the roads from Cowbridge to Cardiff and to Bridgend. On the Cardiff side, the queue extended nearly three miles as police officers hurriedly organised a diversion around the back streets.

As police had their hands full with the accident civilians helped in directing traffic.

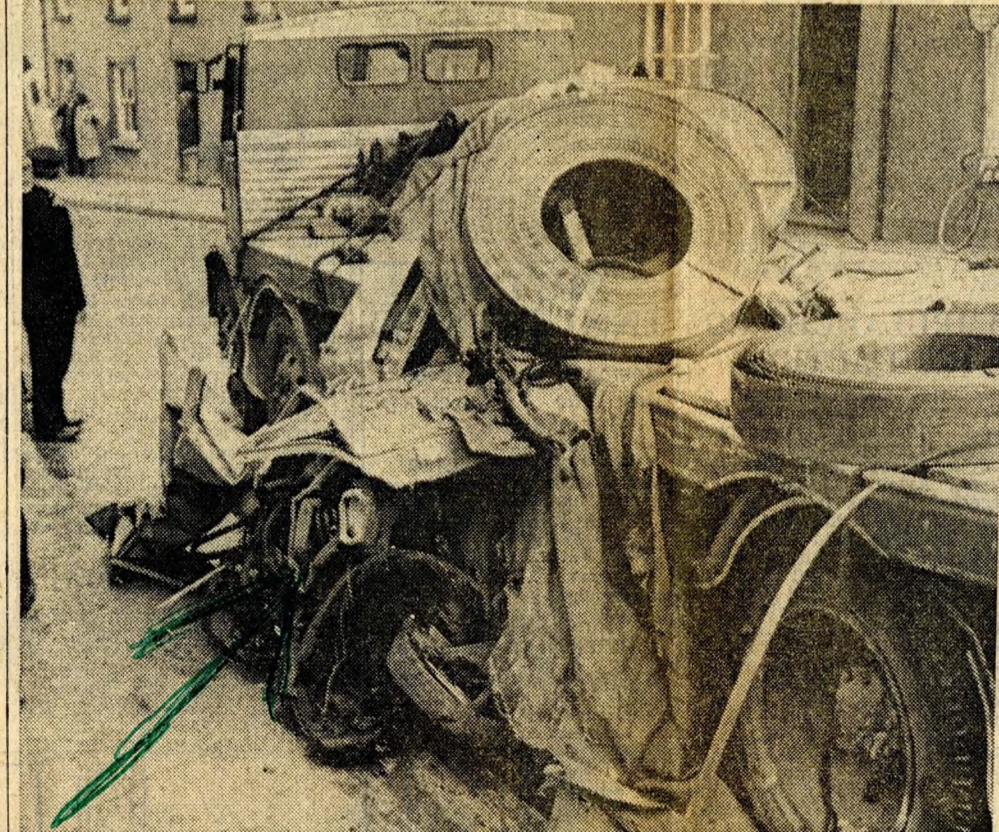
The lorry-driver, whose name has not yet been released, was taken to a nearby house.

ST. MARY STREET CRASH

A car was extensively damaged early today when in collision with another in St. Mary Street, Cardiff. The drivers, Mr. M. Williams, of Treforest House, Treflaw, Rhondda, and Mr. Spiro Grima, of Brunswick Street, Canton, were unhurt. Mr. Grima's car was slightly damaged.



● The overturned car from which Mr. Ken Thomas and his daughter escaped.



● The mangled remains of the car lying underneath the lorry.

● The scene of devastation in Cowbridge today. In the foreground is the smashed wall and telegraph pole. On the right is the overturned car and in the background a rescue vehicle is attempting to raise the lorry from a wrecked car lying underneath so that the trapped occupant can be released.

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'ALL-OVER' WARNING
Northern Ireland is to have an "all-over" air raid warning system in which it will be possible to send a warning within seconds throughout the entire network in the province.

TARGET TOPPED
Somerset is the first county in the United Kingdom to pass its target for the Freedom From Hunger Campaign, having already exceeded its target of £260,000 by £768.

MORE DOCTORS
Washington, Friday. — The U.S. Senate has passed a 236,400,000 dollar bill (about \$34,420,000) Medical Education Bill for training more doctors and dentists. — Reuter.

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