

MIDNIGHT ROAD CRASH TWO DEAD **Motor-cyclists Run Off Road**

A distressing motor-cycling accident, involving four young people and resulting in the death of two of them and injuries to the other two, occurred shortly after midnight on the Ryde-Newport main road near the Ryde Golf Club on Saturday. A coincidental feature of the tragedy was that a sister, who had gone to the dance on her brother's machine, decided to give up her pillion seat to a girl friend and return by 'bus.

Those who lost their lives were 17-year old Miss **Mabel LEE**, of 14 Daniel-Street, Ryde, and Mr. **Cecil Arthur DYER** (23), of 18 Bedworth Place, Ryde.

It appears that Mr. DYER was returning from the dance on his motor-cycle with Miss LEE as his pillion passenger, and it is understood that the machine ran off the road into a ditch. Two other men, Roy ARNOLD, of 126 High-Street, Ryde, and Leslie ALLEN, of Salter's-Road, Haylands, Ryde, travelling on a motor-cycle close behind Mr. DYER, also ran off the road and both received injuries of the less serious nature.

Inquest Opened

The Island Coroner, Mr. R.E.A. WEBSTER, formerly opened an inquest on the victims at the Royal I.W. County Hospital on Monday. After taking evidence of identification and medical evidence, he adjourned the inquiry until 2.30.p.m next Monday at Ryde Town Hall.

George Worrell LEE, a Ryde Council inspector, of 14 Daniel-St., Ryde, father of the dead girl, said his daughter was the youngest of five children. At 6.50 p.m. on Saturday he saw his daughter leave home to go to a dance at Brambles Chine. She was then in good health and spirits. He understood that at the end of the dance she handed over her ticket to Mr. DYER'S sister, Miss Brenda DYER because she said her legs felt cold and returned from Freshwater on the motor-cycle. He knew nothing of the tragedy until Sunday morning.

Arthur William DYER, motor driver, of 18 Bedworth Place, Ryde, said the dead youth was his eldest son. Witness last saw him about 7.30.p.m. on Saturday when he had played a game of cribbage with some friends. His son then went away with his friends and his two daughters, Jean and Brenda, travelling as pillion riders. Brenda had returned by bus. Deceased was well and healthy. His son had had a motor-cycle just over two years.

Surgeon's Evidence

Dr. Eric Gordon SAYERS, house surgeon at the Royal I.W. County Hospital, said Miss Mabel LEE was admitted at 12.30a.m. on Sunday suffering from injuries due to a motor-cycling accident. She was in a comatose condition, bleeding from the ears and nose indicating a fractured skull. She also had abrasions to both legs and right wrist and was suffering from shock. Her condition was poor and she was put to bed and given plasma transfusions, but she gradually became worse and died, the cause of death being a fractured skull. There were no other major injuries which would contribute to her death other than the fractured skull.

Cecil DYER was admitted at the same time suffering from injuries due to the motor-cycle accident. DYER had severe shock from a fractured femur and skull, and was also bleeding from the nose and ears. There were also multiple abrasions on the face, neck and abdomen. He was also given a blood transfusion, but his condition became worse and he died at 10.30.a.m. on Sunday, the cause of death being due to shock from loss of blood and multiple injuries.

It was stated that the other two injured men had now been discharged from hospital, one of them being at work on Monday. The other man had a slight cut on the side of the nose.
