

ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 19th October 1939

RYDE MAN KILLED WHILE CYCLING

A police car was involved in a fatal accident which resulted in the death of **Henry John MERTZ**, a Swiss cook, of 2 Lower Wood-street, Oakfield, Ryde, on Monday. The accident occurred on the main road to Newport, near the Race-course.

MERTZ, who was employed as a cook by Mr. VINE, of Castle-street, Cowes, was cycling to work. The collision occurred at the junction of the East Cowes road and the main road. He was apparently about to cross the road to enter the side-road at the time. He was flung from his machine and landed upon his head, sustaining severe injuries to the skull. Death was almost instantaneous.

The police car was being driven by Police Constable PEAGRAM, of Newport, and it is understood that a high police official was a passenger on his way to Ryde. Later in the morning Police Constable PEAGRAM travelled on to Ryde and gave evidence against motorists in two cases of exceeding the speed limit.

MERTZ was 47.

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