

CLAIM FOR £1,000

Sequel to Collision

A man who said that both his shoulders were disabled permanently as the result of his being struck by a motor-car claimed £1,000 damages from the driver of the car before Judge Wasley and a special jury of four in the County Court yesterday. The action was remitted from the Supreme Court.

The plaintiff was Victor Morris Letman, labourer, of Wallace street, West Brunswick, and the defendant Arnold Pounds Obank, of Soudan street, Coburg. Mr. H. A. Winneke (instructed by Messrs. Green, Dobson, and Middleton) appeared for Letman, and Mr. J. V. Barry and Mr. W. M. Irvine (instructed by Messrs. Mills and Oakley) for Obank.

Mr. Winneke said that about 11 a.m. on January 18 Letman, who was aged 50 years, rode his bicycle along Gray street, West Brunswick. He turned to the left into Brunswick road, and rode as near to the gutter as possible. When he had gone about 13 yards from the corner he was struck suddenly in the back by a motor-car driven by Obank. Witnesses would say that there was no other traffic on the road at the time, and that Obank travelled at a fast pace.

Mr. Winneke said that Letman's injuries consisted of a fractured right shoulder, a dislocated left shoulder, concussion, a lacerated scalp, crushed ribs, bruises, abrasions, and shock. Both his shoulders were permanently disabled. He could no longer wear braces, and found it difficult to put his coat on without help. He had been employed by the Brunswick City Council on pick and shovel work. Until the end of July, when the council gave him light jobs, he was unable to do any work at all.

Obank formally denied negligence, and

Obank formally denied negligence, and alleged that Letman had been guilty of contributory negligence.

Mr. Barry said that Obank drove along Brunswick road at a reasonable speed. As he crossed the opening into Gray street Letman rode out on his bicycle. The side of his bicycle struck Obank's car. Letman was not run down from the rear, as suggested.

The hearing will be continued to-day.
