

Death Was Accidental

Richard Robert Piercy opened the door of his utility truck to see a man falling from the mudguard and another man lying behind.

The man who fell from the mudguard (George Alexander McNicol), was injured. He told an acting-coroner today that his memory was hazy as to what occurred.

He did not remember anything after leaving a hotel with Frans Oscar Fredrikson, the man seen lying behind the truck.

The inquest was on Fredrikson, a 62-year-old dredge hand.

A finding of accidental death was returned in the Fremantle Court-house.

Fredrikson died on December 10 from a fractured skull and lacerations of the brain received when he was knocked down by a utility truck on Canning-highway, East Fremantle, on the night of December 7.

“No Lights on Bicycle”

"No Lights on Bicycle"

Piercy told the acting-Coroner that about 8.30 p.m. on December 7 he was driving along Canning-highway.

When near the Plympton Hotel, he looked into the rear-vision glass to see what traffic was behind. His wife called a warning and he felt a bump.

On opening the door he saw George Alexander McNicol fall from the mudguard.

About 25 feet further back he saw Fredrikson lying on the road, near a bicycle, on which there were no lights.

[Mr. W. F. Samson, J.P., was acting Coroner. Mr. M. F. Cahill (instructed by Dwyer, Durack and Dunphy) represented Fredrikson's relative and Mr. John Garvey (instructed by Hardwick, Slattery and Gibson) appeared for Piercy. Sergeant Chesher examined the witnesses].