

POLICE COURT

NEWCASTLE

(BEFORE MR. C. G. CARR-BOYD, S.M.)

REMANDED TO BELMONT.—Elwyn Ross Fernance, 33, bus driver, was charged with having, in Ocean-street, Dudley, on January 1, driven a motor-bus while under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

The Magistrate remanded Fernance to appear at Belmont Police Court on January 15. Bail in £20 was allowed.

Mr. W. G. Cannington appeared for Fernance.

NO EVIDENCE.—"We have no evidence to offer," said the Police Prosecutor (Sergeant Wallace) in the case in which William George Burns, 41, lorry-driver, was charged with having at Carrington on or about October 1, 1946, stolen a topcoat of the value of £18, the property of Lorna Saleh. The matter was struck out.

'STUPID ACT.'—"It was a very stupid act, without any reason," said the Police Prosecutor, referring to a case in which William Alexander Bird, 36, labourer, was charged with having at Newcastle on December 24 used a motor-van without the consent of the owner.

Constable Dunipace said that Bird drove the vehicle a short distance along Hunter-street on Christmas Eve.

Questioned regarding his action, Bird said he did not know why he had done such a thing. He had never done anything like that before.

Bird, who Sergeant Wallace said was a licensed driver, was fined £5.

BEGGED ALMS.—Cornelius Delaney, 44, painter, was sentenced to a month's gaol for having begged alms in Hunter-street on Tuesday.

GOODS IN CUSTODY.—William Perry, 59, labourer, was charged with having at Newcastle on Tuesday had a gallon and a half of paint in his custody which might reasonably be suspected of having been stolen or unlawfully obtained.

There was a similar charge against Walter Pankhurst, 62, labourer, about

etectives have been to my place. I stole those pigs."

Mr. Cragg said Hinks had never been in trouble before. All the pigs had been recovered, and there was no loss to anyone. He was a married man with a child.

SUMMONS DIVISION.

SQUIRTED CUSTOMERS.—"He picked up a soda siphon and squirted it in the cafe, wetting some of the customers' clothes," said the Police Prosecutor (Constable E. G. King) when Percy Neil Bull, was charged with having behaved offensively in the Victory Cafe, Toronto, on December 14.

Constable King said Bull was favourably known to the police. It was his first lapse.

Bull said he had had a few drinks, and acting on an impulse picked up the siphon to squirt his mate.

"You want to be your age," said the Magistrate. He fined Bull 10/, with 8/ costs.

INFORMATION DISMISSED.—"The only thing I am sure about in this case is that a fight occurred," said the Magistrate when he dismissed the information in a case in which Neils William Magnusson, of Thomas-street, Cardiff, charged a neighbour, Christopher John Thomas Williams, with having unlawfully assaulted him on December 14, and with having used threatening words.

Williams also charged Magnusson with unlawful assault.

Mr. H. L. O'Neill appeared for Magnusson, and Mr. J. K. Williams for Williams.

Magnusson said Williams threw stones at his pups, which were playing in a vacant allotment, and said: "They are a nuisance, like you are. You had two dogs poisoned, and you'll have 42—you with them."

Magnusson said that just as he asked his wife if she had heard what Williams said, Williams hit him across the head with a sugar bag containing an object. As he stepped through his front gate, Williams hit him again with the bag. They grappled and fell on the footpath.

Margaret Magnusson said her husband was struck by a sugar bag "with something pretty heavy in it." In the melee, Williams bit a piece from her husband's nose. After they had been separated her husband did not rush out

husband's nose. After they had been separated her husband did not rush out again. He was not a fighting man.

Williams said he was talking to his sister, Mrs. Preston, next door to Magnusson's house, when Magnusson called out. He went over to him, and Magnusson said: "I think you have been destroying my dogs." He denied this, and Magnusson rushed out of his yard, struck him on the chest, and the next thing he knew he was on the ground with Magnusson on top.

He was carrying a bag with potatoes in it. When Magnusson was pulled off him he stood up. Magnusson then came at him again and by a "trick ju-jitsu hold" threw him down again.

Oswald Preston said he saw Magnusson hit Williams. When Magnusson's wife was helping to separate the men she said to her husband, "Get off him, you dirty stinking old thing, you are always causing trouble."
