

BUS DRIVER GUILTY OF DRIVING DANGEROUSLY

THE driver of the No. 222 bus which was in collision with a trolleybus that careered into the window of Suters Stores, Uxbridge High-street, on August 27, was convicted at Uxbridge on Tuesday, on summonses of dangerous driving and of failing to stop his bus on the direction of a police officer. The driver was William Brewster, of Silverdale-gardens, Hayes.

He was fined £10 for dangerous driving, £5 for failing to stop at the direction of the point duty officer, and ordered to pay £6 3s costs. He had his licence endorsed and was suspended for a year.

Mr. Maurice Holmes, for the prosecution, said that at 8.15 a.m. a police officer on duty in the Uxbridge High-street gave the sign for traffic coming up Windsor-street to stop and gave the driver of a trolleybus the right of way.

The 222 bus drew out slightly and, disregarding the point duty man's signal, emerged into the High-street at the moment the trolleybus was passing.

There was a collision and the trolleybus careered across the road into the shop front of Suters' Stores.

NOT RELIEVING

Asked by Mr. H. Newman, for the defendant, if the accident happened while he was relieving another officer, P.C. King said "No." He had relieved an officer at 8 a.m. and this accident occurred at 8.15.

Mr. H. Newman: There is no doubt you were seen beckoning on the 222 bus. I have witnesses who will say so. Can you give any explanation as to why they say you beckoned the 222 bus on?—None at all. I was in the position of a stop signal to the 222.

So, it was not you who made the mistake?—No.

Trolleybus driver L. V. Butcher, of Fulham, said he received the signal to continue across the top of Windsor-street. When the collision occurred the impact "slew" his bus across the road, and as he applied his brakes it hit the kerb and the steering wheel was knocked out of his hand. "By that time I was in the shop window," he concluded.

Mr. R. E. Hutchings, Walford-road, Uxbridge, said: "As I drove up Windsor-street behind the 222 bus, I saw the policeman facing me stopping traffic from Windsor-street into the High-street.

"The bus, however, carried on by moving into the High-street and there was the collision with the trolleybus."

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Newman asked permission of the Justices for a five minutes' adjournment so that he could have a chat with his client. This was in view of the strength of the evidence

against him, particularly that of Mr. Hutchings.

This was granted and when the court resumed, Mr. Newman said his client accepted the evidence that the signal was against him. Unfortunately at the time he had the impression the signal was in his favour, and the reason for that impression was that an old lady stepped off the Market step to cross the top of Windsor-street, and then stepped back again.

Mr. Newman intimated that if the Justices decided there was not sufficient evidence to justify a summons for dangerous driving, he would advise his client to take a certain course. In this there had been no evidence of malicious intent to drive dangerously.

After a brief retirement, the chairman (Mr. R. W. Gunton) announced that the Bench considered there was a case of dangerous driving to answer.

8 YEARS' SERVICE

Brewster said he had been a London Transport driver for eight years, and since the accident had left that employment.

It was his intention to drive the bus left into the High-street and he had the impression the point duty officer was signalling him on because of the lady who moved to cross the street from the Market House and then stepped back. He was in second gear, and went round the corner at about five miles an hour.

Mr. W. E. Lewis, Pinkwell-avenue, Hayes, who saw the accident from his bookstall in the High-street opposite the top of Windsor-street, said the trolleybus came down the High-street "at the fastest speed I have ever seen." The 222 bus was coming round the corner of Windsor-street very slowly indeed. The policemen were relieving one another, one at the Market House, and one had been left standing at the Market House. He did not see any signal for the trolleybus to go through.

Mr. Newman commented that all the elements of dangerous driving were missing here.

GIRL TOLD: 'MAKE YOUR OWN DECISIONS'

THE advice which Dr. F. Consitt, chairman of the Association of Teachers, gave to the girls of Swakeleys School at their annual prizegiving on Thursday was, "Be yourself, be friendly and live in hope."

"Every time you have a decision to make, make it yourself and take the way you feel to be the right one."

Dr. Consitt stressed that in this century of the common man, we have to be careful to recognise the uncommon man. The answer to all war and evil is in universal friendship and fellowship throughout the world, she said, and we can all go far with meekness and goodwill.

The chairman was Mr. J. Miles, and Mr. F. C. Sabin (N.W. Middlesex Divisional Education Officer) was also present.

PRIZEWINNERS

Prizewinners were: V.C. service—Olive Hind-Fletcher; V.C. Progress—Sheila Turton and Joy Lovell; V.N. service—Nina Curtis; V.N. progress—Ann Clarke; IV.PI class prize—Pamela James; IV.Cr. Class prize—Winnie Knight; IV.B progress and English—Valerie Rogers; IV.B. attendance—Eileen Weston; III.O. progress—Brenda Hillier; III.O service—Ann Priestley; III.M. progress—Pamela Rose; III.M. service—Joyce Goodyear; III. E. progress—Joyce Wells; II. C. service—Sandra Paget; II.C. progress—Pauline Wood; II.B. progress—Ann Clifton; II.B. service—Eileen Sullivan; II.U. service—Jean Collins; I.H. progress—Patricia Warbrick; I.H. service—June Doney and Ann Wootton; I.Gr. progress—Jacqueline Ellis; I.Gr. service—Carole Seward and Carole Hall; I.W. Class effort—representative—Brenda Matthews; School journey—Beryl Hawkins and Heather Child; Art—Janet Fransen; Craft—June Ewins; Music—Marion King, Shirley Marsh and Brenda Hillier; life boat institution—Pauline Wood.

MAN ASKS 'WHY SHOULD FINGERPRINTS BE TAKEN?'

AT Uxbridge on Saturday, a man asked why his fingerprints should be taken. "There must be a reason," he said.

The man, Alan Brown (29), labourer, Horton-road, Yiewsley, had appeared on a charge of indecent exposure at Rockingham Road Magistrates' Court