

MOTORDROME MISHAP RACING CYCLIST KILLED SPECTATOR INJURED

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While having a preliminary run on his motorcycle at the Motordrome on Saturday afternoon a well known motor cyclist, who had qualified for the semi-final race for the motorcycle Derby of Australia, was thrown from his machine, and later died as the result of his injuries. A boy who was standing near a dividing fence at the time of the accident was struck by the fence against which the cyclist was thrown. He was forced on to an electric light pole, and received a severe cut on the head. The names of the cyclist and the boy are : -

Killed

GRIGG, CHARLES, aged 23 years, tinsmith, of Maribyrnong Road, Moonee Ponds.

Injured

CASSODY, GEORGE, aged 15 years, builders' labourer of Miller Street, Richmond. - Cut head.

According to eyewitnesses of the accident, Grigg was riding solo on an A.J.S. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hp motorcycle. He had gone on to the track five minutes before the events were timed to begin at 4 o'clock. It's thought he reached more than 70 miles an hour, but while he was riding on the final lap it began to rain. Grigg was in front of the grandstand at the time and, knowing of the great danger of riding any machine on the track during or after rainfall, he shut off his engine. It was at this stage that the accident happened. It was estimated that at the time of shutting off his engine Grigg was travelling at 85 miles an hour, high up on the track. He was well on the danger line, about, two-thirds of the way up the track, when, about 100ft past the grandstand, he appeared to skid. His machine wobbled and continued up the track to the overhanging concrete lip. The handle of the machine touched this lip, throwing Grigg over the embankment on to the dividing fence. The machine continued skidding, initially coming to a standstill on the edge of the track about 20 yards from where Grigg had been thrown over the embankment. Striking the fence with great force, Grigg forced a boy who was standing near the fence onto the electric light pole, at the same time breaking the fence down. Five of six ambulance men who were in the vicinity came to assist Grigg, whom it was thought must have been killed instantly. They had great difficulty in running up the steep mid greasy track, (Grigg was found lying near the fence in an unconscious condition. Dr. Hurt, the Motordrome medical officer, attended him, and then ordered his removal to the Homeopathic Hospital, where death occurred an hour afterwards. Cassody, the boy who had been struck by the fence, was attended by Dr. Hurt, und was then allowed to go home.

At the section of the ground where the accident happened, spectators rarely stand. It is near the half-lap mark on the south side of the track. There were nearly 4,000 persons at the Motordrome, but the majority was on the other side of the ground. On the outer side of the dividing fence, a number of persons had gathered, however, mid it is very fortunate that Grigg was thrown on the side of the fence where there were no people. According to Dr. Hunt, Grigg had a compound fracture of the upper left leg, & compound fracture and crushed elbow on the right arm, four ribs fractured, and severe internal injuries, It was thought that one rib had penetrated the lung. Grigg was a tinsmith employed at MacRobertsons' Confectionery Works, Fitzroy, and he lived with his guardian, Mr. C. Jenkins, at Maribyrnong Road, Moonee Ponds.