

Geoffrey William Moore

At Devizes County Petty Sessions on Wednesday Geoffrey William Moore, a young motor engineer living at 8 Kinsleigh Gardens, Bathford, Bath, was summoned for driving a motor cycle without due care on the Devizes-Melksham Road on September 5th. The defendant, who was represented by Mr J H Hore, solicitor, Calne, pleaded not guilty.

It was stated that about 1.40 in the afternoon Mrs Sylvia Ethel Collins, Seend Cleeve, was riding a push bicycle, on the back of which, in a basket, was her baby. She was riding from the direction of Seend railway station on to the Devizes-Melksham Road, and as she was about to enter the main road the defendant came round the bend from the direction of Melksham. It was alleged that he so cut the corner as to pass between the woman and the bank on his wrong side of the road. There was only 3ft between the bicycle and the bank. Mrs Collins said the motor cycle struck her machine, dragging her and her baby off. The baby was only saved from falling on the road by the safety straps which held it in the basket.

Defendant, in evidence, said he had been driving for three years and was never in trouble before. Upon approaching the junction he sounded his horn and came down to third gear. He did not see the woman until he was actually on the corner. He knew he had to do something or he would run into her. As the motor cycle was inclining to the right hand side of the road he let it go in the hope of missing the cyclist. He braked hard, and he ascribed the accident to the fact that his machine skidded. He denied carelessness.

Defendant was fined £1 7s and ordered to pay 13s costs. His license was suspended for a month.

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