

Collided With Cows

Motorist Fined At Chippenham

An early morning collision between a motorcar and a herd of cows, two of which were injured so severely that they had to be slaughtered was described at Chippenham Police Court last. Thursday, when Charles O. Green, Steeple Ashton was fined £1, with £1 2s. 6d costs for driving without reasonable consideration.

Inspector C. W. Perry said that at 8.10am on 31 December, a cowman employed by Mr. C. Windell, of Lower Swinley Farm, Kington Langley, was driving a herd of 25 cows along the Malmesbury Road. The road was icy and a motorcycle and a lorry were following the cows. Defendant came from behind, passed the motorcycle and lorry and collided with one of the cows, which had just slipped down, breaking its spine. The car went on out of control, struck a second cow which was on its offside, breaking its foreleg and then skidded across to its nearside ending up in the ditch, considerably damaged. Both cows had to be slaughtered.

Victor Fishlock, the cowman, said defendant passed him at a fast speed, struck a cow which had just slipped down and carried it ten yards along the road; it then swerved and struck another cow on the grass verge and ended up in the bank.

Mr. J. B. Taylor, who defended, argued that the cause of the accident was down to the awful condition of the road and the conduct of the cows. Immediately defendant applied his brakes, on seeing the cows, his car skidded and went out of control.

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