Tram crowd

By GLEN DOWER

TWO people were killed and 22 injured when a brewery truck ripped the side out of a tram in Clifton Hill early last night.

The dead were: Mr Constantinos De lacouo, 55, carpenter, of McKean St., North Fitzroy, and Mr Gary Jensen John McNamara, 19, bank clerk, of Youngman St., Preston.

The tray of the semi-trailer, loaded with empty 18-gallon kegs, tore into the tram about 6.40 p.m.

About 12 kegs were thrown into the tram and 50 more rolled across the road.

The semi-trailer, owned by Carlton and United Breweries, was travelling along Queen's Pde., towards the city.

The No. 88 tram, bound for East Preston, with about 40 passengers, was just completing a turn from Smith St. into Queen's Pde.

Mrs June Hargreaves, of Preston, said she was sitting in the front section of the tram and looked up to see the truck.

"I screamed — and then there was a terrible crash and I was thrown to the floor," she said.

Seats were ripped out and smashed as the whole centre section of the tram's right-hand side was torn free, leaving a gaping 25ft, hole.

Six ambulances sent to the accident took 12 people to St. Vincent's and Royal Melbourne Hospitals.

Last night two passengers were still serious with head and multiple injuries. The other five detained are satisfactory.

Among the injured is the tram driver, Graham Barry McPhee, 31, of Rossmoyne St., Thornbury. He was treated at the hospital and allowed to leave.

Police last night charged a truck driver, 39, on two counts of manslaughter.

The man was also charged with having driven under the influence of alcohol and exceeding .05 per cent blood alcohol content.

The man will appear in Collingwood Court on October 12.

hit by casks



• The mangled wreck of the No. 88 tram.