

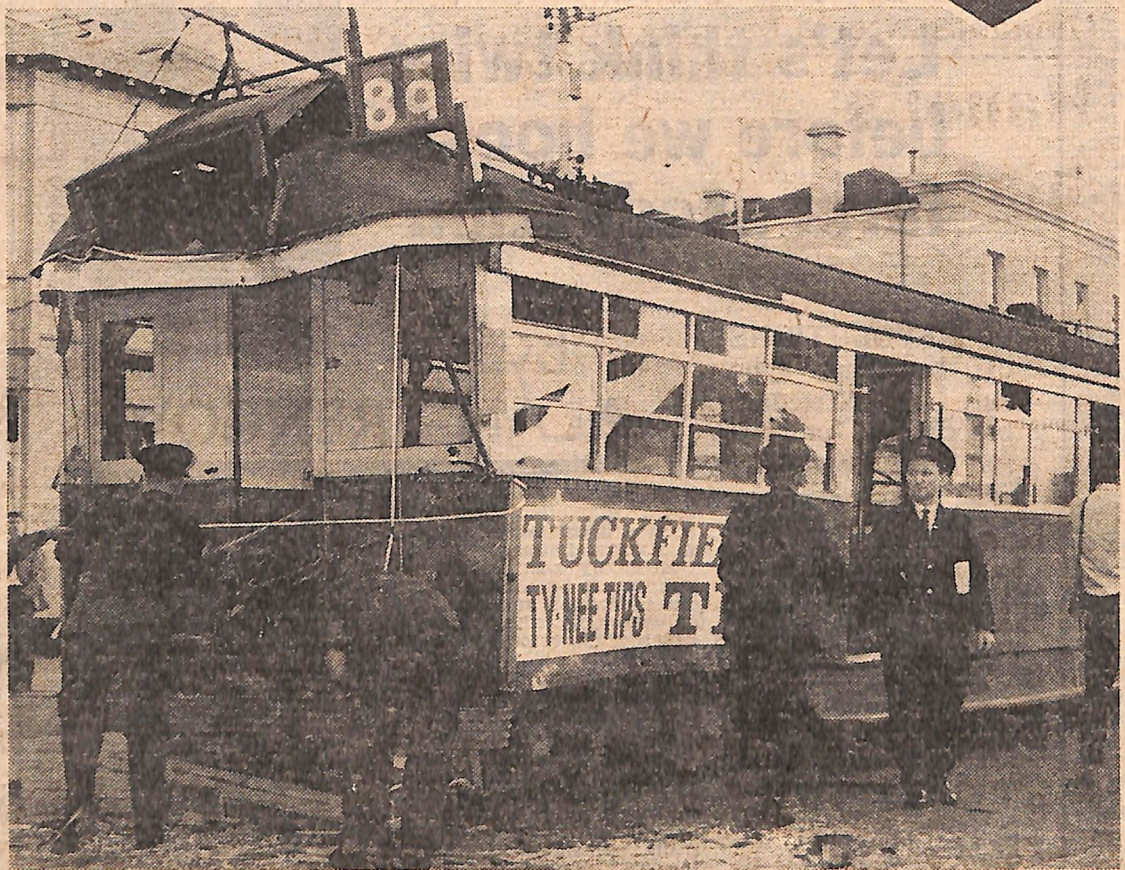
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Tram,
bus
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8 hurt



EIGHT PEOPLE were taken to hospital after this crowded peak-hour tram and a bulk-flower tanker collided in Fitzroy yesterday.

The collision occurred at the intersection of Gertrude and Napier Sts. at 5 p.m.

The injured — the tram driver and seven passengers — were taken to St. Vincent's Hospital by ambulance, but none was seriously hurt.

Seven were treated for shock and minor lacerations and allowed to leave. The driver of the tram was detained for observation, but his name was not available.

A Tramways official said about 85 people were in the tram. Many were thrown to the floor and showered with glass from broken windows.

The tram driver had the luckiest escape.

The crash wrecked his cabin and forced it back almost level with the passenger compartment, but he was thrown clear into Gertrude St.

The truck driver, Russell Krueger, of Carlton, said he saw the tram at the tram stop as he began to cross Gertrude St.

"The next thing there was a tremendous bang and I thought the truck was going to roll," he said.

"The impact pushed it almost across the road."

The truck, which was loaded with 17 tons of flour, was badly damaged.

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