

# 22 Children Escape Death In Bus Crash

## Coach Smashes Into Truck From Rear On Straight-Away Along Highway 17

By AINSLIE KERR,  
of The Journal Staff.

Carl Laushway, a 26-year-old bus driver from Winchester, Ont., lay critically injured today in Arnprior Memorial Hospital, unconsciousness locking in his mind the secret of why the chartered coach in which he was driving a score of Ottawa children home from camp crashed into a truck and ended up on its side yesterday afternoon.

In Ottawa Civic Hospital 13-year-old John Hutchison, son of Bell Telephone district manager J. E. Hutchison, of 710 Echo Drive, is nursing a broken right leg.

John Rowan-Legg, 10-year-old son of Dr. C. K. Rowan-Legg of 320 Cloverdale road, Rockcliffe, is back home recovering from a deep gash in the chin and other minor cuts.

And in homes through the Capital 18 other boys and girls under 15, and four adults, bore minor evidence, from cuts and bruises to light shock, of the grinding, tearing, shattering cage of steel from which they made an almost miraculous escape.

Two other children, Joanne and Paul Dick, were safe at home in Arnprior, with the same memory of highway horror.

All were members of a care-free, happy group returning home, singing their way, from Camp Ahmek and Camp Wapomeo on Canoe Lake in Algonquin Park.

It was 3.30 p.m.

The big orange Colonial Coach Lines chartered coach was rolling eastward and homeward on Highway 17, with Arnprior five miles away.

**Straight Stretch of Road.**

It was a straight stretch of road.

From his seat directly behind the driver, Johnny Rowan-Legg could see the rich fields of grain on either side of the road.

Ahead, going the same way, was a yellow-and-black heavy Department of Highways dump truck, loaded with gravel.

In its cab, at the wheel, was James Cherry, 33, of Glasgow Station, and beside him was W. E. Gillan, 57, of Renfrew.

Spaced among the children in the bus, behind driver Laushway, were James Fogarty of 260 Metcalfe street, chief camp

the lucky children able to explain to her parents a few hours later what had happened.

The black and blue marks on her chin, on cheek and the bloody marks above her eye, she said, "really didn't hurt".

"I was sitting about the middle of the bus", the girl exclaimed.

"And when it crashed into the truck we all got thrown around.

"I was lucky, I guess. If I'd been sitting further front I might have been really hurt."

And Elizabeth Patterson, of 219 Melrose avenue, was able to tell her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Patterson, the streak of blood down the side of her sweater was "not from me".

But she nearly broke into tears when she showed them a treasured canoe paddle she'd spent hours decorating only to have it split in the crash.

Others crawled from the bus: Georgette Draper with a cut over her eye; Gordon Gale with a cut on his chin; cook Hugh McDonald shaken up.

And their companions: Margo Freiman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Freiman; Annette Fogo, Peter Rowan-Legg (John's brother), Margot Smith, John MacLachy, Alexander "Sandy" MacLean, Judith Moffatt, John McEnery, Elizabeth and William Patterson, Edgar "Ned" Rhodes, Terry Rowe, David Alexandor, James Berry, Gordon Dewar, and Paula Luxenberg, a Toronto girl visiting in Ottawa.

A local bus took most of them to Arnprior Hospital.

At 4 p.m., 42 miles away, their parents were gathering at the Colonial Coach terminal to welcome them home, unaware of the crash.

At 4.30 they heard the metal-

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