

## BALLARAT-ROAD MOTOR FATALITY.

### Inquest on Footballer's Death.

The City Coroner (Mr. D. Grant, P.M.) held an inquiry yesterday into the death of Christopher Irwin, 20 years, storeman, Brunswick, who was fatally injured about 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, 13th September, when the motor car in which he was travelling collided with another motor car on Ballarat-road, near Deer Park. Irwin was a playing member of the Brighton Football Club. Players of the club visited Learmonth the previous day, and a party of which Irwin was one, was returning in a motor car when the accident occurred.

Evidence was given that heavy rain was falling when the car, driven by Percy R. Butcher, followed that of First Constable H. R. Marshall, of Police Head Quarters, Russell-street. Both cars were proceeding to Melbourne. Butcher's car skidded when he tried to avoid a car, driven by G. S. Murphy, of Daylesford, which was coming from Melbourne. A crash resulted, and Irwin's skull was fractured. He died early next day.

The Coroner said there was no culpability attachable to Mr. Murphy. Butcher took an unnecessary risk, having regard to the weather and the condition of the road, in attempting to pass Constable Marshall's motor car.

A verdict was returned of death due to misadventure.