Driver is fighting for life

Garage mechanics turned a hose on a truck driver at South Melbourne yesterday when he scrambled from the blazing cabin of his truck with his clothes on fire.

Late last night Prince Henry's Hospital doctors were fighting to save the life of the driver — Richard Edwards, 21, of Ridley st., Sunshine.

Edwards has first and second degree burns on arms and legs.

His truck and a motor-cycle ridden by Lindsay Doubleday, 20, of Parsons st., Sunshine, collided in Clarendon st.

Edwards' truck overturned and caught fire. He smashed the windscreen to escape.

Doubleday was treated for multiple lacerations and allowed to go home.

Two Injured in Triple Road Collision

One man was severely burned and another injured in a spectacular fire which followed a three-vehicle collision in South Melbourne yesterday morning.

The victims were: Richard Edwards, 19, of Ridley Street, Sunshine, truck driver; secondary degree burns to arms, legs and feet; admitted to Prince Henry's Hospital in a serious condition.

Lindsay Doubleday, 20, of Parsons Street, Sunshine, multiple lacerations; treated at Prince Henry's Hospital and allowed to go home.

The truck, which had a concrete mixer mounted on it, and a motor cycle collided at the corner of Clarendon Street and City Road.

The weight of the concrete overturned the truck, and a large cog on the mixer, biting into the roadway, slewed the truck around. It struck a van parked alongside a telegraph pole and burst into flames.

Edwardes, whose clothes were alight, forced his way through the broken windscreen of his truck. The cabin was ablaze and full of smoke.

Doubleday was thrown from his machine.

The front of the panel van was damaged by the fire.

Fire brigades from South Melbourne and William Street extinguished the blaze.