

2.11.19

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

1093

James

Wheeler

Alfred

Jones

at

W. L. Jones

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

5.11.19

\_\_\_\_\_

W. A. Thomas  
Coroner

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

VICTORIA,  
TO WIT.

INQUISITION  
(WITHOUT A JURY.)

RECEIVED  
5-NOV-1919  
C.L.O.

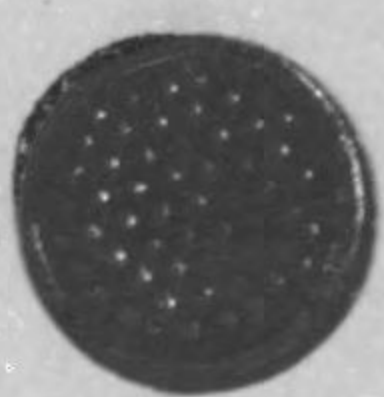
AN Inquisition for our Sovereign Lord King George, taken at MILDURA

in  
Victoria, the *third* day of *October* *November*  
A.D. 19*19*, in the *twelfth* year of the Reign  
of our said Lord the King, before me *James Mathew*  
Gentleman, a <sup>Deputy</sup> Coroner of our Lord the King  
for Victoria, upon the view of the body of *Ulysses Alfred Lucas*  
then and there lying dead.

Having duly inquired upon the part of our Lord the King when, where, how,  
and by what means the said *Ulysses Alfred Lucas*  
came by his death, I say that the said  
*Ulysses Alfred Lucas*  
died at *Mildura* on the *twelfth*  
day of *October* 19*19*, from *being*  
*accidentally drowned in the*  
*river Murray at Mildura*  
*whilst bathing in a strong*  
*current & not a good swimmer.*

In witness whereof I the aforesaid Coroner have to this Inquisition put my  
hand and seal on the day and year and at the place above mentioned.

*James Mathew*  
Deputy CORONER.



# TELEGRAM.

Charges to Pay—

Message

Porterage



E.T. No. 2.

B.1024/7.19.—C.8616.

## COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Postmaster-General's Department,

To

No.

Police  
Baulfield

This message has been received subject to the Post and Telegraph Act and Regulations.

All complaints to be addressed in writing to the Deputy Postmaster-General.

STATION FROM.

No. OF WORDS.

CHECK.

TIME LODGED.

REMARKS.

Mildura

23

1/4

9-25

Inform

Lucas

family

Farmana

Wandewong

Rd.

East

Baulfield

Alysses Lucas

accidentally drowned

bathing

Murray

seven

last night

body

not recovered

Police

TIME RECEIVED.

9-42

MALVERN EAST

31/10/19.

Not measured.

Police.  
(Mellor)

J. H. Martin

Sgt 2657.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\*

Charles Haubach

on his oath saith, I am a

Chemist

residing at

Mildura

\*Christian and Surname in full.

I know deceased <sup>Mrs</sup> ~~Walter~~ <sup>Walter</sup> ~~Walter~~ <sup>Walter</sup> was  
 he was a window dresser employed  
 by J. H. Gilliday Mildura  
 I remember Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> October  
 1919 I went at about 4<sup>20</sup> pm  
 on that day with deceased to the  
 Mildura floating baths on the River  
 Murray to swim we removed  
 our clothing and put each put on a  
 bathing costume at this time there  
 was quite a number of young men  
 at the baths nearly all of whom  
 were good swimmers and they were  
 diving from the end of the baths  
 platform into very deep water in the  
 Murray Deceased said to me I think  
 I'll go in here indicating the Murray where  
 the others were diving & swimming  
 I said but the current is very strong  
 can you swim he said yes I said go  
 we have indicated the safe portion  
 of the baths deceased seemed disbelieving  
 I then said if you want to go into the  
 River go to the top (upstream) and  
 swim to the bottom and then turn  
 at the bottom and sharp around and get  
 on the steps of the baths he said all  
 right we then went to the top and

Taken and sworn before me the \_\_\_\_\_ day  
 of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

This Deponent\*.....

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

on h oath saith, I am a.....

residing at.....

\* Christian and Surname in full.

I plunged into the River deceased at once followed me we were close to the side of the bath pantoou I could then see that deceased was a very poor swimmer but he kept on and I was at or near his side I spoke to him when you got near the corner of the bath cut sharp around the corner the steps are there & you will be able to grab them he did not reply he did not turn till he got two or three yards below the corner where the steps are he then tried to swim to the steps against the current it seemed to strain far him I was behind and tried to push him forward there were two men at the foot of the steps they reached out their legs for deceased to take hold of the current was strong & it carried us out of their reach very quickly deceased then stood up as though trying to get bottom he then commenced to throw his arms about I turned him around & tried to push him down stream towards the bank & I shouted for help at the same

Taken and Sworn before me the..... day  
 of..... 190 at.....  
 Coroner.

time

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\* \_\_\_\_\_

on h \_\_\_\_\_ oath saith, I am a \_\_\_\_\_

residing at \_\_\_\_\_

\*Christian and Surname in full.

*Tues*

& the two men on the steps of  
 the baths called to some men  
 on the river bank to bring the  
 boat out nobody seemed to  
 bring the boat I think these men  
 ran and got the boat but am  
 not sure just as they got into  
 the boat he <sup>deceased</sup> went under for  
 the last time I could not  
 hold him any longer they  
 picked me up into the boat  
 and one of them dived to try  
 and get deceased, nothing  
 what ever was done to deceased  
 to cause him to draw the  
 whole thing occurred in about  
 two minutes from the time we  
 entered the water till it was  
 all over. Deceased was perfectly  
 sober & so was I  
 There may have been 40 or 50 men  
 on the bank when we called for  
 help they seemed to be hurrying  
 about calling I think if they  
 had brought <sup>the boat</sup> out deceased may  
 have been saved I did not  
 see any life belts at the baths

Taken and sworn before me the \_\_\_\_\_ day  
 of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

This Deponent\*  
VICTORIA, TO WIT. on h oath saith, I am a  
residing at

\* Christian and Surname in full.

I had been at the baths before  
but deceased said he had never  
been in the Murray Deceased  
seemed to loose his head when  
he stood up & threw his arms about  
Deceased was fairly strong he was  
about 10 1/2 stone weight.

Chas. Farbach.

Taken and Sworn before me the 7<sup>th</sup> day  
of November 1909 at Melbourne  
[Signature] Deputy Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\* Daniel Edward Hughes

on his oath saith, I am a Motor Driver

residing at Mildura

\* Christian and Surname in full.

I remember the 30/10/19 I was at the Mildura baths at about 4<sup>30</sup> pm that day I have heard the evidence of Mr. Raumbach it is as far as I know true and correct. I was one of the two that was on the steps referred to by Raumbach I reached my leg out from the steps towards deceased but he could not reach me as he was swimming down stream when Raumbach called for help I let go & called to my companion to catch my legs (he caught my legs & swung himself around in the water towards the drowning man he called to me swim forward & tried to swim forward but could not & I faced towards the bank I was pulled under the water & was immediately let go I called out for to bring out <sup>the boat</sup> no one appeared to do so so I swam for the boat & got it & Raumbach pushed it off there was no oars in the boat I paddled it with my hands & picked up Raumbach & took him to the bank a man

Taken and Sworn before me the \_\_\_\_\_ day  
 of \_\_\_\_\_ 190 \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Coroner.

whom

# CORONER'S INQUEST.

This Deponent\* .....

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

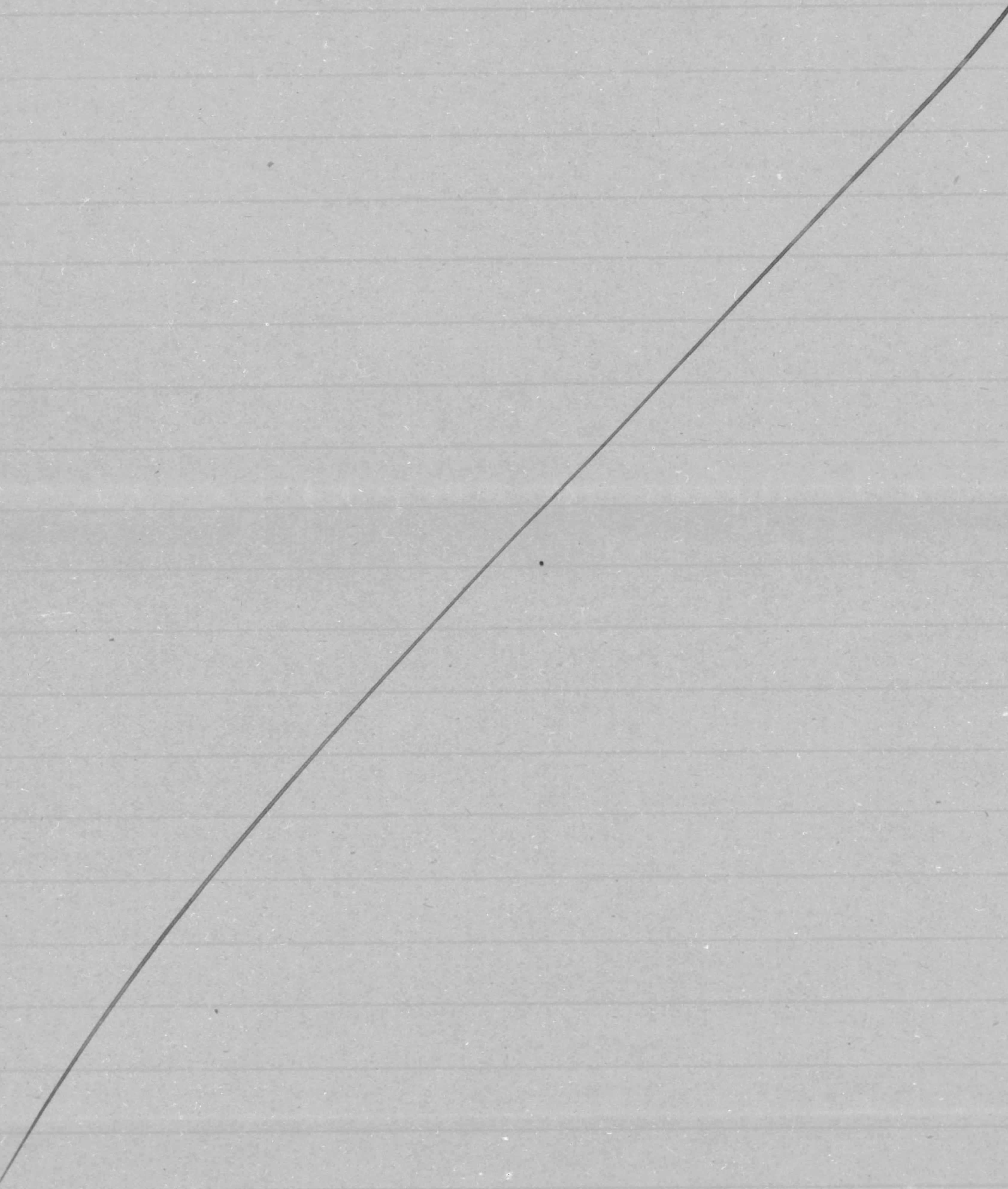
on h oath saith, I am a .....

\* Christian and Surname in full.

residing at .....

*Whore*

*I know as Ted dived out of  
the boat to try & recover deceased  
but was not successful  
D Hughes*



Taken and Sworn before me the *Third* day  
of *November* 190*8* at *Meriduna*  
*Jack Carruth*  
*Deputy* Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\* Henry Livingston Wood

on his oath saith, I am a Carpenter

residing at Meedura

\* Christian and Surname in full.

I remember the 30/10/19 I was at Meedura baths at about 4<sup>30</sup> pm That day I have heard the evidence of Paumbach & Hughes it is true and correct —

Hughes directed me to take hold of his leg I did so & extended myself towards the drowning man that is from in the water deceased took hold of me by my ankle and I called to Hughes to swim forward but at that instant deceased dragged Hughes & me under, when I came to the surface I found deceased had let go of my ankle & had disappeared when he again came to the surface I returned towards him but he disappeared again I did not see him again

The current is very strong I am only a fair swimmer —

H Wood

Taken and Sworn before me the Third day  
of November 1919 at Meedura  
James Wattson  
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\*

*James Leonard Keogh*

on his oath saith, I am a

*Police Constable*

residing at

*Mildura*

\* Christian and Surname in full.

I remember Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1919 at about 4<sup>30</sup>/<sub>11</sub> pm I recovered the dead body of Ulysses Alfred Lucas from the River Murray near the Mildura floating baths and removed it to Mildura hospital morgue to await for Inquest. I examined the body there were no signs of cuts wounds or lacerations the body presented the usual signs due to death by drowning when recovered the body was clothed in only a bathing suit.

*J. L. Keogh*

*[A large diagonal line is drawn across the page, likely indicating a signature or a mark.]*

Taken and Sworn before me the *Third* day of *November* 19*19* at *Mildura*  
*Jack Mathew*  
Deputy Coroner.