

989 ✓
6th 179th Nov. 1917

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

William Red

M^o Clure

at

Randemang.

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

21 NOV. 17

19

C. J. O.



W. A. Rodd



Coroner.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

VICTORIA,
TO WIT.

INQUISITION
(WITHOUT A JURY.)

RECEIVED
21. NOV. 17

AN Inquisition for our Sovereign Lord King Edward, taken at *Dandenong*

in
Victoria, the *6th* *19th* day of *November*

A.D. 19¹⁷, in the *eighth* year of the Reign
of our said Lord the King, before me *W. H. A. Rodd*

Gentleman, a Coroner of our Lord the King
for Victoria, upon the view of the body of *William Lees McClure*
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 *William Lees McClure*

came by his death, I say that the said
William Lees McClure

died at *Dandenong* on the *6th*
day of *November* 19¹⁷, from *a general Septic*
poisoning as a result of a bullet wound

Accidentally shot
accidentally received at Ku Wee Rup on
the 22nd of October 1917 -
No blame attachable to any person -

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.

W. H. A. Rodd
CORONER.

Dandenong

Station

Bourke

Police District

6th November 1917

REPORT OF

Relative to

Snr Const Hehir 4169
death of William Lees McClure

I have to report that William Lees McClure bank clerk. 25 years of age died at Nurse Campbell's private Hospital at Dandenong this morning from the effects of a gunshot wound in the groin accidentally received at Ross Wee Ruff on the 22nd of October 1917.

Deceased who was employed at the London Bank Ross Wee Ruff accidentally knocked a loaded revolver off a shelf on hitting the ground it exploded and the bullet entered his groin. He was removed to Nurse Campbell's Hospital and operated on and was under the care of Dr. Langley.

Septic trouble intervened and he died this morning. I informed Dr. Cole the Coroner who directed me to report death to you. Please instruct.

Hehir
S C 4169

W.H.A. Road by P.P. 1
Dandenong. 1

I will open inquest at 3 pm
Please make necessary arrangements

S. L. Hehir,
Dandenong. 1

Mustas P. P. P.

RECEIVED
21 NOV. 1917
C. L. O.

Dandenong
19.11.17

I beg to forward
humbly - depositions
taken by me on
Inquest on body of
William Lees McClure
at Dandenong on
6th and 19th November

1917

M^r. H.W.C. Simpson
Solicitor appeared to
watch the case on behalf
of deceased Parents

Myroslaw Roda JP

The Secretary
Crown Law Dept }
Melbourne }

Dandenong Station

Bourke

Police District

6th November 1917

REPORT OF

Snr Const Hehir 4169

Relative to death of William Lees McClure
Bank Clerk. recently employed at the London Bank
Hos Wei Rup

This young man died at Nurse
Campbell's Private Hospital at Dandenong
today from the result of a gun shot
wound received in the groin at Hos Wei Rup
on the 22nd of October 1917. Inquest opened on
the body today order given for burial
and Inquest adjourned to 19th Inst at 3 pm.
This young man was a bank clerk at the London
Bank Hos Wei Rup. and the occurrence took place
there. I would be glad if you will make full
inquiries and send along statements from persons
who witnessed the occurrence or can give any
evidence before the Coroner. I understood the
Bank Manager was present when the accident
happened. Also get the Revolver that
caused the trouble and warn necessary
witnesses to attend before the Coroner on the
19th Inst at 3 pm.

Const Cole
Lang Lang

Hehir
S.B. 4169

Lang Lang
9/11/17

Statements of Mr Adney
Bank Manager and my
self I don't know
whether you think it

Necessary to have a statement
from Mr White of Pattingham

I will bring the
Revolver when I attend
the Inquest I have
to advise Mr Adney to
attend

W. Cole
Mc 41155
S. bomb Hehir
Dandenong

Dandenong
13. 11. 17.

I have been informed that
deceased was not aware of
any revolver being left on the stool
that it was rolled up in paper
if so this seems strange

Please make careful inquiries
ascertain if possible who left
the revolver on the stool & why.
Any person that can throw any
light on this matter should be
warranted to attend the Inquest.

How many cartridges was discharged

Constable
Lang Lang

Hehir
SB 4169

Lang Lang
15/11/17

Deceased placed the revolver
on the stool himself and knew
it was there he told me so himself
also that it was not wrapped

in paper. The facts are simply
these Mr Adney Bank Manager
placed the revolver on the counter
and it was the duty of deceased
to put it in a draw under the
counter so that it would be handy
he evidently went to do this but
knowing that he wanted something
out the drawer, he placed it
on the stool and in pulling out
the drawer it knocked the revolver
down causing it to discharge one

bullet. Statements of Stanley
Victor Howell, & Oliver Colvill
Mr Danne who is the Church
of England Minister is absent
at present and therefore cannot
set his statement but he will
be present at the Inquest.

Only one cartridge was discharged

W. Cole
Mc 41155
S. bomb Hehir
Dandenong

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

*William Rees Mc Clure Senior*on his oath saith, I am a *Farmer*residing at *Springvale**Christian and
Surname in
full.

I have seen the body shown at this Inquest
and I identify it as the body of my son
William Rees Mc Clure, who was born at
Spighett on the 22 April 1892. He was
a Bank clerk employed at the London Bank
New-Wee Reef

Taken and sworn before me the *6th* day
of *November* 19*17* at *Dandenong*

W. J. P. Road
Coroner.

W. R. Mc Clure.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

William Lee McClure

on his oath saith, I am a

Farmer

residing at

Springvale

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

I have heard the deposition read at the opening of this Inquest. My son made a statement to me before he died and said that when he went into the Bank that morning (22 Oct) I saw something wrapped up in a rag which I thought was the Bank Automatic Revolver. I removed it from the counter to a stool, so as I could dust the counter. Shortly afterwards I pulled out the Cash drawer and knocked the revolver off the stool - and it exploded. The bullet struck me on the right knee.

The deceased said he did not own the Automatic Revolver, and had not seen for 3 weeks prior to that morning. He said ~~that~~ he thought Mr. R. Danner had put it on the counter. My son left my home at Springvale at 6.45 a.m. in good health and spirits - he had not financial or other troubles.

W. L. McClure.

Taken and sworn before me the 19th day
of November 19 at Dandenong.

Myrta R. Paul
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

Clarence Adeney

on his oath saith, I am a

Bank Manager

residing at

Riverview

*Christian and Surname in full.

I remember the morning of Oct 22, when I first entered the office at about 9 o'clock. I placed the Bank's Automatic pistol which was lightly folded in a red cloth on the counter. I did not see it again until the accident occurred. At about ten o'clock I was standing at the Ledger desk when I heard a report and a fall, and found Mr McClure lying on the floor with blood stains on his clothes. I at once put a pad on the wound in the groin. I sent for doctors. On asking Mr McClure what had happened he said I placed the pistol on the stool and shortly afterwards forgetting it was there, pulled out the cash drawer knocking the pistol off the stool.

When I placed the pistol on the counter on the morning of the 22nd it was loaded. I do ~~remember~~ know whether the safety catch was on or off. The deceased accounts with the Bank were quite in order. I know of no reason why the deceased should commit suicide. It was usual for me to place the automatic pistol on the counter. There was also another revolver for the use of the Bank's officials. I first saw the pistol (produced) on the morning of the accident in the room occupied by Mr Danne where I left it on the previous Saturday. In the late afternoon I removed it and placed it on the mantelpiece and afterwards on the counter.

Taken and sworn before me the 19th day

of November 1917 at Dandenong.

My Justice Paul JP
Coroner.

C Adeney

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* Stanley Victor Howellon h oath saith, I am a Bank Clerkresiding at Riverview*Christian and
Surname in
full.

I remember Monday Oct 22 last when I came to the Bank that morning at 9.30 I saw the automatic pistol lying (produced) in the clock in the mantelpiece later I had occasion to go to the Accountants desk and then saw the Automatic pistol had been removed from the mantelpiece to the counter a few moments afterwards I was opening the door I heard a report of a pistol and went to the Accountants desk I saw deceased Mrs McClure lying on the floor I then went for the Doctor I sleep on the premises and it is my custom to bring the Banks Automatic pistol in from my bedroom and place it on the mantelpiece behind the Ledger desk I did not place it there on the morning of the 22nd I did not sleep on the premises on the night of Sunday 21st I knew deceased well he was always in good health and spirits.

S. V. Howell.

Taken and sworn before me the 19th day
of November 1917 at Dandenong
W. M. J. [Signature]
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

Oliver Colvin

on h

oath saith, I am a

Carpenter

residing at

Rooftop Rm

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

I remember the 22 Oct last in response
to calls for help I went to the London Bank
I there saw deceased Mr McClure lying
on his back he was bleeding from a wound
in the groin I asked Mr McClure how
it happened he said I knocked the pistol
off the stool and it went off it was
covered with some papers I picked
up the pistol and took it outside and took
out the magazine and one empty shell

Oliver Colvin

Taken and sworn before me the 19th Nov day

of

19

at

Dandenong

Augustus Podd
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

Noel Johnston Danne

on h

oath saith, I am a

Clergyman

residing at

Ror Wee Rup

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

On the morning of Oct 22 I was called in
to the ^{Linder} Bank Chamber at Ror Wee Rup.
and saw McClure behind the counter, attended
by the manager and Mr Colvin. I saw
the pistol lying on the floor against the
stool, and drew attention to the fact lying on
the floor deceased told me that the pistol fell and
went off, and I saw the wound in the groin.
The manager left the
I had charge of the automatic pistol in my
charge over the week end - I last saw on Oct 22
early in the morning on the table in the room I occupy.
The occupy room occupied by me in on
the ground floor portion of the Linder
Bank premises. I knew deceased.

Noel Danne

Taken and sworn before me the 19th day
of Nov 1917 at Dandenong
M. J. L. Road
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

Francis Ermen Langley

on his oath saith, I am a

Highly qualified medical Practitioner

residing at

Dandenong

*Christian and Surname in full.

On Monday 22nd Oct last I was summoned by Telephone to attend the late William McKane who had met with an accident at Koo Wee Rup. I met him at Cranbourne being brought in a car with Dr White of Pakenham. We brought him to Dandenong to Nurse Campbells Private Hospital where his wound was investigated.

I found that there was a small abrasion on the Right Knee a wound penetrating the Testis Scrotum and another wound over the left Saphenous opening at the upper end of the thigh. He had been bleeding freely and there was considerably difficulty in tying one of the main veins of the leg.

He progressed favorably until the evening of the following Saturday week when as a result of two severe Secondary Haemorrhages due to the septic inflammation about the Femoral vessels it became necessary to tie the External Iliac Artery which was done after consultation with Drs W H Summers and Baileys of Melbourne.

Three days later the patient died from a general septic poisoning as a result of the wound received.

Francis E. Langley

Taken and sworn before me the 19th day
of November 1917 at Dandenong

W. M. Justus Rodd
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

William Cole

on his oath saith, I am a Const

residing at

Lang Lang.

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

On Monday 22 Oct last at about 10.15
 AM from information received I went into the Landon
 Bank at Ror Mac Ruff and there saw deceased
 lying on his back behind the counter Mr Adeney
 & Mr Bowen were attending assisted Rev N Danner
 I asked the deceased what happened he said
 I accidentally knocked the Banks revolver off the
 stool in pulling out the drawer and it exploded
 I remained with him until he was removed in a
 motor car to Dandenong I saw the Revolver
 produced lying in the floor -

W. Cole

MC 4125

Taken and sworn before me the 19th day
 of November 1917 at Dandenong
 D. M. J. P. Road P
 Coroner.