

5th. November 1923 19

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

William McEwan

at Melbourne Morgue

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

8-11-23 19



D. Berriman
Coroner.

11842.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

RECEIVED
8 NOV. 23
C. I. O.

INQUISITION.

VICTORIA }
To Wit. }

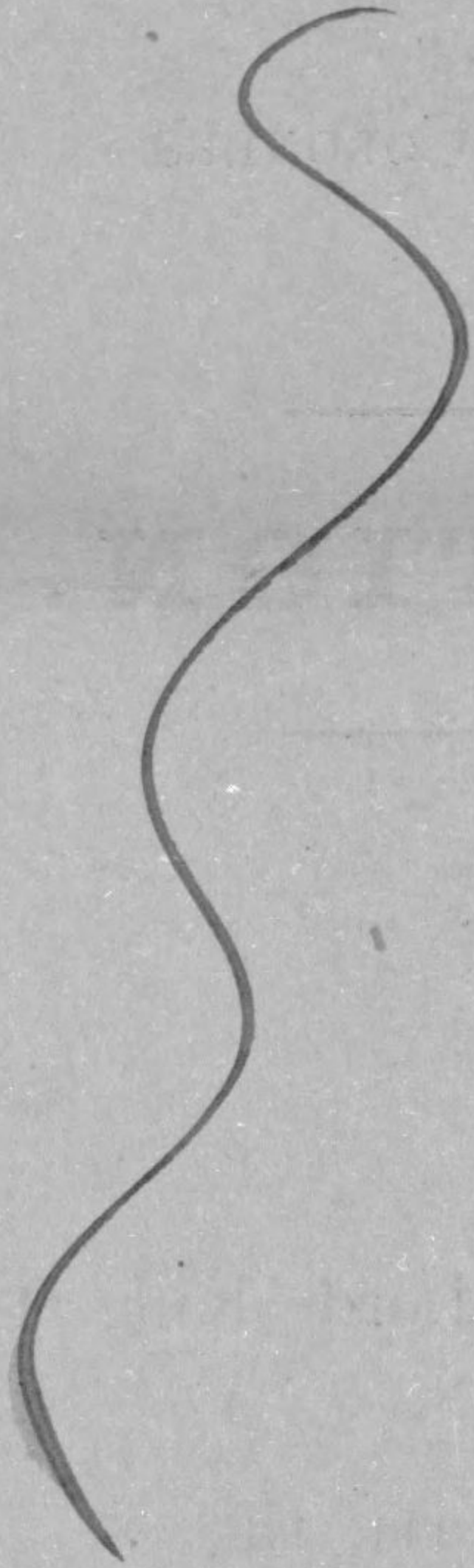
AN INQUISITION for our Sovereign Lord King George V., taken at
the Morgue, Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, the 5th
day of November A.D. 19 23 in the fourteenth
year of the reign of our said Lord the King, by me, Daniel Berriman
~~Robert Hodgson Cole~~
gentleman, a Coroner of our Lord the King for the said State, upon the view
of the body of William Mc'Ewan
then and there lying dead.

Having inquired upon the part of our Lord the King, when, where, how,
and by what means the said William Mc'Ewan

(1) His or her. came by¹ his death, I say that
on the 30th day of October 1923

(2) Here state cause of death, if known; if unknown, doubtful, or no evidence, state the fact accordingly.
at^x on the way from Fitzroy to the Melbourne Hospital the said
William Mc'Ewan died from poisoning by

Copy of a return



In witness whereof, I, the aforesaid Coroner, have to this Inquisition

put my hand this 5th day of November

A.D. 1923

Coroner.

De-union

Hithroy

Station.

Melbourne Police District

30th October 1923

REPORT of

Sen-Const Heher

Relative to

Death of a man named William McEuan

*The corner
City Morgue
Melbourne*

I have to report that at about 5¹⁵ P.M. today I was called to the Chapman Hotel, situate at the corner of Brunswick & Moor Sts. Hithroy. I saw the above named man being placed in the Ambulance which was in the yard of the Hotel. He appeared to be very ill and unable to speak. Mr. Harper the Manager of the Hotel informed me that the man had taken Lysol and he handed me a bottle which has a label marked Lysol. Poison. on it there is a small quantity of fluid in the bottle.

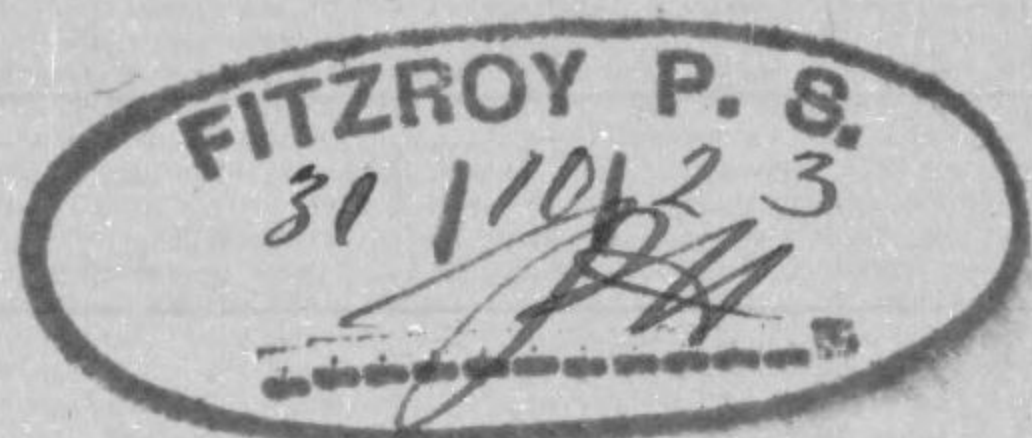
Const. Holian accompanied the Ambulance to the Melbourne Hospital where Dr. Sharland examined Mr. Euan and said he was dead. The body was subsequently removed to the Morgue.

From inquiries made it appears that deceased had resided in Moor St. Hithroy for a number of years. He had a disagreement with his landlady and

*Am.
G.H.
31/10/23*

and went to the country a few weeks ago. He returned on Saturday last and stayed at the Chapman Hotel. He did not stay there last night but was at the Hotel about 3.30 p.m. today when he had a drink in the bar. At about 5 P.M. he was seen by a man named John Lonergan of 70 Bell St. Fitzroy to walk into the hotel yard and fall down. Lonergan went to assist him up but deceased said he was alright. Lonergan informed Mr. Harper who obtained the ambulance & informed the police as he could smell Lysol on deceased;

S. M. Heher
S. C. 4908



CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

Caroline Edmonds

on her oath saith, I am a

married woman

residing at

79 Moor St. Fitzroy

*Christian and Surname in full.

I know the deceased ^{within the year} he had resided at my place for about 5 years.

He was a man of temperate habits. I had never heard deceased threaten to commit suicide. Since he came back from the war he had suffered a job and dealt with his chest - He did not seem depressed. I know of no other way that he had -

C Edmonds

Taken and sworn before me the *5th* day

of *November* 19 *23* at *Melbourne*

[Signature]
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

Ernest Francis Kennedy

on his oath saith, I am a

theatrical assistant

residing at

211 Brunswick St. Geelong

*Christian and Surname in full.

On Tuesday 30th of October 1923 the deceased ^{William Egan} whom I have known for about 3 years came into my shop at about 4³⁰ pm and said to me. I want 6 of lysol which I showed him with. He gave me a shilling in payment & I gave him 6^d change. Subsequently I learned from Mr Harper that Mr Egan had thought he had taken lysol whereupon I went to the hotel and satisfied myself that such had been the case. I immediately went back to the shop and prepared an invoice, and on returning to deliver the same to him I found he was dead. I had never noticed that he was depressed. He never said anything to me that would suggest his taking his life. He was quite sober.

Ernest Francis Kennedy

Taken and sworn before me the *5th* day
of *November 23* 19*23* at *Melbourne*
[Signature]
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* Harford Henry Scallison

on h is oath saith, I am a legally qualified Surgeon

residing at of 41 Spring Street Melbourne

*Christian and Surname in full.

On the 30th ult at the City of Melbourne I made a post mortem of the body of William McLean

The body was that of a short middle aged man, it was dressed, there were no marks of violence upon the body but post mortem staining, were present, there was some excoriation of the upper lip.

The heart contained dark fluid and clotted blood, it seemed fairly healthy.

The lungs were congested.

The lining membrane of the gut was whitened and tanned, the lining of the stomach was whitened and corroded, there was a strong smell of lysol or similar disinfectant.

The liver was firm.

The spleen was firm.

The kidneys were firm and congested, their capsules were adherent.

The pancreas and suprarenal capsules were normal.

The brain did not show any gross disease.

Death was due in my opinion to corrosive poisoning by a coal tar disinfectant such as lysol.

Harford H. Scallison

Taken and sworn before me the 5th day
of November 1923 at Melbourne
[Signature]
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

on his oath saith, I am a

residing at

William Herbert Harper
Marroyan Barman
Chapman Hotel Brunswick St. Fitzroy

*Christian and Surname in full.

In Tuesday 30th Feb 1923 at about 3³⁰ pm
I was serving customers in the bar of Chapman
Hotel in Brunswick St. Fitzroy.

The deceased came into the bar &
had a drink. He stopped speaking to me for a
few minutes & went away. About 1/2 an

hour later he came back and said "I want a
drink & the head of a 11- I have to go
into town on some business. I said

what are you going to have to drink? He
said "give me some poison" I said "I
have none on tap. He said "a man

ought to take a dose but give me a pot
of baller now" I gave him the drink
which he drank" as I was going down

the cellar deceased said "what about
that bot?" I said "alright" and gave
him the shilling. Deceased then

went out. About 20 minutes later
I was in the bar & saw deceased walk
down the street in the direction of

Mr. Blencoe's chemist shop. Shortly
afterwards I was informed that deceased was
lying in the yard and was believed to be

drunk. I went out and saw deceased
and seeing that he was in a bad way I
rang the ambulance & Fitzroy Police.
I again went back to see if I could

Taken and sworn before me the _____ day
of _____ 19____ at _____

Coroner.

W. H. Harper

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* _____

on h _____ oath saith, I am a _____

*Christian and Surname in full.

residing at _____

As anything for deceased and it was they
 I smell lysol. This went for the
 chemist. I have known deceased for
 about 12 months, and he was of sober
 habits - deceased when he left the
 hotel the second time was
 sober - when I saw him in
 the yard he did not speak.
 I have known him for about
 12 months. He always seemed
 to me to be cheerful and
 happy - I had not heard
 from there and take his
 life apart from the remark
 I have mentioned -

Taken and sworn before me the 5th day
 of November 23 1919 at Melbourne

 Coroner.

W. L. Harper

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA. TO WIT.

This Deponent*

GEORGE PORTINGALE

on his oath saith, I am a

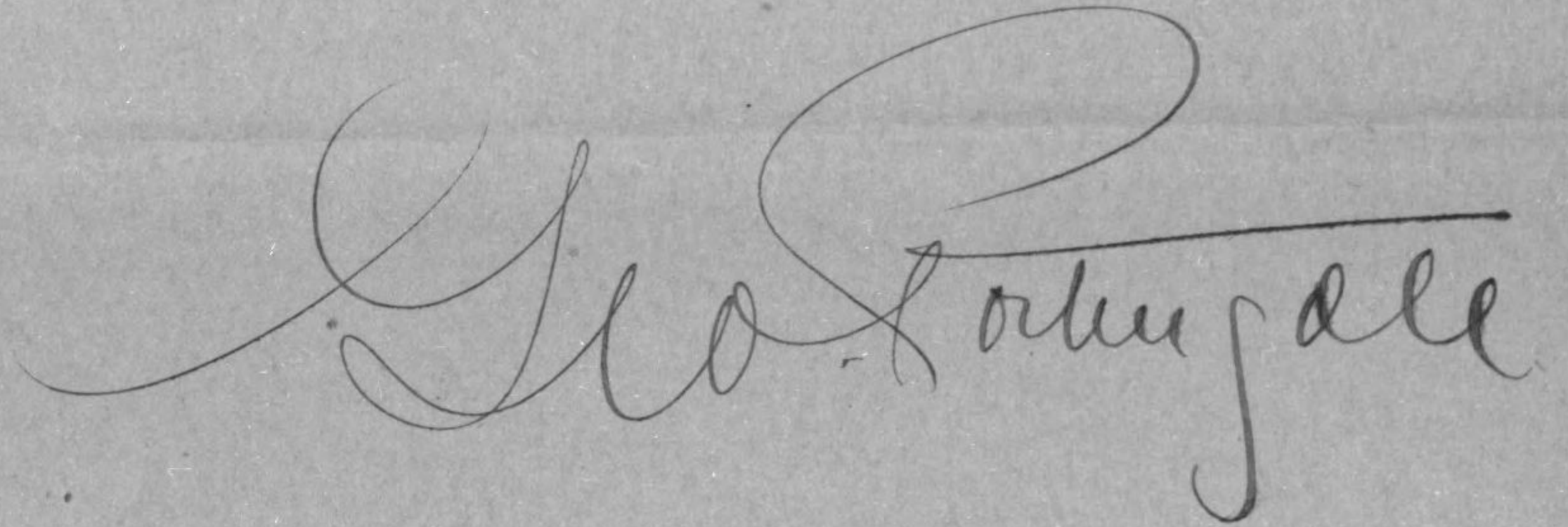
PEAIN CKOTHES CONATAELE

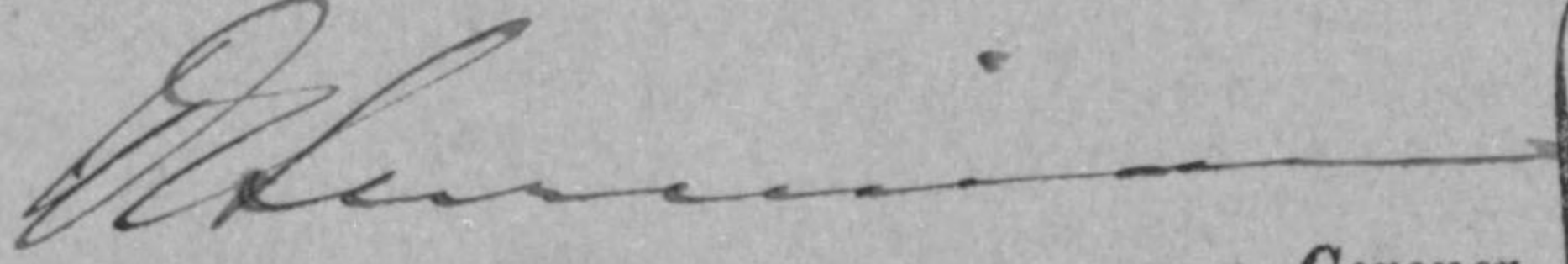
residing at

FITZROY

*Christian and Surname in full.

In this case I ~~have~~ am satisfied there is nothing suspicious.



Taken and sworn before me the ^{5th} day
of November 1923 at Melbourne

Coroner.