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26-MAR-2009

RETURN: 15/04/2009

MILLARD, LAURA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

STATE CORONER S OFFICE

302 KING WILLIAM STREET

ADELAIDE

SA 5000

DX: 668

20111117

GRG1: 27/00000

Unit: 000141

Dsc1: FILE 53/1958

Dsc2 SOMERTON BODY

Date: TO

Loca: GX/0D/0000/0649/0E

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SOMERTON GOLY

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NE 1057A-1060E(1955-1976) GRG1/27 UNKNOWN MALE 53/1958 Coroner's Court ANNE MARIE 82040600 72764 24/08/2001

53/58

Jugues !

SOMERTON GOBY

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Exhibite C - C18.

Location : NE 1 Control No : GRG1 Date Range : UNKN Item No/Desc: 53/1 Cost Centre : Cons

NE 1057A-1060E(1955-1976)
GRG1/27
UNKNOWN MALE
53/1958
Coroner's Court
ANNE MARIE 82040600
72764 24/08/2001

SOUTH

1M-6.57 4286



AUSTRALIA

(TO WIT)

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INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF A BODY LOCATED AT SOMERTON ON 1.12.48.

REMARKS OF THE CITY CORONER ON OPENING THE INQUEST.

The report I have received indicates -

- 1. that the identity of the deceased is quite unknown;
- 2. that his death was not natural;
- that it was probably caused by poison;
- 4. that it almost certainly was not accidental.

The alternatives to be considered, therefore, are whether the deceased died by his own act, or by the act of someone else.

Because we do not know who he was we are ignorant of the motives which may have actuated him or someone else. This ignorance is a disadvantage in investigation, and it emphasizes the necessity of ascertaining what is known and of recognizing what is only inference.

The natural and simple explanation of the circumstances which will be detailed in the evidence may be that the deceased died by his own act, but as we are dealing with circumstances which are not ordinary, it may be that the natural explanation is not the true explanation.

Until the circumstances exclude the possibility that the deceased died through the act of someone other than himself, the possibility of murder must remain under consideration.

Consequently it is most necessary that in giving evidence witnesses should be careful to distinguish between what they know of their own knowledge, and what they infer from what they know.

I am required to find, if I can, who the deceased was, and how when and where he died. I will, I fear, be unable to answer these questions unless further evidence should be obtained. For this reason I have directed that a cast be made of the deceased's features, and that the cast be photographed. These photographs may give a better idea of the deceased's appearance than those which have been published previously, and they will be available for publication.

The deceased remains unknown despite the energies of the police, and the wide publicity the death has received. It would seem that the deceased has not been missed by anyone who knew him. Perhaps he has not been missed because there appeared to be sufficient reason for his disappearance from his usual surroundings - such as the expressed intention of going elsewhere to live.

If the photographs, or the suggestion I have first made, should lead any member of the public to believe he can supply information which may be of assistance, will he please communicate with the police.

INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF A BODY LOCATED AT SOMERTON ON 1.12.48.

REMARKS OF THE CITY CORONER AT ADJOURNMENT OF INQUEST.

The body of the deceased was found on the shore at Somerton at about 7 a.m. on 1st December, 1948. Dr. Bennett who examined it at 9.40 a.m. was of opinion that death occurred round about 2 a.m.

The body was clad in clothes of fairly good quality. All tags which might have led to the discovery of identity had been removed. The deceased was lying on his back with his feet towards the sea, his head and shoulders supported by the sea wall. The head was inclined to its right and between the right cheek and the right lapel of the coat was a partly smoked cigarette, but the coat was not scorched nor the cheek blistered. The only articles in the clothing were some cigarettes and matches, two hair combs, a packet of chewing gum, a single uncancelled railway ticket from Adelaide to Henley Beach, a bus ticket which was proved to have been issued at about 11.15 a.m. on the 30th November on the Adelaide-Somerton bus and which would have carried the holder from Adelaide to Somerton, and lastly a piece of paper on which were printed the words "Tamam Shud". This paper, which was in the fob pocket of the trousers, and which was not found for some time afterwards, was, I am satisfied, torn from a copy of the second edition of Fitzgerald's translation of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khyyam. printed words are the condluding words of the poem and mean "The End."

At 7 p.m. on the 30th November, a man was seen lying precisely where the body was found and in a similar position. He was seen to raise his right arm to its full extent. The arm fell limply. At about 7.30 p.m. a man and a girl saw the man in the same place. They did not see him move, but one of them gathered the impression that his position changed somewhat, and that in a way that they could not define he was lying unnaturally.

A little over a month later an unclaimed suitcase was found at the luggage office at the Adelaide Railway Station.

There was internal evidence that it had either belonged to the deceased, or was connected with his death. Tags had been removed from clothing, the clothes were of a size with those found on the body, a similar and rather unusual thread had been used to mend clothes in the suitcase and those on the body, and there was other evidence which led to the conclusion.

It was thought that the deceased must have arrived by train at the Adelaide Railway Station, left his case at the luggage room, purchased a ticket for Henley Beach but missed his train, and then travelled to Somerton by bus. Neither the luggage room attendant, nor the officer who issued the Henley Beach ticket, nor the bus conductor can remember seeing him. No one has come forward to say that he was seen at Somerton between the arrival of the bus and 7 p.m.

A postmortem examination was made. Small vessels not commonly observed in the brain were easily discernible with congestion. The stomach was deeply congested; there was superficial redness; small haemorrhages were present beneath the mucosa. The heart was normal - the heart of a man in good physical training. The muscle was quite tough and firm. was, if anything, contracted. There was extensive congestion of the liver and spleen. A microscopic examination revealed that the centres of the liver globules were destroyed. Dr. Dwyer who made the postmortem examination was of the opinion that the immediate cause of death was heart failure, but being unable to find anything that would have caused heart failure, he concluded that death was unnatural; and he retained appropriate specimens from the body for analysis. But on analysis no common poison was found.

Three medical witnesses are of opinion on the postmortem findings that death was not natural. The words "Tamam Shud" support this conclusion, and indeed put its accuracy beyond reasonable doubt. There was no indication of violence, and I am compelled to the finding that death resulted from poison. But what poison?

•		

No doubt minimal doses of certain common poisons could have caused death and have been eliminated from the body before death. But on the expert evidence no such minimal dose could have caused death so quickly, and a more massive dose would certainly have left traces which would have been detected on analysis.

The only poison which Sir Stanton Hicks can think of, and which is consistent with the postmortem findings, is one of the group he mentioned. But here again there are difficulties.

There was no vomit, although there was some evidence of convulsion.

I have been discussing the circumstances on the footing that the body found on the morning of the 1st December was that of the man seen in the evening of the 30th November. But there is really no proof that this was the case. None of the three witnesses who speak of the evening of the 30th saw the man's face, or indeed any part of his body that they can identify. If the body of the deceased was not that of the man mentioned and if the body had been taken to the place where it was found, the difficulties disappear. If this speculation, for it is nothing more, should prove to be correct, the original assumption that it was the deceased who left the suitcase at the luggage room, bought the rail and bus tickets, removed the clothing tabs, and put the printed words "Tamam Shud" in a pocket, would require revision.

There is no evidence as to who the deceased was. Although he died during the night of the 30th November-1st December, I cannot say where he died. I would be prepared to find that he died from poison, that the poison was probably a glucoside and that it was not accidentally administered; but I cannot say whether it was administered by the deceased himself or by some other person.

I thepefore adjourn this inquest sine die.

the undermentioned witnesses

XX

the body off an unknown man located at Somerton on 1-12-48

Coroner's Court

Adelaide

seventeenth

June

forty nine

THOMAS ERSKINE CLELAND

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

COHON A CALLO

JOHN BAIN LY NS

of 52 Whyte's St. Somerton.

Jewellery store proprietor. SWOAN

BY CUROMER

I live at Pomerton. It is my practise in summer to go out on to the scafront every evening. My wife and I every evening took a walk along the scafront, and on the evening of the 30th Movember we did so. I remember that may. Puring my walk I saw a man lying on the shole, on our return. We had been to the broadway, one on our return my wife pointed out the man saying "Look at the way the man is slumped." He was

home, within a yard of the steps. It was in quite an open position.

I shd say the closest I was to the man was 15 to 20 yards, on the beach. We had walked along the beach. I cd not see his face from that distance. I did not see his face until the following day. There is a waw shawall up there, and he was leaning up agnst that, supporting his shoulders and head. While looking at him, he moved. I had a watch on my wrist, I sd. "I will report this to the police" in a jocular way, and as I sd. that his right arm moved, his right arm, moved upwards and fell down

I assumed he was drunk and was sleeping it off, and took no further notice of it that night. My remark about informing the police was quite jocular. I had no intention of doing so then. I did not suspe snythg unusual at the time. He was lying on his back, with his fecrossed, and towards me. I was on the sea side of the man. I do he thing hewas wearing a hat. As he moved his arm, I shd say it exten fully upwards, and then dropped. I passed on without taking any further notice. we just stopped momentarily to make the ouservati and reservas. In the summer time I indulge in an early morning swim On the 1st December I went down to the sea early, at porox. 6.35 a.m. I had my swim first, and then went along to meet a friend, (5 of us swim together) He was further along tds Glenelg. I met hi and we were speaking together, then I saw some men on horses lookin at the body. I had not noticed it before that. I then became suspic ious, and then went over and told them that I had seen the wooy the the previous night. After that I went back and communicated with wonst. Moss of Brighton Police. I just casually examined the body, without touching it. I made sure he was dead. As I did not see th face the prev. evening, I od not identify the man, nor od I recogni the clothes, as I was not close enough the prev. evening. I would however that it was definitely the same person.

BY PROFESSOR CLELAND.

There was one man on a horse, and another leading a horse, a jetteys. When Con t. Moss came down, he looked to see if there was any disturbance of the sand and the body, and he was sure there had not been. When the hand went up, there was no digarette in it. I feel sure 7 cd have seen a digarette if there had been one, as it was fairly light. The following morning, when Const. Moss was there we found a digarette just above his ear, which he may have been tryito get. That digarette had not been lit.

I shd say his head and top portion of the shoulders were agnst the wall, using the wall as a support. The body was in the same position the next morng, with the legs crossed.

CORONER CALLS:

JOHN MOSS

P.C. statd. at Brighton.

STORN

BY CORONER:

At abt 6.45 a.m. on 1st December 1948 in conseq of a telephone message I recd at the Brighton Police Station, I proceeded to the beach at conerton, where I saw lying near a sea wall opposite the Somerton Cripoled Childrens, home the body of the deceased which was fully clothed, lying on its back with feet towards the west, with the head r esting agnst the sea wall, slightly inclined to the right. his right arm was doubled over, palm upwards, and fingers cent towards the palms. His left arm was lying on the sand alongside the body. There was a portion of a cigarette on the right callar of his coat, and held in position by his cheek. I inspected the body, but found no mark of violence. I conveyed the body in a police ample to the Royal Adel. Hospital, where life was pronounced extinct by Dr. Bennett. The Lody was later conveyed to the City Morgue. Dr. Bennett made a statement. He sd. win my opinion death had occurred abt 8 hours previously. I am unable to ascertain the cause of death. The cigarette I found had been partly smoked. 1 made it my business to make an accurate record of what I found, and I am quite sure it had been partly smoked. More had been smoked than what remained. I was unable to form any opinion as to whether it had been kept behind his ear, or whether it had come out of his mouth. It is my opinion that it may have been in his mouth, he was smoking it, with his head sideways in the position in which I found the head. I found nothing near the body which gave me any suspicion. There was no undue disturbance of the sand. There was no hat found at all. The face was quite visible from a distance, from the right. The spot was quite open, not secluded. Anybody lying there might expect that they would be seen easily by anyone going up the steps to the esplande to the beach. Those steps are used a lot, particularly on a summer evening.

I was not on duty on that particular evening. I know the locality very well. At 7 o'clock on a summer evening, there would be many people about, and that night it was a warm might. I do not remember what the weather during the preceding week was like, but I remember it was not on this morning. I searched the clothing, found a railway ticket to Henley Beach, also a bus ticket, a tramway ous ticket. There were digarettes on the body, which were in a packet. I did not compare them with the one that was partly smoked. The packet produced looks like the digarettes I found. The comb produced was on the body, also the chewing gum and the metal comb. The bus ticket produced and the railway ticket produced are similar to the tickets I found on the body.

Packet containing these articles out in, marked Exhibit C.1.

The pody was taken to the City Mortuary. What I have told you is all I know of the incident.

BY PROFESSOR CLELAND.

The cigarette was not smoked as far as it could have been smoked an ordinary person would have smoked it further. There was no sign of blistering or scorching on the cheek. I examined the cheek, and found no sign of blistering or scorching. The body was cald when I examined it, cold, damp and stiff.

COMONER CALLS:

EDMUND LESLIE HALL

Vlaims Ufficer's assistant,

13 canterpury avenue,

Trinity Gardens. SWORK

BY COMONEL

I am employed by the Municipal Tramways Trust. The bur ticket produced appears to be a ticket issued by a conductor employed by the Municipal Transays Trust, it is an M.T.T. ticket. I can tell by the punch mark and the serial number when it was issued. It was issued by conductor Holdernesse, his running journal for Tuesday 20th November 1948 shows that this 7d. ticket Sericla C 2 88708 was sold by this conductor somewhere between the rallway station on Rorth Terrace and the intersection of West Tce and Pouth Tce while the ous was en route to St. Leonards departing from the Mailway Station at 11.15 a.m. on that particular trip there were 9 7d. tickets issued between the nailway Station and West Toe-Sth Toe, which is the only area where 7d tickets od be issued. After passing 5th Tce., 6d tickets would @ issued. This ticket was the sixth of the9 sold. I can only tell you the total number of passengers on the trip, not how many were on the" bus at any one time. The 7d tickets would have been sold on leaving Adelside. Just over 40 tickets were sold on that journey, that is the total number of passengers on the whole trip, but how many of those were on at one time I cannot say.

BY PROPESSON CLELAND.

Uffhand I cannot say when the previous ous left for St. Leonar I think it is about a 30 minute service. There may have been a Somil bus before this, but this would be the first St. Leonards ous to less after the 10.45 a.m. train to menley Beach.

CORDNER CALLS:

ARTHUR ANZAU HOLDERNEUSE

of 67 lynts St. North Adelaide.

Trans conductor. 5WO has

BY COROHER:

I am employed by the Municipal Tramways Trust. In Movember last not year I was employed as a bus conductor. I was/interviewed during Saturday December abt a tri, in Movember, I was first interviewed last Saturday about that. I have no recollection about the trip in Movember apart from the records of the Tramways. I have seen the log for that day, and have heard what Mr. hall has said. Apart from those i things, I have no recollection of the trip at all. Having looked at the log, and having heard what Mr. Hall St., it would be till hard to say whether the bus was heavily loaded or not. I cannot remember having seen a man like the claster cast in Court.

CORONER CALLS:

PAUL FRANCIS LAWSON

Bone
of 12 Roin St. Prospect.

Taxidermist. SWURN

BY CORONER:

I carry out my work at the Museum, North Terrace. On 7th June Det Brown 1949 - went to the City Fortuary with Her Fortun, and he pointed out a body to me. I proceeded to make a cast of the features of the body. I first made a mould, and reproduced in that mould the cast. The cast in Court is the cast which I made. It should be a perfect reproduction of the decessed. There would be a slightly difference i appearance of the decd when alive than at the time when I made the mould. The naturally fleshy parts of the face would have shrunk and sagged slightly. The formalin which was used to embalm him would shi ink it a general direction. It was the diffect of the embalming substance more than death which caused the shrinking. I examined the bo his feet were rather striking features, suggesting, this is my own assumption, and he had been in the habit of wearing high-heeled and pointed shoes; I base that on the fact that the caif/was high and well developed, such as found in women. The feet were comparatively broad at the joints of the toe and the foot, but the big toe and the little toe were joined together towards a common spex, in other words wedge shaped. That peculiarity I found more pronounced than is usual His shoes had been of a good fitting quality as there were no undue callouses. I noticed nothing unusual abt the toe nails or finger hai I shd say they kar had been reasonably well cared for. I wd not lik to say if he had been in the wax habit of cutting or filing the nails. They were not broken as though he was nervous. I cd not say if they were broken by manual work or not. I have not seen the tendency of his calf muscle so pronounced in others as in this case. occasion recently to take a cast of a girl's legs, and she had the habit of wearing low-heeled shoes. I have also studied legs fairly critically. From that observation I would say heels will not develop the calf to such an extent as high h

BY PAUFESSON CLELAND.

The neck of the cast presents an unusual appearance, I ad attribute that to the post morten examn and lying on the block.

**Apart from that, that is the replica that of the ody that I saw.

I have made a study of making casts for museum purposes, so I have had reasons for making investigations and comparisons of calf muscle

CORONER CALLS:

GOMBUR ABUAETH STRAPPS

of 5 Seymour Ice., Boodlands Fark
Inspector. Swimm

BY COMONEM:

I remember the 20th November 1948. I was spowen to about it I think on the next night. I do recollect the evening quite clearly. I was at bomerton that evening. We arrived at about 20 or 30 past 7, I was with miss heill. We stopped on the road, left our motor bike, and went down the steps. We sat on the seat in the landing by the wa I and say we were about 10 yeros behind him, and to the side - in other words, to the south east of the body. Deing on the landing, we were somewhat above him. I su pose it would be 5 mins after arriving at the beach that we xx sat down on the seat. I noticed a man lying there when we got there. When I walked down the stairs, I noticed he was there. I could only see him from the waist downwards. He was lyin on his back. Then I walked along the landing taxxx I saw his left hand, and it was stretched out. I did not see him move once before leaving. We left at abt 8 o'clock. I did not see him move once. However, I thought I noticed a difference in his position. That nigh I did make a remark to my girl friend that/there were wosquitoes ther he must have been dead to the world in not noticing them. It attracts my attention that he was lying there still notwithstanding that there were a lot of mosquitoes there, and I thought he must have been aslee I shd say he had brown striped trousers on. I thought they belonged a suit, although I did not see his coat. It was getting dusk at the time. Then we left at 8 o'clock, the street lights were on. We could still see 20 yards away, I suppose. The dan was lying on his back wh we arrived there. He was on his back all the time we were there, he not shift to his side at any time. I sho say we were about ten yards from him, on his south-east. I think we would have been in a position to hear him if he coughed, as we kept on taking glances at him. We we curious but not suspicious. *e did not hear any sound at all.

I suppose his polition would be natural. I thought it wasnatural at the time. His legs were stretched straight out.

BY PROFESSOR CLELAND.

They were straight out when we got there, not crossed. I only too a casual glance when I walked up the steps, his left leg had been drawn up, taking it up the sand a bit.

COMDURER CALLS:

JOHN MATTHEW DAYER

of 105 Port Ad. Bindmarsh.

L. Y.M.P. SWORN

BY CORDNERS

At 7.30 a.a. on and becember 1948 in the presence of Const. butherland I made a cost mortem examn at the bity mortuary on the coc pointed out to me as being that found on the foreshore at Somerton of 1st December. The body was that of a tallish man, I thought about 4: years of age, with greying hair, no he was in good physical condition There was every sign of his having taken care of himself in the way that his fingernails and feet were looked after. There were no extern markings of note. The nails were I thought just carefully trimmed, probably with scissors, not with a file or nail clippers. The general impression I gained was that he was a man whose bearing you would tak notice of, by reason of his general appearance. There was the express about his face as though he might have been an educated man. The post mortem rigidity was intense, and there was a deep lividity behin particularly above the ears and neck. Deveral teeth were missing in the jaws. I later handed a chart of the missing teeth to wonstable Sutherland. The chart produced is in my writing, that is the one I handed to Const. Sytherland. It would be simpler to say that there were more of the EXEXXXX central teeth remaining. Those remaining were the central teeth in each jaw. -- myone looking at him in the ordinary way, if he were to laugh, would notice the teeth were missin If he were speaking, the missing teeth were not noticeable. The pupi were smaller and unusual, uneven in outline and about the same size. Certain drugs may be associated with a contraction of the pupils. Even barbiturates may do it, but it is by no means a distinguishing point, except in broad groups. There was a small patch of dried saliv at the right of the awayar mouth. The impression was that it ran out of his mouth some time before death when he was propably unable to swallow it, probably when his need was hanging to the side. It would run vertically. It had rundown diagonally down the right cheek.

Sunpurn markings were present up to the level of the crotch, and the were probably from the previous meason. The fingers were cyanotic, there was sand in the hair, but none in the nostrils or mouth. The scalp, skull and brain were normal, except that small vessels not commonly observed in the brain were easily discernible with congestic There was congestion of the pharynx, and the gullet was covered with a whitening of the superficial layers of the aucosa with a patch of ulceration in the middle of it. The stomach was deeply congested, and there was superficial redness, most marked in the upper half. omall hasmorrhages were present beneath the mucosa. There was congestionin the End half of the duodenum continuing through the tail part. There was blood mixed with the food in the stomach. Both aid were congested, and the liver contained a great excess of plood in its vessels. The heart was of normal size, and normal in every way. *he impression it gave me was that it was the heart of a man in good physical training. The reason why I say that is that the muscle was quite tough and firm. Both lungs were dark with congestion. The heart, if anything, was contracted. The question had been raised of t raking of an overdose of a drug which would cause the heart to contract. I cd not say that that did not nappen, but I feel there is not enough evidence for me to say that that was the cause. I wd not like to be dogmatic on the question, but I feel that the explanation is that the man was in good physical condition, and his heart was in keeping with that. I cd not rule out the other possibility. Both lur were dark with congestion, but otherwise normal. The spleen was strikingly large and firm about & times normal size. The points to which I gave consideration in my summary were the acute gastritil haemorrhage, extensive congestion to the liver and spleen, and the congestion to the brain. There was food in the stomach. I would say that the food had been in the stomach for up to 3 or 4 hours before death. It is difficult to give an opinion on that, because if the person is in a state of anxiety, that / may be suspended. I have made axertrekax misroscopic examn of the disease, and there was pigment in it, although I cannot say of what disease. It does not resemble malarial pigment, and I can only keep an open mind on the matter.

The blood in the stomach suggested to me some irritant polson, but on the other hand there was nothing detectible in the food to my naked eye to make affinding, so I sent specimens of the stomach and contents, blood and urine for analysis. There was one point in the microscopic examn which was fairly definite, in that there was destruction of the centes of the liver lobules revealed under the microscope, and apart from signs of congestion there was nothing alse in the other organs. INEXWhiteming There was a peculiar cellular reaction under the success, but I have not found an answer to that. I am quite convinced that the death could not have been natural, as there is water such a conflict of findings with the norm heart. Some factor must have influenced the neartto bring about that state of affairs, or alternatively the centre which controls breathin I feel quite certain that death was not natural. I thing the immediate cause of death was heart failure, but I am unable to say what factor daused heart failure. Something stopped the blood from being because of the eyanorio pushed along, vyenose. When I sent in my repor the poison I suggested was a barbiture or a soluble hypnotic, and I max think that is still consistent with the finding. Assuming Dr. wowan found no birriturate or any coason pulson, I was astuquaed that he found nothing, as I thought he would. I know he is a chemist of considerable experience, and if he did not find any I accept his finding. There are changes which could occur, particularly with certain quick acting barbiturates. There are other poisons which do come into the picture which would be decomposed very early after death. In support of my statement concerning the disappearance of cartain barbiturates, I can put in an extract from a book dealing with the matter.

Teeth chart put in marked Exhibit C.2. Extract put in marked Exhibit V.8

The substance of the extract is that in certain cases aithout seems certain barbituretes have been ingested, there is no sign on analysis.

I think that is a possible explanation, that barbiturate was taken of soministered, it caused death, and became decomposed. That must be considered, but I do not think it is under ordinaryky circs a likely explanation. It is a possible explanation, but an unusual one. If the man was alive at 7 o'c and dead by midnight, if it were a carefully judged dose of barbiturate - there are records of barbiturates, in one case 72 grains of sodium amytal, which is quite heavy dose and one would expect it to leave signs, and the patient recovered. "embutal has been stated to cause death in cases of 74 and 6.7 grains, another one is a name waich I will not mention, and it has caused 6 cases of death in doses of 30 to 35 grains. There as poisons which act very quickly, but wost poisons require some time to cause death. Parpiturate in usual cases of salcide may not cause agat for 26 to 40 hours, and usually those Darbitarates are taken in large doses. And There is a big variation in the amount which people can stand. Even the wick acting one would require a massive dose to produce death by midnight if the man were alive at 7 o'cl, one would think. If the done were massive, one would expect to find it on analysis. On the whole, I think it is probably correct that barultur is not the cause of death, except that as I said earlier it is a possible explanation. It is my opinion that in view of the chemist's findings it is unlikely that barsiturates are responsible for death. On the other hand, wing driven as far as one can possibly go, I famm find that the cause might be the cause which i originally suspected.

BY PROFESSOR CLELAND.

A large number of the back teeth were missing. I think from t food that it was probably a pie or pasty which he had eaten as his last meal. I did not get the impression from looking at his mouth that he was in the habit of using a dental plate. Dental plates were not present when I examined the body. I would not stress the size of the pupils in the case of a dead man, it is my habit to point out the findings as I find them.

The blood in the stomach, I would have noticed that if it was produce by the costmortem. It was present prior to the post mortem, and because there were numerous haemorrhages I formed theopinion it was mixed with food during life. I think the question is still open, but in view of the congestion I think failure of the heart is more likely than failure of the respiratory centre. I looked to see if the man ha been vaccinated, but I do not think there was an obvious sign of vaccination. There was a light scar on the left upper arm. In my experience, the man might have been a member of the forces and had been vaccinate, and it did not have much sign. I saw no evidence of a hypodermic needle having been used. I considered the possibility of one having been used, especially if it were used in an unusual place. There were 2 marks between the anuckles and the back of the right han they appeared to be recent abrasions just before death, end also in the hollows of the anucales, but they did not appear to be significant I do not think there was any injections of curaria tuboria, which caus death from asphyxia. I do not think it is possible there had been an overdose of insulin, as there was no evidence of a disturbance. I think the question of insulin can be discounted on the findings of the liver. If a man had access to diphtheria toxin, that certainly could be a possible explanation, but it would be very unusual. He wo have to have access to a place where a diphth-ris toxin were being manufactured. A very small ant of that would cause the haemorrhages. Botutism canbe reled out because of time, the death in those wases do peliberately /occur# sportly after an administration. /Isken by the mouth, the On the other hand there would poison of potulism, could be fatal. be an incubation period of 12 hours. I hardly think it worth while going into the question, but it did enter ay aind the possibility of poisoning by nicotine, but Mr. Yowan has said none was found. There of acomitine are possibilities of the acyonite are warrachan being used, and there are chemical difficulties about their isolation. I do not think I can say enything else. Anoming now reliable ar. Towanis in his enalyses, I have to think along the lines that poison was the dause of death, which cannot be found on analysis:

The poison must have been taken a few hours before death, and I have to find out a cause for the change. Apart from the special case of baroiturates, there is no case of poison known to the avera e person which would not be discernible on analysis. I can thin, of prussic acid, but its action is so rapid that death is practically instantaneous, so that there would not have been time for the finding in the organs to have developed, particularly the microscopic finding The legs were xuxuxx sunburned right up to the cratch. The trunk was not sunburned. It appeared that he had gone about with a shirt on, and his pathing trunks. The sunpurn was definitely the previous season's sumburn. If he had been surned on this summer it would have been much more pronounced. If he had been sunbatting I wd have expected the trunk to have beenburned as well. It is possible that the crowning of his skin was due to his occupation, but he had not be indulging in that occupation for some time I that was the case. I wd say that the skin had not been burned by the sun for some months. If he had reencurned inOctober or November, the subburn would have been darker. It might have been even further back than the previous summer when the sunburn was sustained. It would have been the previous su was or longer when he sustained the sunburn.



CORUNER CALLS.

MARKU BEHT JAMES COMAN

of 123 Fisher St. Fullarton.
Leputy Wovtanalyst.

BY CORUNER:

vn End vecember 1948 I recd from P. v. C. butherlands glass jar containing stomach and contents, one containing liver and muscle, a bottle containing urine, and a bottle containing blood. Mr. butherial told as theyx were taken from the body of an unidentified man found at Somerton the previous day. At his request I carried out analyses . those specimens, but was unable to find signs of any common poison am any of them. I tested for common poisons. Yanides, alkaloids, barbiturates, earpulic acid, are the most common poisons. If any of poisons for which I tested were the cause of the death, they would no be absent from the body after death if they were taken by mouth. are cases of which I heard in which barditurates are the cause of deat and yet are absent on analysis. I think it is unlikely if they were taken by mouth that they would not be detected in the stomach content: I xx/say if a man were alive at 70°c in the evening and dead about midnight, it would need a massive dose to cause death. i found no common poison present, and I do not think any common poison caused death. I cannot suggest anything, other than I thing it is most unlikely that a common poison caused his death. Offhand I as not awar of poisons which can cause death but decompose in the body so that the are not discernible on analysis. I would say that it would be highly probable that any poison cousing death would be discoverable on analys I am atill speaking of poisons taken orally, as distinguished from poisons injected. The difference would be that on injection some of those poisons would be destroyed in the tissue, o, the liver, and even by the Aidney, whereas the stomach, you would gapedt to find that whic was in excess to that required to will the person. BY PROFESSOR CLELAND.

I feel quite satisfied that if death were caused by any common poison, my examination would have revealed its nature. If he did die from soison, I think it would be a very rare poison. I mean someth rarely used for suicidal or homicidal purposes. I cannot make any suggestion as to what that might be. I think that death is more lik to have been due to natural causes than poisoning. I failed to dete any poison in the stamach or organs, and this causes me to make that statement.

DI CORUNER.

I sulin is not rare, but used as a poison for nomicidal or suicident purposes it would be rare. I was not taking insulin as being a poison I just do not know how a poison could be defined. When I stoke of rarity of poisons, I was speaking of rarity of their being used as poisons, not the rarity of their existence.

	•	

* COR GER CALLS

OLIVE CONSTANCE NETT.

of 54 Bast Parkway, vol. LtGardens.

Telephoniste SWORK

BY CORONER

I was with Mr. Straps on the evening of the outh Movember at bomerton. We got there about 20 past 7, and we were walking down the steps when we noticed a person on the beach, but aid not take much notice. We sat there, and naturally did not notice him very much. We saw that he was lying there, and later on I so. I would have a look at him, I suggested that to Mr. Strapps, and he told me in effect to mand my own business. I do not know what made me suggest that, whether it was premomition or what it was. It did actually occur to me that he might be dead, but at the time that suggestion seemed silly. When first arrived, I only saw the man's legs, and I gain d the impression that he was lying on his back. The osition of his legs did not alter while I was there that I know of. I did not see his legs move. I saw no difference in his position from the time we arrived until the time when we left. I did not take any notice of his position. I saw Mr. Lyons this morning, but I do not remember having seen him on that evening. I did think something was wrong with this man, but I had no foundation for it. It was because he was lying still. I have seen people lying on the beach before, I saw this man's hand, and it seemed to be in a funny position, although I cannot remember actually now it was. I did in fact think this at the time, and made the remark tomy companion that perhaps the man was dead. There were not very many people about at this time. Other people must have seen him, I should think. There was one man upon top of the road, but spart from that no other people took any notice of this man. There were other people further down, at the water's edge. There he was lying was a fairly public place, not the sort of a place a man would be likely to choose if he wanted to go somewhere and die quietly.

No questions by Professor Cleland.

COMONER CALLS:

HAROLD BOLFE WORTH

of 21 Backett Terrace, Marryatville.

benior porter, closk room, Adel. Railway Statn.

BY COM NEWS

I have had enquiries made by the police. I produce luggage t cket 4. 52705, issued on 30th November, 1948, to some person. I have examined this ticket, and find that it bears a stamp on the back which indicates to me that the ticket was issued on the 20th November 1348 at 11 a.m. This could mean that the ticket was issued any time between 11 a.m. and 12 midday. This suitcase and contents remained unclaimed. The ticket was issued in respect of a suitcase, not by me I know the man who actually issued the tickets, but he is away on holidays now. A. Graig is his name. The stamp on the back of the ticket is the clock stamp, when it is issued, it is stamped under the clock, indicating the date and time of issue. At the hallwaystation there is not now a place where a man arriving from the country could bath and shave. He would either have to go to an notel or to the City Saths. Mr. Craig is away on holicays now. I do not know whether or not he has been approached during the last 6 months to have enquiries made. I know the ticket produced represents the suit-ase which I gave to the police.

BI PROPESS A CLELAND.

The other half of the ticket would be retained by the person we tendered the suitcase, depositing it. There are many articles of this kind which remain unclaimed from time to time. They are in the good condition, such as this case. I have no inea what time the Melbourne Express arrived on this morning, or the proken Hill express.

BY CORONER

There was another article lodged on 30th Movember which was unclaimed. There are articles lodged in December which have not been claimed, but I cannot say with regard to this particular date. This suitcase has never been claimed. I would know if it had been a, definite

I have already looked at the records, but there was no overcoat on this particular day lodged at the closk room.

CONONER CALLS:

HATMOND LICHEL LEANE

DETECTIVE-STATICARD AT ADELAIDE.

SHURD

BY COMORER:

I have been making enquiries concerning the identify of the deceased person, since about the 14th January of this yr. The cloth produced are the clothes found on the body, coat, shoes, shirt, pulso a pair of jockey underpants, singlet, pair of socks, pair of trouser one tie. They are the ones he was wearing when found on the beach. The shoes now are roughly in the same condition as they were when found. They are practically new, and very clean. They look as though they had been polished that morning, or later. On the 14th Jany I make search of the luggage office of unclaimed luggage, and on a rack I found a number of cases, placed in on different days, but this particular one on both howember. It bore the ticket produced by Mr. Rorth.

Ticket Marked Exhibit U.4.

Dut the contents were "Kensitas", a different brand, there was also found a box of Bryant and May's matches, 1/4 full, a packet half full of Juicy Fruit chewing gum, a combs, and professor Cleland found a slip of paper pearing the words "Taman Shud." That was what was found on the body.

In the 19th Jany I took possn of the case. I had seen it on the 14th, and took it a week later. The case contained a dressing gown and cord, one laundry bag with the name printed "Keane" on it, one pair of scissors, in sheath, one anife in sheath, one stencil brown a singlets, & pair underpants (Jockey type), & ties, one tie pearing the name "T. Keane," one pair slippers, & pair underpants, (ordinary type), one pair trousers bearing dry cleaning marks, one sports coat one coat shirt, one pair pyjamas, one yellow coat shirt,

one singlet, bearing the name "Kean" It is a possibility that the "s" on "Kean" might have been washed or rubbed out. Incre was also one singlet, with the name torn out, one shirt, neme tag gone, six handkerchiefs, one piece of light Loard, 8 large and one saall envelo 2 coathangers, one razor strop, one cigarette lighter, one razor, one shaving brush, one small screwdriver, six pencils, a 6d. in cash foun in trousers pocket, one toothbrush and paste, one glass dish, one soap hish contailing one hair pin, 3 safety pins, one front and one back collar stud, one brown button, one tes spoon, amexicaenex one broken scissors, one card of tan thread, one tin of tan boot polish, 2 air mail stickers, one searf, one towel. The name tabs were missing from the cost, they have been torn out of the locaet of the cost which he was wearing, and I think they are gone from the shirt. The makers bran is on the trousers. The trousers in the suitowse are not the same make as those he was wearing, but they are identical in size. Those he was wearing are of Crusader Cloth, they could have been made in any State sustralia. Theplothes in the case were well kept and tidy. I intervi-Hugh Pozza, tailor, of Gawler Place, and he is of the opinion that i is an american type coat, because there is a gus et in front of the co shown in American Catalogues. He pulled the coat to pieces and viewed the stitching, and there is a feather type stitch in it which he state could be made only in America, where the only machines which would do that were. The cost was partly made, then fitted. It was mass produce but made to measure. The ody work is performed, and then the person is fitted before it is completed. He thought it was made in the united btates, it could not be made by someone who was in Australia but who had learned the trade in America because of the machine. Suchaclothes are not imposted. He had either seen in america, or had bought the clothes off somebody who had been there. Most of the pencils are Royal Povereign, afizeifferentzerremenzer of them are H type, which would be a drafting pencil. The anife, stencil brush, and scissors, were found in the case. I interviewed Mr. Gray, the headmaster of the School of Arts and Crafes, North Toe adelaide and after studying catalogues he came across a smife the replica of this one in shape.

It is an ordinary ta le anifa cut down. Inside the folders produced is tinned zinc, an alloy used for stencilling. Mr Gray then product a piece of similar zinc, not quite so heavy, and stated that in his opinion the snife was used to start the letter off, he then finished the letter by cutting eround with the scissors. The brush is used for stencilling the brinds cut out. Mr. Jowan made atest on the brush, and found that it had been used. He could not find out what the substance was, but a black substance came out of it. The case is practically new. Therever it came from h s been taken off the end of it; the luggage label has been removed, I mean. A number of the articles in the case are minus the tags. We noticed that the coat has been stitched with brown cord. That coat was being worn by the deed. In the sultcase was found a needle and thread of similar texture. The trousers ocket in the case had been mended with a similar thread It appears to be rather a masculine mending. The trousers worn by the decd were mended with a similar thread, he had sewn outtons in his trousers with a similar thread. The thread is a common thread The shirt in the suitcase and the shirt the decd was wearing were similar shirts, also a pair of Jockey underpants found in the case we of a similar brand to those worn by the decd. There was one brand ne handwerchief in the case, which is similar to the handwerchief found on the body. The trousers and the coats were of a similar size. The trousers were an identical size - they were measured. The coat in the case was smaller. The fitting of the coat he was wearing might have been a little bit large, and the one in the case might have been a little small. They could have been the coat of one man. The dressing gown is of reasonable quality, and there is a pair of slippers to mate They are have been worn fairly well. I did not find an overcoat. I have checked at the railways, but there were no numbers 02 or 04 walch were for overcoats.

COMONER CALLS

PATRICK JAMES DURHAM

Police Photographer and Fingerprint Expert Statd At Adel.

S# JRN

BY CORONER

December 3rd 1945 in co with M.C. Anight I went to the City Morgue Adelaide, and I was pointed out a body by M.C. Enight, who said the body had been found on the Somerton Beach. I photographed the body full face and side face. I produce those photographs.

Photographs marked 0.5 and 0.8., 0.7 and 0.8

I also fingerprinted the deceased, and later sent copies of these fingerprints and hotographs to all Dtates in the Commonwealth and New Zealand, also the important fingerprint bureaus overseas.

The reply was the person is not above to us. I also have some copie of the writing found on the decd.

(Exhibits C.7 and C.3 returned to Mr. Surham)

I toom a photograph of the paper found on the decd., and I produce sopies of that. Examples E

hesuming at 2.30 p.m. this day.

CORUNER CALLS:

WILLIAM WEST

of 6 iram St. Aensington.

necorder. SWORN

BY COHONER:

I was/employed by the b.A.R. and it is/duty to be aware of the times of arrival and departure of trains. On 20th movember 1948, the train from bownans arrived at 8.20 a.m., from hobertstown, 8.47; from willunga, 6.49; Angaston, 9.05; the Melbourne Express, 9.15; the Broken Hill Express 9.17; the Mt. Pleasant 9.20; the Angaston at 10 o'clock; the Pouth-East at 10.54; Departing trains for Henli beach 5.13, 5.23, 6.03, 6.35, 6.59, 7.11, 7.27, 8.02, 8.15, 8.53, 9.30, 10.50, and 11.51. All were on time with exception of the last which was one minute kaxxx late.

LXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

DETECTIVE LEANE CONTINUING.

BY CUMONER:

On 30th November 1343 the day was warm, 72 degrees maximum, cloudy during the day, visibility fair to good. Furing the early evening, clouded, and at about 8 p.m. it was hazy. On 23rd November the maximum was xxx 79.9 degrees, clear day and clear might. On 24th it was 91.7 degrees, clear during the morning, afternoon was overcast On 25th the maximum temperature was 70., and overcase during the day and evening. On 26th it was 70.1, overcast early morning, clear dur afternoon and evening. On 27th 79: degrees, clear during day dnd evening. On 23th, the temperature was 69., clear during the morning and cloudy during the afternoon and evening. On 29th, the temperatur was 67.4, cloudy during the morning, and clear during the rest of the day and evening. The luggage ticket could have been in the overcoat, if he had had an overcoat and discarded it somewhere. There is no comment I wish to make on the clothing or the salicase. A large numb of people have viewed the body. The deceased was 5 feet 11 ins tall, well-bullt, broad-shouldered, square on the shoulders, he had well developed limbs, large hands, hair slightly receding in front, ginger but mousy coloured. The hair was fairly course, turning grey on the sides and back behind the ears, slight wave in hair, no distinct part ne was approx. 45 years of age, grey eyes, clean shaven. Natural teeth, I think there were 16 missing, 8 on top and 8 on bottom. Ther was no evidence that he had worn a denture. There were scars on the body - 8 small scars inside the left wrist, one scar inside left elbo curved and about an inch long, one scar or boil mark about an inch in size in the upper left forearm. The description, fingerprints and shotographed have been circulated all around Australia and New Zealan the fingerprints and photographs were sent to all the English speaking countries in the world, such as Africa, Angland, America. The c se h had a good deal of local publicity. It has been published in every State in Australia.

In response, we have and secole coming forward to identify the decd. identify the deceased as a man!

I celieve one man did satisfy police his named was McLean, but it was not positive. It has not been shown to be wrong. Personal particula did not tally with this man. In all cases where people have written the particulars supplied do not tally, because of teeth, age of other personal particulars. This man said that McLean was a pipe smoker. There was no evidence either on him or in his suitcase to indicate th this man was a pipe smoker. McLean had never been known to smoke cigarettes, and this man was an inveterate smoker, pecause of the stain on his fingers. This man's hands were hard, but were not rough from performing manual ork, and McLean was a labourer. I was not present when the man said the decd was named McLean. Everything possible has beendone to identify the man, but without result. There is no fact that I know of which points towards sufcide and abolishes the possibility of murder. I believe he died an unnatural death, but how I cannot say. A physical specimen as he was would not just go to the beach and tie. The words "Tamal shad" mean the end, or the finish. That could have been placed in his pocket by the person who caused his death, so I cannot attach any special significa to that.

COMONER CALLS:

AMORE CAJOUO DAARORA

DETEC. STATE AT ADEL.

SWORN

BY CORONER:

The clothing found on the cody, mainly the shirt, the handker-chief and the pair of jockey underpants, are identical with a shirt and pair of underpants, handkerchief and the underpants found in the suitcase. I would say they are identical and size, and in manufacture from the layman's point of view, I would say they are even identical in material.

. In the cuffs of the trousers found in the suitesse were particles of white beach sand. I saw the slip of paper "laman whud" I reed that from wet. Leane with instructns to make enquiries about it. It was found in the fob pocket of the trousers on the cody by Professor Weland. I received informath that the words Waman shud" appeared at the conclusion of a poem known as the "Aubayait" which was written by a Persian philosopher and mathematician, known as Omar Khayyam, which had been translated into English by a man named "itzgerald. I went to beck's Book shop in Pulteney St. Adelaide wher I looked through a number of copies of the poem, until I found one copy at the end of which appeared the and words "Iaman shud" in the same font of type as the words on the slip of paper I possessed. I held that copy up to the light, and passed this slip of paper over t words "Taman shud" in that copy, and they are identical in size and length. That copy was published by Collins Press of England, and is distributed to Australian distrabutors altho printed in England. I was not able to find a copy which did not have printing on the back : it as from the slip of paper produced. I made enquiries at the publilibrary, the lending library, and the circulating library, and also the University Library, in an endeavour to find a copy that might ha the words "Taman shad" torn fromit. I caused enquiries to be walle interstate, and also at Brighton, Somerton, and Glenelg,

but **mamo copy can be found with the words "Taman shud" torn from it the paper on which the words are written is anown as coated wood fre art paper, sucstance of #3 % 36, 58 los to the 500 sheets. That is the paper which is before me. I did not compare this paper with the in the Collins book. If this is a collins impression, the one which I saw would be a different impression. The type of paper I have is the type used in book manufacture. It appeared to be much the saw sort of paper as appeared in Collin book. Different impressions of the same book might be printed on different paper. These words appear at the end of the first edition, at the end of the second edition the word "Taman" appears.

Piece of paper put in marked Exhibit C.9.

I have made enquiries as to the meaning of the words. I made enquiries from Mr. Whiting, of the public library, and in a Persian-English dictionary complied by a man named Wallerston the words "Tam shudan" appear and these words mean, "To end or to finish." In snoth copy of the "ubayait written by another translator the mark ending of the poem merely states "Finis". I take it "Taman shud" means the same shud" appears to be the verb, and "Taman" the noun "to end." The poem itself simply means that we show what this world has in store for us, but we do not know what the other world has in store, and while we are on this earth we should enjoy life to the fullest, and when it is time for us to pass on, pass on without any regrets. It does not seem to have any bearing on thecase, or any meaning as to the cause of this death. As far as this death is concerned, there is no context into which the words can fit.

Photographs of the cast of the deceased marked Exhibits 4.10 to 14.
(c12, c13 oc 14 handed to preso for publication)

CORDNER CALLS:

DUUGLAS GEDRGE WANSEND

of 464 Cross hoads, Edwardstown,

Student. Salah

BY CURONER

On 30th November 194d I was temporarily employed by the b.A.m. as a ticket clerk. Un that particular day I was engaged in selling tickets on the Port Line and North Line. Looking at the ticket from Exhibit C.1, I can say that I issued that ticket on 30th November. There would be no one else issuing tickets on that day from that box. The & stars on the ticket indicate that it came from the double star cox in which I was working, so I can say from that that I issued the ticket. On this day I issued & tickets to Henley Beach from the box. It is a 2nd class ticket, there are no first class tickets on suburgar lines. Of the 3 tickets, that must have been the first to be issued. There is an ind mark through the number which indicates that this was the last ticket left in that box from the previous day. I commenced work at 6.15, and anocked off at about 2 o'clock. That ticket must have been issued during that time. I have no independent memory of my work on that day. It would be impossible to say what time the ticket was issued. I could not remember the man to whom I sold the ticket from the photos in the paper. It is possible I did not even look at nim, but only just took the money, gave the ticket and the change without looking up.

WITNESS RAYMOND IONEL LEARE RECALLED.

9

Clothing found on the body of the deceased put in marked Exhibit C.15 Pultrase found at the station put in marked Exhibit C.16.

Bust made from the body of the deceased out in marked Exhibit C.17.

(Coroner orders that these exhibits be kept in the custody of the Police).

at this stage adjourned to Exchesize Tuesday 21st June at 10.20 a.m.

nesuming on 21st June 1949 at 10.80 a.m.

JOHN BURTON CLELAND

1 Desawood moad, Desument.

Legally Qualified Medical Fractor.

Professor in Emeritae of Pathology at Adel Univ.

1808N

BY WHOMERS

I made an examn of the clothing which was on the body of the decd., and also the contents of the suitease found at the Adelaide asilway atation, and many of my observatos have already been expressed in evidence. In the suitcase was an orange coloured linen thread. I found a similar thread in the clothing on the body and in the clothing in the suitcase. In the suitcase was some orange coloured linen thread. This was examined microscopically and corresponded in colour and size of fibres to similar thread used to sew up a trouser pocket in the suitcase, buttons on the trousers taken off the deceased, and to repair where the cost collar of the deceased had given way. The colour was a wara sepia colour, waich is an unusual colour. I put on the deceased's dou le-breasted coat, and it buttoned on me with some difficulty, and a sports cost in the suitcase similarly could be buttoned with a squeeze. The sleeves of each of these garments came down on the hand to about the sameextent though perhaps the sports coat sleeves were not quite as long. The trousers in the suit case and those worn by the decd seemed to be of equal length. The shoes taxen off the decd made an excellent fit for Mr. Cowen, but the slippers in the suitcase he thought were a trifle smaller. The cost in the spitcase may have been a trifle smaller to the one the dead was wearing. The sleeves were shorter, both were t small for me. For a smaller chested or smaller abdominal man, the c on the tody might have been a trifle too large, and the one in the case a little too small, in other words, they would have both fitted the one man. I found the stomp of a clade of carley grass in the inside of the lower part of the trouser leg in the suitcase,

and another stuck in a sock worn by the deca., but I do not pay much attention to that, as barley grass is widely distributed at that tim of the year, in all the States. It is a grass which throws up its seeds as one walks through it. I agree with Dr. Dwyer to estimate that the man was somewhere between 40 and 45; I would say he was betn 40 and 50. I saw the body after it was embalmed. I od not say if it were possible that the decd had been in the habit of wearing a beard moustache, and had recently shaved. I considered the fingernail and toenails very well cared for. They were clean, and many people wno find their way to the sorgue have toenails which are dirty and unattended to. his were clean. I saw indications that the decd. too. some trouble about his cleanliness and appearance. The shoes on the body were remarkably clean. They looked as though they had just been polished. There was a little sand around the toemarks, but they were not guite what one would have expected had the deceased been walking about Glenelg from moon until he was seen lying on the beach. I would expect them to have shown loss of gloss in such circumstances. The de cassed looked to me like a European, I would say he looked very much like a Britisher. His hair was brushed back from the forebead, and there was no part in it. in examining the clothes, in a fob pocket which was rather difficult to find, just on the right of the fly, I found a piece of paper. After I found it and put the paper pack, it took me a good deal of time to find it the second time, as it was a pocket which could be easily missed. I cannot add anythe to the avidence which has already been given on that. Ixxan I did but feel the convinced about the tags on the clothes - it appeared that they had been removed, but I did not find any threads to indicate they had been recently removed. I have considered the circumstances disclosed in the evidence, and I came to the opinion, taking all the circumstance into account, that ceath was almost certainly not natural, and in all probability that some poison had been taken, with soicidal intent. I came to that conclusion before I found the piece of paper bearing the words "Taman shud." Bearing in mind that those words mean sumething like "the end" that supports my opinion considerably; I think the words were put there deliberately ix and indicated that intention that he was fed up with taings.

I have read the account of the post-mortem, and there is nothing to indicate death from natural causes. he was a comparatively young man. The vessels of the heart and of the brain are described as free from atheroma, so that if his death was to by attributed to natural causes, one would have to think of some vagal inhibition, which would mean a sudden and unexpected death for which no preparation could be made, or possibly something something like disbetic coma, which would begin to overcome a person anywhere before they had time to retire to a place i hich to lie down. Death from vagal inhibition is quite sudden, and i the result of a shock. If he died from such a cause as that, the shock aust have occurred in the spot where he was lying when he died. Uf course, people from time to time die of a natural death, and we cannot find any ofganic lesion to account for it. I agree that the words "Taman shud" would excluse a natural death, one would not expect that they would be on the body if the death were natural, also because of t direumstances of the position of the body. I think if he did commit suivide whatever he took commenced to have a soporific effect on h.m. before he had made his way as far along the beach as he had intended; that he had only time to descent the steps, found he was becoming drow and lay down with his head and shoulders resting agnst the seawell, in position which is within a yard of steps, on a summer evening, which wo be frequented by several people at least. I do not remember if there was any/post-mortem evidence of Mavicity of the neck and shoulders. Lieuxindrinengasiengasiengasienzienzienzienzienzienzi the respiration was failing, his face might get dusky, and the bloom might gravitate cown to the ears after death. The lividity around the ears and neck was parhaps surprising in view of his position, but it was explainable. It would depend on how much his head was supported it mayhave been only slightly supported, perhaps no more than one's her is supported on a pillow. My opinion is that not only was death not natural, but was probably caused by some poison. I would accept Mr. Cowan's evidence that he found no poison present, as he is a competent analyst. It is possible for ceatain poisons to be excreted from the body before death so that they are not noticeable on analysis.

Barbiturates and alkaloids may not be detectible on analysis. On th o ther handx, such negative findings aust be rare, and if they had be taken, it would be a very remarkable c incidence that common poisons of that nature should have given thit difficulty in detection, and a the same time the person concerned seemed to have taken undue troubl to nide his identity. It makes one rather think that he may have go to equal trouble to use scalething which caused a quiet death, somethin unusual, which it was unlikely to be found. It would presuppose some knowledge, either a medical man or someone associated with pratory, or ossibly as air ptanton Hicks suggested , an illness in the family for which some drug bad been prescribed which would achi ve the resul intended. If a Common poison were used and not found, even in the presence of ordinary circumstances, the dose must have been enough, and just enough, to cause death. As far as I can estimate he proba ly died at or beforemidnight, and that is a comparatively quick death for poisoning, paroiturate and so on, and one would infer that to produce death so quickly a large dose had been taken, and that would be readily detected. Every poi on we have suggested seems to be discounted. We found no evidence of vomiting. a possible stain on his trousers did not look like vamit, and we did not detect any evidence potato, and he had been wating potato. The internal organs were some what congisted, but not deeply congested as might be expected from failure of respiration. If he had given himself a hypodermic injecti of tuberine, which is curare, he should have died maxax a death from asphyxie. It does not seem there is sufficient evidence from the post-mortem to suggest that. Most of the common poisons would give vomiting or evidence of convulsions, something which would have drawn attention to the deceased. Lyanide would be very quick, and no botts as found, nor was there any smell of cyanide. Bartiturates are the things which could have caused death, if only they could have been found. If a barbiturete, it would probably be a sodium compound, whi are absorbed faster and broken down more rapidly, but even in such a case it would appear that 50% would me remain and se detectible.

E drug which had been prescribed medicinally, as I have mentioned, would be difficult for the ordinary person to obtain. Of course, the man may have been a chemist or pharmacist. There was no sign of vomiting, and any trace of those substances would be difficult to detect. They would require a hypodermic injection, or I suppose they might be taken by wouth. It is difficult to find any poison which fits the circumstances. There always seems to be some little point * ich prevents us from accepting any particular poison as being the cause of seath. It is impossible to be certain, but in my mind then is very little doubt/that the death was unnatural. The man was not circumsized, which would boint to his not being a Mohemmedan or a Jev and I could not be certain that there was no vaccination mark. Of course, all persons serving in the forces would be vaccipited, but in some cases the vaccination marks are hard to see. A mark made by a hypodermic injection could be overlooked, notwithmstanding all care Of course, he would have had to do away with the syringe and nottle. Apparently he had discarded most of the contents of his pockets, including his money. The beence of money suggests he had deliberatel e ptied his pockets. One can mardly think of the last penny as havin shatever been expended in his last meal or/his last urchase was, unle s of course he had been robbed after death.

DY DETECTIVE LEADE.

wayyer of the same

In the event of a man taking an overdose of insulin by injectn. if one had thought of the possibility, the heart blood might have how an unusual percentage of sugar. I think or. Poynton told me of a case which he had seen where a man had taken a large dose of insulin, and he was supposed to have died in an hour and a half or two hours of having taken it. I am just trying to remember what he told me. It may have been a peaceful death, or it may have been a hypo-glycemic. The patients who go into that type of come do have convulsions. I think it is probably quite possible to inject into the finger and leave no conclure mark.

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BY Wholen

I examined a microscopic section of the liver, but it did not seen to me to offer any explanation as to the cause of death. Insulin has to be taken by injection. A lot of people take insulin nowadays, and if they got hold of the idea that it could be used for suicidal purposes, they might do so.

COHONER CALLS:

CEDALC STANTON HICKS

of according to Avenue, when Osmond.
University Professor of Physiology and Pharmacology.

SHURA

BY WINDSER!

I have before aware of various facts in connection with the death of this am unanown man.

Coroner reads portion of Dr. Dwyer's evidence.

At this stage evidence of pr. "ennett inter osed.

COHONER CALLS:

JOHN BARKLY BENNETT

of 19 Fullarton Ad. Fullarton.

L.Q.A.P. 550 m

BY ORONER:

I have been away from Adelaide for some time, and only arrive pack this morning. I have a few notes which I make at the time, at 9.40 on 1st December, 1948. I examined the body in the amblee outsi the Adel Hosp., in a police amblee. Life was extinct when I examed t body. I thought the death could have occurred up to 3 hours before my examination, not more than 3 hours. I would put the time of deat at 2 o'clock at the earliest. I based the opinion on the rigor mort but I did not make a note of the extent of it at the time.

BY SIR STANTON HICKS.

I formed the opinion as to the time of death from just a curso.

loos at him, from the cyanosis. There is nothing also about the bod;
which I not ded.

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SIR STANTON BICKS CONTINUING. BY CORONER

I have formed an opinion as to whether death was natural or not. I think it was not a natural death. I am in agreement with the other medical evidence with regard to that. Being no signs of violer about the body, first of all I accept the findings of ar. Yowan, who a very competent and conscientious chemist, and then acting on the possibility of there still being an undiscovered barbiturate, I would expect to find death from respiratory (ailure and an enlarged left ventricleof the heart, which was not the case. The postmortem finding excluse the possibility of barbiturates being the cause of death, in my opinion. I accept the evidence that the man probably died at 2 o'clock at the earliest, and that he was seen to move at 7 o'c the prev. evening. I consider that a dose of mark morphine which would have killed a man in that time would have been easily det ctible and measurable. In cases where death has been said to be due to barbiturates, and in which barbiturates have not been found, in cases mentioned, the poison is sulphonal. It is a possibility, but not in thi case because of the condition of the heart, and I might add vicero because of the glycere. There have been cases where death has been abown to be from barbiturates, but such has not been found on analysis. In the case of sulphondl, it is possible that the cose was andto leave no trace on analysis. the bare minimum sufficient to cause death. It is my opinion that to cause death in 7 hours the dose would have to be massive. I could perhaps give my reasons for suspecting a possible group, they are, one, that the heart was contracted, and two, that the lungs and in particular the liver and spleen were engorged, and three, that the wall of the stomach was not only engorged but there had been blood extravisted into the cavity of the stomach. These facts, because they are facts, suggest to me the action of a poison which caused the neart ultimately not to relax and fill in the normal way, and that prior to its stopping in the unfilled condition, theremust have ben some time during which its filling was getting less and less

If the heart were filling less and less as time analyzed went by, that would mean that more and more plood would be remaining on the input side of the heart, and that would explain the engorgement of the silvers found at the post-mortem. The fact that there was blocen the general contents suggests to me that there had been some violer contractions of that organ, or that there had been some inflammation of the organs. No inflammatory agents were detected by Mr. Cowan, not did the cost-mortem examination suggest that some irritant metallic poison might have been involved, or an acid. Therefore I incline to member of a conclude that a/group of drugs causing the heart to stop inzazzazy systole might have been used. The affirst word on the exhibit is the name of the group, and the other words are members of the group.

C.18
Paper sarked Exhibit C.18

Of the members of the group, I would say that there are several variates of number 1, and I had in mind more particularly number 2., which would be extremely toxic in relatively small dose, I mean even in an oral dose, and would be completely missed by any of the tests appli-if not impossible and would in fact be extremely difficult/to identify even if it had bee suspected in the first instance. I mean it would not be identifiable & ordinary chemical tests. Puch a substance would be quite easily procurable by the ordinary individual, I do not think even special circumstances would be required. They might even have been procured from a case under treatment, but I do not think you would have to prove that to a chemist. It would imply intelligence and shrewd observation, but not necessarily a knowledge of the way in which it would cause deat because that might have been very unpleasant. The only missing fact which would have made me confident is the absence of signs of vomiting, but there is sufficient variation between individuals to account for it or he may have vomited before he took up his position by the seawall. but I confess that I would have been more confident in drawing a frank conclusion had there been signs of vomit somewhere about him. I have me been proceeding on the assumption that this was self-administer d.

in the second se		

If it had not been self-administered, and the body brought there, tha would remove any doubts as to the time at which death took place, as sell as my other difficulties. If death had occurred 7 hours after the man was seen to move, it would imply a massive dose. The drug high I have mentioned in a massive code could have caused death in that time, and could still have been undiscoverable. ix the circumstances are consistent with its administration, and some of them even suggestive of it. Nothing is inconsistent with it. There is xxx one point in Dr. Dwyer's evidence in which he refers to some changes in the liver lobules. He has not extended his observations upon that, and I therefore infer that they are not very significant. I infer that if they had been significant, he would have laid greater emphasis upon them, and then one might have had to consider something which had been operating over a longer period of time. My own conclusion is that the are not significant. I can think of no other group of which the two poisons are two representatives, there being several others, which could have caused death in the way in which it occurred.

BY DET LEANE.

There would have been convulsions with poisoning in the group mentioned. I understand there was no sign of disturbance in the sand, and I can only assume that so many people had walked in the sand that there was no evidence that there had not been convulsions. I am only going by what I was told, that there had been a lot of people and the body, and sand being what it is it would be impossible to draw any conclusions. That is something as well as the vomiting about which I would have liked further evidence. There must have been convulsions, which of course does not mean that there would be violent movements of the body, but there must have been convulsions. If told that he was in the same position at 7 o'c the night before he was found, and still in the same position when found, I cd not draw any inference from that, because he could have had convulsions without changing his position.

BY COMMER.

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Convulsions may axazaza death, they do not necessarily precede death, but I would expect them to. The question of whether or not convulsions precede death would relate the the physical state of the individual. If he were - poor hyster epochase, I would respect sey there may not be convulsions, but in this case I would expect som Convulsions are mainly of the arm. I suppose you would call the movement which you described to me as a convulsive movement. The that it is violent popular idea of convulsi is fast, Abut it does not necessarily mean movements of the arm, although they can be strong movements. The convulgion is a movement, not just a stiffening. This movement at ? o'c could well have been the last convulsive movement. The state of the liver would exclude insulin. It is not possible the man was a diabetic who died in a diabetic coma, because the state of the liver did not su port that. Further, there would have been noticed on his breath the smell of products associated with diabetic coma, after his death. It would be noticed around his body when it was opened. finding of the words "Tamen sous" exclude the possibility of insulin causing death. A very factual description was given by Dr. Sennett, who said the man wppeared to be just like a person who had had a coronary seizure, and that is also in acceping with the conclusion th I have come to. The substance fould have been taken orally. Had it been taken by injection it would have acted more rapidly.

Tamám Shud

Tamám Shud

Tamám Shud

Tamám Shud

O. H. M. S.

C 3

The City Coroner,

Dear dir,

Following our telephone conversation on this day I am forwarding extracts from "Poisons, Their Idenkik; kenkik Isolation and Identification" by Rrank Bamford, late Director of the Medico-legal Laboratory Cairo. Second edition revised by C.F. Stewart, Header in Clinical Themistry University of Edinburgh. The foreword is written by Professor Sydney Smith. Published by Churchill 1947.

Page 194.

The simple ureides and the thic-barbiturates(pentothal, e.g.) adaline and bromural appear to be entirely destroyed. Roche Lynch reports five cases, three of them fatal, in which he failed to find these drugs in the urine or viscera, although in every case bromine was detected. Note: there is no bromine in pentothal but there are usually traces in the body.

Page 195.

A patient sometimes dies of sulphonal poisoning long after the administration of the frug has ceased, and even aft rits complete elimination from the body (Sydney Smith, Godemer)."

Page 222.

"It is, however the common experience of toxicologists that they have failed to detect certain alkaloids when there has been strong evidence of their administration; this occurs in/addicts whose ability to tolerate large doses is not jbly due to the acquired power of the organs to destroy these drugs."

/"the case of"

While the se quotations do not enable any conclusion to be reached concerning the cause of death in the Somerton case the information does offer a possible solution to the dilemma.







(6)

Numbered teeth are the Lower.

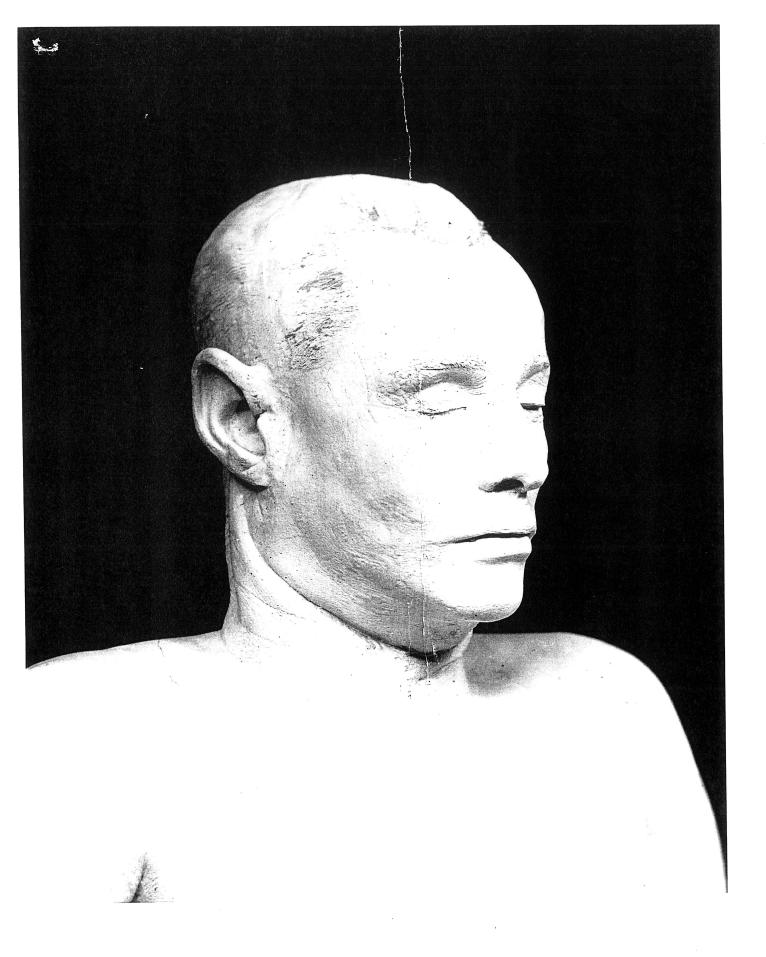
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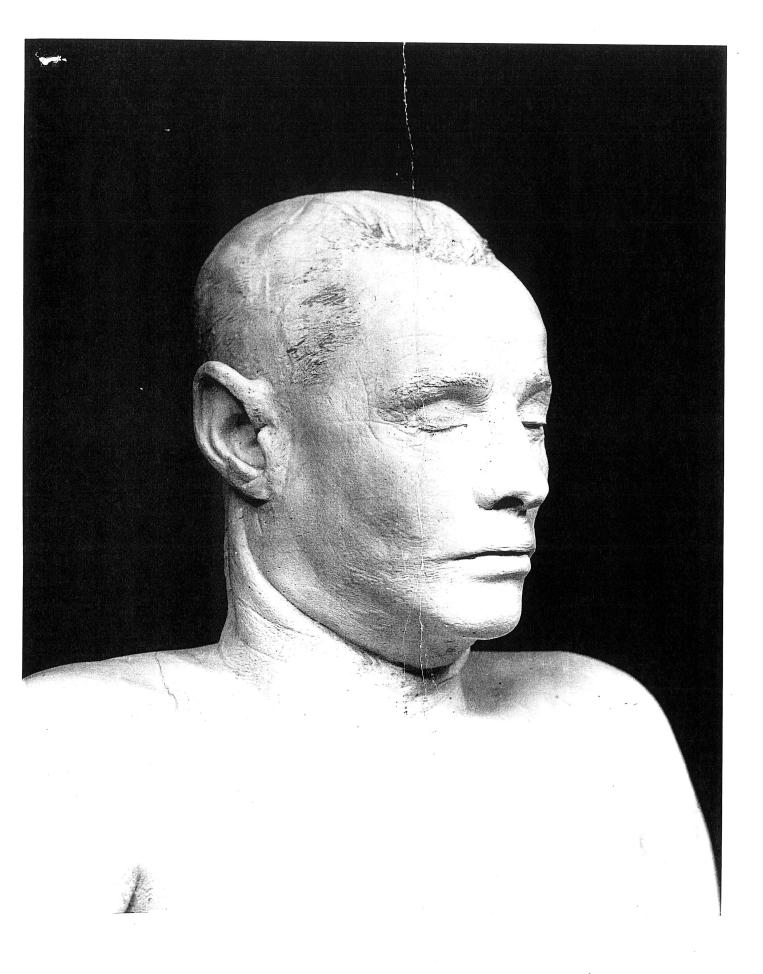
Numbered teeth are the Lower.

missing teeth.





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