

This Deponent, Wilfred Keenan, of Batlow, on this 27th. day of February, 1948

On his Oath, saith as follows:

I am a Foreman, employed at the Batlow Packing House, and reside at Eurabbie Street, Batlow. The deceased, Florence Lilico was my mother. At about 6.30.a.m. on the 17th. February, I took her breakfast across from my home to her house, as was my custom. The deceased seemed to be in her usual health. I did not have much to say to her. At about 5.30. p.m. the same day I took my baby across to see the deceased, but found that she was not there. I did not take any notice of her not being at the house, as she had a habit, when her mind was upset, of going to other relatives or friends homes, and they would bring her home at night.

I went to the house again at 7.30.p.m. before going to a meeting and found that she was still away from the house. I looked in again at 10.30.p.m. on my return from the meeting and she was still missing.

I thought that deceased may have gone to the home of a brother, and I decided to see him at my place of employment in the morning.

I saw the brother at work the next morning, and he informed me that deceased was not at his house. I stayed at work until about 8.30.a.m. when I left and went home and made further inquiries from other relatives and neighbours, but obtained no information as to her whereabouts. One of my neighbours informed me that she saw the back door of deceased's home open at 4.30.p.m. and closed again at 5.p.m. on the 17th. Instant. When I could not locate the deceased with relatives or friends, and owing to the fact that she had previously threatened to throw herself in the dam, I obtained the assistance of Jack Harrap, and we went to the town water dam, where I saw the deceased floating face downwards in the water. Jack Harrap went at once for the Police and I went to my home, and then accompanied the Doctor to the scene. The Police and Coroner arrived shortly afterwards and the body was removed from the water. I identified the body as that of Florence Lilico Keenan, to the Batlow District Coroner.

The deceased was 61 years of age, a native of Batlow, and was a ~~widow~~ widow, She owned no property and left no will.

She was operated on at Wagga about 12 months ago for gall stones, when she seemed to improve mentally, but for the last four or five ~~me~~ months her mental condition seemed to deteriorate.

Deceased lost a daughter through diphtheria about 40 years ago.

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