

Myles Flynn: A Criminal, Lunatic, &  
Alcoholic who unknowingly changed  
SA for the better.

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Glenside Hospital Historical Society Inc.

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018

## The Crime Scene Block 14 Smelters (BHP)

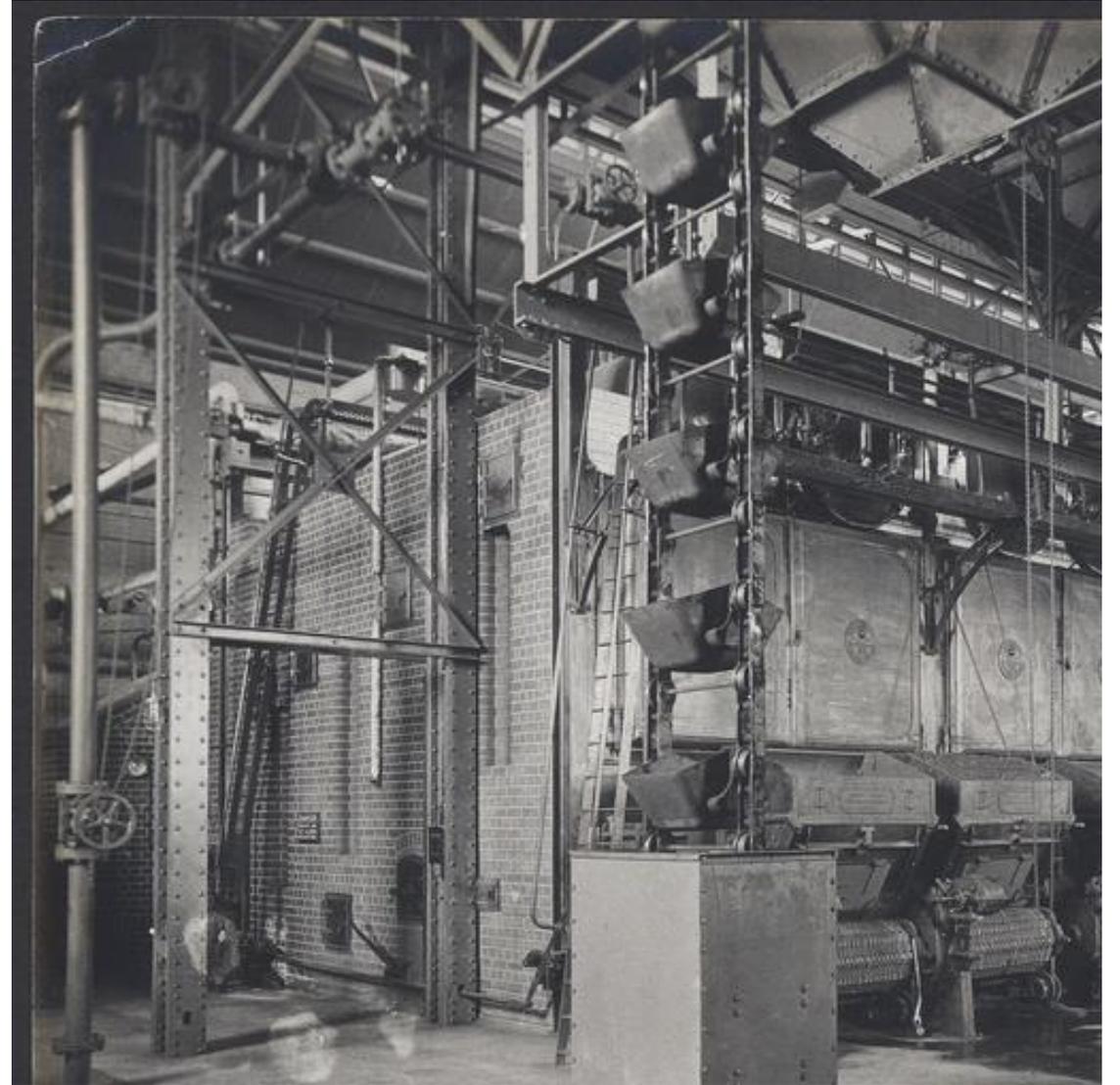
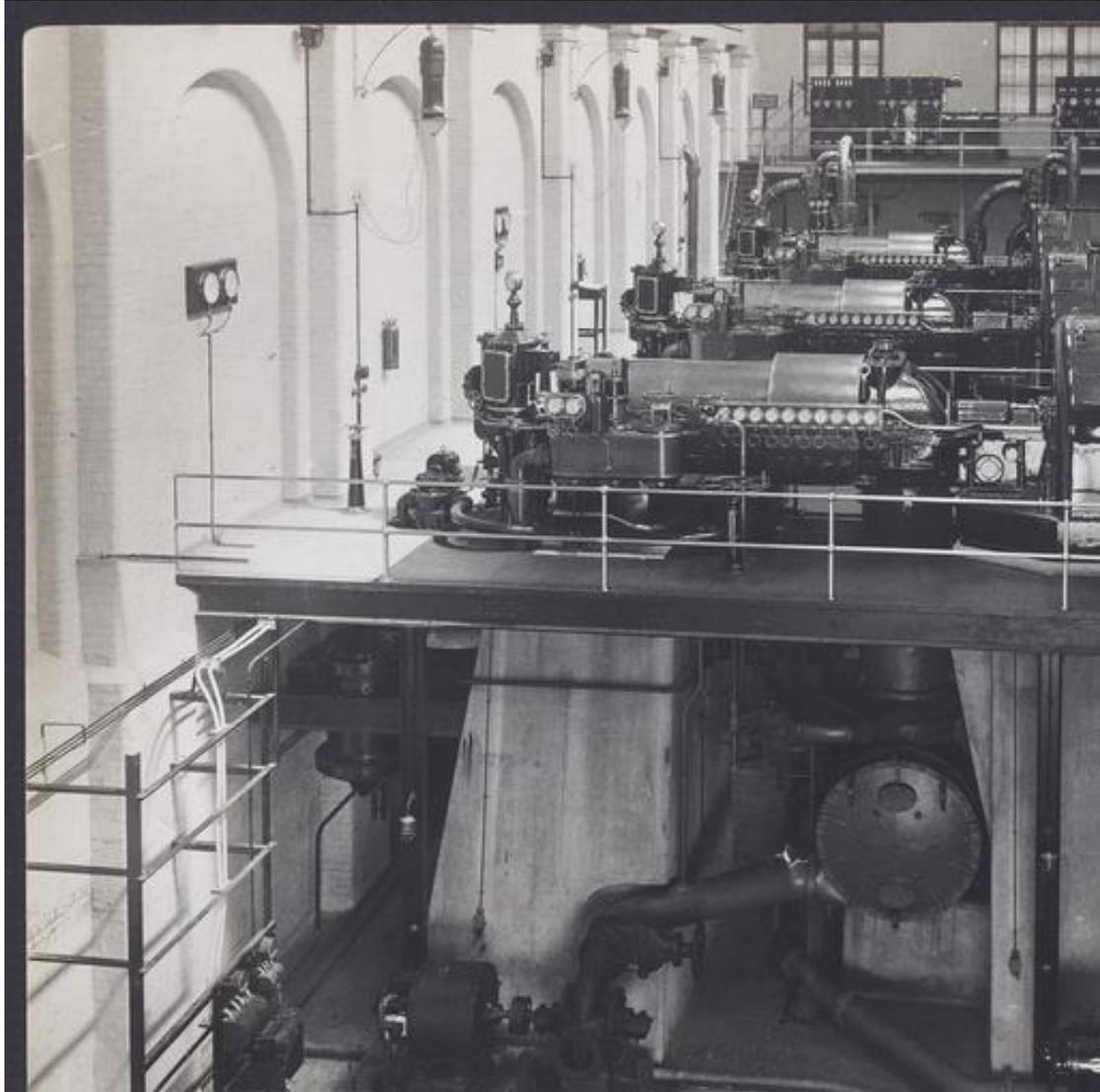


### LEGEND

-  BOUNDARY OF STATE HERITAGE PLACE
-  TITLE BOUNDARY
-  COMPONENTS OF HIGH SIGNIFICANCE
-  COMPONENTS OF MODERATE SIGNIFICANCE



Block 14 Smelters in vicinity of sheds 16/17 – remnant chimneys when site cleared for MTT power turbines



Municipal Tramways Trust – Power Turbines for the Tramlines (DC)

# Highway Robbery 1750 Last in UK in 1897

An Exact Representation of MARRIAGE, the Highwaymen Being LASTED VILLAGERS on the Road June 1750.



Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 1902 John Greenway (Manager) & Joseph Winter (Assist Mgr) collected the BHP's Block 14 Smelters payroll from the Union Bank and headed back towards the Ocean Steamers Wharf around 2pm with the £1,224 8s 6d.

2 Horsemen approached them as they came to a bend in the road, one of whom was wearing a blue jersey & butchers apron, common in the area, so all seemed in order.

The horsemen quickened their pace and as they came up on either side of the horse and trap they shouted "Bail Up" - their faces were covered with black crepe masks.

Joseph cut the pony with the whip and made a run for it. The robbers began firing their revolvers with one killing the pony instantly tossing both men onto the roadway.

Whilst one man covered the two men with his pistol, the other grabbed the bag containing the money from the trap. As he did so two men ran up from Block 14 to assist the fallen men but were warned off. At that moment the wind briefly blew the crepe mask off the first man's face. Both robbers rode off at speed, Joseph Winter taking out his pistol and firing a number of rounds & missing!

## The Escape Route

The robbers went over Fisher Bridge, past the Colac Hotel and through Tin Town (The wool stores area), On to Grand Junction Rd, then Torrens Road, crossing the rail lines at the Cheltenham Station, on to Woodville, & the Reed Beds at Fulham Gardens.



The robbers then met up with a man with a bicycle around 2:45 on Henley Beach Rd (adjacent Kooyonga Golf Course) and one rode off on the bicycle towards the city and the other rode to the south along Marion Rd with the loot – possibly met by a horse & cart as both horses found running loose in the vicinity of Brooklyn Park.

## The Arrests

The next morning a Detective Edwards with PC Northridge went to a house off Halifax St to interview a man said to be there known as **Alfred Lawson**. After a brief scuffle, Lawson escaped but was run down after about 300 yards and taken to the city watch house. On returning later to the unfurnished house with Lawson, they found two revolvers, cartridges and a bicycle matching the one used the day before.

At about 8:30 the same Friday night Detectives Mitchell & Priest with PC Fitzpatrick arrested a man well known to them - **Myles Flynn** – Flynn said “you have the wrong man, I can prove where I was yesterday afternoon”. Walking to the lockup & opposite a hotel in Grote St, Flynn broke away and ran off only to stop in Gouger St when the police opened fire.

These two suspects along with 3 others were taken the next morning to the Port Adelaide Police Station and put in line ups with 5 other men & viewed by a procession of witnesses. Lawson was identified by a number of the witnesses but in Flynn’s case, whilst some picked Flynn, others picked the ‘wrong’ men. The police were unable to give the numbers in each case or provide the names of the other men in the line ups. Lawson reserved his defence as was the custom in felony cases, but Flynn’s lawyer indicated he would be calling a number of witnesses on his behalf.

## Edward Lawson 30 years

Found guilty of receiving and was released from Yatala on same day as Flynn.

Briefly shared a room in a lodging house.

Little on the public record in relation to Lawson. Nickname Kruger.

On being identified in the line up by two witnesses, he promptly punched both men in the face and consequently when taken to Court, arrived there in irons.

## The Charged – Myles Flynn 25 years



**Myles Flynn,**

*in his circus clothes. This photo. was taken just previous to his arrest for the robbery.*

1895 -Feb Imprisoned for 4 weeks in 1895 for stealing 62lb of fat valued at 6s 5d.  
Oct 4 Gaoled for 9 days for stealing 9 (empty) bottles valued at 9d  
Oct 28 using indecent language and resisting arrest – gaoled for 2 months.

1896 – June stole empty bottles– 6 months with hard labour.

1897 – Riotous behaviour at Central market with other young men & assaulting a PC  
– fined £10 or 3 months with hard labour.

1898 – May assaulted & robbed a married woman of her purse in Rundle St -  
described as a worst class of larrikin & a coward – 3 years with hard labour. Flynn  
claimed she was a prostitute.

1900 – Oct charged with being idle & disorderly & no lawful means of support – 2  
months gaol.

1901 – Aug charges of stealing a saucer (3d) & money 4s dismissed. Police then  
charged him as an incorrigible rogue & associating with thieves & prostitutes –  
dismissed.

The Court Appearance – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 1902 at Port Adelaide  
Court before a large crowd

Joseph Winter & a worker, Albert Noblett of the Block 14 Smelters both identified Lawson when his crape mask blew up as did a number of people who saw them on their way to Brooklyn Park.

Interestingly, witnesses could not agree on who was wearing what outfit including the butchers apron, which man was riding which horse, but all could identify the two horses found there.

Lawson was committed for trial.

A boy of 16, Reece Cornell said he saw Flynn opposite the smelters two weeks before the robbery. A number of other witnesses also said they had seen Flynn on the day of the robbery though, apart from a commercial traveller – Max Dryssig – their evidence was not strong under cross examination.

Flynn's lawyer Mr Degenhardt then called a number of defence witnesses who claimed that Flynn was seen by them drunk and sleeping it off in the west of Adelaide on the day in question. He also was committed for trial. Court finished at 8:50 that night.

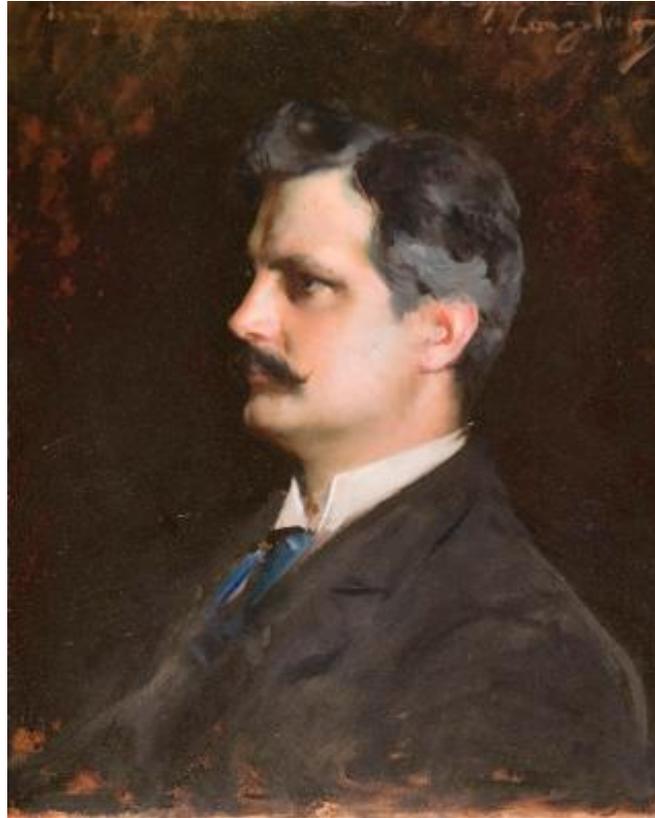
The Criminal Court Trial Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 1902



South Australian Archives

SIR SAMUEL WAY IN 1901

Chief justice



Paris Nesbit KC



H. Krichock, photo.

MR. J. R. ANDERSON, LL.B.

Counsel for the Crown.



H. Krichock, photo.

MR. A. J. McLACHLAN,

Counsel for Flynn.

The trial lasted for 4 days. Most of it was focused on Flynn and whether he had been involved.

Paris Nesbit on behalf of Lawson questioned whether two men in shock, seeing a face for a brief moment, would really be able to recall that face in clear detail later. The Chief Justice found this an unacceptable statement & advised the jury accordingly. Lawson's defence then rested on Flynn's defence – if witnesses could show he was not there then the testimony of those who said he was, would fall and along with it, the identification of Lawson.

Mr. McLachlan, in opening the case for Flynn's defence, pointed out that with the exception of Connell, who alleged that he accosted his client at Port Adelaide, on January 9, & William Carter, who swore that he was one of the men who passed him in Tintown & Max Dryssig, who declared that he was able to pick him out at the police station without any hesitation, none of the witnesses for the prosecution could say more than that Flynn bore a strong resemblance to one of the two men.

The first witness called on behalf of Flynn was P.C. Naylor, who deposed that he was on duty guarding a house in Waymouth street on January 23. At about 1.30 in the afternoon saw Flynn come out of a nearby house. He walked east about 50 yards when a child of 11 years ran out after him. She spoke to Flynn, who turned back and followed her into the house. Did not see him again that day.

McLachlan called a further 18 witnesses that all said they saw Flynn in Adelaide at various times that day.

The Chief Justice in summing up for the jury made the following points

The jury had heard more than 50 witnesses on opposite sides making it a difficult case.

The crime was well thought out, had been obviously planned well beforehand and that the defendants had a calibre of counsel unusual for such men.

He suggested Mr Nesbit's eloquent defence about recognition of faces in times of great stress was flawed as surely everything would be retained in such circumstances.

He further commented on how striking Lawson and Flynn's appearances were.

He commented on the high calibre of the prosecution summation – one of the most felicitous speeches he had ever listened to.

He questioned why Lawson had left a furnished house & was found in an unfurnished one with the revolver & bicycle.

He referred to the letter Flynn wrote to his friends (that the Gaol sent to the wrong person) which did not support the defence contention as that person said she had seen Flynn the day before.

PC Naylor had bravely risked his standing with the Police force by his evidence & that he may have been mistaken.

Importantly, he said **Naylor was a countryman of Flynn whom he knew.**

The jury retired at 8pm on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March. They returned about an hour later and asked for further direction from the Chief Justice who focused again on the evidence provided by PC Naylor and also the prosecution's contention that none of Flynn's witnesses other than Naylor came from a more respectable section of the community.

After 2.5 hours the jury returned and found both Lawson & Flynn guilty as charged. The Chief Justice deferred sentencing due to the late hour until Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

Lawson at that asked if he could make a statement in the interests of justice. He said the verdict was correct in his case but Flynn was innocent and he could shed a lot more light on the case.

The Chief Justice refused this request and at that, Lawson swore at the detectives and attempted to assault them but was prevented from doing so – pandemonium arose in the court.

## LAWSON'S ADDRESS – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

Your honor, I wish to apologise to you for making such a fool of myself on Saturday night. I was not surprised at the verdict against myself, but when Flynn was found guilty, and I knew he was perfectly innocent, I lost my head.

I would like to tell you the whole circumstances of the robbery and also who the guilty men really are.

About two years ago, a robbery was committed at Rutherglen, in Victoria under the same circumstances as this was.

Two mine managers were going home, driving with a horse in a cart & a bag containing £1,600. Two men rushed them, shot the horse dead and took the money.

They were caught, convicted & received a sentence of 10 years each. One of them was Nagus and the other Sparks. After serving 12 months, Sparks escaped from Pentridge. He dug up the money & cashed notes in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, & Adelaide.

About three weeks before this robbery I came to Adelaide & ran against Sparks. He told of his escape from Pentridge & about the notes, & asked me if I would cash some of them for him which I did until the police became aware of the notes in Adelaide.

Sparks said that he had been down to the Port a fortnight before but he found that one man could not do it, & asked me if I would go in. I replied, "Yes, willingly."

We went out the night before the robbery to some place near Dry Creek, caught two horses, took them to a creek near where the German saw us, hobbled them, and stayed with them until daylight. We went to the Port where all the witnesses said we were seen. We then sewed crape right around inside our hats so that we could wear them without the it showing. Sparks had a butcher's apron on, but I had nothing but what I have now, except another hat.

My moustache was blackened.

After the robbery, & when we got up near Turner's slaughter house (at Brooklyn Park), I put my saddle and bridle in a corner, got on to the bike and rode away. Sparks continued on.

We met again that night, when Sparks brought my share of the plunder. I said, "It is not safe to take it here. Take it back & give it to me to-morrow night. I cannot bury it here. This he did, & I was arrested next morning.

I don't ask your honor for mercy for myself, for I don't deserve it. But I do ask for justice for Flynn, and if he gets five minutes imprisonment it will be an injustice. I had not seen Flynn for eight months before. I hope your, honor will give me the longest sentence the law can allow for being such a cur as not to speak before.

Samuel Way said that he didn't believe a word of this story and that he had heard of criminals coming up with such confessions to get there partner in crime off to share the spoils later on. If he had apologised to all concerned and returned the money it may have been different.

Accordingly he said though the statute books still had the death penalty in SA for Highway Robbery, he would sentence Lawson to twenty years with hard labour in the Yatala Stockade. He would not impose a whipping as well. He hoped this would lead him to change his ways.

Flynn's sentence was deferred pending a ruling on a legal question over whether Flynn could have responded to the Prosecutor tabling the letter Flynn wrote whilst on remand.

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 1902 The Full Court dismissed the legal points Mr McLachlan had raised.

That afternoon before the Chief Justice Way, Flynn recounted his movements on the day of the robbery which matched what had been presented to the Court by Mr McLachlan and finished by saying—

'I will swear before God, who knows all, and can see all, that I am as innocent as you are, your honor. That is all I have to say.'

After reminding Flynn of his criminal record the Chief Justice gave Flynn an identical sentence as Lawson received - 20 years with hard labour at Yatala Stockade.

Flynn – “Your honor, I was arrested on account of my character, I was found guilty on account of my character, and now I am sentenced on account of my character.”

# Yatala Stockade

13<sup>th</sup> July 1902

On that Sunday night at 8:30, Flynn with the help of fellow prisoners got out of his cell and was caught trying to pick the lock of a big iron gate leading out of the building.

**Part of Yatala Labour prison. The three storey cell blocks were built in 1872, 1878 and 1884 using prison labour.**



## Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 1904 –Yatala Stockade – Quarry

That afternoon the outdoor gangs were working in the quarries in three sections, in charge of about a dozen warders.

Just before 5 o'clock, when the prisoners were to be taken in and lodged in the cells for the night, a signal was suddenly given.

The men in all parts of the quarries immediately dropped their tools and dashed for liberty. The warders told the men to stop, but their efforts were ignored & NINE convicts got clear despite the warders immediately drawing their revolvers, and firing rapidly at the scattering fugitives – no one was hit.

All were captured by nightfall. Myles Flynn was one of the nine.

Eight of the prisoners were awarded three months' solitary confinement, one day in the dark cell, and one month, on bread and water.

The three months' solitary confinement was not to be undergone all at once, the offenders having to spend a month at a time in such fashion, alternated by a month's work in the quarries.



Watch Tower – Dry Creek Quarry © Hazel Cochrane

**16<sup>th</sup> April 1904**

Flynn, about whose guilt there has been considerable doubt in the public mind, has recently suffered from melancholia, and as a consequence of his failing physical health he was removed to the lunatic asylum.

A petition is being prepared by Paris Nesbit who defended Lawson, asking the Government to remit the remainder of the sentence of 20 years passed on Myles Flynn for highway robbery under arms at Port Adelaide.

Parkside Lunatic Asylum Criminal Mental Defectives  
Ward known initially as L Ward then Z Ward

Photo Alison Oborn - Haunted Horizons

### **18<sup>th</sup> April 1904 – New Evidence comes to light – not presented at the time**

Mr. Webb, (a lawyer who assisted Paris Nesbit in defending Lawson) states that both Flynn and Lawson were-examined on their admission to the gaol, and that while Lawson was severely marked and bruised in a way compatible with the allegation of the prosecution that he rode a horse away from the scene of the robbery at a high rate of speed, Flynn's skin was unmarked in anyway, and even microscopic examination failed to reveal any scars. That, Mr. Webb asserts, is positive evidence that Flynn did not ride off with Lawson as alleged, and is therefore innocent. Flynn was alleged to be carrying the bag with the loot weighing about 3 stone.

### **August 1904**

Flynn is still under observation there. He is suffering, according to the official diagnosis, from melancholic depression, and both mentally and physically he is not in good health.

*The petition for his release bears several thousand signatures.*

### **October 1906**

Myles Flynn is still at Parkside, and his mental condition shows no improvement.

### **November 1907**

Adelaide K.C. Paris Nesbit is interesting himself on behalf of Myles Flynn.

At an early date a petition will be presented to Parliament, asking for his liberation.

At present Flynn is incarcerated in the Parkside Lunatic Asylum.



Hammer, Photo. Adelaide.  
**E. H. COOMBE, M.P.**  
Whose motion for an enquiry into  
the Myles Flynn case was carried  
by the S.A. Assembly last week.

### **November 27 1907**

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT - HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Mr. COOMBE moved – “That an address be presented to the Governor, praying his Excellency to cause an enquiry to be made into the circumstances connected with the conviction of Myles Flynn on March 1 1902, with the view to ordering, if such action seem justified, the remission of the remainder of the sentence Flynn is now serving”. He moved the motion in the interests of justice.

### **December 1907**

Myles Flynn’s mother gravely ill in the RAH, Myles given leave with an attendant to attend the hospital and see his mother. On the return to Parkside, Myles and attendant stopped at every hotel on the way for refreshment, arriving back under the weather.

### **January 1<sup>st</sup> 1908**

Myles’s mother died and he was again given permission to attend her funeral with an attendant. Same result in terms of drinking on return trip.

### **September 1908**

Mr. E. H. Coombe makes a 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt to obtain an enquiry into the case of Myles Flynn.

### **November 27 1908**

Mr. Coombe, against the Government, carried a motion asking the Governor to set up a Royal Commission, for an enquiry concerning the conviction of Myles Flynn.

## Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1908 – Royal Commission Begins

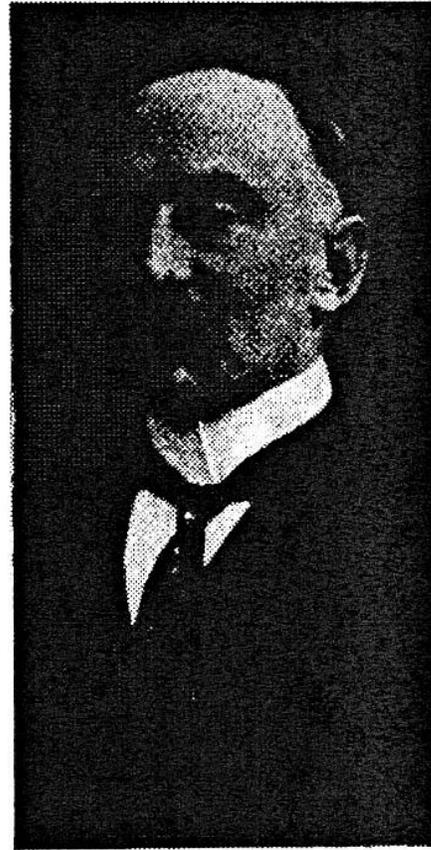
Sir John Downer, K.C. presided, and was supported by Messrs. E. B. Grundy, K.C., and G. J. R. Murray, K.C. All members of Parliament and all also answerable to Sir Samuel Way.

Mr. J. R. Anderson appeared for the Crown, and Mr. A. J. McLachlan for the prisoner.

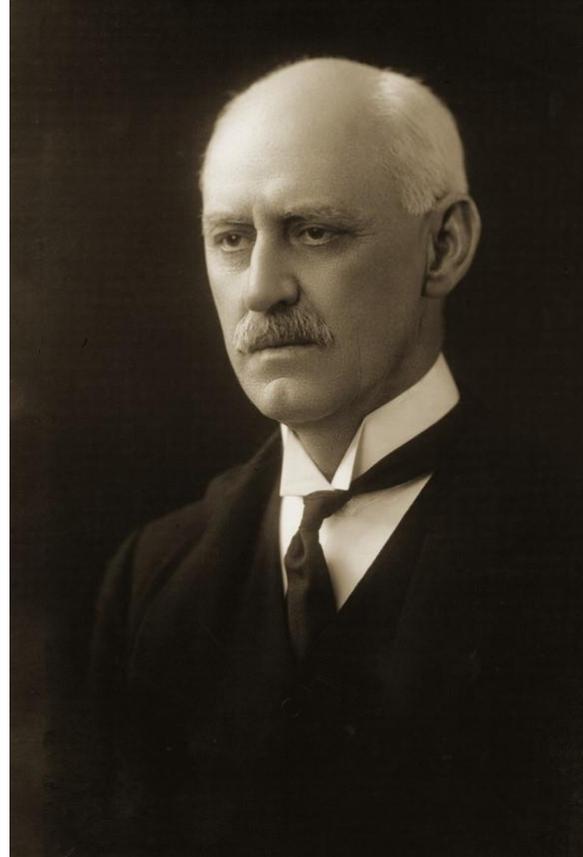


Hammer, photo.

**SIR JOHN DOWNER, K.C.,**  
Chairman of the Commission.



Hammer, Photo. Adelaide:  
**MR. E. B. GRUNDY, K.C.,**  
of the Myles Flynn Commission.



**Mr George John Robert**  
**MURRAY KC**



Photo by H. Kiewit.

Adelaide:  
**Messrs. A. J. McLACHLAN and J. R. ANDERSON.**

For and against Myles Flynn in the enquiry into his innocence.

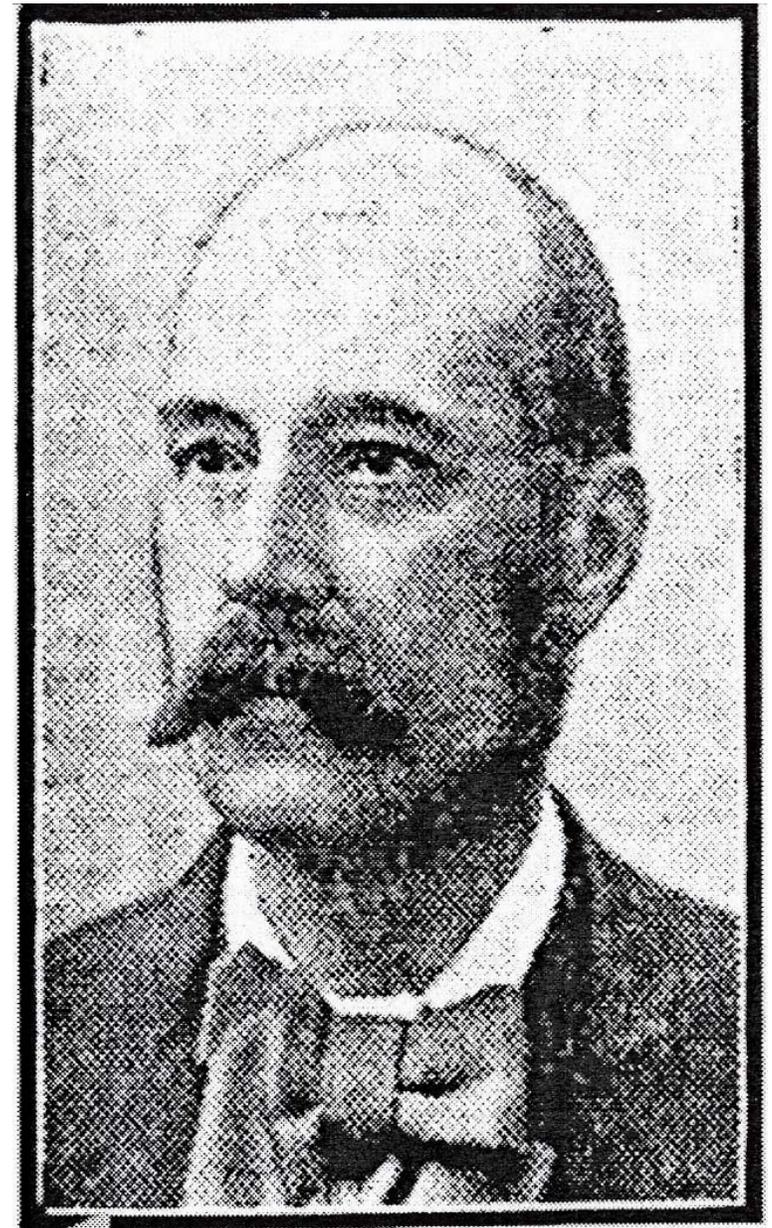
The Commission was an open affair & met between 11th January 1909 & 20<sup>th</sup> January. By the 19<sup>th</sup> January they told Mr McLachlan they were of the opinion the verdict was justified and asked him to concentrate on fresh evidence only. No previous witnesses were to be called as their testimony was already on the record.

The Keeper of the Adelaide Gaol gave evidence that Flynn and Lawson were examined for chafing which was present on Lawson's legs but not Flynn's. Both were said to be poor riders and if Flynn was also carrying the heavy money bag, he should have been more severely chafed.

**Dr Cleland from Parkside was called.**

Flynn was sent there because he was unfit for penal discipline owing to melancholia & imbecility of mind. Within two or three months of the time of admission he 'picked up,' and has since been in his right senses, but has never ceased residing at the asylum. He has been treated, not as a criminal, but as an ordinary patient, and allowed parole. Dr. Cleland considered that if he were sent back to the Stockade his mind would break down again. The convict was therefore given a permanent home at Parkside, granted occasional holidays, and permitted to see his friends and accept luxuries from them whenever they chose to visit him.

Admittedly he disregarded his parole more than once, & is even said to have attended a performance at the theatre. The press further suggested Dr Cleland may have believed Flynn innocent.



THE LATE DR. W. L. CLELAND.

Myles Flynn was examined by Mr McLachlan and his testimony was in accord with what had been said in 1902. Mr Anderson strongly cross examined him. McLachlan then spoke for 8 hours.

The Commission attended Yatala Stockade and interviewed Lawson who stuck firmly to his previous account that Flynn was innocent of the crime committed 7 years earlier.

The Police were questioned in relation to whether Sparks could have been in Adelaide without coming to their attention which they firmly said was not possible. The notes in circulation did match those stolen at Rutherglen though.

Reece Cornell the 16 year old who positively identified Flynn as being present two weeks before the robbery was called as he now wished to say he had been wrong. He had left his job at the Port immediately after the robbery & gone to sea. This time he was given pictures of both Flynn and Sparks and immediately said it was Sparks who he had seen. The Commission were sceptical and suggested he may have been threatened by sympathisers which he denied.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> February 1909**

The Commissioners say, in conclusion:

- "1. That there are no grounds on which the verdict of the jury ought to be overridden; &
2. that we cannot see our way to recommend to your Excellency the remission of the remainder of the prisoner Flynn's sentence on the ground that any substantial doubt as to his guilt exists in our minds.

## Myles Flynn's life after the 1909 Royal Commission

Myles Flynn was returned to Yatala Stockade on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 1909

**10<sup>th</sup> Aug 1910.**

Annie Hines 23, Myles Flynn's sister and a known alcoholic in a dysfunctional marriage to Arthur Hines 40, after moving out to her sisters due to DV, returned to him only to have her throat cut, dying on the landing of the boarding house.

**Myles was released in 1915** ; he then served with credit in the A.I.F. for over four years and came back wounded.  
*HONOURS FOR AUSTRALIANS. A FURTHER LIST, LONDON, September 24 1916.*

The Distinguished Conduct Medal has been bestowed on the following Australians :--.....

Private Flynn (2018). He carried in wounded from a shell-swept area. (? Myles)

**10<sup>th</sup> Dec 1919** – Flynn cited as co-respondent in a divorce case : living with the woman in question in Currie St – case dismissed as other men cited but not brought to Court. Flynn not required to pay a penalty to the Husband.

# The Downward Spiral

**May 1926**

With 2 others, charged with stealing tobacco to value of £5 whilst under influence of drink. Because of his good service in the AIF and not having offended since 1902, he was only given a sentence of 2 years, the others getting 3 & 4 years.

**March 1928**

Drunk in Light square and resisting the police Myles Flynn, middle-aged, was, ordered to pay £4 2s in-all.

**March 1930 & June 1930**

Without sufficient lawful means of support – one months imprisonment, then two months

**Dec 1930**

Drunk in Morphett street, Tuesday, & in Whitmore square Wednesday, & having been without sufficient means of support Imprisonment for 14 days on each of the first 2 counts & for 3 months on the other- served concurrently.

**5<sup>th</sup> March 1931 & Feb 35**

no lawful means of support – 3 months ; then 1 month

**Sept 1941**

Myles Flynn. laborer, of Whitmore square, Adelaide, imprisoned for one month – no means of support. He was also fined £1 with 7/6 costs for having been found drunk in Rundle street yesterday. He admitted 76 previous convictions.

### **May 1942**

Myles Flynn, Byron place, City, laborer, sentenced in the Adelaide Police Court today to 28 days' imprisonment for being thrice convicted of drunkenness within the preceding 12 months, and deemed to be an idle and disorderly person.

### **Aug 1944**

Indecent language Admitted.— For having used indecent language in Rundle street east, Adelaide, on Monday. Myles Patrick Flynn, 68, pensioner, of Byron place, city, who pleaded guilty, was fined £1. with 7/6 costs. The Police Prosecutor (Inspector Harris) said there were 106 previous convictions against defendant. The offence had been committed within the hearing of a woman and other passers-by. Flynn said that, in all his convictions, it was the first time he had appeared in court on such a charge. He had a bad foot, and a man had stepped on it, causing him to use the language

### **Mar 45**

being idle and disorderly person. Flynn was sentenced to two months' imprisonment. He admitted 111 previous convictions

The > 4,400 Trove entries finish with this entry – it is yet to be ascertained when Flynn died & at what age.

## Alfred Lawson 1872 - 1920

Alfred Lawson, alias James Howard, aged 48 years, died suddenly at Yalata-station (near Fowler's Bay), on May 17 1920, at residence of Mr. Robt. Nicol. He had been drinking heavily; frequently complained of being ill; no inquest. He came to the district about 4 years ago; had been scrub-cutting for different persons. He was identical with Alfred Lawson, who was discharged from the Yatala Labor Prison on July 17, 1914, after serving a sentence of 20 years for highway robbery, and there is little doubt that he was the same person. He was addicted to drink, & left no property of any kind."

# Myles Flynn & Changes for the better in SA.

## Changes to the law

- Law changed to allow felons to have a right of appeal. Previously the only way was via petitioning the Legislature. This brought SA in line with the other States & the UK.
- Greater opportunities within the trial process for felons to give statements on oath – previously they could either do this or have their lawyer mount a defence, but not both.
- Greater care taken by judges when advising jurors.

## Changes to Management of Criminal Lunatics

- Cabinet to appoint, a committee of enquiry, [a doctor, a lawyer, & a criminologist], to investigate the transferring of criminal lunatics from the Yatala Labour Prison to the Parkside Asylum. To make recommendations as will ensure the humanitarian treatment of criminal lunatics while protecting public interests.

## REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PARKSIDE LUNATIC ASYLUM

### AND TREATMENT OF CRIMINAL LUNATICS; 1909

As a consequence of the Royal Commission into Flynn's innocence or guilt, Flynn being allowed to be present at the Commission with just an attendant and the publicity in the media of the time over his behaviour when his mother was terminally ill and then dying, another Royal Commission was appointed to enquire into the management of the ward for the criminally mentally insane at Parkside in August 1909.

Dr William Cleland faced 3 charges:

1. Failing to return Flynn to serve out his prison term under hard labour;
2. Keeping him at Parkside when sane and allowing unrestricted freedoms;
3. Feeding him at Govt expense.)

# Changes to the Mental Health System

As a consequence, these changes made in 1909:-

- Parkside Lunatic Asylum to be called **Parkside Mental Hospital** & all reference to **'lunatics'** deleted
- Attendants to be issued with **uniforms** to encourage better standards and respect.
- Staff (male) permitted to go **home after 12 hours duty** – previously they had to live in for 48 hours.
- Attendants to have **training & promotional career opportunities**. Previously all on same single pay level.
- The **official visitors system upgraded** & policed to ensure the visitors met their commitments
- **Food** provided must be **improved**. Those tendering for potatoes *etc* must maintain quality regardless of price & bread should be baked there (not provided by weight with water added).
- **Sane inmates to be discharged and not allowed to return of their own volition** when life outside too hard
- **Reception houses must be established** for those acutely and treatably unwell - not mixed with chronic patients.
- **Greater employment and recreational / amusement activities for patients**
- **Mental Defectives Act 1913 passed** – sweeping changes to admission process, modernising the 1864 Act

