SETTLE, Edward Mortimer 6 March 1928

Designation	Accident Location	Accident Due to
Electrical Fitter	Perth	Parcels lift accident

Edward Settle was aged 49 when he was fatally injured in a fall into a lift well at the Perth Central Railway Station. Although the fall was only about ten feet (3 metres) Edward sustained a fractured skull which proved fatal as he was lifted out of the lift well. Edward lived at Cottesloe with his wife, Elizabeth and their four children. He was interred at Karrakatta Cemetery (ANGLICAN/LA/0154).

ELECTRICIAN KILLED
LIFT ACCIDENT AT PERTH RAILWAY STATION.
Perth, March 6.
While Edward Moritmer Settle (50), electrical fitter, was adjusting the power controller of the parcels lift at the Central Railway Station to day, he fell through a space at the side of the lift to a cement floor below, sustaining such severe head injuries that he died while being removed to the hospital. Although the full fall was only ten feet, Settle struck the floor with considerable force, as he weighed about 18 stone (114.5kg). Deceased, who was permanently employed by the W.A.G.R., leaves a widow.

Source: *Trove/Western Argus (Kalgoorlie) Tuesday 13 March 1928 Page 30.*

LIFT FATALITY.
AN OBSCURE CAUSE.
Evidence of Shock, Sought.
Before the Acting Coroner (Mr. J. J. Lloyd), at the City Courthouse yesterday, Sergeant Ford conducted, an inquiry into the death of Edward Mortimer Settle, an electrical fitter, who was found lying, in a concrete well, beneath a parcels lift at the Central Railway Station, on the afternoon of March 6., he sustained, injuries from which he died while being conveyed in the St. John ambulance to the Perth Hospital. At yesterday's inquiry Inspector Stormon represented the Commissioner of Railways.

Dr. Bertram Nairn, medical registrar at the Perth Hospital, said that on March 7 he made a post mortem examination of the deceased, and came to the conclusion that death was due to fracture of the skull with resulting cerebral laceration and shock.

To Inspector Stormon: There was nothing about the body to suggest electric shock.

Roland Edward Parsons gave evidence of identification.

Constable Strahan said that on the afternoon of March 6 he was informed that Settle had been brought to the hospital and that he was dead on admission. Witness visited the hospital and inspected the body. He found some coils of wire some electrician's tools and miscellaneous articles in one of the deceased's trouser pockets.

Irwin Phillips, porter in the parcels branch of the Railways Department said that on March 6, at about 2 p.m., while, working a lift at the Central Railway Station, he received a shock from the pull rope. He reported the matter to the deceased, who said, "Come back with me." He entered the lift with witness and pulled the rope making two journeys. He then said that he had received no shock from the rope. Witness waited at the parcels platform and deceased pulled himself up in the lift to a distance of about four feet. Witness asked him if he were all right and he replied "Yes". Settle was

quite sober. Later witness heard a cry of 'Accident,' and returning to the lift he saw the deceased lying in the pit. Witness took the necessary action to prevent anyone using the lift, and then assisted in lifting the deceased out of the pit on to a stretcher. The lift itself was at the top of the lift well. The deceased, who had three large gashes on his head, was taken in the ambulance to the Perth Hospital.

To Inspector Stormon: The shock which witness had received from the lift rope was fairly severe, not such as could have been caused by mere friction.

Dr. Nairn, recalled, said that he found no trace of alcohol when he examined the deceased. There was no mark of any sort to indicate that electric shock had been sustained.

Cyril John Raison, parcels porter, said that on the afternoon of March 6 he found the deceased lying in the bottom of the pit, face upward, and he assisted others to lift the man out. Witness had no definite theory as to how the accident occurred.

Edward W. Freeman, electrical fitter, said that he was on duty at the Central Railway Station on the afternoon in question. On hearing of the accident he went to the lift, made two journeys in it, and then climbed to the lift-house and switched off the current. Electrical tests of the lift were made soon afterwards, and everything was found to be in good order. Witness did not think that deceased received any electric shock. Probably he fell between the lift and the door of the cabin, and fell thence to the cement floor below, a distance of about 5 feet. The deceased weighed 18 stone, but was an active man.

To Inspector Stormon: The lifts at the central railway station were for the use of railway employees only, and there were notices to that effect on all the lift doors.

The Acting Coroner found that Settle's death was due to an accidental fall, there being no evidence to show how the fatality actually happened.

Source: *Trove/The West Australian (Perth) Thursday 22 March 1928 Page 20.*

FAMILY NOTICE.
SETTLE. On March 6, 1928, at Perth, as the result of an accident, Edward Mortimer, dearly beloved husband of Elizabeth Ann Settle, of Hillside, Edward-street, Cottesloe, and father of Horace, Geoffrey, Violet, and Stanley Settle, aged 49 years.

Source: *Trove/The West Australian (Perth) Thursday 8 March 1928 Page 1.*