

## **"A Sneak Thief" and "a Scoundrel"**

ROBBED A ROOM MATE.

A persistent liar aptly described a man who appeared before Mr. J. H. Sinclair at the Port Adelaide Court on Monday, after two remands.

On Friday last Oscar Tuomi, seaman, of Port Adelaide, was charged on the information of Thomas Hynes, of Unley Park, with the larceny on October 25 of a woollen jacket, valued at 15/, the property of informant. Sub-Inspector Fraser, prosecuted.

Thomas Hynes, caretaker, of Unley Park, gave evidence that he was working at Port Adelaide during the week ending October 25, and during that time occupied the same bedroom as defendant. On October 25 he left the coat in the bedroom with the defendant and went to Adelaide. On his return he found the jacket was missing. He asked defendant about it, and he denied any knowledge of it. Witness reported it to the police.

James Henry Jones, seaman, of Port Adelaide, stated he saw the defendant on October 25. He came down on the vessel about 5.30 p.m., and offered to sell the witness the Cardigan jacket produced. Witness finally gave him 4/ to get rid of him. A police officer came to witness a week later and asked him if he had the coat, and he hand it over to him.

Plainclothes Constable P. Donnellan gave evidence that he saw the accused on Monday, Noveember 3, on board the

on Monday, November 3, on board the ketch Tickera at Port Adelaide, accompanied by Constable Gill. Witness spoke to defendant in regard to the jacket. He admitted selling it to Jones, but declared it was his own jacket, and it was given to him by the military before he left England.

Defendant, who elected to be summarily dealt with, protested that the coat was his own property, and he could bring a number of witnesses to prove it. An adjournment was accordingly granted to Monday.

Defendant was further charged, on remand, with being in unlawful possession of a pair of binoculars on October 4 at Port Adelaide. A remand on this charge was also granted to Monday. On the charge of the larceny of the jacket being resumed on Monday, Sub-Inspector Fraser said the adjournment was granted because the defendant said he could bring witnesses to prove the



jacket was his own property. He had not given the police a single name, but said he could find witnesses if they would let him out. The S.M. said the defendant was a sneak thief, who had robbed a friend, then lied, and misled the Court. Four months' imprisonment was ordered.

Tuomi was further charged, on the information of Sub-Inspector Fraser, on remand from Friday, with being, at Port Adelaide on October 8, in unlawful possession of a pair of binoculars. Defendant pleaded not guilty. Sub-Inspector Fraser stated that the defendant sold the glasses to a local dealer on October 8, and subsequently Captain Brown, of the ketch Broughton, reported them as missing. Certain pecu-

ted them as missing. Certain peculiarities in the glasses made their identification a matter of certainty.

Plainclothes Constable P. J. Donnellan stated that on Monday, November 3, at about 12.30 p.m., in the company of F.C. Gill, he saw the defendant on board the ketch Tickera, and asked him if he sold a pair of binoculars to a dealer about a month previously. He replied, "Yes, they were my own glasses. I brought them from the war with me, and got them from the field in Belgium."

A dealer gave evidence that he bought the glasses produced from the defendant for £1 on October 8.

Wm. Henry Brown, master of the auxiliary ketch Broughton, identified the binoculars as his property by certain additions and alterations. He left Port Adelaide on October 9, and afterwards found the glasses were missing. Defendant had been working at the Broughton, assisting in unloading.

The S.M. said the defendant was a thorough scoundrel. Taking into consideration that he had served his country, he would order four months' imprisonment, to be concurrent with the previous sentence.

