

1 Feb 1929

1/2

Ed Barrett Found Frozen to Death

Odd Character, A Charity Case,
Discovered Dead Wednesday
In Old Shack

Ed Barrett, about 75 years old, an odd character who has been seen around Boonville for more than a year, was found frozen to death in an old shack near the Reformatory Wednesday morning by Henry Thoma, who discovered the body in the old building while he was running traps near the quarry. Coroner T. C. Beckett was notified and the body taken to Goodman & Boller's undertaking establishment.

Mrs. Harry Morgan, who lives near the place where the body was found, identified it as that of Barrett to whom she had given food at times. Barrett was a peculiar character who said he was a former coal miner. He was a charity case and had been given \$5 a month by the county court to buy food with. He had been urged to go to the county home but refused to go.

Thoma had noticed smoke from the flue of the shack, but recently had not seen any, and so he investigated. He said that he talked with Barrett last Sunday, so the man could not have been dead more than three days. The body had been disfigured by rodents, and an inquest was not thought necessary.