

CAMP FIRE TRAGEDY

LONELY TRAPPER'S DEATH

FRANTIC RUSH FOR RIVER

Renmark, September 10.

Mr. William Donnelly (70), a trapper, was found burned to death, on Sunday morning, near the River Murray, between Queen's Reach and the Isle of Man. The Renmark police were informed by telephone by Mr. C. F. Stoeckel, a farmer of Murtho.

Mr. Donnelly crossed to the north side of the river at sunset on Saturday night, with Mr. Arvid Soderberg, a fisherman, and promised to recross with him to the south side on Sunday morning. As Mr. Soderberg could get no answer to his coo-ees when he came to the north bank on Sunday morning, as arranged, he crossed higher upstream, and investigated.

He found Mr. Donnelly's body lying in a doubled up position within a few yards of the river bank. It was nude, except for boots and socks, the tops of which were burnt. A tree was smouldering about 130 yards away, as also were two or three disconnected fires.

Mr. Donnelly, who was somewhat strange in his habits, would never sleep in a tent. He had blankets, but would not use them, and always slept

would not use them, and always slept in the open, rolled up in a tent fly. He usually lighted two or three fires when he camped for the night. It is supposed that Mr. Donnelly was sitting or lying near one of his fires when his cotton underpants caught alight, igniting his other clothing.

It appeared that in his agony the man had run about 100 yards towards the river, discarding in turn his coat, vest, singlet, and belt, which were found charred on the ground. Sergeant Miller visited the scene, and reported the matter to the Coroner, who considered an inquest to be unnecessary.
