

KNIFE IN CAMDEN OFFICIAL'S NECK

Building Inspector William Steinmetz Killed Himself in Club House

Left Trail of Blood and Body Was
Found Under Porch by Police-
men



WILLIAM T. STEINMETZ,

Camden's Building Inspector, who committed
suicide at a Republican club house early yes-
terday morning.

Within three hours after he had been
chosen for a third term as building in-
spector at a caucus of members of Cam-
den City Council, William T. Steinmetz
stuck the blade of his penknife in his
jugular vein at the headquarters of the
Fifth Ward Republican Club, 269 Mt.
Vernon street, early yesterday morning,
and was found dead just before daylight.

The flow of blood must have restored
his senses, as indicated by saturated
handkerchiefs and a partially filled wash
basin in the bath room. Staggering
down the steps, indicated by the trail of
blood, Steinmetz opened a rear door and
went out into the yard, falling with his
body partially under the side porch.

NEIGHBORS AROUSED.

As the City Hall clock struck two sev-
eral neighbors were awakened by cries
for help and moans, and one woman in-
sists she heard the man say "Oh, Ro-
sella!" The neighbors went to the front
windows, but nothing could be seen ex-
cept the brilliantly lighted rooms in the
club house, and they all went back to
bed.

Shortly before 7 o'clock Policeman Wil-
liam Harvey went into the yard to open
the rear door so that plumbers could
make repairs, and he came across the
body of his friend. With Coroner Fith-
ian came several policemen. The Coro-
ner, after an investigation, gave a cer-
tificate of death from suicide. The body
was taken to his late home at 1015 South
Second street.

WIFE DIED IN FEBRUARY.

Last February Mr. Steinmetz's wife,
Rosella, died, and since then he had been
subject to fits of despondency that made
his relatives and friends apprehensive.
He spent the early part of Friday even-
ing at the club house, going from there
to the City Hall, where the Councilmanic
caucus was in session. He seemed in
good health and spirits. About midnight
he met Adam T. Davis, a friend, at
Broadway and Chestnut street, and after
a brief chat he went towards home.

Mr. Steinmetz, who is survived by a
sister and three brothers, was a member
of Ionic Lodge of Masons, Legion of
Honor, Fifth Ward Republican Club,
Back End Club and several other or-
ganizations.