

[Knapp, Frederick A.]

FREDERICK A. KNAPP SENDS BULLET THROUGH HIS HEART

Student at Union College Attends Dance,  
Escorts Partner to Her Home and Then the Fatal Shot

Schenectady.—Frederick A. Knapp, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick E. Knapp, of Watertown, took his life Thursday morning in the Sigma Phi fraternity house on the Union College campus of Schenectady by shooting himself through the heart with a revolver before a mirror in his room. Dr. William C. Treder, Schenectady, coroner, gave a verdict of suicide.

Robert T. Shreve, son of E. O. Shreve, vice-president of the General Electric Company, a fraternity brother, was awakened from his sleep by Knapp, and saw him commit the act before he could get out of bed.

Knapp had been attending a dance at another fraternity house a short time before and had escorted his partner to her home. The revolver belonged to James M. Corbin, a senior and a fraternity brother.

His father, Frederick E. Knapp, said he believed a severe mental strain from overwork was responsible for the youth's action.

The young man was graduated from the Watertown high school in the class of 1930 and in the fall of that year entered Union College, taking the bachelor of arts course preparatory to entering on the study of law. He was a member of the Sigma Phi fraternity, was on the hockey and lacrosse teams and was the college fencing champion.

During his residence in Watertown he had been prominent in Boy Scout work, had been made an Eagle Scout and had been a councilor [counselor] at the Boy Scout camp at Lake Bonaparte.

He was working his way through Union College and had been employed as a night clerk at the Mohawk Club at Schenectady. It is believed that the strain of his outside duties coupled with his college work may have resulted in his becoming overworked.

Mr. Knapp is survived by his father and his stepmother, Mrs. Wilhelmina Woolworth Knapp, Watertown; his grandparents, Col. and Mrs. M. R. Sackett, Watertown, now wintering at Miami, Fla., and Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Augustus Knapp, of The Manor, Prescott, Ont.

The body was brought to Watertown late Thursday night by his father and by E. D. Wilcox, of Wilcox and Van Ness. Rev. Harry Westbrook Reed [Universalist] officiated at the funeral at the home Saturday and the burial was on Sunday in Prescott.

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