

FLAG CAUGHT BREEZE, BIG POLE WENT DOWN

Staff in Front of Camden City
Hall Fell With a Crash and
Narrowly Missed Pedestrians

With a crash that not only startled the neighborhood, but also missed several pedestrians by a narrow margin, the 124-foot flag pole in front of the Camden City Hall toppled over yesterday. In honor of Chief of Police John Foster an eight by twelve foot flag was flying at half mast. The strong northwest wind bent the pole at times like a reed. About 10 o'clock a loud crackling was heard, and the next instant the pole shivered and then fell.

The extreme end crashed through a network of wires, snapping them like thread. Through several of the wires the deadly electric current was passing, which emitted blue sparks as the ends dangled over the heads of terror-stricken pedestrians. The pharmacy of Dr. William Shafer, at Wright and Haddon avenues, would have been wrecked but for a convenient and stout telegraph pole.

The flag staff was supposed to be a solid spruce pine spar, but it was found to have rotted through the centre. It had stood service for eleven years.