

MOB AT VICTORIA SMASHES GERMAN HOTEL PROPERTY

**Led by Large Body of Soldiers
Break Down Doors and
Destroy Furniture**

(Western Associated Press)

VICTORIA, B.C., May 10.—A crowd of four or five hundred strong Saturday evening gave expression to the local feeling of indignation over the drowning of the Lusitania passengers by raiding the premises of the "Deutscher Verein" and the "Blanshard" hotels, formerly the "Kaiserhof." Led by a large party of soldiers in uniform, the mob broke down the doors of the German club and dragged all the furniture in sight to the street, where it was smashed to atoms.

They then paraded, carrying a picture of King George before them, and amid cheers and enthusiasm that could not be checked by either the civilian or the military police, made for the Blanshard hotel. Making their way to the bar, short work was made of mirrors, cut glass, etc. By this time the assembly had increased in size. The ringleader had been joined by others, and the authorities were confronted with a difficult problem. The fire department was asked to turn out to give the mob a shower bath, but the firemen absolutely refused. As far as known no one was seriously hurt.

Damage variously estimated at between \$20,000 and \$25,000 was done to the wholesale premises of Messrs. Simon Leiser & Co. The premises of Moses Lenz, on Yates street, were attacked, and the crowd looted large quantities of the contents, and did likewise to the wholesale premises formerly managed by Carl Lowenberg, ex-German consul here.

Mayor Stewart will hold an investigation, while the participation of a considerable section of the military force in the rioting will call for a military inquiry.