

MOB WRECKS GERMAN CLUB AT VICTORIA

Crowd of Four or Five Hundred Takes Vengeance for Sinking of Lusitania on the Property of Germans.

Victoria, May 8.—A crowd of four or five hundred strong this evening gave expression to the local feeling of indignation over the drowning of the Lusitania passengers by throwing aside all restraint of law and order and raiding the premises of the "Deutscher Verein" and the Blanchard Hotel, 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 Blanchard Hotel. Making their way to the bar short work was made of mirrors, cut glass, etc. By this time the assembly has increased in size, the ringleaders 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 the wholesale premises of Messrs. Simon Leiser & Company, and Mr. Moses Lens on Yates Street were attacked and the crowd looted large quantities of the contents, and did likewise to the wholesale premises formerly managed by Mr. Carl Lowenberg, ex-German consul here.

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