

White for a distance of about 40 feet, yelled, "Look out he's going to get you!" Standing but 15 yards from where Shumanski was now crouched behind bushes, White pulled the trigger of his rifle but nothing happened. At the same time Shumanski fired his .45 at White and the bullet passed its target, dangerously close. Again Mike fired and once more White pulled the trigger of his gun without report; his rifle had jammed and was useless. Disregarding Constable Osmond's frantic warnings and pleas from the top of the hill, White held his ground. Only Osmond could fully appreciate at the time, the desperate peril of both Corporals Morren and White. Standing out in the open, they offered splendid targets and yet, in their determination to make a capture they stubbornly refused to retreat or crouch. Working frantically at his rifle, Corporal White succeeded in putting it back into commission only after he had ejected two shells and reloaded. Meanwhile, Shumanski, under cover was shooting with deadly intent. After he had fired three times without result, White caught a glimpse of his opponent through the bushes. In a flash he aimed his weapon and fired. Shumanski fell in a heap. Answering invitations to surrender, Nibisniuk appeared with his hands in the air. Who could attempt to explain how Morren and White survived such an affray.

Often the most vivid recollections a policeman has are concerned with events not pleasant to remember. When an April 1914 hotel explosion in the town of Macoun, Saskatchewan resulted in the tragic death of nine people, Corporal Morren, then of Estevan Detachment, travelled to the scene to join Cst. R. F. Wheeler of Weyburn in probing into the cause of the disaster and to identify victims. At first count it appeared that the disaster had claimed the lives of ten people but Corporal Morren determined through investigation that only nine had succumbed. The awful truth of the matter was that what was supposed to have been the tenth body was part of the remains of another whose arms and legs had been blown off in the blast. Throughout an afternoon, Corporal Morren and Constable Wheeler worked to ascertain the cause of the explosion and in the end concluded that something had gone wrong

with the automatic feed in an acetylene gas plant, which resulted in a large volume of gas escaping into the cellar of the hotel building. It was Corporal Morren's opinion that the gas had been ignited by a light burning on the wall some distance from the plant. One of the most talked about incidents in connection with the disaster had to do with a collie dog's rescue of an eight-year-old boy. By scraping away earth and wood splinters, debris from the explosion, the dog had created an air hole which kept the youngster from suffocation.

Son of a Barrie, Ont. veterinary surgeon, Harry Morren had tried his hand at various lines of work before engaging in the RNWMP at Calgary, Feb. 11, 1911 at the age of 21, (as regimental number 5194). He learned the trade of saddle maker, worked as a teamster, was employed in the repair department of a farm implement concern, and spent a year as a sailor on a steamship, plying the Pacific coast between Seattle, Washington, and Alaska. Immediately upon leaving the Force, Feb. 10, 1917, he married and took up residence on a farm near Estevan. A Moose Jaw newspaper, in summarizing his established fame as a policeman at the time of his retirement, stated, "Probably no other western Mountie has made so enviable a reputation in so short a time as has Harry Morren."

First in a long line-up of captures was his arrest of Antain Drennick, already mentioned. A year later (1914) he captured a second murderer named Boyd, who was charged with the killing of a pedlar near Edrans, Man.

It was while on border duty at Estevan that ex-Sgt. Harry Morren truly confirmed his ability at making arrests. "Thirsty Jack Doran", otherwise known as "Bad Man of the Dirt Hills" through a series of sensational horse thefts and clever cover-ups, had become notorious as one of the few who could evade the long arm of the RNWMP. Corporal Morren arrested him and in so doing won great respect for himself while boosting the reputation of the Force. Again at Estevan, Morren was responsible for the capture of many enemy aliens who at various times attempted to cross the border into the United States and neutral territory at the outbreak of World War I. Some of these men were considered