

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE THIS MORNING IN BUSINESS SECTION OF THE CITY

Balmoral Hotel, Black's Restaurant and Amodeo's Fruit Store Destroyed—Cause Unknown—Losses Are Heavy—Insurance Does Not Cover

The three-story and stone Balmoral Hotel, Black's Restaurant, and Sen. Amodeo and Company's fruit store were destroyed by fire, smoke, and water this morning.

The origin is a mystery and the cause is not determined yet. It may have started in the rear of the Balmoral premises, at the back of the restaurant, or upstairs in the kitchen of the Balmoral which is over rear of the restaurant.

The fire spread rapidly through the rear structure and got into the rust rooms of the Balmoral Hotel, which extended over the hotel proper, Black's restaurant, Amodeo's and Bishop's seed store.

Sam Amodeo and Company are heavy losers in their stock of fruit. It was not insured. The furniture and the ceiling had fallen in many places.

The fire at its peak, with flames and debris falling in its wake. The two-story building which suffered the destruction of all the upstairs portion except the brick walls.

One of the guests of the "Balm" made a desperate endeavor to save himself by taking a rope from the top window, but the situation did not require

the exercise of such extreme methods and he followed the advice of the police to make his escape by the stairway.

This morning, Mr. Chas. Bishop did not know of the fire until 8.30, when he arrived on the street. He found the firemen about to use water on the interior of his premises, and before the stream was turned on, he managed to get a couple of carters to take away a number of bags of alkali clover, which was ready for shipment.

Mr. B. J. Black, the proprietor of the restaurant, is an unfortunate loser by the conflagration. His precious stock of edibles was rapidly utterly ruined by smoke and water.

The fire caused damage to the Balmoral Hotel, which extended over the hotel proper, Black's restaurant, Amodeo's and Bishop's seed store.

Messrs. Johnson and Bottum will lose much their insurance in various companies not being over \$6,000. The total loss caused by the fire will be in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

NO DUM-DUM BULLETS USED BY BRITISH ARMY

German Charges Completely Refuted

The resident correspondent in Bern, Switzerland, of a leading London daily in a communication to his paper, published on October 30th, throws some interesting light on the methods adopted by the German authorities to try and substantiate their oft-denied charges that the British and French armies in Europe have been using dum-dum or explosive bullets.

The Germans continue to hammer away at the dum-dum bullet question. As I telegraphed the other day, the German Legation in Bern, and probably all German Legations and Consulates in every neutral country, are inviting all and sundry to go and see the dum-dum bullets in their possession, which have, it is said, been taken from French and British soldiers.

The Morning Post correspondent continues—The Journal de Geneve, as I also telegraphed, sent Herr Meyer von Stadelhofen, the well-known Swiss rifle champion—a vivid champion who carefully scrutinized the alleged dum-dum bullets at the German Legation in Bern.

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and that at Longwy a machine had been discovered which obviously served for the preparation of such bullets into dum-dum ammunition.

Five bullets were then shown to Herr Meyer von Stadelhofen, who says—"I noticed first that the transformation had been effected with the help of rudimentary tools, such as a file, a saw, or a pincheon; secondly, that of the five bullets, two were cut in the same place, the mark on the instrument having been made nearer and sometimes farther from the nose of the bullet; thirdly, that the scooping-out was not done in the middle of the bullet; fourthly, that the metal had been recently worked, for the lead was still VERY bright. His conclusions, therefore, are that obviously these bullets were not altered by mechanical means, and that they were not altered at the time or under the conditions referred to in the German note handed out to him."

DEFUSION BY SWISS EXPERT. Five bullets were then shown to Herr Meyer von Stadelhofen, who says—"I noticed first that the transformation had been effected with the help of rudimentary tools, such as a file, a saw, or a pincheon; secondly, that of the five bullets, two were cut in the same place, the mark on the instrument having been made nearer and sometimes farther from the nose of the bullet; thirdly, that the scooping-out was not done in the middle of the bullet; fourthly, that the metal had been recently worked, for the lead was still VERY bright. His conclusions, therefore, are that obviously these bullets were not altered by mechanical means, and that they were not altered at the time or under the conditions referred to in the German note handed out to him."

MEDICAL ADMISSIONS. It is now generally felt in Switzerland that the whole charge of the use of dum-dum bullets by French and British troops is of a piece with Mr. John Burn's famous speech and Mr. Cornelia Vanderbil's almost equally celebrated interview, so vehemently repudiated by him. It is very curious that on the same day the Swiss rifle shooting champion report was made two entirely independent statements should have also

been published, both directly contravening the use of dum-dum bullets by the allies. One of those statements appeared in a highly pro-Prussian Swiss newspaper. The first and most valuable of them is by a well-known Swiss medical man, Dr. Haberin, member of the Zurich Medical Association, who has just returned from various German military hospitals in Arlen (Grand Duchy of Baden) and Ludwigshurg, where he acted as a volunteer surgeon. Dr. Haberin states that the most numerous and also the least complex wounds are bullet-wounds most of which can be treated in field ambulances, and are quite cured in from ten to fifteen days on an average. Much more serious are the injuries caused by grenades or shrapnel, men hit by either being hardly able to bear being transported beyond the firing line. Dr. Haberin particularly remarks that he never heard anything of a dum-dum bullet wound.

The other testimony, which appeared on the same day in contact with the first, is against Mr. Freeman assertion of the use of dum-dum bullets by the Allies is that several Bernese ladies who were allowed to visit the German military hospitals in Freiburg-in-Breisgau, after giving a very interesting account of these hospitals, which can accommodate about 5,000 wounded at one time, these witnesses say "Verwundete durch Dum-dumgeschosse sind keine. Die Wunden durch Dum-dumgeschosse sind unbekannt in Freiburg."

This account of the Freiburg-in-Breisgau military hospitals being set out by others which have come to my knowledge. No Swiss, whether a medical man or not, who has visited or worked in a German hospital knows anything of wounds caused by dum-dum bullets.

CONCERT OF HIGH EXCELLENCE

In Aid of "Our Boys' Fund" in City Last Evening

Musico-lovers and patriotic citizens were delighted with the concert in the city last evening in aid of "Our Boys' Fund (skip or well) under the auspices of Mrs. C. J. Dowell and Mrs. J. A. McEee. The platform had appropriate decorations of flags and ferns. The audience was fairly large. The Fifteenth Regimental band occupied seats on the platform and delivered a number of selections, including the overture to the "Bohemian Girl," which was enjoyed. Local talent was well represented on the program in song, reading, and instrumental numbers.

1. Selected, 15th Regt. Band. 2. Solo, Lullaby, Mrs. Grant. 3. Solo, selected, Miss Sharn. 4. Readings, The Dying Trooper. Song of the Camp, Miss May Wallace. 5. Solo, The Serenade—Gounod—Mrs. C. J. Dowell. 6. Piano Numbers, selected, Mrs. Kenneth Ross. 7. Solo, Your King and Country wants you—Paul A. Rubens—Miss Ponton. 8. Viola Solos, selected, Miss Higgs. 9. Selection 15th Regt. Band. 10. Mandolin and piano—Armorla de Volse—Le Barge—Capt. and Mrs. Holtz.

Carpet Bowling Tournament

Baptists v. Methodists. (From Wednesday's Daily.) Four rinks from the Business Men's Bible Class of Bridge St. Church journeyed up to the Baptist Church last night and played a friendly set of games with the Yoke-fellow's Bible Class. The carpet-bowling was of a high order, and the teams were evenly matched, the Methodists winning out by 4 points on the total count.

Special mention should be made of Mr. J. B. Pitt and his rink, who were largely responsible for the success of the visitors. Mr. A. C. Chapman, the President of the visitor's class, put up a splendid game with his team, defeating the extra Baptist rink by the narrow margin of 2 points, after playing two extra ends to break the tie. Mr. F. E. O'Flynn and Rev. Mr. Osborne also distinguished themselves by skillful and well-placed shots. After the tournament refreshments were served, and short speeches made by Mr. A. C. Chapman, Mr. O'Flynn and Messrs. A. F. Walker, C. M. Reid, David Price, F. G. Laurin, Rev. H. S. Osborne and Rev. C. G. Smith. Two patriotic songs were rendered by Mr. Chapman, the men joining heartily in the chorus. The following is the list of players and scores: Methodists—Synnott, Borbridge, Reid, Flint, skip—21. James, Diamond, Cherry, Price, skip—17. Naylor, Walker, Osborne; Chapman, skip—11.

Sills, Campion, Harnes; Mr. O'Flynn, skip—11. Totals: Methodists, 60. Baptists—Sturges, Hart, McLaurin; Butler, skip—11. Sallisburg, Ellis, Blackburn; Kelly, skip—23. Cook, Smith, Priggs; Doolittle, skip—9. Longdon, Rinco, Skinner; Menzies, skip—13. Total: Baptists, 56.

COL. HEMMING 31 YEARS OFFICER

Celebrated Anniversary Last Saturday

Has Rendered Splendid Service in Popular Alike With Soldiers and Civilians

On Saturday last, Col. T. D. R. Hemming, Officer Commanding the Military District No. 3, completed thirty-one years of service for his king and country, a service which has been characterized by an unflinching attention to duty and irradiated by a happy, cheerful personality, which has won him the high esteem of all with whom he has come in contact.

The final dividend of the company was distributed on Monday, the 23rd inst. The total amount received was \$2,342,555. Preferred claims were \$275,357. General expenses, winding up, \$95,958. Liquidator's remuneration, \$9,714. Total dividends, \$1,962,895. Unrealized assets, \$26,323.

MILITARY NEWS OF DISTRICT

Kingston, Nov. 24.—No definite word has as yet been received by the military authorities here regarding the assembling of additional troops in the city, but in the event of such a thing taking place the officers will not be taken unprepared, as the matter of quartering such troops is being carefully considered by them.

SHAKING WITH REVOLT. Before the last days in August Russia was shaking with revolt. In anticipation of it the writer had gone from Finland to St. Petersburg, where 120,000 workmen had gone on strike.

CARRYING PLACE. Carrying Place, Nov. 2.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Taylor, spent one day last week at Mr. C. Snider's. Mr. and Mrs. D. Rowe have been spending a few days visiting friends. Mr. Fred Chase is on the sick list. Mr. and Mrs. Will Blackley, spent Sunday at Mr. T. Taylor's.

THE CZAR'S REAL ENTERTAINMENT. But the Russian Government was not sure of the attitude of the people, and it is related that in the first few days it felt it necessary to organize demonstrations to excite the patriotism of the masses. Soon it was plain, however, that the heart of the Russian people was in the war, the most significant and amazing evidence being that the crowds on the streets actually cheered the mounted police. No doubt it was the first time in their lives that the police had ever received the approbation of the public, and they saluted the populace, and laughed shamelessly like flattered children. Then came the great meeting in the Palace Square, where the Czar and the Czarina showed themselves on the balcony. In other countries this meeting would not have had the same significance, since in most other nations the people are more accustomed to seeing their rulers. It is not so in Russia. It was the first time in the reign of the Czar that such a meeting would have been possible.

FINAL DIVIDEND OF YORK LOAN CO

Five and a Half Per Cent Goes Out to an Army of Shareholders

LAND BROUGHT BIG SUM

Added a Million Dollars to Company's Assets in Six Years

Shareholders in Belleville and vicinity of the York County Loan and Savings Company Monday received their final dividend from the assets of the company. The rate is 5 1/2% which with previous dividends brings the distribution of assets during nine years of liquidation up to 55 1/2 cents on the dollar.

The present distribution is the final chapter in the affairs of a company that a few years ago was known from one end of the Dominion to the other. Its failure in 1905 affected people of all classes, an indication of the extent of its ramifications being given by the filing of 115,000 claims against the company. There were dozens sent from Belleville. The fact that the chief assets of the company consisted of large holdings of real estate made the winding-up process a slow one. It might have been considerably shortened had not the liquidator held on in order to secure a larger return from the real estate. In 1905 an offer of \$400,000 for the balance of the company's real estate was refused by the liquidator, and these lands were subsequently sold for \$1,400,000.

It is expected that fully 50,000 of the cheques now going out will be returned for better addresses. The final dividend brings the total distribution to \$1,625,895.87, leaving a balance of unrealized assets with a book value of \$26,323.

RUSSIA UNITED FOR FIRST TIME

"I do not think it is realized outside Russia how good a turn Germany did the Russian Government, and ultimately the Russian people, when she dictated Austria's note to Serbia and compelled Russia to make preparations for war."

THE COUNTERFEIT MAN. Like counterfeit money, is detected sooner or later. Gossip is what others say about you; what you say about others is news. Don't worry over a mistake that can be corrected. Get busy and correct it. If you want a better job than you have do your best on the one you have. If the world was without war the cynic would be the unhappiest man of all.

MUST HONOR LAST WISH. Body of St. Scholastique Man To Be Laid in Protestant Cemetery. MONTREAL, Nov. 25.—Justice Robidoux handed out a judgment yesterday afternoon which provides for the exhumation of the body of the late Mr. Hormidas Lafond, of St. Scholastique, who had been buried in a Catholic cemetery, against his own wish, created a sensation some months ago. The deceased was a French-Canadian Protestant, and was treasurer of the Belle Riviere Presbyterian Church. Although he had arranged that he should be buried in a Protestant cemetery, some relatives insisted that he be buried in the Catholic cemetery.

WANTED. TO RENT a Farm of 50 to 100 acres with option of buying. Must be quiet well situated with some acre of fruit; prefer Sidney or Thurston townships. Write particulars to W. S. Jones, Trenton, Ont.

JOINT PLEA MADE

Farmers and Manufacturers Wait on Federal Cabinet.

GOVERNMENT BANK ASKED

Grain Growers Want Public Funds Loaned at Six Per Cent. to Farmers—Delegates Also Urge Improvement of Highways and Lowering of Freight Rates—Much Being Done Now.

OTTAWA, Nov. 25.—The demand of the western grain growers for redress of grievances was presented to the Prime Minister and a number of his colleagues yesterday afternoon by E. G. Henderson, of Windsor, Ont., president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. He explained that a committee of the C. M. A. had recently conferred with representatives of the western farmers at Windsor and that there were some points in dispute between them, they agreed upon a printed memorial to the Government. The memorial set forth the need of legislation dealing with the financial situation, the tariff and the transportation problem.

As to the transportation problem his remarks exclusively to the necessity for better highways, alleging that it cost the English farmer but 7 cents per ton to transport his products to the railway station, while the Canadian farmer twenty-five cents. The suggestion was touched upon with the tariff that, if in any respect it was unjust to the farmer, such injustice should be rectified. As to the financial question, the speaker said that the farmer should not be charged a higher rate of interest than any other producer.

Mr. Henderson, secretary of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, insisted that the Government should also enquire into the transportation charges by rail and water including ocean freight rates. He favored the Government work would loan the postal savings and other Government funds to the farmer at six per cent, and quoted from the legislation of West Australia. It was unfair, he said, for the Government to have a deposit from the farmers at the postoffice and at the Government savings banks and then hand them over to the chartered banks to be loaned for commercial purposes.

Mr. Henderson said the two associations had set a good example to all Canadians. He was glad to say that his Government was devoting a great deal of time and money to demonstrate and education work in the near future. It was not the fault of the present Government that nothing had been done to improve the highways of the country. He urged the farmers at the postoffice and at the Government savings banks and then hand them over to the chartered banks to be loaned for commercial purposes.

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Several Killed at Warsaw. WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—A bomb from a German airplane fell in front of the American consulate at Warsaw early yesterday, breaking the windows of the consulate, but injuring no one within, according to a telegram dated yesterday from Ambassador Marie at Petrograd.

Several persons in the street in front of the consulate were killed and wounded.