a German, and on the door of my

Shot Before His Eyes.

The way they were killed was fiendish

for they were picked out one in every

three, and then shot. Others were

forced to look on. Many must have

of them were kicked and cuffed and

sent out of thet own to go where they

Many Houses Burned.

"I saw house after house burned. In

many of them, I know, there must

able to leave, were roasted to death.

"Aerschot is ruined, utterly devas-

houses and root out with their bayo-

nets people who were hiding. They

showed no mercy, they knew no com-

passion; they were worse than beasts

and stole and outraged women and

girls. From my husband's warehouse

"Our Burgomeister was a brewer

"You know that our brave soldiers

we thought we were tolerably safe,

but the Germans took it again, and

this time they were more fiendish

were devils. The superintendent of

Many Hardships.

fulness of what the people of Aer-

things I have forgotten. It were bet-

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sands of francs' worth.

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## GERMANS CANNOT DO WORSE THAN THEY HAVE ALREADY DONE

Belgian Lady Tells Awful fluently, and because-how I did it I Story of Rapine, Robbery do not know-I pretended not to be and Murder by Invader

PEOPLES' SUFFERINGS WERE INDESCRIBABLE

Experiences of Lady Were so Burgomaster's son and brother were Terrible That it is Better shot before his eyes, and then he himto Try to Forget Them

THE story told by Madame van de Pol supplies yet another chapter in the long harrowing history of thes trocities perpetrated by the German soldiers in Belgium. It is a story of murder, incendiarism, and wanten, studied destruction in Aerschot, which was her home.

Madame van de Pol, who speaks lost their reason, for when this whole-English, Flemish, and German, was sale slaughter was over the majority born in England, but went to Belgium some thirty years ago. She is a slight siim, dark lady, whose eyes have been pleased, perhaps to fall again to the dried by the dreadful experience thro hands of other German fiends and be which she has passed.

Guictly and coherently, and with a well-disciplined mind, she told her story as follows: "Until the morning of Aug. 19th I was the wife of a proshave been sick people who, being unhappy were me and my husband and children. Now I am without husband A young couple who have been but recently married were shot dead; my and home. I have but my children.

I cling to the belief that my hus- milkmaid was murdered. In one house band is alive, and that we shall meet the Germans first shot the husband, again soon, though I have not seen then the wife, and afterwards killed him since that dark, horrid day when Then he disappeared with hundreds of tated. No sooner had the Germans are others. I fear he has been murdered, rived than the butchery started. They would force their way into cellars of But, there, I go too fast.

Destruction Everywhere.

"On the morning of Aug. 19th at nine o'clock the Germans began bombarding the town. Shells showered of the field. They shot and burned upon the place; we were all terrified, for smash would go this building, samsh that house-destruction was they looted all the leather, many thouvrought everywhere.

About an hour and a half passed ne Germans. They swaggered, they were brutes. While men, women and supply the town with food for two anywhere and everywhere the Ger- Germany, mans made for the Burgomeister, Mons. Joseph Hielemans, and took him recaptured Aerschot, and for a time

Marched Him Out.

Into the street they marched him together with his son, aged 15-a than ever. They were not men; they bright boy home from school.

"The Burgomeister was compelled the railway station was taken out of to hold his hands above his head, his house and shot before his wife's boy at his heels, a badgered, frighten- eyes. In a street near by they murder ed boy. The Germans alleged that ed a mother and her three months' old the Burgomeister had been guilty of baby shooting an officer-a charge which I know to be untrue, and which Mons. "We-that is all who were left-for Hielemans ntoutly denied. Butt hely a whole fortnight never took our strong and the weak, in thec hurch. off. He died from his wounds. Many

neighbors shot in the streets. My hus "Many of the Germans after shootto Ryckevorsel, some few miles away, outright,' they would say. Those of had feared trouble. I would my townsfolk who were not killed ave them from massacre. For my-chanced to live because of the luck self I only escaped a terrible deathr they had of the lottery. Life was inbecause I was able to speak German deed a lotterq.

### F.P.U. Convention "These experiences of mine, though

The Delegates attend- schot and the people of Belgium gening Catalina Convention erally have passed through. Many in Conception Bay and ter to forget them. "Louvain is only three hours' walk from Aerschot. I have seen Louvain as it is now, a horrible ghostly shell the South Side of Trinity "Louvain is only three hours' walk Bay can join the S.S. Ethie en route from Car- of what it was. I have been through bonear on Saturday, the many of the little places round and about Aerschot I have seen the mur-14th, and be landed at derous work of the Germans, and I Catalina, arrangements have heard many ghastly stories. It having been made with gone. the Reid Nfld. Co. to that "We people of Belgium have all sufeffect.

This will permit Dele- our homes sacked. The Germans cangates to reach Catalina not do worse than they have done alquickly and cheaply and ready. What I have seen for myself has convicted them of murder and all dispense with the long the crimes unspeakable.

trip by rail. All Councils concern- my husband, and with our family build ed should take this mat- a home and a business, so that we may ter into consideration live as we used to live? "I wonder!" and arrange according-

The Convention will Commissions for the Collecnot open at Catalina un- tion of Rent, Overdue Actil the Ethie arrives.

counts, &c. Accepted on a We thank the Reid commission basis. Advertiser Nfld. Co. for their kindhas had plenty of experience and can give references. ness in granting the re- C. W. THISTLE, 148 New

THE PERSON AND THE PERSON ASSESSED TO SELECT ON THE PERSON ASSESSED TO SELECT OF THE PERSON ASSESSE

### THEY WROTE "A.1." ON HIS TOMBSTONE

And a British Soldier Relates Touching Story as to Why It Was Done afraid. I succeeded in passing off as

London, Oct. 16-(By mail to New house the soldiers chalked 'a German York).-"A 1" is the simple inscriplady only, save this house uncondition to be found over the grave of a German soldier in France and an English "Tommy" tells how it came

"I was lying wounded with an even worse hurt pal beside a dying Gerself was shot. I know from my own man," he said, 'What wouldn't I give personal knowledge that 169 people of for a drink,' I said to my pal, and he groaned. The German evidently unwhich they had laid down with their derstood the word drink-I'm told arms tied behind them the night long. it's pretty much the same in Dutch-"They represented quite an array of for he kept saying, 'E're' and pointing peaceful folk who were done to death.

> "We thought as 'ow 'e wanted liftin' up and couldn't rest easy, so after a bit I managed to hoist myself up and give 'im a pull. Then I found 'e was a-lying on 'is water-bottle. It was full of wine and water, and I 'eld it

"Poor chap, 'e was near done then, but 'e says, no, not me-I die-you

"Poor bloke, 'e died too, and later Est. 1860. some of us buried 'im properly, with a kind of 'eadstone and on it I wrote

#### LOOK OUT NOW!

on a bit of paper, 'A 1.'"

Everybody's doing it now? Doing what? Why, reading The Mail and Advocate of course. It's surely the house paper now! Without doubt the most widely circulated in the country.

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