

KAISER TAKES PRZASNYSZ IN LATEST DRIVE ON WARSAW

Stubborn Fighting Ends in Victory at Strategic Point, East of Mlawa. German Flank Protected by Occupation and Way Opened for Quick Advance.

Few Movement From East Prussia Sweeping Toward Objective—Berlin Regards Lodz Capture as Turning Point in Second German Invasion of Poland.

The German force driving toward Warsaw from East Prussia has captured Przasnysz, a strategic town north of the Vistula and on the line of communication between Mlawa and Warsaw.

Gains of from 200 to 600 yards along the French centre are reported today in the official communique issued from the War Office.

Berlin declares that the French have renewed attacks in the eastern region of the Argonne, but denies that any progress has been made.

Unofficial reports in Paris announce the capture of a section of railway line over which supplies for the army of the German Crown Prince have been transported.

Persistent German attacks within 40 miles of Warsaw are admitted by Petrograd, which avers, however, that the German battle line of 50 miles' extent was held back in its advance.

The new battle opened in the vicinity of Mlawa, whence the Kaiser is aiming a new drive on Warsaw, continues, but not so vigorously.

Berlin sets great store on the capture of Lodz, the importance of which is discounted by the Russians. From Petrograd reticence and Vienna declarations it is apparent that the investment of Cracow is not yet completed.

In fact, the Czar is at a standstill in this operation. German reinforcements in Galicia and a renewed Austro-German offensive in southern Poland mark a

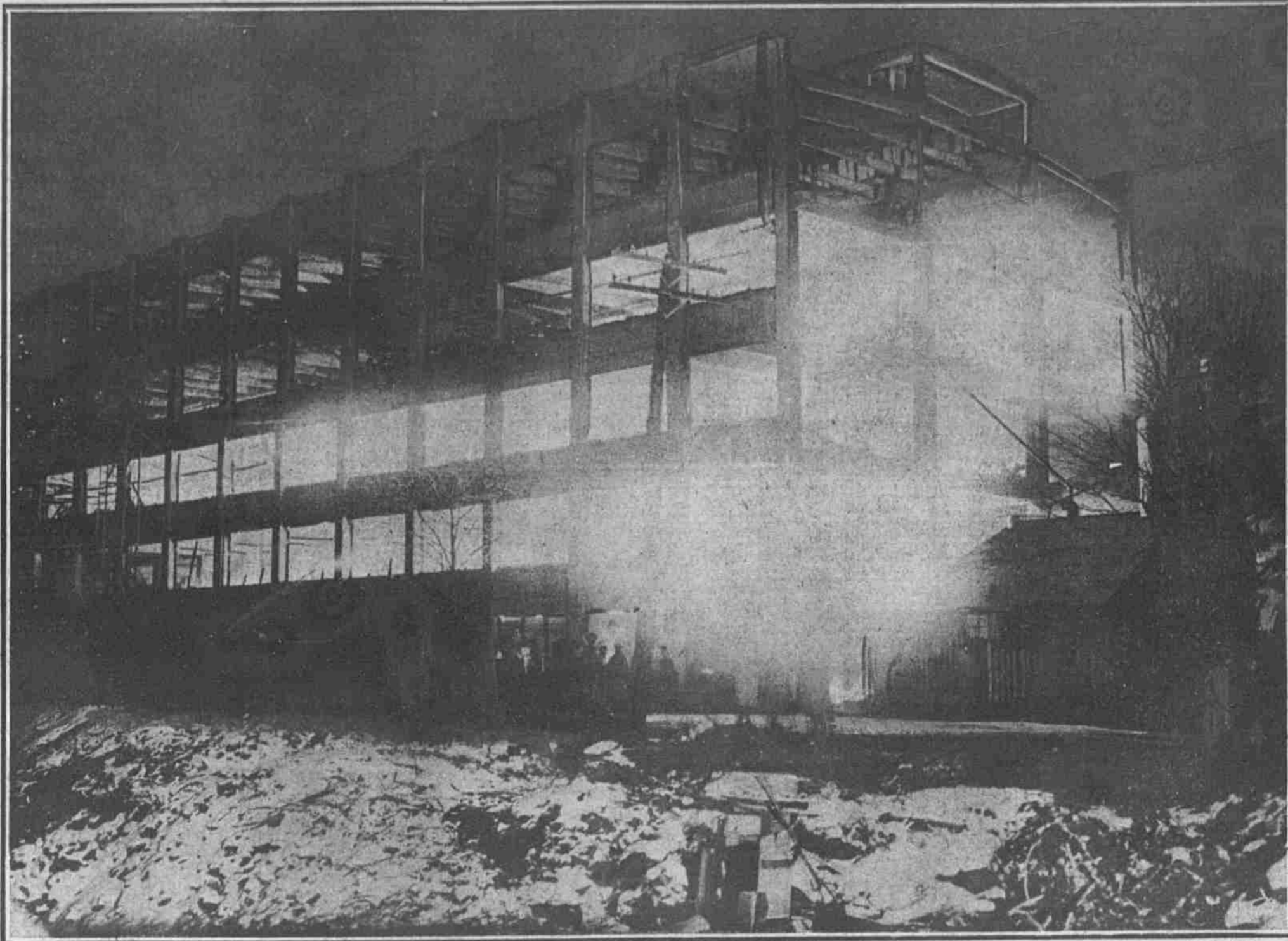
Concluded on Page Four

THE WEATHER CLOUDY

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity—Unsettled tonight and Friday with probably light rain or snow; not much change in temperature; gentle variable winds.

Observations at Philadelphia. S. A. M. Maximum temperature 38.00 Minimum temperature 32.00

TWO OF EDISON MAIN BUILDINGS THAT WERE WIPED OUT IN \$5,000,000 BLAZE



OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

FRENCH

The day of yesterday passed quietly in Belgium as well as in the region of Arras, where the enemy made no attempt at a resumption of offensive operations.

In the region of Le Quesnoy and around Sandeche, we made advances varying from 200 to 600 metres.

Our artillery in the environs of Rheims has forced the Germans to evacuate several trenches.

In the region of Lertres the enemy, by means of two counter attacks, attempted to retake the trenches which they had lost on the 8th.

The ground taken by us is firmly strengthened. In all the Argonne our progress continues. We have taken new trenches, repulsed with complete success six counter attacks and have strengthened the positions gained from the enemy.

In the heights of the Meuse there have been artillery duels, in which we have maintained, despite the greater activity of the enemy's batteries, a marked advantage.

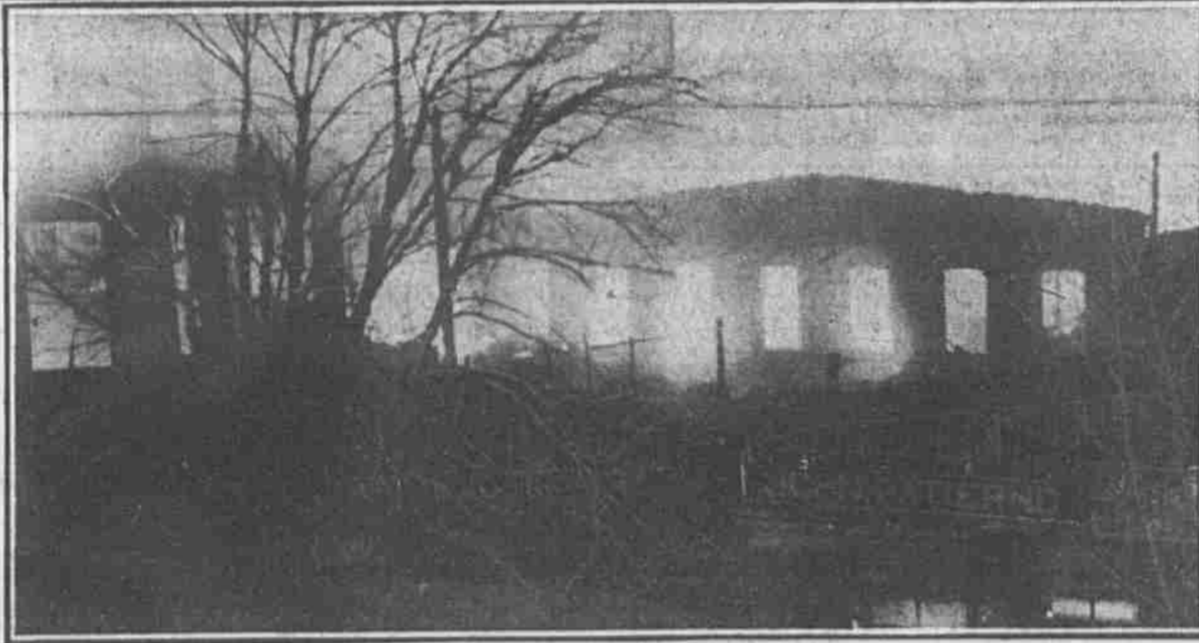
Our artillery in the environs of Rheims has forced the Germans to evacuate several trenches. This evacuation took place under the fire of our infantry.

In the region of Lertres the enemy, by means of two counter attacks, attempted to retake the trenches which they had lost on the 8th. They were repulsed.

The ground taken by us is firmly strengthened. In all the Argonne our progress continues. We have taken new trenches, repulsed with complete success six counter attacks and have strengthened the positions gained from the enemy.

In the heights of the Meuse there have been artillery duels, in which we have maintained, despite the greater activity of the enemy's batteries, a marked advantage.

Our artillery in the environs of Rheims has forced the Germans to evacuate several trenches.



The upper picture shows the famous phonograph disk laboratories in flames. Below is the burning main office of the inventor and staff. Out of 22 buildings composing the West Orange plant only three were left standing.

'BUILDING ALREADY,' EDISON'S MESSAGE TO JOVIAN LEAGUE

Electrical Wizard Undismayed by \$5,000,000 Fire Loss, Sends Quick Reply to Condolence.

In response to a telegram of condolence, Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, whose \$5,000,000 plant at East Orange, N. J., was swept by fire, addressed the following message to the Jovian League here today:

"Thanks. We have started to rebuild already." Applause greeted the reading of this telegram at the luncheon of the league in the Adelphi Hotel.

This morning, Washington Deveraux offered the sympathy of the league to the noted inventor for his loss. The answer from Mr. Edison was dated from the scene of the fire.

Smoldering ruins mark the spot where the great plant stood yesterday. Out of 22 separate buildings but three are standing. One of these is the famous red brick, private laboratory of the electrical wizard, where so many inventions have been perfected.

Unscathed from the fire which reared on all sides from about 3:30 yesterday evening until midnight last night, the loss is estimated at \$5,000,000 with insurance of \$1,600,000. There is a "fire fund" created out of the company's profits.

VAGRANT DAZZLES CHINATOWN WITH WORTHLESS BONDS

Splurge on \$55,000 in Stolen Papers Would Have Been Real if They Had Been Signed.

The pride of John Smith in his meteoric career through the restaurants of Chinatown as a prince of spendthrift took a sudden drop today when he learned that the motive for his plunge was a mistake.

Smith, who is 23 years old and lives at 143 East Allegheny avenue, is being held for a further hearing at the 11th and Winter streets station.

The man was caught with a tin box containing bonds of an apparent face value of \$5,000. When he was arraigned before Magistrate Tracy this morning, the official recalled that two days ago Smith was before him as a vagrant.

It was not until the firm that owns the bonds refused to become excited over their loss and recovery that the police became suspicious. Then a further examination of the documents was made and was discovered they were not signed.

When Smith was told, his satisfied smile disappeared. The prisoner, who will be known for years in the Chinatown quarter as "the big spender," gave the plain name of John Smith. He said he was 21 years old and his home is at 143 East Allegheny avenue.

PASSENGER INCOME UNDER 2 PER CENT., IS P. R. R. DEFENSE

Railroads Plead First in Hearing by State Public Service Commission on Commuters' Protest.

A mass of figures and statistics to show that the Pennsylvania Railroad is at present earning less than 2 per cent. on its total passenger investment and arguments intended to prove that the net operating income of all the railroads had decreased far below normal during 1914

were the burden of the defense presented by the railroads before the Pennsylvania Public Service Commission today in their attempt to justify the proposed increase in passenger tariffs.

The entire morning session was occupied in taking the testimony of F. J. Fell, chief statistician of accounts for the Pennsylvania, who was examined by H. W. Bickley, assistant general counsel for the railroad.

At 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, after a recess of an hour, the commission reconvened to hear the testimony of other Pennsylvania officials.

Former Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker, who is presiding at the hearing in the absence of Frank M. Wallace, acting chairman of the commission, remarked at the conclusion of the morning session that nothing had been presented as yet to show why there should be an increase in rates.

COUNCILS PROVIDE \$50,000 TO RELIEVE SUFFERING OF POOR

Measure Names Department of Health and Emergency Aid Committee as Distributors of Fund.

The measure that will provide \$50,000 for relief of the city's unemployed was passed by Councils today as an amendment to a pending transfer bill.

The transfer bill, including the amendment, will go with the transfer bill to Mayor Blankenburg for his signature tomorrow morning, making the \$50,000 available at once.

The bill in which the relief fund was incorporated as an amendment is one transferring funds from the Departments of Public Works, Public Safety and City Transit. It was called by Chairman Connolly, of the Finance Committee.

The text of the amendment making the appropriation set forth: "Toward the relief of the unemployed poor of the city of Philadelphia, \$50,000, the said amount to be expended for such purpose by the Department of Public Health and Charities through the Emergency Aid Committee and be paid by the City Treasurer on warrants drawn by the Director of said department and countersigned by the City Controller."

It is also provided in the amendment that any balance remaining in the appropriation at the end of the year shall not merge with the general fund, but shall continue as a relief appropriation.

There was no opposition to the amendment, which was immediately adopted by Common Council and sent to the Select Chamber, where similar approving action was taken.

Other Council Proceedings Page Two

PASSENGERS FALL 20 FEET Seventeen Injured When Train Goes Over Embankment.

JOPLIN, Mo., Dec. 10.—Seventeen persons were injured, four of them fatally, when a St. Louis and San Francisco passenger train was derailed four miles east of Joplin early today.

TWO GERMAN SHIPS CAUGHT AND SUNK, IS NEW REPORT

Nurnberg and Dresden, Fleeing From Fight off Falkland Islands Where Three Warships Were Sunk by British, Now Rumored Overhauled and Wrecked.

2000 Men and Officers Believed Lost in Greatest Sea Fight of War—Admiral von Spee, Victor of Chili Battle, Reported Drowned With Crew of Flagship.

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 10. A report has reached here that the German cruisers Dresden and Nurnberg, which escaped when the Scharnhorst, Onizmenet and Leipzig were sunk off the Falkland Islands, have been overtaken and sent to the bottom.

It was a miscalculation of the Germans as to the route the British would take, coupled with carelessness by the English, that resulted in the battle. The Germans tried to avoid a fight with the British fleet, Admiral von Spee was endeavoring to get out into the open Atlantic.

In addition to sinking the three German cruisers, the British fleet captured and sank five German merchant vessels in the same vicinity in which the battle occurred.

The latest statement issued by the British Admiralty made no mention of the British fleet's reported success in overtaking and sinking the Nurnberg and Dresden. According to the last official word, Vice Admiral Sturdee was pursuing the two German vessels. It is reasonable to assume that Admiral Sturdee would report the sinking of the Nurnberg and Dresden to the Admiralty promptly and that the Admiralty would make the news public at once.

LONDON, Dec. 10. British warships, which sank three German cruisers off the Falkland Islands in

KAISER SUFFERS SEVERE ATTACK OF COUGHING Emperor's Condition Believed to Be Serious.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—Kaiser Wilhelm was racked by a severe coughing spell early today and was relieved only after the court physicians and the Empress, who was summoned to his bedside, had administered to him for nearly an hour, according to reports reaching here by way of Amsterdam.

It is now accepted in London that the condition of the Kaiser is serious. It is evident that the strictest censorship is being exercised by the German Government. His ailments are variously described as influenza, bronchitis, pneumonia and nervous prostration.

KAISER REPORTED DEAD LONDON, Dec. 10.—The rumor that the Kaiser is dead persists today, despite the dispatches from Berlin through The Hague and Amsterdam, purporting to be official bulletins, which state that his condition is unchanged.

LOST AND FOUND ALL "LOST AND FOUND" ARTICLES mentioned in the Public Ledger are reported to the "Lost and Found" office of the Ledger at 100 North 11th street, Philadelphia. Can also be seen at the Main Office, 121 and Chestnut streets. A reward of \$5.00 is paid for each article found. Call for details at the "Lost and Found" office, 100 North 11th street.

STATION PETS STOLEN Thieves Took Six Canaries From Wistar on Third Visit.

For the third time within a few weeks thieves visited the Wistar station on the Reading. Early this morning they forced a rear window, and when they left took with them six canary birds, the pets of E. Wertz, the station agent.

Plunge to Death in U. S. Treasury WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—John F. Mc-