

# T. A. C. A. IN RUINS

(Continued from Page 1.)

front and rear, and shooting across the areaway against the gymnasium building. Twenty feet away from the building the flames were ascending far above the roof of the building and had spread to the heart of the structure at 11:15 o'clock, and the gymnasium was completely enveloped. At 11:20 o'clock the fury of the flames was greatest in the rear buildings. The wind, until now, was towards the north but began to change towards the south and the fire spread to H. S. Gorman and company's live stock and McCawley's blacksmith shop, on Spruce street. The Handley block, on Wyoming avenue and Spruce street, were several times threatened not only by fire but by the falling of the adjacent walls. By the increased force of water they were saved.

The south wall of the gymnasium fell towards the south at 11:30 o'clock. The fury of the fire in the gymnasium had now spent its force and the firemen began to get control of the fire in the rear, in the buildings on Breck and Forest courts.

Small holes could now be noticed in the south wall of the main building of the Young Men's Christian association. The fire was fiercest in the front and the southwesterly corner of the structure at 11:45 o'clock, and five minutes later the whole fell with a crash, carrying with it the entire side wall on the southern building, and the front wall away about six or eight feet front of the Handley estate building adjoining it.

The trolley and telephone wires were thrown down by the falling debris and so intense was the flames in front that the wires, awnings and wood finishings on the Mrs. Squiers building, number 207 Wyoming avenue, became ignited and the portico of the Lyceum was smoking. The flames in front of Handley & McLaughlin's shoe store, Westminister hotel, Costello & Fleming's hotel and several other properties were broken and the wood work scorched by the heat.

To the north the wall saved the L. B. Powell & Co. building and J. E. Pratt's live stock, to the rear of it. Gorman & Co.'s live stock and wagon sheds, across Breck court, from the Young Men's Christian association gymnasium building, and the barn and wagon sheds of the Soranton Dairy company, which are to the rear of the Gorman court and between Breck and Forest courts, were attacked at about the same time, and all were completely gutted. McCawley's blacksmith shop, which had Gorman's live stock to protect from the fire, escaped with only a few burned patches.

The extreme end apartment of the Handley block, which is buried beneath the fallen south wall of the Y. M. C. A. building, was untenanted. The next one to it was occupied by J. Janko, merchant tailor, his shop being on the ground floor and residence on the upper floors.

There was no one in the buildings at the time, but much of Mr. Janko's stock and furniture is a total loss. The foundation wall of that end of the Handley block was broken down and the end of the building is leaning towards the north, the walls threatening to fall at any time.

At 11:55 o'clock Chief Hickey directed the return of the Cumberland, Neptune, General Phinney, Niagara, Century and Liberty companies to their quarters in the outlying districts. An hour later all except the central city companies had been sent home. The central companies were kept at work demolishing many streams of water on the ruins, which covered masses of burning embers.

**Told Their Stories.**  
GEORGE MANERHOFF and Amos A. Lincoln are the two showmen who were in the building at the time of the explosion. Manerhoff was the operator of the machine and Lincoln his helper. Manerhoff stated to a Tribune reporter that he was detecting an electric spark from the machine when it fell from his hands and dropped into the films. The next thing he realized was that he was being blown through the open doorway. He tried to get back, but his helper's safety possessing him, but could not reach the door. While he was on the threshold Lincoln came groping his way out.

Lincoln says he was piling chairs away in the rear of the room when he saw a flash of flames and heard a terrific explosion. He found the room filled with flame in an instant and made a dash through it for the doorway. It was some seconds after the explosion occurred before Lincoln made his way to the open air. He had a thrilling experience during those few moments, he says, and lived his whole life over during his trip from the rear of the show-room to the doorway.

Both men were severely affected by their experience. Manerhoff went into convulsions in Fleming & Costello's some time after he was assisted over there and it required six men to hold him until Dr. Lewis Fry succeeded in bringing him about.

**Occupants of Buildings.**  
THE Young Men's Christian association building was occupied on the lower floor by the rear rooms of C. M. Florey, dealer in sportsmen's goods; Mosher & Coleman, merchant tailors, and Mansfield's cinematograph exhibition. The rest of the building was used by the association in its work, including the dispensary of the John Raymond Institute, on the third and top floor. In the rear and on a level with the first floor store rooms the gymnasium was located; on the entire second floor were the offices, reading room, parlors and auditorium, and on the upper floor, besides the Institute, were a number of sleeping apartments for the accommodation of officials of the association. Of these were Professor J. M. Chance, Chorister and Professor A. F. Kennedy, director of the gymnasium. Professor Kennedy was not in his room at the time of the breaking out of the fire. Professor Chance was sound asleep. He was awakened by a young man named Hoffman, who is a member of the association and fortunately had his key with him.

Both Professor Chance and Kennedy lost all of their personal effects, including \$500 in money, which Professor Kennedy had in a trunk in his room. Besides the total destruction of furnishings and other property of known value the association lost all records since the organization. These were invaluable.

When the fire broke out C. M. Florey, proprietor of the store, was near at hand, and reaching the scene he, with others rushed against the doors,

smashing them in. The men then removed a large quantity of goods to the Westminster hotel.

**Losses Sustained.**  
MR. FLOREY'S loss is estimated at \$1,000 partially insured. Mosher & Coleman's loss in cloth yards is estimated at \$2,000. Mr. Mosher, of the firm, was married yesterday by a Tribune reporter. It was his first intimation that such a dreadful calamity had befallen the association. "Why," said he, "I just left there about 8 o'clock, having attended a very pleasant meeting of the directors. H. C. Schaffer, the president, was chairman and we approved the letting of the store to that exhibition business. Besides we had just closed the leasing of the vacant stores for a long period dating from April 1. Well, well, I can't hardly believe it possible. Oh yes, we will certainly re-build and I suppose some action to that purpose will be taken at once. As to the insurance? Well, I believe the loss, unless it is total, will be fully covered. The damage done to the Handley block is estimated variously at from \$500 to \$1,500. The north end of the long row was smashed in by the fall of the Young Men's Christian association wall on that side and the great pressure not only totally delapidated about fifteen feet of the building but cracked the front of the building for as many feet further, making effective repair impossible. The part of the building destroyed, under the mass of brick work, included, in the immediate rear, however, was the family of John Janko, a German. He lost all his household effects. The cracks extended into the part of the structure occupied by Dr. Walter M. Reddy as offices from the store and the Connolly family on the upper floor.

John T. Richards, one of the executors in charge of the Handley estate, when interviewed by a Tribune reporter at the scene of the fire, said that the building was insured for the full damage in the Holmes agency in this city.

There was no damage to household goods worth mentioning.

**Gorman's Big Loss.**  
THE Gorman stable was owned by H. S. Gorman and company, successor to L. T. Payne. The building was practically totally destroyed. Gorman was assisted by a Tribune reporter. He stated that the damage he has suffered will amount close upon \$25,000. Of this the building is insured for \$18,000 in four agencies—Norman & Moore, H. Bell, C. H. Powell, and E. Paine. Van Ness, jeweler and other vehicles on the upper floor, removed there during the winter season and 400 bushels of oats in stock; also many tons of hay and other fodder amount, said Mr. Gorman, to \$7,000, additional. The structure will probably be rebuilt.

In the rear of the live stock was a small blacksmith shop worth possibly \$100. This was partially destroyed. On Wyoming avenue, opposite the fire glass in all the buildings from the Traders' bank, on the corner, to Haydn's cafe, at N. 23, which, it seems, was the limit to the effect of the heat, was cracked or smashed so that they fell out upon the sidewalk. The glass in the bank, Haydn's cafe, the tailor's place, 3003 1/2 street in Moore's Metropolitan cigar store, the whole front of the Westminster hotel, and Fleming & Costello's hotel, two front glass, 12x11 in the Economy furniture store, were some of the items in damage done from the heat. Estimated, the loss from this cannot be less than \$3,000.

The front portico of the Arcade building was scorched. The Powell music company building, leased by the estate of B. B. Powell, and valued at \$20,000, was damaged by the flames to the extent of about \$5,000, chiefly to the roof and the side adjoining the Young Men's Christian association building. The entire building was insured in the companies represented by Graham and Fuller and others. The building was occupied on the first and second floors, and in the rear annex by the music company. On the second floor were the offices of Professor Southworth, T. J. Devereux and Alvin Korn, musicians. All valuable papers, etc., were taken from the building by Messrs. Powell and Whittemore before the building was endangered.

**Incidents of Fire.**  
AT EIGHT minutes of twelve the front wall of the Young Men's Christian Association building, showing, tottered and fell with a resounding, weird crash. Immediately thereafter a shriller sound, that of the crowd on the street, starting at comfortable distances from the big furnace, was heard. It was the cry of danger. The mass of masonry in falling had crashed through the net work of the fire hose and the streets, and the gold chimney touch as they fell, hundreds of spectators caused the confusion.

Police men shouted, women screamed, men tumbled headlong over others as they fled and Chief Hocking standing in the midst of the wires cried out to a number of policemen—"Go stop the current."

Immediately afterward word came back that the current had been stopped twenty minutes before. The wires were dead.

Once more the crowd watched the progress of the fire. The wall on the lower side next fell and the shower of sparks borne by a northeasterly wind, following St. Luke's church building, next to Haydn's, and the buildings on the other side. Since the first outbreak of the flames the church had been in danger. The roof was covered with live embers. Rev. Rogers Israel was out lending whatever suggestion he could to the fire fighters. The roof fairly smoked from the heat but water was at last flooded over the slanting surface and after that there was comparatively no chance for alarm.

The sparks however were carried a half block away, over Gould's carriage repository on Linden street and some were noticed falling as far off as the open field beyond Ash street. The wind did not change from its original direction and it was a wailing all along the line a swath of menaced homes with anxious ones on roof tops, garden hose a hand.

Immense crowds flocked to the scene from all directions and fairly blocked

the adjacent streets. The alarm sounded at just about the hour when the people were on their way home from the theaters and when they looked around and saw the lurid reflection in the very heart of the city they turned back and hastened to the scene. The fallen wires, the wagons, carriages, furniture, horses tied to telegraph poles and the like, coupled with the net work of hose that was laid on every block, added much to confusion. There, all in all, the most exciting time the city has had in many a year.

A crossed wire overcharged a telephone line and one of the girl operators at the exchange was thrown from her stool by a shock.

There was a plenty of interesting side scenes. At Gorman's live stock yards were led out and marched in parade up Spruce street. The aleighs also, to the number of one hundred, were lined up along the curbs of the nearby street.

George Hoffman, who aroused Professor J. M. Chance in the association building, came here from Sedalia, Missouri, to employ a Tribune reporter. He had quarters in the Young Men's Christian association building.

An invitation to coffee and sandwich lunch in Lane's cafe was extended to the firemen by ex-Sheriff Robinson, after the flames had been subdued. The heat was so intense that the insulation on a wire in front of the Metropolitan cigar store became ignited.

Chief of Police Hocking happened to be on the way to his home when the alarm sounded. He returned to the scene of the fire and took charge of the large force of men. Lieutenant of Police Williams, of West Scranton; Lieutenant Zane, of South Scranton, and Captain Egan, of the fire department, were present and actively engaged in the performance of their duty.

The street commissioner's workmen were out to the fire, for the first time in this city. Keeping the streets clear and removing debris from the gutters kept Commissioner Dunning's men busy.

A quantity of silverware in St. Luke's church was packed under the direction of the pastor, Rev. Rogers Israel, and prepared for conveyance to a place of safety. Neither the church nor the rectory sustained any injury, the slate roofs being proof against the shower of sparks which fell upon them.

**The Accidents.**  
GEORGE CAMPBELL, of Gibson street, was injured while standing in front of the Westminster hotel, by the sudden falling out of one of the large plate glass windows. In the right hand window in the restaurant part of the hotel, and Campbell, standing right by it, was caught in a sheet of glass about four feet wide and five feet high. He was slightly cut about the head and hands and bruised about the back and shoulders.

An ambulance from the Lackawanna hospital was on the scene. The most serious injury to a fireman, as far as could be learned in the confusion, was sustained by Thomas Conlan, a permanent man of the Hook and Ladder company. He cut his hand on a broken window pane while entering a room in the association building. He had been offered \$100 to save the trunk containing \$400 belonging to Physical Director Kennedy. Conlan reached the trunk but was nearly overcome by smoke and had to flee to the ladder by which he had mounted to the window. In climbing out he sustained his injury.

At 2 a. m. a half intoxicated young man, on the inside of the Westminster, forgetting that the glass was cracked, leaned against the large front pane and fell out to the sidewalk with a crash. He was not seriously hurt.

**DREYFUS RIOT IN A FRENCH COURT.**  
An Anti-Semitic Crowd Forces Suspension of the Case.

Paris, Feb. 3.—A crowd yelling "Down with the Jews" made such a commotion at the hearing of the libel suit brought by Joseph Reinach against Edouard Henri Rochefort, who charged M. Reinach with intending to prove "Captain Alfred Dreyfus' innocence by means of forged documents, today, that the judge suspended the sitting. He afterward posted up a notice against a week. M. Rochefort, on emerging from the court at the close of the proceedings, was loudly cheered.

Emile Zola and the Aurore have requested the ministry of justice to subpoena General Billot, minister of war, as a witness for the defense in the coming prosecution of M. Zola for his open letter to President Faure, pointing out alleged irregularities in the Esterhazy court-martial and accusing the French minister of war of perjury.

**REINDEER FOR THE KLONDIKE.**  
Shipment of Thirty-five Reaches New York from Denmark.

New York, Feb. 3.—The steamer Hekla, which arrived from Copenhagen, Christiania and Shields, brought thirty-five reindeer for the Klondike. The original shipment was for two animals, of which seven died on the passage.

Washington, Feb. 3.—United States Consul Dudley at Vancouver reports the arrival there Jan. 19 of a car load of 100 trained Newfoundland dogs for use in carrying freight in the Klondike.

**CRIPPLE CREEK GOLD OUTPUT.**  
January Production Is \$1,200,000 and Gold Dividends Declared.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 3.—The gold production of the Cripple Creek district during the month of January was, in round figures, \$1,200,000.

The dividends declared by eleven mining companies operating there amounted to \$146,000, while fully \$7,000 more was cleared up by mines under private ownership. The production is steadily increasing and there will soon be other dividend payers on the list. The stock market has been fairly active, but prices low.

**RUSSIA FRANCE AND ENGLAND HAVE AGREED TO SUPPORT HIS CANDIDACY.**  
Berlin, Feb. 3.—The Constantinople correspondent of the Frankfurt Zeitung telegraphs that Russia, France and Great Britain have agreed to insist on the candidature of Prince George of Greece for the governorship of Crete, and are ready to enforce it, should the sultan prove obdurate.

Prince George, the correspondent asserts, has been so informed, and is ready to depart for Crete under the tripartite protection.

**WORTHLESS AMMUNITION.**  
Supplied to the United States Army by a Washington Firm.

Shrapnel shells furnished for the United States army have been made by Lieutenant Habbitt of the Benicia arsenal. Twenty-six shells were fired and fifty per cent of the ammunition was found to be worthless.

The shrapnel was furnished by an ordnance company of Washington.

**CHINESE EXCLUSION.**  
A Decision Raising Another Barrier to Their Immigration.

San Francisco, Feb. 3.—United States District Judge De Haven has rendered an opinion which will have the effect of another strong barrier against Chinese laborers and criminals. It is to the effect that the action of the collector of the port is not even prima facie evidence of the right of a Chinese to land.

Judge De Haven "disaffirmed" the report and recommendation of Commissioner Hancock in the case of Lau Sun Ho, a Chinese woman admitted to this country in December, 1896, by the collector of the port, on her statement and the testimony of witnesses that she was a native of California. Seven months ago Ho became disaffected with the life of a chattel slave and went to the mission on Washington street. She told the women at the mission that she was a native of China, and that her statements made to the collector of the port were false.

**ADRIFT IN A BLIZZARD.**  
Terrible Sufferings of the Crew of the Schooner Crandall.

Hull, Mass., Feb. 3.—The crew of the schooner Crandall, which was blown adrift during the blizzard Monday night, were rescued by the captain of the Point Allerton life saving station last night.

The Crandall's crew had been 30 hours without anything to eat or drink except a pint of beans and what little water they could obtain by breaking an icicle from the rigging and melting it.

**COOLIES ASSAIL AN AMERICAN.**  
Our Secretary of Legation at Seoul Pounded Upon.

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 3.—Advice by steamer from Japan say that Mr. Sands, secretary of the United States legation at Seoul, was assaulted by a gang of five or six Japanese coolies at Nagasaki on New Year's day, while walking alone.

No reason is known for the assault, and the matter is being investigated by the local authorities.

**ROBBERS TORTURE A WOMAN.**  
Unable to Bear the Agony, She Gires Up \$1,200.

Delaware, O., Feb. 3.—Four masked men last night entered the residence of Miss Nancy Fix, south of this city. They commanded her to tell where she kept her money, and upon her refusing they bound and gagged her.

Unable to stand the torture she disclosed the hiding place, and the robbers secured \$500 in certificates and

checks, and \$300 in cash. Miss Fix may not recover.

**Josephine Mellen Ayer's Will.**  
Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 3.—By the will of Josephine Mellen Ayer, which was filed in the Middlesex probate court today, \$100,000 is bequeathed to the Ayer home for women and children in Lowell and \$50,000 to the Pennsylvania hospital at Philadelphia.

**Democratic Conference Postponed.**  
Philadelphia, Feb. 3.—Owing to the fact that State Chairman John M. Gorman is engaged as counsel in the trial of Sheriff Martin at Wilkes-Barre, the conference of Democrats called in this city for Wednesday next, has been postponed until Feb. 17.

**Legislature Will Investigate.**  
Boston, Feb. 3.—The house today passed the order of Senator Flynn for an investigation by the labor committee of the recent reduction of wages in Massachusetts textile mills.

**Reading Bonds Sold.**  
New York, Feb. 3.—Reports current yesterday to the effect that J. P. Morgan & Co. had sold in London something like \$5,000,000 of Reading general mortgages at 4 per cent. bonds were confirmed today.

**NOT GOING UPWARD.**  
"One summer," said Colonel William M. Olin, at a college fraternity dinner, "a few years after the war, Colonel Higginson was traveling in the south, and he got to talking with a former in some little town, who was employing a considerable number of men at his haying. The farmer told Colonel Higginson that most of them were old Confederate soldiers."

"You see over there, where those four men are working?" asked he. "Well all of 'em fought in the war. One of 'em was a private, one of 'em was a corporal, one was a major, and that man 'way over in the corner was a colonel."

**THE SAFEST PLACE.**  
General Lee told an amusing story to a reporter at one time when he was about to deliver an address at a Confederate reunion. Some one came to him and asked him if he would speak to an old colored man who wished to speak to him. The general consented, and the old negro, whose name was Sam, and who had fought throughout the war, came and received the proffered hand. General Lee at once began to put questions to the old fellow, who answered with wonderful skill. The general then asked him where he had seen the best time during the war.

"At Chickamauga," at once replied the "dusky," "because I ran as soon as the firing began."

"But how did you know in which way to run in such a hot battle?" asked the general, with a merry twinkle in his eye. "I went directly to the safest place, and the first I could find," answered Sam, coming to his climax.

Again he was asked how he could tell which place was safe.

"I knowed it was safe," answered Sam, "cause I skipped for do place where de girls was."

**Found the Explanation.**  
A writer on French politics in the London Truth tells a significant anecdote of the Duc d'Annam, who died a few weeks ago. The Duke was a prince of the House of Orleans, enormously wealthy, and so popular in his youth that it was thought that he could easily play the role of Louis Napoleon, and secure his own election as president or Stadtholder of France, if he died in the position to which he was born.

The English writer who tells the story was standing near the door at a state ball, when the duke entered.

"Announce me," he said to the servant, "as General Le Duc d'Annam."

"The man stepped forward, and the duke stopped him. 'No, Annam, no, Annam, simply,' he corrected.

Before the servant could open his mouth the duke interrupted him again, anxiously. "Announce me as His Royal Highness, the Duc d'Annam."

But again he stopped him. "It will not be announced at all," and passed into the room in silence.

"Then," says the writer, "I understood why he never had been king or Stadtholder of France!"

## Saturday Afternoon and Evening—Bauer's Orchestral Concerts.

Afternoon at 2 O'Clock. Evening at 7 O'Clock.

# Jonas Long's Sons.

## THE GREAT STORE.

**Domestic Bargains.**  
Two bales of Extra Quality Brown Muslin, 36 inches wide; special ..... 31c  
Two bales of Still Better 4-4 Brown Muslin; special ..... 41c  
50 pieces of Yard-wide Berkeley Cambric; worth 10 cents yard; special at ..... 7c  
10,000 yards of English Cardinal Flannels in Black Figured and Stripped Designs; very special at ..... 41c  
Five hundred pieces of Best Quality Apron and Fine Quality Dress Ginghams—newest season's styles; special at ..... 41c  
250 dozen full regular size Pillow Cases, made from one of the Best Grades of Muslin, finished with Wide Hem; special at ..... 8c  
1,000 Very Fair Quality of Muslin Pillow Cases; at ..... 41c  
Five cases of Bed Spreads, full double bed size; Hemmed Ready for Use; Beautiful Marcellis Designs; worth \$1.25; special at ..... 75c  
Extra Good Quality of Calicoes, in a Great Variety of Patterns; very special at ..... 21c

**Muslin Underwear Bargains**  
Women's Fine Quality Muslin Drawers, Handsomely Trimmed with Embroidery and Cluster of Tucks; special at ..... 23c  
Women's Extra Fine Quality Cambric Corset Covers, with Square or V Neck, Beautifully Trimmed with Embroidery and Inserting; special at ..... 22c  
Women's First Quality Jersey Ribbed Vests, Fleece Lined; worth 20c; special at ..... 8c  
Women's First Quality Jersey Ribbed Vests—extra weight, Fleece Lined and Trimmed with Silk Tape; very special at ..... 18c  
Main Aisle.

**A Blanket Bargain**  
Fine Quality, Extra Heavy, Eastern Wool, Finished Blankets, full size with Fancy Borders; special at, pair ..... 43c  
Men's Night Shirts  
Made of First Quality Flannelette, Full Length, Nicely Finished, worth 50c, at ..... 35c  
Left of Wyoming Entrance.

**Dress Goods Bargains**  
Fancy Plaid Suiting for Children's School Dresses and Waists; Handsome Colorings, worth 10c, at ..... 4c  
Extra Quality Ladies' Cloth, Strictly All Wool, Very Heavy, worth 50c; special at ..... 23c  
24-inch Black Satin Duchesse, Extra Heavy Quality—Soft, Lustrous, Worth \$1.25; at ..... 69c  
Lackawanna Avenue Corner.

**Women's Jacket Bargains**  
35 Beaver Jackets; Tailor-Made, Warm Serviceable and Extra Good Quality. Worth every cent of Five Dollars. Special today at ..... \$1.85  
Second Floor.

**Handkerchief Bargains**  
Women's Sheer Linen Handkerchiefs Hemstitched—Plain or Embroidered Corners; others with Valenciennes Lace Edges. All worth 25c. Very special today at ..... 10c  
In the Bargain Booth.

**An Apron Bargain**  
Good Quality, Extra Large Size Gingham Aprons, Blue or Brown Checks; worth 25c; very special today at ..... 15c  
Main Aisle.

**Woman's Shoe Bargains**  
Fine Vici Kid, Hand-Sewed, in Either Lace or Button. Positively a Great Shoe Bargain. Worth \$4.00 Pair. Special today at ..... \$2.21  
Rear of Elevators.

**Basement Bargains.**  
Large Size Dinner Pails, with Tray and Cup Top ..... 10c  
10-Quart Enamelled Water Pails ..... 25c  
Large Size Cut Glass Spoon Holders, worth 50c, at ..... 19c  
Fine Fancy Spinwall Bananas—Very Fine Fruit, dozen ..... 10c