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THE PETROL-FIRE AT PERNIS NEAR ROTTERDAM.

Length: 53 M.

Date: March 1st and 2nd.

Rotterdam was startled by a fire at the refinery of the Royal Dutch Shell Group at Pernis.

2 tanks, each containing 10 million litres of petrol, had caught fire after an explosion, and during 2 days the fire kept burning. On the ground of the Royal Dutch Shell Group there are more than 800 tanks in groups of 2 or 3, which are separated from each other by earthen walls and trenches.

These precautionary measures and the fact that the wind was favourable, contributed to it that the other tanks didn't catch fire. The firemen of the concern itself and the Rotterdam firemen couldn't do much against the blaze, also because they couldn't draw near to the fire on account of the violent heat.

The men had to restrict themselves to keep the near-by tanks wet. At this moment there can't be said anything yet about the causes of the explosion.

A long time people feared that also the 2nd tank would explode, but luckily this explosion didn't come.

It was the biggest fire ever broken out on the grounds of the refinery at Pernis.

Totally 11 million litres got lost.

From the second tank 9 million litres could be pumped away in time.