

WEATHER FORECAST.  
Rain and warmer to-day; to-morrow  
partly cloudy; increasing south winds.  
Highest temperature yesterday, 54; lowest, 15.  
Detailed weather reports on last page.



IT SHINES FOR ALL  
ONE CENT In Greater New York  
Elsewhere TWO CENTS

### POLICE 'SANTAS' AMAZE KIDDIES OF CITY'S POOR

Terrible Cops Give Xmas  
Tree Parties at Many  
Station Houses.

### CALABOSSIA A JOYLAND Places of Dread Become Bowers of Happiness for Scared Youngsters.

### WOODS TAKES A "LOOK IN"

Commissioner Who Originated  
Idea Sees Distribution  
of Gifts.

Charles Plimow, who ordinarily is a patrolman attached to the West Fifty-third street station, but yesterday was a Santa for the little children of the poor, topped the Fourth Avenue elevation of his red pants while facing Fifth Avenue (they weren't trousers, but bright crimson Santa Claus pants); and a scrawny little man named McNamee, who was halted before the Caliph in the West Twentieth street station house for being too full of merrychristmas too early, actively objected to the orange-colored rammal stage moon back of the station house Christmas tree and wanted it changed to green until subdued.

### Many in Rags, but Faces Aglow

Into the big doors trooped the poor little people, and their mothers, too, in rags and tatters, but with faces aglow with expectancy. For hadn't the big eyes of their best children been fixed on the death of a few days ago by hanging at their torment doors and demanding in thunderous tones, "Where's the lighted tree? Where's the Christmas tree? Where's the tree? And then hadn't the same terrible cop gone right back to the station house and issued all their names—working for them, they had been leading off duty—and personally brought them cards, and letters—far into the night in the station house lounge room or gymnasium—giving up packages for little black-eyed Maude or Marie or red-headed Aloysius, that they too might have some happiness at Christmas time?

### Nicecasts the Biggest "Kidd"

If it weren't that a copper might swoop down to-day upon one for breaking the law by gambling, it would be perfectly safe to lay a little bet of, say, \$100,000 on the fact that no one could have told when the cops' parties for the poor were in full blast yesterday who were the biggest kids in the station house—the bluecoats who dealt out presents steadily when not giving supplies of singing rags to the other kids—the children of the poor grouped around the six foot kidds aglow with blue and red buttons.

### Some More Fine Fun To-day

And that isn't the half of it, as the delectable gentleman in vaudeville puts it. Not only were station houses from 100th to 145th streets in the Bronx first set off exploding with merriment from the merriment of children shouting and laughing, but today there will be still more merriment when doors are thrown open to the station houses with holiday cheer. All the precincts have had their parties with cops as hosts.

### GERMANS FAIL TO BUILD U-BOATS TO COVER LOSSES

Destruction Rate Put at Nearly Twice That of Construction—Allied Warships Hunting Them.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—German submarines are being sunk almost twice as fast as new ones are being built. Figures based on latest available data from Paris and London give the present rate of destruction at 1.25 a day, while there is trustworthy evidence to prove that the rate of construction does not exceed .75 a day.

### BRITISH TROOPS IN BETHLEHEM

Steady Advance in Palestine  
Made Despite Gujrrilla  
Warfare of Turks.

### CAPTURE BIG SUPPLIES Mount of Olives Being Used as Observation Post for Allenby.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Since the Turks were driven out of Jerusalem they have been conducting guerrilla warfare to the north and east of the city, splitting up into numerous small bands to attack British outposts, to snipe patrols and generally to make themselves unpleasant. Says Reuters' correspondent at Jerusalem:

### Wishmen Take Bethlehem

"One of the most brilliant pieces of work during the recent operations was the capture of Bethlehem. The Turks had strong fortifications here, with numerous field guns on the outskirts of the hamlet. The troops ordered to take the town deployed by night for the left, threatening the Turkish line of retreat and compelling the Turks to withdraw.

### Take Town Above Bethany

Other forces captured Ras es Zandy, two miles northeast of Bethany, taking the village, two machine guns and beating off three counter attacks. Gen. Allenby also reported the following capture: Since the commencement of operations, ninety-nine guns and howitzers, with cartridges; about 400 ladders, wagons and other vehicles; 140 machine guns, more than 2,000 rifles; 10,000,000 rounds of small arm ammunition and more than 38,000 rounds of gun and howitzer ammunition, besides various other stores.

### SOVIETS SEIZE REINS TO HALT RUSSIAN ORGY

Martial Law Ends Rule of  
Bolshevik Committee  
in Petrograd.

### ANARCHY ON INCREASE Troops Favor No Party, Chief Desire Seemingly to Be to Return Home.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun from the  
London Times.  
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PETROGRAD, Dec. 23.—With the declaration of martial law here the Bolshevik revolution has ceased to exist. This body, which carried out the revolution last month, has been taken to the limit in an attempt to divert the prosecution from the charges of giving intelligence to the enemy for which the penalty is death. The chief of the investigating judge, who, exercising functions corresponding to those of a grand jury, will decide if the evidence is sufficient to bring proceedings against the Bolsheviks, will be before the Chamber itself sitting as a high court.

### MUNITIONS HEAD EXPECTED SOON

Concentration of Authority  
Regarded as Likely Out-  
come of Investigations.

### INEFFICIENCY DISCLOSED President Said to Be More In- clined to Removal of Many Advisory Boards.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Concentration of America's war directing powers and responsibility, is regarded by officials here as an almost inevitable outcome of the revelations brought out in the Senate inquiries into the conduct of various departments. It is known that the subject was taken before the President and it is understood on excellent authority that it will require little more to convince him of the necessity of a change.

### Shipping Board Cited

It is being urged on the Administration also that the investigation has disclosed that inefficiency and delay resulted in the conduct of one of the greatest war undertakings of the Government. It is known that the subject was taken before the President and it is understood on excellent authority that it will require little more to convince him of the necessity of a change.

### President Holds His Council

The President has not made known his views, but has listened attentively to the many suggestions along this line which have come to him. He is anxious to avoid in seeking any reform the formation of a new department and the creation of too many heads for the conduct of the business of the war. That is the objection which has been made to splitting the War Department into two executive departments, one to handle the actual war making business, the other to take care of the business of supplying the armies.

### CALLAUX FIGHT BEGINN AGAINST DEATH PENALTY

Trial of Ex-Premier for  
Treason to Be Most Sensa-  
tional in France.

### NEW CHARGES OF PERFDY MADE Against Statesman Visitor to the Vatican.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Copenhagen says: "The Berliner Zeitung" says Emperor William has informed his Government that he contemplates going to Brest-Litovsk if the diplomats arrive at an agreement, in which case he will endeavor to assemble all the sovereigns and regents of Europe in a peace conference, as was done after the Napoleonic wars.

### BOLSHEVIK HEAD RAPS U. S. ENVOY

Leon Trotzky Says Ambassa-  
dor Francis Aids Counter  
Revolution.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 23.—Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, at a meeting of the revolutionary organization assembled in congress yesterday read documents and telegrams which he declared contained evidence that American agents were helping the counter-revolution of the Don Cossacks.

### BOMBS DAMAGE DUTCH TOWN

Five Dropped at Goes and One Man  
Injured Seriously.

### Soldiers Send Xmas Greetings Back Home

"All the boys and myself send  
Happy Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year," writes Private  
Edward L. Murtagh, Twenty-  
sixth Division Military Police,  
A. E. F., to a SUN Tobacco Fund  
contributor. The love and good  
wishes of the home folks are re-  
ciprocated. It will be a merrier  
Christmas, here and abroad, be-  
cause each side has heard from  
the other.

### 50 YEARS PAINTING CHRIST.

Civil War Veterans Fulfill Pledge  
Given for His Survival.  
Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
BOSTON, Dec. 23.—Darius Cobb, the venerable Boston artist, has just finished a portrait of Christ on which he had been working since the close of the civil war. "The Master" is the title that Mr. Cobb has given to the picture.

### RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE DELEGA TESIN SESSION; KAISER MAY ATTEND

German Foreign Minister Makes Conciliatory Speech,  
Rules Are Adopted and Bolshevik Programme  
Is Outlined, Debate Being Postponed.

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### BOLSHEVIK HEAD ADVISES MOVING BIG WAR PLANTS

West and South Suggested as  
Solution of Congestion  
Problem.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Move the industry of the country to the available sources of labor supply instead of attempting to concentrate the mobile labor of the country at industrial centers already overcrowded and overburdened. This plan has been advanced to the various administrative offices concerned by an expert of the Department of Labor who has completed a survey of the labor resources of the country.

### How Priority Rule Works

If the coal mine is shipped at the rate of thirty-five cars to every 100 of other products it means that the railroads must refuse great quantities of goods from manufacture. It is stated that today the railroads are being of red cars per cent, more freight than they can handle. In other words, the demand is 150 per cent of capacity, but the railroads are only carrying 100 per cent. Under Judge Lovett's priority rule, 25 per cent of the capacity of coal for the purpose of domestic shipments.

### SEE WORSE COAL FAMINE UNLESS WILSON ACTS

Railroad Men Urge Change  
in Present System to  
Avert Congestion.

### BLAME PRIORITY RULES

Roads Unable to Handle  
Fuel Promptly in Face  
of Lovett's Orders.

### SINGLE CONTROL NEEDED

Garfield and Hoover Hampered  
by Existing Policy—Greater  
Economy Necessary.

### Garfield Uses Proclamation

Dr. Garfield issued a proclamation of ownership of the railroads or of the coal mines existing as a last resort. But he does believe that the department can provide a more effective solution of the problem during the coming winter. Whether the Government will step in and lay down rules for the railroads to follow in accepting and transporting coal.

### Railroads Need Third of Coal

The transportation experts say that out of every ton of coal produced in the country, one-third must be used in the railroads. This combined increase of production, however, comes at a market that can use an increase of 100,000 tons. The coal shortage is not a new one, but never before, the army depots have taken great amounts, public utilities are supplying more power, and the coal mines are working almost every day and the railroads by using heavy oil locomotives and by using old facilities to the limit of capacity are burning far greater amounts of coal than ever before.

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