The Day's

## **GREAT CITIES MAKE** MERRY ON THE EVE OF CHRISTMAS DAY

Municipal Celebrations Are Everywhere Held on the Night Before.

CHILDREN SING IN STREETS

Poor Remembered by Charitable Throughout Every Part of the Nation.

SANTA PLAYED TO THE WORLD

New York Preachers Today Will Speak for Suffering in Europe.

AID OF BELGIANS TO BE PLEA

Call for Help for Distressed Victims of Dreadful War Sounded from Pulpits of Gotham Churches.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24 .- In their Christmas sermons tomorrow more than 2,000 ministers of all denominations throughout the United States, if not the entire world, will dwell at length upon the needs of starving Belgium. This action of the priests and ministers

and bishops, it was stated tonight in an announcement by the commission for relief in Belgium, will come as a result of a request in country-wide form to them by the commission.

Among those who will take up the war in their sermons, is the Rev. Frederick T. M. C. Birmingham of Nebraska, who, it is stated, is the author of a sermon entitled "World Peace," which was printed as a public document by congress

It was said at the office of the commission for relief in Belgium today that the entire cargo of the steamer Feronna, sailing from Philadelphia for Rotterdam. should be credited to the Rockefeller foundation, as it was donated entirely

Observance at Cleveland. CLEVELAND, Dec. 24.-While hundreds of children sang corals and a band played selections appropriate to the season, a large crowd thronged the public square tonight, the occasion marking Cleeland's second festivities in connection with the community Christmas. A mammoth Christmas tree, decorated with scores of electric lights towered above the crowd. The zone of the charity work extended outside of Cleveland, including the eastern Ohlo coal fields, where 15,000 miners have been on strike since April 1. Many families in that section were sent clothing and food.

Colebration at St. Louis. ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 24.—Christmas festivities here opened this evening with a municipal celebration around a great illuminated cedar tree which had been set smaller trees lined the plaza. A chorus of 250 sang Christmas carols around the tree, after which they went to all parts of the city and sang in front of every window in which a lighted candle had been placed.

Boy Scouts Play Santa. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. M.-Five thousand persons, 2,000 of them Boy Scouts, played Santa Claus in Kansas City's Christmas celebration, begun tonight. They played Santa Claus for children, for grown persons, for European was sufferers, for Colorado strike sufferers and for animals.

The Boy Scouts, working in troops, cooperated with a charitable organization in caring for the city's poor. They reported, so far as they knew, not a poverty-stricken family had been neglected. Boxes of clothing and food, collected under the direction of Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations, were sent to the Colorado strike sufferers, Tomorrow plans are being made to entertain 2,500 in Convention hall at the mayor's Christmas tree.

The horses of the city were given a Christmas dinner at Convention hall, every animal getting half a bushel of

Candle in Windows.
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 24.—In thousands of windows here tonight candies were burning in celebration of Christmaseve. The custom in vogue throughout several European countries, (Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

## The Weather

Forecast until 7 p. m. Friday: For Omaha, Council Bluffs and Vicinity -Unsettled with probably snow; no important change in temperature. Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.



Comparative Local Record. 1914, 1913, 1918, 191 Highest yesterday ..

Highest yesterday 12 81 54 31
Lowest yesterday 7 19 28 19
Mean temperature 16 25 41 25
Precipitation ... 00 03 00 00
Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal:
Normal tempetature ... 24
Deficiency for the day ... 14
Total excess since March 1, 1914 ... 819
Normal precipitation ... 03 inch
Deficiency for the day ... 05 inch
Total rainfall since March 1, 25 79 inches
Deficiency since March 1, 25 70 inches
Deficiency since March 1, 25 inches
Deficiency since March 1, 25 inches
Deficiency for cor. period, 1913 5 75 inches

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M. Station and State Temp. High-Rain of Weather. 7, p. m. est. fall Nonne, clear Chayenne, clear
Davenport, clear
Denver, clear
Denver, clear
Des Moines, part cloudy
Dodge City, cloudy
Cmaha, clear
Flapid City, cloudy
Sheridan, part cloudy
Sioux City clear
Valentine, clear
T indicates trave of

L. A. WELSH, Local Porecaster.

## Forgotten Words!



# GETS FULL PARDON

President Wilson Shows His Clemency to Lyons Banker Under Sentence

WIFE'S ILLNESS IS PLEADED

Congressman Dan Stephens Secure for McMonies Christmas Gift of Freedom from the President.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.-Charles Mc-Monies of Lyons, Neb., who is serving a five-year sentence in Leavenworth penitentiary, received a Christmas present peated by his aides telephonically, from President Witson today in the form of a pardon to take effect immediately McMonies can spend Christmas at home with his wife, who is sick with pneumonia, and with his two children, one

of whom is reported to be dying, McMonies was sentenced January 2, 1914, on a charge of making a false entry in the ledger of a bank. His term, with time off-for good behavior, would have expired September 8, 1917.

According to reports to the Department of Justice, the offense was a technical one and the bank lost no money. Attorney General Gregory recommended the sentence be commuted to expire January 2, 1915. Representative Stephens of Nebraska asked that the pardon take effect immediately in order that McMonies might spend Christmas with his family. President Wilson took into consideration the fact that Mrs. McMonies, despite her illness, was supporting her two children by giving music lessons and signed the pardon to take effect immediately.

#### Floods Drive People Of Four Towns on Gila from Homes

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 34. Residents of Buckeye, Sentinel, Arlington. Welltonand other towns on the Gila river began seeking higher ground today as a result of warnings issued by the weather bureau that the river, already at the highest stage known, would continue to rise. All rivers in the southern and central sec- were the recipients of Christmas gifts in tions of the state were still rising rapidlytoday under the effects, of the heavy of the exchange contributed such sums rains which entered upon their eighth as they felt like giving and the total consecutive day with no sign of abating. TUCSON, Ariz., Dec. 24.-The Santa Crus river, heretofore called 'river' by courtesy of the mapmakers, is on its worst rampage of a generation. Ordinarily the bed of the Santa Crus is dry. San Pedro river, west of Bisbee, is a stream nearly a mile wide. Other stream are swollen in proportion. Railroad tracks have been washed out, buildings flooded or carried away and property damaged to the extent of thousands of dollars as the result of seven days of rain through-

#### out southern Arizona. Italy is Buying Horses in Montana

MILES CITY, Mont., Dec. 34 - Miles service. The Italian government is in the outcome of the appeal to the United lowed by the police. the market for 10,000 horses, it is an States supreme court. This motion was Altz said that his investigators had tates of justice nounced. Two hundred and fifty head denied, thus clearing the way for the law headquarters in a vacant west side store. were shipped from here yesterday to Chi- to become effective on the day set, Jan- and telephone lines were tapped to get liciy in the cathedral tomorrow. cago, consigned to Italian agents,

# M'MONIES FREEMAN; Six Hundred French Cannon Tear Big Gap in German Line Near Arras forces massed to cut off their retreat.

behind them.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—General Joffre, the 650 pieces opened a sustained fire upon fork in French commander-in-chief, said to Gol. the German works and the spaces just slans. onels Ignatieff and Yarde-Buller, the liftery attaches at the field headquarters of the French army, three or four days ago: "Come with me and you will see something never

seen before in war.' The military attaches accompanied the general to a place near the lines not far from Arras. There 600 pieces of heavy plexus of German entrenchments ranges already had been found.

Upon a word from General Joffre, re-

plowshares.

Dead and wounded, half buried, littered the line where formerly had been the trenches. The few alive were struggling artillery were placed in a position so as to free themselves from heaps of earth to bear upon a comparatively short Those who had tried to run were caught by the horrible spray of bursting shells in the rear of the German trenches Probably not a man defending that part the of the line escaped.

## OMAHA GRAIN MART SECOND IN WORLD

Receipts Here for the Day Are Surpassed Only by Those of Chicago.

FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTEEN CARS

Strong, Going Higher Than on Wednesday-Durum Wheat is Now Up to One Dollar Thirty-Five.

In grain receipts yesterday Omaha topped all markets of the world except sas City and St. Louis receipts were: Omaha. Kan. City. St. Louis. Wheat ....

Local prices were strong, wheat selling at \$1.17 to \$1.19%, I cent above Wednesday.

to 63% cents per bushel. Durum wheat made its usual advance of 1 cent-per bushel, selling at \$1.35. During the morning session of the Omaha Grain exchange the floor clerks cash, netting them \$25, each. Members sum was divided among the floor workers.

## Arizona Dry Law Becomes Effective on New Year's Day

LOS ANGELES, Cal. Dec. 24.-The fect January 1. The special United Merriam Crime the United States supreme court will be gambling conditions in the city. taken at once.

luary 1.

## WASHINGTON LAYS OFF FOR CHRISTMAS

Everyone from President Down to Humblest Employe to Have Festive Day at Home.

lerks, Domestics, Policemen and Others Around White House Get Hundred Twenty-Five Feative Birds.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.-Governmental business practically was su spended today and the national capita; was ready for Chicago. And while the receipts were its Christmas celebration. Congress was not the heaviest of the year, they were taking a recess at the White House only well up toward the record. Omaha, Kan- necessary business was being transacted in the executive espartments, work had been postponed, and the supreme court had adjourned for the holidays. Officials of the government, from Presi-

dent Wilson down to the humblest cm ploye, had made arrangements for the Corn sold % to 1 cent higher and at 62 festal occasion. Many members of the house and senate from near by states were on the way today to their homes for Christmas, while others from the more state, according to an opinion handed distant sections of the country remained

(Continued on Page Two, Column Four.)

### "Gambling Trust" Clears Up Million Yearly in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. M.-A huge gambling soney every week to members of the to blocks where their race is in Chicago police department, exists in majority. Arizona prohibiton law will go into ef- Chicago, it was charged today before the States tribunal, from which injunctions Tennes, known for years as the gambling were sought to prevent its enforcement, king of the city, was declared to be the refused to issue such injunctions in a head of the ring by Edwin W. Alts. an brief decision rendered today. Appeal to investigator who testified regarding He testified that policemen receive \$50

Immediately after the decision was for each handbook operated, and that rendered, attorneys for Rev. Thomas M. 300 of these are scattered throughout the City stock growers are in receipt of or- Connolly, a Catholic priest of Tucson, city. Some of the books are "square," with Cardinal Gasparri, papal secretary ders from agents of the Italian governant for other petitioners made a motion he said, and others "crooked." He said of state, in which the cardinal urges all men for horses for cavalry and artillery to stay the execution of the law, pending only books controlled by Tennes were al- combatants to lay down their arms and

information.

## CAPTURE OF LODZ IS TURNING POINT IN EASTERN FIGHT

Associated Press Correspondent Has Personal Interview with General von Hindenberg.

VISIT TO FIELDS OF BATTLE

Newspaper Man Taken Over Ground Where Contending Armies Struggled.

GETS AN IDEA OF OPERATIONS Contest Between Forces is Waged in Church Yard.

KEY TO CAMPAIGN IN POLAND

After Downfall of City General Retirement Toward Warsney Was Necessary-How the Germans Advanced.

LODZ, Russian Poland, Dec. 33.-(By Automobile Courier to Posen, Prussia, Dec. 23, Via London, Dec. 24.1-The capmade today by General von Hindenburg, the German commander to a correpondent of The Associated Press, was the turning point of the campaign in Poland. The Russian lines in northern Poland rested on this city for the possession of which there occurred the most bitter struggle of the entire war on this front. After the Russians, following s most obstinute resistance on their part, were forced to evacuate the town, a general Russian retirement in the direcion of Warsaw became necessary.

Visit to Buttlefields. Under the guidance of Major Von Hol-lenben, a cousin of the late Baran Von Holleben, who was at one time German ambassador to the United States, The Associated Press correspondent today visited some of the battlefields in the vicinity of Lodz and gained an idea of he nature of the operations which led to

the capture of the city. According to the general alignment of he Austro-German forces, they might save been expected to advance from the west. At a matter of fact, the attack was made largely from the north and northwest. They drove their columns nto the Aussians in the form of a huge oitchfork, with another large force between tines of the fork. It looked for a time as if the Russians would be forced retreat-if retreat were at all possible in the face of the gigantic enveloping movements by the Germans-in the direction of their Warsaw base.

The intention was to drive the Russians breaking of the eastermost tine of the fork relieving the situation for the Rus-

In one of the operations around Lodz After a quarter of an hour the French occurred the celebrated "cutting off of ASSUME OFFENSE IN THE EAST infantry charged. Not a hostile shot met two German corps, which, after being them. Not a bayonet gleamed over the entirely surrounded by the rapid advance edge of the works. The trenches actually of the Warsaw reserves, turned and cut were torn to pieces as though by gigantic their way out and brought with them 12,000 of their would-be captors. The scene (Continued on Page Two, Column One.

#### **British Ships Fined** for Violating Canal Zone Quarantine Act

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24,-British col-

ers in the canal zone recently have vio-

lated quarantine regulations, according to the canal record of December 16., just fantry attacks followed a fierce artillery From December 5 to 16 six British col- pulsed. of health, in violation of quarantine regulations. Fines of \$5 were Esposed on Cessful counter attack because parts of the Roddam and the Klernwood, which the trenches had been almost leveled by WILSON GIVES AWAY TURKEYS brought coal from England and Wales. the enemy's fire. More than 100 prisoners They were allowed to proceed through the were left in our hands. canal and detained at Balboa until the ernza, also coal laden, was fined \$50, and land Wales, were fined \$140 each. All of the six coal shipments were

#### Louisville Law to Segregate Negroes is Declared Valid

consigned to the British admiralty.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 24.-Segregarightful exercise of a police power of the down in criminal court here today by Judge James P. Gregory. It violates At the White House the president was neither the fourteenth amendment nor the Kentucky bill of rights, the court

The city council passed a segregation ordinance last May. Arthur Harris, a negro, ignored its provisions. He was arrested, fined in police court and appealed. His counsel endeavored to show constitutional rights had been abridged.

The ordinance contemplates no immediate ouster of one race from blocks where trust," which makes a profit of \$1,000,000 the other predominates, but requires that year and which pays \$15,000 protection future removals of citizens be made only,

## Pontiff Will Plead for End of War in His Christmas Address

LONDON, Dec. 24.-The Chronicle's settle their disputes according to the dic-"This is what his holiness will say pub

cardinal is quoted as saying.

# War News Official statements reveal the

intense nature of the fighting now in progress both east and west, but indicate that, with the possible exception of east Prussia, there has been no significant change in the alignment of the opposing forces.

The German statement tells of a fight for possession of a trench in France which was won by the French, recaptured by the Germans and finally abandoned. So fierce was the struggle that the trench was almost leveled by artillery fire. No important movements are reported in the German communication.

The French statement, while saying that small gains have been made here and there, mentions German attacks at so many points that it is apparent the allies have not been permitted solely to take the offensive into their own hands. Such ground as they have won recently is not

to be held without hard fighting. Although accounts vary as to the present status of military affairs in Poland, it is evident that the scene of heaviest fighting has shifted southward from Sochaczew, the town on the Bzura river, thirty miles from Warsaw, toward which the Germans for several days devoted their principal efforts. Austro-German forces, operating from the Cracaw base, are attempting to push northward into Poland. In this effort, however, they are meeting with determined resistance from the Russians.

A semi-official statement from Petrograd says that Russian successes in Galicia continue and that in the Carpathians the Austrians have been thrown back. Another sortie by the garrison at Przemysl, which has long been under attack by the Russians, is said to have resulted disastrously for the Austrians.

## KAISER REPORTS SUCCESS IN WEST

Berlin War Office Says Artillery and Infantry Attacks in Belgium Are Repulsed.

Teutons Advance Through East Prussin and North Poland and Recenture Minwa-Baronet

Fights West of Warsaw. BERLIN, Dec. 24.-(By Wireless to London)-The official communication issued by the German general headquarters

day. At Bixschoote we took 230 prisoners on December 22. "The enemy was again active yester- its concentration of forces is nearing day in the neighborhood of Cablones. In-

received here, but no mention is made of attack made by the enemy in the regions alleged infactions of American neutrality, of Souain and Perthes. These were reliers and two British merchant vessels A trench kept under continuous artilarrived at Cristobal, on the Atlantic, and lery fire by the enemy was lost by us, remarked to the representative of the Balboa, on the Pacific side, without bills but was recaptured in the evening. The Associated Press on the eastern front position was abandoned after this suc- that he considered it "the turning point

"In the east we have assumed the ofdistrict court had acted. The merchant fensive and are advancing from Nieden- greetings from home have been, or are steamers Nyanza and Atlantic City, burg and Soldau (in East Prussia), We The have repulsed the Russians after several hospitals and in the camps, hundreds of collier Mollina was fined \$50; the With- days' fighting at Mlawa (northern Po- thousands of post cards to the soldiers the Lena and the Boyne, with coal from Mlawa again are in our hands. More Mry being one feature of the British than 1,000 prisoners were taken in these gifts.

battles.

"At the confluence of the Bzura and Servia, which some predicted would be Rawka rivers, fierce bayonet attacks took abandoned in view of the recent turn of place at many places. The artillery could do little on account of the misty weather.

"The Russians suffered heavy losses on the right bank of the Pilica river, in the district to the southeast of Tomaszow. The Russians attacked fiercely several times, but were repulsed by the Austro-German armies with heavy losses. Further to the south, the situation generally is unchanged.

### Russian War Office Reports Successes Along Line in Poland

PETROGRAD, Dec. 24.-A statement issued by the official press bureau yesterday regarding the fighting along the Russian front says:

'On the left bank of the Polica obstinate fighting continues in the region of the sunlight." the villages of Jeseszee and Rojkowawolia, about six miles west of Nowemfanto "On the right bank of the Pilica we

have made progress in the vicinity of Opoczno and Tomaszow, "In Galicia our success continues South of the Vistula we captured during the 30th and 21st sixty-six officers and

5,600 men, three cannon and ten mitrail-"In the Carpathians while pursuing the retreating Austrians we captured on December 22 thirty officers and about 1,500

"Near Przemysl the Austrians attempted a new sortie during which several of their advance companies were completely annihilated. Other advance impanies were made prisoners. In this affair we seized about a mile of railway leading into the town."

# FEW CHANGES AT EITHER FRONT ON CHRISTMAS EVE

THE WEATHER.

French Armies Cautiously Feeling for Opening in Strongly Entrenched German Line.

SUPREME EFFORT IN THE EAST

Warring Hosts Are Swaying Back and Forth on Rivers Barring the Way to Warsaw.

SUCCESSES RUSSIANS CLAIM

Germans Are Making Gains, However and Are Bringing Up Heavy Siege Guns.

THOUSANDS OF GERMANS SLAIN

Men Hurled Forward to Fill Gaps in Line with Great Prodigality.

CHRISTMAS IN THE TRENCHES

Boxes and Gifts Are Being Distrib uted to the Soldiers-King George Sends Postcards

to the Men.

LONDON, Dec. 24 .- Christmas eve finds little change in the underground warfare now being conducted in the western theater of the war, where General Joffre, the commander-in-chief of the French armies, still appears to be cautiously feeling for an opening in the strongly entrenched German line

across France and Belgium. In the east a supreme German effort continues to be made before Warsaw, the capital of Russian Poland, where the forces of the German center and of the Russians seeking to check them, sway back and forth along the banks of the rivers, barring the way to the Polish

capital. The Russians claim successes in the latest encounters, but during the last ten days the Germans have advanced appreciably, and it is said they now are bringing up their 42-centimeter guns preparatory to siege operations.

Russians Advance in Gallein. In Galleia the Austro-German forces seem to have made no further progress and in the north the Russians are reported to have pushed the invaders

further back into East Prussia. The German tactics in the n ward Warsaw, military observers in London point out, are beginning to have some of the characteristics of the rush towards Calais and Dunkirk which the allies stemmed, thousands being sacrificed and others being hurled forward to fill the gaps with the same prodigality that was shown by the Germans in Flanders. Military experts here are unable to agree on the number of the Austro-German troops in the east, esti-"The enemy did not renew his attacks intes varying from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000, in the neighborhood of Nieuport yester- but it is pointed out that Russia, unless exaggerating its resources, should be easily able to top this figure, now that

completion.

Petrograd has never conceded that the occupation of Lods by the Germans had any strategic importance, but the German view has now found expression from Field Marshal von Hindenburg, who of the campaign.

Christmas in the Treuches.

All the armies are planning to spend Christmas as best they may. Boxes and being distributed in the trenches, at the and the enemy's positions at and sallors from King George and Queen The Austrians' attempts to crush

> events by which the Servians reoccupied Belgrade, are soon to be renewed in the form of a "final blow," according to dispatches from Buds Pest.

> Germans Driving Warsaw Campaign PETROGRAD, Dec. 24 .- (Via London.) -In the front of Warsaw the attempt of the Germans to force a crossing of the (Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

# A Little Sunshine

No matter if you are a busy man-or a busy woman-and you have no time to "bask in

Whether yours be a room with northern, eastern or western exposure, be sure that the sun can and DOES get in. It BELONGS there. It brings health with it.

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# THE OMAHA BEE

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