

## BRITISH FORCE AT KUT-EL-AMARA SURRENDERS

### MAY DAY OF 1916 WILL SIGNALIZE INSTITUTION OF CLOSED SHOP ORDER

"No Card, No Work" To Be Slogan on Structural Jobs Throughout Bridgeport—Masons, Plumbers, Carpenters, Lathers and Others Have Iron-Bound Agreements With Bosses.

Bridgeport Transformed in One Year from Non-Union to Strong Union City—Girl Workers Get Shorter Hours and More Pay—Eight Hour Day Now Established.

May Day of 1916 will see Bridgeport a union city. A tremendous change has been wrought in labor conditions in Bridgeport since May 1, 1915, and from a non-union community, with long hours, poor wages and poor working conditions, the city emerged to a community of the eight hour day, good wages and better working conditions.

May Day will see the establishment in Bridgeport of the Closed Shop. On and after that date, plumbers, carpenters, electricians, lathers and others who have strong unions will refuse to work on structural jobs with non-union men.

"No card, no work," will be the slogan. The hiring of a non-union plumber will make a union carpenter on the job quit and vice versa. So strong are the organizations that the unionization of practically all jobs in Bridgeport will be accomplished.

All these craftsmen have completed agreements with their employers for better wages and better conditions, to go into effect in May.

The Building Trades Council to which these tradesmen belong sent a form letter to the employers Feb. 23, demanding these things and most of the more important employers signed the agreement.

The Bricklayers, Masons' & Plasterers' union has just announced a victory. Starting May Day, all the big contractors will grant 40 cents an hour instead of 30 cents an hour.

As with the structural workers, so it is in the factories. Unions have sprung up all over the city. Organizations came first, then demands, and better conditions resulted.

Machinists and others in the factories are getting the eight hour day almost all over the city. Girl workers, who have always had to work hard for little pay, are now working shorter hours and getting fairer wages.

This transformation since last May 1, of Bridgeport from a non-union to a union city has brought here hundreds of skilled workers. Many have settled here with their families and have become very desirable additions to the community.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners' organization in Bridgeport has virtually doubled its membership, according to Business Agent Martin Kane. There are now 1,500 members in the three locals, of which Local 115 has 1,100 members. Locals 1013 and 1020 are the other bodies.

"Conditions are much improved since May 1, 1915," said Business Agent Kane today. We have signed an agreement for one year with most of the important carpenters in town, to go into effect May 15. A raise in pay from \$3.75 to \$4.25 has been obtained.

"Conditions were never better and the outlook is excellent," said William F. Steele, business agent of Local 173, Plumbers and Steamfitters. "Last May 1 the men were receiving \$21 a week. Beginning this May 1 they will receive \$24 a week."

The plumbers and steamfitters have about 150 members in their union. The steamfitters' helpers have been organized in the last year and 24 members are in the new organization. The union at large has increased 100 members here.

A five year agreement between the workers and the master plumbers will go into effect May 1. The closed shop is guaranteed. Double time will be paid for all overtime work, a distinct improvement over the arrangement hitherto. According to union men, all the principal master plumbers have signed the agreement.

A three year agreement has been affected by the Brotherhood of Painters & Decorators & Paper Hangers Local. An increase of five cents an hour will be in effect May 1. The organization has increased about 100 members in a year. There

### CONFERENCE IN MEXICO TO BE QUICKLY ENDED

Oregon Has Full Power To Act For His Government.

El Paso, April 29.—Two facts entering the conference which began today between General Alvaro Obregon, representing Mexico, and Generals Hugh L. Scott and Frederick Funston, representing the United States, set aside the belief that the negotiations might be dragged out for any great length of time. One was that General Obregon came to the border with full power to act in behalf of his government in any arrangement that may be made for the disposition of Brig. General Pershing's expeditionary force.

The other was that the Mexican minister of war had summoned to the conference of the military governors of the three Mexican states touching American territory.

With General Obregon in possession of plenipotent powers, time will not be consumed in telegraphic communications between Juarez and Mexico City. The attendance at the conference of military governors P. Elias Calles of Sonora, Ignacio Enriquez of Chihuahua, and Jacinto Trevino of Coahuila means that all matters affecting a possible patrol of northern Mexico by American troops can be quickly and definitely threshed out. On these men will be placed the responsibility of the apparent intention of the United States to insist upon occupation of a buffer zone south of the international boundary is carried out.

### Dodd's Men Return From Six Day Chase After Villa Bandits

Field Headquarters, Namiquipa, Mexico, via wireless to Columbus, N. M., column of cavalry under Col. George A. Dodd which for six days has been pursuing a large band of Villa bandits under four different chiefs through the rocky defiles of the Continental divide, was reported today to have returned to its base at Minaca. The band is said to be practically all dispersed, numbers of its members apparently holding to the belief that Villa is dead.

### Troops Reinforce Communication Lines Over Mexican Border

Columbus, N. M., April 29.—Points along the American line of communication in Mexico are being strongly reinforced by men of both the infantry and cavalry arms. Two companies of the 10th Cavalry are being sent here early today preparatory to crossing the border, where nearly 1,000 cavalry who left Columbus yesterday, broke camp at Gibbons Line Ranch, 15 miles west, shortly after daybreak and crossed the frontier.

While no reason was assigned at military headquarters for the new movement of troops into Mexico it was learned that the infantry assisted by the engineering corps are to prepare the roads for the heavy traffic of the supply trains for the coming rainy season.

### Nominal Fines for Club Officers Who Sold Intoxicants

In view of the fact that they have recently received a club license from Judge Wilder in city court today. They were charged with violating the excise law by selling liquor without a license.

Liquor Prosecutor A. J. Merritt said that the Emmet club had applied for a club license at the time of the raid being made upon their club rooms February 27. He believed that as the county commissioners had seen fit to recognize the Emmet club as a bona fide organization it would be only proper to impose a small fine on each officer. He said that although the club now has a license, nevertheless, the officers were guilty of violating the liquor law at the time of the raid.

Judge Wilder imposed fines of \$10 upon President Patrick Savage, Patrick Sullivan, William Henry, James Leach and John Farrell. All paid the fines.

### Held In \$750 Bail Man Is Sent to Jail

After waiving examination William Redell, aged 50, of 61 Arch street, charged with unseemly conduct in a moving picture theatre, was bound over to the superior court under bonds of \$750.

Redell is alleged to have molested a seven-year-old girl. He will be tried during the May term of the superior court. He has been unable to furnish the bond.

### TURKISH VICTORS IN SIEGE

Mesopotamian Expedition, Under Bombardment Since Last December, Fails—Guns and Ammunition Destroyed.

London Admits Capitulation of Big Force of Gen. Townshend—Heavy Fighting Is Reported Near Verdun.

London, April 29.—Major-General Charles Townshend, commander of the British forces besieged at Kut-El-Amara, Mesopotamia, by Turkish forces since last December, has surrendered.

This information was contained in a British official statement issued this afternoon.

The official statement added that General Townshend destroyed all his guns and munitions before surrendering.

Paris, April 29.—After a violent bombardment of French positions near Avocourt and Hill 304, on the Verdun front west of the Meuse German troops were massed for an assault. The war office report of this afternoon says this attack was prevented by French artillery, which dispersed the German troops. A vigorous attack was made on French trenches near Thesumont Farm, but the Germans were repulsed with heavy losses.

London, April 29.—The British official communication on the operations in Belgium and France, issued last night, follows:

"Early this morning the enemy attempted to enter our trenches north of Roclincourt after exploding five mines and bombarding by artillery and trench mortars but were repulsed successfully."

"There has been considerable fighting in the air. Four of our machines attacked eight hostile machines. Flying in formation they drove a wedge into the middle of the enemy squadron and after a fight lasting 10 minutes four of the enemy machines were driven down, one landing in a ploughed field. One of the machines was hit but we suffered no casualties."

London, April 29.—British casualties this month, as compiled from published lists, are slightly in excess of those in March. The total from all fields of operation is 1,255 officers and 23,286 men compared with 1,197 officers and 18,397 men in March.

### PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGE OF DUAL MARRIAGE

Young Bigamist Is Held For Trial in Superior Court—Was Usher in Theatre

Fleeing guilty to the charge of bigamy, Thomas Francis Brady, age 24, living at 32 Hillhouse avenue, was bound over to the superior court by Judge Frank L. Wilder in city court today. Bonds were set at \$1,000 and in default of furnishing bonds Brady was taken to the county jail.

Brady admits having had two wives. He said he married Louise Meyers of Harrison, N. J., August 22, 1914. He has a daughter, Virginia Marie Brady, by the first wife. The child is a year and a half old. Brady said he left the New Jersey city last December. He came to this city to procure work.

He procured a job as an usher in a theatre where he made the acquaintance of Mabel Goodnow, a local girl. He began courting Miss Goodnow last March. He told her he was a widower and that he wanted to marry her. His proposal was accepted and the pair were married by a Chapel street clergyman March 29.

Brady then procured a job in the Union Metallic Cartridge Co. They began keeping house at 32 Hillside avenue. His first wife was informed by a local friend of the double life her husband was living. Her father came to this city and complained to Assistant Prosecuting Attorney E. Earle Garlick, who issued a warrant for the arrest of the bigamist.

He was arrested last night at his home upon his return from work. Brady's first wife and her father were in city court today but there was no hearing on the case. Brady waived examination and he was bound over to the May term of the superior court. His former home was in the Bronx.

### SEEK TO PLACE CIVIL BLAME IN LESSER TRAGEDY

Lawyers Fake Prominent Part in Coroner John J. Phelan's Inquest.

SMITH DEPRIVED OF HIS DRIVING LICENSE

Physician Says Woman's Death Was Directly Due to Auto Accident.

The question of civil responsibility for the death of Mrs. Eli Lesser, figures prominently in the questioning of attorneys before Coroner John J. Phelan in his inquest into the demise of the well known Bridgeport woman.

Mrs. Lesser was struck by an automobile driven by Raymond Smith, son of Dr. Edwards M. Smith of 97 Park avenue, whose license to drive an automobile is indefinitely suspended, by Secretary of State Burnes, awaiting the outcome of the inquiry. The mishap occurred Saturday night, April 8, and her death followed on April 18. Smith is at liberty pending the outcome of the inquest.

Dr. C. N. Haskell described the nature of the injuries and said Mrs. Lesser sustained deep laceration of the soft tissues, causing pulmonary embolism which brought death. He described how treatment was administered at the Bridgeport hospital, but because of the severe nature of her injuries the surgical treatment was unavailing.

Mrs. Lesser was crossing Clinton avenue at Fairfield avenue at night in a dark rain. She was struck by the electric light car of Harry H. DeLass, the board of education. Mr. Smith was not present at the coroner's hearing today but was represented by Attorney James M. J. Buechler, who lives in Clinton avenue. It was raining. Mrs. Strauss said she crossed the street in advance of her sister about ten feet when she looked back and saw her sister lying in the roadway at the rear of an automobile. Whether the car passed over her was not determined by the physicians who attended her.

Attorney Marr pointed out that several electric light poles at Clinton and Fairfield avenues hide the view of motorists who turn north on Clinton avenue from Fairfield avenue. He also said there is a deep shadow from the electric light directly over the place where Mrs. Lesser was struck.

The hearing was continued indefinitely until other witnesses can be summoned.

### Police Board Not Likely to Appoint Policemen Tonight

Up to a late hour this afternoon it was expected that no action would be taken relative to increasing the police department when the police commissioners meet tonight. There is a vague possibility, however, that the board may go through with the appointing of the policemen and prolonging the promotion of officers until next week.

The promotion of Capt. John H. Redgate to the post of Superintendent was definitely decided upon two weeks ago but several other promotions have been the means of delaying the appointment of policemen.

### Smith's License to Operate Automobile Indefinitely Held Up

Secretary of State Charles Burnes has notified Acting Superintendent William H. Anderson that the operator's license of Andrew R. Smith, 887 Park avenue, has been suspended indefinitely. Smith was operating the automobile that ran down Mrs. Eli Lesser, 94 Elmwood place, April 18. Death resulted a week later.

### THE WEATHER

Connecticut.—Fair tonight and Sunday, warmer tonight; light variable winds.

### STRANGE THEFT IN OFFICE OF FELIX LAUTER

While He Attends Trial of Fay, Secret Papers Are Spirited Away.

VISIT OF PROWLER STARTS SPECULATION

He Scouts Theory That Foreign Agents May Be Responsible.

The offices of Felix Lauter on the third floor of the Warner Building were entered and robbed early yesterday afternoon. Nothing but a typewriter and possibly some papers which were within a suit-case on the floor was taken, as far as will be admitted today.

The robbery, committed in a bold manner in the light of day presented a deep mystery and with the fact that Felix Lauter and his office associate, Alex. Szabo, representing the Austro-Hungarian Labor alliance, were both attending the trial of Robert Fay indicted for conspiracy to blow up munition ships, it is considered in many quarters to be more than an ordinary theft.

The office of Lauter is situated on the ell of the floor so that its entrance is far from the sight of others. An extension of the hallway leads to the office which is reached by a window of the Lauter office opens.

It is believed that the thief opened this window, crawled through, and proceeded at his leisure to rifle the office. When the unbidden intruder departed, clothing and papers belonging to Lauter were found scattered all over the floor. The desk of Szabo was not touched as far as can be ascertained.

When the unbidden intruder departed he carried with him a new Smith typewriter and possibly some papers. Discovery of the illegal entrance was made upon Lauter's return from New York where he is expected to be a witness in the Fay trial. He declared today that he did not report the matter to the police but is making a personal effort to trace the machine through the pawnshops.

Lauter today scouted the rumor that his place might have been entered by the agents of foreign governments who learning of his reputed connection with the Fay case might have been anxious to ascertain from his papers if there was anything of value in his photograph inventions that might be of value to their governments.

### George Auger To Be Naturalized Tuesday

Next Tuesday will be Naturalization day in the superior court when Judge Webb will pass upon the qualifications of those who desire to become citizens. There are 255 applicants to be heard and Naturalization Clerk Flanagan believes most of them will be ready for the hearing. A representative of the Department of Commerce and Labor will be on hand to question the applicants.

George Auger, the Cardiff Giant of vaudeville fame who was unable to appear at the last hearing, is on Tuesday's list. He makes his home in Fairfield but has been absent on a theatrical tour.

### Fagan Disregarded Warning, Declares Motorman of Trolley

"Fagan had been drinking and was not steady on his feet," I warned him, he was in danger on the platform, but he wouldn't move. The lurch of the car as we rounded the curve threw him off."

This in substance is the statement made to Coroner John J. Phelan today by Conductor Henry Stone from whose car Edward Fagan fell early Monday morning and received injuries from which he died last night in the Bridgeport hospital. Stone told the coroner Fagan was the only passenger on the car at the time. He insisted on standing in the vestibule near the steps. Stone said he warned Fagan twice, but the latter only answered that he was "all right." His skull was fractured.

Wesley Megaw, motorman of the car, testified it was nearing the end of the line at Barnum avenue and Mill Hill avenue and going slowly at the time. Fagan was an assistant foreman for the Bridgeport Brass Co. He lived at 152 Summerfield avenue. A wife and daughter survive him.

### DUBLIN IN FLAMES, IS LONDON REPORT; MORE THAN 100 ARE SLAIN

Many Sections of Irish Capital Burning as Terrific Struggle Between Troops and Rebels Continues in Streets—Naval Gunfire Adds to Destruction—Heavy Artillery Pieces Being Used Against Houses, Inhabitants Having Been Removed—British Censorship Covers Details of Severe Fighting That Rages in Ireland.

London, April 29.—Parts of the city of Dublin are in flames, an Evening News despatch filed at Belfast last night says. Street fighting continues and there is much looting, it is said, but the reinforced military is making steady progress. Most of the shops are closed and passenger communication is still cut off.

One despatch received from Ireland this afternoon says that Sackville and Grafton streets in Dublin are in flames and that artillery is being used on the houses, the inhabitants having been removed.

MORE THAN 100 REPORTED KILLED

Upwards of 100 persons have been killed or injured thus far in Dublin, says the Belfast correspondent of the Evening News in a despatch filed last night. He says the rioters, hidden in houses at important street junctures, are keeping up a steady fire.

The cordon of troops is being drawn gradually but surely around the rebel strongholds. The authorities are carrying on their difficult task with the greatest forbearance. Every effort is being made to avoid unnecessary riots and damage.

STRICT CENSORSHIP COVERS DETAILS

Although the story of the early hours of the Dublin uprising has now been disclosed in considerable detail, England is still without authentic information as to the progress of later events. Neither telegraph, telephone and mail services with Ireland have been restored and the existing means of communication are subject to such a strict censorship that it is possible to obtain only fragmentary information.

Such news as does come through adds little to that contained in last night's official despatches and stories of eye-witnesses. So far as official reports show, the situation in Dublin is gradually being brought under control. The most important recent news, that the rebels have been driven out of St. Stephens' Green with bombs, sustaining heavy losses in killed, wounded and prisoners, has not been confirmed officially. There seems to be no doubt, however, that the rebels are still in control of various parts of Dublin and that street fighting continues with a lengthening list of casualties.

It is reported the casualty list already exceeds 100. Of the situation outside Dublin, little is known beyond the official admission that the disaffection has spread to various localities in the west and south of Ireland. Field Marshal French's statement of last night described these circumstances as local in character and so far as has been revealed by information which has passed the censorship they have not been attended by heavy fighting.

### REBEL FLAGS FLY DESPITE SEVERE NAVAL GUNFIRE ORGANIZATION OF REBELS IS LAUDED BY EYE WITNESS

Did Not Fear Their Fate, They Tell Bishop of Cork.

London, April 29.—The Times published an account by an eyewitness of the Dublin uprising which emphasizes the excellent organization of the rebels and the fairly successful efforts of the leaders to restrain rioting. This account says:

"The citizens were not molested in the streets and much of the firing was of blank cartridges. There was an effort to show that the movement was strictly military in character and directed only against the populace. There was little rioting but only about 10 or 20 shops were entered. There was no violence against private persons and as long as you did not wear a uniform you were as safe walking in Dublin streets as in the streets of London."

"This shows a remarkable difference from the Dublin riots two years ago when it was not safe for anybody to walk in the streets for fear of violence. During last Monday's and Tuesday's trouble the populace could go where they liked."

"We planned to rise simultaneously with our Dublin cohorts, but something went wrong with the arrangements," said a leader of the Sinn Feiners in Cork in an interview published here today. "We might have been in possession of the post office but for the fact that the military was there first. I do not think we will rise here but if they come to demand our arms we shall shoot them. When the news of the Dublin uprising trickled through here we retired to our armored barracks, loaded our rifles, polished bayonets, set in stores of provisions and prepared for any—"

1,500 Sinn Feins Hold Chief Positions in Capital City.

Dublin, April 27, via London, April 29.—Fifteen hundred or so armed men of the Sinn Fein had a hold on Ireland's capital today. After four days of fighting their rebel flag still flew from a number of central points. Since Monday some of the chief positions in the city have been in the hands of the rebels. In defending these strongholds against regular troops and Irish Nationalist volunteers the rebels are fighting for their lives which they know may be forfeited on account of treason.

The streets of Dublin were deserted today, except for sentries and military guards. Business was at a standstill. Civilians peeped anxiously from behind curtained windows. Field guns were barking, machine guns rattling and rifle fire was pattering apparently from every quarter at the same time.

When the Associated Press correspondent landed early this morning at the quay near the custom house the whistling of bullets from rifles of snipers was frequent. Augustine Birrell, the secretary for Ireland, had made the passage from England with the Naval guns joined in and added to the deafening gunfire. From the quay the respective forces could be

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