

CLIMB OVER HILLS OF DEAD

GRAPHIC WORD PICTURE OF GREAT DRIVE.

Part the 82d Division Played In It
Told by Major Thomas Barrett
Who Is In Atlanta.

Atlanta, Dec. 25.—Major Thomas Barrett III, son of former Mayor Thomas Barrett, of Augusta, arrived in Atlanta Monday, and is at the home of Mrs. Barrett's father, Mr. Arnold Broyles, where he will be for Christmas.

Major Barrett was the first captain of the 82d division to win promotion of his present rank, and has been cited for distinguished service and bravery. He won the especial love and loyalty of his command in the Argonne because of his inclination to have his own injuries cared for until he had personally seen to it that every one of his men were properly disposed of and being given medical attention. He wears two wound stripes on his sleeve, one for a serious wound from shrapnel. In addition he was once seriously gassed.

To friends here Major Barrett has told the story of the 82d in the Argonne drive, and the word picture of American determination, the hellish suffering from machine gun fire it went through, and the final turning of the point which the French for three years believed to be impossible sounds superhuman. "There were times," said Major Barrett, "when our men had to climb over hills of their own dead to push forward, but they kept on until the objective was gained. Hardly an officer in the whole line escaped wounds, but they led the men and the men followed.

"They went into the scrap with a yell and a song, and they fell in masses. But their living comrades pushed on and on and on, the marvel of allied soldiers who gasped at such prodigal disregard by the Americans of death and danger.

"There were times when attacking soldiers were compelled to move forward over heaps of bodies of their own comrades; yet nothing deterred them. I have seen a body of men start for a strongly emplaced machine gun position. The gunners mowed them down by the handful, but on kept the doughboys; with the result that although a great majority of the attacking force was riddled the enemy gunners were forced to throw down their arms to the few survivors who finally managed to reach the stronghold.

"It was this indomitable fighting spirit which counted most in the Argonne victory. The American soldier was invincible. He laughed in the face of peril; and hardship and deprivation seemed a lark. In addition to his own individual pluck and daring, he had officers in whom he had the greatest faith and reliance—men who had stood the test before the soldier's very eyes.

Officers in Lead.

"Hardly a line officer went through the thick of the Eighty-second's operations in the Argonne but was listed a casualty. They led their men; and their men followed them to the very muzzles of machine gun strongholds, and to the brink of enemy entrenchments. Pain and horrors and great danger seemed only to add to the momentum of the American trooper when he unlimbered in an assault.

"They tramped over dead and wounded French, British, American and German soldiers to get at the enemy; they climbed hills to get him, while he shot them down from above. They sacrificed themselves recklessly to gain a toehold; and once they had gained a toehold, they never lost it.

"The 82d with the other American forces in the Argonne fight, were between the British and French. This central location made the 82d division a sort of spearhead for the attack. The moment the fight was under way whatever apprehension the French and British might have had, gave way to a great surge of astonishment and admiration."

Major Barrett was in command of the First Battalion, 326th Infantry. At the end of the first five days of fighting his battalion was called upon to relieve the Fifty-sixth Brigade, which, having gone into the fray with a full quota (approximately 7,000 men) had been compelled to go back for reinforcements with less than 300 effectives.

He told of how Major Homer Watkins, commander of the Third Battalion, had been forced to similarly relieve the Fifty-fifth Brigade, which had sustained losses approximating those of the Fifty-sixth Brigade. These two battalions were compelled to go forward and hold positions at which organizations of 7,000 men had lost all but a mere handful.

Train With British.

Upon reaching Europe, the 82d division was first encamped with the British at Abbeville, where the men were training according to the Tommy Atkins style. Subsequently, they

WORLD TRADE FOR AMERICA.

Shipping Board Decides to Create Permanent Organization.

Paris, Dec. 26.—The United States shipping board has decided to create a permanent world organization for the purpose of handling the government's trade fleet with the greatest effectiveness.

"We will open at once offices in London, Paris, and Rome," said Edward H. Hurley, chairman of the board, today. "From these centers," Mr. Hurley continued, "will be directed ten or twelve other offices, such as in Shanghai, Yokohama and Bambay, Genoa, Buenos Aires, Valparaiso and Rio Janeiro and at Rotterdam and Antwerp. Take for example vessels bringing supplies to Belgium or France. It is of the greatest importance that we have a quick turn around. It may be of advantage to reroute a vessel on its side to India or to South Africa.

"The London, Paris or Antwerp officers would have precise information and be able to consign a ship without delay for its most efficient use. The subordinate centers are essential properly to direct our national fleet. They will be managed by practical shipping men who will be assigned to their posts from the United States.

"There will be no interference with the War Department's handling of ships. The service of supply has really done its work admirably and we shall not have any changes to make in that. Our business will be with the trade fleet."

Director General Rossiter has received instructions to proceed at once to put the plan into effect. The French, Belgian and Italian Governments, it is understood, will welcome representatives in their capitals with whom they can deal direct.

62 Lynchings in 1918.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 20.—There were sixty-two lynchings in the United States during the year, according to records compiled by Monroe N. Work, in charge of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute. The figures, made public today, show an increase in lynchings over last year of twenty-four. Fifty-eight of those put to death were negroes and four were white persons. Five women were included in the number.

were moved to the Vosges region, where they were trained with the French. From the Vosges, the division suddenly was transferred to the Toul sector for more advanced training.

"An interesting incident demonstrated the craftiness of the German secret service, and showing that even Fritz is sometimes in a jocular mood, was related in connection with the 82d's first visit to the trenches.

"The movement of the division was made in the closest secrecy," said Major Barrett. "Every precaution had been taken to cloak the evacuation of the French and the arrival of the American forces. The authorities prided themselves upon having caught Fritz unawares. But, lo! and behold, when daybreak came, the newcomers crept over the top at the Hun trenches, and there painted on a big cardboard was this sign:

"WELCOME EIGHTY-SECOND DIVISION, NATIONAL ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES. YOUR TURN NEXT."

Major Barrett is stopping in Atlanta at the home of his father-in-law, Arnold Broyles, 155 Juniper St. His wife was formerly Miss Louise Broyles, a popular society girl. He won a captaincy at Fort McPherson, and was assigned to the Eighty-second division, which was trained at Camp Gordon, where he was in command of Company K, 326th Infantry.

Gets His Majority.

He was the first captain in the 82d to be promoted to a majority, which was awarded him shortly before the Argonne fight. He was the officer who organized the first raiding force sent across No Man's Land by the 82d. After penetrating for more than a half a mile into German territory, capturing a number of machine guns, and gathering valuable information, with but a few minor casualties, sixty men of the company he commanded were killed or wounded by a high explosive shell which burst in their midst just as they were about to climb back into the home trench.

Many of this number were killed instantly. Major Barrett was, himself, wounded by shrapnel. He bears two wound stripes, one for this shrapnel injury and the other for having been gassed in the Argonne, as a result of which he was removed from the combat and sent to a hospital. He was brought back with other wounded, arriving Sunday in Norfolk.

Major Barrett also wears the new insignia of the 82d, which, along with other combat divisions, has been given special recognition by the war department. This insignia, worn on the left arm at the shoulder, is a blue square with a red circle in the center, bordered with gold.

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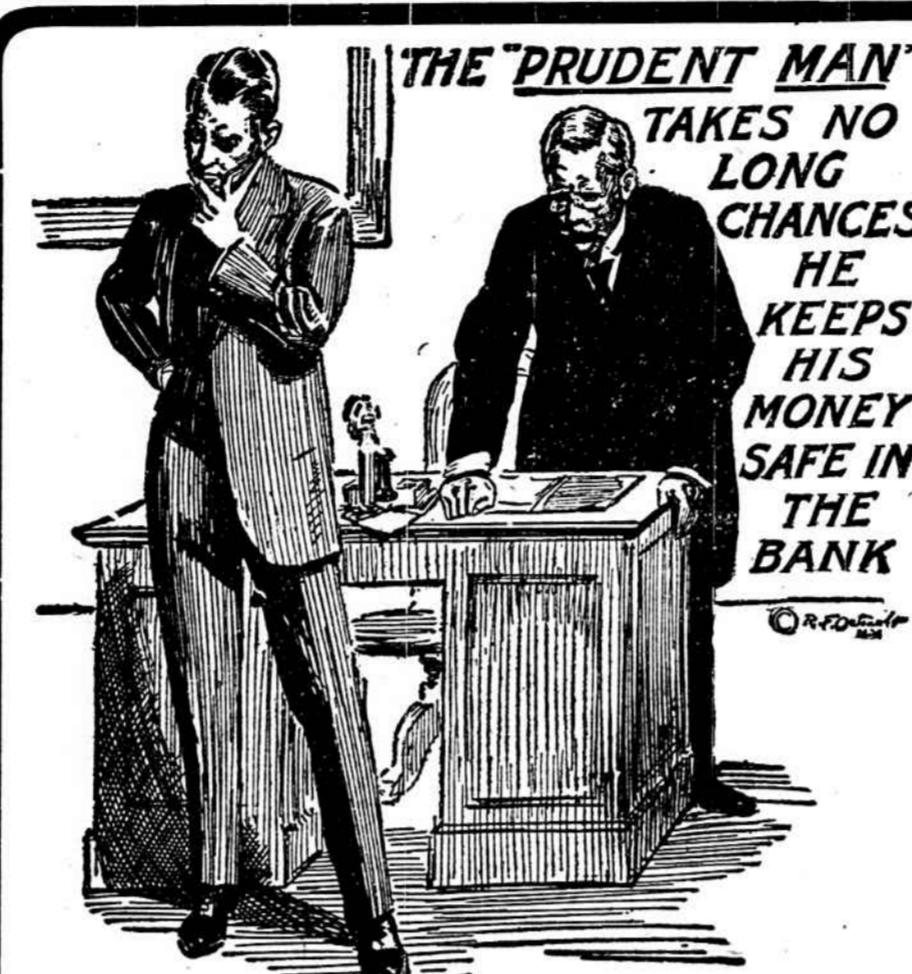
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The last of the present week I will receive another shipment of mules and horses. In this lot there are a number of fast trotting horses, and also some nice buggy drivers. They will be in the pink of condition, and I want you to call around and take a look at them. If you appreciate good stock, you ought to see these. My prices on these mules and horses are right, and if you are in the market for a mule or a horse, we can get together.

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