

Uncle Sam's Youngest Brigadier General

By Albert F. Philips

It requires a high sense of duty to turn down tempting offers of salary that range in the five figures, with an expense account that practically had no limit, and continue in a profession that pays a great deal less; but devotion to country and loyalty to the government that had educated him and made him one of the great electrical engineers of the age, have shown the spirit of a native born Utah and has placed him in the forefront of the younger Americans who are aiding in a thousand ways in the great conflict to make the world safe for democracy.

It seems only a few years since a Utah lad, whose home was on D street, bullded a miniature military post at the rear of the lot on which he was born and organized a military company made up of the lads that resided in the neighborhood. Its organizer was a born soldier. His grandfather had been a soldier who had won renown in the war with Mexico in 1845. And this lad was elected commander of the company which he organized.

It was a marvel, this company of boys. The discipline was such that it would have reflected credit upon a company of regulars and the post was a paragon. The boys would follow their leader anywhere for their confidence in him was unbounded. Prediction was then made by the grown-ups that this boy leader of juvenile military company would some day make his mark in the military world and no one was stronger in this prediction than the "school marm," who had him in charge in the Lowell school. The prediction has been fulfilled. He has made his mark. He has forged to the front. Promotion has followed promotion, due to pluck and merit, and recently three promotions followed each other within a period of thirty days and only a few days ago his name was transmitted to the Senate by the President to be commissioned a Brigadier General in the United States army. This boy soldier, this Utah, is Frank T. Hines, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Hines, well known residents of Salt Lake.

He will be the youngest Brigadier General by nineteen years in the army, the next of record being General Pershing, now in supreme command of the American Army in France.

When 19 years of age, the United States was at war with Spain and young Hines was a student at the Agricultural College of Utah, having entered the college direct from the Lowell school in Salt Lake, and was taking a course in engineering, two years of his course having been completed. He left the Agricultural College and enlisted in Utah Battery B. When the battery sailed from San Francisco for Manila he was a sergeant and while en route to the islands he was appointed first sergeant. Shortly after arriving in Manila he was

made second lieutenant. On the return of the battery to the Presidio at San Francisco he was mustered out and on his return to Salt Lake entered the engineering department of the city and devoted two years to municipal service.

But Frank Hines was a born soldier, as he was an expert mathematician and electrical engineer, and the call of the army could not be resisted, so shortly after he attained his majority he was appointed second lieutenant in the regular army and assigned to the coast artillery stationed at the Pre-

charge of various fortifications at several points in the United States, as an expert in heavy artillery and electrical engineering, and soon made his mark as a master of heavy artillery and coast defense, writing several accepted text books on these subjects.

Prior to the breaking out of war between the United States and Germany, Captain Hines had been imported by several of the great corporations of America engaged in the electrical and iron and steel manufacturing to enter their service, but all of these he declined, believing that his

against Germany he was in Athens.

Immediately, and without waiting for any orders from home, Captain Hines started for the United States and was intercepted at Rome by a message from his government and ordered to take charge of the embarkation of American citizens in Italy who desired to return home. He was stationed at Naples, and so effective was his work there that upon his return to the United States he was made chief of embarkation service in the transporting of troops across the Atlantic to France. He was also made a member of the General Staff of the army, representing the coast artillery. That his work in this service has been well done is demonstrated by the remarkably successful manner in which the troops have been moved across the seas and landed in safety at European ports.

It was in recognition of this work and of his extraordinary ability in other branches of the service that he has been advanced to be a Brigadier General. Three promotions came to him within the short period of ninety days. They were from Captain to Major to Lieutenant Colonel to Colonel, and then to Brigadier General, an unusual record, and they came upon merit alone. There was no pull, no political influence brought to bear. That he is not a West Pointer, makes his record doubly remarkable.

His promotion is a practical demonstration of what is possible for every red-blooded American boy who will apply himself. Planning his life work himself, and then applying himself strictly to those plans, has resulted in his unprecedented advancement to the high commission which the President has nominated him. The lure of salaried position to which he was asked to fix the compensation himself could not draw him away from his first love, that of a soldier, and a soldier he still remains. That he will be further advanced is the universal belief of his friends not only in Utah where he grew up, but in army circles at home and abroad.

The promotion is particularly gratifying to his parents, pioneers of Salt Lake, who have given three other sons to the government, two of whom are in France, another in Washington, as also a son-in-law, who are awaiting the call to sail. To his boyhood friends, the members of his original company when he commanded Fort Hines, to his comrades in Battery B and to the friends of his mature years, his promotion is also a source of much genuine gratification and many congratulations.

Somebody ought to remind Mr. Trotsky that the early French revolutionists petted the guillotine very fondly when it was young, but it grew up and outlived them.—Kansas City Star.



FRANK T. HINES, MEMBER OF THE GENERAL STAFF, U. S. A. AND CHIEF OF EMBARKATION; NOMINATED BY PRESIDENT WILSON TO THE RANK OF BRIGADIER GENERAL

sidio, California. In 1904 he was promoted to be first lieutenant and in 1908 was promoted to be captain. Every promotion was upon merit.

Meanwhile he had entered the Artillery school at Fortress Monroe in Virginia, where he took a post graduate course, this school being considered the best artillery school in the world and offering the highest course of study in artillery service in the United States Army. He graduated from this school with signal honors.

After his graduation he was in

first duty was to his country.

Finally the government was requested by the management of one of the great industries to loan Captain Hines to them for a short period in order that he might go abroad in their behalf to inspect fortifications in Greece with which government they were under contract to engage in the enlargement of its armament. The request was granted and Captain Hines was given a three month's leave of absence. When President Wilson issued the declaration of war