

COLORED TROOPERS INVADE GERMAN SOIL.

Gallant 92 Division Plays Big Role in Advance on Metz—Taking "Pot-Luck" in Freight Car "Pullman" on War Front Without Complaining—Wounds Fall to Blot Out Native Sense of Humor—Determined to Keep Up With Procession.

By Ralph W. Tyler, Accredited Representative of the Committee on Public Information.

ARTICLE VIII.

Somewhere in France, Nov. 10—In the battle raging today in the American advance toward Metz, the 92nd Division, one of the colored combat divisions over here, played a big role. Not only was its black infantry and machine gun units up at the front—in the thickest of it, but its artillery, the 167 Brigade of field artillery was on the line, behaving like veterans, laying down a barrage for the infantry that was marvellously effective and that established a reputation which has been made by but few among French, British or Americans of laying down a barrage that did not entrap, and fatally so, their own men.

This has been a glorious day for the black soldiers. The fighting is still on, and I have just received the information that the casualty toll may be heavy depressingly so for Metz and the sector around about it, is strongly fortified by the Germans and resistance determined. Metz is considered by experts to be the strongest fortified city in the world, almost if not so, as impregnable as the fortifications of the Dardanelles. But the Americans are hammering away at it, and only the signing of the armistice terms by the Germans, by eleven o'clock tomorrow will save Metz from falling. Even as it is, colored soldiers are now on German soil.

The husky invaders include the colored soldiers of the 92nd Division, embracing the "Buffaloes" or 367th, the 365th and 366th regiments of Infantry and the 167th Brigade of Field Artillery, composed of the 349th, 350th and 351st regiments and the 317th Trench Mortar Battery, and all are conducting themselves with a fortitude and valor that has won for them high praise from their commanding officers every time they have been put to any test.

FREIGHT CARS LOOK LIKE "PULLMAN PARLOR COACHES" ON WAR FRONT.

Somewhere in France—To many of our people back in the States who saw our boys embark on fine American railroad coaches and Pullman sleepers to cover the first lap of their hoped for pilgrimage to Berlin, the coaches they must ride in over here would arouse a mild protest. I stood at the station at Vierzon, one of France's many quaint old towns, recently, and saw a long train of freight cars roll in, enroute to some point further distant. In these cars, with but a limited number of boxes to sit upon and just the floor to stand upon, were crowded some one thousand of our own colored soldiers from "The States." But a loller crowd never rode through Ameri-

can cities in Pullman sleepers and diners than these one thousand colored troopers. They accepted passage on these rude box freight cars cheerfully for they knew they were now in war and palace care, downy coaches and the usual American railroad conveniences were neither available nor desirable.

The point I wish to convey to the people back home is that did they but know how cheerfully—even eagerly—our boys over here accept war time conveniences, they would not worry quite so much about how the boys are faring. They are being wholesomely and plentifully fed; they are warmly clothed; they are cheerful and uncomplaining, they know this is war and for that reason know exactly what they must expect. To a soldier, who must at times sleep with but the canopy of heaven as a covering, and the earth as a mattress, a box freight car that shields him from the rain and wind is a real luxury, and he accepts it as such. There need not be any worry back home as to the maintenance of our colored soldiers over here. They receive the same substantial fare the white soldier receives, and the white soldiers travels from point to point in the same box freight cars as affords means of passage for colored soldiers. In short, when it comes to maintenance and equipment, and consideration for the comfort of the American soldier, to use a trite saying—"the folks are as good as the people." There is absolutely no discrimination, and the cheerfulness of these one thousand boys whose freight cars became in imagination, Pullman palace cars, was the proof to me that the colored boys in the ranks are getting a fifty-fifty break.

WOUNDS FALL TO BLOT OUT NATIVE SENSE OF HUMOR.

Two more stories have come to me to prove that our colored soldiers preserve and radiate their humor even where shells and shrapnel fly thickest. A colored soldier slightly wounded in the Argonne fighting—and let me assure my readers there was "some" fighting there—sat down beside the road to wait for a chance to ride to the field hospital. A comrade hastening forward to his place in the line, and anxious for the latest news of the progressing battle, asked the wounded brother if he had been in the fight; did he know all about it, and how were things going at the front. "I sure do know all about it," the wounded man replied. "Well, what's happened to them? quickly asked the trooper on his way to the front. "Well, it was this way," replied the wounded fellow. "I was climbing over some barbed wire trying to get to them d-n baches, and they shot me; that's what I know about it."

A company water cart was following the advancing troops when a German shell burst in the ditch almost beside the cart. The horse on the shell side was killed, and the driver was wounded in the head. While the blood ran freely from his wound down his face, the driver took one look at the wreckage, then started stumbling back along the road. A white lieutenant who had seen it all stopped the driver of the cart and said:

"The dressing station is— Before he could finish his sentence, the wounded driver with the blood flowing in rivulets down his face, said: "Dressing station hell; I'm looking for another horse to hitch to that cart to take the place of the one that shell put out of commission."

That was a bit of nerve, grim humor, and evidence of fidelity to duty. A mere wound in the head could not stop this driver from keeping up with the troops with a needed supply of water.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 2. By R. W. Thompson. MRS. MARY CHURCH TERRELL TAKES UP WAR CAMP COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, former president of the National Association of Colored Women and the only colored woman in the country to serve on a Board of Education, has been appointed to the position of Assistant in the Personnel Department of the War Camp Community Service, the headquarters of which is located at Madison Avenue, New York City. The special department under which she has accepted service is The Playground and Recreation Association of America for the War Department and Navy Department Commission on Training Camp Activities. Mrs. Terrell has resigned from the faculty of Howard University, where she has been an instructor in French for the past two years, and enters at once upon her duties at her new post.

Mrs. Terrell is the wife of Judge Robert H. Terrell, of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia, and is one of the ablest and best-known women of the race. She is admirably fitted by experience and familiarity with the social needs of the colored people for the labors that await her in connection with the war Camp Community Service.

USEFUL RACE WOMAN PASSES AWAY.

This community has suffered a great loss in the death of Mrs. Lavinia Coke Warner, the wife of Mr. David Warner, who for forty-five years has been a clerk and an authority on taxes in the City Government of the Municipality of Washington. Mrs. Warner died on last Tuesday, November 26, and her funeral services were held Friday, November 29, at the Berean Baptist Church, of which she was one of the founders and most faithful members.

The funeral oration was impressively delivered by Rev. David F. Rivers, pastor of Berean Baptist Church, assisted by Rev. William James Howard of the Zion Baptist Church, and Rev. J. M. Milton Waldron of Shiloh Baptist Church. Dr. Charles B. Purvis, formerly Surgeon-in-Chief of Freedmen's Hospital, sent a letter paying a glowing tribute to the character and helpful service of Mrs. Warner, which was read by Judge Robert H. Terrell, of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia.

DR. ROBERT R. MOTON GOES TO FRANCE.

Will Do Moral Work Among Colored Troops "Over There," at Request of President Wilson, and Secretary Baker.

Washington, D. C., December 2.—Dr. Robert R. Moton, Principal of Tuskegee Institute, has gone to France at the request of President Wilson and Secretary of War Baker, to do moral work among the colored troops now stationed "over there." With the tenacity of combat relaxed, it is the usual disposition of all armies to fall into excesses of various kinds.

Dr. Moton will visit all the centers where members of supply troop, stevedore regiments, depot brigades, labor battalions and combat troops are located, speaking to them and urging in every way that they observe the good name they have won on the battlefields and in the service in France, that they may not furnish the slightest cause for unfavorable comment or adverse criticism before they return to America.

Dr. Moton carried with him letters of introduction to the highest officers of the American Expeditionary Forces and to the American Ambassador at Paris. He was accompanied by Mr. Nathan Hunt, traveling secretary, and Mr. Lester A. Walton, managing editor of the New York Age. The party sailed on the United States transport Orizaba, Sunday, December 1st at 2 o'clock. On the same transport Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, editor of the Crisis Magazine also took passage. He will represent The Crisis.

Dr. Moton and party will be away for four to six weeks and will have full opportunity to render splendid service to the colored troops, and the Government by the good work he will do among these soldiers of the Republic. Mr. Emmett J. Scott, Special Assistant to the Secretary of War, accompanied the party to New York City and supervised all of the arrangements incidental to their passage.

EMMETT J. SCOTT'S HISTORY TO BE THE ONLY AUTHORITY ACCOUNT OF "THE NEGRO IN THE WAR."

Washington, D. C., Dec. 2.—In order that the public may not be misled, announcement is made that the only authoritative history of the Negro's participation in the great war will be prepared by Emmett J. Scott, now serving as Special Assistant in the War Department, and a group of nationally-known authorities on all phases of Negro life and activity. This work is to be a hastily put together hodge-podge of newspaper clippings, but an authoritative record of Negro courage and valor. The publishers will be one of the standard firms of the land, whose imprint is a guarantee of liberty quality and typographical excellence.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 4.—Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, sailed for France Sunday, December 1st on the Steamer Orizaba, which carried over the entire staff of newspaper and Press Association cor-

respondents who are to represent the American Press during the Peace deliberations.

Dr. Moton went on a special mission at the urgent request of President Wilson and Secretary Baker. He will visit all the centers where numbers of supply troops depot brigades, labor battalions and combat troops are located, speaking to them and urging in every way that they observe the good name they have won in battlefields and in the service in France, that they might not furnish the slightest cause for unfavorable comment or adverse criticism before they return to America.

He was accompanied by Mr. Nathan Hunt, his traveling Secretary and Mr. Lester A. Walton, Managing Editor of the New York Age.

WM. HARRISON GOES TO FRANCE.

Washington, D. C.—Wm. H. Harrison, one of the leading attorneys in the United States, was recently elected at the Race Congress by the Executive Committee to represent Races of the World, to be held in France. His election is regarded here by all classes as a fitting recognition of his ability to represent the people of this country. For a number of months he has traveled throughout the country, delivering able and scholarly addresses; helping to make the world safe for democracy. Among the other delegates selected were Mr. John R. Hawkins, Dr. W. H. Ferragin, Rev. A. J. Stokes and Dr. Waldron. It is understood that Judge Harrison will be the leader of the delegation.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF CYRENE.

Resolutions of Juveniles. Death of W. C. Haynes.

Dec. 1st, 1918. We the Juvenile Department No. 217 bow our heads in sorrow. We are in deep sympathy with the family in their bereavement of brother and nephew and son.

Resolved, We shall miss him but press our grief over one of our beloved members of Sand D. of C. He was always with us in our meetings when it was convenient for him.

Resolved, We shall miss him but God saw fit to take him from our hands "Johnnie B. Jobe" President. "Pauline Batey," Secretary.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF CYRENE.

Resolutions.

We are here today to pay the last sad respects to our brother, W. C. Haynes. He was a true son of Cyrene. Having been a member of the Sons and Daughters of Cyrene for over three years which made him a charter member. In childhood he was obedient and lovable and retained the disposition throughout his life. At the time of his death he was 29 years 2 months of age and had always been loved by his teachers, schoolmates and friends. He was always dutiful to the duties of his Society and was punctual in attendance to all its meetings when near. In the death of Brother Haynes the family has lost a loving child. The society has lost a faithful and devoted member. His death is our loss but heaven's gain. Rest on Bro. Haynes till we meet you in the Bright Beyond.

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HEAR!

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