

William Albert Barrett

5th State Deputy of Oregon 1915-1917



WM. A. BARRETT

William A Barrett was born December 2, 1878 in Harpersfield, OH to Edward and Mary Reidy Barrett. In 1885 the Barrett family moved to Oregon and settled in Albany, OR. On April 16, 1906, William married Edith Ruth Flinn. They had three children: Anna, Edward and William Jr.

With his brother, William opened an implement store in Albany, and by 1901 they were considered early dealers of "E.M.F." cars – "Every Morning Fix'em" cars - including White Steamer cars and early Cadillacs.

William became known as a prosperous businessman, in Albany where he was highly respected in business and social circles. William also became Director of

the First National Bank.

It was stated that William Barrett comes from the junction of the Calapooia and the Willamette, where the proud little city of Albany looks across into Benton County and where one end of the inter-county bridge stands over Brother Barrett's property to "Billy's" great disgust and against his protest.

William became a Knight of Columbus first joining the Portland Council and then transferring to Albany Council 1577 where he became a Charter Member. He went on to become the first Grand Knight in Albany serving from 1911 to 1913. He also served as GK from 1923 to 1924. Not being satisfied with serving at the Council level, Brother Barrett was elected as the 5th Oregon State Deputy on May 10, 1915, serving 2 years until July 1, 1917. His administration was exceedingly successful, and he is recognized throughout the state as a safe, intelligent leader and adviser. Barrett was always alive in the interests of the Order and ever ready to contribute to its success and advancement.

An advertisement for Barrett Bros. International Trucks. At the top is an illustration of a two-story building with a sign that says "BARRETT BROS.". Below the illustration, the text reads: "INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS", "COMPLETE LINE AUTHORIZED", "SALES SERVICE REPAIRS", "Parts Department & Shop Open 8 A.M. 'Til 1 A.M. Monday thru Friday Saturday—8 A.M. to 5 P.M.", "Albany", "1270", a list of services including "Wheel Balancing & Aligning", "Truck Lubrication", "Logging Chains & Binders", "Water & Air Hose", "Truck Accessories", "Autolite Batteries", and "Aircro Welding Equipment & Supplies", "BARRETT BROS.", and "On Hy 99 E ¼ Mile N. of Overpass 1234 E. 8th Ave."/>

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In regards to WWI – *"To my mind there has never been a time in the history of this country when an order such as the Knights of Columbus was so necessary. The wave of religious bigotry spreading over the country, together with the world war in which our beloved country has become involved have presented us with an opportunity to carry out the principles of the order and to show the fiber and quality of its membership."*
William A. Barrett – May 7, 1917, Portland, OR

William A. Barrett died January 7, 1934 at the age of 56 in Portland, OR. He is buried at the Riverside Cemetery in Albany, OR next to his wife, Edith, who died in 1974 at the age of 94.

