

Get A Broader View Of Life in bitter root valley
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## Independence and a Competence for Life

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## WOULD YOULIKE TO



## Private Smith in Mexico

as the case may be, it is probable that Johnny still remains in igno rance of his exact destination. Ther are certain facts that he does learn however, and all of them tend to confirm the old sergeant's words. Among the enlisted men as in officers clubs thare always are to be found those whose minds are regervoirs of statistics, which they are eternally ready to pour forth.
He learns that the Orange Free State and the South African Repub-Hic-as the Transvaal once had the right to call itself - together have an area of about 163,000 square miles and a population of 887,000 . The Orange Free State is almost, but not quite, as large as Virginia. Mexico, In extent, is nearly 748,000 square miles, Its population is nearly -11,800,000. For every Boer in existence there are more than ten Mexicans. The proportion of fighting units is about the same; one in five In dealing with Mexico we have one possible advantage that Great Britain did not have in its affair with the Boers. We are closer to the scene of action. This advantage is however largely: if not wholly neutrallzed by the great length of the Mexican frontier: also by the character of that frontier. In all other respects Eng. land, in her Boer war, had advantages that are wholly dented to us.

THE Mexicans have a very respect-
able army; the Boers had none. The regular army of Great Britain stand high among the armies of the world; ours numbers less than seventy thousand men. The younger generatlons of the Boers were without experience in warfare; of late years the Mexlcans, of all ages, have indulged in few other pursuits Little wars, in India and elsewhere always afford the Briton a chance to keep his hand in; except for the
Spanish War, with its one small land Spanish War, with its one small land
battle and haif dozen skirmishes, and the bushwacking fights in the Phillppines, we have been without such experience within the memory of any man young enough to go and fight,
Again, except by sneaking them across the short and comparatively well-pollced Portugese border from Lorenzo Marques, the Boers had little or no opportunity to replenish depleted stores of arms and ammun
tion. Nothing we can do will prevent the Mexican from getting all he wants. Forced loans, together with confiscation of mine revenues and the like, will pay for them. Ports of entry are not required in order to bring
them in. Mexico has something more than six thousand miles of coast. Our navy can maintain no effective blockade against a stretch such as that. England's navy could not do it. The comblned navies of the world could hardly do it.

The theater of the Boer War consiated partly of fertile plains partly of hills, partly of prairie. The same is true of Mexico. But the South African prairie usually can boast a certain degree of fertility, A large portion of the Mexican prairies are among the most fmpos sible and impassible deserts that the planet affords. Its hills are apt to be rugged mountains, replete with fastnesses that can be held by a squad against a brigade.
John Smith mentally arranges these facts in parallel columns. No sergeant's words: only at the wisiom of him who uttered them. In due time the end of this first stage of his journey arrives.

It may of course be that he has been sent to the beautiful country that lles In the south and east of Mexfco. The chances, however, are all against it It was with these fertile lands that our former war with Mexico had
largely to do. That is the prinelpal largely to do. That is the principal
reason why lessons taught by that
war now are of little value, At that time the desert spaces of the north and west were almost unknown.
In which event John Smith, together with many of his mates, is dropped from a Southern Pacific train into blinding sunshine, seen through dust that sticks, as mud, to his sweatdampened face. Most likely the thermometer stands somewhere in the vieinity of $110^{\circ}$ in the shade, John Smith knows that it is hot, but he it is; the air Is so dry, It is the utter desolation of the whole country over which his puckered eyes range that strikes him. Just Illimitable stretches of parched and burning sand, dotted with cactus and dancing In the flerce heat-waves. A land of Izards and rattlesnakes. Only a few
faint trails wind over its face. Otherfaint trails wind ov
wise it is trackless.

Nearer at hand however the scene is busy enough. Ever so short a time before, perhaps, the spot which now is a military base was only a desert slding. Bulldings of corrugated Iron have sprung Into being as though by Eastern incantations. Great tents, like some new sort of gigantic mushrooms, eke them out. Far to one side are smaller tents in serried rowa. colored like the dust from whlch they seem to have sprung.
Men are hurrying here and there; mostly men of the varlous staff corps or departments. Already John has learned to distinguish the insignia Perhaps here and there he sees th tells him that Its wearer is of the Paymaster General's Department Paymaster General's Department
Offeers and men of the Medical Officers and men of the Medieal likely a sprinkling of the Adjutant Inkely a sprinkiing of the Adjutant
General's Department. Probably Johnny, like many older soldiers, looks askance at the army lawyers who report to the Judge-Advocate General. He sees Chaplains, with the silver crosses on their shoulderstraps. He sees also the double-turreted castle that denotes the Engineer Corps, and knows that these men will have with them workers of almost every trade on earth, save possibly one or two which are to be found in the Signal Corps, Also the tools for those men to use. For the first fime complex and interdependent machine the army is

B UT, most important of all at the men who wear the wheel, key and sword as a badge - the men of the Quartermaster's Department. They have many duties. Upon one of these duties now depends not only the wel fare but the life itself of every man who leaves the base. It is only slight exaggeration to say that in this case John Smith and his mates exist principally to act as quartermaster's guards.
It is the army mule that has to transport, beside the multitudinous hings that every army in the field requires, not only additional forage for himself and the other animals, but also water. Great quantities of it water, which in that bare and burning country, sfands high above all other necessities, and which is scarcer no where in all the world.
Then there comes a day when from the base camp, dispersing squads of cavalry crawl, beetle-like, over the face of the desert and dis appear toward the south. Suppressed excltement pervades the camp, for the men know that this is the van of an advance guard. Soon after the "general" sounds, and at its last note every tent falls, Johnny and his comrades form into line. The line swings into column, and to an ac-
companiment of clanking mess tins companiment of clanking mess tin and cups, the column is away.
Overhung by clouds of choking dust, the columin crawls, like a gres serpent with the paces of a snail


Across the land from end to end, from smallest village to biggest city, from little cottage to richest home, the mothers of the nation have joined in the fight for "Better Babies."

We have lived in ignorance long enough. Our babies have slipped from us, one in six, just because we did not know. But now we have heard the And with doctor
And with that awakening has grown the greater use of NESTLE'S FOOD. Where one mother used it seven years ago,five mothers use it today. They have learned that for a sound, healthy little body baby needs plenty of fresh air, lots of sleep, and most of all, just the right Food. They have learned that more babies die from impure cow's milk than from any other cause. They have learned that when baby can't have its mother's milk, it must have the same food elements, in just the right proportions. All of them the baby gets in

## NestlèsFood <br> Some of these elements baby gets in

 cow's milk, but the proportions are all wrong-and then there's the great danger of germs-sickness-ev.sumption-in that cow's milk.

In NESTLE'S the best cow's milk from healthy cows, in sanitary dairies, is so changed that it contains just what is so changed that th contains just wha
your baby needs. The milk is so purifiod, and


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