

# APING NATURE TO PROTECT FIGHTING MAN



LOOKING AT DISTANCE, UNDESIRABLE THINGS OF DEAD BOWERS

By ROBERT H. MOULTON.

CONCEALED beneath a deceptive exterior, stimulating the imagination, great destructive machines of modern warfare lie in wait for an opportunity to spring out upon the enemy, belching forth a breath far more terrible and deadly than that of the fabled dragons. The inventions, appearing nothing dangerous, approach too near and is lost.

"Camouflage" is the military term for this art of mechanical deception, and a host of new officers are drafted into the business of waging war. The landscape artist and the scene painter employ their several abilities in concealing death-dealing devices, machines and vantage points secure from hostile observation. The concentrated ingenuity of man is daily endeavoring in concealing the true nature of deadly weapons.

"Camouflage," as though we had discovered a new method of warfare, and had thus again proven the superiority of man! Mammoth steel monsters, clothed in impenetrable hides of steel, with the foe ever seemingly impassable barriers. These are the tanks which have been invented for the extermination of man. Indestructible moving garms, which house a score of armed men, passing over hills, ditches and straggling barricades.

That the enemy may not observe its approach this deadly machine, clad with plates of heavy steel, the wheels have been urged into the service of a novel gliding sides of the metal.

A lot of paint renders this ally almost invisible, as though we had found the invisible cap or coat of myths. The tanks are painted broken gray and white, and from a hundred yards or more are indistinguishable from the terrain.

Again the landscape artist employs his talents in No Man's Land, placing a ditch or a trench, or concealing a machine behind a new-formed knoll of gun turf.

Long, gray files of armed men wave a wave, sweeping toward a low hill and a thicket—suddenly the hill slips into a brilliant fortification, and the tanks and howitzers belching forth thousands, and the thicket becomes a large, armored tank. Indestructible, moving down ranks of men the wastes of hay. A massive bowler ball crashes over all obstacles. Envelopments, painted and covered to imitate the surrounding topography, the prey into an unrelenting trap.

This war has become a great struggle of concealment and deception. Day after day the strife goes on, man pitting his ingenuity against man, in the most barbarous contest ever waged. We have found new ways to fight—camouflage—and the art is developed day by day. What animal craft could be more subtle, more deceiving than this?

It is camouflage a product of the mind of man? Have we truly discovered a new method of waging war, and peering upon our foes? Distance from time immemorial has been a constant process of peering, the conqueror and more clever surviving.

All life is a continual struggle between the different forms and forces. Large and strong forms prey upon the lesser. Camouflage, or deception, is adaptive coloring and shape, which the various scattered to every life, plant and animal. Such as are lavished upon dumb life by three different objects in protection, attraction, and deception. Innumerable examples of camouflage might be listed, but only a few are necessary to bring to attention the more or less obvious fact that "camouflage" is sheer imitation of the environment.

It has succeeded in penetrating the depths of the sea and the expanses of the air, in our contention for gain and progress, but these accomplishments are but of recent perfection. For thousands of years, for millions, man has been inhabited by many

It is reported to be the chief source of the world's wool supply. It is said that South America has about the same number of sheep, approximately 100,000,000.

The method of cultivation of silk, the rearing of the worm and the reeling of the cocoon have not materially changed since the time of the old Chinese prints show that silkworms in vogue today are much the same as those employed 3,000 years ago.

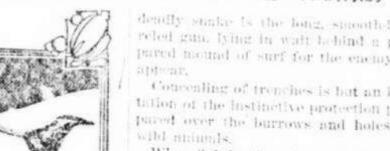
The Better Form. How long is the war going to last? Don't let the way you put the question. Why don't you make it: How long is it going to take us to

Time for a Change. I gave Phil a lock of my hair last night and he was crazy about it. Phil! Why didn't you change the whole switch? It's time to change the shade again, anyway.

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deadly snake is the long, smooth-bellied snake, lying in wait behind a prepared mound of surf for the enemy to appear.

Concealing of trenches is but an imitation of the instinctive protection prepared over the burrows and holes of wild animals.

When fighting in a desert land or an arid country, the trenches are hidden with sand embankments—if the vicinity is wooded or brush covered, hundreds of woven withes, fascines, shrubbery, and bushes are employed to hide the positions of the opposing forces. The uniforms which our soldiers have adopted are those which most readily fuse into the topography.

A comparison of the natural instinctive concealment practiced by the hunter and hunted animal, with the camouflage of our soldiery, will render more clearly the imitation practiced by man.

In the jungle a huge python lies hidden from its prey, waiting. It resembles some twisted, fallen branch, and is unnoticed by the small-furred creatures which pass near. Suddenly the python strikes, the captured creature is crushed and disappears into the gorge of the hunter. Another instance is the tree frog, which clings like some green bough of a tree, and seems to be a knot or lump in the wood. Through the entire day it will hang there, while flies and butterflies hover near without fear, only to be snapped up by a long, forked tongue, the prey of the wily hunter.

One of the adaptable and known forms is the chameleon or salamander, which changes its hue to fit the color of the object on which it rests.

Fish of the stream and lakes are dappled or striped with coloration which fuses into the bed or rush-covered depths of the water, whereas the fish of deep seas are frequently dark in color to render them indistinguishable from their enemies.

Man has constructed the submarine to course the ocean depths, imitating in shape and dark hue the sea monsters. He has produced a winged machine, along the lines of a bird or butterfly, and has painted it white that he may speed among the clouds unseen. Recently, however, a new mode of mimicry has been used by the warring nations. Just as many of the bright-plumaged birds and gay butterflies use their brilliant raiment for attraction, squadrons of our war airplanes are being lavishly coated with kaleidoscopic colors to attract the enemy into a danger zone, where a superiority of numbers lie.

The old way of fighting battles and of laying siege with all due formality, is past. The weapons utilized in the present day force the contending nations to invent every manner of shelter and protection. No longer do armies meet armies on the open plain, necessitating usually a stronger force to win the battle. Science in every phase has stepped into the ranks and forced the warriors to become electricians, sappers, chemists. Invention today is the mainstay of fighting progress, and yet, what is our invention but a means of overcoming as nature has taught her children for aeons?

The camouflage of the butterfly is the most astonishing of any creature. Mottled wings, gay-colored markings, imitate the hues of flowers on which the butterfly rests and feeds. A passing bird, ever on the lookout for some such dainty morsel, passes over, seeing only a vivid-hued mass of petals. Burnished beetles, painted dragon flies, green katydids, lichen spiders and countless other forms of life which inhabit the plant sphere, might be cited.

Everyone is acquainted with the grass snakes, sand snakes and tree snakes, which hide easily in their respective environments. How like some

## HONGKONG USING MOTORCARS

During the past few months the number of cars in use has grown rapidly; there are more garages, and a good volume of orders has been placed. There are now licensed in the colony 125 motorcars and 118 motorcycles, compared with 105 cars and 91 motorcycles in December, 1916. A canvass of the dealers and garages indicates that between 25 and 30 new cars have been ordered, all from the United States. Most of them are popular-priced machines, but there is an increasing demand for the higher-grade ones. An order for 11 placed by one garage included five of high grade. In spite of excessive freight rates, the demand promises to continue for some time, although the market may easily be overstocked.

Joppa, Jerusalem. Joppa, the port of Jerusalem, contains several mosques and churches, convents, and fine gardens. It exports chiefly oranges, corn, wine, and soap. It figured largely in the Crusades and in 1799 was captured by Napoleon. The population is estimated at nearly 40,000.

A new electrically lighted egg candler prints names, dates or other inscriptions on eggs with a rubber stamp as they are inserted into it.

The high price of gasoline is said to be creating a new demand for electric vehicles for both pleasure and commercial purposes in the United Kingdom.

On April 12, 1889, the first vedalla were allowed to escape from a tent in an orchard in southern California. In two years this lady bird had cleaned the trees of the devastating leucy or cushiony cotton scale.

Joined the Army. Bacon—How's that boy of yours you sent to college? Egbert—I guess he's all right. "Is he behind in his studies?" "No; he's at the front now."

Someplace in France. Mrs. Bacon—This paper says that over 300 women are employed by the French railways as stationmasters. Mr. Bacon—And like a lot of women over here, no doubt, many are living above their station.

Trumpet Blasts. The law in Switzerland protecting rare plants is so strict that to be found in possession of specimens illegitimately collected is a penal offense.

Sex distinction in animals has been known since the dawn of history, but proof of the sexuality of plants was first made known by Camerarius in 1691.

Bishop Henderson of Detroit, Mich., has issued an order that every Methodist church in his diocese shall display the Stars and Stripes for the duration of the war.

To surmount the difficulty encountered in signaling by wigwagging with flags and lamps when the atmosphere is foggy, a system has been proposed which would enable a bugle to be used effectively. Messages would be transmitted in code by "dots" and "dashes," and the calls projected for considerable distances by utilizing a portable soundboard, designed to be strapped to the back of the bugler.

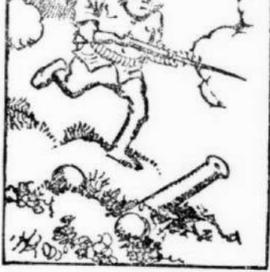
## Bowser Prepares for War He Is Going to Build a Fort

Mr. Bowser had come home looking very solemn and earnest.

It was when they had finished their meal and gone upstairs and he had smoked half a cigar that he began peering up and down and finally explained: "Mrs. Bowser," he began, "do you know that I am almost a criminal?"

"Have you almost killed some one?" she queried.

"Worse than that. If you could kick higher than a two-string I should ask you to kick me all around this room."



"I'll Be Found Behind It."

I have done a reprehensible, if not a criminal thing. For weeks and weeks I have exposed your life to danger."

"Do you mean that the gas meter may blow up, Mr. Bowser?"

"No, ma'am; I mean that all this howling about war and unpreparedness has been passed by me, and I am today as helpless as an infant. The United States was not prepared for war, and Samuel Bowser is not."

"But what could you do, dear?" asked Mrs. Bowser.

"Well, I will go over the case for a minute. If the Germans land troops here they will naturally land at Fritz's dock. He is a German, you know, and he will have sent word to them that they can land at his dock and he will make no charge. Six or eight thousand troops will land and march right up Joy street until they come to the corner of ours. There they will halt until the general in command asks where I live. They will secure some boys

in the alley and take you in the rear, and you couldn't fire a gun at them?"

"Hardly," she replied, "what should they want of you?"

"Why, I have defied them tooth and tongue for the last year. Now, then, our house stands almost on the west line of our lot. On the east side, there is an open space of 30 feet. There are gates by which a coal cart can come in at the front and deliver the coal, and go out of the alley gate in rear. Is this open space defended?"

"Why, does it need any defense, Mr. Bowser?"

"If the Germans come you will see. They will tear away the front gate in a jiffy, and pour in and have the house surrounded in sixty seconds. You know what that means. I am reprehensible and almost criminal because I did not see this thing long ago and prepare for it. Mrs. Bowser, I ought to be sent to jail for two or three days."

"But now that you see it at last you are going to prepare, are you?" was the query.

"I am going right at it tomorrow morning, and I shall work around home until it is finished. I shall build a fort to protect this open space. It won't be a fort after all. It will be a breastwork facing the street, and on this will be mounted cannon and quick-firing guns, and, when the hour of peril comes, I will be found behind it with a rifle in my hand and five or six flags flying defiant."

"Haven't you planned a pretty big thing?" asked Mrs. Bowser, in doubtful tones.

"Yes, it is a pretty big thing, but I can carry it out," was the reply. "The breastwork will be made of sand

bags, and I must see a contractor for the very first thing in the morning. I must also go to army headquarters and see about cannon, quick-firing guns, rifles and ammunition. Not until that breastwork is finished and ready for business, shall I draw a long breath of relief. What are you getting out pencil and paper for?"

"Oh, just to figure a little," was the reply. "We want to see how much it's going to cost to win the glorious victory of the Germans and save our lives. Now, then, how many sand bags will you use?"

"About 200, and each bag will weigh 200 pounds. I don't see any use in figuring."

"Well, it won't do any hurt, Mr. Bowser. You get a contractor. He has got to buy 200 stout bags, and have them filled, and drawn here on his truck and delivered. I don't believe you can get them at less than two dollars a bag. They may have to be drawn a great distance, don't you see?"

"Then," continued Mrs. Bowser, "you must have at least one man to assist you in placing the bags, and you can count on three hard days' work—maybe weeks. You must add all this to the expense, and you will probably have two cannon. What do cannon cost apiece, Mr. Bowser?"

"As I told you this figuring is all book," sulkily replied Mr. Bowser. "I don't believe you can get them for less than \$500 each, and you never loaded nor fired a cannon in your life. It looks to me as if you would have to hire an artillery company. And I read in the paper that a quick-firing gun cost \$250. You will want two of them, and about 10 rifles at \$10 apiece."

"Are you done?" sulkily demanded Mr. Bowser, as Mrs. Bowser stopped to wet her pencil on her tongue.

"Just a minute, Mr. Bowser. There is the ammunition for all of these arms—that is going to cost a pretty penny. There is no doubt but that you will kill at least a thousand Germans, but let us see how much it will cost you a head."

"We won't see anything of the kind," half shouted Mr. Bowser. "I am going ahead and build that fort, and an hour before the Germans come you can start out on a visit to your mother and leave me here alone. I shall perish defending that breastwork."

"Just a word, Mr. Bowser. If, when the Germans come and before they have drawn down the gates, you asked the commander to step inside and see what sort of a trap you had arranged for them, wouldn't they surrender to a man and permit you to march them off to the police station?"

"Woman, don't talk to me. I never should have talked to you about this. Not a word. This comes of my taking you into my confidence. We will say no more about it."

"I just want to ask one more question," said Mrs. Bowser. "Your breastwork will front toward the street. Your artillery will all point that way. The space between your breastwork and the alley will be all open. Have you thought the Germans might come down



"Shall Perish Defending That Breastwork."

the alley and take you in the rear, and you couldn't fire a gun at them?"

Bowser gave a start and jumped to his feet, and without a word he left the house. An hour later, and a mile away, he was standing leaning against a shade tree when a patrolman stopped before him and said:

"Come, old man, he is moving along. You act to me like a man who is afraid to go home and face his wife, but you can't loaf around the streets. Go home and beg her pardon, and tell her you'll never do it again."

Clerks and Salesmen. Sometimes you walk into a store and a clerk jumps to be the first to wait upon you, observes the El Paso Times. He is there to sell goods and work never bothers him. He is willing to take down half the goods in the store in his efforts to please you. He makes sales and will rise in life. But there is another class of clerks. They let you hunt them up when the boss is not around, show you as few goods as possible and are not at all bothered if you walk away without finding what you want. They get their salaries just the same—it is the employer only who loses. And they will always be clerks—just clerks.

Woman Inventor. The only really important household idea patented by a woman up to date is the ice-cream freezer, credited to Mrs. Nancy M. Johnson of Philadelphia. The original model (now preserved in the National museum at Washington) shows that modern contrivances of the kind are in no way materially different from her design. In its way, her invention (dated September 9, 1843) was an epoch-making

# The KITCHEN CABINET

Just yielding yourself to stylish taste. Just helping men to get their lawful due. Just sacrificing self for father's good. Donating something to the betterment of all that's the way to live. —J. H. Lawrence.

SEASONABLE DISHES. Peas, potatoes or mixed bits of various sorts. If broiled in a very little oil or butter, they are delicious. Sprinkle with mixed herbs, make a nice relish.

Lumber Camp Pea Soup—Wash and soak over night a pint of dried green peas. Put a pound of salt pork on to cook with the peas, with three quarts of water and one minced onion. Simmer until the peas are tender, about six or seven hours. If put into a fireless cooker, use two quarts of water, set on a hot radiator and cook over night. Rub the peas through a colander, add seasonings of summer savory, sage, salt and pepper. Thicken with two tablespoonfuls of flour mixed with a little cold milk; boil five minutes and serve.

The pork may be seared into half-inch pieces, browned and served with mustard.

Sausage Loaf—Take one and one-half pounds of sausage, one and one-fourth cupfuls of stale bread crumbs, and one egg. Slightly moisten the stale crumbs, beat the egg, combine the two and add the sausage meat, which should be well seasoned. Form into a loaf, dust with dried crumbs and bake three-quarters of an hour.

Ox-Tail Soup—Slice one onion and fry in a tablespoonful of drippings. Wash and dry the joints of oxtail, but then into the pan with the onion and brown on all sides. Turn the contents of the frying pan into the soup kettle, add a sliced carrot, two stalks of celery, cut fine; parsley, cayenne, salt and pepper to taste, and cover with cold water. Simmer slowly until meat is ready to fall from the bones. Add a cupful of strained tomato and serve.

Taffy Pudding—Soak a cupful of pearl tapioca over night, well covered with water. In the morning drain and add two cupfuls of light brown sugar and cook in water in the oven three or four hours. Serve cold with cream, flavored with vanilla.

A cupful of ginger ale may be thickened with gelatin and chopped fruit added, making a most dainty salad.

Believe me, the talent of success is making more than doing what you can do well, whatever you do, without a thought of fame.—Longfellow.

A STAIN REMOVER. In every kitchen one of the handiest and most useful lists is one giving directions for removing spots and stains.

There is no more obstinate and annoying stain to remove than a cream stain which has been allowed to be overlooked. Boiling in a strong soap solution and drying in good sunshine will probably remove the worst stains that simply rubbing with soap will not remove. A little turpentine or kerosene rubbed on the spots before boiling will help to soften the fat. The best method to use in dealing with a fresh grease stain is to use soap and cold water on it; the hot water fixes the fat in the fiber of the linen and makes a most difficult stain to remove.

Fruit stains of various kinds of long standing may be removed by sulphur fumes if the use of peroxide and sunlight fail to be effective. The peroxide which we buy commercially is not so strong that it needs to be washed out, but if fresh from the chemical laboratory it should be carefully washed and rinsed out or it rots the fiber of the cloth. The same is true of sulphur fumes. Place a little sulphur in a dish, light it, cover with a funnel and place the spot where the fumes will strike it, changing as often as the spot fades, to another one. Then carefully wash the garment or linen, to remove the sulphur.

Ink stains, if fresh and on white cloth, are best put to soak in sour milk, repeating the process until the stain is gone.

Acid stains should be sponged carefully with ammonia in water, one tablespoonful to six of cold water.

Alkali stains are treated with an acid solution, lemon juice or vinegar.

Fresh stains are treated with an acid solution, lemon juice or vinegar.

Fresh fruit stains, like those from berries, may be removed by pouring boiling water from a height through the cloth stretched over a bowl; then wash as usual.

Turpentine will dissolve paint. Apply and rub well, then wash in soapsuds.

For vaseline stains soak in kerosene before washing in soap and water. If goods are unwashable clean with chloroform. A small bottle of chloroform is most helpful to keep on hand for small spots on silk, ribbons and lingerie waists. Salts of lemon moist-

Beauty or Ugliness. Speaking of the personal appearance of Lincoln and other presidents, a Boston lady who has had the honor of an introduction to President Wilson, explains why she was disappointed in his looks. She says: "He isn't handsome enough to be handsome and he isn't handsome enough to be attractive." A famous Parisienne once said that next to being the most beautiful woman in Paris, she would prefer to be known as the homeliest. She would then achieve distinction in either case.

First Woman Journalist. It is said that the first newspaper woman was an American, Mrs. Anne Royall, who was not only the first woman journalist, but the first woman to own and edit a newspaper. It is also curious that she is said to have originated the idea of "interviews." She was born in Maryland in 1789, put her first printing press on Capitol Hill in Washington, D. C., and published a small weekly, first called the Washington Weekly, and later the Huntress.

CORNMEAL DISHES. A most satisfactory breakfast food is a simple cornmeal mush. Cook for an hour or longer. Where it is possible to get cornmeal with the whole of the corn ground by the old process, (not the kiln-dried corn) it will be found most satisfying.

The drawback to such meal is that it does not keep and so must be fresh.

Spider Corn Cake.—Take one and a half cupfuls of cornmeal, a half cupful of flour, a teaspoonful of soda, a half teaspoonful of salt and one egg. Mix thoroughly, then pour into a hot iron spider which has been well greased with two tablespoonfuls of shortening. Let stand on top of the stove for a few minutes until well cooked on the bottom, then place on the upper grate of the oven and finish baking.

Corn Muffins.—Take a cupful of cornmeal, a cupful of sweet milk, one-half cupful of flour, two eggs, three tablespoonfuls of baking powder, a half teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of shortening. Beat the eggs separately, adding the yolks with the milk, then all the dry ingredients sifted and fold in the whites at the last. Bake in twelve well greased pans.

Beef Scramble.—Take a shin of beef, a tablespoonful of thyme, one grated nutmeg, two gallons of water, a tablespoonful of summer savory, two tablespoonfuls of salt, a teaspoonful of pepper, or a few dashes of cayenne. Cook the meat, cut in bits, with the bones, covered with the cold water. When the meat is very tender and the water reduced to a gallon, remove the bones and add the herb seasonings. Take the marrow from the bones, add it to the meat and chop fine. Moisten the meat with enough cold water to pour, then add to the boiling hot broth slowly to keep it from lumping, cook for an hour, add salt and pepper and the meat, then pour into molds to cool. Cut in slices and fry in a little hot fat for breakfast.

The cornmeal which is made of the whole grain is equally as nourishing as wheat and when ground by the old water process it will cook and every grain stand up like grains of rice.

Nellie Maxwell