

## Desert At First Looks Like Nothing—Nature Is Best Camouflage For Bedouins Or Troops

By RICHARD MOWRER  
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At first the desert doesn't look like anything—just vast and empty with lots of sky above it. Much of it is flat, hard-packed and stony for miles. Or it may be hard-packed and stony with high swells that wouldn't be noticeable except that they limit the range of vision.

Sometimes the desert becomes very lumpy with dunes of powdery white sand that makes men flounder when they walk. Sometimes there is a break in the desert—a sudden rim to a great plateau that has seemed endless.

Because of your shadow you are out near a hunter instead of lying

with the rim cracked by steep dry gullies that the Bedouins call "wadi." Some areas in the desert have small clumps of camelthorn, a round scraggly bush that collects sand around its roots so that it seems to be growing out of a mound.

You wonder, at first, how you are going to find cover if the enemy suddenly appears, and you wonder how an army with trucks and guns and tanks and armored cars can hide from enemy aviation. But the desert is a funny place and continually surprises one with all it has to offer in the way of camouflage and concealment.

Because of your shadow you are

most visible from the air in the early morning, and again toward sunset. Your shadow at these hours seems a tall, long, thin man. A man's shadow is like a giant, and a truck's shadow is like a barn. You feel awfully conspicuous.

Where there is camelthorn there

is surprisingly good cover, even when the sun is lowest and the shadows are longest. For if enemy planes come, you can crouch, and your shadow will blend into that of a camelthorn bush. The main thing is not to run. Movement would draw the plane's attention, the way a rabbit does by suddenly popping

tanks or trucks a mile away. It was the rest of the desert and its little machines. However, scattering the day the sun dries off the dew and beats down on everything. Repetition of this process is nature's method of camouflage, copyright unreserved.

British artillery unit once got

together with nature on a camouflage project for the tent that sheltered their kitchen and the mess. Instead of throwing away the soggy remnants from the teapot, the cook would throw them upon the tent, causing large brown stains to spread on the canvas. The alternation of heavy dew at night and scorching sun in the daytime worked on these stains.

the shimmering hot air that had made them seem to move.

Visibility from the air, as well as from the ground, is disturbed by the midday heat, and, if nobody runs around when planes come over they often pass without seeing, even when flying low. On two occasions Italian planes flew right over us without spotting anything suspicious, although our group consisted of a dozen armored cars and two station wagons.

We were scattered in an area of camelthorn and camouflaged with camelthorn. But while the cars were bulky objects compared to

tanks or trucks a mile away. It was the rest of the desert and its little machines. However, scattering the day the sun dries off the dew and beats down on everything. Repetition of this process is nature's method of camouflage, copyright unreserved.

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### "Bel-View" Nurses' Oxfords

SIZES 4 1/2 to 9—Widths AA to C!

This is the comfort shoe that many women depend upon for "solid comfort." Black or white Bel-View Nurses' Oxfords with built-in steel arch, metatarsal feature, so essential to easy walking. Combination last. Soft, durable rubber heels. Good, flexible leather soles. Sizes 4 1/2 to 9. Widths AA to C.

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### FINAL CLEARANCE!

### Higher-Priced CURTAINS

Broken Assortments and  
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- ★ DUPLEX CURTAINS!
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- ★ MIDGET COTTAGE SETS!

Only 1 to 15 of a Kind

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**79c**

Pair or Each

From a Famous Decorator  
CURTAIN, DRAPERY,  
UPHOLSTERY Fabrics

**25c Ea. 50c Ea.**

A special purchase from a large decorator. Higher priced remnants of quality curtain, drapery and upholstery materials. Many different fabrics, colors and patterns to choose from in sizes from 1/2 to 4 yards. Shop early for best selection.

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KNITTED  
FURNITURE  
SLIP COVERS

**\$1.79 \$2.79**

For Chairs For Sofas

A special sale of knitted furniture slip covers that fit snugly over upholstered furniture. Reduced because they are discontinued patterns and colors. Fine Friday Value.

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Casual Smartness  
Keynotes the Soft  
Lines of These

### Wool Fleece COATS

**\$10.95**

Sizes for Juniors and Misses  
in the Group!



You'll find a multitude of uses for your casual wool fleece coat. It's versatile and just begs to be worn everywhere . . . with everything. Choose them in fitted, boxy or swagger styles with unique collar treatments and new trims. Other styles in tweeds and some with new parka hoods. Buy your new coat now on our Easter Layaway Plan.

For New Fashions It's . . . Downstairs at Ayres.

### Women's Rayon Satin Slips

#### Better Rayon Undies

Special purchase of fine,  
soft plain rayon briefs,  
panties, stepins, bloomers  
and four-gore types; tea  
rose and white; sizes 32  
to 46 in the group.

**39c**

**69c**  
EACH

For Friday we present a fine group of rayon satin slips at a bargain price. Styles with lace trimmed California V neck and tailored styles; bias cut and four-gore types; tea rose and white; sizes 32 to 46; some seconds in the lot.

Women's Rayon Undies . . . 25c  
Briefs, panties, stepins, bloomers and vests in plain or novelty rayons.

Knitted Rayon Slips . . . \$1  
Four-gore slips with tailored V top; panel front; sizes 34 to 44.

Women's Cotton Gowns . . . 69c  
Solid color or printed batiste and cotton crepes; sizes 16 and 17.

Flannelette Gowns . . . 50c  
Long sleeves, double yoke, button front; stripes and plain colors.

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### Mill Close-Outs and Seconds of Reversible and Solid Color

### "CANNON" TOWELS

**10c 15c 20c 25c 39c**  
Ea. Ea. Ea. Ea. Ea.

A great group of towels in close-outs and mill seconds of assorted Cannon towels. Reversibles, solid colors, colored borders and novelties. Sizes include 18x36, 20x40, 22x44 and larger sizes. All are priced according to size and quality. See this great group tomorrow for super-towel values.

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"Stevens" Linen Towels . . . 5 for 1

A new shipment of Stevens all-linen towels. 17x22-Inch sizes in heavy crash. Colored borders in red, green, blue and gold. Slight seconds.

**50c**

Huck Dish Towels . . . 5 for 1

Mill close-outs, seconds of better huck and dish towels. White and colored designs to choose from.

**5c**

Navy Towels . . . 5 for 1

17x22-Inch towels selected by the Navy, purchased by us for a song and offered to you at drastically reduced prices from the originals. Good heavy quality.

**\$1**

"Cannon" Wash Cloths . . . 5 for 1

Seconds of "Cannon" wash cloths in solid colors, reversibles and colored borders. Rich heavy quality.

**3c**

All-Linen Napkins . . . 5 for 1

Close-out of various patterns and colors of all-linen crash napkins. Limited quantity of these to choose from.

**6c**

Linen Dress Remnants . . . 5 for 1

All-linen dress remnants in 2 to 8-yard lengths. Nice colors and patterns. Only 500 yards in this group.

**39c**

Spun Rayon Remnants . . . Yd.

Novelty prints in remnants of spun rayons, 3 to 10-yd. lengths in Shantung, Linen weaves, Poplin types and Chambray effects.

**29c**

Plain Spun Rayons . . . Yd.

Full bolt, pieces of spun rayons. Flakes, Hopsacking, basket weaves, shantung and lined types in the group.

**19c**

Spring Cotton Remnants . . . Yd.

17 To 10-yard lengths in printed cotton poplins and 8x8 square percales. Spring patterns and colors. Nice assortment.

**12 1/2c**

New Broadcloth Remnants . . . Yd.

Only 1.500 yards of this fine material. 1 to 10-yard lengths in newest styling and colors.

**15c**

80-Sq. Unbleached Muslin . . . Yd.

Full pieces in 80-square unbleached muslin. Full 39 inches wide. Good, heavy and practical for home use.

**12c**

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