

the drill fields contingent to the barracks area. The immediate confines of Berkeley are, I agree, barren and dusty but that is exactly the condition to be expected when 100,000 men congregate upon such a restricted spot. They have partially solved this problem by binding in the soils with macadamized surfacing. The really undesirable feature is the Texas mud, again local, that persists during a rainy period. During such liquifications the interior of our huts become inseparable from the exterior. Brooms and mops become futile instruments. One interesting phenomena occurs in the gradual accumulation of mud and clay upon the gravel walks resulting in a mountain of deposit that checks negotiation of our only safe paths of communication. If the sun shines again it is only a few hours until the ground dries but is days before we again see the floors of our huts. The huts themselves are just about as useful to shed rain as is a sieve. Their holyness becomes emphasized when the corpuscular rays of sun light shin down thru the roof making contrasting streamers as it penetrates the smoke filled rooms. I do not know of one bed in the hut that is not in the direct line of a roof operature. These conditions of mud, sands, and barrenness are, as I have indicated, purely local in extent and are not to be confused with the extra-Berkeley limits.

I am prone to speak only of the charms of this country. The trend of appeal diminishes when one moves progressively to the west. It is from the area in the western part of Texas that most of the unfavorable comments originate. There is no question that it is desolate and that with a disparity of vegetation and human habitation; only those individuals with