

the pride of the whole student body. After his graduation with the class of '95 he entered business but he found it too dull, too prosaic and too much lacking in thrills.

When the war with Spain came on Johnny Poe, as corporal of a Maryland regiment, started for Cuba, but he got only as far as Tampa. In 1899, with his appetite for soldiering still unappeased, he joined the regular army and went to the Philippines. When the war ended he courted adventure as a cowboy on a Western ranch. Later he turned up in Panama, corporal of the marines. After serving there for awhile he tried life in a Nevada mining camp.

Finding this a little tame, he embarked on a boat for Nicaragua, intending to join the army of that country, but when the boat happened to stop at Honduras, he decided to make sure of getting into the excitement of the fight by disembarking there and joining the Honduran army. In a short time he found himself handling a machine gun against the Nicaraguan army and enjoying the sport greatly. Next he was engaged on the government survey of the Canada-Alaska boundary, looking for excitement and adventure in the frigid climate in the vicinity of the Arctic circle.

The following incident that is related concerning him indicates something of the sense of humor he possessed as well as something of his adventurous spirit. On one occasion when the captain of a gunboat who had promised him transportation reminded him to bring his baggage along the soldier of fortune replied: "Thank you. I have only 54 pieces." The captain protested that he was "not running a freighter" but his excitement was not quickly allayed when Johnny assured him that the 54 pieces consisted of a pair of socks and a pack of playing cards.

When the great conflict now convulsing Europe came on the adventurer could not resist the chance for excitement and new experiences offered, so he enlisted with the British forces. Not only did the adventurous life of a soldier fighting in the greatest war in history appeal to him strongly, but he was convinced that he was fighting on the side of right, for noble principles and the highest good of humanity. Unfortunately, however, the war brought about his death just as it has brought about the death of thousands and thousands of other brave men; his adventurous career was ended in a charge with a Scotch regiment several months ago.

All his life, Johnny Poe took chances and ignored danger. In fact, the more the element of danger enters into an experience the more keenly do men of this type enjoy it. They argue with themselves that if death does come prematurely—when they think of death at all—they will have lived quite as much as many who round out the full three score and 10 years of life, probably considerably more.—EX.