

*SEAMAN AND AIRMAN KEENLY INTERESTED IN  
SEEING GREAT NATION MOBILIZED FOR WAR.  
CANADIAN UNIFORMS ATTRACT ATTENTION.*

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Leading Seaman Lloyd Reeds, formerly of Reaboro, now stationed at Kingston, accompanied by his cousin, LAC. Eric Porteous, formerly of Bethany, stationed at Winnipeg, have returned from a trip to Jacksonville, the capital of Florida.

A "Post" reporter in conversation with one of these young men gleaned some of his impressions of the South and some interesting facts worth repeating.

The first of these impressions was that of a great nation mobilized for war as thousands of men in uniform were seen.

Reeds was greatly interested in the topography, i.e., the land forms as they travelled southward. This was of a personal interest from a geographer's standpoint.

The changes in vegetation were also noted,—from the maples and elms of Ontario to the palms of the sub-tropics of Florida: through the gradual change from the deciduous trees of the north to the Southern type of coniferous trees. In S. Georgia and Florida the pine trees were being tapped for turpentine, tar and resin.

The young men also noted where snow disappeared. There were 3 inches in Cleveland, but at Cincinnati, there was none. The tem-

perature gradually rose until it reached 80 degrees in the daytime and 60 degrees at night in Jacksonville. The annual rainfall there is 70 inches compared with about 35 here.

Re vegetation,—everything was in full leaf in Florida. A point noted was the epiphytes—a fungus growth on the trunks and branches of trees. This light green parasitic growth hangs from the branches for 3 or 4 feet giving a peculiar appearance to the trees. It however, improves the appearance in that it is unique.

In passing through Georgia, one was struck with the novels in which the coloured residents lived.

The boys in their Canadian uniforms were quite conspicuous wherever they went. The air force blue uniform presented a striking contrast to the American uniform which is all khaki, both in the army and the army air corps,— the only difference being in their insignia.

The natives assumed that the uniform was R.A.F. and many times Porteous was saluted with "Hello England", which he, however, quickly repudiated. The American navy uniform has a smaller collar.

Jacksonville, situated on the St. John River, one of the very few rivers in the world that flows north, is 12 miles inland from the ocean. In St. Petersburg, Tampa and Miami, (all on the coast) tourism is the chief industry. The chief commercial crop of the state is citrous fruits. The rural population is sparse. There are more people in the city of Detroit than in the whole state.

# L. - S. LLOYD REEDS GIVES IMPRESSIONS GLEANED ON JOURNEY TO SOUTHLAND