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THE PRAYER OF THE WOODS

I am the heat of your hearth on cold winter nights, the friendly shade screening you from the summer sun, and my fruits are refreshing draughts quenching your thirst as you journey on. I am the beam that holds your house, the board of your table, the bed on which you lie and the timber that holds your boat. I am the handle of your hoe, the door of your homestead, the wood of your cradle. I am the bread of kindness and the flower of beauty . . . Ye who pass by, listen to my prayer, harm me not . . .

From the Portuguese

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National and International Interests

One of the greatest of the Women's Institutes' international interests in the past two years has been the sponsoring of children in the Save the Children Crusade. The project was started two years ago and the Institutes who agreed to sponsor a child took on the responsibility for only one year. Now reports show that most of those who have been helping a child feel they cannot withdraw their support. So we find a number of branches sponsoring their child for a second year. We have not attempted to name these branches for fear some might be omitted, but if any Institute helping a child for a second term would like to tell us why they are doing this or anything else about their experience with the child they are helping, it might make interesting reading.

Something else that we noticed in the reports is an apparently growing interest in the Indian women on Reservations and in Homemakers' Clubs; and another very important national interest—the gift coupon for Women's Institute work in the Northwest Territories where we have numbers of Indian and Eskimo women.

Most branches now report a special collection of Pennies for Friendship.

At **West Arran** two Hungarian-Canadians demonstrated making cakes popular in their native country.

Mar reports: "We have a member who arrived in Canada from Essen, Germany on Oct. 31, 1962. She is already well-integrated in the Institute and looks forward to the meetings."

Riverside Heights has a member who came from Belgium and she gave a talk about her native country. **Blantyre** and **Sunnyview** each had an address on Life in Holland by a lady from that country. **Junetown** had speakers from both Holland and Germany.

Williamsburg's roll call for International night was "Bring a New-Canadian with you."

Corinth, at the December meeting, had a panel of four women representing four countries of Europe and discussing Christmas customs of these countries.

Kingsmill Mapleton's international program featured songs of many nations and a pictorial

story of the traditional and modern home furnishings of five countries.

At **Sparta Sorosis** local new-Canadians were invited to the Christmas meeting and some took part in the program.

Comber had an address on Education in Russia by their school principal.

Maple Leaf had an international program on Holland.

Roseland had an international luncheon. Members had prepared dishes native to about twelve different countries.

Malden reports: "On international day the topic of our meeting was Citizenship. We sang the Hymn of All Nations. The program convener had prepared an outline map of the world showing every country that has a membership in A.C.W.W. Another poster showed the A.C.W.W. conference meeting places from 1933 to 1965, naming the President and the outstanding feature at each meeting. A reading 'Our Task' fitted into helping others."

Maynard, for their international meeting made a study of articles on international subjects in Home and Country. **Johnstown** used articles from Home and Country for papers on F.W.I.C. **Third Line** subscribes for enough copies of Federated News so that each member receives a copy.

Centreville had a talk with slides on Ireland and a motto dealing with the new Canadian.

Dundalk reports: "We had a very interesting address by an American on his home state. After the address many questions were asked, particularly concerning their Negro problem."

Norval: "We invited New-Canadians to our meeting and asked them to tell about customs in their country, also their problems in Canada. We could offer advice on some of these."

Seaforth had a talk on International Affairs by the publisher of their local paper The Hub on Expositor. (A bright idea to get a good newspaper man on this subject. Ed.)

Brooke studied Mexico, using material from the Mexican Tourism Office.

Lucasville: "The president of Lambton County Citizenship Society brought for New Cana-

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BEAUTY

Bertha Bailey

The thought that is beautiful is the thought to cherish. The word that is beautiful is worthy to endure. The act that is beautiful is eternally and always true and right. Only beware that your appreciation of beauty is just and true; and to that end, I urge you to live intimately with beauty of the highest type, until it has become a part of you, until you have within you that fineness, that order, that calm, which puts you in tune with the finest things of the universe, and which links you with that spirit that is the enduring life of the world.

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