

The next project has to do with the Eskimos and Indians of our own Canadian North. The article "Institute in the Yukon" by Mrs. William Hough in this issue tells about the Institute organized at Haines' Junction a few years ago. Mrs. Hough, formerly an Ontario girl, was the moving spirit in getting this Institute started. Unfortunately Mrs. Hough's husband and son were drowned in this area last year; since then Mrs. Hough has returned to Ontario.

Observers from Haines' Junction have been invited to the next FWIC Convention, and FWIC has asked the Department of Northern Affairs for their support in organizing more Institutes in the Yukon and the North West Territories, for the benefit of Eskimo and Indian women as well as the women who are moving into the North with their husbands and families from all parts of Canada.

There are four areas of settlement, each completely isolated from the others: the Mackenzie River delta, the southern Mackenzie Valley, the Yellowknife and the area at Frobisher Bay. The logical plan is to concentrate on the south Mackenzie because a start has already been made at Haines' Junction and the Department has offered to send Mrs. Hough to the southern MacKenzie for a month to examine the possibilities of organizing more Institutes.

Another FWIC enterprise last year was to buy the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless birthplace near St. George, Ontario, with the hope of presenting it to the National Historic Sites Board. All plans are now completed except the presentation to the Board.

Mrs. Roylance announced that the FWIC sub-executive has recommended that \$1000 of the profit made on the Women's Institute Stamp First Day Cover be given as a donation to the Lady Aberdeen scholarship originated at the ACWW Conference in Edinburgh. It was also suggested that the ACWW "Pennies for Friendship" fund might be augmented by having a bank, shaped like a five cent piece, placed at all District and Provincial conventions this year.

The next National Convention will be held at the University of British Columbia in 1961 beginning on June 19. In addition to delegates, visitors will be allowed from all provinces. The programme will be built around the Citizenship study programme concerning "Our First and New Canadians," the Home Economics study "Eat to Live" and the agricultural study of Conservation.

Following this address, Mrs. Roylance, Mrs. Lymburner and Mrs. Haggerty paid a tribute to the late Mrs. Hugh Summers who had served as provincial president, national president and vice-president of the international organization ACWW, and who died last April.

### Home Economics Service

Miss Helen McKercher, Director of Home Economics Extension Service in the Ontario Department of Agriculture, spoke primarily of the findings of the Survey of Farm Homes and Homemakers introduced in her programme about a year ago, the first sociological survey of its kind to be conducted in Canada. Summaries of the results of the survey are not complete but

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### LILACS

By Bob Adams

O here and there, on poorer lands,  
An old deserted homestead stands,  
In patient sadness to deplore  
The guests who come again no more.  
For many feet that used to go  
Across its threshold to and fro,  
Far roads and trails have learned to know,  
And those who built it long of old  
Have mingled with the churchyard mold.  
The human brood has swarmed and gone,  
But lilacs in the yard bloom on,  
And ever, as the old house grieves,  
Are pressing upward toward its eaves  
The tender green hearts of their leaves.  
The mother's hands were rough with toil  
Who set that lilac in the soil.  
Thanks be to God who gave the wife  
One touch of beauty in her life.  
The father worked from sun to sun;  
For living was not lightly won.  
The fields where he was wont to grub  
Are overgrown with brush and scrub.  
His walls are down, their mighty stones  
Are crushed to make a roadway's bones.  
Lost are his labors great and small,  
But mother's bush outlives them all  
And ever with the warmth of May,  
What time we keep Memorial Day,  
The lilac wakes to sudden bloom  
And wafts a message to her tomb.  
Gone are the sons her pangs gave birth,  
Her fires are dead upon the hearth;  
Sunk the flames and black the embers,  
But the lilac still remembers.  
It blooms for her and spreads its scent,  
The incense of a sacrament.

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the Director suggested that already there are some figures to challenge our thinking with regard to our programme.

"You have heard that there is a decline in your membership," Miss McKercher said, "but taken by branches it amounts to only about three-fourths of a member per branch. Let us see if we can't get two new members in each branch this year . . . I would congratulate you too, because your membership has not gone down like the rural population has and it is encouraging to read in reports of courses and training schools that many non-members are taking part." The Director advised the women to attract and hold members by having fun at their meetings as well as a good educational programme. The survey showed a good proportion of young women in the Institute membership — the average age of members being 47 and of the non-members interviewed, 41. And the non-members gave good reasons for not being members such as small children at home or activities in church work.

"We also found from the survey that there are many 'horse and buggy' practices which will have difficulty in surviving in the 'jet age,'" said Miss McKercher. "One of these is the use of raw milk by many farm families. I have 'gone out on a limb' and said that farm women will pasteurize their milk if we in extension service can tell them how and if we can do it with good public rela-