

others had two or three or four children. The nurse was in no way interested and the single teachers have many duties other than teaching which keep them pretty fully occupied every minute. It was impossible to organize on such short notice with so many obstacles to overcome. A school teacher's wife, Mrs. Wiggins, and the Principal's wife, Mrs. Tucker, agreed to see all the white women and talk to them and then call another meeting of both natives and white and see what could be done. Mrs. Wiggins is to inform the national office of results. Mrs. Tucker could not do much as she expects to go to Edmonton in October to wait for the birth of her child. Her husband will keep the money a bit longer to see what comes out of the second meeting.

"Upon my arrival in Aklavik I was greeted with the news that this Institute was not functioning any longer and you may imagine my disappointment. However, the president who is a native woman had called a meeting to discuss matters with me, which sounded a bit more encouraging.

"In the afternoon the wife of the Hudson Bay Manager, who has been in Aklavik only since April, went with me to call on people in the community although she had to take two small children with her in a snow storm. Once again I found that the reason for lack of meetings was due to illness of the President, resignation of the Secretary-Treasurer, and no one to take charge. New officers were elected and I think the Institute is firmly on its feet again. They have considerable material on hand for quilts and knitting and have planned a working program for this winter.

"In practically every place I talked about Tweedsmuir Histories and this seemed to appeal to the women as a project in which they all might participate and which would involve very little expense. I also stressed Safety Programmes.

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#### FOR THAT WHICH IS COMMON

By Wilhelmina Stitch

"For that which is common, be praised, O Lord!" For sun and the tang in the morning air. For mist and the grey of a soothing sky. For night and the stars within her hair. For work and the joy in the will to try. For love and its binding silken cord — for that which is common, be praised, O Lord! For hands and their clasp of friend with friend. For clever fingers that mould and make; for home and its rest at the day's long end, for Peace that the thirsty soul doth slake, for china and flowers and homely board — for that which is common, be praised, O Lord. For laughter of children absorbed in play, for laughter of adults whose hearts are young, for the hillocks and valleys of life's short day, for gift of speech and the gentle tongue, for love of service, its own reward — for that which is common, be praised, O Lord.

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BROOD OF THE SPARROW

By Dorothy P. Albaugh

A sparrow has built in the house that we  
Planned for a brown wren's family,  
But motherhood always must be respected,  
And never can babies be ejected,  
And so the wings of the mother bird  
Close to our alien heads have whirred,  
Day after day, like a word repeated,  
Day after day, like a prayer entreated  
For the humble and homeless of every race  
Who only ask for a nesting place.

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"I was pleased to learn that this Institute had urged the members to go to night school classes and several of them were already enrolled for the winter. They had never thought of this being an Institute project and were very pleased when I commended them for their useful part in this programme. The President had arranged a very nice tea in my honour and it was carried out very well indeed.

"Discovery is an all-white group since there are no Indians or Eskimos in this settlement. They have a very active organization, conducted similarly to the suggested order of Procedure. All of the women of this small community are members and they have a very fine relationship among them. This group plays a very important part in the social life of the community and they have really gone all out for the project "Make Canada Lovelier." Each one has flower beds of the most magnificent plants and colours; their homes and surroundings are as neat as possible, and they are taking great pride in their homes. They also have very fine vegetable gardens. They have done a great deal for the flood victims at Hay River and Fort Simpson this past year and are still having weekly sewing meetings.

"Many of the Institutes are participating in the "Make Canada Lovelier" project and I just wish every reader could see the blaze of colour and size of the blooms in many parts of the North West Territories.

"Inuvik, (Delta) Institute members are white, Indian, Metis and Eskimo. They are a flourishing branch with excellent leadership and are integrating the earliest Canadians into the Women's Institute programme most successfully. Mrs. Semmler, the President, is a mixture of Swedish and Indian and is married to a German. She is a great leader and a power in the community. The Secretary is a young white nurse, married to an Eskimo, so both have a great influence in the settlement. The women are still working on a quilt of white blocks on which are embroidered original designs of things pertaining to the North West Territories. It will be an interesting achievement when completed. They have also been instrumental