

The Territories'

By Florence P. Eadie

A FIRST is always thrilling in anticipation, even if mixed with some misgivings and forebodings. This may be true of a first Women's Institute convention in a new convention area in Ontario, or in the Mackenzie District, North West Territories. They may each be highly important or otherwise. Now it seems on taking a searching look at that first Northern convention, it may be said that it was important; in many respects it was successful, but time will only show how successful. That more or less remains with the delegates and branches in the days ahead, does it not?

Not only was it a first Territorial Women's Institute convention, but it was a first convention for a number of delegates. For many from the South it was their first opportunity to cross the Arctic Circle and to see that much publicized centre, Inuvik, with utilidors, and where some of their children had been airborne to school. Some had lived in Grollier Hall Roman Catholic hostel, where the convention was being held; others in Stringer Hall, the Anglican hostel. For delegates living to the north forty miles or a hundred and forty miles distant Inuvik was not necessarily new, since some had been to the modern Inuvik hospital for their babies. Some wisely took advantage of an opportunity to arrange for a medical check while there.

There are many services available for people of the North at Inuvik—excellent schools, with hostels with comfortable living quarters, all with up-to-date food service; kitchens with equipment equal to, if not superior to that found on our university campuses. Here, too, are many Government services—Department of Northern Affairs and Development, National Health and Welfare, a Research Station, residences for teachers, and government personnel, and various administration buildings, etc.

The CHAK radio station located there, gives extensive coverage to both North and World news. It was "home station" for the delegates, and many visited it and sent messages home. The Women's Institutes use it for "spot" announcements, to an amazing extent. They appreciated a welcome message from Elyah Meneraik, the manager, when he stressed the power of women and the influence Women's Institutes around the world may have as they work for peace.



Eskimo drummers and dancer.



Mrs. Lizzie Stewart and daughter from Reindeer Station.



Mrs. Annie McIntyre, Secretary, Reindeer Station Women's Institute and her husband, manager of the Hudson Bay store. Mr. McIntyre made the boat.