

# First Convention

There are Roman Catholic, Anglican, and Pentecostal churches in Inuvik.

"The Drum", a weekly paper, is published here by editor Tom Butters, with Bertha Allen, an active Inuvik Women's Institute member, one of his associate editors.

Mr. Sid. Hancock, regional administrator of the Mackenzie, in welcoming the convention, said that firsts were not uncommon for nine-year-old Inuvik, and mentioned that only the previous week land linemen had made telephone communication possible with the outside world.

## National President at Convention

Our national president, Mrs. J. Philip Matheson, in opening the convention, said:

"It has not been given to many national presidents to bring greetings in person to a first convention. However, it is my pleasant, happy lot to be national president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada at this time, to be here and to bring to you the greetings from your mother organization.

"What an occasion this is! not only for you and me but also for every member of our organization in every part of Canada; each one has helped to bring this about.

"I bring you the warmest, the friendliest, the most sincere greetings and good wishes on behalf of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

"May each and every one of you find something of value to remember for the rest of your lives; may you also take home and share with your fellow members all that you possibly can from this your first convention.

"The very best to you all as you work for Home and Country."

It was a first for me too—assuming responsibility to organize, plan and work with the others in launching a convention and setting up a program. Some general suggestions had been sent to the F.W.I.C. office by branches, and the F.W.I.C. Northern Committee made further recommendations. However it required working at grass roots to get underway if satisfactory plans were to be made.

As I took off for Fort Smith on July 5th, the convention date had not been settled other than probably the middle of August. Time was precious and there were innumerable and seemingly unanswerable questions. There was not a Territorial Convention Committee, so I would be working with the Institutes scattered



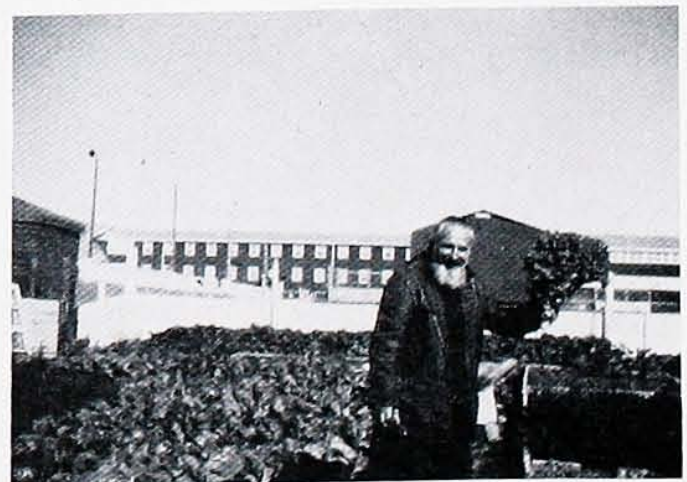
Hand embroidered and beaded gun cases from Fort Simpson and Fort Norman.



Pennies for Friendship are presented to Mrs. Matheson for A.C.W.W.



Delegates, Gladys Year, Discovery; Fanny Rose Maring, Aklavik; Bertha Allen, Inuvik; Grollier Hall in the background.



Father Adam in his garden with Grollier Hall in the background.