

Issuing Rations to Wives of Native Special Constables.

Issuing Family Allowance Credit to Natives

also inspect the detachment records pertaining to their departments. This is the highlight of the year, arrival of supplies, inspections, departure and arrival of personnel, incoming mail, and the meeting of many friends. It comes quickly and just as quickly the ship slips out to the next northern post on the long route. A whole year must pass before another visit, so one settles down to prepare for the coming long Arctic winter.

Winter is the longest season. When it arrives it brings snow, 50-below zero temperatures, driving blizzards, and for over two months the sun does not cast a glimmer onto this part of the earth. During a portion of this period one gets about an hour per day when it is light enough to walk outside unaided by artificial light. The ice forms quickly in October and breaks up the following July, allowing just a little over two months of summer. Even then the frost does not leave the ground, the season is too short to grow anything requiring deep soil and over one month longevity, the nights are cool, and the seas often rough. With it comes the midnight sun. Everything is stretched up here, time, distances, temperatures, and the repeated tales of the few white men whose lot is found amidst this.

The Family Allowance Act sets out to pay to parents a regulated sum of money to be spent on the care of their children. The Eskimo here presents a peculiar problem. Firstly they are largely a nomadic people, making it practically impossible to keep official records of the number of their offspring, and there is