

The red house shown here was built by Beavers at Peerless Lake in Northern Alberta, with help from local people, for under \$13,000 in materials. It is framed in 2 x 6s. With R20 insulation and a wood-burning heater, it is snug at  $40^{\circ}$ F below.

## Kenojuak OC 06/07/67

Kenojuak may be Canada's most celebrated artist. She lives in a fifty-family Inuit community at Cape Dorset, Northwest Territories. "Everyone there can draw but twenty are very good at it," she says.

Her *Enchanted Owl* in 1960 captured the world's attention, and since then she and the other Cape Dorset artists have produced a succession of notable prints. She first draws her picture on the soft

stone and then an associate chisels it out. Multicoloured prints are made from the stone and sold through the native cooperative. After 50 prints are made, the surface of the stone is ground down so there can never be a second edition.

In 1970 she and her husband, Johnniebo, created a 36-foot plaster mural for the Canadian pavilion at the Osaka Exposition in Japan. While working on it, they and three of their five children lived in Ottawa for five months. Below, Sheik Baslow, of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, describes their swift adjustment. While the parents worked, the children — two girls, 3 and 4, and a boy, 9 — went to school.

"They soon became very fond of going to school and waited at the window for their driver. The girls, Pee and Padlo, often cried on weekends when they realized they would not be going. They were both strong and well coordinated and enjoyed outdoor activities at the nursery, particularly the climbing and sliding. They got along well with the other children, and although they spoke little, they soon became favourites of the staff. Every night they brought home handwork and paintings and Kenojuak was pleased and amused by their achievements.

"Adamee adapted quickly and enjoyed the games in the school yard. He had a hearty appetite, and enjoyed southern food; often he had two and three helpings of lunch. One experience that will probably stay in his mind is his first trip to a swimming pool. He jumped into the water like the other boys, expecting to swim like they did, and had to be rescued."

Kenojuak's imagination has continued in full flower and each year she adds to the stockpile of drawings and prints. "Many are the thoughts that rush over me like the wings of birds," she told a National Film Board documentary maker.

## **Dear Diary**

Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King was against the government's honouring selected citizens. "What," he kept asking, "about all the unselected people?" In 1943 the Canada Medal was established to be given to the conspicuously brave, but Mr. King persuaded his Cabinet to give it to no one. He wrote at length about his distaste for honours in his diary. The excerpt below is from *The Mackenzie King Record*, Volume 3, edited by Pickersgill and Forster.

"I told the Cabinet I had never experienced more pain and anguish over any public matter than I have on anything that has to do with decorations and honours. I said that personally I was all against them and upon conviction, for honours that were done one, multitudes were ignored who were more worthy. That, for instance, a man who had escaped injury or death could not be regarded as being more worthy of decoration than one who had given his life. Parents were really more entitled to be honoured where they had lost their son than some man who had been fortunate enough to perform a noble deed and get credit for it and escape with his life. I did not say anything about service for service's sake, which comprised readiness to serve without recognition, but I did say that I had made up my mind as to the Canadian Order. While I thought it looked better than British orders, I did not wish to have my name or a Ministry of which I had been a member identified with the establishment of an order of decoration in Canada. That I would not approve any recourse to that end. Equally I would not favour a Canada Medal until it was known to whom the medal would be given. That I was not particularly anxious to see any form of that kind of recognition. Some subsequent Ministry could introduce these two things but I would not as long as I was at the Council table."