



**SELMA HUXLEY** checks in one of the weightier volumes of northern lore at the Arctic Institute.

## Far North 'Bustin' Out All Over', Canadians Not Too Interested

By **OLIVE DICKASON**

Canada's far north is literally "bustin' out all over" with activity these days, but much of it is being done by non-Canadians, it was observed yesterday by Selma Huxley of the Arctic Institute. Miss Huxley is the Institute's librarian, and part of her job is to provide information for scientists heading up north, and to collect their findings upon their return.

"Most of the scientists who are interested in the north are not Canadians," Miss Huxley noted. "This is all the more striking when it is remembered that Canada owns more of the far north than any other country in the world except Russia. Yet most Canadians don't seem to be aware of what is going on in their own Arctic."

### Natural Laboratory

The Arctic is a wonderful natural laboratory for scientific studies, Miss Huxley continued. The extreme cold limits the growth and numbers of species so that they are easier to study. Conditions not found in warmer climates also add to scientific interest.

Miss Huxley, who is a cousin of Aldous and Julian Huxley and whose father is editor of *The Geographical Magazine* published in England, said that the demand for information on the Arctic is steadily growing, but "there is regrettably little available for many areas." Much of the information that is brought back by scientists and expeditions is published in the Institute's magazine, "Arctic," which is five years old. This magazine is in great demand by scientists, and is used for the exchange of information, Miss Huxley said.

"Many different types of scientists come through the Institute," she continued. "At the present time we have two anthropologists, a biologist, a botanist, geographers and geomorphologists." The latter, she explained, are persons who study the effects of such things as glaciers on land forms.

### Eskimo Link

The studies of anthropologists seem to have established that Es-

kimos are close in culture to Europe's paleolithic man. A type of grooved tool found among the Dorset Eskimos has also been found in prehistoric campsites in Europe. "The Eskimos seem to have been all around the world during the ice-age, and to have retreated with the melting of the ice," Miss Huxley remarked.

She came to Canada three years ago to visit relatives (her grandmother was a French-Canadian) and has stayed ever since. Her first job included such posts as being a cook-general to a family, and selling advertising for the yellow pages of the telephone directory. She has been librarian at the Institute for the past year, and is by now something of an Arctic enthusiast.

"There is no question but that the north is becoming increasingly important in the world today," she said, "and Canada's position in that respect is vital."