

PRAIRIE ROSE



EMBLEM
OF ALBERTA



WORDS AND MUSIC
BY

MARY MERCER

STRATHMORE, ALBERTA

Mary Mercer

PRICE

~~\$2.00~~

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The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays a melody in E-flat major, 3/4 time, starting with a half note E-flat, followed by quarter notes G-flat, A-flat, and B-flat. The left hand plays a simple accompaniment of half notes: E-flat, G-flat, A-flat, and B-flat.

Man - y gar-dens have flow - ers _____ Lov'd and ten-ded with care _____

Chords: E^b, B^b₇, E^b, A^b, E^b

_____. But on these prai-ries of ours _____ Wild ro-ses grow ev'ry

Chords: B^b₇, E^b, F₇

ev'-ry where _____ where _____. Al-ber-ta's beau-ti-ful Em - blem, in God's prai-rie

Chords: B^b₇, E^b, B^b₇, E^b, A^b

F₆ F₇ B₁^b poco rit. Cdim₇ B₇^b E^b a tempo

Rose

flow'r of all _____. So _____ I _____ Say _____, Prai - rie

B^b E^b E₆^b

love - ly rose love - ly rose

rose _____, Prai - rie rose _____, Em - blem of Al - ber -

Fm Gm Fm rit.

ta _____, Pet - als pink _____, Scent so sweet _____, Love - ly

B₇^b 1. E^b 2. E^b prai - ie rose.

prai - rie rose _____.

MARY MERCER



Mrs. Mercer, an Alberta resident since 1910, came to teach school in Strathmore in 1927. While Music Supervisor for the County of Wheatland, she was asked by many teachers for an Alberta song to add to their study of the province. In late spring of 1969 while on a trip to the little town of Rosebud, Mrs. Mercer's "PRAIRIE ROSE" was conceived as she viewed the blooming roses along the roadsides. Upon her arrival she wrote out the words and music of the chorus and taught it to the children that day. Since its completion, "PRAIRIE ROSE" has been used in all schools in the Wheatland County.

Since 1959 Mrs. Mercer has been with the Audio Visual Branch of the Department of Education as radio music teacher for the elementary school program LISTEN AND SING. The broadcasts, carried on a provincial network by the CBC have shared "PRAIRIE ROSE" with singing youngsters from the N.W.T. to Alberta's southern border. Students and teachers alike have delighted in singing Mrs. Mercer's tribute to Alberta's floral emblem.

In 1928 the Albert Women's Institute, in conjunction with the Department of Education, originated a project for choosing a floral emblem for their province. They asked the Alberta school children for their ideas and the children chose the prairie rose so commonly seen growing wild in the fields and along the roadsides. In 1930 The Floral Emblem Act was passed giving the 'Rosa acicularis' official status as Alberta's emblem.

Mrs. Mercer dedicates her "PRAIRIE ROSE" to the Women's Institute and the senior citizens of Alberta.

