

Isabelle Bellito, an eight-year-old girl in France, sponsored by the Women's Institutes of Welland West District.



French Child Sponsored

MRS. E. J. WILSON reports that the Institutes of Welland West have "adopted" a little French girl, Isabelle Bellito, through the Canadian Save the Children Fund plan. Mrs. Wilson writes:

"We have had several letters from Isabelle who is very grateful for our help. We have twelve branches in our district and each month a branch sends a parcel or a letter or both. This way each branch feels that it is helping her." (The district paid the sponsoring fee of \$60). "This month Isabelle sent a picture of herself, her mother, her uncle who is a priest and the three children her mother is taking care of for the Public Welfare Association." The Sponsorship authorities say that most of what Mme. Bellito is paid for caring for the children goes to provide additional food for them; they add that she is a courageous woman and would like her children to have an education. Her husband deserted his family six years ago. Isabelle, eight years old, is doing well at school and her older brother is a very clever student, taking Philosophy.

Mrs. Wilson adds: "In the Fall 1962 edition of Home and Country, there appeared a picture of a boy of Macao as being sponsored by Welland West District. He is really sponsored by the Bethel branch, but Bethel and Winger-Wainfleet branches each have their own child as well as donating to the district child."

A Carousel Party

By Mrs. H. Blasing

LAST OCTOBER our Hampden Institute entertained eight other branches, or one-half of our district, at what was called a Carousel Party. We had the use of our local school and had card tables and chairs in place before our guests arrived; there were ninety-three of them, the Hanover members coming as a busload.

As the guests assembled they were given sheets of paper with a Women's Institute Quiz. There was also a "Song Title Contest," an hour of games with prizes and a short session of community singing. The public relations officer for the Fall Fairs Association, Mrs.

Anna Koehler gave a talk on Public Relations and a member spoke on the Motto "No one is rich enough to be without a neighbor." There was more singing, then a grace and lunch.

Each Institute represented had been asked to bring six articles to be judged in competition, a prize to be awarded to the branch winning the highest number of points. The articles were a doll's cotton dress, three largest carrots, a two-crust apple pie, a jar of elderberry jelly, a kitchen bouquet and an article made from foam rubber. During lunch all the articles were "auctioned off" with two clerks appointed to keep the bids separate for each branch. As convener of this meeting and public relations officer for Hampden it gave me much pleasure to present to each secretary present a list of bids buying articles by members of her branch and to ask her to collect the money at their own next regular meeting, with the hope that the funds would be used for some good Women's Institute project. So each branch received the payment for articles bought by its own members. This was a complete surprise to everyone. We have had many compliments on this enjoyable evening together.

Briefs

Arnell Women's Institute sponsored a centennial celebration for the Arnell school, established in 1862; and in connection with this the Institute also produced a booklet giving the history of the school. It is an interesting booklet with a drawing of the school on the cover; and the history is told mainly through quotations from the minutes of school meetings—some of them dating back to the first purchase of land for school purposes in the year 1840, when payment was made in pounds, shillings and pence. This first "parcel" of land was measured in "chains and links" and cost the section one pound, fifteen shillings. Tribute was paid to the pioneers who established the first school at considerable sacrifice and the recorder writes: "The Arnell stone school house as we view it today stands before us as a reminder of the interest of the settlers in the education of their children."

Miss Vera Dewell writes that Hampton Institute, though quiet, is still "going strong." Events of the year were a millinery course, a bus trip to Pioneer Village, Allan Gardens and Centre Island; making a Dresden Plate quilt on order; and sending a donation through CARE for the leprosy afflicted children in Korea.

Pine Tree Institute members asked their Township Council to provide a garbage dump for their district and they are happy to report that the dump is now ready for use. They express, too, their satisfaction with an address at