



**JOLLY JUNIORS:** These young grade 2 students of King's School, Westmount, are having a gay time as they sort out the rabbits from the chickens among the Easter favors they have helped make for the Junior Red Cross. These favors will be

distributed this week among shut-ins in various institutions. Left to right are **Peter Christie, Heather Matthison, Alan McKenzie** and **Beverley Larsen**. Beverley is the president of the Jolly Juniors Branch of the JRC, and Heather is secretary.

# JRC Becomes Big Business Aiding Pupils to Aid Others

By OLIVE DICKASON

The Junior Red Cross is getting to be big business these days. Not in a financial sense, but in terms of human values. Take Easter-time, for example. For the past month members of the Junior Red Cross across the province have been busy making favors for shut-ins for the spring festival. At the present time more than 3,000 of these gifts have been received at the provincial offices of the Junior

Red Cross on McTavish street; there they will be sorted and sent to such places as the Children's Memorial Hospital, the Queen Mary Veterans' Hospital, and the Friendly Home, among many others. These favors take the form of chickens, rabbits, baskets—all cut out, fancifully decorated, and combined with candies of one sort or another.

It was a big project for the children to make these gifts and get them sent in; now Junior Red Cross officials are busy arranging for them to be sent to their final destinations.

Most of these gifts are made by school children ranging in age from five to 16 years, according to Lorraine How, director for the Junior Red Cross in the province. There are 69,000 members of the organization and 2,234 branches; one year ago there were 66,255 members and 2,164 branches.

To get an idea of the work done by these youngsters: last Christmas they played an important part in making 42,500 gifts that were distributed by the JRC: for St. Valentine's they made 2,000 favors.

"Not only have we broken all previous records, both as regards membership and the number of gifts sent, but the quality of the gifts has also improved," Miss How said.

### For European Youngsters

Festivals such as Easter and Christmas are not the only things which occupy the younger Red Cross set; along with bunnies and candy eggs, JRC headquarters has been receiving a steady flow of school kits for school children in Greece, and health kits for pre-tubercular European children who have been sent to Swiss preventoria.

The school kits contain such essentials as pencils, practice books, pencil sharpeners and rulers, which young Greek pupils often find themselves without. The health kits have towels, soap, wash cloths, nail files, bobby pins, etc., to help young inmates of the preventoria keep up their hygiene routines.

Miss How said that school chil-

dren, as a whole, and teen-agers, in particular, are quite community conscious these days. They take their projects seriously: For instance, the Verdun High JRC already has wood on order with which to make tricycles for gifts for Christmas, 1952. All these activities are strictly extra-curricular... but a definite part of educating youngsters to be citizens of Canada.