What is my child doing in school?
What facilities does he have?
What sort of person is his teacher?

These questions and many others were answered for more than 500,000 citizens of Bavaria during last spring's School Week, the first program of its kind ever attempted either by Bavarian parents, by teachers or by school officials.

Taking as their pattern the School-Week plan which has long been a standard practice in America, the sponsors of the project—the Association of Bavarian Teachers and Educators, comprising all teacher groups in the state—set about the task of preparing exhibits and demonstrations, directing theatrical performances by pupils and arranging parent-teacher meetings in 3,000 communities. Approximately 160 working committees were organized throughout the state for the School-Week observance, held the first week in April.

Designed to arouse public interest in the schools and in the problems of education, the Bavarian School Week offered a wide range of activities for the information of parents, long used to the traditional "hands-off" policy in educational matters. More than 2,800 parent-teacher meetings and approximately 250 teacher get-togethers were held; 500 sports and athletic events were run off; there were some 150 theatrical performances given by the school youngsters, and 790 school exhibits were set up in addition to a large exhibition in the Munich exposition hall and a traveling exhibition which made the rounds of the entire state, the largest in the US Zone.

The exhibits were aimed at familiarizing all citizens with present-day teaching and learning aids, plans and models of modern school buildings, modern school furniture and examples of the work produced by pupils at various age levels. Arrangements were made for the public to visit demonstration classes ranging from kindergarten through secondary school, and thousands of persons availed themselves of the opportunity to observe them.

The Munich exposition hall was filled with exhibits, demonstrations and samples of pupils' work in different types of schools. A total of 47,000 viewed these exhibits, and 25,000 attended the theatrical and motion picture presentations in another building near the exposition hall. A total of 150 prizes was awarded to Munich students who entered the various competitive events which were a feature of School Week.

Of unusual interest at the Munich exhibition park was a miniature traffic safety demonstration, in which policemen and pupils of the school scout patrol directed traffic of pedestrians, bicycles and small cars supplied for the daily demonstrations by the city's automobile dealers.

Among prominent speakers during the week were Dr. George N. Shuster, US state commissioner for Bavaria; Dr. Josef Schwalber, Bavarian minister of education and culture; Thomas Wimmer, Munich mayor; Dr. Eduard Brenner, state secretary of the Bavarian Ministry of Education and Culture; Dr. Karl Bosl and Franz X. Hartmann, both of the Association of Bavarian Teachers and Educators.

So successful was the entire program that arrangements were commenced at once to stage a similar School Week early in the coming year.

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