Fellowship Between Schools

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Learning from each other is a constant factor in German-American relations. This effort reaches down into all levels of society and can be demonstrated by the active program followed at the Stuttgart American School. The 1951-52 students are no doubt looking forward to the type of activities undertaken last year by Cecil L. Gyer, principal of the school.

The 480 American students in the first through the ninth grades enjoyed having German visitors from their community participate in and observe their school. Plans for the new school year include the sponsorship by each class of a parallel German grade, arrangements being made by the German teachers.

Beginning with a congenial atmosphere of good fellowship among the German-American staff members, the Americans, proud of their school and the modern educational systems and teaching techniques, consider their location in Germany an opportunity for demonstrating American educational methods to German teachers, parents and youngsters.

Social gatherings brought those interested in the program together and provided an opportunity to become acquainted. With the assistance of the office of the US State Commissioner for Wurttemberg-Baden and the US resident officers, 106 German teachers and principals visited the Stuttgart school as observers and joined the students in a noonday meal. Twenty-eight boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 18 also came as observers and luncheon guests.

The visitors received a booklet written in English and in German explaining the objectives of the American school and the methods used to attain these goals. In

German folk dances looked intricate to American pupils during an exchange visit. However, American youngsters took their turn at instructing when it came to softball.

Exchange of ideas was one of many important features of visit of English-speaking German students from Lorch to the Stuttgart American School (GYA photos)

cooperation with the German Youth Activities (GYA) of the Stuttgart Military Post, information concerning German-American youth activities was disseminated and the names of students interested in joining or assisting were obtained. This effort, with the help of Stuttgart American boys and girls attending the American High School at Heidelberg, resulted in the formation of an active German-American Youth Club which now sponsors various groups and projects.

The GYA arranged for buses to carry 1,000 German students to the Constabulary-Divarty football game played at the Neckar Stadium. A printed leaflet as well as the loud-speaker arrangements during the play explained the rules of the game. The visitors were soon cheering as vociferously as any of the other spectators.

When the American school basketball tournament was in progress during the spring at Robinson Barracks, arrangements were made for truckloads of German youngsters to attend. Delighted with the game, they were particularly fascinated by the antics of the cheer leaders.

In April, an army bus carried 35 ninth-grade American students accompanied by their teachers to Neresheim in Aalen county, where they had been invited by the English-speaking principal of the high school through the resident officer. They received a warm welcome from the principal and from all the pupils of this small town. Visits were also made through the school and to a famous monastery near by. A picnic was part of the outing.

In May, 51 English-speaking boys and girls from the Lorch, Schwabisch-Gmuend county, high school were brought by the GYA with their principal and teachers to visit the Stuttgart school. These students demonstrated folk dances, sang in English, French and German and one group presented a harmonica program. Some of the American youngsters joined in the folk dancing while others demonstrated basketball and baseball.

Even first-graders joined this Good Neighbor program. An exchange visit with a class of the same age from the Waisenhof grammar school in Esslingen showed the German children the proficiency with which the little Americans spoke and sang in German. A wire
Surely these American children received a better understanding of the Germans and the Germany of today, and the Germans with whom they have had contact have the opportunity of deciding for themselves what young Americans are like. Many German teachers are impressed by American training methods, which they believe are highly efficient in the development of personality and character.

FOREIGN TOURIST TRAVEL has increased tremendously in Germany, according to reports to the German Central Tourist Association. Seventy percent of the persons visiting the health resorts in Baden-Baden were from foreign countries and during the "Baden-Baden Grand Week" in late August the flags of 30 nations waved over the city. Nearly 50,000 foreign visitors registered at hotels in Cologne between January and July, 72 percent more than in the same period in 1950. More than 35 percent of the overnight lodgings recorded in Munich in July had foreign home addresses, a 34.8 percent increase over July 1950.

A transportation show "Rail and Road" in Essen in September stressed its slogan "Teach Them Early." To impress children with the importance of obeying traffic regulations, a Punch and Judy show was presented with the marionettes explaining traffic rules to the kids in an understandable and amusing manner.

The Wagner Festival in Bayreuth, which was revived this year for the first time since the war, will be presented in 1952 between July 22 and Aug. 25. The Ring cycle will be performed twice, "Tristan and Isolde" six times, "Parsifal" five and "Die Meistersinger" six. Reservation books will be opened Nov. 1.

Works of the printing and handwriting art of the early Middle Ages are on exhibition at the Trier city library. Among the rare treasures being displayed are the "Codex Aureus" (The Golden Book) of about 800 A.D.; the "Codex Egberti," an evangelic book of about 970-990; and the "Registrum Gregorii," a collection of letters by Pope Gregory the Great.

Eleven international automobile racing events have been scheduled in Germany during 1952. Subject to final approval by the international FIA organization, the schedule of the German Supreme National Sports Council includes: Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Jan. 4-6; Wiesbaden, May 22-25; Berlin, June 1; Nuerburgring, June 8; Trave- muende, June 13-16; Baden-Baden, July 4-6; Nuerburgring, July 17; Freiburg-Schaubinsland, Aug. 3; Stuttgart, Aug. 17; Nuerburgring, Sept. 5-7; Rheydt (North Rhine-Westphalia), Sept. 9.

Seven six-day bicycle races have been scheduled by the Bicycle Track Owners' Association for the 1951-52 season: Frankfurt, Oct. 27-Nov. 2; Hanover, Nov. 9-16; Muenster (NRW), Nov. 15-21; Berlin, Nov. 30-Dec. 6; Dortmund, Feb. 1-7; Berlin, Feb. 29-March 6; Munich (date for event next spring has not yet been set).

Town Affiliation Program Progressing

Plans are underway to establish a committee in Coburg, Bavaria, to work with a group in Garden City, New York, interested in a town affiliation program. The committee is made up of representatives of schools, libraries, clubs and other organizations.

The city of Coburg, its agencies and groups have shown considerable interest in the program. Newspapers plan to exchange information in various fields.

Dr. Ulrich Kriesche, chairman of the local high school, and Fritz Todtenhaupt, the Coburg police chief, have returned from Garden City enthusiastic about Coburg's "sister city."