

IN THE SCHOOLMASTER'S PLACE,
RADIO TEACHES THE STUDENTS.

--:--:--:--:--: :--:--: : :--:--:--

The war has scattered throughout France a considerable number of children and youths who, on the first day of school, found themselves far from any professional schools or lycees. The Ministry of National Education has hastened to make possible for these children and young people the continuance of their instruction by correspondence and radio.

More than 3000 students enrolled in this new organization during the first week. The system of education by correspondence is a thoroughgoing education. A weekly program, comprising all the exercises of a normal class of the same type, is sent through the mail to the enrolled students, who send back their work at the end of the week. The corrections are made, as everywhere, by a staff of teachers to whom the pupils are assigned for the duration of their studies, in groups of thirty, which corresponds to the number in a normal class.

But, then, what becomes of one of the best elements of pedagogy : the direct contact of student and teacher and the personal explanations of the latter ?

To a certain extent these explanations are supplied by radio instruction, which permits the teachers to handle problems which would be out of the question by correspondence. "This is how you must attack your subject and develop it..." is what the teacher may explain to his listeners, in touch with him by radio.

But this cannot replace the intimacy which ordinarily springs up between the disciple and the master. One of the results already observed has been that the student, deprived of that intimacy, is obliged to rely more seriously on himself and to put forth a greater personal effort. Besides, it appears that the family manifests greater interest in the child's work. As a matter of fact, in normal times, the parents, absorbed by their own affairs, leave it entirely in the hands of the teachers. Under present conditions, many parents or grand-parents, freed of their business affairs and social engagements, by reason of their removal to some distance, have more leisure to give to their children's studies. Mothers, particularly, watch closely over the progress of these little school children without schools.

PAMPHLET OFFICE

France

World War, 1939-