



Some of the team of British apprentices which gained top honours at the International Apprentice Competition at Lisbon. Heading the party at London Airport is team manager Mr. J. A. Watts.

LOOK for a moment at the faces of these young men who flew into London Airport yesterday.

They are the faces of Britain's future.

In the last fortnight these youngsters have quietly done as fine a job for Britain as any Olympic team

~~In a competition in Lisbon for apprentices from twelve countries they triumphantly carried off eight gold medals, five silver and two bronze.~~

Pity

They dazzled rivals from Africa, Asia and Europe in everything from constructional steelwork to silver-smithing.

Minister of Labour, Joseph Callaghan told them: "I am sure that all British Industry and the British people will be proud of you." He is right.

BUT THE PITY OF IT IS THAT NOT ENOUGH YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE THIS ARE GETTING THE CHANCE TO LEARN THE SKILLS SO VITAL TO A COMPETITIVE NATION.

Too many employers simply don't care about training apprentices.

Too Slow

And the Government's belated efforts to boost industrial training schemes are moving far too slowly.

Last year 20,000 FEWER boys took up apprenticeships than during the previous twelve months.

The lads from Lisbon have shown that Britain's new generation has the ability to take on the world.

It must not be robbed of its oppor-