

The name of the young man pictured above is Christopher Haine. Does this ring a bell with you? It should, because he is a champion—and a world champion at that. But his is a championship with a difference: almost unique in its nature and importance.

Competing in the International Apprentice Competition against highly-skilled youngsters from other industrialised countries, he achieved the record-breaking mark of 97.4 per cent — the highest rating ever achieved by any entrant since it began 14 years ago.

In last year's competition British apprentices did remarkably well. Fifteen of our 28 competitors won medals—8 gold, 5 silver and 2 bronze. Britain finished fourth out of 12 competitor nations.

Real Progress

This year at the 14th annual International Apprentice Competition the same number of British participants won 19 medals—more than any other nation.

This is the kind of progress we need to tackle the vast industrial and technical problems facing Britain in a world of increasingly fierce competition. The result is a tribute to the lads themselves and to those responsible for their training.

Christopher Haine's record-breaking achievement was in the house wiring (age 20-21) section of the competition. And here are the other British gold medallists, not one of whom scored less than 85 per cent :

Graham Bromley
(House Wiring (age 18-20)
Brian J. Cooper
(Stone Cutting)
John Smith
(Painting)
Peter G. Johns
(Silversmithing)

British apprentices also won silver medals for constructional steelwork (Peter Nixon), electric welding (Ernest K. O'Neill), bricklaying (John S. Trusler), plasterwork (Allen J. Fether) and panel beating (John R. Taylor). Bronze medals were won for milling (David A. Williams), sheet metal work (Roger F. Wright), industrial wiring (Geoffrey B. Frost), radio and T.V. repairing (Roger A. Munt) and plumbing (Colin W. Morley).

The Future

We are living in an age of immense technical progress in every field of human activity. The future of British industry —and that means of us all—depends upon the training of enough youngsters in the skills necessary for the tasks ahead.

The British successes in a keenly-contested international competition come at a time of growing emphasis on the need for more and better industrial training.

The achievements of these British young men show what can be done. They have signposted the future. By developing their skills through hard work and dedication, they have helped to dispel gloom about Britain's industrial future and have displayed the characteristics that will—



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