

The problem has been exacerbated by the fact that the training of children in many Soviet schools now begins at the age of six, with the result that the army of schoolchildren has become much larger. Immediate measures were called for, rather than waiting until such time as our domestic machine building plants begin producing the requisite equipment. Otherwise, thousands of Soviet children might be forced into the position of writing their dictation and essays between the lines of a newspaper, as was the case during the war years. The only way out is to purchase the equipment and develop further ties with the "Bilomatik" Company, which has vast experience and has earned a fine reputation. Representatives of the firm are located in more than forty countries, including the USSR.

Displayed at the "Bilomatik" booth in the "Lesdrevmash-89" International Exhibition in Moscow were colourful, eye catching exercise books and various kinds of albums and notebooks, produced with such accuracy and elegance that the reporter found it difficult to walk past them. "One could imagine the delight of a child when he discovered such works of art - I can think of no other word - lying on his desk. They are in striking contrast with the familiar exercise books made of rough grey paper enclosed in monotonous dust folders, which have now disappeared from our shops".

Also exhibited were photographs of machines for manufacturing "all kinds of other office products". The machine for producing notebooks with metal clips, for example, can turn out more than 300,000 in an hour.

"We understand that you have a number of problems", said Richard Geiger, Bilomatik's representative at the trade fair. "We hope that,