

2-505041

"PASSION PLAY" PREPARATIONS.

OBERAMMERGAU AND BLAENAU FESTINIOG.
ANCIENT AND MODERN.

-Bavaria and Wales-

Picture.:- Three-hundred years ago a plague raged in Oberammergau.

In the hope of staying the scourge, the villagers vowed to relive Christ's Passion once a year.

The scourge abated, and the Passion--

--is still played. This year Wales - Blaenau Festiniog, is more or less following the now--

--world-renowned event. J. Ellis-Williams, the Welsh--

--dramatist is the moving spirit behind--

--the performance. Christian shows you the program he has printed,--

--for he is the printer.

There is wantonness. By now you will have gathered--

--that their play is the Pilgrim's Progress. There are Watchful, Fearful and Superstition and--

--these are Angel, Wisdom, Nurse and the accompanist of--

--the show. The male characters are drawn from amongst the local quarry men, while--

is portrayed

--John Bunyan himself/ by a young local farmer. The costumes are made by the players. Even Godliness discusses dress and style. So--

--it is with Oberammergau. The German players design and make--

--their own costumes. Ski-ing exercise--

--keeps the actors fit. The young man in the foreground is cast for--

--Saint John, one of Christ's apostles. These people prepare

2. 705041

--not only their actions, but--

--also their minds for these sacred roles. This girl plays Mary.

Anton Lang, who played the Christ figure for several years--

--gives place to the man now before the camera. These religious displays leave a lasting--

--impression on those who are fortunate enough to witness them.