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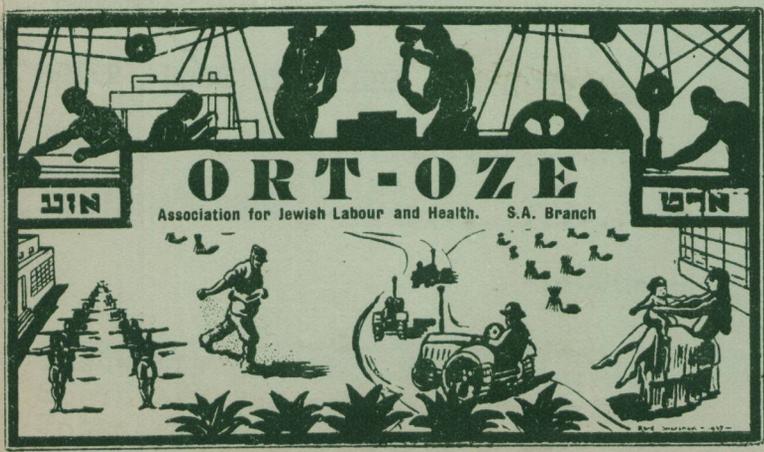
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**BULLETIN**

of the

**South African**

**ORT-OZE**



# LEARN A TRADE

## AN APPEAL TO THE JEWISH YOUTH OF SOUTH AFRICA.

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**TO JEWISH YOUTHS, ABOUT TO DECIDE ON THEIR  
FUTURE CAREERS, WE SAY :**

Do not take up a blind-alley occupation. LEARN  
A TRADE.

**TO THE JEWISH PARENTS WE SAY :**

The greatest security you can provide for your children,  
is to enable them to LEARN A TRADE.

**ECONOMISTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD SAY :**

The rapid changes which the world is undergoing,  
point to the gradual curtailment of private commercial  
spheres and the introduction of Government  
Trusts, Co-operatives and Monopolies of one kind  
and another.

**RECENT HISTORY HAS AMPLY AND TRAGICALLY  
DEMONSTRATED**

That whenever a change takes place in the social  
and economic structure of a country, the middle-  
man, the person engaged in trading and commerce,  
is the first to suffer and to go under.

**The future of South Africa lies in industrial and agricultural  
development, and we must see to it that greater numbers of  
our youth learn trades and industrial occupations.**

**We have excellent trade schools, technical colleges and  
schools of agriculture, and the Jewish youth should make use  
of them in greater numbers.**

Jewish Youth, ensure your  
future by learning a trade.

Issued by—

**ORT - OZE.**

**Association for Jewish Labour and Health. S.A. Branch:**  
P.O. Box 5883. Phone 33-6442.  
**GENEVA HOUSE, LOVEDAY STREET, JOHANNESBURG.**

BULLETIN OF THE S. AFRICAN

ORT-OZE

No. 1. Johannesburg March 1938

ORT aims at normalising Jewish life by encouraging industrial and agricultural pursuits

OZE aims at safeguarding and improving the health of Jewish people throughout the world.

Principle  
C O N T E N T S

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Issued by the ORT-OZE, Association for Jewish Labour and Health South African Branch, 5 Geneva House, (2nd Floor) 18, Loveday St. Johannesburg. Correspondence and contributions on the movement for Jewish Labour & Health are invited

P.O. Box 5883

Phone 33-6442

==== EDITORIAL ====

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OUR FIRST BULLETIN: The ORT-OZE Bulletin will attempt to keep members and all those interested in our Movement, aware of the activities of ORT and OZE throughout the world, and especially in touch with the work of our own South African Branch.

In spite of the ever growing interest in the reconstruction of Jewish life, the work of ORT and OZE is not yet sufficiently widely known in the Union, and it might not therefore be superfluous in this, our first issue, to reiterate the aims and objects of the Movement for Jewish Labour and Health.

WHAT IS ORT? ORT was founded in 1880 as an association for the promotion of industry and agriculture among the Jews. Its main purpose is (a) to train Jewish juveniles for industrial and agricultural occupations; (b) to teach modern methods to the older generation of Jewish artisans, and thereby raise the standard of their efficiency; (c) to create and support industrial and agricultural co-operative enterprise among the Jewish masses.

In short, ORT aims at the reconstruction of Jewish economy by diverting the excess of petty traders and middlemen into industry and agriculture.

WHAT IS OZE? OZE was founded in 1912 by a number of Jewish physicians, and the World Union came into existence in 1923. It combats the physical decline of the Jewish people by (a) providing poor patients with medical aid; (b) promoting hygiene among the Jewish masses; (c) safeguarding and strengthening the health of Jewish children and providing them, where necessary, with free meals.

OUR WORK IN SOUTH AFRICA: The task that the South African Branch of ORT-OZE has primarily set itself is to propagate among the Jewish youths and their parents the aims and ideals of ORT, and to assist them in realising these ideals.

WHAT HAS TO BE DONE? We are far from satisfied with our achievements during the first year of our existence - although a considerable amount of work has been done. We have distributed many thousands of special leaflets (such as are enclosed in this bulletin) amongst our community, and we have also published it in all Jewish Newspapers both Yiddish and English. We have addressed as many Youth Organisations as would arrange meetings for our speakers, and have held public lectures.

A considerable number of enquiries were received from juveniles, showing their keen interest in industrial occupations. Unfortunately, we have not yet succeeded in creating the machinery which would enable us to place them as apprentices, but the fault is in no way ours. Negotiations for the establishment of an Industrial Employment Bureau were protracted, as we were eager for united action and the full co-operation of such institutions as were interested in our plans.

A General Advisory Committee has at last been constituted, and we look forward to the commencement of practical work in the near future.

SCEPTICISM: While it can be said, with all truth, that ORT work in Europe has no opponents, and the parties of the extreme right as well as those of the extreme left equally appreciate and support it, the possibility of ORT ideas penetrating this country and radically affecting the economic structure of the Jews in South Africa has met, in certain quarters, with scepticism. We, however, do not share this lack of confidence as far as our local work is concerned. We do not expect to receive an immediate response, but we are confident that the healthy instincts of our young people will lead them to shed their prejudices and to realise that here in South Africa, as in the rest of the world, the future belongs to those who have a trade and are part of productive labour.

WE DEMAND SUPPORT: There is much propaganda and work of enlightenment to be done amongst the youth, no less than amongst adults. Above all, it is necessary to direct those who respond to our call to the correct channels. In this we demand the maximum of support from the Jewish Community, because there is no other work before us that is more important, more urgent.

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"When one analyses the economic evolution of South Africa and attempts to foretell its further development one is forced to the conclusion - a most important conclusion as far as our people are concerned - that industrial occupation has become the destiny and the mission of the Jews in S.A."

- Dr. H. Sonnabend.

"The process of rehabilitation of the Jews, as is being carried on by ORT, must be accelerated and its scope expanded"

- James G. MacDonald,  
Former League of Nations  
High Commissioner for Refugees.

WHY A SOUTH AFRICAN ORT-OZE?

By S. Schneier.

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Throughout the world the conviction has gained ground that an increase in the number of skilled Jewish artisans, industrial workers, and farmers, is a vital necessity for our people under whatever conditions they live. The same applies to the need for safeguarding the health of the young generation.

For these reasons the aims and activities of ORT and OZE became an imperative factor in the struggle for existence of Jewry in Eastern Europe, no less than in Palestine, and in any other country where they established their new homes.

These facts explain why Jews in Western Europe and America did not content themselves any longer with mere participation in ORT-OZE campaigns, but began to realise that the teaching of the Movement for Jewish Labour and Health was of great importance and practical value to them as well.

The Jews in most English speaking countries have now established their own ORT and OZE organisations, which are growing from strength to strength, and are attracting the youth who has become alive to the ideas and problems of the Movement.

Wide circles of the Jewish population in South Africa also gradually began to discard the outworn attitude of considering themselves to be money-donors only, whose association with the ORT and OZE was confined to periodical reminders when delegates arrived from Europe to organise campaigns.

It was being realised to an ever-increasing extent that the future of South Africa lay in industrial and agricultural development, and that it was necessary for our youth to be diverted from commerce and trading towards these productive occupations. The necessity of closer contact with the ORT-OZE thus became apparent and resulted in the creation of a permanent South African Branch of ORT-OZE.

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ORT AND OZE DO NOT CLAIM TO OFFER THE  
FINAL SOLUTION OF THE JEWISH QUESTION  
BUT THEY DO CLAIM, AND IT CANNOT BE  
CONTRADICTED, THAT THEIR WORK FORMS  
THE MAJOR CONDITION, THE SINE QUA NON,

FOR ANY AND EVERY SOLUTION. - Dr. A. Syngalowski

A SOUTH AFRICAN LOOKS AT "ORT"

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THE PARIS CONGRESS AND ITS WORK

By Harry Carter.

During my recent visit to Europe, I represented the South African ORT-OZE at the Congress of the World ORT Union, which was held in Paris from the 24th August to the 1st September, 1937.

The ORT Congress was officially opened by Dr. Jules Julien, Under-Secretary of State for Technical Education, representing the French Government, who welcomed more than a hundred delegates from sixteen countries, including the United States, Canada, South Africa, Australia, Belgium, Holland, and the Argentine. This was the fourth International Conference of the World ORT Union, and it was immediately obvious from the enthusiasm displayed on all sides that it was making great strides everywhere.

The key-note of the Congress was the importance of vocational training among Jews, the necessity for the development of the Jewish Labour Market to relieve overcrowded professions, and the need for a greater interest in agriculture and industry among the Jewish masses. It was pleasing to note that the ORT delegates did not attend the Conference in a subdued or mournful spirit. They were not there to bemoan the present troubles of European Jewry, but rather to suggest and discuss ways and means of alleviating those difficulties that have beset us during the past few years. The atmosphere was suggestive not only of thankfulness for what had been achieved by the ORT Union since its inception, but of the highest hopes for its future work and success.

Important Points Discussed.

An important point discussed was one dealing with supplying tools and equipment to artisans in Jewish areas where such are required; another was the creation of markets in which to dispose of the products of the various institutions maintained and assisted by the ORT Movement; and a third the establishment of a trade department to be operated in conjunction with the other activities of the ORT.

Dr. Leon Bramson, who was re-elected President of the World ORT Union, made a most impressive speech in which he stressed the need for strengthening the ORT Movement among all Jewish communities.

Dr. Syngalowski said that Jewish public opinion concerned itself too much with the renewed outbreak of anti-Semitism and warned the Congress against the danger of regarding this anti-Jewish movement as something which could be treated independently from the general grave political and economic situation throughout the world. The two were closely linked together and as the anti-Semitic onslaught grew, so must the economic resistance of Jewry throughout the world be strengthened. Otherwise, said Dr. Syngalowski, the Jewish people would lose entirely their political and spiritual strength and their economic importance, and become a

nation of beggars. It would be necessary for Jewish business men, of whom the bulk were only small traders, to readjust themselves to modern conditions and up-to-date methods of trade. Not only must they be trained in the latest business methods, but they must also be prepared to enter the labour markets of the world. They must develop the industrial, agricultural and artisan sides of Jewish economy, and it is in these respects that the ORT can, and will, play a very great part.

#### South Africa Pledges Support.

After the German and the Australian delegates had spoken, I addressed the Congress on the invitation of the Executive. I stated that, in spite of the many calls that had been made upon South African Jewry in support of both local and overseas organisations, I felt they were prepared to play their part in furthering the aims of the great ORT Movement. At the present time, they were perhaps better able to assist in a financial, than in a practical manner, but this would not prevent those in a position to take an active part from doing everything in their power to promote those objects of the movement so clearly expounded by Dr. Syngalowski.

Dr. Leon Bramson, during his visit to South Africa, laid the foundation stone of the ORT Movement there. He was followed by Dr. A. Syngalowski, who consolidated the work of Dr. Bramson, and I was pleased to inform the Congress that the South African ORT had definitely become a permanent feature of Jewish communal effort in the Union. Its work of instilling into the minds of South African Jewry the need for establishing our youths and unemployed adults in trades, industry, and agriculture, had now commenced. Quite apart from rendering financial assistance to the overseas world movement, I stated that the question of giving practical effect to the objects of ORT among our own Jewish population would become more important as time went on. There would be no room for every Jewish youth in business or in the professions, and steps would have to be taken without delay to make provision for them to become artisans or to find places in industry or on the land. South African Jewry must realise that they may be faced, in the future, with a position that will call for a complete revision of their social and economic life.

Unfortunately, I was unable to stay in Paris until the close of the Congress, but I found an opportunity of visiting the Paris International Exposition where the World ORT Union had a fine exhibit of the products of the various Trade Schools, factories and workshops maintained and assisted by ORT. The exhibit aroused great interest among the thousands of visitors to the show.

As a comparative newcomer to the ORT Movement of about eight years' standing, I cannot emphasise too strongly the wonderful effect which the work of the World ORT Union, as demonstrated in Paris, had upon me. The far-reaching results of its organisation left a deep impression of real accomplishment, and in my opinion, the whole-hearted support of Jewry throughout the world in aid of the objects of the ORT Movement would be the most effective reply to the almost complete cessation of emigration from Eastern Europe to those other lands where the problem of the Jew is not so pressing.

ORT - OZE LADIES' COMMITTEE

MRS. FURMAN ON THE NECESSITY FOR

VOCATIONAL TRAINING.



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That the most difficult problem confronting Jewish social work in South Africa could be solved by the progressive application of ORT ideas, was the opinion expressed in an interview by Mrs. S. Furman, chairwoman of the ORT-OZE Ladies' Committee in Johannesburg.

Speaking with the authority of one who has for many years taken a leading part in alleviating distress among the poorer classes of the Jewish population in this city, Mrs. Furman explained that their greatest concern was for the future of the children from poverty-stricken households. "It is necessary," she said, "to avoid that these youngsters should grow up under conditions that make them habitual recipients of charity, and unless we can induce them to become self-supporting by learning trades, they will, in turn, also fall as a burden on the community"

ORT-OZE was carrying out propaganda designed to show that all classes of the Jewish population would in future contribute greater and still greater numbers of workers to the skilled vocations, and that far from being a social stigma, productive work in agriculture or industry was something to be proud of.

It was this aspect of its activities in South Africa which had brought local Jewish women rallying in support of ORT-OZE. A strong committee was formed and had drawn up an ambitious programme with a view to popularising the Movement amongst South African Jews and to raise funds.

"Our first effort this year," Mrs. Furman said in reviewing the activities of the Ladies' Committee, "was a Morning Market which showed a record for this kind of function in Johannesburg. A number of stalls, ranging from fruit to fancy work, and from provisions to plants, was tastefully arranged in the spacious grounds of Mrs. R. Feldman's residence in Lower Houghton, and attracted an exceptionally fine attendance. Not only was the Market a great success financially and socially, but members of our Committee also used the opportunity of distributing leaflets and brochures, and personally to acquaint many callers with the aims of ORT-OZE. At present we are concentrating on the organisation of our Second Annual Ball, which will be held on the 6th April. The main halls of the Carlton Hotel have been secured for this event, and we hope that it will be a huge success!"

Mrs. Furman concluded by paying a warm tribute to her co-workers who "selflessly and unobtrusively give freely of their time and energy to the Movement," and stressed the support the Ladies' Committee had received from friends in the country who assisted in the sale of tickets in the current ORT-OZE Competition.

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GRAND BALL AT THE CARLTON HOTEL

Ladies' Committee Plans Outstanding Event.

The second Annual ORT-OZE Ball will be held at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, on Wednesday 6th April, 1938. This function promises to be one of the outstanding social events of the year. The Honourable the Administrator of the Transvaal and Mrs. S.P. Bekker, the Mayor and the Mayoress of Johannesburg, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Fotheringham, and the Chief Rabbi Professor Dr. J. L. Landau and Mrs. Landau have extended their patronage. The Carlton Orchestra will be in attendance until the early hours of the morning, and there will be cabaret items.

The Committee responsible for the arrangements consists of Mrs. S. Furman (Chairwoman), Mrs. R. Feldman (Hon. Secretary), Miss H. Myers (Hon. Treasurer), and Mesdames H. Bodenstein, D. Brookstone, Bautzer, N. Benjamin, Th. Blum, J. Batnitzky, A. Cramer, Fred Cohen, Dembo, E. Drobis, I. Fine, L. Feldman, J. Glaser, J. Hurwitz, M. Isaacson, S. Kruger, S. Kartun, L. Katz, G. Kagan-ton, L. Kotkin, I. Kuper, A. Lipworth, B. Lazersohn, J. Milman, L. Miller, K. Miller, M. Miller, I. Moskow, E. Melamed, S. Redlich, S. Schneier, S. Solarsh, G. Sackheim, and J. Zidel.

In order to avoid overcrowding the sale of tickets is being limited, but a few may still be obtained at £1.10.0. double and 15/- single, which includes supper, from the ladies of the committee or the ORT-OZE office, 5 Geneva House, 18 Loveday Street, Phone 33-6442. Ticket holders are advised to reserve their tables at the above address as early as possible.

COMPETITION FOR A RADIOGRAM.

Valuable Prize Awaits Winner

The Ladies' Committee of ORT-OZE is holding a Competition for an His Master's Voice Radiogram, value £42.10.0. generously donated by Messrs. H. Polliack & Co. Ltd. of Johannesburg. Friends and sympathisers throughout the country are co-operating with the organisers in the disposal of tickets, a record number of which have been sold in country towns.

The winner of the competition will be announced at the Ball on the 6th April, and those who still wish to participate, may obtain tickets from the ORT-OZE office, at 2/6 each.

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ACQUAINT YOURSELF WITH THE AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE MOVEMENT FOR  
JEWISH LABOUR AND HEALTH!

Copies of numerous ORT-OZE publications, issued locally and overseas are obtainable, free of charge, on application to the Johannesburg office. (See page 18)  
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A . N . N . O . U . N . C . E . M . E . N . T . S .

SERMON ON ORT-OZE

During the Evening Service  
Friday, 25th March, 1938, 8.15 pm  
at the

TEMPLE ISRAEL  
Corner of Paul Nel & Claim streets,  
(off Clarendon Circle)

RABBI M. C. WEILER

will address the Congregation on  
ORT-OZE - WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT DOES.

All are welcome to attend.

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ARE YOU GOING OVERSEAS? - ACQUAINT YOURSELF WITH THE GREAT WORK  
OF RECONSTRUCTION CARRIED OUT BY ORT AND OZE IN EUROPE.

Members of the South African ORT-OZE and all others interested in the Movement for Jewish Labour and Health, are cordially invited to visit ORT and OZE institutions and thus gain a personal insight into the achievements of these two Associations in Europe.

Representatives of ORT and OZE throughout the world will be glad to meet South African visitors and acquaint them with activities in their respective countries.

INTRODUCTIONS TO FRIENDS OF OUR MOVEMENT OVERSEAS WILL GLADLY BE  
GIVEN ON APPLICATION TO ORT-OZE, BOX 5883 JOHANNESBURG.

LECTURE TO UNION OF JEWISH  
WOMEN.

"ORT-OZE - a Movement of Jewish Labour and Health" will be the title of an address to be delivered before the Union of Jewish Women on the 28th March. Rabbi M. C. Weiler, a member of the Executive of the South African Branch of ORT-OZE, will be the speaker.

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REMEMBER THE ORT-OZE BALL, 6th APRIL 1938  
at the  
C A R L T O N H O T E L

T H E O Z E

by

Dr. Louis Franklin Freed.

The story of the OZE, with which the ORT is ideologically linked, is the story of a laborious struggle to restore the psycho-physical condition of the Jewish people to a state of relative normalcy.

For twentyfive years now, the OZE has carried on its work of physical rehabilitation, and those of us, who have studied its multifarious activities, must think with pride of the glorious achievements which stand to its credit. That small, modest group of Russian Jewish physicians who way back in 1912 evolved a line of action for the physical renaissance of our people, could not have built a more enduring monument for themselves as practical social scientists. They were the great patriots whose work of reconstruction and restoration we are apt to forget in the hurly-burly of our communal politics.

The founders of the "Society for the Protection of the Health of the Jewish people" realised from the outset that it was beyond the powers of their organisation to remove the fount and origin of Jewish maladjustment, but they were deeply conscious of its ability to mitigate the forces which wrought havoc with the Jewish organism. The OZE set out to achieve this end by disseminating a knowledge of mental and physical hygiene among the Jewish masses, and establishing in all large Jewish centres institutes for the diagnosis and treatment of disease.

In pursuance of its task of raising the standard of Jewish social hygiene in the stricken areas of Europe, the OZE (TOZ in Poland) is maintaining in Rumania, Lithuania, Poland, France, Germany, and the Free City of Danzig a great number of maternity and infant welfare centres, out-patient, X-ray, dental, and artificial sunlight clinics, tuberculosis treatment centres, and general hygiene clinics. The OZE also deals with the problem of feeding necessitous children.

One of the most important branches of OZE activity is the spread of hygienic education among the Jewish people. It does this by means of lectures, and by the publication of four scientific periodicals, and hundreds of thousands of pamphlets and brochures.

Our task in South Africa is to assist OZE in every way possible, but chiefly to support its health institutions in Europe. All Jewish medical men should take an active part in this work.

## NEW PROGRAMME

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O Z E and T O Z.

EXTENSION OF HEALTH SERVICES CONTEMPLATED

The fourth Conference of the OZE and the third Conference of TOZ (Poland) held respectively in August and November last at Paris and Warsaw, coincided with important dates in the lives of the two organisations, the twentyfifth anniversary of OZE and the fifteenth anniversary of TOZ

Against the background of the tragic situation prevailing in Eastern Europe, the Jubilees were in a sense serious milestones urging to retrospection and to new efforts. They provided an opportunity for a survey of the work performed in the past, and for a careful scrutiny of the necessity for the extension of present health services.

Bearing in mind the disasterous developments of the past years and their adverse reaction on the physical condition of Jews in Eastern Europe, both Conferences decided to enlarge the scope of their activities in a very substantial manner

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OZE PROGRAMME FOR 1938

The OZE, which is active in the Baltic States, Rumania, Danzig and Paris, has drawn up a considerably enlarged programme of work during the first half of 1938 (a supplementary programme for the latter part of the year is to be issued shortly.) Six new branch organisations will be opened, bringing the total number of OZE branches up from 42 to 48. The number of health institutions (excluding summer colonies) is to be increased from 137 to 201, and the total number of children to be catered for will be raised from 27,750 to 33,500.

The number of infants who will receive treatment is to be raised from 3,250 to 4,110; the number of pre-school children (between 3 and 7 years) from 1,800 to 3,160; and of children attending school from 22,700 to 26,500.

In addition to these extensions, the programme foresees the establishment of the following new institutions:--

Three maternity and child welfare centres, eleven school hygiene stations, nineteen general clinics for outpatients, two dental surgeries, six artificial sunlight clinics, two nurseries for backward children, one tuberculosis sanatorium, two training courses for nurses, and one orthopaedic clinic. Altogether, therefore, sixtysix additional institutions will be opened, and two old ones will be closed down, thus leaving a net increase of 64 new institutions.

### PROGRAMME OF THE TOZ

Fifteen years ago there was no systematic Jewish Health Service in Poland. To-day, the School Hygiene Stations of the TOZ supervise 40,000 Jewish children in 335 schools. Before the establishment of TOZ, children's colonies were a rare phenomenon. At present, 15,000 children pass through TOZ colonies every year. Fifteen years ago no attention was paid to combating diseases such as favus and trachoma, which are a result of poverty and filth; to-day TOZ has cured over 18,000 sufferers from favus.

In spite of these achievements, the leaders of TOZ feel that they cannot rest content. They know that health services have to be increased and extended to serve, wherever possible, not only children, but the adult population as well. It is also considered necessary to create a number of mobile units to tour specific districts every week, giving treatment on the spot and conveying patients to the hospital.

An ambitious programme, to be realised over a number of years, was outlined at the TOZ Conference. In accordance therewith, the number of TOZ branches will be nearly doubled (from 60 to 111) and in addition, 72 small villages will be regularly visited by 12 mobile units. The total number of health institutions is to be raised successively from 283 to 813, an enormous increase which will include creches, milk distributing centres, day nurseries, artificial sunlight and dental clinics, physical culture classes, ophthalmic cabinets, mental hygiene clinics, tuberculosis sanatoria, X-ray cabinets, ambulances, mobile medical and sanitary units, outpatient clinics and recuperative colonies. In addition, provision will be made to supply over 40,000 children with hot meals.

The programmes of OZE and TOZ for 1938 will involve an expenditure of close to £150,000, of which amount approximately 70 per cent. is expected to be raised on the spot, and it is hoped that the balance will be available from foreign support.

### OZE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Paris. (By air mail) The Central Committee of OZE has adopted the proposal submitted by Dr. M. Schwartzman of London, for the establishment of a special Jewish Health Research Institute. This new institute is considered to be of outstanding significance on account of the present catastrophic position of Jewry in Europe.

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF A VISIT TO AN  
ORT AND AN OZE INSTITUTION

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It is not surprising that ORT and OZE should choose Paris as the centre for their head office. In the midst of European strife and retrogression France, and Paris in particular, stands as the bulwark of European liberty and culture. Beneath the gaiety and abandon that draws the visitor to Paris, runs a powerful current of serious political theory that entrenches and solidifies the foundations of liberalism and progress, which in turn make the outward show of gaiety real and permanent. The beautiful and historic city of Paris, more than any other city in the world, is the laboratory for all movements that aim at the welfare and happiness of the individual. Bigotry and intolerance are inimical to the cultural background of France, a country that has learnt the principles of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, in the blood of the French Revolution. These are some of the reasons why ORT & OZE have chosen to merge their future with that of Paris

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During my recent trip overseas, I took advantage of a few days in Paris to visit a technical training centre and a children's clinic. These are the dual components of ORT-OZE, and the institutions I visited are typical of hundreds of ORT and OZE training centres and clinics that are situated all over Europe. The former, the ORT, is an institution that provides training in industrial schools for Jews recruited from all parts of the world. It differs from most institutions of its kind because the majority of its students are adults who are eager to escape from the blind-alley occupations of the middleman and to equip themselves with a productive occupation. Tuition is entirely free, but the students are expected to provide their own materials.

This system has the object and advantage of allowing students complete freedom to dispose of the articles which they produce in the course of training. They are consequently enabled to earn money while actually in training, and this assists materially in alleviating the poverty of many of the students. Some classes are held in the evening for the benefit of those who can only attend part-time. Some of the courses I saw in progress for women were dressmaking, millinery, and allied occupations such as artificial flower-making. In the men's department I saw the teaching of such trades as painting, plastering, carpentering and electrical engineering. Recently radio-engineering has been introduced.

I was thoroughly impressed with the standard of workmanship, which is excellent. The training such as is provided in

the institution is of the greatest possible value to Jews, as it opens up avenues of employment other than the customary ones, which are hopelessly overcrowded. In this way the Jews are being brought into alignment with the changing economic conditions that make a knowledge of the skilled trades a gateway to employment. This in its turn closes the mouth of the anti-Semite who cries out that the Jews are all middlemen. It might be mentioned here, that in Europe the opportunities of free training in Government trade schools are not available as in South Africa.

#### Unique Constructive Aid

The existence of ORT institutions as free training centres for Jews exemplifies a type of constructive aid that is wholly admirable in that it enables them to take their place as workmen in the economic structure of the country they have chosen as their home. Even, as in many cases will prove inevitable, these ORT trained Jews are forced to leave the country in which they presently live, they will be able to take with them a skilled knowledge which will render them more acceptable to the country of their refuge. It is well known that in Palestine an immigrant who has received the benefits of an ORT training is at a premium. This is to my mind the highest form of charity, because it alters and cures an evil instead of merely acting as a temporary palliative.

#### Health Clinic for Children.

The OZE health clinic for children is an entirely different kind of institution, but is similar because it has the same constructive feature as ORT. Sick and delicate children are admitted to the OZE institution I visited in Paris. These children are taken from the poorer homes of immigrants who have escaped to Paris. The children at this institution ranged between the ages of about two and eleven, and they are taken into the clinic for a period of from one month to six weeks. They are given free medical attention, wholesome food and every facility for recovering their health in this attractive sanatorium situated in fresh country surroundings, approximately twenty-five miles from the centre of Paris.

The spirit of OZE is typified for me in the person of Dr. Kremer, who treated me to a personal tour of inspection. She is a busy Parisian medical practitioner, who devotes almost all her leisure to this institution. It would be no exaggeration to say, despite her comparative youth, that Dr. Kremer is the mother of the institution. Her work, like that of the other doctors in attendance, is entirely honorary. The joy she takes in her work is significantly reflected in the eager welcome accorded to her by the children, whose faces literally light up when they see her.

I was particularly impressed with the un-institution-like air which is part of the atmosphere of the place. Children who come there nervous and frightened are loath to leave, and show the greatest pleasure when they are re-admitted later, as it is often necessary to give them further periods of treatment. Nothing better can be said of OZE than that it completely fulfils its aims. It has given health and happiness to children who, because of their circumstances, would otherwise have been denied

both. The constructive side of the work of OZE can be epitomised by the realisation of the truth of the adage "Mens sana in corpore sano."

### An Appeal

During my visit to the OZE institution, my pleasure was dimmed by one regret. Dr. Kremer spoke to me of the health-giving properties of the sun. These, unfortunately, are denied to the children of OZE during the long winter months of Paris. Violet-ray treatment would atone for this lack of sun, and it occurred to me that it would be an appropriate and gracious gesture that there should emanate from our land of sunshine, a small fund of £50 to bring a sunshine-giving apparatus to the Paris OZE. Perhaps some kind readers of this article will help me to provide the necessary amount, and it will be my pleasure to complete the total with my own donation of five pounds.

In conclusion, I can say that my visit to ORT and OZE was one of the highlights of a most satisfactory sojourn in Paris. It convinced me of the value of ORT and OZE, and the success of the work of these institutions are doing in revitalising Jewry.

- "J" -

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### WHAT ABOUT THE HERE AND NOW?

Individually, we Jews, like most people, live in the present, collectively we live in the past. Individually, we build houses and live in them, collectively we build castles in the air.

It is therefore the greatest merit of both ORT and OZE that they put all the stress on the HERE and NOW, on the concrete and on the practical. ORT calls Jews not only back to the land but back to earth. Both ORT and OZE approach the Jew individually and say: How do you live? What do you think is the best calling for your son and daughter to choose? How about your health?

ORT and OZE deal with the realities of Jewish life. They contend: If we cannot do all let us at least do the little we can as long as this is sound and healthy.

For ages we have been hard at calculating the size of our share in the world to come. What about giving it a rest and getting busy with the Here and Now....?

L. Melamed.

"With a physically crippled generation, any national and social reconstruction is unthinkable

RECONSTRUCTION NEWS IN BRIEF

ORT WORK IN MANY LANDS

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S O U T H   A F R I C A .

Johannesburg. - Pending the establishment of an Industrial Employment Bureau, which is about to be opened, the ORT-OZE office has endeavoured to deal with many applications for apprenticeships received from Jewish youths. This work has met with a certain amount of success, and industrial employment was obtained for a number of young men. Those placed include apprentices as carpenters, motor mechanics, electricians, and printers. When the Industrial Bureau commences its activities hundreds of boys and girls, it is hoped, will be diverted from blind-alley occupations into skilled trades.

L I T H U A N I A

Kovno.- In appreciation of the valuable work performed by the ORT in Kovno, the Lithuanian Government has granted it permission to import equipment for its trade school free of duty. The Government has also increased its 1938 allocation to the ORT. This is evidence of the high value which the authorities are attaching to the constructive activities of ORT among the poverty-stricken Jewish masses.

R U M A N I A

Bucharest. - The Rumanian ORT has lately been called upon to carry out much additional work, and is in urgent need of increased help from abroad. It is pointed out that the slightest financial difficulty will suffice as a pretext for the authorities to close down the affected institutions, and even to disband the committees responsible for them. Except for the trade schools of ORT, Rumania has very few facilities for Jewish vocational training and not only young people, but many persons of riper age, are now being eliminated from the liberal professions and are flocking to the ORT schools.

Among the recent activities of ORT in Rumania were: provision of credit facilities to Jewish farmers in Bessarabia, supply of pedigree sheep for stocking the co-operative colonies in Bukovina and elsewhere, and the opening of a new training centre in Jassy

P O L A N D

Warsaw. - For some time past, the Central Committee of ORT has devoted increased attention to the special needs of the orthodox Jewish population by helping their training institutes

through the provision of machinery, tools, and competent instructors. In order to provide for more systematic co-operation, the Central Committee of the Polish ORT and the leaders of Beth Jacob, have agreed to meet in conference and to discuss the question of closer collaboration between the two organisations in the sphere of vocational training.

### S O V I E T   U N I O N

ORT activities in Soviet Russia are conducted on the basis of an agreement with the Government. The present agreement terminates in 1938. The ORT has submitted a new, but somewhat smaller working programme for the coming years. According to a statement by Dr. David Lvovitch, vice-president of the World ORT Union, who is at present in America, negotiations between ORT and the Soviet Government are proceeding. For some years past the World Union has ceased to give financial assistance to ORT in Russia.

### G E R M A N Y

Berlin. - The local ORT school at 15 Siemenstrasse, Berlin-Moabit, is filling a very urgent need in the present life of German Jewry. The school enjoys the official approval of the authorities in its endeavour to equip its students for emigration. At present the institution offers instruction in wireless, television, telephone-installation, and other branches of electro-technic. There are also courses in water, gas, and sewerage installation, and other skilled trades. The school is being attended by 120 pupils under the age of 18, and about 20 adults who are undergoing a course of re-training. Provision is made at the school for the supply of kosher meals at a nominal fee.

### F R A N C E

Paris. - The local ORT has been in existence since 1925, but it was only in 1933, when the persecuted masses from Germany began to arrive, that the first course of professional training (dressmaking) was organised for their benefit. In 1936 there were already 13 courses catering for 380 pupils. The number grew in 1937, and the administration intends to expand its activities still further in the current year. In the course of its existence, 1,000 persons have learned a trade at the ORT schools in France.

Statistics show that most of the pupils took up tailoring. The millinery course was also well attended. Radio mechanics, corsetry, the making of artificial flowers, decorative art, and electrotechnics, were some of the other courses patronised by pupils, who came from all parts of France, as well as from Poland, Germany, Rumania, Great Britain, Palestine, Czechoslovakia, Belgium and Hungary. Three pupils attended from as far away as Persia. The Paris ORT pursues its fruitful work in a quiet street in the very heart of the turbulent Montmartre.

ORT AND OZE PUBLICATIONS

Reading Matter obtainable from the Johannesburg Office.

Copies of the following ORT and OZE books, brochures and leaflets are obtainable, free of charge, on application to Box 5883, Johannesburg:

- 1). "Distress and Knowledge" by Dr. A. Syngalowski. A dialogue on vital Jewish questions (English)
- 2). "Learn a Trade" An appeal to the Jewish Youth of South Africa, summarising the need for industrial and agricultural training in this country. (Yiddish and English)
- 3). "What you should know about ORT and OZE" A concise brochure on the history, aims, and work of ORT and OZE throughout the world. (English)
- 4). "The Fourth Congress of the ORT Union". A detailed report of the proceedings at the 1937 Congress in Paris, including speeches by the South African delegates. (Yiddish)
- 5). "Twentyfive Years OZE" by Dr. L. Gourvitch. A full review of Jewish health work during the past quarter of a century (English)
- 6). "ORT Union" A brochure issued recently in connection with the ORT display of arts and crafts at the Paris Exhibition. (English)

In addition, copies of the following periodicals are available:-

"Revue OSE" A monthly scientific journal dealing with the health of the Jewish people. (French)

"Folksgezunt" The official organ of the TOZ-OSE. (Yiddish)

"American ORT Journal" The mouthpiece of the United States Organisation for the Rehabilitation and Training of Jews. (English)

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