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LOUIS B. BOUDIN IN EUROPE

Louis B. Boudin, Chairman, Board of Directors of the American ORT Federation is in Europe where he attended the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Central Board, World ORT Union in Paris on November 22nd. The present activities of World ORT and its 1948 program were discussed at this meeting. A report of the meeting will be published shortly.

DAVID ROSENSTEIN REPORTS ON ORT'S WORK IN EUROPE

We are reprinting the highlights of the report presented by Mr. David Rosenstein to the Board of Directors of the American ORT Federation on the conference of the Central Board of the World ORT, held in Paris this past July 6th and 7th, as well as on the general situation of the Jews in the European countries visited.

Mr. Rosenstein was chairman of the American ORT delegation, which included Baron Pierre de Gulzbourg and Abraham C. Litton. Attending the conference as observers were Mrs. Clara Borkovitz, President, Chicago Mid-West Region, Women's American ORT, Baroness de Gunzbourg, Mrs. Rae Harris, Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan, President, New York Region, Women's American ORT, and Mrs. David Rosenstein.

The first meeting of the Central Board since the post war conference of the World ORT Union in 1946, was attended by 22 board members, representing 10 European countries and the United States. Attending also were a number of outstanding Jewish leaders and ORT directors from various countries. I cannot, in a brief report, give you the complete agenda, nor the extraordinary thought-provoking discussions that took place. I shall touch on the highlights.

THE DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS

The problem of 250,000 Jewish DP's in Germany, Austria and Italy was a major item on the agenda. From the reports made by the ORT representatives in those countries and substantiated by what I observed during my visit to the camps, the situation of these Jewish refugees is becoming more critical daily, and the coming winter well may be explosive. Anti-Semitism is flourishing. The worst dry spell that Central Europe has had in many years has decreased the food-stocks in the U. S. Zone, and with the liquidation of UNRRA and the meager means of the IRO, the DP's are faced with further reduction of their severely restricted food rations. The present closed gates of Palestine and the fact that other countries favor non-Jewish DP's rather than Jews for immigration -- all these are factors in the despair and apathy of the Jewish refugee.

Only the opening of the gates of Palestine, the United States and other countries can bring about a permanent solution of the problem of the displaced persons. While the great majority of the DP's see in Palestine their only hope for salvation, the United States and other countries must also share in the solution of this problem. May I add that if a bill similar to the Stratton Bill is not enacted by Congress, America will have failed in its traditional humane obligation.

But the facts discussed at the conference indicated that in the matter of immigration, ORT occupies a central position. For although the immediate prospects for substantial immigration are not too bright, the fact remains that in the case of those countries such as Australia, Canada, France, Norway and the South American countries who have indicated that in the near future they may allow displaced persons to come in, those refugees who could demonstrate that they possess technical skills and vocational proficiency are favored.

It is this resettlement problem which is most pressing at this time; for it involves the maintaining of morale, providing employment and furnishing vocational training both for the present and for the future. It is this situation which makes ORT's vocational training program and the JDC's employment projects of such paramount importance this year. And I am proud to say that ORT is performing a historic task among the DP's and the importance of its achievements cannot be exaggerated. At the time I visited the camps there were already 5,800 trainees in the ORT schools in the U.S. Zone alone (and although as I speak to you it is only two months later, the number has increased to 8,000), and the administrative personnel and instructors number 700. There were 750 trainees in the British Zone of Germany.

Here I have a heartening thing to tell you: I was gratifyingly astonished by the eagerness with which the DP's welcome opportunities for vocational and general schooling, as preparation for effective resettlement. And this in spite of the fact that people who work with their hands should receive more than the minimum meager rations they get.

In Austria and Italy, too, I was greatly encouraged by the ORT activities. At the time I visited Austria, there were 550 trainees, and in Italy 730 students in 31 courses. Despite the instability of the refugees, model schools for construction work, courses for agricultural tractor drivers and for mechanics had been established.

UPROOTED JEWS IN EUROPE

The reports received from the various countries presented a broad picture of great achievements of ORT throughout Europe. Not only in the Western European countries of France, Belgium, England, Holland, Sweden and Switzerland, but also in the Eastern European countries of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Rumania, the number of ORT institutions and pupils increased on an average of over 50%. (A statistical table of institutions and students will be found on another page.) The reason is obvious: A skilled trade is the only means of economic rehabilitation, and the only way by which the Jews can become integrated in the new economic life of those countries.

Here the European leaders presented the problem from their point of view: that although the DP's deserve every form of ORT assistance, other countries are equally in need of ORT's work, and a number of delegates stated that the problem in their countries is all the more acute because of the need of the Jews in those countries to earn their own living at once. A special phase of this problem is the question of adequate food supplies to ORT trainees, particularly the youth, who otherwise must devote their time to finding means of sustaining themselves.

It was therefore suggested that the ORT and JDC plan a program of joint policy regarding this question. In this connection it was also suggested that Women's American ORT can be of great help. In addition, the governments must also be convinced of the necessity of helping our young people so that they do not become demoralized. Many of the delegates also expressed the idea that the ORT trainee should be placed in industrial and agricultural cooperatives after graduation to enable him to earn his living at his skill.

The delegates further expressed their gratification at the agreement reached by ORT with JDC, and pointed out that future ORT burdens will necessitate larger allotments to their respective countries.

ORT PAVES THE WAY FOR DP'S IMMIGRATION, SAYS MR. WALINSKY

Louis J. Walinsky, ORT Director for Germany and Austria, recently made a short visit to the United States. We reprint here excerpts of the report Mr. Walinsky gave at a press conference on ORT's work in the DP training centers.

Thousands of Jewish displaced persons in Germany, Austria and Italy, are availing themselves of the opportunities for vocational education provided by World ORT Union; they are motivated by an intense desire to prepare themselves for a new life and by the knowledge that it will improve their possibilities for emigration to Palestine and other countries of their choice.

The ORT work in Europe has expanded tremendously during 1947. Between the end of 1946 and July 1947, the number of ORT trainees in Europe increased by 51%. But in Germany and Austria, the increase has been as great as 95%. This tremendous expansion in the scope of ORT training activities does not take into account the approximated 3,000 Jewish displaced persons in Germany and Austria who already have completed ORT accelerated training courses in a variety of modern skills. Today, about 65 training centers are training more than 8,000 Jewish displaced persons in 39 different skills, ranging from machine-shop, auto-mechanics, radio and electro-technics, dental mechanics and joinery, to dressmaking, watchmaking, millinery, weaving and corsetry. A school of Maritime Trades will also be operated in Neustadt if British military authorities permit. It is expected that more than 10,000 students will be in training in ORT schools in the DP camps at the end of the year.

More important, however, is the fact that not only has the scope of ORT work increased, but that the quality of the work done has greatly improved. ORT has overcome all obstacles. It has recruited and is training a huge staff of almost 600 instructors in Germany and Austria. It has organized a flow of supplies, transport, and skilled technical personnel who are making a most valuable contribution to the work. It has overcome the apathy of the DP's. Some of the schools, such as Landsberg, Villseck, Heidenheim, Neu-Ulm, Bad Reichenhall, Salzburg and Neustadt would win high praise anywhere in the world, including the U.S.

The work of ORT has won the highest commendation and support from the occupation authorities and UNRRA-IRO officials, from our sister agencies like the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine. We have as well the full confidence and cooperation of the Central Committees of Liberated Jews.

ORT's work is not only making a valuable contribution to the future lives of DP's in other lands, but it is also making its direct and visible contributions to the lives of people in the camps today.

The scope of the operations may be judged by the fact that an order for \$350,000 worth of supplies for Germany and Austria, largely for materials to be expended during the balance of the year, has just been placed. This will augment the tremendous volume of supplies and machine equipment already brought in from other various countries.

ORT students in Germany are young, serious and determined people, from fourteen to thirty years old. Having a tremendous desire to learn, they make excellent students, despite the gaps experienced by many of them in their educational opportunities.

FROM MR. TART'S REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN ORT FEDERATION

In his report to the Board of Directors of the American ORT Federation, Aaron B. Tart, Executive Vice-President, pointed out the satisfactory results produced by the ORT-JDC agreement in 1947. The extraordinary achievements by ORT in Europe (as we learn from official reports and eye-witness observation of leaders who visited Europe this summer, which the reader will find elsewhere in this bulletin) must be credited in a large measure to the availability of the \$2,000,000 assured by the Joint Distribution Committee out of its United Jewish Appeal Funds.

In addition, the fact that the ORT membership was relieved of the necessity of raising funds gave the members of the various ORT groups and affiliates a chance to concentrate on an ORT Educational Program and to cooperate with the United Jewish Appeal in securing maximum funds in this year's campaign.

Mr. Tart ended his report with the following statement: "In speaking before ORT groups, UJA fund-raising meetings and at meetings of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, as well as in personal discussions with leaders throughout the United States, I've found great admiration for the ORT Program. American leadership understands that in any solution of the problem of the European Displaced Persons, the ORT method of Rehabilitation Through Training goes to the heart of the problem."

ORT WORK IN ITALY EXPANDING

The first ORT school for Dental Mechanics in Italy was opened in the middle of August, at Adriatica, near Milan, in premises which IRO put at the disposal of ORT. This school has the most modern technical equipment purchased in Italy and Switzerland. An eminent specialist, Dr. Stanislaw Jofe of Warsaw, assisted by two technicians, was engaged as director. Twenty-four qualified applicants were immediately enrolled. The training is scheduled to last one year, after which time, trainees will be able to practice their profession. A second year of training will eventually be devoted to specialization.

A new farming school was opened by ORT at Nichelino/Vernea, near Torino in Northern Italy. The training includes truck gardening, poultry farming, rabbit raising, and bee-keeping. ORT provided five acres of land for the cultivation of vegetables, machines and tools, an electric motor for irrigation and an incubator.

The first agricultural school established at Avigliano at the beginning of 1946 is training 30 members of the Youth Aliyah. The school at Nichelino/Vernea,

serves the Ichud group of the Hanoar-Hazioni. Another new project is ORT training at the farm S. Marco/Cervoli near Pisa, for Italian Chaluzim.

The Italian ORT has also established during the summer months, an accelerated training course for agricultural managers of the Hachsharah centers on the model farm of the State Institute at Torin. The program includes courses on soil cultivation, fruit-growing, horticulture, chicken-farming and dairy farming.

The ORT School for Building Construction in Milan, the first of its kind in Europe, training masons, carpenters, roofers and stone-cutters, is operating on a 15 week schedule with 30 trainees completing their courses in each period. The Italian ORT has an agreement with construction firms in Milan to employ these ORT graduates, having received the necessary permit from the Syndicate of Italian Building Workers.

TRADE COURSES OPENED IN THE "EXODUS" CAMPS

On November 17, six trade classes started to function in the Emden and Sengwalden Camps, English zone of Germany, where the deported "1947 Exodus" refugees were recently transferred from the Pependorf and Amstou camps. Another 10 classes will be started shortly. 1500 refugees have registered for ORT training in these two camps. Five tons of machinery, tools and raw materials were shipped to the camps. The camp inmates received the ORT representatives with great enthusiasm, since they are all eager to prepare themselves for productive life in Palestine.

1050 STUDENTS GRADUATED ORT SCHOOLS IN POLAND

After one year of renewed existence, the ORT in Poland graduated 1050 trainees. The experts of the Public Institute for Training in Handicrafts and the representatives of the Chambers of Trade, who were on the examination boards, praised the training methods, the teachers, and the constructive initiative of the Polish ORT. The courses in which students were examined were: mechanics, radio-technics, electrical engineering, weaving, leatherwork, shoe-upper manufacturing, dressmaking, tailoring.

The enrollment in ORT institutions is now in full swing. Short-term courses are gradually being extended into a trade-school program. In addition, the Polish ORT is providing courses in watch-making, motor-car mechanics and driving, dental mechanics and agriculture.

The ORT in Poland is acknowledged by all Jewish groups and by the government as the sole organization specializing in the promotion of industrial and agricultural work in Poland. Six training workshops which had been founded by the Jewish Central Committee and supported by JDC were recently transferred to ORT. The Polish Government has allocated ten million zloty toward the Polish ORT budget and has presented various machinery salvaged from German property to the ORT schools for mechanics at Wroclav and Walbrzych, Silesia.

The attitude of the Polish government toward ORT is best illustrated by the article which we reproduce from the June issue of *Poland of Today*, semi-official publication of the Polish embassy in the U.S.A.

Reprinted from June 1947



ORT Headquarters in Dzierzoniow

THIS IS DZIERZONIOW

NEW CENTER OF JEWISH LIFE

DZIERZONIOW is a small town in Lower Silesia. Before the war nobody ever heard about it, but now it is fast becoming an important center of Jewish life in Poland.

To date quite a number of Jews, some 20,000 of them, have already come to settle in this out-of-the-world spot, to begin a new life there. They came after years of anxious hiding, or torture in concentration camps. The Polish Government, for its part, lent a helping hand, and aid came from American organizations, but the main burden has had to be shouldered by the settlers of Dzierzoniow themselves. The pictures which follow give a good idea of how they are living up to their task.

But Dzierzoniow is not simply a settlement. It is a large workshop and an educational center, it is a means of healing physical and spiritual wounds, inflicted by war and occupation. Primarily it is concerned with the education of a new generation of Polish Jews, the training of

the older ones for a vocation, and the creation of a system of productive work for those who are capable of taking part in it. That is why educational and health institutions, training centers and cooperatives dominate the life of Dzierzoniow.

The first building to impress the visitor is a fine mansion with a little turret atop it. Before the war it was the residence of a wealthy German merchant. Today it is the headquarters of the Office of Rehabilitation through Training, ORT, an organization well-known in America. In this building we find what we may call the general staff, in charge of training Jews for productive work.

Clustered around ORT headquarters, are vocational schools. Here the former concentration camp inmates, the former partisan fighters and those who for years had hidden in cellars, are being trained for their new place in life.

1947

POLAND OF TODAY



Tailors-to-be . . .



. . . and future dressmakers . . .



. . . and a class in radio-mechanics.

There are many other schools and vocational training courses, besides. Indeed, ORT has written a beautiful page in the history of this Jewish settlement in Poland. Its task, however, has been facilitated, because it has a powerful ally in the shape of the Dzierzoniow coopera-

tives. The people of Dzierzoniow are fully aware of the economic and educational importance of their cooperatives. They realize that these organizations are the best training ground for democracy. Thus Dzierzoniow is a regular town of cooperatives, and has them of every type and description.



The settlers of Dzierzoniow buy their suits at the tailors' cooperative. . . .



. . . their underwear at the haberdashers' cooperative and their shoes at the shoe-makers' cooperative.



ORT DEVELOPS MARINE TRADES

In the promotion of new professions among Jews undertaken by ORT, the most interesting is the training of Jewish youths in the various marine trades.

A marine school to teach crafts connected with marine trades has been opened at Marseilles, France. The courses being taught are navigation, wireless operating, diving and carpentry in ship building. The French Naval authorities are giving every help to this new ORT institute and the official opening last March was attended by Rear Admiral Tanguy, Naval Commander of Marseille and representatives of the Ministry of National Defense.

Another maritime school was recently established at Neustadt, British Zone Germany, with 150 trainees. At Diessen, Germany, the ORT School for Fishery is operating successfully.

The first ORT Marine School was opened in England in 1946, under the direction of Captain N. F. Israel, who distinguished himself in the Battle of the Atlantic, as well as in the invasion of Europe.

ORT EXHIBITION IN FRANCE

An exhibition of articles produced by the students of ORT institutions in France, ranging from fashionable hats to farm products, and handicraft toys to precision instruments, was opened on October 3 in Paris.

Among the dignitaries who attended the inauguration of the exhibition which was formally opened by the former French Minister M. Justin Godard, were: Daniel Mayer, French Minister of Labor and Social Security; Marcel Haegelen, Minister of Education; Norris Chipman, First Secretary of the United States Embassy in Paris; Professor Saraihl, Rector of the University of Paris; Admiral Louis Kahn, Director of French Naval Construction; Albert Matline, representative of the French Trade Union Federation; Dr. Isaie Schwarz, Grand Rabbi of France; Dr. Julien Weil, Grand Rabbi of Paris; Rabby G. Appeloig, Secretary General of the Consistory of French Jews; as well as representatives of the American Joint Distribution Committee, American Jewish Committee, Workmen's Circle, etc.

Extending greetings on behalf of the French Government, Mr. Marcel Haegelen started with these words: "We wish to emphasize the sympathy and interest with which the French Government regards the work of ORT and also to extend our gratitude to all those who guide this work in France. You have given us many skilled workers and artisans who have already contributed much to the moral and economic regeneration of France."

At present, the French ORT gives industrial vocational training to 1,650 students and over 900 apprentices were placed with private masters in Paris and in the provinces. In addition, it operates four agricultural schools, a maritime school in Marseilles and six gardening courses for refugee children. ORT's Rehabilitation Service also supplies machines and tools to Jewish artisans to enable them to resume their former trades. In 1946, 1,500 artisans received aid from the ORT Rehabilitation Service. One hundred and ten students were recently graduated from ORT school courses in welding, radio technic, cutting, corset making and shirt tailoring.

In addition, the first examinations of the accelerated courses which ORT established at the request of the French Government for the thousands of refugees who

arrived in France since the beginning of this year, were held, conducted under the chairmanship of a representative of the Labor Ministry, with the participation of representatives of the industrial syndicates and artisans union.

Those refugees taking the courses receive a monthly allowance of six thousand francs from the government. Upon graduation, they receive certificates which permit them to work in the trade for which they have been trained.

NEW TRAINING CENTER OPENED IN BELGIUM

The first two training workshops in shirtmaking and tailoring with 60 pupils were opened last August in Antwerp, Belgium, after ORT had overcome all obstacles, particularly the difficulty of finding a suitable building. More than 100 applicants between 25-40 years of age have already enrolled for the contemplated new courses. Furthermore, ORT is opening workshops in wood and cardboard work in the two Jewish primary schools in Antwerp.

In Brussels, there are 32 trade schools, training workshops and vocational courses. There is one house for needle work, another for metal and electrical work, and a third for a Joinery School.

TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BULGARIA

One of the largest ORT schools in Europe is the Technical High School which opened this month in Sofia, Bulgaria, with two departments: mechanics, and electro-technicians. The Jewish community accommodated the school with two stories in its building and the major part of the machines, tools and teaching program is furnished by the Geneva Office of the ORT-Union. Engineer Robert Goldstein, graduate of the Moscow Polytechnic Institute, has been appointed Director of the Bulgarian ORT.

Now operating in Sofia are 17 training workshops for youths in woodworking, bookbinding, tailoring, carpet-weaving, etc. with over 500 pupils. The carpet school for girls had received two shipments of materials, one of dyes from Geneva, and the other of wool from Australia.

New ORT committees were recently organized in five Bulgarian towns: Plovdiv, Varna, Rousee, Schumen and Pazardjik, where courses in a variety of trades are being established.

ORT GRADUATES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA GRANTED RIGHT TO WORK

In accordance with an order of the Ministry of Social Welfare, the ORT graduates in Czechoslovakia, most of whom are refugees, were granted the right to work under the same conditions as the Czech workers.

170 trainees who were graduated at the first examination of the ORT Schools which were opened this year, will benefit from this order. At the present time, 292 students are enrolled in 11 courses in 6 training centers in Czechoslovakia.

Reprinted from the report of the Executive Committee to the Central Board Meeting,
World ORT Union, July 1947.

**INSTITUTIONS (Training Units) AND PUPILS (Inc. Graduates) OF THE ORT UNION IN EUROPE
AUGUST 1946 - JUNE 1947**

COUNTRY	TRADE SCHOOLS	PUPILS	TRAIN. WORKSH.	PUPILS	VOC. COURSES	PUPILS	TRAIN. FARMS	PUPILS	TOTAL INST.	TOTAL PUPILS
FRANCE (incl. North-Africa) in Paris, Lyons, Marseilles, Nice Grenoble, Toulouse, Strasbourg, Alger, Casablanca and 16 other places	23	605	44	773	8	146	4 *)	95	79	1619**)
BELGIUM in Brussels, Boisfort and Kessel-Loo	9	204	13	239	10	148	1	25	33	616
HOLLAND in Amsterdam, Haag, Eindhoven, Hilversum, Bussum	1	15	19	305	6	69	-	-	26	389
ENGLAND in London and Bedford	5	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	90
GERMANY - American Zone in Munich, Augsburg, Ulm, Stuttgart, Bamberg and 35 other places and Camps For D.P.'s - British Zone in Bergen-Belsen, Ahlem, Hahover, Northeim, Neustadt	17	620	185	3924	27	760	-	-	274	6687
AUSTRIA in Vienna, Salzburg, Linz	-	-	11	470	2	70	-	-	13	540
ITALY in Rome, Milan, Cremona, and 9 other places and Camps for D.P.'s	7	219	17	277	10	180	7	260	41	936
HUNGARY in Budapest, Debrecen a. Bonyhad	2	300	24	503	1	6	-	-	27	809
BULGARIA in Sofia and Plowdiv	2	60	14	420	1	17	-	-	17	497
ROUMANIA in Bukarest, Jasi, Galatz	11	586	20	508	-	-	-	-	31	1094
POLAND in Warsaw, Lodz, Krakow, Szczecin, wroclaw, Bytom, and 6 other places	8	196	49	984	11	299	2	25***)	70	1504
CZECHOSLOVAKIA in Teplice, Usti, Podmokly, Karlovy Vary	-	-	6	128	2	33	-	-	8	161
SWITZERLAND in Zurich, Basle, Geneva, Lugano, St.Gall and 7 other places	7	155	31	393	2	23	-	-	40	571
TOTAL	99	3189	461	9869	89	1993	15	462	664	15513

*) Except 6 training gardens for children.

***) Furthermore 917 apprentices were placed with private master.

****) Moreover, 100 Jewish settlers at Pietroliesie and Bielowo were given agric. instruction.

MACHINES AND TOOLS FOR JEWISH RECONSTRUCTION

One of the most difficult problems ORT faces in carrying through its program of vocational training and constructive aid to the Jewish artisans is the supplying of machines, tools and materials for the hundreds of its schools, courses and workshops, as well as for the individual craftsmen and artisan cooperatives.

To organize the purchase and transportation of machines and tools to the various countries, the American ORT Federation, in cooperation with the New York office of the World ORT Union, established in 1945, soon after the cessation of war, a special agency - the ORT Tool Supply and Reconstruction Corporation. Sometime later, purchasing centers were also established in Geneva, Paris and most recently in Milan, Italy.

The purchasing centers are managed by experts and are assisted by technical councils which include specialists in the various branches of industry and agriculture.

Hundreds of shipments of machines, tools and materials were made from the U.S.A. and from other places to France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Austria, Poland, Roumania, Italy and South American countries. Of particular importance are the efforts made jointly by the JDC and ORT to acquire surplus machines and tools, made available by the War Assets Administration to educational institutions at almost no cost. To date, the orders placed by the JDC Department of Supplies and Procurement and by the ORT Tool Supply have reached the impressive figure of 167, the original cost of which is estimated above half a million dollars.

ORT Tool Supply also plays a very important role in the constructive relative aid. By means of ORT Tool Supply, the various Landsmanshaft organizations and relatives in this country furnish their kin overseas with the necessary machines and tools, the most valuable instruments in their struggle for economic rehabilitation.

ORT WORK IN SOUTH AMERICA

During his stop in New York enroute to Paris from South America, Dr. B. Surowich reported to the Board of the American ORT Federation on his year's intensive tour of Latin American countries. Dr. Surowich left for Paris on October 29, from where he is going to Australia and India. We print here excerpts of his report.

The ORT work in South America must be divided into two parts: the operation of ORT training centers, and the raising of funds for this work, as well as to support the ORT in Europe.

There are ORT committees in all South American countries, affiliated with the South American ORT Federation, located in Buenos Aires, Argentine, and headed by the communal leader, Moses Avenburg. The countries in which the ORT operates training centers are:

ARGENTINA - There are two schools, as well as evening courses in Buenos Aires, in mechanics and electro-technics. In addition, ORT opened courses in the orphanage of Bursaco. The total number of students is 250, and 270 have already graduated. Plans for the erection of a school building are now materializing. Needy deserving students receive scholarships, and the ORT Women's Organization runs canteens in conjunction with the school.

BRAZIL - There are two schools: one in Sao Paulo with four year courses in

mechanics and 43 students, which this year became accredited by the Government. The second school in Rio de Janeiro which has its own beautiful building has a four year course in mechanics, as well as dressmaking and designing studies for women.

URUGUAY - The school in Montevideo has day and evening sessions in mechanics and electro-technics with 84 students. The evening courses are also attended by members of Zionist youth organizations where they receive their Hachsharah for Palestine.

CHILE - The school in Santiago which has a four year course in mechanics and woodworking, became accredited by the Government and its exercises were attended by the Ministry of Education and Jewish and non-Jewish representatives.

BOLIVIA - There are evening courses in mechanics in Cochabamba.

In those countries, the ORT local committees raise funds primarily for the operations of their schools, and in addition for the ORT work in Europe. This year the ORT in Argentina and in Brazil are participating in the United Appeal.

In the countries where ORT has no training centers, the ORT local committees, conduct campaigns for our work in Europe. I found conditions difficult because the period was one of reconversion. However, successful independent ORT drives with substantial results were carried through in Bolivia, Peru, Columbia and Curacao. In Ecuador, the ORT will receive 15% from a United Campaign.

ORT STARTS WORK IN NORTH AFRICA

A new center on the ORT global map is North Africa, where two training centers were opened; one in Algiers and another in Casablanca.

The Algiers school has three sections: mechanics, electricians and joiners.

In Casablanca, two schools were opened; one for boys and another for girls. The school for boys consists of sections in woodworking and mechanics. Of the 1,600 youths who applied for admission, only 200 could be accepted. Of these, 160 are in the mechanical class and 40 in the woodworking class. The girls school for dressmaking admitted 74 girls out of 600 applicants.

In addition to vocational training ORT is providing general assistance to the youths. Showers, a kitchen and mess-hall have been installed, and sports and music lessons are being inaugurated.

The president of the Moroccan ORT has received congratulations from the Moroccan Director of Public Instruction on the work of ORT, and a promise that he would facilitate the acquisition of grounds necessary for the construction of a school building.

ORT ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

From a report presented at the annual meeting of the South African ORT-OZE held on August 17, 1947 in Johannesburg, we reprint the following data regarding the activities of the ORT branch during the past year.

The Vocational Guidance Bureau in Johannesburg and Cape Town to advise Jewish boys and girls on the choice of a career and to assist them in finding employment as skilled workers in industry and agriculture, dealt with 324 applicants, including 100 who registered for the Aptitude Tests.

The ORT grants scholarships to Jewish boys enabling them to attend Trade Schools, and to girls who wish to take up nursing, hairdressing and similar skilled occupations. During the year 18 scholarships were granted, bringing the total to 145. In addition, the Maintenance Fund gave monthly grants to needy apprentices of 10 pounds sterling each month (approx. \$50.)

The first course in the cutting and designing of women's clothes, attended by 11 pupils was concluded in March 1947, and the new course, with an enrollment of 15 trainees, is now being held.

The ORT encourages Jewish land settlement by providing employment for suitable applicants with progressive farmers. Thanks to the bequest of a 600 acre farm made by the late Mr. E. Lazarus, the ORT, together with the U.S.A. Jewish Orphanage, intends to develop it as a training center where youths and adults will be able to acquire a thorough knowledge of agriculture.

The South African ORT has now a membership of 4,554 throughout the country and has branches in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Benoni, Krugersdorp, Potchefstroom, Springs, Vereeniging and Volksrust, with nucleus committees in Bethal, Brakpan, Germiston and Kinross.

The South African ORT-OZE is included in the South African Jewish War Appeal, from which it obtains substantial allocations for overseas needs. In addition, the South African ORT-OZE, through its Women's Section, has raised and remitted to Europe, an amount of 20,000 pounds in the past 12 months.

ORT INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN U.N.'s ORGANIZATIONS

IRO

At the invitation of the preparatory commission of the International Refugee Organization (PCIRO) ORT representatives participated in its recent meeting held at the end of October in Geneva. Meyer Cohen, assistant secretary of the Organization lauded the work of the voluntary agencies and said that IRO will devote considerable attention to coordinating their work with its own.

At that meeting it was decided to establish an advisory committee for the resettlement and vocational training of industrial specialists. William H. Tuck, executive secretary of the Organization, has appointed Dr. Aron Syngalowski, Vice-President, World ORT Union, to this committee.

UNESCO

The World ORT Union was invited to participate in the second session of the general conference of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural organization (UNESCO) which opened in Mexico City on November 6. At the request of the Paris office, the American members of the Central Board of the World ORT Union decided to send a delegate to the conference.

The Central Board World ORT Union, at its recent conference in July had accepted UNESCO's invitation to membership in its International Non-Governmental Council for Education and Reconstruction. At a recent meeting of this preparatory council in Paris, Dr. C. L. Lang, of Paris ORT Information Center, was nominated for membership in the "committee of experts".

FRATERNAL, LABOR, CONGREGATIONAL AND LANDSMANSCHAFT ORGANIZATIONS PLEDGE CONTINUED SUPPORT TO ORT

A number of Jewish fraternal orders, landsmanschaft federations, congregational and rabbinical councils and labor unions, which held their annual conventions during the past few months, emphasized the great value of ORT's work in the rehabilitation of our people and adopted special resolutions in which they pledged their continued cooperation with ORT.

Many of the conventions were addressed by representatives of the ORT Council whereas at others messages from ORT were read to the assemblage. The organizations which adopted resolutions on behalf of ORT were as follows:

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, United Hungarian Jews of America, Federation of Palestine Jews, Federation of Polish Jews, United Roumanian Jews of America, Ind. Order Brith Abraham, Ind. Order Brith Sholom, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Rabbinical Assembly of America; Hashomer Hatzair, National Council of Young Israel, Zeirei Agudath Israel.

The resolutions adopted emphasize that ORT helps the Jews become self-sustaining elements in the economy of European countries; that ORT facilitates the emigration of the DP's to Palestine or other countries; it contributes greatly to the vocational Hachsharah of the Chalutzim; it cooperates closely with the various religious groups in the vocational training of orthodox Jews; and ORT helps the Jewish immigrants to become integrated into the industrial and agricultural life of their newly adopted countries.

What People Are Saying...

"ORT HAS DONE THE BEST JOB IN THE D.P. CAMPS"

In a report by the Special Subcommittee of the Congressional Committee on Foreign Affairs on its findings on Displaced Persons and the International Refugee Organization," submitted to the 80th Congress, a praiseworthy chapter is devoted to ORT's work among the Jewish refugees in the DP camps.

The following paragraphs are taken from this chapter called "Help from American Source":

The American ORT Union participates in the work done by the World ORT Union. The purpose of this organization is to prepare Jewish displaced persons to earn their livelihood. This is done through schools, through apprenticeship program, and through furnishing equipment and raw materials. The aim of ORT, so far as its work relates to displaced persons, is to preserve and develop their talents for industry so that they can, when the opportunity comes, take their place successfully in normal economic society. The scope

of the work done by ORT may be indicated by a summary of its educational activities in the United States zone of Germany as of August 1947. Six thousand eight hundred and eighty-six pupils were enrolled in 28 types of courses embracing a range of subjects as follows: Photography, watch repairing, knitting, children's wear, leather working, shoemaking, galvanizing, weaving, underwear making, millinery, men's wear (cutting), dental mechanics, dressmaking, corsetry, masonry, women's wear (cutting), auto mechanics and driving, radio, machine shop techniques, men's hat making, typing, linotype operation, goldsmithing, optical techniques, surveying, tile setting, fashion design, and window dressing. Six hundred teachers were engaged in these courses, representing a favorable over-all pupil-teacher ratio of 11:1. Displaced persons constituted the bulk of the teachers, a factor making possible the wide variety of courses offered in the various ORT schools. The pupil enrollment was up 30 percent over May 1947 and the teaching staff had increased by 50 percent in the same period.....

The situation is a challenge to the members of other faiths and to other organizations. The subcommittee marked the differences between opportunities for vocational rehabilitation for Jewish children at this center and those for other groups. The ORT program is very effective, while such a program for non-Jewish children is almost completely lacking. There is an opportunity for constructive, humanitarian service for other organizations in the field to afford like facilities and guidance to the non-Jewish children.

ORT has done the best job of vocational training in the displaced persons camps. The IRO has not been able to do a great deal, although in older camps like that at Hanau, Germany, the displaced persons have set up fairly good training shops themselves. Another of them, which the subcommittee noted with commendation, is the IRO mechanical training establishment at Ludwigsburg, near Stuttgart, where young men and boys in classes of 200 at a time receive the benefit of instruction on the use of mechanical equipment, with hundreds of thousands of dollars, conveyed to the use of displaced persons by the United States Army, which formerly used it in a quartermaster center.

The development of cottage industry among all groups of displaced persons is an opportunity of primary importance to the religious and other private agencies.

The Subcommittee, which just returned from an investigation tour of the DP camps of Germany, Austria and Italy, consisted of Congressmen James G. Fulton, Pennsylvania, Chairman; Jacob K. Javits, New York; Joseph L. Pfeifer, New York; with the collaboration of Frank L. Chelf, Kentucky.

"THERE SHINES ONE STRONG RAY OF LIGHT"

Upon his return from a trip through the DP camps in Europe, Samuel Kapell, prominent industrialist and chairman of the Clothing Division of the UJA, printed an article under the heading "Among the Uprooted Jews in European Camps", in the October 3 issue of *Unser Hilf*, a supplementary weekly page of the U.J.A., in the Jewish dailies. His three column article begins: "I cannot as yet free myself of the foul odor of the DP camps. My heart contracts every time I think of what I saw....."

Then describing the conditions under which the DP's live and what the JDC does to help them, follow these paragraphs:

...Enough of my telling you about the pain and the needs. Through all

these horrible things there shines one strong ray of light - it is the ORT, which as is known, is united with the JDC. The ORT brought to Camp Adriatica machines and other tools. True, there are not enough for everyone who wants to learn a trade. There is need for many more machines and hand tools to satisfy all who would learn a skill, for the younger element knows nothing of any skilled trade, having spent all their childhood years in concentration camps.

I saw what the ORT means to them. The ORT means the same as Braille means to blind people, and oxygen to the dying, and for the unfortunates in the DP camps, the ORT means - hope! Over 600 people were enrolled to begin learning a skilled trade.....

(Adriatica is only one of the camps in Italy in which ORT has established training centers. Today there are over 1600 pupils enrolled in 57 trade schools, workshops, vocational courses and training farms in Italy alone. As of November, there were 8250 students in 350 schools and courses at 56 training centers in Germany and 1063 trainees in Austria, making a total of nearly 11,000 ORT students in the DP camps of Germany, Austria and Italy. - The Editor)

"THEY ARE ALL HIGHLY GRATEFUL TO ORT"

In a feature article printed in the *New Republic* of November 17th, and in the *Jewish Day* of November 13th, under the heading "Jewish DP's in the Cinema City", Henry Wallace, who just returned from a tour of Palestine and Italy, writes:

These young people, principally from Poland by way of concentration and DP camps, are training themselves for life in Palestinian collective settlements. Not one has a father or mother left. They are all passionate Zionists. They don't want to be stopped and turned back to Cyprus, but they reason that Cyprus, if it happens, will be a step closer to Palestine.

They are learning both agricultural and mechanical pursuits. I looked in on their shoemaking and tailoring rooms, where they are producing goods which the IRO's charges in other camps will wear. The young Kibbutzniks are all highly grateful for the technical training provided through an American Jewish Agency, the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training (ORT).

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