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ORT
FEDERATION

BULLETIN

212 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK 10,
NEW YORK

ORGANIZATION FOR REHABILITATION THROUGH TRAINING

VOLUME II, NO. 9



MAY, 1949

WELCOME CONVENTION DELEGATES

Message from Pres. Backer: *Tasks We Face*

In a statement addressed to all convention delegates, George Backer, president, made the following remarks:

"We hold our first postwar convention at a time when the problems thrust upon us as a result of the war and the long years of the Hitler terror regime, have seen the beginnings of solution.

"American Jewry responded promptly and with gratifying generosity to the urgent plea for help issued in the name of those of our people who survived the concentration camp and mass murder of Nazidom.

Economic Security

"American ORT made its contribution along lines dictated by its philosophy. While we recognized the imperative, immediate need for relief in the form of food, clothing, transportation from the miserable DP camps to civilization, we also felt that the basic long-term problem for world Jewry remained, under the newly created conditions, one of economic stability and security. We believed that this security could come only with the acquisition of skills and capacity for productive labor. We were convinced, and events have justified our conviction, that the very existence of human freedom depends upon economic security.

Philosophy Tested

"For those who have followed ORT work closely, the human drama of the restoration and revitalization of thousands of human beings, once considered wholly lost to human society, is eloquent

First Annual American ORT Award Will Be Presented to Prof. Haber

Dr. William Haber, professor of economics at the University of Michigan, will be the recipient of the Annual ORT Award, to be presented at the opening dinner of the National Convention of American ORT Federation on May 21 at The Roosevelt, New York City.



William Haber

The award, which has just been instituted by American ORT, will be presented each year to an outstanding person in the field of rehabilitation and reconstruction.

In choosing Dr. Haber as the man most deserving of this citation, president George Backer lauded Haber as a man whose "deep-seated interest in spreading the philosophy of rehabilitation through self-help has led him to function energetically and with honor in many diverse aspects of this sphere of activity."

From Jan. 1948 to Jan. 1949, Dr. Haber served as General Clay's adviser on Jewish affairs in the American Zone of Germany. In this capacity he was instrumental in accomplishing coordination among the various Jewish organizations functioning in Germany and in expediting the emptying of the DP camps.

During the war years, he was Deputy Director of the War Manpower Commission, responsible for the success of the short-term training courses for the millions of new industrial workers entering war plants.

As an active leader in the United Jewish Appeal, he has set a commendable example in mobilizing the American Jewish Community in behalf of the tremendous tasks of relief and reconstruction both in Europe and Israel.

testimony to the validity of our basic conceptions and philosophy.

"At this convention we must consider the tasks that lie before us. With the increasingly rapid transfer of the displaced population in Europe to Israel, our main effort must be concentrated

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Greetings on pages 6-7-10-11-12

Tasks We Face

(Continued from page 1)

in the state whose birth has ushered in a new era for the Jews all over the world. Here, in a nation ready to work, to sacrifice, to devote itself wholly to the enormous task of integrating the hundreds of thousands of Jews who wish to enter its doors, we must expand our activities in every industrial and agricultural field. Training centers must be established to accommodate every person who wants our special help, from orphaned child to old man. We must be ready to equip all of them with the skills necessary to sustain them as useful citizens and to man the machines upon which Israel's success depends.

ORT's Responsibility

"In North Africa, which is another major field of operations for us, we can and must begin to establish the conditions which will, for the first time in history, eradicate the miserable ghetto conditions under which our people suffer. Their physical survival as well as the restoration of their dignity as human beings and the establishment of social and political equality in large measure becomes our responsibility. We must be prepared to accept that responsibility and play our role in wiping out the re-



George Backer

sult of civilization's indifference.

"The activities we have carried on in Europe will be continued. Those nations receiving Marshall Plan aid find that machinery and credits cannot be set into motion without skilled manpower. Here we have an important role to play. The French government has found our training apparatus so efficient that it has seen fit to subsidize ORT students and has already indicated, through Ambassador Bonnet, its sympathy with our

request for assistance from the counterpart funds of the ECA.

Train Non-Jews

"In Italy we recently concluded an agreement with IRO to train non-Jewish DPs in IRO Italian Mission installations. IRO bears the expense for this training. And while we remain a Jewish Organization, if we receive the financial assistance to help us extend our work, we shall become more and more an organization training all those in need.

"For our tasks in America, we, as the largest affiliate of World ORT Union and the heaviest contributor to its work, must again consider the problem of fund-raising and the enormous educational program in which we must engage. For the strengthening and expansion of our overseas program in reality rests primarily upon our shoulders.

"I want to thank the Convention Committee and sub-committees which worked so hard to assure the success of this convention, especially Mr. Louis S. Posner, chairman of the Convention Committee, for his tireless efforts which have greatly helped us to run an excellently planned and organized national gathering.

"It must be our intention to proceed with the same vigor and will which has characterized our membership hitherto. Our tasks are clear and this convention will give its mandate to American ORT to go forward and to fulfill its mission."



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Organization for Rehabilitation
Through Training

Volume II, No. 9 May, 1949
OFFICERS — GEORGE BACKER, *President*;
MAX HERZFELD, *Chairman, Board of Directors*;
M. MALDWIN FERTIG, *Chairman, Executive Committee*;
EDWARD L. SARD, *Executive Director*.

The American ORT Federation represents the World ORT Union, with which it is affiliated, in the United States. The World ORT Union is devoted to the vocational training and economic reconstruction of Jews throughout the world.

The American ORT Federation currently receives its funds, exclusive of membership dues, by special agreement with the American Joint Distribution Committee, a beneficiary of the United Jewish Appeal.

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A Sizable Delegation from WAO Will Attend National Convention

Women's American ORT is looking forward with great hope to the forthcoming convention of the AOF. It has from its inception, over twenty years ago, been an integral part of American ORT Federation. Although it has been operating as an autonomous body within the framework of AOF and is a distinct affiliate, the relationship of the WAO and AOF has been very close.

The unique contribution of the 21,000 members of the WAO throughout the country has been a pivotal force in aiding the comprehensive reconstruction of the remnants of world Jewry.

Leaders Go Overseas

Many national leaders of WAO, headed by Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan, national president, and including Mrs.

Maurice Finkelstein, Mrs. Cylvia K. Margulies, Mrs. William J. Borkovitz, Mrs. Jacob B. Shohan, Mrs. Kurt Laemle, Mrs. Leon B. Harris, Mrs. Max Bralow, immediately after the war went overseas and brought back to the thousands of willing, alert and intelligent women members of the WAO the critical problems facing the communities of European Jewry. The response to these

(Continued on page 4)

Seventy Years of ORT Training



ORT Gardening Course for Youth at Maimonides School, Boulogne Sur Seine

ORT, conceived by a few far-sighted and public spirited men, such as Baron Horace De Gunzbourg, as a non-political body aiming at the development and support of trade schools, the distribution of artisans to better employment centers, and the return of Jews to agriculture, was founded in Russia in 1880, and is today a very large and significant organization.

Until 1919 ORT operated exclusively in Russia and those Eastern European countries which were then incorporated as part of the Russian empire. The upheavals caused after World War I made it mandatory to extend ORT's centers to other parts of the world.

Training Workers

It was realized that Jews in general were entering upon a period in which physical labor would be their principal livelihood. They, along with other segments of the middle class, found that the economic ground was disappearing from

under small scale commerce and industry. For physical sustenance Jews had to apply themselves to all kinds of physical labor, from skilled handicraft and factory work to the hardest kind of unskilled labor. This was necessary, as well, to remove the economic causes of anti-semitism.

The restrictions placed upon entrance of Jews into trade, industry and the professions in Poland, in addition to the bars on college entrance, made it immediately imperative to develop vocational training programs.

ORT activities in the pre-Nazi period were concentrated essentially in Russia, Lithuania, Poland and Rumania.

During the Nazi period the main problem facing ORT was that of training German Jews fleeing from Germany to Eastern Europe, France and England.

ORT provided factory employment for displaced artisans and young workers who had no prospects of artisanship,

and organized them in producers cooperatives. Over 4,000 people received instruction in industrial workshops, primarily in Lodz, the center of Polish textile industry in 1936.

Jews applied themselves to orcharding and truck gardening and developed these branches of agriculture.

A total of 12 agricultural cooperatives were organized in the Eastern Polish provinces between 1929 and 1936. By 1937 ORT had helped 2,000 families to engage in agriculture and horticulture. Diversified courses, including machine shop practice, auto-mechanics, electrical work, carpentry, dressmaking, hand-weaving, etc., were conducted, even under the Nazi occupation.

Maintain High Standards

In Rumania and Hungary similar problems were faced and met. The Hungarian ORT, for example, founded in 1939, established a number of institutions in the capital and in different provinces of the country. Their workshops were highly praised by the authorities. Characteristic of the organization were the high standards of its teachers and administrators and the capacity to judge the economic situation clearly and to offer training on the basis of the needs of the period.

In the immediate prewar period and during the war, as refugees migrated to the Western hemisphere, schools were established in South America and also in New York. Those who went to the Orient were trained in Shanghai.

In France and other countries, throughout the German occupation, even in the ghettos and concentration camps, ORT schools were in operation and well attended, although greatly handicapped by the deportation of many instructors and pupils as well as the general persecution to which the Jews were subjected.

Face New Situation

At the end of the war ORT faced a new and more difficult situation. The remnant of Jewry which survived the Nazi barbarism and the devastation of war found themselves rootless, homeless, living in the miserable conditions of the DP camps. To many people these refugees appeared to be forever lost as

(Continued on page 4)

Seventy Years of ORT Training

(Continued from page 3)

productive members of society. For ORT, however, they presented a challenge and the possibility of proving the basic concept under which ORT has always functioned.

Establishing trade centers and workshops in the camps themselves, ORT was able to equip tens of thousands of DPs with skills and trades and enable them to face the future with new hope.

ORT Work Cited

Cited by many prominent authorities and visitors as the most effective private agency engaged in the field of vocational training and rehabilitation, ORT reached agreements with official agencies such as IRO, the French Government and the Government of Sweden.

In the Fulton Committee report, issued by the Congressional Committee which visited the DP camps, the following statement appeared in the section which evaluated the various voluntary agencies operating in this field: "ORT has done the best job of vocational training in the DP camps." This sentiment has been repeated many times by other committees and prominent individuals.

The training of non-Jewish refugees is financed by IRO and the governments involved. ORT has accomplished not only the rehabilitation of tens of thousands of individuals, but has immeasurably strengthened the economies of European countries receiving Marshall Plan aid by providing a source of skilled labor to operate the machines and cultivate the farms.

North Africa

In North Africa our people live in indescribable ghetto conditions, their social status lower than that of the DP



Glove Making Course in Paris

in Europe, as a declassed and poverty-stricken people. Here ORT, in collaboration with the JDC, is making plans for expansion of facilities to equip Jews with the skills which alone can provide the basis for achieving economic security and social equality in North Africa or in any nation to which they may migrate. In many cases, both in Europe and North Africa, the ORT certification of skill becomes a passport to a new nation and a new life.

Into Israel, a nation which survived a devastating war, now celebrating its first anniversary, Jews from the diaspora are pouring in great numbers. There are already 75,000 ORT graduates in Israel. The doors of Zion will remain open to all Jews who wish to enter her gates, with the expectation of admitting hundreds of thousands who will become citizens of the new republic. Israel must provide an economy which can sustain these people.

Today, thousands of soldiers are being demobilized and have no skills. Orphans roam the streets without direction. Others are homeless or live in totally inadequate shelters. Beset by many economic and social difficulties, the nation is valiantly struggling to live and flourish.

ORT in Israel

ORT here has its most important function to perform. The nature of Israeli industry, it is agreed by most authorities, will be similar to that of Sweden and Switzerland. It will be small scale, highly skilled artisan industry and will require the manpower to create and maintain such an economy. ORT here will specialize in long-term training courses which will develop an artisan capable of competing with the best in Europe. ORT has already undertaken training of soldiers and has established centers for orphans. The main task in the period ahead will be the expansion of ORT centers in Israel, particularly for developing skills in the textile, tourist, building, watchmaking and agricultural mechanics industries. The program is being established with the support of the government and in cooperation with Histadrut and other agencies.

The spirit which animates our work will enable us to accept our responsibil-



Leather Work at ORT School in Stuttgart

ities. We may be certain that ORT will work wherever there are Jews in need of training.

WAO Delegation

(Continued from page 2)

American women through WAO's five-point program has been exemplary.

Anna Center Schneiderman, acting president of WAO in commenting on the AOF convention stated, "new horizons have now opened up for American Jewish women. We must once again formulate intelligent plans and exert as much energy in helping to build up the new state of Israel and in the rehabilitation of the hundreds of thousands of helpless and forgotten Jews who are now living in North Africa, as we did in formulating a program during the war and during the transition period." Mrs. Schneiderman continued by saying that the response of the delegates to the AOF convention has been most gratifying.

Delegates to Convention

Delegates coming to the convention from all parts of the country include Mrs. Abrasha Haimson, president of the Southern California region, Mrs. William J. Borkovitz, president of the Midwest region, Mrs. Samuel Jacobson, president of the Connecticut region, Mrs. Sam Holland, president; Mrs. Jacob Martin, founder; and Mrs. I. S. Poger, of the St. Louis region; Mrs. Samuel Ptalis, president of the Pough-

keepsie chapter; Mrs. Raymond Kravis of Tulsa, Mrs. Nathan Gore, Mrs. I. M. Greenberg, Mrs. Jacob Stern, all of the Chicago-Midwest Region, Mrs. Joseph Israel of Passaic, Mrs. Abraham Brodner and Mrs. Jacob Belford of Connecticut, Mrs. Mitchell Kaplan of the New Jersey region, Mrs. Frank Lesnick and Mrs. I. Grylock of Paterson, Mrs. Milton Okun of Detroit.



Anna Center Schneiderman

Mrs. Max Kornreich, president of the New York Region of WAO, is not only a co-chairman of the Convention Dinner Committee but is the motivating force behind the plans for the elegant dinner which is planned to open the convention. The response of the New York Region has been most enthusiastic to both the convention and to the opening dinner which is due entirely to the dynamic leadership of Mrs. Kornreich.

In discussing the objectives of the AOF convention, Anna Center Schneiderman stated that the task ahead for the hundreds of delegates is to think through clearly a dynamic reconstruction program to meet the critical needs of a people in the greatest hour of their history.

Convention Program

Saturday, May 21

Invocation Rabbi WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM

Dinner

Address by Congressman JACOB K. JAVITS

Film Showing "Passport to Freedom"

Address by Israeli Consul General, ARTHUR LOURIE

Address by DAVID DUBINSKY and Presentation of Award to Prof. HABER

Acceptance by WILLIAM HABER—Reception in his honor

Sunday, May 22

Morning Session 10:00 A. M.

Credentials Committee Report

Constitution Committee Report

Finance Committee Report

Executive Director's Report

President's Report

Lunch—Address by DR. JEAN BRUNSCHVIG—*World ORT Union* 1:00 P. M.

Afternoon Session 2:00 P. M.

Resolutions Committee *Report and Discussion*

Nominations Committee *Report and Elections*

Successful Convention Held By Young Men's & Women's ORT

Keynoted by an address delivered by Mrs. Sylvia Margulies, publicity and public relations chairman of Women's American ORT, the eleventh Annual Convention of Young Men's and Women's ORT was the biggest and best convention in its history. A piano recital was given by Miss Hilda Fenyo and after a gala dinner there was dancing to the music of Ben Rich's orchestra.

On the business side of the convention ledger, executive officers for the coming year were elected and a constitution adopted. Nathan Dechter, re-elected president, made a report on the achievements of YM&W ORT in the past year in light of the goals set at the last convention.

Representing a membership of almost 800 young people, delegates came from seven existing chapters: Chicago, Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Newark, and Business and Professional. The

convention was held at New York's Peter Stuyvesant Hotel on May 15.

YM&W ORT will make full use of its authorized representation of ten delegates at the American ORT Convention by sending the presidents of its seven chapters as delegates and electing the rest of the delegation from among its membership. Among the delegates will be Barbara Berkman of Brooklyn, Helen Robinson of Queens, Kenneth Mimmless of Manhattan, Irvin Wepner of Bronx, Beatrice Johnson of Business and Professional, Yale Apter of Essex Co., N. J., and Jeane Sperling of Chicago.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
April 28, 1949

My dear Mr. Backer:
Please extend my sincere greetings to the officers, delegates, and members attending the National Convention of the American ORT Federation. The world-wide ORT organization has made definitely worthwhile contributions for the benefit of mankind in the 70 years of its existence and I wish it many more years of activity in the humanitarian task it is doing so well for so many under-privileged men, women and children.

Americans and people all over the world admire the vocational training program ORT is carrying out in DP camps and in twenty four countries throughout the world. It is enabling many oppressed people to find a self-sustaining way of living and making them useful and respected citizens.

I join the many who confidently look forward to seeing the expanded programs in Israel and North Africa become effective in reestablishing productive lives for thousands who have survived cruelties and barbarities. Moreover the Israel training centers can be expected to aid industry there and thus contribute to the entire economy of the new Jewish nation.

Very sincerely yours,
Harry Truman

Mr. George Backer
President
American ORT Federation
212 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
U. S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 5, 1949

Mr. George Backer
President
American ORT Federation
212 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Mr. Backer:

On the occasion of your National Convention I wish to send greetings and to express congratulations for the notable work that ORT, as a voluntary organization, has done throughout the world. It is a field of rehabilitation through vocational training. Teaching men how to use the tools of production may certainly be regarded as an important step toward the development of personal confidence and competence as well as national rehabilitation.

Sincerely yours,

Earl J. McGrath
Earl J. McGrath
Commissioner

Please accept my greetings on the occasion of the National American ORT Federation. Your work of bringing new life and hope to thousands of haunted and hunted people on the occasion before to remark on the fact that activity does not base itself upon charity help. Both for the work of rebuilding and the great task of building Israel, the acquisition of skills as an importance. I want to assure you my admiration for the cause in which you are engaged.

Albert Einstein
Albert Einstein

JOHN DEWEY
1158 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 29, N. Y.

I am very happy to extend my cordial greetings to the delegates and guests assembled at the National Convention of the American ORT Federation. For many years I have watched the work of ORT with admiration. The freedom of man depends upon many things, not the least of which is the ability to be a useful producer in our society. The vocational rehabilitation of the pogrom-ridden and war-weary persecuted Jews is certainly among the first steps which must be taken toward the achievement of human dignity for all men.

John Dewey
John Dewey

UNITED NATIONS
LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK • FIELDSTONE 7-1100
SECURITY OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Dear Mr. Backer,
Please accept my cordial greetings to the National Convention of the American ORT Federation. The work to which we in the United Nations are dedicated, that of building a better and more peaceful world, is greatly enhanced and encouraged by your world-wide programs of vocational training. It is most heartening that a voluntary agency like ORT should be able to undertake such a significant program as that of training annually over 20,000 formerly destitute people in twenty-five countries throughout the world. Providing refugees, displaced persons and other victims of the war with the knowledge and physical wherewithal to start new lives in their places of ultimate settlement constitutes a most important contribution to the peace and well-being of the world. We welcome your activities as part of the great and enduring struggle to keep men free.

Trygve Lie

CONVENTION GREENINGS



Mr. George Backer, President
American ORT Federation
212 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y.

My dear George,

I am happy to extend through you my warmest greetings to the National Convention of American ORT. It is with a great deal of gratification that I have learned that the new ORT Program in Israel is making steady progress and that you have already several hundred students enrolled in training centers in the principal cities of Israel. I was particularly gratified to have the opportunity to discuss the ORT Program in Israel with Mr. Singelovskiy.

The ORT Program in Israel is important not only for each of the new citizens of my nation who, through training, are enabled to resume normal productive lives but particularly for the economy itself. Israel must build a productive machine capable of supporting beyond our present population the hundreds of thousands who later enter our gates in the next few years. It is only through the development of a highly skilled labor force and a resulting high productivity of labor that Israel can fulfill the goals that it has set for the entire Jewish people.

I am sure that ORT will have every possible cooperation from the various ministries of the Israeli Government to help you expand your activities. Please convey my greetings and best wishes to your guests and delegates and through them to all the supporters of ORT in the United States.

Yours sincerely,

Ch. Weizman

HERBERT H. LEHMAN
41 EAST 87th STREET
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Hotel Neurics, Paris
May 4, 1949

Mr. George Backer,
American ORT Federation,
212 Fifth Avenue,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear George:

As a long-time associate of ORT allow me to send my congratulations and greetings to the National Convention of the American ORT Federation. I regret my inability to attend your gathering to greet you personally. I am prevented from being with you as I will be in Israel at the time of your convention.

My affiliation with ORT has always been a source of great satisfaction to me because in this great movement I have found men and women devoted to the cause of freedom who have given unparingly of their time and efforts to effectuate an unsurpassed vocational training program for our unfortunate brethren overseas.

Within recent days I have had the opportunity of inspecting your great school here in Paris. It is a splendid institution which is turning out skilled workers in a great many different vocations. I look forward to visiting your recently established schools in Israel.

I was most happy to serve as a sponsor of your International Exhibit which brought to many eyes the reality of the accomplishments of ORT's program among the DP's of Europe and North Africa. ORT training centers have been an inspiration and boon to hundreds of thousands of persons during the course of its 69 years. I wish to say that it is a privilege to be associated with ORT and to participate in its humane efforts.

Yours very sincerely,

Herbert H. Lehman

DEPARTMENT 15-A
BOSTON SQUARE, WEST
NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

May 4, 1949

My dear

I am very happy to send my greetings to the delegates and guests assembled at the National Convention of American ORT. I am confident that the fine work ORT has carried on in so many parts of the world will be continued with the same success and spirit of service as it has in the past.

Both personally and as Governor, I am happy to send warm greetings to the delegates and guests assembled at the National Convention of the American ORT Federation on May 21st and 22nd.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas E. Dewey



THOMAS E. DEWEY
GOVERNOR

Mr. George Backer, President
American ORT Federation
212 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Mr. Backer:

Both personally and as Governor, I am happy to send warm greetings to the delegates and guests assembled at the National Convention of the American ORT Federation on May 21st and 22nd.

The members of ORT may well be proud of the effectiveness of the activities they have carried on with such humanity and energy in Europe, in North Africa and also in the new Republic of Israel. The necessity of helping the tragic victims of war and of totalitarian persecution to find themselves once more is obvious. This is a problem of paramount importance and the task has devolved largely upon private agencies. The program of ORT has gone straight to the root of the matter and the success of its work has been outstanding. Nothing can help an unhappy refugee more surely and more quickly than finding his place in society by acquiring a skilled trade. He gains thereby the dignity and the confidence of a person who stands on his own feet. For the high motives and success of these great humanitarian activities, every one of the thousands who have worked so hard on them deserves the fullest support and warm gratitude of all our people.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Thomas E. Dewey

TED:RM



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON VOLUNTARY FOREIGN AID
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 5, 1949

Dear Mr. Backer:

Allow me to extend my cordial greetings to the delegates and guests assembled at the National Convention of American ORT Federation. Your work in the field of vocational training has been most effective and admirable. Our Committee has found that your organization is worthy of official certification and deserving of the special privileges which obtain with ORT certification. I am confident that the fine work ORT has carried on in so many parts of the world will be continued with the same success and spirit of service as it has in the past.

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Taft
Charles F. Taft
Chairman

George Backer
President
American ORT Federation
212 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

Warsaw Ghetto

Mrs. R. Gurman, sole survivor of the former Polish ORT staff in the Warsaw ghetto, just submitted a report on ORT's work there. Thousands of people were enabled to earn their own livelihoods and support their families as a result of ORT workshops.

ORT, in 1940, selected workers from among the refugee masses who had to leave their homes in great haste and flee to the capital, and placed the necessary equipment and working materials at their disposal to the best of its ability.

For a group of weavers from Lodz, ORT set up a weavers' cooperative society. During the first months of German occupation an exhibit of Polish artisan work took place in Warsaw. ORT secured for Jewish artisans the permission to participate at this exhibit. As a result the Jewish artisans received numerous orders, particularly for kitchen furnishings, household utensils, toys, brushes, etc. The contracts for brushes were the basis for the "Brush-makers Shop," where 6,500 Jews worked, and which later became so famous in the history of the Warsaw ghetto uprising.

In 1940, ORT opened its first 14 training workshops for machine shop, carpentry, electrotechnics, optics, driving, confectionery, dressmaking, lingerie, millinery, children's clothing manufacture, corsetry, knitting, glove manufacture, as well as courses in chemistry, drawing, typewriting, shorthand, book-keeping, and agriculture.

Students in the ORT institutions in the Warsaw ghetto totaled 4,500. Since the average training period was six months, some 20,000 persons attended the ORT institutions between September 1940 and August 1942.

For a brief period the German occupant left productive Jews comparatively alone, which resulted in an increased demand on the part of the Jews for ORT shops. ORT remained an oasis even as late as April 1943 when the ghetto was entirely surrounded by German forces. Not only did people work there, they also read Sholom Aleichem and sang folk songs. A certain cheerfulness in the workshops enabled one to forget the atmosphere of terror which pervaded outside.

Kingdon Tells ORT Story At N.Y. Sponsors Meeting



Dr. Frank Kingdon is holding an informal discussion with Mrs. Edgar Gruenstein, president of New York Sponsors and Rabbi William F. Rosenblum, spiritual leader of Temple Israel, prior to the meeting held by New York Sponsors which heard Dr. Kingdon deliver an inspiring address on ORT's work in Europe and Israel. Dr. Kingdon, who recently returned from a visit abroad, was able to give a first-hand account of the effectiveness of ORT training.

Munich

A group of youngsters in Munich who call themselves the ORT basketball team played a match against the Munich sports club "Hapoel." The ORT team was beaten 26-18 . . . but theirs was the victory.

Their victory because, today, among young Jews whose physical capacities were grimly weakened by the war, there is a new determination to excel in sports.

England

Everything from blouses, skirts and dresses to drilling machines, tables, and deck chairs and a convector heater have been turned out by students of London ORT School, Kensington, during the last few weeks.

Production is being maintained at a high standard, according to a report from Dr. A. Lewinnek, head of the London school.

JLC Sends Delegation To Europe and Israel

A delegation of the Jewish Labor Committee recently left for Europe and Israel.

On the committee are Mr. Adolph Held, chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee and chairman of the American Labor ORT; Louis Hollander, co-manager of the Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Israel Feinberg, vice-president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and vice-chairman of the Administrative and Membership Committees of American Labor ORT; Dr. S. Silverberg, chairman of the Workmen's Circle Committee of the JLC; and Jacob Pat, secretary of the Jewish Labor Committee.

Salute to Israel On Her First Birthday

ORT, along with hundreds of Jewish organizations and millions of people, greets Israel on its first anniversary with pride and pleasure. Our pride is the pride of world Jewry. Israel's unsurpassed record of achievement in the one short year of its existence is a modern miracle. Its valiant and successful struggle on the battlefield has brought the new nation the admiration and respect of the entire world and has won admission to membership in the United Nations. 200,000 Jews from fifty countries have already migrated to Israel since May 1948. Israel's heroic efforts to care for them, house them and integrate them into the economic life of the nation and above all, its determination never to close its doors to a single Jew in the diaspora, these are all part of its ineradicable record of honor and purpose. ORT pledges to spare no efforts to assist in the economic rebuilding of the homeland of the Jewish people. We know that Israel will ever remain a living monument to the courage and faith of a dauntless people.

Unionists, WC Leaders Head Labor Delegation

The American Labor ORT will be represented at the American ORT Federation Convention by 100 delegates. Thirty will represent the Workmen's Circle. Representatives of out-of-town ORT organizations affiliated with the American Labor ORT, such as People's ORT Committee of Chicago, ORT groups of Newark, Syracuse, Waterbury, New Haven and other cities will also be present.

Among those heading the Union Delegations will be Vice-Presidents of the ILGWU, Julius Hochman, Louis Stulberg, Harry Wander; Vice President of the ACWA and Secretary-Treasurer of the New York Joint Board, Abraham Miller; and President of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union, Max Zaritsky.

The Workmen's Circle delegation will be headed by President Ephim Jeshurin, General Secretary Joseph Baskin, Assistant Secretary Benjamin Gebiner, and others.

Among the delegates from Chicago will be the President of the People's ORT Committee, M. L. Polin, Dr. Z. Lorber, S. Regensberg and D. Shier.

Italy

ORT has established a training center for former TB patients at Grottaferrata near Rome. More than 100 students are being instructed in watchmaking, dental mechanics, leather work, knitting and needle work. IRO has now placed a sizable sum at the disposal of ORT for the training of TB patients.

Chapter is Organized By Boro Park Group

A highly successful first meeting of the Boro Park Chapter of American ORT Federation was held on Wednesday evening, April 27 at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Herman Sparber.

Mr. Aaron B. Tart, former executive vice-chairman of American ORT Federation and now a member of its Board of Directors, delivered a very interesting and informative talk on the history and purposes of ORT. He gave a detailed account of his experiences during his last visit to ORT centers in Europe.

Emanuel Kaiser was elected president and Bernard Zuckerman vice-president. They were also elected delegate and alternate, respectively, to the National Convention of American ORT.

Leavitt Pleased By ORT Exhibit

On Tuesday, April 19, after the International ORT Exhibit had been officially closed, Mr. Moses A. Leavitt, Executive Vice-Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, viewed a private showing of the Exhibit as a guest of A. C. Litton, Chairman of the Exhibit Committee. Edward L. Sard, Executive Director of American ORT Federation, accompanied Mr. Leavitt.

Impressed With Craftsmanship

After almost an hour of close examination of all the articles on exhibit, Mr. Leavitt expressed real satisfaction with this evidence of the work that had been accomplished in the ORT schools. Particularly impressed with a very beautiful piece of cabinet work made in Switzerland, he stated that it was hard to believe that students could have become such fine craftsmen. The versatility of the students and the variety of objects produced, in addition to the wide range of countries represented, evoked special comment from Mr. Leavitt. He felt that this was concrete and tangible evidence of the value of the JDC and ORT reconstruction program.

The Exhibit is being transported to South Africa and will be shown there in connection with fund-raising activities.

ORT Students in NY Commemorate Uprising

In commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, the students at the Bramson ORT Trade School in New York City observed three minutes' silence. Mrs. E. Scherer, Principal of the school addressed the pupils.

Several of the students are survivors of the Ghetto and the heart-breaking reaction to the revived memory of this tragic episode in human history added a meaning and solemnity to the occasion which greatly saddened all participants.

Lehman Praises Montreuil School

Following a three-hour visit to the ORT Vocational Training Center at Montreuil (suburb of Paris), Herbert H. Lehman, former Governor of New York and a member of the top Advisory Council of ECA, declared:

"This school exceeds my expectations. It is better than anything that I expected to see. ORT is doing a real job of turning out mechanics, fitters, radio technicians, tailors and other craftsmen. Through such magnificent efforts the Jewish people will become productive; whether they go to Israel or remain where they are, they will be an asset to the Community and contribute their share toward the reconstruction of the war-devastated world."

ECA Represented

Governor Lehman was accompanied by Mrs. Lehman and Dr. David Lvovitch, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the World ORT Union. Present also were Mrs. Evelyn Shaier and Mr. McKelvy of the ECA mission in France and representatives of the French Jewish community.

Mr. Lehman expressed his satisfaction at the JDC-ORT agreement and enunciated the hope that the two organizations would continue their fruitful cooperation.

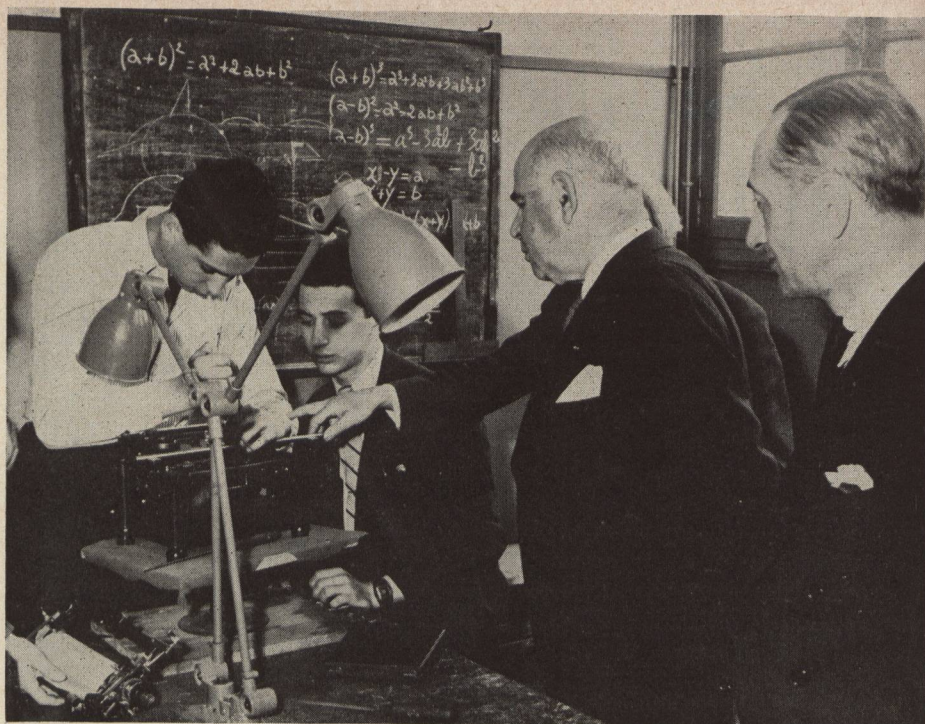
ORT Courses In Israel

ORT's first radio school in Israel has started work in Tel Aviv with two evening classes of 18 pupils each and a full time course.

New courses have also been launched at the ORT School for Building Construction in Jaffa. Many difficulties were overcome with the help of ORT teachers from France and Italy who are now employed as instructors at the new school.

The Affula local council has offered industrialists city plots for the construction of factories in order to speed up the development of the town. ORT has promised to erect two trade schools.

Schools now in operation in Israel are the following: In Jaffa, Radio Tech-



Herbert H. Lehman watches two students repair a typewriter at the ORT school at Montreuil. This school was donated by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

tics, Typewriter Repair, Women's Dressmaking, Hosiery; in Tel Aviv, Dressmaking and Knitting for girls and Woodworking and Building; in Petach Tikvah, Machine Mechanics; in Ben Shemen, Agromechanics, Carpentry,

Dressmaking; in Kfar Ganim, Woodworking; in Jerusalem, Dressmaking and Haute Couture; in Hanna, Building and Dressmaking. There are a total of 16 courses in seven schools with 550 pupils and many others in preparation.

GREETINGS

Greetings were received from the following too late to be included in the Bulletin:

HENRY MORGENTHAU, Jr.

General Chairman, United Jewish Appeal

STANLEY C. MYERS

President, Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, Inc.

ORT ITALIA

Renzo Levi

ORT COMMITTEE AUSTRALIA

L. Fink

ORT SHANGHAI

HARRY BRANTON

Director, Austrian ORT Mission

FRANK M. GODINE

Honorary Secretary, Canadian ORT Organization

JAMES C. QUINN

Secretary, Central Trades and Labor Council, N. Y. C.

WOMEN'S CANADIAN ORT

CUBAN ORT

G. Krieger, President—L. Ran, Manager

HUNGARIAN ORT

B. Halasz, Chairman—E. Fischer, Director

DR. DUTCH

ORT Director Germany-Austria

HOLLAND ORT

Vedder, President

FRENCH ORT

Meiss, President

SWISS ORT

A. Brunschvig—L. Hersch

RIO ORT SOCIETY

DANISH ORT COMMITTEE

L. Fischer, Chairman
R. Gelvan, Secretary

ORT HELLENIQUE (Greece)

CONVENTION GREETINGS

My warmest greetings to National Convention. I wish you best success in continuation of your vital humanitarian work of rehabilitation.

JAMES G. McDONALD
U. S. Ambassador to Israel

The service which ORT has rendered so long and so effectively will be required for many years to come, and in an ever increasing measure. In this respect the ORT occupies a position of eminence for which there can be no adequate substitute.

I hope that . . . means will be devised to expand the humanitarian activities for which the ORT is noted. . . .

MAX ZARITSKY
*President, United Hatters,
Cap & Millinery Workers
International Union*

The International Refugee Organization appreciates ORT's highly successful and gratifying activities in the vocational training of displaced persons and refugees. . . . To aid in this work, under our general agreement with ORT we have accredited a large number of ORT schools in Germany, Austria and Italy, and we provide maintenance and other material assistance to the running of your school system. . . .

The purposes and objectives of the IRO and ORT are fundamentally identical. We both want to help the most unfortunate victims of the war, the displaced persons, to help themselves. ORT has done an excellent job in helping to eradicate the DP problem in Europe through your vocational training centers. . . .

W. HALLAM TUCK
Director-General

Am happy to greet representatives American Jewry assembled in American ORT Convention to discuss ORT problems now facing us in Europe, Israel and Moslem countries stop . . . We need your support to carry out this tremendous task and with all my heart I wish your Convention every success.

DR. DAVID LVOVITCH

We thank you for your contribution to the development of Algerian ORT. We hope for the creation of numerous centers for the amelioration of the condition of Algerian Jewry. We send fraternal greetings.

ALGERIAN ORT

The Pocketbook Workers Union of New York is proud to record the fact that it was one of the pioneer unions which helped organize the American ORT Federation. . . . We are making every effort to make our contribution to UJA in 1949 larger, particularly because of ORT.

OSSIP WALINSKY
Executive Director

The United States National Commission for UNESCO extends its greetings to the National Convention of American ORT Federation. . . . Your basic philosophy of rehabilitation through vocational training is in accord with our own. You have sought, as we have, to bring to the peoples of the world a security and dignity which comes with knowledge. . . .

MILTON EISENHOWER
Chairman

I know of nothing more important for Jews throughout the world than to create rehabilitation through training—training of the mind and of the hand. . . .

Thanks to ORT, thousands have become mechanics and craftsmen, and the artistry of their hands is now discernable in all walks of life. . . .

EMANUEL CELLER
*Secretary, ORT Congressional
Committee*

Thank you very much for your invitation to the Convention of the American ORT Federation. . . . I am leaving Israel tomorrow, where we have now established a firm foundation for a big ORT work. . . . I would have liked to . . . come to New York, and I am sorry that it is impossible for me to do so.

DR. ARON SYNGLOWSKI

On the occasion of your National Convention it gives us great pleasure to send you our cordial greetings and sincere good wishes.

Today ORT is greater than at any time in its already magnificent history. What it has done in the rehabilitation of our people in Europe since the end of the war has been acclaimed throughout the world. Its work has meant a renewal of life and hope for tens of thousands of persecuted Jews. And now ORT is preparing to write a glorious chapter in the story of the Jewish State, sustained by the confidence and good will of all Jewry.

DR. H. SONNABEND
*Chairman
South African ORT-OZE*

Happy to have taken some part in your admirable work of such importance for so many years and now more necessary than ever. Swedish ORT committees send greetings. . . .

LAMM, STRAND, ENQUIST

To the delegates and guests of the American ORT Federation's Convention we send our heartfelt greetings stop . . . We wish you good luck in your important work.

**ORT IN THE STATE OF
ISRAEL**
J. S. SHAPIRA
Chairman, Council
J. BEHAM
Chairman, Executive Com.

It is a privilege to extend hearty greetings on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York and my own personal felicitations to you, the members of the American ORT Federation, on the occasion of your National Convention.

During this current crisis in Jewish history, ORT's outstanding efforts have helped immeasurably in the unprecedented task of rehabilitating Jewish victims of persecution and upheaval. . . .

Our sincere wishes for continued success with your splendid program.

MONROE GOLDWATER
President

I wish I could avail myself of the privilege of attending the opening dinner of the American ORT Federation's National Convention on May 21, 1949. . . .

Please accept my very best wishes for the success of your convention.

MAURICE J. TOBIN
Secretary of Labor

Please accept the cordial and fraternal greetings of the International Labor Office, which has followed your work with admiration and pleasure. The permanent liaison which has been established between the ILO and ORT has proven highly successful. The importance of training people to work at skilled trades cannot be overestimated. Only through such training will the problem of economic security be on the road to solution. You have done a fine job. . . .

DAVID A. MORSE
Director-General

Behalf British ORT wish Convention success stop . . . appreciate responsibility resting upon American Jewish organizations present state Jewish people and important part American ORT in work of ORT Union stop . . . hope U. S. A. community will learn from Convention of the work of training and rehabilitation of ORT movement and will provide means continuing this work still sorely needed by hundreds of thousands in several countries stop . . . success of Convention will bring encouragement ORT in other countries.

ALEXANDER HALPERN
Chairman

Cordial greetings to delegates and guests of National Convention of the American ORT Federation. Wishing a fruitful work.

BULGARIAN ORT

The Jewish youth of North Africa is gratefully benefiting from ORT's efforts which still should be intensified. ORT work is assuring its moral, economic and social progress and constitutes the best defense against poverty.

JULES SENOUF
President, ORT Morocco

CONVENTION GREETINGS

The Congress of Industrial Organizations extends its fraternal greetings to the delegates and guests assembled at the National Convention of American ORT Federation. The value of your work of rehabilitation of the oppressed and homeless Jewish people in Europe, Asia, Africa and America, through vocational training, cannot be properly or adequately estimated. The human value of giving people the security and dignity which accompanies the acquisition of a skilled trade is more than a physical and material thing. We in the labor movement know how closely your aims are allied with ours. We wish you every success.

PHILIP MURRAY
President

I greet the American ORT Federation as it meets in National Convention in this City. I have every hope that the coming year will bring continued progress in the ever-growing program you have set before you.

Your organization has made an impressive record in the rehabilitation of thousands of oppressed and down-trodden people who, thanks to your efforts, are now able to resume their lives with independence and great hope for the future.

ORT deserves the commendation of all for this great humanitarian project. I wish you every success.

WILLIAM F. O'DWYER
Mayor

I have long been acquainted with your great success in training Jewish refugees in Europe's DP camps and today there are many thousands of people in Israel who are leading productive and useful lives as a result of this training. The extension of the activities of ORT to Israel has been a matter of considerable gratification for the Government which sees in your vocational training program a medium for extending material aid to those immigrants who come to Israel without any trade or profession.

ELIAHU ELATH
Israeli Ambassador to the U.S

In behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of the Joint Distribution Committee, I want to congratulate the American ORT Federation on the occasion of its National Convention for the important role it has played, and is playing, in building a life of dignity and independence for Jews overseas.

For many years preceding World War II, JDC and ORT worked side by side to meet the needs of Europe's Jews. Then, confronted by the needs of the postwar world, our two agencies entered into a partnership covering a vital phase of JDC's over-all program—vocational training efforts for Jews who had been deprived of opportunities to acquire the skills necessary for self-support.

How well this partnership succeeded can be measured by the tens of thousands of ORT graduates who have attained economic independence. Heartening, too, is the knowledge that among the thousands of JDC transports each month to Israel and other lands are many men, women and youths who are equipped to make substantial contributions to their new homes because of the vocational training they received in Europe.

With best wishes for the continued success of your efforts in behalf of the Jews overseas.

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG
Chairman

On behalf of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, I am pleased to extend greetings to the delegates and guests of the National Convention of the American ORT Federation.

This year more than ever, the work of ORT commends itself to the labor movement as well as to all men and women of good will. The work of rehabilitation through training among the Jewish dispossessed in the far-flung parts of the world cannot be minimized. In many cases, it is the sole hope of restoring young men and women, uprooted by Hitlerism, to a position of dignity and self-respect in the world community.

I wish you every success at your historic Convention.

JACOB S. POTOFSKY
President

Please convey to the officers and delegates to your National Convention my sincere personal and official best wishes and hope for a most successful and constructive meeting. . . . I have long been acquainted with the program and constructive activities of ORT. You have done a truly fine job of rehabilitating the oppressed DPs of Europe and in contributing to the success of the Marshall Plan by training skilled workers to take their places in industry. I believe that the future will reflect your splendid record of the past and your recognition of the importance and status of producers of the world augurs well for continued close cooperation between your organization and the American Federation of Labor.

WILLIAM GREEN
President

I welcome this opportunity to send my warm greetings to the delegates and guests at the National Convention of American ORT Federation. I want to once more congratulate you on the very wonderful work you are doing. Your devotion to a very great cause, your singleness of purpose, is truly gratifying. It is difficult to adequately express the significance of your activities. A new freedom has been achieved by people who now have the security of a skilled trade. My very best wishes for your future work.

ROBERT F. WAGNER
U. S. Senate

As Chairman of the ORT Congressional Committee, I have been in close contact with all aspects of ORT work. My association with your organization has been a very happy and fruitful one. ORT's remarkable rehabilitation program, carried on so extensively and effectively in Europe, North Africa and Israel, has been and remains a source of great pleasure and satisfaction for all who are intimately acquainted with it.

It is an evident fact that of all the private agencies engaged in vocational training in Europe, ORT has done an outstanding job.

BRIEN McMAHON
U. S. Senate

My cordial greetings to the delegates and guests of the National Convention of American ORT Federation. Your organization has done an effective job in rehabilitating DPs and other needy persons who have suffered from the disorganization of civilized community life. I have seen how helpful has been your training program in supplying a source of skilled labor for European countries receiving Marshall Plan aid. I wish you every success in your future work.

PAUL G. HOFFMAN
Administrator, Economic Cooperation Administration

ORT BULLETIN
212 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

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