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BULLETIN

ORGANIZATION FOR REHABILITATION THROUGH TRAINING

VOLUME V, No. 3

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JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1952

ORT, JDC Sign \$1,000,000 Agreement



Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of the JDC and Dr. William Haber, president of the American ORT Federation, having affixed their signatures, watch Dr. Aron Syngalowski, World ORT Union Executive Committee chairman, sign the 1952 ORT-JDC agreement. Looking on is Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan, WAO president, and standing is Mr. David Rosenstein, member of the AOF Negotiating Committee.

An agreement signed on January 21, between the American ORT Federation, the World ORT Union and the Joint Distribution Committee, will provide up to \$1,000,000 in 1952 for vocational training programs in Western Europe, North Africa, and Iran.

The present pact marks the sixth consecutive post-war year during which similar understandings have been reached by the two organizations. From 1947 through 1951, the JDC has made available to ORT \$7,350,000 for overseas trade education.

Signatories to the agreement were Dr. William Haber, AOF president; Dr. Aron Syngalowski, chairman of the WOU Executive Committee; and Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of the JDC.

Support UJA Campaign

Under the provisions of the pact, ORT will give its complete support to the 1952 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal, of which the JDC is a constituent agency, and will refrain from independent fund-raising in the United States. In particular, ORT will devote one month of activities to the UJA drive.

As in previous agreements, the American ORT Federation will continue to recruit members throughout the Jewish community, with annual dues not to exceed \$25, which will be used to supplement facilities, particularly in Israel, for support to the New York ORT Schools, and other activities. ORT's most extensive program is in Israel where the schools have been universally acclaimed. This program is not included in the pact with JDC.

Almost all of JDC's direct vocational training activities will be carried on through ORT, under the terms of this understanding.

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AOF Board Plans Convention in Fall; Discusses Future Plans and Perspectives

The Thirtieth Anniversary Convention of the American ORT Federation will take place in New York City during the Fall of 1952, according to a decision taken by the AOF Board of Directors at its January 20 meeting.

While the Executive Committee had previously set an earlier convention date, the Board, on the basis of a report by David Rosenstein, Convention Committee co-chairman, decided that the most desirable time for the convention would be either the middle of October or November. The exact date

is to be determined by the Executive Committee.

The Board of Directors also heard a report by Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan, WAO president, on the excellent progress made by this affiliate and on her

(Continued on Page 2)

AOF Board Issues Policy Statement

(Ed. note: The following resolution was adopted at the AOF Board of Directors meeting, January 20, 1952.)

The agreements between ORT and the JDC have provided the funds with which essential vocational training programs for our people have been financed in Western Europe, North Africa, Iran and elsewhere, with maximum effectiveness and the absence of duplicating fund-raising activities.

The American Jewish community and its representative organizations directly concerned with fund raising for the support of Jewish welfare and reconstruction activities overseas, such as the local Federations and Welfare Funds, and the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, have a definite interest in the continuance of the harmonious collaboration between ORT and JDC. The Board of Directors of AOF also desires the maintenance of this relationship.

The ORT program in Israel has been established on a sound basis. Its network of vocational training schools is already making a significant contribution to the economic development of the State. These schools form an integral part of the ORT program. There is no logic or reason why that significant program is denied financial support from funds provided by American Jewry through the UJA. It is imperative, therefore, that our Israeli schools receive some financial support from American funds in 1953.

THEREFORE, It is resolved that the Board of Directors of the AOF, desirous of continuing the fruitful cooperation between ORT and JDC which now enters its sixth year, urges that it is of utmost importance that JDC policies and intentions for 1953 with respect to the support of ORT's vital program in Israel, for which no American provision has been made hitherto, be clarified early this year so that ORT can properly plan for the future of its work.

The Board of Directors of the AOF accordingly authorizes and directs its officers and Executive Committee to undertake appropriate discussions with JDC representatives at the earliest possible moment with a view to implementing the purposes of this resolution.

AOF Board Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

impressions of ORT overseas during her recent trip. In addition, written



Leaders at the convention which launched the new Canadian ORT Federation. Left to right: Samuel Bronfman, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Philip Fainer, president of the Canadian ORT Men's Organization; Dr. William Haber, AOF president, who was the principal speaker; Moshe Juval, Israeli Consul-General; Dr. Henry Sonnabend, member of the WOU Executive Committee; Leon Crestohl, K.C.M.P., president of the new Canadian ORT Federation.

reports were presented by affiliates and chapters and the AOF national office.

Mintzer Reports

George J. Mintzer, speaking for the Executive Committee, of which he is chairman, recounted to the meeting the many matters which his committee has discussed and acted upon, including the adoption of the 1952 AOF budget.

After hearing Dr. Haber detail the course of the discussions with JDC, the Board voted unanimously to ratify the agreement. In recognition of the harmonious collaboration between the two agencies during the past five years, the Board extended its appreciation and thanks to JDC and the UJA.

The text of the "Resolution on American Support for ORT in Israel" appears on this page.

Following a frank speech by Dr. Syngalowski on the problems now facing World ORT, a resolution was adopted commending "the vision and magnificent energy" of the leading bodies of the World Union.

Director Resigns

At the recent meeting of the AOF Board of Directors the acceptance of the resignation of Hyman A. Schulson as executive director was announced. Mr. Schulson left ORT to return to the private practice of law. This meeting also approved the appointment of Paul Bernick as executive secretary. The national office of the Federation will be directed by Mr. Bernick, who has been the assistant to the executive director since 1948.

Albany Park Chapter

The Albany Park Chapter in Chicago, one of the oldest AOF groups, held a very successful Membership Drive Dinner early in December, with Dr. William Haber, AOF president, as the principal speaker.

At new elections held recently, Max Natkin, chapter president for 14 years, was succeeded by Jack Pines. New officers, in addition to Mr. Pines, are Louis Milstein, financial secretary; Abe Saffrin, vice-president; Lillian Weingartner, secretary; Jacob Zake, treasurer. An installation for new officers will take place February 10th at the Town House.

The chapter has a membership of 175 and expects to grow in the immediate future. Its monthly meetings have proven to be attractive and stimulating events.



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ORGANIZATION FOR REHABILITATION THROUGH TRAINING

Volume V, No. 3 Jan.-Feb., 1952

OFFICERS—Dr. William Haber, *President*; George Backer, *Honorary President*; Mark Carter, Adolph Held, Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan, William R. Sinkin, *Vice-Presidents*; Joseph Weinberg, *Secretary*; Alexander Dolowitz, *Treasurer*; George J. Mintzer, *Chairman Exec. Comm.*; Julius Hochman, *Vice-Chairman Exec. Comm.*; Harry Greenberg, *Chairman Admin. Comm.*; Paul Bernick, *Executive Sec'y.*

The American ORT Federation represents the World ORT Union, with which it is affiliated, in the United States. ORT 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 Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, a member agency of the United Jewish Appeal.

Annual Subscription Price — 50c
Reentered as second class matter February 16, 1951, at the post office at New York, N. Y. under the Act of March 3, 1879.

New York School Founders Honored; 700 Attend Tenth Anniversary Affair

700 persons came to the Tenth Anniversary celebration of the American and European Friends of ORT and the New York ORT Trade School on November 27th, to make it an outstanding gathering of community leaders. Principal speakers were William Rosenwald, a national UJA chairman; Dr. William Haber, president AOF; and Edward Corsi, chairman of the New York State DP Commission and State Industrial Commissioner. Abraham C. Litton, president of the American and European Friends of ORT, was chairman of the evening.

N. Y. School's Beginnings

Opening the evening's ceremonies, Mr. Litton contrasted today's general acceptance of the New York ORT School with the early years of struggle. He ascribed the school's success to the deep devotion of the officers and members of the American and European Friends, in the following words: "The goal of the founders of our school was rehabilitation through training, dignity through work. We have successfully achieved our goal because the founders contributed not only financial aid but also deep interest and personal devotion to this noble cause."

Mr. Litton, who was introduced by Joseph Levitin, chairman of the 10th Anniversary Celebration Committee, named as among those who had worked tirelessly for the school's establishment ten years ago: Frank Atran, Jacob Frankel, William Kleeman, William Marcus, Borys Mirkin, Morris Semars, Alexander Sheyn and Oswald Trilling.

The Friends received the congratulations of the entire American ORT,



Dr. William Haber, AOF president, is introduced by Mr. Litton. To the right is Joseph Levitin, chairman, 10th Anniversary Committee.

through Dr. Haber, who was presented with a pair of bronze bookends specially made by students at the school, in recognition of the high calibre of his ORT leadership.

William Rosenwald hailed ORT for its share in UJA's overseas rehabilitation program and urged support of the UJA's current drive "to meet the costs of refugee immigration into Israel, to continue UJA's relief and rehabilitation aid to more than 400,000 needy Jews in Europe and North Africa and to provide for the integration and adjustment of DP's arriving in the U.S."

In his address, Mr. Corsi sharply criticized American immigration law and urged congressional liberalization of immigration. He received as the award of the American and European Friends for his "services to the displaced and distressed," a custom built radio and phonograph combination constructed by ORT students.



Abraham C. Litton presents an award to Edward Corsi. Left to right: Judge Edgar J. Nathan, Jr.; Mr. Corsi; Dr. V. Weinberg, chairman of the Arrangements Committee for the 10th Anniversary; Mr. Litton, president of the American and European Friends of ORT; Bernhard Kahn, JDC vice-chairman.

Signifying the broad support of the community was the presence on the dais of, among others, Henry Bernstein, executive vice president of the New York U.J.A.; Baroness de Gunzbourg; Louis Hollander, chairman of the N. Y. State CIO; Bernhard Kahn, vice-chairman J.D.C.; Judge Edgar J. Nathan, Jr. and Judge Morris Ploskove.

An Iranian Intellectual Looks at ORT

Hossein Ravanbod would be an exceptional man anywhere. Archeologist, educator, historian, architect, he is the Iranian government's Director of Antiquities in Ispahan — and advisor and teacher in the city's ORT schools. Here at the invitation of the Institute of International Education for three months of study, he made the AOF office one of his first stops.

"The Jews are poor — very, very poor, just as are most Iranians," began Mr. Ravanbod. "There is much unemployment. Few have trades; some are itinerant peddlers. It is a depressed community and there is much lethargy."

"That is why ORT is such a dramatic institution in my country," he continued. "It is like a promise of what could be done for the poor, Jew and Iranian alike. I have proposed to some of the officials in my government's Department of Education that they seriously investigate the possibility of adapting the ORT pattern to vocational training throughout Iran."

Mr. Ravanbod reported that most

of the students are drawn from Yahoudai, the Jewish Quarter, attracted by the idea of preparing themselves for Israel. However, he made clear that "there is work for any who will remain in Iran." The present Ispahan school teaches masonry and carpentry, and needlework for girls, to about 300 youths and has been in existence for about a year.

"Unfortunately," said Mr. Ravanbod, "there is nothing comparable to ORT in Ispahan for Iranians. There is a 6 year vocational school, but for the working man and the poor in general, that is too long. There is no way to learn a trade quickly. Even in Teheran, the few vocational training schools we have are very limited and also fail to consider the needs of the poor to make a living at a practical trade."

Did he have any special message for us: "Yes. The students make great sacrifices to come to school. Often times they subsist on a single daily meal. I have heard that families dispose of household heirlooms to provide food. They need more food—and you could help with this."

Reports on Recent ORT Developments

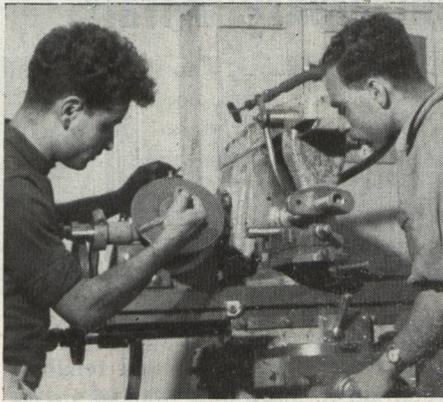
Schools Acquire New And Modern Facilities

The past school year witnessed the addition of many new buildings to expanding ORT networks, the enlargement of existing premises and introduction of much new equipment. The organization of school curricula into two- and three-year courses proceeded apace. 47 schools in Morocco, Algiers, Tunisia, France, Belgium, Iran, Israel and the Anieres Central Institute established second or third year levels, requiring an increase of 62 workshops, laboratories and classrooms, all of which were completed according to plan.

Ten new school buildings were constructed in Teheran, Casablanca, Tunis, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires. Only last month a new Rome ORT House was inaugurated, which will contain the motor-repair, electrical and radio courses for teen-agers, and the adult training workshops. Another floor is to be added for the girl's school. The Rome building was given to ORT by the Jewish community.

In Israel, new school space was created by construction of new stories on old structures, as well as the completion of smaller buildings around present centers.

To maintain high standards of education 26 schools received new ma-



Setting an index head on a metal milling machine in a Jerusalem ORT machine shop course.

chines, tools and other major mechanical equipment. A few examples will suffice to illustrate why ORT schools are universally praised for their up-to-date techniques.

Israeli ORT institutions were able to put into their classrooms 14 more lathes, five shapers, four metal milling machines, a profiling milling machine, six bench drills, five drill presses and also acquired a tractor, two trailers, a truck and two cars.

What ORT means for the modernization of Jewish life in a primitive environment like North Africa's takes palpable form when the schools there are equipped with such a variety of machines as electric grinders, mechanical saws, air-compressors and transformers. And to backward Iran were

sent a diesel generator, making the school in Teheran independent in its electric supply, electric motors, lathes and a spot welder.

There is a great need for new machines and tools to keep up with ORT's expanding vocational training responsibilities. Accordingly, campaigns for tools are being organized in several countries. Women's American ORT has been outstandingly successful in its Materials for Overseas Training Program. A committee of industrialists has been organized in Canada to conduct an "ORT Tool Month." A campaign has also been initiated in Scandinavia.

Graduates Employed At Skilled Trades

To what extent do ORT students use their trades after graduation, where do they find employment and what kind of jobs do they get? A tentative answer to these vital questions was submitted to the Paris meeting of the WOU Executive Committee.

While all immigrant-receiving nations were beneficiaries of ORT's far-flung operations, the country by country reports which follow indicate the tremendous contribution to the Israeli economy made by the entire World ORT.

Israel Benefits

In *Algiers*, 21 out of 22 of last year's graduates are employed in electrical and woodworking factories, while the other graduate is now at Anieres Central Training Institute. In *Iran*, 185 students who completed their studies, as well as 100 who left while only partially trained, are working as carpenters, masons and tractor mechanics in Israel. The tendency of students to leave school before graduation, in order to emigrate or because of poverty, is still great, but is being dealt with by agreements with the Jewish Agency and by extending material assistance.

527 former *Israeli* ORT students are busy in factories, kibbutzim and cooperative enterprises as journeymen. Most of the machine-knitting course graduates at Holon are working at the "Lodz" hosiery mill, whose manage-

IRO Director Lauds Refugee Training

The following letter was addressed to Dr. Aron Syngalowski, as chairman of the Executive Committee of the World ORT Union, by J. Donald Kingsley, Director General of the International Refugee Organization.

On the occasion of the active close of the International Refugee Organization's operations, I wish to extend my appreciation to you and to your staff for the work which the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training has conducted for Displaced Persons and refugees.

In the field of Vocational Training through almost the entire period of operations you have had an extremely complete and well-run programme which, at its maximum, was training approximately twelve thousand students at one time. You also conducted an excellent programme in the field of vocational rehabilitation whereby DPs and refugees with several handicaps were enabled to become self-sufficient. You also performed invaluable services in the field of trade testing.

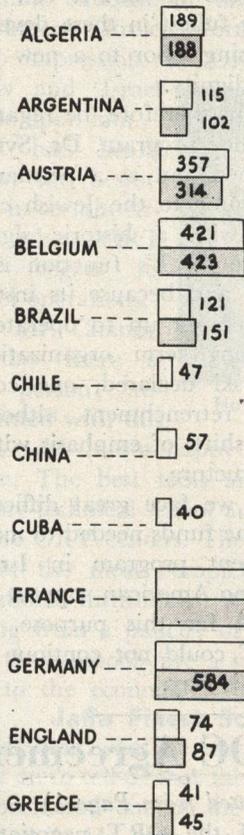
Because we enjoyed excellent relationships in our joint programmes in our many spheres and because we both contributed to a major extent to the solution of the DP and refugee problem, particularly in providing them with a trade so that they could become self-sufficient, I wish to extend my congratulations and thanks to your Organization.

19,473 Students Enrolled and Trained During the Last School Year

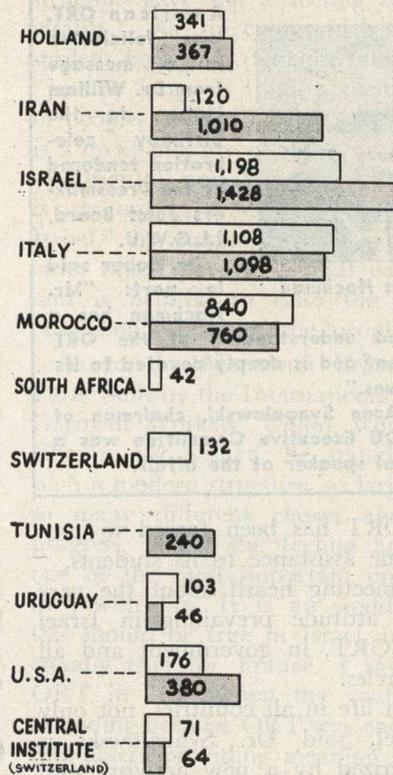
OCTOBER 1950 TOTAL 9,074, COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1951 TOTAL 9,076

NEW EDUCATIONAL TRENDS

COUNTRY STUDENTS ENROLLED



COUNTRY STUDENTS ENROLLED



The new 1951-52 school year began last October with an initial registration of 9,076 compared with last year's 9,074 in the same month. The accompanying chart shows the breakdown of this figure by countries in which ORT operates its schools.

Total attendance for the past year was 19,473 students, of whom 3,987 completed their course of study, passed their final examinations, received their ORT diplomas and entered the labor market as skilled workmen. 6,705 received partial training.

New trends emphasize Israel, Iran and North Africa. For example, ORT Iran had 120 pupils in October 1950, but began this year with 1,010. Israel had 1,198 in 1950, but 1,428 in October 1951; enrollment actually reached 1,711 this November and was reportedly over 1,800 in December and continues to rise. 240 are in attendance in Tunis, where there were none in 1950. By contrast, the German program has been reduced by about two-thirds, as the DP camps have emptied. In Chile, China, Cuba and Switzerland the ORT schools have closed.

The average age of enrollees has fallen drastically as emergency programs have given way to long-term, stable systems of 2, 3 and 4 year training for teen-agers.

ment desires more ORT-trained personnel, according to recent information. The tremendous demand of the economy for skilled and semi-skilled labor exerts great pressure on pupils to leave their courses before final examinations.

European Graduates

Tentative information from *France* indicates that of 572, who received diplomas at the Montreuil Center, 72 per cent are engaged in their trades.

Belgian ORT reports 70 per cent of its graduates at work in their crafts, largely for such major companies as Westinghouse Electric. From *Holland* comes word that almost everyone who completed his course is currently employed at his trade. Dutch ORT has helped a group of carpentry graduates assemble the machinery necessary for a complete woodworking cooperative workshop, which they will set up in Israel.

Of 42 former trainees of the now-closed *Geneva* school, more than 30 are skilled workers in Israel, many in leading positions. Several graduates from the typewriter repair school have set up a cooperative called "Shichlul," in Jerusalem. *Austrian* ORT has compiled reports on over 200 ex-students now in Israel. Specific information on electricians in this group indicates that all are working at their trades and a good number have established their own businesses in Tel Aviv.

Israel was again the gainer from work done at the San Marco training farm, in *Italy*. Former students have jobs as apiarists and gardeners at Kibbutz Rachama. Graduates from the schools in Rome and Grottaferrata have organized producers' cooperatives in their respective cities, while knitting course students at Leghorn are locally employed.

Sephardic Congress

The first World Sephardic Congress, meeting in Paris in November, gave considerable attention to ORT. Many delegates visited the Montreuil Center. Judge Leon Meiss, president of the Central Board of the WOU, addressed the Congress.

The United States delegation consisted of the Rev. Dr. David De Sola Pool, Rabbi Isaac Alcalay, Vitalis Nahmias and Simon S. Nessim.

The Congress adopted the following resolution: "The World Sephardic Congress, appreciating the services rendered by ORT vocational training institutions in Israel and in various countries of the Diaspora, expresses its gratitude to ORT and assures it of its entire support in the future so that ORT could expand and intensify its work for the Sephardic communities."

WOU Leader Speaks To Board Members

One of the highlights of the meeting of the AOF Board of Directors was the significant address by Dr. Aron Syngalowski, chairman of the WOU Executive Committee, who came to the U. S. in December to participate in the JDC discussions and to discuss perspectives with the AOF and its leaders. This was his third post-war visit to America. During his stay he appeared before numerous community and ORT groups including meetings sponsored by Women's American ORT, American Labor ORT and the National ORT League.

To the Board members he described the past year as one of great construction for ORT, in which many new facilities were added according to carefully prepared plans, deepening and stabilizing long term trends. He pointed out that the largest number of students, 80 per cent of whom are teenagers, are now in Israel, Italy, Iran and North Africa, with expansion in these areas having replaced the decline in Germany and Austria.

Early Departures Problem

He described as a major problem the tendency of youth to leave the schools while only partially trained because of impoverished home conditions and called it a paradox that in some places the children of the poor were unable to afford to become workers. Accord-

Congratulations

On the occasion of his 60th birthday, Julius Hochman, vice-president of the WOU, and for many years one of the most active and eminent leaders in



Julius Hochman

American ORT, was felicitated in a message from Dr. William Haber, to the birthday celebration tendered by the Dressmakers Joint Board, I.L.G.W.U.

Dr Haber said in part: "Mr. Hochman has a

profound understanding of the ORT movement and is deeply devoted to its objectives."

Dr. Aron Syngalowski, chairman of the WOU Executive Committee was a principal speaker at the affair.

ingly, ORT has been forced to provide some assistance to its students.

The meeting heard about the very friendly attitude prevailing in Israel toward ORT, in government and all other circles.

Jewish life in all countries, not only in Israel, said Dr. Syngalowski is characterized by a new activism and creative social sensitivity as responses to the enormous problems of constructing new economic foundations through labor. In Europe and in the underdeveloped areas, a gigantic industrialization is transforming traditional ways of life. Thanks to these circumstances,

Jewish youth as well as their parents have an altered view of the importance of labor. In Israel, of course, labor is the key to economic life. ORT is the instrument of the world Jewish community for the dissemination of technical culture so that it can participate to the fullest in these developments, by raising labor to a new proficiency and dignity.

ORT cannot, therefore, be regarded as an emergency program, Dr. Syngalowski explained, but as a permanent institution organic to the Jewish community and with a historic significance. Because ORT's function is so deeply rooted and because its institutions have been set up to operate as stable and long term organizations, Dr. Syngalowski declared, one could not think of retrenchment, although there may be shifts of emphasis within the present structure.

Once more we face great difficulty in providing the funds needed to maintain the present program in Israel, he said, since no American support has been allocated for this purpose. He felt that ORT could not continue indefinitely in this way.

ORT, JDC Agreement

(Continued from Page 1)

Members of the ORT negotiating committee, in addition to Dr. Haber and Dr. Syngalowski, were George Backer, Julius Hochman, Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan, Abraham C. Litton, George J. Mintzer and David Rosenstein.



Prominent community leaders attend the reception given to Dr. Aron Syngalowski by the National ORT League. Sitting (l. to r.): Rabbi S. Mordochowitz, Sec'y., Union of Orthodox Rabbis; Dr. Charles Kramer, Pres., Roumanian Jews; Philip Braver, Chairman, N.O.L. Landsmanschaft Division; Dr. Syngalowski; Hon. M. Maldwin Fertig, Pres. N.O.L.; Dr. Isaac Alkalay, Chief Rabbi of the Central Sephardic Community of America; Simon S. Nissim and V. Nachmias, Pres. and Vice-Pres., respectively of the Central Sephardic Community.

Standing (l. to r.): I. Trotsky, Publicist; Dr. Joseph Thon, Pres. of the Jewish Polish Association; Louis Galack, Chairman, "Hias" Council; Rabbi Hersh Kohn, Pres., Israeli Jews of America; Dr. I. Glickman, Sec'y., Roumanian Jews; Chaim Weintraub, Exec. Dir. of N.O.L.; M. Schonfeld, Treas., Roumanian Jews; Dr. J. Frumkin, World ORT Union representative; L. Schleifer, Vice-Pres., Roumanian Jews; Dr. Max Wishnitzer, Pres., Russian Jews; Dr. S. Gringaus, former Pres. Jewish DP's in Germany and P. Bernick, A.O.F. Executive Sec'y.

Chanin, W.C. Official, Impressed by Schools in Israel and Montreuil

Returned from a trip abroad, Nathan Chanin, educational director of the Workmen's Circle, informed us of the deep impression the ORT schools in Paris and Israel made upon him.



Nathan Chanin

"I had heard about the hesitation in certain circles when ORT first began its Israel operations," said Mr. Chanin. "Today there is no person acquainted with this work who is not happy that ORT is there. The best tools and machinery in any technical school are to be found in the ORT centers. They are without doubt the most completely equipped vocational institutions. With Israel suffering from a paucity of skilled workers, these schools are a veritable blessing to the economy."

Jaffa Finest School

Detailing what he saw, Mr. Chanin went on to tell us that the "Jaffa school is considered one of the finest in the country." He was particularly impressed by the Jerusalem center, which he described as "a beautiful mansion given to ORT by the government. Seeing our girls learning radio and television, and dental mechanics, and

watching the enthusiasm of the instructors gave me a feeling of great vitality." As to composition of the student body, Mr. Chanin found that, "just as Israel is itself a melting pot of peoples, so in all ORT schools there is a great mixture of sexes, of all ages, of Oriental, and Western Jews. ORT is not only a trade school system in Israel," he emphasized, "it also provides much needed general education and is helping to raise the general educational level of the people."

As to the Montreuil School near Paris, built by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which Mr. Chanin also visited, he stated, "it is such a modern structure, so large, with so many different classes always in progress, I had the feeling here was one of the most important organisms in Jewish life. It is no wonder that this should be true in Israel, but it is equally true for France. I saw Paris ORT in 1945 when the youth were attending because ORT was one of the few places providing meaning and direction for them. But now that there is normalcy in France, it is most significant that ORT and its philosophy of teaching skills are established as organic parts of Jewry."

French Jews Need ORT

Telling why he thought ORT would continue to fill a definite need for French Jews, Mr. Chanin pointed to the altered composition of the community, with the majority consisting of former Eastern Jews, who do not feel assimilated and have a definite feeling of Jewishness. They prefer to send their boys and girls to a Jewish school. Many of the youth do not meet the formal qualifications of the government school as to official documents, whereas in ORT the only qualifications are a will to learn and an aptitude. There is also a language problem with many Jews who are recent arrivals; a problem which ORT meets.

Mr. Chanin expressed his deep satisfaction with all that he had seen, as worthy of the fullest support of the American Jewish community, promising to write a more complete account for the Jewish press.

Mizrachi Resolution

(Ed. note: The following resolution was adopted by the 31st Annual Convention of the Mizrachi Organization of America.)

WHEREAS, ORT, which has a record of more than 70 years of splendid service to Jewry, is now engaged in an ambitious program of vocational training in Israel to equip the new state with a qualified and trained labor force, and is contributing greatly in the struggle for economic independence;

WHEREAS, ORT's work in the United States and in the other immigration countries helps the integration of the new immigrants into the economic life of their new homes;

WHEREAS, ORT always cooperates closely with the Mizrachi Movement and other religious groups in their vocational programs in Israel and in their hachshara efforts in other countries;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mizrachi Organization of America convention endorses ORT's program and pledges its whole-hearted cooperation.

Rep. Javits Writes

U. S. Representative Jacob K. Javits sent the following letter to the American ORT Federation upon his return from a recent trip to Israel. Mr. Javits is Secretary of the ORT Congressional Committee.

"The work of ORT appeared to me during my recent trip in Europe and Israel to be more vitally important than ever. In Israel I especially considered the ORT activity to have top priority. Israel is today so much a school and a transit camp.

"The overwhelming immigration problem has carried with it a corollary orientation problem. The Israeli army has been a most effective single means for integrating the new refugees. But this obviously can only cover a percentage of the younger refugees. For the others integration requires training and training means ORT, for Israel needs more than anything else work with hands whether on land or in factories and these, ORT teaches.

"ORT's contribution is best illustrated by the dynamic growth of the Jerusalem school which has quadrupled in size and pupil attendance since I last saw it two short years ago. The range of its activities from blacksmithing to mechanical dentistry is the range of Israel's needs. There is no work in Israel superior in timeliness and strategic objective to that of ORT."

Mexican Com. Formed

Mexican ORT has re-constituted its leading committee to make it more inclusive and representative of the community. A plan of activities has been formulated and is already under way.

Officers of the new Mexican ORT Committee are: Jacob Frumkin, president; Simon Elliott, secretary; Samuel Kosovitch, treasurer; Morris Ferdman, executive secretary. Engineer D. Mehl has been made Technical Director and Manager of the ORT courses at Yavna School.

Other members of the committee are G. Feinstein, S. H. Feldman, Dr. F. Gutman, M. Koschuch, A. Korbman, M. Laozowsky, H. Leiner, J. Moshinsky, M. Rubinstein.

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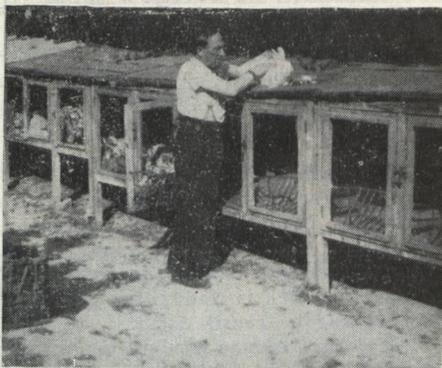
Rehabilitation at Grottaferratta Seen as "Miracle" by JDC Official

The following is the major portion of an article originally written for the Italian ORT Bulletin by Dr. H. Hersteil, Welfare Officer for JDC, which operates the Grottaferratta Rehabilitation center, serviced by the ORT school there.

Today, in the second half of the twentieth century, few are left who still believe in miracles. It may be that modern progress, with its wonderful discoveries, has done away with beliefs in miracles; or maybe miracles, once so common, do not happen any more. Yet in Grottaferratta a miracle has happened, which has made even the unbelievers believe.

About 200 yards separate the JDC Rehabilitation Center from the ORT school; but to the inhabitants of the Center they are one. To observe these students, no one would say that only a short while ago they were sick, desperate and disillusioned.

For the most part, they are survivors of ghettos and extermination camps. They are those who, after the



Rabbit breeding in the agricultural training course at Grottaferratta.

war, were forced into sanatoria by the Koch microbe. The long months, and often years, in the sanatorium completed the destruction of their morale and self-respect. Today, as we see these same persons working in the ORT school, cheerful and confident in the future, we cannot but explain the phenomenon of this transformation as a miracle.

Work in the ORT school begins at 9 in the morning, and goes on until 12:30 in the afternoon, with a rest period from 10:30 to 11. The students, who number about a hundred, attend 9 different courses.

Most popular is the course in dress-making. This is not to be wondered at, for the dresses that are made in this course can satisfy the whims of the most capricious lady. Here they make every article of dress that the elegant and modern woman needs, from the sun-suit to the evening dress. Everything is made with the utmost neatness and taste. There are nice models and it all evokes the atmosphere of a modern fashion shop. A faster pace is pursued in the shirtmaking workshop where men's shirts, dressing-gowns and pajamas are produced. The students in both courses work for outside clients.

The school for children's clothing produces garments which are a joy to behold. Their diaphanous tissue and soft coloring are reminiscent of spring-time and fairy-land. In the adolescents' leather goods course, the students create their own models, displaying fine craftsmanship and superior taste.

Graduate Training

Whereas former tailors receive proficiency training in Grottaferratta, the graduates of the watchmaking school and of the dental laboratory have been transferred to Rome for graduate studies. Students of electro-technics alternate between work on motors and implements and lessons in physics.

Coming out of the school building into the open air we come to the site of the course in agriculture, situated in the garden of the Rehabilitation Center. Although not large in area, it contains several experimental sections for the breeding of meat-rabbits, geese, turkeys, a whole section for the breeding of guinea-pigs for medical research purposes, and still another for the arti-



Repairing luggage in the leather goods workshop.

ficial incubation and breeding of chicks and a horto-floricultural section — types of agricultural activities particularly adapted to small and medium sized farms. The students of this course, one of the most practical and interesting, take part personally in construction and maintenance work, as well as administration just as on a real farm.

Vocational training is to these people not only practical assistance towards their future, but also a kind of therapy, a victory over illness through labor and by strengthening the will.

Such a miracle could never have been wrought without the collaboration of men permeated by the spirit of brotherliness who helped the Grottaferratta inmates to overcome their psychological difficulties, thereby contributing to their physical and mental recovery. In this place, where the value of serious vocational training for individual and social rehabilitation is evident to all who can see, the humiliating conception of passive relief is in process of being replaced by the idea of constructive assistance.

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