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VOLUME XXI, No. 3

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October, 1967

## Program Geared to Serve 50,000

ORT schools around the world opened their doors for the new school year on September 1st. Close to 50,000 persons are expected to enroll during the next twelve months in more than 600 training and educational projects situated in 23 countries. Probably 30,000 Israelis will receive ORT training in the year ahead.

This is the dimension of ORT as it enters upon its 87th year. These ex-

make possible the admission of many more young people seeking an ORT education are the following:

- The opening of a special purpose school for maritime trades in the newly created port city of Ashdod in Israel.
- Multi-trade vocational high schools at two other Israel locations—a School for Girls in Haifa and another at Benyamina for youth of Shomron Valley settlements.

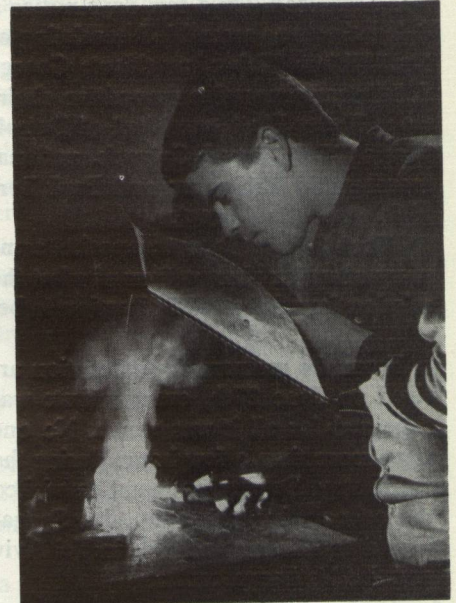
### Paris, Bombay and B. A.

- The opening of the first new ORT school in the Paris area in more than a decade in the suburban town of Villiers-le-Bel, in whose environs over 10,000 Jews, largely refugees from Algeria, have settled in recent years.

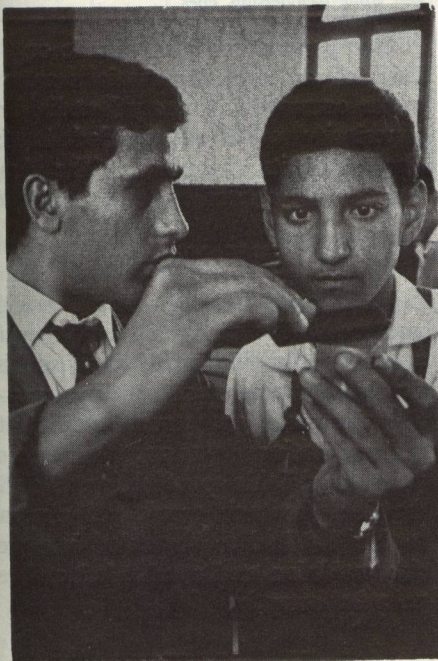
- Installation of an electronic language laboratory at the ORT school in Bombay, India.

- An augmented curriculum at the ORT school in Buenos Aires with the aim of opening additional high level technical education opportunities.

Other developments will deepen the quality of ORT instruction—as with the introduction of new teaching meth-



Above—North African immigrant practices welding at the Ecole de Travail ORT school in Paris. Below—Largest school in the ORT network, the Syngalowski Center in Tel Aviv. Left—First year mechanics student receives instruction in accuracy and precision at the ORT Vocational High School for Boys in Teheran, Iran



pectations promise to make this the largest year in ORT history.

The main areas of growth are anticipated in Israel and France, with lesser advances in Italy, Iran, Argentina and India. These are expected to more than offset declines in Morocco and Tunisia resulting from large scale emigration since the June events in the Middle East. Recent developments have cast a cloud of uncertainty over the future of ORT work in Poland.

The general direction is up, however. Among new additions which will

ods and audiovisual techniques and materials, and the inauguration of new job fields—such as automation technology.



# Mission To Israel

Two weeks after the Six Day War, an American ORT mission to Israel was organized. On a few days notice a delegation was assembled consisting of Dr. William Haber, president; George J. Mintzer, executive committee chairman; Harry Platt, president of Detroit Men's ORT; Joseph Spivack, national membership chairman; and Paul Bernick, executive director.

What follows is a composite summary of major observations of what the mission found the ORT situation to be.

From the moment the delegation arrived on June 27th, every minute was squeezed for all it was worth. No one slept more than a few hours during the entire stay. Delegation members visited the schools in Jerusalem, the Syngalowski and Shapiro schools in Tel Aviv and the Nathanya center.

## Meaning of ORT

To grasp the significant place of ORT in Israel, it is necessary to recall that the system consists of some 63 different schools, in 33 localities, an enrollment of over 27,000 students in day, evening, adult, technical, yeshivas and apprenticeship programs, and a teaching staff of over 1,500. The ORT network is the main producer of technical skills in the country.

Practically all the schools remained open through most of the emergency, including the war. This, despite the mobilization of between 40 and 60% of the teachers and administrative staff. The authorities wanted the schools operating and ways were found of doing so. Substitute teachers were employed in some instances. In others, senior classmen were enlisted to teach lower classmen. In still others make-shift arrangements were made.

## Volunteers

While the schools remained open, the routine was not always normal. Many students below military age volunteered to take over jobs of those who

had been mobilized. In Ashkelon and other places, students operated the post offices. Advanced students went into strategic factories. Large numbers were organized to go into the countryside to help with the crops.

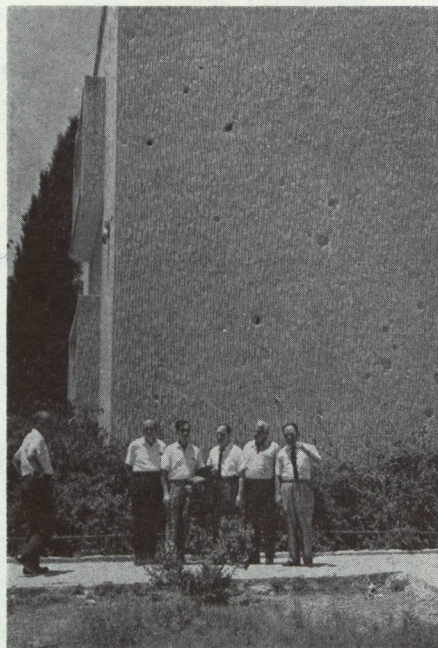
## Shelters

Many students stood guard duty all night and reported to class at the regular hour next morning. All schools organized their own shelter and air raid guards. In practically all schools, trenches were dug in the courtyard, shelters were improvised, assistance was given to the community.

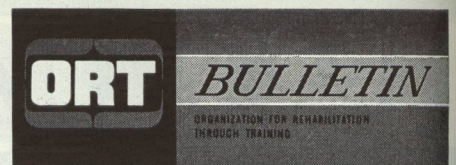
The Jerusalem school in Derech Haneviim was hit by Jordanian artillery shells. It is a miracle that no one was hurt. It was just good fortune that the youngsters had been evacuated shortly before.

## Assignments

All reports indicate that universally exemplary behaviour was the order of the day. A spirit of volunteering swept Israel, and our people along with it. Everyone asked for chores to perform. School directors complained that they had more volunteers than tasks and students who could not get assignments were unhappy about it.



Mission to Israel. Standing before the bomb-scarred wall of the Jerusalem ORT School, left to right, George J. Mintzer, Joseph Spivack, school director Max Ringart, Paul Bernick, Harry Platt and Dr. William Haber.



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ORGANIZATION FOR REHABILITATION  
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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 from the Joint Distribution Committee, a member agency of the United Jewish Appeal, and from membership dues.

One general comment, made on the basis of our own observations as well as the comments of many Israelis. The superiority of Israel resided in the quality of its manpower. The Arab armies were as well or better equipped.

## Vital Margin

What gave Israel its decisive edge was the ability of its soldiers to man, operate and maintain the highly sophisticated equipment of modern war—the electronic gadgetry, the intricate communications systems that meant swift and reliable coordination all along the line, the tank, truck and airplane engine that had to be tooled into precise condition and overhauled and repaired constantly.

## Share in Victory

We report as a sober comment, repeated to us many times over by many people, that the ORT schools had a large share in creating those skills—those tens of thousands who were trained in Israel these last 18 years, the thousands of ORT graduates who emigrated from Moslem lands and the 80,000 who attended ORT schools in the DP camps between 1945-51.

These hands and minds that had come under ORT instruction had their part in this splendid victory.

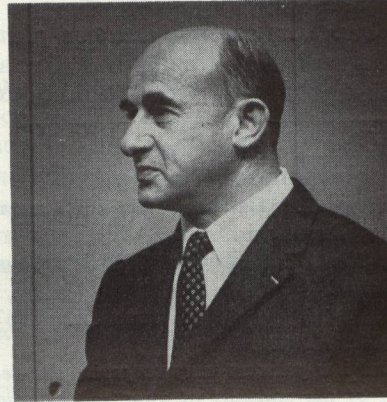
# The Israel Economy — Where Does it Go From Here

**An interview with Joseph Harmatz, Director of ORT Israel, during a visit to the U.S. in October, in connection with the national convention of Women's American ORT.**

**How do you visualize the balance between agriculture and industry in the economy of Israel?**

Although our land is not, by nature, ideally suited to agricultural development, incredible results have been achieved. We do not have vast fertile plains or plentiful sources of water. Yet our farm production is of a very high standard. Nor should we underestimate the importance of the spiritual renewal experienced by an exiled people returning to their homeland, tilling its soil and putting down roots there.

But Israel's economy cannot thrive on agriculture alone. Only 12% of the population is required to meet the agri-



Joseph Harmatz

cultural needs of the country and it is likely that even this figure will decline. Our farming is already producing more than is required to meet national needs.

Thus nearly 90% of the country's wage earners will have to depend on industry and services. The state of the economy will be determined mainly by the relation between the number of those working in industry and those in services.

**What are the main bottlenecks to industrialization in Israel?**

Industry has failed to develop soundly because of poor organization, poor quality products and low productivity. These factors have a common origin—the lack of trained manpower. There are not enough technicians, not enough supervisors, not enough skilled workmen and maintenance men.

Some contend that Israel's high wage scale has been a cause of industrial failures, but this is not necessarily so. The wage scale reflects the general standard of living, and it is unrealistic to demand that production workers be satisfied with lower salaries than those paid to inefficient clerks. In economically developed countries, skilled workers make good money—but they usually deliver a good performance in return.

**How can men and machines be brought together to do the job?**

There are in this world small nations with big industries. Switzerland, Sweden and Holland are examples. They have succeeded because they have the right people for the job, people with the will to work and the capacity to work well.

Such people commit themselves to a life in industry. They qualify for their chosen vocations before going into a factory and they continue to learn and improve afterward.

Molding workers of this kind is the task of the vocational school. We must accept youngsters who want to commit themselves to a trade, give them the technical, theoretical and occupational training to function efficiently in this era of advanced technology. And, equally important, implant in them sound work habits and a love of their trade.

**Is technical education attractive to Israel's youth?**

Israel has more than 200 vocational schools at different levels. In 1966-67, 35,000 Israeli boys and girls studied in vocational high schools.

Vocational education has grown at a faster rate than academic education. In the 1956-57 school year, 20% of the country's secondary students studied in vocational high schools; by 1961-62 this figure had risen to 25%, and by 1966-67 to 57%. ORT, as the biggest network of vocational schools in Israel, has made a significant contribution to this expansion.

Nevertheless, the advantages of vocational training are not yet fully appreciated by the general public—even though vocational high schools offer high level academic instruction, and graduates of a four-year vocational course qualify for technical study in the universities.

**Does not unemployment impede the development of training programs?**

Most of the unemployed are unskilled laborers. There is actually a shortage of skilled workers in certain trades.

Trained manpower is needed in the armed forces, in planning positions, in supervision and management, in the maintenance and operation of equipment, in electrical installation, construction and road-building. Likewise, the development of new industries depends on making skills available to operate them.

## Charles Jordan

The tragic death of Charles H. Jordan, Executive Vice-President of the Joint Distribution Committee, in Prague last August shocked and saddened everyone in the international welfare and refugee aid community, in whose activities he had long been one of the leading world figures.

Mr. Jordan was especially close to ORT. He knew the program, respected its worth and gave it every support at his command.

### Dedicated

His life was utterly dedicated to humanitarian tasks. From 1941 until his death, he was connected with the life saving services of the JDC. His concern did not recognize national boundaries or religious creed. He was co-chairman of the World Refugee Year and was chairman of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies and later, of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service.

World Jewry has lost a gifted and resourceful "international civil servant," as he used to describe himself. ORT has lost a dear friend and colleague.

# How it Was During the Days of Peril

by Eleanor Finkelstein  
Seven Arts Features Syndicate

To be a war veteran at 19 is not at all unusual in Israel; to be one at 17 is somewhat special. To this special category belong scores of ORT seniors, top-flight students in mechanics and electronics who, although not in actual combat, nevertheless made a direct and decisive contribution to Israel's victory.

Even before the war broke out, these ORT seniors volunteered for service in essential defense industries and vital civilian posts where regular staffs had been seriously depleted by the extensive mobilization of military reserves.

A particularly proud group in those days was the one from the ORT Vocational Center in Jerusalem. For they rightly felt that they—and their school—had a share in the defense of their city when it came under Jordanian attack.

Eight students took over production and supervisory jobs in defense indus-



Student at the Jerusalem School acting as shelter guard.

tries; thirteen became the backbone of the maintenance staff in the huge mechanical complex of the maintenance and support services at Hadassah Hospital. They worked like fiends, cheerfully disregarding the clock. They slept and ate on the hospital premises. And they delivered a performance so precise and efficient that Hadassah's Administration offered each a permanent job.

"Never has our maintenance plant run so smoothly," said their chief at Hadassah. "Never have the charts,

## A Letter From Hadassah Hospital

From: The Hadassah Medical Center,  
Jerusalem

To: The Administration, ORT Jerusalem  
School

June 19th, 1967

Dear Mr. Ringart:

I find it a pleasant duty to praise the devotion of the students of your school who worked in the hospital during the emergency days and who carried out important and vital tasks with a dedication and sincerity worthy of distinction.

We feel that the Jewish nation is blessed with such a youth who in days of emergency could rise to the task and contribute so much to the national effort. Not in words can I convey our thanks to these youth, in view of the importance of the hour and in view of their loyalty which has no equal.

I also wish to praise the school management which saw fit to put the students at our disposal during those crucial hours.

Hadassah Management decided to grant the school a modest gift of—IL. 1,000 in appreciation—for the institution and its students.

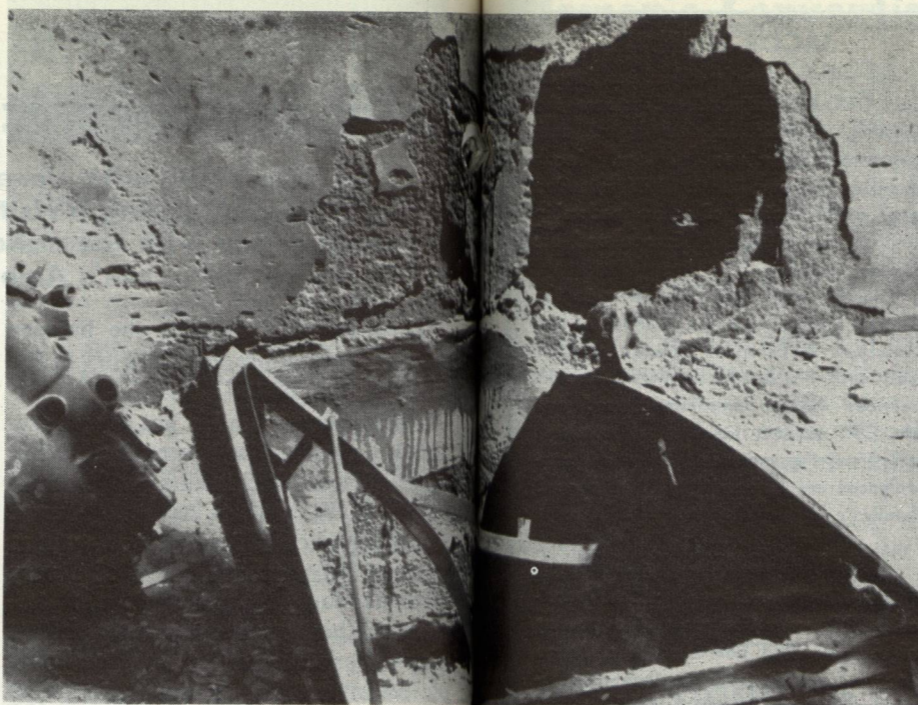
(signed) PROF. K. I. MANN  
DIRECTOR GENERAL

graphs and gauges that record the functioning of the boilers, ventilating system and electrical network shown such a steady line."

These words were as welcome as war medals to ORT Jerusalem's Director Max Ringart, and Technical Director Ivan Livni. They eased the strain of those high-tension weeks during which the two men put forth a ceaseless effort to keep the school going.

## Called Up

Thirty teachers out of a staff of forty were called up. With the aid of engineers above military age from civilian life, and girl students from the Hebrew University, and by imposing triple schedules on the staff that had not been



The entrance to the shelter in Jerusalem school as it appeared when struck by a Jordanian artillery.

mobilized, instruction was maintained on approximately normal levels.

The real problem was discipline. Virtually every boy was in a state of exhilarated excitement. This generated terrific energy, but it was anti-study energy which had to be directed toward constructive activity.

One such activity was preparing the school shelters for use. Two of these were readied, one in the Mechanics Building and one in the old Administration Building—which, with its stone walls three feet thick and its arched construction, was by nature a secure place.

## Fateful Morning

Students were given time off for all manner of volunteer duties. Many served as stretcher bearers and aides in hospitals. Others delivered mail, collected garbage, built sandbag barriers, and taped glass windows. The pursuit of such duties was intense, and the three or four boys who somehow failed to find volunteer work felt miserably left out of it all, protested and insisted on assignments.

On that fateful morning when Jordanian shells began falling on Jerusalem, a considerable number of students were in the classrooms. Because of some confusion concerning the warning siren sounded by the city, the race for the shelters did not begin at

once. Only when the din of firing turned sharp and crackling did the real situation become clear.

Then Ivan Livni dashed into the courtyard and sounded the alarm by beating on a hollow iron column that had been placed there for such a purpose. Within five minutes all students and teachers were in their assigned places in the shelters.

## Line of Fire

The ORT Jerusalem Center, near Jaffa Road, a few hundred yards from the frontier, was in a direct line of fire. Standing as it does on Derech Haneviim, the narrow street that was part of the famous No. 9 bus route that ran across undivided Jerusalem in the old days and now runs again across reunited Jerusalem, it was a sitting duck target.

From the shelters, students could see shells piercing the walls and windows of the Electronics Building. A large shell fell directly into the emergency exit of the shelter in the Mechanics Building. The force of its explosion blew a hole in the wall, shattered all the rear windows and scattered broken glass and metal around the yard.

Providentially, the shelter was empty at the time, for somewhat earlier, when there had been a lull in the shooting, the students had been sent home.

The decision to send the students home had been a hard one. They had gone into the shelters about mid-morning and were still there in mid-afternoon. Frantic parents who could get through to the school office by telephone were reassured that their sons were safe. But telephone service soon became erratic as lines and cables fell.

## Scattered Families

The students were in good spirits, singing, joking and playing games. As the hours went by, however, they showed signs of wanting to get home. Families were scattered enough as it was, with fathers in the army and mothers at work. As the peril grew so did the urge to be with one's own.

One mother came careening up to the school in a tiny car, driving like a demon through heavy shellfire, grabbed her 14-year-old son and careened off again. They made it home safely.

## Desperation

Perhaps influenced by the desperation evident in this mother's courage, Messers Ringart and Livni decided to risk sending the youngsters home. Their opportunity came when, late in the afternoon, firing slackened for a time. The students were then let out in groups of five, told to avoid streets and cling to the walls of houses as they ran, keeping their heads down.



Students dig trenches on school grounds.

Although some had a long way to go, every boy got home unharmed.

There was no school for the next few days, until all of Jerusalem was in Israel's hands and all school premises had been cleared of unexploded shells and debris.

As for the ORT Volunteer brigades in Jerusalem, they returned to school to take their final examinations. Yes, all returned—but one—a victim of the shelling on the second day of the war.

# In Other Places

Mobilization started on May 17th. More and more people were called up every day, among them members of the ORT staff. Eventually, over 400 ORT teachers were mobilized.

Departure of the teachers disorganized school programs. Yet it was important to keep the schools open since the children could not be kept at home during those days of tension, while fathers were away at the front. It was also essential to give mothers a sense of security while the youngsters were in school, make them feel that their children were in good hands.

And there was need to direct the tremendous enthusiasm bursting from the hearts of our teenagers, thousands of whom were given volunteer assignments.

## Mobilization

Of the 34 schools from which reports were received in the first three days of war, 26 were functioning. Several had lost virtually their entire staffs. Nathanya closed due to air bombardment. The entire student body at the Ein Harod school was recruited for agricultural work. The Rehovoth school was requisitioned for Civil Defense.

Students in all the factory schools replaced mobilized workers in these enterprises.

Over 200 students of the upper grades in the schools in Tel Aviv, Givatayim, Holon, Herzlia, Kfar Saba, Jerusalem and Ashkelon took over technical and production jobs in plants in their areas.

There were losses.

Two teachers died in the fighting. A number of ORT graduates also fell in the line of battle.

# Rabbis Form Nat'l Committee

Prominent rabbis of all three major Jewish persuasions have come together to form a National Rabbinic ORT Committee. Chairman of the Committee and its driving force is Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, of Congregation Beth Sholom in Lawrence, Long Island. He is Vice-President of the New York Board of Rabbis.

Rabbi Klaperman described the purpose of his Committee to be "the involvement of rabbis of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform persuasions in a unified effort of community education on the tasks and problems undertaken by ORT among the Jews of the world."

## Broad Spectrum

As an indicator of this broad spectrum of support, Rabbi Klaperman cited the names of Rabbi Leo Jung, Rabbi Simon Langer and Rabbi Charles Shulman, all members of the American ORT Board of Directors, who have agreed to serve as

honorary chairmen of the new group.

The Committee will prepare and circulate ORT informational material to rabbis around the country and will provide speakers and occasions within



Rabbi Klaperman.

the affiliated congregations for ORT evenings. Rabbis and their congregations will be invited to affiliate with the Committee on a membership basis. Affiliating congregations are being issued certificates of acknowledgment.

## Reception

The idea of the Committee has met with a warm reception. Among the first to join are the following rabbis: David Friedberg, Louis C. Gerstein, Jacob Goldberg, Benjamin Z. Kreitman, Maurice Lamm, Herschel Levin, Benjamin Morgenstern, Chaim Pearl, Jacob Polish, Edward T. Sandrow, Harold I. Saperstein, David J. Seligson, Ephraim

## JACOB FRANKEL

The officers and board of the American ORT Federation deeply mourn the passing of their devoted board and executive committee member, Jacob Frankel. His devotion to ORT extended over a half century of active leadership and service in Eastern Europe and the United States.

Together with other newcomers to the United States, he was a founder of the American & European Friends of ORT and until his death, its president. His services will be long remembered and the ORT schools, teachers and students are his living memorial. Heartfelt condolences are extended to his bereaved family.

## JONAH J. GOLDSTEIN

The officers and board of the American ORT Federation mourn the passing of their devoted board member, Judge Jonah J. Goldstein. From the early beginnings of the American ORT Federation in the 1920's, he, together with his late wife, Harriet, were counsellors and benefactors of the ORT ideal of helping people to help themselves through education and vocational training. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the members of their bereaved family.

## San Francisco

### Hears Dr. Haber

About 200 leading figures of the San Francisco community heard American ORT president, Dr. William Haber describe the activities of ORT in Israel at the largest affair yet sponsored by the local Men's Chapter on September 7th.

In an interview with the San Francisco Chronicle, Dr. Haber declared that "The secret weapon that helped Israel win its Six Day War was not nuclear or even spiritual, it was education."

## Chairman Block

Chapter President, Eugene Block, who also served as Arrangements Chairman for this first large undertaking of the group, reports: "It was a fantastic, a perfect evening. When Dr. Haber finished, every man and woman in the hall stood for five full minutes to applaud."

Alfred Karp was Master of Ceremonies. The affair was the kick-off to the annual membership drive, now in process.

## AEFO Marks its Quarter Century

In the dark days of the Second World War, when the Nazi devastation was at its height, a group of men who had fled Europe in time, many of whom had known ORT and been part of its leadership in various countries, came together in New York to form the American and European Friends of ORT. The man who led this effort and became its first president was the late A.C. Litton.

## Celebration

On October 29th, with Dr. William Haber as Guest of Honor, several hundred members and supporters met at the Plaza Hotel in New York to

Shimoff, Fabian Schonfeld, Ephraim H. Sturm, and Stanley M. Wagner.

Leading religious youth organizations have likewise indicated a desire to form bonds of support and participation in ORT. These include the National Youth Commissions of the United Synagogue Youth and the National Council of Young Israel.

celebrate the organization's 25th anniversary. There was much to celebrate.

During this quarter century, the group established and maintained the New York ORT Trade School which gave instruction in technical skills to over 11,000 refugees until it closed ten years ago. Since 1957, the group has supported the A.C. Litton School for Automechanics of the Jerusalem ORT Center, and each year that support has grown.

Simon Jaglom was installed as the AEFO's new president. Joseph Levitin became an Honorary President and S. S. Fraenkel, Kalman Leviant and Dr. V. Weinberg, are new vice-presidents.

# Women's Convention Sets Goals

Over 2,000 persons attended the largest Women's American ORT National Convention in Chicago, September 25th—28th. Delegates represented 78,000 members organized in 600 chapters in every corner of the country.

The main impression of the intensive four days was of undiminished dynamism. The rapid growth in membership and organization, and above all else of a broad base of leadership, are the motor-forces propelling Women's American ORT along an upward spiral.

Convention co-chairmen, Mrs. Emil Fleischer and Mrs. Robert Forrest together with their committees, put together a program that involved dele-

## ORT League to Hold Conference

More than 200 organizational affiliates of the National ORT League are expected to be represented at a conference to be held at the Manhattan Hotel in New York on Sunday, December 3rd, according to David Ziselman, arrangements chairman.

Headed by Judge Herman Hoffman, the National ORT League develops support for ORT among fraternal organizations, congregations and *lands-manschaften*. In recent years, the group has stepped up its activities and developed in several new directions. One of these, which has proven highly effective, is a scholarship program, headed by Simon Stern.

The December 3rd conference will climax the great variety of undertakings which the group has sponsored during the year, including its special drive for the Israel ORT schools.

Guest addresses will be made by Israeli Consul-General Michael Arnon and ORT Director General, Max A. Braude.

Three societies will be honored, the Proskurever, the Schklover and the Old Konstantiner, for aid over many years.

Co-chairing the event are Harry Chernak and Alexander Gordon, with support from Samuel Reese, Philip Braver, Bruce Teicholz and other officers.

gates in report and planning sessions from early morning until far into each night.

Mrs. Max M. Rosenberg, outgoing president, presented the theme which dominated the sessions: *"The new awareness of the interdependence of the Jewish people, each upon the other, everywhere in the world, which emerged from the Middle East War."*

### Justice Fortas

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas, in an address to the opening dinner declared:

*"No one has the right to demand or expect that Israel should accept political humiliation or any settlement which invites renewed attacks upon her or that Israel should admit, however indirectly, the legitimacy of efforts to destroy her."*

Dr. William Haber called attention to the *"thousands of Jews in Libya, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, distant from the battlefields and innocent of any of its implications who have nevertheless been victimized and uprooted and made refugees . . . as a consequence of the Middle East events."*

Overseas Reports were presented by Jacob Oleiski of Israel, David Alberstein, director of operations at the Geneva international headquarters, Bernard Wand-Polack, director of South American ORT, Mrs. Bella Levy of France and Mrs. Parvine Moatamed, director of girls' training in Iran.

The opening session of the convention received greetings from the Governor of Illinois, the Mayor of Chicago and the Consul General of Switzerland, on behalf of the Diplomatic Corps.

### Targets

Messages were received from President Johnson, Vice-President Humphrey and Ambassador Goldberg, among others.

The real work of the Convention took place in a series of plenary sessions, workshops and informal discussion meetings at which plans for the future, keyed to specific targets, were hammered out.

Four years ago, WAO adopted a number of goals to be achieved over

## Mrs. Rosenthal Elected

Mrs. Monroe M. Rosenthal has been elected President of Women's American ORT. Mrs. Rosenthal, who lives in For-



rest Hills, New York, has been active in ORT since 1948, has participated in overseas missions which have taken her to all the main overseas ORT installations, has held numerous

national posts in Women's American ORT.

She has been a member of the WAO National Executive Committee since 1957 and National Treasurer since 1963.

Mrs. David M. Goldring of West Orange, New Jersey, was elected Chairman of the organization's Executive Committee.

an eight year period. This Convention, half-way to the mark of 80,000 members, set at that time, found itself within an eyelash of that figure well ahead of schedule. Nothing could better indicate the organization's growth pace.

## West Coast Labor

The annual mid-summer luncheon of Los Angeles Labor ORT took place on July 30th, with representatives of many unions, fraternal societies and the Workmen's Circle in attendance. Shelley Appleton, Vice-President of the ILGWU and National Membership Chairman of American Labor ORT, described the affair as an important step in the development of the organization on the West Coast.

In the absence of John Ulene, the L. A. Labor ORT chairman, Isidor Stenzor, the group's treasurer, who is manager of the Cloak Joint Board, presided at the affair. Joel Litewka, secretary, reported on the ORT overseas program.

Harry Lang, manager of the *Forward* in Los Angeles, introduced the guest speaker who was Prof. Irving Bernstein of the University of California.

Since the summer, Los Angeles Labor ORT has planned an active season of membership involvement and expansion.

# The New Jewish Refugees

All the facts are hard to come by as to the number of Jews who fled North Africa since June as a result of threats to life and property, mob attacks and official persecutions, including camp incarceration. Estimates vary from between 30,000 to 50,000 who felt compelled, and were allowed to leave Egypt, Lybia, Tunisia and Morocco.

ORT schools in France and Italy already report large numbers of refugee applicants.

Following is a report from ORT in Milan concerning a few of the approximately 5,000 Lybian Jews who managed to get to Italy.

Following the Six Day War, the exodus of Jews from Tripoli and Libya to Italy brought several dozen students to the ORT school and dormitory in Milan. Some of the more needy students were sent to summer camps. Their stories are especially pathetic.

## Case of Georgio

Georgio, 15 years old, has a quick, intelligent mind but a small body due to undernourishment. In Tripoli, the father had a tiny shoe shop but neglected it to take care of the children. The mother had been sent to a psychiatric hospital in Rome five years ago. When Georgio arrived in Milan, he

first had to be given medical care. His health is now normal and he is able to keep up with his studies.

## From Tripoli

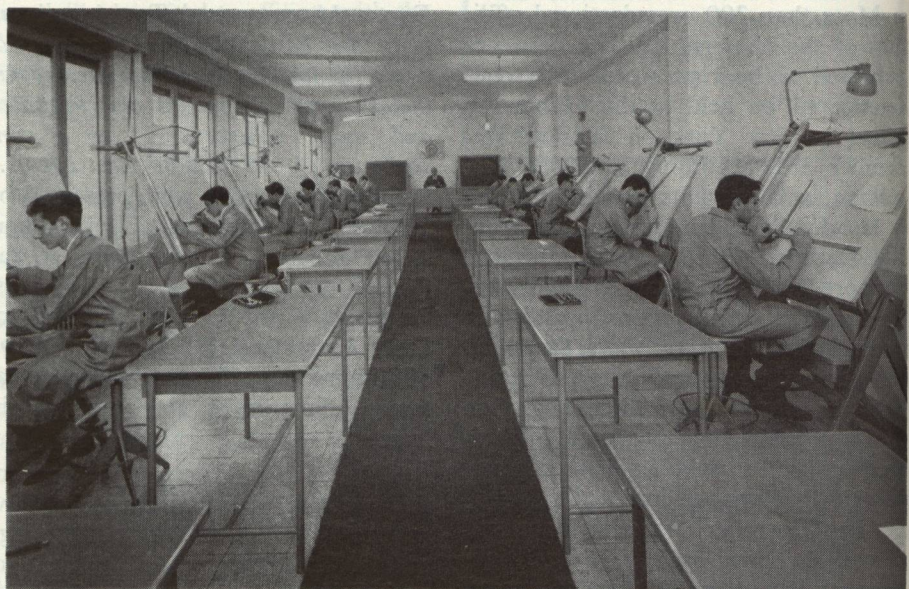
Enrico, at the age of 15, is sturdy and agile. He was brought up in the labyrinthine slums of the Old City in Tripoli and has the city child's aggressiveness. He was caught up in street fights with Arabs and has been arrested by the police because he is Jewish. Even though he now lives in Milan, a heavy burden of resentment toward authority remains. He comes from a large family—twelve children. The family's economic position, dependent on the meager earnings of a cardiac mother, has not changed since they have moved to Italy.

Ivchio is 16 years old, sensitive and loyal. Two of his uncles were killed by the Arabs, and his grandmother died of the shock. His parents and five brothers are without resources, having left everything behind. But for Ivchio, the future is hopeful because he will have a trade.

## Brothers

The Levi brothers, 14 and 18 years old, lived a good life in Tripoli. Their father was a wealthy business man and they lived in a comfortable house. In the aftermath of the Six Day War, their father was attacked in the street and the family remained barricaded in the house for a month until an Italian friend arranged the escape. The family arrived in Italy destitute.

Besides those who have found housing in Milan, eleven Libyan boys now living with their parents in refugee camps, are attending the ORT school in Milan.



The drafting class at the Milan ORT School.

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