

ORT bulletin

ORGANIZATION FOR REHABILITATION THROUGH TRAINING

VOLUME XXVIII, No. 4

Published by the American ORT Federation

d176133

Winter, 1974

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
January 24, 25, 26, 1975
Hotel Americana, New York City

Program

Friday, January 24th at 9:00 p.m.

Oneg Shabat

* * *

Saturday, January 25th

Sabbath Services 10.00 a.m.

Organization Sessions

12 noon-5:00 p.m.

* * *

Testimonial Dinner To Dr. William Haber

Reception-6:00 p.m.

Dinner-7:00 p.m.

Couvert-\$17.50

Guest Speaker

Simcha Dinitz
Ambassador of Israel

* * *

Sunday, January 26th

Organization Session 9:30 a.m.

Conference Luncheon-12:30 p.m.

Couvert-\$6.00

* * *

Policy Session-1:30 p.m.

Challenge of a Time of Peril

Samuel Haber

*Executive Vice-Chairman
Joint Distribution Committee*

ORT Perspectives for '75

Max A. Braude

ORT Director-General

ORT Needs and Our Commitment

Dr. William Haber

"The task of this National Conference is nothing less than to determine the ORT policies that are responsive to a time of protracted crisis.

"The ORT network of schools in Israel carries enormous responsibilities vital to the economy, all the more so in the course of organizing the country for every eventuality. At the same time, a generation that holds the future of Israel in its hands must be educated.

"ORT remains basic to the modernization of communities in Morocco, Iran, India. There is the absorption of North African Jews to life in France. Soviet immigrants will continue to require absorption services.

"These problems which are at the center of Jewish concern at this time, will be the focus of the National Conference of the American ORT Federation."

DR. WILLIAM HABER

Go-Ahead Budget Forecast for '75

The tentative forecast of ORT needs for 1975 profiles a budget caught in paradox and uncertainty. It will also be the largest outlay in ORT history. Earliest estimate is that ORT will need to spend a minimum of \$39 million during 1975, about \$4 million over last year.

"The magic number this year," says ORT General Director, Max A. Braude, "seems to be 12%."

On the positive side, he anticipated a 12% increase in the student body. He announced plans to open three new technical junior colleges in Israel, completion during the year ahead of phase one of the vast complex of the ORT School of Engineering on the Hebrew University campus in Jerusalem, a new school building in Lyon, France, another structure for the "ORT City" in Teheran, plus across the board upgrading in already superior educational standards.

Not So Magic 12%

"On the other side of the coin, the outlook is grim," Braude stated to ORT meetings in Geneva and New York. The 12% figure on enrollment has comparable 12 percents that bode ill.

"Inflation is at least 12%, dollar value is down at least 12%, probably between 30-35% over the last few years, diminishing by at least that much the local currency ORT is able to purchase in the areas of operation. Probable loss of income of about 12% is expected from traditional ORT sources of support in Italy, Britain and possibly France."

Braude discounted any positive effect of the recent devaluation of the Israeli pound. It does not offer significant help to ORT in Israel because devaluation was accompanied by im-

(Continued on page 2)

'75 Forecast

(Continued from page 1)

mediate price rises in material and delayed cost of living increases in salaries affecting ORT teachers and other personnel, "which more than wiped out the gain," said Braude.

"At this reading," he warned, "we are still several millions of dollars short in an annual budget which has now increased to \$39 million." Nevertheless, he rejected gloomy forebodings as useless exercises when what is required is determination to overcome the difficulties. He laid heavy

responsibility on ORT organizations around the world, American ORT in particular, to participate in finding solutions.

"We really have no choice but to go ahead," Mr. Braude declared. There is no fat to be trimmed. That was done a long time ago, if we ever had any such marginal 'extras' at all.

"The program grows and it solves problems as it goes along," Braude told an American ORT Executive Committee. "Years ago, we were almost entirely involved in putting out fires—caring for refugees, reacting to crises, etc., and this continues to be our business."

ORT Exits from UNESCO

Geneva—The World ORT Union announced last month its withdrawal from cooperation with UNESCO in which it has consultative status. Daniel Mayer, Chairman of the ORT Union's Executive Committee, said the move was prompted by the UNESCO resolution excluding Israel from activities in its European regional grouping and other anti-Israel resolutions adopted by the United Nations body at its recent Paris meeting.

Other international Jewish organizations have informed UNESCO that they are giving strong consideration to severing their relations with it.

Lord Nathan of Churt, Chairman of the International Council of Jewish Social and Welfare Services, of which ORT is a component, made clear in a cable to UNESCO the group's grave concern for the future of UNESCO in the light of its recent political intervention in relation to Israel.

As the result of action taken by the World ORT Union Interim Committee at its Geneva meeting December 1, 1974, the following message was sent to Amadou Mahtar M'bow, Director General of UNESCO:

"In view of the invidious politicization of UNESCO, evidenced on the occasion of the discussions at the General Conference concerning Israel, ORT as an educational and non-political organization shall no longer continue to cooperate with UNESCO until such time as it has demonstrated its dedication to its fundamental principles."

(signed)

DANIEL MAYER, *Chairman, World ORT Union Executive Committee*

In withdrawing from cooperation with UNESCO, ORT joined hundreds of other individuals and organizations throughout the Western world in making this decision.

Official Israeli reaction to the UNESCO vote was to protest the organization's transformation from a scientific, cultural and educational agency into "a political forum of the most partisan kind."

He cited the large scale ORT services for Soviet refugees in Rome. "There were 1,800 Russian Jews in Rome last Friday, and 150 more are expected this week."

French ORT absorbed at least 400 from North Africa who had "just gotten off the boat." Most of them were able to obtain, as a result of their ORT connection, hard-to-get residence and work permits.

With regard to Israel, Braude saw no letup in expansion, either in terms of the number of students or in growth of facilities. "The program in Israel continues to grow," he proclaimed.

"The new Minister of Education has proudly asserted that five years ago, thirty percent of secondary education was vocational; now it is fifty percent plus," Braude reported.

By the year 1980, which is a mere half decade away, it is expected that six out of ten youth at the high school level will be involved in technical and vocational education. ORT is already by far the largest school system in this field. Its growth is keyed to this projection of Israel's educational priorities.

Israel—50 Percent More

ORT has been the nation's primary resource in such schooling for many years. The program is credited, by virtue of its high educational standards, as well as its innovative thrust in fields related to the science-based high technology of Israel's industrial and defense sectors, for having "turned around" the direction of Israel's education from academic to vocational, which is more in tune with the country's real needs.

To sustain this program—expansion aside—Mr. Braude foresaw a 50 percent increase of ORT expenditures in Israel in 1975.

"We began 1974 with an Israel ORT budget of about 70 million Israeli Pounds," Braude noted. At the end of the year, it was 100 million Pounds. The budget for ORT Israel in 1975 will probably require some 120 million Pounds, over 50% more than a year ago.

"What choice have we?" Braude inquired rhetorically, "It will have to be done."



Winter 1974

Published quarterly in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter

Vol. XXVIII, No. 4 Annual subscription 50c

Cable Address: AMORTFED, New York

American ORT Federation

817 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003

Tel. 677-4400

ORGANIZATION FOR REHABILITATION THROUGH TRAINING

Second class postage at New York, N.Y.

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The American ORT Federation currently receives its funds from the Joint Distribution Committee, a member agency of the United Jewish Appeal, and the Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, and from its organizational activities.

Dora Berman Speaks Her Mind on Absorption

by Lea Levavi

From the Jerusalem Post

"I know a lot of Russian immigrants who are leaving. If I could get to talk to Pinhas Sapir, I would tell him that the Jewish Agency and Ministry of Absorption should take a lesson from ORT.

"You don't have to invest a lot of money to absorb immigrants. What you do have to invest is heart and soul—to give people a chance, and to accept them. They will return whatever you invest in them if they are given the opportunity to contribute their knowledge and skills to the country."

Discipline

Dr. Dora Berman, who arrived here from Russia three years ago, is now principal of ORT's two vocational high schools in Lod—a girls' school teaching fashion, home economics and clerical work—and a boys' school where pupils learn electronics and mechanics.

"I tightened the discipline in both schools because I think discipline is something we lack in Israel. There was some grumbling about it being Communist discipline, but I don't think it is. I simply expect the pupils to come to school every day, and on time, and to do their work."

Dora Berman worked as a mechanical engineer for 20 years in the Soviet Union. But shortly after her arrival in Israel, the employment representative at the Absorption Centre told her she would have to learn something appropriate to a woman in Israel—preferably bookkeeping.

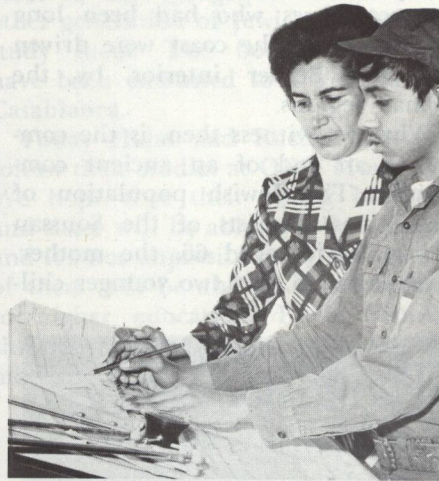
"I told him I had a profession and he laughed in my face. Mechanical engineering is no job for a woman... I don't know what would have happened to me here if I hadn't met Mr. Harmatz of ORT. It was a fantastic stroke of good luck."

Vocational Lib

One of Mrs. Berman's chief interests is to bring more girls into the "boys" school, into electronics and possibly even mechanics. One girl is about to graduate in electronics (she began her studies before Mrs. Berman came) and a few others are studying in the department.

But Mrs. Berman is not satisfied. "The problem is that even in the first grades girls are directed away from "masculine studies." By the time they get to high school, they are on a lower level than the boys in science and mathematics, not because they are less intelligent or capable but simply because elementary school teachers perpetuate old-fashioned ideas about these being 'boys' subjects. We have begun special classes to bring the girls to a level where they can go into a field like electronics."

But Mrs. Berman faces even more basic problems in her schools. Many



When mobilization took away her teachers, Dr. Berman took over the classes at the Lod ORT schools during the Yom Kippur War.

of the students who come in as ninth graders are slovenly and indigent. "Our aim is not only to teach them a trade but to bring them to a point where they are like teen-agers from better areas. I think ORT is doing a lot to bridge the social gap."

No matter what we discussed, Mrs. Berman always returned to her warm praise of ORT. "Even in the Absorption Center the immigrants said that the one place they were received well was ORT. I don't know how a man like Mr. Harmatz, Director-General of an organization as large as ORT, found hours to sit and talk to me when I didn't know Hebrew and could only communicate with him with great difficulty in Yiddish.

"Before going to ORT I had gone to many employers. Government-con-

trolled firms wouldn't even talk to me. Some private employers were willing to give me a chance after I proved I knew what I was talking about, but I was afraid a job with a private firm wouldn't be secure."

After taking a course in technical Hebrew through ORT, Dr. Berman worked at the ORT Junior College in Givatayim and then took over the Lod schools. A little over a month after she took on her new responsibilities, the Yom Kippur War broke out. Mr. Harmatz was asked to arrange for pupils to work as volunteers at Shmuel Harofe Hospital where prisoners of war were being cared for.

Factories and Felafel

Though Mrs. Berman's school was near-by, he hesitated to call on her, knowing she had her hands full running the schools with the male teachers and instructors in the army. Finally, when he saw he had no choice, he called her and she rose to the challenge with her usual efficiency and enthusiasm.

The very same day, her home economics department began sending cooks to the hospital kitchen and boys went to work in the hospital laundry. Other pupils worked in factories, at the airport and wherever else they were needed.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Berman insisted that studies continue. "In our workshop we had jobs to do for the defense industries. Since the teachers were in the army, I worked with the students. I did parts of the work which were too advanced for them. That helped convince some of the girls that they can learn technical skills."

During and after the war, the home economics department prepared, and personally presented, from cakes to felafel, to wounded soldiers at Tel Hashomer Hospital.

I asked Mrs. Berman if she had considered leaving Israel when she had been advised to become a bookkeeper. "No. First of all, I had been fighting to come here since 1952. I knew that the only place for me was Israel. Secondly, even if I wanted to leave, my son now belongs here."

TIZNIT IS A SMALL TOWN deep in the Berber country of south Morocco. Situated at the edge of the Sahara Desert, about 50 miles from Agadir, Tiznit is one of many small communities in which there has been a Jewish presence for hundreds of years.

There are stones in the village, engraved in Hebrew dating from the 15th century. Some three-quarters of a mile beyond the age-grimed town walls is the Jewish cemetery. And there are tales of age gone by passed down from father to son in which the real mixes with the apocraphal in an oral history that is practically all lost, because the tellers of tales are gone.

100 Families

Even a decade ago, as late as 1965, there were still 100 Jewish families in Tiznit. The old *mellah*, the Jewish quarter, constituted at least a quarter of the town. There were three synagogues and a Jewish school to service the community. There were many children and the school flourished.

Today, the only Jews remaining in Tiznit are the Soussan family. The oldest son, Albert, aged 29, came "up" to Casablanca to inform us at ORT that his young brother, Haim, 14,

was interested in learning an occupation. A sister, Rachel, 17, is finishing her studies at the ORT school in the Val d'Anfa quarter of Casablanca. Albert's arrival was no surprise since the children of Tiznit had been coming to ORT for over 20 years. None ever went back. Still, it was news of special significance, because the Soussans are the last.

Population—Four

Between the 750-800 Jews of Tiznit ten years ago and today's population of four lies the dissolution of a community that probably has origins dating to the period when Maimonides' Mishnah Torah was introduced in Rabbinic seminaries established in nearby Agadir after 1391. There is good reason to believe that Tiznit, and similar towns in the region, already had Jews at the time of the Roman conquest. Jews who had been long established on the coast were driven into the Berber interior by the Roman legions.

What we witness then, is the coming to an end of an ancient community. The Jewish population of Tiznit now consists of the Soussan father, David, aged 66, the mother, Sarah, aged 43, and two younger chil-

dren, Meyer, 10 and Simy, 8. The younger children have never been to school because depopulation compelled closure of the local Jewish school. They can neither read nor write. They speak the Berber dialect.

Does the family plan to leave the village? No, say Albert and his father. They have good relations with their neighbors and want to remain, and the parents feel too old to move.

Continuity

And the children? "Well, perhaps we can send them to Inezgane, about 50 miles from here, where there are still a few Jewish families and a rabbi who can teach them a little Hebrew. When they get a little older, perhaps we will turn them over to ORT as we did with our oldest, Simon, who graduated from the ORT school in Ain Sebaa, and Rachel and Haim. "For the moment we have one major problem—that's the synagogue," said David Soussan.

We learned more about this when Haim came to enter school in Casablanca. The synagogue is a very real worry for father Soussan. It has been sold. But what is to be done with the six Torahs and the thirty or so books of the *Zohar* which made up the synagogue library?

Saving Torahs

One day a fire broke out in the synagogue and Albert Soussan asked ORT, since that was the address he knew in the outside world, to come to Tiznit and take possession of the Sephar Torahs and the other books. We agreed.

A Historic Parallel

A century ago, the great majority of the Jews of the world lived in Eastern Europe. The year 1880, in which ORT was founded, also witnessed the beginnings of a tide of emigration which emptied the *shtetlich* in the course of the next decades. A similar current has been at work among the Jews of North Africa in recent times.

At the end of World War II there were some 700,000 Jews in the North African littoral stretching from the Atlantic to Libya, which is called the *Mahgreb*. They had been in the area since the fall of the Second Temple, if not earlier. They lived in all the large cities and in hundreds of *shtetlich*, although that word is alien to them, from the Mediterranean deep into the oases of the Sahara.

With the creation of Israel in 1948 and a far less hospitable climate that developed with the coming of nationalism in the area, North African Jews began to leave in large numbers. Today, fewer than 50,000 are left. The *shtetlich* are empty. Their Jews in the main are in Israel, but also in all the major cities of France, in Montreal and elsewhere.

What follows is an episode in the last days of one such *shtetl* in Morocco.

The Last Of Tiznit

How a Jewish Moroccan Came to America

by Josemar

Director, Morocco

(Based on interview)

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of Tiznit Community in to an End

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(view)

Although much is forever lost, over the years, he produced a series of monographs on celebrations, community events, costumes and customs. He also established a small "museum" of religious and day-to-day objects—oil lamps, fragments of engraved stones and so forth. This work remains in Tiznit and we remain in touch with its author in hope of better times when some of this can be brought to light. If the Jews are gone, at least some of the memorabilia of their history will be preserved.

Safe

Meanwhile, the Tiznit Scrolls of the Law are now safe in our Ain Sebaa school in Casablanca, salvaging these artifacts of a vanishing community. Although they are not in the best physical condition, they are in their place in our synagogue and yet another generation of Jewish youth will study them. The books of *Zohar* have been entrusted to a Yeshiva in Casablanca.

Today Haim and Rachel Soussan follow their studies at ORT Morocco. We hope that their young brother and sister will be able to follow them and it's not impossible that one or all of them will be able to continue on to higher education. From Tiznit, through ORT, they are entering the modern world.



Above—Studying mechanics at Ein Sebaa ORT Vocational High School for boys in Casablanca. Below—Entrance way to a *mellah* such as Tiznit's. Below, left—Salvaging the Torahs of Tiznit. Photo taken on the scene a few months ago.

In making the trip to recover the Books of the Law, we came across an enigmatic individual. He turned out to be a former officer of the French army who has been living in Tiznit since 1930. He claims never to have left the village. The army officer in time became a civil servant in the French administration married a Berber woman, and when abandoned by the French after Morocco gained its independence, instead of leaving, he elected to make his life in Tiznit.

This apparition, of whose existence we had no prior knowledge, turned out to be a serious scholar who fell in love with the region and its history. He set about writing down everything he could find about the Jewish communities of South Morocco.



North African Exodus Fills French Program

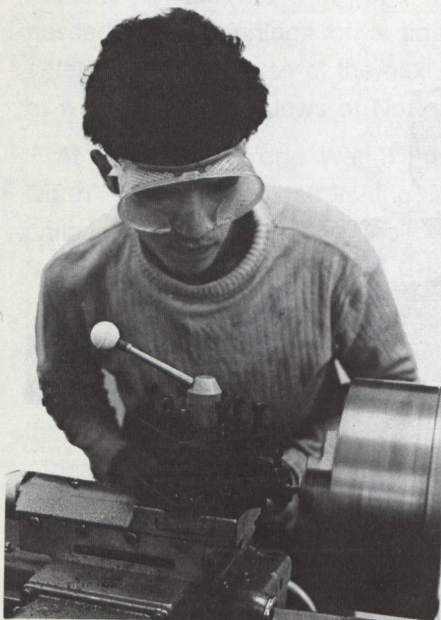
The dynamics of absorbing an immigration that has, in a bit over a decade, exploded French Jewry from 300,000 to 550,000 is nowhere better evident than in ORT.

Despite an economy skidding downward with rising unemployment, or perhaps because of it, these schools are the catchment facility for youngsters sent from Tunisia and from families still in Morocco, or just arrived from it. About seven out of ten youngsters in all French ORT vocational schools are of North African origin.

Increase

ORT France enrollment figures for the 1974-75 academic year show an increased registration in both regular schools for young people and short-term training for adults, according to figures just released.

During September, with school reopening, 1,319 new registrations were recorded. This adds up to a total of 3,114 students and apprentices for the academic year. There were 2,783 enrollments in the youth category last year.



Formerly from Tunis, this young man now studies at the ORT school in Villiers-le-Bel near Paris.

Of the new registrations, 722 were recorded at Montreuil outside Paris, which is the site of the largest and most comprehensive center in the ORT France network. It is regarded as one of the finest of its kind in Europe. Included in this number are nearly 300 recently arrived students from North Africa.

Registration in other ORT France centers, including Villiers-le-Bel, a suburb of Paris, in Marseilles, Lyons, at the *Ecole de Travail* in the old Jewish quarter of Paris, and in Toulouse—each shows new enrollments to be about at par with last year or larger.

There is great demand for places at Strasbourg, primarily on the part of students of North African origin who require dormitory facilities. Despite the opening of additional accom-

modations, thanks to support provided by Women's American ORT, the Strasbourg school is in a wall-to-wall utilization stage, with long waiting lists for admission.

Strasbourg

ORT Strasbourg is the only French ORT institution which offers dormitory accommodations for boys in long term training. Villiers-le-Bel has live-in facilities for adult candidates in short-term courses.

Including adult classes offered by ORT France, there will be an effective net gain of several hundred students over last year. More than 6,000 young people and adults are anticipated in ORT schools and classes in France during 1975, a peak figure.

Reason: Continued Jewish immigration and unfinished absorption of many who arrived in the last decade.

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3. FREQUENCY OF ISSUE Quarterly		
4. LOCATION OF KNOWN OFFICE OF PUBLICATION (Street, city, county, state, ZIP code) (Not printers) 817 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003		
5. LOCATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS OR GENERAL BUSINESS OFFICES OF THE PUBLISHERS (Not printers) 817 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003		
6. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PUBLISHER, EDITOR, AND MANAGING EDITOR		
PUBLISHER (Name and address) American ORT Federation, 817 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003		
EDITOR (Name and address) None		
MANAGER EDITOR (Name and address) Jack Rader, c/o American ORT Federation, 817 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003		
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People and Events

New Role for Al Gray

Alvin L. Grey, who has served with distinction as President of Cleveland Men's ORT, has been elected a national Vice-President of the American Jewish Congress. He had been on a fact-finding mission to Israel for the Congress earlier in 1974, in the course of which he attended the International ORT Emergency Congress in Jerusalem.

Gray is blessed with a keen mind which he employs to good effect in his legal profession, and an insatiable curiosity which he expresses in traveling. Al Gray has been everywhere, reputedly to 65 countries, twice to the Soviet Union, including Siberia, and even to Mongolia.

A highly respected leader in the Cleveland community, he has led the drives of his Attorneys' Division in several campaigns, is a graduate of the National UJA Young Leadership Cabinet. He is slated to take the post of co-Chairman of the American ORT National Organization Committee in 1975, another new role for a man marked for leadership.

Sill Moves Upward

Robert L. Sill, "Bob" to all of us, the fellow whose face is always wreathed in smiles and has held every post on the books in Cleveland Men's ORT—and done well in all of them—has just been designated Chairman of the Insurance Division Campaign of the Cleveland Federation.

Earlier last year Bob, who is President of the prestigious and highly successful Alex N. Sill Adjustment Co. of Cleveland, was elected President of the National Association of Public Insurance Adjusters.

The citation designating him to his new community position describes him as a "respected practitioner in his field . . . and a veteran in community affairs." That encomium applies equally to his place in ORT.

Energy Solution

Atlanta: If Americans find themselves easing the energy crisis with fuel converted from garbage, they

might be just as grateful to the educational programs of ORT as is Pinhas Har-oz.

"Pini" Har-oz, 27, currently in Georgia Tech's research and development department, is working on just such a device. This invention would utilize a chemical process to transform garbage into charcoal and oil.

And he credits his ORT education with giving him the background to graduate with honors from the University of Texas, despite a language handicap. "My English was so bad it took about 18 minutes to read a page." Still, he found that much of the freshman engineering courses had been covered in the ORT high school program.

Har-oz' four years at the ORT Syngalowski High School in Tel Aviv, plus two years of junior college study there after his army service, earned him two years credit for University of Texas admission toward his mechanical engineering degree.

Work on his master's thesis was interrupted by the Yom Kippur War. Since completed and published, it details an automated trash collection device with a mechanical arm operated by remote control. The method requires only one man instead of three.

Har-oz insists that the ORT schools are the best equipped and staffed.

There are among men those unique individuals who become a legend in their own time. Dr. Joseph Schwartz was such a one. When he died at the age of 75 on January 1st, he was already known throughout the Jewish world as a historic figure.

As Director General of the Joint Distribution Committee, he was the conscience of the Jewish world at that most sensitive moment of salvage and rescue of the survivors of the Holocaust during and immediately after World War II. More than any other human being, it was Joe Schwartz who was responsible for that epic of human rescue, the rehabilitation of the "living dead" in the camps, their settlement in Israel and other havens.

He totally agrees with Rabbi Harry Epstein, founder of the Atlanta chapter of Men's ORT, who says that "helping ORT does more than help students by providing them with skills. . . . ORT helps Israel directly because ORT students, engineers and technicians, perform some of the highest functions in Israel's armed forces and industry."

From The Southern Israelite

Emma Dubinsky

The American ORT Federation records with deep sorrow the passing of Emma Dubinsky, a great lady who was connected with ORT for decades.

The Dubinsky family, David, Emma, and their son-in-law, Shelley Appleton, have filled a large niche in ORT over the years.

Emma Dubinsky, along with her husband, David Dubinsky, was there at the very start of American ORT in the early twenties, again at the founding of American Labor ORT in the late thirties, and remained an officer of that group until the end.

A memorial perpetuating this association with ORT will be established at the ORT center in Montreuil, Paris, the school that owes its origin to the initiative of David Dubinsky and the generosity of the ILGWU.

Dr. Joseph Schwartz

He comprehended at the very outset the significance of creating vocational studies and practical workshops as a vital ingredient in the restoration of self-confidence and hope. He never wavered in his intransigent insistence on the focal role of ORT in Jewish life.

We shall ever be grateful for his unique understanding of ORT.

His work for Jewish survival continued with UJA, Israel Bonds and other organizations until his last days, and he was a sagacious counselor in matters affecting ORT.

His place in the history of our times is secure. It will be a long time before we see his like again.

The Tough Road Back for Veterans

The Yom Kippur War is over more than a year, but the human problems it created have not gone away at all. If anything, they cry for attention as never before. That the nation moves ahead to gear for any eventuality in no way obviates the practical realities of daily life or of the need to plan one's future.

One of the most pressing of such problems, and one to which ORT Israel began to address itself as early as last Spring, is the vocational readjustment of demobilized veterans. These young men, aged 20-30, who had served periods up to six months with the Defense Forces, had been in battle and returned intact, were faced with the problem of picking up the skein of personal life. In practise, that means how to learn to make a living that has a future.

Complications

Such thoughts are complicated by another consideration. Most of these men had been told upon their release to expect to be called up again for additional service during 1974, and the military demands of 1974 did in fact create periodic mobilizations of varying durations.

Job opportunities are plentiful in an economy suffering from a labor shortage. But job qualifications for an economy that is hurtling toward an even more sophisticated technology in order to be economically viable and to have the competence to utilize advanced defense equipment—these

call for advanced skills. These young men are, therefore, faced with the necessity of obtaining high-level technical education to acquire these skills.

Family Men

Their situation is often perplexed by the situation that some are young fathers as well, with all the responsibilities of housing, economic uncertainty and the usual hardships of families struggling to get started.

Reduced to simplest requirements, the readjustment problem is to find training programs geared to maximum flexibility regarding course starting dates, and accommodation to interruptions in attendance due to the defense of the country.

ORT Israel has designed such courses to meet the needs presented by these demobilized soldiers. Indeed, programs for them at high school, adult courses and technical college

levels began as soon as the men started doffing their uniforms.

Courses ranging from electricity and electronics to heavy machinery operation, graphics, accounting, technical drawing and interior design were announced. Response of veterans was prompt and substantial. By the end of May, over 200 were studying at the ORT centers in Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem.

"While the number of students in these courses is relatively small today," said ORT Israel Director Joseph Harmatz, when the program began, "this is an ongoing vocational rehabilitation program that has just begun. We are sure that there are hundreds more returning veterans who will look to ORT for assistance in readapting to civilian life."

In fact, that prognosis proved correct. Such programs are now in full swing.



Demobilized veterans at the ORT Technical College in Nathanya.

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