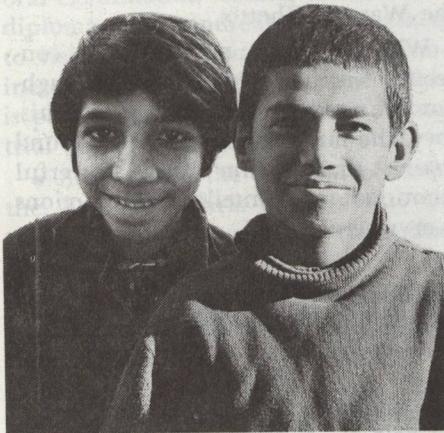


The Newest Trend is "More"

There are more students in ORT schools now than at any other time in the organization's 95 year history. Projections for enrollment during the school year that began on September first indicate a study body of well over 70,000.

This emerging trend is all the more remarkable in view of budgetary strangulation that has held ORT in its bind for the last several years. Reflecting fiscal realities, the enrollment graph had hit a standstill. The latest facts and figures provide evidence that this recent sluggishness has been



Happy to be included is what these smiles on ORT Israel's newest freshmen indicate.

replaced by a decided upward climb. That is good news for the program, and even more so for the larger number who can now be served.

Across the Board

"In every country in which we now operate, except Morocco and Uruguay, we served more people," reported Max A. Braude, ORT Director General, to the July meeting of the World ORT Union Executive Committee.

"In general, it is reasonable to assume that we reached a plateau in the school year 1973-74. In the school year that has just ended (July 1975), we began to grow again," Braude

noted. "Furthermore," he observed, "the number of training units are also on the rise, and the number of schools has grown appreciably."

Summing up the significance of this latest turn, Harold Friedman, American ORT President, told a recent meeting of the organization's Executive Committee:

"There were in ORT last year 69,204 trainees. Let's round it out to 70,000. To this should be added between 2,500 and 3,000 students under our various technical assistance programs. We can, therefore, conclude that ORT last year educated in one way or another, in a variety of different kinds of programs, in more than a score of countries, in more than 100 different productive occupations and in age brackets ranging from 12 to 60, about 72,000 human beings."

Overwhelming

"And if viewed through these figures, it's a big program, that is all the more so, in fact overwhelmingly so, in Israel", states Friedman.

Joseph Harmatz, Director of ORT Israel, underscores the preeminence of Israel in providing by far the largest portion of the current tide of student increase. He reports an enrollment as of this September some 3,000 higher than a year ago in the ORT high school division. The Israel graph is up across the board, encompassing ORT technical colleges and industrial schools, among others.

Having breached the plateau and launched into a new phase of growth, in no way resolves the hard realities of unmet needs, or frightening shortage of funds. Braude estimates, "that we will need to spend \$200,000 more than we planned when we made up our 1975 budget . . . Now in the middle of 1975, we still live with the same sort of crisis . . . And we dare not allow crisis to become monotonous."

Herzog at the U.N.

Gen. Chaim Herzog, President of ORT Israel and Vice Chairman of the World ORT Union Executive Committee, took over his duties as Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations on August 19th. Minutes after he presented his credentials to U.N. Secretary Kurt Waldheim, Gen. Herzog met with representatives of the international press and told them:

"I am conscious of the fact that I have come here to represent a people which has retained over an unbroken period of 4,000 years its national identity, its cultural heritage and language, its unique ties to its country . . ."

Before leaving Israel to take up his new assignment, Gen. Herzog and his wife were guests of honor at a reception given by ORT Israel in Tel Aviv. ORT Israel Director Joseph Harmatz recalled that Gen. Herzog has held his ORT post for seven years—"not all plentiful—but seven good years."

Priority Task

In thanking his ORT colleagues for a menorah made in an ORT Israel school which was presented to the Herzogs as a farewell memento, Gen. Herzog stressed that his leave was not "goodbye"—but only "au revoir."

For American Jewry, his presence has been a welcome to a familiar friend. Israel's latest representative to the U.N., at one of the most critical junctures Israel has ever faced in this forum, has included as top priority of his responsibilities a continuous contact with the American Jewish community and its organizations.

The voice of Chaim Herzog is long familiar throughout the Middle East, as Israel's best known and highly credible military commentator. His latest book, *The War of Atonement* is regarded as highly authoritative.

From Craft to Profession

A school to train qualified printers and experts in the field of graphic arts and technology will be opened in Israel sometime during 1976, according to ORT Israel Director, Joseph Harmatz.

Students will be accepted in the school after completion of "matric" requirements and military service. The school will require a full year of

day study or can be completed in two years of night school—a total of 2,000 study hours.

A six to eight month "internship" in a print shop or industrial establishment will complete the pre-job requirements.

Subjects covered in the curriculum include: principles of economics, costing and management, industrial psychology, graphics, computer systems, photography, montage, offset printing and binding.

The graphic arts center now being planned is conceived as providing skills considerably higher than the printing trades that are taught in several ORT vocational high schools and apprenticeship centers. It aims at professional occupations or careers as distinct from craft alone.

For some time now, there have been ORT schools or departments for printing, such as at the Shapiro ORT Apprenticeship Center in Tel Aviv and at the ORT school in Kiryat Bialik.



Typesetting at the Shapiro ORT Apprenticeship Center.

What's in a Diploma?*

A certificate or diploma from a vocational or technical school in the United States does not necessarily mean a license to practice a specialty. In contrast, certification mechanisms in many developing countries imitate the European model in which schools are authorized by the state to license technicians. In these countries ORT works very closely with local authorities in order to ensure the validity of its training programs.

ORT insists that all its students take state examinations but, as these are often less demanding than the ORT courses, the Organization develops its own examinations which students must pass before they are permitted to sit for state exams. These ORT examinations are designed by boards composed of local educators, employers and practitioners recruited by ORT.

In many cases, the ORT examinations have been used as a model for the development or upgrading of

state exams. When ORT worked in Tunisia, for example, ORT staff members were invited by the government to assist in the formulation of the state exam. In Iran an ORT diploma almost guarantees either a job or entrance to the university.

In Israel, for instance, an agreement was signed between ORT and the Hebrew University in 1969, establishing the ORT School of Engineering. This cooperative venture enables the ORT high school graduate to attend college for a year and a half and earn government certification as a Practical Engineer, with appropriate credit toward a Bachelor's Degree.

Moreover, ORT's major role in the development of Israel's educational system has enabled the country to triple its vocational high school capacity in the last decade.

Although ORT's presence is more central and extensive in Israel than in other countries, ORT programs have enhanced the preparation and certification of skilled tradesmen and technicians in 23 countries.

L'Chaim - To Life

In living rooms watching TV, in local movie houses, in synagogues and in Jewish schools, at meetings—ORT and otherwise—in the U.S., Italy or Latin America—over 40 million people are estimated to have seen the film produced by Women's American ORT (and often utilized by Men's ORT groups as well), called "L'Chaim—to Life".

L'Chaim has appeared in several film festivals and won awards as a vivid documentary in four of them. Audiences universally acclaim its potent emotional impact. Teachers welcome it as a most effective audio-visual aid for teaching modern Jewish history.

It is generally considered the most graphic and dramatic documentary of recent years on the shtetl and ghettos under the Nazis, as well as the DP camps after World War II. Of greatest interest are the sequences shot by the Nazis themselves in the months preceding and during the Battle of the Warsaw Ghetto.

While the film necessarily is concerned with the role of ORT throughout the modern period of Jewish history, the material is of such profound interest that the film arouses powerful emotional and intellectual reactions everywhere.

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ORGANIZATION FOR REHABILITATION
THROUGH TRAINING

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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 the Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, and from its organizational activities.

* Extract from a recent issue of "Technical Education Reporter". Copies of the entire article are available by request to the American ORT Federation.

From the Land of the Bene Israel

Student Magazine

ORT India students are now producing their own magazine with articles appearing in English and Marathi (the local language of Bombay). In doing so, they reveal their concerns and values.

Written, illustrated, mimeographed and distributed by the students with the assistance of the teachers, the latest issue features articles on the Boys School, the Girls School, Hygiene and the Bible, the Spirit of Chanukah, Indian Folk Medicine, and the results of an essay contest. Here are some excerpts from the magazine:

- All candidates in Mechanical Drawing who took the state examination in July last year passed the tests. This is the second year in a row that ORT Bombay has shown results of such standard.

- Final year students in the Machine Shop and Fitters Classes appeared before outside experts for the oral examination leading to the ORT diploma. All candidates were asked to visit factories owned by the examiners and offered employment. This is particularly impressive since industrial employment is down.

- Students in the last year of both the Boys and Girls Schools will be taken on 10-day camping trips this year.

- The Girls School was established in 1970 and has already made a great difference in the lives of girls in the Bene Israel community. Says Miss Corley, Principal: "Early graduates were shy to leave their homes and go to work. Within six months of starting work, the shy, quiet girls of yesterday blossom forth with confidence at becoming self-supporting."

Says a student who, against her own wishes attended ORT instead of a college in a country that produces masses of unemployed university graduates:

"I don't think I could have earned half the salary I now earn if I had gone to college."

Springs of Hope

The estimated 25,000 Jews of India are, for the most part, an impoverished community. They share the conditions of their neighbors—large families, small dwelling units,

chronic unemployment with little to offer on the job market, little schooling above barely functional literacy, living from hand to mouth.

In the Indian Jewish community, as with other groups living under deprived conditions, one of the major problems is to convince the parents of the value of an ORT education. That idea is making rapid progress, all the more so as word returns from the hundreds who have gone to Israel of the satisfaction of an adjustment eased by skills.

Marriage Preparation

ORT India schools for boys and girls feature courses in mechanics, technical drawing, office and motel skills and hairdressing, but they also seem to be preparatory schools in marriage, according to a recent report from Bombay.

In all, 24 marriages and engagements were listed for 1974-75 by director Joseph Guedj.

"This couple asked us to help persuade the girl's father to consent to an early marriage," Guedj says. "He's somewhat reluctant since he hasn't recovered entirely from paying for the first two girls' marriages. We feel a little responsible for the situation, since the couple met at the ORT camp in January, and will do our best to help out."

According to Guedj, most students marry between the ages of 16 and 25, and most plan to leave for Israel where they feel they have a better opportunity to build a future. There

have been no dropouts because of marriage. All the students who married in their last term in ORT India have decided to stay in school until they receive their certificates.

Indian Passover

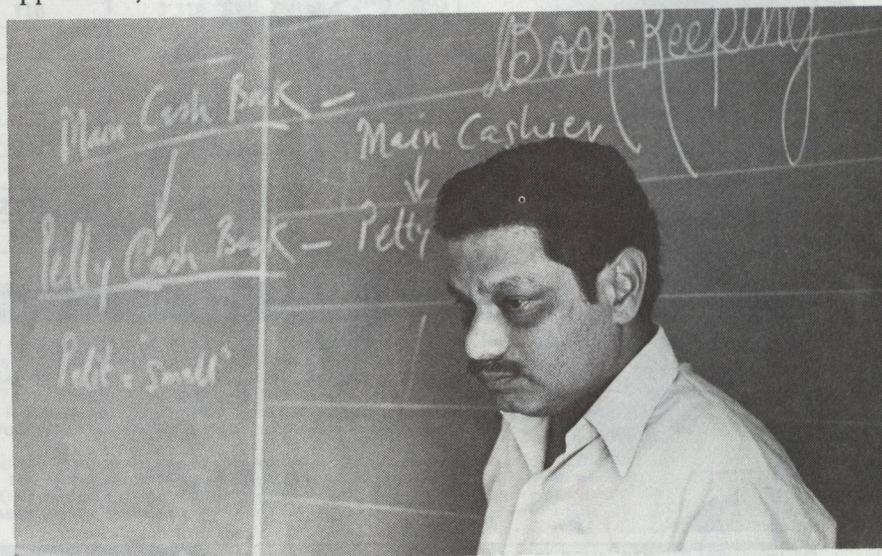
ORT India, through Director Joseph Guedj, reports that Seders offered to Russian immigrants at the ORT school in Rome are not unique.

"You will be pleased to know," he says, "that there were two Seders in ORT India. The first evening was for ORT staff and families and for students who did not return home. On the second evening, children from the local orphanage were also invited."

For many of these boys and girls it was the first Seder they ever experienced.



Above, The way of life in Jewish families living in villages outside Bombay. Below, Bookkeeping lesson in the ORT School for Girls.



"More than 60% of our students are from Oriental backgrounds," Joseph Harmatz, Director of ORT in Israel, told me. "That's slightly higher than the national average on the high school level.

"There are two ways of looking at that statistic. If you want to, you can say that this lowers our standards. Our view is just the opposite. We can provide training on several different levels without pushing slow students beyond their capabilities or holding brighter students back," remarked Harmatz.

ORT has 87 educational institutions around the country with about 25,000 students in high school and junior college programs. In addition thousands of youth are in ORT apprentice and industrial schools, while adults enjoy short courses through ORT—some offering real job training and others teaching the student how to repair his own car, television set or kitchen sink. And ORT is far more than all of this combined.

Models

Nathanya and Givatayim are examples of ORT schools at their best.

At the Nathanya school there is a dormitory for gifted students from poor areas around the country, many from "settlement towns", where good educational facilities on the high

A Tale of Two Schools

by Leah Lavin

school level aren't available. Those who live in the dormitory are predominantly from Oriental backgrounds, and from large and usually poor families.

During school hours, however, they are fully integrated with the local students from Nathanya. Because the dormitory is only open to students specially selected for promising learning potential, they tend to be in the best classes and so there is true integration—no "second Israel" here! Despite the many special problems which these students bring with them when they come to the school, by the end of their senior year they often have higher averages than other students. The motivation was there and it worked wonders.

In Givatayim, most departments have three levels. During the freshman year, all of the students in a particular department, such as electronics or architecture, study together. By the second year, they are divided according to their interests and abilities.

Those who want an academic plus technical diploma and have the necessary intelligence and ability go into the top level where they take a full academic program plus technical training. In the intermediate level there is less academic work and more emphasis on skill. At the lower level, emphasis is on practical work in the trade, decidedly job oriented.

One special department at the ORT Technicum in Givatayim is also the only one of its kind in Israel, and one of the few in the world. Students are trained in every aspect of computer work, in addition to a full academic program. The school has its own computer which the students use from the very first week in their freshman year.

"It's true that you can learn computer programming in a few months," Hezi, the head of the department, admitted. "But our students don't just learn how to give the computer routine instructions. They learn why the computer works as it does, how it works and exactly what happens when you give the computer a particular command. They even get an introduction to systems analysis, which is a very high level in computer work."

Highest Level

Hezi is sure his graduates will be able to start work at a level far beyond that of the average programmer.

In Israel a school with 1,200 students is considered "very big" and ORT officials complain that this fact, plus the problem of students living away from the school limits social activity and other extracurricular activities.

"But that's not the only reason," put in Moshe, a senior. "We devote more time to our studies than to anything else. That has to come first. We study more hours than the kids in academic high schools because we're actually getting two kinds of high school education at the same time. And of course, we have plenty of homework."

From "The Jewish Week"



Architectural drawing lesson at the ORT Technical College in Givatayim.

THE NATION-WIDE ORT NETWORK in ISRAEL

- Where the Schools are
 - Number of Students
 - Range of Programs
- (based on 1974 figures)

| LOCALITY | TOTAL | Colleges & Other Post Sec. Institutions | High Schools | Industrial Schools‡ | Yeshiva & Other Religious High Schools | Junior High Schools | Adult Programs | Apprentice-ship Programs |
|---------------|---------------|---|---------------|---------------------|--|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Afula | 679 | | 679 | | | | | |
| Ashdod | 369 | 45 | 284 | | | | 40 | |
| Ashkelon* | 1,256 | | 565 | | | | | 691 |
| Bat Yam* | 1,123 | | 1,128 | | | | | |
| Beersheva | 114 | | 114 | | | | | |
| Benyamina | 248 | | 181 | | 67 | | | |
| Bnei Brak | 320 | | 320 | | | | | |
| Chof Hasharon | 245 | | 245 | | | | | |
| Ein Harod | 746 | | 422 | | | 324 | | |
| Eilat | 141 | | | | | | | 141 |
| Gan Yavne | 156 | | | | 156 | | | |
| Gedera | 55 | | | 55 | | | | |
| Givatayim* | 2,332 | 882 | 1,450 | | | | | |
| Haifa* | 2,115 | | 448 | 90 | | 79 | | 1,498 |
| Herzlia | 422 | | 422 | | | | | |
| Holon* | 1,684 | | 1,401 | 283 | | | | |
| Iusfiya | 192 | | 167 | | | | 25 | |
| Jerusalem* | 5,443 | 310 | 1,521 | 73 | | 1,820 | 98 | 1,621 |
| Julis | 158 | | | 86 | | | | 72 |
| Kfar Abraham | 351 | | 351 | | | | | |
| Kfar Habad | 623 | | | | 623 | | | |
| Kfar Saba* | 1,213 | 97 | 1,040 | | | | 76 | |
| Kiryat Bialik | 2,475 | 144 | 1,059 | | | 1,272 | | |
| Kiryat Gat | 426 | | | | | | | 426 |
| Lydda* | 1,143 | | 794 | 252 | | | | 97 |
| Meiron | 66 | | | | 66 | | | |
| Nathanya* | 2,714 | 484 | 2,216 | | | | 14 | |
| Nazareth | 191 | | 191 | | | | | |
| Ramat Gan* | 2,459 | 110 | 2,319 | | | | 30 | |
| Rehovot* | 743 | | 596 | | 147 | | | |
| Sdeh Eliyahu | 66 | | | | 66 | | | |
| Sdeh Hemed | 104 | | | | 104 | | | |
| Shaar Hanegev | 54 | | | 54 | | | | |
| Shafir | 655 | | | | 655 | | | |
| Tel Aviv* | 14,387 | 2,074 | 1,819 | 19 | | | 8,146** | 2,329 |
| Tel Nof | 190 | | | 190 | | | | |
| Tel Yeruham | 74 | | | 74 | | | | |
| TOTALS | 45,737 | 4,146 | 19,732 | 1,176 | 1,884 | 3,495 | 8,429 | 6,875 |

*Indicates multiple schools or programs in this locality. There are, for example, 4 distinct schools in Haifa, 8 distinct programs in Jerusalem, 4 levels of schooling at the Syngalowski Center in Tel Aviv and a number of other ORT schools in Tel Aviv, etc. There were 356 educational units in the ORT Israel network in 1974, and a teaching staff of 1,849.

**Includes enrollment in the Institute for Adult Proficiency Training, which is country-wide in scope, and combines classroom and correspondence courses, for individuals and groups, in schools or other facilities.

‡Industrial schools are located on or in proximity to industrial or service establishments such as Caterpillar Tractor in Holon, the Israel Aircraft Co. at Ben Gurion Airport in Lydda. There were 13 such schools last year in ORT Israel. Students work and earn on assigned and supervised jobs in the shops, and attend classes on the premises.

A Focus of Dreams and Hopes

by Roy McMullen

[Extracted from an article by Mr. McMullen who hails from Wisconsin. He has authored numerous articles for major encyclopedias and among his books are *Art, Affluence and Alienation*, *The World of Marc Chagall*, and *the Victorian Outsider*. Mr. McMullen contributes to major periodicals in Europe and the United States.]

Montreuil-sous-Bois is a formerly attractive medieval village that has become an example of urban sprawl on the eastern edge of Paris. The population is partly working-class and partly dispirited bourgeois. Caught by the current recession, jobless men sit in the cafes, consulting racing forms or talking idly of the exploits of the popular cycling star, Raymond Poulidor, otherwise known as Pou-Pou.

Generation Old

Montreuil is nonetheless an exciting place, a focus of dreams and hopes in the minds of thousands of young Jews. For here, at 43 Rue Raspail, in a converted macaroni factory acquired a generation ago with the help of David Dubinsky's International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, is located the largest, and in several ways the most dramatically successful, of the seven ORT vocational schools in France. The six others are in Lyons, Marseilles, Toulouse, Strasbourg, the Marais quarter of Paris, and Villiers-le-Bel, a northern Parisian suburb.

Job Success

Although many of the sixteen hundred students in the ORT school are probably interested in the exploits of Pou-Pou, none is likely to wind up as a demoralized idler in a shabby cafe. During its twenty-seven years of activity ORT-Montreuil has been invariably good at finding jobs for its graduates, and today, in spite of the dismal fact that around a million Frenchmen are without work, the record shows no sign of being marred.

Here there is no trace of the sentimental traditionalism that still occasionally afflicts charitable vocational training. Nor is there any hewer-of-wood romanticism. Instead, there is

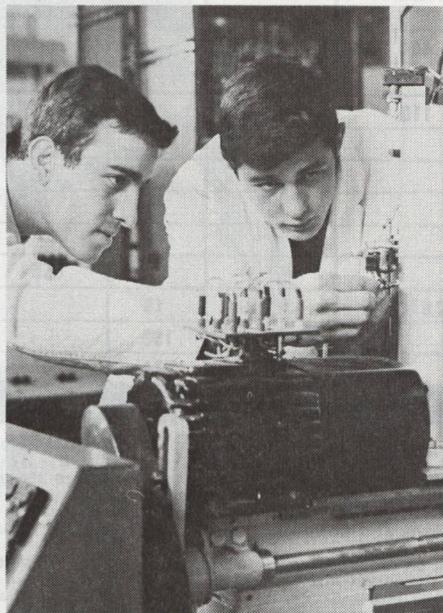
a firm resolution to be constantly up to date, or even ahead of date, combined with alert attention to the fluctuations of the modern technological labor market.

"We are not interested", says French ORT administrator Eric Schieber, "in turning out highly qualified unemployed".

The Montreuil Center is actually several schools in one. The trade high school, for boys and girls between fourteen and seventeen, offers courses—lasting on the average three years—in welding, fitting, milling, sheet metalwork, mechanical engineering, lathe operation, electrical engineering, electronics, radio and television, cabinet making, carpentry, garment making and secretarial work.

Since many youngsters arrive without the educational background needed for the regular training program, there are year-long preparatory courses. For adults between the ages of seventeen and forty-five there are more than forty intensive courses, running from three to ten months, in practically every skill from plumbing to computer handling.

For people who are already working but want to keep up with technical progress in their fields, or move



Lesson in automation controls in a laboratory at the Montreuil ORT School.

up to higher brackets, there are evening classes. In addition to all this the ORT services place teenagers in shops as apprentices and keep a close check on their training and treatment.

Full Impact

When the whole enterprise is functioning full force, the old macaroni factory is transformed into a buzzing, humming, clicking, clanging epitome of twentieth-century industry. Open one door, and you are suddenly in the cool, haughtily contemptuous (for the uninitiated) domain of the computer. Down the hall masked welders are adjusting their blue flames.

In another room heavy machine tools are being operated. In another, which looks like the office of a big architectural firm, a class in draftsmanship is working on the details of an electrical structure. In still another a group of young women is being asked to solve a series of problems that might confront the secretary of a corporation president on a typical morning. Some of them have already acquired the patient, unflustered look of an efficient executive secretary, the look that comes from knowing everything about the boss's business.

Dynamics

At Montreuil the head is Jules Bloch, a dynamic, surprisingly youthful survivor of the Nazi holocaust, a veteran of the French Resistance movement, and himself a product of ORT training. As director of the school his style closely resembles the managerial style—a mixture of brisk paternalism with a Harvard business school manner—that has become popular with French industrialists. And this resemblance is perhaps not accidental, for one of Bloch's many duties is to keep one foot firmly planted in the realities of the French economy.

"We have to be sure that there's a need for what we are teaching", he points out, "and so we have to be flexible in our curriculum planning". This effort to keep job realities in view is particularly important in hard times like the present.

People and Events

Roman Holidays

Hundreds of recent Soviet Jewish arrivals in Rome attended services and sermons during the recent High Holidays at the ORT School, located on Via San Francesco di Sales, a stone's throw from the remnant of the medieval ghetto that once walled in its Jews.

For many, if not most, this was the first time in their lives to be present on such occasions. Because there were so many, they were organized into twelve different groups. Samuel Haber, Executive Vice-Chairman of the J.D.C., who was there at the time, described the scene:

"Each group was comprised of two classes. Attendance was excellent and the response was very good. Most of them had been so estranged from Jewish life that this was virtually their first introduction to Judaism. It was a marvel to behold their attentiveness. For many, this was a long step forward in their return to the faith of their fathers".

The ORT school is where Eastern European transmigrants, who wait in Rome for their visas to the U.S. and other English speaking countries, come to receive a basic, functional knowledge of the English language and orientation to the life-styles of their countries of haven. There are between 500 to 700 enrolled in such courses at any one time, depending on the inflow of refugees and the documentation period.

Rubert Dispensary

On August 13th the Dr. Samuel R. Rubert Dispensary was dedicated at the ORT School of Engineering on the campus of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The event was greeted by M. Avigad, head of the Department of Technology at the Ministry of Education, Y. Gadish, Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem, who presented Mrs. Rubert with the medal of the City of Jerusalem, and Joseph Har-matz, Director of ORT Israel.

A portrait of the late Dr. Rubert

and a memorial plaque were unveiled by Mrs. Rubert and her children while a scroll verifying the ceremony was signed by the family, representatives of the government, municipality of Jerusalem and ORT.

Emma Dubinsky Memorial

A tablet, "In loving memory of Emma Dubinsky who supported the establishment of this School and was a founder of Labor ORT and ORT's friend throughout the years", was dedicated on July 4, 1975, in the hall of the Montreuil ORT Center, Paris.

The memorial tablet was unveiled by Mrs. Jean Appleton, daughter of the late Mrs. Emma Dubinsky, before a large audience which included teachers, students, and a delegation of Americans.

Robert Blum, President of French ORT, noted that this school was originally established under a grant made 27 years ago by the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union. The Montreuil ORT Center has been the beneficiary of ILGWU assistance on several occasions over the years, most recently in support of the construction of additional facilities which have considerably enhanced the school's size and effectiveness.

Women's Convention is Largest

The 23rd Biennial National Convention of Women's American ORT—the largest ever—opened on Sunday, October 26, in New York City for four days of intensive deliberations, policy decisions and setting of goals. Two thousand women, representing the organization's 125,000 members, who are organized in 1,000 chapters throughout the U.S., heard a major address presented by Israeli Ambassador to the U.N., Chaim Herzog.

Rabin's Message

Messages of greeting have been received from President Ford, Israeli Prime Minister Rabin and scores of other distinguished leaders from this country and abroad. The message of Prime Minister Rabin stated in part:

"The ORT organization has made a fine contribution to the upbuilding of Israel over the years by virtue of its imaginative and creative enterprise. Through ORT many thousands

New Haven's 25th

The pioneer chapter that set an early pattern of men's ORT organization is now celebrating its 25th anniversary. New Haven Men's ORT was born in 1950 at a meeting of interested men held in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Jacob Sharp. The concept that ORT required a men's group to be adequately represented in the community originated with Mrs. Abraham Brodner, a veteran activist in Women's American ORT.

From that tiny nucleus a quarter-century ago, Men's ORT has spread to many of the major communities across the country, grown in strength, leadership and achievement.

Four of the original founders were honored at a dinner on November 2nd which was addressed by Dr. Judah Cahn, Special Projects Chairman of American ORT and incoming President of the New York Board of Rabbis. Those honored, all as active as ever, were Dr. Jacob Sharp, Abraham Brodner, Isaiah Spector and Abraham Alderman.

Responsible for arranging the event and involving the leadership of the New Haven community was Alvin Mermin, who is the chapter's current President.

of young Israelis have been equipped to take their place as productive citizens of our society employing their skills in many walks of life . . . Your work of rehabilitation carries with it a profound Jewish human message".

From Golda Meir

Former Israeli Premier Golda Meir's tribute stated in part:

"I am long familiar with the wonderful work of training and rehabilitation of the ORT enterprise both in Israel and abroad. Thanks to your efforts many thousands of my fellow Israelis have been provided over the years not only with skills but also with the human dignity that goes with them. Israel and the Jewish people generally are enriched by your efforts".

Participating in the Convention were top-echelon ORT directors from abroad, led by Max A. Braude, ORT Director General, as well as other distinguished guests.

Social Engineering in Lyons

There is a street in the city of Lyons, France, that is still called Rue des Juifs, harking back to a quite different age. The Lyons community, which had been a flourishing center of Jewish literary and scientific activity in the Middle Ages, suffered its first blow when Jews were expelled in 1420.

Prior to World War II, the community had numbered 7,000. During the Nazi Occupation it served as a principal center of the Jewish refugee underground, and three-quarters of the community was lost through deportation.

Survivors

The Jewish community that has managed to survive the ravages of the centuries now exhibits the same syndrome as other larger French urban areas—a massive influx of North African Jews. That is why the construction of an enlarged ORT facility in Lyons becomes an event of social and communal importance.

"In common with other ORT institutions in France," says Georges Emsalem, principal, "the greatest number of our students are of North African origin. This means that they have all the problems of technical vocational training as well as the additional problem of being newcomers.

"For this reason the school is really more than just an educational training institution. It is a living organ-

ism in the Jewish community. We draw students not just from one neighborhood, but from all over Lyons and its outlying suburbs." The school will be an enlarged laboratory of social engineering in absorbing recent arrivals, said Emsalem.

According to Mr. Emsalem, "Most of our students need financial help. We have been able to obtain scholarships for 70 per cent from the Rhone Prefecture. But this is not enough and we make up the difference, thanks to our women's committee, the local community and Women's American ORT. These funds often make the difference in a student's being able to continue his studies."

"All signs indicate that the new ORT high school now under construction will be open for students during the 1975 school year," Georges Emsalem revealed recently.

With an enrollment of nearly 300

students, ORT Lyons is one of the important training institutions in a rapidly growing developing industrial area of France. Lyons, always a major industrial city is a "boom town" today and the ORT school there reflects the changes, both in the community and in the economy.

Fills the Bill

"Until now we have been operating out of rented premises," Mr. Emsalem said, "which have been grossly inadequate for the needs of our students. When our new building complex is finally completed we will have enough classroom and workshop space to fill present requirements and expand—as we expect we will."

The new school building, whose construction should be credited to Women's American ORT, also receives financial assistance from the French government. It is very near the site of the present school and in the heart of a growing industrial district.



Secretarial skills rank high at the ORT school in Lyons and is particularly useful for girls who only "yesterday" had lived in a milieu of North African backwardness.

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