

REPORT
on the
ORT ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 1949 - FEBRUARY 1950

**Submitted to the Meeting
of the Executive Committee
of the World ORT Union
in Paris, February 18-20, 1950**

**Central Office of the
ORT UNION**

**Geneva
February 1950**

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S U M M A R Y

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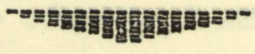
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ORT UNION**

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DRAFT MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WORLD ORT UNION

Meeting of October 23 and 24, 1949, in Paris

PRESENT : Dr. D. Lvovitch }
Dr. A. Syngalowski } Co-Chairmen

Mr. A. Alperine, Paris)
Mr. A. Brunschvig, Geneva)
Mrs. L.D. Crestohl, Montreal)
Mr. A. Dolowitz, New York)
Mr. S. Grumbach, Paris)
Mr. A. Halpern, London)
Prof. I. Harsch, Geneva)

M I N U T E S

of the

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. L. Meiss, Paris)
Mr. A. in Paris on October 23 and 24, 1949.

Mrs. L. Roubach, Paris)
Mr. J. Shapiro, Tel Aviv)
Mr. I. Trotzki, Buenos Aires)
Mr. R. Van Praag, Brussels)
Dr. J. Wilf, Warsaw) *

Mr. L. Frenkiel, Paris)
Mr. R. Grinberg, Paris) Alternates
Mr. J. Scheftel, Paris)

Secretary : Dr. V. Halperin

FURTHER PRESENT : Mrs. J. Kaufman, Women's American ORT
Mr. I. Goldman, Chief Accountant
Mr. S. Gordon, Secretary Interim Committee
Mr. A. Kovarsky, Administrative Director
Mr. C.L. Lang, Recording Secretary

A G E N D A

- I. Central Reports
 - a) Statute of the work at the beginning of the new school year
 - b) Financial Situation
- II. Budget for 1950
- III. Relations with the competent bodies in view of the work in Israel
- IV. Fund-Raising
- V. Decision on the continuation of ORT's work in German towns for the benefit of DP's and free-living Jews.
- VI. ORT Reconstruction Fund in the United States
- VII. Organisational Questions
- VIII. Miscellaneous

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 - Mr. S. Grumbach, Paris)
 - Mr. A. Halpern, London)
 - Prof. L. Hersch, Geneva)
 - Mr. L. Kahn, Paris) Members of the Executive Committee
 - Mr. L. Meiss, Paris)
 - Mr. A. Neuman, Geneva)
 - Mrs. L. Roubach, Paris)
 - Mr. S. Shapiro, Tel Aviv)
 - Mr. I. Trotzki, Buenos Aires)
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Meeting of October 23 and 24, 1949, in Paris.

R E S O L U T I O N S

- 1) The Executive Committee approved the attached Preliminary Cash Report for the period January 1st - September 30th, 1949, submitted by the Chief Accountant.
The Chief Accountant is requested to prepare, for the next meeting of the Executive Committee, a report which includes the entire local income of the national ORT organizations in 1949.
- 2) The attached proposed Subvention Budget for the year 1950 was adopted with the following changes:

Germany & Austria	plus \$ 20,000.-	= \$ 90,000.-
Poland	" 50,000.-	= \$ 200,000.-
Public Relations & Political Dept.	" 3,000.-	= \$ 38,000.-
(out of which the yearly expenditure of \$ 5,000.- can be reconsidered by the Executive Committee after six months)		
Paris Administration	plus \$ 2,000.-	= \$ 12,000.-
Legal Advisor		\$ 2,000.-
International Women's ORT		\$ 2,000.-
- 3) The adopted Subvention Budget is to be considered a minimal budget. The budgets submitted by the national organizations are to be taken into consideration in the New York negotiations. Particular efforts should be made to increase the budgets for Israel and North Africa. In the new Agreement with the AJDC, ORT should be free to revise the apportionment of the funds according to the development in activities.
- 4) The attached Payments Plan for the 4th quarter has been adopted. In case the receipts listed should not be entirely realized, the available funds are to be distributed among the national organizations at the rate of the subsidies listed in the Payments Plan.
The Executive Committee adopted the Payments Plan for the 4th quarter for the Central ORT Institute, provided sufficient sterling assets are available.
- 5) The delegation of the World ORT Union for the United States was appointed as follows: Judge Leon Meiss, Mr. P. Dreyfus de Gunzburg, Mr. Elie Eliachar, Dr. D. Lvovitch, Dr. A. Syngalowski. By a unanimous resolution, Dr. Syngalowski is requested to proceed to the United States as quickly as possible.
- 6) The work in Germany is to be continued in the camps and rehabilitation centers. Existing courses for "free-living" Jews are to be brought to an end, but new recruits are to be admitted only in order to prepare them for emigration and on the recommendation of the Jewish Central Committee.
- 7) Dr. Lvovitch is requested to continue the supervision of activities in Germany and Austria from the Geneva Headquarters.
A detailed list of the machinery, tooling and materials owned by ORT and at present located in Germany and Austria is to be submitted at the next meeting of the Interim Committee.

- 8) Following the recent conversations in Paris between Mr. Eliahu Dobkin of the Jewish Agency and Mr. J. Jefroykin and Dr. A. Syngalowski of the ORT, it was decided to request the national ORT organizations to proceed carefully in propagandizing ORT's work in Israel. The Executive Committee further agreed on the necessity of establishing a permanent contact with the Fundraising Committee of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem.
- 9) The national organizations are requested to do everything in order to raise funds, not only for local aims, but also for the most important tasks of the World ORT Union abroad.
The Central Office in Geneva is requested to propose to the next meeting of the Executive Committee the name of a candidate for the post of director of the fund-raising department, who should also be able to travel abroad in order to promote the fund-raising activities of the national organizations.
The Scandinavian ORT is given permission to maintain a small office with a secretary. To this end, a monthly maximum of \$ 150.- is foreseen.
- 10) Dr. Lvovitch is requested to set up a European Committee to prepare the establishment of the ORT Reconstruction Fund in the U.S.A. This Committee is to be composed of the President of the Central Board, the two Co-Chairmen of the Executive Committee, the Chairman of the Interim Committee, the legal advisor of the ORT Union, the Treasurer, the President of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Reconstruction Fund in England, the President of the Women's International ORT, Mr. Guy de Rothschild, one or two representatives from Switzerland, and Mr. E. Gordon, Paris, acting as secretary. This Committee, together with the American ORT Federation, should choose the board of the prospective Fund, which should also include a group of American financial people who could be helpful in issuing a loan. All shares of the ORT Reconstruction Fund, Inc., should belong to the ORT Union, as is the case with the Jewish Reconstruction Fund.
- 11) The American Labor ORT is invited to nominate a representative to be elected member of the Office Committee for the ORT Union in New York, which consists at present of Mrs. Kaphan and Mr. Dolowitz, Messrs. Herzfeld and Litton. In case Mr. Murray Levine should agree to participate again in this committee's activities, the committee will be composed of six members.
- 12) The World ORT Union delegation to the United States is entrusted with the setting up of the Supervising Committee for the ORT Tool Supply, New York, and with the nomination of the new Board of Directors of this Corporation, the shares of which are held by World ORT Union (\$ 30,000), American ORT Federation (\$ 5,000), Women's American ORT (\$ 5,000), European Friends of ORT (\$ 5,000), and Polish Verband (\$ 2,500).
- 13) The Executive Committee expressed its thanks to Mr. van Praag for the preparation of a project for the interior regulation of the World ORT Union's administration, which shall be circulated among the members and examined at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 14) The Geneva Headquarters are entrusted with elaborating in detail Mr. A. Neuman's project for the establishment of a Social Security System for ORT Union employees.

- 15) The Executive Committee took cognizance of the report on ORT's work in Holland submitted by the delegate whom the Central Office sent to this country.
- 16) Following the referendum held among the members of the Central Board, Mr. J. Jefroykin, Paris, was unanimously elected to the seat of the late Leo Rothschild, Brussels, on the Central Board, and as alternate member of the Executive Committee.
- 17) The Executive Committee confirmed that alternate members can only replace those absent Executive members, as whose representatives they were nominated originally.
- 18) The Executive Committee invites Dr. Isidore Lubin, Washington D.C., and Mrs. R. Feldman, Johannesburg, to participate in a consultative capacity at all meetings of the Central Board and the Executive Committee.

* * * * *

II. Central Measures *

III. Delegation to the United States

IV. Relations with other Organisations

CENTRAL REPORT

The following report is unfortunately incomplete, owing to the fact that the reports of some national organisation, whose activities play an important rôle in the general pattern of ORT's work, such as Israel *), Latin America and others, had not been received at the time of going to print.

I. TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The period under report comprises the first quarter of the current school year (October 1949 - July 1950)

CENTRAL REPORT

Israel: During the period under review, the Israeli ORT's work, as apparent from current correspondence (an overall report from Tel-Aviv for the present meeting not having been received)*) has been further consolidated and expanded. One of the main activities was the completion of the abundant stocks of machinery and tooling previously sent, by new shipments of equipment. In addition, the following measures were taken: I. use of Training Activities II. Central Measures III. Delegation to the United States IV. Relations with other Organisations

North Africa: Although the period of foundation has not yet come to an end, a certain consolidation with regard to equipment and internal organisation of the schools can be noted. A working plan and working methods corresponding to the particularities of this part of the world are gradually taking shape. However, this development cannot be subjected to rigid rules and is far from being concluded.

France: Mention must be made of the introduction of new branches like television, refrigeration technique, and house painting into ORT's program. In accordance with economic requirements, the French ORT has also prolonged the training period for adult courses. The agricultural training comprised nearly all Zionist groups, such as the Bahad, Habonim, Dror, Hashomer Hazair. Demands for admission surpass the number of available vacancies.

Belgium: The graduates of the Electro-Metal Centre found jobs in Belgian enterprises and their approved qualifications have contributed to the popularity of ORT in economic circles. Thus, for instance, a well-known Belgian trade journal acclaimed the ORT school's welding workshop, initiating numerous visits by representatives of Belgian schools and enterprises. An outstanding

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Israel: During the period under review, the Israeli ORT's work, as apparent from current correspondence (an overall report from Tel-Aviv for the present meeting not having been received)*) has been further consolidated and expanded. One cause contributing to this development was the completion of the abundant stocks of machinery and tooling previously sent, by new shipments of equipment for the watchmaking school in Jerusalem and for a new school for refrigeration technique, as well as of tooling and accessories for machine tools, a permanent wave machine, sewing machines, equipment for the dental mechanics' school, and tissues. In addition, the Technical and Pedagogical Department sent 50 teaching programs for mechanics, joinery, electricity, watchmaking, refrigeration technique, agromechanics, and motorcar mechanics, as well as pedagogical wall charts for dental mechanics, technology and machine parts drawn up in Geneva, pedagogical model executions for radio work, models for watchmaking, and designs for watchmaking tools to be produced by the students themselves. Specialized textbooks (approximately 50) are constantly being dispatched. Mention must also be made of the development of the Jerusalem training centre and the establishment of new schools at Ain Charod, Safed, and other places. The subsequent detailed report will complete the picture.

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management. His report confirmed the high educational level at the Electro-task is still the consolidation of some workshops by increasing the number of students. With regard to new projects, mention should be made of the forthcoming Aliyah courses.

Italy: A notable achievement is the increase in the rehabilitation work for former Tb-patients. During a graduation ceremony for the participants in the ORT dental mechanics course, Dr. Fegis, an Italian specialist in this field, consultant of the Tb-Home at Grottaferrata, announced that, once Italy were in a position to provide training facilities for her Tb-patients, the ORT school would be taken as a model. Equally notable is the extension of ORT's work for the indigent Italian Jewish population; ORT has still great tasks to accomplish in this field.

Germany and Austria: In Germany, and particularly in Austria, the decrease in emigration as well as the formation of so-called "hard-core" groups has led to a certain stabilization of the student body. In Austria, ORT is faced with the necessity of providing for an increased influx from the East and of examining the possibility of expansion.

In Holland, a number of new courses in dressmaking, lingerie, shirtmaking and knitting have been established. Particularly notable is the arrangement between ORT and the world-famous firm of Philips (electric lamps, radios, ect.) according to which Philips will accept on ORT's recommendation Jewish adolescent refugees for a four-year training in instrument manufacture, glass-blowing and adjusting. ORT will provide additional theoretical education and the graduates will receive "ORT-PHILIPS" diplomas.

With regard to ORT institutions overseas, mention must be made of the valuable help given by the New York ORT trade school (mechanics, jewelry, radio and television) and the Bramson ORT school (needle work and furriers) to new immigrants. The results show that students with accelerated or proficiency training are finding jobs more easily.

In Buenos Aires, construction work at the big ORT school is approaching its end. Relations between the Central Office in Geneva and ORT in Shanghai have again been established, and a subsidy has been sent.

In South Africa, preparations for expanded vocational training activities are making progress.

The total number of students was approximately 12,900 at the beginning of 1950, including 5,220 female trainees. During 1949, some 13,000 students emigrated before concluding their studies, of which 7,000 from Germany and Austria. The number of graduates in 1949 was not quite 10,000. The final reports for 1949 show that during the past year, when the ORT Union was still maintaining the schools in Roumania and Bulgaria, the total enrollment amounted to more than 40,000.

II. C E N T R A L M E A S U R E S

Inspection: At the end of October, 1949, Mr. A. Kovarsky, Administrative Director of the Geneva Central Office, was sent to Belgium in order to inspect ORT's work in the presence of the delegate of the European Management of the AJDC. This step was all the more topical inasmuch as it was made in connection with preparations for the negotiations in New York. Mr. K. visited the ORT schools and courses in Brussels and Antwerp and discussed important details with Mr. Aronovici, representative of the AJDC, Mr. van Praag, President of the Belgian ORT, the various school directors and the local AJDC

management. His report confirmed the high educational level at the Electro-Metal Centre and revealed the necessity of ameliorating machinery equipment. At this occasion, the need for concentrating the quarters of the various ORT courses in Brussels was discussed and steps to increase enrollment figures, particularly in Antwerp, were decided upon.

At the beginning of November, Mr. A. Kovarsky, accompanied by Mr. Aronovici, representative of the European Management of the AJDC, left for a prolonged inspection trip to North Africa. Three weeks of activities there permitted a thorough examination of the extensive work carried out by the ORT committees in Morocco and Algeria and resulted in important proposals for the future technical and administrative organisation of ORT's work. This inspection trip considerably contributed to a better collaboration with the AJDC with regard to the future development of our work. A detailed report will be made orally to the Executive Committee.

On his return, Mr. Kovarsky had the opportunity of discussing his experiences with the Paris members of the Executive Committee.

While spending his holidays in North Africa, the Technical Adviser of the ORT Union Central Office, Dr. Dupraz, visited the ORT schools in Algiers, Constantine and Tunis. His report gave praise to the ORT school in Algiers in general, but stressed the inadequacy of the premises and mentioned the need for greater precision in the locksmithy work.

The chief of the ORT Union Inspectorate in Geneva, Engineer Aleinick, inspected the ORT schools at Lyons, France, and the rehabilitation school in Davos. The visit to Lyons also resulted in an order for instruments hitherto lacking, which will be carried out with the assistance of the Women's American ORT.

Steps in connection with the Marshall Plan: In Paris, Dr. D. Lvovitch carried on negotiations with the French Minister of Finance Petsche. Dr. Lvovitch also went to Rome accompanied by Mr. Gordon in order to negotiate in collaboration with Mr. Renzo Levi, President of the Italian ORT, with the Secretary of State in the Italian Ministry of Labour and with the ECA Mission to Rome. On the occasion of an ORT reception for Congressman J.K. Javits, Washington D.C., an Italian ORT Parliamentary Committee was founded. A similar reception for Congressman Javits was given in Paris in the presence of Mr. Pierre Ségelle, Minister of Labour, who spoke on the importance of vocational training and promised ORT the assistance of the French Government. After a visit to the Montreuil school in the company of Mr. S. Grumbach, the Minister of Labour stressed the importance of this ORT institution in comparison with other French schools.

Statutes of the ORT Union: The Legal Adviser of the ORT Union, Maître Schefel, has carried out the registration in Paris of the statutes of the ORT Union as confirmed by the Congress. The new English and French editions of the statutes were sent to all national ORT organisations and to all members of the Central Board.

Finances, Financial Control and Total Inventory: The most important measure in this field will be discussed in the subsequent chapter (Delegation to the U.S.). In addition, another task should be mentioned, the execution of which gave rise to great difficulties and necessitated correspondingly great efforts on the part of the Central Office: The liberation of ORT funds from currency restrictions, whereby approximately \$ 300,000 could be made available to meet budgetary obligations.

*

The establishment of the Central Bookkeeping in Geneva under the management

of Chief Accountant I. Goldmann has contributed to the unification and facilitation of the entire accounting system and has permitted a better control, as repeatedly confirmed by the public chartered accounting firm of Loeb & Troper. In this connection, the Central Accounting Dept. carried out revisions of accounts in Paris, Rome, Milan, Munich and Linz (Austria). Other revisions remain to be undertaken.

*

Drawing up a Total Inventory of ORT: At the end of October, detailed instructions were circulated among all ORT organisations in Europe and overseas in order to accomplish a total inventory of the ORT Union's assets. According to these instructions, every object will be set down with a current evaluation in local currency. Some such reports have already been received, others are expected. In this way, we shall for the first time be able to ascertain the actual assets of the ORT Union.

Technical and Pedagogical Department: Activities in this Department are three-fold:

- a) Elaboration of teaching programs and didactic materials for our system of trade schools; publication of the Technical and Pedagogical Bulletin.
- b) Technical equipment for schools.
- c) Inspection and supervision of monthly school reports.

During the period under review, teaching programs Nos. 16,17,20,21,22 were edited in book form; they concern the following trades: Technology of textiles, motorcar mechanics, agromechanics, watch repairing and refrigeration technique. In addition, we published the second volume of the collection of 42 abbreviated teaching programs in German and French. Special programs were elaborated for Israel and other countries. In filling a lack often felt in ORT schools in all countries, the Technical and Pedagogical Department has embarked on the elaboration and publication of pedagogical wall charts for all pertinent professions. A first series of 7 charts with titles in 3 languages has already been sent to the various schools. Tracings were dispatched to France, Israel and South America for local mimeographing and, if necessary, addition of titles in a fourth language.

The periodical "TECHNICAL AND PEDAGOGICAL BULLETIN" comprising descriptions of technical novelties and teaching methods as well as discussions of general pedagogical problems has found the interest and recognition of all instructors, and enjoys the collaboration of many qualified ORT teachers.

Detailed lists of the technical equipment in the various schools have been established by this Department, and the MOT programs for the WAO have been elaborated.

Carrying out the instructions of the corresponding section of the Tech. & Ped. Dept., the Central Purchasing Department in Geneva, the French ORT and the MOT Section of WAO, New York, purchased machinery and instruments for our institutions in Israel, North Africa, France, and the Central ORT Institute. Particular mention must be made of the equipment for the watchmaking school in Jerusalem and the agromechanics schools in Ben Shemen and Ain Charod, which latter also comprises small tractors and other agricultural machinery. Two lathes and a universal milling machine were acquired for a Jerusalem school founded by the Alliance Israélite and the Eliachar family. The Geneva Purchasing Dept. has recently bought 200 new Singer sewing machines for the ORT Tools Supply Corp. in Israel which will shortly be shipped there together with 70 second-hand machines from the ORT stocks in Italy.

III. DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES

The stay of the ORT DELEGATION in the United States may be considered the most significant central measure during the period under report. The task of this delegation was to assure the most important part of the central subsidies. Mr. P. Dreyfus de Gunzburg and Dr. Syngalowski arrived in New York already on November 18th, followed shortly afterwards by Mr. Eliachar (Jerusalem) and on December 15th by Dr. Lvovitch.

On November 20th, the special conference of the AOF Board of Directors took place in New York presided by Mr. George Backer in the presence of all out-of-town members. In the course of this important gathering, Dr. Syngalowski submitted the arguments in favour of the budget project of the Executive Committee of the ORT Union as a basis for the negotiations with the AJDC. Mr. Eliachar spoke on ORT in Israel, and Mr. Dreyfus de Gunzburg on ORT's activities on behalf of the refugees in Switzerland and on the Central ORT Institute. In his exposé which provided the platform for harmonious activities of the AOF and the ORT Union Delegation, Dr. S. formulated a number of principles concerning topical programmatic questions (Poland, Belgium, Holland, Israel, Central ORT Institute), all of which required clarification in view of the imminent negotiations with the AJDC. He stated that the minimum sum we must ask from the AJDC should be the amount indispensable in order to maintain ORT's work in Europe, Africa and Israel, after taking into account all bearable budgetary cuts and estimating realistically the income from non-Joint sources. In concluding, he recommended that a decision be taken on a directive for the imminent negotiations the object of which should be the conclusion of an Agreement with the AJDC for 1950, provided ORT should receive the above minimum. All speakers having supported this thesis, the conference accepted the exposé and instructed the elected Negotiations Committee (Mr. George Backer, Mrs. G. Kaphan, Mrs. A.C. Schneiderman, Mr. J. Hochman, and Mr. A. Litton) to establish the ORT Union budget together with the ORT delegation, and to commence negotiations with the AJDC.

The first contact with the gentlemen from the AJDC, at which, in addition to the ORT delegates, also Messrs. Backer and Hochman were present, took place on November 22nd. Dr. Syngalowski briefly sketched the ORT budget for 1950 and the principles underlying some of its items. Mr. M. Leavitt, Executive Vice-Chairman of the JADC, declared that there existed no differences of principle, and proposed to begin official negotiations immediately after the great UJA Conference which was held in Atlantic City from November 25th to November 27th, after ORT had submitted its detailed budget.

The Atlantic City Conference, in which some members of the AOF took part as UJA delegates, and at which Messrs. Eliachar, Dreyfus de Gunzburg and Dr. Syngalowski were also present, revealed the generally declining financial prospects of the UJA and the vast preponderance of Israel's needs. Immediately after the Conference, the intensive work of the delegation began. The budget to be submitted was decided upon in the second meeting with the Negotiations Committee of the AOF and dispatched to the AJDC with an accompanying letter from Mr. Backer and Dr. Syngalowski. It should be mentioned here that the absolutely harmonious collaboration between the delegation and the Negotiations Committee and the Executive of the AOF, from the arrival of the delegation until the conclusion of the negotiations, contributed very considerably to the creation of a favourable atmosphere for the course of the negotiations.

The first official meeting with the AJDC representatives (Messrs. Leavitt, Goldwater, Lubin, Beckelman and Weingart) started with Mr. Backer's question

as to what the AJDC representatives wished to remark or to have explained in our budget. This was followed by a series of questions and remarks by the AJDC representatives. After Dr. Syngalowski's reply to these, Mr. Leavitt declared that the fact of these negotiations and the desire of the AJDC to conclude an Agreement with ORT in themselves constituted proof that the AJDC recognized the importance of ORT's work and its results and regarded the past collaboration with ORT with great satisfaction. The AJDC was not making any objections to the proposed ORT program and considered the heart of the matter to be the financial situation, doubly unfavourable for the AJDC owing to the presumably much reduced results of the campaign and to the smaller percentage attributed to the AJDC's program. After a more detailed analysis of this point by Messrs. Goldwater and Lubin, Mr. Eliachar spoke about the significance of the Israeli ORT, and Mrs. Kaphan and Mr. Litton about the valuable contribution of the American ORT to the UJA campaigns. In this as in subsequent meetings, the representatives of the AJDC showed full understanding for the arguments of the ORT representatives. The meeting was concluded without any concrete proposal from the AJDC leaders who asked ORT to re-examine its budget in the light of the financial situation which had already forced the AJDC to curtail its program, omitting entirely the allocations for a large part of formerly subsidized institutions and considerably reducing a number of others.

After a series of budgetary cuts had been made concerning items previously increased on the suggestion of the Negotiations Committee in New York, a number of individual discussions took place concerning the inclusion of the Israeli ORT and working conditions in Poland. In the subsequent official meeting with the AJDC, the representatives of the latter explained that, having brought their work in Poland to an end, they were unable to transfer dollars there. In addition, the question of control by the ORT Union Central Office was raised and answered by ORT in a positive sense. Mr. Beckelman asked whether we would accept Zloty for Poland, which the AJDC would place at our disposal in an amount equal to the sum we proposed for that country. Dr. Syngalowski's reaction was in the affirmative, under the express condition that the first attempts at such payments would not provoke an intervention by the Polish authorities.

During this same meeting, Mr. M. Leavitt communicated: 1) That the European Management of the AJDC had themselves elaborated an ORT budget in which the scarcity of funds had been taken into account. This budget, which did not include Israel, was smaller than ORT's latest proposition. 2) That the AJDC was not in a position to completely meet even its own minimal budget for ORT, and took the view that ORT would have to use its other resources to meet this minimal budget.

After Mr. Goldwater had announced the decision of the AJDC to place one million dollars at the disposal of ORT for 1950, which sum would not include the allocations in Zloty, it became apparent that ORT would have to contribute at least \$ 193,000.- out of its own resources in order to meet the minimal subsidies program as elaborated by the AJDC for the various countries. Thereupon, the ORT representatives unanimously declared: 1) That the budget as proposed by ORT would not admit of any further reductions; and 2) That the AJDC, who had shown understanding for the work of ORT in Israel during the negotiations, could indirectly make it possible for the ORT Union to continue this work only if they did not force ORT to use its income from sources other than the AJDC to cover its budget for Europe, Africa and Iran.

During the subsequent and last meeting in which Dr. Lvovitch also took part, work in Germany and Austria was discussed. After Mrs. Kaphan, Mr. Litton,

Mr. Hochman and the members of the delegation had drawn attention to the inadequate offer made by the AJDC, the AJDC representatives stated their willingness to discuss this question once more at a meeting of the AJDC. This conference was followed by discussions of Dr. Syngalowski with Dr. Schwartz (hospitalized after an operation) and Mr. Leavitt, and of Messrs. Litton and Hochman with the competent representatives from the AJDC.

At the beginning of January, the decision of the AJDC was announced, notably to place \$ 1,300,000 at the disposal of the ORT Union, of which \$ 200,000.- would be paid to the Polish ORT in local currency upon a request of the ORT Union, provided that the Polish authorities would not object.

After examination, the ORT delegation and the AOF accepted this proposal.

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An Agreement with the AJDC having been reached, Dr. Syngalowski met with the Executive of the WAO and described the ORT Union's unfavourable financial situation, particularly with regard to Israel, and proposed that the WAO should give the ORT Union \$ 100,000 worth of machinery and supplies (out of the MOT and membership drive), above all for Israel. His motion was strongly supported by Mrs. Kaphan and was unanimously accepted.

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During the AJDC Convention in New York speakers Mr. Lubin and Mr. Leavitt pointed out the work carried on by the ORT Union. Mr. Leavitt declared, to the satisfaction of the delegates, that the Agreement with ORT would indirectly facilitate the continuation of the latter's activities in Israel.

The delegation was also very active in the field of propaganda. Its members appeared at the conference of the delegates from all WAO Chapters in the United States. Mr. Dreyfus de Gunzburg spoke at an ORT meeting in Boston and participated at a gathering in Montreal. Mr. Eliachar spoke at public ORT meetings in Philadelphia, New York and Montreal. Dr. Syngalowski delivered six addresses in New York and three in Chicago. Before his trip to Canada on January 22nd, he accepted an invitation of the General Management of the National Workers' Union (Mapai tendencies) and spoke before the leaders of this Movement, the leaders of the Labour Union Campaign, and the representatives of the Histadruth on ORT's work in Israel.

The delegation also paid great attention to the problems of the AOF and to their plans of work. Dr. Lvovitch and Dr. Syngalowski conferred with the management of the ORT Tool Supply Corp., discussing various questions, notably that of close collaboration with the WAO. On Dr. Lvovitch's initiative there was also a meeting concerning the Jewish Reconstruction Fund in which prominent personalities participated.

Canada: During a visit to Canada, Dr. Syngalowski held various conferences, amongst others with the UJRA management. This conference, as well as the meetings with the WCO and the newly founded Canadian ORT Organization afforded an opportunity to include in the 1950 budget an income of \$ 100,000 from Canada. At the same time, the question of outstanding payments by the UJRA for 1949 was settled. Dr. Syngalowski's activities in Canada were concluded by a soirée in Dr. Joseph's home in Montreal, where Dr. Syngalowski spoke on the ideology and practical work of the ORT Union in Israel and other countries before a numerous gathering of prominent Jewish personalities, including the Israeli Consul General.

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Yours faithfully,
(sgd.) Max J. Spitz."

Results of the Delegation's Activities: In brief, the following can be stated:

- 1) Apart from the financial result, the Agreement with the AJDC has contributed considerably towards closer collaboration and increased confidence.
- 2) In addition, the delegation has done important preliminary work towards the expected independent ORT drive in the United States in 1951.
- 3) The good co-operation of the AOF leaders with the ORT delegation deserves the ORT Union's gratitude.

IV. RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

A.J.D.C.: In addition to the already mentioned inspection trips of our representative together with the representative of the AJDC, and the recently concluded Agreement in New York, mention should be made of the quarterly conferences with the European Management of the AJDC. The last of these took place in Geneva on February 13th with Mr. Beckelman, Mr. Aronovici and Mr. Rice from the AJDC. A series of important questions arising in connection with the execution of ORT's program for 1950, including the work in Iran, was settled to mutual satisfaction. Financial affairs were referred to another conference which is to take place after the ORT Executive session.

Jewish Agency: In addition to the talks in New York, mention should be made of Dr. Lvovitch's negotiations with the director of the Middle East section, Mr. Zerubabel, who requested ORT's assistance for the vocational courses held by the Jewish Agency in Egypt.

South African Jewish Appeal: Mr. Max Spitz, Chairman of the South African Jewish Appeal, has resigned from his post owing to his departure for Israel, and his most active colleague, Mr. Max Greenstein, was elected Chairman. In his opening speech, the new Chairman declared that he, himself, had seen the ORT at work in Europe and Israel and had also received glowing reports of ORT achievements in North Africa, which was the reservoir of Jewry. Mr. Greenstein then dwelt upon the harmony and co-operation between the SAJA and the ORT. As regards the future, he wanted to assure ORT that the SAJA would not let them down. He went on to explain that the amount collected in future campaigns would be much smaller than in the past and for this reason he asked the ORT-OZE to transmit to the World ORT Union and to the World Union OZE a message that they must not expect from South Africa for the coming year an amount anywhere near the amount they received last year, and that they should bear this fact in mind when drawing up their budgets, but everything possible would be done by the SAJA to assist the World ORT-OZE to the best of its ability.

Upon his resignation, Mr. Max Spitz sent Dr. Syngalowski a letter in which he stated:

"I welcome this opportunity of placing on record my very real appreciation for the kind co-operation that you and the members of the ORT have extended to me during the past years. I am deeply gratified that during that period I have been given the opportunity to render some little assistance in your vital work, which has been of inestimable value towards the rehabilitation of our sorely tried people.- May I also add that I feel singularly fortunate in that during our combined efforts I have felt myself enriched by the friendship which you and the other members of your organisation have so generously extended to me. Please convey to them my sincerest thanks and greetings. I trust that you will all be spared in good health to carry on your great work.

Yours faithfully,
(sgd.) Max J. Spitz."

In a letter to Mr. Spitz his services to the SAJA and to the ORT Union were given cordial recognition. The new Chairman was sent a message of welcome.

IRO: An additional agreement on rehabilitation work in Switzerland has been concluded, and a prolongation of the agreements under which the work in other countries is to be continued was decided upon.

ILO in Geneva: Contact has been maintained. Negotiations concerning the details of more concrete collaboration are being continued.

During their presence in Geneva for the International Labour Office's Conference on Vocational Training of Adults, Messrs. A. Altarelli, Director in the Italian Ministry of Labour, and L. Costa, Chief of Instruction in the Ansaldo factories, visited the Central ORT Institute in the company of Engineer Aleirick. They voiced their recognition for the achievements of the Institute and were particularly interested in our teaching programs and in the ORT Union's Technical and Pedagogical Bulletin. During their visit to the Central Office they requested two copies of all editions of teaching programs to be sent to them, promising in return to send the Technical and Pedagogical Department all Italian documentation in the field of vocational training.

UNESCO: The ORT Union was represented by Dr. Lang, Paris, at the General Assembly of the TICER (Association of Non-Governmental Organisations with consultative status at the UNESCO) and at the UNESCO's working reunions.

Geneva, February 18th, 1950.

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CONSTRUCTIVE
RELATIVES AID

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PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARSHALL PLAN

(Report of the Paris Office)

Public Relations: Mr. L. Denenberg, Director Public Relations, World ORF Union, established and maintained contacts with the Government in Washington, and governmental organizations and voluntary agencies in New York during his sojourn in the States. In December 1949 Mr. David Dubinsky, President of the ILGWU of the U.S., paid a visit to the ORF Vocational Training Center in Montreuil (Paris), together with Mr. Matthew Woll, Mr. Dubinsky's colleague as Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Dubinsky, whose organization has made a major contribution to the building of the Paris ORF Vocational school, praised its constant improvement and promised a substantial contribution from the ILGWU. Mr. Dubinsky who came to Paris from London, where he participated in the formation of the World Federation of Free Trade Unions, had a press conference before the international press and stated there the importance of ORF's contribution for the economic construction of Europe and especially of France through the training of skilled laborers. The American press, in the first line the "New York Herald Tribune", gave a wide space to Mr. Dubinsky's interview on ORF. At the end of the same month the Hon. Barry Bingham, Chief ECA Special Mission to France, accompanied by members of his staff, visited the Montreuil school and expressed his high interest for the achievements reached by ORF in the field of vocational training. Mr. Bingham's visit resulted in a wholehearted support of ORF claims concerning the counter-part funds of the Marshall Plan from the ECA Mission in France. Amongst other visitors to the Montreuil institution taken care of by the Public Relations Department, have to be mentioned Mr. Kamaiko, a well-known journalist from Chicago, Mr. Simon Cohen, leading dress manufacturer in the USA, Dr. T.B. Akeley, Director, Quaker International, Engineer Boris S. Kahanoff, co-founder of the Jewish Vocational School in Cairo, etc.

Political Department: This department prepared contacts, in Paris and Rome, of leading European parliamentaries and ministers with Mr. Jacob K. Javits, Congressman, New York, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives and Honorary Secretary of the US ORF Congressional Committee. In Rome were present at the meeting with Congressman Javits on November 25, 1949, the representatives Dr. Foresion, Lombardo, Dr. La Malfa, Chairman Finance Committee, and Treves; the Senators Bergman, Carrara, Cingolani, D'Aragina and Bastianetto, Dr. Altarelli, Director of the Italian Ministry of Labour; Mr. M. L. Dayton, deputy chief of ECA Mission in Italy, and Col. T.A. Lane, Chief Labor and Manpower Division ECA Mission in Italy, Mr. H.M. Byington jr., Minister Counselor US Embassy; Col. E. Count and Messrs. A.A. Simpson and G.A. Stewart, Deputy Chief of Mission and Directors IRO in Italy; Mr. L. Snyder, ILO Mission in Italy, Mr. R. Cantoni, President of the Italian Jewish Community, Mr. L.D. Horwitz, Director AJDC, Italy, Dr. D. Lvovitch, Chairman Executive Committee, World ORF Union, Mr. R. Levi, President Italian ORF, Mr. R. Jona and Mr. J. Levi from the Italian ORF etc.

Following the report of Mr. Renzo Levi, President of the Italian ORF, the preparation of groups and individuals for emigration from overpopulated Italy was assured of ORF's help provided that allocation of counter-part-funds of the

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Following the report of Mr. Renzo Levi, President of the Italian ORT, the preparation of groups and individuals for emigration from overpopulated Italy was assured of ORT's help provided that allocation of counter-part-funds of the

Marshall Plan be earmarked for this purpose. Congressman Javits stressed that "Italy with its interest in emigration has a great stake in vocational training". On Dr. Lvovitch's initiative the members of Parliament and the Senators decided to participate in the so established ORT Italian Parliamentary Committee and to accept membership in it.

In Paris, Congressman Javits has been offered on December 1st, 1949, a luncheon by the French ORT Parliamentary Committee, at which were present : Dr. Pierre Ségelle, French Minister for Labour, Mr. Daniel Mayer, former Minister of Labour, Mr. André Philip, former Minister of Finance, Mr. Alex Roubert, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the French Senate, Mr. Salomon Grumbach, former Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French Senate, Mr. de Moro-Giafferi, former State-Secretary for Technical Education, Mr. Marius Moutet, former Minister, Mr. Albert Forcinal, former Minister, the Hon. Barry Bingham, Chief ECA Special Mission to France, Dr. D. Lvovitch, Chairman Executive Committee of the World ORT Union, etc. At this occasion Congressman Javits pointed out that from 1950 the Marshall Plan asked for the realization of the efforts undertaken by the countries benefitting from this aid. The help that the U.S. give to ORT is a kind of Marshall Plan in the field of Vocational Training. Congressman Javits became connected with ORT in 1947 when he was a member of the U.S. Congress special Sub-Committee for the study of the DP problem. He had then discovered that ORT was doing the most constructive work of all in Europe. Dr. Pierre Ségelle, Minister of Labour, former political deporté, thanked American Jewry for all they have done for the DPs. He stressed the necessity of vocational training and underlined the fact that his ministry will make every effort to help ORT, thus serving France itself.

The political department continued its efforts re counterpart-funds for ORT's work in Metropolitan France and French North Africa. Dr. D. Lvovitch, Chairman, Executive Committee, World ORT, Union, had an interview with Mr. M. Petsche, French Minister of Finance. However, no decision has so far been taken by the French Ministry of Finance on the bill proposed by the Ministry of Labour, which includes allocation to ORT's vocational institutions. It is obvious that the fact that so far no budget for 1950 had been accepted by the French Parliament was one of the major obstacles.- The negotiations concerning a loan guarantee through the Marshall Plan for machine supplies from America to artisans and craftsmen in France were carried on. The ECA administration in Washington has already approved this project which was submitted to the French Government. The ORT, supported by the French Cooperatives, is now engaged in detailed financial negotiations concerning the period of repayments for the machinery to be imported from U.S. under this scheme.

AID FROM WOMEN'S AMERICAN and WOMEN'S CANADIAN ORT

Important progress has been made in this field, owing chiefly to the following circumstances:

1) Thanks to the program elaborated by the Central Office of the ORT Union, the unproductive shipments which previously absorbed a great deal of the women's energies have been reduced to a minimum. 2) The centralisation of orders and requests which WOMEN'S AMERICAN AND WOMEN'S CANADIAN ORT to the Women's Organisations in America and often included many superfluous things, has put an end to a somewhat chaotic state of affairs. Occasional mistakes of individual school managements will soon be completely eliminated owing to the good collaboration between the WAO and WCO and the Women's ORT Service in Geneva.

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During the period under report, the WAO has already executed an important part of the program decided upon during the stay of their representative in Geneva. This program includes machinery and tools which are either bought in Europe with the assistance of the WAO or shipped directly from the United States. Not including gifts of food and clothing, these supplies will amount to approximately 70,000 dollars, and are chiefly destined for Israel, France, North Africa and the Central ORT Institute. The shipments made from New York include also a tractor for the Agricultural Mechanics School in Ain Charod.

In addition to this program, the WAO and WCO also sent textiles and food parcels to ORT schools and ORT pupils in Holland, France, North Africa, and other countries. Mention must also be made of parcels with ready-made clothing for needy ORT pupils.

The activities of the Women's Organisations in the U.S.A. and Canada comprise, too, the maintenance of the boarding section in the Central ORT Institute through guardianships.

Assistance to ORT's training activities also includes the purchase of trade journals and technical publications which the Women's Organisations send willingly and punctually to the Central Office and to individual schools upon a request of the Central Technical and Pedagogical Department.

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ORT

The International Women's ORT was founded during the ORT Congress in July 1949. The question of separate programs for this Union was discussed during the Executive meeting of the Women's American ORT in January 1950, in which Mrs. S. Crestohl, Women's ORT President of Women's Canadian ORT, also participated. These matters are still being clarified. At present, the International Women's ORT is assuring the co-ordination of overseas food supplies for needy pupils in various countries, * under the supervision of its Executive President, Mrs. Roubach, Paris. European food prices are communicated to New York and Montreal, and the incoming parcels are registered.

Mrs. Roubach and Mrs. Elstein (Paris) also undertook journeys in order to propagandize the Women's ORT among European Jewish women. The overseas Women's ORT organizations are kept informed about the activities of the Women's ORT Committee in Europe.

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A U S T R I A

ORT training in Austria is still based on the principle of accelerated training courses and, in our opinion, there is no chance of it developing into a training program of a more thorough character. But this training, despite its many shortcomings, is vital to the Jewish population at present existing in this country.

The popularity of ORT's training program is even more noticeable than in previous years due to the fact that unskilled persons trying to prove their worthiness for emigration in front of an Emigration Commission or Selection Board must be in possession of evidence that they increased their man-power value by learning a trade. A reduction in the ORT training program could have the immediate effect of depriving Jewish DP's or refugees of emigration opportunities. During the last month the scope of activities could have been considerably enlarged. Restricting the operation to the size of training approximately 900 students was not necessitated by a lack of applications for training but by economy measures of our own volition. This point is proved particularly by the situation in Vienna, where (in alphabetic order) on the waiting list for training courses and during the last three months about 400 more had to be told that there was no chance for training at present.

During the reporting period five training centers were in operation - in Vienna, Hallein, Ebelsberg, Wels* Steyr. 24 vocations were being taught in 44 courses.

The necessity of helping in the resettlement of Jewish refugees was made more apparent to us due to the fact that almost every Selection Board, in particular of the Canadian and Australian Commissions, required a proof of skill as a pre-requisite before even considering the application of a would-be emigrant. We were called upon to certify already acquired skills of persons who had lost their documents and our ORT diploma very often proved to be the deciding factor in the acceptance of a Jew as an immigrant. We therefore broadened the variety of vocations taught and tried to get away from the usual needle-trade courses by introducing new training courses in Glazier, Upholstery, Invisible-mending, Pastry-making and Engraving trades.

In agreement with IRO, who promised us financial support, linguaphone language training in Hebrew and English was introduced in each training center with the exception of Vienna.

The Austrian ORT Association and its affiliated Women's Group, counted a membership of 274 men and women in the past three months. The president of the Association was, as before, Dr. Heinrich Sokal, a well-known Lawyer in the Jewish community and Legal Adviser to AJDC in Vienna. The secretary of the Women's Group, Mrs. Franziska Eberstark, is a reputed writer and a very renowned social worker in many charity organizations in Vienna. She also acts as a representative of the American Federation of Jews from Austria. Both sections of the Association were represented by above-named persons at the World ORT Congress in Paris.

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A number of events drew attention to ORT activities in Austria. On the occasion of the celebration of three years of ORT work in Austria, a reception was held in the headquarters of IRO in Vienna. This was attended by top personnel of IRO, by representatives of the US Army, by the Director of AJDC and his staff, by representatives of other welfare agencies as well as by the school authorities of the Austrian Federal Government and City Administration of Vienna.

Meetings were held in the camps in order to acquaint the new incoming masses of refugees with the program of ORT. These meetings were in particular supported by Mr. Bronislaw Teichholz, President of the International Federation of Concentration Camp Inmates.

A considerable number of reports and articles on ORT Work appeared regularly in the Jewish press. In the months of October and December two issues were distributed of "ORT Nachrichten Oesterreich" which reached 1500 families and were well received judging by the numbers of favorable comments.

In Vienna, in January 1950, the number of students increased to 505 from 464 in December 1949. This fact and the further influx of refugees from Eastern European countries make it, in our opinion, most necessary to carry on the operation in Austria.

If we were to stop operating in this country, the need for the certification of skills would still be so overwhelming that other organizations would have to fulfil this function very much to the disadvantage of our own organization. At least for a certain length of time this operation will have to some extent to carry on in the interest of the Jewry in this country.

The activities of our Electro-Metal Centre enjoy increasing renown in all circles; thus, following the publication of an article on our welders' training workshop in a trade journal, in which our methods and installations were set up as an example, we received numerous visits from delegations from other schools and enterprises in quest of new ideas, such as from the Oxhydrique International, the Air Liquide, the Arcos and the trade school at Morlanwelz.

Concerning the training of adults, instruction in our dressmaking workshops will be altered to cover the manufacture of ready-made clothing, in order to enable the pupils to become more rapidly integrated in the productive process at our co-operative workshop which we created in view of the present, almost insurmountable difficulties in getting working permits for foreigners. We have obtained from the Joint a six-month prolongation of their subsidies for this co-operative enterprise.

Those adolescent graduates of our three-year schools who have remained in Belgium have all found jobs with local enterprises and their work is giving full satisfaction, particularly those employed with the big Brussels manufacturers of amplifiers, "La Maison Bleue", and the C.E.T. factory at Liège.

One of our former trainees has been engaged as a laboratory assistant by the Institut National d'Electricité et de Cinématographie. He is continuing his studies in order to obtain the diploma of the Technical High School for Radio.

B E L G I U M

At the beginning of the new school year in September, 1949, a considerable increase in the number of our students was already to be noted; in addition, numerous inscriptions have been made during the period under report, totalling almost one hundred by the middle of January.

In the course of January, the number of students in our dressmaking and knitting workshops at Brussels has considerably augmented.

A new agreement with the Jesode-Hatora School at Antwerp has permitted the establishment of special courses for girls from 13 to 16 years of age frequenting the lower classes of secondary schools. Their usual dressmaking instruction of half a day during the week will now be given by ORT in agreement with the Inspection Service of the Department of the Public Instruction.

The dressmaking school for girls of this same Jesode Hatora-School which was established in November continues its activities and new inscriptions after the holidays seem a certainty.

Finally, negotiations with the Jewish Agency through the intermediary of Mr. Pressler hold out prospects for the training of a group of adults prior to their departure for Israel, and have led to the promise that our adolescent pupils would be admonished to terminate their studies with the Belgian ORT before their emigration.

The activities of our Electro-Metal Centre enjoy increasing renown in all circles; thus, following the publication of an article on our welders' training workshop in a trade journal, in which our methods and installations were set up as an example, we received numerous visits from delegations from other schools and enterprises in quest of new ideas, such as from the Oxhydrique International, the Air Liquide, the Arcos and the trade school at Morlanwelz.

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CANADA

Our fledgeling organization organized in January 1949 conducted a minimum of activity from its inception to date. The present Executive Board Owing to special steps taken by us, we have been able exceptionally to obtain working permits for these young people.

We have engaged the most gifted of our graduates, Miss Bella Szriftgiser, as an assistant teacher for our dressmaking school with very good results.

Administrative. - During the first ten and a half months of its existence

An information bulletin on the activities of the Belgian ORT has been edited in 3,000 copies and widely circulated.

A dance organised by our Antwerp section drew a crowd of 400 guests, and thus propagandized our work in this city.

Public Relations. - As a first step in informing the general public as to the possibilities for developing UNESCO activities in Belgium. A film of our work was shown in Holland on the initiative of the Dutch ORT.

In the near future, we shall have the pleasure of distributing diplomas to some hundred trainees.

Arrangements have been completed for a more systematic supplying of information to members of the organization and the general press.

Membership. - Increases in membership figures have been negligible to date. However preparations are now being made for the conduct of a vigorous expansion program. Preliminary discussions have taken place with representatives of labour organizations for their participation in the activities of Canadian ORT. Beginnings have also been made towards the establishment of a young men and women's ORT.

Fund-Raising. - Leaders of Canadian ORT have participated actively in negotiations with the United Jewish Relief Agencies from which World ORT Union in 1949 received an allocation of \$ 50,000.

In separate activities, groups of the organization have conducted value for value received functions raising funds which have been used for the furtherance of ORT activities in Montreal.

Training. - A course in electrical techniques organized in the spring of 1949 and suspended for the summer months has now been re-organized. This course has trained former students of overseas ORT electrical courses in the methods and terminology of Canadian electrical work.

Scholarships. - Working in conjunction with the Women's Canadian ORT's program our scholarship committee provides a share of the cost in the training of five students enrolled in a course of dress making.

We are sure that with proper direction and the understanding of our role as an influential force in the Jewish communities of Canada we will be able to contribute far more in the future towards the fulfillment of the World ORT program.

C A N A D A

WOMEN'S CANADIAN ORT

Our fledgeling organization organized in January 1949 conducted a minimum of activity from its inception to date. The present Executive Board took office in June 1949 but were unable to further its program due to the summer months and the following High Holy Days.

Physical Set Up. - Previously conducting its operations in a cramped corner of the office of Montreal Women's ORT, the organization now shares efficiently designed offices with Women's Canadian ORT and Montreal Women's ORT.

Administrative. - During the first ten and a half months of its existence the organization's activities were administered without the aid of professional guidance. In November 1949 in conformity with a suggestion made by representatives of World ORT Union, the Canadian ORT Organization engaged the services of a full time Executive Director.

Public Relations. - As a first step to informing the general public as to the existence and activities of the organization, a Public Relations program was launched. In connection with a public meeting held on December 7th 1949, at which Messrs. Elie Eliachar and Paul Dreyfus-de Gunzburg spoke, and the recent visit of Dr. Syngalowski to Montreal, extensive coverage was secured in the daily English and Yiddish press. During recent months other releases of interest to Jewish communities of Canada were issued and published. Arrangements have been completed for a more systematic supplying of information to members of the organization and the general press.

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WOMEN'S CANADIAN ORT

Due to the considerable effort involved in moving our quarters, some of our activities have been held up, we hope to more than compensate for this through the advantages offered by the additional space and greater convenience we now have.

Funds. - During the first three months of the 1949-50 season, Women's Canadian ORT has continued to assist the ORT in Israel as well as to ship a great quantity of tools to the ORT schools in Jaffa. Means used to raising these funds included a mammoth bazaar held by the Montreal Region and numerous smaller activities such as rummage sales, teas, raffles, etc., undertaken by all sections.

M.I.T. (Material for Israel Training) - A shipment of 1,545 yards of material - silks, rayons, cotton and wool - left from Halifax, Nova Scotia, on January 14th, 1950, for Tel Aviv, for use in the ORT dressmaking and tailoring courses. These materials are accumulated through functions such as luncheons, to which the admission charge is three yards of new material.

Membership. - Our two largest regions, Montreal and Ottawa, have planned their membership campaigns this year, to begin with the annual luncheon, spearheading the membership drive, rather than holding the luncheon as a climaxing affair in the spring. They feel that this new approach gives them a greater part of the active organizational year in which to conduct active membership campaigning and that it will keep this a major project on their program throughout the season.

Considerable groundwork has gone into trying to organize the second largest city in Canada - Toronto. This community presents unique problems, which arise from organizational controls existing there. However, a definite nucleus has been established and Mrs. Crestohl, our National President, is leaving for Toronto on January 31st to address a large gathering to be convened that evening in the name of Toronto Women's ORT, in the hope of setting in operation a strong ORT chapter there.

Scholarship. - Women's Canadian ORT sets aside a yearly budget for scholarships for new Canadians. Last year, on a sum of only \$ 500.-, it was possible to assist 11 young men and women to become more securely established in this country. Most of these people had been ORT students in Europe. They were employed during the day, but wished to improve their positions. Since Canada has no ORT schools, we have tried to carry through the ORT principle of self-help through training, by sponsoring evening courses for such people, at established local schools teaching dressmaking, tailoring, accountancy, etc. In most cases, English courses were also provided for the students to enable them to progress faster in their training. One example of how effective this help can be, is that of an 18-year old man, who, as a result of evening courses in designing, was able to double his salary in a year.

This year we are continuing our scholarship program and expect to be able to sponsor at least as many students as last year.

Despite our budgetary restrictions we have continued to increase and ameliorate our equipment. New sections had to be entirely provided for, and sections with extended studying periods had to be enlarged.

F R A N C E

Another domain of vocational training, that of agricultural education, has also been considerably extended. France has now become one of the principal countries for the preparation of Halutzim. ORT's long experience in agricultural education and its Jewish Agency precious services in the field.

The work of the French ORT at the beginning of the school year 1949/50 was characterized by three facts :

1. Increase in the number of trades.- While maintaining the teaching of the traditional Jewish trades, ORT has continued its methodical orientation towards modern technical professions. Thus, new fields of activity are open to adolescents and adults, whether they will settle in France or emigrate to Israel and other countries. In Paris, four new sections have been installed since October 1st, 1949, notably for joinery, refrigeration technique, house painting, and television; at Strasbourg, a locksmithy section has been opened.
2. The lowering of the average age of ORT students.- The increasing number of adolescent students (from 14 to 17 years) in our trade schools is due to indefatigable information and orientation activities since the Liberation. It is most gratifying to see that the general education of these young people is, as a rule, far superior to that of our former pupils. This proves that Jewish youth is now entering a more normal way of life and is again receiving the indispensable primary schooling. The cessation of mass immigration of DP's from Central European camps and Eastern European countries has also contributed to the lowering of the average age of the pupils. Consequently the number of adults studying in our institutions has diminished in all but the Montreuil Centre.
3. The general extension of ORT's teaching program towards a three-year curriculum for adolescents.- Thus, the radio school at Marseilles is now demanding three years of studying instead of two. Equally at Marseilles, a preparatory year for dressmaking students has been introduced. It has also been necessary to increase the studying period for certain accelerated courses for adults in order to give them better qualifications. For the same reason, the evening class in trouser-making at Montreuil has been transformed into a day-time class with double the number of working hours.

Applications for admission to the various ORT schools are becoming more numerous. They have surpassed by far the number of vacancies, particularly in Paris and Marseilles. 975 new students have begun their training in the course of the last four months. (where 110 youngsters had been working), we have an enrollment of 2,065 pupils and apprentices.

In its constant endeavours to perfect the training by the introduction of new methods, ORT has experimented last year with the Fourgeaud method in filing, now applied in all adjusting workshops at Montreuil with great success. The teaching method developed on this basis will be introduced in all other ORT schools for iron work. We endeavour to provide our schools with appropriate didactic material. The Technical and Pedagogical Department of the World ORT Union in Geneva has sent us wall charts which proved of great interest. Another pedagogical innovation is constituted by the fact that all programs for the recently created sections have been elaborated in accordance with the most modern techniques, like the programs for the television and refrigeration courses at Montreuil. Our Technical Council of reputed specialists is carefully adapting our practical work to that of workshops and factories.

Despite our budgetary restrictions we have continued to increase and ameliorate our equipment. New sections had to be entirely provided for, and sections with extended studying periods had to be enlarged.

Another domain of vocational training, that of agricultural education, has also been considerably extended. France has now become one of the principal countries for the preparation of Halutzim. ORT's long experience in agricultural matters rendered the Jewish Agency precious services in the training of future farmers.

Our Montreuil Centre enjoys an excellent reputation; many eminent visitors have been received. The new Minister of Labour and Social Security, Dr. Pierre Ségelle, paid us a visit on January 27th, 1950. During his stay in Paris, Mr. David Dubinsky, President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, with whose assistance the Centre has been built, went there accompanied by Mr. Matthew Woll, Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor.

ORT's activities in the field of vocational training are completed by its social and medical work. Without assistance and advice in this field, many of our pupils would be incapable of undertaking extended vocational training. In this domain, the Women's Committee can play, and has played, an important rôle.

Our aim of educating complete Jewish artisans and workers could not be attained without knowledge of Judaism. For this reason, instruction in Jewish history and culture is obligatory in our schools.

ORT's place in the Jewish life of our country, and its responsibilities towards our youth, compel us to participate in all cultural and educational manifestations. We are in permanent contact with the JOINT and its various branches (COJASOR, Social Service for Adolescents), with the IRO, and with various Jewish associations and youth movements whose members pass a probationary period in our agricultural training centres. Finally, we participate in the activities of the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations established with the Information Center of the United Nations in Paris.

Technical Instruction - On October 1st, 1949, ORT's institutions in France (not including North Africa) were frequented by 1.768 pupils (2,158 on October 20th). Together with the 975 newly admitted pupils, the total number of trainees amounts at present to 2,743. However, a certain number of applicants had to be rejected after a few weeks. Taking into account the number of trainees who left before graduation, and the closing down of various workshops for manual education (where 110 youngsters had been working), we have an enrollment of 2.065 pupils and apprentices.

In the course of the past four months, the following classes have been set up:

<u>Montreuil</u> :	Joinery School	32 pupils
<u>Lyons</u> :	Training workshops for :	
	Refrigeration Technique	18 "
	House Painting	16 "
	Evening class in Television for former students	29 "
	Machine Shop : 2 parallel first-year classes	44 "

- Marseilles : Preparatory Class for the Dressmaking School
 Second year at the Electrical School
- Strasbourg : Locksmithy Section
 Re-opening of the Evening Class for Dress Cutters
- Lyons : Third Year in the Dressmaking School
 Second Year in the Motorcar Mechanics School
 Re-opening of the Evening Class for Dress Cutters

On the other hand, carrying out the plan of reduction imposed upon us by our financial situation, we were forced to close down the following institutions :

- Course in Educational Manual Work (Floral Art) at Brunoy;
- Course in Educational Manual Work (Ceramics) at Malmaison;
- Joinery School at Combault (pupils transferred to Montreuil)
- Dressmaking School at Combault
- Gardening Course at Boulogne
- Corsetry Training Workshop (Evening Class) at Montreuil
- Leather Goods Training Workshop (Evening Class) at Montreuil.

In view of the fact that openings for radio and dressmaking graduates have become less frequent, we began this year only with one first-year class instead of the former two. Still, requests for admission have remained very numerous.

Despite our budgetary difficulties, everything has been done in order to ameliorate our equipment. The Montreuil School has received a number of machine tools such as 7 lathes and 2 new milling machines. The Strasbourg School received a new shaping machine and a universal punching and shearing machine. The Lyons school received a milling machine, a universal divider and various other tools. The Marseilles school endeavours to provide its electrical and radio workshops with the essential instruments hitherto lacking.

Since the present report refers to the beginning of the current school year, there have been few examinations. Only 99 students of accelerated courses at Paris and Lyons underwent these tests, notably :

<u>Paris</u> :	Final Examinations :	
Haute Couture	October 1949	15 students
Typewriter Repairing	November 1949	9 "
Corsetry	November 1949	5 "
Lingerie	December 1949	14 "
Pastry Cooking	December 1949	16 "
Men's cutting	January 1950	15 "
Ladies' cutting	January 1950	7 "
Lingerie cutting	January 1950	9 "

<u>Lyons</u> :		
Ready-made Clothing	October 1949	9 "
		<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> 99 students

A total of 135 boys and girls are instructed in gardening. Unfortunately, owing to budgetary restrictions, we have been forced to close down several gardening courses in the course of last year.

The most urgent and important tasks to be accomplished are the following :

- 1) Completion of the Montreuil School (ground floor).
- 2) Installation of new premises at Lyons.
- 3) Completing the equipment of the new sections and classes within the 1950 budget.
- 4) Development of appropriate didactic material for every branch.
- 5) Achieving the official recognition of the Montreuil and provincial schools.

Apprentice Placement Service : Such Services have been operating in Paris, Marseilles, Lyons and Strasbourg. They have to deal with quite a different set of persons in 1950, notably with French youths of immigrant origin instead of transitory persons. The transitory youths lacked sometimes the necessary stability; they were prone to change employers. Our recently placed apprentices, on the other hand, show a great tendency to complete their training with the same employer. They are eager to obtain an apprenticeship contract which permits their parents to obtain allocations from the Compensation Funds.

In Paris, 78 youths and girls have been placed as apprentices in 18 trades since October 1st. In addition, 34 youngsters, forced to change employers for various reasons, have been found other masters.

Agricultural Service : The considerable augmentation in the number of candidates desirous of learning farming before emigrating to Israel has induced ORT to extend its agricultural instruction to new training centers. In addition to its two training farms at La Roche and Cambes-de-Pujols, ORT provides agricultural training in the following centers : Montbardon (Gers), Encoudrille (Gers), Les Bonnets (Haute-Garonne) and la Galinière (Bouches du Rhône), all belonging to various Halutzim Movements. The agricultural center of la Rose was closed down because the Bahad Movement transferred its center to another farm.

The 261 trainees are members of various Youth Movements connected with the Jewish Agency, such as Habonim, Bahad, Dror, and Hashomer Hazaïr.

In view of Israel's great need of qualified farmers, the Jewish Agency insists that the training should not take longer than 6 or 9 months. During this period, the students are trained in groups in every kind of farm work, such as dairy farming, poultry farming, work in the fields and seasonal gardening. The girls do also housework.

The re-organization undertaken at La Roche by the new managing agronomist in 1948 has produced remarkable results both in field and garden work and in dairy farming. This farm was rated second best among 26 farms studied by the Departmental Agricultural Office. In autumn, the La Roche farm acquired a new Massey Harris tractor with all accessories, which has ameliorated the work and expanded the pupils knowledge of how to handle tractors. The old tractor was transferred to Cambes-de-Pujols where it is rendering good services. Work at this latter farm is also making good progress. The local Bahad group will be very useful for Israel's agriculture.

The gardening courses have slowed down in view of the season. At present we possess training gardens at Brunoy (one at the Children's Home of the Arbeiterring and one at the Children's Home of the Jewish National Assistance) at Bellevue-Meudon (at the OPEJ Children's Home) and at La Malmaison, (equally at an OPEJ Children's Home).

A total of 135 boys and girls are instructed in gardening. Unfortunately, owing to budgetary restrictions, we have been forced to close down several gardening courses in the course of last year.

Our collaboration with the Jewish Credit Association, the Refugee Credit Association and the IRO has been continued. All requests for credits addressed to one of these organizations are examined by our Agricultural Service.

Machine and Tooling Service : At the end of 1949, a certain stabilization was noted in the demands for machinery and equipment on the part of Jewish artisans; this is partly due to the cessation of mass immigration and partly to the amelioration of the artisan's economic situation.

The retraction of the authorization of the Exchange Control by which ORT had previously been permitted to import machinery for artisans free of customs duties has created a new situation for this Service. The Relative Aid Section which played such an important rôle in providing artisans' workshops with equipment has been the first victim. However, a legal proviso recently published in the official journal gives grounds for the hope that the law in question will be somewhat modified and that the Relative Aid Program might thus be revived. At the end of 1949, this Service chiefly concentrated on getting the various machines and raw materials sent from abroad for our schools out of the bonded warehouses.

Social Activities : a) Medical and Social Service : Activities in this section are always intensive at the beginning of a school year. All pupils have to undergo a medical examination. b) Scholarships : We have met with great understanding on the part of those associations who give scholarships to our pupils, but the lack of funds is increasingly felt. The majority of maintenance scholarships is still paid by the COJASOR. During the four months under review we have paid out a total of frs. 2,376,300 for 414 scholarships granted by this organisation. A scholarship amounts at present to frs. 9.000.- at the most per person and month, which is absolutely insufficient because the beneficiary must pay for rent alone very often from five to eight thousand francs a month. During the period under report we have also paid 130 scholarships on behalf of the IRO, i.e. a total of 1,368,000 francs. In addition, the IRO has paid frs. 305,000 to partially cover the cost of our courses, and placed some hundred "CARE" parcels at our disposal. However, the number of scholarships provided by the IRO has been considerably reduced during the period under report, and this assistance will unfortunately cease entirely on June 30, 1950, when this Organisation's activities in France will come to an end insofar as individual assistance is concerned. The Social Service for Youth which takes care of youngsters without a family has already ceased activities in the provinces; its budget for Paris has been considerably reduced; only 11 ORT pupils benefit now by this assistance and have received a total of frs. 150,000.

One of our most urgent problems is the economic situation of our North African pupils whose number is daily increasing. They all live in very reduced circumstances; some lived in France before the war, others came there recently. It is only very rarely that we can find scholarships for them, since, unfortunately, no organisation has included these particularly needy Jews in its program.

Extra-Curricular Activities : At the beginning of this school year, the Youth Circles have been reconstituted. The pupils are gathered according to their preferences and interests in study, theatre, singing and sport groups. The cultural reunions, and particularly the soirées organised on Jewish holidays such as Hanukah, always attract a great many youngsters.

All our schools possess libraries with a large number of books for those who like to read.

We are in constant contact with our former pupils who participate in our manifestations.

Both in recreative gatherings and study circles Jewish culture is playing an important rôle.

Women's Committee : The activities of this Committee were marked by two great manifestations during the period under report: the great Annual Sale on December 4, 1949, and the Hanukah fête on December 18, 1949.

The Sale, which took place at the Royal Monceau Hotel, was a great success. Its proceeds replenished the funds of the Women's Committee, but apart from this, this event contributed to propagandizing ORT among the 3,000 guests present at this occasion and the subsequent dance.

The Hanukah fête was organised for the ORT pupils and apprentices in Paris. The premises proved insufficient to accomodate all guests, since the former pupils had appeared in large numbers to spend Hanukah with the great ORT family.

The social activities of the Women's Committee are in full development. The clothing section furnished all adolescent and adult pupils with sufficient clothes.

On the other hand, the Women's Committee meets the costs of the school canteen for 25 needy pupils. Following an agreement with the Swiss Women's ORT Committee, sick and convalescent ORT pupils as well as those in need of a rest are sent to Switzerland for a stay in this country.

Mention should also be made of the precious and increasingly frequent assistance rendered by the Women's American ORT to the French ORT both in the shape of equipment and of guardianship donations.

Information Service : Pursuing our efforts to turn youth towards manual professions, we have affixed bilingual posters in the offices of Jewish associations and in synagogues. Articles and photographs published in newspapers of all tendencies have also contributed to propagandizing ORT's work.

In October 1949 we edited "Efforts et Réalisations", the new information bulletin of the French ORT which, according to press opinions, shows an increasing tendency to become a Jewish labour magazine. The editorial was written by Mr. A. Rosier, Director General in the Ministry of Labour, Manpower Section, who paid tribute to ORT's achievements and its contribution to vocational training in France. One of the leading articles is devoted to ORT activities in North Africa. As usual, the bulletin has appeared in French and Yiddish.

The Jewish press is following our work in all its phases and is relating and commenting all important events. Thus, 33 articles appeared between October 1st and January 31st, in addition to information sent abroad.

Folders with pictures were printed for Paris and the provincial centres for circulation among prospective members.

As already stated, the Montreuil Centre is constantly visited by honored guests. Dr. Pierre Ségelle, Minister of Labour and Social Security, paid a visit there on January 27th accompanied by Mr. Salomon Grumbach, former President of the Commission for Foreign Affairs in the Council of the Republic.

The Minister of Labour has also assisted at the reunion organised by the Parliamentary Committee of the French ORT in honour of Mr. Jacob K. Javits, New York Deputee and Honorary Secretary of the American ORT's Parliamentary Committee, on December 1st, 1949.

At this occasion, Dr. Ségelle thanked ORT warmly for its vocational training activities so necessary for the development of this country.

Amongst the other visitors, mention must be made of Mr. David Dubinsky, Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor, and President of the International Ladies' Garments Workers' Union; Mr. Matthew Woll, Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor; Mr. Claude Jodoin, Representative of the ILGWU for Canada; Mr. B. Bingham, Chief of the ECA Mission to France. All these personalities stressed the deep impression made upon them by the Montreuil Centre.

ORT participated in many educational and cultural Jewish public manifestations in Paris. It continues to take an active part in the activities of the CECIF (Conseil pour l'Education et la Culture Juive en France), and of the Liaison Committee of Representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations established with the Information Centre of the United Nations in Paris. It also participated in the United Nations Social Welfare Seminar organised in Paris at the end of November, 1949.

Membership Service and Training Tax : The number of members is constantly increasing. In Paris alone, ORT has more than 2.500 members recruited from all strata of the Jewish population.

ORT is authorized to levy part of the Training Tax to which all enterprises are subject. The re-organisation of the Training Tax Service in October 1949 caused a certain delay in our campaign. On the other hand, the campaign concluded three months earlier than last year according to a decision of the Administration. Nevertheless, more than two million francs were collected in two months.

Archives and Museum of Jewish Popular Art : This unique institution, created by ORT in May 1947, has rapidly developed, arousing a vivid interest, under the guidance of its founder and promoter, Mr. Léon Frenkiel. Two new sections, for Jewish folklore music and archives on Jewish artists, have recently been opened.

On December 16, 1949 an exhibition "The Hanukah Lamp and Jewish Illumination" took place in the Archives and Museum of Jewish Art. It was much discussed in the Jewish press and among the art critics. The French radio network mentioned it in its broadcasts. The "Hebrew Half-hour", a radio program destined for Tunisia, consecrated one broadcast to the Museum.

Trade Testing :

The ORT Trade Testing Team have been operating partially in Hohne and also in various other camps; three experts are compiling an index card file showing data of DPs who have been examined in the past. This work is done for resettlement reason in collaboration with IRO Employment Dept.

Trade testing arrangements between ORT and German Watchmakers Vocational Training Scholars working satisfactorily. 4 testees were issued with certificates by the Watchmakers' Guild in Hannover.

GERMANY BRITISH ZONE

GERMANY U.S. ZONE

Hamburg :

Owing to the increased number of DPs immigrating to U.S. the number of students taking courses in Hamburg has dropped to 50 approximately. The courses maintained at present are : radio mechanics, dressmaking, and commercial art.

A party for our graduates took place in Hamburg; representatives of various Vol. Socs. and the Jewish Community paid tribute to the work ORT has done for the free living DPs in Hamburg Community. In a fashion show, performed by ORT student mannequins, dresses and gowns made in the Hamburg school were shown. The "Nordwestdeutsche Rundfunk" recorded a part of the show and interviewed some of the students, the School Director Mr. Hauptmann, and the Zone Director Mr. Lister. The recordings were heard the following day over the German radio.

Cologne :

There has been a steady increase in the number of enrollments. The further equipment of the school has kept pace with this development. The workshop for motor mechanics has been enlarged. The courses for hairdressing, with beauty culture and needle-work are making very good progress.

Hannover :

The dressmaking course which was commenced on November 15th, 1949, is making fine progress, cutting and miniature work has begun. The Jewish Community has put one of their rooms at the disposal of ORT.

Berlin :

Subsidies from the Berlin Magistrate, as referred to in previous reports, have materialized now. The Berlin School is preparing to give a performance exhibition during March next, similar to the one held in Cologne.

Our locksmith mechanics course concluded after 15 months activity. An examination was held in conjunction with the Handwerkskammer whose experts commented on the amazing progress made by our students. The workshop has been made suitable for a ladies' hairdressing course with 16 pupils. The radio course has finished its first complete radio set, a 6-valve apparatus.

The Community Hall whose wood work floor, window, and doors were made by our carpenters course, was opened. Mr. Galinski in the name of the Community thanked ORT for its efforts. Notable were the magnificent stage curtains made by our tailoring course.

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Trade testing arrangements between ORT and German Watchmakers Vocational Training School are working satisfactorily. 4 testees were issued with certificates by the Watchmakers' Guild in Hannover.

committee has been formed which co-operates with the entire pedagogical personnel, the administration of the school and that of the center and assists in carrying out the existing programs and plans.

There are 10 courses in GERMANY U.S. ZONE 88 students in: bookbinding, dress-making, typewriter repairs, men's underwear, corsetmaking, leatherware, radio-technics, joinery, watchmaking, cutting (tailoring). Among the above courses,

Not many changes were made in the structure of ORT during October, November and December in comparison with the previous months.

During the period covered by this report we have had:

1. 5 Rehabilitation Centers: Aschau, Esslingen, Bayrisch Gmain, Gauting and Bad Wörishofen.
2. Camp Schools: Bad Aibling, Feldafing, Föhrenwald and Lechfeld.
3. Town Schools: Bamberg, Frankfurt, Fürth, München, Passau, Stuttgart and Wiesbaden.

The statistics in this report will illustrate the steady decrease in the number of students and in the number of schools and courses. The courses and schools were closed mainly as the result of emigration. Naturally this liquidation prevails predominantly in the town schools. Work is going on in full swing in the Rehabilitation Centers with TB, Post TB cases or invalids and in the camps with the so-called "hard core cases" where, as in the Rehabilitation Centers, new students continue to arrive. Following are short reports about the most important schools in this Zone.

Rehabilitation Centers

Gauting: This school is to be considered as pre-rehabilitation of patients with open TB. The work is divided in two groups: "Occupational Therapy" and "Vocational Training".

Occupational therapy in this case is applied to the bed patients. They do handicraft work such as making rag dolls, napkins, rings, etc. The execution is colourful and shows good taste. This type of work is proving of great psychological importance and the results are very gratifying. The working hours are from one to two hours per day.

The second group in this Rehabilitation Center consists of those who are able to congregate in a common room for at least two hours. The lessons are more or less similar to those of a normal school and a normal program has been set up for this vocational training section.

As soon as the Jewish patients are sufficiently fit they leave the pre-Rehabilitation Center Gauting and go for approximately one year to the so-called Rehabilitation Centers Bayrisch Gmain or Esslingen where they continue to be under medical observation and treatment and receive further vocational training. Aibling is a children's center where Jews and non-Jews are awaiting their turn to emigrate. This makes it very difficult to arrange programmes for courses.

Bayrisch Gmain: This center was opened more than a year ago and has proved how successful the co-operation between AJDC, IRO and ORT can be. This center as well as Esslingen concentrates mainly on work therapy and vocational training. The working hours are between four and seven hours per day. Experienced instructors conduct normal courses in well equipped workshops. The students are extremely eager to work and the discipline is good. They are very interested in learning a trade. In Bayrisch Gmain, as in all the other centers, a students'

committee has been formed which co-operates with the entire pedagogical personnel, the administration of the school and that of the center and assists in carrying out the existing programs and plans.

There are 10 courses with a total of 88 students in : bookbinding, dressmaking, typewriter repairs, men's underwear, corsetmaking, leatherware, radiotechnics, joinery, watchmaking, cutting (tailoring). Among the above courses, radiotechnics deserves special mention. Thanks to the keen interest of the students they are now capable of building and repairing all kinds of radio sets. In this school as well as in Esslingen the experimental method of tuition in radiotechnics, described in the "Technical and Pedagogical Information" from Geneva, has been put into practice. The students are now building, with minor alterations, a synoptic exhibit of a radio receiving set.

To overcome the danger from dust particles in the joiner's course, the machines were equipped with the necessary exhausts. The last few months have proven that the work in this course shows no negative effects whatsoever on the health of the students.

Esslingen : This rehabilitation center works on practically the same basis as Bayrisch Gmain with the exception of longer hours daily. There are now six courses with a total of 56 students in : radio, bookbinding, men's underwear, precision mechanics, leatherware, tailoring. This center was opened only five months ago and will eventually accommodate 80 students.

Aschau : Aschau is a center for invalids. There are 9 courses with a total of 56 students. The vocational training of this group of invalids is conditioned by the fact that they are physically handicapped. Due to the various kinds of disablement we have had to consider each case individually when trying to select a suitable trade within limited possibilities. This is why in spite of the small number of students there is a relatively high number of courses in Aschau. This was done again in agreement with AJDC, Medical Department and IRO.

Bad Wörishofen is a center for chronic sick. The work is divided into two groups : Occupational Therapy and Vocational Training. The working hours for occupational therapy are longer than in Gauting and the kind of work is different. This group includes 14 patients. The bed patients knit pullovers, stockings, gloves and such like. These people are either partially paralyzed, limbless or chronically ill.

In the second group there are 6 courses with a total of 58 students : dressmaking, men's underwear, knitwear, commercial science, shoemakers, trousermaking. The working hours are approximately 4 hours per day.

As in Aschau, training is selected to fit each individual case whereby the patient can make proper use of his remaining efficiency in a useful trade.

Bad Aibling is a children's center where Jews and non-Jews are awaiting their turn to emigrate. This makes it very difficult to arrange programmes for courses. It rarely ever happens that a course can be terminated with the same students with whom it was started. Nevertheless the work in this school is carried out according to the program prepared by our technical bureau. The students are mainly juvenile, therefore general education is just as important as vocational training. There are 9 courses with an approximate total of 116 students : automechanics, locksmithy, electrotechnics, radiotechnics, dental mechanics, joinery, dressmaking, domestic science, shoemaking.

Munich : Munich where there is a large Jewish population has one of the most important town schools. The school has an internat and enables the students of the nearby towns or from the liquidated camps to finish their studies and to acquire a trade prior to their emigration. This school now conducts 13 courses with a total of 264 students.

Föhrenwald and Feldafing : The camp schools in Föhrenwald and Feldafing are dealing with "Hard core" cases and will carry on at least as long as the rehabilitation centers, if not longer. The students are family members of either patients, living in various sanatoria, or of persons who, for various reasons, cannot think of emigrating for some time.

There are 4 courses in Feldafing in dressmaking, locksmithy, machine knitting, men's underwear, with a total of 69 students. There are 9 courses in Föhrenwald with a total of 113 students.

ORT SCHOOLS IN THE U.S. ZONE OF GERMANY , ON DECEMBER 31, 1949.

Number of students	1,204
Number of trades	31
Number of schools	17
Number of courses	97

During the year fresh applications came in from adult refugees who had to change their means of livelihood, and to meet these requests more classes were added, including a new course in trousermaking.

The London ORT School is particularly indebted to Women's American ORT who has sent consignments of material and other school aids.

The total number of students trained in the first six months of the evening classes is 94. The second term has just begun with all classes filled to capacity and a waiting list has had to be prepared for students wishing to be enrolled as vacancies become available.

Goldington ORT Training Farm

The Agricultural Centre in Bedfordshire which is run in association with Hechalutz B'Anglia provides practical training in general farming, poultry keeping and market gardening. There is also an ORT workshop where the students learn to repair all their own farm machinery. Students reside in a large farm house and are given a general education with emphasis on Hebrew and other subjects which will help them when they emigrate to Israel - as is the intention. During the past years several groups of Cholutzim had left Goldington and are now settled in Israel.

Throughout the year the number of residential students undergoing training was 38. 18 students graduated in December 1949 after a twelve months course and newcomers as they arrive are taking their place.

Publicity and Propaganda in London and the Provincial Cities.

ORT Committees were established in Birmingham and Manchester, and the Jewish Community leaders in Hull, Leeds, Liverpool and other cities are co-operating in our efforts to make the work of ORT overseas known to the public in England.

The number of friendly Societies, Ex-Servicemen's Groups, Synagogues, etc. who make contributions to ORT funds as corporate members now reaches 25. Through this means ORT receives probably greater publicity, as members of the Societies and Synagogues are brought into closer touch with ORT work.

GREAT BRITAIN

Preparations are now in hand for a wide Appeal to the Community, and

One of the significant recent changes in the work of the British ORT is the alteration in the curriculum of the London ORT School. Since the opening of the school in July 1946 to the closing down in July 1949, the London ORT School has trained some 200 students in various branches of engineering.

Gradually the refugee youths in Britain have found employment in industry and the need for ORT vocational training among young Jewish refugees, has therefore diminished.

During the summer of 1949, British ORT received numerous enquiries from Jewish organisations and individual refugees asking for specialised short-term training in needle trades. As practically all the applicants were older people who were working during the daytime, arrangements were made to establish evening classes. Within a few weeks 100 applicants had applied for training. The evening school opened on August 1st 1949 and gave six instruction courses in shirtmaking, dress designing, tailoring and dressmaking. The dress designing courses were under the direction of two well-known London dress designers who gave their services voluntarily. It was not possible to accommodate all the applicants at the commencements of the course and an average of 50 students for each three monthly session is fully maintained.

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The number of friendly Societies, Ex-Servicemen's Groups, Synagogues, etc. who make contributions to ORT funds as corporate members now reaches 25. Through this means ORT receives considerably greater publicity, as members of the Societies and Synagogues are brought into closer touch with ORT work.

Preparations are now in hand for a wide Appeal to the Community, and as this report goes into print we are glad to record that the Appeal has received the blessing of the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Israel Brodie. Among the sponsors are Dr. A. Cohen, President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews; Dr. Israel Mattuck, Minister Emeritus of the Liberal Synagogue; Rabbi Dr. Solomon Gaon Haham of the Spanish and Portuguese Community; Sir Henry D'Avigdor Goldsmid; Mr. Jack Goldberg (Chairman Federation of Synagogues), Mrs. R. Henriques, Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P.; Alderman A. Moss; The Hon. Philip Samuel, Professor Samson Wright, M.D. the canteen of the ORT school is also maintained by the Joint Honorary Treasurers : Lt. Col. M.Lipton, O.B.E., M.P.; Mr. Oscar Philipp.

Co-operation with other Societies

We are glad to record that the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Central British Fund, the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad and several other Communal Associations, helped in our work by financial contributions and in other ways.

The Education Committee of the Board of Deputies are considering making a grant towards ORT work in North Africa.

Women's British ORT Committee

In June 1949, Mrs. Sid Hyams organised a Special Luncheon Meeting at Grosvenor House Hotel to inaugurate a Women's Committee of the British ORT.

Guest speakers included Mrs. L.D. Crestohl, President of the Women's Canadian ORT, and Mrs. Anna C. Schneiderman, Education Chairman of the Women's American ORT.

Those present unanimously indicated their willingness to serve on the Women's Committee and Mrs. Israel Brodie - wife of the Chief Rabbi - kindly consented to become President, and Miss Clarisa Davidson and Mrs. Isaac Woolfson accepted the joint Vice-Presidency.

In view of the difficulties encountered in forming such a Committee, it was decided to organise a Variety Concert in conjunction with the Executive Committee of the British ORT of which joint Committee, Mrs. Sid Hyams is Chairman. A concert has been arranged and will take place on Sunday, January 29th, 1950, at the Saville Theatre, London.

The officers were elected as follows : Mr. Demuziglio, President; Mr. Hadjari, Vice-President; Mr. Sémah, Secretary General; Mr. Beraha, Treasurer.

The report presented by the Secretary General of the Greek ORT, Mr. V. Sémah, was unanimously approved.

The Technical Council of the Athenian ORT supervises closely the work accomplished in the schools and assists the management.

Monthly membership dues amount to 1000 Drachmas. A membership drive has just begun.

The following is the text of a letter of January 27th from the Council of the Greek ORT to the ORT Union Central Office in Geneva :

" The Greek ORT has held its first General Assembly of Members since its foundation on Sunday, January 22nd, 1950.

G R E E C E

In the course of this Assembly, the former Council took the occasion of expressing their profound gratitude to World ORT Union for their support,

The Greek ORT's work has continued as satisfactorily as it has begun. The ORT school in Athens is gaining increasing popularity among Jewish and non-Jewish circles in this city and in the provinces. Already now, 12 out of our 65 students come from the provinces. In this connection, the excellent collaboration with the Joint must be mentioned, which organisation allocates scholarships to the students for their living expenses in Athens during their studies. In addition, the canteen of the ORT school is also maintained by the Joint. An increasing number of requests for admission have been received from young people outside of Athens who wish to study in the ORT school.

It Enrollment has been maintained at a regular level of 65. messages of the former Council and the General Assembly.

Classes at the ORT school in Athens, at the end of December 1949 :

Machine Shop	19	students
Spot welding	8	"
Mechanics-welders	3	"
Technical drawing	3	"
Dressmaking	23	"
Cutting (evening class)	9	"

On January 22, 1950, the General Assembly of the Greek ORT members took place in Athens. The former Council was discharged of its financial and administrative responsibilities; a new Council was elected comprising 7 former members and 8 new ones.

Re-elected members : Messrs. Benusiglio, Sémah, Levy, Nadjari, N.Negrin, Constantinis, David.

New members : Messrs. Beraha, Abdellas, Mordoh, Nahmias, H.Negrin, Dr. Matarasse, Eliezer, Osmos.

The officers were elected as follows : Mr. Benusiglio, President; Mr. Nadjari, Vice-President; Mr. Sémah, Secretary General; Mr. Beraha, Treasurer.

The report presented by the Secretary General of the Greek ORT, Mr. V. Sémah, was unanimously approved.

The Technical Council of the Athens ORT supervises closely the work accomplished in the schools and assists the management.

Monthly membership dues amount to 10.000 drachmas. A membership drive has just begun.

The following is the text of a letter of January 27th from the Council of the Greek ORT to the ORT Union Central Office in Geneva :

" The Greek ORT has held its first General Assembly of Members since its foundation on Sunday, January 22nd, 1950.

In the course of this Assembly, the former Council took the occasion of expressing their profound gratitude to World ORT Union for their support, for their confidence in them, for the constant attention with which they followed the Greek ORT's work, and for their continued precious advice. In moments of discouragement, the Council found renewed perseverance and faith in the final success in the brilliant example of the World ORT Union.

The General Assembly expressed Hellenic Jewry's gratitude towards the World ORT Union and instructed the newly elected Council to transmit to the World ORT Union a message of deeply felt thanks for that admirable instrument of Jewish rehabilitation, the Athens Trade school, whose establishment and existence are entirely due to them.

It is the agreeable task of our new Council to give you these messages of the former Council and the General Assembly.

The new Council feel sure that they can count on the same confidence and benevolence as shown to the former Council.

On their part, they wish to add that they will spare no efforts to merit this confidence et benevolence, and to let themselves be inspired by the ORT spirit."

Final examinations for the dressmaking course took place in October. All 10 candidates received their diplomas. Twelve knitting students were given a certificate attesting to the successful termination of their studies.

In the course of 1949, 783 students frequented the institutions of the Dutch ORT at Amsterdam, Apeldoorn, Arnhem, Bussum, Hilversum and Rotterdam; 143 amongst them have graduated.

At the end of January, 1950, the journey students who had until then only worked by hand, began working with machines. New machinery was aquired for this new section, notably a wafering and a jointing machine, a mortising machine with reamer, a hand saw, a circular saw and a planing machine.

Following the installation of a Philips factory in Nathania, Israel, negotiations have been carried on with the "N.V. Philips' Oleilampenfabriek" at Eindhoven by the Secretary of the Dutch ORT Committee, Mrs. G. Wijmuller-Meijer and ORT Director Mr. [redacted] concerning the admission of pupils to the Philips Industrial School. The management of the Philips Company are disposed to admit a limited number of pupils from camps in Germany to this school. The training will last 2 years and include the manufacture of instruments, adjusting and glass blowing. Upon termination of their apprenticeship, the DP pupils will receive an ORT-Philips diploma and will have the choice of being employed by the Philips Company either in the Netherlands, in Israel, or in other countries. The training and textbooks will be free of charge.

Propaganda: On Sunday, October 23rd, a big exhibition was organised in a hall in the center of Amsterdam which illustrated all aspects of the Dutch ORT's work. Its inauguration was preceded by a distribution of diplomas among some 60 pupils of the dressmaking, cutting and millinery courses. Approximately 100 persons assisted at this ceremony, including Mr. Yehuda Nassie, Israeli Consul at Amsterdam, several delegates of Jewish organisations, and members of the Dutch ORT's Committee and Technical Commission. After the distribution of diplomas, films on the activities of the Belgian and Dutch ORT were

projected and aroused great interest among the public. Then the exhibition was opened. Among the exhibits produced by the pupils of the various courses there were dresses, blouses, hats, hand-bags, purses, furniture and cardboard objects. The exposition was H O L L A N D approximately 300 persons who saw the pupils at work. This propaganda has had a great success.

In the course of these last three months, the Dutch ORT's activities have made good progress; new courses have been established.

Following a request by the Federation of Jewish Youth, member organization of the Dutch Zionist Association, a wood working atelier was opened at Arnhem, where 20 students are enthusiastically learning twice a week.

The leaders of the Jewish Community at Arnhem wrote us a letter thanking for this establishment which gives youngsters in their province the possibility of developing manual skill.

At Amsterdam, the following new courses have been set up:

- 2 dressmaking courses (morning and evening) with a total of 34 students;
- 2 knitting courses (morning and evening) with a total of 20 students;
- 1 shirtmaking and lingerie course with 9 students;
- 1 course for shirt and lingerie cutting with 9 students.

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At the end of January, 1950, the joinery students who had until then only worked by hand, began working with machines. New machinery was acquired for this new section, notably a surfacing and a jointing machine, a mortising machine with reamer, a band saw, a circular saw and a planing machine.

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The Dutch newspapers mentioned the exhibiton; "Nieuw Israelitisch Weekblad" published an article devoted to this occasion.

"Unser Brück", journal of the DP's in the Netherlands, published an article on the activities of the Dutch ORT.

"Ons Amsterdam", the official paper of the city of Amsterdam, devoted an article in its October edition to local ORT activities.

Our monthly bulletin, the "ORT-Nieuws", published an exposé on ORT's work abroad. On the occasion of a New Year Reception organised by the Mayor of Amsterdam, ORT was represented by Mr. and Mrs. Aronson. The Mayor, who is kept informed about our work, expressed his admiration for ORT's fine achievements throughout the world.

The "Hachsharah and Aliyah" Foundation received from ORT students' products for a bazaar on the occasion of the "Jom Hajeled".

At a Menorah competition organised by the "Tikwatenou" association, an ORT pupils received the first prize for the most beautiful Menorah.

Finances: In 1949, ORT Holland received from the "Centrale Financierings-actie Cefina" (United Jewish Appeal) a contribution of Fl. 22.000. The Dutch ORT will also share in the 1950 drive.

IRO reimbursees regularly the instruction costs for students without nationality. The Association "Friends of the Dutch ORT" contributes to propagizing ORT. Our members receive regularly our information bulletin, which keeps them informed about the activities of ORT in Holland and abroad.

Machine Supply: Through the intermediary of the Dutch ORT, several graduates of mechanical knitting courses could be provided with knitting machines. The size of their instalment payments has been decided between them and the J.M.W. Foundation (Joods Maatschappelijk Werk). This same Foundation is advised by ORT about technical details and delivery of requested machinery.

Prospects: The Dutch ORT has been repeatedly asked to examine the possibility of organizing courses in branches not yet included in our program. The "Central Israelitische Ziekenhuis" (Jewish Sanatorium) asked us to set up courses for hotel and clinical staff (also with ritual cooking). The "Paedagogium Achisomog" at Apeldoorn asked us to prepare a program for a trade school for mentally deficient girls. These two projects are now being studied.

The vivid interest in our various courses is shown by the fact that we have already received requests for admission to the new courses. Apart from already existing training facilities, we intend to set up a course for cutting of overcoats and another leather goods course for more advanced students.

The Furriers' Syndicate, which maintains its own courses in Holland, intends to admit ORT students. They have also consented to let their teaching program be used by the ORT Union in all countries where they are not maintaining courses themselves, i.e. in all countries with the exception of Holland and Belgium.

Our collaboration with other organisations continues to be satisfactory. The Dutch ORT is a member of the Social Council of the city of Amsterdam, and is recognised as the Jewish social organization for vocational training.

HUNGARY

To our regret, we have no detailed information on all ORT activities in Hungary in 1949.

During the last quarter, new training workshops, particularly at Hodmezowasarahely, have been added to the already existing courses and workshops at Budapest, Miscolec, Debreczen and Szeged.

At the end of 1949, 22 training workshops and vocational courses for adults as well as the Bonyhad training farm were functioning with a total of 485 pupils. During the months of October and November, 276 new students were admitted and 181 pupils received ORT diplomas upon successfully passing their final examinations.

In 1949, the ORT institutions were frequented by 2.636 pupils of whom 1,708 completed their training.

Apart from the two big schools for adolescents whose maintenance is assured by the State, the training workshops maintained by ORT are distributed as follows :

Budapest : Telegraphy technicians - 10 students ; radio - 10 students ; mechanics (two groups) - 37 students ; electricity - 7 students ; dressmaking (6 groups) - 99 students ; leather work and toy manufacture (two groups) - 28 students ; basket weaving - 44 students ; needle work (young girls) - 18 students.

Miscolec : Lingerie - 28 students

Szeged : Leather work and toy manufacture - 49 students ; broom manufacture - 15 students ; dressmaking - 50 students ; carpet weaving - 28 students ; weaving - 25 students

Debreczen : Final examinations have just taken place, and the re-opening of the courses is planned for the beginning of February.

Hodmezowasarahely : Dressmaking - 22 students.

Bonyhad : Training Farm - 15 students.

In spite of our decision to concentrate mainly and primarily upon the secondary schools we do not overlook the fact that there exists an urgent necessity to enable adult people, especially new immigrants and discharged soldiers, to learn a trade in short evening courses and thus direct such people without profession onto a new path of existence in the country.

I S R A E L

The new school-year (1949/1950) of the Israeli ORT actually started in October, 1949, after intensive preparations which had been made during the summer months. As a characteristic trait for the direction of our activities we would like to emphasize that out of the 855 pupils registered in October 1949 with ORT in its schools and vocational training courses, 606 (i.e. 71%) were boys and girls aged 14-18, whereas out of the 550 pupils who received vocational training during June, 1949, only 303, i.e. 55%, were aged 14-18.

Already at the beginning of our activities in Israel it was clear to us that if we thought to achieve our main purpose, namely, the training of professional workers in all the economical branches as required by our young State, we would have to concentrate on the establishment of secondary vocational training schools with a teaching period of 3-4 years, in which pupils would receive a high-standard practical and theoretical vocational education in addition to the general education as required by the Ministry of Education, as planned at the time of the foundation of ORT in Israel by Dr. Syngalowski.

In accordance with the above the following secondary vocational schools were added at the beginning of the school year and during the period outlined in this report:

<u>Vocational Training Centre, Jerusalem :</u>	<u>Tuition Period</u>
Automechanics School	3 years
Dental Technics School	3 "
Watchmaking School	3 "
<u>Vocational Training Centre, Jaffa</u>	
Toolmaking School	4 "
Radio Technics School	4 "
Electromechanics School	4 "
<u>Vocational Training Centre, Ben-Shemen :</u>	
Electrical Installation	3 "
<u>Rehovot :</u>	
Automechanics School	3 "
<u>Ain-Harod :</u>	
Agromechanics School	3 "
<u>Safed :</u>	
Metal Handicrafts School	3 "

In all the above mentioned and in the previously established secondary schools the number of lessons per week is 46, divided as follows : 24 hours practical studies, 12 hours theoretical studies, 10 hours general education, including : Hebrew, Bible (Tanach), History and English, and in addition - physical training.

In spite of our decision to concentrate mainly and primarily upon the secondary schools we do not overlook the fact that there exists an urgent necessity to enable adult people, especially new immigrants and discharged soldiers, to learn a trade in short morning and evening courses and thus direct such people without profession onto a new path of existence in the country.

In accordance with the above and in addition to the courses and training workshops established during the beginning of 1949, we have founded a training workshop for carpet-making at Ramleh, courses for sewing and cutting at Tel-Aviv, carpentry courses for discharged soldiers at Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv, and preparations are being made for a machine-locksmithy course for demobilized soldiers at Jerusalem.

Our attention has also been given to proficiency courses, although not on a large scale. We limited ourselves to courses for tailoring, chemiserie and working clothes, yet preparations are made for such courses in other professions, notably dental technics, shoemaking and hairdressing.

Position of the Schools in February, 1950

I. Jerusalem

A vocational training centre has been established in a beautiful building called "Storrs House" - residence of the former British District Commissioner. In the same building 48 years ago Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany during his stay in the country received the conceiver of the idea of the Jewish State - Dr. Theodor Herzl. The building, which is close to the border lines, had been damaged during the War of Liberation, and after it had been put at our disposal by the Administrator General of the State of Israel it was repaired by us thoroughly and adapted to school purposes with the investment of IL. 5,000.- A considerable amount was invested for all kinds of refittings and furniture.

The Centre was opened at the end of October, 1949, including an Auto-mechanics School, with 48 pupils learning in two groups, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, a Dental Technics School and a Watchmaking School: All pupils are graduates of 8 classes elementary school, and nearly all the pupils of the Dental Technics School finished 6 classes secondary school. All the equipment was sent by the Central Office at Genève and the equipment for the Dental Technics School was sent to us as a gift by Women's American ORT of U.S.A.

The workshop and machine-room of the Automechanics School are situated on the first floor of the building. The Dental Technics School is on the 2nd floor in 4 nice rooms, and the Watchmaking School is situated on the 3rd floor of the building. On the 2nd floor there is also the theory room and drawing rooms. All rooms are spacious, very bright and with plenty of air, and their furnishings and equipment are modern and of good quality. In the basement are the welding rooms, store, canteen, washing room; the blacksmithy was arranged in the court-yard in a special hut. The building is surrounded by a large and spacious court-yard including a sports-ground and splendid garden. In the yard there are 5 huts which we are preparing now with the view of arranging in them the garage with additional workshops required for the Automechanics School.

Lessons are progressing to our fullest satisfaction. Meetings of the pedagogical committee take place regularly at which all teachers and instructors participate. During the period under review a parents' meeting was arranged for, in which parents were informed on the progress of lessons. Also a Chanuka

acquired machines through the intermediary of ORT Tools Supply Corp. and are Party took place at the school. At the end of the first semester examinations were carried out and temporary certificates were issued.

In the mornings a short course is taking place for members of the settlements. One of the huts contains the building carpentry workshop, in which demobilized soldiers receive their vocational training. The level of studies is satisfactory.

The Jerusalem Centre acquired a good reputation in the town and we are in constant contact with other institutes also active in the field of vocational training. There is no doubt that the number of pupils who will register at the beginning of the next school year will exceed the number of vacancies.

Girls' School : Until a short time ago we had two sewing schools in Jerusalem, one in the "Rivka Somekh" House for girls of the Eastern Communities, and the other in the boarding school "Beth-Jacob" of Agudat-Yisrael, for girls of the Youth Aliyah. Recently we merged both these institutes after changes and repairs in the "Rivka-Somekh" House. The building includes 3 spacious working rooms with lots of air, one dining hall, one office and one waiting room. In the court-yard repairs were made, and in spring a garden will be planted.

With the beginning of the school year the whole pedagogical set-up was changed, in that experienced instructresses with years of practice were engaged, and Mrs. Wolkovitz was charged with the technical management of the school. The institute now enjoys positive estimation in town.

The 80 girls receive vocational training at this institute, divided into 4 groups. Positive contact has been established between the instructresses and girls. Very often meetings of the pedagogical committee take place, and now preparations are being made for a spring exhibition, the purpose of which is to display before the public the achievements of the school.

Electromechanics and Radiotechnics : 110 pupils learn in these three branches, on period is 4 years; 55 pupils study toolmaking, divided into the

Girls' School : 110 girls learn cutting, sewing and embroidery in morning, evening and afternoon courses. Thanks to the good reputation the school succeeded in establishing, there are many applicants wishing to register, but owing to lack of space we are not able to increase the number of pupils. At the beginning of the next school year we shall have to open additional classes and we wish to add one floor to the building in order to enable the carrying out of this intention.

Carpentry training workshop : In November, 1949, and January, 1950, two courses for building carpentry were completed attended by 30 demobilized soldiers. Examinations were held for two days and showed positive results. A graduation party was arranged, at which speeches were held by Eng. Yanovski - director of the Vocational Training Division of the Ministry of Labour, and Mrs. Weinshall - head of the Vocational Training Division of the Rehabilitation Department for discharged soldiers, who distributed the diplomas to the participants of the course. The cooperation between the Wood-Workers Organization of Israel and the General Labour Exchange should be pointed out, as owing to their assistance all students were settled in jobs.

In February, 1950, a new course of 30 discharged soldiers has begun.

Shirtmaking and Working Clothes' Course : The workshop which was formerly situated in the ORT Centre at Jaffa was transferred to Tel-Aviv to the Levant Fair Grounds. An evening course which started in March, 1949, completed lessons in February, 1950. All pupils, mostly adults, have found work, and some of them

acquired machines through the intermediary of ORT Tools Supply Corp. and are now doing home-work.

In the mornings a short course is taking place for members of the settlements. This is already the fourth such course organized in accordance with the request of the Sores' Committee of the Kibbutz Meuchad, at which participate members of the settlements of the Kibbutz Meuchad, Chever Hakvutzot and Kibbutz Arzi. Our partners are satisfied with this cooperation and they intend to continue such courses.

Beauty Parlour Training Workshop : The course started in May, 1949, and 20 girls and women are in attendance, some of whom joined the course later on. Pupils made nice progress and the workshop is crowded with ladies who come to enjoy the high-standard service. So far we accepted no payment for these services. It was our intention to enable the girls to train themselves on live models but now that they have attained suitable level we shall start charging for services rendered.

The Hairdresser's Organization of Tel-Aviv approached us with the request to organize complementary courses for members of their organization. The course will most probably start at the beginning of March, 1950, and will be conducted in the evenings.

III. Jaffa

The Vocational Training Centre at Jaffa is the biggest of all ORT institutions in Israel. It is situated in a large building of three floors (part of the building with one floor), which has also been put at our disposal by the Government

The school is based on 3 fundamental secondary schools for : Toolmaking, Electromechanics and Radiotechnics : 110 pupils learn in these three branches, whose tuition period is 4 years; 55 pupils study toolmaking, divided into the first class attended by 25 pupils and the second class of 30 pupils who are ORT pupils of Sofia, Bulgaria, and are now continuing their studies in Israel. It should be pointed out that these pupils have been chosen out of 200 applicants who had registered without our having made any publicity in any form whatsoever.

In addition, 42 adults are learning in the school for radiotechnics. This course was opened in February 1949, and will finish in summer 1950.

Lessons in the Machine Knitting course proceed satisfactorily, and part of the students have already received work in a knitting factory, another part having secured machines through the intermediary of ORT Tools Supply Corp., and are thus working in their homes. In July, 1949, intermediary examinations were held, showing successful results, and on Jan. 25., 1950, the possibility was given to the public, amongst whom were industrialists and foremen of knitting factories, to inspect the progress of the pupils. Each pupil received an order which he had to execute within a certain time limit fixed in advance. Experts greatly applauded the work produced by the pupils. The course will finish in April, 1950. The machines will then be transferred to Cholon, where a new course will start at the end of April, 1950.

The Jaffa Centre included formerly also : A Training Workshop of Sewing and Cutting; 46 Bulgarian girls completed in February this one-year course and the equipment of the workshop was transferred to Ramleh, - A Training Workshop for Chemiserie and Working Clothes, which

was transferred to Tel-Aviv to the Levant Fair Grounds, - and a Typewriter Repair Course which was interrupted until a sufficient number of different typewriter models for study purposes were available.

As mentioned above the Centre will concentrate and base itself now on the establishment of ordinary schools with 4-year curriculum. We reached this conclusion after a great many considerations and consultations. In order to enable the execution of this tendency we made the required repairs and alterations. The workshops and machine-shop for the Toolmaking School is on the ground-floor, and as soon as the Machine Knitting School will have been transferred, the evacuated space will be allocated to this school. The workshop and electrical laboratory of the Electromechanics School are on the 2nd floor. On the 3rd floor we have the Radiotechnics School. In addition, very pleasant and large rooms were allocated for theoretical lessons, technical drawing and physics laboratory.

Practical and theoretical lessons proceed to our fullest satisfaction. Teachers and instructors have long years of experience behind them and have all had secondary intellectual education, most of them with academic diplomas. We created a pedagogical committee with regular meetings. Some time ago a parents' meeting was called, and contact has been established between Management and Teachers. A Chanuka Party was also arranged for the pupils, and preparations are being made for a Purim Ceremony. Pupils are taken from time to time on tours to various plants under the guidance of teachers. Thus they have recently visited the Reading Power Station, the Magen Chetwood Factory, a machine exhibition of the Belgian Factory A.S.C.O., and others. Physical training is not being neglected - pupils are given physical training lessons arranged for by proper authorities.

In next school year we shall have to absorb at least another 75 pupils- 25 pupils for each school. The premises are insufficient and we shall have to add two more floors to the present 1st floor, which was given to us recently by the authorities. The additional classes will have to be accomodated as well as a rest-hall for students and canteen, and a physical training hall. The school has no court-yard, neither is there any corner for pupils to sit and rest between lessons or eat their meals. To proceed with that building is also essential in view of the establishment of the Refrigeration Mechanics School, equipment for which has already been acquired abroad by the Geneva Centre and has already arrived here. We decided upon opening this school in the Jaffa Centre considering the fact that there we have already the mechanical workshop and electrical laboratory so that space would have to be provided only for the equipment delivered recently.

IV. Ben-Shemen Centre : The Centre at the Children's Village Ben-Shemen includes 5 schools :

<u>Agromechanics</u> :	49	pupils (boys)	-	3	years	tuition	period
<u>Electrical Installation</u> :	21	"	"	-	3	"	"
<u>Carpentry</u> :	19	"	"	-	3	"	"
<u>Sewing and Cutting</u> :	23	"	(girls)	-	2	"	"
<u>Spinning and Artisan Weaving</u> :	15	"	"	-	2	"	"

The Management of Ben-Shemen Children's Village put at our disposal all the buildings required and participates with 40% of the current budget. The pupils, who reside at the institute, are from the Youth Aliyah, who maintains them.

At the beginning the Centre was attended only by children of the Youth Aliyah, yet during this year's schooling local pupils of the vicinity and also from remoter parts of the district were accepted. One group of the Agromechanics School consists of children of the surrounding district who do not belong to the Children's Village, but came only to the school. Thereby the Centre meets a demand which made itself felt recently, since in the whole of Emek Chefer and nearby Nathania areas there is no vocational training school, and our Centre established its good repute due to the high level of its lessons and general education. Responsibility for the general education is borne by the Ben-Shemen Management; this is one of the most serious institutes in the country.

The achievements of the ORT Centre at Ben-Shemen were summed up on a parents' day which was specially arranged most ceremoniously at the end of the first semester of the schools, which coincided with the day of Tu-Bishvat. Parents were shown all the workshops and received comprehensive explanations on procedure of lessons, with concrete samples of the work produced. A lunch was served to them and Mr. Akiba Vanchozker, Director of the General Education Division of Ben-Shemen Children's Village, held an impressive discourse on the achievements and aims of ORT in Israel and especially its purpose in co-operating with the Children's Village.

As is well known the Children's Village Ben-Shemen educates its youth for working life in settlements. We therefore propose to train pupils there to be skilled workers in Kibbutzim and other agricultural settlements. We thus aim to vary practical studies in that we endeavour to introduce as soon as possible exercises and work connected with their future trade. This specially applies to the Agromechanics School which actually constitutes the most important element of the Centre. And especially in this school is noticed the lack of required equipment, mainly agricultural machines and tractors. It should be noted that this school is situated in an agricultural district in which machines are used most intensively and the pupils are greatly interested to practically learn the nature of the machines they have to deal with in their daily life. This is very important since the school is the first of its kind in the country and speedy delivery of the required equipment would greatly contribute towards furthering the school.

In summing up we would like to stress that the Ben-Shemen experiment proved very successful and harmonious cooperation mingled with mutual appreciation exists between us and the Children's Village Ben-Shemen Management.

V. Kfar-Abraham

School for Machine Repair and Maintenance : 61 students of the Yeshiva "Torah Umlacha" receive vocational training in our vocational training school there with a tuition period of 4 years.

The experiment of combining vocational training with religious studies proved very successful. This found expression at the official opening ceremony which was arranged at Chanuka, Participants were members of the Rabbinical Council, Members of the Patronage of the Yeshiva, Members of the Petah-Tikva Municipal Council with the Mayor of Petah-Tikva, Mr. Sapir, and the ORT Representatives. In the speeches, this very successful combination of vocational training with studies of the Torah found high appraisal, and appreciation of ORT's activities was being expressed. Other important participants at the ceremony were Members of the United Jewish Appeal Delegation with their Chair-

80 pupils registered, of whom 42 pupils were accepted after they passed the entrance examination. Mr. Ogust, who voiced his enthusiasm about the work done in such a short time. All guests inspected the workshops and exhibition of objects produced by the pupils.

The Management of the Yeshiva will soon set out to erect additional buildings according to plans devised by our Technical Department. Religious circles show great interest in the progress of this school and there exists no doubt that demands for registration will exceed the number of vacancies available. The vocational training school is run in cooperation with the Mis-rachi World Centre which covers 40% of the budget.

VI. Kfar-Ganim

Trade School for Carpentry : 24 students, Yemenite children, learn a trade in this school simultaneously with their religious studies at the Yeshiva. We regret to have to say that so far the management of the Yeshiva has not yet carried out the required repairs of the building, neither have they kept their promise regarding the expansion of the premises. We therefore had to cancel the afternoon course.

VII. Ain-Charod

Agromechanics School : This school was opened in November, 1949, pursuant to an agreement signed with the Gilboa District Council. A workshop with 22 working places, a tools' store, a materials' store, a blacksmithy and welding workshop were arranged in the buildings put at our disposal by the Gilboa District Council. One room was allocated for theoretical studies.

22 pupils, children of settlements within the Gilboa district, come to learn in this school. We attribute great importance to this school, as it fills a noticeable vacuum felt in the surrounding settlements. The main characteristic and positive result of this school is that the children receive training in a trade which they will need in future as members of Kibbutzim, yet at the same time they remain to live in the atmosphere of the settlement and its daily work by which they enlarge their technical knowledge.

The school was established in the Ain-Charod collective settlement, one of the oldest and biggest settlements in the country, and the school is being run in cooperation with the Gilboa District Council, who covers 40% of the current budget.

VIII. Rechovot

School for Automechanics : Already at the beginning of 1949 we were approached by the Local Council of Rechovot with the request to open there a vocational training school. We gladly complied with the request considering the fact that no vocational training school has as yet been established in the Southern part of the country. Rechovot is the biggest colony of the South and the school serves the local children as well as those from nearby colonies.

In accordance with the agreement existing between us and the Local Council they have put at our disposal a suitable building and cover 40% of the current budget. We were given two small buildings for the requirements of the school, but the school was opened in November 1949 only, since the Local Council did not finish the necessary requirements of repairs and alterations in time. In one building we arranged a technical workshop, a welding room and a store, and in the second a theory room.

The school received from us all the equipment required with the exception of a spinning lathe, which we hope will be sent to us from the Central Office at Geneva.

80 pupils registered, of whom 42 pupils were accepted after they passed the entrance examinations as well as psychotechnical tests. They are learning in two groups, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

The buildings in which the school is situated are temporary and the Local Council will soon start on the erection of a special building as per plans prepared by our Technical Department.

IX. Ramleh

Carpet Weaving School : The school has been located in a building which was put at our disposal by Government, and which was thoroughly repaired by us. The building, one of the most beautiful in the whole of Ramleh, is surrounded by a splendid garden, near a big play-ground. The school was opened in November, 1949, with 22 pupils aged 14-25, all new immigrants. When we opened the school we contemplated a tuition period of 12 months, yet in the course of time it became apparent that owing to the zeal and serious approach of the pupils much progress was made and this tuition period may be shortened to 7-8 months only. We also have to point out that the pupils cannot afford study for a prolonged period without earning their livelihood, and already in the 4th month of the existence of the school we were faced with the problem of either allocating scholarships to a number of these pupils or agree to their leaving the course for their search after unskilled labour.

Lessons are progressing satisfactorily. The pupils started training themselves in the making of small carpets, and they gradually develop their skill on larger models and in more complicated patterns and colours. At the moment they work on carpets with the State Emblem and that of ORT, and they will soon start on more difficult work such as medium-sized carpets with pictures of important personalities.

Preparations are being made for the establishment of a cooperative for graduates of this course (in about 3 months' time). We are specially interested in the success of this course and realization of the cooperative scheme as thereby we would introduce a new trade branch into the country which could also constitute a source of livelihood for many new immigrants. It goes without saying that we shall not content ourselves with this course only, but with the creation of the cooperative we shall continue also with similar courses in the future.

Sewing School : Immediately after completion of the yearly sewing course in Jaffa in the middle of February, 1950, we transferred the whole equipment of this school to Ramleh where we opened a similar course. Mrs. Danilowa, the instructress of the course at Jaffa, has been entrusted with the organization and guidance of the course in Ramleh. At the moment it is attended by 12 pupils, all new immigrants. Much interest is being manifested in this school in Ramleh and there is no doubt that the number of pupils will soon increase considerably.

X. Safed

In accordance with the agreement between us and the Hapoel Hamisrachi we opened - in a 2-storey building which was put at our disposal there by the Hapoel Hamisrachi - a Metal Handicrafts School for boys for 3 years, and a School for Artisan Embroidery for girls with 1 year's curriculum. For the time being there learn only 15 pupils in both schools, yet their number will be increased very shortly. The boys are undertaking religious studies at the Yeshiva of the Hapoel Hamisrachi, which is also a boarding school.

The school received from us all the equipment required with the exception of a spinning lathe, which we hope will be sent to us from the Central Office at Geneva.

XI. Ramath-Gan

In compliance with the request of the boy-scouts organization, we have established handicraft workshops for children for metalwork, woodwork, sewing and embroidery. We started with short courses for instructors who would train the children later on. The motto of these workshops is: Play and Work, and the work will be conducted according to Dr. Syngalowski's suggestions.

These workshops constitute part of the actual educational curriculum of the Youth Organization for whom Mr. Klir, member of our Board of Directors, donated a big building with play-grounds. The building is being called "Beth-Zvi" in the name of his son, who fell in the Negev during the War of Liberation.

GRADUATIONS: 215 pupils finished their studies during the period under review:

<u>During month of</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name of School</u>	<u>Number of pupils</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
November, 1949	Jaffa	Electrical Installation	20	Demob. soldiers
	Tel-Aviv	Carpentry	14	" "
	Tel-Aviv	Lingerie, Working Clothes	18	Memb. settlements
December, 1949	Tel-Aviv	Corsetry	13	" "
January, 1950	Tel-Aviv	Carpentry	15	Demob. soldiers
	Tel-Aviv	Shirtmaking, Working Clothes	16	Memb. settlements.
February, 1950	Tel-Aviv	Cutting of Men's Garments	13	Proficiency tail.
	Tel-Aviv	Shirtmaking, Working Clothes	13	Memb. settlements.
	Tel-Aviv	Shirtmaking, Working Clothes	17	Evening-course adults
	Jaffa	Sewing & Cutting for girls	46	Bulgarian immigrants
	Jerusalem	Carpentry	30	Demobilized soldiers

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ORT activities in Israel enjoy general esteem and good relations exist between us and Government Departments, Municipal Authorities, Labour Movements, religious organisations, etc. We are approached from various directions with requests for co-operation in the field of vocational training and hundreds of people knock at our doors asking to be registered for courses and schools.

To our regret our precarious financial situation does not permit the extension of our activities, but we even encounter difficulties in ensuring the smooth running of the existing schools. The equipment has not been completed as yet; numerous and expensive items will be required for the next school year. Also, large funds will be necessary for the establishment of new schools which have been promised by us, such as: A handicraft school in Givatayim, a textile school in Ramath-Gan, an agromechanics School in Affule, and others.

Grottaferrate: The Rehabilitation Centre in Grottaferrate as well as the school for Occupational Therapy in Merano have become a showpiece in this little explored field of work. Thanks to the increased financial support, offered by IRO, the institutions were able to provide training for small groups of individuals, learning a variety of trades; thus for instance: In Grottaferrate there are 12 different courses for 167 trainees. The proximity of Rome gave the opportunity of securing excellent instructors, and

the improved administration of the Convalescent Home and the school contributed to the increase in the number of the working hours of the trainees. At a recent distribution of diplomas and sets of tools to a number of trainees in dental mechanics there I T A L Y present Dr. Pajes (the resident physician) and Dr. Fegis (an Italian specialist and consultant of the Home), as well as

The year 1950 from the financial and social point of view must be considered in the light of two pending events : a) the winding up of IRO and the development of the local ORT activities in Italy. It has become clear also in the higher IRO spheres that the greatest effort must be placed on the vocational training of those who for some time have to remain in Italy after the disappearance of the IRO help. It is therefore expected that not only would the ORT and IRO/ORT DP schools be financed by IRO until June 1950, but that also an effort would have to be made to provide for the hard-core institutions which may have for some time to keep their trainees after IRO had ceased to support all the other DPs in Italy. This would mean that the Rehabilitation Centre in Grottaferrata and the school for Occupational Therapy in Merano would be in a position to conclude the very successful work started early in 1949.

Number of Trainees :

The new scholastic year on October 1st, 1949 was started with the following number of students :

North Italy	197
Rome	83
Grottaferrata	95
San Marco	21
Barletta	<u>67</u>
Adult trainees	463
There were also	447
children engaged in	
handicraft in various	
schools.	
The IRO/ORT schools	
(SVTP) trained	469
adults, altogether	
a total of	<u>1379</u>

These figures underwent various changes in the course of the following 4 months bringing the number of adults in the ORT schools to :

	535
in IRO/ORT schools	
to :	602

and with the children it reached a grand total of : 1542 trainees
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Grottaferrata : The Rehabilitation Centre in Grottaferrata as well as the school for Occupational Therapy in Merano have become a showpiece in this little explored field of work. Thanks to the increased financial support, offered by IRO, the institutions were able to provide training for small groups of individuals, learning a variety of trades; thus for instance : in Grottaferrata there are 12 different courses for 107 trainees. The proximity of Rome gave the opportunity of securing excellent instructors, and

the improved administration of the Convalescent Home and the school contributed to the increase in the number of the working hours of the trainees. At a recent distribution of diplomas and sets of tools to a number of trainees in dental mechanics there were present Dr. Pajes (the resident physician) and Dr. Fegiz (an Italian specialist and consultant of the Home), as well as Dr. Reichenbach (Head of the AJDC Medical Department in Italy), it was gratifying to hear Dr. Fegiz expressing his hope that when Italy would be in a position to give post-sanatorium training to their TB patients, they would take the ORT school as their model. On the other hand the resident physician said that whilst at the beginning the patients flocked to him for permission to be relieved of school attendance, at present when issued by him with certificates of non attendance, they are found with the certificates in their pockets at school-work.

Gift of Tools : Great attention is paid to supplying with tools those of the trainees-patients who get ready for emigration (chiefly to Israel). Thanks to the grant of 500 pounds made by the Central British Fund, it has become possible to purchase 37 sets of tools of which 23 have already been distributed and the rest kept in store for those who are considered potential candidates. Thus for instance : 6 sets are set aside for watch-repairers who have already been at school for about 18 months; a few sets for radio-technicians. The distributions of tools acted as a very great encouragement in the training of the patients who began to look more hopefully towards their future.

Barletta : The increased emigration activities (overseas) in the camps have brought about a decrease in the number of the trainees in the ORT school at Barletta and it looked for a while as if this school in the last Jewish camp in Italy would have to be closed before the end of 1949. However, as the figures show, the number of students is still a little under 100, and some very good work is still carried on there.

Inventory : As and when, during the preceding year, schools in the DP Centres (Southern Italy) were closed, their installation, if not required elsewhere, was stored in Barletta, thus forming a considerable Depot to be cleared as far as possible before the last school has been closed. The inventory, which is expected will be in the hands of the Central Board in about a week's time, will give full description of the installation which will be left at the disposal of the Central Board after all the installation required for institutions in Italy, now in existence or planned for, would be set aside. Thus for instance : installation is being sent to Milan for a school of dental-mechanics, and sewing machines, etc. forwarded to Florence and Turin for dressmaking courses. Technicians are being employed to repair, overhaul and pack for transport machinery left in the Depot. Arrangements have been made to forward it to Milan at the disposal of the Central Board.

Local Activities : The ORT schools in Italy have aroused a great interest on the part of the Italian Jews who are concerned with the economic needs of their impoverished Jewish population. In view of the facts that compulsory education in Italy is finished at the age of 11, and that there is a considerable number of orphaned children of training age, it became necessary to extend the ORT training in Rome from the only vocational training school for girls (Dario Ascarelli) to a carpentry and tool making course for 10 orphaned boys (ages 14 and over). The Rome Community is in need of a larger school for the youth of this age and it is the lack of housing accomodation that prevents from opening it. Courses for adult women when opened are filled to capacity (42 attending a course of cutting and dressmaking in Rome). Similar facts could be indicated in other Communities like Leghorn, Genoa, etc.

Last year, the United Appeal, which left L. 20.000.000.- for the needs of local Communities in Italy, allowed only L. 1.000.000.- for the needs of ORT institutions. This year's plan foresees an amount of L. 10.000.000.- for the same purpose. Local Ladies' Committees were formed in Rome, Milan, Turin, Florence and Leghorn, and the number of members is growing steadily. A new Council and Executive will be elected next month.

Publicity : The work of the ORT has become known not only in the Jewish Community but also in the Government circles. The official Parliamentary Luncheon held in Rome on November 25th, 1949, and the steps taken to acquaint the Government with our desire to participate in the E.C.A. Scheme, contributed to this end.

An ORT exhibition is being prepared to be opened on March in a hall, where in the course of the whole year trade exhibitions are held.

A short Italian bulletin for members is being published in Milan periodically.

New Schools : Plans for new schools have been made and most of the projects are held over pending the receipt of information from the Central Board about the budget for Italy for 1950. Among the new plans there is one of a school for a) dental mechanics in Milan. We are assured that there is a great demand for this kind of work. In fact we are asked for a similar school to be opened in Rome; b) the Leghorn Community has asked for a carpentry W/Shop; c) we have taken in hand the opening of a dressmaking school in Florence and Turin and d) preparations are being made for the opening of a school for fine mechanics in Milan. For all those schools installation is available. There is however no installation available for the projected marine and fishery school which requires a budget of some L. 10.000.000.- to L. 12.000.000.- The latter still awaits the opinion of the Central Board regarding the desirability of bringing it into existence in Italy.

The fact that the Italian ORT is now becoming a National Organization for the purpose of economic reconstruction among the Italian Jews only, brought about the need for a reduction in the volume of the administration. It made it necessary also to make a change in the leading direction of the administration, as it requires greater acquaintance with the local conditions and needs. It is hoped that the next two months will see considerable changes also in this field.

At Montevideo, the end of the school year was likewise marked by public manifestations. An Uruguayan ORT Committee has recently been constituted under Mr. Samuel Kobrin, President; Mr. Silbertan, Secretary General; and Mr. Fleischman, Treasurer.

Mr. J. Wengrower, Secretary General of the South American ORT Federation made a journey to Israel, Europe and North America a few months ago, visiting ORT institutions in the different countries. Upon his return he submitted a very complete report to the various South American ORT groups.

LATIN AMERICA

Mr. M. Merkin, delegate of the ORT Union, went recently to Chile and Bolivia in connection with the ORT work. He subsequently left for Montevideo.

The period under review was almost entirely taken up by the annual holidays which, in South America, last from the end of November until the beginning of February. Accordingly, there are few outstanding facts to relate.

At the end of November, i.e. at the end of the preceding school year, enrollment figures for the South American ORT schools were as follows:

Argentina	94	pupils
Brazil	121	"
Chile	43	"
Uruguay	54	"
Cuba	41	"

In Buenos Aires, the construction work on the new ORT school has almost come to an end. The school will be opened at the beginning of the new school year. It provides accommodation for 300 pupils.

At Rio de Janeiro, the construction of the second wing of the local ORT school is making good progress and will probably be completed in the course of this year.

At Sao Paulo, the distribution of diplomas gave occasion to imposing ceremonies and the local press featured the results obtained by the pupils.

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NORTH AFRICA

Mr. M. Merkin, delegate of the ORT Union, went recently to Chile and Bolivia in connection with fund-raising campaigns and is actually in Peru.

Mr. B. Surovich, also a delegate of the ORT Union, spent several weeks in Buenos Aires, helping Mr. Avenburg and the other leaders of the Latin American ORT with their work. He subsequently left for Montevideo.

The South American ORT Federation has recently begun the publication of a bulletin called "VIDA PRODUCTIVA" which is to appear in Spanish, Yiddish and Portuguese. This richly illustrated publication will be distributed in all Latin American countries and will disseminate information on ORT's activities in South America and throughout the world.

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Algeria: a) Algiers: In October 1949, the third school year began in the joinery, adjusting and electrical sections. Owing to lack of space, the number of new students is limited. At La Habana, Cuba, the watchmaking, leather goods and dressmaking workshops are continuing their work. The graduates are employed by local enterprises.

b) Constantine: In November 1949, a trade school with two sections for adjusting (23 pupils) and locksmithy-welding (41 pupils) was opened at Constantine. The indispensable tools have been installed; most of the missing equipment will be acquired in the course of the coming term. Generally speaking, this centre has made a good start. We intend to open a school for 40 young girls in the near future in a building of the Consistory, which will be made available and got ready for our purposes.

Morocco: a) Boys' School: When the school year began in October, the youngsters who had been sent by the Communities to towns in the interior of the country returned in cars and invaded the ORT-Alliance school in Casablanca. It was unfortunately impossible to find room for all, and most of them had to be sent away. Circular letters were sent to the Presidents of the Jewish communities asking them to avoid in future mass requests which cannot be met at this moment.

The construction of the new school at Ain Sebaa on a site of 30,000 square meters has made such rapid progress that the first buildings were ready by October 5th. One of them, which is 200 meters long, was erected in a few months. The Centre will have boarding facilities for 1000 boys receiving training in adjusting, motorcar mechanics, electricity, locksmithy-welding, joinery and building construction.

At the beginning of this school year, the new building could provisionally board 400 pupils. Many new students have a general education equal or superior to that required to obtain the Certificate of Primary Studies, which is

NORTH AFRICA

The rapid development of our work in North Africa has been marked by two new achievements in the last four months: The opening of part of the new ORT-Alliance School of Casablanca at Ain Sebaa on October 5th, and the inauguration of the new ORT school at Constantine (Algeria). These events were joyfully hailed by the local Jewish population. The number of pupils will be augmented, which will mean salvation for so many more Moroccan Jewish youths otherwise menaced by physical and moral decay. The new training centre of Casablanca will comprise six schools with a boarding section for thousand students. Other Moroccan towns, particularly Meknès, are clamoring for the establishment of ORT trade schools. We have recently acquired a site in Tunis in order to build there a big school for 400 pupils with boarding facilities for 200 students from other Tunisian towns.

Owing to their normal development as well as to the afflux of new candidates, our schools have become too small. At present, 1,051 pupils (boys and girls) are enrolled in our North African schools, which represents an increase of 329 over the enrollment during the last school year.

Algeria: a) Algiers: In October 1949, the third school year began in the joinery, adjusting and electrical sections. Owing to lack of space, the number of new admissions had to be limited to 39. This centre has been provided with hand tools for the machanical and joinery sections and with a vise and 4 lathes to complete the workshop equipment and insure good training for our pupils. Theoretical instruction is equal to the high standard of practical work. The school has become highly popular and local authorities support and admire it.

b) Constantine: In November 1949, a trade school with two sections for adjusting (23 pupils) and locksmithy-welding (41 pupils) was opened at Constantine. The indispensable tools have been installed; most of the missing equipment will be acquired in the course of the coming term.

Generally speaking, this centre has made a good start. We intend to open a school for 40 young girls in the near future in a building of the Consistory, which will be made available and got ready for our purposes.

Morocco: a) Boys' School: When the school year began in October, the youngsters who had been sent by the Communities to towns in the interior of the country returned in cars and invaded the ORT-Alliance school in Casablanca. It was unfortunately impossible to find room for all, and most of them had to be sent away. Circular letters were sent to the Presidents of the Jewish communities asking them to avoid in future mass requests which cannot be met at this moment.

The construction of the new school at Ain Sebaa on a site of 30,000 square meters has made such rapid progress that the first buildings were ready by October 5th. One of them, which is 200 meters long, was erected in a few months. The Centre will have boarding facilities for 1000 boys receiving training in adjusting, motorcar mechanics, electricity, tinsmithy-welding, joinery and building construction.

At the beginning of this school year, the new building could provisionally board 400 pupils. Many new students have a general education equal or superior to that required to obtain the Certificate of Primary Studies, which is

better than the educational level of the students in former years. The quarterly examinations in the workshops gave satisfactory results. The program for the Certificate of Professional Capability is being followed. Our new projects include:

- 1) The construction of a dormitory of 990 square meters to accommodate 400 pupils under perfect conditions.
- 2) 1,032 square meters of new workshops.
- 3) The installation of 8 class rooms for theoretical lessons in the already existing buildings.

However, the old school will not be abandoned. Boys from the Otser Hatorah Organisation have begun there a training in adjusting and joinery.

b) Girls' School: Although at present functioning under highly unfavourable hygienic conditions, this school (400 pupils) can show good results. We hope to transfer it in the course of the school year 1950/51 to a new building especially constructed for this purpose on a site donated by Mr. Jules Senouf. The new school will provide space for 500 pupils in its dressmaking, lingerie, millinery, household economics, hairdressing and artificial flowers sections. The building costs will be met locally, only the equipment and maintenance will have to be assured by ORT.

Tunisia: The Jewish Community of Tunisia has long been asking for the establishment of an ORT school. ORT elaborated the plans a year ago, but it has until now been impossible to put them into practice.

At the end of 1949, we were able to acquire a site of 6,300 square meters. Construction work on the school will begin as soon as a definite arrangement with the Alliance Israélite Universelle will have been made. The school will permit an enrollment of 400 pupils, 200 of whom will be boarded, and it will have sections for adjusting, motorcar mechanics, electricity and joinery. In a villa placed at our disposal, we shall open a dressmaking and lingerie course for 40 girls in the near future.

and January 1950. 400 participants received... the graduates (brush makers, shoe-upper workers, tailors, ... and others) found jobs with the producer co-operatives...

Special Courses for Co-operative Managers

In view of the organisation and growth of co-operative enterprises, ORT took a new initiative to assist... by contributing towards the education of... The students are recruited from amongst... after a probationary period of work in co-operative enterprises... special courses to assume the responsibilities of... of this kind have recently been established for 50 students in Poznan and Wrocław. The participants come from all parts of the country. The curriculum comprises organisational work, planning, accounting, statistical work, fiscal law and other subjects. Representatives from the Government, the Central Committee

P O L A N D

The increasing number of ORT pupils in Poland bears witness to ORT's popularity in all strata of the Jewish population.

At the end of 1949, the total enrollment in the Polish ORT's schools, secondary trade schools, training workshops and proficiency courses amounted to 2,700 as compared with 2,100 at the beginning of the present school year. A total of 4,479 students frequented the ORT institutions in the course of 1949, and 1,500 amongst them passed their final examinations. The high school for cinema technique at Cracow is enjoying a particularly high reputation.

During the period under report, ORT activities were continued in the towns of Dzierzoniow, Bielwa, Pieszyce, Cracow, Legnica, Lodz, Szczecin, Warsaw, Otwock, Walbrzych and Wroclaw.

Proficiency Courses for Artisans

In the course of the last months of 1949, ORT expanded its vocational training activities on behalf of adolescents in secondary trade schools (four-year curriculum) and developed its proficiency courses for artisans. As part of its work on behalf of the "Solidarnosc" co-operative, 100 proficiency courses were held for 1740 persons at Wroclaw between July 1949 and January 1950. 400 participants received the ORT diploma. The graduates (brush makers, shoe-upper workers, tailors, dressmakers, knitters and others) found jobs with the producer co-operatives in the country.

Special Courses for Co-operative Managers

In view of the organisation and general character of Polish enterprises, ORT took a new initiative to assist co-operative enterprises by contributing towards the education of responsible managing personnel. The students are recruited from amongst the ORT graduates. After a probationary period of work in co-operative enterprises, they are trained in special courses to assume the responsibilities of managers. Courses of this kind have recently been established for 60 students in Warsaw and Wroclaw. The participants come from all parts of the country. The curriculum comprises organisational work, planning, accounting, statistical work, fiscal law and other subjects. Representatives from the Government, the Central Committee

of Polish Jews and delegates of various co-operative organisations assisted at the distribution of diplomas. The best students were given books published by the "Yiddish Book" company as prizes. The results of these first courses were so encouraging that new sections are planned. ORT-Solidarnosc has also set up proficiency courses for instructors in various trades.

Agriculture

In the agricultural section, agro-mechanical assistance has been continued. Two Jewish agricultural co-operatives near Szczecin have been developed to such a degree that they are rated the best agricultural enterprises in this region. Under the management and supervision of ORT instructors, the dairy industry was re-organized, the war-damaged fruit plantations rebuilt, farms equipped with electricity and a system of canals created.

Another Jewish agricultural co-operative gained renown through its remarkable production of beetroots, cereals and potatoes. Thanks to the tractors provided by ORT, work in the fields could be completed ahead of schedule.

The Delegate of the ORT Union for the Scandinavian countries, Mr. V. Grossman, continued his negotiations with the Swedish Government and the Swedish Aid to Europe. Two years ago, this organisation allocated to ORT a subsidy of 50,000 Crowns; it is hoped that a similar allocation will be made in 1950. In January 1950, the Warburg Foundation contributed a sum of 2,000 Crowns for ORT's work in 1950.

SCANDINAVIA

SHANGHAI

Denmark

In view of recent developments in China, postal connections with Shanghai have long been interrupted. At the moment of going to print, however, The Danish ORT Committee with seat in Copenhagen has been re-organized on a broader basis in January and is now composed of the following personalities: Sofus Oppenheim, President; Leo Fischer, Vice-President; L. Altermann, Secretary; David Lietman, Treasurer; Members: Rich. Gelvan, A. Krotochinsky, Erik A. Goldschmidt and L. Trier.

ORT will participate in a fund-raising campaign under the auspices of the Jewish Community in the course of 1950. (see) ORT.

Close contact is maintained with the Danish Syndical Federation and Employers' Federation who take a vivid interest in ORT's work abroad.

Sweden

The Delegate of the ORT Union for the Scandinavian countries, Mr. V. Grossman, continued his negotiations with the Swedish Government and the Swedish Aid to Europe. Two years ago, this organisation allocated to ORT a subsidy of 50.000 Crowns; it is hoped that a similar allocation will be made in 1950. In January 1950, the Warburg Foundation contributed a sum of 2,000 Crowns for ORT's work in 1950.

SOUTH AFRICA

Farming Activities

During the last few months developments on the farm have been pressed forward under the Chairmanship of Advocate M.H.S. Festenstein and his co-workers.

SHANGHAI

The foundation has been laid, and the erection is progressing, of a very fine hostel to accommodate, in the first instance, sixteen trainees. In view of recent developments in China, postal connections with Shanghai have long been interrupted. At the moment of going to print, however, we received the following cable:

Negotiations are progressing with the S.A. Zionist Federation with a view to the possibility of admitting groups of Chinese to the farm, but no definite arrangements have yet been arrived at. " Shanghai, February 10th
carpentry metalworking dressmaking courses three instructors fiftyeight pupils letter follows"

(sgd.) ORT.

Since the visit of Dr. Syngalowski to this country, in June 1949, the Vocational Guidance Bureau has been engaged in extensive negotiations and research into the possibility of setting up ORT trade schools.

At present, the only technical course offered to pupils by South African ORT is the class in Cutting and Designing of ladies' garments. This course is running well, and the great majority of the pupils are in the clothing industry.

A part-time class in carpentry and woodwork was organised in Benoni, but for lack of premises this course closed down.

It was felt by the organisation that any new courses to be started by the ORT should be organised on a proper and business-like basis, and therefore the idea of part-time or hobby classes did not find favour.

The question of full-time trade schools has therefore been fully discussed, and apart from the ordinary routine work of the Bureau, has occupied all the time and energy of the Bureau in the last six months.

Two aspects of trades were investigated : a) undesignated trades and b) designated trades.

a) Undesignated Trades: Under this heading fall the clothing and textile industry, canning and preservation of food, and various semi-skilled trades in the engineering industry. In the clothing industry, the only skilled occupations are the learning of cutting and designing (which we cover with a part-time course) and machinists. The machinists are taught their trade in a couple of months in factories, and apart from the expense, no useful object would be served in teaching this trade in an ORT school. The textile industry was closely investigated, and a number of experts in the field were consulted. Again, it appears that the cost of machinery and maintenance in such a venture would be very high, and the trade can be learnt in a relatively short period in factories already producing textiles. The question of providing training in canning and preserving of food has still to be investigated.

b) Designated Trades: Under this heading fall the whole field of mechanical engineering, the motor industry, electrical and radio mechanics, plumbing, printing, etc. By a designated trade in South Africa, we mean a trade in which an apprentice must sign indenture papers, and undertake to serve a period of apprenticeship. The minimum period of apprenticeship in these trades

S O U T H A F R I C A

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Negotiations are progressing with the S.A. Zionist Federation with a view to the possibility of admitting groups of Chalutzim for training on the farm, but no definite arrangements have yet been arrived at.

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is five years. Until the apprentice has served his time, he cannot obtain journeyman papers (although remissions are usually granted for years spent at Trade School, and a year may be granted for a Matriculation certificate). The maximum remission is 18 months, and this is unusual.

Dr. Syngalowski felt, and the Bureau authorities agreed with him, that a lad could become a skilled artisan in well under five years with more intensive training. It is felt locally that the present system of apprenticeship is very unsatisfactory, and in fact, a Commission appointed by the Government made sweeping recommendations to shorten the period of training, and to improve its quality. The results of the findings of this Commission is awaited.

In pursuance of the aim of opening an ORT trade school in wood and metal work, the Bureau interviewed a number of authorities, including the Head of Technical College and labour department heads. As not even the Government Trade School boys get a guaranteed remission (this remission depending on the goodwill of the employer as well as on the recommendations of the Apprenticeship Board), it was naturally not possible to obtain any assurance that boys trained in an ORT school would automatically get a remission of the five-year period. Although it is theoretically possible for such boys to get a remission on writing a trade competency test, the Bureau must work on the basis that any boy remaining in South Africa will serve his full period of apprenticeship. Thus it is extremely difficult to ask a youth of school-leaving age (in this country it is 16) to enter an ORT school for a period of 18 months to two years, and then to serve an apprenticeship period of another five years.

These have been some of the difficulties facing the ORT in its desire to start local trade schools. However, the Bureau is considering a scheme for starting a technical training center in wood and metal work, and gives the following reasons for such a center:

1. When Jewish youth register with the Vocational Guidance Bureau and indicate their desire to enter a trade, or when they accept advice to enter a specific trade, there is in many cases a time-lag of two to six weeks before they are satisfactorily placed in the trade they have chosen. In view of the general economic recession in South Africa, it is considered that the time-lag may become even longer. It has been found that when the period of waiting is long, the applicant who originally intended to enter a trade drifts into a dead-end occupation or takes up clerical work. It is strongly felt that such an applicant should be placed in a technical training center while efforts are being made to place him satisfactorily.
2. When the youth has found employment in a trade, there is a further time-lag before his apprenticeship-papers are approved by the Apprenticeship Board. This period again varies from two to six weeks (and in some cases even longer). During this time, the youth is not supposed to work at his chosen trade, and if he attended the training center, he would be usefully employed.
3. In some cases, applicants are not sure which trade they desire to enter, while they are certain that they wish to become skilled artisans. At the training-center, they would be offered an opportunity to make up their minds, and they would also gain a first-hand knowledge of the work they would later be expected to perform in the various trades.

4. The aptitude of a particular individual could be tested in a fairly thorough manner. The applicant who was found to be unfitted for a skilled trade could be advised early on to take up some other occupation more suited to his capabilities.
5. A youth who had set his mind on a trade in which there were few vacancies, or in which the prospects were not good, might find another trade which appealed to him where his chance of placement and prospects were better.
6. In the training-center, the trainees would gain a thorough knowledge of, and a desire for, creative manual labour, and they would enter their apprenticeships better prepared.
7. Employers would soon come to make use of the training center as a pool for labour.

As far as applicants desiring to go to Israel are concerned, there is no doubt that there is a crying need for a co-ordinated industrial hachsharah. The Bureau is constantly facing the demand for a shortened period of training from prospective olim, who wish to go to Israel as trained artisans, but who do not desire to spend five years learning a trade. Dr. Syngalowski held a number of meetings with youth from Habonim and other Zionist organisations, and gave them his advice on trades suitable for Israel. It is considered essential that some form of industrial as well as agricultural hachsharah be provided for intending emigrants to Israel. However, this problem cannot be faced by the ORT alone, and every endeavour is being made to get the co-operation of the Zionist Federation in a task which is basically theirs. ORT here is anxious that intending emigrants be provided with a trade, and thus is fully prepared to concern itself with this problem in conjunction with the Zionist authorities.

At the moment, a committee of experts has been set up by the Bureau to consider the whole scheme as outlined above, and to report back to the Committee.

We hope to be able to submit a comprehensive report on the outcome of discussions and negotiations in the near future.

*

On the organizational level, the following facts may be stated: the General Assembly of the ORT-OZE took place on November 30, 1949, at Johannesburg under Dr. H. Sonnabend, the retiring President. All big South African Jewish organisations availed themselves of this opportunity to express their profound esteem and sympathy for our work. Notably, Mr. Max Greenstein, the new President of the South African Jewish Appeal (elected to the office of Mr. Max Spitz who left for Israel) paid homage to ORT's work in Europe, North Africa and Israel and assured the Assembly of his organisation's fullest support. Mr. Sonnabend presented a detailed report on ORT's work throughout the world and in South Africa, and insisted on the absolute necessity for ORT's vocational training activities in this country. Mr. P. Zelikow presented a report on the vocational guidance office and Mr. H. S. Festenstein gave details of the Farm Commission's work and the prospects for the immediate future.

The report of the Women's Committee presided by Mrs. R. Feldman, and the Financial Report by Mr. I. Jaffe, Treasurer, having been adopted, the elections took place.

Mr. Sonnabend having expressed the wish to retire from the presidency which he had held for several years, the General Assembly unanimously elected him Honorary President.

The following office-bearers and members of the Executive and Council were elected unanimously:

Hon. Presidents: Mr. I. Jaffe, Mr. M. Kentridge, M.P., Mr. S. Schneier, Mr. L. Snider, Dr. H. Sonnabend, Rabbi Dr. M. C. Weiler, Mr. G. Weinstock.

Executive:

Chairman: Mr. A. Shaban.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. S. Festenstein, Rabbi Dr. M. C. Weiler.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. L. A. Lipschitz.

Joint Hon. Secretaries: Mr. M. Donon, Mr. L. Rosin.

Council:

Mr. A. Arenson, Mr. H. Bernstein, Dr. F. A. H. De Beer, Mr. M. Greenstein, Mrs. G. Kaganton, Mr. J. Kanareck, Mr. L. Kotkin, Mrs. A. Lasersohn, Mr. B. Lasersohn, Mr. L. Melamed, Mr. A. Navias, Mr. S. Shewitz, Mrs. I. Sive, Mr. P. Zelikow.

As part of its rehabilitation activities for former patients, the Swiss ORT maintains at present a school for typewriter repairing at Montana as well as two vocational courses in dressmaking and a proficiency course for tailors at Davos. At Basle, instruction at the dressmaking school for girls is being continued. At Zurich, four vocational courses for adults are in progress. Some new training workshops are planned for the first half of 1950 for those dismissed Tb - patients who will remain in Switzerland.

The Women's Committee of the Swiss ORT has increased its activities during the recent months. A certain number of French ORT students spent a convalescent period in Switzerland sponsored by this Committee. In January, a manifestation was organised in Geneva and the benefits destined for the acquisition of tools for an ORT School abroad.

Preparatory work has been undertaken for a membership drive in 1950. Having registered 500 members at a total of S.frs. 10,000.- in membership dues in 1949, our present aim is a membership of thousand in 1950.

UNITED STATES

SWITZERLAND

In the following, we bring in extenso the report we received from

the Executive Director of the American ORT Federation, although this chapter

In November 1949, an agreement was concluded between the Swiss ORT and the IRO according to which the IRO will pay a share of the expenses for the vocational training of former Tb patients in Switzerland. Accordingly, we thought that we could establish training workshops for all adolescents due to leave the sanatoria in the first half of 1950. However, the decision of the Joint to concentrate the rehabilitation work in Israel in the course of 1950 caused a slowing down in the development of the Swiss ORT's work in this field. In accordance with the decision of the Joint, those convalescents who do not possess a trade are to leave for Israel (inasmuch as they have no emigration possibilities to other countries), where they can acquire a profession in the country.

During the period under report, the electrical courses in Montana have come to an end. Four out of the ten pupils who passed their final examination have left for Israel. Thanks to the assistance of the Women's American ORT, each of the ten graduates received a complete set of tools and measuring instruments. The technical drawing course at Davos had to be interrupted at the end of January owing to the departure of the majority of the students.

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October when a detailed report on the World ORT Union Congress was heard. Representatives from most parts * of the country were present.

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discussed by Dr. Syngalowski, Mr. Eliachar and Mr. Broyles de Gunsburg prior to negotiations with the JDC. *

Publicity

Preparatory work has been undertaken for a membership drive in 1950. Having registered 600 members at a total of S.frs. 10.000.- in membership dues in 1949, our present aim is a membership of thousand in 1950.

In the same month a mass meeting was held by AOP at which Mr. Eliachar was the featured speaker.

A membership luncheon meeting was held by the Men's ORT of Manhattan at which Mr. Eliachar spoke.

Many ORT membership meetings and other affairs were held during the visit of Dr. Syngalowski.

UNITED STATES

Also in December a meeting was arranged by AOF at which Dr. Syngalowski spoke. Outstanding Jewish writers and scientists attended the gathering. Yiddish press representatives were also present as well as representatives of outstanding Jewish organizations, including the Jewish Scientific Institute, Central Yiddish World Jewish Congress.

In the following, we bring in extenso the report we received from the Executive Director of the American ORT Federation, although this chapter does not correspond to the usual form of national statements in our Activities

Reports, and though it does not convey a complete picture of the doings of the different sections within the American ORT Federation, particularly with regard to the vast and highly productive work of the Women's American ORT of Pittsburgh which is circulating in among the groups through the United States (MOT, guardianships, scholarships, membership, etc.) Nor is the work of the ORT delegation adequately represented.

Membership

The fall and winter membership drive was launched in October and by the beginning of December there was over 50% renewal of membership. In addition, many new members were recruited. The chief success of the membership drive has been the recruitment of outstanding Jewish communal leaders in New York City and throughout the United States.

There are two new chapters in process of being formed, in Washington, D. C. and in St. Louis. The membership goal set by the Board is 10,000 exclusive of Women's American ORT, with the current figure at about 8,000.

Membership meetings were held by all chapters of the American ORT Federation.

Board and Executive Meetings

The first fall meeting of the Board was held at the beginning of October when a detailed report on the World ORT Union Congress was heard. Representatives from most parts of the country were present.

In November an Executive Committee meeting was held at which a report on the WOU Executive meeting was delivered and an Administrative Committee elected.

Another Board meeting was held in December to welcome the delegates from the World ORT Union. Budgetary needs for 1950 and expansion plans were discussed by Dr. Syngalowski, Mr. Eliachar and Mr. Dreyfus de Gunzburg prior to negotiations with the JDC.

Publicity

In December the Brooklyn ORT Society sponsored a dinner for Dr. Syngalowski and Mr. Eliachar at which the most prominent Jewish Community leaders were present.

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Also in December a meeting was arranged by AOF at which Dr. Syngalowski spoke. Outstanding Jewish writers and scientists attended the gathering. Yiddish press representatives were also present as well as representatives of outstanding Jewish organizations, including the Jewish Scientific Institute, Central Yiddish Culture Organization, Jewish Labor Committee, and the World Jewish Congress.

AOF and WOU also held a luncheon in January in honour of Congressman Javits.

The ORT film, "Passport to Freedom", received wide showing by ORT groups throughout the country as well as by non-ORT organizations, including the United Service Organization and it was lent to the United Jewish Fund of Pittsburgh which is circulating it among many Jewish and non-Jewish groups. It has also been televised over networks in Washington, D. C., New Jersey and Connecticut. Over 25,000 people have already seen the film.

Five issues of the ORT Bulletin have been printed and an average of about two press releases a week have been issued which have received excellent coverage in the Anglo-Jewish press and fair coverage in the daily Metropolitan press.

About 35 Yiddish releases have been issued which have received excellent coverage.

Women's American ORT

A mass meeting held by the New Jersey Region in October featured Mrs. Roosevelt as guest speaker.

Luncheons launching membership drives were held in Philadelphia and New York.

An all-day Institute was held by the Connecticut Region.

An Educational Conference was held by the New England Region at which Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. was speaker. A radio broadcast over a state-wide Connecticut network was devoted to ORT. Mrs. Roosevelt spoke at meeting in Milwaukee in January.

A national Board meeting to welcome delegates was also held.

Young Men's and Women's ORT

An interchapter meeting to hear WOU delegates was held in December.

In January a public meeting featuring Benjamin Cohen and Dorothy Kenyon of the United Nations was held.

American Labor ORT

A luncheon was sponsored by ALO to welcome Dr. Syngalowski.

Chicago People's ORT held an annual conference at which Dr. Syngalowski spoke.

Dr. Syngalowski spoke on ORT before a special meeting of the national and city committees of the Workmen's Circle.

Council of Organizations

An affair sponsored by the Council heard Dr. Syngalowski and Mr. Eliachar. About 50 leading personalities in the Jewish world representing 12 different organizations were present.

Dr. Syngalowski presented a report on ORT before the National Executive Committee of the Jewish National Workers Alliance.

New York Schools

The fall term of the New York schools started with an enlarged enrollment at the Bramson ORT Trade School and at the ORT Trade School. The Bramson ORT Trade School now has a waiting list of over 200 people. The ORT Trade School opened a new course in mechanical and architectural drafting. The main problem of the New York schools is a financial one. Current enrollment is 247.

IDC Negotiations

Negotiations with the JDC have just been concluded and an agreement signed.

Future

Plans are being laid for the strengthening of the AOF in influence, prestige and numbers in order to prepare for the possibility of an independent fund-raising campaign in 1951.

Training is making very satisfactory progress ; the discrepancies in the students' education have been eliminated, and the educational level of the students is being raised. The students are now beginning to give lessons themselves to their comrades (both regular theoretical and practical lessons and repetitions). The technical management of the Institute has ascertained that the students are already sufficiently advanced to serve as assistant instructors in ORT schools.

In Institute life in general, the Friday evening reunions play an important rôle. Dramatic art and literary circles have been created and there exists a students' choir. The Institute Library, accessible to all students, is being increased by the acquisition of books in various languages. This gives the students a welcome opportunity to develop their general education. Morning gymnastics are obligatory ; teachers and instructors participate on Sundays. The contact between students and management is maintained by the heads of the various groups (one for each section).

The Technical and Pedagogical Department of the ORT Union Central Office collaborates closely with the management of the Institute in order to maintain and guide the interest of the students in better pedagogical methods, the establishment of courses, etc.

The Institute students will contribute articles to the next issues of the Technical and Pedagogical Bulletin.

CENTRAL ORT INSTITUTE

Since Dr. Ben-Dror assumed the management of the Institute in August 1949, a set of regulations as well as the theoretical and practical teaching programs have been definitely established.

The school year began on September 5th. Since then, the workshop equipment for the first and second grade has been completed, the students themselves helping with the installation of the machinery.

Training is making very satisfactory progress ; the discrepancies in the students' education have been eliminated, and the educational level of the advanced pupils has been generally attained. As a rule, the results are excellent. Examinations are taking place every two months. The students are now beginning to give lessons themselves to their comrades (both regular theoretical and practical lessons and repetitions). The technical management of the Institute has ascertained that the students are already sufficiently advanced to serve as assistant instructors in ORT schools.

In Institute life in general, the Friday evening reunions play an important rôle. Dramatic art and literary circles have been created and there exists a students' choir. The Institute Library, accessible to all students, is being increased by the acquisition of books in various languages. This gives the students a welcome opportunity to develop their general education. Morning gymnastics are obligatory ; teachers and instructors participate on Sundays. The contact between students and management is maintained by the heads of the various groups (one for each section).

The Technical and Pedagogical Department of the ORT Union Central Office collaborates closely with the management of the Institute in order to maintain and guide the interest of the students in better pedagogical methods, the establishment of courses, etc.

The Institute students will contribute articles to the next issues of the Technical and Pedagogical Bulletin.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN THE "ORT" INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
 JANUARY 1st, 1949 - DECEMBER 31st, 1949

COUNTRY	Number of Institutions		Number of Students		Admissions after		Number of Graduates
	1.1.49	31.12.49	1.1.1949	1.1.1949	1.1.1949	1.1.1949	
ALGERIA	3	5	89	181	54		
ARGENTINA	8	2	100	7	—		
AUSTRIA	62	44	835	2,187	625		
BELGIUM	39	26	451	444	179		
BRAZIL	3	3	5	5	5		
BULGARIA	40	—	1,000	—	—		
CHINA (Shanghai)	6	8	192	60	35		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	9	—	116	109	143		
FRANCE	67	91	2,079	2,887	1,248		
GERMANY	327	—	—	—	—		
GREAT BRITAIN	11	11	83	143	137		
GREECE	3	6	33	99	—		
HOLLAND	22	24	309	470*	144		
HUNGARY	44	23	795	1,841	1,708		
ISRAEL	—	37	—	1,315	181		
ITALY	67	69	1,570	3,005	1,029		
JAPANESE	7	19	623	295	—		
SCOTLAND	92	101	1,629	2,850	1,500		
ROMANIA	75	—	1,200	—	—		
SWITZERLAND	16	9	220	86	71		
URUGUAY	3	3	50	8	2		
U.S.A.	10	9	185	1,702	1,458		
CENTRAL INSTITUT	—	4	—	62	—		
TOTAL	923	624	19,820	21,106	9,989		

STUDENT ENROLLMENT
 IN THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE WORLD ORT UNION
 THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
 (January 1st, 1949 - December 31st, 1949)

*) As of October 31, 1949
 **) incl. 602 apprentices
 ***) As of November 30, 1949.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN THE "ORT" INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

JANUARY 1st, 1949 - DECEMBER 31st, 1949

C O U N T R Y	Number of Institutions		Number of Students 1.1. 1949	Admissions after 1.1.1949	Number of Graduates	Departures before graduation	Number of Students as of 31.XII.49.			Frequen- tation in 1949
	1.1.49	31.12.49					Men	Women	T o t a l	
ALGERIA	3	5	69	181	54	48	148	--	148	250
ARGENTINA	8	2	100	7	--	13	94	--	94*)	107
AUSTRIA	62	44	835	2.187	625	1.492	460	445	905	3.022
BELGIUM	39	26	451	444	179	290	230	196	426	895
BRAZIL	3	3	70	58	--	7	121	--	121*)	128
BULGARIA	40	--	1.000	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.000
CHILE	4	4	50	44	7	44	43	--	43*)	94
CHINA (Shanghai)	6	8	192	60	35	159	40	18	58	252
CUBA	5	5	80	71	26	84	26	15	41	151
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	9	--	116	109	143	82	--	--	--	225
FRANCE	67	91	2.079	2.667	1.248	1.510	1.245	743	1.988**)	4.746
GERMANY	327	120	5.101	3.297	1.458	5.375	775	790	1.565	8.398
GREAT BRITAIN	11	11	83	143	137	64	17	8	25	226
GREECE	3	6	33	99	--	67	33	32	65	132
HOLLAND	22	24	309	470	144	293	217	125	342	779
HUNGARY	44	23	795	1.841	1.708	443	141	344	485***)	2.636
ISRAEL	--	37	--	1.315	161	247	538	369	907	1.315
ITALY	67	69	1.570	3.005	1.029	2.004	1.116	426	1.542	4.575
MOROCCO	7	19	623	295	--	15	503	400	903	918
POLAND	92	101	1.629	2.850	1.500	279	1.544	1.156	2.700	4.479
RUMANIA	75	--	4.200	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.200
SWITZERLAND	16	9	220	86	71	96	47	92	139	306
URUGUAY	3	3	50	8	2	2	54	--	54*)	58
U.S.A.	10	9	165	1.792	1.456	287	166	48	214***)	1.957
CENTRAL INSTITUT	--	4	--	62	--	--	62	--	62	62
T O T A L	923	624	19.820	21.106	9.983	12.901	7.620	5.222	12.842	40.926

*) As of October 31, 1949

**) Incl. 602 apprentices

***) As of November 30, 1949.

WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT *)

Women's American ORT is the largest ORT membership group in this country, consisting of 24,000 members.

It has pledged itself to greater accomplishments for its six projects through growth in membership and expansion of chapters.

For the period under review, our groups have fulfilled many of its undertakings.

M.O.T. - Materials for Overseas Training is one of the most important projects of the program of the Women's American ORT. The requisitions received through the Geneva Office of World ORT Union are allocated among the various areas. Some areas do their own purchasing, and others send their funds to the M.O.T. Department.

It spent \$ 35,000 from the national funds of the Women's American ORT for tools, machinery for two graphic schools, maintenance and dental mechanic schools. General merchandise requisitions were filled for North Africa.

SUPPLEMENT :

Exclusive of this expenditure, some of the areas shipped fabrics and dressmaking supplies, tailors' dummies, and other shipped two tractors, some sewing machines. For class room uses we supply text books, illustrated charts and magazine subscriptions. The foregoing were sent as specified to Europe, North Africa and Israel.

WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT

Guardian-ship

Women's American ORT is alert to the fact that good education deals with the total human being. Undernourished, badly clothed and poorly sheltered people are handicapped in their capacity to absorb education. Through the Guardianship Project, we reach out to our students in order to supply them with these fundamental comfort needs - food and clothing. The food we send is used in the canteens for one or two hot meals each day and the clothing is distributed by the school administrator in accordance with the needs of the students. The Guardianship Program operates in England, Holland, Belgium, France, Italy, North Africa and Israel. The items we send are only those suggested by our school administrators.

Our latest Guardianship assignment is supplying 1000 work suits for boys and girls in Israel.

This year, in addition to Israel, we have concentrated on the great needs in North Africa.

This project has great appeal to many of our members.

Scholar-ship

The Women's American ORT Scholarship program has as its main goal the support of the students at the ORT Teachers' Training Institute at Anieras, Switzerland because it recognizes that the type of teacher that it is training will give a new meaning to Jewish skills, to Jewish labor and to Jewish artisans the world over.

We are glad to publish the above report, which reached us shortly before this second edition went to print.

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Exclusive of this expenditure, some of the areas shipped fabrics and dressmaking supplies, wool yarn, small looms, tailors' dummies, and other shipped two tractors, some sewing machines. For class room uses we supply text books, illustrated charts and magazine subscriptions. The foregoing were sent as specified to Europe, North Africa and Israel.

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Exhibits Each area of Women's American ORT is given a quota for the year, which is met through many means, such as \$ 25.00 memberships, special small social affairs and Remembrance donations. We are also completing pledges for individual memberships of previous years.

Besides these scholarships, this same committee has made contributions to the Anieres Institute Library.

Education

It is our belief that a well-informed ORT-member is a good ORTist. Therefore, we bring factual and inspirational information to our membership and to the entire American community on ORT's special role today. This is done through dissemination of factual material and training of leadership. Bi-monthly kits are prepared for the various chapters and study groups. Through these they are kept informed and derive continued stimulation to work towards the accomplishment of our total program. For this period we supplied data on all current events related to our interests. The new responsibilities in North Africa led to need of information about the Jews living there amid great deprivations. Because our work continues in Europe, we have gathered many relevant facts concerning Holland, Belgium and France. All our members show intense response to the news digests on Israel. They were given a full report of the World ORT Union Congress and the impressions of our own delegates.

Through our American Affairs groups we have kept them continuously informed regarding the United Nations, the legislation for D.P.'s and the Genocide Convention. We also are kept alert on American Jewish affairs, United Jewish Appeal, and participate in Jewish Book and Music Weeks.

Public Relations

Besides keeping our own membership informed regarding the ORT program it is also necessary to issue propaganda on ORT and its work to the public and other agencies in our communities.

Women's American ORT uses all mass media. Through Radio we have had many opportunities to broadcast our story in many cities of this country. Radio scripts have been prepared to help present our wonderful program. Television has also presented our programs and particularly has televised our film "PASSPORT TO FREEDOM" many times in many places. This film has now been seen in all our communities and has been loaned out to other agencies. All our areas have excellent relationships with local press and have obtained most gratifying newspaper publicity.

Many types of printed interpretive material has been prepared and distributed to our membership. The News Letter gives an overall view of events of ORT in the United States and of the endeavors of all groups. Women's American ORT has undertaken to reissue the ORT HIGHLIGHTS on a semi-monthly basis. It summarizes all the important data from the World ORT Union and other national ORT organizations throughout the world. The HIGHLIGHTS are confined to international aspects of ORT.

Illustrated brochures have been prepared to attract and interest new membership and to dramatize all ORT needs. For this period, 30,000 were distributed. 30,000 other types of attractive and intriguing brochures were distributed with direct appeal to join Women's American ORT.

Exhibits

Over 50 chapters have displayed articles, made by ORT students, at meetings, and also in Department store windows.

Women's American ORT has fulfilled its part in planning, supporting and attending affairs for United Jewish Appeal through the country and has already won high praise for its full and productive cooperation. It is responsible not only for many large contributions, but also for increase in these.

The Baroness Pierre de Gunzbourg, honorary vice-president of Women's American ORT, president of the Bramson Trade School and member of the Central Board of the World ORT Union, donated \$ 50.000 to the United Jewish Appeal for 1950, which she asked to have credited to Women's American ORT. In addition to this generous gift, the Baroness is also giving a luncheon in February at her home in New York for women contributors to UJA of \$ 1.000 or more.

Here sister, the Baroness Robert de Gunzburg, board member of the European Chapter of Women's American ORT, made a donation of \$ 25.000 to the UJA for 1950 which she also asked to have credited to the Women's American ORT.

Membership

In this period we have gained 2.000 new members throughout the country. A continuous Membership Campaign is in progress. This is kept in action by directives to our leaders, and the results are shown in the increased enrollment. Many types of affairs are conducted ranging from modest tea parties through large luncheons and tea meetings to which many dignitaries come as guest speakers. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt spoke on ORT in New Jersey and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Prizes are given of ORT pins to individuals, banners to chapters and also articles made in ORT schools to leaders. Through this year-round Campaign and through our public relations we are able to accomplish our aims for M.O.T., Scholarship and Guardianship.

Expansion

The Eleventh Biennial Convention of Women's American ORT is in preparation for October 16th to 20th, 1950, in New York City. The goal is to have One Hundred New Chapters by this summer. At present, we have eleven regions from coast to coast which represent 109 chapters; besides the 7 chapters-at-large. It is with pride that we have gained eleven new chapters in this period, which represents in the main our growth in the eastern states.

Although most of our areas contain many Jewish women's organizations, it is of great significance and satisfaction that Women's American ORT is attracting to itself mainly the young women who come to our program with freshness of zeal, endless energy and great ideals for the fulfillment of our projects for ORT.



INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION
CENTRAL OFFICE
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GENEVA