

**Report on the Activities  
of the  
ORT UNION  
in 1952**

**Submitted to the Meeting of the Executive  
Committee of the World ORT Union  
in Geneva, March 22th, 1953**

**Central Office of the  
ORT UNION**

**Geneva  
March 1953**

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# Report on the Activities

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Central Office of the  
ORT UNION

Geneva  
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## CENTRAL REPORT

While the last November report dealt with figures concerning the 1951-52 year, the present report deals with those applicable to the 1952-53 year. In the future, OET Union reports will be published three times a year: an annual report in February, a special report in July, and a report covering the year from July 1st to the end of October in November.

### IN THE LIGHT OF FIGURES

#### Training Activities

The description granted to OET institutions within their country and abroad and the general development of the OET

Union's position in 1952 are less attributable to the dramatic growth in our field and more to the general improvement in the living conditions in several countries. Thus, the reports of the very national organizations whose activities used to be regarded in these surveys might have the impression of a decline in activity.

## CENTRAL REPORT

### I. On the Light of Figures

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Another symptom of healthy development is the decrease in discontinuations by 21% in comparison with last year. They amounted to 6235 in 1951 and to 5017 in 1952. For the first time since the end of the war the number of graduates is thus larger than the number of discontinuations.

Other indicators of development and discontinuations, especially at the end of 1952 amounted to 22% compared with 19% at the end of 1951. By March 1, 1953 the number of students had grown to 7423, increases being noted primarily in Israel and Tunisia.

A detailed analysis of the figures describing schooling in 1952 is provided in a special report of the Statistical Department in the Central Office.

#### Figures

The OET Union's total expenditure in 1952 amounted to \$ 2,809,000. In some countries, expenditures were higher than previous and were met to that degree with increased local income. With regard to the OET Union's financial situation, the OET Union has been able to nationalize its operations and administrative expenditures' expenditures, the former were in general fully paid and the latter - reduced to some extent.

## CENTRAL REPORT

While the last November report dealt with figures concerning the school year October 1951/ October 1952, the present annual report deals with those applicable to the calendar year. In the future, ORT Union reports will be published three times a year: an annual report in February, a partial report (Jan. 1 / June 30) in July, and a report covering the time from July till the end of October in November.

### I. IN THE LIGHT OF FIGURES

#### Training Activities

The recognition granted to ORT institutions within their country and abroad and the general consolidation of the ORT Union's position in 1952 are less attributable to the numerical growth in enrolment and number of institutions than to the undeniable solidity of its entire work and to the considerable improvements within institutions in several countries. True, the reports of the very national organizations whose achievements used to be stressed in former surveys might leave the impression of a decline in creative initiative; the general progress, however, is delineated by the following two facts:

The number of graduates in 1952 is somewhat larger and the number of discontinuations far less than in the preceding year.

In the past calendar year approximately 3900 students graduated against 3780 in 1951 although in 1951 short-term courses with more frequent graduations than possible in day schools accounted for a greater percentage of total enrolment. Last year enrolment in day schools, i.e. the number of young people in the student body, rose by 18%.

Another symptom of healthy development is the decrease in discontinuations by 2418 in comparison with last year. They amounted to 6235 in 1951 and to 3817 in 1952. For the first time since the end of the war the number of graduates is thus larger than the number of discontinuations.

After deduction of graduations and discontinuations, enrolment at the end of 1952 amounted to 9254 compared with 9174 at the end of 1951. By March 1, 1953 the number of students had grown to 9423, increases being noted primarily in Israel and Tunisia.

A detailed analysis of the figures describing schooling in 1952 is provided in a special report of the Statistical Department in the Central Office.

#### Finances

The ORT Union's total expenditure in 1952 amounted to \$ 2,809,000.--. In some countries, expenditures were higher than foreseen and were met to that degree with increased local income. With regard to central expenditure i.e. the subsidies to national organizations and the operational and administrative headquarters' expenditure, the former were in general fully paid and the latter - reduced to some extent.

As regards income it is to be noted that that part which was to be raised in countries where ORT schools are operated was higher than foreseen, amounting to \$ 1,226,000. On the other hand, the share to be produced by the ORT Union Centre was not received to the extent foreseen in the income budget of 1952. Contributions as budgeted came in in full from the AJDC in an amount of \$ 900,000; second in line was the Women's American ORT with its total allotments of \$ 252,500 \*) of which \$ 20,000 for Nathanya is still outstanding. In the other countries the grants decided upon after the ORT Union budget had been established were smaller than expected. This led to difficulties which the Central Office endeavoured to meet in various ways by capitalizing on the machine stocks and cutting the expenses of central management. Despite these measures a deficit ensued which was predicted at \$ 61,000 in our recent November report but which we succeeded in reducing to approximately \$ 40,000.

In this connection the attention of the Executive and the South African, South American and Canadian ORT organizations should be directed to the following: An organization such as the ORT Union whose far-flung network of schools cannot exist without subventions from the Centre must inform its institutions at the b e g i n n i n g of the year of the amount on which they can unhesitatingly count. Accordingly, it is the elementary duty of those interested in the life of the ORT institutions and the ORT Union to see that the ORT Union is in a position, at the beginning of the calendar year, to establish its budget and with it the basis for the entire activity during the year concerned.

The habit of some ORT organizations of adopting a passive attitude toward this situation and of keeping the ORT Union for months, or until May or June, in doubt on the amount which they undertake to place at its disposal from their national united appeals or fundraising drives of their own, constitutes the great danger which is always threatening ORT's work, a danger which the Central Office cannot combat any longer without the help of the ORT leadership in the countries concerned.

Even less bearable are statements that no binding promises can be made, that everything available will be transferred to the ORT Union, and the like... Should the Executive of the ORT Union attempt to dismiss the ORT institutions with a similar statement at the beginning of the year, it would not be long before the ruination of ORT's work would deprive a l l ORT organizations in the so-called "giving" countries of the basis of their existence.

## II. DEVELOPMENTS IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Training System When we speak of the s t r e n g t h e n i n g and improvement of the network of schools we primarily think of the extent to which planned steps to better the quality and i n t e n s i f y the entire work outnumber spontaneous e x p a n s i v e activity.

The following facts are here to the point:

The schools in Morocco were reformed in accordance with the decisions adopted in Geneva during last summer's consultation with the school directors concerned.

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\*) comprised of \$ 191,000 toward the general budget and \$ 61,500 for scholarships and guardianship.

The uniform program originally applied to all students was differentiated as follows:

- 1) Two separate sectors were created in the schools one of which consists of the students who possess the educational background required officially for the acquisition of the Certificate of Professional Capability. ORT training in the sector encompasses three years.

The second sector was created for those students lacking the required schooling. They undergo a two-year, primarily practical, training and receive attestations to a less high degree of skill as part of the "promotion ouvrière" (worker training) program.

In addition to these sectors there are classes in which capable but insufficiently schooled students receive one year's instruction before they are admitted to the first sector. In the course of this instruction vocational aptitudes are ascertained by providing the students with an opportunity of working part of the time in the metal and part in the wood working section.

In accordance with this distribution a new selection of students was made.

- 2) The original training program including merely mechanics and joinery was enlarged by new sections for tinsmithy and welding, automechanics and electricity.

The entire staff was again submitted to a governmental examination.

Two graduates of the Anières Central ORT Institute - a tinsmith/mechanic and a joiner - were added to the staff.

Thanks to these reforms the schools were recognized by the Direction of Public Instruction with consequent governmental subsidies.

In addition every ORT student now receives a small allowance from public funds "for the encouragement of apprenticeship".

In Tunis, training was organized in the mechanics, electro mechanics and joinery schools in the recently constructed ORT buildings and was carried on in spite of the difficult political situation.

Enrolment was doubled from 238 in 1951 to 474 in 1952.

The school direction in Tunis notes that this program could only be implemented because four graduates of the Central ORT Institute in Anières were sent there as instructors.

We note with satisfaction that the share of the Alliance Israélite Universelle in ORT's work in North Africa has gained in constructive importance and that the cooperation of the two organizations took place in complete harmony.

In Algiers further improvements were made with the move to larger premises affording sufficient space for the mechanical, electrical and joinery schools. The move further permitted the opening of a girls' school in the vacated premises of the boys' school. Algeria was allocated two instructors from among the graduates of the Central ORT Institute.

Part of the progress is the differentiation of ORT's schooling system in Israel.

The picture which formerly showed three-year day schools for youth as opposed to short-term courses has now been enriched by two new school types, those

with a four-year duration to provide superior training for part of the young students and those with a two-year duration which offer concise training of a more practical nature to youngsters from among the Olim who lack normal schooling and to those who have not the means for three years of training.

In Iran four short-term courses were converted into two-year trade schools bringing the number of ORT day schools in Teheran, Isfahan and Chiraz up to 13.

#### Apprenticeship Sector

The placement of youths with private masters has gained in importance in ORT's system of vocational training during recent years. The ORT organizations in France, Tunis, Algeria and South Africa possess special departments for apprentices. The Geneva Central Office of the ORT Union has taken a vigorous stand to the effect that these departments should not be content with placing apprentices with private masters and supervising their training and working conditions but should provide special evening classes for the various categories of apprenticeship. At the end of 1952 the number of young people placed by ORT in private training amounted to 1093. A major part, particularly in Tunis, are already enrolled in ORT's supplementary evening classes. However, the development of this sector is still in its initial stages.

Production It is a well-known fact that all modern trade schools throughout the world endeavour, for financial and primarily for technical and pedagogical reasons, to lead their workshops at a given moment toward the production of machinery, apparatuses, furniture, etc. in accordance with an established plan. The standard of a technical school with good equipment and qualified teachers is judged according to the species and extent of production to order.

In consideration of this fact the productive activity of some ORT schools in Israel should be mentioned which manufacture lathes, shaping machines, eccentric presses, machine vices, electric motors, etc. Among the achievements of the ORT school in Montreuil (near Paris) special mention should be made of the production of high-precision drills and measuring tools and the manufacture of electric measuring apparatuses for radio and television in the radio school as well as that of electric motors in the electrical school.

The new field of production must be further developed particularly in the schools which have suitable technical equipment.

In conclusion we wish to pass on the good news that the young ORT school for mechanics in Teheran has completed production of its first shaping machine.

#### Addition of New Trade Schools and Sections in Completion of Existing Units

Three new ORT schools were opened last year in Chiraz, Iran, with the assistance of the Jewish Colonization Association.

Seven new schools were set up in Israel in Affuleh, Nathanya, Holon, Ramat-Gan and Tel-Litvinsky.

Particularly important to Italian youth are two new ORT schools for television and dental technics in Milan where young Jews from the provinces could

be admitted due to the availability of the internat of the local Jewish community.

The two-year radio school in Trieste and the joinery school in Tunis are also new establishments.

In this connection the opening of two new sectors in automechanics and locksmithy-mechanics at the Central ORT Institute should be mentioned.

All in all the ORT Union's network of schools was enlarged in 1952 by 15 trade schools. To these was added the dressmaking school for girls in Algiers in January 1953.

In the natural course of development, 38 ORT trade schools with durations of training of two, three and four years in Iran, Israel, Tunisia and Italy were completed by new sections.

### III. CENTRAL MEASURES

Particular mention should be made of the assignment of 18 graduates of the Central ORT Institute to Israel, Tunis, Algeria, France, Belgium, Italy, Morocco and Iran in accord with the national organizations concerned; they took up positions as instructors in the local ORT schools which they fill to the satisfaction of the school managements.

Mr. B. Wand-Pollack was sent to Morocco as director of the big Casablanca boys' school and Mr. G. Dutour as Assistant Director.

The Central ORT Institute received a new director in the person of Mr. A. Berlant, former director of ORT schools in Nice, Grenoble, Lyons, Athens and later on Tunis.

In addition to the Technical Council of the Central ORT Institute chaired by Professor Charles Roth, a Management Council was established which consists of eight members and deals i.a. with the establishment and supervision of the budget.

Among the central measures was Mr. D. Schweitzer's sojourn in South America between June 1951 and January 1953 to guard the financial interests of the ORT Union and collaborate in the reorganization of the South American ORT Federation. Mr. Schweitzer's efforts were also devoted to obtaining material assistance by the Jewish Colonization Association for the South American ORT schools.

Dr. M. Merkin continued his travels through Central American countries in order to obtain further material help for the ORT Union.

Mrs. G. Brin visited Luxembourg and Dr. E. Haskin Portugal and Finland in behalf of the Central Office.

Mr. M.A. Braude visited Morocco in September to clarify the completion of the construction and initiate the implementation of the reforms decided upon at the above mentioned consultation.

Dr. A. Syngalowski went to Rome and Milan in October where he dealt with the establishment of the working program and with the question of increasing the local income of the Italian ORT.

In December, Dr. A. Syngalowski undertook a trip to Germany to inspect ORT's work in Munich, Föhrenwald, Cologne and Berlin and to examine the program for 1953.

In accordance with the resolution passed by the Executive Committee on a motion of Mr. Renzo Levi, a session of the Interim Committee was held at the end of December at which Dr. Syngalowski's journey to the U.S.A. for negotiations with the AJDC was decided upon. The journey was made in the company of Mr. M.A. Braude but could only take place in January.

Mr. Victor Smaga, in charge for the ORT Union of the Central Accounting in North Africa, was transferred to Geneva and appointed Chief Accountant after confirmation by the Interim Committee.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION

The managing bodies of the ORT Union were confirmed and newly elected at the session of the Central Board, July 9-11, 1952. Senator Herbert H. Lehman was elected Honorary President of the ORT Union.

The membership of the Central Board under President Léon Meiss was filled by the election of ten new members from countries not as yet represented within this body (see appendix).

Membership increases occurred in the ORT organizations of all countries with the exception of Israel.

A reorganization of the ORT Federation took place in South America. It was implemented by ORT Union delegate Mr. D. Schweitzer in collaboration with our Executive Committee member Mr. J. Wengrower and with the assistance of a group of leading ORT friends. The reorganization was a necessity for moral as well as material reasons. It meant a step toward a healthier situation in Latin America.

Under the presidency of Mr. L. D. Crestohl, M.P., Q.C., the Canadian ORT Federation won several leading personalities among them Mr. L. Philipps, Montreal, and Mr. D. Lou Harris, Toronto.

The Conventions of American ORT Federation under President W. Haber and Women's American ORT under National President Mrs. G. Kaphan gave new vigour and greater renown to the ORT Movement in the U.S.A.

The considerable help of the Women's American ORT has already been mentioned. The ORT Women's Committees in France under Mrs. L. Roubach and in Switzerland under Mrs. P. Bigar showed great activity in the past year; they raised funds to assist the needy ORT students in France and toward the maintenance of students at the Central ORT Institute. The Women's Committee in Johannesburg under Mrs. F. Feldman which, despite their agreement with the local United Appeal, did not cease its work of assistance continued to provide for the maintenance of a student group in the Central ORT Institute. The activities of the Women's ORT organizations in the other countries, such as in Israel under Mrs. Sugarman; in Canada under Mrs. Cheifetz; in Italy under Mrs. Donati-Vita; in Holland under Mrs. Vedder; in Belgium under Mrs. Goldschmidt-Brodsky; in Iran under Mrs. Senehi; in Morocco under Mrs. Attias; in Greece under Mrs. Nehema; in Uruguay under Mrs. Momigliano and in Argentina under Mrs. Levine brought a very considerable guardianship and scholarship contribution to ORT's global work.

\* \* \*

The enlarged complex of tasks confronting the ORT Union in 1953 requires great efforts by all ORT organizations toward the further perfection of the training system and the expansion and strengthening of ORT's financial and organizational basis.

Geneva, March 20, 1953.

A.S.

## PARIS OFFICE OF WORLD ORT UNION

### Public Relations

Public relations activities were considerably enlarged during the period under report. The contacts with political personalities and international experts were considerably facilitated by important reunions of the United Nations, UNESCO and other intergovernmental bodies which were held in Paris; moreover, numerous Jewish delegations came from overseas and were reached by the Paris Office which acquainted them with ORT's work in general and with French ORT institutions in particular.

The Paris Office organized the meeting of the Central Board of World ORT Union in July 1952 at the UNESCO House. At this occasion it obtained newspaper space for the publication of important articles in France, America, South Africa, Israel, England and North Africa. Following the publication of an illustrated guide book to the Montreuil School by the Paris Office, an article on this centre appeared in the bulletins of the Jewish Welfare Boards in the major American cities. Other publicity for the U.S.A. presented ORT's work in general.

Relationships between the Paris office of the World ORT Union and intergovernmental as well as non-governmental organizations were closer than in the past. Upon request, detailed documentation on a number of given subjects was furnished to commissions and conferences of such organizations. In this connection we should mention the information transmitted on the subject of post-war refugees, German reparation payments and others. This cooperation was particularly fruitful in the case of the UNESCO where subsequent to the submission of a memo and an intervention with the Study Group of Non-Governmental Organizations on Technical Assistance the General Assembly of the UNESCO recommended collaboration of non-governmental organizations in technical assistance programs.

### Purchasing Service

The Purchasing Section of the Paris office placed numerous orders chiefly for the ORT schools in Israel and North Africa in accordance with instructions from the Purchasing Department of the Geneva Central Office. We succeeded in obtaining better conditions from various factories.

### Fundraising

Mr. F. Schrage, director of the Paris Office of the World ORT Union, was called to Geneva on several occasions for consultation and meetings in connection with fundraising. The office undertook a number of steps in connection with projects in this field.

### Legal Services

Mr. Jacques Scheftel, legal counsellor of the ORT Union, continued to supervise all current litigation in connection with the purchase and transport of supplies, insurance policies, real estate and tax matters. He prepared documentation on restitutions and reparations, both individual and collective, to be made to Nazi victims of Jewish faith. He also took steps in connection with the British ORT's demand for indemnities for damages sustained by the ORT school in Berlin under the Hitler régime. Mr. Scheftel further assembled the statutes of all ORT Union affiliates in order to bring the ORT Union statutes up to date.

DR. SYNGALOWSKI'S  
REPORT  
on the  
JOURNEY TO AMERICA

DR. SYNGALOWSKI'S REPORT ON THE JOURNEY TO AMERICA

At the end of November the 1953 budget project confirmed by the Executive Committee was submitted to the European Executive of AJDC. After AJDC had received the reports of their Country Directors on the national ORT budgets, a conference took place on December 24th in which Mr. M.W. Beckelman, European Director of AJDC, his assistant Mr. H. Katzki, Mr. N. Aronovici and his assistant Mr. M. Ratner of AJDC, and Mr. M.A. Braude and myself in behalf of ORT participated.

At the first session we discussed 1) some clarifications and corrections to the text of the agreement; 2) Mr. Aronovici's report on his on-the-spot study of ORT's work in Israel; 3) the amount of the financial assistance the ORT Union could expect from AJDC for 1953.

At another meeting the ORT budgets of the various countries were discussed.

As a result of the discussions a single proposal could be worked out which was to be submitted jointly by Mr. M. Beckelman and myself to the AJDC Executive in New York. It provided that ORT should receive up to \$ 1,500,000 from AJDC for 1953, of which \$ 1,100,000 were guaranteed regardless of the income of the United Appeal; another \$ 100,000 were to be forthcoming if the United Appeal's receipts were to equal the income of 1952 of \$ 72,000,000; and another \$ 25,000 of each further million until the additional sum of \$ 3,000,000 was reached.

In order to meet the ORT Union's subvention budget which was to be part of the agreement the ORT Union was to contribute \$ 720,000 from other sources.

\*

On January 22 I arrived with Mr. M.A. Braude in New York. On the same day a discussion with Mr. Beckelman took place at which some budget matters still open were settled. The final decision on the Tunis and Algiers subventions was postponed until additional information could be received from the AJDC Country Directors.

That same evening Dr. W. Haber arrived in New York and I had the opportunity of discussing thoroughly all topical questions with him.

The joint session with AJDC next day was participated in by Messrs. M.A. Leavitt, M. Goldwater, M.W. Beckelman and M. Laub of AJDC; and Mrs. L. Kaphan, Dr. W. Haber, Mr. G. Backer, Mr. M.A. Braude, Dr. J. Frumkin, Mr. P. Bernick and myself in behalf of ORT.

In my introductory remarks I stressed the fact that the roles in the AJDC/ORT cooperation were not those of one partner giving the money and the other providing the work. ORT not only provides the work but also the major part of the necessary funds. If ORT's large program which will cost some 3 and a quarter million dollars in 1953 is not possible without AJDC's support, it is even less possible without the funds which ORT will contribute itself.

In behalf of both of us Mr. Beckelman submitted the proposed agreement as arranged in the preliminary discussion.

Mr. Leavitt thereupon explained why Joint wanted a promise from ORT that a further expansion of its work in Israel would only be based on funds assured from other, i.e. non-Joint, sources.

I stated our readiness to refrain from asking for more from AJDC in the coming two years than we were to obtain this year. To Mr. Leavitt's remark that it would be difficult to ascertain the exact amount of AJDC support for the Israeli program I replied that it equalled approximately the difference between last year's contribution by AJDC and the sum guaranteed by this year's agreement.

After Mr. George Backer had expressed his views on the matter it was decided that the question should not be part of the agreement but that a form should be found for a statement by letter from me to Mr. Leavitt.

The proposed agreement was accepted in the form in which Mr. Beckelman had presented it.

We agreed on the text of the above mentioned letter during a subsequent discussion which Dr. Haber and I had with Mr. Leavitt.

\*

In thinking of the advantages of this year's agreement and of the spirit of mutual confidence and friendly understanding in which the negotiations were carried on I wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to Messrs. Leavitt and Beckelman.

I also feel the need to mention in gratitude the good cooperation with Dr. W. Haber who contributed so much to the establishment of the favourable atmosphere in which the agreement was discussed and concluded.

\*

Subsequently I had a detailed discussion with Mr. Leavitt on the question of payments from the funds of the Conference on Jewish Claims against Germany and reached an understanding in principle.

\*

During our stay in New York Mr. Braude and I participated in a meeting of the Executive Committee and a meeting of the National Board of the Women's American ORT which took place on February 18th under the chairmanship of Mrs. G. Kaphan and which also depicted the progress made by this valuable organization in a broader selection of leadership. In addition I spoke at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the American ORT Federation. Reports of interviews with me were published in the Jewish and English press.

I also had the opportunity of discussing with Dr. Haber and other leaders of the American ORT Federation some questions concerning a closer cooperation between the World ORT Union and the American ORT Federation.

\*

On February 8th I flew to Canada where I addressed meetings of the Women's Canadian ORT and the Canadian ORT Federation in Montreal and Toronto. I also spoke at a luncheon meeting of the United Jewish Relief Appeal in which a delegation of influential ORT leaders led by Mr. L.D. Crestohl, M.P., Q.C. and Mr. L. Philipps participated.

It was an extraordinary pleasure to see that a very sincere group of Jewish personalities is at the head of the Canadian ORT Federation who together with the Women's Canadian ORT should be in a position to lend the ORT Union support in a larger degree than in the past.

In closing I wish to express my thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Crestohl and to Mr. D. Lou Harris for their active assistance and friendly consideration they gave me toward the fulfilment of my mission in Canada.

TECHNICAL and PEDAGOGICAL

D E P A R T M E N T

A. Pedagogical section

B. Technical section.

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## TECHNICAL AND PEDAGOGICAL DEPARTMENT

### A. PEDAGOGICAL DEPARTMENT

In the course of 1952, the preparation of teaching programs included primarily subjects of special interest to our national organizations (applications, extensions, variations and adaptations in conformity with local conditions). The Department elucidated all technical and pedagogical questions submitted and continued with the dissemination of technical literature and magazines and of construction plans for machines and tools. A special issue of the Technical and Pedagogical Information was dispatched which dealt with various teaching problems. Two wall charts on telephony were added to the series. The documentation and basic material sent to ORT Israel and ORT Iran enabled these organizations to issue syllabi and technical publications in the national languages.

Close contact was maintained with the various school directors who submitted their students' work, treatises and technical designs. We were able thereby to exert a control on the standard of instruction, the progress made by students and the manner in which corrections were made. On the basis of this check-up various courses of study were reorganized and others improved upon.

The Pedagogical Department also acted as interim management of the Institute at Anières during last year's examination period up to the beginning of the new school year; it organized the mastership and diploma examinations of the students and made a profound study, prior to the beginning of the new school year, of the changes required to adapt the choice of trades to the new needs of our various institutions; as a result, the new sections of locksmithy/mechanics and auto mechanics were introduced.

One of the most time-consuming tasks was the procurement of industrial employment for students undergoing their practice year and the subsequent conferences to assure their preparation for the diploma examinations by a specialist who supervises their progress. Lessons by the students were organized to give them an opportunity to improve on their performance before confronting the examining jury whose severe judgment had become apparent last July and who are the best guarantee for the superior qualification of our instructors.

In the course of the year, the first 18 instructors trained at the Institute were sent to ORT schools in Belgium, France, Israel, Italy, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Iran. Their departure was prepared by the Pedagogical Department which provided them with the necessary documentation and keeps in close contact with them helping them with didactic material, manuals, etc. where required, and watching over their progress.

N A T I O N A L  
R E P O R T S

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## I S R A E L

### General Remarks

During the year under report, considerable progress has been made in all branches of our activity. New schools have been added. Enrolment at the end of the year amounted to 1784 (and on February 28, 1953, already 1943) with 1522 students visiting day schools, an augmentation of 408 or 27% compared with the end of 1951. One hundred and twenty thousand pounds worth of equipment and tooling were acquired and construction work for approximately 55,000 pounds executed. Our institutions received increased technical and pedagogical help; specialists of the first order were engaged as teachers and instructors; and the first few volumes of our series of technical publications appeared in print. The interest of industrial circles in our work has increased. The encouraging results of our fund-raising activities have added considerably to our local resources despite the current economic difficulties. Revenue from the sale of students' products is likewise on the upgrade. Considerable importance was attached to the outside contacts of our schools; parent-teacher associations take an active part in the school life; exhibits of students' products were organized at the end of the preceding school year and attracted large crowds.

In the day-to-day life of our schools, our principal preoccupation during the first half of the year were the preparations for the final examinations carried out for the first time in our trade schools. We also made every effort to increase the number of accelerated courses for adults first organized on a large scale at the end of 1951. In the second half of the year under report, important changes took place in our system of courses - then primarily devoted to proficiency training - as well as in our schools several of which were transformed into technical secondary schools with a four-year curriculum while others were set up to provide two-year training for children of new immigrants whose social background and educational level prevents their admission to normal trade schools.

### Improvements in Training and Staff

The most important scholastic event were the final examinations at the end of the school year 1951/52. Not all of our schools have as yet advanced to the point where final examinations can take place. The 205 candidates came from only 8 schools. In five of these schools, government inspectors supervised the organization of the examinations so that they should correspond to the official examination schedules. According to these personalities, the results of the examinations proved that our schools have even now attained or surpassed the standard in other vocational training institutions in Israel. This was for us a confirmation that we are on the right way.

We realize, however, that raising the standard of education in our schools depends on several factors of which the most important is the quality of our teaching staff. We are always on the look-out to replace the less qualified instructors by more competent ones. This was recently facilitated by the changes in the country's economic life whereby a number of qualified workers reconsidered their former refusal to take up teaching activities. We were thus able to replace the directors of the Kfar Abraham, Tel-Aviv joinery and Givatayim schools and to engage a technical director for our Jaffa school. Likewise, several new instructors and theory teachers were engaged.

Special stress should be laid on the great assistance rendered us in these endeavours by the Central Office of the ORT Union which sent us four teachers trained at the Central ORT Institute in Anières and an assistant master also from the Institute who took up work in five of our biggest schools.

In addition, we organized instructors' seminars and conferences in order to increase the professional efficiency of our staff. At these occasions, pedagogical problems and the implementation of teaching plans were discussed. In particular, three seminars were devoted to the following subject matters:

- a) Syllabi of theory classes (draftsmanship, designing, technology, mathematics), under participation of inspectors of the Ministry of Education;
- b) The organization of production in our schools, with participation of the Government's Advisor on Industrial planning Engineer S. Trone;
- c) Procurement of raw materials and equipment and supervision of production.

The frequent instructors' conferences were of particular importance to those teachers who lack experience and feel a need to consult their more mature colleagues.

The Technical Section in our Office furnished our schools with syllabi, wall charts, scientific films and other pedagogical material in order to compensate for the wide-spread lack of technical manuals. Lists of questions and answers on theoretical subjects were compiled to be used in our schools. Comparative tests were organized between the schools in a given branch and exercised a favorable influence on the work of our students.

#### Parents Committees and School Festivities

A spirit of close collaboration between school and homes is maintained by the frequent reunions of parent-teachers associations at which school problems of a general nature and the progress of the children are discussed. In addition, the parents' committees render social assistance to poor students and participate in the organization of festivities and spectacles. Their collaboration is of great moral value to the school management when reforms of the school life become necessary.

Among the various school festivities, the most spectacular were the closing ceremonies at the end of the school year and the inaugural ceremony of the hall for students' reunions built with assistance of Women's American ORT in memory of their late leader Mrs. Anna C. Schneiderman at the ORT Centre in Jaffa. Prominent guests from abroad assisted at the inauguration, notably Mrs. G. Kaphan, National President of Women's American ORT, Dr. W. Haber, President of the American ORT Federation, Mrs. Haimson of Women's American ORT and Mr. D. Rosenstein of the American ORT Federation. Naturally, the Hanukah and Purim Festivities were high spots in the social life of our schools.

Class visits to factories gave the students their first contact with their future professional life. They were widely discussed in the school gazettes (affixed to the school walls) which in general reserve considerable space for technical subjects.

As already mentioned, the numerous exhibitions of students' products were highly successful and flattering remarks were received not only from thousands of visitors but from specialists in the branch who praised the careful manufacture of the objects and the good taste in presentation.

### School Production

A number of great difficulties had to be overcome before our schools could embark on regular production work worthy of the name. Beginnings were made in 1951 with satisfactory results in the dressmaking and joinery schools, but in the metal, electrical and radio installations these efforts did not overcome the experimental stage. During 1952, improvements were made and after several orders had been executed to the full satisfaction of the clients, requests were received in sufficient numbers to permit the advanced classes in auto and agromechanics to carry out regular repair work on various categories of machinery. To date, the students in our Jerusalem centre repair machines, those in Givatayim repair refrigerators and those at Ben-Shemen tractors and other agricultural machinery as part of their curriculum. In our joinery schools, class room and workshop furniture is built to suit the needs of our various installations. Our dressmaking establishments execute annually clothing worth thousands of Isr. pounds. The mechanics, electrical and radio schools devote a good deal of their time to manufacture machinery, tools and instruments. At this moment, the following machines are being built, partly on the basis of documentation received from the Pedagogical Department in the Geneva Central Office:

- 14 mechanical saws at the Givatayim, Rechovoth and Kfar Abraham schools
- 3 shaping machines at Rechovoth
- 1 lathe at Rechovoth
- 2 watchmaker's lathes at Jerusalem and Ben-Shemen
- 1 eccentric press at Ben-Shemen
- 20 parallel vices at Jerusalem, Kfar Abraham and Givatayim
- 19 machine vices at Jerusalem, Kfar Abraham and Givatayim
- 3-phase electric motors at Jaffa, and
- radio sets equally at Jaffa.

### New Schools and Increased Duration of Training

Preparations were made during the summer months to open five new centres including two secondary ones with four-year curricula and 3 of the new two-year type, located as follows:

- Nathanya: Secondary electro mechanical school
- Ramat-Gan: Dressmaking school for girls
- Afuleh: Joinery school for boys and dressmaking school for girls, both with two-year curricula
- Cholon: Two-year carpentry school for boys and dressmaking school for girls
- Tel-Litvinsky: Joinery school for boys

The establishment of secondary trade schools is but a part of a plan to develop several two-year schools into institutions for more comprehensive training with a four-year curriculum, established after consultation with vocational training experts from the Ministry of Education, the Technicum and industry in view of the fact that the special working conditions in Israeli schools do not permit the implementation of a complete program of studies in three years. Firstly, the general education required by the Ministry of Education for trade school examinations has led to a reduction in the number of workshop hours; secondly, the heat which reigns even in spring and in autumn seriously handicaps the working capacity of our students; and thirdly, the long vacations in force for instructors do not permit the extension of the school year even if it is apparent that the students did not reach their goal.

On the other hand, a four-year curriculum permits extensive practical and theoretical studies as well as progress in general education whereby our students can reach the standard generally expected of ORT graduates.

In addition to the new four-year schools mentioned above, our centres at Jaffa and Kfar Abraham did always work on a four-year schedule and we prepare the development of our Jerusalem centre, the Givatayim refrigeration mechanics and mechanics schools and the Rechovoth mechanics and automechanics schools into four-year institutions.

### New Type of Two-Year School

We have devoted particular attention to the problem of thousands of young immigrants between 14 and 18 years of age (a time of life normally devoted to acquiring a skill) who go without trade training and are not integrated into the country's economic life, and thereby present a grave problem to the community in general. They come from countries where habitually Jewish youth did not acquire technical skills, and our attempts to enrol them in our vocational schools have shown that they must be approached when they are still in primary schools and imbued with a taste for manual professions. Obviously, ORT cannot tackle this problem all on its own. We decided to do what we could and have at present established 3 schools with a study program of two years.

The pupils who come to these schools continue their studies in the last grade of primary school in accordance with regulations while putting in four hours of workshop practice a day in accordance with the first-year program of a professional school. In the following year, they will follow the curriculum of the second trade school year so that those who wish may continue their studies. It may even be possible that a third school year will be added in some of these establishments but this will be left for the future to decide. So far, it may be stated that the students show great interest in their practical work and we hope that they will become reconciled to the idea of taking up a manual profession.

A seminar for manual training instructors in primary schools was organized at the beginning of the new school year at our Ben-Shemen centre. Instruction of the teachers assembled there concerned primarily folkloristic designs in dressmaking, embroidery, weaving and other artisanal branches. The instructors thus trained will primarily serve in villages and immigrant centers.

### Vocational Courses

During the first half of the past year, we continued our numerous vocational courses established in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour. However, in the second half of the year, factories began to dismiss the less qualified workers in order to reduce their staff in compliance with the vast changes in economic life. We therefore directed our activities toward proficiency training for workers so as to equip them with the necessary additional practical and theoretical knowledge needed to keep their jobs. In pursuance of this policy, 22 courses were set up for worker training in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour in the first part of last year in the following trades:

- 6 courses in carpentry (3 in Tel-Aviv, 1 in Ben-Shemen, 1 in Afuleh)
- 5 " " joinery (2 in Jerusalem, 2 in Ben-Shemen, 1 in Kfar Abraham)
- 1 " " refrigeration mechanics (at Givatayim)

- 1 course in welding in Jaffa
- 2 " " turning (1 in Jaffa, 1 in Givatayim)
- 2 " " mechanics (1 in Jaffa, 1 in Rechovoth)
- 1 " " electric installations (at Jaffa)
- 1 " " radio technics (at Jaffa)
- 1 " " rug weaving (at Tel-Aviv)
- 1 " " hairdressing and 1 in carpentry (at Tel-Aviv)

On the other hand, 10 proficiency courses were organized in the second part of the year, likewise in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour. Three of these are held in Jerusalem (in joinery, welding and auto mechanics), 5 in Jaffa (joinery, turning, welding, electr. installations and radio technics), 2 in Givatayim (turning and welding); and 2 in Tel-Aviv (rug weaving, carpentry) on our own. In 53, additional proficiency courses were installed at Rechovoth, Jaffa and Tel-Aviv.

In addition to the courses conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, we continued the courses organized on our own or in collaboration with other organizations, notably:

- 3 courses in lingerie and working clothes manufacture
  - 5 " " dressmaking
  - 1 " " corsetry (in cooperation with the Supply Commission of the Kibbutzim)
  - 2 " " agromechanics (in cooperation with the Agricultural Centre of the Histadruth in the "Rupin" seminar)
  - 4 " " knitting and hosiery (in coop. with the Ministry of Social Affairs)
  - 1 " " industrial designing and technology at Jerusalem
  - 1 " " theory of mechanical trades (Noar Haoved at Rechovoth)
  - 1 " " hairdressing at Tel-Aviv.
- plus dressmaking courses in Ben-Shemen and Ramat-Gan (for scouts).

All in all, compared with 127 graduates from vocational courses in 1949, 329 in 1950, a total of 486 in 1951, we had 744 adult graduates in 1952.

#### New Equipment

In elaborating our plans for 1952 we were aware of the fact that it would not be an easy year from a financial point of view. The price increases furnished us with serious budgetary troubles and we had to strain our efforts to keep the budget balanced. Although we reduced our expenditure in various sectors we succeeded in letting our construction and equipment projects stand. More than 30% of the budget were devoted to such investments. Accordingly, the equipment in our mechanics, refrigeration mechanics, auto and agromechanics as well as in the electrical and radio schools was completed and the required tooling purchased for the newly established schools which will, however, have to be completed subsequently. Obtaining supplies is not only a financial problem; with the assistance of the Geneva Central Office we managed to obtain exactly what was needed.

Principal acquisitions during the year under report include the following: 16 lathes; 1 shaping machine; 1 grinder; 2 valve rectifying machines; 2 drills; 1 press; 3 electric welding transformers; 6 electric welding generators; 4 polishing machines; 1 mechanical hammer; 3 hydraulic presses; 3 grinding lathes; 2 compressors; 2 valve socket rectifying apparatus; motors, measuring instruments, laboratory equipment, etc. Considerable additional major equipment paid for in 1952 reached us in 1953.

## Construction

Great efforts were also made to enlarge the buildings in order to adapt them to the requirements of our growing schools. Nevertheless, we have still a serious housing problem particularly in the major centres which we conduct alone and where the available premises were hardly sufficient for the first two years. Our construction work started at a moment when the supply of building materials reached a critical point and the completion of the work suffered repeated delays owing to such difficulties. Although the work was done at our cost, we had to exert constant pressure on our associates to live up to their promises because they were also going through difficult periods. Details of our construction projects were given in previous reports; we shall briefly resume them below.

Jaffa: By enlarging our premises over a surface of 700 sq. meters we were able to receive between 350 and 400 additional students.

Jerusalem: We shall need an area of some 300 sq. meters in order to install a smithy and a second floor over the machine hall.

Tel-Aviv Girls' School: We completed one storey which enabled us to have three parallel classes working simultaneously. Lateral expansion is not possible, but if we succeed in overcoming some difficulties with zoning laws we can add another storey and have a large school with 200/250 students.

The buildings set up by our associates in 1952 will have to be enlarged; the fate of several schools depends on whether this work is rapidly done.

Rechovoth: A good-looking new school was built which is sufficient for the current number of students; it will be enlarged in the coming school year and we shall need additional premises for new classes.

Givatayim: A barracks was built to house the two-year school. The school building is reserved for the machine knitting courses which were interrupted for some time in view of the crisis in this industry. We shall have to build a second barracks or add a second storey to cope with the enrolment in the coming school year.

Ain Charod: The school building is finished and will be sufficient for the current enrolment.

Nathanya: The situation here is particularly difficult. The first part of the planned building was under construction at the beginning of the school year and the classes had to take temporary shelter in the primary school. A few weeks ago this portion of the work was terminated. Unfortunately, the implementation of our projects is also threatened by the city's financial difficulties. We hope that a solution can be found by the time the next school year begins.

In Ramat-Gan, Tel-Litvinsky and Afuleh, the housing problem will become acute at the end of the second year of the schools' existence when the afflux of new students and consequent need of space will become clear.

## Public Relations

The expansion of our activities in 1952 was widely echoed in the Israeli press. The position we occupy in the field of professional education and the important events in the life of our organization were subjects of favorable comment. The illustrated papers devoted whole pages to pictures of our institutions. There is no article on vocational training that appears anywhere in Israel which does not mention ORT. The Voice of Israel asked two of our members to speak about ORT on the radio. The four issues of our periodical spread information on our work among 7-800 institutions and leading personalities. Representatives of the Government, public institutions and our friends in all walks of life are frequent visitors to our schools.

Our visitors in June participated at end-of-term festivities at which the exhibitions of students' products enabled them to realize what progress had been made. At this occasion the representatives of the Government, the population in general and our associates (municipalities, local councils and other bodies) expressed publicly their appreciation of our work.

#### ORT Publications of Technical Literature

We published the three first manuals in our collection of technical handbooks with the assistance of the Pedagogical Department in the Geneva Central Office. The booklets concern spot welding, electric welding and the thermic treatment of steels. A compendium of formulae and measurements is currently in print. Our Technical Department is already engaged in the preparation of future brochures which will appear in a few months' time. We hope with our publications to bridge the lack of technical manuals in Hebrew which is a serious handicap to the training of proficient workers.

#### Women's Organization

Our Women's Organizations concentrated its efforts in the main on social assistance for students, providing food and clothing to deserving cases. Members of the organization also aid in the preparation of receptions, exhibitions and other school festivities. They organize excursions and serve hot meals where needed.

Significant support has been given by this organization in the field of propaganda and public relations and in the reception of visitors. The organization delegates two members to our board of directors.

#### Local Income

Our sources of local income have increased with the expansion of our work. Returns in 1952 prove that progress has been made, but incessant pressure is still needed vis-à-vis our associates who are in difficulties themselves. It has also become more difficult to collect tuition fees in view of the current economic difficulties. Nevertheless, all phases of local fundraising show increased returns.

Arrangements have been made to obtain grants from the Union of Industrialists, and we hope to be successful with the assistance of our friends in these circles. We are also renewing our efforts to raise funds from other classes of the population although we fully realize the difficulties we are bound to encounter at this moment of financial stress.

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We have begun the current year with high hopes of further development in the number and quality of our institutions, of improvements in our teaching staff and of creating everywhere the conditions for constructive work.

ORT ISRAEL: ENROLMENT AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 1953

<u>FOUR-YEAR TRADE SCHOOLS</u>		Number of Students	
<u>Jaffa</u>	Toolmaking	103	
	Electro mechanics	109	
	Radio technics	73	
<u>Kfar Abraham</u>	Machine Maintenance	89	
<u>Nathanya</u>	Electro mechanics	38	
<u>Ramat-Gan</u>	Dressmaking	<u>15</u>	427
<u>THREE-YEAR TRADE SCHOOLS</u>			
<u>Kfar Ganim</u>	Joinery	20	
<u>Tel-Aviv</u>	Joinery	40	
	Dressmaking (morning)	60	
	Dressmaking (afternoon)	52	
<u>Ain Charod</u>	Locksmithy	24	
	Agromechanics	38	
<u>Rechovoth</u>	Mechanics	52	
	Automechanics	13	
<u>Ramleh</u>	Dressmaking	55	
<u>Givatayim</u>	Refrigeration technics	23	
	Mechanics	76	
<u>Jerusalem</u>	Dressmaking	55	
	Dental technics	34	
<u>Ben Shemen</u>	Agronomy for farmers	14	
	Seminar	11	
	Mechanics (fishery school)	53	
	Electro mechanics	47	
	Agromechanics	65	
<u>Jerusalem</u>	Locksmithy	75	
	Automechanics	27	
	Watchmaking	<u>15</u>	849
<u>TWO-YEAR TRADE SCHOOLS</u>			
<u>Ben Shemen</u>	Joinery	10	
	Weaving	25	
	Dressmaking	14	
<u>Kfar Abraham</u>	Locksmithy	19	
<u>Bnei Brak</u>	Dressmaking	20	
<u>Tel-Litvinsky</u>	Joinery	<u>24</u>	<u>112</u> 1388

TWO-YEAR TRADE SCHOOLS (contd.)

Number of Students

	carried over	112	1388
<u>Afulah</u>	Joinery	45	
	Dressmaking	40	
<u>Holon</u>	Locksmithy	22	
	Dressmaking	<u>27</u>	134

ADULTS' TRAINING WORKSHOPS

<u>Ben Shemen</u>	Dressmaking	42	
<u>Tel-Aviv</u>	Joinery	15	
	Working Suits Manufacture	16	
	Hairdressing	25	
	Rug weaving	16	
<u>Kfar Monash</u>	Agromechanics	<u>27</u>	141

ADULTS' PROFICIENCY COURSES

<u>Jerusalem</u>	Locksmithy and mechanics	13	
	Welding	9	
	Automechanics	11	
<u>Jaffa</u>	Locksmithy	24	
	Turning/Fitting	15	
	Electr. Install.	17	
	Radio technics	26	
	Welding	12	
	Motor winding	12	
<u>Givatayim</u>	Turning/Fitting	20	
	Welding	20	
<u>Rechovoth</u>	Locksmithy	22	
	Welding	20	
	Turning/Fitting	10	
<u>Tel-Aviv</u>	Joinery	15	
	Dressmaking	<u>16</u>	262

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS

<u>Ramat-Gan</u>		<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	1943
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ORT TOOLS SUPPLY CORPORATION ISRAEL LTD.

Despite the current economic crisis by which various branches of Israel's economy have been severely affected, the Corporation succeeded in maintaining a high level of activities, supplying Israeli artisans with more than 800 machines. Most of these went to dressmakers and tailors, others to shoemakers, quilters, knitters, mechanics, carpenters, stocking repair specialists, etc.

As a consequence of restrictions of production, the garment industry took a noticeable decline and the number of industrial sewing machines sold by the Corporation was therefore smaller than usual. The demand for dressmaker's sewing machines continues to be great; the Corporation has at present a waiting list of more than 1200 for such machines.

As a result of the liberalization of the Israeli economy there has recently been an increased demand for various machines; it is further expected that various economic sectors will intensify production in 1953.

On the other hand, last year's economic crisis obliged the Government to curtail the grant of import licenses for machines in line with the reduced quantities of raw materials at the disposal of manufacturers and artisans; this has unfavourably affected our work. The authorities insist that a certain percentage of the machines supplied by the Corporation should be manufactured or assembled within the country. The Corporation will have to adapt its work to this new situation so as to retain the ground it has gained until more favourable conditions will again prevail.

In supplying machinery and tools to artisans and new immigrants, the Corporation acts in close cooperation with organizations such as the W.I.Z.O. and the Jewish Agency, with municipal authorities and immigrant organizations of different Landsleit, and has thus been able to reach members of all strata of the population and assist them in settling down to a productive life.

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## FRANCE

### General Remarks

The modifications made by ORT France in its work in the course of 1952 are principally due to the development of the country's economic situation. It is important to understand this latter in order to better comprehend the climate in which our work is carried on and the tendencies which will become apparent in 1953.

With regard to prices and salaries, 1952 was a year of stabilization; agricultural production was maintained at a good average and industrial output was 4% higher than in 1951. (However, the index of industrial production fell by several points toward the end of the year.) The index of wholesale prices fell from 152 (as compared with 100 in 1949) in February 1952 to 140.3 in November and the free market price of the dollar went from 483 down to 405 francs. Nevertheless, retail prices reflected the movement of wholesale prices only to a small extent. Socially, the last year was the calmest of the post-war years with 1½ million days of strike in the first 8 months of the year against 12,729,000 days for the same period of 1950.

Nevertheless, a closer analysis reveals certain disquieting signs. The number of full-time unemployment was 37,000 in November 1952 against 30,000 in November 1951; on the other hand, partial unemployment is 350,000 against zero in the preceding year. Moreover, the lack of balance between the various branches of production has increased and this fact has a direct bearing on the work of ORT. The production index for equipment has reached 165 (100 in 1938), for energy 155, but for consumer goods it is down from 121 in 1951 to 108 in 1952. It so happens that the majority of our students are prepared for the production of consumer goods. There remains the Monnet plan to develop and modernize this branch of industry so as to broaden markets within the country and defend French export markets which may to some extent ameliorate the situation.

The principal victims of this development have been the middlemen, the small retailers and the artisans in such branches as tailoring, leather work, hosiery, etc., professions in which the Jewish element is particularly well represented. The predominant economic factors are the requirements of armament industries and the efforts which France must make in the military field; they exert an unfavorable influence on the purchasing power of certain consumer categories. Finally, the reappearance of German and Japanese industries on the world market has increased the difficulties of French export industries as for instance the motor-car industry. An increasing number of parents in the sector of retailers and middlemen have understood that the years of facile earnings have passed and that their children would do well to learn a technical trade and apply themselves to the non-commercial professions.

In the course of readapting our institutions to the changed situation we had to close a number of sections at our Montreuil school and set others up in their stead; we have received a number of requests to develop training in television; this will be more fully discussed below. Various reasons, particularly of a financial nature, obliged us to close the boys' school at Lyons.

Despite the current difficulties of light industry in France and the limited means at our disposal, ORT's Apprentice Placement Service has been increased. Beginning with January last, supplementary courses for apprentices placed by the Paris ORT were operated in the Montreuil Centre.

The last year was one of heavy budgetary reductions. Some of these were applied to our staff, requiring intensified efforts and sacrifices on their part so that our work should not suffer. With a few exceptions (the Lyons boys' school and the agricultural training) we managed to carry out our work almost on the same level as in 1951 with most encouraging results. It should be noted that nearly all graduates find work in the jobs for which they were trained. New initiatives will be made in the field of non-scholastic activities and towards the creation of associations of former ORT students.

Mention should also be made of the increase in local income, the receipt of a first subsidy (although a modest one) from the United Social Jewish Fund, and the establishment of a pension fund for employees. With regard to local income, the subsidy from the Ministry of Labour was increased to frs. 64,800,000 in 1952 compared with frs. 50,800,000 in 1951; the apprenticeship tax yielded frs. 17,370,000 against frs. 8,163,000 and membership dues frs. 2,558,000 compared with frs. 2,243,000 the year before. In order to justly evaluate this last, comparatively small increase it should be kept in mind that the joint campaigns organized by the United Fund incite many of our friends to be content with campaign contributions; the increase of membership dues in spite of this is a striking proof of the popularity of our work.

ORT's first 2 million franc share in United Fund receipts can only be considered of symbolic value. In accordance with the AJDC, the Fund primarily strove to assist those relief organizations which were directly subsidized by AJDC France and obtained most of their means from campaigns which they had carried out in the country; these were confronted with catastrophe after the diminution of Joint grants and the cessation (by virtue of their adherence to the United Fund) of all individual fundraising. Nevertheless, the importance of our work and the growing success of its campaigns should instigate the Fund to consider the true needs of French Jewry and to considerably augment its assistance to ORT. Our relations with the Fund are very cordial and we are represented on its Board.

After several years of negotiating we obtained permission to join the retirement fund for employees established in France by agreement of March 14, 1947. The fund is maintained by contributions of employers and employees. The value of this fund resides in the fact that it is partially covered against a currency devaluation. Having the best interests of our employees at heart we immediately made use of the permission granted to us to join the fund.

All in all, the prospects for 1953 are thus favorable: ORT's work has long been an integral part of the life of the Jewish community in France of which it constitutes an important factor. Public authorities have repeatedly stated their satisfaction with our endeavours. We hope to obtain recognition of our schools for young people from the Ministry of National Education with a corresponding grant of subsidies, as is already the case for our vocational training centres for adults which depend on the Ministry of Labour.

#### Financial Situation

Initially, our budget project for 1952 foresaw an ORT Union subsidy of \$ 230,000. After our preliminary negotiations with Joint France we were almost certain that this sum would be allocated. To our great regret, the grant was reduced to \$ 215,000 and the figure was communicated to us only after the conclusion of

the agreement in New York, i.e. in March 1952,\* this has led to great difficulties. We have with a great deal of effort succeeded in keeping within the limits of the new budget, although there were financial difficulties in the course of the year, primarily attributable to the problems connected with the closure of the Lyons boys' school and the liquidation of various services. The Lyons boys' school could not be closed on January 1st, 1952 but had to continue during the first three months of the year; this cost us about 6 million francs not covered by the budget. We still hope to find a solution to this problem in accordance with our negotiations with Joint France who gave us to understand that a special sum might be provided for this purpose. Other financial difficulties were caused by the new building in Marseilles the purchase of which brings us enormous advantages, both with regard to economical ~~management~~ and, more important still, with regard to student enrolment (the present boys' school is too far out of town).

Towards the end of 1952, new difficulties have emerged with regard to 1953. We were informed by the ORT Union that we could count on a \$ 190,000 subsidy only instead of \$ 215,000 spent in 1952. On the other hand, our tasks and our work remain the same and there is hardly a sign of a decrease in the cost of living in France. These new budgetary cuts mean a further tightening up and we shall primarily be obliged to increase our efforts to augment local income; unfortunately, the possibilities of doing so are very limited in view of the United Fund Drive by which we are obliged to forego gifts of more than 5000 francs.

### Vocational Training

Enrolment: As compared with 1733 students and apprentices under our care on Jan. 1, 1952 enrolment on Jan. 1, 1953 amounted to 1640. A total of 3101 students frequented our schools and courses during the year. The slight decrease in enrolment is primarily due to the closing of the Lyons school. New admissions during the period under review amounted to 1368 and graduations to 723. As compared with 74% in 1951, pupils of French nationality formed 83% of the student body. Most of the foreign students frequent the Montreuil courses for adults; almost all ~~plan to~~ obtain jobs in French economy; the exceptions are the students of agriculture. Approximately 2/3 of the student body come from indigent families.

Graduations in 1952: List No. II below provides details about the students and apprentices trained by each institution. The percentage of successful students was 95 against 80 in 1951; this is attributable to the technical and pedagogical progress made in our institutions. Strasbourg was particularly successful with 100 % of its candidates passing the official examinations of professional capability. Placement opportunities for graduates were comparatively good, a sure sign of the reputation ORT enjoys in industrial and artisanal circles.

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\* The subsidies are in no case settled by the local direction of AJDC. The ORT Union budget accepted by the Executive Committee in its meeting of November, 1951 was a project for the negotiations with the leaders of the AJDC. To be on the safe side, the managements of the national ORT organizations should never consider the budget project submitted by them as final and should never base their operations on such a project.

Central Office of the ORT Union.

Social Background of Students: List No. I provides information on the social background of our students in each institution. A noteworthy fact is the predominance of what the demographers call "tertiary" elements, notably merchants, employees, intellectuals, etc. as compared with the "secondary" element of workers employed in productive modification. This is well in line with ORT's mission of relieving the distributing sector of the economy and increasing the number of Jewish workers in the productive sector. In view of the individual's psychological resistance against such restratification it is evident that only ORT, with its prestige among Jews, can accomplish such a task. With regard to students from the working classes it should be noted that many do not possess the general education required by public schools. For both categories of students ORT plays thus a significant role which no other institution can accomplish.

Technical Council: In its plenary meeting and in reunions of sub-committees, the Technical Council affiliated with the Central Management of ORT France examined the following projects and syllabi:

- 1) General organization of ORT training in 1953 with particular regard to radio schools
- 2) Syllabus for designers of metal frame works
- 3) Syllabus for ready-made clothing cutters
- 4) Syllabus for industrial tailors of costumes and ladies' coats

### Montreuil

The year 1952 was marked by modifications in the structure of training and in the syllabi to ensure better adaptation to economic developments. Relatively few changes were made in the metal and wood working classes which have always been well adapted to industrial requirements. There is a growing demand for qualified electronics and television technicians.

Radical changes were required in the clothing sector to keep pace with the expansion of industrial dressmaking and the slump in made-to-measure tailoring. Newly opened sections include a vocational course for adults to train industrial cutters of costumes and ladies' coats with 40 lessons a week during 3½ months; a training workshop for adults providing 9 months of full-time training in the industrial manufacture of costumes and ladies' coats; a section for industrial manufacture of costumes and ladies' coats in the dressmaking school for youths with a three-year period of training; a parallel class in the three-year radio school. Moreover, vocational courses for apprentices were installed beginning January 15, 1953 which will be discussed in greater detail below.

On the other hand, we closed the following made-to-measure establishments: a corsetry training workshop for adults; a millinery training workshop; and one of the two sections of the adults' training workshop for Haute Couture workers.

Since part of the girls in the dressmaking school will be diverted into the new industrial section, the training of made-to-measure dressmakers will be further reduced.

The relevant details on the student movement are:

Enrolment 1/1/1952	Admissions in 1952	Total registered	Graduations	Discontinuations	Enrolment 31/12/1952
601	736	1337	473	269	595

Recruitment for the girls' school was satisfactory; for the mechanics and radio classes it was above average. Enrolment of adults was normal and has not suffered any noticeable changes since 1951. 460 requests for admission could not be met. A significant detail is the stability of enrolment at the beginning and the end of the year. Discontinuations amount to approximately 20% which is normal for trade schools; half of the number is due to economic reasons, i.e. the lack of scholarships. Most students possess French citizenship; some 14% (193 students) are foreigners, most of them adults.

Educational standards are average: 249 students have not finished primary school (17.5%); they are chiefly adults in the trousermaking, shirtmaking and similar classes for which no particular instruction is required. 587 students possess a standard of studies required for the Certificate of Primary Studies and 502 have elementary schooling.

Regarding social background, the students (or their parents) belong to the following strata:

516 come from a working class milieu (

499 come from the stratum of employees, merchants, intellectuals et al.

323 come from miscellaneous professions or are without professions

Training in our schools for members of the two latter categories means thus true social restratification.

Finally, 558 students are orphans, former deported persons or children of such; all in all, the proportion of students with a background of indigence is more or less the same as last year, notably about two thirds.

As shown in List No. II, 485 students have concluded their apprenticeship during the past year; of these, 473 sat for examinations and 446 were successful. The remaining 27 trainees were considered by the Pedagogical Council as having achieved the purpose of their training.

Of the above 473 students, 382 hold jobs in their trade. Placing graduates presents difficulties only in the case of ~~made-to-measure~~ tailoring. Mechanics and other metal trades have become slightly more difficult (welding, tinsmithy, etc.) owing to the slow-down in the production of the automobile and other industries.

The new industrial tailoring sections were equipped with 28 motor sewing machines, cutting tables and other material. The equipment and installation of the electrical laboratory were improved. The typewriter repair shop received some ten Underwood and Olivetti machines through the kind offices of Messrs. Olivetti and an electric typewriter provided by Messrs. Japy. A Gestetner multicopying machine with attachment for mats was installed for our teaching plans. The smithy atelier was moved to the ground floor and enlarged; it will no longer hamper the other sections. Equally on the ground floor, a large hall was installed with the assistance of the International Ladies' Garments Workers' Union and its President Mr. D. Dubinsky; the hall is reserved for festivities and students' reunions. The hall possesses good acoustics, a stage and special furniture manufactured in part by the students.

Three of our teachers took a pedagogical course at the Institute for the Training of Teachers of the Ministry of Labour.

An exhibit of students' products took place at the beginning of July; all 25 sections of our Centre participated. The official inauguration was performed

by Admiral Kahn in the presence of Messrs. Garet, Minister of Labour and Social Security; Rosier, Director General of Manpower; and numerous officials of the Ministries of Labour and National Education; the President of the ORT Union Executive and several members of this body, united in Paris for the Session of the Central Board, were also present. At this occasion, the Minister stressed the high satisfaction he had derived from his visit to the exhibition, expressed his Government's gratitude to ORT and promised its continued support. In his reply, Admiral Kahn gave a survey of ORT's work and of its importance to the national economy. More than 2000 visitors expressed their appreciation of the students' work and in particular of the numerous didactic material.

A ceremonial distribution of diplomas and prizes to students and apprentices took place on June 30. For the first time, a series of prizes was set aside for success in the study of Jewish history. Prizes were also provided by Mr. and Mrs. Rubinroth in commemoration of their son's death in deportation and by the "Society of Friends of André Baur and Raoul Lambert and their Deported Comrades".

One of the most outstanding events of the period was the re-initiation of the educational activities of the Spare Time Service. These include dramatic art, cinema, square dancing, modern dancing, choirs, concerts of jazz and classical records, accordion playing, photography, chess playing, sports, camping and excursions. Students sell sandwiches and soft drinks in the entrance hall. Interest in these extracurricular activities is intense both on the part of students and teachers; it culminated in a highly successful Chanukah party.

Future Projects: Efforts towards adaptation to economic developments will continue. They include principally promotion of electronics and television studies; numerous applications of would-be employers have been received and will be met by the following means:

- 1) maintenance of the parallel class set up with the radio school;
- 2) increase in number and improvement of the equipment of the evening proficiency classes in television (for workers already employed in the industry);
- 3) development of the two day-time classes for technical laboratory assistants.

Analogous measures will have to be taken in the industrial tailoring section of the dressmaking school where a third year class will have to be installed for the beginning of the coming school year.

We are particularly concerned with developing recruitment for our typewriter repair course in view of the great strides made by this industry in France. The big typewriter companies show particular interest in this course. The Social Fund for Former Patients having adopted the course, its students have the possibility of obtaining scholarships to provide for their living expenses.

We are currently studying a project for a new course to train draftsmen of metal frame work in view of the lack of skilled workers in this branch.

### Lyons

We were obliged to close the boys' school at the beginning of 1952 for financial reasons as well as for lack of candidates and lack of sufficient social assistance. Almost all students came from the Jewish Community of St. Fons, a suburb inhabited by North Africans who are extremely poor and have numerous families of whom they cannot take care; the children cannot afford to have adequate general

schooling or go to trade schools unless they receive scholarships to compensate for the money they would earn otherwise, since they are put to work at whatever employment is available from the age of 14 onwards.

We have, however, maintained the girls' school half of whose budget is derived from apprenticeship tax income. Realizing the importance of this school, the United Fund Drive of Lyons has granted scholarships to a few extremely needy students. The school has made notable progress on the pedagogical side. An inspector for vocational training who has recently visited the school expressed satisfaction with the teaching methods and the results obtained. The school will have to be re-organized and its curriculum adapted to local requirements in line with the demand for industrial clothing workers and the current slump in made-to-measure tailoring.

Despite the upset caused by the closing of the boys' school, examination results were good, with 5 students passing the official examinations of professional capability in the radio section and 5 out of 8 in the dressmaking section; the latter 8 all work at their trade, chiefly in the ready-made clothing industry.

### Strasbourg

The year under report was a critical one for the Strasbourg ORT since its very existence was threatened. We were fortunate enough to maintain the centre and are now engaged in consolidating it also from a social point of view. In order to fully understand the situation it should be recalled that ORT had not worked in the Alsace before the war, opening the Strasbourg centre in 1946 only; however, many inhabitants of Alsace and Lorraine knew of our work in 1940 when institutions were operated in the so-called "Southern Zone", particularly Limoges and Périgueux to which regions most Alsations had been evacuated during the war. Nevertheless, we did not at the beginning find the response we had hoped for. Once life had become normal again, the Jews in the East of France were by no means inclined to forego their old prejudices against manual work and to abandon their traditional jobs in commerce and the free professions. Fortunately, this state of affairs is past, due in part to increased propagandistic efforts in the last two years when members of the Strasbourg Committee visited the countryside to spread the ORT ideas and win new friends; the effects of the propaganda were heightened by economic factors: The 1952 crisis struck chiefly at small merchants whose number is high in those regions. The results of the recent admissions show that an increasing number of parents from these social strata have understood the insecurity of their way of life and the advantages to be gained by acquiring a modern technical trade.

Mention should also be made of the spreading renown of our Centre. In view of its technical organization and particularly of the remarkable results of the public examinations of professional capability, our school is considered one of the best in the region. ORT Strasbourg's technical and social value is recognized by all. Proof of this is the fact that when the school's existence was recently threatened by financial difficulties, all leading Jewish personalities in the East of France expressed their appreciation to ORT by letter and word of mouth and stated the significance they attach to our school, stressing the fact that without it, many youngsters would have had neither the idea nor the opportunity to learn a trade. This general recognition was reflected in the renewal and enlargement of the local committee which includes now several industrialists; representative personalities from various regional communities will soon be coopted. A subcommittee was created to deal with technical matters and the apprentice tax campaign.

The tangible result of this moral success was an increase of local income. Almost 40% of the school budget will be met with locally collected funds, and efforts are made by the Committee to do even better. It is only hampered by the fact that as member of the United Drive it cannot indulge in separate fundraising. The variety of our local resources assures some degree of stability. In addition to such normal receipts as the reimbursement of internat costs and the sale of students' products we have gifts from individuals, membership dues, subsidies from the United Drive for Strasbourg, subsidies from other communities in the East of France, subsidies from the Municipality of Strasbourg, from the Chamber of Commerce and the Coal Import Board. Our grant from the United Drive amounted to more than 1 million francs or one twentieth of its annual budget in 1952 (22 organisations participate in the Drive).

Particular homage should be paid to Women's American ORT who generously paid for the board of 20 intern students in an amount of 2,160,585 francs last year.

The movement of students is depicted in the following list:

	Enrolment 1/1/52	Admissions	Graduations	Discontinu- ations	Enrolment 31/12/52
Schools and courses	81	56	31	19	87
Apprentices	<u>22</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
	103	61	46	23	95

It will be noted that the decrease in enrolment is exclusively due to a decrease in the activities of the apprentice placement service while the number of regular students has increased. Recruitment was in the main confined to the Eastern French districts. Four of our students are of North African origin. 70% of our students come from poor families or are orphans; these and the children of deported persons amount to 40% of the student body.

Among the 46 graduates this year, 15 are apprentices placed with private masters; 9 completed the dressmaking course and 22 come from the three sections of our school; of these latter, all work in their trades or continue their studies at the Anières Institute, at Montreuil or in advanced technical schools. Numerous job offers made to our school could not be filled since no former students are out of work.

From the point of view of equipment, considerable improvement has been realized. Tools were received from the Lyons' school after its closure; and thanks to the payment of war damages the roof of our building was repaired, the electrical laboratory relocated and a rich pedagogical material acquired. The syllabi, particularly the metal working ones, were adapted to industrial requirements. We were fortunate enough to acquire a new instructor in a former student, Herbert Friedmann, who was trained at the Central ORT Institute and whose advanced technical and pedagogical know-how enables him to give classes in mathematics and theory of electricity and to act as assistant headmaster for the electrical and radio sections.

The question of extracurricular activities and general education is particularly important for the Strasbourg centre in view of its internat. The students dispose of a bookbinding and modelling atelier. Sports include swimming, boxing, judo, volley-ball, basketball, etc. The trainees participate in the "Merkaz" activities (a young people's group combining all Jewish societies in Strasbourg); the intern students have a cinema evening each week; Yvrit courses flourish and

conferences on various aspects of Jewish life are held each week. Festivities for the High Holidays are prepared by the students. There is thus at least one activity for every taste in a healthy and Jewish atmosphere which many of our students lack at home.

We are particularly glad to note that the association of former students of ORT Strasbourg which has been in existence for two years has now become a legally recognized body by depositing its statutes. The association publishes a bulletin every three months and maintains contact with all members even though they are dispersed everywhere in France.

The local Women's ORT has taken over all medical and social services to our students, developing an intense activity and taking an active part in the international life. They organize vacation colonies, weekly clothing distributions, guardianships and school festivals and contribute to the improvement of canteen meals. They also actively propagandize ORT; in November last, they had the élite of Strasbourg society for a cocktail.

The guardianship program of Women's American ORT has already been mentioned above.

Television programs being due to become a regular feature in the course of 1953, the training of technicians in this branch is one of the projects which we hope to implement during the year. On the other hand, we were approached by the Merkaz with a view to installing pre-apprenticeship courses in bookbinding and electricity. We hope to deal with this request in the weeks to come.

### Marseilles

After Paris, the Jewish community of Marseilles with some 20,000 adherents is the strongest in France; it is primarily composed of North African-born or oriental-born (Greek, Turkish, etc.) Jews whose large families have to live on a longshoreman's or factory worker's salary. The children usually have no chance of getting a regular education required for enrolment in public trade schools, quite apart from financial considerations; they usually have to start earning at the age of 14 in order to alleviate the financial burdens at home. They have thus never a chance to become qualified workers; moreover, the atmosphere of a seafaring town is hardly good for their moral education.

For these young people, ORT is the only means of escaping this way of life. Our work in this city constitutes true social rehabilitation and can be compared with that accomplished in North Africa. In the choice of trades offered (electricity, radio technics, dressmaking), economic considerations play as important a role as social factors. The city of Marseilles does not possess an important metal industry and the few existing enterprises in this branch have an ample choice of manpower from among the graduates of public and other private trade schools. The branches we chose have outlets in the building trade while being far from crowded as such in this city. With regard to employment possibilities for girls, office work and dressmaking are the two most important sectors and we chose the latter because the former requires better general education than most of our pupils possess.

At the regional exhibition "The Best Worker in France" the Marseilles school was awarded two silver medals, one for the boys and one for the girls. In view of the satisfactory results of our training, we were given the right to benefit by apprenticeship taxes at the end of 1951 and have undertaken a tax collecting campaign in 1952.

Financial reasons obliged us to close the kitchen in the girls' school; meals are prepared in the boys' school at Avenue de Monaco and sent over to the girls' school at rue de la Guadeloupe.

The student movement is expressed by the following figures:

	Enrolment 1/1/52	Admissions in 1952	Graduations	Discontinu- ations	Enrolment 31/12/52
Schools	115	55	28	40	102
Special sector	4	4	4	-	4
Apprentices	<u>74</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80</u>
	193	65	32	40	186

The decrease in the number of students is due to the comparatively high number of discontinuations of which 65% are motivated by economic reasons; the parents take their children away from school because they cannot manage without their small earnings. We have no scholarships to retain them in the school; indeed, our financial situation has obliged us to cut down on social assistance by suppressing clothing distributions, making students pay for their meals and cutting down on our share in the students' transport costs. The free supplies of school material have also been reduced.

Although the number of admissions is satisfactory, we could do much better if we could supply social assistance to needy students. 54 applications for admission had to be refused, either due to insufficient general schooling of the candidates or owing to lack of manual skill. 70% of our students do not possess the Certificate of Primary Studies. 176 among our students come from the homes of artisans and industrial workers; 70 from families of employees and merchants, and 114 are orphans or children of deported persons.

Examination results were satisfactory and nearly all graduates found jobs in their trade despite industrial slow-down. Several old students even hold very good and permanent jobs.

Our centre has made steady technical progress despite our limited means. Material was transferred from Lyons after the boys' school in this city was closed. New acquisitions include punching shears, radio and electric material, sports equipment and a calculating machine. The special sector for training in electronics, tentatively installed in 1951, was maintained but needs additional equipment.

Our great problem is freeing the house we bought from squatters; in view of the progress made in the construction of dwellings we hope to be able to occupy our house in May.

In view of the fact that Marseilles is soon to have a television station, requests for training in this branch have been received from former radio students and apprentices placed with private masters. We are determined to make an all-out effort to install a television section in our centre.

Likewise, the work of the apprentice placement service will have to be intensified. Work in 1952 was slow owing to lack of funds for scholarships and for a special staff for this work. Social and economic conditions among the Jews in Marseilles are such that this service could be of the greatest benefit and would happily complete the work of our schools.

### Apprentice Placement Paris

There have been few important events in 1952. The service is gathering volume while maintaining its stability. Already in March and April parents come to inscribe their children for placement in autumn after they have undergone our preliminary psychotechnical examination.

Last year's figures present themselves as follows:

	1/1/52	Admiss.	Total	Graduat.	Discontin.	31/12/52
Metal work	9	17	26	1	3	22
Light mechanics	6	11	17	1	2	14
Electricity	9	9	18	2	1	15
Wood work	8	8	16	1	2	13
Needle work	264	137	401	50	48	303
Leather goods	59	36	95	12	12	71
Textile trades	22	19	41	-	5	36
Commerc. arts	8	7	15	1	2	12
Construction	1	-	1	1	-	-
Miscellaneous	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>26</u>
	400	259	659	70	77	512

As in the past, needle work is the favourite trade; all in all, the distribution of trades has remained without major changes as compared with 1951. 95% of needle work apprentices turn to the ready-made clothing industry. Compared with 73 apprentices placed in September and October 1951 (the best months for placing), 92 were placed in the same months of 1952 despite the slowing down of business. The proportion of apprentices with Certificates of Primary Studies has grown and amounts to more than 50% in 1952 against 44% in 1951. The service's relationships with employers are excellent and partly due to the close check we keep on the trainees. Supplementary courses for needle work students were installed on January 3, 1953, in order to permit our apprentices to sit for the official examinations of professional capability. As a beginning, 45 apprentices were enrolled.

Among the 70 apprentices who concluded their training in 1952, 28 finished early enough to participate in the June examinations before juries of experts; 27 among them received the ORT diploma during the ceremonial closing session at Montreuil on June 30, 1952.

Cuts in staff have obliged us to neglect the social side of our work with apprentices. It must be noted that the non-availability of scholarships is frequently a barrier, because the social charges due from private masters are very high; if they could be diminished through scholarships granted by us, possibilities of placement would be enormously increased. We must therefore strive to re-establish scholarships and increase our staff.

### Agricultural Training

Budgetary restrictions did not permit us to maintain agricultural training at its 1951 level. Work at the Cambes de Pujols training farm was continued under an agreement with the Jewish Agency and the Merkaz Hechalutz who provide for the students' board and incidental costs while ORT has the direction of the training and control over the farm management. The farm is destined for Chalutzim from England, Sweden, Switzerland and other European countries.

Training at La Roche continued during several months of 1952 for adherents of the Heshomer Hatzair. Returns at La Roche, considered one of the best farms of the region, have been greatly improved, particularly in the cattle sector. We employ Frisian cattle which is inscribed in the herd-book and under State control. Our Leghorn and Sussex chicken were awarded prizes in 1952. A beginning has been made with sheep farming.

Both the Hechalutz and the Bahad (who used to send its students to Cambes de Pujols) have great difficulties in recruiting trainees, chiefly for economic reasons. Several Hechalutz training farms had to be abandoned and Bahad has recently been unable to send any students for La Roche. We are currently studying the problem of finding other uses for the La Roche farm.

We are also in charge of training a group of Chalutzim at the Sardéllis farm where courses of several months' duration are given to youth groups prior to their departure for Israel.

Our gardening instructor continues his work with the children of the Cambous home where an average of 200 children are given initial training in vegetable and flower gardening.

### Information

During the past year, the information service continued to pursue its two principal aims of winning new sympathies, donors, members and apprentice tax payers for ORT's cause and of spreading appreciation of manual work and of the necessity of trade training for youngsters. The results were highly encouraging, particularly in the Strasbourg region.

Numerous articles in pursuance of these aims appeared in the general and Jewish press; editors were invited to visit the Montreuil school and print their impressions. Mr. A.M. Gentilly published a thorough review of ORT's work in "Terre Retrouvée" in December, and an interview with Dr. A. Syngalowski was featured in the same paper under the title "A Reform of the Economic Structure of the Jewish People" in October. Leading articles were also published by the information service on the evolution of the tailoring trade at the beginning of the school year in order to direct adults and youngsters towards the new possibilities in this field. Other features concerned the apprentice placement service and the tax campaign. Posters and bilingual tracts were distributed in Paris and the provincial centres. An exhibit of students' products took place in the Montreuil centre in July. Radio appeals for apprentice tax contributions were made.

As in the past, cordial relations were maintained with other organizations and in particular with the Liaison Committee of French Non-Governmental Organizations.

For the first time in December 1952, the ORT bulletin "Efforts et Réalisations" contained, in addition to editorials and news on ORT's work in France, North Africa and other countries, paid advertisements from industrialists whereby part of the publication costs were covered. We hope by this means to be able to issue our Bulletin more frequently without adding to its expenses.

### Fundraising Service

Both in the apprentice tax campaign and in membership recruiting the Fundraising Service did an important job. In Paris alone, apprentice tax returns amounted to frs. 14,200,000 in 1952 while the 1951 returns had been less than eight

million. To achieve this, a great many circular letters had been sent and visits paid to the heads of enterprises. Membership dues have also slightly increased despite the intensification of the United Fund campaign.

Women's ORT

The Women's ORT has likewise intensified its propaganda drive, attracting the attention of the great French papers and of industrial circles. One third of the apprentice tax returns are due to their work, and their relationship with industrialists and wholesale merchants has permitted ORT to win a great many new friends among circles usually indifferent to our work. As in the past, the women have sponsored visits to the Montreuil school.

With the double aim of propaganda and fundraising a gala representation was organized by the Paris Women's ORT in one of the city's leading cinemas at the Champs-Élysées. The financial result was excellent. Well-known personalities such as the wife of Marshal Juin, the Minister of Labour and representatives of other Ministries participated. Radio, television and the leading French press gave ORT a lot of free publicity at this occasion.

One hundred children were sent to vacation colonies in the mountains or at the sea.

The great annual sale took place in November with a better result even than that of 1951.

New subcommittees were created to deal with legal matters, arts, propaganda, a study of social problems and a study of women's trades.

The task of the Women's Committee is becoming heavier with the gradual withdrawal of support to needy students by other organizations. Urgent claims are made for scholarships, clothing, housing, which the Women's Committee does its best to meet.

An outstanding event in public relations was a reunion at the Hôtel George V last March under the presidency of Mr. Jean Pierre-Blach, Chairman of the National Press Association, at which Dr. A. Syngalowski and several members of ORT Union Geneva participated. Mrs. Louis Roubach, Chairman of International Women's ORT and of ORT France, gave a survey of the work carried out by the Women's Committee. The evening permitted the recruitment of various new members.

LIST NO. I: REPARTITION OF STUDENTS IN SOCIAL CATEGORIES \*)

Institutions	<u>Manual Workers</u>		<u>Other Categories</u>		
	Factory	Artisans	Employees	Merchants	Intellectuals & Misc.
Montreuil	448	68	186	154	482
Montreuil Apprent.	284	94	110	125	46
Lyons	87	17	9	9	21
Strasbourg	30	12	44	48	30
Marseilles	<u>155</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>1004</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>373</u>	<u>382</u>	<u>589</u>
	1214		1344		

\*) Students in manual training workshops, gardening and agricultural training not included.

LIST NO. II

GRADUATIONS IN 1952

MONTREUIL

Schools:	Joinery	10	successful candidates	out of	11
	Mechanics	15	"	"	17
	Electro technics	7	"	"	11
	Radio technics	14	"	"	16
	Haute Couture	11	"	"	11
Courses:	Refrigeration	16	"	"	16
	Welding	40	"	"	45
	Tinsmithy	20	"	"	20
	Typewriter repairs	12	"	"	12
	Motor winding	25	"	"	25
	Wireless Operating	31	"	"	31
	Television (evening)	9	"	"	9
	Furriers	33	"	"	33
	Haute Couture	29	"	"	29
	Lingerie	48	"	"	48
	Tailoring	11	"	"	11
	Trousermaking	16	"	"	16
	Men's cutting	26	"	"	28
	Ladies' "	21	"	"	26
	Lingerie "	10	"	"	13
	Corsetry	9	"	"	9
	Millinery	6	"	"	6
	Draftsmanship	<u>27</u>	"	"	<u>27</u>
		446			473

Terminated without Exams : 12  
485

Apprentices Placed 27 " " " 28

LYONS

School: Dressmaking 5 " " " 8

MARSEILLES

Schools:	Electric Assembly	9	"	"	10
	Radio technics	8	"	"	9
	Haute Couture	10	"	"	12
	Radio, special class	<u>4</u>	"	"	<u>4</u>
		31			35

STRASBOURG

Schools:	Electric Assembly	11	"	"	11
	Locksmithy	5	"	"	5
	Radio technics	6	"	"	6
	Dressmaking (evening)	<u>9</u>	"	"	<u>9</u>
		31			31
Apprentices Placed		<u>15</u>	"	"	<u>15</u>

Grand Total 555 successful candidates out of 590

LIST NO. III: STUDENT MOVEMENT IN 1952

Institution	1/1/52	Admissions 1952	Total	Graduations 1952		Discon- tinuats.	31/12/52
				with diploma	without diploma		
Montreuil	601	736	1337	446	27	269	595
Lyons	95	14	109	5	5	70	29
" apprent.	34	-	34	-	34	-	-
Strasbourg	81	56	137	31	-	19	87
" apprent.	22	5	27	15	-	4	8
Marseilles	119	59	178	31	1	40	106
" apprent.	74	6	80	-	-	-	80
Paris apprent.	400	259	659	27	43	77	512
Agriculture	80	46	126	-	58	50	18
Gardening	211	171	382	-	-	193	189
Malmaison (child- ren's joinery)	16	16	32	-	-	16	16
	<u>1733</u>	<u>1368</u>	<u>3101</u>	<u>555</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>738</u>	<u>1640</u>

LIST NO. IV: COMPARISON OF 1951 AND 1952 ENROLMENT

Institution	<u>Frequentation</u>		<u>French Nat.</u>		<u>Foreigners</u>		<u>Indigent Students</u>	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
Montreuil	1411	1337	984	1144	427	193	850	820
Paris apprent.	541	659	523	646	18	13	360	264
Lyons	193	143	164	121	29	22	90	82
Strasbourg	212	168	207	166	5	2	121	132
Marseilles	260	254	247	245	13	9	200	192
Agriculture	324	126	140	90	184	36	300	108
Gardening	286	382	100	122	186	260	250	320
Children's Work	48	32	48	32	-	-	20	10
Pastry cooking	14	-	1	-	13	-	10	-
Moissac	29	-	25	-	4	-	29	-
	<u>3318</u>	<u>3101*</u>	<u>2439</u>	<u>2566</u>	<u>879</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>2230</u>	<u>1928</u>
Percentage	100%	100%	74%	83%	26%	17%	67%	63%

\*) The decrease in enrolment is largely due to the closure of the boys' school in Lyons in 1952 and to the fact that the girls' school was still conducted in Strasbourg in 1951.

I T A L Y

Introduction

We approached the year 1952 not without a certain apprehension, for the following reasons:

- 1) The closure of the AJDC sanatoria in Grottaferrata and Merano whose inmates accounted for a considerable part of our student body;
- 2) The final cessation of IRO subsidies, major source of income;
- 3) The housing of our girls' school in Rome whose premises had to be vacated at the end of the school year.

In actual fact, we may note that all these difficulties could be overcome. Despite the closure of the courses in the above mentioned sanatoria and the cessation of other North Italian courses designated for refugees, the extent of our vocational training activities was not only not reduced, but enlarged. This year again, the indigenous Jewish population's interest in professional education, once aroused by ORT, showed increased tangible results. Youngsters from among the poor classes in Italy were admitted in numbers which more than compensated for the absence of refugee students. True, this accentuated the problems of social assistance without which vocational training for those without means and particularly for the Jewish children from the provinces has been and is impossible.

A partial solution to this problem was found in ORT's success in obtaining a number of vacancies in a Milan Jewish home which, with ORT's collaboration, is on the way to becoming an apprentices' home. Help has also been forthcoming from Women's American ORT who granted a considerable sum for social assistance and scholarships which enabled a number of young men from the provinces to frequent ORT's day schools in Milan.

Unfortunately, the problem raised by Dr. Syngalowski during his recent visit to Italy on the basis of his observations, at a meeting of the Executive of ORT Italy, is still unsolved, namely what to do about the unskilled Jewish youngsters between 16 and 19 years of age who are not enrolled in our schools because economic pressure obliges them to earn a living through peddling or search out other earnings. In raising this problem it was taken into consideration that ORT is unable to provide from its own budget the funds needed to feed these youngsters during the duration of their training. An attempt is to be made to convince governmental or municipal authorities that a young man who abandons peddling or begging in order to learn a trade should be considered unemployed and that a way should be found to exceptionally extend unemployment benefits to such cases. Should this be achieved, Dr. Syngalowski stated, it would be possible to obtain additional funds from Jewish sources.

In this connection mention should be made of our negotiations with the Ministry of Labour regarding support of vocational courses for the unemployed. We believe we have a chance to conclude a favourable agreement according to which our students will be entitled to unemployment benefits for the duration of their training to enable them to weather the time during which they acquire a skill.

The financial difficulty which arose from the cessation of IRO assistance was overcome by an increased subsidy from the ORT Union for 1952 and by a few governmental grants.

The efforts to increase local income were given a new impulse by Dr. Syngalowski's statements to the Executive of ORT Italy. Thanks to this initiative, an intensive membership and fundraising drive was initiated.

The loss of the premises of the girls' school was one of the causes leading to the acquisition of a house of our own. The problem of making room for some 90 girls was solved by the erection of two storeys in the new ORT house.

### Vocational Training in 1952

#### 1) Admissions, Discontinuations and Graduations

The improvement of technical school equipment, the completion of syllabi and the transition from assistance to refugees to normal training for Italian Jewish children in the past few years had a noticeable effect on applications. Despite the closure of the vocational courses for refugees in Grottaferrata and Merano, enrolment at the end of 1952 amounted to 1213 compared with 1170 at the end of the preceding year. Discontinuations decreased, amounting to 259 compared with 449. The former figure already contains the 53 students who interrupted training owing to the closure of the sanatorium and the 33 children whose manual training classes came to an end with their graduation from primary school. The remaining discontinuations are attributable to illness, emigration or economic difficulties and amount to 173 only. Experience has shown that even with the most careful selection, some students are bound to prove inept after all.

In the course of the preceding year, 172 students successfully passed their final examinations, chiefly in dressmaking, children's clothing manufacture, millinery and machine knitting; 65 among them are graduates of the mechanics and motor workshops, electrical schools and the San Marco training farm. All examinations are passed in public schools or before juries with governmental experts.

#### 2) The Rome Day Schools for Youth

A characteristic feature of our work in 1952 was the development taken by day schools providing prolonged training for youngsters.

The boys' school for motor mechanics which entered into its third year in October last has reached a maximum enrolment of 60 students. Its technical equipment was completed by a diesel motor, a number of motor parts and a complete auto chassis. A graduate of the Central ORT Institute joined the teaching staff; he works to our full satisfaction.

In consideration of those students who will not emigrate, the Italian ORT requested the Government to permit the establishment of a special naval mechanics section to train employees for the Italian Navy. The endeavours met with success. On November 20, 1952, the Ministry of Education published a decree giving permission to establish a naval mechanics' section in the motor mechanics school. Students who take up this trade with the consent of their parents will be allowed to join the merchant fleet after graduation, prior to their employment as motor mechanics once they have reached the prescribed age of 19. The time passed in our school will be deducted from their prescribed period of service.

The motor mechanics school will have its first graduation during this calendar year; the jury will be composed of governmental experts.

Students in the Rome school are given a warm meal per day at very low cost or without cost to needy students.

The student body of this school as well as that of the girls' school described below come all from the Roman ghetto. Lack of education and the unfavourable influence at home make them very difficult students. In order to counteract this,

and in order to arouse among parents and relatives an interest in the children's progress and behaviour at school, extraordinary measures were required. Numerous parent-teachers conferences have led to some progress, but collaboration between school and home is still far from satisfactory.

The girls' school for dressmakers, with classes in machine knitting and household economics, was moved into the newly built premises in the house we recently acquired. It disposes now of 4 large sewing and cutting rooms, a machine knitting workshop and a household economics class. In a separate dining room, warm meals can be had at low cost by students who can afford it and at no cost by students who can't; some of the food is a gift from the Amministrazione Aiuti Internazionali. The school has a large terrace at its disposal.

After three years of schooling, the girls take examinations in a public school; last year's graduates were all successful. The school has a good reputation.

### 3) North Italian Day Schools

Immediately after the closure of DP training, the only training units left in Milan were evening classes in various ateliers. The first day schools were set up in the second half of 1952 to provide training in television and dental technics. Potential students were chiefly young people from the provinces. Accordingly, finding boarding facilities - a problem solved with the assistance of the Jewish Community - was a prerequisite for opening the schools.

The television school is ORT's first attempt in this field. Before it was opened the labour market for television technicians was subjected to a close study and prominent experts won for our cause. Training at the school will last  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years. One of the foremost television experts, Engineer Banfi, was appointed director of the school; he is also technical consultant to the Italian Radio. The teaching staff includes two theory teachers and a headmaster for the laboratory tests. The students are between 17 and 22 years of age; most of them possess secondary schooling. The successful performance of the school to date is attributable to the students' zeal and to the application of the most modern methods.

This initiative of ORT aroused great interest on the part of the Italian Radio Corporation whose welcoming message to ORT contained a promise of a 500,000 lire subsidy for the first school year, and among governmental circles. Television in Italy being in its initial stages only, the Radio Corporation is interested in employing the graduates of this school.

The first sector of the dental technics school was opened in October 1952, i.e. at the beginning of the current school year, with 14 students between 14 and 17 years of age. The school has a three-year syllabus. In order to permit students not possessing the required general education to sit for public examinations for a dental technician's diploma, general instruction is provided on a secondary school level. ORT's former dental technics instructor, a Swiss named Sutter, was appointed director and has been very successful in his new position. The curriculum comprises a forty-hour week; the syllabus includes Hebrew and Jewish cultural history in addition to the normal atelier work and theory classes.

Housing of ORT students in the Milan Community internat was achieved when ORT President G. Jarach persuaded the Community to let ORT students from the provinces have half of the available space against reimbursement of food costs. As

ORT is not in a position to open schools in minor provincial communities, youngsters from these towns could benefit by the Milan schools only when they were assured of housing and maintenance in the big city. The internat had originally been installed by the Milan community to house the students of its secondary school. It is adequately equipped and quite near to the ORT schools. Although internat costs are relatively low, only a very few ORT students are in a position to pay these small sums. It was only through the assistance of Women's American ORT that ORT could avail itself of the internat services and pay maintenance for the 19 students housed there. The internat is directed by an experienced social worker and supervised by a Rabbi and a teacher. Owing to the limited number of vacancies only a fraction of the 50 requests for admission submitted by Jewish youngsters from the provinces for the television and dental schools could be met. The question of boarding students has thus lost nothing of its urgency.

#### 4) Agricultural Training

In November 1952, 11 students at the San Marco Training Farm of ORT successfully passed final examinations in cattle breeding, chicken farming, viticulture and agriculture in the presence of the delegate of the Pisa Provincial Agricultural Inspectorate. They left for Israel and we are informed that they are occupied in various kibbutzim. Following a request of the Italian Hechalutz we decided at the end of 1952 to accept another group for one-year training. Ten students have already arrived and another arrival is expected in spring. These students also intend to go to Israel.

#### 5) Trieste Evening Schools

A radiotechnics school was opened in July, 1952, for 21 students. The ORT Committee under President Eppinger worked hard at equipping the school with the assistance of various manufacturers. Training will take two years. The well-equipped workshops and theory classes are housed in beautiful rooms. Teaching is provided by two experienced instructors. The school enjoys a good reputation in the community and with the authorities. Indigent students are helped by the community.

The dressmaking school could not be operated immediately after the vacation because the building in which it is housed is undergoing extensive repairs. Instruction started in February, 1953.

#### 6) Training Workshops for Adults

At the beginning of the past year, 19 groups of adults were undergoing vocational training in workshops in Rome, Milan, Turin, Florence, Leghorn and Trieste. The choice of trades for the more than 400 students comprised locksmithy/mechanics, motor mechanics, radio technics, television, dental technics, millinery, dressmaking and manufacture of children's clothing. In the course of the year, 117 persons concluded their training and ten new groups with a total of 158 students were newly admitted.

Rome: Currently, the dressmaking workshop comprises two sections with 40 pupils; one class is destined for beginners and one for more advanced students. In the radio technics course, 15 out of 18 students were successful in their final examinations. Thirty students who earn their living during the day come to our two courses in motor mechanics from 8 till 11 in the evening. Thanks to their fine

interest, they are doing well with the complicated subject matter despite their day's hard work behind them. Most of the students are members of Jewish boy scout groups, always the best element in our student body.

Milan: Seventeen new students were admitted to the children's clothing course in October last. The new instructress has succeeded in considerably raising the level of craftsmanship and, accordingly, the demand for products of this workshop among private clients. An evening class in dental technics was opened in the dental school after the latter had been given additional equipment, including a centrifuge. Since some of the students in the course will already sit for examinations in 1953, the number of theory lessons was increased.

Turin and Florence: Dressmaking is taught to a total of 21 students working in two groups in Turin and to a group of 10 trainees in Florence.

Leghorn: In the three years since the beginning of our work in this city, conditions have improved inasmuch as the establishment of a U.S. Naval Base increased the demand for skilled workers in almost every branch. Although the local Jewish community is only about a thousand strong, we were always especially concerned with our training work in this town because the inhabitants of the Leghorn ghetto belong among the most backward and among the poorest of Italian Jews. To date some 150 persons, i.e. about 15% of the local Jewish population, benefitted by our vocational training establishments. A children's clothing course began in October for 18 women who have nice prospects owing to the arrival of many U.S. families. A further group of 14 were trained in tinsmithy and hydraulics; their final examination will take place at the beginning of 1953. Requests for admission to the subsequent course have already been received. Most of the students were able to find well-paid jobs even while still undergoing training.

## 7) Children's Workshops

Pre-apprenticeship for children exists in Rome, Milan, Turin, Florence, Leghorn and Trieste; a new manual training workshop for boys and girls was installed in Venice following a request by the local Community. Instruction comprises book binding, wood and cardboard work for boys and needle work for girls. The experience of the past years has fully confirmed the significance of such pre-apprenticeship training. Many children who made acquaintance with manual work in our children's classes have later found the way to our schools and adults' courses. There have even been cases of children who managed to be employed by artisans in the afternoon hours on the basis of their knowledge acquired in our classes.

## Graduates' Careers

We regret to state that not all graduates lived up to their promise of maintaining contact with our office. Our information as to their career is therefore incomplete. We do know, however, that a majority of former ORT students found jobs in their trades despite the current high unemployment figures. A number of students were procured jobs by our Women's Committee.

Partial reports on ORT's 1952 graduates disclose the following:

Rome: 21 ex-students of the girls' school and the dressmaking workshops; 3 graduates of the motor mechanics school and 4 of the radio workshop are employed in their trades.

Milan, Florence and Leghorn: All the graduates in millinery and children's clothing in Milan and of the dressmaking classes in Leghorn have found employment. Job openings for the dressmakers in Milan and Florence were less good; only 12 out of 33 ex-trainees could be found positions to date. Among 6 graduate mechanics 4 work in private ateliers in Milan, 1 has found a job in Israel and 1 is preparing his entrance in the Central ORT Institute at Anières.

San Marco: All 11 graduates of the agricultural centre are employed in various kibbutzim in Israel.

#### Membership and Fundraising Drives

It is not an easy task to awaken social consciousness and interest in this country. Nevertheless, some progress has been made. Various ORT events and press publications carried the ORT idea to widening circles of the Jewish population. The Italian ORT Bulletin edited by Executive member Guido Lopez has a circulation of 5000; the Jewish press regularly features ORT news.

The zealous activities of the ladies' committee under Mrs. Janna Donati-Vita is of the greatest material and propagandistic significance.

A fashion show in Rome's elegant "Principe di Savoia" hotel and an exhibit of students' products and dress models at a garden party in Rome were a striking tribute to the success of our students' work. At a bazaar in Rome, the student's products of years were made available to the less fortunate part of the Jewish population at cut-rate prices. A society ball in Rome's Grand Hotel and various student's festivities to which the families were invited enlarged the growing circle of ORT friends.

We were fortunate in having more guests from abroad than in any other year, including leading personalities of our Movement. The active participation in numerous events of Dr. W. Haber, President of the American ORT Federation; Mrs. G. Kaphan, National President of Women's American ORT; Women's American ORT leaders Mrs. Bader and Mrs. Haimson and Women's Canadian ORT leader Mrs. Crestohl, and the lectures given and conferences held by these personalities were an important asset in our propaganda drive.

Progress has also been made in local fundraising although the proceeds bear no relation to the financial requirements of ORT Italy. Appreciable contributions came from the ladies' committee and from united campaigns; however, together even with the grant of the Ministry of Education given for the first time in 1952, they and tuition fees in an amount of 678,000 lire account only for a fraction of our budget.

The initial success of a fundraising drive which was begun at the end of 1952 at the instigation of Dr. Syngalowski is such that a considerable increase in local receipts may be expected in 1953. Moreover, chances for augmented governmental grants are excellent.

Mention should also be made in this connection of the food grants made on a minor scale by the Amministrazione Aiuti Internazionali to our canteen in Rome.

Collections of materials (tools, books, etc.) in Rome, Milan and Trieste were more successful than in prior years. Part of the proceeds was sent to Israel as our ladies' committee's share in a solidarity drive.

Finally, mention should be made of a third and last grant of the Central British Fund which gave 500 pounds with which to provide tools for graduates from our courses for ex-Tb patients.

### Relations with Other Organizations

Close contact was maintained with the AJDC. Our work is discussed and financial questions raised with the local director as the occasion arises; we are glad to report that we have always found the fullest understanding of our problems.

The cooperation of the Jewish communities, particularly in Northern Italy, has been a valuable asset to our propagandistic drives. In Leghorn, Trieste, Turin and Florence school premises are placed at our disposal free of charge by the communities. As already mentioned, our newly installed day schools in Milan could only begin operations when the Jewish Community made room in their home for our provincial students. The Jewish Community in Rome, and particularly its new Chief Rabbi Dr. Toaff have always been ready to support our work at every occasion. This year again, they granted us a subsidy of 240,000 lire.

Active assistance has also been received from various youth organizations; the success of our Trieste schools is to a great extent attributable to the propaganda of the Centro Giovanile Ebraico.

As in the past, the students of our dental technics school work for the dental department of the OSE in Milan, doing all dental technical work necessary for indigent community members under OSE care. In exchange, OSE provides free medical care to the internat in Milan and to the students of our day schools in Rome.

Close relationships were maintained with governmental authorities, particularly with the Ministries of Education and Labour and with the City Authorities of Rome. Representatives of these bodies are present at all our events; our requests invariably receive benevolent attention.

The recent afflux of refugees from countries behind the Iron Curtain has again raised the refugee problem. The relief projects undertaken by the American Council for Voluntary Agencies, the High Commissioner for Refugees in Italy and the President's Escapee Program, Unit of the U.S. Embassy in Rome, called for our cooperation. We had the occasion to decisively participate in various projects undertaken by these bodies. In behalf of the P.E.P. we carried out a research project in refugee camps in order to ascertain conditions for the organization of vocational courses.

### Impending Loss of Milan School Premises

The moment approaches when we shall have to face the difficult problem of housing our Milan institutions, to date settled in rooms placed at our disposal by the Jewish Community which will have to be vacated shortly. This problem is bound to confront our local committee with a great many difficulties.

### Organization

The mandate of our Administrative Council having come to an end during the year under report, the composition of this body was subject to a few changes. All former members were re-elected with the exception of Mr. J. Almuli who emigrated.

and Secretary General Andrea Tabet who resigned. By vote of the General Assembly the number of members of the Administrative Council was increased from 17 to 19. The newly elected members are Engineer Fernando Piperno, Rome; Mrs. Ester Ascarelli, Rome; Counsellor Bruno Ascarelli, Rome; Engineer Fabio Eppinger, Trieste. Mr. Aldo Sestieri, Rome, was elected Secretary General. The Board remained unchanged, including President Engineer Guido Jarach and Vice-Presidents Engineers Isacco Levi and Raffaele Jona. No changes intervened in the seven-member Executive chaired by Mr. Renzo Levi.

Enrolment in 1952

Locality and Unit	Enrolment 1/1/52	New Ad- missions	Disconti- nuations	Gradu- ations	Enrolment 12/31/52
<u>Rome</u>					
Dressmaking Proficiency	10	2	1	11	--
" A	15	1	3	-	13
" B	15	32	10	9	28
Radio technics	23	-	8	-	15
Automechanics A	18	-	9	9	-
" B	18	-	7	11	-
Motor mechanics	-	15	-	-	15
" proficiency	-	15	-	-	15
Girls' School	92	37	33	9	87
Boys' School	43	27	9	-	61
Joinery	24	3	1	-	26
Bookbinding	20	5	1	-	24
Pre-apprenticeship	199	7	9	-	197
<u>Milan</u>					
Dressmaking	23	-	8	15	-
" proficiency	-	12	4	8	-
Mechanics	9	-	3	6	-
Dental technics I & II	20	1	4	-	17
" " school	-	13	-	-	13
Television School	-	14	-	-	14
Children's Clothing	10	17	3	7	17
Millinery	12	2	4	10	-
Joinery	44	18	-	-	62
Pre-apprenticeship	149	94	4	-	239
<u>Grottaferrata</u>					
Radio technics	12	1	4	9	-
Dressmaking	14	2	13	3	-
Accountancy	-	7	5	2	-
Laboratory work	-	12	4	8	-
<u>Merano</u>					
Radio technics	8	3	8	3	-
Leather goods	11	4	9	6	-
Machine knitting	10	1	7	4	-
Hand weaving	-	11	11	-	-
Theory classes	17	3	20	-	-

Locality and Unit	Enrolment 1/1/52	New Ad- missions	Disconti- nuations	Gradu- ations	Enrolment 12/31/52
<u>Florence</u>					
Dressmaking	12	12	4	10	10
Pre-apprenticeship	80	1	20	-	61
<u>Leghorn</u>					
Dressmaking	14	-	3	11	-
" proficiency	-	11	1	10	-
Children's clothing	-	18	-	-	18
Sanitary Installation	18	-	4	-	14
Pre-apprenticeship	51	-	5	-	46
<u>Turin</u>					
Dressmaking	22	1	2	-	21
Pre-apprenticeship	101	2	4	-	103
<u>Venice</u>					
Pre-apprenticeship	-	30	-	-	30
<u>Trieste</u>					
Radio techniss	-	30	9	-	21
Dressmaking	23	-	7	-	16
Pre-apprenticeship	22	2	4	-	20
<u>San Marco</u>					
Agriculture	11	10	-	11	10
	<u>1170</u>	<u>476</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>172</u>	<u>1213</u>
T o t a l	=====	====	===	===	=====

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I R A N

Vocational Institutions

General Remarks: Despite the country's instable political situation the development of ORT's work in 1952 was entirely normal. True, the rate of enrolment increases prevailing in 1951 was not maintained as it was due to the presence of refugees and the intensive vocational training of Aliyah candidates, whereas the efforts of the Iranian ORT during the year under report were primarily directed towards the consolidation of existing training facilities and towards the development of short-term courses and workshops into normal trade schools with a duration of training of two years and more; it was also attempted to raise the technical standard of training by making a suitable choice of candidates, providing proficiency training for instructors and completing the equipment of the various sections. Simultaneously, the scope of our work was increased by the establishment of three trade schools in C h i r a z .

Improving Training Standards: The extension of training from a 7-12 month period to two years made it possible to allocate more time to theoretical instruction. This necessitates a minimum of general education on the part of the students, obliging us to accept only candidates who have absolved primary school.

Proficiency courses for instructors were held in Teheran to which the staff from Isfahan and Chiraz was convoked. Every section is headed by experts with a wide range of technical and pedagogical experience whose assistance and advice is at the disposal of our teachers. A permanent technical and inspecting section was set up to check the reports of individual instructors and enforce adherence to syllabi. A national conference of instructors was called in September to pool experiences, compare teaching methods and discuss ways and means to improve the standard of training. The conclusions arrived at were submitted to the Geneva Technical and Pedagogical Department for advice and comment.

Shipments by the ORT Union Central Office and purchases within the country have considerably added to the equipment of our workshops. In addition to a number of smaller machinery and tools, we received in 1952 electrical measuring instruments, 4 big lathes, a Swedish milling machine, 2 electric drills, 2 grinders, 2 planers, 1 shaping machine, 1 cylinder boring machine, 1 valve rectifying machine, etc.

Increase in Number of Trade Schools: Whereas the scope of operations as per December 31, 1951, included 5 trade schools with 347 students; 8 accelerated vocational courses with 385 students; and 2 pre-apprenticeship shops for 83 children in Teheran and Isfahan, ORT conducted as of December 31, 1952, 13 trade schools with 702 students; a mere four accelerated courses with 99 students; and one pre-apprenticeship shop for 7 children in Teheran, Isfahan and Chiraz.

Chiraz: During the second half of 1952, the ORT schools in Chiraz established in summer 1952 with the assistance of the Jewish Colonisation Association have become a centre of particular importance. Two months after their inauguration, Government Inspector Hossein Ali Ahassani wrote to the Director General of the Ministry of Education after an inspection tour of the schools: "...Despite a mere two months of training the students' work is most interesting... Classes in the dressmaking school are conducted according to correct methods... Generally speaking, teaching

methods, morale and hygienic conditions in the ORT schools are extremely favourable. The building is large and suitable. The working rooms are clear and dry. The equipment is the best obtainable here or abroad...". Mr. Ahassani also commemorated his visit in the guest book by the following inscription: "ORT is an organization to which we should wish increasing success. The development of artisanal and industrial work gives everyone a chance to lead a useful life. During the brief space of time in which it exists, ORT has made considerable progress."

The available premises have proved too small to meet all requests for admission. There is no room to install in the house currently rented the shoemaking workshop for which complete equipment was sent by the ORT Union and for which there is a waiting list of applicants. In cooperation with the ORT Central Office in Teheran, the ORT Committee in Chiraz is studying ways and means to implement the plan of constructing a house of their own.

Housing: In summer 1952 the Jewish Agency in Teheran placed an area of 6000 sq. meters with 3 large buildings at the disposal of ORT. These buildings now house the girls' school which outgrew the Beth ORT (formerly Beth Hechalutz). They contain 3 large workshops, 3 class rooms, 2 display rooms and a conference room for various meetings and technical film shows for students of all sections.

Additions to other buildings comprise a new class room for the joinery section and a hall in which to polish furniture as well as a special laboratory for the electrical and locksmithy-mechanics sections

Examinations: A total of 266 students passed final examinations and received ORT diplomas in 1952, including 71 in metal work, 6 in electricity, 115 in wood work, 29 in needle work and 45 children in manual labour classes. A group of joinery graduates has formed a producer cooperative to do special cabinet-making jobs on private commission .

Enrolment as per January 1, 1953

DAY SCHOOLS (two-year training)

<u>Teheran</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>		
Joinery (3 groups)	51		
Agromechanics (2 groups)	24		
Locksmithy-mechanics (2 groups)	39		
Electric installations	13		
Dressmaking (7 groups)	<u>140</u>	267	
<u>Isfahan</u>			
Joinery	23		
Cabinetmaking	9		
Dressmaking (5 groups)	<u>127</u>	159	
<u>Chiraz</u>			
Joinery (3 groups)	52		
Cabinetmaking (2 groups)	26		
Dressmaking (7 groups)	<u>198</u>	<u>276</u>	702

PRE-APPRENTICESHIP

<u>Teheran</u>			
Wood work	7	7	7

TRAINING WORKSHOPS (12-14 months of training)

Isfahan

Joinery (2 groups)	45			
Cabinet-making	13			
Miniature work	15			
Dressmaking	<u>26</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>808</u>
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Manifestations and Propaganda

The most important manifestation of the year was the ORT exhibition in Teheran in December in which the ORT trade schools and training workshops for locksmith-mechanics, agromechanics, electricians, cabinetmakers, miniature workers and dressmakers in Teheran, Isfahan and Chiraz participated. The exhibition provided a survey of ORT's program and training methods from breaking-in practice to pre-examination accomplishments. It was an eloquent testimonial to the results achieved during the barely two and a half years of vocational education of Iranian Jewish youth. While the attention of experts was focussed on the mechanical, electrical and joinery exhibits and that of female visitors on the dresses and lingerie on display, lovers of art and the merely curious made for the corner devoted to miniatures and cabinet-making, admiring three masterpieces of Isfahan ORT students representing Moses in the Nile, the Daughter of Yftah and David and Goliath. The frames were the work of cabinet-making students. During the three days of display, the exhibit was visited by more than 3,000 persons including representatives of the Government, of international Jewish and non-Jewish organizations and of the Jewish and general press.

The inaugural ceremony of the National Conference of ORT Teachers mentioned above, held in Teheran in September 1952, was a public acknowledgement of the ORT idea by Iranian Jewry. Representatives of the AJDC, the Consistory, the Alliance Israélite Universelle, the Jewish Agency, the Otzar Hatorah and the Hechalutz stressed in their addresses the importance of ORT in general and of its achievements in Iran.

During the year under review, ORT Iran published an illustrated booklet "What is ORT and what does it?" which provides a historical survey of ORT's origins and progress throughout the world and a detailed report on its Iranian institutions.

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## M O R O C C O

### Reorganization of Schools and Housing Arrangements

As stated in our last report, a program of reorganization was adopted as a consequence of the conference held in Geneva in summer 1952 with the director of the boys' school and the directress of the girls' school of ORT Casablanca. This program concerned housing arrangements, the installation of new workshops and a redistribution of students.

In September 1952, Mr. M.A. Braude, director in the Central Office of World ORT Union, went to Casablanca in order to implement the decisions taken at Geneva in collaboration with ORT Morocco and its President Mr. Jules Senouf. Sections for automechanics, electrical installation and tinsmithy-welding were set up in the boys' school. Both the local ORT Committee and the Central Office of World ORT Union are busy with plans to increase the choice of trades in the girls' school also.

The specific conditions prevailing in Morocco where a major part of Jewish youth is unable to enrol in primary schools have led us to set up a section for train industrial workers ("Promotion Ouvrière") where youngsters between 16 and 18 years of age with a minimum of general education receive a two-year training in the trades most adapted to their educational standing. To date, the Ain Sebaa school has two sectors, one preparing students for the public examinations of professional capability and the second the one for worker training. Taking the fact into account that many gifted youngsters cannot make the public examinations in three years, a preparatory class has been installed for their benefit. This class also serves for vocational guidance inasmuch as the students are made to work both on wood and metal so that their special gifts or preferences can develop and reveal themselves before they are passed on into normal classes. It is planned to extend the worker training section to new trades where a lack of manpower is making itself felt and where students without much theoretical knowledge can hope to succeed in an apprenticeship, such as upholstery, house painting, auto coach workers, etc.

In accordance with the housing plan decided upon in summer last, the following construction work was done:

Boys' School at Ain Sebaa: Installation of a dormitory for 130 students with washing room and showers; installation of a dormitory for 110 students likewise with washing room and showers; installation of a central store; installation of lodgings for the supervisors; installation of a modern kitchen; enlargement of the dining room; installation of a sick room and isolation wards; installation of two day-time lavatories in proximity to the workshops and class rooms; drainage of the courtyard and recuperation of rain water.

Girls' School at Anfa: Installation of a household economics class; installation of a dining room on the ground floor; installation of a modern kitchen with service elevator in the basement with pantry and sinks; construction of showers and dressing rooms; central store and boiler room; drainage of the courtyard and recuperation of rain water; drains; restoration of the grounds in the courtyard; pavement of the ground floor; erection of bannisters for the staircase; installation of living quarters for the directress.

Enrolment

Enrolment at the two Casablanca ORT schools is to date as follows:

Ain Sebaa School

Public Examinations Sector	Joinery	26	students
	Metal fitting, turning	86	"
	Turning, milling	29	"
	Auto repairs	23	"
	Electr. Install.	19	"
Preparatory classes	Metal fitting (2 groups)	58	"
	Joinery (3 groups)	88	"
Worker Training	Welding	13	"
	Turning	3	"
	Joinery	15	"

Anfa School

Public Examinations Sector	Dressmaking	152	"
Preparatory classes		78	"
Pre-apprenticeship classes		136	"
T o t a l		726	"

New Equipment

Important acquisitions of equipment were made with the assistance of the ORT Union. The boys' school received the complete installation for an auto repair shop; 20 working sets for the tinsmithy-welding section; an acetylene generator; an oxygen distributor; a bending and shearing machine. The tooling for the electrical section was put in position and a laboratory with ample electrical material for experiments installed.

The internat received new beds, a laundry with washing and wringing machines, a refrigerator and two pressure cookers for the kitchen and a kitchen stove. Buzzers were installed in the various service and class rooms and an infirmary is being equipped.

The Anfa girls' school received 55 sewing machines, tailor's dummies and flat irons. The household economics class is almost ready; a buzzer system was installed in the various rooms and the internat received a refrigerator, pressure cookers, a boiler and showers.

The transport services for both schools were overhauled; a "Chausson" bus and an 800-kg "Renault" truck were placed at the disposal of the Ain Sebaa school and a "Chausson" bus with 45 seats was provided for the Anfa school.

Teaching Staff

On January 13, the entire staff was submitted to an examination presided over by an inspector of the department of public instruction; Mr. Voisin, workshop master at the Casablanca Industrial and Commercial School; and the directress of the Technical and Commercial College of Mers-Sultan. All instructors passed the tests with the exception of two and were thereby entitled to employment as assistant workshop masters and to participation at an examination for workshop masters without the obligatory one-year practice period and subsequent examination. Their work

with ORT is considered equivalent to the reglementary practice period. Once they have passed their examinations as workshop masters they will be submitted to the same rules as the staff of the department of public instruction with regard to inspection, advancement and discipline; their salaries will be those applied in public schools with like benefits. In order to provide our staff with all the advantages enjoyed by public employees and thereby assure more stability in employment, ORT Morocco contracted an insurance providing for retirement pay and compensation in case of malady, invalidity or death. A major part of the costs involved are borne by ORT Morocco; this will facilitate the recruitment of a staff with superior qualifications and, it is hoped, put an end to frequent changes of employment.

For the school year now in course we have assured ourselves the services of two instructors trained at the Central ORT Institute at Anières; one, a Moroccan, will work in the joinery section and the other, a Frenchman, in the welding and tinsmithy section. At present, 10 Moroccans are being trained at the Institute and we hope to see them one day as instructors in our boys' school.

### Official Support

The direction of public instruction in Morocco is taking a special interest in our schools; its chief inspector, Mr. Codron, paid us a visit in the course of which he thoroughly inspected all workshops. As a result of this visit and of the reorganization which has taken place in the workshops, the direction of public instruction granted us a subsidy of approximately ten million francs for 1953. Our schools having been assimilated to public institutions, both male and female students can receive public scholarships for apprentices. Our canteens which benefit at this moment of a very minor subsidy from the direction of public instruction may eventually receive individual allocations for intern or semi-intern students. It should be stressed that all steps taken toward the development of our schools are taken in close cooperation with the direction of public instruction whose interest in our work is growing.

### Cooperation with Other Organizations

Close cooperation exists with the Alliance Israélite Universelle which is in charge of general education in our schools. Every practical problem which arises is solved in a spirit of mutual comprehension. In accordance with an agreement concluded with the delegate of the Alliance in Morocco, the preparatory classes set up as an emergency measure at the Anfa girls' school will be closed at the end of this school year and the vacancies thereby created filled with Alliance students who are old enough to undergo vocational training and possess primary schooling.

The Joint Distribution Committee increased its contribution to our cultural program and to the canteens; its food allocation amounts now to frs. 133 for an intern and frs. 50 for a semi-intern student.

### Social Assistance

The Women's American ORT and the Women's Committee of the Moroccan ORT have adopted a social assistance program of frs. 12,700,000 for the school year 52/53 to which Women's American ORT contributes more than 10 million francs. In pursuance of this program, clothing is provided for boys and girls and support forthcoming towards medical costs, sports, recreational activities, the Oneg Shabbath in both schools, toilet articles for students, etc. A significant sum has also

been set aside for pocket money for needy students. As an exceptional contribution Women's American ORT agreed to include the installation of the refrigerators, the washing machine and the showers in its social assistance program.

### Recreational Activities

Thanks to the assistance of the AJDC two educators were placed at our disposal to take charge of recreational activities in our two schools. Internat life is subject to a strict schedule and recreational as well as study hours are supervised by qualified personnel. Students are grouped according to their age in active classes (singing, games, modelling, etc.), specialized groups (choir, organization of festivities, acting, etc.), sports and scouting (outings, football and volley ball matches, etc.). The entire program was elaborated in close collaboration with the Educational Department of Jewish Youth which provides material assistance (tents, games, etc.) and supervisors. Religious service is held every Shabbath and its effects heightened by an Oneg Shabatth.

### Local Income

Local income in 1952 was comparatively small. However, the Committee of ORT Morocco foresees an income in 1953 of 3,800,000 frs. from local fundraising and 1,500,000 frs. from the Community. Efforts will be made to establish local committees in the major Moroccan cities where the Jewish population is highly interested in the achievements of the Moroccan ORT because many students come from these communities.

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## TUNISIA

### General Situation

During the first part of 1952, political events in Tunisia made our work rather difficult. The distance separating our schools from the centre of Tunis and the insecurity of the tram services provoked a great deal of absenteeism among the students and proved a considerable obstacle to the smooth course of training. Even though there was no basic improvement in the general situation in subsequent months, the population gradually became accustomed to existing conditions and from March onwards, training continued normally and thanks to the efforts of teachers and instructors, both boys and girls made good progress in theory and practice.

The general situation is likewise responsible for the delay in the construction of the first building at Ariana which was completed in March 1952 only. The ORT Technical Commission agreed to the provisional transfer of title on March 20.

### Enrolment

At the beginning of 1952, 148 boys were enrolled in the mechanics and electro mechanics classes, 30 adults in evening classes in locksmithy and welding and 60 girls in the dressmaking school.

The school year 1951/52 ended on June 30 with the annual distribution of prizes in the presence of the highest notables in the city and in particular of Mr. Mazel, Chief of Service with the Direction of Technical Instruction. It was especially fortunate that Dr. William Haber, President of the American ORT Federation, happened to be in Tunis at this moment and was thus able to preside over the manifestation.

The number of requests for admission received at the beginning of the school year 1952/53 by far surpassed the capacity of our centre even though the new building was at our disposal. The situation was aggravated by the fact that 38 students from far-away parts of the city who would normally have entered second grade had to repeat first grade owing to the events mentioned above. Finally, 142 new pupils were selected for admission on the basis of their entrance examinations.

Although the two sections for mechanics and electro mechanics existed already during the school year 1951/52, the students were occupied with exercises in metal fitting which constitute the basic mechanical know-how common to both trades. The construction of the second building allowed us the installation of a large electrical shop for studies in building electricity and of cabinets for practical exercises where second-year students will be trained. A joinery section was provisionally installed in two classrooms as yet unoccupied by the other trades; the final installation will be made in the third building which is to be constructed in 1953. All class rooms were transferred to the second building and the premises thereby set free in the first building were used for a mechanical shop for students in the second year.

On December 31, 1952, the boys' school had 248 students, 112 of whom studied metal fitting, 108 electro mechanics and 28 joinery. The girls' school had 56 students and 38 adults were admitted to a new course in locksmithy-welding (promotion ouvrière).

Since our schools are only in their second year of existence, there have not yet been any candidates for official examinations. Several students, however, were obliged to leave our schools prematurely in order to earn their living and have found jobs in local industries. We note that their employers are apparently well satisfied with their services and we have been asked to recommend other students who may have to leave our schools.

### Buildings

Since the Ariana centre is still in its initial period, one of our main concerns was with the construction of the second building which was vital for the continuance of the school. Owing to the general situation a definite decision in the matter was taken at the end of April only and the month of May was devoted to a revision of the plans necessitated by the spacing out of the construction work over a period of three instead of four years and to a study of bids from contractors. Actual work commenced at the beginning of June and was scheduled to take six months. Special arrangements were required to deal with the influx of students at the beginning of the new school year.

Plans are now under way for the third and last building which will hold a central school store in a cellar half the length of the building. The machine shop of the mechanics section will be installed immediately above. The other half of the building will not have any cellars since its ground floor will house the garage of the automechanics section. The entire 35-meter length of the first floor will be reserved for the joinery section. After the termination of this building enrolment can be increased in 1953 to the full quota of 340 students in the various three-year schools.

### Instructors

A second and even more serious problem was constituted by the lack of qualified instructors in this country. This shortage and the absence of statutory provisions for employees in our Organization constituted a continuous temptation for our teachers to accept employment with the Direction of Public Instruction where salaries are higher and the future assured. Fortunately, this grave danger to our schools could be circumvented thanks to the Central ORT Institute at Anières. We employ at present four Institute-trained instructors as directors of the respective sections where their superior qualifications and zeal have already brought about a decided improvement in the standard of training.

### Equipment

Owing to the financial difficulties explained below, we were unable this year to implement our full equipment schedule and had to be content with acquiring only the most indispensable goods. Most of the joinery equipment was already in our stores from prior shipments of the ORT Union's Purchasing Department. The electrical section possesses appropriate individual tools, but this is only a modest beginning. This year's principal acquisitions are two Swedish "ORN" lathes from the ORT Union. Nevertheless, our equipment is in no way commensurate with the number of students and we hope to obtain a major number of machines, instruments and precision tools in the course of 1953.

### Apprentice Placement Service

In the educational domain, our efforts were concentrated on the establishment of an apprentice placement service. Efforts in this domain had already been

made before ORT came to Tunis, but lack of experience in vocational training resulted in a wrong start. When we took over the service at the beginning of the year in implementation of an agreement with the AJDC, we found complete administrative anarchy. The card index then installed showed the names of 237 boys and girls guided by the service. After a static period devoted to reorganization an upward development set in and on January 31, 1953, a total of 382 youths were in the care of the service. An applicant first undergoes a medical check-up provided by the OSE, and vocational aptitude tests by the Direction of Public Instruction; then ORT finds him a master craftsman and supervises the progress of such training. During the first months they receive a scholarship to tie them over the initial period. The most important feature of the service, however, are supplementary courses for the apprentices; their lack explains in part the failure of our predecessors. Supplementary courses exist at present in mechanics, joinery, dressmaking, ready-made clothing manufacture, and are eagerly attended by 86 boys and 70 girls. We shall, however, not be content until all apprentices can benefit by such courses.

### Social Work

Social welfare services for both regular students and apprentices went hand in hand with our vocational training activities. Great progress has been made with the cooperation of the AJDC, local Jewish bodies and the Social Service of the Jewish Community. Needy students benefit by free transport facilities, medical services, clothing, school supplies and meals in the school canteen.

In this domain, the generous assistance of Women's American ORT was of the highest importance. When WAO leaders Mesdames Kaphan, Bader and Haimson visited our centre in June last, they realized that lack of funds for installations and food prevented the use of available kitchen and canteen facilities. The funds they supplied enabled us to equip the canteen and to serve decent meals to our students from October 15th onwards. We were also able to send a small number of boys and girls to vacation colonies and to provide working clothes for poor students.

The aid of Women's American ORT has also allowed us to set up a school sports club and to provide the necessary equipment. The sports club is affiliated with the Collegiate Sports Organization and participates in school championships. The sports club has greatly improved the physical and moral well-being of our students.

### Finance

The political events in Tunisia had also unfortunate financial repercussions. Although the ORT Union subsidy was received in full, most of the scheduled local income did not materialize. This applies to the governmental subsidy as well as to the grant of the Jewish Community, and to gifts and income from manifestations which could not take place. Joint fundraising was planned together with OSE and "Nos Petits" but the intervention of Magbit leaders obliged us to postpone the campaign until 1953.

Although an unforeseen grant was received from the City of Tunis and small contributions from all inland communities did arrive, these and the economies made by pering down operating costs were utterly insufficient to compensate for the non-receipt of an estimated 10 million francs in local income and the year 1952 ended with a major deficit. This is entirely due to circumstances beyond our control and we hope that a means can be found, in cooperation with the ORT Union, to deal with this situation.

Relations with Other Organizations

Now as before, we maintain most cordial relations with all other local organizations. Mr. Horwitz, former director of AJDC in Tunisia, left to take up more important duties with the European Direction of the AJDC. He was replaced by AJDC Director Mr. Henri Levy and Assistant Director Miss Vulcan who have shown great interest in our work. We are confident of continuing with them the friendly and fruitful cooperation maintained in the past.

The mixed ORT-Alliance commission held periodical meetings according to schedule in which all matters affecting the development of the schools were discussed in an atmosphere of cordiality and settled in perfect harmony.

Organization

The most notable event in the organizational field was the General Assembly of ORT Tunisia which took place on March 27th and was highly successful. More than 100 people were present and signalled full approval of the reports submitted to them. The members of the provisional committee were confirmed in their posts and three additional members elected. Despite the present difficulties, our Committee under Mr. Elie Nataf does its best to extend ORT's influence in the country.

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B E L G I U M

Vocational Training

The year 1952 was marked by various measures to reorganize the institutions of the Belgian ORT which had become necessary by the growing importance of the work in Antwerp and the decrease in enrolment in Brussels. Two Brussels houses (at rue de Trèves and Bd. de la Cambre) were closed and the ateliers and courses transferred to the Electro-Metal Centre.

At the end of 1952, ORT conducted at Brussels the schools for mechanics, radio technicians and dressmakers and adults' training workshops in shirtmaking and cutting. Antwerp installations included the electro technics and dressmaking schools and five adults' training workshops in electric installation, shirtmaking, makintosh glueing, dressmaking and manufacture of children's workshops. To these are added manual training workshops for boys and girls in Brussels and Antwerp.

Total enrolment in the course of the year amounted to 724 with a current enrolment of 497 on February 1st, 1953.

In view of the success of the manual training workshops installed for 120 children in the Antwerp Jewish primary schools and the recruitment possibilities which these offer for our day schools, similar ateliers were opened in the course of the year at the Israelite School of Brussels with like success. They have aroused the vivid interest of the local Jewish population.

In July 1952, 19 students from the 3 Brussels schools received their diplomas. No graduations have taken place as yet in the Antwerp schools which were founded at a later date. Despite unemployment and the difficulties encountered by foreigners in receiving working permits, not one ORT graduate has been refused such a permit by the Ministry of Labour. Excepting those graduates currently in military service, all former students of the Belgian ORT are employed in their trades or pursue advanced studies.

Our teaching staff has this year been strengthened by two graduates of the Anières Central ORT Institute who teach electro technics resp. mechanics in our Brussels and Antwerp schools to our full satisfaction.

Several months ago, four of our teachers took a study trip to the ORT Centre of Montreuil, France, where they had occasion to make a profound study of the technical and pedagogical methods applied in this Centre.

The proficiency workshop for industrial dressmakers founded in 1948 was closed. Organized as a cooperative enterprise, the atelier enabled more than 200 persons including many students of ORT's short-term courses for adults to attain a degree of proficiency, while earning modest sums, which was a decisive factor in their quest for jobs in a trade threatened by unemployment.

Propaganda and Fundraising

Public visits to our schools to watch the students at work have again been very successful. More than 1000 persons came to the Brussels and Antwerp institutions last June to see students' products and learn about ORT's methods and results. The ORT exhibit held at Brussels at the same date was visited by Mr. Amir, the Israeli Minister to Belgium.

In view of the death of President Weizmann, ORT Belgium's annual ball, usually held in November, had to be postponed by several weeks. Its success, when it was held, was even more pronounced than in preceding years.

ORT Belgium is a founding member of the Brussels Jewish Centre which aligns the efforts of six organizations toward a United Appeal.

#### Women's Committee

The Belgian Women's ORT pursued its extensive social assistance activities in order to procure vacations for needy students, maintain the canteen at the Electro-Metal Centre and restock the store of students' clothing. By arranging lectures on subjects of general education and taking care of the school libraries they have made an appreciable contribution to the mental development of our students.

#### In Memoriam

We deplore the passing away of a great friend of the Belgian ORT, Mr. Nathan Lewkowicz, on December 5, 1952. As Administrator of the Belgian ORT he has since 1950 assisted us devotedly in our daily tasks; even a few days before his death he still participated at a reunion of our Administrative Council. As member of the Management of General Zionists and of the Committee for Relief to Jewish War Victims he devoted himself indefatigably to public Jewish life in Belgium. ORT Belgium has lost in him one of its best friends.

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## H O L L A N D

The year 1952 was marked by a progress in consolidation and an increase in the renown of our work which in turn affected the afflux to our courses and workshops.

### Training for Adults

The following vocational courses and training workshops for adults were operated in 1952:

Amsterdam: joinery, typewriter repairing, machine knitting (2 groups), dressmaking (4 groups) dress cutting (3 groups), advanced ready-made dress manufacture, men's cutting and overcoat cutting;

Amersfoort: dress cutting.

We intend to organize the proficiency course in ready-made clothing and the joinery workshop on a cooperative basis. Various organizations have promised orders for joinery work including repair work for the Amsterdam synagogues. "Joods Herstellings Oord" donated a desk to be manufactured by ORT students to an old-age home recently inaugurated by "De Joods Invalide". Orders were also executed for the Israeli Consulate, the Jewish primary school and others. They are a constructive contribution to our work and an encouragement for Jewish craftsmanship.

### Pre-Apprenticeship Training

Ateliers for children are maintained in Amsterdam for needle, leather, wood and cardboard work at the Rosh Pina School, the Jewish Secondary School and for youngsters not enrolled in Jewish institutions, and in Apeldoorn for weaving, wood and cardboard work at the internat of the Paedagogium Achisomog.

Results are most encouraging. A great many ORT students were formerly enrolled in such classes where they acquired a taste for craftsmanship. Parents, our committee leaders and friends coming to exhibits of students' products are always particularly interested in this phase of our work and affirm their belief in its value.

A total of 665 students (293 male and 372 female) were enrolled with ORT during the year.

### Pedagogical and Technical Measures

Further steps were taken to raise the technical standard of our training and to improve our teaching methods. A meeting of cutting instructors was called to unify teaching in this branch; foreign, particularly U.S. methods, were included in the syllabus. American-type progress charts, hitherto unknown in Dutch vocational training, were introduced in the joinery and typewriter repair courses. The apprenticeship cards supplied by the ORT Union's Technical Department are likewise in use.

### Examinations

In October and December last, 72 candidates underwent final examinations in typewriter repairing, joinery, dressmaking, cutting, machine knitting and the use

of overlock machines in Amsterdam; in dressmaking in Amersfoort; and in metal fitting at the Philips School in Eindhoven. The various juries of industrial experts and delegates of the Vocational Training Department were fully satisfied with the examination results and the standard of proficiency among the students. Immediately after the examinations steps were taken to place the graduates.

#### Vocational Guidance

During the year under report, our vocational guidance and placement service took care of more than 200 applicants. Our close cooperation with the public authorities and the State trade schools has enabled us to enrol candidates for trades not taught by ORT.

#### Local Income

A gradual increase of local receipts was noted in 1952. A total of fl. 26,596 was received from the CEFINA and an additional fl. 11,021.50 from Centrale Israëlitisch Krankzinnigengesticht, Joods Jongenshuis, Joods Bijzonder Onderwijs, Es-rath Jayeled Hilversum, Rudelsheim Stichting Hilversum, the Philips School at Eindhoven and the Jewish Community of Amersfoort. Tuition fees, membership dues and sale of students products brought in approximately fl. 4,000. Fifty-eight per cent of our budget was covered by local income.

Steps are taken to obtain an increased grant from the CEFINA in 1953 so that ORT Holland may achieve its aim of becoming self-supporting.

#### Information

ORT's achievements in Holland were prominently featured in the national press. In addition, our "ORT Nieuws" provided regular information on ORT's national and world-wide activities and formed a precious bond between ORT students and friends.

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## GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

### General Remarks

During the year 1952, the drop in emigration from Germany and Austria provided us with an almost static student body and a consequent stabilization in our work. No new schools or workshops were opened. Most of our former students have emigrated; a number of those who remained found employment in the local economy.

Since the cessation of IRO support in the end of 1951, our operating costs were met with ORT Union subsidies and grants from governmental authorities and local communities. The Austrian Administration of the "President's Escapee Program" has recently allocated us a subsidy on a per capita basis for each escapee enrolled in our schools; it is anticipated that we will receive a similar support and cooperation in Germany.

As this report is being written there is a new influx of Jewish escapees from the Eastern Zone of Germany which may require the addition of several classes in our schools in the U.S. Zone. The Authorities in Austria have already invited us to open a new school in the camp of Wels or Asten.

### Vocational Training Installations

Munich : Classes in automechanics, dental mechanics, dressmaking, underwear, corsetry, furrier and leather work, upholstery and trousermaking were conducted throughout the year. Final examinations are held in the presence of representatives of German trade unions. The centre has an internat which is maintained with the support of Women's American ORT.

Föhrenwald : Training includes radio technics, mechanics, watchmaking, cosmetics manufacture, dressmaking, and trouser and underwear making. Approximately 15 % of the students are ex-Tbs. Since the closure of the IRO, teachers' salaries have been paid conjointly by the Federal and the Bavarian Governments.

The occupational therapy program in Gauting and Föhrenwald was discontinued in July.

Berlin : Training at this centre extends to bookbinding, radio technics, beauty culture, hairdressing and dressmaking. The school receives financial assistance from the Berlin Magistrate.

The present influx of Jewish escapees from Eastern Germany to Berlin consists mostly of professional people who have no knowledge of any trade. The majority of them come to the Berlin ORT school wishing to enrol in one of their courses. During the weeks or months they have to stay in Berlin before they can be taken to Western Germany or abroad they do not want waste any time but want to start learning a trade immediately. The Berlin school, of course, is not equipped for such an influx of applicants. We admit students to our courses already established, but cannot open new ones firstly, for financial reasons and secondly, because of our lack of equipment.

Cologne : Classes exist in automechanics, hairdressing, beauty culture, dressmaking and cutting. Financial support is forthcoming from the Government of Nordrhein-Westphalia.

Hanover : A dressmaking school is maintained with support from restitution funds.

Vienna : Radio technics, automechanics, photography, lingerie and trouser making, dressmaking, cosmetics, corsetry, glovemaking, confectionery and English shorthand courses are conducted both in ORT's own house (the former Rothschild Hospital) and in Austrian trade schools. Enrolment includes a number of Austrian Jews whose dwindling prospects of emigration oblige them to acquire skills towards their integration in Austrian economy.

Hallein :The camp school ran courses in dressmaking, trouser making and corsetry.

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Enrolment and Graduations

Centre	Enrolment 1/1/52	Enrolment 1/1/53	Graduations in 1952
<u>Germany</u>			
Föhrenwald	80	98	
Munich	105	77	
Cologne	57	44	
Hanover	13	10	
Berlin	121	87	
Occupat. Therapy	<u>109</u>	<u>---</u>	
	485	316	89
<u>Austria</u>			
Vienna	310	291	
Hallein	<u>50</u>	<u>46</u>	
	360	337	303
<u>Grand Total</u>	845	653	392

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## A L G E R I A

The year 1952 brought a closer cooperation between the ORT centres of Algiers and Constantine. The Algerian ORT Association received a statutory basis. The Administrative Council of ORT Algeria, which primarily devises ways and means to improve ORT's work in the country and to increase local income, has members from both Algiers and Constantine with Mr. André Chiche, Algiers, as President and Mr. Joseph Attali, Constantine, as Vice-President. Mr. Epstein, head of an important electrical firm and former student of ORT in Wilno, was recently coopted as a member.

### ALGIERS

Two principal projects were implemented at the end of 1952, notably the transfer of the boys' school to more suitable premises and the establishment of a dress-making school for girls.

The boys' school is now installed in a building which was originally planned for an industrial enterprise; it comprises a ground floor and two storeys and has plenty of light and air. After suitable transformations, the total floor space of 1500 sq. meters now holds a joinery workshop with 20 carpenter's benches, spray room, store-room for wood and toolshed; an electrical workshop with experimental walls, tool room and laboratory; a metal fitting shop with machine hall, 35 vices and store-room; an automechanics workshop; a smithy and welding workshop; three class rooms; three administrative offices; a teacher's room; an infirmary; a study and a hall for meals and educational movies. The school is equipped to serve a total of 140 students in the four branches (each comprising three years of study). Most of the installation was provided by the purchasing office of the ORT Union which sent machinery (including a milling machine), tooling and class room furniture. Electrical equipment was purchased locally.

The former boys' school was remodelled to house the girls' school which is for the moment confined to classes in sewing and cutting. Other sections may be added later if required. The fact that admissions took place at the end of December only created certain difficulties because the best prospective students had found other openings elsewhere. Eighteen students were finally selected for the opening and a few others admitted belatedly. The class room installations were left intact, workshop tables manufactured by the joinery students, eight tailor's dummies and small objects purchased locally and twelve sewing machines received from the ORT Union.

As in the past, all graduates of last year's final examinations found appropriate jobs. The ORT office keeps in touch with them and their employers who profess to be fully satisfied with their performance. It should be noted that an ORT electricity student has now twice in succession won top honours in the competitive examination of the Public Utilities Company, thereby assuring himself one of the best local jobs. Two graduates in metal fitting are doing well in their positions with the "Elna" sewing machine company after returning from their special training in the company's Geneva factory. One of them is now doing his military service and his job is held open for him until his return. Other ORT graduates work in the Aletti Hotel (as house electrician), with the local railway company, in furniture factories, etc. Two former students are enrolled at the Central Institute in Anières; one of them was second-best out of seven in the recent end-of-term examinations.

There have been no major changes in the teaching staff; two Institute graduates were sent to Algeria, one to the metal fitting school at Constantine and the other to the electrical school in Algiers.

The implementation of the program outlined above required important investments. In addition to normal operating costs, major sums were needed for the installation of the new schools and for assistance to indigent students. Although there were some difficulties at the end of the year, the assistance of the ORT Union and an advance from the AJDC for the installation of the boys' school enabled us to meet our obligations. Locally, we received a governmental subsidy of fr. 3,800,000 (from the Direction of National Education); a fr. 750,000 contribution from the Joint for canteen services and scholarships; and fr. 1,000,000 in gifts, membership fees and proceeds from the sale of students' products.

Considerable assistance was forthcoming from Women's American ORT who granted a 300,000 franc subsidy to the Algiers Centre for the second half of 1952 which enabled us to provide assistance to a number of indigent students who would otherwise have been forced to give up their training.

#### CONSTANTINE

The most notable event in this centre which has now entered into its fourth year was the first graduation of students at the end of the past school year. All graduates were presented for the official examinations of professional capability. The best results were obtained by the metal fitters: five out of seven were successful even though the smooth course of their studies had been interrupted by the demise of an instructor. Two of the graduates were admitted to the Central ORT Institute.

The past year also saw the establishment of an Apprentice Placement Service which started in October last with 15 pupils who undergo training in private workshops and follow supplementary courses at the ORT Centre.

The equipment was augmented by a lathe ordered in Sweden by the ORT Union and by a forge and various small tools purchased locally.

The costs of the centre are met by the ORT Union and by local contributions which latter include a fr. 1,900,000 governmental subsidy; fr. 220,000 in gifts and membership fees and an allocation from the local AJDC towards canteen expenses. The fr. 300,000 subsidy of Women's American ORT is destined for social assistance.

#### ENROLMENT

Enrolment as of Dec. 31, 1952, was as follows:

Algiers: Metal fitting 45; joinery 29; electricity 16;

Constantine: Preparatory course 20; metal fitting 52; locksmithy 13;

Apprentice Placement Service (supplementary courses): 12

Total: 187

On January 5, 1953, after the winter holidays, 14 new students were admitted to the Algiers boys' school and 18 began their training in the girls' school, bringing the grand total up to 219.

## G R E A T B R I T A I N

### Vocational Training Activities

London ORT Centre: 1952 has seen few, if any, spectacular changes in the running of the London ORT Centre but rather has concentrated on continuing its activities at a steady pace. The 4th December 1952 marked the occasion of the Centre's second birthday - an apt opportunity for stocktaking.

There have been no new courses formed during the year. Current enrolment amounted to 30, with 29 graduations in the course of 1952. The syllabus remained as before, covering the use and maintenance of treadle and power sewing machines and of posting machines, dressmaking, manufacture of pyjamas, shirts and children's wear, modelling, fitting and finishing. Unfortunately the number of machines has not increased either, work still being carried out on 6 treadle machines, 12 power machines and 1 posting machine. All of these, however, are kept in good working order.

Students attending the courses come in order to find local positions, and, to the best of our knowledge, do indeed enter the trade. Others, who are too old to be taken by the trade, work at home and make private dressmaking their living.

To clarify the special situation in Great Britain at the moment, it should be pointed out that the London ORT Centre does not hold ceremonial examinations at the end of any given period. Its special character is best described as a training centre for adults who, for various reasons, have to acquire skill and knowledge to make a living. Furthermore, we are approached quite frequently by those who are physically handicapped or ill in health and by people whose psychological plight requires help and persuasion to start afresh. Others are those who are suddenly forced to emigrate but are not accepted unless they are able to carry out a certain craft. ORT tries to help all these and many more through a thorough and quick training in one or more branches of the sewing trade. Many students find positions while being trained and carry on until they reach a sufficiently high standard to be fully independent; others have in mind to establish a workshop of their own since the labour market is practically closed for people who have reached a certain age.

One particular activity of the London Centre which has developed and flourished during 1952 and can now be regarded as a permanent feature is the constant appeal for fabrics which are used for practising purposes and subsequently small contributions are received from those students who acquire the garments. Over 30 textile firms have responded most generously in this way and their further continuous support can now be relied upon so that great fabric donations are now flowing in uninterruptedly.

Dower House Agricultural Training Farm: The British ORT continues to contribute towards the running of the Dower House Farm in Hertfordshire, England, which prepares Chalutzim for emigration to Israel. The comprehensive two-year course covers such subjects as market gardening, general farm work, fruit gardening, poultry keeping, farm machinery, tractor driving, dairy farming and theory lessons in agricultural chemistry, soil science, plant science, dairy farming, poultry keeping and farm machinery. In January 1952 there were 17 trainees on the Farm. During the year there have been 24 new admissions and 14 graduates.

## General Activities

London: In London, numerous small functions have been held with the object of publicising the work of ORT. These include a Symposium held at the Anglo-Israeli Club in London, presided over by the Rt. Hon. Lord Silkin, P.C., and many drawing room meetings held both in private homes and in London hotels which were always addressed by a prominent speaker.

A campaign was also launched in an attempt to familiarise some of the Jewish Youth Clubs of London with the work of ORT, and to this end, several film-show meetings were given to audiences ranging in age from 14 to 18 years.

Apart from the many minor functions held during 1952, there were also two large fund-raising concerts arranged at which Mr. Benno Moiseiwitsch, the world famous pianist, gave recitals. From these two concerts, British ORT benefitted by approximately £ 900.

For the first time, 1952 saw the inclusion of ORT as a participant in the Kol Nidre Appeal held in all Synagogues throughout the country. So far, we have received £ 1,000 from this Appeal. Having now established a footing with the J.P.A. in this respect, it can definitely be stated that ORT will participate in the coming Kol Nidre Appeal. Favourable recognition was also accorded by the Central British Fund who gave £ 300 towards the maintenance of the London ORT Centre.

Birmingham: In January, the President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Dr. A. Cohen, addressed a meeting in Birmingham at which he was the Guest of Honour and, as a result, several new members were enrolled. The local ORT Committee also arranged a highly successful "House Party" in March, which yielded substantial financial results. This was followed by several smaller, but equally enthusiastic efforts.

Sheffield: In this city, most cordial relations have been established with the Local Representative Council who, in December of 1951, made a substantial donation towards our funds. A further donation is expected shortly, and it is hoped that this will be repeated annually.

Hull: Also in December of 1951, the B'nai B'rith organization in this city arranged a most successful Dinner for the joint benefit of the Youth Aliyah and ORT. We are looking forward to further collaboration with the B'nai B'rith in Hull in 1953.

At the end of 1952, ORT in Great Britain counted 800 subscribing members.

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G R E E C E

ORT's three-year mechanics school in Athens presented candidates for final examinations for the first time this year. Eleven students received diplomas and were easily found jobs despite the current economic crisis in Greece. Two of them were admitted to the Central ORT Institute in Anières; seven are employed in ateliers or factories and two opened a mechanical workshop of their own. At present, the school has 19 students.

The ORT dressmaking school in Athens has a current enrolment of 14 students. Of the five graduates of 1952, four have opened dressmaking shops of their own and have succeeded in not only taking care of their own needs but also lending considerable financial support to their families. Particular mention should be made of two sisters from a very poor family which had always been on the assistance lists of the Joint and the Community; the older sister obtained her diploma in 1951 and immediately started working as a dressmaker on daily wages. Her sister terminated her studies with ORT last July; thereupon the two of them together started an atelier of their own which is very successful. The fifth of our 1952 graduates had a great gift for fashion designing; she has received a special scholarship from the Women's American ORT to go to Paris in order to continue her studies at the ORT school there.

Owing primarily to the very difficult economic situation of many families, recruitment is not all that could be desired. In this connection, we wish to mention the generous aid of Women's American ORT which has made social assistance grants for our most needy students.

A highly successful school fête took place at the end of the school year 1951/52 when the diplomas were distributed. An exhibition of students' products which took place at the same time attracted wide attention in all circles of the Athens Jewish community. Mesdames Kaphan and Bader, leaders of Women's American ORT, happened to pass through Athens at this time and lent their presence to the ceremony which deeply influenced public interest in ORT and the moral and material support for its work.

A General Assembly of ORT members took place in February at which the budget was confirmed and various decisions made with a view to increase membership and facilitate student recruitment from the provinces. It is encouraging to note the growing interest of local Jews in our work and the increase in local contributions which goes hand in hand with the former.

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THE CENTRAL ORT INSTITUTE FOR INSTRUCTOR TRAINING IN 1952

I. Management, Training and  
Production

Management Since the beginning of the new school year the direction of the Institute has been separated from the Central Office of the World ORT Union. The Institute received the status of a national organization under a committee, in this case a Management Council of 8 persons which is in charge of the training and internat budgets, admission and dismissal of students, hiring and firing of staff and supervision of internat life. The members take turns in consultation hours at the Institute where teachers and students can discuss their wishes and propositions. Now as before, however, matters of vocational training such as syllabi, schedules, supervision of training, etc. are the competency of the Technical and Pedagogical Council which is composed of specialists in the various branches.

Former Institute Director I. Fajnsod who returned to Israel was replaced in September 1952 by Engineer A. Berlant, licencié ès sciences who has been with ORT for many years, acting as director of the ORT schools in Nice, Grenoble Lyons, Athens and Tunis.

Opening of Two New Sections In accordance with the requirements of ORT schools in various countries, particularly Israel and North Africa, it was decided at the beginning of 1952 that two new sections for training in automechanics and in locksmithy/mechanics would be opened. A garage was erected during the summer holidays, the new sections equipped with the necessary machines and tools and two instructors engaged. Twenty students were admitted to these two sections while no admissions took place in the mechanics, electric installations and technical installations classes.

Production In view of the fact that modern technical schools devote increasing time to production for outside clients it is obvious that students at the Institute who will later be called upon to direct ORT schools in the various countries in accordance with modern principles, will have to acquire more extensive knowledge in designing and constructing machines, spare parts and other objects.- In the course of 1952 a dozen electric motors for ORT schools in Israel were completed, likewise lathe arbors for Tunis, some special machines ordered by a Geneva factory, a grain blowing apparatus for an agricultural cooperative in Switzerland and various pieces of furniture for private clients. Auto repairs and metal fitting work were carried out and a network of internal telephones installed at the Institute itself. In addition, students built apparatuses and measuring instruments for their laboratories, furniture for the class rooms and bedrooms, a ventilation plant for the kitchen, etc.

Completion of Equipment The technical equipment of the electrical laboratory was augmented, 5 dynamos and motors purchased and apparatuses and measuring instruments which could not be made by the students bought. The laboratory has now a main switch room with transformers and switches. Two new lathes were installed in the mechanics workshop. The new automechanics workshop and the required garages possess all necessary machines and tools such as cars,

motors, spare parts, compressors, measuring and test instruments, etc. Installation work has recently begun for a mechanical test laboratory to carry out metal testing, hardening, case-hardening, etc.

Educational Excursions Every month the students visit industrial or other enterprises in Geneva, the remainder of Switzerland or nearby French districts. Guided by their instructors the students have thus seen the wood working cooperative in Lausanne, the Basle Sample Fair, the Geneva Institute of Physics, the Geneva watch exhibit, the Compagnie National du Rhône at Genissiat-Seyssel in France, the Charmilles Machine Enterprises in Geneva, the Geneva Electrical Enterprises, the Geneva Water Works, the emergency electric plant in Geneva, the Oerlikon Machine Works near Zurich, the Albis Radio and Electric Works in Zurich, the Sulzer Machine Works in Winterthur, the Federal Technical High School in Zurich, the Geneva Wood Working Cooperative, the glass factory of St.-Prex in the Canton of Vaud and the cable factory in Cossouay.

Lectures and Other Events In addition to the scheduled instruction there are periodic lectures on technical and general themes, usually with film demonstrations. The students themselves organize discussion evenings on technical, pedagogical, literary, historical and religious themes. There is a musical evening at least once a month at which brief comments on composers, style and form are given.

The students adhere to the Association of Jewish University Students in Switzerland and actively participate in all events organized by this Association. Social evenings, excursions and competitive sports are held together with the Geneva students.

Women's American ORT sponsored a literary competition on a Chanukah theme and offered two prizes. The best entries were sent to their Headquarters in New York.

## II. Government and Diploma Examinations; Proficiency Training in Factories

Second Graduation The Government examination for workshop masters was passed by 21 students in June 1952 and by another in December. The figure includes 8 mechanics, 7 electricians, 4 technical installation masters and 3 joiners. The graduates immediately started on their industrial practice and are at present engaged in preparing their diploma thesis which will have to be defended before a committee of experts next June. The Technical and Pedagogical Council of the ORT Union deemed it expedient that the 7 students who failed in the Government examination for the sole reason that they overstepped the time limits prescribed should also embark on their industrial practice and sit for the Government examination and for the diploma examination simultaneously next June.

Diploma Examinations of First Graduates Twelve out of the 14 graduates who submitted their theses in July 1952 and sat for oral and written examinations to acquire the title of instructor passed the tests with success. The two unsuccessful candidates had to prolong their industrial practice and will sit for another examination next summer; one of them is at present working as assistant instructor in Israel.

Graduates in Industrial Practice Despite less favourable employment opportunities in Switzerland we succeeded again in the past year to find paid employment in various industrial enterprises for all graduates due for industrial practice, thanks to the benevolent attitude of Swiss Authorities. However, the situation is getting more difficult and it is to be foreseen that the employment of next summer's 30 graduates will meet with greater obstacles. A plan to have the graduates take their industrial practice in their home countries is therefore under consideration.

For the whole of their practice period the students maintain close contact with the Institute and are under the constant supervision of the Technical and Pedagogical Department of the ORT Union, receiving instruction in special subjects. They have to give periodic lessons to groups of apprentices in courses installed by the Canton of Geneva and have to pass two to three weeks at the Institute itself as assistant instructors. This arrangement has proved very expedient inasmuch as it lays bare all gaps in their knowledge which can then be filled in before the students embark on their career as instructors.

### III. Graduates Employed as Instructors

To date 35 students of the Central ORT Institute have passed the Governmental examinations and received the Cantonal Certificate of Professional Capability. Twelve among them have completed their one-year industrial practice in Switzerland and passed their diploma examination as instructors. - The great need for vocational teachers particularly in Israel and North Africa on the one hand, and the superior practical and theoretical preparation of the second group of graduates on the other hand decided the Pedagogical Department of the ORT Union to release some graduates immediately for service as instructors at various schools even though the prescribed year of industrial practice had not yet come to an end.

At present 18 Institute graduates are employed as instructors in ORT schools, namely 3 mechanics and 2 electricians in Israel (Jerusalem, Jaffa, Rechovoth, Ben Shemen and Givatayim); 2 mechanics, 1 electrician and 1 joiner in Tunis; 1 joiner and 1 technical installation expert in Casablanca; 1 mechanic and 1 electrician in Algeria (Algiers and Constantine); 1 mechanic and 1 electrician in Belgium (Brussels and Antwerp); 1 mechanic in Rome; 1 electrician in Strasbourg; and 1 electrician in Teheran. Three other candidates were intended for Morocco and Iran but could not be sent there because, being stateless, they could not receive an entry permit.

Reports received from national organizations to date confirm without exception the complete professional and pedagogical preparation of Institute-trained instructors who succeeded in considerably raising the standard of instruction in the ORT schools. Requests have been received for more Institute-trained instructors for the beginning of school year 1953/54 from ORT organizations in Israel, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Iran.

### IV. Student Distribution by Trade and Nationality on Feb. 28, 1953

Distribution by Trade: Mechanics 16; auto mechanics 12; locksmithy/mechanics 10; electric installations 7; technical installations 8; joinery 12; total 65.

Distribution by Nationality: Israel 24; France 12; Morocco 10; Spanish Morocco 1; Greece 3; Italy 3; Denmark 2; Egypt 1; Uruguay 1; Great Britain 1; Tunisia 1; stateless 6; total 65.

## V. Internat

Improvements As a consequence of the influenza epidemic this winter to which several students at the Institute fell victims a special room on the second floor was equipped as a sick room. The medical service is directed by a trained nurse who is in charge of a dispensary containing all normally required medicaments.

Another room was set aside as a students' common room to be used for intervals during lessons and after working hours. Its furniture was manufactured by the joinery section.

The Geneva Women's Committee presented the Institute with a Bechstein grand piano for the assembly hall.

An important innovation is the creation of a fruit garden of some 3000 sq. meters near the main entrance. The 33 apple, pear, plum and cherry trees will in two years' time bear sufficient fruit to meet the Institute's needs. The vegetable garden accounts for an important part of the requirements, particularly in spring and fall.

Budget The internat budget is met by the ORT Women's Organizations of which Women's American ORT, the largest, naturally accounts for the greatest number of scholarships. The per capita maintenance costs were fixed in 1949. In the course of the last three years, however, the prices for food and heating and the salaries of the domestic staff increased considerably with the result that the maintenance quota became insufficient. As a consequence, the internat budget of 1952 could not be balanced, a deficit being unavoidable despite the strictest economies. Following a decision of the Management Council the ORT Women's organizations were requested to increase the scholarships by 15%. Attempts are also made to obtain paid employment for students so that they should not be dependent on pocket money provided by the Institute.

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## AMERICAN ORT FEDERATION

### National Convention

The convention of the American ORT Federation in October was not only the highpoint of the previous year's activities, but was also the culmination of three decades of ORT in the United States. The convention, therefore, bore the aspect both of jubilee and a serious conclave of leaders from every part of the country. A detailed report on the convention was submitted to the meeting of the Executive Committee of the World ORT Union in Geneva, November 16, and was circulated in the report on ORT work that emanated from that meeting. It is sufficient to state here that the convention was an effective rallying ground for ORT supporters. The presence of Herbert H. Lehman as Guest of Honor, and recipient of the ORT Award, symbolized this enhanced status. Continuing the policy of broadening the Federation leadership, a number of additional members were elected to the Board of Directors. In addition to the officers elected by the convention, Abraham C. Litton was recently elected a national vice-president.

### Membership

The Federation structure includes the following organization and membership categories: National Organizations - Women's American ORT; American Labor ORT; National ORT League; Young Men's and Women's ORT; Affiliates - American and European Friends of ORT; Chapters - Brooklyn ORT Society; Chicago-Albany Park; Cincinnati; Los Angeles; Manhattan; New Haven; New York Sponsors; Peninsula (San Francisco Bay area); San Francisco.

The Federation maintains an Association of General Members. While the resources put into this work have been slight, the gains have been steady, with the general members for 1952 totaling 1000.

Successful enrolment drives were carried out during the past year by Women's American ORT, American Labor ORT and American and European Friends of ORT. Young Men's and Women's ORT was effectively re-vitalized, with the assistance of the Federation's Executive Committee, and is now working on a project of support to an ORT school in Israel.

Women's American ORT has grown into one of the major women's organizations in the community, recognized as such by all. It is looked to by all major activities such as UJA, BIG, etc., as a powerful pillar of support. In July 1952, paid up membership stood at over 25,000 women, a gain of 7,500 in two years. The current membership is approximately 30,000, organized in 155 chapters distributed over 16 cities and the District of Columbia.

American Labor ORT is the only communal organization of a general character whose program has attracted labor's interest. Many of the most prominent union officials have identified themselves with ORT and almost all the Jewish trade union leaders have participated. In October 1952, 120 labor organizations were enrolled in American Labor ORT. 266 branches of the Workman's Circle were affiliated members. There were also 3414 individual members in American Labor ORT.

The National ORT League continues to spread the word of ORT among fraternal orders, landsmanschaften, religious and civic groups. To date the League has achieved an organizational membership of 300, and has enrolled more than 400 individuals. A membership drive is under way.

New York Schools

The Bramson School and the ORT Trade School, both in New York, continued to operate at full capacity toward fulfilling their objective of teaching immediately utilizeable trades to recent immigrants, in short-term courses. Continued enrolment at maximum capacity indicates that the demand for training has not diminished despite the reduction in the flow of newcomers.

1952 Enrolment in New York ORT Schools

On 1/1/52	Admissions	Graduates	Discontinuations	On 12/31/52	Enrolment for 1952
Bramson 235	766	802	76	123	1,001
ORT Trade 95	248	103	155	85	343
Total 330	1014	905	231	178	1,344

The New Normalcy - The main change from previous years has been a reduction in pressure to meet emergencies and the stabilization of functions on a normal basis. Waiting lists have been reduced, teachers have been able to give more individualized attention and fuller class hours have been allowed each student. As a result of this, an atmosphere of normal work has been established and quality of training has been substantially improved.

School Finances - The financial situation continues to be stringent for both schools. The operating budgets have been minimal. Even without any expansion whatsoever in recent years, it has been a tight squeeze to meet rising costs. Expenditures for rent, wages, utilities and all other aspects of operation have risen steadily with the general rise of prices, increasing the financial pressures.

The American and European Friends of ORT deserves the deepest gratitude for their continuing unstinting generosity in support of the New York ORT Trade School. It is not too much to say that their support has been decisive in the school's achievements.

Changing Student Body - In one respect, recent enrolments have begun to show a change in the character of the student body. While the greatest proportion are still recent Jewish immigrants, an increasing number are people who have been in the country anywhere from six months to a few years. They come to the schools, not so much to acquire a minimal skill quickly but to increase their proficiency or to learn a new trade. Numbers of the students have employment as unskilled workers and look to the schools to afford them a skill so that they can leave the category of the untrained. In other words, the schools are now helping recent arrivals to take a second step toward the permanent solution of their economic adaptation to American life.

ORT Trade School - The school continued its courses in architectural and mechanical drafting, machine shop, jewelry making and radio and television. Present facilities are capable of accommodating between 90-100 students at a time. These positions were kept filled throughout the year. Student attendance was excellent, showing a marked decrease in absences and lateness. Classes are held in the evening, four days a week. Courses are from two to six months' duration which accounts for the sizeable enrolment and student turnover.

Abraham C. Litton has been re-elected chairman of the school committee. The American and European Friends of ORT is now organizing a number of events which will benefit the school.

Bramson ORT Trade School - There are two classes of three hours' duration, four days a week. In addition to the power sewing machine course, which remained the basic, brief, accelerated course attended by most students, a course in pattern making and cutting was reopened by popular request. The power sewing machine course, which trains adults in the basic skill required for entry into the garment trades, takes only six to eight weeks, with all instruction on an individual basis. The pattern making and cutting course has a curriculum of 4-6 months.

The European Chapter of Women's American ORT continues to be a guiding force in the school. American Labor ORT has taken an increasing interest in its operation. The New Haven, Men's ORT of Manhattan and New York Sponsors chapters of the Federation contributed financially to the school, out of their membership funds. At a recent meeting of the school committee, Joseph Tuvim was elected chairman, the Baroness de Gunzburg honorary president, and Dr. Anna P. Boudin, honorary chairman. The death of Vera Bramson was sorely felt.

### Community Relations

A report, summarizing World ORT operations and financing in 1951, was circulated to 3000 local community and welfare fund leaders late last spring. The practice, begun with that report, of submitting annual statements to welfare fund leaders, will be continued this year. A summary of 1952 World ORT activities is now in preparation.

Circulation of the ORT Bulletin, which appears five times a year, was stepped up. Content of the Bulletin was geared, in some degree, to the interest and informational needs of local leaders. Special lists have been established of leaders who regularly receive quarterly reports of the World ORT Union, the ORT in Israel Bulletin, and other special material.

### Relationships with Other Organizations

Since the time of the first ORT/AJDC Agreement which contractually precluded independent fundraising in the United States, the American ORT Federation has placed considerable importance on the fostering of excellent relationships with the AJDC and the UJA. The last three years in particular have seen a greater cordiality in ORT/Joint relationships and a growth of mutual understanding and appreciation of each other's methods and purposes. The American ORT Federation has recognized the responsibility to participate fully in the local and national campaigns of the United Jewish Appeal. During the last year this participation increased signally. Women's American ORT, as always, organized a full plan of UJA activities involving its entire membership. Chapters, affiliates and many individual leaders of the Federation took active parts in the local drives for UJA. It is planned to increase our UJA activities this year.

The financial agreement between Joint and ORT this year represents the concrete realization of resolutions dating back to 1950. The Central Board of the World ORT Union in Montreux in July 1950 instructed the Executive to conduct the negotiations with Joint for 1951 so as to make adequate provision for the work in Israel, expressing its reluctance to sever its friendly cooperation with the Joint, should it be impossible to conclude such an agreement. In November 1951 the Executive Committee of the World ORT Union, in its resolution delegating the responsibility for negotiations with the Joint to Dr. A. Syngalowski and Dr. W. Haber, again called attention to the "anomaly of the exclusion of Israel from the ORT-Joint Agreement". The American ORT Federation, in implementation of the above, in

a meeting of its Board in January 1952, adopted the following policy statement: "There is no logic or reason why that significant program is denied financial support from funds provided by American Jewry through the United Jewish Appeal. It is imperative, therefore, that our Israeli schools receive some financial support from American funds in 1953".

After a series of discussions lasting over a period of months and involving much of the time and energy of the ORT Union and American ORT Federation leadership, this principle was accepted by JDC. The negotiations conducted by Dr. A. Syngalowski in Geneva and Paris and concluded in New York with the participation of the American ORT Federation led to the 1953 agreement. The present pact with the JDC represents the fulfilment of the objective ORT set itself a year ago: UJA funds for Israel are allocated for the first time since ORT in Israel was established in 1949.

The American ORT Federation recognizes that the terms of the new pact do not diminish the responsibilities of American ORT affiliates particularly Women's American ORT for the total budget of the World ORT Union. ORT's work in Israel is only partially covered by the JDC pact. The inclusive budget assumes continued assistance from those sources which have contributed in the past. For example, the budget for Israel presupposes even larger support by Women's American ORT, and there is every assurance that they will fulfil their pledges. It further assumes continued and even greater sums from South African, Canadian, South American and other ORT organizations.

The agreement grants up to \$ 1,500,000 for vocational training. JDC guarantees a minimum of \$ 1,100,000 with the larger sum dependent on the success of the United Jewish Appeal campaign.

#### Resolution of Greetings to the World ORT Union

At its meeting on February 7, 1953 the Board of Directors adopted a statement of greetings to the World ORT Union which included the following:

"The World ORT Union has met the rapidly changing conditions of Jewish life in recent years with great resource, adaptability and sensitivity, creating in a relatively brief period, and under manifold handicaps, the present vocational training system for Jews, spanning nineteen nations and operating 270 institutions. Under the leadership of Dr. Aron Syngalowski, ORT is effectively carrying forward its mission of training and propagation of modern technical culture among Jews. The work of the American ORT Federation, on behalf of the world program, has been greatly facilitated by an ever closer understanding and collaboration with the leadership of the ORT Union."

## WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT

During the year 1952 covered by this report Women's American ORT continued to experience growth in membership, organizational expansion of its chapters and regions and increased prestige and influence in the American Jewish community. Commensurate with its organizational gains was its increase in contributions to the World ORT Union.

### Transfers of Funds to the World ORT Union

During the calendar year 1951, Women's American ORT contributed a total of \$ 181,062.84 to the World ORT Union. During the calendar year 1952, Women's American ORT contributed to the World ORT Union a total of \$ 236,938.86 that is an increase of about \$ 56,000.00 or approximately 30% over the previous year.

Funds to the World ORT Union from Women's American ORT are allocated and transferred overseas in accordance with the activities of the three major projects of the organization, namely, MOT, Guardianship and Scholarship. The following is a breakdown of Women's American ORT's transfers of funds to World ORT Union in accordance with each of these projects:

#### (a) Materials for Overseas Training (MOT)

During 1952 Women's American ORT under its MOT program transferred a total of \$ 171,606.36 to World ORT Union as compared with \$ 95,592.28 during 1951.

#### (b) Guardianship

During 1952 Women's American ORT provided under its Guardianship program (social assistance program) a total of \$ 30,560.00 for work in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Italy, France (Strasbourg), Greece, Israel and Germany. Funds sent under the Guardianship program are used to provide food, clothing, canteen services and often for housing, medical assistance, pocket money, textbooks, carfare and for the installation and improvement of comfort and sanitary facilities such as, showers, refrigeration, etc.

#### (c) Scholarship

During the calendar year 1952, Women's American ORT contributed under its Scholarship program \$ 34,773.30 of which \$ 33,507.50 was sent to the World ORT Union to cover maintenance of students at the Anières Institute. An additional \$ 1,265.80 was applied on account of three individual scholarships sponsored by Women's American ORT. All three, Saadoun, Soultana and Eva Teger, exceptionally talented students at ORT schools in Casablanca, Athens and Brussels respectively, are now receiving advanced training in private institutions through Women's American ORT's scholarship program.

### National Convention

Approximately 600 delegates representing all chapters of Women's American ORT participated in the 12th Biennial Convention of the organization. The Convention took place in New York City October 20th-23rd. In tribute to her outstanding leadership, the National Convention re-elected Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan as national president for a third term. Mesdames Konoff, treasurer; Mrs. Ferdinand Kaufmann, Vice President, were among other national officers elected for a third term. Mrs. Hyman Hilf was elected chairman of the National Executive Committee.

Membership Growth - Expansion

The membership of Women's American ORT reached a new high in 1952. An absolute gain of 5,500 new members brought the National membership total to over 30,000 of which 26,100 are dues-paid. The year also witnessed a vast expansion of the organization into new areas. Between 1950 and 1952 Women's American ORT organized seven new regions and over 40 new chapters. At the present time Women's American ORT has 153 chapters organized in 18 regions plus 12 chapters-at-large. The organization anticipates a further growth in membership with a perspective of bringing its dues-paid membership up to 30,000 by July 1953. It is also currently engaged in a campaign to expand Women's American ORT into 10 new key cities throughout the country.

ORT Day 1952 and ORT Sabbath of the same year, national events sponsored by the organization, were outstanding successes exceeding in their approach to the public through the media of public access (press, radio and television) anything heretofore experienced by the organization. Women's American ORT and its membership continue to participate on a high level in the fund-raising campaign of the United Jewish Appeal.

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## L A T I N   A M E R I C A

### General Remarks

During the year 1952 two events took place that are bound to influence, shape and intensify ORT activity in South America. As is well known, ORT activity in South America is twofold in character:

- 1) There are a number of ORT schools in various countries serving the needs of the local youth through training in trades;
- 2) There is the South American ORT Federation having as its purpose the guidance, strengthening and standardizing of local committees and their respective activities, but mainly to act as a fundraising agency for the overall program of the World ORT.

In both fields reorganization took place during the year 1952; elections were held during the early part of 1952 both in Rio de Janeiro and in Buenos Aires. Significant is the fact that in the latter the new board pledged not to ask for funds from World ORT Union for the maintenance of the local school. The first step toward intensification of activity was a drive undertaken in the provinces of Argentina to establish ORT committees with paying memberships. Likewise the ORT youth club was reactivated.

### Argentina

In the course of the year under report, 130 students frequented the three-year mechanics school, three-year electrical school and radio evening class of the Buenos Aires ORT. As everywhere in Latin America, the school year concluded at the end of December and will begin anew in March. Thirty-two students graduated at the end of the year. Two new courses were decided upon for the ensuing school year, namely in carpentry and typesetting. It is also planned to introduce courses in the ICA colonies in Argentina.

The financial situation has improved. The Women's ORT Committee, through sporadic affairs such as bridge parties, teas, etc. aided considerably and also made possible the establishment of a course in dressmaking for women. The culmination of the year's activity was a ball held for the first time by ORT which proved a considerable financial success.

### Brazil

A total of 167 students frequented ORT's installations in Rio de Janeiro, namely the four-year mechanics school, a three-year Hadsharah class where various technical subjects are taught and the dressmaking training workshop for girls in the course of the year under report. 23 girls and 10 boys graduated at the end of the year.

The two outstanding activities were the annual ball of the Women's ORT Committee which was a great financial success, and the organization of a Youth ORT Group.

Seventy students frequented the four-year mechanics school and training workshops in mechanics, electro mechanics and electro installation of the Sao Paulo ORT in the course of last year; fifteen of them graduated. Owing to the steady decrease in the number of students, the Committee is considering the partial or final closure and liquidation of the school.

## Uruguay

The three-year mechanics school of ORT in Montevideo was frequented by 76 students in the past year. Fourteen of them graduated and were given their diplomas at a ceremony at which the Chargé d'Affaires of Israel and representatives of a number of institutions and organizations participated. Simultaneously, an exhibition of students' products was held which received considerable recognition in the Jewish and non-Jewish press.

## Chile

The ORT school in Santiago de Chile has been in liquidation for two years; the recent visit of Mr. Muhlfelder of the South American ORT Federation brought to a head the negotiations that have been carried on with the local Zionist organization which took over the debts that led to the foreclosure, and with the local ORT Committee. As a result, the machines will be sold and the proceeds go to the World ORT Union with the specific request to apply the funds to the purchase of machines required in Israel which will be designated as a gift of the Yishuv in Chile.

## Organizational Matters

The South American ORT Federation held a Convention in September, 1952, the first in six years, since it came into existence. The elections resulted in a wider and more representative body; there was a large attendance and enthusiastic support.

Characteristic of the new orientation of the reorganized South American ORT Federation is the following most important resolution:

"In admiring recognition of the ORT Union's extensive work and especially of its achievements in and in behalf of Israel, the First Conference of the South American ORT Federation appeals to the South American Jewish communities to render maximal financial support toward the implementation of ORT's program in the world and instructs the new administration to make every effort to raise the necessary funds."

Other resolutions concerned the strengthening of the ORT Organizations (propaganda, enlightenment, establishment of provincial branches) and vocational training (introduction of new professions, establishment of courses for industrial Hachsharah, agromechanics, etc.).

A new Central Board of the South American ORT Federation was elected which is composed as follows: President: Mr. Samuel Kobrin, Montevideo; Vice-Presidents Messrs. S. Mirelman, Jacobo Wengrower, David Groissman, Buenos Aires; Maxim Sztern, Rio de Janeiro; José Klein, Santiago de Chile; Treasurer: Mr. Jacobo Saslawsky, Buenos Aires; Honorary Secretaries: Messrs. M. Silberman, Montevideo; S. Serebrenik, Rio de Janeiro; B. Vainstoc, Buenos Aires.

Mr. J. Wengrower was elected Chairman of the Executive of the South American ORT Federation.

Immediately thereafter the Executive Committee of the Federation mapped out a program of campaign and fundraising including Central America as well, where Dr. Merkin is presently fulfilling his task.

Mr. D. Schweitzer, ORT Union delegate, rendered valuable assistance in the development and reorganization of the Federation's activities.

C A N A D A

General Remarks

ORT in Canada in the past several years has devoted most of its work to expansion and membership, marginal fundraising, public relations in support of the ORT program, and in the last year to the organizational development of the Canadian ORT Federation and the establishment of a tool and machinery drive. Prominent Canadians have participated at numerous major ORT functions during the period. ORT's activities are better known and its achievements are acknowledged by an important section of the Jewish Community. The major rôle played by World ORT Union in the economic rehabilitation of the Jews in the diaspora and above all in Israel's struggle for economic stability is by this time well known to most of Canadian Jewry.

In addition to Canadian ORT's own publications, a considerable distribution of publicity material received from the ORT Union and from the American ORT Federation has taken place. The general press and the Jewish press organs, both in Yiddish, English and French continue to devote considerable space to matters pertaining to ORT in Canada and elsewhere.

Toronto Region

At the beginning of February, 1952, the Canadian ORT Federation established a permanent office in Toronto. This office has already proved its usefulness by way of stimulating the tool and machinery drive and by helping to establish an important branch to be known as the Canadian ORT Federation, Toronto Region. On the third of June, the Board of the above mentioned Region was officially launched. Mr. Archie Bennet, one of the best known Zionist leaders of Canadian Jewry, has accepted the Honorary Presidency, and Mr. D. Lou Harris, an outstanding public figure and leading industrialist, has assumed the duties of President. The two Vice-Presidents are Mr. Munk and Mr. Goldhart; Mr. Kronick is Treasurer and Mr. Frank Garber acts as Honorary Secretary.

Tool and Machinery Campaign

In accordance with a resolution passed at the Convention of November 1951, the Canadian ORT Federation embarked on a tool and machinery drive in which a great deal of interest is currently being evoked. Lists have been received from ORT Union Headquarters, and those in charge of the drive are confident to obtain the equipment needed for the ORT schools in Israel.

This drive is not only important from the point of view of easing the difficulties of the ORT budget, but has also the added significance of establishing a permanent Canadian interest in specific ORT projects in the Jewish State. The canvassers are not only concentrating on the tool and machinery trade, but are extending the appeal to all members of the community. The committee in Montreal is headed by Mr. G.C. Pascal and J. Ain.

Several important shipments of machines and tools have already left for Israel from Montreal and Toronto.

### Canadian ORT Organization

The increased activity of the ORT Federation and the growing prestige have not remained without effect on the progress of the Canadian ORT Organisation, presided over by Mr. P. Fainer. The number of paid up members has shown a considerable increase, in spite of the fact that the subscription fee is, in most cases, double of what it was in past years. The Canadian ORT Organization is helping the Federation in every way possible; in recent months it has also directed its attention to the question of vocational courses for new comers to this country. Many recent immigrants who knew ORT from their country of origin, come to ORT for help in acquiring a useful trade.

### Women's Canadian ORT

The national orientation of Women's Canadian ORT under the Presidency of Mrs. H.D. Cheifetz has been devoted to the united resumption of activities. September 1952 has been devoted to the strengthening of our ideology and the implementation of practical techniques throughout our several sections in Canada. It is gratifying to report continued and sustained progress.

The Montreal Region remains steadfast and continues to emerge as the major productive area. Two outstanding events distinguished the fall months. The annual Bazaar under the joint chairmanship of Mrs. H.T. Herbert and Mrs. B.S. Harrison was an outstanding success exceeding that of last year. The Bazaar realized \$ 12,000 and the Montreal President, Mrs. J.N. Heller is to be congratulated upon the success of the project. A Bagel and Lax Luncheon was held in October under the chairmanship of Mrs. S. Vineberg, admission being three yards of material for each guest. Approximately 1,400 yards were collected and sent to the ORT training centres in Israel for their dressmaking courses.

The Ottawa Region under the Presidency of Mrs. I. Wexler continues with a full calendar of activities concentrating on a membership function. A very successful Kiddies' Fashion Show featuring children's wear and modelled by the children of ORT members was held in November.

Toronto has emerged as a very promising productive Region thanks to the devoted and energetic leadership of its President Mrs. H. Kingstone and added stimulus of the dynamic personality of Mr. D.Lou Harris. Membership in that area has increased steadily and a Souvenir Year book fund raising project has been initiated with very promising results. Several shipments of tools and machines have been made to Israel during the tool and machinery drive which was launched earlier in the year in Montreal and Toronto. A great deal of interest has been evoked in this project of the Men's ORT and the drive is continuing in both centres with excellent results expected.

An outstanding event of cultural interest on the local scene here was the initial project of the Canadian ORT Art Exhibition under the chairmanship of Mr. Armand Finn and co-chairmanship of Mrs. H.H. Gould planned for both fund raising and to promote good public relations. From a publicity point of view, the ORT Art project received overwhelming publicity.

It was held at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and the Exhibition was visited by approximately 500 persons. The opening was marked by a distinguished gathering with representative members of the community in attendance.

The Exhibition was opened on December 8th, by Mr. Lazarus Phillips, Honorary President of the Canadian ORT Federation and by Mr. Leon D. Crestohl Q.C., M.P., President of the Canadian ORT Federation.

The sales however fell short of our expectations owing to the high prices of the canvasses. Nevertheless as an initial experiment we feel that ORT emerged with considerable prestige in the community. It is planned to continue this project in the future with greater practical results.

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## S O U T H   A F R I C A

### Agricultural Training

The Esrael Lazarus Training Farm conducted by the South African ORT-OZE as an agricultural centre made notable progress during 1952. Agriculturally the farm is self-supporting as the proceeds from the crops pay for its management and upkeep.

An important milestone in the history of the farm was reached towards the end of the year when, after lengthy negotiations, an agreement was reached between the S.A. ORT-OZE and the S.A. Zionist Federation to establish on the Lazarus Farm a Kfar Hachsharah. As a result the Farm now becomes the centre of the combined youth Hachsharah in South Africa. At the time of writing this report, 14 young men and women are undergoing agricultural training with a view to settling in Israel. Another 12 are expected to join the farm shortly.

Parallel with the training of chalutzim the farm continues to cater for those young people who wish to remain as farmers in South Africa. These are receiving special instruction and are accommodated in separate quarters.

An illustrated brochure listing the services available on the Lazarus Farm was produced and widely distributed throughout the country.

### Vocational Guidance

During the period under review, our vocational guidance bureau in Johannesburg dealt with over 247 new registrations, the applicants being mostly young people, both boys and girls, who consulted the bureau for advice, aptitude testing and placement in skilled trades. There were 101 placements in skilled trades and agriculture. Trades included fitting and turning, motor mechanics, electricians, plumbers, printers, tool and die makers, panel beaters, armature winders, welders, radio and refrigeration mechanics, draughtsmen, cabinet makers, watchmakers, cutters and designers in the clothing industry, milliners, commercial artists, window dressers and beauty culturists. 105 young people underwent the aptitude tests including children from the South African Jewish Orphanage in the city. Eighty-six boys and girls previously placed in employment were repeatedly interviewed for the purpose of making sure that they were properly indentured. The bureau had 1438 interviews with applicants and their parents. In preparation of school leaving time, the bureau printed and distributed thousands of brochures entitled "The Right Job".

The permanent office in Cape Town conducts vocational guidance work similar to that done in Johannesburg, though on a smaller scale. During 1952 it dealt with some 80 applicants for advice and placement. Thirty of those seeking employment were found suitable jobs.

Following negotiations between the Secretary of the S.A. ORT-OZE, Mr. A. Marowitz, and the Council of Natal Jewry, early in 1952, vocational guidance work was started in Durban, the third largest city in the Union, under the joint auspices of the two organizations. Members of the vocational guidance bureau staff in Johannesburg will periodically visit Durban to interview applicants and to conduct aptitude tests. The first of these tests was held recently for 22 school leaving boys and girls.

## SCANDINAVIA

### Sweden

ORT's activities in Sweden in 1952 were most encouraging, thanks to the vigorous assistance lent by Consul General Olof Lamm, Chairman of the Swedish ORT Committee, and Mr. Gunnar Josephson, head of the Jewish Community of Stockholm.

After purchasing machinery for an amount of Sw.cr. 23,000 recovered from a former governmental grant with the permission of the Swedish Government, the ORT Committee applied again for an allocation and received 100,000 Sw. crowns which were used almost entirely for the purchase of machinery and tooling shipped to ORT in Israel. In addition, the Jewish Community of Stockholm made ORT a grant of Sw.cr. 2,650 from the Warburg Foundation.

A campaign for used, fully overhauled sewing machines has so far resulted in a shipment of 10 machines from Stockholm and 15 machines with an ample store of accessories from Gothenburg.

The ORT Parliamentary Committee in Sweden under Chairman Axel Strand, President of the Federation of the Swedish Trade Unions, gave a dinner party for outstanding Swedish and Jewish personalities at which ORT problems were discussed. High Swedish Government officials such as Mr. Lundquist, head of the Vocational Training Department, participated.

An important business agreement was arranged with the Swedish Federation of Cooperative Societies and substantial transactions were effected.

ORT's efforts in Stockholm were vigorously promoted by Mr. Paul Fraenkel, one of the local Community's very active social-minded members, and by Mr. Marcus Kaplan, Jewish Community leader and Treasurer of the Swedish ORT Committee.

The Swedish ORT's endeavour is now concentrated on its inclusion as a partner in the Magbit campaign; this would further strengthen our position within the Community.

### Denmark

The Danish ORT Committee continued its activities under Chairman Sofus Oppenheim and Honorary Secretary L. Alterman.

ORT in Denmark mourns the loss in 1952 of two active and devoted friends, Messrs. L. Littman and Ludvig Trier, two prominent Jews who represented major circles of the Copenhagen Jewish Community.

Bank director Monies, a prominent member of the Jewish Community, was elected member of the ORT Committee.

The fundraising campaign carried out in 1952 was only moderately successful. Some 2000 dollars were collected and used for the purchase of shoe-finishing machines shipped to Israel. The tool campaign produced 15 machines and a sizeable amount of tools and spare parts.

The ORT Committee has approached the Danish Government with a request for a new grant.

F I N L A N D

The Finnish ORT Committee was constituted in 1951 under its President Mr. I. Davidkin during the first visit of ORT Union delegate Dr. E. Haskin, Paris. Two new members, Messrs. A. Stiller and J. Lefko, were coopted in 1952.

In 1951, ORT Finland placed at ORT's disposal building wood in the value of \$ 6,000 for the ORT schools in Israel. As to 1952, the Council of Jewish Communities in Finland informed the ORT Committee that it had been decided to hold only a United Magbit Campaign that year. After several discussions with members of the Managing Committee of the Helsinki Community, the Finnish ORT Committee, assisted by Dr. Haskin, obtained a promise of 10% of the campaign receipts for ORT, and this decision was subsequently confirmed by the communities of Abo and Temperere.

Since Finland's economic situation grew worse this year, ORT Finland counts on only \$ 5,000 as its share in campaign receipts; these funds will not be forthcoming until the first half of 1953.

The remainder of the first ORT campaign receipts and the 3% of the 1950 Magbit campaign then allocated to ORT will again be used to purchase building wood in approximately the same amount and to ship it to ORT Israel. A third shipment will be made upon receipt of the campaign share for 1952.

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ORT

The International Women's ORT continued to act as liaison between the various Women's Committees, furnishing information, projects and suggestions and carrying out various tasks in behalf of visitors from Europe and overseas who wished to be documented on ORT's work and the life of ORT's students.

Documentation concerning propaganda and fundraising events were elaborated so that each committee will be able to organize the required three important occasions per season.

Mrs. L. Roubach, Chairman of the Executive of International Women's ORT, undertook several trips to North Africa and European countries to contact various women's committees. International Women's ORT was in charge of contributions to the charity bazaar planned by the Israeli Women's ORT and collected through appeals to women's organizations in various countries a large amount of contributions in kind.

Action was taken in connection with social assistance to former students or to young women recommended by women's committees abroad. Steps were also taken to obtain scholarships for students; one of the cases, a young Greek girl who was to continue her studies in Paris after graduating from the Athens school, necessitating a great deal of preparations.

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STUDENT ENROLMENT IN THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE WORLD ORT UNION

JANUARY 1952 - JANUARY 1953

Country	Number of admissions		Number of graduates	Number of students	Total
	Elementary	After			
ALGERIA	25	25	25	187	242
ARGENTINA	25	25	25	25	100
AUSTRIA	200	200	100	200	400
BELGIUM	10	100	10	100	120
BULGARIA	20	20	20	20	80
CANADA	170	170	170	170	680
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	20	20	20	20	80

STUDENT ENROLMENT IN THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE WORLD ORT UNION

BREAKDOWN I : JANUARY 1952 - JANUARY 1953

BREAKDOWN II : NOVEMBER 1952 - MARCH 1953

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STUDENT ENROLMENT IN THE "O R T" INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD  
JANUARY 1952 - JANUARY 1953

C O U N T R Y	Number of Admissions		Number of Graduates	Departures before Graduation	Number of Students as of 1.1.1953			Frequentation 1.1.1952 - 1.1.1953
	Students 1.1.1952	after 1.1.1952			Men	Women	Total	
ALGERIA	179	101	28	65	187	--	187 a)	280
ARGENTINA	76	54	32	38	60	--	60	130
AUSTRIA	360	506	303	226	64	273	337	866
BELGIUM	478	246	88	128	238	270	508	724
BRAZIL	101	136	33	82	89	33	122	237
FRANCE	1733	1368	709	752	1158	482	1640 b)	3,101
GERMANY	485	288	89	368	135	181	316	773
GREAT BRITAIN	45	101	43	49	15	39	54	146
GREECE	46	12	18	7	19	14	33	58
HOLLAND	352	313	141	183	157	184	341	665
IRAN	809	601	266	336	317	491	808	1,410
ISRAEL	1706	1577	949	550	1305	479	1784	3,283
ITALY	1170	474	172	259	630	583	1213	1,644
MOROCCO	784	453	10	477	358	392	750	1,237
SOUTH AFRICA	158	139	40	--	206	51	257 c)	297
TUNISIA	238	326	35	55	368	106	474 d)	564
URUGUAY	40	36	--	5	71	--	71	76
U. S. A.	330	1014	905	231	139	69	208	1,344
CENTRAL INSTITUTE	69	27	21 e)	5	70	--	70 f)	96
Industrial practice after State-Exams	15	21 e)	14 g)	1	21	--	21	36
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>9174</b>	<b>7793</b>	<b>3896</b>	<b>3817</b>	<b>5607</b>	<b>3647</b>	<b>9254</b>	<b>16,967</b>

a) Incl. 12 apprentices frequenting ORT supplementary courses; 7 other apprentices supervised by ORT are not listed in the above.

b) Incl. 600 apprentices.

c) Incl. 52 apprentices.

d) Incl. 119 apprentices frequenting ORT supplementary courses; 236 other apprentices supervised by ORT are not listed in the above.

e) Students who passed the State examinations and are now in industrial practice or functioning as assistant instructors in ORT schools.

f) Incl. 7 undergoing industrial practice before taking their State examinations; they also receive pedagogical preparation in the Institute.

g) Received instructor's diplomas and were appointed to ORT schools abroad.

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STUDENT ENROLMENT IN THE "O R T" INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD  
NOVEMBER 1952 - MARS 1953

C O U N T R Y	Number of Admissions		Number of Graduates	Departures before Graduation	Number of Students as of 1.3.1953			Frequentation 1.XI.1952-1.3.1953
	Students 1. XI.1952	after 1. XI.1952			Men	Women	Total	
ALGERIA	183	58	--	21	198	22	220 a)	241
ARGENTINA	100	--	32	8	60	--	60	100
AUSTRIA	290	115	74	22	59	250	309	405
BELGIUM	510	45	6	69	223	257	480	555
BRAZIL	154	2	13	21	89	33	122	156
FRANCE	1636	347	122	206	1142	513	1655 b)	1,983
GERMANY	330	52	9	50	140	183	323	382
GREAT BRITAIN	62	13	7	12	15	41	56	75
GREECE	33	--	--	--	19	14	33	33
HOLLAND	333	180	66	64	184	199	383	513
IRAN	821	172	70	130	323	470	793	993
ISRAEL	1657	500	133	81	1421	522	1943	2,157
ITALY	1219	80	77	40	597	585	1182	1,299
MOROCCO	786	29	--	89	360	366	726	815
SOUTH AFRICA	287	--	30	--	206	51	257 c)	287
TUNISIA	472	36	9	1	372	126	498 d)	508
URUGUAY	71	1	--	3	69	--	69	72
U. S. A.	198	347	250	74	149	72	221	545
CENTRAL INSTITUTE	70	3	1	2	70	--	70 e)	73
Industrial practice after State-Exams	23	1	--	1	23	--	23 f)	24
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>9235</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>5719</b>	<b>3704</b>	<b>9423</b>	<b>11,216</b>

a) Incl. 13 apprentices frequenting ORT supplementary courses; 13 other apprentices supervised by ORT are not listed in the above.

b) Incl. 625 apprentices.

c) Incl. 52 apprentices.

d) Incl. 156 apprentices frequenting ORT supplementary courses; 234 other apprentices supervised by ORT are not listed by the above.

e) Incl. 5 undergoing industrial practice before taking their state examinations; they also receive pedagogical preparation in the Institute.

f) Of whom 9 are already employed as instructors in ORT schools abroad.

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M E E T I N G  
of the  
E X E C U T I V E C O M M I T T E E  
November 16th, 1952  
in G E N E V A

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MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF WORLD ORT UNION

November 16, 1952, at the Library of the Central ORT Institute, Anières

PRESENT: Judge L. Meiss, President of the Central Board  
Dr. A. Syngalowski, Chairman of the Executive Committee

Mr. A. Alpérine, Paris	)	
Mr. A. Brunschvig, Geneva	)	
Mr. J. Chorin, Geneva	)	
Dr. M. Gurny, Zurich	)	
Mr. A. Halpern, London	)	
Prof. L. Hersch, Geneva	)	Members of the Executive Com-
Mr. R. Levi, Rome	)	mittee
Mr. E. Lewin-Epstein, Tel-Aviv	)	
Mr. R. van Praag, Brussels	)	
Mrs. L. Roubach, Paris	)	
Mr. J. Scheftel, Paris	)	
Mr. J. Shapiro, Tel-Aviv	)	

Mr. M.A. Braude, Director, World ORT Union  
Dr. V. Halpérin, Secretary of the Executive Committee

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. D.L. Harris, Toronto  
Mr. J. Grunberg ) Members of the Administrative Council of the  
Mr. P. de Tolédo ) Central ORT Institute  
Mr. A. Kovarsky, Director, ORT France  
Mr. F. Schragar, Director, Paris Office of World ORT Union  
Mr. S. Goldmann, Director, Swiss ORT

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A G E N D A

- I. The Status of Activities at the beginning of the school year 1952/53
- II. Financial Report for the first nine months of 1952
- III. Budget Project 1953
- IV. Negotiations with the AJDC and the S.A. Jewish Appeal
- V. Fundraising outside the U.S.A. and South Africa
- VI. Miscellaneous

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R E S O L U T I O N S

- 1) The Executive Committee of World ORT Union, assembled in the Central ORT Institute in Anières, honours the memory of the late President of the State of Israel Dr. Chaim Weizmann and resolves to name a room in the Institute after him.

- 2) The Executive Committee confirms the financial report of the ORT Union for the first nine months of 1952 and the payments plan for the fourth quarter of 1952.
- 3) With reference to the decision of the last meeting of the Central Board concerning the safeguarding of the special character of ORT institutions as vocational schools, the Executive resolves that the group of girls not engaged in full-time vocational training in the Casablanca girls' school must leave the ORT school at the end of the school year.
- 4) With regard to destitute young people not yet embraced by vocational schools the Executive appeals to all local organizations to approach authorities and communities with a view to securing support for these youngsters.
- 5) The attention of national organizations is drawn to the fact that the payment of subsidies by the Central Office will depend on the amount of local income received.
- 6) The Executive Committee confirms the budget project submitted for 1953; the final budget is to be established at the next meeting of the Executive.
- 7) After hearing the report of the Israeli Executive members Messrs. Shapiro and Lewing-Epstein, the Executive notes that it is vitally necessary for the Israeli ORT to receive \$ 50,000 above the budget foreseen for 1952; with this sum and with the prospective Government subsidy its deficit due to price increases is to be covered.
- 8) The Executive Committee charges the Central Office of the ORT Union with the elaboration of a scheme allowing for the participation in internat costs by the students of the Central ORT Institute or their families; if such participation cannot be obtained the students are to engage themselves to repay part of the cost at a future date.
- 9) Having regard to the increased costs of living, the Executive Committee requests the Central Office to contact the various women's organizations with a view to augmenting the maintenance quota of the Anières students.
- 10) Resolutions concerning the proposals of the Fundraising Committee:

Having heard Mr. Renzo Levi's report on the meeting of the special committee on fundraising at which also Messrs. Gurny, Chorin, Lewin-Epstein, Syngalowski, Braude, Helpérin, Kovarsky and Schragger participated, the Executive Committee resolves:

  - a) In countries where ORT receives funds on the basis of agreements with United Appeals, the ORT organizations
    - are to endeavour to obtain, over and above the fixed allocations provided in the agreements, additional shares of the United Appeal revenues in case these latter exceed a certain amount;
    - are to take care that the permission of membership campaigning granted to the ORT organizations in the agreements (provided the membership dues do not exceed a certain maximal amount) is used to the fullest as the women's organizations have already been doing;

- are to organize special machine and tool drives on the basis of lists established conjointly with the ORT Union Central Office, as the Canadian ORT Federation did this year.
- In countries where only Magbit drives are held, an appeal is made to all ORT friends and ORT leaders to exert their influence towards obtaining a percentage of the income for ORT's work in Israel which is an important part of the development of the State. The sum may be paid in the diaspora or in Israel herself.
- In countries where independent fundraising is possible (Mexico, Cuba, Belgian Congo, Australia, perhaps Japan, and Scandinavia and Switzerland in Western Europe) a program is to be elaborated for 1953 according to which ORT campaigns are held in agreement with the leaders of local communal bodies.

b) In all countries where ORT institutions are operated, special commissions are to be set up to deal with the increase of local revenue (with the exception of governmental subsidies).

A special fundraising service is to be organized in the Geneva Central Office and a competent person found to head this department.

11) Having regard to the fact that ORT's work in Israel was for the major part made possible from the beginning with South African funds, the Executive resolves that two of its members should go to South Africa on behalf of the ORT Union in order to inform the ORT leaders and competent Jewish bodies of the present position of ORT's work, particularly in Israel, and to find ways and means towards a larger participation of South Africa in the budget of the ORT Union.

APPENDIX

COMPOSITION OF THE DIRECTING BODIES

of the

WORLD ORT UNION

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COMPOSITION OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF THE WORLD ORT UNION

- 102 -

enlarged in July 1952

and

OF THE NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Honorary President : Senator Herbert H. Lehman, New York  
President of the Central Board : Mr. Léon Meiss, Paris  
President of the Executive Committee : Dr. A. Syngalowski, Geneva  
Vice-Chairmen of the Central Board : Messrs. A. Brunschvig, Geneva  
Dr. W. Haber, New York  
A.J. Halpern, London  
J. Hochman, New York  
Mrs. L. Kaphan, New York

Members of the Central Board :

Algeria : Messrs. A. Chiche  
Argentina : M. Avenburg  
J. Wengrower  
Australia, New Zealand : B. Surovitch  
Belgium : R. Van Praag  
Brazil : A. Ettliger  
Canada : L.C. Crestohl, M.P.  
H. Greenwood  
Mrs. H.D. Cheifetz  
Chile : A. Klein  
England : Col. Lipton, M.P.  
France : A. Alpérine  
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R. Grinberg

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