

**ORT-UNION**  
**in**

**1955**

**Report submitted to the Meeting  
of the Executive Committee  
of the World ORT Union  
in Geneva, February 18th-19th, 1956**

**Central Office of the  
ORT UNION**

**Geneva  
February 1956**

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## GENERAL SURVEY

### CENTRAL REPPORT FOR 1955

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GENERAL SURVEY  
Central Report for 1955

Introduction

In its 75th year of existence ORT attained a degree of performance never surpassed in the past.

In the solemn Congress Meeting, which was dedicated to the Jubilee, our attention rested upon the historic evaluation of ORT's accomplishments in the past. In that connection it is noteworthy, that the public at large in the manifold manifestations in all countries, in the publicity, in the messages of greetings from various statesmen and the leaders of Jewry, headed by the leaders of Israel, acclaimed above all the magnitude which ORT's current work exhibits in scope and cultural and economic importance.

It is, however, our practice in the annual analysis of ORT activity simultaneously with enumerating the accomplishments, to remember to point up the failings not yet corrected and the problems as yet unsolved.

Thus if we survey our activities for 1955, we ask ourselves mainly:-

- a) whether the "open questions" which we specified in the past year as obstacles were brought closer to their solution in the meantime;
- b) to what extent the new initiatives, which we planned at the end of 1954, have been translated into deeds;
- c) whether and to what extent we have been successful in recent years to overcome critical situations in the field of ORT Union's income from some countries (not to be confounded with local income for ORT national organizations).

\*

1) The work in Italy, as will be mentioned below, has, in many respects, improved during the past two years. However, what we specified as a deficiency was the too low age of the student body in the day schools in Rome. Last year we formulated the demand that the duration of training be extended, and that the Jewish community should provide for the general education of pupils during the first two school years. We are now able to state that the Roman Jewish

Community has agreed in principle and in 1955 started to participate in the total schooling costs. On the other hand the Italian ORT has created its first normal trade school for electromechanics in Rome, with a student body aged 14 and over consisting in part of youngsters who formerly attended ORT's pre-apprenticeship classes.

2) Striving for the quality of thorough vocational training did not prevent the ORT Union from seeing the correct proportion between the possibility of establishing modern trade schools with longer curricula, and the extent of the need of Jewish youth, especially in the North African countries.

The program of apprenticeship, which ORT developed in recent year arose from this recognition. Towards the end of 1954, however, we reached the conclusion that the possibility of development in this field would be limited considerably if the apprenticeship section continued to be linked with the premises of ORT schools and their administration. We therefore decided to create in both Tunisia and Morocco separate centres for this branch. This initiative was implemented during the past year, in Tunisia, in a building specially purchased, and in Casablanca in rented premises.

In France, too, we now hope to be able to materialize the idea of a separate apprenticeship centre soon.

3) ORT's work in the Moslem countries means, de facto, not only vocational training of neglected generations of youths and adults; it is simultaneously a school for those who have to take a leading part in social work.

In Europe there always existed a leadership of high social-ethical culture, with rich experience. In all countries ORT disposed of cadres of qualified leaders, trained in ORT's spirit. At that time ORT, as well as all Jewish social organizations could draw copiously from the rich source of the Eastern-European Jewish intelligentsia, exterminated since by the German armies and the Nazi murderers. After the war ORT had to start anew, also in respect of its leadership, in Western Europe as well as in Israel. It had to acquaint new people on new ground with the ORT spirit and the ORT methods and experiences. So far this has been achieved to a large extent, which is of no lesser importance than the graduation of thousands of ORT students.

However, the most difficult problem in this regard was that of leadership in the Moslem countries. Development there is extremely slow. Although we

already have in our midst several prominent men and women from those countries, who penetrate ever deeper into the ideas and work methods of ORT. The general picture, however, still leaves a lot to be desired. Under the pressure of times a kind of fatal passivity towards altruistic tasks has become deeply rooted here even among the well-to-do spheres, and as a result their majority still consider social work in their communities as a foreign matter. Nowhere was this evil as great as in Iran. The ORT Union's delegates there frequently had to fight difficulties inside and from the ORT Committee. In 1955, however, we could record progress here in regard to increased activity and responsibility on the part of leading members of the ORT-Committee.

4) In the post-war years we had reason to complain of the scarcity and irregularity of remittances from Argentine, Brazil and Chile. In these countries ORT schools had been created which, in the first place, did not come up to the technical and pedagogical requirements of the ORT Union, and in the second, owing to shortage of adequate local income, they used a large part of the amounts allocated to the ORT Union by the Magbit, as well as proceeds of independent ORT Union campaigns, for their own needs. The re-organization of ORT's work in these countries, where there is a very numerous ORT membership, is still on the agenda. In one respect we have introduced a reform in 1955. We have accepted the proposal of the AJDC and of the Magbit in those countries to receive the part granted to the ORT Union direct from the JDC, and that at least in the same percentage as was granted in previous years by the Magbit. This reduces our fund-raising expenses and should guarantee the stability of remittances.

On the other hand, the crisis in regard to income from South Africa has not yet been overcome. Quite recently we were advised that the South African Jewish Appeal ceased to be the source from which we and other organizations draw aid for the current year. Further changes in the field of fund-raising then confront the ORT with a new situation.

The funds which were allotted for 1953 were received in 1955. For 1954/55 we have so far received only \$ 28,000.

At the time of writing it is as yet impossible to say from whom ORT is to receive assistance for 1955/56, and what will happen next year.

The resolution of the ORT Union Executive to delegate Prof. Haber and General Ben-Artzi to Johannesburg to negotiate these questions, could not be implemented so far, since both gentlemen were prevented by personal affairs

from proceeding to Johannesburg at the time. The Executive will have to deal with that question at its forthcoming meeting.

## II.

### Some Facts and Figures

#### 1) Expenditures and Income

The expenditure budget of the ORT Union for 1955 was set at  $\$ 3,750,000$  (as compared with a budget totalling  $\$ 3,150,000$  in 1954): including  $\$ 40,000$  to reduce a deficit carried forward from 1952 (see below for its sources.)

The actual expenditures of the ORT Union 1955 totalled  $\$ 3,825,000$ , with the increased expenditure covered by increased local income.

For 1955, the central income was budgeted in the amount of  $\$ 2,338,000$ . Of this sum  $\$ 2,298,000$  was actually received, or is at our disposal. In keeping with previous years' grants from the S.A.J.A. in the amount of  $\text{£ } 60,000$ , we included that amount in our budget for 1955. We had expected that at least half of that sum would be paid in 1955 and the balance early in 1956. Actually by the end of this February only  $\$ 28,000$  had been received. The shortage for 1955 was met in half through increased income from other sources. Thus the old deficit, which had arisen from the fact that ORT had to repay  $\$ 50,000$  to the JDC for 1952 according to the agreement, was not essentially reduced.

Local income amounted last year to  $\$ 1,530,000$  as compared with  $\$ 1,230,000$  in 1954 and  $\$ 1,168,000$  in 1953. An increase in local income is to be noted in all countries.

The income from government subventions totalled  $\$ 680,000$  in 1955. In that respect the Italian ORT led all other ORT organizations in the past year. Its expenditure budget for 1955 was 50% over that of 1954, and over 90% of these increased expenses were covered from government funds. The total amount of the Italian ORT's governmental support reached about 45,800,000 Lire in 1955 ( $\$ 73,500$ ) as compared with 23,5 million in 1954.

Local income from Jewish sources in all countries, particularly from campaigns is less satisfactory. The fact must affect the confidence of the country organizations, which have to carry the ever growing burden of their schools. It is time, therefore, to appoint a special commission consisting of representatives of the interested ORT organizations, which, together with the ORT Central offices should examine the questions of local income, and seek for ways and means of protecting ORT's interest in view of the growing centralization of fund-raising campaigns.

## 2) Figures Concerning the Studentbody.

In the past year a total of about 20,000 people attended ORT schools. The number of apprentices supervised by the ORT in private enterprises is referred to below.

The number of ORT graduates was 4,574. The number of students who prematurely interrupted their training amounted to 3447. This was mainly affected by events in North Africa and the situation in Israel. Premature departures in Italy were in the main emigrating USEP trainees, mainly non-Jewish refugees, whose training is entirely financed by the USEP.- It is noteworthy that in Germany and Austria we registered practically no premature departures in 1955. The departures in North Africa, despite the general situation, were largely compensated for by new enrolment, which considerably exceeded last year's.

The number of ORT Trade Schools (exclusive of the various courses for apprentices and adults) is currently 114.

We refrain from mentioning in this report the number of new sections opened at the various schools, and confine ourselves to the statement that 17 schools in Israel, Morocco, Tunis, Iran, Italy and Holland, have received new workshops and classes.

## 3) Employment of Graduates

We are now in a position to state that it is evident from the country reports contained in this issue, that there is no problem of finding employment for the male graduates of schools and trade courses. The placing of female graduates in needle trades is slightly more difficult.

In the European countries 1955 was a year of considerable industrial development. The demand for qualified personnel presented itself accordingly. Consequently ORT graduates generally found employment in their trades, even in Italy where there are still approx. 2 million unemployed as a result of the large increase of population.

In Iran ORT graduates opened 22 production workshops with the aid of credits granted by ORT. These workshops prosper and regularly repay the credits granted to them. They are already training Jewish apprentices.

The report of ORT-Tunisia states:- "There are no unemployed among the graduates of ORT Schools."

#### 4) Development and Problems of the School Network

##### a) New Trade Schools and Expansion of Existing Institutions.

New schools were created:- seven were opened in Israel for youth from the Maabaroth; in Rome, a school for electromechanics was opened; in Iran, where activities took quite a new, very gratifying turn, thanks to the efforts of Mr. D. Alberstin, a new school for shoemaking with two parallel classes was opened. We make special mention of this new school, since it provides training in a trade, which generally does not attract Jewish youth.

In Israel six day-schools were raised to a higher level with a four-year training schedule, in order to conform to the demands of modern industry. The scope of the curriculum and the amount of practical training should thereby be assimilated to the program of Western European trade schools.

In France new sections for girls have been added: a section for the training of management secretaries, for which there is considerable demand and a section for technicians for radio-television. The girls' schools for chemical laboratory assistants, both in Israel and Morocco, have developed satisfactorily. Some of the pupils are already undergoing practical training in pharmacies and laboratories. A similar girls' school is to be opened in Tunis shortly.

##### b) New Trades

In addition to the above mentioned girls' schools, we wish to stress here the newly introduced specialization for car-bodywork, auto-electricity and arc-welding, shoemaking in Iran, and **especially** an experiment in the field of male trades - in which we could only very slowly interest Jewish youth, despite the excellent financial prospects the trade offers in all countries. We refer to the plumbing trade. Currently ORT operates schools for plumbers, in Constantine (Algeria), Tunis, Casablanca and Leghorn (Italy). The instructors, whom we specially trained for that purpose at the Central ORT Institute at Anières, have achieved an excellent performance in this field. In Tunis, our Anières instructor, Mr. N. Szer even has young people with matriculation certificates among his students. This is due to the high standard of the school.

III.

EQUIPMENT - INSTRUCTORATE - DIDACTIC MATERIAL

During the past year ORT country organizations have received additional machinery and material in the amount of approx. \$ 200,000. Of this amount \$ 50,000 were received from the Jewish Colonization Association. To this should be added the machines and tools produced by the schools themselves, especially in France, Israel and Tunis, for their own needs.

This additional equipment made it possible for nearly all schools to increase their production for the purpose of sale.- The quality of the ORT Schools' products were seen at the large Exhibition, held in Geneva at the Museum of Art and History, on the occasion of the Jubilee Congress.

During 1955 ORT Schools were enriched by new i n s t r u c t o r s. The report of the Central ORT Institute speaks for itself. The significance of Anières instructors is stressed in almost every country organization report. We wish to point out especially:-

1) that during 1955 the Central Office of the ORT Union succeeded in initiating a program for the improvement of valuable ORT instructors, who had not been trained at Anières. Under the direction of the Technical-Pedagogical Department, 14 instructors could undergo complementary training in Switzerland. Prominent Swiss industries and cantonal trade schools gave these instructors the opportunity to become acquainted with local industrial achievements and methods of training in Swiss trade schools. The reports which we receive from the directors of our trade schools where these instructors are employed, are full of esteem for the significance of this course to the further development of their institutions.

2) At the Central Institute a group of teachers of a new type has been trained. These are specialists in teaching technical design and technology. All these students first completed their training as mechanics or electricians, and then studied the theoretical subjects and went through a period of practical training in construction offices of Swiss factories. Thus ORT schools will obtain teachers who are in a position to carry out in practice at the workshop what they teach in theoretical subjects in the classroom.

This experiment is an innovation in the field of vocational training (not only Jewish) and is considered as valuable by trade school leaders in Switzerland.

3) For the first time a specialist for children's workshops was trained according to a special ORT plan. A graduate of the Institute, Mr. Kelmovitch, underwent a special course and practical training in the training workshops of Swiss elementary schools. He was equipped with a series of drawings and designs for children's works in wood, metal, plexiglass and straw, and assigned to Israel. With his help and in agreement with the Ministry of Education monitors for workshop training in elementary schools are to be trained.

4) The ORT Centre for the Training of Instructresses in Paris, has produced its first eleven graduates and assigned them to serve in ORT schools. They are already successfully employed in Tunisia, Israel, Morocco, Iran, Germany and Holland.

5) The school directors in the various countries have during the past year received from the Technical and Pedagogical Department newly prepared teaching plans for various trades, detailed programs, as well as series of blue-prints. In addition, manuals, technical books and periodicals, charts and other didactic material was supplied by the Geneva office to the various schools.

#### IV.

##### APPRENTICESHIP - COURSES FOR ADULTS

1) By the end of 1955 the number of apprentices under ORT's supervision reached the total of 2743.

With the opening of the pre-apprenticeship courses referred to in the introduction, and with the creation of separate centres for apprentices, a further expansion of this sector of ORT's work begins.

The apprenticeship system in Tunis is managed by a director assigned for that purpose only, Mr. H. Muller. An improvement of the whole system of ORT's aid for apprentices was achieved there, and it will be of pioneer value for other centres as well. We deeply appreciate the cooperation of the OSE who give medical examinations to apprentice candidates.

The recently published decree of the Tunisian government contains, inter alia regulations for the determination of wages for apprentices as well as the financing of complementary courses from a special tax (Taxe d'Apprentissage). This will certainly have a beneficial effect on ORT's activities in favour of the apprentices.

2) Towards the end of 1955, ORT-Organizations in Morocco, Tunisia and Iran tackled new tasks in the field of short-term training of tradeless adults. This program, which in itself is not new in ORT's history, and which occupied an important place in the activity of ORT during the post-war years in France, as well as in Italy, Germany and Austria, has become of particular topical importance recently in the Moslem countries. The training of the mass of tradeless Jews is of extraordinary significance both for the Aliyah as well as for the alleviation of the dire local needs.

Eight short-term ORT courses for adults are already functioning in North Africa and in Iran in building-electricity, welding, carpentry, and shirtmaking.

The Technical Pedagogical Department devoted particular attention to the preparation of teaching plans for that purpose.

The interest manifested by the population in these ORT measures, as well as the agreement with the Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency, leads to the certain expectation of further development of that sector in proportion to the funds which will be at the disposal of the ORT Union for this purpose.

## V.

### TOPICAL PROBLEMS

At this juncture a political question, which concerns ORT's activity in North Africa, particularly in Tunis, should be mentioned.

Recent events compelled ORT institutions too, which are in a situation slightly different from that of the Alliance schools, to face the dilemma - orientation towards the Tunisian Ministry of Education or towards the French Cultural Mission. So far the Tunisian ORT has taken no definite decision.-

In Morocco the fact is significant that the Moroccan Government has increased its subvention to ORT for 1956.

The premises housing the girls' school in Tunis have proven inadequate, nor is the quarter where it is located very secure. Since we could not agree that the girls' school be transferred to the new centre, housing the apprenticeship section and the courses for adults, we suggested that the Tunisian ORT rent new premises for the girls' school.- We still object to further investments for the erection of buildings in Tunisia.

Trained instructors will have to become acquainted with suitable teaching programs for the courses for adults; for this purpose a special course is to be arranged in 1956.

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In consideration of the increased scope of trades for girls' schools, the curriculum of the Centre for the Training of Instructresses in Paris is to be modified in 1956. The work in that school will be able to develop more satisfactorily in the new premises, acquired with the help of the Women's American ORT.

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The existence of the Central ORT Institute is no end in itself, -its task is to adapt its structure and the character of its sections to the needs of trade schools. In this connection and also in consideration of some proposals received from the Histadrut, as well as from the Israeli Ministry of Education, the student body is to be increased in 1956, the program to be modified and new sections to be opened.

## VI.

### ORGANIZATION

The last Congress has increased the membership of the Central Board of the ORT Union. The Organizations of Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iran are now represented on the Central Board and on the Executive Committee. The number of representatives of Israel, North Africa and England has been increased.

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In the field of organization certain developments are to be noted in nearly all the countries, particularly through the creation of special commissions and through the division of responsibilities among members of the Committees.

In some countries -at the instigation of the ORT Union- technical commissions were created. The work of the Technical Council of the French ORT, presided over by Engineer Cremer, should be an example for the activities of these commissions.

The members of the French Technical Council regularly inspect the ORT schools and submit their reports to the plenary session of the Council for consideration, which is of importance for the direction of the schools in a accord with the demands of industry.

\*

Considerable progress is to be noted in England. Master A.S. Diamond has accepted the chairmanship of the British ORT. The Executive Committee formed by him set itself the task of assisting the ORT Union materially in accord with the considerable possibilities in England.- The visit of Judge Diamond to Geneva, upon the invitation of the Central Office, resulted in an understanding in respect of the work plan of the British ORT for 1956.- The ladies' committee, under the leadership of Mrs. H.H. Wingate, is developing considerable activity.

For the realization of the plans mentioned above, visits to England by Mrs. L. Kaphan, President of the International Women's ORT and by Dr. Haber, President of the Central Board, are planned.

The February session of the Executive Committee will be attended by Master Diamond as the British ORT member.

\*

An important step in the field of organization is the newly created International Women's ORT, under the leadership of Mrs. L. Kaphan, Baroness Pierre de Gunzbourg and Madame M. Roubach.

Since the Congress the IWO can already register some successes, especially in regard to participation by national women's committees in the creation of a new Centre for Girls in Israel. Furthermore it has succeeded in creating new ORT Women's Committees in several countries.

The extensive program of the IWO for 1956 and the great activity which Mrs. Kaphan is developing in this field, encourages the expectation of favourable results.

The activity of the Women's American ORT under the leadership of Mrs. Victor Segal deserves very special mention. The executive of this, the largest ORT Organization, put at the disposal of the ORT Union a total of \$ 410.000.-, part of which is earmarked for the erection of a large ORT-House in Tel-Aviv

The untiring work of the leadership of the Women's American ORT, with the devoted help of its Director, Mr. N. Gould, is still one of the main pillars of our movement.

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In T e t u a n (Spanish Morocco) an ORT organization was created with the permission of the local authorities. This Committee, presided over by Mr. Jacinto Gabizon, includes prominent leaders of the local community.

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We conclude this report by noting with satisfaction and expressing our gratitude for the cooperation of the American Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Colonization Association and the Alliance Israélite Universelle. We also attribute special importance to the closer relationship between the ORT Union, the International Labour Office and the UNESCO. We wish to thank the Canadian UJRA and the South African Jewish Appeal for their assistance, as well as the Swiss Foundation Bona Terra under the direction of Prof. Paul Guggenheim for the aid granted to students of the Central Institute in Geneva.

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The activity in the past year in many ways enriched the ORT Union through achievements and brought new problems and tasks. We have reason to believe that another ORT year rich in content may be added to the annals of our movement.

A.S.

Geneva, February 1956.

WORLD ORT UNION, PARIS OFFICE

In the field of public relations a considerable number of international Jewish meetings took place, and official missions of international Jewish organizations came to Paris during the summer of 1955. We quote the "International Conference of the World Union for Progressive Judaism", the meeting of the "Executive Directors of Various U.S. Fund Drives", Missions of the United Jewish Appeal and the Workmen's Circle, whose members visited the Montreuil School as a group. Many individual visitors called upon us including Dr. Jacob Greenberg, Deputy Superintendent of the New York Schools.

The office of the ORT Union, Paris, has dealt with the purchase of the building in Rue Cortambert and with plans for its alteration with a view to establishing there the Centre de Formation d'Instructrices d'Ecoles Professionnelles. The administration of ORT Français has moved from Rue Cortambert into the two top floors of 10 Villa d'Eylau.

After a thorough examination under the direction of Dr. Syngalowski, of the problems created by the future installation of the Centre de Formation d'Instructrices in the Rue Cortambert building, alterations of this building started in November, 1955, and will be completed in March 1956. The Paris office supervises the installation, financial and other aspects.

The Paris Office has also helped the Centre de Formation administratively especially as far as negotiations with the civil authorities were concerned.

Executive Committee meetings were held in Paris in February and November. The text of the new statutes adopted by the ORT Congress was established.

The Purchasing Section bought material for the schools in North Africa, Israel and Iran, and has taken advantage of the presence in Paris of several instructors from these countries to clarify orders which are of interest to ORT Tunis for the equipment of new sections.

Mr. Schragger visited Morocco in September to study the situation created there as a result of recent events. Following the instructions of the Central Office, Geneva, he studied a special programme for the training of North African students in Metropolitan France.

Mr. Schragger has taken over the functions of our dear friend, the late Alexandre Kovarski - Director of ORT Français.

The Paris Office has also attended to certain formalities relating to the purchase of the building at rue des Salines, Tunis.

As far as UNESCO is concerned, the programme and the preparatory work for the Social Science and Technical Assistance groups was drafted by Mr. C.L. Lang, delegate of ORT Union, who has been elected Vice-President of the Social Sciences Working Group.

Finally, this office has carried out multiple negotiations with the authorities on behalf of present and former co-workers of our organization.

#### LEGAL SERVICE

The Legal Division of ORT Union - under the direction of Mr. Scheftel - dealt with legal problems arising out of the decisions of the 1955 ORT Congress. It also supervised the procedure followed by the Paris and Berlin Sections of the U.R.O. vis-a-vis the competent Berlin authorities in connection with ORT's indemnity claim for the damage caused by the confiscation under the Nazi Régime of the equipment of the former Berlin ORT School.

RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE AJDC FOR 1956

Report on the Trip to the U. S. A.

by Dr. A. Syngalowski

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RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE AJDC FOR 1956

by Dr. A. Syngalowski

I.

During the JDC-Directors' Conference in Paris (October 16th to 19th, 1955), we had a discussion with the leaders of the AJDC, in which they enquired about the budget plans of the ORT Union for 1956. I stated that we did not foresee any increases of the subventions, except for Israel and North Africa. Messrs. M.A. Leavitt and M.W. Beckelman said that we could expect no increases from the JDC for Israel. We picked out of the ORT Israel budget only one item which refers to the compulsory increases in salaries for the staff. Their reply was that in this matter ORT could only apply to the Jewish Agency or to the Israeli Government. Mr. Leavitt promised to discuss the matter within the next few days with the Treasurer of the Jewish Agency, Dr. Josephstal, in Jerusalem.

With respect to the foreseen new courses for adults in North Africa, on which I had lectured on the day before, at the session of the JDC Directors, we heard in the above restricted discussion no critical remarks and also no "warnings" in regard to the expenses.- On the contrary, in some of the talks, which I had with Mr. M.W. Beckelman -whose death we deeply mourn- he constantly stressed the point that we could expect no increase of subventions for other countries, because currently increased attention had to be devoted to work in North Africa. That was in accordance with the intentions with which I went to Morocco on October 5th, 1955.

In the same spirit of extended help for North Africa the JDC Directors' Conference took its course. This was clear from the reports of the JDC Directors, as well as from the discussions and statements of the JDC leaders. Even in the address of Dr. J. Josephstal, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency, on the Aliyah from North Africa it was stressed that the Aliyah was handicapped through the large number of people without profession or trade, and that the

absorption of the North African Olim in Israel depended to a considerable degree on whether these people could ply a productive trade.

Consequently, we had, before and after the above mentioned preliminary discussion with Mr. Leavitt and Mr. Beckelman in Paris, every reason to worry about the increased financial requirements for Israel. But not North Africa, least of all for the plan of short-term courses for adults, which are of decisive importance not only for those who intend to stay in the country, but primarily for the Olim. This is also evident from our agreement of December 5, 1955, with the Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem.

However, after the JDC Conference in Paris, the JDC leaders went to Israel, together with a large delegation of the United Jewish Appeal who had attended the above JDC Conference. Their decisions were taken by which the JDC leaders declared themselves prepared to assume financial obligations, which strongly influenced their original program for 1956, and limited the financial possibilities for JDC's hitherto existing tasks. On the return of the JDC delegation, I received a letter from Mr. Beckelman, in which he wrote, inter alia:-

- ..." The internal discussions which took place among the members of the UJA mission, which Mr. Warburg, Mr. Leavitt and I accompanied to Israel and with representatives of the Jewish Agency, led to agreement that absolute primacy in UJA fund raising during 1956 should go to the needs of Israel and to the immigration and absorption costs of North African emigrants to Israel.
- ... JDC will be called upon to make an extraordinary effort and contribution toward increasing the amount of UJA funds which will be available during 1956 for the two principal purposes I have mentioned.
- ... It follows from this that without regard to the merits of the case, I shall not be in a position to support any proposals for an increased JDC grant to World ORT Union in 1956. I am sure I need not emphasize the point that I deeply regret the necessity for taking this position.
- ... I do not ask that you agree with the point of view I have expressed. I do, however, urge that you should, and hope that you will take it into account in preparing the budget proposals for 1956, which I hope we shall have the opportunity to consider prior to my departure for the USA."

In my reply I stated:-

- ..."If assistance to North Africa is to have priority after aid to Israel in the coming year, our special program of accelerated courses for adults is a part of this urgent relief action. This view is shared by all those who consider emigration as the most important way out of the current situation.

... If the ORT tasks are presented as part of the JDC's program in the USA, it is only logical and just that you should consider our emergency program for North Africa in proportion to the other parts of your program, and not exclude it from your care as a matter concerning a foreign organization.

... You know the position in all countries in regard to the increase of salaries and the cost of materials. If we do not claim additional sums from the JDC for this purpose for countries other than Israel, the additional income, which we are endeavouring to obtain from other sources will be used to cover these additional costs."

## II.

Our conferences with the European JDC Direction, which usually precedes the signing of the agreement in New York, took place from November 26th to 28th, 1955. These conferences were attended by Messrs. M.W. Beckelman, H. Katzki, N. Aronovici, A. Kahane and M. Steinberg on behalf of the JDC, Mr. V. Girmounsky, Director General of the JCA, and Mr. Braude and myself on behalf of ORT.

The task and the procedure of these negotiations were established during the last 5 - 6 years as follows:- Preliminary discussions are held with the staff of Mr. Beckelman in which Mr. M. Braude has participated in our behalf for the past years. In these discussions the individual budgets of our national organizations, which have been previously forwarded to the JDC, are considered. At that time the JDC Direction is already in possession of the reports and remarks of its country directors on each country budget of ORT.- During these preliminary talks the JDC gentlemen submit their eventual objections in regard to one or the other item of expenditure of a country organization or of the Central Office of the ORT Union. It is then that we communicate the amounts foreseen as subventions for each particular country on the strength of the budget proposal adopted by our Executive. These are frequently lower than the subventions requested in the individual country budgets.

In the subsequent plenary sessions these proposals as well as the amounts for the central operations and administrative expenditures of the ORT Union are discussed in detail. After an agreement is reached on each separate item, as well as on the total expenses of the ORT Union's budget (without touching on the participation of the JDC) we submit figures on the income which the ORT Union expects for the year concerned from sources other than JDC. Thereupon the amount still needed is established, which we request from the AJDC.

For years the JDC has been demanding from the ORT Union that the increase of local income correspond to the increase of expenditure and that the central income of the ORT Union from other-than-JDC sources be in a determined proportion to the amounts which we receive from the JDC. I agreed to that principle four years ago, which the JDC could record as progress, and which strengthened the cooperation between the two organizations. Annually we could demonstrate our adherence to this promise. On this basis, the Director General of the JDC usually calculated the total, which he promised to defend during the final negotiations in New York.

During the last negotiations in Paris the JDC recognized the sums specified by us for the current work in all countries, where there were no or very insignificant increases.

The question of the considerably increased expenditures for Israel and for the new trade courses for adults in North Africa proved difficult. Mr. Beckelman declared that he was not authorised to include expenses for new schools or courses in the agreement for this year, owing to the new obligations of the JDC in connection with the Aliyah transportation costs. - We therefore confined ourselves to negotiating only on those increases of expenses in Israel, which are not connected with new projects, but arise exclusively from the rise of salaries decided within the country. In defending this sum, which amounts to \$ 156,000.- I reminded him that the JDC does not cover our total expenses, but only a certain portion thereof. Subsequently Mr. Beckelman included the sum of \$ 886,000.- for Israel in the budget recognized by him.

Negotiations on the new tasks, such as the short-term courses in North Africa took quite a different course. Here Mr. Beckelman reiterated that on the strength of the JDC's decision to expend \$ 3,700,000 for the Aliyah Transport, he was not in a position to defend expenses for new ORT projects this year. He was, therefore, prepared to discuss the program, although he could make no promises.

I submitted our proposals pointing out the large number of families in Morocco, whom according to the decisions of the Jewish Agency cannot be considered for the Aliyah, because none of their members can ply a productive trade. In this way, I said, it will presumably not be possible to expend the

amount specified on the Aliyah-Transport without our short-term courses.

Mr. Beckelman replied that this was not excluded, and therefore suggested that we should again treat the budget for the additional ORT-Program some time later, presumably in July, from the standpoint of the financial possibilities. I reserved the right to revert to this matter in New York.

Mr. Beckelman then read all the figures which had been accepted by both parties, including the above mentioned increase for salaries in Israel. Furthermore it was ascertained that the proportion of the funds of the ORT Union (from sources other than the JDC) is slightly higher this year than last year. Mr. Beckelman closed the conference with the words:- "I believe that on the basis of the budget, for which the figures have been specified here, we shall have an agreement for 1956."

### III.

We arrived in New York on Saturday, January 14. On the same day the first preliminary talk with Dr. Haber took place. On Sunday, January 15, the American ORT Federation held the annual conference of its National Board of Directors. This conference, which lasted throughout the day, differed from all the previous conferences, not only by its numerous attendance (19 ORT committees were represented), but also through the character of the discussions and decisions. There were representatives of various ORT-organizations newly created throughout the country, men who - as was evident from their addresses and suggestions - treat their connection with ORT as a serious obligation. These new ORT chapters are primarily due to the active efforts of Mr. Paul Bernick, Executive Director of the AOF. They demanded from the leadership of the American ORT Federation a program for practical activities. Their constructive criticism and their call for activity invested the conference with a new note, which could not remain without effect. The conference heard reports by the President of the AOF, Dr. Haber, by Mr. J. Tuvim (Labor ORT), by the Presidents of the ORT League and of the Young Men's and Women's ORT. Mr. Braude, in his address, characterized the leaders of the individual ORT Organizations throughout the world. I confined myself to a few words of greeting and delivered a comprehensive address that evening during dinner, which gave the conference its solemn conclusion. Addresses were delivered at the dinner by the International President of the Bnai-Brith, Mr. Phillip M. Klutznik, by the President

of the WAO, Mrs. V. Segal and by Dr. W. Haber. The last item on the program was the showing of the ORT film "Mellah", which was made as a result of the WAO's decision in Morocco and Anières. The film produced a lasting impression on the audience.

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On Monday, January 16, the first meeting with the AJDC took place. It was attended on behalf of the JDC by Executive Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. Leavitt and Mr. Charles Jordan, Mr. M.W. Beckelman's successor, on behalf of the American ORT Federation, by Dr. W. Haber, Mrs. V. Segal and Messrs. D. Rosenstein and M. Herzfeld, and the Executive Director of the AOF, Mr. Paul Bernick.

This meeting distinguished itself from those of the past year by the fact that except a few figures, which Mr. Braude specified on request, the preliminary negotiations in Paris, as well as the individual questions of the ORT budget were not entered into at all. In a confident, friendly manner, Mr. Leavitt described the financial situation, which was created in this critical year through the situation in and around Israel.- The JDC found itself compelled to limit the Malben's program in Israel, as well as to refuse all applications for increased aid by all subventioned countries. According to a decision of the Administrative Committee of the JDC, the scope of last year's expenditures for the current work must not be exceeded, but should be reduced as far as possible - - -

My arguments were aimed at the question of the increases of salaries for the staff in Israel and the significance of the emergency program in North Africa. The replies were:- firstly, that we had to pursue efforts for a suitable rate of exchange in Israel; secondly that the significance of the accelerated courses in North Africa was beyond any doubt, but that we had to postpone the question of its financing by JDC to a later date, when the JDC's financial obligations in respect of the Aliyah might possibly be different.

That meeting was followed by a talk for the preparation of the next session, which I had with Mr. Leavitt. The second and last meeting took place on January 18. Subsequently Mr. Leavitt advised us, after a discussion with the Treasurer of the JDC, Mr. Goldwatter, that an exception would be made for ORT, and that JDC would provide us with \$ 1,450,000 from the funds available to it from the United Jewish Appeal and the Conference on Material Claims, i.e.

60-70,000 Dollars more than last year would be granted. In consideration of the character of the current understanding, we decided not to formulate a new detailed agreement, as in the past years, and confined ourselves to an exchange of letters.

#### IV.

On the same day, after the negotiations with the JDC, a meeting of the Executive of the Women's American ORT took place, in the absence of its President, Mrs. V. Segal, who had left the day before on an extensive tour of the U.S.

I reported at that meeting on the course of negotiations with the JDC and submitted a proposal to the WAO in connection with our Emergency Program in North Africa. ORT - I said - had proved in the course of its history more than once that it does not evade tasks imposed upon it by a special Jewish need. The seriousness and the necessity of our rather modest Emergency Program is recognized by a l l , without exception. And besides ORT, there is n o organization in Jewry, which will assume this task. So far we have only a small part of the funds required for the implementation of that program. It must, therefore, be the noble ambition of the WAO to find a special sum for this purpose, supplementary to that which they can contribute as maximum for our current budget.

I submitted a concrete proposal to the Executive whereby it could accede to this request, without prejudice to its normal program.

The proposal was received with great sympathy and it was decided to submit it to the National Board of Directors of the WAO for decision.

#### CONCLUSION

The tasks, with which ORT Union's leaders used to go to the U.S. were not of the easiest. In some respects our views do not always correspond with those of the competent personalities with whom we are in contact. Nevertheless after each visit to America, I felt myself strengthened in my belief in the future of our people, in American Jewry's immeasurable moral and material forces for the preservation of our people, and in the fraternal solidarity which inspires these forces. In that spirit I close my report in deep gratitude to the leaders of the AJDC, to Dr. W. Haber and his colleagues of the AOF and to the leadership of the WAO.

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TECHNICAL AND PEDAGOGICAL

DEPARTMENT

a) Pedagogical Section

b) Purchasing Section

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TECHNICAL AND PEDAGOGICAL DEPARTMENT

INSPECTION

The Inspection Section of the Technical and Pedagogical Department now has a staff of three with the acquisition during 1955 of two additional technicians.

Mr. Alexandre Magat, an electrical engineer, has been attached to the department for the inspection of Boys' Schools. Mr. Magat augmented his extensive experience during six months in the department doing stages in various Swiss and French Schools while gradually familiarizing himself with the sundry activities of his section. He was helpful in the organization of the exposition held in Geneva this summer, and was very active in the preparation and realization of the summer seminar for instructors. He assisted in the planning of the transfer of the Institute for the Training of Instructresses in Paris to its new location on rue Cortambert.

Mrs. Vera Wodak, formerly directress of the Girls' School in Tel-Aviv, has joined the department as Inspectress of Girls' Schools. Upon joining the department she visited numerous schools in Switzerland and France and began her inspections at the Lyons ORT School and subsequently at the Paris Institute for the Training of Instructresses. Mrs. Wodak assisted in the preparation of the Institute's program for 1955/56 and also elaborated and developed programs and teaching manuals for pre-apprenticeship and adult courses.

Mr. David Alberstein, former director of ORT Tunis, and subsequently of ORT Iran, having completed a reorganization of our activities in Iran, returned to Geneva to join the Inspection Department. The results obtained in Iran testified to the importance of the mission which Mr. Alberstein undertook, and the efficacious manner in which he accomplished it.

The head of the department, Mr. L. Kleinick, inspected all the ORT Schools in Rome, Munich and Milan during the last year.

DIDACTIC MATERIAL - EXPOSITION

Three new teaching plans were edited by the Pedagogical Department. They are:

- |        |                          |                                     |
|--------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| No. 32 | Telephone I              | - theory                            |
| 33     | "                        | II - workshop exercises             |
| 30     | Organization of workshop | and calculation of production time. |

In the Spring of 1955, we established a special manual training course covering cardboard, raffia, wicker, wood and metalwork. Samples were executed to constitute a collection which would serve as a basis for teaching in the schools.

Two pre-apprenticeship plans were elaborated, applicable wherever S.A.P. patronal apprenticeship service was organized. One is for metalwork, the other for needlework; the duration of the teaching period to be 3 to 4 months. The Pedagogical Department also finalized the teaching programs for the accelerated courses for adults which have already begun in North Africa and Iran.

Pedagogical material (literature, visual aids, designs, blue prints) was distributed for both the girls' and boys' schools. Governmental schools are also interested in this pedagogic material edited by ORT. A state school in Constantine and several Swiss schools have requested our teaching manuals and wall charts.

#### VACATION SEMINARS - STUDY TRIPS

The Pedagogical Department supervised the vacation seminar for a group of mechanics-instructors from different countries so that they might familiarize themselves with the new teaching methods and modern technical progress.

At ORT Israel's request we organized a study-trip for M. David Beer, instructor of galvano-technics at Givataim. Mr. Beer was able to visit many factories in Great Britain, Switzerland, and particularly in Germany, which allowed him to gather considerable documentation and enrichen his experience for the benefit of the school in which he works.

Mr. J. Rabinovitch, technical director of the Tel Aviv Center also came to Geneva to do a study tour of the more interesting Swiss schools. The program we established for him and the excellent reception by the directors of these schools opened new horizons. The documentation he carried back with him will constitute a precious aid for ORT Israel.

The Department occupied itself with plans for the forthcoming transfer of the center for instructresses in Paris particularly with regard to equipment and the alterations to the quarters.

This Institute which is only in its second year of existence is the object of our special attention insofar as its program is involved.

#### CENTRAL INSTITUTE / T ANIERES

The Department of Pedagogy organizes the evening courses (pedagogy, technique and diploma preparation) for the **graduates** of the Institute who are in industrial practice and supervises them at their practical work.

A worthwhile advance has been made in this program. The Geneva authorities have agreed to have several stagiaires in rotation work as instructors' aids at the Ecole des Arts et Metiers of Geneva for a period of approximately two months in the mechanics, tooling, electre mechanics and wood working departments.

Another change was instituted in the "stage" program. To have the privilege of teaching in the ORT Schools in France and part of North Africa, the instructors must pass the "brevet professionnel" examinations required by the National Ministry of Education. The technical training in the stage was thus oriented in that direction, and all measures were taken to allow the interested stagiaires to take their "brevet" examinations at Lyons or Grenoble with the agreement of the representatives of the Ministry of Education.

Eighteen instructors who successfully took the diploma examinations given by the Department of Pedagogy were placed in ORT schools in Algeria, Iran, Israel, Morocco and Tunisia.

#### ADMISSIONS

The Pedagogical Department undertook the handling of new admissions and examined the candidates recommended by various national institutions. From the 66 dossiers received, the department was able to recommend the admission of 33 new students to the Central Institute at Anières.

TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

During the course of 1955 the Technical Section of the Pedagogical and Technical Department of the ORT Union ordered the following machines, tools and equipment, the major part of which has already been delivered:

13 Lathes

- 1 Milling Machine
- 1 Tool and Cutter Grinding Machine
- 4 Drilling Machines
- 4 Bench Grinders
- 2 Bending Machines
- 3 Electrical Welding Generators with equipment
- 5 Machines for woodwork
- 25 Sewing Machines for Dressmakers
- Machines and tools for Automobile Repair Shops
- Cutting and Measuring Tools
- Measuring instruments and apparatus for electrical and radio shops and laboratories.
- Installation material for electrical and radio shops and laboratories.
- Metals
- Refrigeration supplies, supplies for dental technicians, dressmaking materials.
- School furniture
- School supplies and didactic materials
- Physical apparatus and laboratory equipment

The following machines were sent to the ORT Tool Supply Corp. at Tel-Aviv:

- 45 Industrial Sewing Machines
- 30 Chandler darners
- 40 Dubied Knitting Machines
- 100 Hand Knitting Machines
- 3 Spooling Machines
- 30 Driers

The total value of these orders amounts to \$149,017.00 of which \$106,016.00 was spent for the schools and \$43,001.00 for ORT Tool Supply. A good part of the tools and machines for the schools were acquired with funds provided by the Women's American ORT (MOT) and the Jewish Colonization Association (JCA). The orders placed in Sweden were paid for with funds resulting from a grant by the Swedish Government and a campaign of the Swedish ORT.

This machinery and equipment was destined for the ORT schools in Israel, Tunis, Algiers, Constantine, Casablanca, Iran, as well as for the Central ORT Institute at Anières.

Orders were placed in the United States, Great Britain, Switzerland, and France, with the assistance of our New York and Paris offices. In Sweden, we collaborated with the Exportation Society of the Swedish Cooperatives. Sewing machines for dressmakers, welding equipment, special tools for typewriter mechanics, and spooling machines were furnished from our Geneva and Venice warehouses.

The U.S. International Cooperation Administration placed at ORT's disposition the amount of \$50,000. to equip the Maabaroth Schools in Israel. Our New York office is charged with placing the respective orders and supervising delivery.

NATIONAL

REPORTS

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## ISRAEL

1955 was a year of consolidation and improvement for ORT in Israel and its institutions. Three new schools for children of new immigrants were opened, as well as 10 new classes in the existing schools. The number of young people studying in our schools at the end of December 1955 was 2216, as compared with 1972 at the end of the previous year. Including participants in vocational training courses for adults, the total number of pupils studying at institutions of ORT in Isreal reached 3021, that is 319 more than at the end of December 1954.

To the map of ORT in Israel have been added border villages and new immigrant settlements, which add significantly to the list of the locations in which educational activities are carried out.

During the current year, the space at the disposal of the school has been increased, especially by the additional construction carried out in Nathanya, Givatayim and Kfar-Avraham; production in most of the schools has increased, and new equipment been received to complete the machine rooms of the schools for metal work in their various sections. New equipment has been added to the laboratories for electricity, radio, physics and chemistry; the school for chemical laboratory assistants in Ramat Gan, and the school of electronics in Jerusalem have been equipped; new furniture has been given to many schools, and in others added to; the standard of studies has risen as a result of new teachers and instructors who have been engaged; good results were obtained in the Government examinations at the end of the school year 1954/1955; more has been done to enable teachers and instructors to perfect themselves; standard entrance examinations have been initiated for all the schools; a careful selection of candidates for the Central Institute for Instructors at Anières was made, and satisfactory reports have been received on the progress of those students who have been sent there.

Adding to all that the expansion of the Social Assistance Work in the schools, and the activities in the field of Public Relations also, this can definitely be summed up as a good year.

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In reporting on the achievements in the technical-pedagogical field, we must not forget that ORT in Israel is a young organization. It was only during the 1954/1955 school year that we opened a fourth-year class in some of our larger schools, (apart from Jaffa where all the schools were of four-years duration from the beginning), and these students will not graduate until the end of the present school year. The majority of students who completed their studies at our three-year schools are still serving in the Army, and as a result only a few have started work in industry.

After six years of activities in Israel, our vocational schools begin to take a clear form, with distinct sections, the number of pupils being stipulated beforehand in accordance with the detailed program of the school, worked out with the assistance of the Central Office in Geneva, and in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Education. From the point of view

of heavy equipment, machinery, precision instruments, subsidiary teaching apparatus and special furniture as well - in all respects, we are approaching more or less, the standards of a modern school. Naturally from time to time it is necessary to add or renew, to improve here and there, but solid, healthy foundations have been laid, and it is these foundations which give an educational institution its form.

Our production program is elastic and can be enlarged from all sides, that is to say not only in the quantity of the products, but also from the point of view of quality; we aim, before anything else, to improve our products, from the technical aspect, the speed of the work and its quality, which still bearing in mind the pedagogical aim, that all work which is done within the school will be a part of the training program. According to our program, production work is done not only in the third and fourth-year classes, but also in the lower classes, in accordance with the ability of the students; in this way the exercises which even the beginners carry out become practical work and not simply exercises.

After a period of preparation, in which all the schools took part, such as the preparation of the blue-prints, plans, etc., we shall already this year be able to start production on a wider scale.

Naturally, everything cannot be achieved at once. We experimented until we found the machines most suited for construction by the various sections of a vocational training school, the ability of pupils and the technical knowledge of the instructors. All this took time.

The same can be said for all our work in the technical-pedagogical field. As our schools become more numerous, as they attain a certain uniformity with respect to human material and its elementary school preparation, our work becomes easier, since we know beforehand what can be expected from our pupils, and what we can give them during four years of studies.

We have laid the foundations for the documentation of the pedagogical work, the detailed planning of every lesson, and also work-sheets for each and every exercise.

The conditions of our work in Israel always reflected the conditions of life in the country, and were interwoven with the problems of the State. It is therefore obvious that our work could not always go according to plan; we always had to be prepared for changes resulting from the demands of the times, immigration - with all its attendant problems, economic conditions, etc.

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With the start of the seventh year of our activities in Israel, three main types of schools took shape in accordance with the conditions of their location and the demands of the times:

1. Four-year schools for trades which require a longer period of study, such as agromechanics, automechanics, tool-making, electromechanics, radio-technis etc.
2. Three-year schools for trades for which our experience has shown that this period is sufficient: carpentry, sewing, etc.
3. Schools for immigrant children who continue learning in the seventh and eighth grades of elementary school - with a duration of two or three years.

The vocational training which we give to adults, can also be divided into three types:

1. Proficiency courses for workers employed in factories, who are interested in increasing their professional standard by acquiring theoretical knowledge and additional practical experience.
2. Proficiency courses for apprentices employed in workshops or factories, who require basic knowledge in general, technical and theoretical subjects.
3. Beginners Courses for new immigrants, who want to learn a profession in order to facilitate their integration into the economy of the State. These courses take place during the day for 8 hours, whilst instruction in the proficiency courses is given 9 hours per week, of which 6 hours are devoted to theoretical subjects, and three hours to practical work.

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### Development of the Regular Schools

The number of pupils in the large vocational training centres in Jaffa, Nathanya and Jerusalem increased, and the standard of the studies rose as a result of the alterations and improvements which were carried out.

In Jaffa there was a distinct improvement with the temporary transfer of the four first-year classes to the building in Ramat-Gan, intended for the Textile School. This year many applicants were again refused entry because of lack of space in the classes. The number of pupils increased without any increase in the number of classes, because the number of discontinuations decreased, and the higher classes are much fuller than in previous years. The section for toolmaking has improved considerably under the direction of Eng. Ronsburger, who has taken upon himself the responsibility for all the metalwork in the school.

In Nathanya the number of classes increased with the conversion of the general mechanics and agromechanics sections into four-year schools. The carpentry school has progressed in spite of the difficulty of obtaining pupils for this trade in this country, and the difficulties imposed by working in a building which is not suitable for its purpose. We point out with satisfaction that the group of Anières graduates, who are the instructors of the electro-mechanics school, have had considerable success in their work.

In Jerusalem a new Principal has been engaged, Eng. M. Ringart, one of the ORT workers in Germany. The head-instructor, Mr. Kimmelman, a graduate of the Anières Institute, is very successful in production work, being responsible for the metal-work in this Centre. The electronics school is still in the first stages of its development, which depends on the completion of its equipment and on the increase in available space. The dental-technicians school suffers from a lack of pupils, and we may be forced to transfer it to the Tel-Aviv area, in order to ensure its proper development.

In Givatayim there have been improvements under the direction of Architect Margalit. The Local Council has invested considerable sums in additional building and internal improvements. The school now has a pleasant external appearance. The standard of the school has risen with changes in the staff. Eng. A. Yaroker has been engaged as deputy director and is also in charge of

metal work. The refrigeration school is under the direction of an expert with many years experience in this field. The general mechanics section has been changed to a four-year school.

In Rehovot we have not as yet succeeded in acquiring the proper regards for our school by the local population, as a result of the physical conditions under which the school has been working from its beginning. For two years the work suffered because of the lack of suitable accomodation. The buildings erected have not sufficient space for the two departments of the school, and there is as yet no progress in the building work. The classes are still small, and the school lags behind other Centres which were opened 5 - 6 years ago and which have achieved much more, from the point of view both of accomodation and the number of pupils.

In Kfar Avraham Eng. D. Shamir has been engaged as Principal. He is a graduate of an Institute of Technology in the United States. The professional standard of the school is high, but the institution's facilities are not adequate. We have, however, been promised by our partners, the Mizrachi, that these matters will be attended to, and it is possible that in the very near future this school will also be representative in every regard.

In the Girls' School in Tel-Aviv a new class has been added, and the congestion has therefore increased. With the departure of Mrs. V. Wodak to take up a position at the Central Office, Geneva, Mrs. R. Kolodny has been engaged as Principal. The afternoon school has changed from dressmaking to the sewing of ready-made clothing, with a duration of studies of three years. The problem of crowding will find its solution with the erection of a Vocational Training Centre for Girls, for the equipment of which a special grant has been decided upon by the Women's International ORT. Such a Centre will give us the possibility of opening new sections for girls, as well as allowing the direction of a school for sewing under suitable conditions.

In Ramat-Gan the second year of the chemical laboratory assistants school has started, and a new first-year class was opened. The number of applicants was much larger than the number of places available, and the prospects of this school for the future seem to be very good.

The small schools in Ramle, Tel-Litwinsky, Kfar-Ganim, Herzlia, Bnei-Brak, the Carpentry School in Tel-Aviv, and the Sewing School in Jerusalem, continued their work without much change in enrollment.

At Ramle a new Principal, Mrs. Weisselish, has been engaged and one can already see improvement in the work of the school.

Conditions of work at the Carpentry School in Tel-Aviv have been improved to a certain extent with the transfer of the classrooms to the space which became available when the Head Office moved to other premises in the town. The School cannot develop properly as long as it is not housed in a building with sufficient accomodation for both the workshops and the classrooms.

In the Girls School in Jerusalem, we are considering the possibility of adding another trade to that already being taught, in order to attract additional youth of Jerusalem in this school.

In Holon the results of our work with new immigrant children, of the seventh and eighth grades of elementary school, in the locksmithy section, have been very satisfactory, and the Local Council is planning to erect additional accomodation.

In Affula the work is more difficult, since the vocational training classes consist of pupils who are studying in various classes of elementary school, and there are therefore differences in age and standard. The Local Council is interested in the opening of a regular Vocational Training School for graduates of elementary schools, and a decision will be taken within the next few months. Meanwhile the Council is completing the plans for building.

The school year 1954/1955 ended in June 1955. Exhibitions of the work of the pupils were held in most of our schools, and these were visited not only by friends of ORT amongst the general public, local industrialists and craftsmen who are interested in the development of our schools, but also by many classes from elementary schools, together with their parents and instructors.

282 students graduated at the end of the year. These graduates are divided amongst the following trades:

Four-Year Schools

General Mechanics	(Jaffa, Kfar Avraham)	30	
Electromechanics	(Jaffa, Nathanya)	21	
Radiotechnics	(Jaffa)	13	
Refrigeration	(Givatayim)	<u>11</u>	75

Three-Year Schools

Carpentry	(Tel-Aviv)	13	
Dental Technics	(Jerusalem)	8	
Sewing & Cutting	(Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, Ramat Gan, Ramle)	<u>80</u>	101

Two-Year Schools

Locksmithy	(Affula, Holon, Kfar Avraham)	28	
Carpentry	(Affula, Tel Litwinsky)	33	
Sewing & Cutting	(Affula, Holon, Bnei-Brak)	<u>45</u>	<u>106</u>

Total: 282 graduates.

In Jerusalem (automechanics and general mechanics), Nathanya (general mechanics), Givatayim (general mechanics) and Rehovot (automechanics and general mechanics), there were no graduating classes, since the third-year pupils continued their studies for an additional year, with the change-over to four-year schools in these localities.

Even before the end of the 1954/1955 school year registration began for the current year. Except for the Girls Schools in Jerusalem and Ramle, and the Dental Technics School in Jerusalem, all available places were taken up in all the schools, and they all started with full classes. In Jaffa, Nathanya, Givatayim, and the Chemical Laboratory Assistants School in Ramat Gan, candidates were refused because of the lack of space. The number of pupils who were accepted to the first classes in September 1955 was 795.

Schools for New Immigrant Children

The program for the establishment of a network of vocational training schools in new immigrant centres entered its practical stage in the middle of the year, and during the last months of the year the first three schools were opened:

Herzlia - Locksmithy and Sewing  
Ashkelon - Locksmithy, Carpentry and Sewing  
Kiryat Shmoneh - Carpentry and Sewing.

Preparations have been completed for the opening of the schools in Kfar Aza and Lydda, which had been postponed because of the delay in the building work. We hope that by the time this report is being read by those participating in the meeting of the Central Executive, training will already have started in these schools.

The schools are similar to the ones in Holon, and, to a certain extent, to the school in Affula. The pupils continue their lessons in the seventh and eighth grades of the elementary schools, and receive vocational training in our workshops, 18 hours per week practical work, and 2 hours per week of draftsmanship for the boys, and drawing for the girls. The curriculum is planned for the educational standard of these children and their age. Whilst it is still too soon to sum up the results of their studies, the children show an interest in their work, and one can already see the good influence of the atmosphere of the workshops on their general behaviour. We would also point out that of the 7 instructors employed in the three schools already functioning, five are graduates of the Anières Institute (the total number of Anières graduates at present working in our schools is 19).

Amongst those financing this program are: the Operations Mission of the United States Government by means of a special allocation of \$ 50,000.- for the purchase of equipment, the Ministry of Education and Culture which will supervise the lessons and participate in the salaries of teachers, and the Ministry of Labour which has given part of the individual equipment, and will perhaps also give a financial grant based on the number of pupils. Although all this assistance will help somewhat to ease our financial burden, we ourselves will still have to cover a large part of the expenses of these schools.

The local authorities are responsible for providing the facilities, and also participate in the current budget.

The original plan was to open 10 such schools, but because of financial limitations, it has been decided at this stage to open only five.

#### Improvement of Instructors

Five of our instructors, from Jaffa, Nathanya, Jerusalem, Kfar Avraham and Givatayim, participated in the course for metal trade instructors which was organised by the Central Office in Switzerland during the summer vacation at Anières Instructors Institute. In addition to instruction in teaching methods for practical and theoretical subjects, they were given the opportunity to visit modern vocational training schools and factories. On their return the instructors gave reports at a meeting of instructors and directors.

Our metal finishing instructor, Mr. Beer, made a study tour in England, Germany and Switzerland.

Eng. J. Rabinowitch, Director of our Technical-Pedagogical Department visited Switzerland and France at the end of the year under direction of the Technical Department of the Central Office. The purpose of his visit was to study trade schools in these countries, and to learn something of the changes

which have taken place in them during the last few years. On his return he wrote a report of his tour which was passed on to all our directors, instructors and teachers. He also reported on his conclusions at a meeting of instructors and teachers.

During the period under review the following seminars and conferences took place:-

1. Seminar for mathematics teachers.
2. Conference of English teachers, to discuss the curriculum for the 1955/1956 school year.
3. Meeting of physics teachers for clarification of problems connected with preparing students for final examinations.
4. Meeting of teachers of Jewish subjects, which concentrated on the teaching of the Hebrew language.
5. Clarification of problems in the teaching of drawing and anatomy, with the participation of the supervisors and teachers of anatomy.
6. Seminar on the subject: "Psychotechnics, Classification and Selection". Amongst the lecturers were Dr. L. Emerson, of the United States Operations Mission, and Dr. Malinovsky, Director of the Institute for Psychotechnical Examinations of the Tel-Aviv Municipality.
7. Seminar for teachers of the Girls' Schools for sewing, which concentrated on clarification of teaching methods in sewing of ready-made clothing, study of modelling and foundations of cutting.

Our Technical-Pedagogical Department cooperated with the Ministry of Labour in working out the standard programs for the following subjects:

1. Elementary Mathematics.
2. Mathematics for third and fourth-year classes (our representative is chairman of this committee).
3. Physics.
4. Pumps and Motors.
5. Chemistry.

In order to help teachers who are in difficulty as a result of the lack of suitable text books in Hebrew, and in order to ensure uniform methods of teaching, our Technical-Pedagogical Department has issued the following teaching material:

1. 3 tests in arithmetic for first-year classes.
2. Refresher course in arithmetic for first-year classes.
3. Refresher course in physics - the Law of Heat - with questions attached to each section.
4. Questions on liquids and gases.
5. Course in technical English.
6. Tests in technical English.
7. Course in hardening alloyed steel.
8. Objective test in the Law of Heat.
9. Objective test in liquids and gases.
10. Second edition of the book "Mechanics by Questions".
11. Questions on Technology.
12. Questions on the strength of materials, and parts of motors.
13. Questions on dynamics.

This work is extremely important since our instructors need guidance in selecting teaching material suited to the requirements of a vocational training school, as well as in linking theoretical studies with the practical work in the workshops.

Courses for Adults

During the period covered by this report, 50 proficiency courses for adults were completed. The graduates of these courses are divided into the following trades:

10 courses in Turning & Fitting		with 120 participants
7 " " Welding	"	74 "
3 " " Locksmithy	"	58 "
2 " " Electromechanics	"	33 "
2 " " Electrical Installation	"	29 "
3 " " Radiotechnics	"	62 "
2 " " Motor Winding	"	27 "
1 " " Refrigeration	"	18 "
1 " " Technical Draftmanship	"	16 "
5 " " Automechanics	"	61 "
1 " " Electrical Measurements	"	9 "
1 " " Carpentry	"	19 "
1 " " Carpetmaking	"	8 "
1 " " Ladies Hairdressing	"	26 "
1 " " Machine Knitting	"	9 "
1 " " Theory for Telephone Workers	"	10 "
5 " " Sewing & Cutting	"	84 "
3 " " Agromechanics	"	91 "
		754=====
	Total:	

At the beginning of the present school year, 24 proficiency courses were started, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Labour:

JAFFA

2 Courses in Locksmithy		with 39 participants
2 " " Turning & Fitting	"	58 "
2 " " Electromechanics	"	63 "
2 " " Electrical Installation	"	34 "
2 " " Motor Winding	"	30 "
2 " " Welding	"	32 "
3 " " Radiotechnics	"	92 "
1 " " Electrical Measurements	"	13 "

JERUSALEM

1 Course in Electro-Automechanics		with 10 participants
1 " " Mechanics	"	10 "

REHOVOT

2 Courses in Turning & Fitting	with 21 participants
1 " " Locksmithy	" 12 "
1 " " Welding	" 11 "

GIVATAYIM

2 Courses in Turning & Fitting	" 22 "
1 " " Welding	" 14 "

HOLON

1 Course in Locksmithy	" 19 "
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In addition there are 2 courses for beginners:

Carpentry in Tel-Aviv	with 14 participants
Artistic Weaving in Beer Sheba	" 9 "

Other courses which started during the last months of 1955:

TEL-AVIV

Sewing of ready-made clothing (the 26th groups, in cooperation with the Inter-Kibbutz Stores Committee)	with 14 participants
Ladies Hairdressing	" 22 "
Carpet Making	" 14 "
Dressmaking	" 23 "

RAMAT GAN

Dressmaking	" 20 "
Embroidery	" 13 "

In Nathanya and Rehovot there are courses for apprentices employed in various workshops during the day, who, in the evening hours, study theoretical subjects and practical work within our schools. In Nathanya there are 95 apprentices in Electromechanics, and in Rehovot 71 in General Mechanics.

The total number of participants in courses at the 31st December 1955, was 805.

Construction

As in previous years, so in 1955 also, problems of building were a very important part of our plans and activities.

The District Centre in Nathanya grew faster than had been anticipated, and there was an urgent need of new buildings, so that new pupils could be taken in.

An extension (of 300 sq. metres) was added to one of the buildings, for two classrooms and two laboratories. In addition we built a new hut for washrooms and cloakrooms, 110 metres in size, and a kitchen - 70 metres. Flooring was laid in the machine room and in the electromechanics workshops.

This building did not solve the problem of the carpentry school, which is housed in an unsuitable building, at some distance from the rest of the Centre.

It is regretted that because of financial difficulties the erection of a suitable building for this school has been temporarily deferred; the school has meanwhile consolidated and is a ready foundation for a representative vocational training school in carpentry. The difficulty of attracting pupils for the carpentry trade are known, and it is therefore important to erect a suitable building which would attract young boys to the school.

In Givatayim the Local Council built an additional machine room, one classroom, a bicycle shelter and wash-rooms, a total of 310 metres. The yard had been fenced, and a sports field arranged. Still awaiting solution are the problems of the dining room, the kitchen and additional classrooms, the need for which has become clear since the whole Centre has been changed to a four-year school.

In Rehovot additional space of 190 metres has been added to the garage.

In Jerusalem we were faced with the requirements of new classes with the opening of the school for electronics. Additional space is also required for the automechanic and electronic workshops. We shall have to solve these problems within our building budget for the year 1956.

### Production in the Schools

Work during the year was concentrated on preparation, planning, drafting of blue-prints, ordering of the necessary machinery, installation of subsidiary equipment, and preparation of measuring instruments. After many experiments the plan took final shape and each school received a specific production program, the aim of which is the preparation of prototypes and the production of larger quantities of equipment satisfactory in quality and also from the technical point of view.

After preparation of the plans, blue-prints, models and dies, it was possible to start production. The following is a list of the work which was completed during the year under review:

#### JAFFA:

1 Dividing Head  
1 Lathe  
1 Mechanical Saw  
15 Automatic Switches  
100 Motors (winding only)  
Vices and various Measuring Instruments

#### JERUSALEM:

15 Lathes  
1 Shaping Machine  
2 Acetylene Generators

#### NATHANYA:

2 Milling Machines  
5 Mechanical Saws  
3 Shaping Machines  
1 Lathe

#### KFAR AVRAHAM:

3 Excentric Presses  
1 Spindle Press  
2 Shaping-Machines  
2 Mechanical Saws  
2 Shaping Machines, uncompleted - still in production  
2 Dividing Heads  
2 Angle Saws

TEL-AVIV (Carpentry): Furniture for the schools, the Head Office, and private orders.

In Nathanya and Jerusalem orders from the general public were received and carried out, for the repair of agricultural machinery and cars.

### New Equipment

During the year the following equipment was received from the Central Office in Geneva:

- 13 Lathes
    - 1 Planing Machine for metal
    - 2 Hand Grinding Machines
    - 1 Filing and Sawing Machine
    - 2 Universal Milling Machines
    - 1 Ordinary Milling Machine
    - 1 Electrical Motor Cleaner
    - 1 Valve Sharpener
    - 1 Cylinder Polishing Machine
    - 2 Tools for checking connecting rods
    - 2 Tyre Markers
    - 2 Front-Wheel Regulators
    - 2 Tools for measuring width of wheels
    - 2 Transformers for Electric Welding
    - 4 Electrical Hand Drillers
    - 1 Electrolysis Machine
    - 9 Microscopes
    - 1 Water Distiller
- and a large quantity of various tools.

### Social Assistance

During the first half of 1955 - until the end of the school year - the Women's Israel ORT continued with all the activities it commenced at the beginning of the school year 1954/1955. The kitchens and dining-rooms of the schools were completely furnished and equipped. Refrigerators were purchased for six of the schools. In ten schools a hot luncheon is prepared for the pupils, at a very low price, and in the rest of the schools light refreshments are served. More than a third of the pupils, whose parents are unable to pay the price of the meals, are charged reduced prices or released entirely from payment for their meals.

Additional first-aid rooms have been furnished and equipped, and the medical supervision extended. The pupils were given chest examinations, and received typhus inoculations. Needy students were assisted in acquiring spectacles, orthopaedic shoes, etc.

Work clothes have been put at the disposal of a large number of pupils.

Football and basket-ball teams were organised amongst the pupils, and given the necessary uniforms and equipment.

Libraries were started in the schools, and cultural activities amongst the students increased. Lectures were arranged for the students and their parents on problems of adolescence.

Talented students were given scholarships, and loans which enabled them to continue their studies.

Apart from their Social Assistance work in the schools, the members of the Women's Israel ORT were also active organisationally and socially. Many visitors were guided on tours of the schools. Receptions were held for the members of the Executive of the Women's American ORT who visited Israel in the summer, and lectures on "Vocational Education" and "Juvenile Delinquency and Vocational Training".

A very successful bazaar was held in Tel-Aviv on T'u Beshvat, at the Z.O.A. House. Products of the schools of ORT in Israel were sold, as well as gifts which had been received from the United States, Canada and France. All the proceeds were devoted to the campaign for vacations for our students.

50 students who had been selected in all the schools by the doctors and nurses as being most in need of such assistance, were sent to a youth camp, which was held during the summer vacations in one of the kibbutzim. A special local day camp was organised in the summer for the pupils of the Affule School.

With the cooperation of ORT in Israel and the Local Council, a sports field was built at the Givatayim Centre.

The new school year brought with it new demands and requirements, and the activities of the Women's Israel ORT have expanded accordingly.

Additional furniture and equipment were supplied to some of the kitchens and dining rooms already in existence. All preparations have been made for the dining-rooms at the new schools in Ashkelon and Kiryat Shmonah. Equipment has also been purchased for the dining-room in the building which is to house the Textile School in Ramat Gan, and which is being used at present by pupils of the first-year classes of the Jaffa Centre.

The number of pupils who are unable to pay for their meals has increased this year, and the amount of the organisation's contribution is therefore larger than during the last school year. This year we have also started to distribute amongst the pupils of the welding departments in all the schools a glass of milk daily, as is customary in industry for workers in this trade. In the schools for new immigrant children, where lessons are usually given in the afternoon, a light evening meal is served, free of charge.

When it was discovered that many of the new immigrant children in these schools wore light summer clothes during the cold, rainy weather, the women of the organisation made a collection of warm winter clothes, which were distributed amongst the most needy boys and girls.

The medical service has also developed considerably this year, and the organization is arranging for additional equipment, proper supervision by doctors and nurses, regular inspections and distribution of necessary medicines. More pupils have again been supplied with spectacles and orthopaedic shoes.

This year also scholarships have been awarded to needy, outstanding students.

Cultural and sports activities are not being neglected during the current school year also books have been collected for the libraries, trade magazines obtained, participation in the expenses of educational outings, Chanukah celebrations, etc.

The Women's Israel ORT is paying special attention this year to its growth, and is trying to interest a larger number of women in its activities, and in the work of ORT. Visits to some of the schools have already been arranged, and these aroused great interest amongst the members.

At the General Meeting which took place on the 30th October 1955, a committee of the following 11 members was elected:

President: Mrs. M. Horn; Hon. Secretary: Mrs. H. Beham; Treasurer: Mrs. Mendelsohn; Financial Secretary: Mrs. King; Committee Members: Mesdames Gabison, Witkon, Zaks, Lewin-Epstein, Kornfeld, Rassin and Cardos.

A branch of the Women's Israel ORT has been organised in Jerusalem, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Btsh. This branch, which already has a large number of members, is responsible for the Social Welfare work in the schools in Jerusalem.

This broad program was all made possible by the financial assistance extended to Women's Israel ORT by the Women's American ORT. We sincerely trust that this generous assistance will continue and increase, and thus enable us to widen the scope of our Social Assistance program, whose importance grows from year to year with the ever-increasing numbers of new immigrant children in our schools.

#### Public Relations.

The scope of our activities in the field of public relations has widened. ORT was brought to the attention of the general public, on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary, by means of special broadcasts and publicity in the local press.

The three issues of our two-language Bulletin were sent to more than two thousand addresses in Israel and in those countries in which there is an organization of ORT.

Various items produced in our schools were sent to the Exhibition organised by the World ORT Union in Geneva, together with propaganda material showing the development of ORT in Israel during the six years of its activities.

Exhibitions and celebrations were organised at the end of the school year 1954/1955, and were attended by prominent local personalities, parents, teachers and classes of children from other schools. From amongst the many visitors who toured our schools during the year, we would like to mention Dr. A. Syngalowski, Chairman of the Executive of the World ORT Union and Mr. M.A. Braude, Director of the World ORT Union; the Women's American ORT delegation led by Mesdames G. Kaphan, Gettenburg and L. Bader; Mr. Emanuel Celler, member of the U.S. Congress; Rabbi H. Friedman, Vice-Chairman of the U.J.A.; the 40 participants in a Rabbinical Seminar, whose visit to Kfar Avraham was organised by the Jewish Agency; Dr. George Guggenheim and the Gemeindebund of Switzerland; Prof. Paul Guggenheim of the Geneva University, and the Ambassadors to Israel of the United States and Great Britain.

The following programs were broadcast by the Israel radio:

Kol Zion LaGolah relayed special programs in all its sections.

The Yiddish language section broadcast, on the 26th December 1955 an interview with Mr. J. Oleiski, Director of ORT in Israel and with two pupils

of the Jaffa Centre. Mr. Oleiski replied to the questions of the interviewer on the development of ORT and its activities all over the world, and especially in Israel. The pupils, both of them immigrants from Rumania who came to the country after the establishment of the State, talked about their studies, and their plans for the future.

The participants in a program in French were, Eng. Ringart, Principal of the Jerusalem Centre, the Instructor Mr. Kimmelman - Anières graduate, and a pupil who until this summer had been a student of the ORT school in Casablanca, and who, upon arrival in Israel during the summer months was accepted at the Jerusalem Centre at the beginning of the current school year. This program which took the form of an interview, was relayed on the 22nd December 1955 to France, North Africa and the French speaking countries of South Africa.

In the broadcasts which Kol Zion LaGolah relays directly to South Africa in English, there was included in the Radio Newsreel on the 26th December 1955, a talk by a member of the Executive Committee of ORT in Israel, Mr. M. Spitz. The talk was of five minutes duration, and discussed the activities of ORT in Israel.

A second broadcast in English, relayed in the United States, Canada and England took place on the 6th January, 1956. Members of the Executive Committee, Mrs. M. Horn, Mr. M. Spitz and Mr. J. Oleiski took part.

Kol Israel LaOleh, in its program in Yiddish, interviewed Mr. J. Oleiski on the 28th December 1955, as well as the two pupils from Jaffa who had taken part in the other Yiddish program on Kol Zion LaGolah.

Kol Israel marked the 75th Anniversary of ORT with a program on the 24th January, 1956. In his talk Mr. J. Oleiski spoke on the history of ORT and its activities on a world-wide scope. A member of the Executive Committee, General M. Makleff, dealt in the same program with the work of ORT in Israel.

#### At the End of the Year

Whilst this report which sums up our activities during 1955, has been in preparation, we have reached the final stages in our preparations for the new Textile School to be opened in Ramat Gan, in a spacious building, which was completed only this year, and which was put at our disposal there. Mr. Avni, who has been engaged as Principal of the school, is already dealing with all arrangements required in order to start the first school year in September 1956.

It is hoped that we shall be able to start courses for adults during the current school year.

Preparations for the two schools for new immigrant children, at Lydda and Kfar Ata, are also being completed.

Preparatory work is being carried out on the plans for "ORT House" - the large Centre to be erected in Tel-Aviv with the financial assistance of the Women's American ORT, on the 30 dunams (about 7 acres) of land which has been allocated to us by the Tel-Aviv Municipality near the main Lydda - Tel-Aviv road. We are working out details of the plans (departments to be included, number of students, etc.) with the advice of experts, and we shall very soon be able to hand the material over to the architects for preparation of the final blue-prints. The corner-stone of the Centre will be laid in June 1956.

The erection of a Vocational Training Centre for Girls is being discussed with the Municipality of Ramt Gan. We have until now not been able to solve the problem of obtaining a suitable building. However, we hope that we shall overcome the difficulties we have encountered, and start soon with the establishment of such a Centre.

All these programs have now reached the stage of planning or execution; various suggestions for cooperation in opening other vocational training schools are not being acted upon until after the meeting of the World Executive Committee at which our budget for this year will be decided.

The budget of ORT in Israel in 1955 was 30% larger than in the previous year. We shall require an additional 30% in 1956 to cover the expenses of the existing institutions, in view of their natural growth from year to year.

The need for vocational training in the country is very great, and there are many opportunities for ORT. Our reply to these demands depends on the size of the budget which will be allocated to us by the World ORT Union, as well as on the financial support by ORT's friends in Israel.

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LIST OF SCHOOLS AS OF DECEMBER 31ST, 1955

JAFFA CENTRE

Gen. Classes in Locksmithy	124		
Toolmaking	89		
Electromechanics	73		
Radiotechnics	<u>74</u>	360	students

NATHANYA CENTRE

Gen. Classes in Locksmithy	100		
General Mechanics	66		
Agromechanics	72		
Electromechanics	58		
Carpentry	<u>29</u>	325	"

JERUSALEM CENTRE

Gen. Classes in Locksmithy	66		
General Mechanics	44		
Automechanics	35		
Electronics	25		
Dental Technics	<u>22</u>	192	"

GIVATAYIM

Gen. Classes in Locksmithy	56		
Refrigeration	38		
General Mechanics	<u>72</u>	166	"

TEL-AVIV GIRLS' SCHOOL

Sewing & Cutting (Two years)	52		
" " (Three years)	<u>99</u>	151	"

KFAR AVRAHAM

General Mechanics	135		
Locksmithy (Two years)	<u>21</u>	156	"

REHOVOT

Gen. Classes in Locksmithy	61		
Automechanics	3		
General Mechanics	49		
Locksmithy (Two years)	<u>19</u>	132	"

RAMAT-GAN

Chemical Laboratory Assistants	53		
Sewing & Cutting	<u>50</u>	<u>103</u>	"

Carried forward 585

<u>JERUSALEM GIRLS' SCHOOL</u>	Brought forward	585	
Sewing & Cutting			50 students
<u>TEL-AVIV BOYS' SCHOOL</u>			
Carpentry		62	"
<u>RAMLE</u>			
Sewing & Cutting		47	"
<u>KFAR GANIM</u>			
Carpentry		44	"
<u>BNEI BRAK</u>			
Sewing & Cutting		44	"
<u>HERZLIA</u>			
General Mechanics (Three years)		14	"
<u>TEL LITWINSKY</u>			
Carpentry		16	"
		<u>1862</u>	<u>students</u>

SCHOOLS FOR NEW IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

<u>HERZLIA</u>			
Locksmithy	26		
Sewing & Cutting	<u>19</u>	45	students
<u>ASHKELON</u>			
Locksmithy	56		
Sewing & Cutting	32		
Carpentry	<u>26</u>	114	"
<u>KIRYAT SHMONEH</u>			
Carpentry	23		
Sewing & Cutting	<u>9</u>	32	"
<u>AFFULE</u>			
Constructional Locksmithy	33		
Carpentry	26		
Sewing & Cutting	<u>30</u>	89	"
Carried forward		<u>280</u>	

<u>HOLON</u>	Brought forward	280	
Constructional Locksmithy		39	
Sewing & Cutting		<u>35</u>	<u>74 students</u>
			<u>354 students</u>

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS AT VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR YOUTH IS 2216.

LIST OF COURSES FOR ADULTS

<u>TEL-AVIV</u>	- Sewing of Ready-made Clothing	14		
	Ladies Hairdressing	22		
	Carpet Making	14		
	Carpentry	<u>14</u>		
	Dressmaking	<u>23</u>	87 participants	
<u>KFAR MONASH</u>	- Agromechanics		30	"
<u>RAMAT GAN</u>	- Sewing & Cutting	20		
	Embroidery	<u>13</u>	33	"
<u>NATHANYA</u>	- Electromechanics Apprentices		95	"
<u>GIVATAYIM</u>	- Turning & Fitting	22		
	Welding	<u>14</u>	36	"
<u>JERUSALEM</u>	- Auto-Electromechanics	10		
	Motor Mechanics	<u>10</u>	20	"
<u>JAFFA</u>	- Locksmithy	39		
	Turning & Fitting	58		
	Electromechanics	63		
	Electrical Installation	34		
	Motor Winding	30		
	Welding	32		
	Radio	92		
	Electrical Measurements	<u>13</u>	361	"
<u>REHOVOT</u>	- Turning & Fitting	21		
	Locksmithy	12		
	Welding	11		
	Mechanics Apprentices	<u>71</u>	115	"
<u>BEER-SHEBA</u>	- Artistic Weaving		9	"
<u>HOLON</u>	- Constructional Locksmithy		<u>19</u>	"
				<u>805 participants</u>

GENERAL TOTAL

On 31.12.1955 there were:	in the schools	2216 students
	at courses for adults	<u>805 "</u>
	TOTAL:	<u>3021 students</u>

ORT TOOL SUPPLY, TEL-AVIV

One of the major items supplied in the past by the ORT Tool Supply Corporation was sewing machines for dressmakers. These are now mainly supplied by local manufacturers. Consequently the Corporation has switched over to other type of machinery, such as 1) industrial sewing machines for tailors, 2) industrial and domestic knitting machines, 3) mending machines and 4) hair dryers.

The importation of industrial sewing machines is of great economic value to Israel because they add to the development of the manufacture of raincoats which is an important export item yielding to Israel a considerable income in hard currency. As the technical equipment of the knitting trade in Israel has long been obsolete, the supply of modern knitting machines is of even greater importance. The Swiss "Dubied" industrial knitting machines have helped to improve the standard of the local knitting trade. The domestic knitting machine provides invalids and women of advanced age with the means of earning a livelihood.

The Corporation supplies various types of mending machines; for instance the repair of second-hand sacks with "Singer" mending machines obviates the ordering of new sacks from abroad which results in the saving of hard currency. The "Chandler" machines for mending men's socks and knitwear and the "Vitos" machines for mending silk and nylon stockings are easy to handle and give a nice income to the person who operates them.

Some of the students who graduated from the Hairdressing School have been provided with "Helen Curtis" hairdrying machines to help set them up in business. All those who acquired such machines are doing nicely.

The total number of machines supplied by the Corporation up to the end of 1955 exceeds 5,000 from which 20,000 family members have derived material benefit. The machines supplied during the year 1955 (included in the above figure) number 595. The beneficiaries are artisans who have been recommended to the Corporation by public organisations and by social, municipal and governmental institutions. The credit terms are reasonable and during its entire existence the Corporation has not suffered any financial loss, which is all the more remarkable as most of the customers are people of small means.

The machines are acquired in a variety of countries by the Technical Department of the ORT Union, Geneva. During the year under review some shipments arrived from U.S.A. through ORT Tool Supply, New York.

F R A N C E

The year 1955 was marked, for the French ORT, by a cruel loss: Alexander Kovarsky, its devoted Director, passed away on May 19th, taken away prematurely from the esteem and affection of his collaborators. We wish to begin this report by paying tribute to the memory of Alexander Kovarsky, who spared no efforts for the progress and development of the French ORT.

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General

During 1955 French economy made further progress. Industrial production developed generally, approximately at the same rate as in 1954. For the first 10 months the general index of production even showed an average increase of about 10% over the corresponding period of 1954.

The progress was mainly in the production of equipment. Greater investments were made, intended to modernize and enlarge the production scheme, in the heavy industry and the chemical and electrical industries. The production of consumer goods developed less rapidly.

Unemployment has almost vanished completely, except in some districts where the textile crisis still prevails. In some branches, such as construction, a shortage of manpower is felt. This general development of the French economy has facilitated the placement of our graduates, particularly in the field of metallurgy-construction.

Prices remained steady on the whole, despite the increase of salaries and consumption. The rate of increase of salaries was even greater than in the past year:- according to the Ministry of Labour the average increase of wages per hour in the industry and in commerce was 10% from 1.10.54 to 1.10.55, whereas from October 1953 to October 1954 it was 6%. We too increased salaries in the course of the year.

The Jewish population has, naturally followed the same evolution, which, however, does not concern the masses of North African immigrants, the majority of whom still live in the most precarious economic and social conditions.

Bearing in mind the economic situation of the country and of the labour market, we have made a special effort with a view to introducing women to new lines of activity. For this purpose we have created at the Vocational Training Centre for Adults in Montreuil:- a section for management secretaries and another for radio-television technicians. The opening of these courses was possible thanks to the interest for manual trades aroused by ORT in circles of Jewish population with a higher standard of education. At the same time we have created evening courses for improvement - for tradesmen, especially for former ORT students. Thus we are able to help ORT graduates to follow technical developments and to respond to the ever growing demands of the labour market for increasingly qualified personnel. The creation of courses for arc-welding, television, mecanography (this latter in collaboration with the Alumni Association) are included in our efforts.

Recently several Jewish Labour Unions, especially those for knitting, have approached us with the request to open, with their material aid, courses in their trade. They are actually in need of qualified workers and would like to take care of their training.

The final examinations which took place during 1955 have everywhere produced satisfactory results.

The beginning of the schoolyear was marked by a substantial enrolment, despite the fact that we have now entered into the period of the "lean years", since during 1940 to 1945 the birthrate in France was below normal owing to the war and the German occupation.

The Jewish Community of France is currently facing the problems raised by the arrival of numerous families from North Africa. The French ORT has had to assume new tasks of importance; the leaders of the community are well aware that the only constructive solution for the integration of North African Jews in productive life lies in giving them professional training. In order to be able to face this new situation, we opened in October, with the help of the Comité de Bienfaisance de Paris and the Service Social des Jeunes, a pre-apprenticeship class for boys of North African origin, aged 13 - 15, whose general standard of education is inadequate for being placed in normal apprenticeship. Upon the initiative of the ORT Union of Geneva, the French ORT is preparing the opening of a special Centre for accelerated vocational training of North African Jews, both youths and adults. An investigation is being made currently as to the number of possible trainees and the trades to be taught.

In order to gain new sympathizers to our activities and to enrol new members, our propaganda has been intensified. The first of a series of information meetings took place on the 19th December 1955, in the "Maison des Centraux". Mr. Daniel Mayer, former Minister of Labour and Social Security, as well as prominent leaders of the Jewish Community - Dr. V. Modiano, President of the Representative Council of the Jews of France, Mr. Edgar Abravanel, Manufacturer, Secretary General of the F.S.J.U., spoke on ORT's mission in the community. The Chief Rabbi of France, J. Kaplan sent a message in order "to render in public a tribute to a great, beautiful and useful work, realised by ORT".

Since the beginning of the schoolyear the organization of "Alumni Associations" has made great progress. Several new sections, particularly those of Mecanography and Radio-Television have been created. These "Associations" follow a triple aim:- placement of former students, improvement, cultural Jewish activities. The alumni manifest a lively interest for their associations; over 400 people attended the first ball organized by all the combined Associations.

We should like to point out here that two graduates of the Strasbourg school, who opened a locksmithy-wrought iron workshop, had such success in their enterprise that currently they are looking for larger premises and will soon be joined by a third graduate of the Strasbourg ORT; that is a striking example of the spirit of solidarity uniting our former students.

The Jubilee Congress of the ORT Union was widely reviewed in the whole Jewish Press. The students' work executed in the various ORT schools in France was on show at the great exhibition held in Geneva in June 1955, on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of our Organization.

The Technical Council of the French ORT, which plays an important role in the Central Direction, continued during the past year to study the general problems concerning the functioning of our schools. Upon the beginning

of the schoolyear, it resumed its work on October 12, 1955. During that meeting, the Technical Council examined the reports on inspections made by several of its members at Montreuil at the end of the schoolyear, and a report on the beginning of the schoolyear at the same centre. All our schools are regularly inspected by the heads of the Technical Training Service and by various experts.

The Office of the Executive Committee has met regularly in order to examine all the questions concerning the activities of the French ORT. Currently it studies the possibilities of increasing the leading organisms of ORT in order that various personalities, who have great influence in social Jewish life or in the country's economic life or in the country's economic life, could take active part in ORT's work.

Early in September the offices of the French ORT were transferred from the rue Cortambert into the building of the ORT Union. The Apprenticeship Placement Service has been installed at the Montreuil School since December 15.

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MONTREUIL

General Situation

The year 1955 was characterized in France by the continued economic expansion and by the pronounced stability of the labour market. This situation produced happy results in regard to our Centre. We have profited from additional credits on behalf of the Ministry of Work for the opening of new sections corresponding to the demands of the labour market.

On the other hand 1955 proved a year of trial for the new instructors who had to replace several old teachers, who left last year. Actually we may say that our Centre is again fully active and continues to improve its methods and results.

Enrolment

The Montreuil Centre totalled 692 students (youths and adults) as at 1st January 1955, including 60 apprentices who attended the complementary courses (Cours Astier). The number of admissions from January 1 to December 31, 1955 was 824 (including Cours Astier). The number of graduates was 454. The number of premature departures:- 339.

Enrolment as at 31st December 1955 was 723, including 84 apprentices of elementary courses.

		C/f	401
Refrigeration Technicians	19	Management Secretaries	18
Oxy-acetylene welding	24	Men's Ready-to-wear	14
Arc Welding	13	Ladies' "	15
Tinsmithy	13	Lingerie	13
Typewriters & calc. mach.	12	Haute Couture (course)	13
Electricians	13	Dressmaking School	60
Radio-Television	48	Trouser-makers'	13
Mech. & Electro-techn. School	105	Cutters	11
Radio-Television (girls)	10	Cutting Ladies-Gents	
Radio-Electricians School	80	(evening)	43
Carpenters-Cabinetmakers	38	Drawing	25
Television (improvement)	<u>26</u>	Pre-Apprenticeship	13
b/f	401	Apprentices Industrial	
		Dressm.	<u>84</u>
		T o t a l	<u>723</u>
			=====

Social Origins of the Pupils

Profession of parents (of pupils younger than 18):-

1. Labourers and artisans	48.5%
2. Merchants & peddlers	22.8%
3. Employees	16.2%
4. Manufacturers	1.5%
5. Intellectuals	1.2%
6. Undetermined occupation or none	9.8%

Former occupation of adult students:-

Labourers and artisans	46.6%
Intellectuals or students	22.3%
Employees	13.4%
Merchants	9.9%
Sundry	7.8%

Studies. New Sections

The Montreuil Centre, at the beginning of the year, showed a considerable scope of trades for men. On the other hand, the scope of feminine trades was limited to the clothing field. Consequently our main effort was directed towards introducing new trades for the women. Thanks to a credit of Fr4,500,000 put at our disposal by the Ministry of Labour, we have been able to open the following two sections for adults:-

1. Management Secretaries
2. Skilled workers (girls) for radio-television (cable-fitters).

The first course is intended for young women with a general education of matriculation standard. It is the first time that ORT tackles the training of personnel in the administrative sphere. However, the modernization of work methods in France is such that there is a considerable demand for trained office staff and the opening of this course encountered very favourable response in industrial and other employers' circles. The credits granted have enabled us to organize this course; enrolment proved good and after the first few groping steps, the section is running very satisfactorily.

As regards the section for "Monteuses-câbleuses-aligneuses" of Radio Television, it is intended for women whose educational standard corresponds to elementary school certificate. Although its technical organization proved adequate, enrolment was rather inadequate. We began the course with a group almost complete, but unfortunately a large percentage of the trainees actually was not up to the required standard to follow this course, and we have already recorded a considerable number of premature departures, due to insufficient preparation. In future, we shall see ourselves compelled to either completely reconsider our program and the educational standard of the candidates whom we wish to train, or else to turn this into a mixed section.

Since Electric Arc-welding is replacing oxy-acetylene welding, we were prompted to open an evening course for improvement for arc-welding for our former pupils, who are already employed as welders in the trade. This course has been equipped with very modern machinery, thanks to a credit of over 2,500,000 francs granted by the Ministry of Labour. This adult course started under very good conditions and is giving us every satisfaction.

In pursuing our efforts to assist immigrants from North Africa, we opened, with the assistance of the Comité de Bienfaisance Israélite de Paris and the Service Social des Jeunes, a Pre-Apprenticeship course for North African children, whose educational standard is too low to be admitted to an apprenticeship centre or to be put into apprenticeship with a private employer. The Comité de Bienfaisance granted us a subvention exceeding a million for this class. It is the first experiment of this kind we are undertaking.

Although the year 1955 was rich in new creations, we were obliged on the other hand, to close two sections, since the outlet on the labour market was too limited:- we refer to the section for tailors to measure and winders-electricians.

For reasons of economy we have limited the admission to our School for Radio-Electricity to one single first-year class, instead of the two of last year.

In the pedagogical field we have proceeded with numerous modifications in our course for Industrial Refrigeration, especially in the repair section, and have introduced oxy-acetylene welding.

Four of our instructors have completed a course for Pedagogical Training at the Institut National de Formation de Cadres of the rue Dareau, and one instructor attended the Seminar at the Anières Institute last summer.

#### Inspections

During the months of May and June our various sections were inspected by members of our Technical Council. The reports on these inspections were submitted to the various teachers interested, so that they could take them into consideration for their work.

#### Enrolment

Enrolment of pupils and trainees this year increased considerably, especially in all sections connected with metallurgy, electricity and wood. A considerable number of applications for admission, both to the schools as well as to courses for adults, had to be refused. On the other hand we notice some slowing down in all the lines connected with the clothing industry, even in the ready-to-wear sections, although for these courses for confection there are always more than enough candidates; in our sections for haute couture there was barely the required number of pupils to form a section.

#### Final Examinations.

The results of final examinations again were very good. 454 students, youths and adults received diplomas of our schools and courses, of whom 390 obtained the Government diploma as well.

39 boys and girls - C A P diploma (Certificat d'Aptitude Professionnelle), and

351 men and women - F P A diplomas of the Ministry of Labour  
(Formation Professionnelle Accélérée)

#### Placement of Graduates

Employment was excellent in all the branches, except those of Haute Couture and Men's Ready-to-Wear. The results were also rather weak in the Trousermakers' section, but this is explained by the fact that a number of the trainees of this section are people of advanced age.

### Equipment

We have been able to provide the new courses with adequate tools, and equip the arc-welding workshop. This latter, is, unfortunately, much too narrow. During the vacation we have proceeded with the painting of 4 corridors and part of the staircase. At the Cabinetmakers' School we have arranged a new draughtsmen's room, including tables specially constructed for the purpose.

### Production

Our Confection and Clothing workshops continue to produce a considerable quantity of clothing, the disposal of which presents no major difficulties. The Mechanics' School has started on the production of a series of drills; the School for Radio-Electricity assembled a large number of television sets and some measuring apparatuses.

### Jewish Education

We have continued to devote special attention to Jewish education. Our courses on Jewish history and culture are compulsory for all students. Almost 70 pupils regularly attend the optional Hebrew classes.

The number of young people who take part in various extra-curricular activities constantly increases. The Oneg-Shabat regularly gathers a crowd of about a hundred youngsters. Whenever a lecture is held by a prominent personality or an artist makes an appearance, the attendance doubles. Ceremonies are organized by the school on the occasion of all Jewish holidays.

### Social Activities

After a period of trial, the Social Service has been entirely taken over by the Women's ORT Committee. It has been expanded and has entirely adapted itself to the school's life. A summer camp was organized this year by the Women's Committee in the Vosges Mountains, which was a great success among the pupils.

### Associations of Former Graduates

A great effort was made for the creation of Associations of Former ORT Pupils - nearly 400 graduates attended the last ball given by the Association. The committee of the association meets regularly. Technical lectures are given for former graduates. A special column in the bulletin "ORT à ses Amis", under the title "Le Coin des Anciens Elèves" (Former Students' Corner) has been reserved for the Association. We envisage the organization of educational lectures, technical and cultural-Jewish talks, a ball etc. Very special attention is devoted to the improvement of skill of graduates.

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### Apprenticeship Placement Service, Paris (SAP)

The activities of the Apprenticeship Placement Service (SAP) steadily increased in importance. The number of candidates is growing annually.

The influx of North Africans was considerable in 1955. Young North Africans are rather difficult to place in workshops owing to the fact that the majority have a very low standard of education.

Below are some figures showing the increase of our activity:-  
Placements: 319 (as compared with 261 in 1954) divided as follows:-  
Jewellery - 2; Shirtmaking-lingerie - 7; Shoemaking - 5; Dressmaking - 59;  
Carpentry-cabinetmaking - 5; Electricity - 8; Furriers - 1; Printers - 4;

Leatherwork - 27; Mechanics - 24; Painters (buildings) - 1; Photographers - 1; Boottopmakers - 1; Sewing Machine Repairs - 1; Tailors - 85; Glass-Cutting - 1; Upholsterers - 1; Tricotage - 36; Radio - 9; Sundry - 37.

The number of replacements was 199 against 232 in 1954, which proves the increasing stability of our youngsters. Our service now supervises 925 apprentices.

Currently we are in touch with 4,040 employers. They are increasingly conscious of their task in regard to their apprentices. Their confidence in us considerably facilitates our work. The former reluctance in setting up apprenticeship contracts gradually disappears. Thus, the numbers of youths working under an apprenticeship contract steadily increases, which affords them a regular apprenticeship under the same boss, at the same time giving their families the chance of drawing family allowances.

Last June 28 apprentices successfully passed their final examinations before mixed commissions composed of representatives of employers in the following trades:- Jewellery, shoemaking, ready-made clothing for men and women, electricity, watchmaking, leatherwork, tailors, upholstery and tricotage. Two other apprentices received their CAP (Certificat d'Aptitude Professionnelle) Trade Proficiency Certificate as tailors. It is the ready-to-wear trade which mostly attracts Jewish youth, in view of the more rapid possibility of making a profit. Some of our young graduates are already working on their own account, earning a good living, and in turn asking us to supply them with apprentices.

The leatherwork trade is improving this year, but for some reason or other the youths - with only few exceptions - do not want to learn this trade.

Vocational courses for apprentices "Cours Astier" continue to function with an increased enrolment:- 84 against 60 last year. The students are divided into three groups.

The Professional Orientation Service has, during the year 1955, examined 191 apprentices and 20 adults.

Articles produced by our apprentices, representing 9 different trades, were shown at the ORT Union Exhibition in Geneva last summer.

The Women's Committee enabled 28 apprentices to enjoy a 3-weeks' stay in its summer colony in Bruyères (Vosges). Also thanks to the Women's Committee 3 of our young apprentices, who were tired and under-nourished were given the opportunity to go to Switzerland for a free convalescent stay of 28 days.

The youths who have completed their apprenticeship are working and earning their living. Their parents express their gratitude to ORT and frequently bring us their younger children, who just reach the age of apprenticeship. These, in turn, are also placed by the SAP.

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## STRASBOURG

### General

The increased demand for labourers already noticed in 1954 in the East of France, has made itself felt in the mechanics branches (fitting, turning, locksmithy) as well as in the electrical installation and building trades, whereas a certain stability has been noticeable in the demand for radio-technicians.

The re-equipment of our workshops continued, living conditions in the "internat" - cultural and religious life - are constantly improving. The specialization of our pupils in radio-television continued thanks to the facilities afforded them to pursue their studies at the Montreuil Centre.

The Trade Proficiency examinations become increasingly difficult each year and new subjects are being introduced:- locksmithy for electricians, welding for locksmiths, manufacture of chassis for radio-technicians, etc.. Our programs have to be adapted to these needs.

Under the guidance of their instructors the students of ORT-Strasbourg have made several conducted tours to a number of factories, workshops etc.

ORT continues to enjoy the support of local civil and religious authorities of the Community and of the public services. The special number of "L'ORT à ses Amis" published in Paris with the assistance of prominent members of the Community of the Lower-Rhine and devoted to Strasbourg, has contributed to raising ORT's prestige in the district by making its activities better known.

The Strasbourg internat has been able to improve the organization of its infirmary and to accept numerous students free of charge, thanks to the Women's American ORT; the canteen received substantial aid in kind from the JDC. The Fonds Social Juif Unifié and the Women's Committees of Strasbourg and Colmar contribute to maintain the students in good moral and material condition, whereas the leaders of the community maintain and even raise their cultural level.

#### Enrolment

On January 1, 1955, we had 108 students and apprentices, to which 53 new enrolments were added during the year, bringing the total figure up to 161; 30 students and apprentices completed their studies and 19 premature departures were recorded.

During the year the number of enrolments was slightly superior to that of 1954, and that inspite of the lean birth rate of the war years 1939/45. As to quality, the enrolment was better than in the past two years, the majority of pupils being over 14 years of age, and therefore having a better theoretical background.

We were compelled to refuse many applications for admission from young people of North African origin, due to lack of space at the internat.

#### Final Examinations

The final examinations produced excellent results; 19 of 23 students presented obtained their Trade Proficiency Diploma, 10 marked "good". Of these 19 graduates 10 are radio-electricians, 8 electricians and 1 locksmith.

#### Employment of Graduates.

Ten of our students, having successfully passed the ORT-Montreuil entrance examinations, are continuing their studies in two special trades:- television and refrigeration. The others were placed:- radio-electricians - outside of the Lower-Rhine District, where the scope of employment remains limited, the electricians were placed both in the Lower-Rhine district and elsewhere. Five students have gone abroad, or are about to leave, 4 of them to Israel.

### Training

We have introduced supplementary laboratory exercises in the electricians' section and additional television theory lessons in the radio-television section. We have also foreseen a division into 2 sections of the first-year class for theoretical electricity. Such a division has already been operating during the whole year 1955. We have included Jewish history and Hebrew in the compulsory curriculum, also sports. The number of hours devoted to mathematics during the first year was increased. In the radio section we have introduced two hours weekly for applied theory.

The locksmiths' section has executed a number of outside orders. therefore the students were able to get some realistic experience.

Our school has been inspected, inter alia, by Mr. Sorokine, prominent radio-television expert and editor of the magazine "Radio-Construction".

### New Teachers

There is nothing special to report in respect of teachers engaged during the year.

Our instructor for fitting and welding attended a proficiency course in arc-welding at the Société de l'Oxygène Liquide.

We have engaged Rabbi Weill of Daverne as teacher of Jewish history and Hebrew, as well as Mr. Cohen Arazi, to teach Hebrew.

In respect of recreations, Rabbi Weill takes care of the organization of a theatrical group and the marionettes group.

### Equipment

During the year we have purchased the following:-

Schools:- 1 rotating set for arc-welding, 1 work-bench, 2 cabinets for tools, 1 anvil, 1 set of contacts for the electrical laboratory, 1 pipe vice, 1 electric hand drill, 1 transformer for the electrical lab. 1 hand drill and a set of tools such as files, shears, pliers, vices etc.

Material for canteen and internat:- 1 kitchen range, 70 night-tables, 116 chairs, 15 tables with plastic tops, 74 blankets, 2 pillows, 380 m linen for sheets, table and kitchen-ware (cutlery, glasses, pitchers, pots, pans, aluminium plates, etc.)

We also arranged two rooms for supervisors in the dormitories.

Several interior painting jobs were completed, viz.: class-rooms, staircase, dining hall, etc.

In 1955 we started, with the intention of finishing the job in January 1956, with the replacement of the boiler in the kitchen (500 litres), the boiler for the shower installation (1500 litres) and other repairs of sanitary installations.

Classrooms and workshops have been provided with fluorescent lighting, which is more economical and permits rational lighting.

### Recreations

Various prominent personalities continue to give lectures at our school.

Our Friday night services are regularly attended by all the boarder-students. Lectures are given twice weekly since the beginning of the schoolyear. Morning service is attended by a number of volunteers, varying between 15 and 20.

All Jewish holidays are marked by special ceremonies. Passover is celebrated with special fervour and all students stay at the school. On the occasion of Hanukkah, the Women's Committee offered gifts. Furthermore, the Women's Committees enable us to distribute prizes to the best pupils at the end of the schoolyear.

Thanks to a donation by the President of the Ecole du Travail Israélite, and thanks to the efforts of our President, we were able to acquire a series of "chalets" situated about 30 kms. from Strasbourg. These serve for excursions and week-ends. During the X-mas and New Years vacation we sent 25 boys to spend 5 days in the mountains.

The new groups of dramatic arts and marionettes function and seem to enjoy popularity, particularly the marionettes.

#### Committees

We wish to stress particularly the activities of our local Committees, both feminine and masculine, and the activities of the Women's Committee of Colmar, who spare no efforts on behalf of our students.

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#### LYONS

During the past year the school was attended by 57 students. Five have completed their apprenticeship.

This school, which is in the throes of re-adapting itself to local, social and economic conditions, has been considerably modified this year.

In the first place, we wish to mention the closing of the made-to-measure dressmaking section for which there was no adequate outlet in Lyons. Only one class remained this year, the third-year class, composed of pupils who have already completed two years of dressmaking and for whom it was preferable to finish their studies in this branch. There is only a school for ready-made clothing for girls in Lyons.

In consequence of the above a reshuffle of the teaching staff took place. The former instructress of the dressmaking workshop was relieved of her functions and transferred to Casablanca; two other instructresses had to be engaged, one of whom is an expert in ready-made clothing. She has undergone special training of several weeks in Paris at some of the well-known dress-shops, as well as a pedagogical "stage" at the Montreuil Centre, where she could collect documentation on the approved programs and methods in the various sections of ladies wear in that Centre.

Towards the end of the year we also had to replace the teachers of drawing and gymnastics, who resigned for personal reasons.

The course for Jewish history has also been taken over by a new teacher, a student recommended by the Eclaireurs Israélites, who is a member of the cadre of this movement in Lyons.

Steps have been taken towards partly solving the difficulties of a midday meal: the pupils have the possibility of taking their meal at the school, or else those who wish can heat their lunch which they bring along.

However, the problem of providing bourses for needy pupils has not yet been solved and this present a serious handicap to our enrolment.

The project of constructing a house of the Jewish Community at St.-Fons where ORT might have been able to transfer its school, does not seem to materialize. On the other hand the Lyons Jewish Community has purchased this year a large building in the centre of the town, to which all the local institutions are to be transferred and where a Centre for Jewish Youth is to be opened. ORT was asked to consider transferring its school to that building as soon as it is in proper shape.

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## MARSEILLES

### General

In the Marseilles district too the economic development created interesting outlets for ORT graduates. Furthermore, since the opening of the Television Station Marseilles-Provence, the radio-television industry has considerably developed. Thus, all our graduates in this branch could easily find well-paid employment. We were unable to satisfy numerous applications which continuously come in due to the good renown of our school.

### Enrolment

On January 1, 1955, the Marseilles Centre had 114 pupils in addition to 55 apprentices supervised by the S.A.P. During the year we have registered 65 new admissions for the schools and 17 for the S.A.P. Thus, the total enrolment of our Centre was 179 pupils and 72 apprentices for the year 1955.

Fifteen students and 11 apprentices completed their studies. On December 31, 1955, the Marseilles Centre had an enrolment of 133 pupils and 124 apprentices.

### Final Examinations

Of the 15 students who presented themselves for the final examinations, 11 have obtained their diploma. Of the 6 students who finished the 4th year of Radio-<sup>T</sup>elevision in July, 5 obtained their diploma; two with the marks "good" and one with the marks "fair"; the sixth obtained the "Certificat de Fin d'Etudes". This examination took place under the supervision of Mr. Aginsky of Paris. The jury was composed of the Chief Engineer and Technical Director of the Radio-Diffusion et Television Française for the district of Marseilles and other prominent personalities in the field of training and radio-television.

All the six students are employed as technical agents. They keep in touch with our school, although they work in other towns, such as Nice, Toulon, etc. Four students of the 3rd year and of the required age presented themselves for the examinations for Trade Proficiency as fitters-cablers in radio-electricity. Three of these students successfully passed their examination and obtained their diploma.

Of the 9 candidates of the Ladies' Wear section, 6 obtained their final diploma, one with the result "good" and two with the result "fair".

We should like to point out that no official examination for the Trade Proficiency certificate exists in this trade at the Academy of Marseilles. Thus we organized ourselves a final examination at the school, before a jury composed of specialists. The 9 girls could easily find employment in this trade.

### Training and Equipment

The section of Radio-Electricity and Television continues with 3 classes:- second, third and fourth year. Several Heathkit sets have arrived and been added to the laboratory equipment. As had been foreseen, a second year for the Electricians' Section has been opened. The First year comprises students of the two sections. 1 bending machine has been purchased for the fitters workshop.

The Section for ready-made dressmaking (tailormades for ladies) continues to develop, which permitted us to open an independent workshop for the 2nd year. Currently two workshops for practical work totalling 21 machines Model 31 k 15 with motors permit practical lessons simultaneously for the 2nd and 3rd years.

Various improvements have been carried out at our school during the summer vacation, including painting jobs, building of cabins in the electricians' workshop, production of furniture for some of the classes, etc.

### S.A.P.

The Apprenticeship Placement Service has been completely reorganized in December last. A full-time supervisor was engaged for this service.

### Inspection

On the occasion of the final examinations in June, Mr. Aginsky, member of the ORT Technical Council, inspected our Centre.

### Staff

We have engaged a teacher for the electricians' workshop and a teacher for general subjects. A secretary has been engaged to help the service of the "Taxe d'Apprentissage". She is also in charge of the material.

The canteen service has been reorganized.

### Jewish Education

As in the past, Mr. Roger Eisinger, better known under the pen name Emmanuel Eydoux, prominent member of the Marseilles Jewish Community, continues to conduct personally the courses for Jewish history and tradition.

### Organization

The office of the local committee has remained unchanged. Meetings take place regularly every fortnight. We have increased the number of members.

### Taxe d'Apprentissage

This activity is in continuous progress and all forecasts for 1955 have been considerably surpassed.

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### Information and Membership Service

During the year under review the Information and Membership Service informed the public of ORT's activities and aims, especially of its efforts in directing the Jewish woman towards new trades.

The opening of pre-apprenticeship classes for youngsters of North African origin was the subject of numerous articles and news items.

The Jewish press devoted considerable space to ORT's 75th Anniversary, to the Jubilee Congress and to the Exhibition which was held in Geneva last June.

During the period under review several Bulletins "L'ORT à ses Amis" were published, two of which were devoted to the Centres of Marseilles and Strasbourg respectively.

In order to gain more friends, a membership campaign was launched last October. So far it has had encouraging results. In the provinces too the interest for our work steadily grows. For this purpose we have started a series of information meetings, the first of which took place on December 19th at the "Maison des Centraux" with the participation of prominent members of the Jewish Community and of Mr. Daniel Mayer, formerly Minister of Labour and Social Security.

Numerous personalities, both French and foreign, visited our schools, especially the Montreuil Centre.

As in the past we have taken an active part in the various educational and cultural manifestations in Jewish life; we have participated in the work of the C E C I F (Conseil pour l'Education et la Culture Juive en France).

The French ORT is a member of the Liaison Committee of non-Governmental French Organizations at the U.N. Information Centre in Paris.

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Apprenticeship Tax was started early in September. It is still being carried on, increasing intensively as the 1st of March approaches - the deadline for its collection.

The Commission of the Radio, a group of accountants, members of the Administration Council and many others from among ORT's friends and members of its Technical Council, have been contacted in order to obtain useful recommendations, they increase their personal efforts to augment the collection.

The Women's Committee has also devoted its supreme efforts in favour of this campaign. The members of our Strasbourg Committee also furnish us with many valuable recommendations. - Tours in the provinces have been arranged, especially to Nancy, Troyes, Reims, Epernay, St. Quentin, Nice etc. Others will be arranged during the coming weeks.

The syndicates of leatherworkers, tricotage, ready-to-wear clothing, have again been contacted and their support has been promised, as in the past.

It is impossible at present, to estimate the final results of these efforts. There are some unfavourable circumstances to be noted:- above all a modification of the rate of the Apprenticeship Tax in the electricity trades, where the percentage linked with the training of qualified workers has been reduced from 65% to 30%. This fact may lead to a considerable reduction of our drive in that trade, which in 1954 provided us with approx. 5 million Francs.

On the other hand we are not certain of the integral renewal of some very important subventions, which totalled approx. 2 million Francs. Finally, in Lyons, the Apprenticeship Tax which we are authorized to collect this year has been limited to 40%. On the other hand we record every day new promises for subventions in Paris as well as in Marseilles, and we have reasons to hope that the above gaps will be bridged.

Whatever the results of this campaign will be, we stress with satisfaction the manifestations of sympathy which spontaneously arise on the occasion of this drive through voluntary contributions by people from all spheres, who not only pay their quota of the Tax, but who are anxious to help us in our efforts by useful advice.

If the number of contributors is nearly 2000, the voluntary helpers of this campaign are well over a hundred.

We are able to say that on the occasion of the Apprenticeship Tax drive the solidarity of wide circles of the French Jewish Community has amply manifested itself.

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Enrolment in 1955

Centres	1.1.55	Admissions	Total Attendance	End of Apprenticeship	Departures	31.12.55
Montreuil	632	756	1,388	453	296	639
S.A.P., Paris	788	317	1,105	158	59	888
Lyons	43	14	57	5	20	32
Strasbourg	94	45	139	24	16	99
S.A.P., Strasbourg	14	8	22	6	3	13
Marseille	114	65	179	15	31	133
S.A.P., Marseille	55	17	72	11	37	24
Apprentices Industrial Dressmaking	60 *	68*	128*	1 *	43 *	84 *
Totals	1,740	1,222	2,962	672	462	1,828

\*) Included in the S.A.P., Paris, totals.

Results of the 1955 Examinations

	<u>MONTREUIL</u>	<u>Passed</u>
I. - <u>Schools</u>	Cabinetmaking	6
	Mechanics-Fitting	7
	Mechanics-Turning	7
	Mechanics-Electricity	11
	Radio	22
	Dressmaking and Ladies' Ready-Made wear	12
	b/f	65

<u>Results of the 1955 Examinations (cont'd)</u>		<u>Passed</u>	
<u>Montreuil</u>		B/f	65
<u>II.- Apprenticeship-Workshops</u>			
	Pattern Cutters		25
	Winding		15
	Refrigeration		17
	Mecanography		13
	Autogenous Welding		45
	Tinsmithy		12
	A.T. Radio-Television		48
	Haute Couture		13
	Tailors		8
	Electricians		22
	Ladies' Ready-Made Clothing		14
	Men's " " "		26
	Trousermaking		15
<u>III.- Vocational Courses</u>			
	Television (evening)		31
	Cutting (ladies)		24
	Cutting (men)		33
	Cutting - lingerie		22
	Drawing		<u>13</u>
			461
			1
<u>Lyons</u>			
I. - <u>Schools</u>	Cutting & Dressmaking )		
	Ladies Ready-Made )	<u>5</u>	5
<u>Strasbourg</u>			
I. - <u>Schools</u>	Electricians		8
	Locksmithy		1
	Radio		<u>10</u>
			19
<u>Marseilles</u>			
I. - <u>Schools</u>	Ready-Made Clothing		6
	Radio		<u>5</u>
			11
<u>Apprenticeship Placement Service</u>			
S.A.P., Paris			<u>30</u>
			<u>30</u>
	<u>Total</u>		<u><u>526</u></u>

## WOMEN'S COMMITTEE OF THE FRENCH ORT

During the year under review the character of the activity of the Women's Committee, mainly based on social assistance, did not undergo notable changes. Its field of action, however, was much extended and its efficacy consolidated.

### Social Assistance in Montreuil

At the beginning of 1955 an agreement was entered into by French ORT and the Women's Committee, by which the latter would take complete charge of the Social Assistance Program at the Montreuil Centre. Since this agreement implied the development of the work and the multiplication of tasks, a social worker was engaged in March who works in close collaboration with the Social Commission of the Women's Committee.

The sum of Ffr.200,000 a month has been allocated and effectively spent on free meals.

The Clothing Section, supported by gifts and the Women's Committee budget, provides clothes for an average of 15 needy students a week,

Regular meetings of the Social Commission and the work supervisors at which the latter make suggestions on behalf of individual cases give the Women's Committee a clear picture of the general situation and they act accordingly. The work supervisors, on the other hand, know that they can count on the support of the Committee, whenever the necessity presents itself. This mutual comprehension makes for a very efficient collaboration.

The members of the social commission make detailed enquiries into each case and intervene, where necessary with the parents to keep the students at the school. We may add that owing to this particular work of the Committee, many students have stayed on at the school, when the parents were quite determined to have them go to work without completing their training.

The vacation camp last summer was again organised by the Women's Committee and gave more than one hundred students and apprentices from Paris the possibility of spending their vacations in a Jewish and pleasant atmosphere.

A special subscription campaign was launched by the Women's Committee for the vacation camp and two million francs were raised.

In collaboration with the Women's Committee of ORT-Switzerland, an arrangement was made whereby a monthly average of two students - whose state of health required extended convalescence - could benefit from a four weeks' stay in Switzerland.

The Women's Committee is not only interested in the physical but also in the moral wellbeing of the students, and the organization of the leisure time activities is entrusted to a trained teacher. The Women's Committee strives to develop an appreciation by ORT students of the Jewish traditions and arranges that all Jewish holidays are observed in the appropriate spirit.

The Committee finances visits to the theatre, museums and concerts, shows a film once a month at the centre, and contributes money towards the purchase of camping equipment. It also bought a grand piano, participated in the installation of a photographic laboratory and has given numerous books to the school library.

### Propaganda

Two new initiatives have proved very effective in this field. One is a booklet on the constructive work of ORT, its activities in the vocational social and purely humanitarian fields. The other - with the aid of the French ORT - is the production of two films, one on the Montreuil Centre and the other on the 1955 holiday camp. The first has already been shown on various occasions in France, the United States and Tunisia, and will shortly also be given in Israel.

The annual bazaar of the Women's Committee which constitutes the basis of its resources, exceeded the 1954 profit, and brought in over Fr 4,000,000.

Through its personal contacts the Apprenticeship Tax Commission of the Women's ORT Committee helped raise the sum of 8 million francs.

On May 4th a brilliant soirée was organized by the Women's Committee, at which Monsieur M.E. Naegelen, former Minister and Governor of Algeria, spoke on his contact with ORT. Among those present were the Consul General of Israel in France, representatives of the Ministry of Labour, the Directress of the International Labour Office, etc.

The Women's Committee as in the past has also organised frequent visits to the Montreuil Centre which is an excellent means of propaganda.

### Women's Committees of Strasbourg and Colmar

These two committees continue to concern themselves actively with the ORT school at Strasbourg. The profit from an annual cocktail party which has become a tradition, enables these committees to meet their many obligations. The ladies of these committees look after the students who are away from their homes.

Thus the Women's Committee presided over by Mme M.L. Roubach has intensified its activity during the past year and has achieved the above results.

Its tasks are manifold and increasingly greater efforts are required. In 1956 a propaganda program concentrating mainly on the recruitment of members from all classes of the Jewish population of Paris is proposed. The setting up of women's committees in the principal towns in the provinces is also envisaged.

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## I T A L Y

The year 1955 was from the economic point of view for Italy one of the most prosperous since the end of the Second World War. The grain crop of 95 million quintals was the biggest ever recorded. Industrial production increased by more than 7%, and tax income as well as Government expenditure showed record figures of about 2 billion 400 milliard and 2 billion 600 milliard lire respectively. In spite of this apparent prosperity nearly no progress was achieved in regard to the most burning unemployment problem. Although the number of employed increased slightly, the figure of about 2 million adult unemployed remained unchanged as the natural growth of the population was still larger than the increase in the number of jobs. This fact induced the Government, despite the still augmenting budget deficit, to continue its assistance program for unemployed, including the part which is of particular interest to us, i.e., vocational training. Although the funds at the disposal of the Ministry of Labour for this purpose were considerably cut, we did not meet any major difficulties in getting the Ministry's support for all courses which we considered necessary for the vocational training of Jewish youth all over Italy. The Ministry showed great understanding for our program, and the amount of about 43 million lire which was allocated to us during 1955 was the highest ever received for this purpose during one single year.

With the exception of the Agricultural School at San Marco, the Boys and Girls Prevocational Training School in Rome and our Children's Workshops, all our schools and courses were included in the Governmental Vocational Program for Unemployed. In this way our pupils received from the Government about 20 million lire as presence premiums, an aid which is by no means negligible for the small Italian Jewish community.

Contributions from other governmental bodies such as the Ministry of Public Instruction, provincial administrations and the Consorzio Provinciale remained the same as the preceding year.

The most important events of the year under review were the following:

A) We were able to maintain the same large extent of our activities as during the last months of 1954. Neither the number of pupils nor that of teaching units showed significant changes.

B) The problem of the Prevocational Training School in Rome was settled satisfactorily with the Jewish Community.

C) A new three years Day School for Electromechanics was started in Rome.

D) New premises were acquired for the women courses in Rome.

E) Our welfare activity was considerably intensified.

F) The 75th Anniversary of ORT was solemnly celebrated and found a strong echo in the Jewish and non-Jewish press. A large delegation from Italy attended the Anniversary World ORT Congress which was widely commented upon in Italian newspapers. ORT-Italy was honoured by the election of several of its delegates to important functions in the World ORT Union, among which Dr. Renzo Levi as Vice-President of the Central Board.

#### Pupils Movement

At the beginning of 1955, 1630 pupils attended 50 school units. By the end of the year the number was 1613. This small decrease was due to the delayed receipt of the authorization for the opening of some courses for unemployed in Leghorn, and the lower attendance in our children's workshops. During the year 1423 new pupils were admitted bringing the total attendance figure for 1955 to 3053, as compared with 2482 in 1954. The peak of development was reached in May with 1738. Among our regular pupils we registered 84 discontinuations. These occurred relatively more often among pupils of our USEP schools, as emigration and frequent changes of domicile compelled the students to interrupt their studies.

Reasons for discontinuations are manifold, but the most important is the precarious economic situation which induces pupils to accept immediately any type of work as long as it offers an income.

In the past year there was a noticeable increase of pupils in the age groups between 14 - 18 years, while the number of children under 14 decreased. Those over 26 years of age were almost exclusively students of USEP schools.

#### Examinations and Integration into the Labour Market

The number of pupils presented for final examinations was considerably higher than in previous years. 540 pupils passed in 1955, against 365 in 1954. 96 were promoted to higher classes. The comparatively high number of examined students is due to the numerous courses for unemployed, most of which are of short duration. Marks were mostly high. Internal examinations for promotion to higher classes were carried out in a strict manner, and some pupils were rejected. A noteworthy result was obtained in the Prevocational Training Schools for Boys and Girls in Rome where all candidates passed examinations at a governmental school right at the first session.

Pupils of the Television School in Milan underwent final examinations for the first time. These were held before a Board presided over by a delegate of the Ministry of Labour and attended by a representative of the RAI (Italian Broadcasting Corporation).

Examinations for the courses for unemployed took place before a Board in the presence of a delegate of the Ministry of Labour and/or the local Labour Office, whereas examinations at our Agricultural School of San Marco were held under the supervision of a delegate of the Provincial Administration of Agriculture.

The graduates pertained to the following courses: television 11, radio-technic 18, radiorepairs 17, mechanics 34, dressmaking 169, upholstery 49, leatherwork 20, electricians 20, mechanical knitting 40, children's wear 62,

tinsmiths 16, joinery 29, girls vocational training centre 13, San Marco Agricultural School 11, typewriting 19, bookbinding 12.

In Italy placement of graduates is one of the serious problems. Only those who have strong recommendations and influential connections can hope to find work quickly.

Our local committees and our women committees concerned themselves intensively with the placement question.

Most of the graduates of the beginning classes continued in qualification and perfection courses.

No placement difficulties arose for the graduates of the Agricultural School at San Marco, as all of them emigrated to Israel where they are working in various Kibbutzim; neither for those of the Television School who found well paid jobs (Lire 65.000 monthly) with the RAI (Italian Broadcasting Corporation), and with foremost radio and television firms. Two of the pupils emigrated to Israel and work at the Weitzmann Institute, and one went to the United States to study colour television at the RCA studio. Also the graduates of the Fancy Leather Work and Electrotechnical Courses in Trieste, which were set up for the former employees of the Allied Forces, were employed through the local Labour Office which was responsible for their placement.

Great difficulties were faced with the graduates of the women courses in Rome. Some of them obtained good positions, but for most it was impossible to find suitable jobs due to their refusal to work on Saturdays. In this connection we should like to mention that two girls were employed by the famous dressmakers Sorelle Fontana who, evidently satisfied with their work, asked for more of our graduates. Unfortunately we were unable to comply with this request as no one was willing to work Saturdays. We presented this problem to the Grand Rabbi who agreed that the only possible solution would be the continuation of our dressmaking laboratory, due to be closed down as the AJDC as well as the Jewish Community had withdrawn their financial support. To make its continuation possible, we agreed to house the laboratory in our new premises, while the Jewish Community allocated Lire 600.000.

#### New School Units

During the year 34 courses finished instruction, while the following were newly started:

Rome - mechanics, radiorepairs, 3 classes dressmaking.

USEP San Antonio - typewriting, stenography, electromechanics,  
bookkeeping, automechanics, 2 classes dressmaking.

Trieste - dressmaking, radiotechnicians, upholstery.

Florence - dressmaking.

Turin - dressmaking.

Leghorn - dressmaking, tinsmith, mechanical knitting, children's wear.

2 new day school classes were opened, i.e., the third class of the mechanics school in Milan, and the first class of the three years school for electro-mechanics in Rome. The latter is our first day school for youth over 14 years of age in Rome. It was possible to incorporate this school into the vocational training program for unemployed of the Ministry of Labour. Thus the major part of the expenses is borne by the Ministry which agreed in this case to special conditions by authorizing 8 months instead of the normal 6 months instruction period, and granting a considerably higher allocation than usual. This skill was chosen with the view to give our pupils at an advanced stage of training a specialization in refrigerator repairs, which offers promising possibilities for employment.

## DAY SCHOOLS

### R o m e:

Boys and Girls Prevocational Training Schools. Since the opening of a high school by the Jewish Community, our prevocational training schools are serving boys and girls who cannot afford higher education and want to learn a trade. As in former years, the curriculum is the same as in governmental prevocational schools, in addition to which boys are trained in mechanics, and girls in dress-making, mechanical knitting, embroidery and invisible mending. Our claim that at least the theoretical part of the instruction expenditure be borne by the Jewish Community was finally given heed. The Community agreed to pay these expenses for one class in 1956, next year for two classes, and then for all three classes of the boys school. Enrolment at this school showed a noticeable increase last October.

The entire school building as well as part of the furniture have been renovated during the summer months.

To the new Electromechanics School we assigned two rooms of together 120 sqm in our building at 5, Via San Francesco di Sales, one for theory and designing, and one as workshop for electrotechnics, while for practice in mechanics the existing workshop of the prevocational training school for boys is being utilized.

School benches, designing tables as well as furniture for the electro-technical workshop were manufactured at our carpentry shop in San Antonio.

The teaching plan had to be drawn up very carefully since the pupils have different educational backgrounds, being partly graduates of prevocational training and partly of public schools.

The direction is in the hands of an engineer with broad scholastic as well as industrial experience.

### M i l a n:

All day schools (three classes television, three classes mechanics and the third class of dental mechanics) are accomodated at rented premises in 5, ViaUnione where we have now at our disposal a total space of 900 sqm.

Whereas in previous years our main attention was directed toward equipping the television school, this year we completed the machine shop for the mechanics school. The firm Olivetti donated a column drilling machine, while the following

items were purchased: special boring machine for bronze cases; rectification apparatus; rectification apparatus for valve seats; 2 pressure control machines; segment fitting machine; testing bank for auto electricity; press to straighten connecting rods; special hand lathe for bronze cases; shaping machine; drilling machine "Ideal"; etc.

A model frequency generator, a frequency meter and a tester "Practical" were added to the equipment of the television school.

Our own text book for the television school was completed by our chief instructor Ing. Nilolich. It consists of 6 volumes with a total of about 1000 pages and hundreds of diagrams, formulars and designs. It was mimeographed in 100 copies and may be considered a serious scientific piece of work and very suitable for our television school. Each pupil received a copy.

In order to follow the newest developments in television, we are keeping in close touch with the most important television factories, especially with those where our graduates are employed. To cope with the new scientific and technical problems, an "Experimental Centre for Electronics" was set up in our television workshop where teachers and graduates are meeting in the evening to study questions submitted to them by various television firms.

Also the instructors of the mechanics school have compiled their own teaching program to which, although it is based on ORT Union outlines, their practical experiences have been added.

The question of the dental mechanics school has not yet been solved. According to a new law for dental mechanics, only those can exercise their profession who graduated from a governmental school. The Ministry of Public Instruction agreed exceptionally that our pupils may be admitted to examinations at the governmental dental mechanics school in Rome. The date had already been set for December. At the last minute we were informed that the Ministry of Health refused to send their delegate to the Examination Board, because they considered the examination illegal. We are trying hard to save our pupils from becoming victims of bureaucratic procedures.

## SHORT COURSES

### R o m e

The evening course for radiorepairs, which ended in September, was not reopened as the labour market for this trade is saturated.

Inasmuch as the evening course for mechanics was transformed into an electro-mechanics day school, only three women's courses (beginner, qualification, perfection) are actually functioning. A uniform teaching plan was worked out, practically transforming them into a three years day school, with a curriculum of 30 hours weekly.

Also in this case the Ministry of Labour showed full understanding by authorizing 900 teaching hours for each course, instead of the usual 600.

The teaching program is arranged in such a way as to allow graduates of the prevocational training school to join the second (qualification) class without difficulties.

Since our Rome building is completely occupied by the day schools, it became necessary to provide additional space for these women's courses, as well as for the dressmaking laboratory, which latter had to vacate its premises. All our efforts to rent suitable quarters failed as almost no vacant appropriate place was available in the centre of the city near the ghetto where the school necessarily has to be situated. Therefore, we gladly took the opportunity to obtain premises in a house still under construction, almost in the heart of the Jewish quarter, which could be adapted to our needs. They consist of about 220 covered sqm divided into four large classrooms and accessory space, and a terrace of 100 sqm.

The school has been equipped with new Necchi Sewing Machines, part of which electrical. New furniture is being manufactured at our carpentry workshop.

### M i l a n

Courses in North Italian provincial towns are administered by our Milan office. Each school centre has a secretary who is in permanent contact with the Milan office and with the local committee.

In Trieste we had at our disposal 6 rooms of about 240 sqm. Courses for dressmakers, upholsterers, radio technicians, electrotechnicians and fancy leather goods were held during the year. All schools are well equipped and directed by the President of the local committee, Ing. Eppinger.

Our school in Leghorn, housed in the Jewish Community Building, proved to be too small. Therefore, we rented additional premises in Ardenza, about 8 km distance from the centre of the city. At the Jewish Community Centre, where about 180 sqm space are at our disposal, courses for children's wear, for tin-smiths, and children's workshops were conducted, while the courses for mechanical knitting and for dressmaking were transferred to the new Ardenza centre.

Equipment of the mechanical knitting workshop is incomplete, and if this course is to continue next year we shall have to provide modern machinery.

Unfortunately, the authorization for the reopening of our courses in Ardenza was obtained too late, and so they will have to start with much delay.

In Turin a pleasant apartment has been rented in the centre of the city (140 sqm space), where a dressmaking course and a children's workshop are installed.

Our Executive Committee members Ing. Jona and Ing. Bruno Jarach are supervising these activities.

In Florence a dressmaking course and children's workshops functioned last year at premises set aside for our use by the Jewish Community. For the current school year we have made an arrangement with the Jewish philanthropist Mr. Vita to accommodate the dressmaking course in his new welfare centre. We hope that this collaboration will give additional impulse to our activities in Florence.

Agricultural School San Marco. As in the past, also in 1955 instruction ended in November and a new course with 12 pupils was started immediately in preparation of the next Aliyah. Equipment and living quarters warranted a number of repairs which were carried out.

Children's Workshops. About 600 children in Rome, Milan, Leghorn, Turin, Florence and Trieste were attending afternoon courses in our various children's workshops which are attached to the Jewish Community schools. Part of the premises are newly equipped. Unfortunately, in some cities, like in Rome, courses have to take place in normal school rooms which, of course, are not suitable for this purpose. We hope that this unsatisfactory situation will change, at least in Rome as soon as the new Jewish school building is constructed. In spite of this disadvantage, the work carried out by the boys in carpentry, bookbinding, ceramics, fret work, and by the girls in all kinds of needlework, is mostly of good craftsmanship.

At the end of the scholastic year exhibitions were arranged in all children's workshops, and the products found eager buyers.

#### United States Escapee Program

A vast vocational training program was operated on behalf of the United States Escapee Program.

At the Rome Centre, classes for mechanics, draftsmen, dressmaking, and English as well as Spanish languages were in function.

The equipment of the mechanics school was completed with a modern milling machine and a welding outfit.

The newly constructed Centre at San Antonio permitted a suitable accommodation of our schools, since the buildings put at our disposal are spacious and modernly equipped.

Classes for mechanics, electroauto, drivers, carpenters, dressmakers, typists, bookkeepers, English, Spanish, Portuguese languages, and a course for illiterates were well attended, and the number of pupils increased considerably.

Important work projects were carried out, resulting in a large production of furniture, underwear, bedsheets, dresses, shoes and men's shirts at a value of about 12 million lire. The produced furniture were used to equip our schools and refugee housing, while the garments were distributed among escapees.

We agreed with USEP upon the continuation of our collaboration for the year 1956, stipulating contracts for vocational training amounting to about 60,000 dollars. This amount will probably be increased by contracts covering work projects.

#### Teaching Personnel

Our teaching staff increased to 103 persons by the end of December, of whom 40 were full-time and 63 part-time employed. The increase is mainly due to the opening of the electromechanics school in Rome, and to the enlargement of the USEP schools. Most of the full-time teachers are working for us since several years. They are, therefore, intimately acquainted with our teaching program which could be carried out smoothly. The protracted strike movement of teachers of Italian Government schools had its repercussions also upon those of private schools, and we had to face wage demands of our teaching staff at several occasions during the year.

Teachers meetings took place periodically in all our schools in which questions pertaining to education were discussed. Special attention was given to the coordination of theoretical and practical teaching subjects. Reasons for unsatisfactory progress of pupils were scrutinized and ways and means for improvement debated.

### Jewish Education

Particular attention is being paid to Jewish education, especially in our day schools. In Rome teachers assigned by the Grand Rabbi were in charge of this task. In Milan one hour weekly is devoted to the history of Jewish culture, and two hours to Hebrew. Besides, pupils benefit continuously by the Jewish environment of the students' hostel.

Jewish holidays were celebrated in all our schools, often attended by religious and public leaders.

### Welfare Program

As almost all our pupils belong to the indigent part of the Jewish population, it was of utmost importance to build up an efficient welfare program. It was supervised by our women's committees, headed by Mrs. Jona Donati, Milan and Mrs. Ester Ascarelli, Rome. The major part of the nearly doubled financial burden, as far as it did not come from governmental sources, was shouldered by the Women's American ORT, while considerable support in cash and food assignments were received from OSE, the American Joint Distribution Committee and the AAI (International Aid Administration).

In Rome the existing students' mess was greatly improved by changing over from a one course lunch to a complete midday meal.

In Milan students are lodged with full board in the students' hostel which has been renovated during the summer. The monthly fee per person has been raised by the Jewish Community to Lire 30.000. Those students who are in a position to contribute pay a share, while the greatest part of the expenditure is borne by the Women's American ORT.

Also full medical assistance is provided for. At the beginning of the scholastic year all pupils have to undergo medical and psychiatric examinations. Medical aid is provided by OSE, who also equipped a sick room in the students' hostel. About 40 of the weakest boys and girls were sent to summer camps during vacations. In consequence of the better medical service and substantial nourishment, an improvement of our pupils' health condition is evident.

The Women's Italian ORT collected and took charge of the distribution of clothing to needy students, to whom also text books and other school materials were given.

All our pupils in training of trades exposed to incidents are insured against death and invalidity, those of the unemployed courses with the government insurance organisation, the others with private insurance companies.

Home visits were continuously made by our social assistant, in order to obtain correct information on family backgrounds and financial conditions.

### Organization of ORT Graduates

In December 1954 the organisation of graduates of ORT schools was founded in Milan. The development of the young organisation during its one year existence has taken the expected course. Very suitable premises were rented and equipped with television, various games and a library with books collected in a book drive. Regular weekly meetings are held in which professional problems are discussed and occasional lectures given. Visits have been organized to industrial plants for mechanics, television, radio and typewriters.

Due attention was given to the recreational part. Dances, film performances and choir singing were arranged and attended also by many guests.

Members are given the privilege to obtain small loans for the purchase of books and tools, repayable in monthly instalments.

The Roman branch of the organisation started activities this year as the premises reserved for our graduates in the new Jewish Community Centre were not ready earlier.

Contact has been established with other organisations of ex-students and with the Irgun Oleih Italia in Israel, which latter supply information on the placement situation in Israel.

The organisation was represented at the Jubilee Congress of the ORT Union in Geneva by one delegate.

### Public Relations

As mentioned before, the cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Public Instruction was very close. The many problems connected with the execution of our teaching program, especially that for unemployed, were solved in cordial agreement with the respective labour offices.

We could generally count on the sympathetic understanding of the Jewish Community and the various Jewish organisations, and we became particularly aware of the growing attention on the part of the AJDC which demonstrated increased interest in our work.

Also the amicable collaboration with the Council of American Voluntary Agencies, the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees and the Consorzio Provinciale per l'Istruzione Tecnica continued as in the past.

The Italian Jewish press was always ready to give our activities due publicity.

Our own bulletin was published in regular intervals in 5000 copies, reaching nearly every Jewish family in Italy.

A newsreel was produced of our Television School in Milan which was shown in the cinemas throughout Italy under the title "University of TV".

Our women's committees organized during the year exhibitions of students' works, fashion shows, garden parties, canasta evenings etc.

All these events were generally well attended and successful in every respect. Particularly worth mentioning are a bazar in Milan, and a garden party in Rome, at which occasion the 75th anniversary of the World ORT Union was celebrated in the presence of governmental representatives and delegates of all Jewish organisations.

The Italian schools participated with pupils' works at the International ORT Exhibition at the Musée d'Art et Histoire, Geneva, and at a fashion show arranged by the Women's American ORT on the occasion of their Biennial Convention in New York.

Last year showed a record number of distinguished visitors to our schools, among which many participants of the ORT Union Congress.

## Finance

In comparison with 1954, our expenditure increased last year by about 50%. Against 116 million lire in 1954, we spent in the year under report 174½ million lire. Consequently, the increase was 58½ million lire, of which 18½ refer to USEP.

This considerable increase of our expenses is due partly to the expansion of our program, and partly to the fact that the costs of our activities are constantly augmenting. About 50% of our expense load refer to salaries which had to be adjusted in accordance with the rising cost of living, a development which will continue also in the future. Since the money purchasing power is persistently diminishing, even the most stringent saving policy cannot prevent further continuous increases of expenditure.

The outlay for schools was about 40% higher, amounting in 1955 to 112 million lire as against 79 million lire in 1954.

The increase of administrative expenditure could be kept down to only 15%, while capital expenses showed an increase of about 70%.

The biggest increase occurred for social expenditure which were in 1954 a little less than 19 million lire, while in 1955 more than double of this amount, i.e., 39 million lire were spent for this scope. The largest part of this amount was paid out as attendance premiums.

Also the income side showed corresponding increases. Against 118 million lire in 1954, we were able to cash 173 million lire in 1955. Of this increase of 55 million lire the ORT Union contributed a little more than 3 million, while the remainder, which came from local sources, covers at present more than 70% of our expenditure. Disregarding the USEP schools, local income is still covering about 60% of our needs.

The amount received from government sources rose from lire 23.691.000.- in 1954 to lire 45.830.000 in 1955, while the contributions from local Jewish sources remained almost unchanged. Our endeavours to intensify our local drives did not produce the desirable results.

Recuperation income (about 4 million lire) was higher than before, as we were able to sell a part of our material and machinery out of use, and because our dressmaking laboratory made sales worth mentioning. Products of the other schools, being financed by the Ministry of Labour, cannot be sold.

The net contribution from USEP to our administrative expenditure amounted to about 6 million lire.

## Development of the Organization

Neither in the structure of our organization, nor in its administration, the past year showed essential changes. The Council was headed by Ing. Guido Jarach as President, and by Ing. Raffaele Jona and Ing. Isaaco Levo as Vice-Presidents. The Executive Committee, which met periodically in Rome or in Milan, under the presidency of Dr. Renzo Levi, decided on all problems other than those of ordinary administrative character.

In technical questions we were assisted by our local committee and by two experts who have leading positions in governmental professional education.

A small Committee was formed for the placement of our pupils, the work of which is developing steadily.

The number of our members increased by about 80, bringing the total figure to more than 600.

In November 1955 Ing. Guido Jarach tendered, to our regret, his resignation as President of the Council. New election of the entire Council will take place on the occasion of the General Assembly due to be held in the first quarter of the calendar year.

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ENROLMENT JANUARY - DECEMBER 1955

Locality and Unit	Enrolment 1. I.1955	New Ad- Missions	Graduat.	Discont.	Enrolment 31.XII. 55
<u>MILAN</u>					
Television	34	19	11	6	36
Motor Mech.	29	16	-	7	38
Dental Mech.	14	-	-	2	12
Children's Wear	12	-	12	-	-
Joinery	53	18	17	-	54
Children's W/shop I	117	46	-	54	109
Children's W/shop II	129	35	-	33	131
<u>TRIESTE</u>					
Radiotechnics	21	-	18	3	-
Dressmaking	17	-	15	2	-
Upholstery	25	-	25	-	-
Leather work	25	2	20	7	-
Electricians	20	-	20	-	-
Dressmaking	-	16	-	-	16
Radiotechnis	-	29	-	2	27
Upholstery I	-	27	24	3	-
Upholstery II	-	20	-	-	20
Children's W/shop	26	13	-	7	32
<u>LEGHORN</u>					
Tinsmith I	16	1	16	1	11
Tinsmith II	-	12	-	1	11
Mech. knitting I	25	-	25	-	-
Children's Wear	25	-	25	-	-
Dressmaking I	25	-	25	-	-
Dressmaking II	-	25	25	-	-
Mech. knitting II	-	15	15	-	-
Children's Wear II	-	26	25	1	-
Children's W/shop I	27	6	-	6	27
Children's W/shop II	14	14	-	4	24
<u>TURIN</u>					
Dressmaking I	16	-	16	-	-
Dressmaking II	-	14	-	-	14
Children's W/shop	112	12	-	67	57
To be carried forward	782	366	334	206	608

Locality and Unit	Enrolment 1.I.1955	New Ad- missions	Graduat.	Discont.	Enrolment 31.XII. 55
Brought forward:	782	366	334	206	608
<u>FLORENCE</u>					
Children's W/shop	49	8	-	14	43
Dressmaking	-	18	17	1	-
<u>VENICE</u>					
Children's W/shop	24	6	-	8	22
<u>ROME</u>					
Mechanics School	52	24	10	4	62
Girls Voc. Training Centre	55	29	13	16	55
Dressmaking I	21	-	17	4	-
Dressmaking imp. I	20	-	16	4	-
Dressmaking perf. I	12	7	13	6	-
Electromechanics	-	24	-	1	23
Mechanics	-	20	13	7	-
Radiorepairs	-	20	17	3	-
Dressmaking II	-	20	-	-	20
Dressmaking imp. II	-	20	-	-	20
Dressmaking perf. II	-	16	-	-	16
Girls' Production W/shop	-	10	-	3	7
Joinery	24	12	12	-	24
Bookbinding	24	12	12	-	24
Children's W/shop	150	49	-	28	171
<u>CEVOLI</u>					
Agriculture	11	12	11	-	12
<u>Various USEP Courses</u>					
<u>ROME</u>	201	271	17	226	229
<u>Various USEP Courses</u>					
<u>S. ANTONIO</u>	205	479	38	369	277
<hr/>					
Total:	1.630	1.423	540	900	1.613
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M O R O C C O

The activity of ORT-Morocco was pursued during the year 1955 in a period of trouble. Fortunately our school did not suffer directly.

The changed conditions with which ORT-Morocco must cope did not escape the leaders of the ORT Union, or the local Committee, and for this purpose Dr. Syngalowski, accompanied by Mr. V. Halpérin and Mr. V. Smaga proceeded last October to Morocco to study and inspect matters on the spot.

In his report to the Executive Committee, Dr. Syngalowski communicated the results of his trip and outlined the program to be followed and the aims to be achieved.

ORT in the course of its history often had to face many new situations. Its realistic conception is the basis of its program destined to meet all the requirements of the Jewish population in Morocco.

New Classes - New Sections

In the year under review the organization of our boys' school at Ain-Sebaa and girls' school at Val d'Anfa was consolidated and new sections were also created.

In the Val d'Anfa school a third year was opened in the section for laboratory assistants. At Ain-Sebaa a second year in automobile body-repair and a third year in welding were started. A first-year parallel class was opened in the electricity section.

In November we opened an adults training workshop for shirtmaking on the premises of a lingerie factory which provided both space and equipment. The training takes 6 months, three of which are entirely devoted to production. During the first three months, the students receive a stipend from ORT which is paid back by the employer in the first work year of the student. At the end of the training period, the students pass an examination before a commission composed of employers, representatives of the Government and ORT.

In November ORT installed three workshops and one classroom in a garage of about 500 m2 rented for this purpose. These premises are destined for short-term courses for adults which will commence at the beginning of 1956. In the meantime we are giving the pre-apprenticeship courses there to which reference is made later in this report.

Student Body

Despite the political events in Morocco, the studentbody of our schools increased. At the beginning of 1955-56 schoolyear we had 508 boys in the Ain-Sebaa and 359 girls in the Val d'Anfa school. These students are divided into the following sections:-

<u>Ain-Sebaa</u>	Fitting-turning, fitting-drilling and precision fitting	150
	Auto-mechanics	65
	Auto bodyrepair	39
	Welding-sheetmetal work	44
	Electricity	81
	Carpentry-cabinetmaking	59
	Welding "Promotion Ouvrière"	34
	Wood work "Promotion Ouvrière"	36
		<hr/> 508

<u>Val d'Anfa</u>	Dressmaking	205
	Laboratory assistants (chemistry)	45
	Chemistry of cosmetics	22
	Ready-made clothes	87
	Total	<hr/> 359

### Graduates

In June 130 of our day-school students graduated; 35 also passed the CAP.

Most of the Lathe-mechanics found employment and earn at present between Fr.25,000 and 40,000 a month. The carpenters and fitters are in a less fortunate position.

The difficult integration of our graduates in Moroccan factories led us to creating for students of the 3rd year a "stage" of 2 - 3 weeks at a factory. This training is carried out in close collaboration with the employers and will serve the purpose of acquainting the pupils with production methods, organization of a factory and the different atmosphere. Each pupil will be provided with a record book of his stage, to be kept by his employer or the workshop foreman, to enable them to enter their remarks on the trainees' behaviour. At the end of the stage the pupil will have to present a detailed report on the period spent at the factory.

### Equipment-Production

To complete the equipment of our school in 1955, the ORT Union made us an advance in 1954 on account of our 1955 subvention which enabled us to acquire at the beginning of the school year 1954/55 the necessary machines, which contributed considerably to the equipment of our schools.

The Ain-Sebaa school received 12 lathes, one milling machine, one planing machine, one shaping machine, one surface-planer, one wooden press, one mechanical saw, one hydraulic press, two boring machines and complete garage equipment. In addition one physical and one electricity laboratory were equipped.

At Val d'Anfa two dressmaking workshops were supplied with ultra-modern industrial machines.

A large part of these machines was acquired in English by the ORT Union thanks to the assistance of the Jewish Colonization Association (JCA).

As far as the production is concerned, 5 wooden lathes were made at Ain-Sebaa and 6 boring machines are now being executed. The carpentry section is working partly for the equipment of our schools and partly on orders from private customers.

### Short-term Courses for Adults

The study of the situation made on the spot by Dr. Syngalowski showed the urgency of the realization of a training program on behalf of adults. In this connection the creation of several large centres was envisaged. At Casablanca the opening of the first course is anticipated at the beginning of February.

The duration of these courses is planned for 4 months and the following trades will be taught: electric installations, locksmithy-welding, agro-mechanics and shirtmaking. The teaching program of these courses was established by the Technical and Pedagogical Department of the ORT Union. The recruitment of students will be done in close collaboration with other cooperative organizations. Financial aid will be given to the participants in the courses, above all to heads of families which will enable them to devote themselves fully to their vocational training.

### Teaching Staff

Nine instructors trained at the Central ORT Institute work at the Ain-Sebaa school in the mechanics, electricity and carpentry sections. At the beginning of the new school year the ORT Centre for the training of instructresses in Paris sent us three teachers who work at Val d'Anfa. Their work is entirely satisfactory. Four candidates who will complete the teaching staff of our girls' school were sent to the Paris Centre. In addition two girls received scholarships from ORT-Morocco and study domestic science and fashion design in French schools.

During the summer vacations two instructors of ORT-Morocco who have been working at Ain-Sebaa for several years were sent to Switzerland to participate in a seminary organised at the Central ORT Institute.

The problem of instructors for the new short-term program for adults is not easy to solve. We hope that a special course will be organized for this purpose at the Anières Institute, either for its graduates or for local teachers, in order to acquaint them with the methods of short-term teaching. In fact the Anières instructors working at Casablanca are completely taken up by teaching at our vocational schools.

Mme. Auroy, former chief instructress at the ORT school at Lyons was appointed Work Supervisor of the girls' school at Val d'Anfa. Her technical qualifications are much appreciated and good results have already been achieved, specially in the technical standards of the school.

Eight to ten new Anières instructors could be absorbed in the course of the next school year by the ORT-Morocco schools.

### Apprenticeship Service

The SAP has continued its activity and has concerned itself with 898 apprentices, boys and girls. 712 of these have attended the complementary ORT courses. General subjects, elementary technology and drawing are taught in these courses.

We recently began our pre-apprenticeship training program. The youngsters who have this preparation will be much easier to place and will make more rapid progress in their apprenticeship, and consequently earn a salary much

more quickly. At the end of these four month courses ORT enters into a work-contract with the employers, and the apprentices continue to follow the complementary evening courses organised by ORT.

The activity of the ORT Union which is based on previous experiences in the field of apprenticeship, marks a new step in the development of the Apprenticeship Service.

This service is at present operated in the premises destined for the adults courses, i.e. 26, rue Jacquemin at Casablanca.

#### Jewish and General Education - Leisure Time

The general and Jewish education program occupies an important place in the curriculum of our schools. This education is particularly indispensable at Ain-Sebaa, since this is a boarding school. The fact that the students come from totally different social and cultural environments poses particularly complicated problems for the teacher.

In the new Auditorium, in which there is the students' foyer, the synagogue, the library, almost daily manifestations of cultural or Jewish character are given, i.e. lectures, film-shows, theatrical performances, Oneg-Shabats and the commemoration of the Jewish holidays.

Sports equally occupied an important place in the organization of leisure time. At the end of each trimester, an "Olympics Day" is organised, the preparation of which is a particular stimulus to our students.

#### Assistance from the Women's American ORT and the Women's Committee of ORT-Morocco

The Women's American ORT and the Women's Committee of ORT-Morocco have contributed much to the social activity of our schools. The sum of 9 million francs was allocated to this activity in addition to the 10 million franc budget for the building of the Miriam Earle Memorial Auditorium.

Because of this valuable help, the following activities could be financed: the medical-social service comprising one consulting room, one dentist's consulting room and two sick-rooms; the purchase of clothes, the distribution of pocket money; organisation of leisure time; sports, holiday camps and the prize distribution at the end of the school year.

In addition, thanks to the local Joint and the Women's Committee, bourses were given to more than 40 girls from the provinces, who study at the Val d'Anfa school.

In May 1955, an important delegation of Women's American ORT, headed by Mrs. L. Kaphan came to assist in the inauguration of the Miriam Earle Auditorium. This ceremony was held in the presence of Mrs. Lacoste, wife of the Resident General of Morocco. The local press also devoted much space to this manifestation.

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The ORT-Morocco Committee meets regularly; the Administrative Council once a week and the Committee Council once a month. The work of the direction of ORT-Morocco is permanently ensured by the Committee presided over by Mr. J. Senouf.

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In conclusion we wish to add that the Government subvention allocated to ORT-Morocco rose from 15 to 21 million francs.

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## TUNISIA

The political events leading to the proclamation of Tunisian autonomy have not as yet seriously influenced the country economically. But in connection with future ORT work it must, however, be borne in mind that Tunisia is at present undergoing important changes, the economic effects of which will be felt in the future.

In 1955 Tunisian economy which is mainly based on agriculture, suffered because of the bad harvest. It is certain, however, that with matters returning to normal and the prospect of a satisfactory harvest, Tunisia will begin to exert much effort toward industrialization and will consequently need skilled workers.

In 1955 ORT continued to develop its work through increasing the number of classes, the number of students and apprentices, the completion of equipment and through the growing activity of the Committee.

### New Classes - New Premises

In October 1955 the boys school in Ariana started to operate with five sections and 16 classes. With the creation of the third year of the plumbers' section, all sections have their complete number of classes.

With the exception of the carpentry section, all students of the first year follow a general program and specialization commences only with the second year. In the course of that first communal year, the students are mainly taught mechanics-fitting and acquire an elementary knowledge which is useful for whatever trade they learn later (auto mechanics, plumbing, fitting-turning or electric installations).

Since the students spend half the day in the workshop and the other half in the classroom, we need 8 classrooms. Unfortunately the school has only seven, which compels us to use the canteen as a classroom, a system which causes some difficulties in the teaching. The absence of a room for technical-drawing, a student library, a sickroom and a teachers' room adds to the crowding. To solve this problem we had envisaged adding another storey to building D consisting now of one floor only with about 500 m<sup>2</sup> surface, but since the funds it would require are needed for even more urgent expenses, we have to renounce this project for the time being.

The number of candidates for the girls' school in Bad-Sadoun has been so great that we have been obliged to admit many more students than foreseen and to open a first year with two parallel classes. This building is not at all suitable for a school and is situated in a suburb of rather doubtful reputation. For this reason we have already obtained the consent of the ORT Union to move the school to better premises.

In October we acquired a house surrounded by a large garden in No. 50, rue des Sales, in the Jewish district of the town, for the Apprenticeship Services and the Adult Courses. In November the S.A.P. offices were transferred there.

Studentbody

As of January 1st, 1955, the studentbody of our school was made up as follows: 378 boys and 75 girls in our schools and 85 boys and 55 girls in the courses for apprentices organised on behalf of the boys in the Ariana School and on behalf of the girls in Bad-Saadoun.

As of January 1st, 1956, we had 418 boys and 86 girls in our schools and 160 boys and 74 girls in the apprenticeship courses. We have, therefore, at the moment a total of 504 students in our schools and 234 apprentices following the complementary courses.

Our students are divided into the following sections:

Boys:	General Trade Training (1st year)	178
	Mechanics	43
	Auto mechanics	37
	Electricity	66
	Plumbers	39
	Carpentry Section	55
Girls:	Cutting-Dressmaking	86
		<u>504</u>

Complementary Courses S.A.P.

Boys:	Electricity	30
	Carpentry	20
	Plumbers	19
	Auto-electricity	14
	Auto-mechanics	30
	Welding	22
	General Mechanics	25
Girls:	Ready-to-wear Clothing	43
	Cutting-Dressmaking	20
	Shirtmaking	11
		<u>234</u>

Despite the absence of any publicity, the number of candidates for the entrance examination at the beginning of the schoolyear has never been so large. In fact, our best propaganda tool has been primarily the results obtained at the final examinations, and secondly the fact that there are practically no unemployed among our graduates. We could admit only 200 new students of the 360 candidates who presented themselves for the entrance examinations.

All new students underwent a thorough psycho-technical test on the basis of which, and considering the work done in the course of the first year, we were able to direct students to the specialized sections of the second year.

We adopted this procedure because the majority of parents and students select the electricity or auto mechanics sections without considering either aptitudes or the possibility of finding work upon graduation. We have, therefore, felt it our duty to assess the capacities of our students as correctly as possible, so that we can guide them in the most useful manner.

#### Final Examinations - Graduates

For the second time since their creation our schools have presented candidates in the following branches: fitting, turning, electrical installations, auto-mechanics, carpentry and cutting-dressmaking. With the exception of the girls, the results obtained can be considered as satisfactory.

Our graduating classes present themselves for ORT examinations held under the supervision of outside experts, engineers and teachers from other vocational schools. In addition some take the State Examination to procure the CAP (Certificate d'Aptitude Professionnelle).

The schoolyear 1954/55 terminated with the prize distribution ceremony, which was presided over by Me. Elie Nataf. Among those present was M. Lucien Paye, then head of Public Education in Tunisia and now in charge of Cultural Relations at the Quai d'Orsay, who delivered a very flattering speech on the work of our schools. We are pleased to report that all our graduates are employed though the economic situation in Tunisia seemed rather unfavourable to their placement. It is very rare that one of our former students changes his trade. If this happens the change is almost always due to family reasons (the parents owning a business in which the son must help). Some have migrated to France and Israel, but all find work in their trade.

#### Training Program, Production, Equipment

As far as our training program is concerned, we already mentioned the creation of a third year in the plumbers section, a supplementary first year class in cutting-dressmaking and the introduction of a communal first year for all sections with the exception of carpentry. Within the mechanics section, a small class for turners was also created. The second year mechanics course has been divided into two groups: fitters and turners. All fitters, however, have to undergo a "stage" of practical work on machines, since this knowledge is indispensable in modern industry.

As from the beginning of the October term, special emphasis has been placed on production. The purpose of these exercises is twofold: they introduce a lively note into the teaching of a trade and the student can see his efforts have produced a useful object. He therefore works with more interest and pleasure and learns to overcome difficulties which he will encounter later on in the workshop. This also enables the school to recuperate substantial amounts of raw material.

Since October the work done by students for the equipping of classrooms and workshops represent the value of about one million francs. Work benches, tables and classroom benches (made of wood and metal tubes), various pieces of furniture, punches and marking gauges, utensils for the kitchen and the canteen have been made. The electrical installations for the building on rue des Salines was entirely carried out by our 3rd year electricity students under the supervision of their instructors. The auto-mechanics students have repaired more than 20 privately owned cars.

We also organised several visits to factories (foundries, workshops of the Tunisian railways, etc.); always with the object of confronting our students with real work conditions.

Considerable equipment was ordered and partly received in 1955. Among the machines received were eight lathes for the machine room, one boring machine, two different types of bending machines for the plumbers section, 2 two-hearths forges, 1 cross-head grinding machine, 1 cylinder grinding machine, 1 honing machine, 1 gearshaft aligning machine for auto-mechanics, one mortising machine and benches for the carpentry section, important laboratory material for the electricity section, 24 sewing machines for the girls school. We are expecting a tool grinding machine, two lathes and one milling machine for the machine room, one spindle shaping machine for carpentry and three boring machines. All this equipment was bought for us by the Technical Department of the OR<sup>T</sup> Union.

The acquisition of this equipment enabled us to launch an actual training program for the majority of the students of the school along with a series of production exercises. We hope that once the needs of the school and the S.A.P. are met, we shall be able to manufacture articles for outside consumption which will increase our local income.

#### Teaching Staff

The majority of our teaching staff consists of Anières graduates. Two of them have since been transferred to other schools, one in Algiers, the other in Israel and four new Anières graduates started work at our school at the beginning of the October term. At the present time of the 15 instructors of the boys' school, 12 are graduates of the Central ORT Institute. At the girls' school one of our instructresses emigrated to Israel and two new graduates from the ORT Institute at Neuilly arrived. We thus now have four instructresses for the girls' school. To sum up, the teaching staff comprises 19 instructors and instructresses, 14 of whom are graduates of ORT ~~teacher~~ training institutes.

At the boys' school, we have entrusted those Anières instructors who have been with us the longest with new responsibilities, since this school has become too large to do without any hierarchy in the teaching staff. Each head of service has the responsibility of supervising the schedule of teaching progression, the maintenance of equipment, and use of raw materials. Every Friday, the heads of sections meet with the Director to examine together the teaching progress and the different problems which have arisen in the course of the week.

The teaching of general educational subjects is given in our schools by teachers of the Alliance Israélite Universelle. Since October we have had the collaboration of Mr. Raphael Lévy, Honorary Director of Alliance Schools in Tunisia. Mr. Lévy, who has the designation of Chief of Studies, supervises the teaching of general subjects, the coordination of the teaching of technical branches and the discipline of the students in our schools. His work has already shown excellent results. In the past the lack of coordination between theoretical and practical subjects has often made itself felt. Now, however, owing to the great experience of Mr. Lévy, this gap could be filled, and we hope that we shall no longer see our students fail at the theory examination after they have successfully passed the practical tests.

At the girls' school the situation is less satisfactory. Despite the efforts of the teaching staff, it is impossible to introduce reforms as long as the school remains in its inadequate premises. What we are trying to do at the moment- when two different courses are given in the same room- is to combine subjects which do not "disturb" each other too much, i.e., for example, mathematics and drawing. Nevertheless we hope to achieve better results at this year's examinations.

#### Short-term Courses for Adults

Since the middle of 1955, and in particular, since Dr. Syngalowski's visit to North Africa, the ORT Union has drawn the attention of all ORT organizations in North Africa to the importance of the problem of adults without trades, whose numbers are unfortunately very large here.

Many adults, men and women, who often have the responsibility of supporting a family, are almost without resources, since they have not learnt a trade.

For them new short-term courses of a duration of 4 months will be organised, during which the students will attend the whole day. The learning of a trade will enable these adults to earn a living honorably and will be of great service to them should they ever wish to emigrate.

Posters for this purpose have been put up in the offices of the various Jewish organizations. Registrations have started for the following trades: welding, electrical installations, hairdressing, trousermaking, carpentry, turning. The most popular courses seem to be: electrical installations, welding and trousermaking. These courses will start in February.

#### Apprenticeship Service

1955, for the S.A.P. was a year of improvement and extension, both from the point of view of its program and its premises. After the new building in the rue des Salines (in the residential district of most of our apprentices) had been acquired, our offices moved to these new, more spacious premises which are far better equipped to meet the requirements of the ever increasing activities of our S.A.P. services and the courses for adults. These two sections of our work are directed by Mr. H. Müller, engineer, who was delegated to Tunis by the ORT Union for that purpose.

The apprentices are under the regular supervision of our social assistants and our inspector who watch the progress of their apprenticeship. To facilitate this supervision we have changed our card index system to enable us to record all observations made at each visit.

A circular letter describing the various activities of this Service was sent to all workshops and enterprises which might employ apprentices. It is interesting to note that the Jewish employers usually become ORT members at the same time.

Despite the many cases of emigration to Israel and France the number of our apprentices has been maintained and amounts today to 804 boys and girls. Over 250 of them attend the ORT complementary courses regularly. As a result of our move to the new building, the number of apprentices following these courses can be doubled.

At the end of each trimester, the student-apprentice receives a three monthly report in which the remarks of the employer are noted as well as those of the instructors of the practical and theoretical courses and the social worker of the S.A.P.

The report-card has had an excellent influence on our young apprentices, since it arouses in them a veritable spirit of competition, most of them having long forgotten school and its discipline.

The fact that 229 boys and girls have terminated their apprenticeship and have become semi-skilled workers since the creation of the S.A.P. in 1952, is in itself a source of great satisfaction to us. 143 boys are full fledged workers in the following trades: car painting 15, mechanics 13, tailoring 11, plumbing 9, carpentry 9, jewelry 8, shoemaking 8, vulcanisation 9, auto-electricity 7, electrical installations 7, upholstery 7, sheetmetal work 6, printing 5, metallurgy 3, central heating 3, wood carving 2, commercial drawing 2, cabinet making 2, leather work 2, light mechanics 3, building 1, wrought iron work 1, drilling 1, watchmaking 1, typewriter repair 1, nickel-plating 1, car repair 1, photography 1, dental mechanics 1, locksmithy 1, shoe repair 1, turning 1.

86 girls have learnt the following trades: dressmaking 30, ready-made clothes 24, tailoring 11, hairdressing 7, knitting 6, shirtmaking 4, laundering 1, embroidery 1, leatherwork 1, mending 1.

All these youngsters have been advised, guided, and socially helped and raised by the ORT-SAP. They earn their living decently and some of them have even opened shops themselves and taken apprentices to be trained in their turn.

An examination commission for those who have completed their apprenticeship was set up consisting of instructors from our school and of some employers. This commission judges the capacity of each apprentice and issues ORT Apprenticeship Certificates.

Our psycho-technical service developed considerably. In the course of the year under review we started 377 files for 270 boys and 107 girls. Our service also gave vocational guidance tests to 180 school children, the results of which enabled our schools to place these youngsters in the sections corresponding best to their vocational aptitudes.

Of a total figure of 228 girls, 210 are working in the needletrades. The placement in this branch is becoming increasingly difficult, especially in haute-couture, while the ready-made clothing industry still offers some openings. One of our greatest difficulties was to find employment for girls whose educational background was below elementary education standards and who were not interested in taking up dressmaking.

We think of trying an experiment, which in our opinion could give good results. We wanted to train a group of laboratory assistants, but since the installation of a laboratory would be too expensive, we got in touch with a well known chemist in Tunis who promised us his collaboration. He will give practical training to a group of girls in his laboratory. The theoretical courses in chemistry would be given in our centre in the rue des Salines. Investigations of the employment possibilities of these future laboratory assistants proved there will be no shortage of jobs. Chemists obtain the right to run their own laboratory; the oil works require personnel for their laboratory as well as the food production industries and agriculture.

Another project which seems interesting is the creation of a course in beauty culture. There also we have made contact with people who are ready to be of assistance.

A special commission was set up within the Tunisian ORT Committee whose task consists in helping Mr. Muller in his task of establishing preapprenticeship courses and short-term courses for adults.

Thanks to the new premises in the rue des Salines, we shall be able to extend the activities of the Apprenticeship Service, the Pre-apprenticeship Sector and the Short-Term Courses for Adults, and this Centre will become a kind of Workers University in Tunisia.

#### Preapprenticeship Courses

The first preapprenticeship courses were organized at the end of 1955 in the electrical installation and mechanics trades. These courses have a three to four month duration. After that period the apprentices will be placed in different workshops in the town and suburbs. They will then immediately be able to do more advanced work and their pay will be accordingly higher. Because of this elementary vocational training, the employer will not have to teach them the rudiments of the trade.

The training of these youngsters was entrusted to an Anières instructor. We hope that other ORT instructors will soon come to Tunisia to help him, since there is a shortage of qualified teaching personnel in Tunisia.

## General Education and Jewish Education

The lack of sufficiently large premises prevents us from organising cultural activities the way we would wish. Nevertheless our teaching staff never forgets that in addition to vocational training, it is their duty to educate our students.

Several discussion groups have recently been organised for students of the third year on various subjects, as for instance: "For and against Mechanisation". The students, discretely guided by their teachers, expound their ideas and discuss them. We attach great importance to these discussion groups, since they enable our students to examine the important questions of our time, to learn to express themselves, to control their impatience during the discussions and to respect the opinion of others.

Another recent innovation is the newspaper which is entirely edited by the students who pay a subscription to cover the cost of paper, stencils, etc.

Jewish education comprises courses in Hebrew and Jewish History. These two subjects are compulsory for Jewish students and are incorporated in the timetable. The marks obtained count in the three-monthly reports and are consequently taken into consideration in classifying the students. It is noteworthy that some of our non-Jewish students are interested in these subjects (optional for them), and two of them even enrolled for the Hebrew evening courses which are given outside the school timetable.

## Assistance of the Women's Committee and the Women's American ORT

The Women's Committee of ORT Tunisia was particularly active in the year under review under the leadership of Mrs. Baranes and Mrs. Boccara. Its activity mainly concentrated on social assistance, propaganda and fundraising.

A garden-party given in April raised almost Fr. 300,000. In October the Women's Committee with the help of students from our boys' school set up a stand at the International Fair of Tunis, where almost Fr. 500,000 were collected. The ladies of the Committee worked on the stand from 8 o'clock in the morning until 11 o'clock at night. The ORT stand was favorably commented upon by the jury. After the end of the Fair its Committee composed of the most important industrialists and businessmen of Tunis, came to visit the boys' school. At the cocktail party which was given in the canteen, the Chairman of the Committee, who is also President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Mahmoud Zarzri, declared, in agreement with his colleagues, that at the next Fair ORT would be given floor space free of charge. Other receptions (teas, bridge parties, etc.) were also organised.

Two distributions of clothes were made by the Women's Committee with the help of the local J.D.C. The Women's Committee has paid for the board and lodging of several students from the provinces, since our schools have no boarding quarters. The ladies of the Committee have done important

work for the canteen, Mrs. Baranès taking charge of the provisions accounts. Every day one or two ladies come to the school to supervise the preparation of the meals and to look after the wellbeing of the students.

In June a delegation of the Women's American ORT visited ORT Tunisia, Mrs. L. Kaphan, Mrs. L. Bader, Mrs. G. Gettenberg and Mrs. N. Aronson. As every year, the social requirements of the school were examined in the course of several meetings at which important help was decided upon.

Mainly through this help in 1955 we could create sport grounds, buy an electric vegetable peeler for the canteen, send a large number of our needy students to a holiday camp, provide coveralls and improve the canteen. The installation of an infirmary was anticipated, but owing to lack of space, we had to content ourselves with providing each workshop with an individual pharmacy, and providing the first aid station with a small stock of the more general pharmaceutical products.

#### Development of Organization of ORT Committee

Several changes took place in the work of the Tunisian ORT Committee in 1955. The Committee's officers were increased from 3 members to 7. Several new commissions were set up, all of which meet regularly. A Purchasing Commission to obtain favorable terms; the Technical Commission for Buildings has the task of examining the installation of existing premises or of building new ones; the Financial Commission; the Pedagogical Council (which comprises besides the Director of ORT-Tunisia, the Director of the S.A.P., the Head of General Education, the heads of sections and 5 Committee members), the commission for the S.A.P. and adult courses all have their specific duties. The only commission which does not meet is that for the placement of graduates, because for the moment none of our students are job-hunting.

As from the October term a membership recruitment campaign started. It is still too early to give final figures, but it can already be stated that the number of members of ORT Tunisie has more than doubled.

#### Financial Questions

About 80% of the budget of ORT Tunisia is still covered by the ORT Union subvention. This is due to the fact that in consequence of the political situation, the Government subventions are small, and the financial contribution of well-to-do Tunisian Jews is insignificant. The large majority of Jews is too poor to extend any help whatever to ORT, and since most of our students belong to this category of population, they cannot pay any school fees.

The students reimburse us, however, for part of the canteen expenditure and teaching material. These reimbursements amounted in 1955 to about Fr. 1,300,000. The city of Tunis voted for a subvention of Fr. 350,000. and the district of Ariana, in which our boys' school is situated gave Fr. 50,000. In addition, the Department of Public Education paid a sub-

vention of Fr. 1.901.000, while membership fees, donations and manifestations in 1955 produced about Fr. 1,100.000.

The Council of the Tunisia Jewish Community buys tram season tickets for needy students, which amounted to Fr. Francs 1.150.000.

### Conclusion

The year 1955 has seen the consolidation of the development of ORT in Tunisia. Despite unfavorable political and economic conditions, the S.A.P. succeeded in placing a large number of apprentices, and there is no unemployment among our graduates.

Much remains, however, to be done, and many things must be improved, i.e.; developing the program of short term courses for adults and of the preapprenticeship courses; finding a solution to the housing problem of the girls' school; enlarging the boys' school where the lack of classrooms creates much difficulty, and finally obtaining financial help from Tunisian Jewry and the Government in proportion to the extent and the utility of our work in this country.

A L G E R I A

No important changes were made in the existing institutions in Algiers and Constantine during the year 1955.

However, a complete new center was created at Oran, the second most important city in Algeria. Thus there are ORT institutions presently functioning in the three principal cities of Algeria: Algiers (30,000 Jews in a total population of 500,000), Constantine (14,000 Jews in a total population of 100,000) and Oran (30,000 Jews in a total population of 150,000).

The troubles which have agitated Algeria since November 1954 have presented us with several new problems which we are trying to resolve wherever possible. None of these problems are ours alone, they present similar difficulties elsewhere whether they be public or private establishments. These problems are, among others:

1) A slightly higher number of interruptions than in preceding years. This is due generally to the fact that certain of our students have moved to France, some to Israel, and others have abandoned their studies for financial reasons. In certain cases students whose older brothers have been recalled to the army were forced to take over the support of their families.

2) Recall of certain of our collaborators to the army. These absences were happily of short duration. As a result of special dispensations they were released after an absence of just one month.

3) The prevalent unease, particularly in Constantine where the curfew is maintained, has forced us to modify our work schedules. It is also impossible for security reasons to continue our complementary evening courses.

Although only indirectly connected with the activities of our organization, we wish to mention three events which, in 1955, contributed to the orientation and consolidation of our work:

a) The Congress of the World ORT Union which took place last June gave the leaders of our organization the benefit of meeting their colleagues from abroad. With the aid of the Central Office it allowed them to find solutions to the diverse problems which they face.

b) The useful meetings which were held in Casablanca, October last, between Dr. Syngalowski, a group of his co-workers, and the Director of ORT Algeria, helped us define the activity program for the present school year.

c) The visit last June of Mesdames Kaphan, Aaronson, Bader and Gettenberg to Algiers gave new impulse to our social activities and stimulated the creation of an ORT-Algeria Women's Committee, a committee which is today an accomplished fact.

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Following these few general facts are the more precise details on the functioning of each of our three Algerian Centres.

#### A. Algiers

##### Schools.

After the extensive transformations effected in our buildings in 1953 and 1954, no further changes were deemed necessary in 1955. We did, however, try to ameliorate the working condition in the study room and fitting workshop with little cost.

There was also no change made in the list of specialties taught, which remain:-

- for the boys:- Carpentry - cabinetmaking  
Mechanical fitting  
Electrical installation  
Automobile repair
- for the girls:- Dressmaking and cutting.

The two schools have three year study courses. The complementary courses for apprentices functioned until July.

##### Enrolment

As of December 31, 1955, 155 students attended our schools. In October the registration of the student body was accomplished, as usual, after the competitive theoretical examinations given by us and psycho-technical and medical examinations by the appropriate Algerian Government services. Seventy students were selected from among 168 candidates. A statistical survey of the student body as of December 31, 1955, is attached to this report.

As indicated earlier, the number of students leaving before completion of training was relatively higher, 45 interruptions having been registered in the course of the year. The reasons for departure were:- financial reasons (15), expelled for inaptitude (10), emigrations (8), health (4), discipline (3), called up for military service (1), change of orientation (1), reasons unknown (3).

In 1955 41 students completed their training as follows:- Carpenters-cabinetmakers (7), fitters (6), Electricians (10), automobile mechanics (3), dressmakers (15).

Of the 26 male students 21 work in their own trade in local enterprises 1 moved with his family to French West Africa and works in his field, 1 set himself up as an artisan. Information on the other three is as yet unavailable.

##### Production - Equipment

We are trying, wherever possible, to include in our training program the production of a maximum of saleable items. Although our carpentry-cabinet-making and dressmaking workshops lend themselves easily to this kind of work, it is not feasible, on the other hand, to achieve this with a large part of our electricity and fitting sections.

Nevertheless, in 1955 our production income attained almost ₪650,000. Certain manufactured objects were reserved for our needs. The others were sold on the occasion of the end-term exhibition. Recently a second sale-exposition was held at the girls' school.

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The following equipment was added to our workshops:-

Fitting - 1 Colchester Student Lathe purchased through the Central Office in Geneva.  
A second similar lathe is awaited.  
1 Drilling machine purchased locally

Carpentry:- 1 Circular Saw

#### Teaching Staff

Several changes were effected during the course of the year.

- At the boys' school, two Anières graduate instructors, the first called up for military service, the second transferred to ORT-Iran, were replaced by an Anières graduate transferred from ORT-Tunisia to Algiers, Fitting Section, and by an instructor recruited locally for the Woodworking-Carpentry Section.

- At the girls' school, the post of instructress for Dressmaking, 1st year, was filled by a graduate of the Women's Section of the ORT Institute in Paris.

#### S.A.P.

We have a limited service with the number of apprentices varying between 15 and 20. We have already emphasized in earlier reports the difficulties which hamper the proper functioning of this service. Despite this, interesting results were obtained. The 15 apprentices currently under our supervision are distributed as follows:- 6 Carpenter-Cabinetmakers, 1 Mechanic, 1 Upholsterer, 1 Central Heating Worker, 1 Cardboard-Craftsman, 1 Designer, 1 Wood-Carver.

#### General Education- Jewish Education

The general education courses given by trained teachers hired locally follow the programs in similar state run institutions with instruction provided in French, Mathematics, Workmen's Legislation, Professional Hygiene, Geography. At the girls' school a home economics course is given.

Our teaching program also includes a course in Jewish History given during the normal school hours.

#### Social Aid

Thanks to the generosity of the Women's American ORT and of the local AJDC and Welfare Association, we have been able to continue the aid to needy students on a substantial scale.

As a result of their generosity, semi-boarding facilities were covered for 60 girls and boys. Scholastic materials (books, notebooks, work-clothes, gym clothes) were provided for 82 students. Finally, cash subsidies varying from 1000 to 2000 francs per month, were granted to 27 students.

A women's committee has been formed around Mme Maurice Benichou and is already undertaking its first tasks.

### Organizational Development

The Administrative Council, renewed during the course of the General Assembly of March 6, 1955, and presided over by M. Chiche, held 9 work sessions during the year. They were devoted primarily to the publication of a brochure which retraces the activities of the organization during the last 8 years, the creation of the ORT Centre, the definition of a wage scale for the personnel, and the recruiting of new members.

### Financial Questions

The dominant fact is that despite the present difficulties, the Government subvention has attained 14 million francs this year for Algiers and Constantine, or one million more than in 1954. To this sum which comes entirely from the National Education Funds we should add, insofar as Algiers is concerned, 390,000 francs derived from other public sources (Department of Algiers, City of Algiers, Ministry of the Interior).

Other receipts arrive on a regular basis, whether they be the subvention from the ORT Union, contributions of the WAO or the local AJDC.

We have been faced with treasury shortage problems since the government subvention is not broken into 12 monthly parts, but given in total at the end of the year. We were able to remedy this situation by obtaining from a local bank the necessary advances all through the year. This was only possible because of the solid guarantee given by all the members of our committee.

Other local receipts were 30% less than anticipated, but the increase in the government subvention compensated largely for the difference.

### B. Constantine

#### Changes of Sections

In October 1955 we achieved, in conformity with our plans, the progressive replacement of the Locksmithy Section by the Sanitary Plumbing Installation Section. The Locksmithy Section whose last graduating group took the CAP in June 1955 thus ceased to function and was replaced by the Sanitary Plumbing Installation Section, whose first graduating class will present itself for the same CAP examination in June 1956. This switch called for a number of changes in the facilities and organization of the school.

#### Enrolment as of January 1, 1956.

Following a sharp entry competition in the month of October 1955, we were able to choose 28 new students. Taking into account the various departures registered at the end of the school year, shown on the following table, the student body on January 1, 1956 counted 56 students.

1st year - general section	28	
2nd year - fitting "	12	
3rd year - plumbing "	5	
3rd year - fitting "	6	
3rd year - plumbing "	<u>5</u>	56 students

#### Departures during the year 1955

1st year - general	14	
2nd year - plumbing	3	
3rd year - fitting	<u>2</u>	
		19 departures

Enrolment SAP

The following table resumes the variations in enrolment of apprentices placed within the framework of our patronal apprenticeship service:-

1 9 5 5

January	55 apprentices
February	62
March	62
April	57
May	58
June	57
July	58
November	47
December	57

The number of apprentices placed under supervision vary between 47 and 62, the distribution by trades in the month of December 1955 was as follows:-

Locksmiths	12 apprentices
Printers	10
Mechanics	2
Painters	1
Plumbers	6
Jewellers	3
Upholsterers	4
Carpentry-Wood-	
working	16
Tailors	3
	<hr/>
	57 "

Of this number some 20 apprentices regularly attend our evening courses. The formula adopted had been one hour of complementary courses 4 evenings weekly. As a result of the growing insecurity and at the request of the school authorities, these courses were replaced at the end of 1955 by Sunday morning classes which include the 4 hours in one morning. These courses are attended by 27 apprentices who are either already placed or in the process of being placed.

Final Examinations

End term examinations given in June 1955, showed the following results:- of the 8 fitters and 8 locksmiths, totalling 16 candidates, 7 passed.

The economic integration of the students having completed our third year was most satisfactory. Of the 8 fitters 6 work in their trade and 2 are continuing their studies with a view to perfecting them. Of the 8 locksmiths 6 exercise their trade, 1 is a supplementary policeman, 1 is doing his military service.

School Equipment

The Sanitary Plumbing Section received the following sheet metal material during 1955:- 1 rolling machine, 1 lever shears, 1 metal folding machine (on order). A mimeograph machine was also acquired. The need for this machine had become pressing particularly in the teaching of design and technology.

### Teaching Staff

Some changes have taken place in our teaching personnel. The post of general instructor (French) having become vacant, was not refilled inasmuch as the tasks of the retiring instructor could be distributed amongst the remaining teachers. The unexpected mobilization of the design-technology-mathematics teacher temporarily created some difficulties in the normal functioning of the theory courses.

In the plumbing section, a former Anières student faces a difficult problem, that of handling two vacant posts simultaneously teaching the practical work and the various theory courses of the two years. His task is complicated and it proves to be very difficult to find the proper assistant for him locally.

### Professional Apprenticeship Service and the Placing of Students

The enrolment and changes which took place during the school year in our SAP were treated earlier.

Recent statistics on the placing of both graduated and non-graduated students leaving the school after training of varying duration permits us to concretize the results obtained by ORT-Constantine during the last few years.

From information concerning 216 former ORT students that we have been able to gather from their integration into the labor market, we can state that the average monthly salary approximates Fr 20,000.- Considering their youth, the absence of an official diploma and above all the difficult economic conditions prevailing in Constantine, these results are appreciable.

Our SAP records today show more than 200 apprentices of whom more than 100 no longer present us with placement problems because of their integration into the economic life as more or less skilled labourers.

### Jewish Education

We have become aware of a growing interest amongst the students in the study of Hebrew and all matters touching on Israel's existence. This interest is due in good measure to the personality of the Jewish Agency delegate who gives the modern Hebrew courses in our school.

### The ORT Committee

The Constantine ORT Committee has actively tackled all the problems of the centre, problems such as salaries of the personnel, recruiting of members and running of the canteen were given as much consideration by the Committee as by the special commissions.

### Financial Problems

Despite the fact that the local receipt did not achieve the expected figure, due mostly to the unrest in Constantine, the shortage was largely compensated for by the ever increasing government subventions.

Thus for the schoolyear 1955/56 the National Education Direction of the General Council of the Constantine Department and Community, have provided some 5 million francs in subventions, more than 50% of our budgetary requirements.

### C - Oran

For a number of years we have hoped to extend our activities to this important Algerian Centre. However, it was only in 1955 that it became financially possible for us to proceed with a first realization.

Having rented a relatively large space, very bright and in the very heart of the city, we had the choice of installing either a three-year school for boys or girls, or a pre-apprenticeship course. Either one would have been successful. We finally decided on the pre-apprenticeship course which had been recommended by the Central Office. This consists of initiation courses of varying lengths, depending on the specialty and average level of the stagiaires, but which was not to exceed six months. During this time the apprentices familiarize themselves with the elementary requirements of the trade and receive as well some grounding in general culture as well as elementary notions of design and technology.

At the end of this stage they are placed under apprenticeship contracts in local industry while continuing their complementary and perfecting courses with us.

As a result of having been initiated into their new milieus and new duties they should make rapid progress.

This formula is being followed for the first time in Algeria. Its success depends mostly on the fidelity with which the employers absorb the apprentices which they engaged to take some months earlier.

We began our activity in Oran by establishing an ORT Office and making contact with the different milieus with which ORT must eventually work.

At the end of August we began our publicity campaign and from the 6th of September posters were put up in the proper communities along with press notices announcing that an ORT Pre-apprenticeship and Perfectioning Centre would open in October, and inscriptions were taken for a first general mechanics stage.

### Enrolment

We had 80 candidates for 20 vacancies, which allowed us careful selection. Of the 20 admitted only one did not continue. Before the end of the first stage we already registered 25 inscriptions for the second. Nevertheless, we must make careful selection. It is essential that we feed local industry with qualified workers. We believe it would be prejudicial to placement to fill our ranks with those who in the competitive exams proved themselves mediocre.

### Teaching Progress

From October 18 to December 12, the centre's program was general education plus theoretical-technical training, while the workshop was being prepared. The practical work did not begin until December 12, the day the workshop was opened and pronounced satisfactory. We are sure that the assiduity of our apprentices, backed by their hopeful parents and supported by the knowledge that we will carry them until the CAP, will continue.

Our program including 27 workshop hours and 13 hours of general culture takes all this into account.

The arranging of our perfection course which should bring the apprentices back to the Centre at the middle of March, presently constituted the largest part of our activities. We are happy to state that our Jewish History courses are enthusiastically received.

S. A. P.

Within the coming weeks we will verify the value of the promises made to us and this first test will indicate what method should be used in this domain, this being by far the most delicate aspect of our work.

We have worked out a legal formula which ORT had introduced into the apprenticeship contract; we do not know yet how this will be received by employers and parents.

Committee

Our constitution was prepared at the same time as we carried on our other activities. The Committee has succeeded in gathering round the centre, along with the President of the Consistory and the representatives of our local industry, a doctor, Dr. Pariente, who will undertake the medical care of our young people, a lawyer, Me Beinzri, who in the future will defend our interests without charge, a General Counsellor, Dr. Amouyal, Delegate to the Algerian Assembly who will represent us on the departmental plane as soon as our status is legal.

We count on the inauguration ceremony of our Centre, which should take place at the end of February, to materially interest the more realistic elements of the Oran Jewish Population.

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## I R A N

During the year 1954 the focal point of our activities was the consolidation of the existing program and creating a solid base for the future. 1955 was characterized by a constant development of our activities in all fields, according to plans worked out by the Direction of the ORT Union and ORT-Iran. This resulted in a considerable increase of the number of pupils, creation of new schools and courses, new buildings and repairs to existing buildings, as well as increase and modernization of equipment.

Thanks to the aid granted to us by the AJDC and the Women's American ORT, we have been able to further develop the social assistance afforded to our pupils. Considerable progress has also been made in improving the living conditions for our pupils. The area of the internat at Teheran has been doubled and the sanitary installations in all our Iran schools improved.

Our efforts to raise the technical and pedagogical standard of the schools have been successful, due to two essential conditions prevailing this year; 1) the number of instructors from Anières was increased to six and they have introduced a new spirit into our schools. 2) the problem of employment for graduates has been happily solved and the pupils who know that their future is assured have a higher morale and produce better results.

### New Creations

The equipment, received from the ORT Union was completed by local purchases and sent to Chiraz, where a shoemaking school was opened in April. Twenty-four pupils were admitted to that school and have made rapid progress under the guidance of an excellent Armenian instructor engaged in Teheran. Five months after the school's opening shoes made at this workshop could be distributed to a part of our pupils, and during the current schoolyear all our pupils will be similarly shod.

The success of this school was such that on the resumption of studies in September, we engaged a new instructor and opened a second class with 26 pupils. This school meets a pressing local need and is developing normally.

Our activities in Chiraz in favour of our graduates (see below under heading "Production Workshops") has provoked considerable repercussions and has prompted several of our co-religionists to turn towards studying a trade. As a result we had to open last November a course for carpenters with 18 participants. This course was followed by a second for shoemaking, opened on January 1, 1956, with 20 trainees.

### New Buildings and Improvements

Due to difficulties of a local character, and although the funds for this purpose had been foreseen in our budget, we were not able to start the building intended for the self-supporting improvement school for carpentry until October.

The construction of this building of a total area of 520 m<sup>2</sup> will cost about \$10,000. This relatively low cost for Teheran could be achieved since all carpentry and electricians' jobs were carried out by the pupils of our schools. The building will be ready by the end of February and will permit the planned extension of our activities.

Prior to the beginning of the schoolyear we were in a rather critical position in view of the increased number of applications of candidates from the towns of the interior whom we were unable to admit, due to the crowded condition of our internat. Luckily the Director of the Jewish Agency of Teheran put at our disposal two large halls, adjacent to the old internat, which we have completely transformed, equipped and furnished. Some important alterations were undertaken immediately in order to adapt the sanitary installations to the increased enrolment at the internat.

The increased number of pupils in Teheran compelled us to proceed with various transformations in order to produce more favourable conditions. Thus the former dining room and foundry were transformed into carpentry workshops. The fitters have been transferred from the machine-hall into a separate workshop.

In Chiraz needed sanitary installation jobs have been undertaken. These were urgently needed for some time, but had to be postponed due to lack of funds. This problem found its solution in October last, and the installations, estimated at abt. \$1000 were immediately undertaken and are now nearing completion.

Enrolment

The enrolment of O.R.T.-Iran as at December 31, 1955 was:-

Day Schools

<u>Teheran</u>	Carpentry	21	
	Mechanics	56	
	Electro-mechanics	22	
	Cutting and dressmaking	<u>81</u>	180
<u>Espahan</u>	Carpentry & marquetry	18	
	Cutting & dressmaking	<u>99</u>	117
<u>Chiraz</u>	Carpentry & marquetry	37	
	Shoemaking	48	
	Cutting & dressmaking	<u>222</u>	307

Training Workshops

<u>Teheran</u>	Carpentry for adults	30	
<u>Chiraz</u>	" evening course	<u>18</u>	48

Manual Training

<u>Teheran</u>	Woodwork	37	
	Embroidery	<u>54</u>	<u>91</u>
			<u>743</u>

In addition thereto an evening course for shoemakers was opened in Chiraz on the 1st January 1956, with 20 trainees and an accelerated course for adults for electrical installation on January 29, 1956, with an initial enrolment of 12 trainees.

The total enrolment of our Iran schools had amounted to 547 as at January 1, 1955. During the period under review we registered 442 new admissions, 234 boys and 208 girls. During that same period 183 pupils received their diplomas and 63 left prematurely. Among these "premature departures" were 20 boys and 43 girls, the majority of whom left the school to get married.

The enrolment as at December 31, 1955 totalled 543 pupils, which present an increase of 35% over last year.

### Final Examinations

The final examinations started on June 15th, supervised by a qualified staff including several engineers. These examinations showed considerable improvement in the technical standard of our schools.

The schoolyear was wound up at all our schools on the 11th July with the distribution of diplomas and prizes. Everywhere exhibitions were organized and a large number of visitors could appreciate the high quality of our pupils' products. The plays produced and staged by the pupils were received with great enthusiasm. This celebration took on a specially festive air in Teheran, where over 750 people attended. Two deputies to the Majlis (Parliament), representatives of the Ministry of Public Education, the Director of the AJDC and numerous notables were among those present.

### Placement of Graduates and Creation of Production Workshops

The placement of our graduates did not present a grave problem this year, the situation having noticeably changed since last year. Firstly, the political and economic situation of the country being stable, the slow birth of a local industry and partly the large projects undertaken by the Iranian Government or by the Point 4 Administration have created vacancies for our graduates. Secondly, the standard of the schools being considerably raised, the graduates are much more readily engaged by employers and are kept in their jobs.

As in the past year, an important part in the solution of the employment problem was played by the production workshops created with the aid of the "Lvovitch Fund". This activity has contributed enormously to the prestige currently enjoyed by our Organization in Iran.

In Teheran, where 10 of these workshops were operated satisfactorily until spring 1955, the situation on the work market has permitted us to relax our efforts, in order to concentrate mainly in the towns of the interior. Therefore we have provided loans in the capital for only two new workshops, one for carpentry and one for marquetry; this latter was opened by two graduates of our Espahan school. Sewing machines were provided on a credit basis to some of the graduates of the girls' school.

In Espahan and Chiraz the situation was quite different owing to the total absence of both industry and artisanship. Mr. D. Alberstein, one of the ORT-Union's inspectors on a mission in Iran, visited these two towns in order to study the possibilities of remedying this state of affairs. With the funds put at our disposal by the ORT Union in the framework of the "Lvovitch Fund" numerous workshops were created (in Espahan one workshop for marquetry and another for carpentry with 7 participants; in Chiraz 7 workshops for carpentry and two for marquetry with 13 graduates). In these two towns numerous sewing machines were granted to the girl graduates, which has permitted them to earn a decent living. In these towns where the Jewish tradesman was unknown, these workshops have considerably enhanced the prestige of ORT and have prompted many of our co-religionists to envisage the study of a trade.

### Operation of Schools

The ORT schools in Iran at the end of 1955 represent a network of professional training with classes and workshops according to carefully prepared programs, adapted to local conditions. Despite a still inadequate equipment and the lack of qualified local instructors, our schools have achieved a standard of order, discipline, technical and pedagogical level, which is not below that of similar European establishments.

### Recognition of the Schools

The most salient fact was the official recognition of our schools by the Iranian Authorities, achieved after a year of tireless interventions. The importance of official recognition does not so much consist in what it gives us, but in the suppression of the danger presented by its absence. In fact, the schools formerly had no legal existence but were merely tolerated; this tolerance could cease at any moment and the schools would have had to cease.

This new situation gives way to hope that in future these officially recognized schools will acquire those advantages granted to us in other countries, particularly in respect of government subventions. Currently this measure has resulted in a favourable influence on enrolment of pupils, who hold their 6-grade certificate (C.E.P.) and it will also give an official value to our diplomas which are now delivered under the supervision of inspectors of the Ministry of National Education.

In regard to equipment, a great effort has been made in 1955. A large modern lathe, a filing-vice and a superb boring machine, as well as various tools and control apparatus have been supplied to the mechanics section. For the carpentry section, we have purchased 1 planing machine, 1 slotting machine and 1 spindle machine, also a complete set of collective and individual tools. The majority of this material was supplied to us through the Technical Department of the ORT Union.

Production has progressed considerably and we have sold during the year articles manufactured in our workshops for a total of Rials 256,855.- i.e. \$3200. This figure does not include the numerous articles made for the Jubilee Exhibition, or the various jobs intended for the equipment and maintenance of our schools.

Teaching Staff. The problem presented by the absence of qualified local instructors has been solved to a large degree thanks to the Central ORT Institute of Anières and the Centre in Paris. The 3 instructors from Anières, who were with us during the schoolyear 1954/55 were reinforced by the arrival of another 3 who came in September 1955. This has, for the first time, permitted us to detach an instructor for carpentry-cabinetmaking (Mr. Hildesheim) to the Chiraz school, and we can only congratulate ourselves on the results. In general these instructors manifest both conscientiousness and great professional qualifications in the exercise of their functions, and have raised the standard of the schools. In this connection we wish to stress the fact that they have made rapid progress in learning the Persian language and some of them are already giving theory lessons to their pupils in their native tongue.

From the Paris Centre only one instructress has returned for the time being (Miss Haghighi) and her work gives us entire satisfaction. We are anxiously awaiting the return of 3 other Iranian students who are currently in Paris. In addition there are 5 young men from Iran who are being currently trained at the Anières Institute.

All these instructors have expressed their keen desire to be able to improve themselves in their respective lines, however, in putting at their disposal the material they require of us, we are exhausting local possibilities. It will be necessary to register them for correspondence courses with the aid of the Central Office of the ORT Union.

### Accelerated Courses For Adults

In October an agreement was reached between the ORT-Iran and the Director of the Jewish Agency in Iran, according to which accelerated courses for adults would be opened for the benefit of candidates without a trade, wishing to emigrate to Israel. The ORT was to assume entire responsibility for the operation of the courses, and the Jewish Agency has undertaken to ensure material aid for the trainees, which would enable them to follow their training under favourable conditions. Furthermore candidates in possession of ORT training diplomas are assured absolute priority for the Aliyah.

A first course for construction carpenters with a curriculum of 6 months was started on November 1st in Teheran, with the participation of 30 trainees, and operates very regularly. Subsequent to the Jewish Agency being unable to fulfill its undertaking regarding the social aid to the trainees, the course had to be interrupted, however, after all difficulties were finally overcome, training was resumed and an additional course for electrical installation was opened on January 29th. Further courses for men and women are in preparation.

### Manual Training Courses

Two courses exist in Teheran for boys and girls. In a section for woodwork 37 boys are trained in handicraft and execute work, some of which was found worthy to be exhibited last summer in Geneva. On the other hand 54 girls aged 12 to 14 learn embroidery and the rudiments of dressmaking.

### General and Jewish Education

According to the program, our pupils benefit, in addition to the theoretical lessons connected with their trades, from an extensive general education. Furthermore, in order to allow the best pupils to be admitted to the Institute at Ahières or to the Paris Centre, French is being taught at all our schools from the first year.

Particular attention is devoted to Jewish education at our schools, and in each class 3 hours weekly are compulsory for the study of Hebrew and Jewish history. The Hebrew language is often used in the relations of pupils and instructors.

In this field the best results are achieved by the recreation program. During the whole year all the Jewish holidays are marked by special school functions with an almost exclusive program in Hebrew. Since the preparation of these manifestations, outside of school-time, lasts several weeks, this actually maintains the Jewish spirit in our schools.

### Women's Committee and Women's American ORT

The WAO has continued to grant us their social aid, with a subvention to ORT Iran of \$6,000 this year.

The Teheran Women's Committee organized a theatre show in April, which produced a net profit of \$1000. This amount was used for the clothing program. Subsequently, following the departure of the President, Mme Senehi, to the Jubilee Congress, activities slowed down somewhat, but were resumed in December, upon her return from Europe.

Organization

In the implementation of the Committee's principal task, which is to create in Iran an ORT Organization worthy of the schools which the ORT Union has created for the Iranian Jewry, no great progress, unfortunately, has as yet been made during the current year. We are continuing our efforts in this field and hope that our Iranian friends will eventually decide to fulfill the tasks which they have voluntarily assumed conscientiously.

Mr. Alberstein, who has been delegated to Iran for the schoolyear 1954/55 was replaced in June by Mr. Alcalay, Director of the ORT School of Athens. However, since it became known that the latter's presence was indispensable in Athens, Mr. Joseph Galani, Engineer, formerly Director of the ORT School in Jerusalem, was entrusted with the direction of ORT in Iran and assumed his duties in January 1956. Mr. Alberstein was in the meantime appointed inspector, and returned to Iran on a special mission in September 1955 until end of January 1956.

During the past year ORT-Iran, who was able to increase the number of its schools and courses, and its enrolment by 35%, raise new buildings, modernize and increase its equipment and particularly enrich its staff by new and valuable members, is facing its future with full and firm confidence.

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G E R M A N Y

Introduction

The Jewish population in Germany, composed of DP's, returnees from Israel (who came to Germany for their restitution claims or to facilitate their emigration to overseas countries), recent escapees from Eastern countries and a small number of Jews of German nationality, has remained more or less static since last year. The greatly restricted immigration quotas, the many cases of ill health, family ties or restitution claims waiting to be settled, are generally responsible for the fact that most of this group, though fundamentally opposed to remaining in Germany, must stay here at least for the time being. But at any rate, whether they emigrate or settle locally, they all must find a way to integrate into the labour market as quickly as possible. This applies to adults as well as to youths, who -- being without any means -- are stranded in a foreign country, as it is the case with most Jews in Germany. No immigration authorities and no German industrial or commercial enterprise will accept applications for emigration or employment which are not supported by a certificate of skill in a trade; the economical situation in Germany has improved to the point that we have no more difficulty in placing those of our graduates who do not emigrate.

Student Movement January 1 to December 31, 1955

	Students 1.1.1955	Admissions	Departures	Graduates	Students 1.1.1956
Munich	134	85	--	76	143
Berlin	103	86	3	105	81
Föhrenwald	137	73	15	101	94
Hannover	14	-	--	14	Closed July 1955
Zirndorf	-	76	-	-	76
	388	320	18	296	394

Final Examinations

Final examinations are conducted at the end of a one year's training period in the presence of representatives of the respective German guilds (Innung), the school director and the instructor of the course. The graduates receive an ORT diploma and a certificate issued by the German Handwerkskammer indicating the degree of skills the student has been able to prove. These certificates are subsequently submitted to either the immigration board, in case the graduate succeeds to emigrate immediately, or to the prospective employer or local labour exchange in Germany. Some well known German firms such as BMW, Kraus-Maffei and others even ask for our students prior to their having completed their training, since they have been extremely satisfied with the work done by former ORT students who are now in their employ. The greatest industrial demand at present seems to be for metal workers, but also dressmakers, shirt-makers and upholsterers etc. are being asked for. A number of students were upon submission of their ORT diploma and upon having proved their vocational knowledge admitted to various technical colleges and in the end could obtain the degree of engineer and such like.

This has happened to students remaining in Germany but before all to those emigrating overseas. Some open shops of their own. For example, a young Hungarian Jew, survivor of the concentration camp, but an invalid (paralysis of both legs) who, because of his poor health was not allowed to emigrate, graduated from the ORT school leather goods course, obtained a loan from the Central Jewish Welfare organisation in German to purchase the machines and equipment needed for his trade, and is thus able to work for his living.

### Functioning of the Schools

The training is based on a duration of one year, divided into four trimesters with 3 interim and one final examination. The interim examination is to test whether the student has acquired sufficient knowledge to advance to the following trimester stage. The successful completion of the four trimesters enables the student to sit for final examinations. The representatives of the German guilds, chambers of commerce, and trade schools repeatedly expressed their admiration at the thorough knowledge demonstrated by the graduates acquired in relatively so short a training period by comparison with the lengthy apprenticeship customary in Germany. The working hours in the school are about 160 per month, approximately one third of this time being devoted to theoretical studies.

Financial limitations have precluded improving the school equipment, although we need it badly, and even had to hire some equipment in Berlin.

At present the following schools and courses are maintained in Germany:-

Munich:- dressmaking, men's underwear and shirtmaking, upholsterv, dental mechanics, leather goods, furriers, automechanics, including turning and welding. The centre is located in a former barracks leased to us by the Bavarian Government.

Berlin:- bookbinding, dressmaking, hairdressing and cosmetics, radio-technics and television. - The centre is located in the building of the Jewish Community in Berlin.

Föhrenwald:- dressmaking, men's underwear, trousermaking, radio-technics, watchmaking. - The centre is located in this last Jewish DP camp in Germany.

Hannover:- This school was closed in July 1955 since all students graduated and no more enrolments were registered.

### School Production

The articles manufactured by students are either distributed among the needy students themselves or, dispatched to the Women's American ORT for their use in membership drives.

### USEP Project

Upon the request of the United States Escapee Program we have not only accepted enrolment of USEP eligibles escapees in our existing schools, but also set up and maintain a training school in the USEP camp of Zirndorf near Nürnberg, where recent escapees are prepared and trained for resettlement. The entire expenditure for this sort of training is borne by USEP including the administrative expenses incurred by ORT. The following trades are taught there at present:- dressmaking, men's tailoring, shoemaking, carpentry, English and German. A metal workshop is to be opened in the immediate future.

### Teaching Staff

It is not easy to find instructors capable to deal with the kind of students we have in Germany, that is, persons of all age groups, with totally different backgrounds, coming from various nationalities and rather difficult to approach because of their terrible war time and concentration camp experiences. An additional problem is the constant fluctuation of the Jewish population not permitting set enrolment dates but permitting the prospective students to enter the school at any time. In other words, the instructor must care for each student individually and prepare him for his final examination whenever he has gone through his one year training period. He must first overcome the language difficulties and then get a personal contact with everyone of them. Our original DP instructors having emigrated in the meantime, we have worked with German qualified craftsmen for many years now. Their relationship with the students is excellent and they are thoroughly acquainted with the ORT program and with ORT methods.

One instructress, a graduate from the Neuilly Institute, joined our teaching staff of the Föhrenwald school. It was not easy for her to adjust herself to the surroundings, the depressing atmosphere of the stranded in this last Jewish camp. Where she had expected to find a class of juveniles to teach, she was faced by a group of mostly adults, post TB patients or chronic invalids, who certainly required a different approach than an ordinary trade school course. However, since it is anticipated that Föhrenwald is to be closed in the near future, we anticipate her transfer to an assignment more suitable to her qualifications.

### General Education

Upon the special request of immigration boards and various voluntary agencies, additional tuition is provided in the English language.

### Assistance from the Women's American ORT

Thanks to the Women's American ORT's untiring efforts we receive under their Guardianship Program a monthly contribution of \$ 200.00 which were spent on food, fares and lodging for our neediest students. The repeated orders for pins and purses manufactured by our students for various WAO drives, also were a tremendous help to our poor pupils, permitting them to make a minor net profit on this work.

### Development of the German ORT Federation

A provisional committee has been established with Mr. H. Galinsky, the president of the Berlin Jewish community, O. Zarek, a well known writer, Mr. Busch and the director of ORT Germany. The establishment of a strong national organization is an extremely difficult task in Germany with hardly any resident Jews. The public Jewish interests in Germany today mainly concentrate on restitution settlement, and the setting up of a standing institution hardly receives any attention whatsoever.

### Governmental Assistance

The Bavarian and the Bonn Governments jointly pay a monthly per capita subsidy of DM 60.-- per Föhrenwald student living on public welfare funds. This applies to the majority of our pupils in Föhrenwald, composed of post-TBs, invalids without any private means.

The Munich municipal welfare authorities also granted an average of DM 60.-- tuition subsidy for each welfare case studying at the Munich school.

General

The Central Welfare Organization for the Jews in Germany and the local municipal welfare authorities are greatly interested in our program and recommend a number of prospective students to our schools.

ORT Germany is a member of the Council of Voluntary Agencies in Germany which facilitates the liaison work with the US Army, the German Government and local welfare institutions. Unfortunately all army facilities and privileges were recently cancelled for all Voluntary Agencies working in Germany which obviously affected our budget most drastically, especially as far as our transportation is concerned.

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## A U S T R I A

In Austria we maintain two training centres, one in Vienna, the other in the Asten camp.

The Vienna Jewish community at the beginning of the school year published an appeal addressed to the Jewish population asking them to enrol at the ORT school in order to acquire professional skills. As the result of this many students enrolled in the school and we had to open additional courses in order to accept them all.

The following new courses were opened during the year 1955:-

Vienna:- medical massage, bookkeeping, shorthand and typing, machine knitting.

Asten:- auto-electrics course.

In addition to these two centres we administer training units in Salzburg, Wels, Innsbruck, Kufstein and Bregenz for the United States Escapee Program at their cost.

Student Movement from January 1 to December 31, 1955 was as follows:-

	Students 1.1.1955	Admissions	Departures	Graduates	Students 1.1.1956
Vienna	178	213	1	204	186
Salzburg	8	97	11	63	31
Asten	36	106	8	108	26
Wels	30	95	15	110	-
Innsbruck	7	54	-	39	22
Kufstein	21	59	1	56	23
Bregenz	7	30	13	16	8
	287	654	49	596	296

### Training Program

In Vienna:- the dressmaking course continued last year's teaching program in general, but reduced the theoretical part somewhat. This resulted in a considerable increase in enrolment. The lingerie course specialized on the manufacture of Nylon garments. The automechanics course had to be accelerated since 9 of the students intended to emigrate to Israel and thanks to the intensified training the course could be concluded within 6 months. The municipal school officials were favourably impressed by the skills and knowledge shown by the graduates.

The students of the radio-mechanics course properly requested training in television technics in addition to training in radiomechanics. They were not sufficiently interested in the existing course and, since budgetary restrictions precluded us from purchasing the necessary equipment for a television class, we were forced to close the radio course altogether because of the rather weak attendance. The cosmetic course showed excellent results. The final examinations proved their ample knowledge in cosmetics, anatomy and chemistry. The representative of the municipal educational board declared that the course is the best of its kind in Vienna. Immediately upon graduation 3 ex-students found employment with well-known cosmetical institutions.

The photographic course too made an excellent impression, the female students showing more taste and skills in portrait photography, while the men seemed to be better laboratory workers. The confectionery course was transferred from the Vienna trade school to the cooks' association where we have more space and a more up-to-date equipment. The rent, however, is considerably higher than in the trade schools. The manicure-pedicure course had the same enrolment as last year, but obtained excellent examination results, since the relatively low number of 17 students permitted all of them to practice continually. The English commercial correspondence class had to introduce a special conversation course, since the students, though being familiar with the grammatical rules, always had to fight some inhibitions when talking, so that these had to be got rid of in the first place. The results were most satisfactory. Medical massage is taught by a masseur and by a physician. The students begin with the general massage of the body, then study anatomy and consecutively proceed to medical massage. The shorthand-typing course shows a very good attendance. The students seem to show more interest for typewriting and find shorthand rather hard to cope with. The bookkeeping course consists of 3 sections: ordinary single entry bookkeeping, double entry bookkeeping, balance and taxes. The students who do not have basic knowledge must make considerable efforts to be able to follow the instruction. Machine knitting is a short-term course to enable students to get familiar with the handknitting machine with the aim that they may earn a living doing home work. The course showed very good results. Dietary cooking is a most popular course, although it requires meticulous attention.

As a rule the former students find employment either on the Austrian labour market or if they succeed to emigrate, in the receiving country. We get a number of letters confirming their good positions in the trade they had studied with ORT.

Asten: These camp inhabitants are prospective emigrants, many of them USEP eligibles, who study the following trades: trousermaking, dressmaking, automechanics, auto-electricians, locksmiths.

Both the above mentioned schools have a 1 year's program giving the student a possibility to find employment in their trade immediately upon graduation.

#### Short-term Courses

The following schools conduct short-term courses for adults. All of them are set up for USEP eligible students who cannot attend a long term course because of their imminent emigration:

Bregenz with courses in dressmaking and auto-electricians.

Innsbruck with courses in electro-technics, radio-technics, television-mechanics, welding, automechanics, dressmaking.

Kufstein with courses in automechanics, electro-welding, welding, trousermaking, locksmiths.

Salzburg with courses in welding, automechanics, cooking, confectionery, machine knitting.

Wels with courses in welding, automechanics, turning.

Camp Glasenbach Workshop Project

In the Glasenbach camp, with a mixed population of Jews and non-Jews, ORT maintains workshops for tailoring, dressmaking, shoemaking and machine knitting. Former ORT students are employed in the first two categories. The workshops repair shoes and clothing for the camp inhabitants, the work being paid for by USEP on an hourly basis. In the machine knitting shop, women are taught this trade and, with raw material provided by USEP, are permitted to manufacture knitwear garments for themselves and for other camp inhabitants.

The entire cost for these projects is borne by USEP as well as the salary of a special supervisor and administrative expenses incurred by ORT under this program.

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## NETHERLANDS

The character of ORT work in Holland has changed in recent years. The enrolment figure for adult courses has decreased in the last few years, due mainly to the current boom prevailing in the Netherlands and the great demand of the labour market which gives even unskilled people the possibility of finding work. We can nevertheless give examples of our students being able to obtain even better jobs thanks to the training they had with ORT. We regularly receive enquiries from factories asking for our assistance in the training of workers. Our school for the training of managing personnel for the clothing industry which was opened in 1949 constitutes an important field of our activity. This girls' school is developing most satisfactorily, and we have thus been able to prove to the Dutch Jews that vocational training does not cater only to those children who have difficulties in following a secondary school education. The high standard of the vocational instruction together with the good general education has roused the interest of the middle class which no longer hesitates to send its daughters to this ORT school.

Our manual-training courses are operated in all Jewish primary and secondary schools in Amsterdam and are attended by children from 8 - 15. The courses include woodwork, dressmaking, and for the younger pupils, cardboard and leatherwork. These courses have shown concrete results and several pupils have expressed the wish to go to a vocational school at the end of their primary studies.

### New Sections

In September 1955 we opened a new class at the school for the training of managing personnel for the clothing industry.

Sixty new students have been admitted to our manual-training workshops. Six new courses and workshops have been opened, i.e. dressmaking, cutting of ladies' clothes and coats and mechanical knitting. During the year under review new students have also been admitted to our carpentry-cabinetmaking and typewriter repair workshops.

### Student-Body

In the course of 1955 there were 208 admissions, and 30 students graduated.

As of 31st December, 1955 the following courses and workshops were operated:

#### Amsterdam

Courses:	Secondary Technical School for Girls	14	students
	Dressmaking (3 groups)	28	"
	Cutting (ladies' clothes and coats)	13	"
	Mechanical-knitting	6	"
	Carpentry-cabinetmaking	11	"
	Typewriter repair	6	"
	Auto-mechanics	5	"
	Leatherwork	15	"
		<hr/>	
		98	students

<u>Amsterdam</u> (cont.)	Brought forward	98 students
<u>Children's Workshops</u>		
Wood work (3 schools)		49   "
Cardboard and felt work		82   "
Leatherwork		33   "
Embroidery, sewing		17   "
<u>Apeldoorn</u>		
<u>Courses:</u> Weaving		9   "
<u>Children's Workshops</u>		
Cardboard and wood work		15   "
<u>S.A.P.</u>		7
		<hr/> 310 students.

Placement of Graduates, etc.

All final examinations are held under the supervision of representatives of the Government and the Trade Unions. The majority of our graduates found good jobs in their trades. Several students of the typewriter-repair courses have been employed by large factories. All our mechanical-knitting graduates have been able to acquire a knitting machine and work on their own account. Several graduates of our carpentry-cabinetmaking and typewriter repair courses emigrated to Israel and to the United States.

The Training Program

At the end of the year several already existing courses for the same trade were merged to meet current requirements. The articles made at our schools have fetched a profit of over Fl. 11.000.

Teachers meetings are held regularly at the secondary school for girls, at which mainly pedagogical problems are discussed. The technical commission of this school also meets frequently presided over by the headmistress, Mrs. Aronson-Zivi.

At the beginning of the new schoolyear, a graduate from the Paris Centre for the Training of Instructresses was employed. Her work with girls between the ages of 15 to 18 is not easy, and we have done all in our power to facilitate her task.

Thanks to the efforts of the Central Office of the ORT Union and the courtesy on the part of the Olivetti management, we were able to send our typewriter repair instructor to Ivrea for a two weeks "stage", where he learned the most modern methods.

The placement of apprentices has been accomplished, as in the past, in close collaboration with the local labour exchange, which also follows the progress of each apprentice. If there is an ORT evening course in the trade, the apprentice attends it; otherwise he attends public or private courses (Philips works, shipbuilding, radiotechnics). ORT keeps in close touch with the employers.

### Manual Training Workshops

Manual work is taught in Amsterdam and Apeldoorn. These courses comprise cardboard, wood, leather, felt, wicker work, weaving, embroidery and sewing by hand and machine. These courses are attended by 174 students. All students of the Jewish primary school at Amsterdam have followed the manual training courses during the last three years, which is partially included in the curriculum. In order to ensure the high standard of these courses we have effected some changes in the teaching staff. At the home for mentally deficient children "Achisomog" at Apeldoorn, courses in cardboard, wicker and wood work have been reopened.

The foundation "Joods Byzonder Onderwijs" which supervises three grades of Jewish education in Holland (Kindergarden, primary and secondary schools) distributed shortly before the beginning of the school year 1955/56 a booklet in which they emphasize the excellent cooperation of ORT in the field of manual training. This booklet has roused much interest among the young in manual work. In this publication the Foundation stresses with particular satisfaction as one of its six activity points "the well conceived and pedagogically up-to-date ORT teaching program of manual work as organised in the primary and secondary schools."

### General and Jewish Education

One of the aims of our girls school is to give our students a thorough Jewish education.

The general education, directed by Prof. van Praag, comprises French, English, Hebrew, technology, mathematic, fashion history and, for the students of the third semester, German. This program also includes history and English conversation. In the second year we have introduced psychology. The students are also given the possibility of visiting museums, exhibitions and several textile . . . Courses in the history of music are given once a week, and sports and swimming are also compulsory.

The program of Jewish education includes the teaching of Jewish history, Hebrew and knowledge of Jewish life (Jewish year, holidays and events in Israel). The Central Education Commission of Holland's Jewish communities have sent us one of their teachers for Jewish subjects. The teaching programs and books are provided by that organization which also pays the teachers' salaries.

### Assistance to Former Students

The close cooperation between ORT and the Loan Fund of the foundation "Joods Maatschappelijk Werk" has resulted in our graduates being able to obtain machines and tools on credit. On the recommendation of ORT the Loan Fund pays for the machines and arranges for reimbursement in instalments. In this way several of our former students in mechanical knitting and cabinetmaking could start work on their own account.

### Development of the Organization

A meeting of the Dutch ORT committee was held on May 11th under the chairmanship of Dr. A. Vedder. The newly elected members are: M.L. Slagter of Enschede and Dr. A. Veffier of Blaricum. On September 22nd the Committee of ORT-Holland held its annual meeting under the chairmanship of Dr. A. Vedder.

An annual report on ORT work in the Netherlands during the period of June 1945-May 1955 was submitted to the Executive Committee. It was decided that the complete report would be published and sent to various Government services and voluntary organizations in Holland.

Dr. A. Vedder, Chairman, Mrs. G. Wijsmuller-Meijer, hon. Secretary-Treasurer and Mr. I. Rafalowitch, Vice-Chairman were re-elected members of the Executive Committee of ORT Holland. Mr. Weserman, a member of the Technical Commission, was appointed expert for the auto-mechanics course. For several years, Mr. Weserman has been active in vocational training, particularly in this field.

The number of our members increased; each member received our monthly bulletin "ORT-Nieuws" which is also sent to Government circles. This bulletin also contains a special chapter on the work ORT is doing throughout the world.

H.M. Queen Juliana has conferred upon Mrs. G. Wijsmuller-Meijer, hon. Secretary-Treasurer of the Dutch ORT committee the order of the "Ridder van Oranje Nassau". Mrs. Wijsmuller received this distinction for her services to Jewish victims under the occupation.

#### Finances

Expenditures by ORT-Holland during the year 1955 amounted to Fl. 94.303.55. A large part of our budget was covered by the United Appeal in Holland, CEFINA, from which we received Fl. 60.117.--

Other Dutch Jewish organizations, for which we organized courses and workshops, gave us either financial aid or put premises at our disposal. The total amount of these subventions was Fl. 11.286.- We received Fl.14.471.- from school fees and the sale of manufactured goods. Other income was made up of donations and membership fees.

Our entire organization budget was covered in Holland, despite our difficulties in obtaining the subvention we asked for from the Dutch United Appeal. The total income of the Dutch United Appeal in 1955 was the same as in the previous year, but more organizations are members of this Appeal and the deficits in the budgets increase each year.

We are trying to obtain a Government grant this year.

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B E L G I U M

ORT Belgium has concentrated its efforts during 1955 on the development of its evening courses as well as of the manual-training program.

The evening activities comprise workshops and theory courses for auto-mechanics, cutting and dressmaking and courses for dress-designing.

Manual training is provided in needlework, wood, metal, wire and wicker work.

In order to shift exclusively to evening schools and to discontinue the day schools, we strove during the first trimestre to complete the training of the cutting and dressmaking and radiotechnique students of the third year. At the same time we adjusted the study plan of the first years of automechanics and cutting and dressmaking students in order to enable the students to follow the program of other trade schools which they will have to attend after the closing of our day schools. Consequently the switching over from day activity to evening activity was effected without causing too much trouble to our students and without prejudice to the prestige of our institution.

The new School Year

The following evening schools have been opened:-

- 1) School for automechanics (first year);
- 2) School for cutting and dressmaking (first year);
- 3) Courses for fashion designing;
- 4) Workshop for automobile-electricity;
- 5) Workshop for metal work (sheet and wire);
- 6) - 7) Two workshops for wicker work.

In the course of the year we have improved the appearance of our premises and organised a carpentry workshop to take care of the growing number of manual-training students. This children's workshop, which adjoins the garage of our automechanic section, serves at the same time as workshop for the automechanic students.

Enrolments

On December 31st, 1955 enrolments were as follows:-

Automechanics .....	45
Cutting-Dressmaking and Dress-Designing .....	23
Children's Workshops .....	<u>172</u>
Total	240

402 students participated in our courses during 1955; 113 received their diplomas; 177 new students were admitted.

Premature departures have been reduced by 22% compared with 1954. They amount only to 43 individuals. These departures were caused by:-

1) Closing of schools .....	13
2) Economic reasons .....	7
3) Emigration .....	4
4) Illness .....	3
5) Military Service .....	1
6) Various reasons .....	<u>15</u>
	43

### Final Examinations

As in previous years these examinations took place in the presence of representatives of the industry and official teaching bodies.

27 adolescents and adults received diplomas. Out of this group, 2 adolescents work in their trade in Belgium, 2 are employed in Israel and 2 emigrated to USA. 8 adults are working in their trade and 6 continue their vocational training. 12 graduates of our children's workshops enrolled in our schools and courses.

We instituted last year a "stage" of one month in industry for our students prior to their graduation. We have only been able to apply this to the dressmaking and radio students of the last grade. It has been a gratifying experience which -in future- will be extended to our evening schools.

#### A. Automechanic Section

The "stage" of one month does not apply to auto-mechanics, as these courses are divided between our workshops and private garages. This procedure is entirely satisfactory. Some of the students of the automechanic evening school are actually working 4 half-days in the garage.

During the past year we have added the following equipment to the auto-mechanic section:-

- 1) a two horsepower Citroen car;
- 2) a Citroen engine for various exercises;
- 3) a didactical panel of the complete electrical equipment of a vehicle;
- 4) several measuring instruments for the laboratory for locating of breakdowns;
- 5) a combustion analysis apparatus.

We are waiting for the supply of two measuring instruments for electrical equipment of vehicles. The courses of this section are developing very favourably.

#### B. Cutting-Dressmaking and Dress-Designing

Progress of these courses is very satisfactory and work is proceeding according to plan. The clothes produced in the workshop are used by the students themselves who also supply the material.

#### C. Children's Workshops

This section consists of 8 groups of girls and 10 groups of boys, totalling 172 pupils.

The number of pupils in this category increases from year to year and presents problems of a technical nature. We have been unable to put 30 pupils to work due to the lack of a teacher and workshop on a given day. In the course of the year we have created 3 additional workshops for boys and 1 for girls.

These pupils display keen interest in their work. Those attending the metal workshop have requested supplementary lessons.

Almost the entire production of the workshop for wicker work is bought by the pupils themselves.

We have equipped the carpentry workshop with 3 small woodworking machines which serve the following purpose:-

- 1) preparing materials for children's workshops with the object to increase production;
- 2) the maintenance and repair of our furniture, equipment and the manufacture of didactical material for all sections;
- 3) the carrying out of small orders received from other organizations;

We have made extensive use of our 16mm projector by projecting numerous didactical films and films of general interest for all our students. Likewise we have projected films on teaching and education for our teaching staff. Special film shows were organised for the parents.

Four exhibitions were organised at the end of the school year in which the students' production was on display.

#### Short-Term Courses for Adults

The adult population is rapidly becoming integrated or patiently waiting for their emigration visas. We found it important to organise courses for a few isolated cases, and have solved several such cases, who asked for our assistance, by placing them in their desired trade with craftsmen, particularly in the fur, knitting and ready-made clothing trades.

#### Teaching Personnel

We were fortunate in being able to re-employ some of our former full-time personnel on a part-time basis in accordance with the requirement of our present activity. Several have taken charge of their old courses or have taken on new ones. We are expecting the return of Mr. Macznik, graduate of the Central ORT Institute, who is finishing his military service. We have engaged two additional teachers for our children's workshops.

Visits to various technical exhibitions and instructive excursions to Antwerp, Brussels, Charleroi and Ghent have contributed toward the proficiency of our personnel and to the knowledge of our students.

Hebrew lessons are given twice a week.

Cooperation with other organizations has continued to develop. The United Hias Service, the High Commissioner of the United Nations for Refugees in Belgium, the Association of Christian Trade Unions of Brussels, the Centre of Initiative for Refugees and Foreigners in Brussels, and the Social Service for Public Assistance of the City of Antwerp refer cases to us for vocational training. The Union of Jewish Manufacturers and Artisans has helped us to place adult apprentices, for whom no appropriate courses were available. The "Centrale" of Antwerp has helped some of our students financially, supplied clothing and hot meals and paid part of their holidays expenses. The "Centrale d'Oeuvres Sociales Juives" of Brussels has contributed towards holidays and transportation expenses of some Brussels students. "L'Union des Etudiants Juifs" has granted a scholarship to one of our former pupils who is studying at the I.N.R.C. The "Fonds Kirschen" of Antwerp has assigned Frs. 2000 as a prize for the best ORT graduates in 1955. The "Fonds Fischer" has granted a scholarship to one of our former students. The "Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Famille" has refunded the "Taxe de Scolarité" which they owed us.

#### Committee

Committee meetings took place regularly once a month. The membership of ORT Belgium has increased. Membership fees have almost all been paid.

The Committee has decided to organise a fundraising drive within the next few weeks to make up for the loss of intake caused by the fact that our annual dance did not take place.

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G R E E C E

Our school carried on its functions in 1955 with the perspective of closing at the end of the schoolyear because of insufficient enrolment.

This, incidentally, was the reason that the ORT-Greece Council acceded to the ORT Union request to release its director during the course of the year to allow him to assume more important functions in Iran.

The renewal of our contract with the USEP for the year 1956 with considerably improved conditions made us decide to give up the idea of closing the school and make an ultimate effort in 1956 to inscribe a sufficient number of students for the schoolyear 1956/57.

The USEP courses, autogene welding workshop and electrical installation workshop are open to those of our co-religionists who wish to participate. When the new agreement was reached with USEP, the ORT Union arranged for the return of our director from Iran.

The movement of our student body during the year 1955 was as follows:-

Schools and Workshops	Enrolment		Admission		Diplomas		Departures		31.12.1955	
	1.1.1955		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	M.	F.								
Trade School-Mechanics	14	-	6	-	6	-	8	-	6	-
Complementary Courses	-	-	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Trade School-Cutting Dressmaking	-	14	-	1	-	4	-	4	-	7
Autogen.Welding USEP	7	-	28	-	22	-	10	-	3	-
Elect. Installation "	3	-	35	-	20	-	14	-	4	-
	24	14	75	1	54	4	32	4	13	7
	38		76		58		36		20	

The premature departures registered during the schoolyear 1955 were due to the emigration of many of our co-religionists to Israel and America.

For the first time this year, now that our diplomas are recognized by the State, 6 of our young people were examined by a jury designated by the Minister of Industry. All of them were passed with excellent grades while the students of the other schools were only 50% successful. Of these youths free of military service, having completed their stage with us and continuing their work in the mechanical workshops, will be proposed for admission to the Anières Institute next year. One cutting-dressmaking student was admitted to the Paris Seminar. It always takes some time until our young people are absorbed into the labour market. Generally they prefer to set themselves up on their own and thus be somewhat masters of their own destiny rather than accepting employment as workers for others.

Our Council has discussed a number of interesting projects which they are continuing to study closely before reaching conclusive decisions. The projects have as their goal to help our graduates to establish workshops of their own and thus stimulate more new inscriptions. Essentially these projects consist in grouping our students according to their specialties in enterprises which will belong to them in common, under the administrative and technical direction of the school which will supervise their installation, help them obtain the necessary capital to equip and set up and even help find their first clients. These clients would be precisely those who would naturally address themselves to the school for work of all sorts:- fitting, welding, dressmaking, etc.

It is interesting to note that certain of our Council members are likewise members of the Kassa Loan Committee of the AJDC. This makes for a natural coordination which permits our students to benefit from the financial support of Kassa Loans.

A project of another nature we are studying is the possibility of adding manual training courses to the curriculum of the Communal Jewish Schools; woodworking, dressmaking, embroidery, etc. These courses fall under the regulations of the Ministry of Instruction and could only be held on our premises to which the students of the Communal school would have to be transported.

All our students have completed primary school and some have done the first years of secondary schools. As for Jewish instruction, we have organized Hebrew language courses. These courses are conducted by an Israeli professor with very satisfactory results.

Our Women's Committee supervises our canteen and general hygiene in the school. The Women's American ORT in 1955 contributed the sum of \$1000 to our social assistance program.

Our Association has 150 members, all in Athens, which is a remarkable number, difficult to increase. The local receipts are greater than anticipated and thus allow us to envisage larger expenditures with a minimum contribution by the ORT Union.

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## B R I T I S H     O R T

British ORT has gone through a process of reorganization during the year 1955. At a meeting of the Executive in September Master A.S. Diamond, M.A., LL.D. was elected Chairman and Lt.Col. M. Lipton, O.B.E., M.P. Vice-Chairman, and Mr. D.A. Jacobs, Hon. Treasurer. The resuscitated British Executive includes Jewish leaders of prominence. The Executive meeting in September was followed by two further meetings. On the occasion of the last one in January 1956 Mr. Diamond was appointed British ORT's representative to the World ORT Union Executive.

The London office had to cope with considerable difficulties caused by a complete change-over of personnel and by the prolonged absence of some staff members due to illness.

Mr. Diamond accepted an invitation from Dr. A. Syngalowski to visit the Central Office in Geneva. This brief visit served a number of useful purposes. Mr. Diamond was able to obtain an intimate knowledge of all aspects of ORT's work by means of verbal discussions with Dr. Syngalowski and various Department Heads and by visiting the Anières Institute. The discussions focussed on the revival and expansion of British ORT.

A campaign is now under way in England to publicise the work of ORT, to increase the number of members and subscribers and to obtain donations. Progress has been made, but is still in its early stages. With the appointment in the near future of an organiser it is hoped that matters will go ahead full-speed.

Several articles have appeared in recent issues of the Jewish Chronicle under the headings:-

"ORT and North African Aliya. Great Expansion of Training Plans"

"Reorganisation of British ORT. Active Campaign Started".

"British ORT"

British Women's ORT has established a Luncheon Club. The inaugural luncheon was attended by 74 members and guests. Mr. Ben Levy, the playwright, was the guest speaker. Mrs. H.H. Wingate was in the chair. The date of the next meeting has been fixed and a speaker has been obtained for the occasion.

We anticipate in the immediate future the visit of the two most distinguished figures in American ORT, namely Professor William Haber (President of American ORT Federation) and Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan (President of Women's International ORT).

During the year under review we continued to follow up the orders for equipment and machinery placed by the Central Office, Geneva, in England and to check on the shipment of these orders.

A number of donations were received from individuals, organizations and Trust Funds in England. These donations are usually earmarked for a specific country and project.

There are no longer any ORT schools in England, but British ORT continues to subsidise the Dower House Farm.

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## CENTRAL ORT INSTITUTE FOR THE TRAINING OF INSTRUCTORS

At the end of the year, after the admission of 33 candidates, the number of enrolled students was 61, and the number of "stagiaires" - 44.

### Examinations

Thirty-two students were presented to the professional examinations at the end of the 2nd year, and 29 passed. All were placed in factories in order to complete their compulsory "stage".

Thirty-five stagiaires sat for the final diploma examinations. 32 passed. The majority were posted to ORT Schools in Israel, Iran, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia; the others are undergoing an additional year of "stage" and specialization.

### Sections

The breakdown by sections is as follows:-

A preparatory section (13 students) is attended by young people whose standard of education, upon their arrival at the Institute, was found inadequate and whose insufficient knowledge of the French language did not permit them to follow theory lessons profitably.

Three sections of the first year:-

Precision Mechanics - 11 students

Electromechanics - 12 "

Carpentry-Cabinetmaking - 7 students

Two sections of the second year:-

Precision Mechanics - 10 students

Refrigeration Technicians - 8 students

### Training Program

Training was conducted according to program and the students' work was generally satisfactory. The second year's classes had a good average; some of the first-year students manifest remarkable intelligence and spirit, which augur well for their future careers.

In addition to the regular curriculum, a number of lectures on various technical and general subjects were given.

The students visited many factories and schools in Geneva, Switzerland and in France. Last year's visits included the Trade Schools of Lausanne and Berne, the General Motor Works in Bienne, the Playwood Factories at Tavannes, the Hydro-Electric Plan of Génissiat, the Iron-Alloy Plants of Bellegarde, the Chocolate and Nescafé Factories (automatic machines) at Orbe, the Gas Works, the workshops of the Société Genevoise des Instruments de Physique, l'Appareillage Gardy, the Sécheron Works, the Kustner Frères Works, all in Geneva.

The students of the second year made a three-day tour of Switzerland, visiting mainly the Georg Fischer Works in Schaffhouse, Bührlé & Co. at Oerlikon, Sulzer Brothers at Winterthur and von Roll at Gerlafingen.

### Stage

The practical training of the students in industry, has been organized, as usual, by the Pedagogical Department of the ORT Union. The system hitherto practiced had shown certain deficiencies, and a new system was devised. The trainees not only work at the factory during the day, but compulsorily attend 2 evening courses weekly:- a technical and a pedagogical course. Following the authorization granted by the Head of the Department of Public Education of Geneva, 15 "stagiaires" will be able, in turns, to undergo a practical training of 2 months at the School for Arts and Crafts of Geneva.

An important problem has to be faced by those ORT graduates, who are called upon to work as instructors in Metropolitan France, or in North Africa. The possession of a "Brevet Professionnel" is obligatory for all instructors teaching in vocational schools, and the French and North-African stagiaires will have to sit for the official Brevet Professionnel examinations in a French town, seat of an Academy, such as Grenoble or Lyons. Without being difficult for our students, this examination demands a rather important revision, since its spirit is different from that of Swiss examinations, the former being more scientific, whereas the latter demands more experience in practice and technique. Our stagiaires have resolutely tackled the job and in June 1956, about twenty of them will sit for these examinations.

Another problem had to be solved. Usually, at the end of the second year at the Institute, the students present themselves to the Swiss Trade Proficiency examination. However, in Switzerland there are no regulations laid down for the training of refrigeration-technicians. It will, therefore, be necessary that these students pass their examinations in France.

### Improvement Seminar

In summer 1955, a seminar was organized for a group of instructors for mechanics (not graduates of the Institute) who are working with ORT Schools in Israel, Morocco, France and Italy, with a view to their improving their theoretical and technical knowledge and familiarizing themselves with modern methods of work in factories and of teaching trades, as practiced in Switzerland. This seminar lasted 5 weeks and was attended by 11 instructors.

In addition to the theoretical and practical courses which these instructors attended at the Central ORT Institute at Anières, they visited 16 factories and several trade schools in French and German Switzerland. They left Switzerland provided with ample documentation which will be of great use to them, as well as to the ORT schools in the respective countries.

### General and Jewish Education

In addition to the general culture courses included in the curriculum, such as psychology, Jewish literature, Jewish history, a number of lectures were given at the Institute. We should like to stress the series of lectures given by Mr. Louis Oungre, Hon. Director General of the JCA on "The History of Jewish Social Work", the course of Mr. F. Friedemann, Professor at the National Conservatoire of Arts and Crafts in Paris on "The Most Recent Evolution in Industrial Work". Quite recently Mr. Max Gottschalk, President of the Centre for the Study of Employment Problems at the University of Brussels, and of the International Association for Social Progress, gave a series of lectures on topical social questions:- "The Guaranteed Salary", "The Woman in the Home and at Work", "Employment of Aged Workers".

Several commented concerts were given at the Institute's aula. Religious and national holidays were solemnly celebrated in the presence of numerous guests, and with the participation of the students' choir.

The graduation ceremony took place on June 29, before a particularly large audience. It was held on the very evening of the closing of the ORT Congress, and a large number of delegates attended the graduation ceremony. It was presided over by the Councillor of State Mr. E. Dupont, Head of the Department of Industry, who addressed the audience; the other speakers were Dr. A. Syngalowski, President of the Executive Committee of the ORT Union; Messrs. Jean Poncet, President of the Grand-Conseil of Geneva, F. Blanchard, Head of the Manpower Division of the ILO, Mr. John Bowers, of UNESCO, Me. Nataf, President of ORT-Tunisia, General E. Ben-Arzi, on behalf of the Israeli ORT, Mr. P. Bourcart, President of the Jury, and a student on behalf of the graduates. Mr. A. Berlant, Director, subsequently presented the annual report. In their addresses the representatives of the authorities and the experts stressed the high level of training at the Institute. Other speakers stressed the success of our normal vocational school. The ceremony was concluded with a garden party, organized by the Women's Committee of the Swiss ORT, presided over by Mme Pierre Bigar. The Geneva press and numerous foreign publications published detailed articles on this event.

#### 75th Anniversary Exhibition

The Institute took very active part in this event. It exhibited mechanical, electrical, cabinetmaking and tinsmiths-installation jobs. It showed particularly the didactic methods employed in the training of instructors (boards with chart of lessons, metallography table, various apparatuses, synoptic tables etc.)

#### Recreation

The Institute students won the football championship of the Jewish youth of Switzerland, as well as that of volley-ball and table tennis. Twice weekly technical and entertainment films are shown at the aula. The students' committee has hired a television set for the recreation room of the Institute.

A play by Alfred Gehri "Le Bureau Central des Idées" was produced by the pupils and was attended by a large audience.

In June, at the demand of the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities the great annual rally of the Jewish Youth of Switzerland, including over 500 participants, was held during two days at the Institute, with the active participation of our students, both in the preparation of this rally as well as in the various events and lectures during the rally itself.

#### Direction Council

During the year 1955, the Direction Council of the Institute met regularly every month in order to examine various problems arising from the development of the Institute. The Direction Council has divided between its members various responsibilities in the following fields:- training, finance and control of the budget; internat, administration. In addition to the monthly meetings of the Council, the members take turns in visiting the Institute, in order to follow the work more closely.

#### Women's Committee of the Swiss ORT

As in the past, the Women's Committee of ORT-Suisse continued in addition to its regular aid, to contribute to the organization of various events, especially the graduation ceremony. It has presented the Institute with a complete football outfit and 100 new sheets for the Internat.

Notes on the Internat's Activities

In 1955 the kitchen garden yielded sufficiently to cover a large part of the Institute's requirements for fresh vegetables until late fall. The potato crop was about 6,000 kgs. The fruit trees, planted three years ago have started to bear fruit. The measures taken last year to provide fresh vegetables produced quite satisfactory results:- we picked potatoes in June and lettuce in May.

In other sectors, the steps taken to make various cuts, proved effective both in regard to electric current as well as heating. For the electric current we were able to save about Sfr. 1000 whereas the consumption of crude oil (mazout) remained approximately the same, although bad weather forced us to begin heating as early as October.

Despite the constant increase of the cost of living, we could stabilise the costprice of food. In order to be able to serve the students with hot meals on Saturday, we have installed at the Canteen an electric clock with automatic contacts, which will permit the switching on and off of the current on Saturday. Besides we are envisaging the equipment of a special cellar for the storage of fruit from the orchard.

The works planned started last year and were completed - in particular the repairs to the shower rooms and the final installation of automatic ventilation. In the rooms and dormitories partial repair jobs were carried out and new material put at the students' disposal for their comfort, such as shelves, reading lamps, neon lights and points for electric current in the wash-rooms.

Enrolment as at December 31, 1955.

Students	61
Stagiaires	<u>44</u>
Total	105

Breakdown by Sections

<u>Students</u>		<u>Stagiaires</u>	
Preparatory	13	Draughtsmen	6
Precision Mechanics I	11	Automechanics	4
Precision Mechanics II	10	Mechanics	8 + 1 *)
Electromechanics I	12	Toolmakers	9
Carpentry I	7	Electromechanics	5
Refrigeration II	8	Electricians	4
		Carpenters	4 + 1 *)
		Technical Installators	1 + 1 *)
	<u>61</u>	*) Stag.instructors	<u>44</u>

Breakdown by Countries of Origin

<u>Students</u>		<u>Stagiaires</u>	
Tunisia	22	Israel	14
Morocco	11	Morocco	12
Israel	10	Algeria	5
Algeria	6	Greece	4
Iran	5	Tunisia	3
France	2	France	2
Greece	2	Belgium	1
United States	1	Denmark	1
Switzerland	1	Italy	1
Spanish Morocco	1	Spanish Morocco	1

## CENTRAL ORT INSTITUTE FOR THE TRAINING OF INSTRUCTRESSES, PARIS

At the beginning of 1955 the ORT Centre for the Training of Instructresses had been in existence for barely one year. The early difficulties due to the different ages of the students (21 to 42 years), as well as the difference in cultural and professional backgrounds were overcome. In the first months of this year all efforts were made toward intensive training of future instructresses in all branches. In addition to practical subjects, lessons in psycho-pedagogy, technology of textiles, drawing, fashion design and history, have been given emphasis in the teaching program. Furthermore, each student must undergo a practical "stage" in the Paris vocational schools. The teaching program also includes courses in French, Hebrew and literature.

### Final Examinations

In July 1955, 12 students of this first group took their final examinations. The tests and conditions of this examination were laid down by Mme. Billet, Inspectress of the City of Paris, Department of the Seine. Mlle. Franco, representative of the Ministry of Labour, assisted at the examinations in the quality of expert.

The examinations included:

- a) Two tests in cutting and dressmaking: Execution of a dress from a given model, 60 hour time limit. Another dress designed by the candidate herself, 30 hour time limit.
- b) Practical pedagogy: Each student had to give a lesson on a subject drawn by lot.
- c) Theoretical Pedagogy.
- d) Design
- e) French and Hebrew

In judging the examination results, the work done by the candidate during her practical "stage" was also taken into consideration.

Eleven of the 12 candidates passed their final examinations successfully, one with "excellent" marks, two with "very good", four with "good" and four with "satisfactory".

### Placement of graduates as Instructresses in ORT schools

All graduates, with the exception of a French girl who went to Morocco, returned to their countries of origin. Since the beginning of the school year 1955/56 they occupy posts of instructresses in ORT schools in Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Israel, Iran, Netherlands, and Germany. The reports of the directors of the schools on the work of the new instructresses are satisfactory.

## Teaching Program for the School Year 1955/56

With the steadily increasing importance taken by the ready-made clothing industry over the made-to-measure kind- a development which provoked a veritable crisis in Haute-Couture- the demand for cutters and dressmakers diminished considerably. This resulted in the necessity of adapting the program of a number of ORT cutting and dressmaking schools to the requirements of the ready-made clothing industry. We therefore anticipated that our Centre would be asked to train instructresses specialized in this field.

We have, therefore, started a new section for teachers for the ready-made ladies' clothing industry, the program of which was established by the Pedagogical Department of the ORT Union. A Commission composed of experts and inspectors of Technical Training of the Department of the Seine and the Ministry of Labour was set up in Paris to assist us in the establishment of this detailed program meeting the requirements of the modern clothing industry. The same Commission will also inspect our courses regularly and will help place our students in the practical and pedagogical "stages" in industry and vocational schools.

An expert in the manufacture of mass-produced clothing will be in charge of this new section.

Since it is impossible to find candidates who have already worked a full five years in dressmaking, it was decided to extend the training period from one year and a half to two years and a half, including a compulsory six months practice as assistant instructress in various vocational schools.

### The Building at Rue Cortambert

Until the end of 1955 the Centre functioned in premises at Neuilly-one workshop, one classroom and four bedrooms. In addition to the other inconveniences, it was not possible under these conditions to consider developing the Centre. With the assistance of the Women's American ORT the building at 70 rue Cortambert, which had housed the Central Office of the French ORT until the end of the war, could be acquired. The necessary alterations were started in October 1955. The new school premises and boarding quarters should be ready by March 1956.

### New Admissions

After entrance examinations 12 candidates were admitted for the new school year, 4 from Morocco, 3 from Iran, 2 from France, 1 from Greece, 1 from Tunisia and 1 from Algeria. There was unfortunately no enrolment from Israel. Since half of the student body came from North Africa the beginning of the school year had to be postponed until December, because of the political situation in these countries.

Until the move to the new premises at rue Cortambert, i.e., during the first trimester, the students of the two sections (ready-made clothing and haute-couture) receive general instruction. During the first months of their training, particular attention is paid to the teaching of general subjects and languages to meet the general cultural level of the students coming from different countries and very different social environments.

AMERICAN ORT FEDERATION

In Aid of the Overseas Program

Recent critical events in Israel and North Africa have produced a tremendous reaction in the American Jewish community. Throughout the post-war years, American Jewry has displayed great sensitivity to the condition of Jewish life throughout the world, but not since the establishment of Israel in 1948 has the community reacted so sharply as to the present emergency. Community leaders have responded with an intensification of fund-raising efforts. This overwhelming preoccupation with these security crises of Israel and North African Jewish emigration strongly affected our discussions with JDC for a 1956 allocation.

In the course of these extremely difficult discussions, which Dr. Syngalowski will report in detail, our united delegation was guided by the policies set by the last meeting of the ORT Union Executive Committee. Unfortunately, our discussions revolved not so much around the problems of ORT or the validity of our requests, which were conceded by JDC, but around the stringent financial situation rising out of the current priorities in American Jewish fund raising which are dominated by the overseas emergencies. Despite our disappointments, some gains were made in the 1956 agreement with JDC. The discussions took place in an atmosphere of friendly appreciation of our difficulties. The JDC acknowledged the value of the work and of our special plans for 1956.

The 1956 financial agreement is the tenth such consecutive arrangement with JDC. Since 1947, almost \$12,000,000 have been made available to the vocational training program in this way, out of a total of almost \$15,000,000 that has come from all American sources during the post-war decade. Our Women's American ORT has contributed a steadily larger proportion of funds which thus far total about \$1,850,000 for the period. The policy of meeting the greater part of our overseas obligations through annual agreements has been thoroughly validated by these experiences. American ORT has been able to meet its acknowledged obligations in aid of the ORT program while avoiding the duplication and costliness of separate fund-raising drives.

For these reasons, the recent meeting of the American ORT Board of Directors reaffirmed the financial policy pursued during the last period and proposed its continuation so long as the budgetary needs of ORT are thus effectively met. At the same time, our organization realizes that the prospect for 1956, financially and operationally, is a difficult one. All groups affiliated with American ORT will have to exert an optimum effort to produce the funds required to assure the programs effective operation, particularly in the critical areas of Israel and North Africa.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of our Board of Directors has become the focal point of community attention on ORT as well as a rally of our component organizations, supporters and friends. The meeting on January 15th was in many respects the

most successful and certainly the largest of recent years. 300 persons attended the various sessions, among them many outstanding leaders in communal and civic affairs. Dr. Aron Syngalowski and the president of B'nai B'rith, Philip M. Klutznick, were guest speakers at an evening dinner session.

An earlier business session recorded with satisfaction the organizational growth of the past year and took particular note of the marked increase in participation in communal life on the local and national level by affiliated groups. One result of this has been the widespread dissemination of the idea and program of ORT. The Board adopted a report observing that, "The 75th year of ORT found its prestige at a peak in the American community; its ideas understood and its work appreciated by broad layers of community and public opinion." It was noted that the unifying theme of most American ORT public activities last year was the 75th anniversary.

For the first time a separate session of the annual meeting, called a chapter workshop, was organized around a discussion of practical organizational problems.

In order to consolidate the organizational gains and impact ORT has made on American Jewish life, the Board voted to create a National Council broadly representative of local Jewish communities throughout the country to serve as a bridge between the organization and the community leadership and a channel for broadening distribution of information about ORT.

The Board voted to hold a national convention of the American ORT Federation in the fall of the year and there to bring together all the forces of ORT in the United States. The business meeting expressed its pleasure at the \$50,000 grant by the U.S. government toward the development of a special training program for immigrant youth in Israel.

With regard to the World ORT Union, the meeting took occasion "to express our warm thanks to Dr. Syngalowski and the entire World ORT Union leadership for the resourceful and tireless service and to the workers in the field who carry in their hands the responsibility for bringing ORT services to our people. We extend our fraternal greetings to ORT organizations in all parts of the world and place our maximum effort in support of the program."

#### Participation in World Congress and 75th Anniversary Celebration

The American ORT Federation sent a representative and sizable delegation to the 75th Anniversary World Congress at Geneva last summer. The full participation of the U.S. delegates in all the various activities of the congress was symptomatic of the thorough integration of American ORT in the affairs and activities of the World ORT Union. It was indicative of the stature ORT has achieved in the U.S. that the American delegation was able to present the Congress with a greeting from President Eisenhower and the attendance of the U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland.

The Congress was the occasion around which was concentrated much of the 75th anniversary celebration in the U.S. A number of analytic and appreciatory articles were published in the Yiddish newspapers and other journals and in the Anglo-Jewish press. The Yiddish language dailies and scores of community newspapers hailed the anniversary in their editorial columns. Most groups in American ORT organized special events and public meetings on this theme. Particularly effective was the National ORT Day celebration carried through by Women's American ORT.

#### Community Integration

The organization has had an increasingly active role in communal affairs, taking part in local community drives as well as in the national UJA and Bonds for Israel efforts. For the past several years American ORT sponsored dinners and a W.A.O. affair have been integrated with the regular schedule of the UJA campaign in New York. Taken together, these two meetings produced about \$1,000,000 toward last year's UJA drive. 400 persons were present at the dinner at which Eleanor Roosevelt was the speaker and Isador Lubin the honorary chairman. Edward M.M. Warburg, JDC chairman, was speaker at the WAO meeting. These affairs further cemented the cordial relationship between ORT and the UJA leadership.

#### Delegations Abroad

Many of the American delegates to the World ORT Congress also visited installations in various countries. In recent years, these overseas visits have become an important link between operations in the field and our organization as well as the community at large. Each year large numbers of Americans, many of them not previously acquainted or only casually aware of ORT are introduced to the schools in Israel, Paris and elsewhere. Many become excellent ambassadors for ORT on their return. Deserving of special mention in a somewhat different category was the official trip made by Congressman Emanuel Celler to North Africa and Italy. Rep. Celler has long been associated with ORT and on his return entered into the Congressional Record his impressions of ORT's value to the Jewish communities of North Africa.

#### Organizational Developments

Women's American ORT continued to grow in membership and as a force in the community. Its national convention last fall brought together 1,000 delegates representing groups located in every major aggregation of Jews in the U.S. The convention elected a new leadership headed by Mrs. Victor Segal, who has taken her place in the leading bodies of the American ORT Federation. The separate report presented by W.A.O. spells out the substantial contribution this splendid group of women is making.

American Labor ORT consolidated its organization in the Los Angeles area and intensified activities in other cities. This group remains one of the pillars

of ORT in the U.S. Its leaders had a great deal to do with the success of our UJA effort. As a group, this affiliate represents an influence that extends far beyond its immediate ranks, since it is ORT's link to the Jewish labor movement, the Workmen's Circle and the Jewish Daily Forward.

National ORT League continues to pursue its efforts among Landsmanschaften and national fraternal orders. It was successful in obtaining passage of resolutions on ORT at conventions of a number of major national groups.

Young Men's and Women's ORT fulfilled its obligations toward the Laboratory Technicians' school at Ramat Gan, Israel, with a remittance of \$5,000 out of its membership income. This affiliate made progress in terms of increased membership and improved understanding of ORT in its ranks.

American and European Friends of ORT suffered a great blow with the death of its president, A.C. Litton, as did the entire ORT movement in the U.S. The group has reaffirmed its responsibility toward the ORT Trade School and is in the midst of an intensive membership drive for the school.

#### New York Schools

This year the ORT Trade School celebrates its 15th anniversary. Together with the Bramson school, it has provided vocational training to 15,278 Jewish refugees, DP's and other immigrants in the course of this period.

Since occupational adjustment often requires a number of years, many recent newcomers continue to require the help provided by these schools. However, the decline in immigration has necessarily curtailed the number of new applicants. While there has been a fall-off in new students, there is apparent an increase in the number of former students who return for additional training. This can be ascribed largely to prevailing economic conditions. Many graduates have reached the point in their jobs where they feel capable of advancing to higher skills. Some have learned from experience that employers are more reluctant to lay-off workers who bring more to the job. Still another factor is the good employment situation for skilled people in such fields as radio and television, machine shop, jewelry making, and some branches of the garment trades. The result has been a greater demand for instruction at higher levels of training. Both schools have continued to adjust their practices to this demand by increasing the length of study for each course, more intensive instruction and increasing the complexity of subject matter.

Enrollment for 1955 at both schools totaled 702. Part of the reduction in enrollment last year can be attributed to the longer period of study provided students. The enrollment figure is also affected by the increasing number of students in the advanced and specialized courses which take four to six months, and the smaller proportion attending the brief six to eight weeks sewing machine classes at the Bramson school.

1955 Enrollment at New York ORT Schools

Name	1/1/55	Admissions	Graduated	Discontinued	12/31/55	Total Enrollment
Bramson	85	403	379	37	72	488
ORT Trade	75	139	52	103	59	214
TOTALS	160	542	431	140	131	702

ORT Trade School

The curriculum remains unchanged and contains the following courses of study : machine shop, radio and television, jewelry making and drafting. Classes are held four evenings a week, two hours each session. Training period is between four and six months, depending on the course. Instruction is individual. Instruction is handicapped by a considerable quantity of worn-out machinery. Enrollment during 1955 totaled 214.

Bramson ORT Trade School

The number of students enrolled in the past year was 488. Classes given include power sewing machine operation, pattern making, cutting and use of special machines. Each class is of two hours duration. The period of training is from two to six months.

Conclusion

During 1955 American ORT can report organization progress. A sound basis has been laid for future activities. We look forward to the continued growth of affiliated groups and extension of ORT influence. ORT's place in the American Jewish community is secure and appreciated. The periodic visits of Dr. A. Syngalowski in recent years have helped greatly in bringing about a community of outlook. We begin the new year of ORT on a note of hopefulness blended with a sober appreciation of the complex and difficult problems in the critical period ahead.

WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT

The 76th Year

The 75th Anniversary Congress marked the end of an eventful epoch in ORT history. The 76th year of ORT was ushered in amidst critical developments in North Africa and portentous events in the Middle East. Both touched profoundly upon the current fate of the Jewish people in these lands, and even beyond. Both summoned clarity in thought, courage in action and boldness in new perspectives. All of these requirements are eminently present in two significant documents presented by Dr. Aron Syngalowski. "ORT's Newest Tasks in Israel" and "Tasks in North Africa" are touchstone documents for the present era and signify that ORT in the future as in the past will measure up fully to its historic requirements. Under the leadership of World ORT Union and the American ORT Federation, Women's American ORT will continue to bend all efforts and energies to the fulfillment of its requirements in this period of new and severe challenges.

Overseas Support during the 1954/55 Fiscal Year.

The 1954/55 fiscal year came to an end on June 30, 1955. During this year Women's American ORT continued to record increased support to the overseas operations of World ORT Union and various of its national sections. In 1954/55 Women's American ORT remitted a total of \$372,857 to World ORT Union as compared with \$ 312,499 during 1953/54. The net gain in remittance in 1954/55 over the previous fiscal year was some \$65,000. The following is a table of basic and other commitments and remittances made during the 1954/55 fiscal year:-

Basic Commitments

<u>Project</u>	<u>Commitment</u>	<u>Remittance</u>
M.O.T.	\$ 212,500	\$ 199,997
Scholarship	41,460	41,460
Guardianship	76,500	76,500
Health	<u>14,600</u>	<u>14,600</u>
	\$ 345,060	\$ 332,557

Non-basic Commitments

	<u>Commitment</u>	<u>Remittance</u>
Miriam Earle Memorial Auditorium	25,000	\$ 22,000
Special Guardianship		
Guardianship advance, 1955/56 (Israel)	12,000	12,000
Payment on 1953/54 balance	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
	\$ 39,000	\$ 40,000

Principal features in the increased remittances for the 1954/55 fiscal year were:-

- (a) the launching as the fourth project of Women's American ORT of the ORT Student Health project to the extent of \$ 14,600;
- (b) the initiation of support under M.O.T. and to the extent of \$12,500 of the World ORT Union Apprenticeship program;

- (c) the initiation to the extent of \$4,500 of Women's American ORT's Scholarship support to the Women's Teachers' Training Institute in Paris; and
- (d) the erection of the Miriam Earle Memorial Auditorium. This undertaking, brought to completion in June 1955, was not as noted in earlier reports an assignment and no assignments were given to chapters or regions. It represented a largely spontaneous tribute to the late National Vice-President of Women's American ORT, Miriam Earle.

The heightened support reflected in these figures was accompanied by new and continued gains in membership and expansion. During 1954/55 our organization experienced a net gain of 3,640 members and increased the number of chapters from a total of 218 to 228. Thus both in membership and expansion and in support of the ORT Union's operational program, Women's American ORT continued its progress, characteristic of the past half-dozen years, of building an important platform of support of the operations of the World ORT Union.

The 13th Biennial Convention of Women's American ORT

The 13th Biennial Convention of Women's American ORT took place on October 16th through 19th at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. About 800 delegates and alternates representing virtually every chapter and region of the organization attended. The Convention, which unanimously authorized the establishment of a fifth project - the Tel Aviv project (about which more later) - made numerous other important decisions relative to the overseas and domestic perspectives of Women's American ORT.

The National Convention by unanimous vote elected a new slate of officers headed by Mrs. Victor Segal, National President, Mrs. Hyman Hilf, Chairman of the National Executive Committee and the Baroness Pierre de Gunzbourg, Honorary President. The following is a list of the names and titles of the newly elected National Executive Committee:-

- Mrs. Victor Segal - National President
- Baroness Pierre de Gunzbourg - Honorary President
- Mrs. Hyman Hilf - Chairman, National Executive Committee
- Mrs. Leon Bader - Vice-President, National Guardianship Chairman
- Mrs. Gustave Gettenberg - Vice-President, National M.O.T. Chairman
- Mrs. June Haimson - Vice-President, Western Expansion Chairman
- Mrs. Serge Jarvis - Vice-President, National Honour Roll and Special Project  
Chairman
- Mrs. Ferdinand Kaufmann - Vice-President, National Education Coordinator
- Mrs. Max Laemmle - Vice-President
- Mrs. Arnold Loth - Vice-President, National Publicity and Public Relations  
Editor of Women's American ORT NEWS  
Chairman
- Mrs. William Robinson - Vice-President, National U.J.A. Chairman
- Mrs. Max M. Rosenberg - Vice-President, National Scholarship Chairman
- Mrs. Irving Roth - Vice-President, National Membership Chairman
- Mrs. Sidney Senzer - Vice-President, National Tel Aviv Project Chairman
- Mrs. Isadore Simon - Vice-President, Midwest Expansion Chairman
- Mrs. Joseph P. Wolbarsht - Vice-President, National Thrift Shop Chairman
- Mrs. Heyman Zimel - Vice-President, National Health Chairman
- Mrs. Alexander Konoff - National Treasurer
- Mrs. Meyer Klatsky - National Financial Secretary
- Mrs. Teddy Zausner - National Corresponding Secretary, Chairman of Regional  
Planning Conferences
- Mrs. Milton Herman - National Recording Secretary, National Program Chairman
- Mrs. Samuel Marx - National Parliamentarian, National Speakers' Bureau  
Chairman

Dr. Anna P. Boudin - Representative from Advisory Board  
Mrs. David Rosenstein - Representative from Advisory Board  
Mrs. Joseph Gayl - National Organization and Structure Chairman  
Mrs. Murray Goldenstein - National Exhibits Chairman  
Mrs. George Klein - National Expansion Coordinator

The National Convention, which was a spirited and highly successful gathering, was chaired by Mrs. Gustave Gettenberg. Among its featured guests were:- the Honourable Hubert H. Humphrey, Senator from Minnesota; Dr. Buell G. Gallagher, President of the College of the City of New York; the Honourable Leon Kayserling, noted economist; the Honourable Semah C. Hyman, Consul General of the State of Israel; Dr. William Haber, President of the American ORT Federation; Mrs. Robert F. Wagner, Jr., wife of the Mayor of the City of New York, Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, Executive Vice-Chairman of the State of Israel Bonds; Mr. Adolph Held, Chairman, American Labour ORT; Rabbi Charles Shulman of the United Jewish Appeal.

The Convention paid a stirring tribute to Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan, outgoing National President, in grateful recognition of the great services performed by her during her seven-and-a-half years as president, and wished her every good fortune in her new role as president of Women's International ORT. The Convention noted, as is here reiterated, the great advances registered by Women's American ORT during and under the stewardship of Mrs. Kaphan as National President.

#### The Current Fiscal Year - 1955/56.

At this writing, Women's American ORT has just entered the eighth month of its fiscal year which began on July 1, 1955 and which will end on June 30, 1956. Dominating the whole aspect of present organizational life are the requirements of Women's American ORT's support of the overseas operations of the World ORT Union. These requirements are codified in our commitments to and written into the budget of World ORT Union.

The 1955/56 commitments of Women's American ORT to World ORT Union are in excess of one-half million dollars. Specifically we are committed to the World ORT Union and its national programs in the amount of \$512,193. Additional obligations on overseas projects payable during 1955/56 will bring the required remittances due on or before June 30, 1956 up to a minimum of \$517,693. We note in passing that as of February 3, 1956, i.e., in the first seven months of the current fiscal year, a total of \$301,420.25 was remitted to World ORT Union against the above commitments.

It is evident from the remittances made thus far that the half-million dollar overseas obligation undertaken by Women's American ORT will be met. But it is also evident that this will be achieved not without great effort and even strain. For the half-million dollar requirement for 1955-56 represents a unprecedented increase over our 1954-55 commitment and a radically sharp departure from the customary rate of annual increase during the past five years.

Between 1949/50 and 1954/55, the increases in remittance to World ORT Union averaged \$52,000 per year. At no time did this increase for any single year exceed \$78,000 (1950/51). Using the basic commitment figure of \$512,193, our current fiscal year requirements represent an increase of \$167,133 over basic commitments for the 1954/55 fiscal year. This means a 48% increase in commitments in a single year. The organizational ramifications of such a precipitous increase are far-reaching. Its effect upon the budget of World ORT Union is no less significant.

Components of the \$167,000 Increase  
in Overseas Commitments for 1955/56

We have noted earlier that our commitments to World ORT Union for the current fiscal year are \$167,000 greater than the previous year. This staggering increase over our 1954/55 requirements is necessitated by extension of effort in some established areas of our work and the addition of several new and important undertakings, as follows:-

- \$12,500 increase in allocation for M.O.T.-Apprenticeship program and bringing our total annual Apprenticeship allocation up to \$25,000;
- \$25,000 special 1955/56 M.O.T. allocation to help support the initiation and maintenance of new World ORT Union projects in North Africa;
- \$17,000 special 1955/56 Scholarship allocation as an initial World ORT Union down-payment to assist in the purchase of a building for the Teachers' Training Institute for girls in Paris;
- \$ 4,300 increase in our Health project commitments as required by expansion of these facilities;
- \$ 8,333 as the first year's instalment of Women's American ORT's total three-year commitment of \$25,000 to a project of Women's International ORT;

AND

- \$100,000 as the first year's instalment on a five-year \$500,000 new project for the building by Women's American ORT of a comprehensive vocational training centre in Tel Aviv, Israel.

The Tel Aviv Centre -  
"A Question of Survival"

In his report, "ORT's Newest Tasks in Israel", Dr. Aron Syngalowski noted: "The school in Jaffa, despite its over-all progress, makes an unfavourable impression as a result of extreme overcrowding. Workshops, classes and narrow corridors are unbearably jammed with students. Owing to the absence of a courtyard, the pupils are unable to get a breath of fresh air even during free intervals.... Contrary to the usual problem in Israel of erecting a building in which it is planned to subsequently equip a school, we are faced in this instance with the threat of imminent deterioration of a large modern school if it is not moved from its present throttling quarters to a new building.. Under these circumstances a new ORT building, for our school in the now merged town of Tel Aviv/Jaffa, is nothing less than a question of survival for our program there."

In response to this and to parallel pleas made by the leaders of ORT-Israel, Women's American ORT has undertaken to finance the construction of the projected comprehensive Tel Aviv/Jaffa ORT Vocational Training Centre. The Centre will focus upon heavy industry skills. Estimated costs of the construction of the centre is \$500,000 and Women's American ORT has undertaken to fully finance construction. While construction will begin in the near future, it shall be financed by Women's American ORT over a five-year period on a schedule of equal remittances of \$100,000 per year. This half-million dollar, five-year project was adopted by the 13th Biennial Convention of Women's American ORT. We are happy to report that on January 4, 1956, the initial instalment on our first year's commitment was made in order to help ORT-Israel get this project under way.

Breakdown of 1955/56 Total  
Commitments by Project

The following table shows 1955/56 basic and other commitments to World ORT Union and the remittances made during the first seven months of this fiscal year:-

<u>Project</u>	<u>Basic Commitments</u>	
	<u>Commitment</u>	<u>Remittance</u> (as of 3.2.56)
M.O.T.	\$225,000	\$149,999
Special M.O.T.	25,000	12,500
Scholarship	41,460	27,640
Special Scholarship	17,000	17,000
Guardianship	76,500	47,750
Health	18,900	9,450
Tel Aviv	100,000	15,000
Women's International ORT	8,333	2,081.25
	<u>\$512,193</u>	<u>\$281,420.25</u>
 <u>Non-Basic Commitments</u>		
Special Guardianship (Algiers)		2,000
Nathanya flooring	2,000	2,000
1954/55 arrears on Miriam Earle Memorial Auditorium	3,000	3,500
1954/55 arrears on Apprenticeship	12,500	12,500
	<u>\$17,500</u>	<u>\$20,000</u>

Thus, between July 1, 1955 and February 3, 1956, Women's American ORT has remitted \$281,420.25 against its basic commitment of \$512,193 and a total of \$301,420.25.

Significance of Women's American ORT's  
Increased Commitments to World ORT Union

The half-million dollar 1955/56 commitments of Women's American ORT mean that our share in the budget of World ORT Union has also increased considerably in one year. Aside from the very meaningful general benefit derived therefrom, it means specifically this year: assisting in the purchase of a building for the Women's Teachers' Training Institute in Paris (already accomplished); accelerated support of the Apprenticeship program; the expansion of health facilities and services in the schools; and the resolution of the critical "issue of survival" through the construction of a modern and comprehensive vocational training centre in Tel Aviv. Tel Aviv has an added significance for Women's American ORT. In the past, Women's American ORT has equipped several buildings, such as two of the Nathanya school; has even erected the major portions of a wing to a building of the Ain Sebaa School in Casablanca. But in Tel Aviv Women's American ORT has undertaken for the first time the full and total responsibility for the construction of a large vocational training centre.

The Organizational Ramifications of  
the Increased Commitments

The additional \$167,000 in commitments is computed as a 48% increase in the current basic requirements over those of the previous fiscal year. To an organization limited in its financial potential to a maximum of \$25,00 Honour Roll membership dues, a 48% increase in requirements must have far-reaching implications.

The net gain of some 3,500 members during the 1954/55 fiscal year, though gratifying, is far from adequate to absorb even a small fraction of the \$ 167,000 increase. Even by simple arithmetic and assuming the theoretical maximum that each of these 3,500 members were to become an Honour Roll member, their yield to the projects on which commitments are based could only be some \$85,000. As in the past, Women's American ORT will strictly observe the spirit and the letter of our contract with the J.D.C. The increased requirements shall be fulfilled through a double-pronged campaign:-

1. An intensive campaign to broaden the base of Honour Roll membership. Women's American ORT must add from among its present membership some 4 - 5,000 new \$25.00 Honour Roll members, and
2. Women's American ORT will initiate and conduct an intensive and extensive co-ordinated campaign for membership recruitment and organizational expansion.

These are the mandatory requirements of the organization inherent in its enormously increased financial obligations to the operational program of World ORT Union. Initial measures for the actuation of these campaigns have already been taken. While it is estimated that it will be several months before these campaigns acquire their optimum momentum, there is every confidence in success. Certainly a very great deal hinges upon their success.

#### 1955/56 Membership and Expansion

The growth in membership of Women's American ORT, as already noted, has continued at a steady pace. Dues-paid membership at the end of the 1954/55 fiscal year totalled 34,000 as compared with 30,360 for the 1953/54 fiscal year, a net gain of 3,640 members. There are in addition about 6,000 members on the rolls whose dues have not been paid during 1954/55 but who retain membership in accordance with constitutional provision. These 40,000 members were organized at the end of the 1954/55 fiscal year in 228 chapters and 27 regions, compared with 218 chapters and 21 regions as of July 1954.

A new spurt in expansion and in the organization of new chapters has been noted during the current fiscal year. Between July 1, 1955 and January 31, 1956, 27 new chapters and one new region have been organized, bringing our total chapter and region strength up to 255 chapters and 28 regions.

A significant trend in the rate of dues payment has recently set in and is being closely observed as an augury of general membership spirit and growth. The fiscal year technically begins on July 1st but chapters do not resume meetings or general activities until the first or second week of September. The actual meeting and working year of Women's American ORT is from September to June. As of December 18, 1955, the National Office received from its chapters 1955/56 dues-payments for over 21,000 members as compared with a little over 7,000 members for the comparable period of the previous year. Thus the rate of dues remittances in 1955/56 has increased threefold over the remittances in 1954/55. That this is indicative of heightened spirit and improved organizational efficiency is certain. That it is also indicative of progress in recruitment is corroborated by area reports. But it is as yet too early to measure with any certitude the extent of the new recruitment and its ultimate meaning in net membership gain for 1955/56. One thing in this respect is fairly certain: that the goal of 38,000 dues-paid members by July 1, 1956 will be fulfilled and probably exceeded.

The New Film and  
Community Relations

In October of 1955, Women's American ORT released its new film "Mellah", written by Morton Wishengrad, supervised by Nathan Gould, narrated by Joseph Wiseman and directed and filmed by Stephen L. Sharff. The film is a 28½ minute, 16 mm, black and white, sound story, documentary focussing upon Casablanca with sequences of Nathanya and Anières.

The effect of this film upon the membership of Women's American ORT has been electrifying. It has affected dramatically every phase and facet of activity, heightening both the conviction and the spirit of dedication of the membership. It has accentuated the reenrolment process, accelerated recruitment and is playing a part in expansion efforts. "Mellah" has provided insight into the program of ORT to the husbands of members and won their sympathetic response to the sacrifices made by their wives in behalf of ORT and at the expense often of responsibilities at home. It has encouraged among these husbands new sentiment for American ORT Federation chapters and has already won many new friends and contacts for ORT.

Yet in another sphere the impact of "Mellah" upon other organizations makes it impossible to treat with this film in any way other than in terms of community relations. All the evidence now points to the film "Mellah" as an important new facility in ORT community relations and in the communities' regard of ORT. We believe that "Mellah" and especially if it is followed by another film of comparable quality and impact potential, will usher in a new era of prestige of ORT in the American Jewish community. And not only Jewish.

On December 15th the film was shown and released to Jewish and non-Jewish organizations. Within a month-and-a-half there has developed a mounting demand for "Mellah" from among non-ORT organizations throughout the United States. Over 15 national organizations, including the United Jewish Appeal, the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League, Young Judea, the Joint Distribution Committee, have ordered prints for use in connection with their educational or fund-raising campaigns. The influential local welfare boards are using it extensively in their campaign activities. Significant in this latter group are orders for the film which have come from communities where no ORT chapter exists, such as from the welfare boards of Baltimore, Maryland; Omaha, Nebraska; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Kansas City, Missouri; El Paso, Texas, as well as from some communities where ORT is newly established, such as Cleveland, Ohio, and New Brunswick, New Jersey. This reception and its widespread use is destined to bring before an enormous yet selective audience the ORT message with unprecedented impact. The National Council on Jewish Audio-Visual Materials reviewed and acclaimed the film and has recommended it to its subscribers both as a model to be followed and for extensive use. Requests for Yiddish and French versions have been received. The film is now being farmed out for television showings, locally and nationally, in conjunction with our forthcoming ORT Day celebration on March 7, 1956.

Meanwhile, Women's American ORT's ties with, and concomitantly activities for, the authorized Jewish community agencies are being strengthened and increased. Wherever there is a Women's American ORT chapter, there is an ORT banner in that community. And, thanks to the consciousness and the activities (both ORT and community activities) of our membership, that banner is proud and is regarded by the community with respect and with gratitude. Principally, the chapters and members of Women's American ORT give first priority community support to the campaigns of the United Jewish Appeal and the local welfare boards.

This support is rendered through support of manpower and leadership integrated in and under the direct supervision of the U.J.A. That support is given through efforts by chapters to stimulate "giving" by their members. And in Greater New York, by a special annual ORT-U.J.A. brunch at which Women's American ORT members contribute directly several hundred thousand dollars to U.J.A. The emergency campaign of the U.J.A. will require even more intensified efforts on the part of our membership in its support. U.J.A. will find Women's American ORT prepared and eager for this extraordinary effort.

### ORT Sabbath

Another feature of Women's American ORT activity designed specifically to bring to the attention of the American Jewish community the program and work of ORT is the annual ORT Sabbath which this year took place on November 18, 1955. The purpose of ORT Sabbath is to report and to account to the respective communities in which the chapters operate the work which ORT performs globally, nationally and locally. It is a solemn and a serious event. Synagogues and temples throughout the nation devote a portion of their services to ORT. Frequently, the rabbi delivers a sermon upon ORT and/or an ORT speaker addresses the congregation on the program and work of the organization. The Oneg Shabbat **that evening is sponsored by the respective chapters of Women's American ORT.** ORT Sabbath 1955 was observed in almost 100 temples and synagogues across the nation.

### ORT Day

Our last printed report to the World ORT Union included a detailed description of the success of the annual ORT Day celebration last March. At this writing, the organization is in full swing in preparations for ORT Day 1956. We will report fully on the results after the event. But all the indications already point to a spectacular ORT Day on March 7th.

### Publicity

The publicity work of Women's American ORT is conducted on two levels. There are the concerted publicity activities associated with special campaigns such as ORT Day and there is the publicity activity engaged in by National, by the regions and by the chapters on a day-to-day basis. These publicity activities have been developed to a very high level of efficiency. Through the press, through radio, television and other media of public access, the work of ORT is kept in the forefront of the American Jewish community and the American public.

### Publications

The principal organ of the organization is the Women's American ORT NEWS. This is an eight- or twelve-page publication issued four times per year and circularized to every member of the organization. In addition, regions and chapters publish bulletins of their own. Within the last year or two, the number of chapter bulletins has more than doubled. In 1952/53 there were no more than two region bulletins being published. Today about 15 are published as regular features. Both the chapter and region bulletins serve as important instruments of education and as a facility for activation of membership.

I N M E M O R I A M  
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On January 22, 1956, Mrs. Maurice Finkelstein, past National President and Chairman of the National Executive Committee of Women's American ORT, passed away after a brief illness. With her passing ORT and the Jewish world have lost a great heart and a great leader. As National President of Women's American ORT during 1944/48 and as Chairman of the National Executive Committee subsequently, Mrs. Finkelstein's leadership contributed profoundly to the development of Women's American ORT as a national organization. She was known both in and out of ORT circles as an outstanding intellect, as a woman dedicated to great humanitarian endeavours and as a clear and incisive speaker. She was a woman of sterling character and with a deep feeling for people and for our organization. We shall miss her wise counsel and her work. We shall miss Naomi Finkelstein.

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C A N A D A

At the moment of going to press the annual reports of both the Canadian ORT Federation and Women's Canadian ORT have not yet arrived.

## L A T I N - A M E R I C A

### I. ARGENTINE

Activities in the five ORT schools in Argentine took their normal course during the schoolyear 1955.

Day and evening courses are held in the Technical School of Buenos Aires. The day courses are attended by boys, the evening courses by adults. The training program includes the following trades: mechanics, locksmithy, welding, motor-mechanics and radio-technique. Up-to-date modern technical teaching standards are applied. A time-check is being kept on the production of the students' work.

The vocational training school for girls has carried out a very active program during 1955 and has enjoyed great popularity as is proved by the number of students who attended. The school budget is met by membership fees and donations.

On termination of their training ORT graduates are easily placed in local industry, while some of them emigrate to Israel. Many of the graduates from the girls school have opened their own workshops and have become self-supporting.

The ORT school which was installed in the Julio Levin Colony in December 1954, is exclusively designed to train youthful Chalutzim who plan to emigrate. The school runs classes in mechanics, auto-mechanics, metal work and welding.

An agro-mechanics school was inaugurated in the colony of Deminguez in April 1955 and is progressing normally. ORT-Argentine was responsible for the construction plans of the school building, its equipment, machinery, pedagogical program and, finally, for the care and maintenance of the school.

On January 1st, 1955 the total number of ORT students in the Argentine was 117 (49 males, 68 females). In the course of the year 182 new students were admitted (103 males, 79 females). 171 students graduated (66 males, 105 females). 27 children attended the children's workshop. 77 students abandoned their studies for one reason or another, which left an attendance of 34 students at the end of December 1955.

The following is a breakdown of graduates by trades for the year 1955:-

Metal work, mechanics, agro-mechanics and fitters	51
radio-technique	19
dressmaking and ready-made clothing	101

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### II. URUGUAY

The program of the ORT school in Montevideo is particularly directed towards the training of emigrants for Israel and consequently any requests received from the Chalutzit Movements are taken into consideration in the school's curriculum. Evening workshops have been organised in the following trades:- mechanics, agromechanics, eletrotechnique and radio, while courses in

domestic science and dressmaking are given during the day. Lessons in Jewish culture and in the Hebrew language, given in conjunction with the Institute Ulpan, have proved particularly valuable.

At the beginning of 1955 the school and workshops in Montevideo had an enrolment of 100 students. In the course of the year 132 new students were admitted (77 male, 56 female). 51 students (40 male, 11 female) discontinued their training during the period under review. The total number of students at the end of December 1955 amounted to 80 (73 male, 7 female). 102 students (64 men, 38 women) graduated in the following trades:-

Mechanics and agromechanics	54
Electrotechnique	10
Dressmaking	21
Domestic Science	17

The graduates received their diploma in the presence of the Israeli Minister to Uruguay, the Minister of Agriculture of the Government of Uruguay and many leaders of the Community.

Long articles, some with illustrations, appeared in seven of the leading Uruguay newspapers on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the World ORT Union. Warm tribute was paid to ORT by all political parties. Quoted below are two brief paragraphs which are extracts from articles several columns long:-

"It is beyond doubt that ORT is a social organization which merits the support of individuals as well as of the Government so that ever increasing groups of our country may benefit by its work."

"ORT has created thousands and thousands of workers, technicians and craftsmen, thus contradicting the statement that Jews are only composed of traders and economists."

The ORT school continues to function in the same building, but the present economic situation and the consequent instability of the future of the school do not allow any improvement at this particular time. Of late the financial situation of the school has become very precarious. The emergency fundraising campaigns in favour of Israel have prevented any independent ORT campaign. This situation applies equally to other local organisations. Within the next 30 days we must therefore decide whether the school can be further developed as far as number of students and trades is concerned or whether we must consider closing down. This decision will depend to a large extent on the outcome of the legal proceedings between ORT and the owner of the school building.

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### III. BRAZIL

During 1955 the ORT school in Rio de Janeiro underwent fundamental changes. The 4 year mechanics school ceased to function. Those who had not completed their training are continuing part-time courses in the forenoon. On the other hand the school for dressmaking continued normally. 35 women attended

the course during the year, of whom 20 graduated.

The Women's Committee was not as active as in the past.

Income during the year amounted to 400.000 Cruzeiros from membership fees and 25.000 Cruzeiros from various donations.

ORT committees are also active in São Paulo, Curitiba and Porto Alegre.

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In addition to the above activity, ORT committees function in the following Latin-American countries:- Chile, Peru, Equador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guatemala, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, as well as the Dutch West Indies.

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S O U T H   A F R I C A

INTRODUCTION

This year has been a year of consolidation and achievement. Plans were also made and foundations laid for future development.

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE BUREAU

- a) Placement Service : The Bureau placed 109 persons in employment, mostly in trades such as Motor Mechanics, Panel Beating, Machine Operating, Farming, Tool and Die Making, Compositing, Diesel Engineering, Spray Painting, Fitting and Turning, Bricklaying, Carpentry, Cabinet Making, Hairdressing, Nursing and Millinery.
- b) Career Guidance : Aptitude Tests were given to 57 persons, mostly school leaving youngsters. The idea of career guidance was popularized amongst Jewish Youth through the showing of Vocational Guidance Films obtained from the Union Department of Education. The films were shown at Jewish Schools and Institutions in Johannesburg.
- c) Manual Training Classes : Until June, 1955 these classes were being held at three (3) Jewish Schools. The number of pupils enrolled was 210. After June classes involving 40 pupils were withdrawn from one school. The classes were held once a week for an hour to an hour and a half. Arrangements were made to sponsor classes at a Jewish Senior School in Johannesburg. Equipment was bought and an instructor engaged to teach manual training to 40 boys.

An Exhibition of Products of ORT Manual Training Classes was held at the Jewish Government School at the end of the year. The Exhibition was reported in the Press and was described as the "best ever".

- d) Bursaries and Grants : Ten (10) Trade School and two (2) University Bursaries were provided during the year.  
Ten (10) Grants for Trade School Books and two (2) Tool Grants for Apprentices were also provided.

FARMING

Our farm, which is situated 80 miles from Johannesburg at Oogies trained about 15 Jewish youngsters in various aspects of farming. Most of these have now left for Israel where they have joined collective settlements.

During the year more land was cultivated than ever before. This was made possible by the purchase of new equipment.

#### ORT ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Central ORT Office is situated in Johannesburg. There are branches in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein, Vereeniging and Benoni as well as numerous Women's branches in Johannesburg.

Contact was maintained with our local and overseas branches during the year. Foundations were laid for the formation of new branches elsewhere in South Africa.

The Johannesburg branch of the S.A. ORT-OZE functions with the guidance of an Executive Committee and various sub-committees. An office staff consisting of Secretary, Women's Section Secretary, Placement Officer, Typist, Messenger, 2 canvassers and part-time Aptitude Tester, Bookkeeper and Editor is maintained in Johannesburg.

#### PUBLICITY

Our main source of publicity is our bulletin "Looking Ahead" which appears once a month and has a distribution of 6,500.

We also receive publicity through the Jewish Press. During the year a propaganda campaign against our organization developed but was successfully dealt with through the medium of "Looking Ahead" and through the Jewish Press.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held on the 4th December, 1955 and was a great success. Representatives of important Jewish organizations attended.

The following were elected : Chairman, Mr. A. Shaban, Vice-Chairmen, Mr. H. Bernstein, Mr. P. Zelikow, Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M.L. Rosin, Hon. Secretary, Mrs. F. Feldman. In addition 6 members were elected to the Executive Committee.

#### ORT CONGRESS

Our organization was represented at the ORT Jubilee Congress by Mr. H. Bernstein, Mr. A. Shaban, Rabbi Dr. M.C. Weiler, Mr. L. Lipshitz, Mr. A. Schauder, Mrs. F. Feldman, Mrs. M. Furman, Mrs. S. Kagantson.

#### THE WOMEN'S SECTION

During the year under review the Women's Section continued its efforts to raise funds to meet the commitments it has undertaken on behalf of the ORT. We took an interest in all facets of ORT and have done all we could to increase the scope of our work.

Overseas Work. - Our commitments consist in sponsoring 10 students at the ORT Teachers' Training Institute in Anières, Geneva, for which purpose we have sent £2,200 during the year, also 2 students in a Women's Teachers' Training Institute in Paris to whom we have transmitted £450.0.0 for the year 1955. We have recently undertaken to assist in the new project of the International Women's ORT - erecting and equipping a girls' school in Ramat Gan, Israel, to the extent of £500 per year for three years.

Local work. - On the local scene we continue with our Bursary Funds to the Vocational Guidance Bureau, we also have our representatives on various Committees of the S.A. ORT-OZE, like Farm Committee Finance, Vocational Guidance Bureau etc.

We also feel that by our activities we contribute, in a large measure, towards keeping the ideas of our organisation before the S.A. Jewish Community.

Our fund raising functions usually consist of two major concerted efforts by all Branches. This year being the "PINK BALL", which was a great success both financially and socially, and the Morning Market, which was equally successful. Besides these two major functions the Branches organise their own dances, plays, card parties, book and cake sales and many others. We also have a fair source of revenue from collection tins and diaries. We make extensive use of the ORT-OZE's monthly publication "Looking Ahead" for publicity purposes and all our activities are reported fully in this journal.

Our Annual General Meeting took place on the 3rd of October, and was a great success. The following were elected : - Mrs. A. Lasersohn - Chairman, Mrs. N. Leveson and Mrs. A. Lipshitz - Vice Chairman, Mrs. F. Kirschner-Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. E. Lefkowitz - Hon. Secretary, Mrs. F. Feldman - Hon. Vice Chairman. In addition all Chairmen of our Johannesburg Branches were elected to the Executive Committee. The incoming Committee pledged itself to form new branches and to carry on an intensive Membership Drive to enable us to widen our activities.

In conclusion, we would like to say that members of the Women's Section interested themselves in all ORT Institutions. Members of our Committee have visited ORT Institutions in Europe, Israel and New York and our delegates attended the 75th Anniversary World ORT Congress.

## SCANDINAVIA

### DENMARK

In the very beginning of the year 1955 Dr. Syngalowski, President of the Executive of the ORT Union, together with Mr. Vl. Grossman, the representative of the World ORT Union in Scandinavia, visited Copenhagen. During their stay they had several discussions with the Danish Foreign Minister and other important labor and political personalities.

Interesting interviews were held with Danish Press people who wrote long articles in the Danish papers about the efforts of the World ORT Union.

The Danish ORT Committee arranged a dinner, and a gathering, for members of the Jewish Community where Dr. Syngalowski spoke about different ORT problems. After his departure from Denmark the Committee undertook a membership campaign and succeeded in gaining about 170 members, some non-Jews.

During the autumn of last year a meeting for membership was held addressed by Mr. Vl. Grossman.

The Danish ORT Committee presided over by Mr. E. Goldschmidt has had several meetings in order to discuss fundraising problems and other matters of interest to ORT.

At the Congress in Geneva ORT Denmark was represented by Mr. and Mrs. E. Goldschmidt. The President of the Danish ORT was elected member of the Central Board of the ORT Union and alternate member of the Executive Committee.

### S W E D E N

The ORT activities in Sweden started in 1955 with a campaign conducted by the new chairman of the Swedish ORT Committee, Herr Ragnar Sachs, and the vice-chairman, Herr Gunnar Josephson, at present member of the Executive Committee of the World ORT Union. Dr. A. Syngalowski, who visited Stockholm for the first time, addressed an ORT banquet at which a number of important Jewish and non-Jewish Swedish leaders were present. The most important Swedish newspaper published detailed interviews with Dr. Syngalowski- in this way the ORT program and ORT activities received wide publicity.

The limited campaign gave some 73,000 Swedish Crowns. The Swedish ORT Committee asked the Swedish Government, which had already contributed substantial grants for the purchasing of machines and tools for ORT schools in various countries in previous years, for a new grant, and this year received 50,000 Swedish Crowns.

As usual the Jewish community of Stockholm allocated 2,000 Crowns this year from the Warburg Foundation for the Swedish ORT Committee.

All in all, ORT activities in Sweden in 1955 resulted in wide publicity and a contribution in the amount of 125,000 Crowns used for the purchase of important equipment for our schools in various countries, mostly Israel, North Africa and Iran.

The Swedish ORT Committee was enlarged in 1955 with a group of active leaders and social workers of the Community.

ORT Sweden was represented at the ORT Congress by Mr. Paul Olberg, member of the Committee.

P O R T U G A L

In the spring of 1955 ORT Portugal organised a conference at which the film on the ORT Central Institute, Yverdon - Geneva, was shown. Dr. Elias Baruel, Lisbon, member of the Central Board of the World ORT Union, spoke on ORT activities across the world, followed by a brief description - presented by Mlle. Davidoff - relating to the functions of the Women's International ORT.

An ORT Women's Section was created in August under the presidency of Mrs. N. Joanes.

Plans are underway for a campaign in the spring.

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A U S T R A L I A

Though during the year 1955 we were unable to arrange a fundraising campaign, a membership campaign was launched in Sydney during the period 4 - 18 March with the active cooperation of the Australian Jewish Welfare Society and the sponsorship of the Board of Deputies. 240 members were enrolled.

In addition to the membership campaign a Women's Chapter was newly organised in June. A meeting took place at the home of Mrs. Sydney D. Einfeld - wife of the President of ORT Organisation of N.S.W. An Executive of 5 ladies was elected with Mrs. Einfeld as President. This group of ladies arranged a function in Leura in the Blue Mountains, a distance of 70 miles from Sydney, which initiated their fund raising efforts.

The Committee in Sydney has been quite active and held 7 meetings during the year. Unfortunately, however, there has been very little progress in the Communities of Melbourne and Perth. Though steady contact has been maintained with them and assurances from time to time received of their cooperation, we have not succeeded in establishing a Women's ORT or in conducting any sort of drive.

ORT in Australia was represented by the Vice-President of the ORT Organisation of N.S.W., Mr. Felix Freeman, at the Congress in Geneva. On his return to Australia Mr. Freeman gave a detailed verbal report on his mission at a Committee meeting held in Sydney on the 11th of August. Mr. Freeman said that "he was deeply impressed by the Congress and by the enormous work of vocational training done by ORT, especially in producing skilled mechanics for industrial enterprises in Israel".

The Declaration adopted by the Congress was published in the Anglo-Jewish and Yiddish Press in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. In addition, propaganda material received from Geneva during the year was distributed in an effort to keep Australian Jewish Community leadership aware of ORT's work around the world.

At the close of the year arrangements were being made for membership drives for 1954.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ORT

Since the Congress of the Women's International ORT held in Geneva last June, important first steps have been made in the field of reorganisation and development under the leadership of Mrs. L. Kaphan, and Madame L. Roubach, Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Most of our activity has lately been devoted to the raising of funds for the Women's International ORT Israeli project, i.e. the equipment of a girls' school in that country.

The project which was unanimously accepted at that Congress has resulted in a total suscription of \$ 68,500 divided over three years. The first payments which have already been received for this purpose are the following:

South Africa.....	\$ 1.400.-
Canada .....	1.000.-
United States .....	2.080.-
France .....	2.630.-
Tunisia .....	750.-

In addition the following sums are reported as already available:

Italy .....	\$ 500.-
Morocco .....	260.-
Switzerland .....	500.-

We would like to point out that the contributions of our North African committees are of particular significance, for despite their current complex situation, they have given proof of their solidarity with their sister organization in Israel.

On the 27th of November last, a meeting of the W.I.O. was held in Paris, presided over by Mme. L. Roubach. At the suggestion of Mrs. L. Kaphan, who had come from New York, a new important item was introduced in the program of our organization, under the slogan S.O.S. (Serve ORT Schools), the purpose of which is providing urgently needed assistance to ORT schools in North Africa and Israel. An extensive S.O.S. campaign will be launched by all our committees starting next month.

For 1955 the contribution of the ORT women's organizations and committees around the world to ORT work amount to approximately \$ 500.000, of which the Women's American ORT share was \$ 395.500. From now on the aid of the women's committees will be intensified in view of the Israel project and the S.O.S. campaign.

A detailed report on the last Executive Committee meeting of the ORT Union written by Mrs. L. Kaphan was sent in English or French to all our committees. Circular letters in connection with the activities and projects of our organization were sent to all women's committees.

New women's committees have been founded during the last months, i.e. in Australia, Portugal and also quite recently in Algeria. The Committee in Rio de Janeiro which had suspended its activity for some time, started to function again after undergoing reorganization.

Madame L. Roubach has given the first directives for the creation of a new young women's section in Paris. The Lyons and Marseilles committees are being reorganised.

In most countries the membership is increasing. Since the last W.I.O. Congress we appointed a Chairman for Membership Recruitment for each country. (We mention as an example Tunis, where the membership has doubled in record time).

The Women's International ORT will from now on devote a large part of its activity to propoganda. We are editing a booklet for all French speaking countries, the main object of which is the recruitment of members and, above all the S.O.S. campaign (Serve ORT Schools). Information bulletins as well as bulletins on education and the W.I.O. Program are being prepared in the United States.

In retrospect we can state with satisfaction that since the W.I.O. Congress last June our work has progressed and we envisage an active and fruitful future.

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T A B L E I

STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN THE "ORT" INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD  
(including apprentices)

JANUARY 1955 - JANUARY 1956

T A B L E II

APPRENTICE PLACEMENT SERVICE

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TABLE I

STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN THE "O R T" INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD  
(including apprentices)  
JANUARY 1955 - JANUARY 1956

C O U N T R Y	Number of Students 1. 1. 1955	Admissions after 1. 1. 1955	Number of Graduates	End of Pre- Apprentice- ship Courses	Departures before Graduation	Number of Students 1. 1. 1956	Frequentation 1.1.1955- 1.1.1956
ISRAEL	2.704	2.090	1.036	--	737	3.021	4.794
FRANCE	1.740	1.214	670	--	456	1.828	2.954
MOROCCO	1.300	1.012	130	--	407	1.775	2.312
ITALY	1.630	1.423	540	221	679	1.613	3.053
TUNISIA	1.121	620	133	--	385	1.223	1.741
IRAN	547	442	134	49	63	743	989
GERMANY	388	320	320	--	18	370	708
HOLLAND	347	208	30	87	128	310	555
ALGERIA	300	208	94	--	112	302	508
AUSTRIA	287	654	596	--	49	296	941
BELGIUM	219	177	27	86	43	240	396
SOUTH AFRICA	360	29	--	245	--	144	389
U. S. A.	160	542	431	--	140	131	702
URUGUAY	100	133	102	--	51	80	233
BRAZIL	120	--	30	--	67	23	120
ARGENTINA	117	182	171	27	67	34	399
GREECE	38	76	57	--	37	20	114
GREAT-BRITAIN	18	3	--	--	3	18	21
CENTRAL INSTITUTE Anières	70	34	42	--	1	61	104
" IN INDUSTRIAL & TEACHING PRACTICE	25	42	20	--	3	44	67
CENTER FOR INSTRU- CTION, Paris	12	12	11	--	1	12	24
T O T A L	11.603	9.421	4.574	715	3.447	12.288	21.024

TABLE II

APPRENTICE PLACEMENT SERVICE

AS OF JANUARY 1st, 1955

AS OF JANUARY 1st, 1956

C O U N T R Y	Number of apprentices placed & supervised by ORT	Number of apprentices enrolled in comple- mentary ORT courses	Number of apprentices placed & supervised by ORT	Number of apprentices enrolled in comple- mentary ORT courses
FRANCE	857	60	925	84
MOROCCO	419	419	898	712
TUNISIA	668	136	719	234
ALGERIA	68	32	72	--
SOUTH AFRICA	60	--	129	--
ISRAEL	--	--	--	166
T O T A L	2.072	647	2.743	1.196

M E E T I N G  
of the  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
November 24-25th, 1955  
in P a r i s

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EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE WORLD ORT UNION

Paris, 24th - 25th November, 1955

Present : Dr. A. Syngalowski, Chairman of the Executive Committee  
Dr. W. Haber, Chairman of the Central Board of the World ORT Union

- |         |  |   |                              |
|---------|--|---|------------------------------|
| Messrs. | A. Alperine, Paris                                   | ) |                              |
|         | General E. Ben-Artzi, Tel-Aviv                       | ) |                              |
|         | A. Brunschvig, Geneva                                | ) |                              |
|         | J. Chorin, Geneva                                    | ) |                              |
|         | O. Heim, Zurich                                      | ) |                              |
|         | R. Jona, Ivrea                                       | ) |                              |
|         | Dr. M. Gurny, Zurich                                 | ) |                              |
|         | G. Josephson, Stockholm                              | ) |                              |
|         | Admiral L. Kahn, Paris                               | ) |                              |
| Mrs.    | L. Kaphan, New-York                                  | ) | Members of the               |
|         | R. Levi, Rome  | ) | Executive Committee          |
|         | E. Lewin-Epstein, Tel-Aviv                           | ) |                              |
|         | Me E. Nataf, Tunis                                   | ) |                              |
| Mrs.    | L. Roubach, Paris                                    | ) |                              |
|         | L. Schulmann, Casablanca                             | ) |                              |
| Mrs.    | V. Segal, Philadelphia                               | ) |                              |
|         | J. Shapiro, Tel-Aviv                                 | ) |                              |
|         | M. Spitz, Tel-Aviv                                   | ) |                              |
|         | Dr. A. Vedder, Amsterdam                             | ) |                              |
|         | V. Halpérin, Secretary of the Executive Committee    |   |                              |
|         | M.A. Braude, Director of the World ORT Union         |   |                              |
|         | A. Blum, Strasbourg, Member of the Control Committee |   |                              |
|         | L. Frenkiel, Paris                                   | ) | Members of the Central Board |
|         | Me J. Scheftel, Paris                                | ) |                              |
|         | F. Schragar, Director of the French ORT              |   |                              |
|         | S. Goldmann, Geneva                                  |   |                              |
|         | C. Lang, Paris                                       |   |                              |

A G E N D A

- I. Opening of the Meeting.
- II. Questions and remarks.
- III. Financial Report for the first nine months in 1955.
- IV. Implementation of the decisions taken at the Congress :
  - Constitutional Committee
  - Interim Committee
  - Fundraising Committee.
- V. ORT's Contribution to the Aid Program for the Jews in North Africa.
- VI. Discussion.
- VII. Budget Proposal for 1956.
- VIII. Miscellaneous.

In the Chair : Dr. A. Syngalowski, Dr. W. Haber, Mr. A. Brunschvig, Admiral L. Kahn, Dr. A. Vedder.

RESOLUTIONS

- I. The Executive Committee accepts the financial report for the first nine months of 1955 and commends the responsible departments on their management.
- II. The Executive Committee approves as a basis for discussion with contributing organizations and agencies a budget for 1956 totalling \$ 4.120.000.- of which \$ 1.375.000.- will be available from local sources and \$ 2.745.000.- will be supplied by the ORT Union.  

The Executive Committee notes that this budget proposal includes a subvention of \$ 900.000.- to ORT Israel whereas ORT Israel requests \$ 1.000.000.-. The Executive Committee recommends that the necessary steps be taken to increase the income for 1956 to a maximum, so that it will be possible at a later date to revise the subvention allocated to ORT Israel.

The final budget for 1956 will have to be approved at the first Executive meeting in 1956.
- III. The Executive Committee expresses its appreciation to its Chairman, Dr. A. Syngalowski, for his exposé on ORT tasks in North Africa and unanimsly recommends the implementation of the program proposed within the limits of the financial possibilities.
- IV. The Executive Committee requests Dr. A. Syngalowski and Dr. W. Haber to negotiate an agreement for 1956 with the A.J.D.C. in New York.
- V. The Executive Committee requests Dr. W. Haber and General Ben-Artzi to proceed on a special mission to South Africa for the purpose of obtaining an adequate support from South African Jewry of the work of the World ORT Union.
- VI. The Executive Committee confirms its decision to implement an ORT program in Tetuan (Spanish Morocco), as soon as an ORT Committee is legally constituted there.
- VII. The Executive Committee takes cognizance of the necessity of increasing as much as possible the range of trades for women. In this connection it requests the Central Office of the World ORT Union to give instructions to all national ORT organizations to make thorough enquiries from educational, governmental, private and industrial organizations and to communicate the results to the Central Office which will have to establish a program for extending the teaching of women's trades in ORT schools.
- VIII. The Executive Committee notes with satisfaction the enquiries made into the results achieved by ORT graduates and requests the Central Office to further develop this research on the contribution of former ORT students to their local economies.

- IX. The Executive Committee has unanimously designated the following of its members to the Interim Committee: Messrs. A. Brunschvig, J. Chorin, Judge M. Gurny, Dr. W. Haber, Otto Heim, Admiral L. Kahn, Renzo Levi, Mrs. Louis Roubach, Dr. A. Syngalowski.

It further resolved that if the agenda of the Interim Committee includes a problem which concerns a particular country, an invitation to the meeting must be sent to the ORT Committee in that country.

- X. The Executive Committee nominated to the Constitutional Committee which must propose a new text of the statutes of the ORT Union on the basis of the recommendations made by the Congress in June 1955 and submit their proposed text to all the national ORT organizations and subsequently to the Executive Committee the following members : General Ben-Artzi, Messrs. L.D. Crestohl, Judge M. Gurny, G. Mintzer, Me. E. Nataf, Me. J. Scheftel and Dr. A. Syngalowski.

- XI. The Executive Committee elected the following of its members to the Fund-Raising Committee: Messrs. L.D. Crestohl, Otto Heim, G. Josephson, Mrs. L. Kaphan, R. Levi, Mrs. L. Roubach, Dr. A. Syngalowski, Dr.A. Vedder, M. Weinziehr.

Two seats are still reserved, one for a member from South Africa and the other for Great Britain.

- XII. The Executive Committee refers to the agenda of the next meeting the election of the alternate members of the Central Board and the eventual co-option of members of the Central Board, as well as the election of a member of the Control Committee to replace Mr. Harry Greenberg, New York, who has resigned.

- XIII. The Executive Committee expresses the wish that the next meeting be held as soon as possible after the agreement with the American Joint Distribution Committee in New York has taken place, in order to enable the ORT national organizations to know their budget resources with the least possible delay.
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ORT UNION, CENTRAL OFFICE

6 Rue Eynard

GENEVA