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Minutes of Executive Committee meeting, Rome, July, 1979William Haber

On this morning's agenda, you will notice there are two separate programmes this morning. The first one is on the Congress in Jerusalem which I will be chairing, and the second one is on the fund raising activities of ORT, which David Young will be chairing.

Let me take just a few moments by a few sentences by way of introduction. We have had a lot of discord and tension and difficulty in Geneva. as a result of one or another of the developments growing out of the decision to change the Central Office. I am pleased to report that on the basis of the information which has come to me, that the activities in the various countries concerning the plans for the 1980 Congress in Jerusalem have not been adversely affected. The progress that has been made we shall hear as the morning progresses. As far as I am concerned and as far as we are all concerned, this is a great simcha for us, for a Jewish organisation, in these times after the Holocaust, after all the great tragedies, of recent decades, to be able to celebrate its hundredth anniversary particularly in an atmosphere where we can talk with great excitement about what has been accomplished in the past 25 or 30 years, about our growth in all sections of the world, is in itself something worth recording. And I am certain that the meeting in Jerusalem for which plans are now underway, will bring together the ORT family in numbers never before experienced, and I hope in an atmosphere of peace and excitement, which it well merits.

I am going to start by asking Robin Gilbert, who has been following developments as the coordinator and who has been in close touch with the professional leadership in the various countries to give us a summary report as to what has transpired and then I will open it up for discussion, and please will everyone from the various countries if they have something to tell us as to what plans or what problems they have, to make their views known or give us suggestions. We still have plenty of time to correct any errors, and perhaps after this morning we will have a better sense of direction than we have now. I call upon Robin Gilbert as the coordinator of the plans for the Jerusalem congress.

Robin Gilbert

I think you will find that this morning will divide into three. I shall begin by speaking specifically about the plans for the Congress. However after that I am sure we will hear from the floor certain developments which have been taking place in national organisations, which are linked to the centenary, which are linked to the Congress and certain fund raising events, and certain campaigns which are inspired by the Centenary, so there will be an area which will fall into both the first half of the meeting which is concerned with 1980, and the second half which is concerned with fund raising.

At the last meeting of the fund raising group, the lay fund raising group in Ferney Voltaire in February we brought you up to date on developments. And since then quite a lot has happened, and yesterday the professionals who are involved in the committee for the Congress and for the Centenary met. And I am first going to report on that meeting of Professionals that began on Friday afternoon, that is going to listen to your comments about what I have to say,

and further comments, and which is going to reconvene, on tomorrow afternoon.

The first item on our agenda, and I am not going into detail about this. This was travel arrangements, but generally speaking travel arrangements to the congress are to be made by the individual national organisations. There is no one travel agency, there is no one airline with which we have made an arrangement and with which we are requesting you to deal.

As far as hotel arrangements, there is one travel agency, in Israel, TRAVEX which is holding sufficient hotel accommodation for everyone. a thousand rooms, in six or seven different categories of hotels. WE are holding 75 per cent of the four and five star hotel space in Jerusalem, and so far we have made specific reservations at the request of some of the larger organisations. I am talking about the AOF, where there is a joint committee between the men and women, that is being coordinated and we have reserved 500 rooms for the Americans, we also have had a registered specific request for the Canadians and for the South Africans.

When we get back, to Geneva after this meeting we intend to send a circular to all national organisations about representation and how many people you are entitled to send, about the number of delegates and asking you how many people you estimate will be coming to Jerusalem. So far we only have figures from three countries, and we want to have an idea from the other countries about how many people. will be coming to Jerusalem.

After discussing travel in some detail we turned to the actual programme, of the Executive Committee. And we are suggesting some changes, and some additions and some substrations which we will report to you in February. Friday is still a free day, day of arrival, Friday May 30 and there are no official arrangements being made on Friday night about Oneg Shabbat. There will be commercial travel agents who will arrange tours for you but this will be not be done under the auspices of ORT during Shabbat.

The congress officially opens at 9.00 p.m. on Saturday night, two hours after sunset, which is the earliest that the hall can be ready for us. The hall that we are using is the large Jerusalem conference hall known as the Binyanei Haouma and we want to keep the opening ceremony down to 90 minutes. WE are going to aim at a 90 minute opening ceremony. But there are a lot of happenings and speeches to fill that 90 minutes. To be more precise, ORT Israel is arranging a multi-media memorial presentation. Multi media audio visual presentation is being planned which will in a very modern and moving way memorialise the past. The post and those who in ORT are no longer with us and this will include ORT children in a choir, an orchestra, and a flag ceremony from the different schools. We have confidence that ORT Israel will put on a very moving memorial celebration.

As far as speeches are concerned, the guest of honour from outside Israel the chief non-ORT speaker will be Madame Simone Weil, I suppose I don't have to tell you who she is. She has been Minister of Health in France, she has now become a member of the European Parliament, She is as distinguished a Jewish overseas visitor as we can hope to get, and we hope (she has agreed in principle to come, and we hope nothing will prevent her from being with us during the Congress) and probably she will be requested to speak on Saturday night, although she may choose another day. during the week to be with us.

We would also like to have someone in reserve, just in case Madame WEil cant make it. and that reserve person and the reserve speaker come, then we will have plenty of time during the week to have the second speech and we have You will remember last year we were discussing an american, and the main name mentioned was Senator Kennedy and Mr. Kissinger. The Professionals Committee has changed its mind because we want to have if possible an non-political speech at our Congress and therefore we are trying to get one of the last two nobel prize- either Isaac Bashevis Singer who won the prize last year, or SAul Bellow who won the prize the year before. So with the approval of this committee, the American delegation will try to get one of those gentlemen to be with us.

The President of the State of Israel has already accepted to come to our opening session and invitations will be going out to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Labour and other Israeli dignataries. The Mayor of Jerusalem the Chairman of the Jewish Agency.

However, we would like and we suggest to this Committee that the speeches be restricted on the first evening as follows: That there should definitely, be right at the start of the Congress on the first evening the President of the CEntral Board Keynote address. There should be an ORT speech on the opening occasion. Before- A-special-shortened

I am summarising the suggestions of my colleagues and some how they feel that all this can be squeezed into 90 minutes.

From Israel only the President. Teh Prime Minister will probably be there, he has to be there because our Israeli friends explained that it would be very insulting if he was watching television on Saturday night and suddenly saw that everyone was on television, the president was there and he was not. We have to invite all the Israelis for the opening. But the president will speak on behalf of the State and government. And a restricted number of people will give greetings from some of the major organisations with which ORT is associated and that the other greetings will be made at other sessions from poeple we just feel we don't have time to hear we will invite to give written greetings and we will complse a greetings book, so there will be an album of greetings. The minimum number of verbal greetings, the maximum number of written greetings.

I am sure you will agree that that will only take an hour and a half and we will all be in bed by 10 11. 30 p.m. Early on Sunday morning, to tour the schools. We have decided that it would not be a good thing to have as originally planned two consecutive days of tours. Sunday and mOnday should not both be touring schools, because that would leave the real meat of the Congres, the Congress sessions would begin too late in the week, and we want to start the Congress business sessions

on Monday, so the idea is that the tours to the schools far away from Jerusalem to all the schools up north and down south, the schools not in central Israel, not in Tel Aviv, but in Haifa, etc., And we think that that will be a busy day, lunch taken at schools and we have dropped the ida of having a concert on the Sunday evening. We feel that the programme is full enough withou the concert. And on Monday, we shall have our first working day. From the morning until 4.00 p.m. And then on the Monday afternoon late, after going back to the hotels for a rest and change, we plan to transport everyone to a stadium near the Syngalowski Centre in TEL Aviv, there will be a student show. This will be the only opportunity during the week for ORT Israel, #irectors and teachers and their families to be with aswell as a lot of students.

and their families to be with us and well as a lot of students so ORT Israel is planning a special event late Monday.

On Tuesday morning, we shall go touring again but it will be summer and we won't go very far. We will just visit some of the schools in Jerusalem and the region. It will just be a morning visit. We will not go to the school of Engineering. That will come later.

Late morning there will be a guided tour of the exhibition, which will be set up in the conference hall. And then the working sessions continue on Tuesday afternoon and perhaps into the evening.

Wednesday is mainly a working day, but we want to make sure that on every day there is both work and something celebrative, amusing so on Wednesday after lunch there will be a fashion show.

Thursday the last day we will continue our working session, again until the late afternoon, and the Congress will close with a gala ceremony at the ORT University School of Engineering which again is being designed by ORT Israel and there will be a buffet supper there, there will be a lot of students and audience participation, and probably we shall close off part of Jerusalem especially for us and there will be a firework display. That is how we see the actual timetable of the Congress but we could not, we must emphasise as by the Professional leaders of ORT, but we could not forget the actual content of the meeting. Let us celebrate by all means but let us also make sure that this is a significant and important Congress in content. The main world issues, issues which are important to the whole world to the Jewish world and to ORT must be reflected in the discussions at the Congress.

It was felt and we emphasised that the Long Term Planning paper which you will remember was drawn up by a Committee of ORT both professional and Lay, this paper was worked on for about two years and presented to you about 2 years ago, it was felt that this document could be a basis, but, and this is the first specific suggestion, and- that came out of our meeting and which we would like to throw open for discussion it was felt that there have been changes in the last two years, not so much in ORT but in the world, changes which effect the Jewish people and ORT and that these changes and developments should be incorporated into a revised long term planning document and it was recommended that we should consider appointing a small, smaller than the committee which drew up the Long Term planning paper, which should start meeting immediately and frequently and that this should be the decision of the Executive Committee. The committee to start reviewing the LTP paper in the light of the evolving situation. It was also hoped that the staff would be prepared and able to prepare working papers on other subjects that are of importance and effect the future of ORT during the 20 years - during the next 20 years. And that these working documents be sent out to national organisations between now and the congress before your comments and that these comments could be used and worked into the paper programme.

As you can see, a lot of ideas were put forward - they were not concretised into how many commissions, how many working sessions, how many plenary sessions, this was not yet worked out, But we should like your views first of all on this proposal of putting, of using the LTP document, updating it and producing working papers.

But although we realise that we have to have commissions at the Congress, it was strongly felt at the meeting that these should not be commissions based on geographical areas, not the ones like we used to have but that they should be on specific subjects, such as the ideology of technical assistance, where does technical assistance go from here, Jewish education, the building up of professional and lay cadre for fund raising and membership, ORT as a major current and a dozen other possibilities for Commission subjects were mentioned.

It was felt that a small professional committee should be expanded that tomorrow afternoon when we continue our meeting that we should ask at least the directors of ORT France and the director of ORT Latin America should be present. And in future, we are now looking ahead to the 1985 congress, it was suggested that there should not be two Commissions, for a Congress, that there should be one mixed one. There should be more mixture between lay and professional. It is too late now to change that committee except by adding our colleagues from France and South America, but it is an idea we want recorded for the future. It was felt that the lay members are not involved enough in the actual working out of the Congress programme.

We then heard from Mr. Aboudaram on the ORT youth congress, there will be as you will remember side by side a small representative congress of students coming from all over the world. It was resolved that the students should not be final year students, a) because most of the final year students are passing exams in June, and b) because we wanted the students who attend the Congress to benefit from it and to be able to convey back to their schools and to their fellow students the message that they get from the Jerusalem from participating in Jerusalem and it was recommended that a criteria for the choice of students should be their Jewish identity and their scholastic involvement and achievement.

The question of payment for the students was brought up and it was suggested that each country should as part of its centenary fund raising effort attempt to raise scholarships to send the students at the expense of the national organisation to Jerusalem. And that only in special cases where a country could really demonstrate to the world ORT Union headquarters that this could not be done, would Geneva consider participation.

We feel that the countries should be responsible, for this themselves.

It was felt that the students apart from having their own meetings, should participate in selected parts of our Congress, that they should have the experience of a Congress by being allowed to attend at least one commission and one plenary session, and it was even recommended that they should have the right to submit their own resolution to our Resolutions Committee.

It was also recommended by the Professionals to ask the management of the WOU to consider inviting all country directors to the Congress. And that the country directors in turn would choose at least one local school director or teacher to accompany the students.

After the report from Mr. Aboudaram he went on to report the plans for the exhibition which will be set up and on view at the Congress in the Binyanei Hauma. We heard that the initial response from the countries was extremely poor and that it was only after a lot of exchange of correspondence that there is a deal of material that is beginning to come and will be useful

to incorporate into the exhibition. But I would like to ask all of you here who are in touch, who are either country directors or are in touch with your country directions, to ensure that your response will be better and speedier in fact I would like to read you the resolutions, or recommendations about this which we all endorse.

A constant pressure must be kept up to ensure that all national organisations send technical and pedagogical material to Jerusalem, that several national organisations have questioned the financing of their exhibits, and we feel that each organisation should do its best to be adequately represented at the exhibition and experience has been gained in the preliminary phase has shown that if results are to be improved, we must envisage an on the spot visit to several of the countries, who will be participating.

We then heard about from Mr. Cantor about the more the historical, photographic and the more artistic side of the exhibition, and the meeting suddenly breathed a deep sigh of relief when Mr. Cantor followed by Mr. Harmatz produced material, beautiful material which we are going to pass around which we have produced for the Congress.

Four posters have already been designed and are being produced in four languages in Geneva. A photographic brochure with selected photos, is being produced and is nearly ready to send around to you. Stickers have already been sent to you, and other national countries have produced their own designs and own stickers. We have succeeded in getting a beautiful display of posters from an international poster competition of the students and this will be on display in Jerusalem.

Mr. Cantor showed us the Call to Congress which will be sent out very shortly after this meeting which is also at the printers and is a very handsome seducement- document. Mr. Harmatz produced a very beautiful poster, and then he also showed us a proof of the stamp that the Israel post office will be issuing. And that stamp will have two first day covers, one at the time of issue, which will be later this year, and second on the first day of our meeting at Jerusalem, there will be another first day cover to commemorate the Congress. This is a very beautiful stamp and all the material we saw was unanimously considered to be attractive and useful and I will ask Mr. Cantor to pass around some of this.

Mr. Harmatz do you have the stamp to pass around.

Bert-Cantor

Bert Cantor

The basic poster is a list of every school where we have every operated, etc.

Robin Gilbert

The last item on our agenda was a report from Mr. Rader on the book about to be published on the history of ORT. Dr. Shapiro has an August 15 deadline which apparently he will meet, and the publishers date is March 15th 1980. It will have the prestigious publisher, Schocken as its publisher. It will be issued in English only, hardback 400 pages, lots of photos, notes glossary and index and it was emphasised that we should not look forward to the usual "haus geschichte". It will not be that. It will be a serious, historical work, which may not please everyone, which-will because we haven't told the

author what to write, whose name should be mentioned, whose should not be mentioned, so he has been given complete freedom and he considers it an addition to contemporary historical works on the Jewish people, and he considers that it may be read more by historians, that will be distributed more in University libraries than to individuals. However, we hope that members of ORT and delegates to the Congress in particular will buy this book. It was emphasised that we shall not give this book away. It was emphasised that the printing of this book already cost a considerable amount of money, that it must be sold and it will cost between 15 and 20 dollars.

At that stage after 5 hours, we interrupted our meeting, we adjourned and thought it best to report to you on what took place. We want to meet again tomorrow afternoon, because we want to see what comes out of this meeting and discuss that and we may also like to have the Director General at our meeting tomorrow - he was not able to be present on Friday and we need him for certain decision, and we will then decide when this Committee will meet again.

I would like to thank you Mr. Chairman, I am sure you are right, this Congress will be a good Congress, for many of us it will be the last Congress, but I think and I think we are on the way to making it a memorable congress, and with the cooperation of everyone here, we won't have any trouble.

William Haber

I am sure you will join me, in expressing our appreciation to the Committee of ORT Professionals who met and to Robin Gilbert who outlined for us the scenario of what will take place in Jerusalem beginning the moment we arrive until we leave. I am certain you will have some suggestions and hopefully some criticisms, something that you think has not been talked about enough, It's clear to me I would have liked to have heard a little more about the content, and substantive issues. There has been a reference to it of course, but I would like to urge that you raise your hands and gentlemen here will pass you the amplifier, the microphone, you make your comment, or ask your question, or make your suggestion.

I assume this is being recorded some place, there is a transcript so that the Committee will be in a position to know what suggestions so come out of this meeting.

Who wishes to speak first?

Vladimir Halperin

Il est toujours difficile de trouver un premier orateur pour un débat, je me jette à l'eau en esperant donner l'exemple au suivant.

Je voudrais essentiellement remercier Robin Gilbert de la manière très claire dont il a résumé la programmation du Congrès, à la fois sur le plan des horaires, des festivités, des organisations d'attente, et sur le plan des aspirations du contenu essentiel, morale et idéologique. de ce Congrès. Je voudrais, sans revenir à l'exposé de Robin Gilbert, demander que ce Comité et après lui le Comité exécutif cet après-midi, demande que dès maintenant, le système organisationnelle de l'ORT à travers le monde soit intensivement

renforcer à travers le monde entier, en perspective du Congrès, et sans attendre le Congrès. Parce qu'il faut de toute évidence, que les délégations qui viendront au Congrès soient des délégations fortes, motivées, composées à la fois des anciens et des modernes, ni trop des uns, ni exagérément des autres, mais un sage mélange des uns et des autres, c'est à dire du passé et du présent, et aussi de l'avenir.

Je pense que c'est important que dès maintenant, depuis ce comité exécutif un état d'esprit approprié soit insufflé au sein des organisations de l'ORT à travers le monde.

Ma deuxième remarque, M. le Président, et je serai bref, c'est que je crois que dès le début de la nouvelle année scolaire, il est impératif de faire pénétrer l'esprit du centenaire dans toutes les écoles de l'ORT, par des textes, par des manifestations, par une sensibilisation des élèves eux mêmes, et les professeurs, Je crois que chaque bibliothèque scolaire, grande ou petite, doit ouvrir une section Centenaire de l'ORT, Histoire de l'ORT, documentation de l'ORT, je crois que les élèves eux mêmes petits ou grands, plus ou moins préparés, doivent être encouragés à confectionner des dossiers du centenaire, vu par leur propres optiques, par leur propres idées, dans leur propre conception,

Je pense que les enseignants de l'ORT dans tous les pays devraient être motivés pour organiser des séminaires, consacrés au programme du centenaire, et que à la fin de l'année scolaire 1979/1980, dans les palmarès des écoles de l'ORT il y est--- ait des prix du centenaire et qu'ils puissent marquer l'importance de l'évènement.

Deux derniers points, m. le Président. Je pense que dans chaque organisation, qu'elle soit opérationnelle ou non, il faudrait encourager la création de colloque ou de conférence qui serait donner, qui serait présenter pas nécessairement par des ORTistes, mais par des savants, des sociologues, des historiens, juifs, ou non-juifs, à qui nous devrions demander à apporter leur interprétation de 100 ans de l'ORT, et qui permettrait peut-être par la suite la publication, d'ouvrage intéressant concernant le centenaire de l'ORT.

Dernier remarque m. le président, à laquelle nous avons déjà fait allusion précédemment, mais qu'il n'a pas été reprise dans le rapport qui nous a été soumis, bien sûr, il y aura une séance "In Memoriam", bien sûr que les anciens de l'ORT il y a cent ans et au fil des années seront probablement évoqués, et j'espère bien évoqués, mais je crois que nous devrions demander à l'ORT Israel de réparer à l'occasion du Centenaire un oubli qui nous tracasse depuis quelques temps, le nom de Syngalowski est proprement évoqué sur la carte géographique d'Israel et de l'ORT Israel, le nom de Lvovitch est également évoqué par l'école de Nathanya, mais le nom de Bramson qui existe à New York et à Marseilles n'a pas encore trouvé sa place en Israel. Or l'ORT aujourd'hui l'ORT en 1921, l'ORT aux Etats Unis à travers le monde, ne sont sans doute pas existé sans la tenacité et la vision de Léon Bramson. Alors je n'ai pas des propositions pratiques et concrètes, Je me tourne vers nos amis d'Israël, vers le comité de l'ORT Israel vers Harmatz et Avitzour, et je pense d'une manière approprié, même s'il ne s'agit pas là d'une contribution qui passe par le Educational Fund, et même si ce n'est pas fait sous le signe du fund raising habituelle, soit à l'intérieure, de l'Ecole d'Ingénieurs à Jérusalem, soit à l'intérieure du Centre Moshinsky, soit ailleurs, une forme appropriée soit donné au rôle au souvenir et à l'enseignement de Léon Bramson.

William Haber

Thank you Dr. Halperin. It is an excellent suggestion and helpful comments. Who asks the floor next, please.

Jacques Lazarus

M. le Président, on a évoqué la participation au congrès du Centenaire d'un directeur de l'école par l'organisation. Les directeurs de l'école étant à mons ens une des principales chevillot prières de l'action de l'ORT, ne serait il pas possible et important d'étendre ce nombre et d'envisager que les directeurs des principales écoles puissent participer à ce Congrès.

William Haber

Thank you very much, note has been taken of that. I am positive that it is a financial issue also, as to where you stop and w am sure the committee was guided by budgetary considerations.

Who else wants the floor.

Uziel Steinberg

Mr. Chairman, will it be possible to have a budget on all this we are talking. Would it be asking too much that we have an idea what this is going to cost.

William Haber

Mr. Braude, Mr. Gilbert, do you have a budget?

Robin Gilbert

Can I pass it back to Mr. Braude. We have worked out provisionally two budgets, one is a central office budget which includes all items outside Israel, and one is an ORT Israel budget which we have not worked out, which Mr. Harmatz has worked out, which duplicates some of the items we have worked out, and adds . Mr. Harmatz budget which he calls the preliminary budget expenditure in connections with events and expenditure to be coordinated and or performed by ORT Israel or in Israel comes to a mere 1464,000 . On top of that, in very very round figures, we must add approximately 250,000 dollars for our members to get to Israel and to exte keep them fed and happy, and including the history of ORT, extra staff fees, preparatory meetings, films, and pre Congress non-Israel expenditure, I would add to that approx. \$200,000 plus We had originally before we received Mr. Harmatz estimate we had calculated the total including the production of the history and the publications of about \$800,000. But with Mr. Harmatz new budget if we accept it it will go up to a ... figure. seven figure number.

William Haber

Does that answer your question, Mr. Ueinberg do you want to comment.

Uziel Steinberg

Uziel Steinberg

This is only a start. The answer is something which asks for some comments. I think it would be proper to establish some procedures, to approve that budget. I don't think that a body of fifty to hundred people can discuss all this. and I don't think it is proper to approve in generalities different actions without knowing what this is going to cost and without approving the budget. So somehow some procedure must be established to connect the two.

I don't think we would agree with Mr. Gilbert, it would cost maybe 800,00, maybe a million, maybe a million one hundred thousand, there should be something more precise.

William Haber

You are quite right, I am certain that the next meeting of the Administrative Committee, unless this is ready for this meeting of the Executive Committee, will formerly authorise the budget, because there is reservation for the expenditure, whether this is the total amount or whether it should be more refined on the basis of more study. I wonder whether Mr. Braude would like to make a comment, or Mr. Sama-- Smaga, whether there has been any built up funds for this ~~propo~~ purpose.

Max Braude

I have just been informed that the meeting of the Professionals had an agenda which went one, two, three, four, five, seven. Item 6 was not put on the agenda, because that was budget because that meeting conflicted with the Finance and Personnel Sub-Committee meeting and I couldn't be in both places. Actually at the Monday afternoon meeting we will get down into the nitty-gritty of point by point and is this necessary, and at the next meeting of the Administrative Committee we will present it that and at the January meeting of the Executive you will have the opportunity to adopt, amend and decide.

William Haber

Thank you very much Mr. Braude. Mr. Steinberg your point is well taken, and I think that the procedure which has just been referred to, will deal with the matter. Any other comments. Yes, Mr. Friedman.

Harold Friedman

You know, all of us like to go to parties and I have just listened to the report of Robin Gilbert and I love the arrangements that he has made, because I am sure we are all going to have a good time. But I can't help thinking as I am sitting here, that we are a little bit like a family that's broke, running a big shindig to tell the world that we are alive. This may not be the proper meeting, because I think perhaps the next meeting will take it up, but some ways along the line we certainly should be talking about how, we are going to pay for this party we are going to run. Because it certainly couldn't be in Mr. Braude's budget, he certainly never allowed for a million dollar expenditure, so I just want to remind everyone that either we are going to talk about it in the next meeting, or every national organisation should be thinking how this money is going to be raised through their own countries.

William Haber

Mr. Friedman's point is very well taken, Due note has been taken of it, it is on the agenda for tomorrow afternoon, and it will be on the agenda for the next meeting of the Administrative, and the January meeting of the Executive, and will be formerly acted upon before there is an official authorisation for all of these expenditures.

Who else wishes the floor? Dr. Halperin.

Hold it Dr. Halperin, Kopniwsky please.

David KOpniwsky

MR= Chairman, as you might remember, I raised the question in Ferney Voltaire about to find an ORT student or a graduate in Israel, who had a good talent, one or two to make drawings of the number of representatives for the Central headquarters in connection with their attendance at the hundred years jubilee congress in Israel. It was recommended also by Mr. Haber and I wrote a letter also to Mr. Harmatz It was in the beginning of March, I have only one question. When will I get a response?

I find it very important to have that kind of drawings because it's very nice always to look at photos, but nevertheless there is a difference.

William Haber

Mr. Harmatz - that question was addressed to you. You weren't listening, I will tell you the question later and ask you to answer it later.

Robin Gilbert

I would like to comment on Dr. Halperin's proposals. For about a year now we have been bringing out FOCUS 1980. There were six orange issues, and the seventh one, we have gone yellow for some reasons for the last year. We started a year before the Congress in yellow. We thought the change of colour was necessary. There has been a very good response, and this stimulated the organisation of centenary committees in practically all the ORT countries, and requests for projects, and I think it has been a help for organisational activities.

But I would like to say specifically is to underline the need for the students to know more about ORT. Justice Etzioni, as we announced in one of the early issues of FOCUS, kindly donated a handsome sum of money for the best essay on ORT, written by an ORT student, and we publicised this extensively, at least the letters went as far as the national directors of ORT, and the deadline was the end of May. The end of May 1979. At the same time we thought it was a good idea to launch a poster competition amongst the students also with a deadline May 1979. The result of the poster competition has been admirable. We haven't yet found someone to offer a prize, but our idea is to use a lot of the posters on one of the stands in Jerusalem.

We are very embarrassed by Mr. Etzioni's donation, maybe in a position of either having to give it back to him or of asking him to transfer it from a literary student to an artistic student, because it seems that all our students are illiterate, or that all our national directors are illiterate and can't read.

and can't pass on the message to the schools to pass it on to the students. We thought that there was some sort of Jewish history of ORT tasks in schools, but it seems that either this has not been publicised, at school level or that our students are technical but as writers they are zero.

So this comment was mainly meant for national directors.

William Haber

I would like to add to Mr. Steinberg's comment. There has been an item of \$153,000 in the budget for the last several years called the Congress. It is a fund built up in anticipation of Congress expenditures. Sitting next to the Chairman of the Fund Raising committee I learned that that fund may already be half available. That does not mean that we should not be very circumspect, about expenditures in excess of that, but apropos of the question raised, apparently it is not as chaotic as we thought, there have been some financial plans in anticipation of the need.

Do I hear someone else who wants the floor?

Vladimir Halperin

Concernant la préparation du Congrès, je voudrais aussi demander qu'un soin particulier soit donné à la fois centralement et dans les organisations nationales à l'égard de la presse, à l'égard de la presse juive et non-juive, Je crois que nous devrions chercher différents formules directes et indirectes, également mettre à contribution certains membres de notre Comité exécutif ou du Conseil central, qui sont orfèvres dans la matière, il y en a qui sont présents ici, et il y en a d'autres qui ne sont pas présents, et leur demander à nous aider à mieux utiliser les mass média de la presse de la radio et de la télévision pour bien faire passer l'évènement du Congrès, mais encore une fois je répète pas nécessairement pendant la première semaine de Juin 1980, mais à différents moments et à différents occasions dès maintenant.

William Haber

Any other questions? Well, let me make just one observation, the one aspect of the description prepared by our professional colleagues and summarised so excellently by Robin Gilbert that leaves me just a little unsatisfied, as I suggested earlier I do not yet have the feeling of the central substantive issues which the Congress is going to deal with. The simcha I understand, the history I understand, the celebration I comprehend, but the one reference to the working paper over the next years is most important. And I would urge that before we adjourn perhaps tomorrow, or this afternoon, we arrange for the designation of such a small committee to revise what one might call the Jewish agenda. and how it would effect ORT. Because that aspect of the Congress, what we have to deal with and how we are going to finance ORT's work, seems to me the basis of commitment which we make to the next generation, to the next century. I can assure you I will not be around for the second centenary, but I hope I will be here for the hundred and fifth anniversary.

I would like to turn the meeting over, unless there is some more questions, to the fund raising committee. Yes, Mr. Aginski?

Paul Aginski

Je voudrais attirer l'attention sur trois points, premièrement j'espère que les associations et les anciens élèveront plus qu'associer étroitement au Centenaire, n'est ce pas et qu Congrès de Jérusalem. Il n'y a aucun doute que toutes les efforts doivent être prête pour les attirer parmi nous, d'une manière à pouvoir se baser sur eux dans l'avenir.

Deuxième question: C'est une question d'un budget. Un million de dollars, c'est beaucoup d'argent, Avec un million de dollars, on peut faire une nouvelle école, n'est ce pas, et nous avons toujours des projets aussi bien en France qu'ailleurs, d'avoir des nouvelles constructions et des nouvelles écoles. Il faut donc que dans cette budget on étab- établisse le contre-valeur pour nous dire n'est ce pas, si la propagande passe le pessimisme, nous pouvons attirer les donateurs supplémentaires qui nous compenseront au-delà pour ce que nous dépenserons pour la fête.

Troisièmement, je me'associe énormément à la proposition de Mr. Haber Il faut que ce Congrès prépare n'est ce pas le projet d'avenir et les choses que nous allons faire, n'est ce pas, dans les années à venir, Nous ne sommes pas là, mais il faut que nous donnons une indication et leur indiquer qu'est ce que nous pensons doit être faite.

William Haber

Thank you very much, I can assure Mr. Aginski that David Young and his fund raising committee will try to use the Congress spirit and the congress commitment fully to increase our financial capacity to deal with the future.

This part of the meeting is concluded. I now turn the chair over to David Young, for the fund raising committee report.

David Young

Good morning, can I welcome you to a shortened version of the Organisation and Fund Raising report, It has been our practice in the past when these meetings have lasted the whole day and the last Executive and this Executive the meetings have gradually got shorter, I do want to point out that this does not mean that we are in any way less interested in fund raising, but to the contrary, it is just the pressures we have had on the timetable, and at the January meeting we will again be reverting to a longer meetings and there are a number of items which I will briefly mention today which we do wish to have discussed in some depth at our January meeting.

Some two months ago, a request came out of the Geneva office signed by Mr. Shafir and myself for a report on the progress of fund raising during this year. Well it must be the effect of Mr. Shafir's signature on it, but to our great and very pleasant surprise we have now received replies from fourteen of the sixteen countries something which has never happened before and in fact the only two countries which are really missing are Morocco and Iran, and I think in present circumstances we didn't really expect to have a reply from them,

Whilst we have the quantity, I could wish for a bit of quality improvement in the reporting, We will have the opportunity while we are here for the rest of the day to discuss the returns with you, later on I will be giving a summary of it,

I will also take this point to introduce Ian Engel, who is sitting in the meeting here who is becoming the Director of Administration and Finance for the London office, and he will be working on these reports, because it is our intention that we make this reporting a two-way street, and that not only do we receive reports from you, but we will after each meeting send out to all the national organisations a summary so that you can see how well, or perhaps how not quite so well your colleagues are doing, because I really do believe that it is only by comparing our results that we can encourage each other to go on to better and better returns.

AT the next meeting of the organisation and fund raising committee, one item I would like to put on the agenda, and which I would like you to consider now and come back with your ideas, is how we can restructure ourselves, so that in our second century we can operate in a more positive and meaningful way. We have gradually changed the format of these meetings over the last five years, but I still feel there is considerable room for improvement, and our aim should be how better to improve the dialogue between us so that at least in fund raising we start operating as a single entity. So that one item on the agenda for the next meeting will be to consider our structure to consider what constitutional changes if any need to be made, in time for the Jerusalem Congress and how we can better organise ourselves for the second century.

Remembering that for many of us involved in lay leadership, fund raising is of the utmost importance, it is the one positive contribution we can make to the growth and development of the ORT network, and it is something we really have to, I would suggest with all due humility, give a lot more thought and time and effort to in the future, not so much how we work on our own, but how we can better coordinate our activities and operate as a team.

But that of course is fund raising for the second century, I would also like to consider at the end of this meeting, how we are going for our fund raising for the Centenary year. A million dollars is a great deal of money to waste on lunches and speeches, on tours. I don't think anybody contemplated that we would spend this million dollars unless we didn't actually raise many times that amount with a result of the impetus in fund raising that the Centenary year would give us. Otherwise the best thing we could do would be to forget about the Centenary. I am quite convinced, I know from my own efforts I know from what is happening in England, I know what is happening in many other countries I have spoken to, the end result of the Centenary year will be a considerable boost not just for the one year but a general increase in the level of giving, in the level of fund raising, in which we are able to operate.

Finally before I pass on to the next item on the agenda, I would like to point out that you have two new faces from England this year, Robert Beeber if I could introduce him, is a member of our Executive, who has been working hard for us and has qualified for a Roman holiday, and also Mark Mishon, who is by far the youngest member of our Executive. Mark has been doing something over the past two years which I think augurs very well for the

future of British ORT in the second century, building up, in fact our biggest gains in membership are now coming in the 20 to 30 age group, and I personally can't wait for them to grow up and take over the reins from the present management.

At our last meeting I was very pleased to introduce Mr. Shafir to you who is the Director of Organisation and Fund Raising, and I would like to assure you that he has been very busy since the time of the last meeting. I think to give you an idea of what has been accomplished already and what could be accomplished in the future, I would now like to turn the meeting over to him for him to report on his activities, for the past six months and also his plans for the future.

Eitan Shafir

~~Good-mornign;-ladei-~~ Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, my association with ORT is all of five months old, and therefore, I cannot but help feel a little nervous in addressing this assembly. If it shows too much, please bear with me.

My first period in the office was obviously dedicated to study, of material of conversations, and despite some difficulties which arose in the office, I am glad to say I had all the help from everybody, and I would particularly like to thank Robin Gilbert who guided me in all the intricacies of past operations, of all the operations of pas- units, and so on.

The one thing which I learnt very quickly from reading the material was the necessity for a broad membership base. The membership base not only from the point of view of its social significance, and ideological significance upon which I do not have to dwell here, but the sheer effectiveness of it in the techniques of fund raising which are quite obvious.

In this respect may I say that the work done by Women's American ORT by American ORT and Canadian ORT has been both a light beacon to me and an inspiration. I set for myself some guidelines, of how to proceed. One of the guidelines was not to spread efforts too thinly in the first period obviously. Second guidelines was the minimum of interference with existing operations, and possibly onely help, and the third guidelines was the beginning of operations in two places where the need arose. Consequently, efforts so far have been concentrated on Europe only in some countries of Europe only. May I now report on what I have tried to do.

No. one. Germany. As you all know, outstanding work has been done in Germany on Government and Foundation level. Now on the recommendation of Mr. Willner, and DR. STEINFELDT in Germany, this work is going to be extended to the community level. We now have a document drafted by another commission, again headed by the same Dr. Willner, on the pure statistical data of the community in Germany. We now know how many, where they are the age groups, where they are placed, where are the concentrations, in other words from the purely professional point of view, we are now equipped to begin a campaign. I can now report to you that a special person is being engaged for that purpose, and he will start operating in Germany straight after the high holydays at the beginning of October. WE hope that results will nto be long in coming.

It is of course a little early now to lay down any goals or any targets, we simply don't know yet,

The second place where my efforts took me was Austria, and I am glad to report to you now, that after many years of absence of ORT in Austria, ORT is again on the map in Austria.

A very prominent member of the community, Mrs. Elene Landesmann has taken upon herself to chair the ORT fund raising operation in Austria.

She will be assisted by a committee which is in the process of being now formed around her, she is ably assisted by her husband, and they have already begun exploring the possibility of operation on two levels, one level is a purely communal one, you know the community in Austria is a very small one, about 9,000 persons, but it will be approached in the proper way. The second level is a governmental one, Austria, like all other industrialised countries has a foreign aid programme and it is now being actively investigated as to what extent ORT could be integrated into this foreign aid programme. There again it is much too early to estimate targets, results, etc., but we do hope that the thing will get under way after the holidays.

Similar programmes are afoot now in Holland, and with the help of Madame Maus we have a programme now to extend the operation to the German-speaking part of Switzerland, where we hope things will happen in the proper way.

May I just say when I met with my first banker friend in Zurich and explained my work to him, his remark was your work does not exactly lack competition. This is a normal difficulty which we all face. We are not really frightened of it. In this line I have maintained contacts with similar organisations, some competitors, some not quite competitors, like the Israel Bond Organisation, like the Weisman Institute, whom I have found very helpful in giving advice, in giving information, in guidance, after all we are all in the same profession.

After Austria, Holland, Switzerland and Germany, and here you may find I was not following any well laid down line, It's true, I tried to explore all the possible areas, at the first stage. The second one was investigating the possibility of obtaining funds from various European foundations, May I say carefully at this stage that some rather important commitments have been obtained, However, may I say that commitments look much better when they move from one side of the budget to the expenditure side of the budget. If that happens we will be all happy.

The third line of operation which I have adopted, is using personal contacts in various walks of life, and putting them at the disposal of the local existing operations, The results may, I hope, come soon as well.

This was the first period of my activity, The programme for the future, is once these things get under way and I hope they will get underway fairly soon, notwithstanding holidays, vacations, etc., then I may be able to spread the operation a little further afield, which I tried not to do at this stage, so as not to spread the effort too thinly. What the results are going to be at this stage, I would not even venture to guess, I think it would be presumptuous of me to do it.

My Chairman, Mr. Young, mentioned now, we also tried to a certain extent, some- to introduce some kind of a cohesion in a reporting system two way between the office and the various operations in the field, The beginning has been a very good one, and a very encouraging one to me.

This is what I have to say so far.

David Young

Do we have any questions?

Samuel Malamud

Mr. Chairman, it is not a question, it is a reference. because I heard the report of the Director of Fund Raising, and I would like to say that I didn't hear any reference-to- reference to our work concerning money, concerning campaigns, is not well done, over the past four or five years I think that our work concerning money, concerning campaign, is not well done, because we forget certain areas, where I feel and I am sure there is money to be collected, and it is not collected. And this is the Latin American countries, where you have substantial and good communities and nobody is coming there to collect money and to explain the work of ORT. Even where we have schools, where we are active. We are active in very small areas, And everybody is looking at ORT as a millionaire organisation, because since 1946 or 7 the people forgot the address of this communities to come and reclaim for money. We are coming there to invest money.

So what is being done in these communities concerning ORT, and we organise our membership, I mean on a very small way, because you have to understand there is a big difference between an American Jewry and a Jewry of BRASIL= between a community of millions of Jews and a community of 140,000 Jews. living in many cities. You cannot talk about a drive in America in the same way as you are talking about a drive in Brasil or Argentine. Starting our new building, over the past 6 or 7 months over the telephone get only 130,000 140,000 dollars. to start this building and I am sure that If I would have somebody to help me I would get much more and perhaps have money to spend it in other places I am sure that the same can happen in Argentina and in other countries. The question is that we are not maintaining in my viewpoint an interdependence work. We are giving a certain independence to some countries which is too much for them. Nobody can be profit prophet in his own country, when it is a small community. We need the help of the Central Board, we need the help of the central professional managers to come to us as they came in 1943, 1944 and 1945, and they organised not only the fund raising but also the social workers I mean the people who are giving their time ideologically for the ORT work. IT is very difficult for ourselves to do this work in this way. So I would be very grateful if the central fund raising would pay more attention to this part of the Jewish geography. And would send somebody specially in this year of the Centenary to do a very important work, to make ideological work, I am sure it would be a successful work.

David Young

Thank you very much, but I think it was SAMUEL Smiles who said God helps those who help themselves, and surely it would be possible for you to find a fund raiser in your own country, when you think of the different languages between the Argentine and Brasil, they are a long way away, and the expenses are very high and in the first instance it must be very possible for you to find a fund raiser within your own country and start raising the funds that you need. After all, all of us are responsible for our own fund raising activities primarily and secondly you ask World ORT Union to provide an amplifying force for that fund raising. But it would be impossible for us sitting in Geneva or now in London to expect us to recruit a Spanish or Portuguese speaking fund raiser to go out to the Argentine and Brasil to start raising money.

It must be possible to find someone - Max Braude, I don't know if you have any comments to make at all on the request of Brasil

Max Braude

The answer has always been to us in these experiences that the results didn't justify the expenditure - perhaps because we were never able to give it enough time. You would send a man out for six months or a year and that hardly was sufficient time and you do have a handicap which Mr. Malamud is very well aware of, The middle-aged level Latin American does not speak Yiddish, speaks some English but you really should have somebody who is perfectly conversant with