

World Times

Educating for Life

Spring 2002



Argentina school in danger of closing
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Emergency appeal for ORT Israel schools
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ORT Israel staff members try to maintain normality in schools

WITH no end to the ongoing violence in sight, ORT Israel staff members struggle each day to try and maintain a sense of normality in their classrooms, in spite of frequent terrorist attacks.

As a result of the violence, special counselling programmes have been put into place in many ORT Israel schools, but they are putting a strain on the schools' resources.

ORT Israel staff members at some schools have resolved to offer respite from the mounting stress in their students' lives in more creative ways.

Teachers have encouraged their students to organise events during their recess such as rock concerts, folk dancing and comedy performances, as a way to vent frustration and distract them from the current situation outside of school.

ORT Schools recently initiated a project to help students and teachers deal with their trauma by using art to express their emotions.

Life in the Shadow of Terror is a collection of 16 paintings that attempt to express students' feelings as they confront the terror of the Palestinian Intifada. The images describe the fear, pain, tears and helplessness experienced by students, who face the threat of death and injury on a daily basis. A booklet featuring all of the paintings is being published by ORT Israel.

Knowing their students are constantly vulnerable to terrorist activity, each day ORT educators' roles become more involved, while they

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Crisis deepens but ORT Argentina remains open



In a matter of months, this courtyard could be empty

WORLD ORT is pleased to report that, despite the worsening economic situation in Argentina, in March, ORT Argentina was able to open its doors to the 6,000 students who study in its two high schools and two colleges.

But the ORT schools in Argentina are in jeopardy and remain at high risk of closing if the \$6 million deficit that the schools have accumulated is not dramatically reduced. If debt is not cleared, in three months, the schools will be forced to close.

World ORT International Liaison Head Sonia Gomes de Mesquita recently joined with the

UJC, the largest and most influential body of North American Jewish leaders, on a their fact-finding mission to Argentina — the first time an ORT representative has joined such a mission.

Delegates spent a morning with students at an ORT school where, in an emotional appeal to mission participants, 16 year old Andres Knobel spoke of his concern about what might happen if his school does not receive enough tuition funding this year.

He told delegates that because of the current crisis, transportation strikes occur frequently, which makes it virtually impossible for children to

get to school. One strike day, Andres, a chemistry student, managed to make it in for his first class. When he arrived, what he saw disturbed him.

"When I got to school, only about 15 kids made it to school. I'll never forget how depressing and sad that was. My school has more than 2,000 students everyday. So you may imagine what break time, or lunch times, are like—always full of students," he told the mission participants.

"Looking at my school virtually empty was really terrible and scary for me. Fortunately, that happened only because of a strike, but with

continued on page 4

World ORT is planning an International Solidarity Mission to Israel from 26th to the 28th May 2002. During the Mission delegates will visit ORT Israel schools that have suffered from terrorist attacks, meet with students and their families, and meet with officials from the Israeli government.

For information on how can you participate, call the World ORT office at +44 (0) 20 7446 8500 or email int.liaison@ort.org.



A message from the Director General

As I write these words, the crisis in Israel has escalated into what most people are referring to as "War", and once again the state is locked in a deadly struggle with those who would destroy the Jewish presence there. In the fog of war one cannot see clearly, but what is certain is that there will be a time that will be known as "After the Intifada" and we must help our students to prepare for it.

ORT is famed for its flexibility and its ability to react quickly to rapidly developing situations. However, we are also experienced at taking the "long view" and helping individuals and communities to rise out of the uncertainties of the present in order to face the future with dignity and hope. That is what education is all about: it is about investing in people now so that they and their families can reap the rewards later. To paraphrase Rene Dubos we must "Think long-term and act short-term".

That is the spirit with which we approach our work in the two most crisis-ridden theatres of our operation, Israel and Argentina. Two communities with very different immediate problems but sharing the same aspirations for the future: to be allowed to live in peace and for their members to be able to develop both individually and communally. In both these regions we have been asked to provide assistance, and to both appeals our members have responded magnificently. In Israel the need is for funding to provide counselling services for our traumatised students and staff, to re-instate teaching hours lost because state budgets have been diverted from education to security and to continue to provide the "added value" services to weaker and disadvantaged students for which we are renowned and for which funding has become endangered in the current economic crisis that has enveloped the country.

In Argentina the appeal is simply to provide enough funds to allow normal education to continue. It is hard to believe that a community until recently so well provided for has so rapidly suffered such a reversal in its fortunes. There is little or no welfare provision in Argentina and the hundreds of families that have lost their incomes have nowhere else to turn to but their brethren who, by the grace of God, are financially better off and in a position to help.

It is a great source of pride to see how the worldwide ORT family has come to the aid of these two beleaguered communities. A spontaneous appeal at the Board of Directors meeting in January raised \$185,000 for ORT Argentina, and the special projects that we have created have also succeeded in raising much-needed funds for both countries.

However, we must not be complacent. Argentina and Israel need our continued support. One way of showing solidarity – to Israel at least – is to join the ORT mission planned for 26 - 28 May. This will give us the opportunity of meeting with ORT students and their families and showing them that we share their desire for peace and a better future. If you feel you can participate, we will be delighted to have you on this mission. Just contact your local ORT office or us here at ORT House.

Robert Singer, Director General

Board of Directors meeting in Cape Town sets pace for 2002

MORE than 70 delegates gathered in Cape Town last January for the World ORT Annual Board of Directors Meeting where they assessed the organisation's achievements during 2001 and set new goals for 2002.

The highlight of the meeting was an emergency appeal for the ORT Argentina operation, which continues to feel the reverberations of the country's precarious economic and political situation.

In less than an hour delegates raised more than \$185,000 for the ORT operations in Argentina. The ever-increasing economic problems in Argentina are causing great hardship to millions of people, not least among the members of Argentina's Jewish communities. Nevertheless, ORT schools there are meeting this challenge by continuing to provide the education and training to those who need it.

The World ORT Board of Directors meeting enjoyed extensive press coverage including a radio interview with Robert Singer, Director General of World ORT, and a television news segment focus-

ing on ORT's important work around the world featuring Justice Richard Goldstone, President of World ORT.

Guest speakers at the meeting included Ms Gill Marcus, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank, Honorary Life President of ORT South Africa Mr David Susman, former South African Ambassador to Washington Dr Franklin Sonn. A dinner was hosted by the new mayor of Cape Town, Gerald Morkel, where amongst the guests was Israeli Ambassador to South Africa, Tova Herzl.

Newly elected Board members include Dr Jean de Gunzburg of France, Miron Shor of Moldova, and Igor Duhkan of Belarus. Jean de Gunzburg is a direct descendant of Baron Horace de Gunzburg, a founding member of ORT. In addition to his position on the WO Board and many other professional and layleader roles, he is the President of the Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Family Foundation and a member of the advisory council of the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology.



Delegates also visited the Jewish campus in the centre of Cape Town, where one of the oldest synagogues in South Africa is situated. There, they were met and hosted by the founder of Holocaust Centre and South Africa Jewish Museum, Mr Mendel Kaplan.

World ORT hosts Conference of Presidents



IN February World ORT hosted the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations at ORT House in London.

The Conference held a plenary session at ORT House entitled *Terrorism, Media and Public Opinion - Universal Lessons from Northern Ireland*, where The Right Honourable David Trimble, First Minister of Northern Ireland, and Eoghan Harris, political columnist for Ireland's Sunday Independent,

took part in a panel discussion.

The Conference consists of the leaders of several dozen separate national Jewish organisations who focus on foreign policy issues, especially those concerning Israel. The Conference has been at the forefront of maintaining diplomacy during times of war and peace, and has also acted as an important liaison between Israel and the United States for the more than 40 years.

Moldovan Minister signs cooperative agreement at ORT House

MR ILIE VANCEA, Minister of Education for Moldova was a special guest at ORT House in London last December where he signed a cooperation agreement, enabling World ORT to increase its activities in Moldova.

The agreement focuses on cooperation in the fields of secondary and vocational education, particularly in the introduction of high technology development, Information Technology and use of the Internet in the education a process.

"Signing this agreement will allow full cooperation between World ORT and the education authorities in Moldova to operate useful and needed training courses in the country," said Robert Singer, Director General of World ORT.

The agreement signing came on the heels of a World ORT Mission to Moldova last September, when World ORT leaders met with the President of Moldova, Mr Vladimir Voronin, to discuss ORT activities in Moldova in the past, present and its plans for the future, as well as the possibility of having land that ORT once owned in Moldova returned.

Learning about the Holocaust through Art



Barbed Wire Fence, Watch Tower and Barracks in Compiègne, linocut by Jacques Gotko (1900-1943)
© Beit Lohamei Haghetat.

השואה באמנות

World ORT's Learning about the Holocaust through Art website is an important new contribution to Holocaust education.

This free website provides high-quality reproductions of art works produced during the Holocaust. It also includes biographies of the artists and histories of the ghettos and camps in which they were interned.

Study resources and lesson plans support its use in the classroom and an interactive section enables users to choose and annotate works for their own online collection.

The website is available in both English and Hebrew, with Russian and Spanish versions planned.

Available online at www.holocaust-education.net

Paris in the spring for WAO mission participants

AT the end of April, Women's American ORT (WAO) leaders participated in a mission to ORT France. The Mission gave WAO contributors the opportunity to see how their support is making a difference at ORT's largest operation in Western Europe. At the same time participants expressed solidarity with ORT France, at a time when anti-Semitism activity in the country is increasing.

The highlight of the Mission will be a visit to the ORT Montreuil School, which was recently upgraded thanks to generous contributions from WAO. The school's original building was constructed in the 1920s for industrial purposes. It was purchased by ORT in 1947 and, over the years – with significant help from American ORT and Women's American ORT – was adapted and extended for educational use.

"Women's American ORT is again reaching her hands across the ocean to show support for ORT France by undertaking the ORT Montreuil Campaign," said Shelly Fagel, Co-Chair of the Mission. "WAO leaders will see first hand how their generous support, so far, has dramatically changed and upgraded the facility."

The outbreak of the Palestinian Intifada in September 2000 unleashed a wave of anti-Semitic activity worldwide. France, which is home to the third largest Jewish community in the Diaspora, continues to bear the brunt of this epidemic, experiencing, almost on a daily basis, anti-Semitic sentiment and violence. Most of the incidents that have occurred in Paris suburbs and other neighbourhoods where Jews and Muslims live in close proximity.

"Women's American ORT has had a long and close connection with our very special friends at ORT France. It is so

very important that we now show our strong support for them, as the Jews in that country are currently experiencing the greatest resurgence of anti-Semitism they have seen since World War II," Fagel said.

ORT France was established in 1921 as part of a campaign to raise desperately-needed funds from western Jewish communities in order to maintain the ORT programmes in Russia and to help the many Jews in distress there.

ORT France soon became an operational centre in its own right, and adult education classes were taking place in Paris as early as 1925. A few years later with the rise of Nazi fascism in Germany, international Jewish organisations were not wanted in Berlin, so the World ORT offices were moved to Paris in 1933.

Miraculously, ORT managed to continue operating in France for a considerable time even under Nazi occupation, remaining active until the 1943 stranglehold. As tens of thousands of German Jewish refugees arrived in France, ORT initiated vocational retraining programmes to help integrate them into French life or prepare them for jobs in other countries. In the 1950s and 1960s, political turmoil in North Africa led to a mass exodus of long-established Jewish communities from the region. Many went to Israel, but large numbers chose to make a new life in France.

Today, ORT France has the largest network of ORT schools and colleges in Western Europe providing both schooling and vocational adult education at its seven schools and centres in Paris, Strasbourg, Lyons, Toulouse and Marseilles.



Students at ORT Montreuil



Yizkor site offers new way of remembrance

WORLD ORT is preparing to formally launch its latest Jewish education initiative – the ORT Yizkor Internet website. The site is up and running and is attracting visitors each day.

Yizkor has been created to help preserve the centuries-old traditions with which Jewish communities remember the departed souls of family and friends. Visitors to the site can learn all about time-honoured Jewish memorial customs including: Kaddish - the prayer said by mourners in the Synagogue; Yahrzeit – the commemoration each year of the Hebrew anniversary of a relative's death; and the Yizkor service said in Synagogues four times a year, on Yom Kippur and on the last day of each of the major Festivals.

Visitors to the site can also listen to Kaddish, Yizkor and the memorial prayers beautifully rendered by world-renowned cantor Chazan Chaim Adler of Tel Aviv, who recorded the pieces especially for this project.

A special feature of the site is the ability to create an on-line memorial to deceased relatives and

friends, which can include a photograph, details of their life and a personal tribute. Users who register at the site can also have an email reminder sent to them each year as the Yahrzeit date draws near.

British Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks, who has given the project his wholehearted endorsement, said "If this encourages just one more person to fulfil the mitzvah of honouring the memory of their parents it will have been worthwhile; if tens, hundreds or even thousands of people are able to make use of it, the benefits will be immeasurable."

World ORT Head of Jewish Education, Judah Harstein, who originally came up with the idea of the project, said "In true ORT style, we have found a new way of using advanced technology to help Jewish people to reconnect with their heritage."

The official launch of the site will take place in September.

Visit the site at www.yizkor.ORT.org and see for yourself.

Life with ORT: unique insights into the building of ORT

A NEW book by Joseph Harmatz entitled *Life with ORT* was officially launched in March at a reception held by World ORT to honour the former Director General of both ORT Israel and World ORT.

Many of the people who have worked with Harmatz along the way, including Lord David Young of Graffham, former President of World ORT, took part in paying tribute to him.

"The week I toured Israel with Joe Harmatz changed my life. He took me to see ORT's activities there. We toured the country seeing as many ORT schools as we could, from apprenticeship schools to industrial schools, regular technical schools, schools for practical engineers, as well as adult education institutes. In all of these institutions, vocational and technical studies were the core curriculum, with the aim of producing skilled people in every field. ORT covered the entire country from big cities to villages for new immigrants, it served the whole nation," Young noted.

In his latest book, *Life with ORT*, Joseph Harmatz turns to what he terms the most constructive and creative period of his life - his life with ORT.

Harmatz joined ORT in 1960, and in the course of his 33 years with the organisation served as Director General of both ORT Israel and of World ORT. The development of ORT during these years, culminating in ORT's return to Russia, is depicted in pages filled with a series of portraits and character sketches of



Lord David Young and Joseph Harmatz at the *Life with ORT* launch at ORT House in London

some of the remarkable individuals he encountered.

"*Life with ORT* is essential reading for anyone who has been involved with ORT, and for everyone who knows little or nothing about it. The book reveals the human interest interwoven with

the fascinating complexity of this Jewish organisation, and the impact it has made on so many people's lives for Jews and non-Jews alike," Joseph Harmatz said.

To purchase a copy of *Life with ORT*, please email your request to Kittybrod@aol.com



Gardening course "ORT" Shanghai

A gift of friendship

ON the evening of May 29, 2002, The Gift of Friendship Tribute Exhibit will open for a two week run at the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto. Co-supported by ORT Toronto and the Chinese Cultural Centre, this multi cultural exhibit features new artwork by renowned Canadian Jewish and Chinese artists including Kai Chan, Gina Godfrey, Temma Gentles, Ian

Leventhal, Alfred Ng and Charles Pachter.

Each artist is creating a piece on the theme of Chinese compassion. During the Holocaust, when many countries closed their doors to Jewish refugees, China offered a safe haven.

The event will also feature posters describ-

ing the important role that ORT undertook in Shanghai during this difficult period in Jewish history.

The collection is ultimately destined for a permanent home in the recently opened Jewish Refugee Memorial Hall, a museum at the site of the Ohel Moishe synagogue in Shanghai.



Carpenters at work, "ORT" Shanghai

FROM THE ARCHIVE

ORT in Shanghai



ORT's work in Shanghai, 1941-49, forms an interesting and little known chapter in the organisation's history. Over this period, ORT trained about 3,500 Jewish refugees in the city.

A small Sephardic Jewish community had existed in Shanghai from the mid-nineteenth century, joined by Russian Jews in the early twentieth-century. But the largest influx were refugees from Central Europe in the thirties – a small trickle from 1933 and a flood during 1938 and 1939, after the Japanese had taken control of the city. By the end of 1939, when large-scale immigration was halted, 20,000 refugees had made it to Shanghai.

With the support of the existing community, the refugees were able to find homes and establish thriving businesses. ORT's work in Shanghai began in early 1941, when it sent Charles Rosenbes, a Central Board member, to establish ORT programmes in the city. By the end of the year, Rosenbes had a wide range of education and training courses running in several locations.

The fortunes of the community changed in early 1943 when, at the insistence of the Germans, the Japanese authorities restricted its Jewish inhabitants to a ghetto in the Hongkew (now Hongkou) district of the city. Life became much harder and some died from disease and malnutrition. Based in Jansen Road, ORT Shanghai continued to run its training courses, providing practical skills and moral encouragement. But by now it was completely cut off from World ORT and had to rely on its own resources. In 1945 ORT was forced to relocate to a metalwork factory when Allied air raids destabilised its building (it later collapsed).

The Japanese surrendered Shanghai in September 1945 and the city was occupied by American troops. Many ORT graduates (and current students) found employment with the US Forces. World ORT re-established contact with ORT Shanghai and money was sent through in 1946, enabling it to move into a more suitable building in Dalny Road. ORT's programmes were centralised there, and attention was turned to the needs of those seeking to migrate. ORT's many courses included building, gardening, fashion-design, bookkeeping, hairdressing, driving, spray-painting and the manufacture of neckties.

After the war there was a steady migration from Shanghai, with most leaving for Israel, North America or Australasia – including Charles Rozenbes, who shifted to Australia in June 1947. By 1948 the Jewish population had shrunk from 30,000 to 10,000 and the remainder would be forced to leave after the Chinese Revolution of 1949.

With Rozenbes' departure, M. Rechenberg took over as director and ORT began to offer vocational courses at the Shanghai Jewish School (SJS) and the Shanghai Jewish Youth Association School. In March 1948, ORT Shanghai shifted from Dalny Road into a hut provided by the JDC and erected in the grounds of the SJS School in Seymour Road. In addition to its school courses, ORT continued to work with adults and, in late 1948, offered special courses for the elderly and for TB patients.

ORT's work in Shanghai was closed in early 1949. By then ORT had run nearly 200 courses for about 3,500 refugees – more than one in seven directly benefited from ORT's training in Shanghai.

ORT graduate builds network of schools based on organisation's principles

ALFRED DREYFUS is the founding father of one of the most successful independent private technical colleges in the United States, with several locations in Virginia and North Carolina.

Dreyfus' long and fruitful career began at ORT, as a World War II refugee living in a Swiss internment camp. Six months before the end of the War in 1945, ORT arranged for Alfred Dreyfus to go to a school and learn a trade – radio and electricity.

"Our teacher was named Mr Gold. He stayed with us for 14 or 15 hours a day. We learned more in six months than others could learn in years. He told us, I'll be the last one out and first one here every day for you".

"He realised that all of us had escaped the killing machine of Hitler, that we were deprived of going to school for so many years and we were thirsting for knowledge," Dreyfus said.

A year later in 1946, Dreyfus heard that a cousin of his father's, who had lost everyone in the war and lived in America, offered to put up the papers for anybody who wanted to come. Dreyfus took him up on his offer and in 1947 the then 24-year-old boarded a "Liberty Ship" in Le Havre, France, with just \$10 in his pocket, bound for New York City.

Thanks to the training Dreyfus received at ORT, he soon found work in an American high technology company. He noticed that the company was having a hard time finding skilled technicians and so he made it his mission to train such personnel.

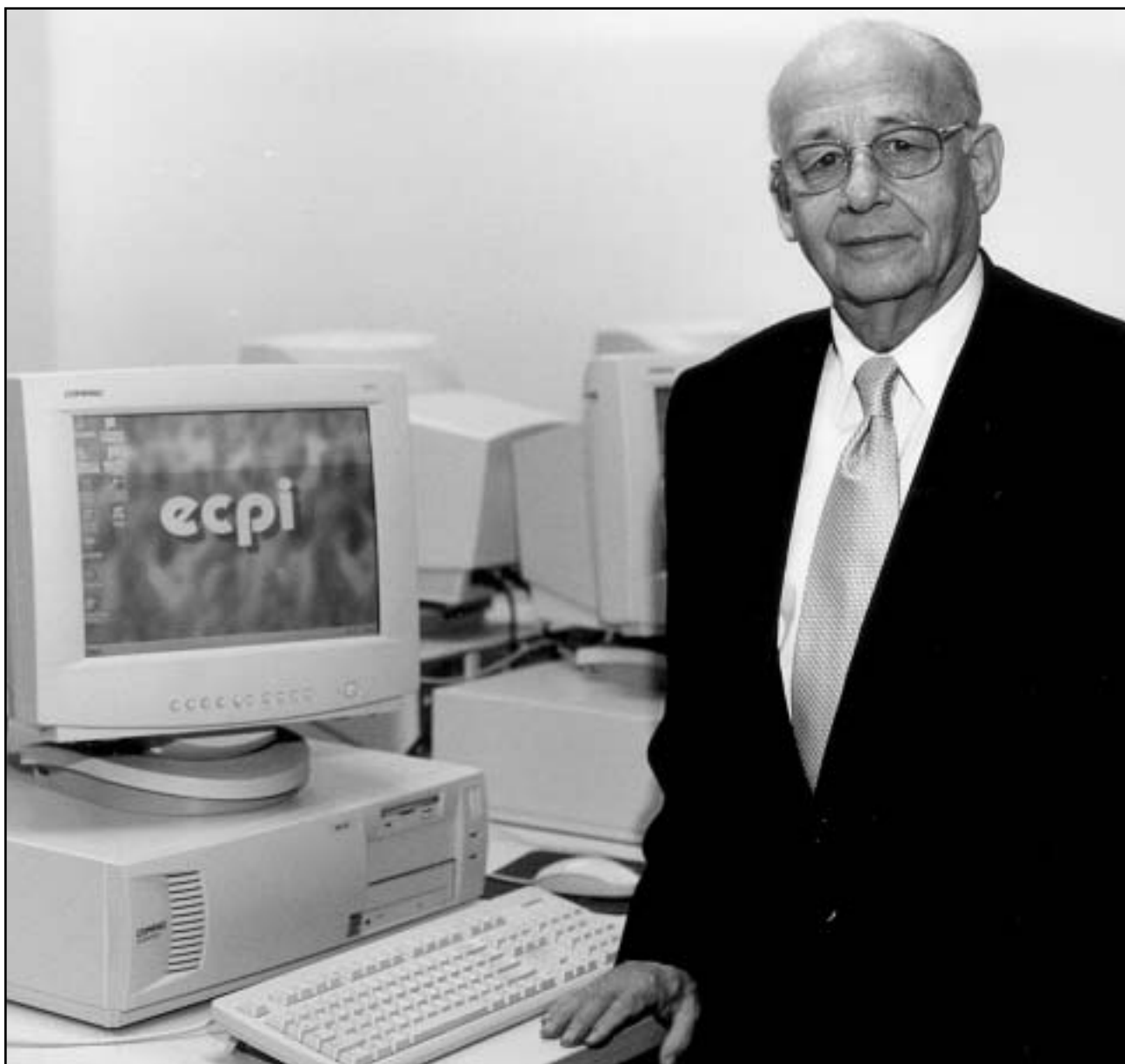
"I always had this idea that someday I was going to start a school that would train the best technologists. I was interested in education and I was interested in training technicians. I knew there was a need for good technicians out there," Dreyfus noted.

In 1966, Dreyfus' vision became reality when the school started its first courses in a rented space with one classroom and one lab. Each year the numbers of students steadily increased and eventually ECPI College was built.

ECPI (Electronic Computer Programming and Information Systems) College of Technology is an accredited high technology college offering a two-year accelerated degree programme awarding an Associate of Applied Science Degree to its graduates.

"I remember how proud I felt when the college was built," Dreyfus recalled. "The students are finding very well paid jobs in computer and technical fields nationwide. The top companies in this area and top leaders in computer, electronics, communications and technology fields send recruiters here to hire our students right on school premises.

The thing is, what I attribute our growth to, is what counts most to us – what happens to the students, and do they have good jobs and a career for life".



Alfred Dreyfus, ORT Graduate and founder of the ECPI colleges

American ORT establishes Twin Towers Scholarship

THERE are 32 additional students now studying at Bramson ORT College thanks to the American ORT Twin Towers Scholarship, which was undertaken to provide training in computer technology and other courses of study at Bramson for survivors of the World Trade Centre attack, families of victims, police, firefighters and rescue workers, and displaced workers.

American ORT established the scholarship to come to the aid of families whose primary breadwinners were lost in the World Trade Centre terrorist attack or whose livelihoods dis-

appeared in the smoke and dust.

One of the students is a widow, whose husband worked at Cantor Fitzgerald, and 31 others are displaced workers who previously worked at such businesses as American Airlines, Cantor Fitzgerald, Deutsch Bank, Fuji Ban, Morgan Stanley and Windows on the World.

Fourteen of these students are studying computer programming or electronics, ten are learning accounting and business management and eight are in office technology.

New ORT centre to open in CIS



ON 15 May, World ORT leaders will dedicate the new ORT Minsk Technology Centre at the Marc Chagall Institute in Minsk, Belarus, in the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States).

The Jewish community of Minsk is estimated at 20,000 people—some 50 percent of the total Jewish population of Belarus. Having an ORT Technology Centre in the Marc Chagall Institute will have important benefits, as it will act as the educational centre for implementation of computer technology programmes for members of the community, as well students at the Institute.

The Centre was made possible through the generosity of the Seiden family, and also through supporters of Women's American ORT, American ORT and World ORT.

For the Jewish community, the

Marc Chagall Institute, located in the National University of Belarus, fills an essential gap in the system of higher education, providing a centre for education where young people can combine professional studies with an opportunity to learn and experience Jewish cultural and historical tradition. The Institute cooperates with the Union of Jewish Organisations and Communities, Jewish communities of Belarus, the JDC and Jewish Agency, and is closely connected with the development of the Jewish communities in Belarus and neighboring states.

"The addition of the ORT Technology Centre will considerably enhance the facilities available at the Institute and attract greater numbers of students from the Jewish community," said Vlad Lerner, National Director of ORT CIS.

Moscow community receives careers boost

IN the several months since opening, the Lawson ORT Vocational Training Centre for the Moscow Jewish Community, has already been used by some 2,000 people.

The centre opened in September, thanks to

the generosity of Carole and Geoffrey Lawson. Aimed principally at people aged between 16 and 55, the Centre offers the chance to retrain to those without jobs or with only a low income. On completing the vari-

ety of courses offered they emerge with marketable skills and internationally recognised qualifications; qualifications that are vital whether the graduates stay in Russia or make aliyah. A large number of those participating

are breadwinners for their extended families and so the initiative helps many times more people than actually enrol at the Centre.

Currently courses are offered in Information and Communication

Technology and Jewish Studies and careers advice is also given. Plans are also in place to use the World Wide Web for long distance learning and to link the Centre to other ORT facilities worldwide.

Events 2002

April

World ORT and Women's American ORT International Mission to France

May

World ORT International Mission to Israel

Inauguration of the ORT Minsk Technology Centre, Belarus

Third Annual World ORT Wingate ICT Seminar, London

June

World ORT and American ORT Mission to Cuba

Third Annual National Directors Forum at Columbia University, New York

September

World ORT International Mission to Ukraine and the Baltic States

World ORT International Mission to Kosovo

October

World ORT International Mission to Israel

ORT Hatter Technology Seminar, London

International Seminar for Head Teachers of ORT schools, London

November

World ORT International Mission to Eastern Europe, Bulgaria and Czech Republic

Why not join our mailing list and receive up to date information on upcoming missions? Further details can be obtained by emailing int.liaison@ort.org

How can I help?

Please help World ORT to continue its important work by making a donation. In doing so you will provide an invaluable gift to future generations. You can make your contribution by contacting your local ORT offices, or by visiting our website at www.ort.org.

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Clinton commends ORT for work in building a 'world without walls'



Bill Clinton, Emmanuel Kalles, Roger Korman, Chairman of "An Evening with Former President William Jefferson Clinton" and Arthur Silber, President of ORT Montreal.

FORMER US President Bill Clinton was guest speaker to a sold out crowd of 2,600 at Place des Arts in Montreal in February.

The ORT Montreal benefit lecture's proceeds of more than \$500,000 (US) will be shared by the Sunflowers project in Israel and a similar project at two children's hospitals in Montreal. The Sunflowers Project, initiated by ORT Israel three years ago, trains students to go into pediatric oncology wards throughout the country to teach young patients the technological skills they are learning at their ORT schools.

This is a new venture for ORT Montreal, whose dol-

lars have traditionally gone directly to ORT schools in Israel. Emmanuel Kalles, Executive Director of ORT Montreal, said that he hopes the new relationships with Montreal institutions and business leaders will make the wider community aware of ORT's work.

Of the fundraising event, Kalles said, "It is very exciting to bring together leaders of the Montreal community, who volunteered their time to ensure the success of this event and to raise awareness of the educational and skills training that ORT offers people around the world".

In a fascinating 45-minute speech, Bill Clinton

made an impassioned appeal for a resumption of the Middle East peace process, saying the building blocks are there if the leadership wants to use them.

In a lengthy analysis of the September 11 terrorist attacks Clinton said, "What happened on September 11 was the dark side of interdependence. We have to do something to make more friends out there. For not much money, we could build a world with more friends and fewer terrorists. For if we live in world without walls, we simply have no choice but to make it a home for all our children. That's why organisations like ORT, are necessary in building the kind of world we are trying to achieve".

IN MEMORIAM

The ORT family mourns the untimely deaths of its Israeli students and graduates who have died as result of recent acts of terror

Hanit Arami
Assaf Avitan
Shlomi Ben Chaim
Avi Ben Herush
Matan Biderman
Yossi Elezra
Dan Emunei
Eli Ganam
Zvika Golombak
Moshe Yedid Halevi
Zev Hanick
Beni Kikis
Ronen Landau
Kobi Levy
Rachel Levy
Yaniv Levy
Daniel Lewin
Raz Mintz
Raisa Nemirovsky
Cochi Polanski
Dvir Reshef
Keren Rothstein
Eyal Sela
Doron Suwary
Maria Tagilchev
Erez Turjeman
Nail Waa'bi
Assaf Yitzhaki
Amit Zana

Media spotlight for British ORT Breakfast

AN audience of lawyers, property investors, and bankers mixed with those from the media, entertainment and e-commerce gathered to hear the Director General of the BBC recount his rise in the broadcasting industry, the influence of TV on football and the future direction of the BBC.

Media mogul Greg Dyke addressed the largest ever audience at a British ORT Business Breakfast. More than 320 guests attended the annual event, this year held at

the Park Lane Hotel in London. The event raised more than £50,000 for ORT's activities around the world.

Breakfast Chairman Michael Naughton thanked the sponsors of the event, as well as nearly two-dozen corporate table hosts.

"With your help," he told the assembled guests, "young people with great ability can be given the opportunities for a better life through an ORT education".



from left, Michael Naughton, Jon Benjamin, David Dein, Greg Dyke and Sir Maurice Hatter



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