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American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Country Directors  
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MINUTES OF CONFERENCE

OF

A.J.D.C. COUNTRY DIRECTORS



HOTEL PALAIS D'ORSAY  
PARIS

OCTOBER  
1953

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS  
(In alphabetical order)

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Mr. Mozes Acohen - Hon. AJDC representative in Holland  
Mr. Noel Aronovici - Director, Reconstruction Dept.  
AJDC Paris  
Mr. M. W. Beckelman - Director-General, AJDC Paris  
Mr. William Bein - AJDC Director for Morocco  
Judge David A. Benjamin - Chairman, Brooklyn, N.Y. UJA  
Mr. Louis Bennett - Assistant Executive Vice-Chairman,  
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Mr. Jerome J. Jacobson - General Counsel, AJDC Paris  
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Mr. Charles H. Jordan - Assistant Director-General, AJDC  
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Mr. Marcus Levin - Hon. AJDC representative in Norway  
Mr. Henry L. Levy - AJDC Director for Tunisia  
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זכר אלה יעקב וישראל

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
EDITOR'S NOTE	
FIRST SESSION - Sunday afternoon, October 18, 1953	1 - 42
Chairman - Mr. M. W. Beckelman	
Opening of Conference - Mr. M. W. Beckelman	1
Israel - Address by Dr. Giora Josephthal	7
MALBEN - Report by Mr. C. Passman	21
Discussion	31
SECOND SESSION - Monday morning, October 19, 1953	43 - 95
Chairman - Mr. Herbert Katzki	
Opening Statement on Moslem Countries - Mr. H. Katzki	43
Morocco - Tangiers - Spanish Morocco - Country Report - Mr. W. Bein	49
Tunisia-Libya - Country Report - Mr. H. Levy	65
Iran - Country Report - Mr. A. Loskove	79
Discussion	85
THIRD SESSION - Monday afternoon, October 19, 1953	97 - 143
Chairman - Mr. Herbert Katzki	
Reconstruction Activities - Mr. N. Aronovici	99
Education Programs in North Africa - Mr. S. Abramovitch	105
Medical Problems in Moslem Countries - Dr. A. Gonik	117
Discussion	125
Cultural and Religious Activities - Dr. J. J. Shapiro	135
Discussion	141

Page

FOURTH SESSION - Tuesday morning, October 20, 1953 145 - 195  
Chairman - Mr. Charles H. Jordan

Opening Statement on European Area - Mr. C. H. Jordan 145  
Germany and Austria - Country Reports - Mr. S. Haber 151  
Italy - Country Report - Mr. M. Steinberg 165  
Discussion 175  
Emigration - Mr. L. H. Horwitz 187

FIFTH SESSION - Tuesday afternoon, October 20, 1953 197 - 249  
Chairman - Mr. Charles H. Jordan

Discussion on Camp Foehrenwald 197  
France - Country Report - Mrs. L. M. Jarblum 209  
Discussion 221  
Switzerland - Country Report - Mr. J. P. Rice 223  
Report on Activities of V.S.J.F. Switzerland -  
Mr. Otto H. Heim 235  
Report on Activities of A.I.V.G. Brussels -  
Mr. Guy Mansbach 241

SIXTH SESSION - Wednesday morning, October 21, 1953 251 - 305  
Chairman - Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz

Paul Baerwald School - Dr. H. Selver 253  
Sweden - Country Report - Mr. Ragnar Gottfarb 261  
Norway - Country Report - Mr. Marcus Levin 267  
Holland - Country Report - Mr. M. Acohen 273  
Greece - Country Report - Mr. H. Benrubi 281  
Introductory Statement to Discussion of Community  
Problems in Western Europe - Dr. J. J. Shapiro 291  
Discussion 299

SEVENTH SESSION - Wednesday afternoon, October 21, 1953 307 - 332  
Chairman - Mr. M. A. Leavitt

Problems Relating to Conference on Jewish Material  
Claims against Germany - Mrs. L. M. Jarblum 307  
Discussion 311

EIGHTH SESSION - Thursday morning, October 22, 1953  
Chairman - Mr. M. W. Beckelman

333 - 376

The American Scene	
Mr. E. M. M. Warburg	333
Mr. M. A. Leavitt	336
Dr. J. J. Schwartz	337
Mr. E. Radinsky	343
Mrs. S. Pilavin	344
Mr. M. Berinstein	345
Judge M. Bernon	348
Mr. I. Sobeloff	351
Mr. H. Bernstein	354
Rabbi J. B. Wise	356
Report on Yugoslavia, China, Hungary - Mr. C. H. Jordan	361
Good and Welfare - Discussion	367
Summary - Mr. M. W. Beckelman	370

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APPENDIX - STATISTICAL MATERIAL

APPENDIX A	- Financial & Statistical Data, AJDC Operations 1947-1953
" B	- Austria
" C	- Emigration Department
" D	- France
" E	- Germany
" F	- Greece
" G	- Holland
" H	- Italy
" I	- Morocco
" J	- Reconstruction Department
" K	- Sweden
" L	- Tunisia

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EDITOR'S NOTE

It is to be noted that throughout the following minutes of the proceedings at the 1953 Country Directors Conference blank spaces occur both before and after a number of the addresses presented at the various sessions. This should not be interpreted to indicate that any material has been omitted. To expedite the preparation of these minutes several of the prepared addresses were stenciled in advance of the text of the proceedings and the subsequent insertion of these addresses within the text presented technical difficulties which resulted in the blank spaces. To avoid misinterpretation we therefore wish to call your attention to the fact that the text, as given, is a complete recording of the proceedings.

CONFERENCE OF JDC COUNTRY DIRECTORS

FIRST SESSION

Sunday afternoon, October 18, 1953

Chairman - Mr. M. W. Beckelman

MR. BECKELMAN: I should like to call to order and open the Eighth Annual Post-war JDC Country Directors Conference. As you will have noticed from looking around the room, we have a larger attendance this year than we ever had before. And when many of our guests, who are arriving late this afternoon or tomorrow, get here, we shall have an even larger attendance than we have had before. For that reason some of us, before the conference began, were dealing with the old calculus problem of how to arrange a rectangle to provide the maximum number of seats in the same space - with the results that you see here today, which, I hope, will be satisfactory.

But despite this large attendance, and very welcome attendance, there is one man whose presence at this conference we had been counting on till a few weeks ago, who won't be here today nor for the rest of this conference, nor for any other conferences we shall have in the future. A man who was one of the original JDC staff team in the 1918 days, who had been a friend and counsellor and stalwart bulwark of JDC's medical program, and not only JDC's medical program but all phases of its activities as well, who died a few weeks ago; in tribute, therefore, to the memory of Dr. Jack Golub I shall ask everyone to rise for a moment. Thank you.

Changes in JDC personnel, between 1952 and 1953, have been very few. And the JDC composition of this year's Country Directors Conference, is for all practical purposes unchanged from the 1952 conference. And in that respect 1953 reflects or continues to demonstrate the entry into JDC post-war work, of a tendency which I first commented on, I think, at the 1950 or 1951 conference, namely, that we operate now with a veteran, seasoned, stable team, which makes possible for us a great many things which weren't possible in earlier years. As a matter of fact 50% of the change which I have to report from 1952 to 1953 I did announce at the 1952 conference, namely, that in our game of musical chairs, Henry Levy and Lou Horwitz were changing seats to the detriment of neither, and for the benefit of the organization. The other important change that took place during the year is the welcome return of Bill Schmidt to our fold, whom we had farmed out to Harvard for a few years; we exercised our option this year; we are very glad to have him with us, and some more official statement than I have just made with respect to the nature, purpose and function of his return will be circulated during the course or at the end of the conference. If I am not mistaken, apart from those two changes and the fact that we felt that from South America a person should only be asked to travel 12,000

miles once every two years rather than every year, and therefore Julius Lomnitz isn't with us this year, I think the JDC personnel of this Eighth Country Directors Conference is the same as it was at the Seventh.

Then I stop right there and I want to tell you now, any of you who are visiting a JDC Country Directors Conference for the first time, if you take a sufficient liking to it to come back for a second time, meaning next year, you are going to see some very considerable changes. The fact that we are a temporary organization has finally caught up with us, and several people who had temporary jobs with us are now leaving those jobs because of age limit and to retire on pension. As the chap who is being given a testimonial dinner after 35 years of service said, "If I had known that this was going to be a temporary job when I started on it I am not sure that I would have taken it." We shall be missing from next year's conference - except as very welcome guests, which I hope they will come and be - Bill Bein and Manny Rosen. We will be missing Laura Margolis for other reasons; we will be missing Judah Shapiro and Dick Cohen who interrupted their own normal and professional careers in the United States to give JDC several valuable and useful years of service which we value very highly; both these men now feel, and I am not one to argue or contradict, that the time has now come when they need to and we can afford to let them return to their interrupted careers.

In another kind of departure we shall be losing the very valued advice, service and help of one of our honorary country directors, Mr. Acohen of Holland, who told me last night that he will be moving to the United States toward the end of the year. When I congratulated him on that he said, "Now wait a minute, what does that mean?" And I assured him last night and I am sure that all of us here will join me in repeating that our congratulation is for what we believe to be a very useful and happy development in his own life, one to which we gracefully though regretfully yield our claim on the services he has given us in Holland. One of the things we do hope he will do for us before he leaves is give us his advice and suggestions as to how we can best carry on in Holland after he goes. I think all of these people may wish to make some statements to us, make some remarks about their own leaving in the course of the presentations which they will normally be making in this series of meetings; we will be very glad to hear anything they have to say to us from their new eminence as elder statesmen and observers from afar.

None of these changes that I have announced have an exact due date put on to them yet; they will all take place before the next Country Directors Conference and that is why in the presence of so many people whom we are only able to see once every year, I make this announcement today. One other change which we know of at this time, and which may not be the only additional change that will take place between now and the next Country Directors Conference, is that in view of the **revolving** and growing importance of our Reconstruction Department, whose activities and expansions you will be hearing about in the course of the conference,

we are strengthening the Headquarters establishment of that Department by asking Milton Steinberg to come up from his work in Italy and join Noel Aronovici here at Headquarters.

That is a long series of reactions which will be going on during the course of the coming year and it brings certain consequences naturally in their train. Again without pin-pointing dates at this moment, among the results which will flow from this series of changes, is that Sam Haber will be going down to Morocco; that Jimmy Rice will be going to Germany; that we shall be breaking the temporary anschluss which we once made between Germany and Austria and changing Ted Feder's status from gauleiter to leiter in Austria; that Sam Jaffe, who is an old and long time friend, familiar, confidant, associate and helper of JDC will be replacing Dick Cohen; that Auren Kahn will be taking over our operation in France, after Laura goes, and that Harold Trobe is another man who will be coming back from the sticks to join the JDC staff in due course for work in Italy and Switzerland.

I think I am about ready now to open the conference itself, but there is one further announcement or explanation I want to make or repeat, particularly because of the large number of visitors whom we have with us today, and whom we will be having with us tomorrow and in the succeeding days of the conference. The tradition of JDC conferences is that they are working conferences. You are not going to hear any glittering oratory, and you are not going to hear any high exhortations to dedication and sacrifice and duty, because those are the underlying foundations of all this work which we at any rate take for granted, assume to be present, know to be present, because of the way in which our operations carry on, and we do not need to tell this to ourselves in the course of these annual conferences. It is an annual working party meeting of the top country directors or mission chiefs, staff department heads of the JDC who take this opportunity to get together once a year and go over the experience of the past year; to see what it provides by way of a bench mark or a compass course for the year ahead. We try to make it as solid and as substantive and as concrete as possible, and we always ask a great many questions which each man from the field and each man at Headquarters has carried with him through the year unanswered. And we don't guarantee to answer all of those questions. We do hope that where we come to the conclusion that we don't know the answers we can explain our lack of ability to answer the question in such a way as to feel that we have organized that ignorance into a system.

In the past people who have attended these conferences as welcome and participating guests have told us it would be a tremendous achievement if one of these annual JDC conferences could be held in the United States so that the people who contribute the funds which make the work which is done here possible could get some feeling, some sense, some appreciation of the earnestness, the intelligence, the dedication with which this work is done. Each year for some reason, for valid reasons, it hasn't been possible to operate on that suggestion of holding this conference in the United States,

and it would appear that our friends who have been advocating this course of action have gotten tired of waiting, for which I congratulate them, and have decided to come over - Mohamed to the mountain or the mountain to Mohamed, whichever is your interpretation - and see this conference for themselves. And so as I have said, we have here the largest delegation of visitors from the United States that we have ever had at any JDC conference. It is larger today than it ever has been, it will be larger tomorrow than it is today, because plane schedules have kept some people from getting here for the opening session. And while we are pleased and very happy to welcome, receive and entertain our guests from the United States, their number makes necessary the establishment not only of a new seating arrangement, but of what I might call ground rules, for the operation of this conference, which I want to take one moment to explain.

On the one hand, we are very glad and very pleased to have all our friends and guests from the United States here. On the other hand, I want to address myself to each member of the JDC internal family and say to you, please conduct this conference as though there were nobody else here. Assume that there is one of these one-way mirrors or one-way glass screens; you can be seen and you can be heard but you have no direct sense of awareness of the presence of anybody else.

We have come here for our regular annual meeting; we have come here to discuss and analyze and try to hammer out the things we have been wrestling with in the field for a year, are going to be wrestling with in the coming year, to get the help and the usefulness of common counsel in these three, four or five days. Act, speak and view this conference on that basis. However, I want our friends and visitors from the United States to feel entirely free to question any statement about which they want more information, to participate in the discussions that will follow, the presentations by our people of their areas of work and the problems with which they deal. I will now take one final moment to introduce what I shall call, not for want of a better term, The Warburg Flying Circus, and to ask the ring-master to present his troupe.

MR. WARBURG: I think that my role here is simply to bring on behalf of those who are here from America, and those who unfortunately couldn't come, not only their greetings but their deep interest and concern with what will transpire in these next days in this annual conference. I particularly want to bring you the greetings of one person who I am sure is very much with us in thought at this moment, and that is Paul Baerwald who I was surprised to hear did not decide to fly over here, because he is perfectly capable of doing it. He still remains the youngest member of our administration committee and the most active member of our staff. We came here from the States, not only to celebrate Mr. Kiesler's seventy-third birthday today, but to hear discussed something which you don't get much chance to hear about in the United States, namely an organization that somehow is hidden in the United Jewish Appeal and which for some reason or other is slightly a forbidden subject - namely the

Joint Distribution Committee. Thus, I think the reaction is bound to be as it always is, that after the conference is over we will have lots of you coming up and saying, "I think it is simply terrible that all these facts aren't presented at every fund-raising meeting." As one who sometimes has the assignment of trying to raise money in the United States, I am told by advisers, and I have found it to be true that, unfortunately, the emphasis lies in other quarters, in terms of fund-raising appeal. However, I still think that this which we discuss here is one of the most brilliant and one of the most interesting phases of social engineering of our century, and it is a delight to me that at least this larger group will have the opportunity to hear the story.

I do want to thank in advance the staff here in Paris for all the facilities that are at our disposal. I see that we even have a telephone book if anybody wants any telephone numbers. It is not an easy thing to be host to all of you, and I know you all have very difficult shopping requirements but I know also that the staff is up to that kind of problem. If you call on the staff and they do not react within ten minutes with the completed mission it is just that this year there are so many more people than usual - usually they are there before we even ask for it. In any case it is to me a delight to be back; I am sorry I missed last year. However we are here and I would like to say to our American members - our American guests who are here - that it is only if this conference can remain a working conference that this has meaning, and to the staff I know the American members and you don't have to worry about showing off to them. Just act as if we weren't here and you know you might be right.

We will have the opportunity at a later point to report to you in terms of the American scene, but at this point I think we are all anxious that the conference should get started and I simply wanted to bring the greetings from abroad and bring the thanks to you from those of us who are here for all the facilities that you put at our disposal. Thank you very much.

MR. BECKELMAN: We are opening this year's conference with two innovations; the first is that the Sunday afternoon meeting is the opening session instead of a Sunday morning meeting as in the past. This is the result of suggestions and observations made following the Saturday night receptions of previous years, that either the knowledge of a ten o'clock Sunday morning session hung heavy over the festive atmosphere of Saturday night, or as the festive atmosphere of Saturday night prevailed it played the dickens with the Sunday morning session. So we begin on Sunday afternoon. And all I can say is that I wish all the problems which are raised and posed in these conferences could be satisfactorily resolved as easily as that one. The second innovation is more substantive. We begin this year with a discussion of JDC's work in Israel and the Moslem countries, whereas in all previous years we have begun with JDC's work in Europe. That reflects the increasing significance, amplitude and proportion given in JDC's program in past years, and continuing now, to work in Israel and the Moslem countries. It also reflects the fact that while

our work in European countries has diminished in volume over recent years, it has not diminished in complexity and in difficulty. On the contrary, as you will hear when we get to the Wednesday and Thursday sessions on our work in Europe, you will then discover that we have done what all of us used to do when we went to school, save the hardest home-work for the end, like Latin verbs.

I also have, for this afternoon's session, the very welcome surprise announcement that the first speaker will be a man whose name does not appear on the mimeographed program but whose presence with us today we have been counting on for some months now, ever since I talked with him about it in Geneva in August, Dr. Giora Josephthal, the Treasurer of the Jewish Agency, who is going, very informally - and I am sure in the spirit and intent of the kind of explanation I gave as to the nature and purpose of this conference - to give us a quick general survey of the position in Israel as he sees it. In introducing him, I want to read a letter for which he has acted as courier, addressed to the Annual Directors Conference of the American Joint Distribution Committee:

"Dear friends:

On behalf of the Government of Israel, I am glad to be able to send through the good offices of my friend Giora Josephthal, heartiest greetings to your annual conference.

The cooperation between the American Joint Distribution Committee, the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency in recent years has enabled us all to achieve outstanding results in the field of rescue and rehabilitation. In particular the splendid work of Malben, in erecting and maintaining in Israel homes for the aged and infirm as well as centers of rehabilitation for the disabled, has been good proof of what can be achieved by united endeavor where there is a sincere wish to help in a human cause. The fact that, unlike other institutions caring for the aged and disabled, Malben has adopted the policy of providing, whenever possible, gainful employment for those committed to its charge, deserves special commendation.

May your deliberations be as fruitful for the future as your work has been in the past.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) M. Sharett

Acting Prime Minister of Israel"

I will now call on Dr. Josephthal.

ADDRESS BY DR. GIORA JOSEPH TAL

I am very thankful to you for giving me the opportunity to report to JDC's Annual Directors' Conference about the economic and social problems of Israel today. The close cooperation between JDC, the Jewish Agency and the Government of Israel since the end of World War II in trying to bring a solution to the burning problems of suffering Jews is one of the outstanding characteristics of Jewish life today. The task of rescuing and rehabilitating Jews which has been accomplished so far by our combined efforts in the last 8 years could never have been accomplished by one of our organizations alone. I think Jewish history will give us credit for the approach of statesmanship and responsibility shown during those years of coordinated efforts. It was one of the tragedies of Jewish history during thousands of years that even in times of disaster the splitting and partisan forces were stronger than the forces of national unity and integration. Future generations will not say about us that we repeated the mistakes made during the times when the Second Temple was destroyed.

The cooperation between JDC and the Jewish Agency has to continue in many countries for many years to come. I am sure that both of our organizations will feel the responsibility and overcome minor difficulties as long as Jewish fate demands continuation of our work.

In reporting to you today I want to speak to a partner and friend who has to know achievements and failures, and maybe that in thinking together in a spirit of respect and criticism we will reduce the difficulties still in our way.

During the five years of the State's existence the Jewish population of Israel has grown by 125 percent. After the decrease of immigration in 1952 and 1953 we can see more clearly the problems still existing in connection with the economic and social task laid upon us by this increase of population. During the years of mass immigration we were like the family moving in a hurry from one flat to another, just putting the furniture somewhere in the new flat in the hope of re-arranging it by the time the pressure would be over.

Our economic problems may be expressed in two facts.

First, only one fifth of our needs in foreign currency is at present covered by our exports and we need 250 million dollars per annum.

Second, the huge discrepancy between consumption and production gives the basis to the inflationary situation in which the country finds itself today.



The slogan for the State's economy in the future is: less consumption and less imports, more production and more exports.

Technically speaking, we are in the middle of a policy of deflation decided upon by our Government in February 1952.

There is a short-term policy of deflation fought with the well tested weapons used all over the world: no treasury bills, rationing, eliminating surplus money by heavy taxation, restricting credits by demanding high liquidity from the banks.

After well over a year of deflationary policy we see some positive results: scarcity of money in circulation has resulted in a considerable shrinkage in the demand for consumer goods. In connection with this, imports have decreased considerably (by 17%) in comparison with last year.

However, one of the results of our deflationary policy is the rise in unemployment, at times of considerable proportions, though mitigated from time to time through unemployment relief works undertaken under the pressure of public opinion in contrast to the purpose of the new economic policy.

The long-term policy fighting inflation is only one: increasing production by intensive development and transforming our newcomers from consumers to producers. Last year we saw an increased effort on the part of the producers and a considerable rise (20%) in industrial and other exports.

On the total, we reduced our unfavorable trade balance by nearly one third since February 1952. Increases of production must be concentrated in two fields: agriculture and industry.

It may be said that Israel's progress in the field of agriculture is greater than could be expected. There is an increase of 144% of Jews earning their living in agriculture from the beginning of the State as compared with the overall increase of population of 125%. Our progress in industry is only 76% and we cannot be satisfied with the results achieved till now in this field. It would be unjust, however, to put those two figures - 144% increase in agriculture and 76% increase in industry - before you without any explanation. Our experience in agriculture up to the beginning of the State gave us a basis for further work. Agricultural planning was developed already when the State was founded, and specially research on water resources was started by international, mostly American, experts, in 1942. Industrial research, specially research on the national resources in the Negev, was only started in 1949. Until now we cannot come to conclusions in some fields with regard to our potential mineral wealth.

During the next year or two the increase in agricultural production will be larger than the increase in industrial production, as planning is far advanced, and as less initial mistakes will be made in this field. You may say that Rebbe gelt was already paid.

Three problems of our agricultural development have to be tackled more thoroughly this year:

(1) The 366 settlements founded since the beginning of the State have to get their full budget. We hope that nearly 60 of them will earn their living by the end of 1954 and will not be dependent any more on public investments. That means mostly enlarging the irrigated area in the settlements, and to a lesser degree enlarging their living stock.

(2) Our youngest settlements, especially the 46 founded during 1953, have to increase or start the production of agricultural products which up till now have not been developed enough in our country. We have to switch from vegetables and potatoes, from poultry and dairy products which are sufficiently produced for the existing population, to sugarbeets, oil seeds, cotton and grain. These new branches of agriculture demand more water and more land, but less machinery and less investment of manpower per dunam. That means that irrigation is once more the key to the development of our new agriculture.

In the field of irrigation I think our program during 1953 was more than satisfactory. In the middle of 1952 we put before UJA and before ourselves a program of adding 100,000 dunams per year of irrigated area and take as a basis that one irrigated dunam gives enough food for one person. This year we added 120,000 and we hope that during next year we can even come up to a figure of 150,000 dunams in one year. We are working on the six district irrigation schemes which demand an investment per year of IL 20 million for three or four years to come. In the Yarkon Negev scheme, the biggest one among those, we are well ahead of schedule. The purpose of these schemes is to bring water from a distance of 10 - 30 miles from the water source to the plot to be irrigated. After finishing those six schemes we will have enough water for providing Israel's agricultural needs as seen today.

(3) The third problem is agricultural manpower. We have 10,000 unemployed now. Their number may increase to 15,000 till the end of 1953. 5,000 families per year to settle on the land is the minimum needed today and we have to get volunteers for settling on the land. We cannot get them only by propaganda or administrative pressure. We have to make our new settlements attractive so that their standard of life can be compared with the standard of life in towns and older settlements, and we have to give them security. That means that non-agricultural investments in settlements (roads, fences, transport facilities) and educational services have to be increased.

Our efforts in the field of industry will be concentrated on enlarging the export industries, specially textiles, citrus fruit products and diamonds, and the development of potash production and fertilizers and chemicals in the Negev. These two branches of minerals in the Negev are already in the state of actual development. In the field of copper we are starting the first pilot plant this year; in the field of iron and oil we have still to continue with research work, and cannot add any final opinion about our natural resources.

Taking all those economic remarks together, I cannot say when we will be able to balance our foreign trade. It is no use making estimates of six or twelve years ahead at a time when we cannot be sure of getting the necessary investment capital even in the next two years.

I know that you are primarily interested in the social problems connected with the mass immigration to Israel, but social work is partly a function of the general economic situation of a country, and I thought it necessary to give a general view of the economic background before I remark upon our social problems.

The Minister of Finance in introducing the budget on behalf of the Government this year said: "We have over-expanded our services and we must freeze or even contract them during the next few years". This sentence is characteristic of the approach of deflationary policy to social expenses. The discussion is not about what is necessary, but about what we can afford.

The first problem we had to deal with was the problem of housing. When we started in the middle of 1950 to transfer the newcomers from camps in which they got the whole of their maintenance, to provisional housing facilities called 'maabarot' where they had to earn their living themselves, we had nearly 100,000 immigrants in tents. At the end of 1951, with the additional 175,000 immigrants coming during that year, we had 200,000 in tents, in aluminium and canvas huts. During the last 18 months we pulled the tents down and erected cement houses or wooden huts instead. 20,000 families were transferred from tents to those houses. We still have maabarot, but they are built without tents, and their population has decreased. The urgent housing problem today comprises 100,000 people - roughly 20,000 families who are living in canvas or aluminium huts. Last year there were 34,000 families, which means that in exactly one year we solved a bit more than one third of the problem, and according to the present rate of building we may liquidate this problem within two years. After those two years 20,000 families will still be in wooden huts, where they can live for an additional four or five years or more without endangering their health and creating additional social problems. It is the opinion of our Government that increased activities in the field of housing would mean an increase of inflation, as no trade goods for local consumption or export are created by additional houses. Urgent as this problem is, it cannot get first priority, but has to give way to the problems of enlarging agriculture and industry.

The housing problem may be divided into two: where to build and how to build.

When the State of Israel was founded, 84% of the Jewish population were on the sea shore, that means in the West of our country, leaving the Northern and Southern and Eastern borders nearly uninhabited by Jews, and 64% of the Jews were living in the three big towns, Tel-Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem. It was our problem to go to the uninhabited areas and create new settlements and villages all over the land. When we will number 2 million Jews (we are coming near to it) we want 20% in the South and the Negev, and 25% in the North, for instance Galilee and the Valley of Jezreel. We have good hopes of reaching this aim as far as the South and the Negev are concerned. We are still behind schedule as far as Galilee is concerned, in spite of the increase in population there. In reducing the town population from 64% from the beginning of the State to 44% in 1953, we still cannot say that the population is well distributed, but a great deal has been achieved in this field during the past five years.

The question of how to build has only one answer: building houses with the maximum of local materials. In times of emergency we had to import wood or wooden houses in order to give the immigrant a roof over his head; there were times when we had to buy tents at very high prices. Building with local cement and local stone is the only way open to us now. It is an expensive way in local currency and it cannot bring us as quick a solution as we would have wanted.

The pressure from amongst our immigrants to improve their housing conditions is, I'm sorry to say, very small. More than 80% of the inmates of maabarot came from non-European countries and are used to a housing standard not acceptable to us. Some of them are unable and some of them unwilling to pay rents and decrease their food budget. The desire for better housing has to be developed amongst them. We know that as long as they are not properly housed, they won't feel like citizens of our country. They even enlarge the problems created by an immigration from 50 countries by the feeling that houses are for Europeans and maabarot for non-Europeans. We cannot come to a feeling of national unity as long as special social problems are connected only with special parts of the Jewish people; it is this which makes the housing problem more important than even some of our immigrants feel today.

Housing is one of the social problems of our country. The whole scope of social problems can only be seen if you bear in mind the basic social facts connected with mass immigration from backward countries. European immigrants were the first to come after the foundation of the State.

Immigrants from Asia and Africa were the last ones, and this is an additional reason for the lack of actual absorption on their part. The characteristics of the immigrants from Africa and Asia were:

- (1) that it was an immigration of three generations. The whole family came together: grandparents, parents and children, and they had to be absorbed as big families with only one potential breadwinner in the average for 4 - 5 persons.
- (2) lack of professional training.
- (3) lack of Zionist education, which means education for work, especially agricultural work, Hebrew and the feeling of unity of the Jewish people.
- (4) a patriarchal family structure, which means little or no rights for the children or the women, all power being vested in the father.

These questions cannot be solved in a few years. They are a task for a generation or two. We had to find a system of educational approach in order to ensure that the second generation will reach the standards expected by every one of us.

The most important step taken was expressed in the compulsory educational law passed by the Knesset in September 1949. This law establishes universal, free and compulsory primary education for all children from the age of 5 to the age of 14.

May I give you a few figures in order to show the importance of this achievement. Kindergartens increased from 17,000 to 75,000 since the beginning of the State, which means an increase of 240%. Children in elementary schools increased from 71,000 to 215,000, which is an increase of 200%. You may imagine what a task it was for us to put an additional 140,000 children to school, and we had to find and to produce 10,000 new teachers in those five years of the existence of the State.

However, there are still deficiencies. Not all of the parents are sending their children to school despite the fines for disobeying the law. In immigrant settlements we have full control of the children, and there are nearly no absentees, but in immigrant towns like Ramleh, Lydda, Beersheba and Migdal the figure of absentees runs between 15% and 28% of the children, and we cannot provide a sufficient staff of social workers and, I must say, of police to get full control of all the children.

You may well imagine that we had to build a very large number of transitory classes, as we got children of the age of 10 or 12 who could not read or write and could not go to the classes of their age. Only 70% of the children now at school will have finished at the age of 14 eight school classes. The other 30% will have finished 5-7.

In recruiting the necessary teaching staff we had to take graduates of secondary schools, who had no or insufficient additional training. It will take an additional three years to staff all schools with certified teachers.

The social backwardness of our immigrants is expressed most strikingly by their enrollment, or I should say lack of enrollment in secondary schools. Secondary, including agricultural and professional schools provide education for one third of the youth in the appropriate age groups of Israel. Although new immigrants comprise more than half of the population of Israel, they constitute only 10% in secondary schools, 23% in professional schools, but 63% in agricultural schools. The Jewish Agency made a decisive step this year for the first time in allocating a budget for secondary school scholarships for children of new immigrants with the condition that 70% of them have to come from Asia or African countries. By promoting education for these neglected elements of the Jewish people we hope to achieve a better balance between the various cultural levels.

Still the most important activity in this field is Youth Aliyah which can speak of 34,000 graduates and 13,000 children now under training since the beginning of the State. Youth Aliyah is the basis of productive education of immigrant youth now taking a large share of its children from maabarot.

The internal structure of the immigrant family from backward countries demands special protective measure which guard the child against premature work, truancy from school and protection against the father of the family who often does not let the child even have his proper share of food. The importance of kindergartens, for example, in Israel is not that the children are under proper health conditions and acquire education and discipline, but that they get one or two meals there and have corners for themselves. The immigrants from backward countries are not used to the idea that a child has a life of its own, and they like children to behave like grown-up people. Toys are unknown in those countries, and things natural to us are detested by them. There is a Yemenite saying: "You are lying like a child", and they cannot imagine that the children's world of imagination needs its own outlet. Bodily punishment of children is wide-spread. The Yemenite mother bringing her child to the Cheder at the age of 3 or 4, says to the Cheder teacher: "I am bringing you meat. Return to me bones".

By providing the educational framework of kindergartens and schools we are making the decisive step towards the rehabilitation of our people, but I'm sure that we have to continue learning in this field for many years to come.

We cannot make out a definite program for the coming year in this field, but I think it is a minimum to increase secondary education per year by two thousand and it is a minimum to promise a place in kindergartens and elementary schools for every child in the proper age group.

May I add a few words about health and social services. The progress in the field of health services has been very satisfactory since 1950. The situation in general hospitalization, despite the fact that we lost the big Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, improved from year to year, and Israel now has seven hospital beds per thousand of population. But we have to take into account that owing to primitive housing conditions people who normally stay in bed at home with minor diseases, have to go to hospital because they cannot be treated at home.

The outstanding achievement is the providing of hospital care for TB patients, which was carried out by Malben. I am not speaking of the activities of Malben in Israel and its part in social work as I am sure that Charlie Passman will cover this subject.

During the years of mass immigration the infant mortality rate, especially from the backward countries, was unusually high. At a time when the general infant mortality rate in Israel was 45 per 1000, we had up to 165 cases amongst the immigrants. Last year the normal death rate in Israel was 38, and the death rate among immigrants 63, which means that it is still 60% higher amongst immigrants than amongst the total population of Israel. The decrease in the mortality rate is obvious, but still not yet completely satisfactory. We have to extend the special Mother and Child services to all our new settlements, erecting 260 new stations during the next 5 years. Let me say about Malben only one word.

I cannot imagine where we would now stand without Malben. The fear of TB, the unhospitalized bedridden chronic invalids, the blind, the old-aged persons, numerous unrehabilitated invalids, in sum, the suffering of thousands of human beings in Israel would have continued had it not been for Malben. Otherwise, the State of Israel and the Jewish Agency would have to do the work and would neglect their task of colonization and education. And it is not only what Malben has done, but how it was done.

May I be allowed to pay special tribute here to Charlie Passman. I know he would not allow me to do it in Israel, but here I'm your guest and he cannot interrupt. His energy, farsightedness, devotion and organizational talent make Malben one of the finest examples of world Jewry's help.

In giving you the picture of the present situation, I wanted to stress the priority of needs existing today. Productivisation of new immigrants and education of the second generation must get first priority. The social services necessary to ease the burden on our newcomers can increase only steadily and slowly, without bringing new inflationary danger to our country.

In view of the large number of social and hard core cases still not absorbed the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency will stick to their principle of selective immigration in the near future; that means, from all the countries in which there is no imminent danger to the life of Jews, Israel will accept the healthy ones and those who have at least one able-bodied breadwinner in the family. From all the countries in which we see danger to the life or the Jewishness of our brothers, like the Communist countries and the countries of the Arab League, we will take every Jew who can only manage to reach the shores of Israel. I am happy that this line of policy was accepted all over the Jewish world.

I will refrain from any valued judgments with regard to the various ethnic groups among the new immigrants. We cannot make blanket statements to the effect that this group is "bad" or that group is "good". Each group, because of its background, has its own special problems. All that we can do is to try to understand these problems and to adjust our educational technique accordingly.

In measuring the present results I may say that the best achievements were reached by the Yemenites. The whole of Yemenite immigration was 6.5% of the immigration since the beginning of the State, but they built 13% of all our new settlements. North Africans, being 12%, built 12% of the settlements, and may I say in brackets that much injustice is done to them by critics in and outside Israel. Persian immigration, which is 3.5%, built 5% of our settlements, and much credit is due to the Kurdish element. The most unsatisfactory situation is connected with Iraqi immigration till now. 17% of these immigrants built 7% of our settlements, but it is our fault no less than theirs, since at the time of their immigration we could absorb them only near the big towns and put them mostly in maabarot in the non-rural areas. Now a great part of them does not want to leave and go to the land.

In describing these special problems of Jews from backward countries you may understand their psychological difficulties. Being on a lower standard than previous immigrants, being the last ones to come, they still have a feeling of discrimination, and it is quite natural that the unsuccessful ones among them feel most strongly about it. The feeling of discrimination leads partly to emigration from Israel, and I cannot see how this can be avoided. The Jewish Agency still refuses to give special rights to people who threaten to emigrate, as the danger of blackmailing will increase if we should give way to their demands. Since the creation of the State, 34,000 emigrants have left us. Relatively speaking, they are not a sizable group - only 4.5% of the total number of immigrants. Nevertheless, the fact that they have left and others want to leave, shows that our efforts of integration have not been entirely successful.



The integration of immigrants from backward countries is threatened by a vast number of obstacles. One of these obstacles in Israel is an assumption on the part of Central and Eastern European Jews that their way of life is "right", and that the other Jew should make an adjustment to it as quickly as he can. It cannot be doubted that a Jew from an Asian or African country has as much to contribute to the new State as to receive from it, and communication with him should be, as far as possible, a two-way affair.

It is understandable, on the other hand, that every part of the Jewish people has its own conception, according to the background of their country of origin, about the way of social life they would like to see in Israel, and there is even a kind of Jewish worship of something we called once very British - of the conception of the white man's burden. The gap between the newcomer and the old settler has not yet been bridged. Our teachers, social workers, agricultural instructors, the so-called social instructor in our agricultural settlement are the bridge between the new immigrants and the old inhabitants of Israel. If I take the figure of 25,000 workers in all those fields, I hope to be near the truth. It is a tremendous task to recruit them. Our older settlements gave the best of their people and they are getting tired. During the last years we started to utilize the sons and daughters of our old settlers as instructors, and the results justify this experiment.

The most important function in this pressure cooker called Israel is done by the Israel Defense Army. Here people from all parts of the world meet on an equal basis of rights and duties, no matter how long they have been in Israel. The job done by the Army with immigrant youth during the 30 months of compulsory service cannot be valued too highly. We could not even promise the predominance of the Hebrew language in Israel if the Army would not train immigrant boys and girls in special courses.

These are the difficulties before us. We are not allowed to romanticize and over-simplify our difficulties, but we are aware that, in a youth-centered society like ours, by education and training a practical and spiritual trend will be found after a generation or two and accepted by the whole of the Nation. Our Rousseau-like belief in the healing power of contact with the soil, in the effectiveness of "go among the people", was justified. Still, there is no place in the world where a greater degree of variety of humanity is observable.

We are still at the cross-roads between Westernization and Levantini- zation. The social and educational services of the State of Israel, and especially of the Israel Defense Army, and the transfer from unproductive to productive work, will give results in creating the new society of Israel - but we should not expect a pre-fabricated society. States cannot be made, they must grow.

There is such a process as the insensible growth of civilization by small, scarcely measurable steps. There must be roots, growth, soil. There must be a traditional accumulation. All those causes exist in their very beginning and built the society of Israel. We have great satisfaction from this beginning. We cannot have full satisfaction if we do not continue to put all our heart and thoughts into the future development of the Israel society. More than 50 years of work in Israel gives us the right to believe that the people and the land will be created together.



MR. BECKELMAN: I think it will be clear to all of us who listened to that presentation, that I am not referring to the complimentary remarks to Charlie Passman and thus to the JDC when I say that that presentation in my judgment speaks for the man who made it and is one of the reasons why on behalf of the JDC I am very glad and proud to confirm the statement that Dr. Josephthal made regarding the working relationships between the JDC and the Jewish Agency. Now the normal course of our procedure, to which I hope Dr. Josephthal will be prepared to submit himself, calls for question, comment and discussion after each of our presentations. I think the unity of this afternoon's program would however be enhanced if before our question and discussion period we heard Mr. Passman's report on the Malben program and its problems, and then perhaps took a five minute breather as we have grown accustomed to do in afternoon sessions, and then return for a discussion on the two reports which we will by then have heard. Mr. Passman.



ADDRESS ON MALBEN

By

Charles Passman

I am glad that I was preceded by my friend, Dr. Josephthal, who gave you a complete outline of the present economic condition of Israel and its problems. Against this background it will be easier for me to project the problems of Malben and its needs and plans for the future.

In about two months we will celebrate the fourth anniversary of the establishment of Malben which, as you know, was first organized as a combined organization by the government of Israel, the Jewish Agency and JDC, and subsequently was taken over entirely by the JDC. However, from the very beginning of the establishment of Malben it was considered in Israel as a JDC operation. At the beginning there were doubts whether there was need for JDC to get into Israel. This doubt existed to some extent in JDC ranks but to a greater extent in Israel itself. We met at first with a certain amount of opposition and resistance, but gradually Israel recognized the needs of having a separate organization deal with specific problems and became convinced that JDC was the most suitable organization to carry out that task.

Today Malben is an integral part of the entire health and social program of Israel. We deal with a certain part of the population and very often we hear in Israel criticism as to why Malben limits its activities to a part of the population, and why is there not a Malben for the entire population of Israel needing the services which Malben is rendering.

I hope the time will come when it will be possible to remove the demarcation line between new immigrants and the settled population of Israel, and all services which Malben renders today in the field of health and welfare be given to everyone needing it. Whether when Malben reaches that stage it will be a JDC operation or will be incorporated in the health and welfare program of the State of Israel, is a matter for the future.

I will not dwell in detail on the program of Malben because that is known, I believe, to most of you. I will, therefore, confine myself to outlining the developments of the Malben program during the last twelve months since reporting at the directors conference in October 1952, and give some details on our projected program for the coming year.

During the last twelve months, Malben has shifted its emphasis from the program of medical services to that of care for the aged and handicapped people requiring institutional care or rehabilitation. When I say that we have shifted our emphasis from the medical services, nevertheless there is one field in medical services where we are still today dominant and where in a certain sense we are expanding our services. I am referring to the care and treatment of tuberculosis.

At the last conference, I went to great lengths to explain the services we have given to thousands of tubercular patients. A year ago, we were occupying in tubercular hospitals belonging to Malben and in hospitals belonging to other organizations, primarily the Ministry of Health, 1100 beds out of a total bed capacity in the country of 1,800. I reported at the last conference that we were glad to have gradually reduced the waiting list of tubercular patients requiring hospitalization and that we were gradually reaching a stage where every new immigrant suffering from tuberculosis requiring a bed in a hospital can get it without waiting.

During the last twelve months we have reduced our case load to 800 beds and we have no waiting list. We no doubt could continue reducing it further during the next twelve months, but we cannot overlook the fact that to a certain extent the reduction in the bed capacity was not entirely due to the fact that we have treated and cured every immigrant that arrived in Israel since the establishment of the State, and that as a result of restricted immigration, there are no further tubercular patients arriving in the country. A part of our reduction in bed capacity and in our waiting list has been due to the fact that as a result of budgetary limitations we instituted new restrictions as far as eligibility to Malben services is concerned. The budgetary limitations were due to the fact that the cost of hospitalization and other services constantly increased from month to month and the government of Israel continued to give us for the dollars provided for the Malben budget a rate of exchange which did not take care of the continued increase in cost and the reduction of the Israeli Pound.

We had hoped that the government of Israel would be able to take care of and provide hospitalization for those tubercular patients amongst the immigrants whom we declared ineligible for Malben services. But regretfully the government was compelled to reduce its health and social service budget with the result that hundreds of tubercular patients did not get any services from any source whatsoever, thus increasing their suffering and above all endangering the health of the people with whom they were coming in contact.

At the last conference, Dr. Sheba and myself projected a plan of coordinating the activities in the field of the treatment of TB of all organizations operating in Israel. After that conference and particularly in the spring of this year during my visit to New York, JDC endorsed within certain limitations the program of coordinating tubercular hospitalization activities in Israel under the supervision of Malben.

I started negotiations in Israel with all the organizations concerned and having encountered some difficulties, the Ministry of Health proposed a plan which we finally accepted, namely to coordinate the activities of tubercular hospitalization of the Ministry of Health and Malben. Malben operates today in Israel a number of tubercular institutions having a total bed capacity of 825 beds, of which the tubercular hospital at Beer Yaacov with a bed capacity of 500 is the most outstanding in the country. The Ministry of Health operates a number of TB hospitals having a bed capacity of 525. The combined hospitalization facilities of the Ministry of Health and Malben have, therefore, 1,350 beds out of a total bed capacity in the country of about 1,800.

Under this coordination arrangement which has recently gone into force, Malben finances the cost of maintaining the hospitals under its care and the Ministry of Health will continue to finance the maintenance of the hospitals under its care. However, all the hospitals belonging to Malben and the Ministry of Health have been placed under the administrative supervision of Malben, and all patients in Israel suffering from TB requiring hospitalization (exclusive of those who are entitled to hospitalization in Kupat Holim), whether they are new immigrants or old settlers in Israel, will be placed by Malben in the hospitals of Malben and the Ministry of Health, depending upon the kind of services they require and considering the services which each one of the hospitals can render.

We believe that under this coordinated operation we will be able to improve the services and will gradually be able to reach the stage in which we will be in a position to say that every resident in Israel known to suffer from TB requiring hospital care, will be able to get it through Malben without waiting.

When I make this statement, I know I am speaking only for known patients suffering from TB. I am aware of the fact that there is much to be done in the field of preventive care and much in the field of case finding, as we are sure that there are tubercular patients among the population in Israel who are not aware of their ailment. We hope that the Ministry of Health and the Anti-Tubercular League in Israel, being relieved of the handling of patients requiring hospitalization, will be in a position to enlarge their activities in the field of case finding and preventive work, as well as following up patients after discharge from hospitals. However, it may be necessary that Malben include in its program for the next year some financial assistance to these bodies for the above purpose.

In the field of TB, we have also during the last twelve months opened a new institution to which I referred as a plan at the previous conference. I am referring to the institution for aged people suffering from TB. When I mentioned this plan at last year's conference, one of our guests remarked that it is a primitive approach to refuse

to give treatment to old people suffering from TB and instead confine them to an institution to spend their few remaining years without proper care. I did not have the opportunity at that time to explain to our guest the program in detail. However, today that institution exists and some of you who are going to Israel may have the opportunity to visit it and express your judgment.

There was never a question of differentiation in the treatment of TB on the basis of age. We have been giving and will continue to give hospitalization services to every old person requiring hospitalization and who can benefit from it. There are, however, old people who have TB but do not need hospitalization services, nor can they benefit from it. On the other hand, they cannot be sent out of hospitals to mix with the general population and, particularly, a considerable number of these old people have no homes to go to. The result is that they remain in hospitals considering themselves patients and gradually becoming demoralized. Besides these people are occupying valuable hospital beds that can and should be used for the care of people who require hospital services.

In the new institution at Pardessia the old people are spending their days in the same way, with the same interests as in our homes for the aged. At the same time they are being checked from time to time by a TB specialist so as to assure that the lung condition does not change or, when it requires any special treatment, that this treatment is given in time.

We started the institution with 25 beds and we now have 75 residents and are expanding it to 130 beds. This was a daring experiment, as an institution of that kind exists nowhere else in the world, and doctors in general were doubtful as to whether it would succeed. Now everyone who visits Pardessia is extremely impressed with the happy life of the residents there. They have long forgotten that they have been patients of hospitals. In a number of cases we were able to have old tubercular patients united with their wives and husbands from whom they had been separated, one of them having been in a TB hospital and the other in a home for the aged.

Some months ago, we had a visit from the director of the TB program of the government of Norway. He was extremely impressed by that experiment. He stated that some time ago physicians in Norway discussed such a plan and it was given up, as it was doubtful whether it could be carried out.

Our second field of medical activity is the care of patients suffering from various chronic ailments, requiring active medical treatment, primarily hospitalization. In the previous years of our existence, we have handled thousands of such patients and we have treated and succeeded in returning them to normal life. When I reported at the last conference, we were still occupying in various hospitals about 700 beds and we had a waiting list of about 600 patients requiring hospitalization, many of whom surgical care, a large number orthopedic operations and eye operations in order to save them from blindness. We did not have sufficient beds to take care of the people on the waiting list.

During the last twelve months, we had requests for hospitalization for some 500 new patients. During the year we managed to take care of the people on our waiting list and gradually reduced our bed capacity to about 170 beds and our waiting list to about 150.

Therefore, as you see, we have gradually reduced our load in the care of this type of medical service. I do realize, however, that while we have succeeded during the last twelve months in giving hospitalization and medical service to a very substantial number of patients of that type, part of the reduction is due to our continued restriction of eligibility on account of budgetary limitations, as explained when I dealt with the subject of TB patients.

There are, therefore, hundreds of patients to whom we refuse to give medical care and are unable to get it from the Ministry of Health or the Kupat Holim. I hope that as the result of the arrangement we have recently made with the government of Israel with regard to the rate of exchange for the dollars provided by the JDC for the Malben budget, we will be in a position to relax somewhat our eligibility limitations and extend our services to patients seriously needing care and who are not able to get it now.

In the field of ambulatory care for various types of patients, dental care, and providing of medical appliances, we are continuing the same as before. There is an average of about 100 patients per month receiving various types of medical appliances, making it possible for these people to carry on a more normal life and take care of themselves and their families.

In the rehabilitation of handicapped persons and particularly those that have been discharged from our hospitals, we are following the three branch programs which I outlined in more detail at the last conference, namely our Rehabilitation Center for tubercular patients, protected workshops and the establishment of handicapped persons in various business enterprises. However, to our regret, in all those fields we are now facing limitations in the matter of expansion.

We did expand our protected workshop program, but not to the extent we had anticipated. I had hoped that till 1953 we would be able to double the capacity of handicapped persons employed in our workshops, but unfortunately the limited purchasing ability of the Israeli population, due to reasons explained by Dr. Josephthal, make it difficult for us to sell the products made by handicapped people in our workshops. We are now selling monthly \$100,000 worth of goods of various types produced in our workshops. We have hundreds of people waiting to be admitted to our workshops. We have various new projects for opening up new workshops if only we could find an outlet for the goods we would produce. We are trying to produce in our workshops some articles which can be exported; if our attempts should prove successful, there should be no difficulty in expanding substantially our program of workshops, thus making hundreds more of handicapped people independent and capable of supporting themselves and their families.



In the field of establishing handicapped people in various business enterprises, we are also reaching a saturation point. Nevertheless, during the last twelve months, we have been able to establish business enterprises for 800 additional families. The total number of families we have established in business enterprises has now reached 2,200 comprising about 10,000 souls. Over 90% of those who have set out in business have developed successfully and they are fully self-supporting. A substantial number of them are gradually repaying to us the money we have invested in those business enterprises.

We have a waiting list of 2,000 families whom we have found eligible and suitable for such business enterprises, and many more are being added, but due to the economic conditions in Israel and the limited purchasing possibilities of the population, we cannot expand this program too rapidly.

We have difficulty in expanding this program in the larger towns as we could not get a monopoly for business enterprises limited to hard core cases under our care. Another difficulty was that in those towns we could not put up a temporary type of structure of shops, as the municipalities required a building of more permanent type of structure which the Jewish Agency was not in a position to finance, nor were the municipalities in a position to take the financial responsibility fully on themselves.

We have recently established a fund in the amount of £100,000 in which the government of Israel, the Jewish Agency, Malben and Amidal are participating each with £100,000. Out of this fund loans will be given to the municipalities to enable them to build markets and workshops which will be reserved exclusively for hard core cases to come in under the program of rehabilitation of Malben. This will give us the possibility of erecting in the various municipalities about 600 new business enterprises for handicapped persons.

As I stated in the beginning of my report, we have shifted the emphasis of our activities to the field of the care of the aged and custodial care. In this field we have expanded considerably during the last twelve months, and we have plans for considerable further expansion during the coming few years.

At the last conference I reported that we had admitted 1,000 people to our homes for the aged and about 360 to custodial care institutions. Custodial care institutions are intended primarily for older bedridden persons who cannot be placed in our regular homes for the aged. We have recently taken over a government hospital near Tel-Aviv called Pardess Katz, which we are converting into a custodial care home for 125 patients; 75 beds are already occupied, and within a short time we will have it completed.

At Ein Shemer we are now in the course of completing the re-modelling of a number of buildings which will be a custodial care institution for 240 patients. About 80 beds are already occupied and we expect the entire institution completed by the end of the year.

We are planning the construction of additional homes of this type. At present, as stated before, we are dealing primarily with handicapped old people, but we hope to be able soon to establish a custodial care institution or hospital for younger handicapped people whom we may be able through physical therapy and other rehabilitation services to bring back to productive - or at least partially productive - life.

In the program of the aged, we have during the last twelve months completed the reconstruction of the Camp of Ein Shemer, which we have turned into what we call a "village for the aged". It is divided up into five separate sections or institutions, each one of them having all necessary facilities and services as a complete institution. Four of these units are already occupied and the fifth will be occupied during the coming months. The total number of old persons that will reside in these five units will be about 1,200 and together with the custodial care institution which will have 240 patients, we will have at Ein Shemer a total number of 1,400 residents.

During this year, we are completing our new home for the aged at Natanya, with a capacity of 500 beds. Part of it is already occupied and we hope that by the end of the year it will be filled to its capacity. This is the first institution which we have constructed from the foundation upwards, and it has many facilities and comforts which we could not provide in our other homes for the aged.

At the last conference I reported about a plan under consideration by the JDC and the Jewish Agency of having Malben expand its program for the aged and custodial care so as to be able to take care of all those old and handicapped people who are homeless, have no relatives or families, most of whom reside in the Jewish Agency Camp at Pardess Hanna and a certain number of whom are spread throughout the country. We estimated that there are a total number of about 5,000 in that category. The plan was to construct in Israel in various parts of the country in the vicinity of larger towns homes for two hundred residents each, having in mind that at some later date these institutions will be taken over by the municipalities, either for the use of homes for the aged for the population in the community and its vicinity, or for other communal purposes.

During the last twelve months this plan was fully developed and the Jewish Agency agreed to contribute towards the construction of such homes an amount of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  million Israeli Pounds.

It has been visualized that the total program would be carried during a period of three years.

Towards the realization of this program we have already made the first steps, primarily in planning and acquisition of sites for the construction of such institutions.

While our plan has been to construct new homes with a capacity not to exceed two hundred beds each, we had agreed upon the urgent request of the Jewish Agency in order to meet the emergency, to take over the residential structure of an agricultural kibbutz near Tel-Aviv. We have purchased all these buildings and we are now beginning with their reconstruction to make them adaptable for our purposes. When completed, it will have a capacity of 400 to 450 residents.

We hope that during 1954 we will also be able to construct two new homes of about two hundred beds each, so that our present plan for 1954 calls for an expansion of our home for the aged program in providing for another 8-900 persons.

With regard to our program for the aged, we are at times criticized that we are following the old fashioned methods of dealing with the aged by confining them to institutions instead of following more advanced ideas of placing old people in foster homes, etc. These advanced ideas are advocated not because they are new and modern, but because it is believed that it is much better for old persons to reside in private homes in the community which is known to them and where they have spent most of their life, instead of being confined to institutions.

These critics overlooked the fact that in Israel we are dealing not with people who have spent their life in the communities there, but with people who have been coming from completely different communities and to whom Israel is entirely strange. Most of the residents of our homes for the aged come directly from the camps where they have been placed upon their arrival.

Further, we cannot overlook the fact that it is impossible at present to find in Israel suitable private homes that are in a position to take in and care for an old person, even though it may be made financially profitable to them. The very great majority of the population in Israel reside in very crowded quarters; a large number of families consisting of 3 to 5 persons reside in one room with some additional kitchen arrangement. About 200,000 of the newly arrived immigrants still reside in maabarot. Even the old settled population live in crowded homes because a great many of them have to keep their married children with them. There are many other reasons why the present conditions in Israel make it very difficult and practically impossible to find suitable private homes for the care of aged people.

At the beginning of the establishment of Malben when we started to plan for the care of the aged, we were aware of the various new ideas and experiments in the U.S. and in other countries. We made some investigation in that respect and came to the conclusion that at least for some time to come the solution for the care of the aged in Israel is the establishment of Institutions, with the idea of making these Institutions as much as possible a substitute for a home.

I hope that the funds which JDC will be in a position to make available for Malben during the next year will make it possible for us to continue our present activities and expand them along the lines which I outlined in this report.



MR. BECKELMAN: It's a great temptation to a chairman not to admit to a recess. As long as you are here, you are more or less under control. Let us take - I said five minutes - I'll stretch up to seven - on the assumption that everybody will be in his seat at the end of ten minutes so that we're ready to resume at ten minutes past twelve.

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I would say first of all that we have provided each of you with a series of documents containing a variety of essential background statistical and informational material which relate to various presentations that will be made at the session.

I shall not comment on each of the sections in this handbook now but shall refer to the appropriate sections when we reach the relevant portions and presentations of the program.

You will note that there was originally scheduled for presentation this afternoon a report by Dr. Shapiro on JDC's cultural and religious activities in Israel which would in a sense complete the presentation of JDC's concern with, and interest in, work in Israel. But in the interests of adjournment this evening at a reasonable hour and adequate opportunity for discussion and questions regarding the two very excellent summary statements we've heard this afternoon, Dr. Shapiro has agreed that we'll put his presentation on JDC's cultural and religious work in Israel into one of the other sessions of the conference which we shall announce.

The floor is therefore open now for any questions or comments or discussion on any of the issues raised in the two presentations which we've had. We'd like to keep the procedure as simple as possible. I simply ask that each person identify himself or herself in speaking and address himself as best he can to the nearest microphone on the table. The floor is open. Mr. Linder.

MR. LINDER: Well, you introduced me Mr. Beckelman by saying Linder. I'm from New York. I should like to ask Dr. Josephthal how the \$250,000,000 of foreign exchange required by Israel per annum is used, that is to say, I'd like to have it broken down roughly in the following categories: importation of food, other consumption goods, capital goods, purchases of materials which are used for manufacture of goods which are to be re-exported, and miscellaneous charges such as interest and other fiscal charges. Now this may be too detailed a question at this time but I feel it would be very helpful to any of us who really want to comprehend what the economic picture in respect to the foreign exchange budget of Israel is, to have this data.

And then there are one or two other points, if I may continue to get all my questions on the table. Reference was made to the fact that, in respect to the exploitation of natural resources, that some copper was being produced. I wonder whether it would be possible to estimate the cost of that copper in terms of, let us say, cents per pound.

And lastly, I thought I caught the statement that there had been a reduction of one-third in the foreign exchange budgetary requirements. Do I understand from this that, as compared to the previous year, Israel now requires some 80 millions less than it had required in that previous year, because as I recall it this \$250,000,000 figure has been more or less of a constant over several years. At least it was the figure that I recall in 1950. I would of course be interested to know in addition how this reduction was brought about. I assume it was brought about almost entirely through a reduction of imports but if an increase in exports played any appreciable part in it I would be much interested to hear about that. Thank you.

DR. JOSEPH THAL: I have to prepare my answers.

MR. BECKELMAN: Well, I think it's a reasonable request for the speaker to have said that he wants notice of that question. And while he's dealing with it and without shelving it, I wonder if I could ask Dr. Schmidt, who has just come back from a visit to Israel on his first renewed JDC assignment, if there are any particular points he wanted to make based upon his visits with respect to Mr. Passman's summary of the present Malben position.

DR. SCHMIDT: This is my second visit to Israel - the first was in 1949 - and I am perfectly frank to say that I would not have thought in 1949 that the accomplishments that I saw today would have been possible.

The achievements have been understated by Mr. Passman, both in terms of the extent to which this very difficult problem has been handled, the speed with which it has been handled and, above all, a most important point, Malben as an organization, in my view and from what I have seen in this visit, has not in any way weakened but on the contrary has strengthened the related activities of government and of the voluntary agencies in Israel. I think this is the most important point. It shows that the tendency of Malben, and it's true of JDC's operations in general, is not to stake out for itself a separate claim which will be never-ending, but on the other hand to fit in with and build up the existing strength of the country.

There are brief comments I would like to make on the specific points of Mr. Passman's presentation. On the tuberculosis question I think his reference to the importance of helping to strengthen the case-finding, to render services and follow-up is one of the most important and forward looking plans that could possibly now exist. The big push in terms of providing bed capacity has now reached success. It would be a pity if the achievement is not followed now with the strengthening of these preventive services which by no means are non-existent in the country, but which do require further development.

With respect to chronic diseases I would like to make the comment that Mr. Passman's view of enlarging the eligibility regulations, which Malben itself has established, is again a very forward looking step. There are many instances to be found, I think, of individuals who, because of budgetary limitations, have been excluded from Malben services and are not eligible for other services. Many of these people can be rehabilitated and made into productive individuals and perhaps this, let us say hint, that Mr. Passman has given us about future developments may mean ultimately a step in the field of chronic diseases comparable to the development of the tuberculosis bed pool in conjunction with the government, which has been such a great advance.

And finally, with regard to the aged - a very difficult problem, a problem for which it has been said that there is no easy and quick solution - I think that the strengthening and a greater intensification of medical work with the aged will show us that a certain, though unpredictable proportion can become less dependent or will at the very minimum need less services and in some instances may be able to live in non-institutional settings.

But these three points, I think, are only minor points at the moment compared to the major point, which is that a tremendous job has been achieved by Malben.

MRS. BRATLOVE: I would like to ask about the total beds under Malben supervision now, as against the total number of beds in the country, and how many aged there are under our care in Israel.

I have a question which is unrelated to that one, which I can ask you in just a minute if I may have the floor again - or ask you now. The question is related to Pardes Hanna. I think everybody who has visited Pardes Hanna has been shocked by the conditions there and I'm glad that we now have both the Jewish Agency and the Joint represented in the same room because what we could not understand was the complete absence of programming in the camp; we felt it needed the Joint touch and we wondered why you didn't have it there and has anything happened in Pardes Hanna in the last four months to alleviate the miserable conditions?

MR. BECKELMAN: Let me say to Mr. Passman that he has the choice of either answering the last question or passing it to Dr. Josephthal.

MR. PASSMAN: I think I'm going to relieve Dr. Josephthal and take care of that. On the question of the number of beds, it all depends on the types of service. When you talk of tubercular beds I'd say out of a total of 1,800 beds in the country we now control about 1,400, 1,350 to be more correct. With regard to general hospitalization, we haven't any hospitals at all. We have been using the facilities of the country. We have only been financing some of the existing hospitals to expand with our help.

As far as the aged are concerned, we have now 1,800 people housed in Malben institutions. Compared with the others there aren't really any homes for the aged in Israel to be counted on. There is one home built by the Federation of Labor in Cholon which has a capacity of about 100 or 120. That is a modern home. There are two old-fashioned homes in Jerusalem which one would not call homes at all. I mean I wouldn't want to send anybody to those two homes. There is one in Tel Aviv. There are a few homes established by what we call the European settlers, in other words "dadouth" - what they call "dadouth ole Europa". That was in the 1930's for the immigrants who came from Germany. They have three homes with a total of about - well I would say less than 300. In other words, when it comes to speaking of homes for the aged, we practically are the only ones in the country.

The question of Pardes Hanna. Well, first of all our building of new homes in 1953 is primarily to relieve the pressure on Pardes Hanna. Out of every 100 beds which become available in Malben homes 85 to 90 are reserved for Pardes Hanna inmates. And the more we take out the more we are making the conditions in Pardes Hanna easy. I must say that when we first discussed - I think last August with Mr. Leavitt and with the Jewish Agency at Wassenaar - the question of building homes and providing for the Pardes Hanna inmates, the Jewish Agency made a proposal to us that we take over the Pardes Hanna camp as it is. We hesitated to do it and the reasons were that we felt that once we took over 4,000 people for whom we could not provide homes in the same way as we provide for others, the pressure on us would be unbearable. There are possibilities, as has been discussed yesterday, that as we go on to reduce more and more the number of inmates in Pardes Hanna this by itself will make it more comfortable, but above all it's possible that we may then step in and take over and remodel what is left and probably keep that place in a more suitable condition. Perhaps Dr. Josephthal wants to add something to this.

DR. JOSEPHTHAL: I'm sorry to say that I haven't got the exact figures in order to answer Mr. Linder's question properly but I want to make a split-up as well as I can and please don't take all the figures exactly but they are rough estimates of the proportion of the various items of import. Our estimate is as follows: 60 million dollars food or material for food production - there may be a small exaggeration in this figure; 38 to 40 million dollars fuel; 50 to 55 millions investment goods, including electricity, irrigation, agricultural industry, transport - not including security; 36 millions raw materials for producing consumption or investment goods, not capital goods; 2 millions repayment of Arab deposits; 47 to 50 million dollars debts - repayment of debts. Now may I ask you not to make a statement out of those figures for I give them only according to what I remember. I haven't got the exact figures here.



MR. LINDER: Two other questions. One related to an estimate of the cost of the copper produced and the other related to an explanation as to what you meant by reduction in your foreign exchange budget of approximately a third; whether that really meant that it was down by 80 million dollars one year as compared to the other and if so whether this was attributable almost entirely to tightening of the belt, as we might say, as far as imports were concerned, and to what extent export played a part in it.

DR. JOSEPH THAL: I cannot give an answer to the second question because I am not a technical expert in the field of copper. I don't even know the rough estimate. I have some figures here which may be of some service but I'm not very sure about them.

To the third question, in June 1952 we made out the foreign currency program for Israel - we took into account an income of 315 million dollars. We haven't got this income.

Cutting the foreign currency budget meant the following: (1) 17% decrease of imports; (2) there was a 20% increase in exports in comparison with 1952. But in decreasing imports there were two main items: investment goods and consumer goods. Approximately two-thirds of what we saved was on consumer goods and one-third we had to save because we didn't have the money on investment goods. There was nothing saved on raw materials.

MR. LINDER: If I understand correctly 315 million dollars was kind of an optimum figure, that is to say was a figure of what you thought you should have but is it not a fact that the actual expenditures of Israel abroad for the past several years have approximated 250 million dollars a year?

DR. JOSEPH THAL: The actual expenditure figure in 1952 was 278 million dollars exactly. The actual expenditure figure for 1953, as far as we can see now, will be below 200 on account of investment goods too. That means that's not all a success, it's a failure too.

DR. WISE: What was the effect of the German reparations program on the external deficit?

DR. JOSEPH THAL: The reparations program came into effect on the 1st of April 1953. It covers two-thirds of Israel's needs in fuel, leaving one-third still to be bought in the United States, two-thirds from England through German money and one-third from the United States. In the field of iron and steel we hope to get, in changing the present agreement - the Germans are inclined to agree to it - we hope to get up to 65% of the

needs in iron and steel from Germany. We took into account that the actual income of goods, German goods and non-German goods, paid by the reparations money will come to between 55 and 60 million dollars this year. For the next year, although the official payment rate is less, we will however get in more goods as we had to order some goods which can be supplied by the Germans only after a delivery delay of a year or two, especially investment goods in connection with electricity and transport. So we expect for the first year 55 to 60, for the second year 60 to 70 million dollars in goods to be shipped to Israel.

MRS. BRAILOVE: Dr. Josephthal, would you explain more in detail the nature of the emigration - the people who are leaving Israel - since your emigration gets much wider publicity than you immigration ever got in our newspapers and I have had many many questions on the subject.

DR. JOSEPHTHAL: I can't give exact figures offhand. The biggest emigration from Israel is to Canada and European areas. As to re-emigration to the country of origin, to a large extent we have that only in one country, that's Turkey. The biggest percentage of re-emigrants from immigrants came till now from Turkey. 15% of those who came from Turkey to Israel since the beginning of the State have re-emigrated.

In the field of North Africa we have wider traffic back and forth and we have some - not hundreds - I'm afraid thousands of people who are coming under their own names and under other names once and twice and even three times, especially younger people who came for the first time in 1948 and 1949 during the war of liberation, went back, especially to Morocco, as after leaving the Army they thought that they couldn't be absorbed, and coming back to Israel once more. That never expresses itself in statistics, as people are changing their names very quickly in order to get help for the second time and even the third time and I think our control in this field is nearly nothing. It doesn't exist.

During the last month emigration is easier as the law for exit permits was so much more lenient than it was before and because the State of Israel is, I'm sorry to say, still giving a passport with Israeli citizenship to everyone who is only one day in Israel. I think we are making a grave mistake in this and should change that, but by doing it till now we are making it still easy, for people who cannot be adjusted very quickly, to go forth and back whatever they think just at the moment about their possibilities of adjustment. Till now the re-immigration is approximately two-thirds European elements, one-third non-European elements, as most of the countries refuse to receive non-European elements according to the quotas fixed in the various countries. That doesn't mean that non-European elements don't want to emigrate as quickly as the European ones, but it just means that they have no possibility.

We had two special problems connected with the Eastern European states. Since the Communist regimes in the Eastern European states, Israel was the

only country where people could go. And there were quite a considerable number amongst them who never wanted to live in Israel at all, but they said they want to go to Israel as there was no other way to come out from the Communist countries. And in the cases of mixed marriage, especially with the Yugoslavs and with Roumanians and to a lesser extent with Hungarians, people tell us the truth from the very first moment. "We get an immigrant visa to Israel as we couldn't get a visa to any other country. But we want to leave as quickly as possible if we can get a visa to, let us say, one of the South American states, to Canada or to the United States." I think that the number of folks who never wanted to stay in Israel and never wanted to be adjusted in Israel is roughly a fourth of those who re-emigrated from Israel.

DR. LUBIN: Is there any evidence showing 35,000 people are waiting in Israel for their visa numbers on applications already made to the United States some seven years ago? I was told that there are a very large number of people who have made application for coming to Israel for emigration to the United States.

MR. LEAVITT: I think I could help answer that, I don't think that many of the 35,000 who left are the ones you are talking about. There is a registration with the American Consulate of about 17,000. Most of them are still in Israel.

MR. RACOOSIN: I would like to ask Dr. Josephthal if any consideration has been given to the fact that the large amount of German machinery coming into the country might have been replaced by other types so that it should not be necessary to depend on Germany for spare parts and replacements and to stick to continual German methods.

DR. JOSEPHTHAL: It is very hard to answer this question. We are trying to get, together with German machines in various fields, spare parts for a considerable time to be used in Israel. Owing to the shortage of dollars we are even getting German spare parts to be used in non-German machines as far as possible. Of course we wouldn't like to do that but we have to do it now, and in some fields even for American machines - tractors, combines and so on - spare parts are produced in Germany and we get them from the Germans. We would like to lay a rule down for that and to say we want to cover, during the first three years, the needs in spare parts for many more years to come. I am afraid that the present situation in our foreign currency budget does not allow us to stock spare parts for a longer period than a very few years.

MR. BECKELMAN: There were two questions I wanted to have Mr. Passman's comment on. They are related. The first one is that in his report last

year, in addition to describing the Ein Shemer village for the aged and the general plan about which he today gave us the developmental history during the year just ending, he referred to a plan - then only a plan - for what he called a TB village or TB rehabilitation village. I wonder how that has fitted in or whether it has been discarded in the overall program for coordinated TB care in Israel. And the second question is the extent to which rehabilitation for TB patients figures in the present planning and the coordinated scheme.

MR. PASSMAN: I referred last year to the problem of what we call in TB medically good chronics, people who are not curable but nevertheless capable of being able to carry on work; but they must be under protected conditions so as not to spread the disease. We thought we might be able to concentrate them in a village like the village of the blind, where we have workshops, people residing with their families and at the same time working in those workshops. Our experience from the last year with the village of the blind - although everybody thinks it is our greatest success - has given us so much trouble that under the conditions existing in Israel I doubt very much the advisability of concentrating a group of people of one type of sufferers or one type of invalids. The demands and the difficulties they create are almost insurmountable. The village of the blind, which is the only one of its kind in existence, has become the by-word of everybody who visits Israel. The people there to whom I have talked are to a certain extent primitive, are convinced that at least 50% of the millions collected in the United States for UJA is theirs. It reminds me of the days of the Central Committee in Germany except that they are much more primitive and that the demands are much greater. And they create trouble constantly - they demonstrate, they go up to the Knesset, they go up to the Jewish Agency, they come to our offices. And they get the sympathy of the people they speak to - these poor blind people, they are being exploited! We have a great deal of difficulty with them. We have a workshop for the blind in Bethlied where 50 people are working but they are scattered, they do not reside together, and with them we have considerably much less trouble than we have with those who are residing in the village together. Now with regard to TB it is difficult to disperse them, particularly under conditions existing in Israel today. It may be that Dr. Schmidt will bear out that as we develop much better the control system of TB we may be able to spread some of those TB people with positive sputum. We may be able to spread them among people living together with other families and nevertheless have them employed in our workshops.

The second question was the position of rehabilitation. The TB patients who are leaving our hospitals after treatment, after cure, are included in all the three plans of rehabilitation. In other words some of them go to our workshops and there is no difficulty with them. I mean there are even the kinds of trades which their physical condition permits. A very substantial number are placed in business except that we do not give them business enterprises which require handling of food. The smallest, the

very smallest number is handled through our TB rehabilitation center. In other words, so far every TB patient who is cured and has to leave our hospital has a means of livelihood created for him. By the time he gets out of the hospital he has some place to go to and something to start making a living on. We do realize that as time goes on it will become more difficult and some of them may have to leave the hospitals and become merely charges of the Ministry of Welfare. Then, of course - as the Ministry allows a very minimum of relief to a person or family - it is to be feared that under the conditions that they have to live they may soon come back to the hospital. But we have no solution to that.

MR. BECKELMAN: Any other questions, comments, observations?  
Mr. Leavitt.

MR. LEAVITT: I had a feeling as I listened to Dr. Josephthal's searching self-criticism and analysis of the social problems involved with many of the people coming from, what we call in our conferences, the Moslem countries, to what extent the experiences that are being met in Israel, some of which he touched upon, could be translated in the programs which are being carried out at the present time in the Moslem countries with a view toward having a sort of pre-educational program worked out. Eventually many of the people in the Moslem countries will find their way into Israel. I wonder whether any of the people in Israel are thinking along those lines and to what extent we can set up a liaison between our directors - whether working in Iran, Tunis or Morocco - and the people who have the problem of the sociological adjustment of these people in Israel.

MR. BECKELMAN: Who wants to open on that? One of our people, or Dr. Josephthal? Do you want to make any suggestions as to what Jewish Agency people in these countries are now doing and any thoughts you may have on how our country operations may help, or shall we ask our representatives from those countries to talk first? What is your opinion?  
Mr. Bein from Morocco.

MR. BEIN: Let me read one of the conclusions of my presentation:

"...to undertake effective steps in cooperation with the Jewish Agency, the Zionist Federation, the Alliance, the ORT and the Youth Organization in order to condition - and I would like to underline condition - the Jews of Morocco for possible future emigration, this conditioning to include the establishment of cooperatives, moshavim, which at a later date may emigrate as groups."

Now I would say that unfortunately practically nothing was done in this respect, as far as I know, in Morocco. And much more should be done. We have our possibilities and these possibilities should be used. These

possibilities are that the quiet years, so to say, the meager years of emigration should be used for conditioning the largest number of people for future possible emigration to Israel.

MR. BECKELMAN: I wonder if in that connection, Dr. Josephthal, you could - although I know that this is not your particular field - do you have any estimates of expected immigration into Israel from Moslem countries, say, for 1954, and if it has been projected further.

DR. JOSEPHTHAL: I think that the figure of immigrants expected from Moslem countries in 1954 is 10,000. Of those 10,000 at least 3,000 from Iran; the other 7,000 from the three North African countries taking into account that Morocco will make between 5,000 and 6,000. The other two countries 1,000 to 2,000. That is of course a rough estimate, and if the situation remains as it is maybe you can carry the situation at this estimate even for 1955 and further on.

I think that besides the normal educational services given in North Africa, there are really two things which should be done to a greater extent. I cannot say - I have never been in North Africa; I only know the situation from reports. I am not sure that the people working on the spot see much chance in trying in those two fields to work with greater energy than they did till now. One is the organizing of future settlers in groups, which can be taken as groups to the land. That means 40, 50, 60 families from one village or a small town together, organizing them in a form that we can transfer them from Morocco to the plot where the village should be built. We tried that in various countries, not without result. But I don't know if in Morocco any results have shown until now; I don't know even if it was tried. You will remember that transfer of part of the population of Djerba in Tunisia to Israel was done in that form. These people came all ready, 50 families together, or 40, and we made a settlement - a new settlement - out of them. The best form we found till now is to find the first ten families and to tell them you have to get the other ones. So, practically, we started all our new settlements; we take 100 families as a new settlement, roughly.

How do we start them if they don't come organized as settlements to Israel? With the first ten or fifteen families that are applying to us to go to the land, we tell them we cannot settle ten, fifteen families separately; you get the other ones. And then, say, if there is some leadership amongst them, they generally take from their relatives and friends - they take the other families and come with a fuller list. The only group of Jews where we couldn't do that were the Yemenites. We did it practically according to a card index. We took ten cards out and called them - it was at the time of the mass immigration - and we said you start, and then we filled in the other ones. This was just an administrative measure and of course not the form we would want to go on because we never know the social difficulties afterwards arising amongst the people living together. What

we want to do is to have the first ten, fifteen families to see that they are able-bodied and there is some leadership amongst them, and then tell them please organize the other ones and we promise you to put you on the land. I heard during the last month that we are trying to do that in some far off villages in North Africa but I don't know to what extent it is real and it is really being done.

The second question is the question of professional training. The North African population from a point of view of professional training is on the lowest possible standard, lower than immigration from other Moslem countries, far lower than immigration from Iran, even lower than the Iraqi immigration. That means town population and people who are living on just nothing, or nobody can explain what they are living on. That's mostly the case in the Moslem countries where you can hardly find professionally trained people. What can be done in this field I don't know. I don't know the budget of the various organizations working there. But it is quite clear that in the fields of metal work, or even wood workers, we didn't get anything - I may say that - we didn't get anything out of Morocco till now and we find on the average amongst the North African immigration, after two or three years, more than 80% unskilled laborers. That means these are the first to suffer from unemployment, the most poverty-stricken and those who can be absorbed with only the greatest difficulty. So every extent of professional training in this field is a good preparation for immigration to Israel.

MR. BECKELMAN: Some months ago Harold Goldenberg was talking with me about possible movement from Moslem countries to Israel of a slightly different type - a different type with respect to the economic and financial status of the persons involved. I wonder if in this connection Harold, you would have enough experience with that design to comment on the floor.

MR. GOLDENBERG: No, we have not enough experience. I was saving this up as a basis for a question tomorrow when we talk about the Moslem countries. We have had two strange experiences, one was from Morocco and the other, I think, was from Tunis, if I remember correctly, where people with some capital, in one case it was 20 families, in the other case I believe 30 families, got together, in one case I think it was about \$200,000 and the other about \$300,000. And when the group moved over to Israel they came to see us in an attempt to discover what seemed advisable for the group to engage in. For one group there was a project of a bakery, of a garage and repair shop - that kind of work - and they are now being settled. How widespread such a project can become is a question I would like to have answered.

MR. BECKELMAN: We have reached what is our normal adjourning time for the afternoon meetings. We set ourselves a very good example of prompt

schedule opening this afternoon. I hope we will continue it at tomorrow's session which begins at ten o'clock.

A great many of the people here, and those who will be arriving tomorrow and the next day will be going on to Israel at the end of the week. It is not my intention to discourage any one from doing so, particularly if he is going via El Al, after what Dr. Josephthal said regarding the dollar requirements. It is also not my intention to deprecate in any way the information and presentations which will be made to them in Israel. I think it is fair to say that you had this afternoon probably as searching, succinct and honest a statement of some of the basic problems which Israel faces as you are likely to get in any presentation which will be made to you.

We adjourn or recess until tomorrow morning and our General Manager, Herman Goldsmith, tells me that there is a drink and a snack outside for anyone who wishes it.





SECOND SESSION

Monday morning, October 19, 1953

Chairman - Mr. Herbert Katzki

MR. KATZKI: This morning's session, as can be seen from your program notes, has to do with the activities of the JDC in the Moslem countries. Our geography for the Moslem countries is somewhat different from the geography you will find in Rand McNally. For our own work, when we talk about Morocco, we include Western Algeria, Spanish Morocco and Tangiers. When we talk about our program in Tunisia we are actually including Libya and Eastern Algeria. However, when we talk about our program in Iran this country has to stand by itself. Iran isn't associated with anything or with anybody. We are satisfied if our delegate can come out from there, from time to time, without giving any concern as to whether Iran relates to any of the other areas.

As I did last year, I shall open this section of the Conference with a statement in which I shall address myself to the delegates who have come here from the Moslem countries, and to those department heads who are involved with the work in these areas, to pose some questions to which the meeting can address itself as the conference goes along.

Last year when we came to that part of our sessions which related to the JDC program in the Moslem countries, we made an attempt to examine a number of factors which would have to be taken into account in determining the direction of our plans and activities for the future. We considered the political situation in the various Moslem countries as the background against which any planning for the future would have to be weighed. We examined the factors of political, economic and numerical stability of the Jewish populations in those countries and attempted a forecast of what one might expect for the future. We also sought to evaluate local Jewish communities in terms of a series of four principles which have emerged out of JDC experience over the years for successful community program and development. I think it would be both interesting and useful to review in broad outline the conclusions which were reached last year and to relate these conclusions to the actual development of our work in the Moslem countries since that time.

One of the underlying factors which continuously kept weaving in and out of our entire discussion in 1953 was that of "time". Implicitly or explicitly the questions of "how much time do we have" or "how much time will it take" or "are we planning for a long time stay" kept bobbing up. I think it was more or less agreed that so far as the background political situation was concerned, there was room for hope that despite its uncertainties it might not so adversely affect our work within the near future as to make planning impracticable. Though dramatic events had but recently taken place - the Anglo-Iranian oil dispute in Iran, almost weekly flare-

ups and "evenements" in Tunisia, Istiqlal demonstrations in Morocco - it was not felt that any of these should be regarded as indications of early upheavals in the local political scenes, at least in the sense that they would have basic effects upon the position of Jews in these countries. I think that developments have shown that by and large these viewpoints were correct. Certainly in Tunisia and Morocco, while the tensions, frictions and rivalries have continued, there has been no fundamental change in the position of the Jewish populations during the past 12 months. Mr. Bein has reported that, in Morocco, even the most optimistic Jews fear that the recent political changes in that country will be detrimental in the future to the already weak economic status of the Jews. Presumably Mr. Bein in his presentation will expand upon this, indicating whether there are grounds for this fear and in what manner JDC is to take them into account in its own thinking and planning for Morocco. The basic position in Iran is not so clear to us at this moment. We know that early this year there were considerable agitation and propaganda in Iran, originated by some of the political parties that the Americans be thrown out of the country and that foreign Jewish organizations be closed down. The degree of this agitation can best be exemplified by the language of the signs which were pasted on Mr. Loskove's home, reading: "Yankee Jew go home". What this portends for the JDC program in Iran Mr. Loskove undoubtedly will tell us and will provide us with considerably more information on the political background in his country.

You will recall that it was the general belief that JDC would have to deal with static populations, inasmuch as substantial emigration to Israel for a variety of reasons did not seem likely. Mr. Passman, looking at this question from the Israel viewpoint, said that it is his conviction that in the next two years there would be no increased immigration from these countries into Israel and, indeed, probably a decrease. The general belief was well founded, for from September 1952 through June 1953 emigration to Israel from Morocco totalled 3,954, from Tunisia 1,058, from Iran 1,753, and if we add in Libya we have 217 more, mostly TB cases and their family members. Despite deteriorated economic conditions in Iran and Tunisia and to a lesser extent in Morocco, the reasons in the minds of the Jewish populations for not going to Israel still seem to outweigh those for going.

Gradually and perceptibly, therefore, the character of JDC work in the Moslem countries has developed in the direction of assisting stable populations, people who propose to remain where they are for an indefinite period of time, barring unforeseen developments of such a nature that might cause stampeding emigration to Israel. In other words, we have accepted the factor of time in the Moslem countries to mean the foreseeable future.

In Morocco, the JDC therefore is planning the erection of a teigne and trachoma center for Casablanca. The land has already been purchased and architects' plans are in the process of preparation. The long discussed Jewish TB sanatorium in Ben Ahmed has advanced beyond the planning stage and construction has already begun. A modern milk station requiring a substantial capital investment has been installed in Casablanca to provide safe milk for infants and nursing mothers. In a partnership between the Jewish Colonization Association and the JDC a loan

society recently has been established in Casablanca, subsequently if necessary to be expanded to include Marrakesh, to provide loans and other types of aid to artisans who, by such assistance, may be made economically self-sustaining.

In Tunisia a second loan society similar to that in Casablanca has been inaugurated. The JDC has granted funds for the building of a new medical dispensary in Sousse and will grant substantial amounts for a dispensary in Tunis, designed to unite under one roof a number of scattered installations. Architects' plans for this are in preparation.

JDC has opened its first kindergarten in Teheran within the past months, and, despite many difficulties, has succeeded in expanding its medical program in the provincial towns of Iran.

In these and in a number of other ways the JDC has expanded its programs to include activities and services which can have significance and value mainly if stable populations are at hand. Whether it takes the form of the increased grant which is being given to the Alliance Israelite for 1953, or the recent consolidation under the auspices of the Jewish Community of Tunis of Hebrew education in that city, or the continuation and expansion of the training programs given by the Paul Baerwald School in Morocco and Tunisia, all of these clearly indicate the new trend of our work. Even should the long discussed but as yet unrealized proposal of the Jewish Agency to initiate a program for the evacuation of the Jews in the exposed villages of the Moslem countries become a reality, as Mr. Bein pointed out in his report last year, the natural increase in the Jewish population would nevertheless exceed the rate of emigration and our involvement with a stable population would remain.

This widening in the emphasis of our program carries with it a number of implications. Because, in many respects, our past activities were designed to provide services equally useful to those who proposed to emigrate and to those who would remain where they are, we did not rigidly insist upon the fundamental condition of JDC aid - namely local participation, using that term in its broadest sense. We did not universally condition our help upon planned, progressively increasing local participation in programs which were regarded at that time as directed mainly toward transient populations. However, now that we have broadened our orientation, JDC methods of work and organization require ever increasing interest and aid in the various activities on the part of local groups, organizations, communities and governments. In JDC concepts the final objective of the development of any program is the point where full responsibility has been assumed locally and JDC can retire from the scene. If this is to be our ultimate goal in the Moslem countries, it might be well to examine the position at this time, to consider the effect of having converted into permanent programs many which had originally been, partially at least, regarded as transient and to attempt to draw some conclusions regarding the likelihood of achieving such an objective.

In the beginning of our work in the Moslem countries, in the understandable desire to get activities started, the JDC had no hesitancy in providing up to 100%, if necessary, of the funds required. The important consideration was to begin the work, with the expectation that local financial interest would be forthcoming at a later time. In many instances this expectation was realized. Subsequently, the JDC insisted upon local participation right from the start in any new projects or activities which were undertaken. However, at all times the principle of progressively increasing local participation was kept in mind, at least by JDC, even though little advance in this connection has been made.

Still later new projects were undertaken but then with local participation on a higher level than in the earlier days of the program. The result has been, however, that while more recently proportionately greater amounts have been obtained locally for the new work, there has been relatively little or no increase in amounts obtained locally towards the activities originally undertaken. The constant expansion of the program seems to have resulted in a draining away of local resources into new activities, leaving the financing of the old work where it was. From the JDC point of view, the old programs, and we might regard the end of 1952 as the dividing line between old and new, represent the greater burden in terms of the time, effort and money which must be put into them. In other words, while local communities are coming forward with increased assistance of all kinds in the post-1952 activities, they are doing so at the expense of JDC in the ante-1952 work.

The question therefore arises whether the JDC is headed in the direction of ultimate over-expansion or, at least, too rapid expansion in its program in the Moslem countries, whether it is setting up more activities than the communities can be expected ultimately to absorb by their own resources. In using the term "over-expansion" I am not doing so in respect to the needs of those countries. As to this there can be no question. I use it in the sense that, in responding to needs as JDC sees them or as the communities see them, we might be providing more program than the local people will be able to handle, except possibly at some unforeseeable future time.

I might illustrate it in this fashion. A community may have agreed to a nominal participation in a program initiated in 1950 or in 1951. This same community has requested the JDC to help it with something new in 1953, offering a somewhat more substantial participation. The new proposal appears attractive and the JDC proceeds with it. The effect, though, is to make it impossible for the community to increase its participation in the earlier project. The overall result is that the community is spread thinly over a number of activities. The JDC has its budget pledged for these activities and can undertake new work only at the risk of over-extending its partners, the communities. Thus the JDC in effect makes it impossible for the communities to catch up in their absorption of their responsibilities and at the same time makes it necessary for JDC to deal with an ever expanding budget.

Has the JDC then reached a stage where in the development of its Moslem country program it should say "enough"? Or, to use Mr. Churchill's phrase "have we reached the end of the beginning"? Have we reached the stage where instead of undertaking new things or even expanding the old we must declare a moratorium for the good of the local organizations and limit our work to helping them refine what exists and helping them maximize the service which can be provided by those programs which are in being within the limits they encompass today? Must we now put the greater emphasis of our assistance upon helping local organizations develop local sources and resources so as to enable them to assume greater responsibilities for what exists today? Shall we limit new work, if any, to that which can be covered by the concept of the "one-time grant"?

Last year the several country directors and responsible department heads spoke of the necessity for expanding medical work. Dr. Gonik in his report, presented what might be regarded as an outline for an effective and comprehensive medical and public health service within the limitations of the JDC's possibilities. The country directors proposed the advisability of expanding educational work, social work activities and training of the staff. Has sufficient groundwork been laid during the past year, added to that what already has been authorized or is being planned for the coming year, to make it feasible to say "enough" in the sense mentioned earlier?

If the answer is in the affirmative, what steps would it be necessary to take to consolidate, tighten up and improve the local organizations, so that they may more adequately deal with what exists? I would add the word "strengthen" if it were understood that the term did not mean the provision of still more projects and programs which would enable the local organizations to confuse strength with prestige accruing from the ability to induce JDC to expand still more. Is it feasible at this point to insist that local organizations devote more attention to the problems of local fund-raising, to the involvement of public resources, municipal and governmental, financial and personal in our programs? What weight can one give, based upon our experience, to the representations made to us in the past that the important thing for us to do is to get things started, after which everything else will come along?

It may well be that in Morocco, Tunisia and Iran it is still too soon to consider the advisability of taking the position that sufficient groundwork has been laid or enough of the basic work has been done by the JDC. There still are children who are not being fed or who do not have the opportunity for some form of education. There still are areas which are not being reached by any of the medical services and there are types of medical care which are not yet being provided. The JDC up until the present time has done relatively little for aid to adults in these countries. Earlier in this introduction I indicated that there can be no question as to the existence of unmet needs in these countries. Consequently it might be the viewpoint and recommendation of the country

directors and department heads that the time has not yet arrived for the JDC to discontinue the expansion of its activities in the Moslem countries and that consideration of this possibility should be deferred to a later time. If that is the case, I hope that the reports presented and the discussion which will follow will develop this viewpoint.

The questions which I have raised here, I am sure, have crossed the minds of all the country directors and department heads who have responsibility for the initiation and development of our programs in the Moslem countries. Time and again they re-appear when consideration has to be given to problems which arise in those areas. There should be a full interchange of views and experiences during the course of these sessions, and I am hopeful that the country directors in making their reports will cover fully the issues which have been raised.

With that introduction, we shall begin with Mr. Bein and ask him to tell us about his program in Morocco, Tangiers and Spanish Morocco. Perhaps he will be able to throw some light and give us some of the answers to the questions which have been raised here in setting this meeting. Mr. Bein.



ADDRESS ON MOROCCO

By

William Bein

One of the purposes of this conference is to acquaint you with our activities and present a report on what JDC is doing in the various countries of operation.

In order not to burden you too much, I have been given only 30 minutes in which to speak. After much cutting and editing, I have succeeded in boiling down my presentation to about 36 minutes (daylight saving time), but after reading it over, I felt it was incomplete - that it did not tell the whole story of JDC's work, that it failed to show the impact of our work upon the individual Moroccan Jew. In re-thinking the problem, I remembered the story of a Jewish mother of Morocco whose story, I think, you will find interesting because it will give you some idea of how JDC's work touches the lives of our people there.

Some of my friends may remember the beginning of the story. It is about a woman who used to clean our apartment, this maid is a Jewish woman. She has 7 children still alive. She doesn't remember exactly, but thinks that she lost 4 babies in the course of the years.

Of her second marriage she has a little boy. She was anxious to keep this frail baby boy alive. Therefore my wife Carol permitted her to keep the baby in our kitchen, and Rachel, our maid, used to rock the child with her feet while making noodles on the table.

Recently Rachel came to me with a request. She started out by saying that since JDC came to Morocco none of her children have died. But that creates a problem! Little Moshe, the boy, who spent his early infancy in our kitchen, is too big to continue living under the table. He needs a kindergarten. Let us see the composition of this family. As I told you, she has 7 children. Six of Rachel's children are already taken care of, approximately as follows:

Solange, a nice name - 4 years old - is in the kindergarten of La Maternelle;  
Esther -  $5\frac{1}{2}$  years - is in the Talmud Torah kindergarten;  
Azra -  $6\frac{1}{2}$  years - is in the Hermitage kindergarten for TB-suspected children.

The children of her first marriage are somewhat older:

Lilian, also a nice name - 9 years old - is in the Alliance School;

Morduch - 11 years old - is in the Ozar Hatorah School, and Perla finally - 13 years old - is in the ORT School.

With six children already under care of JDC subsidized organizations, Rachel's request that the seventh be taken care of is most important. Why? Six is not enough? Rachel's husband is an unskilled painter. He suffers from an age old trachoma and he is going slowly blind. Today he cannot even perform the primitive type of work he used to do. Rachel, the maid, is the family's only breadwinner - but unless she can place her youngest one in one of the kindergartens, she'll have to quit her job and take care of the baby herself - and then the whole family will starve. But if Rachel could only place little Moshe in a kindergarten, until Perla - the oldest girl - learned a trade, the family would be saved.

Well, we will have to find a place for little Moshe. But multiply this story by hundreds, by thousands - then you'll get an idea of what JDC faces in Morocco and how JDC is changing the lives of a whole new generation - a Jewish generation.

Now, Mr. Chairman, with your permission I will try to present my report. I will try to skip also certain parts which were mentioned in your introduction.

It is the fourth time and I think the last time that I have the privilege to report to the Country Directors' Conference on the subject of our activities in Morocco, and it is known by now that a certain and definite program has developed in this country, into which we moved as the result of an outcry that this important Jewish community was in tremendous need and that the Moroccan Jews were suffering from diseases, poverty and political side-effects of the establishment of the State of Israel.

We moved in under somewhat different auspices than elsewhere. In Morocco there were no refugees and no emergencies. Our help was needed for the so-called "settled population" which lived in this country for centuries as a tolerated minority.

It has been stated on many occasions that Morocco is practically the only country where JDC is carrying out large-scale activities on behalf of the "settled population" - a Jewish minority of about a quarter-of-a-million - in a vast sea of 8 million Arabs. It is by now an admitted fact that the fate of the Jews in this country is closely connected with the fate of the French Protectorate power, which Protectorate power is at present violently contested.

Jews have lived in Morocco for over two thousand years. They have lived here all this time in an antagonistic atmosphere, but this antagonism was merely of a local character. Since the advent of Arab nationalism, this antagonism threatens to develop into an internationally directed issue resembling more closely the European type of anti-Semitism, and while the political skirmishes abroad relating to Morocco have the effect of a distant tremor upon local conditions, any conflict which develops could



cause grave consequences for this minority - which is sentimentally allied with Israel, the country which is target No. 1 of the Moslem world.

Bearing in mind the political situation, the fact that we are dealing in Morocco with a continuously increasing Jewish population and that the present restricted emigration hardly takes care of one-third of the natural increase in the Jewish population, adding to this the threatening economic crisis - which is really serious - which is causing industries and businesses to reduce their activities, then further hardship and loss of livelihood must be feared for many Jews in Morocco. Bearing in mind prevailing conditions, the future of the Jews in Morocco cannot by any conscientious thinking be considered assured. Therefore it becomes clear that their mass emigration may become a necessity both from the political and the economic point of view. The time element is subject to speculation.

If this theory is accepted then the road is clear for JDC, which has as its aim helping Jews wherever Jews need help.

May I be permitted to quote one paragraph of my last year's report to the Country Directors' Conference which continues to be valid in what concerns the Jews and our activities in Morocco:

I quote: "To make healthy and keep alive as many children as possible. To help the parents to maintain their children and to contribute towards the community instead of having themselves and their children helped by charity. To bear in mind that despite the best intentions of the French Government, sooner or later a large part of the Jewish population may be compelled to leave the country, and therefore in creating organizations or developing the welfare of the Jews, it should also be borne in mind that all activities should be double-barrelled - preparation for emigration, and preparation to lead dignified lives before emigration and all the while the people are in the country."

In reporting to the Country Directors' Conference a few years ago (myself and a number of my colleagues) Moroccan problems presented to you seemed to be incomprehensible, as they were incomprehensible for me before I went to Morocco. Morocco was distant, but since then technical developments brought us nearer and Casablanca can be reached by a jet plane in 3 hours comfortably.

During the past year, Headquarters became more intimately acquainted with our problems due to the on-the-spot studies made by Mr. Leavitt, Mr. Beckelman, Mr. Katski and frequent visits of several department heads. Added to this, we were visited by nearly one hundred VIPs and personalities from all corners of the United States who were able to see for themselves the country's needs and JDC's achievements. I sincerely hope that many of the VIPs became valuable helpers in the fundraising campaign of the UJA.

VIFs and professionals had the opportunity to observe that by now JDC has found its way through the maze of problems facing the Jewish Community in Morocco, has established certain priorities and has succeeded to a great extent in influencing and stimulating social consciousness, and was within the past four years instrumental in developing activities which would otherwise have taken decades to develop.

While it is difficult to illustrate by simple statistics the progress made - because in these primitive countries activities penetrate much deeper than in the westernized world - nevertheless we have prepared a few statistical statements which you will find under Section 9 in the appendix. But in order to illustrate these figures, I wish to give you a brief report of the progress made during the past year. As I said, I will only skim our progress because much of it was already mentioned.

### Children's Feeding

We made continuous progress in our traditional operations, and improved standards in canteens providing nourishing meals for over 20,000 needy school children. A number of small canteens were added to our list and by now we are trying, at least in the provinces, to add to the Alliance canteens children who are in religious schools. We have introduced summer feeding in 17 localities for about 3,500 children.

### Medical Activities

In the medical field, just before the onset of this year's cruel heat-wave, we opened the first milk-bottling station, which by now has issued over a million baby bottles; and I am sure that only the next census of population will show how many children's lives we saved with these milk distributions.

We carried through a successful mass trachoma treatment, on which the Medical Department will report, in the Casablanca mellah with 2,500 inhabitants. We can report with great satisfaction that at the expense of \$8.00 per person we succeeded in eradicating from a restricted area this maiming social disease of trachoma. The 1,644 persons treated will not go blind because of trachoma and will stop spreading the disease. The 175 blind and near-blind in the same two streets cannot be helped any more.

There is an Arab proverb saying that helping a blind man has the value of faith. If this is correct, then to prevent blindness has the value of atonement. (We will all get into heaven - one day!)

Likewise we were successful in extending the teigne scalp-worm treatment which, in addition to its social aspects, helped a large number of children to be accepted in schools. A recent report shows that during the first half of 1953, 1,962 children were treated in our dispensary.

While I am reporting to you, a team of social workers and physicians is taking a complete medical census in one of the worst towns in Morocco,

Taroudant, which is situated near the Sahara. (I am sure Mr. Leavitt will be pleased to hear that within a month we will start with the treatment of the entire Jewish population of this town - this in complete accord and cooperation with the medical authorities of the country.)

### Education

In the educational field, we were successful in finding closer cooperation with the Alliance in what concerns Hebrew education. More about the Alliance later.

While there are still 1,200 children in the Casablanca chedarim, we were successful in liquidating the worst of these chedarim; we established recently another school for the 100 defective and backward children, again in cooperation with the Alliance and one of the youth organizations. While I am talking to you, in Marrakech the chedarim will be completely liquidated by the end of this year. (I am sorry I don't see Dr. Josephthal here.)

The JDC subsidizes in Morocco Hebrew courses for 3,731 persons, and during the summer Hebrew courses for about 4,500 persons. I needn't tell you the importance of these Hebrew courses for adults and adolescents.

### Summer Camps

The summer camps, from which 9,000 children benefitted, continued to be a great success this year. We included in these camps the most needy. There were camps organized for sick and TB children, for the deaf and dumb, for those with teigne and trachoma and especially for the children from the tropical interior of the country. The camp activity is one of the most popular, toward which the public and the government are largely contributing. Of a total expense for these 9,000 children of 38 million francs, or about \$100,000, JDC provided only one third - \$33,000.

### Youth Movements

The activities of the youth movements count among the most valuable contributions of JDC towards the development of the Jewish population in Morocco. The various movements, embracing over 10,000 members and beneficiaries, organize the youth.

### Kindergartens - Nursery Schools

Another most heartening activity is the development of the nursery schools and kindergartens. As you may see from statement B.2, this activity developed appreciably. From 500 children in one sub-standard Casablanca kindergarten in 1950, today we have nearly 3,000

children all over the country. Many of these kindergartens are maintained by the communities themselves. We are contributing only a small part. These kindergartens must be seen in order to be appreciated.

Talking of kindergartens, I have to mention the training of personnel, because without the personnel trained by the Paul Baerwald School we wouldn't have been able to open these kindergartens. You will see in Schedule B.1, there was hardly a single trained Jewish social worker or kindergarten worker in Morocco in 1950. By now there are 128 such workers employed by the Jewish organizations. Towards a number of these workers' salaries, JDC is contributing merely a fraction or one-third. The balance is either on the government payroll or the Community payroll.

#### Loan Kassa

The Loan Kassa, an important event, was opened, and started to issue loans in Casablanca.

#### Anti-T.B. Activities

We continued our help towards the activities of the anti-TB leagues and were successful in providing machines, tools and small funds towards the establishment of a number of TB sufferers. As Mr. Katzki told you the 100-bed annex to the government TB-sanatorium in Ben Ahmed is growing rapidly, and there are reasonable hopes that by the end of this year most of the masonry will be terminated. The cost of the building is provided from local funds and partly by JDC. This equipment and maintenance will be provided by the Government.

#### Community Organization

We continued our efforts in the line of community organization. As you may see from Schedule B, despite the substantially increased scope, we are continuing to operate on a favourable matching basis in our overall activities.

#### Algeria

In the area of Northern Algeria, no progress was made by us, I am very sorry to say. This was partly due to lack of time and personnel. It is our intention to make a survey of this territory and present pertinent recommendations to Headquarters.

#### Tangier

We gave more attention to Tangier this year due to the economic crisis which started with the riots of March 30th and which compelled us to shelve our intentions of gradually diminishing our subvention to this area.

There is however one development. A new Yeshivah was established by the family Toledano - they are maintaining it for the largest part and now they are asking a subvention from us.

### Spanish Zone

A small but most satisfactory operation developed in the Spanish zone of Morocco where the people are socially more conscious and more generous. Here we are merely supplementing what cannot be raised locally. We succeeded in rescuing from a health hazard of a match factory twenty girls who are now learning a trade. One of the families of Tetuan built a beautiful small maternity home and dispensary which we furnished with X-Ray equipment, and we are providing the dispensary with medicaments and a small subsidy.

If this were a fundraising meeting, then I could go on for hours to describe our achievements and the dent made by JDC into the appalling needs of this territory. However, during the afternoon session the department heads will report more in detail on certain subjects and we will have the opportunity to discuss educational, <sup>medical</sup> and other matters.

The progress made has a much deeper significance due to the fact that all activities in Morocco are carried out by local organizations and not directly by JDC. Therefore it is only fair to talk in brief about the organizations with which we cooperate in Morocco.

### Alliance Israelite

Let me start with the Alliance Israelite. The longer I observe the activities of the Alliance, the more I really appreciate the dynamic progress and the contribution of the Alliance toward the emancipation of the Jews in Morocco. In French Morocco alone we have around 24,000 children in schools. I would particularly want to mention one important contribution - the Hebrew teachers' seminary which produced badly needed high-grade teachers. I had occasion to watch some of these young teachers on the spot, and I can have nothing but admiration for their skill and devotion. But just because we have such high respect for the Alliance, let me tell you a few things which I think should be done in order to complete this picture.

The virtual stoppage of emigration and the reducing of infant mortality produced a situation whereby, despite the gradually increasing number of Alliance schools, Alliance is yet unable to take care of the full needs of the many thousands of Jewish children who are still desperately clamoring for space. By now, even the Moroccan Jews are keenly aware of the fact that children without school education are a liability to their parents and to the community. Therefore I wish to repeat my suggestion, made on previous occasions, that a desperate one-time effort should be made in order to find school facilities for the few thousand children - and my colleagues think many thousand

children - mainly in Casablanca. Another suggestion I wish to make here is that the Alliance should take an interest in the Jewish education of the Jewish children attending government and non-Jewish schools.

#### O.R.T.

During practically every Country Directors' Conference, we were obliged to complain about O.R.T. This time I am pleased to tell you that since last year appreciable progress was made in what concerns O.R.T. in Morocco. (They have about 800 students now). The new director of their boys' school succeeded in bringing order into chaos, and by now the school is on its best way to becoming an important factor in the development of trade education in Morocco. The first government subvention last year of 10 million francs has been received, and there is rather substantial hope that 15 million francs will be received in 1953-1954 (15 millions would be about \$40,000). Should the girls' school have an appropriate director, it too, has all the signs of making a good start.

The problem of trade education and the training of artisans becomes daily more important, and therefore it is essential that the placement of apprentices should be expanded.

At the cost of repeating myself, I do think that we should insist that in addition to the government subvention, O.R.T. should seek to find local funds for its activities.

We feel that O.R.T. - and I am sure they are ready to do it - should help the religious and other schools in the professional orientation of their pupils in order to condition them for trade education after they have finished their elementary schooling.

#### O.S.E.

The OSE activities are gaining in importance. The population, the government and the organizations are keenly aware of the necessity of such a Jewish health organization. In the past year great progress was made, but the slowness in local collections obliged JDC to increase substantially its allocation for medical purposes.

Considerable progress was made from the organizational point of view by the OSE as their new acting chairman succeeded in rallying around OSE a representative committee. It is only to be hoped that he will be able to get substantial local funds.

#### Council of Communities

There exists a Central Council of the 50 organized Jewish communities, which at its annual congress expressed the wish to cooperate more closely with JDC in all problems relating to the communities. We recently delegated one of our colleagues as permanent liaison man between the

Council of Communities and JDC. One of the most important items on the present agenda of the Council of Communities is to help the small villages, for which purpose it has set aside 5 million francs to be used on a matching basis with JDC.

Merely as a curiosity I wish to mention that the Government Council of Superior Assistance is placing at the disposal of the communities an annual subvention which is used for relief and construction purposes by the communities. This subvention increased from 7 million francs in 1949 to 50 million francs this year. Fifty million francs is about \$125,000.

Talking about the Community Council, I am obliged to mention the Jewish Community in Casablanca, which is unfortunately torn by internal strife, and therefore we couldn't carry through many of our projects in Casablanca. I wish to repeat what I have stated on several occasions, that the density of the population of the Casablanca Mellah is 400,000 souls per square mile and, due to this internal strife, the Casablanca community didn't arrive as yet to work on their housing project. The space allotted for one person is approximately as much as for a herring in a barrel, and unless something really drastic is done in this respect much of our effort in the medical, social and other fields is in vain.

#### Paul Baerwald School

While not a cooperating organization in the full sense of the word, nevertheless I wish to mention here the important contribution made by the Paul Baerwald School in training the necessary personnel for the Jewish organizations in Morocco. The continuous presence of the teams in Morocco will permit their closer integration into our program. It will also facilitate the continuation of our efforts for a type of recognition to be given by the authorities to the personnel trained by the Paul Baerwald School in Versailles and in Morocco.

#### Israeli Problems

Now I am coming to the Israeli problems, but before I read what I wrote here, I would like to refer to our yesterday's discussion and I must say that the presentation of Dr. Josephthal made a very deep impression upon me. He mentioned on several occasions the problem of backward countries. I do think that one has to live among these backward people in order to be able to appreciate them. I don't know whether the description of them as backward is correct. I think that they simply didn't have a chance to develop. Nobody gave them the chance to develop. After all, they have been under oppression for two thousand years - how could they develop? I can tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that here is good human material, but it requires really good care. We cannot serve the children in our canteens European food. We have to get local spices - prepare it their way. I can't eat it.

The same is true of all the problems concerning the Moroccan Jews. We have to prepare their food their way. We cannot transform the Moroccan Jews into European Jews during this short period. It was mentioned that the people who arrive in Israel have no skills. Goodness, there were no schools - no trade schools - in Morocco, with the exception of the few small trade schools of the Alliance, and Jews had no opportunity to learn a trade! Now, when the first group will come out of the trade schools, I can say one thing - they will be at least partly trained. It would help. I do think we could arrive at results. In a nutshell, the program is to devise a long-range program of preparation. I am not talking about the people who are occupied with emigration matters. I think that I may say that the problem has to be divorced from the people who are occupied with emigration problems. Special studies should be made, and I do think that in three years from now you will have good and acceptable elements for emigration to Israel.

Emigration figures were mentioned - I think this year we will emigrate some 3,000 people, against whom we have about 1,000 returnees, which is not so bad.

I would like to mention here the traditional Israeli fundraising problems. It is interesting that, in spite of the economic crisis, the United Palestine Appeal, the Keren Kayemeth and the WIZO were nearly able to maintain the same collections in Morocco last year as before, except for the Keren Kayemeth which dropped by 4,000,000 francs. Let me give you a few figures: 27 million for the Magbit, 17 million for the Keren Kayemeth and 4 million for the WIZO, which is a rather substantial sum in all.

Now let me refer one minute to the religious organizations.

#### Religious Organizations

Cooperation with the Educational Department of the Jewish Agency produced and is producing tangible results. We cooperated in organizing seminars for 19 teachers who took part in a seminar in Switzerland. We have sent - in cooperation with Machlakah - 8 scholarship students to Israel who will, after a year or two, return to Morocco as much needed Hebrew teachers.

Through this cooperation, we were successful in injecting more Jewish content into the training program of personnel. In the coming school year, we intend to double our efforts in this respect and make the Jewish content part of the Paul Baerwald School training course.

During the past year the Lubavitcher expanded their activities in Morocco, mostly through the fact that we devoted much time and energy to their activities, and by now they succeeded in obtaining from us subventions occupying an important place in the hierarchy of our subventions in Morocco.



Other religious organizations, the Ozar Hatorah, gave us endless headaches during the past year. I, myself, had to use Buddhist patience in order to avoid a complete breakdown which would have meant great hardship for a few thousand children who are under the wings of this organization.

As an after effect of the recent political developments in Morocco, the government envisages a closer control and unification of private schools, although these measures are mainly aimed at the Arab schools. Nevertheless, it is to be assumed that the control will be extended to Jewish religious schools, mostly those of foreign origin.

These things, (this is a long report, I must say) bring me to certain conclusions.

### CONCLUSION

Looking back on the last four years of our activities in Morocco, one comes to the conclusion that these activities were both life-saving and stimulating for local effort, and if I am asked what should be our future program, then I would have to borrow a few words from Mr. Beckelman's report to the last annual meeting of the JDC in New York, during which he said and I quote:

"Work in the Moslem countries takes forms not customarily associated with relief and welfare programs, and its value reveals itself in curious ways."

And in another place Mr. Beckelman said:

"We shall expand in breadth and depth to cover more areas and to serve more people in each area, whole families, and children and infants and their mothers."

Translating these words into action means to carry on a large-scale program from which the mass of Jews will benefit and which would create a lasting effect upon the development of the Moroccan Jews.

The question was raised by Mr. Katzki whether we reached the end of the beginning of our program. I can answer that we actually built a bridge over a wide gap of centuries, but there is still a long way to go in order to arrive at a point of evolution where we started our activities in many other countries. It must also be borne in mind that every step advanced in our program till now represents an expansion and progress over and above what we found in Morocco four years ago. The question likewise arose whether the program JDC is carrying on in Morocco is one the people wish to have or one they see as necessary. Undoubtedly most of our activities were in one form or another suggested or requested by local bodies. Frankly, all progress

was imported during the last few years to Morocco. The JDC program developed from within and is operated exclusively through local organizations, and it is by far more effective, more appreciated, than any program which was imported into the country and is managed by remote control and is, so to say, super-imposed both from the functional and ideological point of view.

Based upon this theory - in my opinion at least - the JDC's program in Morocco should be carried on in the following two main directions:

(a) To strengthen the traditional activities like child welfare, care for under-nourished children, medical aid, youth programs, educational programs, trade education, anti-TB activities and community organization. Further, to develop these programs in order that they should become more deeply-rooted, with the final aim that in future the government and the local population should be able to take over.

(b) To embark on a series of activities which fall in the category of one-time grants or one-time projects. Let me list a few:

(1) a daring large-scale non-hesitant economic and rehabilitation program in the form of extension of the loan kassa net to every larger Jewish town. To study the possibility to establish cooperatives and ameliorate the skill of the artisan and improve small merchant standards. These also in order to prevent the economic deterioration and alienation of Jewish trade;

(2) hardly any progress can be made in economic, social or health developments as long as the Jews live in the mellahs. Let me use your words, Mr. Chairman: "these festering centers of infection", because mellahs, particularly in Casablanca, are the root of all evil. JDC should, in cooperation with other international organizations, put into motion the stagnating problem of housing in Casablanca. I am not modest, but with a fund of one million dollars a miracle could be performed in the mellah, and the mellah gradually destroyed. I often deplore that in this respect the Sephardim have no Landsmannschaften. If such Landsmannschaften existed, they would be the first to provide the money for this purpose. I have to repeat my yesterday's statement concerning the conditioning of the people.

(3) To undertake effective steps in cooperation with the Jewish Agency, the Zionist Federation, the Alliance, the ORT and youth organizations in order to condition the Jews of Morocco for possible future emigration, this conditioning to include the establishment of cooperatives, Moshavim, which at a later date may emigrate as groups.

(4) Mass examinations, health and social services and mass treatment of social diseases started recently by JDC should be

continued, expanded and pursued most energetically.

(5) The future of Moroccan Jewry lies in the development of its youth. Expansion of our youth activities and the establishment of appropriate youth centers may be the means of developing much needed leadership of the Moroccan communities.

(6) Despite the progress made, there are still many thousands of Jewish children roaming the streets, growing up as illiterates, without any schooling facilities. JDC should be the motor behind the educational organization which should, together with the government services, provide immediate facilities for all Jewish children of school age.

(7) Last, but not least, a well-conceived program to help the Jews in the numerous small villages should be elaborated in cooperation with the Council of Communities.

In concluding, may I repeat that, though we have not reached as yet the end of the beginning of our program in Morocco, nevertheless we succeeded in making a most serious and beneficial dent into the welfare and cultural problems of Moroccan Jewry.

And let me finish this report with these few words:

JDC's activities in Morocco may be termed as a successful Point 4 Program for the tiny Jewish minority living under the flag whose emblem is, as we know, the star with five points - and who, despite oppression, poverty and suffering have remained faithful to the Star of David, which has six.

MR. KATZKI: Thank you very much, Mr. Bein. Moving eastward across the Mediterranean basin, we now ask Henry Levy to bring us up to date on Tunisia, Tripoli and Libya.

MR. LEVY: My report is a highlighted report, it's a brief report. It's a report which does not explicitly state the problems which face us in Tunisia. The problems are implicitly stated. Discussions should, if that's what we want at this conference, make these implicitly stated problems explicit. My final comment is that it was a pleasure to take over a program which Lou Horwitz started. It's nice to come into a program to follow a man who has had a sound conception of the JDC philosophy and has laid a groundwork which his successor can come in on, find comfortable and proceed to develop. In this report I want quickly to go through some of the political and economic conditions in Tunisia and move rapidly into what the JDC is doing there.



ADDRESS ON TUNISIA

By

Henry Levy

Locally and internationally, the struggle between the Tunisian Nationalists and the French Protectorate authorities continued at a bitter and costly impasse during this past year.

On July 28, 1952, the French Resident General, M. de Hautecloque, presented to the Bey the amended French Government's Five Year Reform Plan, insisting upon his immediate acceptance. The Bey refused, demanding time for study and reflection. Not until December 20, six months later, after prolonged ministerial discussions and an exchange of letters between the Bey and M. Vincent Auriol, President of France, and M. Robert Schumann, French Foreign Minister, did the Bey reluctantly affix his seal to the Reform Plan.

Providing a dramatic and violent background to these ministerial negotiations, the bombings which had begun in January 1952 became more frequent and widespread. The month of September, with its heaviest bombings, was clearly designed to support the action of the Arab-Asian bloc at the United Nations. Until April 1953, by day and by night, cafes, shops, pharmacies, banks and travel agencies, were blasted and wrecked. More than 100 people were killed and hundreds wounded. A retaliatory pattern seemed to mark the course of the bombings and it became the daily custom to predict that, since an Arab shop or cafe was host to Monday's bombing, a French "locale" would be visited on Wednesday. The Neo Destour party disclaimed responsibility and blamed French "provocateurs". The French denied the charges and blamed the Nationalists. Through these charges and counter-charges another pattern emerged, one of terrorism, apparently controlled and organized by other elements in Tunisia. Few of the bomb-throwers were caught and even those arrested gave little information.

On November 15, in an ambush near Gabes, four French soldiers were killed. On December 5, the well-known leader of the Tunisian labor movement, Farhat Hached, was assassinated and to date his assailants remain unknown.

The Easter holidays in April 1953 saw a sudden change in the tactics and strategy of the terrorists. The bombings ceased and were succeeded by a series of well-organized and neatly executed assassinations of prominent Tunisian Francophiles.

On May 2, the terrorists became bolder and more selective and struck down one of the most prominent Francophiles, M. Chadly Kastally, member of an ancient Tunisian family and also Vice-President of the Municipal Council of Tunis. On July 1, Prince Sidi Azzeddine Bey, cousin of the Bey and next in the line of succession to the throne, was assassinated in his palace at La Marsa. In the early hours of September 13, Hedy Chaker, one of the important Neo Destourian leaders, under house arrest in Nabeul, was forcibly taken from his home and dumped on a side-road, his body riddled with bullets.

The Municipal elections, provided for under the French Five Year Plan of Reforms, were held in May 1953. The Neo Destour Party protested the elections, calling them undemocratic, and called for a boycott which was more successful in Tunis than in the interior. Anonymous threatening letters were received by candidates and by prominent personalities. The President of the Jewish Community of Sousse received such a letter threatening his life if he voted, as well as advising him to dissuade his co-religionists from going to the polls. M. de Hautecloque demanded that the Bey issue a proclamation urging his people to ignore the boycott and to vote en masse for their candidates. The Bey's response was a mild and watered-down request to his people to participate in the elections, and at the same time called for peace and order.

Voting in the interior was much heavier than in Tunis, where in one sector, for example, a candidate was elected by a total of 25 votes cast out of a potential of more than thirty-five hundred. In Tunis, three Jews were elected to the Municipal Council; in Gabes, one; and in Sfax, two. Several other Jews were elected in the smaller towns on Tunisian and French lists.

On the international arena, the dispute between France and Tunisia continued in the same impasse, despite the active support for the Tunisian Nationalist movement by the Arab-Asian group of States. Despite the opposition of France, on October 16 the General Assembly decided to include the Tunisian question in the Agenda of the Seventh Session, and on October 17 referred it to the First Committee for consideration and report.

The First Committee considered the Tunisian question at ten meetings between December 4 and December 12, 1952. The Committee had to deal with two draft resolutions on the Tunisian question: one submitted by the thirteen Arab-Asian delegates, the other submitted by eleven Latin-American delegations. On December 17, the General Assembly, by 44 votes to 3, with 8 abstentions, adopted the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee based on the Latin-American proposals. The effect of this vote was to leave the Tunisian question exactly where it had been when, on April 14, 1952, the draft resolution of Pakistan to include the Tunisian question in the Agenda of the Security Council had been defeated. The intent of the Latin-American proposals left the situation status quo, since it conformed with the declared position of France toward Tunisia.

In a letter dated May 29, addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the representative of the Neo Destour Party and the Secretary-General of the Istiqlal Party of Morocco stated that in Tunisia it was becoming more evident that the French Government was not prepared to bring about a relaxation of tension necessary to enable negotiations to be resumed. Numerous instances were given of the coercive measures which, they charged, were being taken by the French authorities to smother resistance and to break the spirit of the Tunisian people. At the request of 15 Arab-Asian members, copies of this letter were transmitted to the governments of all Member nations.

Throughout these twelve turbulent months, the Jews of Tunisia were successful in maintaining friendly relations with both sides. Actively courted by both contending parties, the Jewish Community leaders and the Jewish population were none the less concerned by the uncertain future. Economically they were hard hit by the months of violence and frequent strikes and by the creeping Arab boycott of their businesses, a boycott inspired for the most part by a growing Arab nationalism which urged Arabs to trade with Arabs. Credit became tight and the stealthy flight of capital to safer havens outside of the country further strained an already marginal economy. Unemployment increased, with the consequent hardships to all levels of the population. The discouraging rise and fall of governments in France added to the uncertainty and financial difficulties.

Concomitant with the growth in Arab nationalism and with the increasing boycott of Jewish businesses by Arabs, more complaints of anti-semitism began to be reported. Jewish workers complained of being discharged from firms for no apparent reason. Their jobs were taken shortly thereafter by non-Jews. As concerns housing and education, fewer complaints were received. Anti-semitic pamphlets, with pictures and cartoons bearing a striking resemblance to those published by the Nazis, appeared in the country clandestinely, originating from Egypt. Vigorous protests were made to the French censorship bureau by the President of the Tunis Jewish Community, as well as by influential Jewish personalities. The French showed genuine concern over the appearance of these pamphlets and promised to do their utmost to stop their entry. Neo Destour leaders denounced these pamphlets and reaffirmed their desire for Arab-Jewish friendship. Two daily Arab newspapers "Azzohra" and "Ennahda" lost no opportunity, however, to attack Israel in their columns.

The JDC program in Tunisia suffered scarcely at all from the above mentioned events, but it was handicapped by the internecine struggle amongst the Jews themselves. Last May, under the sponsorship of Maitre Charles Haddad, President of the Jewish Community of Tunis, another Federation of Jewish Communities of Tunisia was created.

A bitter personal struggle between Maitre Haddad and the former president of the Jewish Community, Maitre Elie Nataf, one of the chief creators of the first Federation, led to the establishment of the new Federation and split the country's Jewish communities into two hostile camps. Eighteen communities remained in the Federation headed by M. Charles Saada, President of the Jewish Community of Sfax; eight communities joined the newly-formed Federation, and about four others there is still some dispute as to their affiliation.

Ever since its establishment in 1948, the original Federation, under the presidency of M. Saada, had been unable to obtain legal recognition because the largest community, Tunis, had refused to become a member. Confronted with two federations, the French took the position that it could not favor one as against the other, thereby retaining an enviable neutral status vis-a-vis demands made upon them for financial aid.

This tragic divisiveness made it impossible for either Federation to meet the needs of the communities of the interior and to provide a unified voice for the Jewish people in the country. Neither Federation has sufficient funds to carry on its activities, nor could agreement be reached to launch a unified fund-raising campaign for the entire country. In November 1952, an accord was reached between the Community of Tunis, Nos Petits and the local representatives of OSE and ORT, whereby the first six months of 1953 were given over to fund-raising for Israel, and the last half of the year to fund-raising for the local organizations. Since the unified campaign for the country was blocked by the struggle between the two Federations, OSE, ORT and Nos Petits banded together and decided to run their own campaign during the second half of 1953.

The fund-raising campaign for Israel, sparked by a dynamic and aggressive Israeli representative, ran from January through June 1953, and raised the same amount as in 1952: 20 million francs. The campaign was well organized and covered most of the main cities and towns of Tunisia.

Emigration. If you look at Table I, you will note that there has been a steady decline in the number of Tunisian Jews who emigrated to Israel. For the nine months of this year, the rate of the decline was even more pronounced. Despite the tense political situation and bad economic conditions and the partial liberalization of eligibility requirements, there was no enthusiasm to quit Tunisia. Such emigration as took place was for the most part occasioned by the desire to be reunited with family members already resident in Israel. The overwhelming majority of the emigrants originated from the small towns of the interior and came from the lowest economic level. For most of them, the Jewish Agency paid transportation expenses.

Two reasons were advanced for this decline: one, the austerity program and the difficulty of obtaining work and housing in Israel and, two, the alleged discriminatory treatment accorded to North Africans. Letters from friends and relatives in Israel advised against any movement until conditions improved.



The Hechalutz movement was similarly affected. Few of the youth evinced a desire to settle in Israel and membership in the several Zionist youth movements dropped sharply. So long as France retains power in Tunisia and Arab-Jewish relations remain as they are, it is unlikely that the rate of emigration will increase.

During the past year and a half, approximately 200 persons returned to Tunisia from Israel. For those without means, passage was paid by the French Consul in Tel-Aviv. As of January 1953, the French Government demanded that the Jewish Agency deposit a written guarantee assuring repayment of return passage for every emigrant leaving Tunisia for Israel. The attitude of the French toward the other activities of the Emigration Department of the Jewish Agency underwent no other change.

Our Feeding Program. Our feeding program is now providing daily hot lunches for about 7,000 children in 29 canteens throughout the country. Several hundred children receive, in addition to the hot lunches, breakfast and afternoon snacks. About 600 children, certified by OSE to be suffering from primo-infection or other debilitating illnesses, receive extra fortifying diets. Two of the cities of the south, Sousse and Sfax, were persuaded to keep their canteens open during the summer months, something they had been unable or unwilling to do until now. In our TB canteen in Tunis, 30 tuberculars, most of them heads of families and unable to work, eat lunch and supper six days a week. 120 ORT boy apprentices and 60 girl apprentices receive specially prepared lunches, special because we believe they merit every kind of additional help.

We have an excellent feeding program, well organized and very inexpensive. The powdered milk and eggs, the butter and cheese, all adding invaluable life-giving nourishment to the local diet, are giving these thousands of hungry children a basis for a healthier existence. But in the city of Tunis and in the suburb of La Goulette, much more remains to be done. An estimated 1,500 children are still being denied the benefits of this program, primarily because of the lack of adequate space to set up organized canteens. Together with Nos Petits, the organization operating the canteens, the resolution of this problem has been set as one of the main tasks for the coming year.

In addition to feeding our children, we clothe them. About ninety thousand items of clothing were distributed so far this year. Large amounts were also given to needy adults.

Education. Many notable reforms were accomplished this past year in eliminating the Chaderim in some of the villages of the extreme south. Centrally located schools were opened in Hara Sghira, Medenine, Zarzis and Fom Tatahouine and equipped with modern school furniture and school supplies by the JDC. Homogeneous classes were established providing for the first time a progression, pedagogically, from elementary to more advanced studies. The content of the school syllabus was enlarged to include elementary arithmetic, Jewish history and modern Hebrew, in addition to religious training. Teachers were encouraged to use Hebrew as the language of instruction rather than Judeo-Arabic. Requests have been received from many other towns to institute the same reforms. A traveling supervisor of education has been hired who makes the rounds periodically to give guidance to the teachers, to see that the syllabi set up are being followed, to see that the children are regularly examined by OSE doctors, and to report to us his findings. Two new nursery schools for 100 children were opened in Djerba, one at Hara Sghira, the other at Hara Kebira. Attempts to enrol Jewish children in the French schools in the extreme south, notably on the island of Djerba, were not favored by the Rabbinate, although despite their opposition about 65 children on the island now walk two kilometers a day to attend the French school.

Slowly, patiently and systematically we are doing away with the dreadful chaderim except in Hara Kebira, that so-called famous fountain of Torah learning, on the island of Djerba. Months of exhausting and hair-splitting discussion with the Rabbinate have proved fruitless - they refuse to accede to the new reforms. This should not disappoint or surprise us. In the year 1165, approximately, Maimonides, on his way to Egypt, stopped at Djerba for a visit. In a letter to his son he wrote, and I quote:

"Beware of the people who live in the West, in a place called Djerba, in the country of the Berbers. These men are barren spiritually and of coarse character. In my estimation they are more ignorant than the rest of mankind, even though they be much attached to the belief in God. As heaven is my witness, they are comparable only to the Caraites, who deny the Spoken Law. They manifest no enlightenment of spirit in their studies of the Torah, of the Bible and of the Talmud, not even when they discuss the Haggadoth and the text of the laws, although there are among them several who are Rabbis and Judges .....

We have been much more patient than Maimonides. We'll carry on being patient with that.

After five years of wrangling, the Tunis Community finally reached an accord with the Alliance Israelite to increase the number of teachers of modern Hebrew from 8 to 13, and to re-organize the entire program of Hebrew education.

In collaboration with the Religious Department of the Jewish Agency and the JDC, the Tunis Community engaged an educator from Israel for one year, effective June 1953, to re-organize Hebrew instruction in the schools maintained by the Community. Three hundred students attended the Or Torah on a fulltime schedule, and about five hundred youths and adults attended the special evening courses in Tunis and the suburbs. Courses in modern Hebrew and Jewish history, given by the Zionist youth movements, accounted for another several hundred students.

The school at La Goulette, when completed, will provide, in addition to the three nursery classes, four classes in modern Hebrew and Jewish History, for about 260 students. In order to meet the need for additional well-trained Hebrew instructors, the Community sent seven of the most promising theological students to attend the teachers' training school, opened in March 1953, in Ramsgate, England.

ORT completed the second building of its Boys' School this past year, thus making it possible for an additional 120 boys to receive vocational training. A third building was begun in May 1953 which will complete the original plans to provide a full three-year course of vocational instructions. This addition will bring the student body for the scholastic year 1953-54 to over 350 boys. The ORT Girls' School will add 18 students for the scholastic year 1953-54, thus completing a three-year course of instruction. The student strength will then total 78.

In addition to its vocational training classes, ORT operated with considerable success its apprentice placement program. Boys and girls, whose level of education would not permit them to attend the regular courses, were placed in jobs in private industry. Placements were found for 270 boys and 163 girls. Where monthly wages were below a minimum of Frs. 2,000.- for the girls, and Frs. 1,600.- for the boys, the Community and ORT contributed the balance.

The real test of the efficiency of the ORT training program for the boys will come next June, when the first graduates of the full three-year course will present themselves for state examinations and employment.

The Paul Baerwald School sent us this year three staff members - two to train nursery school teachers and one to train social workers. Intensive practical and theoretical courses were conducted for the employed nursery school teachers, for the social workers of OSE and the Community, and for new candidates, several of whom were subsequently hired by these agencies. This in-service training program has been the key-instrument in raising the level of instruction among the nursery school teachers and in imparting some sorely needed basic concepts of child psychology.

It has given the social workers the only real opportunity to continue their professional training and to improve their competence on the job. It has been responsible for the increase in the prestige and standing of these teachers and workers. It has played a significant part in obtaining salary increases for these badly paid employees. It is gratifying, indeed, to learn that this program will be continued.

Medical Program. The most striking fact about the medical program run by OSE is that now it encompasses not only medical care for the sick child, but also concerns itself with the other family members when the nature of the child's illness demands it. Thus, when a diagnosis reveals that a child has an infectious disease, the other family members are automatically called in for examination.

This expansion of the OSE program has been accelerated during the past year and has considerably enlarged the scope of its activities. More than 15,000 children and about 3,500 adults are now registered with OSE. In the 12 centers throughout the country an average of 4,000 children and 1,000 adults monthly receive some kind of medical attention. A steady decline in the rate of infant mortality is due, in large measure, to the growing acceptance of OSE's medical services by a population not easy to attract or to influence. The continuous progress in treating the insidious endemic diseases of trachoma and tinea is another testimony to the acceptance of OSE and to the realization of its long-term aims. Outstanding success has been attained in the treatment of the dreaded gastro-enteritis, one of the main baby-killing diseases prevalent in this country. During the month of July, for example, 513 new cases of this illness were treated with a successful cure in 487 cases. Unfortunately, no such success has been attained in the struggle against tuberculosis.

While it is clear that the net-work of the well-baby clinics requires better organization and greater comprehension of their function, it is none the less true that considerable progress has been made. Pre-natal care, confinement and post-natal care for needy mothers and their babies is now routine operating procedure. To-day, OSE has under its care about 450 pregnant mothers, of whom about 200 frequent the well-baby clinics during the course of a month. Approximately, 1,400 babies receive a daily allocation of safe milk. Milk is also given to those pregnant mothers certified by OSE doctors to be in need of additional fortifying food. The tuberculars eating in the TB canteen undergo regular examinations by OSE doctors. This past summer, at the Garderie Israelite in Tunis, OSE instituted a mass baby bathing program which scored a remarkable success. More than 200 mothers came to the Garderie daily to have their babies bathed. In Djerba, showers were installed in Hara Sghira and Hara Kebira and daily bathing made obligatory for all children attending the two nursery schools and the canteens.

In Sousse, the first dispensary built by OSE in Tunisia was completed in August. A dispensary for adults was opened by the Sousse Community. It is hoped that the construction of the OSE two-storey modern dispensary in Tunis will begin very soon, and that it should be completed some time next year.

A mass examination of between 3,000 to 5,000 persons in the Hara of Tunis is now taking place. The examination should be completed towards the end of November, at which time we hope to be able, for the first time, to find out something about the health of the Jewish population in that quarter.

Social Service of the Jewish Community of Tunis. The central task assigned to the social welfare department of the Tunis Community was to put some sense into the relief program which costs the Community about 20 million francs a year. We are still a long way from the ideal, but a solid foundation is being laid upon which is being constructed a more rational and more modern type of social service. The staff has been increased to 10 workers and one supervisor. Permanent case records have been set up and the city divided into sectors and assigned to specific workers. From an amorphous undifferentiated caseload, specific categories of relief recipients have been pulled out and budgets and services bearing some relation to their individual needs have been established. Thus, TB heads of families, the aged, the abandoned children, the potentially employable widows with children, the sudden emergencies, etc., are now given the individual attention unknown to this community formerly.

To one worker has been assigned the task of meeting the needs for school supplies for children unable to buy them; to another, the home for the aged; to another, the continued analyses of the hallouk load, etc. The results have been gratifying, and so long as we can continue to count on the Paul Baerwald people to help in stimulating the workers and improving their knowledge and skills, we will go forward in this program.

Tunis has set the example for the interior. Sousse now has two social workers - one for the Community, the other for OSE. Sfax has one social worker for OSE.

A small modest dispensary for adults is now open in the Hara in Tunis. For the first time some free medical services are being supplied to this group. The dispensary also acts as a source of referral to OSE for discovered cases of trachoma, venereal diseases and tuberculosis. This dispensary should be enlarged for it has much to offer.

In June, the Caisse Israelite de Relevement Economique (Loan Cassa) opened for business. Financed by the JDC and the Jewish Colonization Association, the Caisse provides loans at low interest to our poorest artisans and small business men. It is our hope that this new institution will go a long way toward improving the economic level of the poorest artisans, consequently helping further to reduce some of the chronic pauperism obtaining among them and their families.

Since its inception, the loan cassa has received 193 requests for loans, of which 67 were granted, and 66 rejected. The balance are still under study. The 67 loans amounted to Frs. 3,062,000.- It is, of course, still too early to make any definite appraisal of the results of the loans granted.

Following this brief, highlighted account of our program in Tunisia, let me turn to the questions raised by Mr. Katzki. My answer is that it is most unlikely, for the foreseeable future, to expect the communities to take over the programs in which we are now engaged. We should, therefore, devote as much of our time, our energy and our know-how to strengthening the communities so that they may be able, in an ever-increasing measure, to assume a larger and larger share in these programs. We may have to consider new projects and new activities which may involve new outlays of money by the communities for important needs which are as yet unmet, while at the same time insisting that they increase their participation in current programs. We should also entertain soundly conceived plans for capital expenditures where at least 50% of the cost is assured from local sources.

We have gone a long way in impressing upon the communities the fundamental philosophy of JDC operations, and they have begun to show an awareness of this philosophy upon which we can build solid and fruitful relationships for our future work.

#### T R I P O L I

In summing up last year's Conference, Mr. Beckelman observed at one point: "It is two or three times now that a JDC Country Director has said - 'I am now reporting for the last time about the JDC Program in Tripoli, because by this time next year those few Jews who remain in Tripoli will not need the JDC'".

To-day I am making no predictions. All I can suggest to Mr. Beckelman is that at least we are very much closer to that goal to-day than we were last year.

We are closer because of the 25 tuberculars still under our care, 12 have been accepted by MALBEN, 6 will probably be accepted, 5 have been rejected, and 2 whose condition has been declared arrested can leave for Israel as normal immigrants. When these tubercular patients and their family members leave for Israel, we should be able to close down our office.

What will remain in Tripoli will be the feeding of about 300 children in the canteen at the Pietro Verri School. It is our hope that O.S.I.T., the organization responsible for this program, will be able to carry on without any financial help from the JDC. But even if they are not, we shall no longer need a local office and local JDC personnel.

In the city of Tripoli there are about 3,200 Jews. In Bengazi another 200. There is no indication that many of them intend to leave Tripoli.

The Community of Tripoli, in accordance with previous arrangements made, continues to provide medical services and Jewish education for its children.



MR. KATZKI: Thanks very much Mr. Levy. I think I would like to mention one thing here for the benefit of the visitors from the States. Mr. Levy, in making his presentation, following the suggestion made by Mr. Beckelman yesterday, prepared and presented his report as though the visitors were not here. Consequently, he presumed properly that everyone in the room knew something about the local organizations which he described. He talked about an organization OSE, he talked about an organization Nos Petits, about an organization called OSIT in Tripoli, etc. He did not mention what we all know, but which perhaps the visitors don't know, and that is that these are all JDC subventioned local organizations in the respective countries. Many of these organizations the JDC established or, if they were already there, the JDC helped develop them and gave them the jobs which Mr. Levy so eloquently described. They receive most of their money from the JDC, so that in giving the record of whatever accomplishment it was possible to achieve in Tunisia and in Tripoli, though Mr. Levy didn't mention it when he spoke of these local organizations, he was talking about the JDC which functions through those local organizations. I think that the visitors would want to know about that, otherwise they may be confused by the plethora of names, not knowing how they fit into the JDC relationship.

We will now ask Mr. Loskove to tell us about Iran. Up until a few weeks ago we weren't even sure that it would be possible for Mr. Loskove to be here - not that he couldn't get out - but we had no reason to believe that it would be possible for him to return to Iran once he did get out. One of the advantages which the JDC derived from the change in government back in August was, we hope, a little better attitude towards the Americans. Taking advantage of that, Mr. Loskove was able to make his arrangements to return to Iran before he left his station so that we now have him here and he will present his material.



ADDRESS ON IRAN

By

Abe Loskove

On several occasions during this past year I was on the verge of recommending to you gentlemen in Headquarters to consider to throw in the sponge in Iran, but after considering the fact that without JDC help thousands of Jewish youngsters would be deprived of their only meal, clothing, educational possibilities and medical help, I changed my mind and decided that we must stick it out at all costs so long as the government would not kick us out of the country.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the handful of our foreign staff members and their families in Iran who, through their courage, fortitude and sincere devotion to their work, made it possible for the JDC to continue with its program and achieve a reasonable amount of success under living and working conditions that were extremely difficult, hostile and often dangerous.

Geographically, Iran is situated in Russia's back yard and, though it is not an iron curtain country, foreigners - and particularly Americans and American organizations working there - often had the feeling that they were living in such an atmosphere. Early in January of this year, when the American Ambassador and Dr. Mossadeq began their long drawn out and unsuccessful negotiations in attempting to solve the Anglo-Iranian oil problem, the Communistic Tudeh Party accentuated their anti-American propaganda and activities, and with the passing of each month until the final overthrow of the Mossadeq government on August 19, their hate campaign became more intensified.

Personnel of the American Military Mission and Point Four have been physically attacked on the streets of Teheran and in the provinces. In Shiraz, early this past Spring, a mob of about 500 Communists invaded the Point Four offices, broke down the doors and windows, burned their files and looted their warehouses. This gang then proceeded to attack the living quarters of the Americans, but were fortunately repulsed. It was reported that the Point Four at that time suffered a loss of about \$200,000.

American organizations, particularly JDC and Point Four, were constantly accused of being in Iran under the guise of humanitarian institutions, with their main mission being secret agents

for the American government.

"Dirty Yankee Go Home" written in English and Persian was sprawled on walls all over the country.

"Yankee Jew Go Home" had adorned the walls of the JDC office.

As an American Jewish Organization the position of JDC was difficult enough, but when news of the Slansky trial and the Moscow doctors story hit Iran, the Jewish contingent of the Tudeh Party made us their special target and attempted to disrupt our program and poison the minds of the Jewish people against us.

Their newspaper editorials viciously attacked the JDC and demanded the closure of our office and our expulsion from Iran.

Teachers belonging to their party infiltrated our schools and had a damaging effect on the older students.

Groups of young Jewish children were organized to distribute handbills in the Mahaleh, deprecating the Joint and the Israeli government.

In former years, when my friend Stanley Abramovitch had the pleasure of directing our operation in Iran, he told me that on his arrival in towns like Shiraz and Isfahan he was greeted with Halleluyohs and Mashebarach. On my first visit to Shiraz, where we have a comparatively large program, I accompanied the Director of the Ozar Hatorah to Shul one Saturday afternoon, where he was scheduled to deliver a sermon. During his address to a packed congregation he mentioned the good work that JDC was doing when suddenly he was shouted down from the pulpit by a group of communists with a mishebarach of "American spies - down with the Joint".

On Fessach a mob of 100 or so of the Tudeh strong arm men entered the courtyard of our hospital, wielding sticks and knives, and threatened to attack the hospital staff. During this demonstration, Dr. Herman, our medical officer who is a Britisher, and I received a frantic telephone call from the hospital matron warning us not to come into the ghetto for fear that we would be assaulted.

Despite difficulties of this nature, with which we were constantly confronted, we carried on with our work, and I think that we were instrumental in making a substantial contribution to the welfare of our people.

Iran has a population of about 80-85,000 Jews. Of this number about 40,000 live in Teheran, 20,000 in Isfahan and Shiraz, and the rest are scattered in small towns and villages throughout the country. I would venture to say that at least 75% of these people are extremely poor and live in the squalid overcrowded ghettos, where our medical department is presented with the challenge of combating such widespread diseases as trachoma, scalp ringworm, septic skin conditions, diarrhoeal diseases and malnutrition. Fortunately

there is very little tuberculosis. This is borne out by the results of BCG tests performed by the Ministry of Health in conjunction with the WHO in the schools of Teheran and Shiraz, which showed that only 9% of children between 6-14 years of age were positive. Trachoma, on the other hand, ranges from an incidence of 17% in Teheran to 90% in some of the villages.

Due to Iran's water supply system, cases of typhoid and para-typhoid are frequent. Water is fed into the towns in open street channels. It begins its flow from the upper part of the town and winds its way down to the lower part, picking up every conceivable kind of filth imaginable. By the time it reaches the ghetto it is chock full of food refuse, washings of innumerable filthy bodies both human and animal, plus every other type of pollution under the sun. This water is then drunk by our Jewish people.

Apart from these diseases there are the usual epidemics and illnesses which affect populations in normal countries. In Iran, however, owing to lack of doctors and nurses or lack of money to go to a doctor when one exists, or buy medicines, coupled with ignorance and superstition, minor illnesses become major ones and curable diseases often prove fatal. The application of dirt and dung to wounds or sores is common practice.

Faced with this tremendous human problem we approached it as best we could this year by concentrating our efforts on the prevention and spread of diseases.

We organized a program giving simple health instructions through the media of lectures and films to teachers, students and mothers, which is beginning to pay dividends.

Immunization shots against typhoid, small pox, diphtheria and TB were administered to all school children and to a large number of adults in the Mahaleh.

In Teheran our sanitary squad can be seen in the Mahaleh every day working away with disinfectants, and spraying and dusting the living quarters and their tenants with DDT.

We instituted a bathing project for youngsters and oldsters in Teheran who were accustomed to take a bath 3 to 4 times a year. This project now makes 4500 baths available each month to these same people, who now get a scrubbing at least once every two weeks.

Mothers of new born babies are now issued with a complete layette instead of the filthy rags with which they were accustomed to receive and clothe their infants.

Our feeding program in the schools was extended to an additional 1000 children.

We have established the first kindergarten in Teheran, in conjunction with the Jewish Ladies Committee, where 210 of the Mahaleh's poorest children for the first time in their lives receive 3 meals a day, decent clothing, tender care and medical supervision.

We opened new school clinics in the communities of Hamadan, Yazd and Rafsanjan, where medical care is provided to an additional 1400 children, making a total of 7500 school children to whom we provide complete medical care.

We have established a nurses' aid training class in the Jewish hospital for 20 girls, and we hope to have them ready to work in our program by this time next year. This project was necessitated by the serious shortage of nurses' aids and graduate nurses.

Our medical program is administered by one overseas doctor and an Israeli nurse. With 7500 school children under medical care, a 42-bed children's hospital, and approximately 7000 child attendances each month at the various ghetto clinics, there is absolute need of first class pediatric care, which unfortunately we do not have and cannot obtain locally. In order to bring our medical program up to a decent standard, I find it most important that an overseas pediatrician and a good public health nurse be added to our staff. I am asking for this additional personnel, not because I want to expand our work, but to improve on that which we have already undertaken. It was very unfortunate for us that neither Dr. Gonik nor Dr. Molnar, despite the efforts made, were able to get entry visas for Iran. I am sure that their on-the-spot helpful advice and criticism would have been of great value in helping us develop our program.

For the past 3 years Stanley Abramovitch has been reporting to this conference at length on the problems and developments of the Jewish education program in Iran, and since the situation has not changed very much it leaves me very little to add without being repetitious.

I would only like to say that the Ozar Hatorah spend 40% of their budget in the Alliance schools. Their teachers provide Hebrew and religious education to 1600 children in their own schools and to 7000 students in the Alliance. A very good relationship has been established between the two organizations, yet try as hard as they will, Ozar Hatorah cannot sell the Alliance on the idea of permitting more hours of Hebrew to be taught in their curriculum. Alliance will agree to a maximum of 10 hours a week for the students from the first through the sixth classes, but from the seventh grade and upwards when the youngsters begin learning French, they will permit only two hours of Hebrew a week. I think this is a real pity, since the little Hebrew which the youngsters have learned in the lower grades is subsequently forgotten.

The Alliance schools have suffered very much this year as a result of the political situation. Many of their teachers sent to them by the Department of Education were active members of the Tudeh Party who expanded their ideology surreptitiously but effectively in the classroom. The Alliance director in Teheran tried to combat this, but he was powerless to take action against them since their boss, the Minister of Education, was also a powerful figure in the Communist party. The situation, however, looks much brighter this semester, as the new government has since fired all of the known Communist teachers in the Department of Education and with them the former Minister of Education.

One would be inclined to think that Iranian Jewry, having been faced with the imminent probability of their country going behind the Iron Curtain this year, would have been pressuring the Jewish Agency for emigration to Israel. This did not happen. At present about 300 potential emigrants are in their reception center, and during the past 10 months only 1130 persons emigrated. The Agency is planning to send one more transport via the overland route to Turkey next month, which will be the last one of the year; and unless they can make arrangements for air service, which is highly problematical, there will not be any more movement to Israel until the Spring of 1954. Early this year an agreement was drawn up between the Iranian Ministry of Transport and EL-AL arranging for 15 flights between the two countries. After the third flight, due to protests made by the representatives of the Arab countries, this service ceased. At present there is no direct service of any kind from Teheran to Lydda.

Persia's Iraqi neighbors and representatives of the other Arab League countries have constantly been clamoring for the liquidation of the Jewish Agency, and on Yom Hazmauth, April 20, the Iranian government acceded to their requests and ordered the Agency closed. Since Persia is what it is, the Agency continues its operation without any hindrance as long as they keep greasing the palms of the officials in the various government offices. Officially they are still closed since the order has never been rescinded; however, they do feel a little more optimistic about the future since the Chief of Police who executed the closure order has subsequently been murdered and the foreign minister who instituted the order is presently in hiding in fear of his life. He is regarded by the Zahedi government as Public Enemy No. 1.

The ORT too have had a very difficult year and have been operating with two strikes against them. As an affiliate of the Joint they were under Communist pressure, and since their school in Teheran is located adjacent to the Jewish Agency Camp and their director an Israeli, they have been accused by the Arabs of being an Israeli organization, whose schools have been established for the express purpose of manufacturing arms and teaching trades to future Israeli soldiers. At the time when the Jewish Agency was ordered closed,

secret police were also stationed at the entrance of their school and rumors were circulating that the ORT was next on the list to be closed down. If such were ever to happen, the ORT would be faced with the problem of trying to dispose of their \$150,000 worth of machinery in Iran, at a great loss, since it would be impossible for them to get a license to ship it out of the country.

Their schools in Teheran, Shiraz and Isfahan have a total enrollment of about 800 students, and during their 3 years of existence have developed some first rate craftsmen. If Iran were a normal country there is no doubt that their graduates could go out, get a job and make a decent living, but in the country as it is today, bankrupt, with a terrific amount of unemployment and a general aversion for a Moslem to employ a Jew and give him a living wage, their possibilities for gainful employment in Iran look pretty grim. An encouraging fact which in my opinion justifies the existence of ORT in Iran is the interest evidenced by the majority of their older students in learning a trade in order to prepare themselves for life in Israel. ORT's records show that since 1950 until the present date 650 students graduated from their schools, and of this number 585 have emigrated to Israel.

Since the overthrow of the Mossadeq government the political atmosphere has improved very much and there is a great relief in tension as far as Americans are concerned. With the grant-in-aid of 45 million dollars made by the U. S. to the new government, Americans are not only officially tolerated but are, for the time being - and I would like to underline time being - regarded as friends. The Communist Party has gone underground and cannot openly interfere with our work as they did before. They have, however, again started sporadic activities, but these are being promptly suppressed by the Zahedi government, which has arrested several hundred of their members and placed them in prison camps in the more inaccessible places of Persia and in the islands of the Persian Gulf. The situation, however, remains potentially explosive. The fate of Dr. Mossadeq is as yet undecided, and he still has strong supporters in the country, especially with the powerful Qashqai tribes in the South.

The oil question is still unsettled, parliament is not functioning, and one does not know how long the United States will continue to finance the country.

In view of the economic and political uncertainty prevailing, I feel that until we are reasonably sure that we can take root in Iran, our policy for the coming year should be to continue - and I say continue by all means, even though it might be dangerous - but it's most important that we help these poor people in providing them with medical, educational and welfare assistance to the needy, to refrain from investing money in fixed assets and to continue our efforts which to date have produced fairly good results in making the wealthier Iranian Jews more alive to their communal responsibilities.

MR. KATZKI: Thank you very much Mr. Loskove. In a private conversation I had with Mr. Loskove before today, he told me of the difficulties he had in his living arrangements in Iran. He told me about the newspaper attacks against him; he told me about the threats which had been made in Iran upon the lives of the Americans, including himself. He told me he was able to take all these difficulties in his stride. But the point where he really became angry was when, coming from Tennessee, they called him a "Yankee". That's the point at which he drew the line.

I think this would be a good point to take a break. Mr. Beckelman said yesterday we'll make it for seven minutes, on the condition that ten minutes from now we can continue with our program and our discussion.

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Will everyone please sit down so that we might resume. During the course of the morning we have had three excellent and comprehensive reports on the JDC work in the Moslem countries during the past year. I am sure that questions have arisen in the minds of many of the people here, visitors and staff members, and I would like to throw the floor open at this time for questions and for a general discussion of the three reports thus far given this morning.

To begin I would like to ask Rabbi Herbert Friedman, a friend of the JDC for many years, and who has just returned from Morocco, whether he could give us some of his impressions, or make some comments on what he observed or heard in Morocco.

RABBI FRIEDMAN: Well look, Herb, I have a couple of notes that I made while Mr. Bein was talking, but I am not sure what you want. We had four or five days in Morocco. Bill Bein and his staff were very good to us, and we moved around quickly. I could practically list my impressions in headline fashion. We came to the conclusion that the future of the Jews in Morocco will turn out to be very difficult if not impossible. This is a personal conclusion. The political situation that Bill talked about - the differences between the Arabs and the French which you heard reported to exist in Morocco and in Tunisia - is very, very aggravated. It is very severe and on everybody's mind. Everyone makes prognostications as to how long this state of tension can continue. I would be perfectly free in my own mind to say to my own people that any long-term future for a large Jewish population in Morocco, in my judgment, is out of the question. I would say, as the second step, that a large-scale emigration out of Morocco at the present time is equally impossible. This is because of local conditions and because of the impossibility of reception in Israel at the moment.

If you are confronted, therefore, with these two conclusions: that a long-range future in Morocco is impossible, but that large-scale emigration is also impossible, you are left with what appears to be an impasse. However, out of the impasse, it seems to me, comes the advice or recommendation for good judgment as to what should be the present program. It seems to me that the present program ought to be considered an interim program to prepare the people for emigration. How long is "interim"? Somebody used the term "foreseeable future". One person in Morocco said "foreseeable future" means 20 years; another person said "foreseeable future" means 5 years. If you use this time, whatever it amounts to, to do two things: to improve the conditions of the people for their own individual benefit, and also to improve the total conditions of the collective community for its eventual transplantation to Israel, I think you are making the best possible use of the time left at our disposal, whatever that time is.

As for improving the condition of individuals, the whole JDC program seems to me to be geared around that. You go into the mellah and you see a trachoma center. It's based upon a very interesting experimental conception. You take two or three square blocks in the mellah. You've got several thousand people living in that area. You open up a little trachoma center down deep in a kind of a half basement. You see long lines of people waiting to be treated. They've been gathered in from this two or three square block area. They come very religiously. They get four treatments a day. The aureomycin is dropped in four times a day, so a mother has to bring her child back four times. You look at the records and you see that after 160 treatments - which is 40 days - or 200 treatments - 50 days - the trachoma has been cured.

The difficulty is that you have to get the people willing to accept regular treatment. You get it accepted on a small neighborhood basis. After you have handled a couple of thousand people in a small neighborhood, the plan is to move the whole project three blocks farther into the mellah, set it up there, and by that time you have broken down any resistance to it. You've encouraged people to come and take advantage of the treatment possibilities, moving from area to area. By doing this you are accomplishing what, it seems to me, are both objectives. You are providing immediate relief for a specific aggravated situation and you are making a better human being for what must be his eventual emigration about which there is no doubt in my mind.

You go on and on to every specific thing that is done. Consider the kindergarten "Hermitage" that Bill's maid takes advantage of. You see a hundred children there, all TB suspects. They're getting their lunch. They have a nice girl in charge whom they sent to Switzerland for training. She knows modern methods. These hundred kids get the advantage of a two-hour rest period in the afternoon. They begin to learn comprehensive hygiene. It's a specific. But that specific has its long-term application, because the child will not have TB some day when he or she goes to Israel.



I now come to the last observation I would like to make, that is the burning question of the mellah. If the long-term future of the Jewish population, 5 years or 20 - and I have the feeling it's closer to 5 - is emigration, then you're not interested in any long-term investment of large capital to improve that housing situation. That's the difficulty - that's the paradox. The mellah is the most impossible place I have ever seen. I was in 60 DP camps in Germany, Austria and Italy during the war. Never have I ever seen anything like it. Never! No matter what you ever heard about a DP camp, you've never seen or conceived of anything like a mellah. They've got to get out of there. Are you going to build good, permanent, long-term housing for them? Again the answer in my judgment is "no"! But how did the Joint deal with this question? They prodded, they stimulated, they provoked, they agitated so that the French Government has built or started to build what is called the "Habitat juif" right out on the Atlantic Ocean, not far from where Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt had a lovely conference in the Anfa Hotel in 1943 - couldn't find a nicer place. They set up light, beautiful, big apartment buildings, not with Joint money, but with French Government money. There are some couple of hundred families living in these places with the fresh smell of the ocean and not the old smell of the ghetto in their noses. You speak of 200 families, 400 families. If, slowly but surely, that kind of excellent stimulation can be continued, there will be 12, 15, 20 or 40 big apartment blocks built elsewhere in the city; that would be my recommendation as to how the mellah ought to be torn down and eventually dissolved. I could not in good conscience recommend that we should invest large sums of money in the building of housing no matter how badly it is needed. But I think that with all this skill at our disposal we ought to ask the Joint to continue its program of encouraging the French to build the buildings, to pull the people out of the mellah and slowly but surely demolish that festering place of infection.

These are some of the conclusions we came to which in a very brief time I have no idea how valid they are. They are quick, they are hasty, but they seem to me to be very deep, as I had the opportunity to think them over at a great distance. In Berlin this week-end I was thinking about Casablanca. It seems to me that this is the way we ought to operate down there. Temporary relief, good palliatives, always with the notion in mind that in a period of time that population will have to be transplanted.

MR. KATZKI: Thank you Rabbi Friedman. Mr. Leavitt has a question.

MR. LEAVITT: I would just like to ask Bill Bein and Henry Levy what happens to the children who are 12 years of age and who have finished with the Alliance schools. What is the status of secondary education both in Tunisia and in Morocco?

MR. LEVY: In Tunisia there has been an increase in the registration for the step beyond the Alliance schools. Government figures show that there has been an increase in the number of children who have been attending secondary schools beyond the Alliance schools. Remember, however, that when a Jewish child leaves the Alliance school, it depends upon what economic level the child comes from. If it's from the very poor, the pressure is for the child to go out and find a job to help support the family. If the child comes from - as many of them do - the bourgeoisie, or those who have parents who are gainfully employed for many years, many of them go on to secondary schools. That is free. Thus in a general way there has been a slow but steady increase in the number of children who leave the Alliance schools and who eventually go on to secondary schools. I am sorry I don't have any figures.

MR. BEIN: The problem of secondary education came to a head now in Morocco. I would like to give an example. The Alliance trade school in Fez produced wood workers and metal workers. These children from Fez cannot make a living out of the professions they were given. But the children of Midelt, which is a small hole of a town near the Sahara, are clamoring to get into Fez for training and return to Midelt because even in Midelt you can make a living with woodworking.

There is a very interesting development which is producing some results which I hope will continue and that is a cooperation between Alliance and ORT. This year the girls' school of the ORT received pupils stimulated by the Alliance, who finished their junior high school, that means part of the secondary education, and went to the ORT trade school. Now they will have their trade which they will be able to use. Unfortunately this stimulation must be given continuously but I think that the Alliance is now on its best way to stimulate its students, to prepare them, to condition them for future trade education.

MR. LOSKOVE: Out of approximately 7,600 children that are attending the Alliance schools in Iran there are no more than 800 children who are attending secondary schools.

MR. KATZKI: I think that's a commentary on the situation. Mr. Horwitz wanted to say something.

MR. HORWITZ: We have some figures about the number of children attending secondary schools, Mr. Leavitt, but they are largely those who attended the French schools and not Alliance. They are the ones who live in the European sections of Tunisia and not in the mellah, in the large cities of Tunis, Sousse and Sfax. I think what we ought to see is that the JDC program has not been in North Africa long enough to have the kind of effect on the numbers of youngsters going into secondary schools that

we conceivably would like to see. I think if we look at an earlier effort we might get some idea of the problems involved in secondary schooling in the future. I reported last year that the effect of putting children in kindergartens had the result of crowding the first grade in Alliance. Moreover, more children were going to school at the proper age of six years rather than starting at eight or nine years and, being behind, dropping out early. Another effect of the JDC program in the schools of giving food and clothing and helping the family to support the youngsters' schooling has been the continuation of the youngsters in the primary classes. With the steady going to school, starting at six years, and finishing the normal primary grades, one might expect that there will be more interest on the part of the students and the families to see that the youngsters have a chance to continue into secondary schooling. However, it is too early to be able to discuss this.

MR. LEAVITT: The question I am asking is whether they go, and secondly, are there secondary schools that would take them if they would like to go?

MR. HORWITZ: Well, there we go into the French philosophy of education. There are facilities, but they have to compete with the rest of the youngsters who finish the septieme and go into sixieme, which is the beginning of secondary schooling in French education. They have to take examinations. The youngsters taking examinations at the Alliance today - it was my impression, but I have no figures on it - suffer in comparison with youngsters who go to other schools in Tunis. I think you will remember I said so two years ago. Part of the factor is the need for Alliance to improve its schooling. It has a tremendous need for building, not only from the physical side but also to provide teaching at a level where instructors can really get knowledge across to their pupils and put them at the same level as the youngsters from other schools.

MR. KATZKI: Mr. Levy wants to supplement.

MR. LEVY: One final comment to complete the circle of Mr. Leavitt's question. The more pressing problem today in Tunisia is not so much with those who leave the Alliance schools as it is with those who leave the Garderies at six years of age and cannot find facilities in the Alliance schools or French schools because they just do not have enough facilities. We are faced today with children who have habituated themselves to going to school, whose mothers have habituated themselves to sending the children to school, but who, when they get out of the Garderie at six years of age, have no school to attend. That is our real problem.

MR. BEIN: I would like to supplement this information, even at the risk of betraying a secret. A few days before I left Casablanca I was given some figures regarding children who left the Alliance schools all over the country in June 1952. Of about 2,500, 1,100 finished their examinations and 1,400 left before they finished their exams. What happened to these children is very interesting. 277 left for Israel, 124 went into commerce, 435 in industry and about 1,200 in various employments. These figures show that about 2,500 left and they are placed. I have my doubts about various employments, but nevertheless it shows that Alliance is now following, to a certain extent, what happens to their children. Irrespective of this, there are not enough secondary schools in Morocco to take care of the children.

MR. GREENSTEIN: In one of the reports mention was made of alleged discrimination against the North Africans in Israel. I think Henry Levy mentioned this. I would like to ask Mr. Levy whether he would expand on this and perhaps make some comments on the subject.

MR. KATZKI: Suppose Mr. Levy tells us what they say in Tunis and then Dr. Josephthal can tell us what the position is.

MR. LEVY: Let me try and answer this question by an example. The chauffeur who works for the JDC in our office in Tunis spent a year in Israel. We find him a good chauffeur. He tells me, and this is his story, that he tried exactly four times to get a license in Israel in order to drive either a truck or any other kind of vehicle. He failed all four times. The man was in Israel with his wife and two children. He's been a chauffeur ever since he's been an adult. He knows nothing else but chauffeuring. He drove for an American colonel during the war. He was in the French army as a chauffeur. He's been driving our cars very satisfactorily. His story is that he was unable to get a license, therefore felt that he had no future for himself in Israel and he returned to Tunis.

There are stories of alleged discrimination which seem to me to be so vague as not to contribute to this kind of discussion. We find that some of the people who returned said that when they applied for specific jobs, they simply couldn't get them. They would apply day after day for some form of unskilled labor and were simply by-passed. The letters which come from friends and relatives in Israel complain of the same thing. An atmosphere is created which in Tunis is then translated into something concrete. People are afraid to go to Israel because they fear, being North Africans, they may not be able to get employment as easily as non-Africans.

DR. JOSEPHTHAL: I had an opportunity yesterday to speak about this problem, and I don't want to repeat what I said yesterday.

A few months ago I had a talk with someone from Djerba and he said to me that there's discrimination all over Israel. He recounted the usual stories of discrimination to me. He does not even think the labor exchange discriminates, he said the street discriminates. The atmosphere of the street is discriminating. He said that there is a feeling that North Africans are inferior, that the white man is superior.

I personally wouldn't listen to a story in which somebody tells you because he is not an Ashkenazi he didn't get a job. I deeply feel with your chauffeur, but I failed five times to pass the driving test. I won't try another time. And it's right to make it difficult to secure a driver's license, not just for this man, but for everyone, because we have so many chauffeurs coming out of the British Army and of the Israeli Army. So you fail easily. Maybe he thinks he is an excellent driver, maybe he is an excellent driver. But I wouldn't take those stories too seriously.

But there are three or four basic points:

- (1) One I explained yesterday. They were the last ones to come, and therefore they are less absorbed economically than anyone else.
- (2) They comprise more than 80% of the people in the Maabarot. That means they have no proper housing yet, because they were the last ones.
- (3) They have very weak leadership. Some of them even block the way to real absorption. The few communities who gave some leaders of their own for public life were Yemenite. They had people who came twenty or thirty years ago and were already acclimatized. Perhaps to a certain extent even amongst the Iraqi there is leadership. But not amongst the North Africans. No leadership whatsoever.

What we are actually trying to do is to create this leadership artificially by taking someone to the Knesset in spite of the fact that his personal qualifications do not yet fully justify it.

For several years we made a course for NCO's in the Army, and made a rule that 60% of the NCO's had to be from non-Ashkenazi countries. But can you imagine an army where all the officers are Ashkenazim and the non-officers, NCO's or soldiers, are Sephardim? You can't keep an army like that.

We are trying to raise the level of the North Africans artificially through special courses and secondary schooling. With an intelligence rating of ten, one can go to a secondary school. We put it down to seven already for people from the Moslem countries.

But the feeling they have that they are worse off than the other ones, this feeling exists and it is right. They are worse off because they are not starting from the same point of education and civilization.

Now it's quite clear that the most unsuccessful ones amongst them give this reason for returning. Everyone who returns from Israel has more or less to justify himself. He has to find a reason why he did return.

I often wonder what the UJA people think. They must be asking themselves whether money isn't being wasted in Israel if thousands are leaving. This is a feeling which exists in various communities, it is not so easy to overcome. And this re-emigration business cannot be stopped.

I was once a very unhappy man with a personal experience. You heard about the problem of the immigrants from India, that 86 went back. These people began a passive resistance strike right in the streets of Israel. They sat there just wanting to be sent back to India. I spent two nights on the streets with them trying to find out what had come over them. In despair I went to see Ben Gurion. I said to him, "Ben Gurion, I don't want to send them back but I can't find out what is on their minds." And he said, "You are totally wrong. Let them out. I, Ben Gurion, came with a ship of 80 people in 1905. Of those 80 people, besides myself, there is one who stayed in Israel. All the other 78 went back."

In 1926 we had mass Aliyah, the Polish Aliyah and in 1927 more people left Israel than came in. And you can't change that. You can't make a police state of Israel. People are coming for a special situation which is their own business and afterwards they don't feel that they are receiving justice. Some of them want to go back.

I'll tell two stories about the Indians. They told me - I can't check them - one told me this. An Indian family lived in Beersheba, of which the father was working two miles outside Beersheba. A child in the family became ill. The mother went with the child to the Kupat Holim, to the health insurance company. The clerk in Kupat Holim said to the mother, "Where is your booklet, where is your insurance booklet?" She said, "I haven't got it." So he said, "You have to bring it to me, otherwise I cannot treat the child." She left quietly. She didn't cry, she didn't shout, she didn't do anything. The child died. Six days later the father came back from his work. He was working in a town in the south somewhere. There was a big scandal all over Beersheba. How could such a thing happen?

Now, were this Indian a Moroccan or an Iraqi the mother would have said, "The father is away so far. He has the booklet. I can't wait. Look at the child, let the doctor look at the child." Everything would be over. But with the Indian mother, when the child was refused, the mother accepted that as final.

I'll tell you a second story. A woman went to a bakery and said, "I want white bread." There was no white bread. In the bakery there was a Rumanian baker. He replied, in a rough tone, to the woman, "You may eat black bread." She asked why and was answered, "There is no white bread and you are black yourself."

This story went all over Beersheba, that the baker said, "You are black and you can eat black bread." Beersheba is a town of immigrants. All 22,000 inhabitants are immigrants. You hear the same story told ten, a hundred times, in the papers and how can you fight against it? By explanation, by education, by sweet talk or less sweet talk, and so on.

So, I don't say there is nothing in it. There is something in it. It isn't the same starting point. But sometimes it's taken as a substitute for a personal lack of success. As long as the economic situation is bad and as long as some of them are not absorbed, they don't say, "We are not absorbed because we are the last ones, because the situation is bad, because the State of Israel is in the situation it is." They will say that it is because they are not Ashkenazis.

I may say from personal experience that the last immigrants are always discriminated against. That is the history of every immigrant country. The Polish immigrants were discriminated against by the Russians. The Russians were the first ones. Then came the Poles and they were discriminated against. Then came the German Jews. They said, "Oh, everything is already in the hands of the Russians, of the Poles, and so on."

I tell you it's no use to speak quickly about it and to say there's nothing in it. There is something in it but this something is mostly psychological. It's a question of time to overcome it, as it was overcome with every part of the Jewish people. And it will continue to be overcome in the future. Of that I am sure.

MRS. BRAILOVE: I'd like to go back to the discussion of the liquidation of the mellah, and wonder just how impractical it would be to invest some money to destroy this festering mess. The population of the mellah, I've heard on various occasions, ranges from 40,000 to 80,000. I still don't have the figures straight. If we were to go along with Herb Friedman's suggestion that we wait for the authorities to put up the housing, it will take generations to clean out the mellah because the children are born as rapidly as the families move out. A mellah, as Herb says, is indescribable. You have to see it, to understand it.

Mr. Bein mentioned a figure of something like a million dollars as the sum it would take to tear down that Casablanca mellah. When I was there, I thought it would be better to have the people running around in the fields than to take those children whom you transport from mellah to garderie, give them food and sunshine for several hours a day only to throw them back into this cesspool at night. Over a period of time, you could easily make up the money that you invested in housing out of the probably diminishing rate of medical attention.

I would like to hear from the directors, from Mr. Beckelman, whether for once and all we could stop an academic discussion of tearing down the mellah and really try to find a way of doing something about it in the months immediately ahead.

MR. BECKELMAN: I'm sure that Mr. Bein did not suggest that one million dollars would clean out the mellah. He made a statement which I had intended to ask him to amplify. He made a statement that, in his judgment, the sum of one million dollars could usefully be employed in demonstrating how the mellah could be eradicated. And I would like to ask him to amplify that point now in answer to Mrs. Brailove's questions. I say in passing that if it were true, which unfortunately it is not, that one million dollars could in fact eradicate the mellah we would have appropriated one million dollars before we even went in to do a program in North Africa.

MR. BEIN: Mr. Beckelman correctly understood me. The government bought 33 hectares of land, roughly 80 acres, around the few buildings Herbert Friedman saw.

There is an appropriation in the hands of the government but it depends upon the communities for initiative. To give you an idea how much building costs: this three-family apartment costs a minimum of 1,200,000 to 1,400,000 francs. Temporary buildings cost 80% of it and they are not worthwhile as they have no recuperation value. Now, this means you need about \$3,000 to house one family, since the land is given free of charge.

With \$1,000,000 the liquidation of the mellah could be put into motion. \$1,000,000 would stimulate. With \$1,000,000 perhaps a few million dollars credit could be secured from the government bank. It is a very complicated problem, but \$1,000,000 cannot destroy the mellah. The people today are spending the largest part of their income to have even the bad shelter they have. But with that sum one could start the way to a future liquidation of the mellah.

In order to answer one question, there are 80,000 Jews in Casablanca, of whom about 32,000 are living in the mellah.

MR. KATZKI: We have time for one more question, if there is another, before we break up for lunch. Is there anyone else who wants to add anything at this point?

MR. LEAVITT: I agree with what Rabbi Friedman said. That's the feeling I had two years ago when I went to North Africa, that time was running out for the Jews of North Africa. Two years ago, when we worked out a plan with the Jewish Agency for the evacuation of the Jews in the small villages at least, the ones that were most exposed in the event of any uprising, we felt that if you could have one pogrom in Oujda you could have more and that they may come in 1954 or 1955. My feeling was that we ought to start evacuating; this seems even a more urgent problem than the liquidation of the mellah. Bad as the mellah is, these people in the villages were in actual imminent danger of their lives and that 25,000 or 30,000 people could be wiped out overnight when the signal is given.



We haven't done anything about that. We haven't done anything in the sense that neither the Jewish Agency nor we have undertaken an actual and systematic job of evacuation. I think more of the fault is the Agency's although we too are not entirely guiltless in it because an important part of the problem is that of taking care of the "hard-core" people, people who are unproductive, people who are sick. Israel says, they cannot take these people in and therefore they cannot evacuate a whole village with the sick and the unproductive, into Israel. JDC said unless complete villages were moved the program will fail, because one cannot leave the aged and the sick behind while taking able-bodied people and the younger people out of the villages.

So there was a deadlock at that point and we didn't get very far. We made some studies. We investigated the health of the Jews of certain villages to see what would be the chance of curing many of them, so that they would be acceptable in Israel. But I think it has been a rather casual approach to the problem and I think we ought to re-examine that proposal of moving out the Jews of the villages, not only from Morocco, but from Tunisia as well. There aren't as many in the hinterland, outside of the city of Tunis, but there are several thousands that ought to be moved out of the small villages.

Failing that, I would rather, if I were doing a building program, move the people out of the villages into Casablanca into the new houses, rather than out of the mellah. I would say that because they can be protected in Casablanca, where there are French soldiers while you can't protect them in those hill villages. Even if you have them in another mellah, there is hope for them there. I think that the antagonism, the tensions that are arising in the Moslem Arab world today, especially against the Jews, are something that ought to give us some pause. We ought to think in terms of orienting a program. Everything we're doing is fine, but at the same time there are areas of danger on which we ought to concentrate in order not to be faced with emergency evacuations which will cost so much more than if planning is done in advance.

MR. KATZKI: I think we shall call a halt at this time for lunch. We'll resume promptly at three o'clock. Thank you.

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THIRD SESSION

Monday afternoon, October 19, 1953

Chairman - Mr. Herbert Katzki

MR. KATZKI: We open this afternoon's session to continue where we left off this morning. The first speaker this afternoon will be Mr. Aronovici who is in charge of the Reconstruction Department of the JDC.

The program notes say that he will report on ORT and other Reconstruction activities in North Africa. Mr. Aronovici, in making his presentation, will also cover the activities of the Reconstruction Department in the European countries, so that his report on the total operations of his department will be presented at this time.



ADDRESS ON  
RECONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

By

Noel Aronovici

You have before you a full and detailed report (See Appendix) of the various Reconstruction activities which we are carrying out in various countries in Europe as well as in North Africa. I will limit myself in the following to certain remarks on the work and its problems.

In Europe we have seven loan institutions, of which five are credit co-operatives and two are loan societies. All these institutions have granted, from their inception until now, a total of some 19,500 individual loans - mostly to heads of families - for a total amount of over \$5,300,000. The dollar equivalent is calculated at the present rate of exchange in the various countries. If we take what all the seven institutions are granting, the average for six months is 1,200 individual loans for a total amount of somewhat over \$570,000. This works out to an average of 200 loans a month in various countries in Europe, including Greece, which everybody will agree is very little.

An important point to make in connection with the activity of the Loan Kassas is that still today even though some of them have been in existence since 1945, 20% to 30% of the loans made are first loans. From our knowledge it is reasonable to assume that a considerable number of these people have actually been taken off the relief rolls, or would have become relief cases had they not had this possibility. Further, a point to make is the fact that some are taking their second, third or fourth loans, indicating that they are more or less permanent borrowers, a proof of their precarious financial situation; that is their dependence on our loans.

The total JDC investment, as of today, in all these loan institutions amounts to around \$470,000. We are justified to say that JDC credit to the various institutions has been limited to initial loans just to give them a possibility to start their activity. However these investments are not enough to permit an increase in the amount of individual loans or the number of loans granted. This has had the result that in the last six months we have received, from most of our loan societies, applications for substantial additional credit in order to increase the amount of the individual loans, to reduce the interest charged and to enable them to expand their activities.

We have to bear in mind that all these people who are coming to our loan societies are unable to obtain the amounts they need under more or less normal conditions from any other institution. I think you will hear,

tomorrow probably, from the various countries in Europe that this condition prevails pretty generally throughout. I would like very briefly to turn to the rehabilitation project which we initiated and about which you heard this morning from Mr. Bein, Mr. Levy and Mr. Katzki - a very modest rehabilitation project initiated in cooperation with the Jewish Colonization Association. This project was prepared a year and a half to two years ago to provide very modest loans to Jewish artisans in North Africa, mainly in Morocco and Tunisia.

It took us well over a year until we succeeded in receiving legal approval from the governments in Morocco and Tunisia to organize the loan societies. As a result of the long delay in starting the Kassas, the data which I will give you refer to an activity of two to two and a half months.

As of today there are two loan societies which we have finally organized, one in Casablanca and one in Tunis. To date, over 300 applications have been received and 100 loans have been granted. In this connection I would like to add that already a few loans granted have started to be repaid and that all repayments which were due up to now have been made punctually by everyone.

I won't go into the political and economic conditions in North Africa. Many things have been said this morning by Mr. Katzki, Mr. Bein and Mr. Levy, and by other speakers too. The fact of the matter is that, as far as the Jewish population is concerned, you heard that they have not been involved at all in this conflict between the French authorities and the Arabs. On the contrary, it would appear that the Arab national movements are doing everything to gain the sympathy of the Jews.

Concerning emigration from North Africa to Israel, this, as you heard, has come almost to a complete standstill. Everybody may make a guess how long this situation will last, what developments will occur. There are many people who believe that 10 years or fifteen years from now, even if the emigration to Israel of the younger generations may begin again, Jewish communities in North Africa will continue to exist. Therefore you heard from Mr. Bein and from Mr. Levy that, among other programs, it is necessary to develop and extend the rehabilitation work which we just initiated, in order to improve, to a certain degree, the living standards of a great number of needy Jews.

The few months of the activity of these two institutions have shown that it is absolutely necessary to create similar institutions in the main Jewish centers in Morocco - three to five - and at least another institution for the provinces in Tunisia. A second need has been shown from the applications which we have received until now. At the beginning we very modestly estimated the maximum amount of the individual loans in Morocco at 40,000 francs, which is \$100, and in Tunis, 50,000 francs. Now this estimate is not wrong, not wrong at all, but it has been shown that there is a certain group of Jewish artisans who are a little bit on a higher level than the masses who need loans. They may need 80,000 to 100,000

francs, and not to help them would be hard not only on the individuals but also on the Jewish apprentices or workers in their shops whom many borrowers employ. In other words there is another group of artisans who should be able to receive up to 100,000 francs through the loan societies, which they cannot obtain from other financial institutions. Consequent upon the very rough estimates which I have made we expect to work in Morocco and in Tunisia in creating new loan kassas in the main Jewish centers during 1954. We will increase, for a certain percentage of the artisans, the amount of loans, mainly for machinery and tools. I believe that by the end of 1954 with a relatively modest additional appropriation, we can help some 4,000 to 5,000 Jewish families, Jewish artisans, Jewish productive elements.

I would like to remind you of what this means immediately for these people. It means the freeing of these poor people, who are the poorest of the poor, from the usurer. Then it means that you immediately increase his income by at least 25%. In other words, if he is earning 4,000 francs a week, he will get 5,000, and this sum of 1,000 francs for these people in Morocco and Tunisia means a lot.

The Jewish Colonization Association, which has initiated this rehabilitation project with us is prepared, as far as the British Treasury permits, to go along with us to develop the program. We have had discussions with outstanding leaders in Tunis and in Morocco who, without a commitment, have assured us that after the thing has taken a certain shape, we can expect to have discount facilities in some form from the National Bank, or certain subventions for special purposes. We are justified in expecting support from the government. About Jewish community support there is no question at all. This has been made very clear by the leaders of the Jewish communities in Morocco and Tunis. They will have to raise funds for the loan societies because the JDC gradually will withdraw from them.

This briefly covers our rehabilitation project in North Africa.

About the ORT, I should like to say a few words in addition to what Mr. Bein and Mr. Levy said. In our opinion, the ORT, in Morocco as well as in Tunis, has very much improved during the last years. With the finishing of the building of the school in Tunis, I think, the capital investments which have been made during the last years and which were necessary and substantial should come to an end, in Tunis at least. In Tunis, the ORT has the possibility to expand the private apprenticeship training which does not require any special investments, certainly not to the extent of building schools. This is also true in Morocco but to a lesser degree.

The ORT has improved, its program is more reasonably conducted in every respect and I think, they follow up and control their country operations much more closely now than formerly.

MR. KATZKI: Thank you very much Mr. Aronovici. What we propose to do, as you see from your program, is to reserve discussion on Mr. Aronovici's report and the two that will follow for later in the afternoon.

Mr. Abramovitch, our next speaker, has been devoting most of his attention in recent months to problems of education, the JDC program on education in the North African countries. Mr. Abramovitch, will you tell us what's going on over there in that direction?



ADDRESS ON

EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN NORTH AFRICA

By

Stanley Abramovitch

Various estimates put the number of children in Morocco who do not go to school at between 30 and 40 percent. No wonder, therefore, that education has become an important commodity for international Jewish organizations. The Jewish Agency has two official education departments, and all the other departments, for lack of any other activity, deal in education too. The Youth Department sends educators. The Halutz Department of course provides education and the Emigration Department during the present period of enforced inactivity takes a friendly interest in education. Youth Aliyah also naturally deals in education - what else should they do?

The J.A. tries to educate North African Jewry in a dozen contradictory ways and methods. It has secretly and conveniently divided the field of activity between the religious and non-religious spheres of influence. To the religious groups were assigned the Talmudei Torah, the Ozar Hatorah, Em Habanim schools, the evening classes, etc. To the non-religious department was given the Alliance Israelite Univer-selle. You can imagine how the A.I.U. appreciated this division when the news leaked out. Consequently there is quite a friendly cooperation between the A.I.U. and the Religious Education Department.

The World Jewish Congress has an education department working out of London and advertising in the U.S.A. its educational activities in North Africa, all this unknown, of course, to North African Jewry.

British Jewry is represented by Hillel Colleges, a network of colleges consisting of one home with thirty odd children. The work of Hillel Colleges is widely reported in the Jewish press, and serves as an adequate sop to ease the conscience of Anglo Jewry vis-a-vis the miseries of North Africa.

Turning from the less holy to the more holy, we find the Lubavitcher are in the field. With their two hundred years of experience in Russia, they have transplanted the Lubavitcher Hassidism to the dry villages of Morocco. Representing an infallible Rabbi, they must obviously succeed, even when their Rabbanim teach little children Hebrew from booklets published in London by the Missionary Society. The Lubavitcher representative who was with me at the time of this discovery had no difficulty in convincing me that the learned Khaham did not understand one word of what he was teaching, so no harm was

being done. The greatest asset of the Lubavitcher is the genuine spirit of sacrifice they are imbued with. They are ready and do offer themselves and their families at the bidding of the Rabbi and their ideal. Difficulties crop up when their spirit of devotion to their cause becomes so intense that they sacrifice not only themselves but others too, everybody who, they think, could enhance their work. We are usually included in this group.

The Ozar Hatorah is the only genuine Sephardic organization. When its influence in Morocco was recently waning and it looked as if they were being dislodged, they sent the great champion of Sephardi Jewry, Rabbi Kalmanowitz, who tried to restore Ozar Hatorah to its pristine glory.

The Alliance Israelite Universelle looks on peacefully, benevolently on all this, preparing for the day when she will be able to swallow the lot and re-establish the tricolour in the Jewish Mellah.

Our privilege is to support almost all these organizations, watch that they live peacefully together and sometimes even cooperate and provide some education for the Jewish child in North Africa.

The truth is that none of these organizations has as yet succeeded in providing sound, adequate and suitable Jewish education for the children in North Africa. The A.I.U. because of the very nature of its historical development has for too long neglected this holy duty, to regain, in the brief space of recent years, the confidence of the Jews. For too long has Jewish education been left out of its schools to reinstate it as a subject on a par with others.

The Jewish Agency, whatever department it may be, has a special axe to grind and its efforts are always short lived. The Shlichim come and go as the four seasons of the year to be followed by similar cycles. The Jewish Agency has neither sufficient funds nor is it always acceptable by the local communities in order to make a great contribution on its own.

The Lubavitcher are a strange plant on African soil which has not yet taken any real roots. At best their influence will not be great and in the worst case they will disappear and be forgotten. They can function and contribute something positive in a very limited way, allowing the main stream of Jewish life in North Africa to by-pass them.

The Ozar Hatorah could be the most effective organization if they had educators, teachers, administrators and less well-meant, but misguided interference from Mr. Shalom. They are the only organization which has tried to establish local roots and interest in its work. Their work has consequently been impeded and obstructed not only by lack of qualified personnel and clear direction, but also by being involved in local politics and events through the personal likes, dislikes and ambitions of their committee members.



In this medley of contradictory interests, influences and pressures, each one pulling in his own direction, we, the JDC, have an important, decisive and extremely difficult part to play. By our own tradition we do not impose on any organization either the colouring, aim or contents of its educational program. The JDC has always recognized that each group, each society is entitled to provide such education as it considers right and suitable. We cannot and do not exert pressure in favour of one group against another. We can and must, however, make absolutely sure that our funds are used to provide an education that will comply with certain minimum standards. We must ascertain that minimum physical conditions exist; that teachers who are paid with our funds can be called teachers even in the attenuated form of North-Africa; that the child has a book, that the school has a syllabus, that there is a program, order and, at least, hope for progress and improvement. Unless we can see that some of these basic conditions prevail, we should withhold our support from a school. We can and we have in Morocco and Tunisia forced those organizations who have turned to us for help, to clean up their schools, improve their teaching personnel and work according to some curriculum. This has been and still is our policy in the field of education.

We have not succeeded everywhere, we have still much to do, but our country offices have most definitely made a great contribution in this field. We have not only been the tranquilizing factor, the modifying force that has prevented strife and discord in North Africa, as far as Jewish education is concerned, we have been the yeast that has fermented growth and improvement within each and every organization.

To pass from the general to the particular, let us look first at Morocco. This country presents us with a beehive of educational activities. Our office in Casablanca supports in one way or another almost all educational efforts. Not only is our money accepted but our advice is listened to, but, of course, not always followed.

First and foremost, in a class of its own, as the educational organization par excellence is the A.I.U. The praises of the A.I.U. have often been sung and it is not my task here to do so at this meeting. I shall confine myself to saying a few words about its Jewish educational program. It is a well-known secret that we are now working closer and better with the A.I.U. than we ever did before. The friendly spirit of cooperation that exists at Headquarters level is reflected in the field, or is it perhaps the other way round? During the past year I was able together with the A.I.U. inspectors to visit and examine their Hebrew teachers. Together we sat down to work out and suggest improvements by introducing changes, increasing the number of hours and strengthening the position of the Hebrew teacher in their schools. Unashamedly and frankly the A.I.U. delegate in Casablanca explained to me his

difficulties with the educational authorities, with the personnel and time-table. Suggestions were accepted which should mean a great improvement for the coming year, if they are carried out. We hope that this school-year every child will have a textbook in his hand - our office in Casa is printing 30,000 textbooks, that a suitable program will be introduced in all their schools and the same series of textbooks will be used throughout their establishments.

And because we are on such friendly terms with the A.I.U., because a spirit of mutual trust exists, we also took the liberty to point out what should still be done where they are still falling short of their duty, all these points having been noted, accepted and often raised by the A.I.U. themselves. The A.I.U. is today seriously and constantly thinking of how to introduce improvements, what further changes to make, whether the time is ripe for such changes, whether the French authorities will accept them, and whether or not they are in conformity with their own particular outlook on Jewish life and education.

My own advice to them is, to be a little more daring, enterprising and to hasten the process. The following are some of the points we discussed which I think require action. The A.I.U. has approximately 25,000 to 28,000 Jewish children in their schools. It is logical that such a vast network should have a Hebrew educational director with the highest qualifications, a man who would plan their programs, direct and supervise the work. Two inspectors are required to visit the schools regularly and not only to inspect the classes but help, guide and assist the teachers. The A.I.U. in Casablanca knows and agrees that this should be done. They plead, however, that the right personnel cannot be found. I know how difficult it is to find qualified personnel today, but I also know that it is not impossible.

The number of hours devoted to Jewish education will have to be increased. Thousands of A.I.U. children come after dark to evening courses held in the Mellah rooms. These children who thirst for Jewish knowledge should find it in their normal Jewish schools.

The summer holidays last three months. I think that a Jewish organization like the A.I.U. cannot allow its children to roam aimlessly in the Mellah alleys for three months. The proportion of children who go to summer camps is small. The camps last only a few weeks.

We have often been admonished by the A.I.U. for diverting and wasting funds on splinter educational organizations. They think we should rather devote those funds to increasing the absorptive capacity in the A.I.U. The fact that most communities set up a Talmud Torah to teach the children Yiddishkeit before entering the A.I.U. school and try to keep some children out of the A.I.U. schools as long as possible, is ample proof that a considerable section of the community wants a profounder Jewish education than the one provided in the A.I.U. It is an undeniable fact that as the situation is today, the A.I.U. does not

cater for all sections and needs of the community. Our suggestion is not that the A.I.U. should turn its schools into Talmudei Torah, but an organization which claims to cater for all the needs of North African Jewry cannot neglect such a large section and such deep-seated convictions of that Jewry. There is today and for years to come room and need for Talmudei Torah and O.H. type schools.

The Ozar Hatorah has set out to provide such a type of a school. I think its Jewish program is nearest to local needs. Its type of Jewish education is in harmony with the particular local Yiddishkeit, and in some cases the O.H. has made a valuable contribution in providing education for many hundreds of unschooled children. It has also succeeded in roping in local people to its work. But this very achievement has nearly become its undoing. The O.H. committee became involved in local Jewish politics and the community Talmud Torah in Casablanca became a bone of contention. Rabbi Kalmanovitz arrived on the scene, and wept his way to a settlement with the community. He also installed R. Lewi as a permanent representative to watch the situation. R. Lewi should help to steady the work of O.H. in Morocco and confine it to the field of education. I think that in the coming year we will have less difficulties than in the past year, or perhaps more.

The Lubavitcher have a system and method of their own. The Rabbi said to make schools in Morocco, so they went and made schools. Their representatives travelled from village to village on donkeys and made or remade hadarim. With complete disregard for personal comfort or safety their men travelled to the most distant villages, where no one had ever bothered to go, to bring the word of God and their Rabbi. In Meknes they have set up a large Yeshivah and the Lubavitcher flag was raised over sixty different institutions and we were presented with the bill. You can imagine the upshot when we started to disqualify hadarim, disparage the teachers and refused to believe that these were institutions of learning. When we had said similar things to the A.I.U. people their French culture did not permit them to tell us frankly that we have no right to lecture them on education, we the newcomers and they who have been in Africa over 90 years. Rabbi Gorodetzky, however, had a ready story which clearly made his point. After six months of arguing and discussing during which we spoke of minimum standards and Rabbi Gorodetzky told wonderful Hassidic tales, we worked out a compromise. It is a fact that today their Yeshivot are cleaner, they have introduced certain physical improvements to please us, which, I believe do not displease them either. As I said before, I do not believe the Lubavitcher will ever play an important role in Morocco. In a limited way they have already achieved something. They have gone to distant villages to open hadarim where none existed, and it is only on the basis of their creative work that we started talking of standards and improvements.

It may not be quite fair on our part to talk of standards the way we understand them as applied to villages where nothing existed, where conditions are difficult and where among the many problems to be solved the Lubavitcher were the first to touch one problem only. We have too long spoken about and discussed the villages without doing anything, to criticize others who at least have gone there and tried to do something. In places where water has to be brought from outside the village, where no decent building exists, for us to preach to the Lubavitcher or O.H. that the Hedar is not a proper school is to assume perhaps a too pious attitude. A large task awaits us in the villages, a long neglected task. When we shall tackle that problem or part of it, I am sure we shall see changes in the educational work too.

In the meantime we must be more indulgent and take into consideration local conditions. With patience and in time we shall yet create something worthwhile out of the present haphazard efforts.

The Jewish Agency Religious Education Department has sent a number of fine educators to North Africa. We have utilized them to raise the level in some of the Talmud Torah and Em Habanim schools. Morocco needs a number of such people who should devote themselves to provincial Talmud Torah, guide the teachers and raise the level of education and school administration. There are two such people now in Morocco and we may perhaps get more during the coming year. The key to the entire educational problem lies in training more teachers. The A.I.U. is the only organization that is doing this work thoroughly, systematically and well. None of the other organizations are preparing teachers. Mr. Shalom has recently indicated his willingness to contribute 5 million francs for a new Talmud Torah building in Casablanca. Such a building is very much needed. It could be filled ten times over with children from the Mellah who find no room in the other schools. But of what avail is a building if the teachers will not be available to staff it. Should Mr. Shalom not rather devote his money to training teachers on a longer range basis, in the hope that in a year or two, or three, we shall have the personnel required - and in the field of education we must learn to think in longer terms than one year. I think that Mr. Shalom could usefully spend his money in this way and we too should be ready to contribute our fair share. In this field we can make our most important contribution. We can coordinate the efforts of all organizations to set up a sound teachers' training seminary to cater for the O.H., Talmud Torah, Em Habanim and similar schools. This is the basis of all our work and we are in a position to do it.

The above outline only touched a few of the main problems. There is the vast field of youth movements, evening schools, Sunday courses, summer courses, summer camps etc., etc. Our office is not only an important factor in all this work, it has substantially enriched and added meaning to the activities of these groups. At our suggestion the youth movements, the scout groups hold regular courses and arrange study groups for their leaders in Jewish subjects. The Jewish festivals, the historical days in the Jewish year are celebrated by the Eclaireurs,

D.E.J.J., Unite Populaire and other groups. With our encouragement, the Anciens Eleves of the Alliance, the Charles Netter and other societies venture a little more boldly into literary, social and similar activities. The Evening schools cater for almost 4,000 pupils, many of whom attend no other school at all. The summer camps are an important medium to influence the child. We have even introduced into the O.H. schools scouting activities, rambles and Sabbath socials. Many thousands of children and youths are reached by us through this work which is an integral part of our educational program in Morocco.



TUNISIA

## AMERICAN JEWISH

Tunisia presents an entirely different picture. The Jewish community is much more emancipated and integrated into the life of the country. Only a small proportion of the Jewish school population in Tunis frequents the A.I.U. school. The problem is therefore in one way more serious, yet at the same time much more limited in its scope and range.

The A.I.U. schools compare badly with those in Morocco. The buildings are old and dilapidated. The A.I.U. direction is ineffective, old and frightened, and the Hebrew education almost non-existent. For over a year the community of Tunis and the A.I.U. have been negotiating an agreement to reorganize the Hebrew education in the A.I.U. schools where there are 3,500 children. Each side was manoeuvring for advantages in this agreement. It looked as if agreement would never be reached. We tried to persuade both sides to make concessions and bring about this agreement. Each time Me Haddad sacrificed a principle we had to promise a further contribution to the community share of expenses. Just when it appeared as if we could not afford any more sacrifices by Me Haddad, he came through in his dramatic way, made the final sacrifice and signed the agreement. We of course promised a further contribution.

The community, again with our help and that of the Religious Department of the Jewish agency, engaged a very qualified man to direct its educational work. We hope that this man will devote himself entirely to education and less to his particular trend of Zionism. Time alone will dispel our fears. It is, I think, an enormous step forward that the Jewish community of Tunis has decided to engage a qualified man at a high salary to direct its educational program. Our office in Tunis played no small part in educating the community towards this step. Other communities are thinking of taking similar decisions. The new school-year in Tunis begins with auspicious portents.

Our office in Tunis has reorganized and greatly improved the entire educational program in southern Tunisia. The unnatural separation of Hebrew language and religious education has been abolished, the physical arrangements were improved, a program worked out and books provided. Great work has been done in this area. The only outpost of resistance is the island of Djerba or rather the Hara Kebira. The Rabbi refuses innovations. He has a tradition from his father that innovations lead to change, and he does not want any changes. As it is now, it is good enough for him and his word is law. A cold war has been going on for 7 months to persuade the Rabbi to agree to divide the children into classes according to age groups instead of giving each Khaham a half-a-dozen different age groups. We are adamant, the Grand Rabbi doesn't budge and the Khahamim don't get paid. Now, he is the Khaham not I, so he should know what will be the end of it.

The Zionist youth movements have till recently functioned partly with our funds. They have not made a great impression on Jewish youth in Tunisia. General aliya, youth aliya and Halutz aliya do not compare unfavourably with neighbouring Algeria or Tripoli. Our office in Tunis has now informed these groups that from now on they will have to preach their particular gospel with their own funds. We shall help any genuine combined educational effort. The communities in Tunis and Tunisia turn to our office for advice on their educational problems. Their experience has convinced them that our advice is sincere, disinterested and often good. To the credit side of the picture should be added the fact that there is as yet no O.H. and no Lubavitch in Tunisia.

#### ALGERIA

We have an East Algeria and a West Algeria, one looking to Tunis and the other to Casablanca for salvation. When seminars were supported by our Tunis office, all seminars were held in Constantine, when our Casablanca office was more generous with camp subventions, all camps moved to Oran. Between these two offices the whole of Algeria remains as neglected as ever. The needy suffer because we are convinced that there are rich Jews in Algeria. The sporadic attempts to revive some sort of Jewish cultural activity are drowned by the wave of assimilation and destroyed by the zeal of the Communists. The case of Algeria has often been discussed and there is no need for me to add to the well-known pro's and con's. I think that the time has come to enter Algeria and help those people who need our help. We must break the vicious circle of assimilation of the richer Jews that breeds disinterest in their poorer brethren, in Jewish schools, in Jewish education and culture. The time has come for us to make a serious attempt to help this community - yes, even the wealthy, blind Jews - to drag them out of this mire of unconcern, callous indifference to their own poor, their needy, to the education of their children, to the Ecole Rabbinique, to the few Jewish students who have finally succeeded to dislodge the Communists from their union,

to a handful of people who have formed themselves into a Commission Culturelle so that a word of Jewish culture be heard in this barren desert of assimilation. We must not play a useless game of procedure with an ineffective, dormant Consistoire, just as we have not done it in Iran, Tripoli, Tunis or Morocco. I know that there is a difference but not all that difference. The time has come for us to act in Algeria.

### CONCLUSIONS

The above touches on some of the major problems. It by no means deals with all of them. The Jewish child in North Africa has attracted the attention of all large Jewish organizations. North Africa is the last serious reservoir of human material for Israel, it is today an important segment of world Jewry. A lot of organizations have descended on North Africa to educate its Jewry, each one to its own special outlook. This has always been the right and privilege of every group. Our own position in this crusade of education is a decisive one. Our funds whether we wish to or not, can make or unmake the work of an organization. Tens of thousands of Jewish children in Morocco have no schools. This problem will not be solved in a few years. Whilst this dearth of school space exists it would be unreasonable to force any organization to cease working provided they comply with certain minimum standards in their work. We must guard these standards, we can make sure that there is some advancement, that there is no unnecessary overlapping, no waste and no misuse or unproductive use of funds. We alone can promote cooperation, we alone can provide the cement that will yet produce a more united, homogeneous and orderly education in North Africa. Above everything train teachers, provide books, arrange programs and see to it that educational work in North Africa deserves its name, that the large Jewish community is given a chance to make up for centuries of slumber and inactivity. Who can put a price on education or evaluate its final effect? Maybe our efforts will yet mean that instead of another Algerian Jewry growing up on Moroccan or Tunisian soil, conscious, virile Jewish communities will be created taking their rightful place, willingly and eagerly, in the ranks of other great Jewish communities of the world.

MR. KATZKI: Thanks very much, Mr. Abramovitch.

Another large section of JDC work in the North African and Moslem countries is in the field of medical and public health. Dr. Gonik, Director of our Health Department, has been working on that for some period of time and we will ask Dr. Gonik to report to us on that activity.





ADDRESS ON  
MEDICAL PROBLEMS IN MOSLEM COUNTRIES

By

Dr. Alexander Gonik

This Conference at its opening session marked the loss of Dr. Golub. We in the Health Department wish to express especially a deep sense of loss, because we had grown accustomed to calling on him for guidance and assistance. His last visit in the spring of 1952 brought initiative and impetus to several dramatic developments in our health programme in Morocco, and it is our earnest hope to carry through these ideas into other Moslem countries, as he would have wished. In memory of his untiring devotion to help needy Jewish people through his profound knowledge of health problems, our department will propose that the new dispensary to be constructed in Casablanca will bear his name.

I would also like to take a moment to give a formal welcome to Dr. Schmidt who, of course, needs no introduction. I wish to recall to all present, however, that it was Dr. Schmidt who began and developed JDC's health programme after the second World War, and with his return to us we foresee a fresh and intensified approach to our activities.

My report, as you know, covers medical problems in the Moslem countries. I will not give you here a detailed description of all phases of our work, for it was excellently described by our country directors, and I feel that their understanding of the importance of this work has in very great measure contributed to its achievements. I would like only to underline the more characteristic work particular to the various countries.

I R A N

The general situation in Iran has prevented us from making field trips there, and consequently it has been difficult to maintain regular contact with the office in Teheran. Much credit is due our Medical Director, Dr. Myer Herman, for his ability, under very trying conditions, to conduct our operations and actually to expand and improve them in many respects. Our work in Iran is conducted in cooperation with the local communities. At present JDC is engaged in activities in 5 localities of sizable Jewish population. While the particular emphasis is on maternal and child care, wherever possible medical care to adults has been extended. Some of the most significant developments in Iran are:

Firstly, immunization: In the first five months of 1953, for which we have reports, about twenty thousand immunizations were carried out against smallpox, typhoid, diphtheria and tetanus. With the help of UNICEF, a ECG campaign was conducted. School children in Shiraz and Teheran were tuberculin tested and negative reactors received BCG vaccination.

Secondly, school health work: An important step was the institution and improvement of health services in the schools. The value of these services in a country like Iran can best be illustrated by quoting figures of routine examinations conducted in two schools in Isfahan: out of approximately 1,100 children, 475 or almost 43%, had an average of 2.3 defects, ranging from malnutrition to tuberculosis. In many of the cases we were able to provide treatment.

Third, health education: A full time doctor was engaged by Dr. Herman solely for the purpose of health education. By the use of posters, films, pamphlets and discussion groups on prenatal and infant care, the ideas of preventive medicine are being introduced gradually.

In the Jewish hospital in Teheran, Kanoun Kheir Khah, new wings have been added, including an isolation ward, and we hope to open a maternity ward very soon.

And finally, in line with our policy of establishing relationships with intergovernmental and international agencies in the various countries, we have succeeded in Iran in obtaining cooperation and active assistance from WHO, UNICEF, Point IV, Rockefeller Foundation and others, in training programs of nurses' aides and sanitation squads, health education material, donation of vaccines, BCG teamwork and so on.

#### T U N I S I A

For the past five years JDC has helped to organize and strengthen the local health committees of OSE, through whom the major part of our health activities has been conducted. It was only in the last year that the Jewish community in Tunis developed a medical care programme. I should like to mention that one of the factors leading to a stronger OSE in this period was the appointment by OSE of a full-time Medical Director. This step was the result of continuous, patient effort on the part of Lou Horwitz in convincing the OSE Committee of the urgent need for such an appointment. Because of this, our cooperation and mutual understanding with OSE have improved considerably during this past year.

Positive achievements have been registered in the field of child and maternal care by an expanded immunization programme and with the establishment of new well-baby clinics, baby baths, new garderies, and a visiting mid-wife service in the city of Tunis.

To provide the basis for a systematic approach in the control of the three chief communicable diseases - trachoma, teigne and tuberculosis - with which we have to deal, a mass examination is now under way in one-quarter of the hara of Tunis, comprising four to five thousand persons. An analysis of the statistical data, before the end of the year, will determine our planning for more rational and effective measures for the control of these illnesses. We are sure that the facilities now available in Tunis can be adapted to treat those suffering from trachoma and teigne. The handling of newly discovered TB cases may, on the other hand, raise problems, the solution of which will require more study and effort. The findings in this survey and the possibilities of arranging adequate treatment will furnish a basis for extending such mass examinations to other areas in the hara, and to other communities.

In view of the fact that the building now used by OSE has been inadequate, last year plans were prepared for a new dispensary to include the following services: well and sick baby care, pre and post natal care, ophthalmological services and a chest clinic. This new dispensary is designed to meet the needs of the population in the hara. We are now working on the final plans. It is gratifying to say that OSE is taking initiative for the construction and will provide up to 50% of the necessary funds.

With the help of the JDC, a new dispensary was built in Sousse and is about to be opened.

Another important step in the development of Jewish Community life is the opening of a dispensary for adults by the Jewish Community of Tunis. For the moment, they are providing ambulatory care for chronic cases.

#### M O R O C C O

In Morocco, with its larger Jewish population and its greater need for assistance, we have given correspondingly more attention to the health programme. Among the impressive developments in Morocco this year was the establishment of a milk station in the "Maternelle". With a contribution of \$10,000 from UNAC of Holland, plus approximately \$16,000 from JDC, we installed a modern milk station in the basement of the "Maternelle", with a daily productive capacity of almost 2,000 bottles of sterilized milk for the infants in Casablanca. At present we are distributing daily 1,200 bottles of milk to 400 babies. By adding another sterilizer to the plant or

employing another shift of workers, we could increase the output to meet the needs of all our Moroccan centres. Distribution to distant points would present only a problem of transport.

The mass trachoma project merits a more detailed report. It was carried out last year as a pilot project with satisfying results. Until recently persons with trachoma came to our established centres on their own initiative for treatment. Attendance was irregular, treatment by the different doctors was not uniform, and the results were difficult to evaluate. It should be mentioned that there actually was no specific remedy for trachoma. At present, the most effective treatment, recommended by the WHO Expert Committee, is the local application of aureomycin or terramycin ointment three to four times daily for 60 days. It is difficult, if not impossible, to expect people to appear for treatment several times a day. Our pilot project was based on the premise that to make treatment more acceptable to the afflicted, we had to carry the treatment to them in their homes, their schools and their places of work. The project was confined to a square block of streets in the mellah of Casablanca. A census of the population was taken, and of 2,169 persons examined, 75% were found to be affected by trachoma, of whom more than 50% required active treatment. Twenty-five nurses' aides were trained for this specific project and were assigned to administer treatment to fixed groups of patients. After two months of treatment, re-examination showed a cure in about 30%, marked improvement in 40% and no change in 30% of the cases. Compared with previous treatment for trachoma, the results are indeed satisfactory. We plan to extend this programme to other sectors in Casablanca and elsewhere in Morocco, basing our activities on experience gained in this pilot project.

The Ben Ahmed TB Sanatorium in Morocco, on which we have so often reported, is finally under construction, and it is hoped that by the middle of 1954, it will be open to patients. This marks a first important step in our fight against TB. Ben Ahmed is sponsored by the Union of Jewish Communities in Morocco, which will take full responsibility for building and management. Had JDC taken this responsibility, it is likely that the work would have proceeded much more quickly. However, we believed it more advisable to have the communities assume this task themselves, although we were ready to finance it partially.

With the purchase of 5 X-Ray machines, the number of patients treated for ringworm of the scalp has increased, and we expect to treat greater numbers as time goes on. We plan for the future to attack the disease on sounder epidemiological criteria, by concentrating on family and area units. To eradicate the disease, other sanitary and hygienic measures are necessary such as control of barber shops, disinfection of linen and general health education. All this is in our planning for the coming year.

Finally, we are well advanced in our plans for the construction of a new dispensary for trachoma, teigne and TB services. At the present time, the "Maternelle" houses all the services of OSE. Overcrowded conditions make it impossible to improve standards or enlarge our activities. With these three major services transferred to the new dispensary, the "Maternelle" will become essentially a maternal and child care centre for pre-natal services, well and sick baby clinics and the milk station. Land for construction has already been purchased, and we are working closely with the architects on the plans. We hope we can report at the next country directors' conference that the dispensary is in full swing.

The problem of the small villages in Morocco has often been discussed, but for many reasons we have so far been unable to do anything tangible. Lately a significant development occurred which may greatly effect our activities in the small villages. The Moroccan Ministry of Health approached us with the suggestion that we undertake some measures to improve the health conditions in the mellah of Taroudant, where there is a Jewish population of nearly 1,000. We readily agreed, and have their support in this work. A mass examination of all the inhabitants was begun at the end of September, with primary emphasis on the social diseases. The work is being carried out by doctors of the Ministry of Health, but is organized and partially financed by us. We hope on the basis of the findings in this small village to be able to develop a medical care programme for the patients requiring it, and to outline projects for other outlying districts in cooperation with the Ministry of Health.

I have tried to give you a brief summary of the progress we have made in the Moslem countries in 1953. Bearing out Mr. Katzki's statement that in the past year our work has been patterned to meet the needs of a stable population in contrast to one on the move, for which our former programmes were essentially formulated, we point with satisfaction to (1) our mass examinations in Tunis and Morocco, no longer performed as a preliminary to emigration, but rather as a basis for a more systematic attack on the social diseases; (2) to the mass treatment of the highly communicable trachoma and teigne in concentrated areas in order to reduce as much as possible the rampant spread of these diseases within the family, the house, the street, the quarter; (3) to the permanent nature of the new dispensaries already completed or under construction in all three countries, all of which were undertaken at the request of the local Jewish communities and organizations, and in almost every instance, with substantial local participation.

An analysis of our work during the past five years shows positive achievements. Local health organizations have been created and strengthened and the communities are assuming increasing responsibilities in the field of health work both in terms of financial contribution and leadership. In our major field of activity, maternal and child care, we can state confidently that substantial progress was made in the general improvement in the health of children, and a lowering of infant mortality. As regards trachoma, the application of appropriate techniques entitles us to hope for greater progress in the near future, but it is certain that our work so far has already reduced the crippling effects of the disease, such as blindness. In the case of tuberculosis, the control of which is the most difficult and costly problem, we are now laying the foundation for the beginning of the work.

Confident that we have steered our medical programmes in the right direction, we will now try to answer the question which was put forward in the introductory paper of Mr. Katzki: "How far should we go?" Should we further expand our programmes or should we maintain them at the level they have presently reached? Everyone realizes that certain factors limit the expansion of our health activities in the Moslem countries. And I do not have in mind only budgetary limitations, for even if the JDC were able to allocate much larger sums to health work than it actually does, the shortage of skilled medical and nursing staff would by itself sharply limit our possibilities of expansion.

On the other hand, we would also like to point out that certain phases of our work cannot be limited. Immunization, sanitation, and control of communicable diseases are activities that to be fully effective, must be conducted on as broad a scale as possible. Likewise, we regard the extension of the child feeding programme to the largest possible number of children as a real basis for the improvement in the health conditions of these populations.

The question may be raised whether the projects of construction to which I referred earlier in this report are to be considered as expansion of our programme. I would answer this question in the negative, since the provision of adequate permanent buildings for our work is only a means to improve and raise its level.

We are confronted with a series of other problems of an equally real and pressing nature, on which, however, our attitude is more conservative. For example, we refer to the problems of hospitalization for the sick, to the creation of new health centres, and so on. In evaluating this problem, we are guided by the availability of other

resources, and the willingness of the community to raise funds locally and to assume leadership.

In closing, let me repeat that our activities during the last year have been in the direction of promoting health services, and the prevention of disease. In the treatment of trachoma and teigne, we have put more and more emphasis on the family as a unit of service rather than the individual. I believe the time is nearing when we must start planning all our services on a family basis, both preventive and curative, steadily integrating these services into the social, educational, welfare and rehabilitation activities of the JDC and the local Jewish communities.



MR. KATZKI: Thanks very much, Dr. Gonik. One of the things which Dr. Gonik did not touch upon is this. He spoke very briefly summarizing the activities of the Health Department. He overlooked mentioning the entire educational process which has had to be undertaken in the Moslem countries to get the local populations, for whom these programs were designed, to come around and actually take the benefit of the services which the JDC wanted to make available to them. It was not achieved quite as simply as Dr. Gonik portrayed it. He and his colleagues actually had to educate the people to know what public health is and what the JDC was trying to do for them so that they would take advantage of the programs which were being established.

We come now to the discussion period on the three presentations which have been made. During this morning's reporting and certainly this afternoon you heard mention made many times of an organization called "Alliance". Those of us who are here in the JDC, of course, know what the word "Alliance" stands for; perhaps all of the visitors do not. The Alliance is a shortening of the French organization, the Alliance Israelite Universelle. The Alliance has its headquarters here in Paris. It provides a great many services for the French Jewish population. It has a great many activities, one of the more important of which is the operation of a large net-work of schools for secular education for Jewish children in all the North African countries and over into the Middle East. The JDC has found it possible and is very glad for having had the opportunity for collaborating closely with the Alliance in all of these countries where both the JDC and the Alliance have programs.

We are very fortunate this afternoon in having with us Mr. Eugene Weill, who is Secretary General of the Alliance Israelite. Inasmuch as the name of the Alliance came up many times in the reporting today we are going to ask Mr. Weill to make such comments as he would care to make on that which he has heard today or perhaps tell us a little bit about the Alliance programs. If he would take five to ten minutes to do that we would appreciate it very much.

MR. WEILL: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for your kind invitation to make some comments on what I have had the privilege to hear. But first of all I want to apologize for my accent in speaking English. Would you permit me to formulate what I have to say in French? I assume that the majority of people understand French. Or, if you prefer that I continue in English I will try to do so. But I must apologize in advance for my mistakes and also perhaps for some misunderstandings or errors which could happen, for it is the first time I have had the honor to participate, to follow your discussions.

MR. KATZKI: Please do it in English.

MR. WEILL: As I said to you, I am very obliged to you to have given me the privilege of hearing this fine discussion and observations which were



made freely and without holding anything back. I am very glad to have heard not only eulogies but also criticisms for, as you know, we are always interested in hearing criticism. I think that my duty today should not be to discuss the details of remarks which I have not known in advance and which I therefore am not prepared to reply to. Perhaps I shall try only to draw your attention to some highlights on several points which could explain the difficulties we have and also the necessities we have to adjust our work in. I was glad to hear from your directors and chiefs of departments that we are coming little by little to a better understanding and cooperation. It takes time, of course, but if you remember that the Alliance is working for nearly a century and that we have the privilege of working with Joint for only a few years, it should not be surprising that everything does not proceed without differences or entirely smoothly.

It was the Second World War which gave us the opportunity to appreciate and to enjoy - if I can say so - the help of the AJDC. You know that the war placed many of our institutions in very difficult situations. Fortunately American Jewry, and especially a man who is not here today, but to whom we have immense gratitude, Dr. Schwartz, was on the spot and understood the general interest of our work and supported us.

You know the aims of our organization, which in its conception is not only a French organization but an international organization as well. It has ramifications in every country which we are trying to reconsolidate and to extend since the war. We had not only the aim of instruction but also the aim of general defense. The latter is not being discussed today, but it is necessary, nevertheless, to remember it for it relates to the development which brought us to attach essential importance to the instruction of the youth. We were not founded to work in the Moslem countries. It was history and the necessity of evolution which made us enter the Moslem countries before any other organization did. And the reason was the following: at the time of our foundation the great Jewish masses were in Eastern Europe and at that time all these countries were under domination of Tzarist Russia. Russia energetically opposed any intervention from outside by Western organizations, so history gave us the possibility, in opposition to that, to have the Ottoman Empire, which had many faults, but had the virtue of a great tolerance for the foreigner, for the non-Moslem. So the Moslems let us enter and work and this work was extended not only to North Africa but to the whole of the Ottoman Empire. That is to say also to European Turkey, the Balkans and to all the countries in the East.

One thing I wanted to underline is that the countries in which we are working include not only those you have mentioned and where of course you have closer observation, because you have offices there, but also some other Moslem countries, like Lebanon and Syria, where for the moment you are not active but where we have still schools and activities. Our activity is on the whole Mediterranean basin.

Another thing which is not sufficiently known to the public and which must be underlined at every opportunity is the following. It is difficult for the Western public, and especially of the Western hemisphere, always to remember and to understand that general education in these countries is not yet an obligatory or compulsory matter. So people frequently do not understand why we are concerned not only with Jewish education but also with general education. Our aim is to give children education where they cannot have it without us, that is to say, where the State or municipalities do not provide it. That is a point which we cannot repeat sufficiently because it explains also to you some of our present difficulties. The necessity to give general education had to be dealt with by us in all these countries.

When we began with education, the local communities were very primitive in their organization and outlook. These local groups were very suspicious against foreign teaching. They did not want us to become involved in religious teaching and for that reason we generally had agreements with them that religious teaching remained their privilege, under their custody, and that we had only to deal with general teaching. It is only since a few years, we can say since the Second World War, with the development of Hebrew and the creation of the Jewish State, with the development of modern pedagogical concepts in religious teaching and teaching of Hebrew, that the communities began to become conscious that they were not able to undertake religious and Hebrew teaching. They then wanted to have outside help and to have modern pedagogical means and teaching brought to them by external sources. Therefore we can say that it is only since ten years that the appeal came to us to broaden the religious teaching, to develop it and to give it to the communities. All criticism concerning the lack or insufficiency of religious teaching is certainly well founded but it must not be forgotten that it is only since recently that we could do anything at all.

To develop and to respond to these tendencies we founded nearly ten years ago the Hebrew teachers' school in Casablanca, where our Hebrew teachers are trained on modern patterns, in modern concepts. As you have seen, the things are now making progress but it is not entirely sufficient - we know it - and we don't contest it, but nevertheless the beginning is made and with your cooperation we hope that we can progressively give more satisfaction.

I was very interested to hear what was said about the island of Djerba. The island of Djerba is a well known point for us. It was many decades ago that we had the same difficulties there. We also tried to introduce some teaching there but we were never able to do it for the reason of local traditions and local resistance. I hope you will have more luck there than we had but I must say I am doubtful that it will ever be realized.

I think that there are a great many ways in which the people of the Alliance, directors and teachers, can be of service and give cooperation to the work and programs of the JDC in the various countries where both Alliance and JDC operate. Our people have had considerable experience, are familiar with local needs and conditions. They stand ready to be of service any time concerted effort is called for.

The Alliance decided long ago to give all the emphasis of its work in the North African countries to the youth. We think we made a good choice because by helping the growing generations they are contributing to the long-run general betterment. We think that our contribution in cooperation with yours will in time help to bring all these countries to a higher level and finally to eradicate the conditions which cause you so much concern. Thank you.

MR. KATZKI: Thank you very much Mr. Weill. Though you said you confined your remarks to a few limited points, what you did tell us of Alliance, particularly the circumstances under which it concentrated on secular education rather than on the religious and the Hebrew, helps us to interpret some of the things which were said this morning.

We can now continue the discussion period. Are there any questions, any observations any one cares to make on any of three reports which were made - Mr. Aronovici's on the ORT and Reconstruction, or Mr. Abramovitch's on the educational, or Dr. Gonik's on the medical program?

DR. WISE: What is the relationship between the medical service provided the Jews and that provided the Arabs? The Moslems don't have such services, do they?

DR. GONIK: The Moslems' service is run by the local government. The Jews basically have access to the same service but for many reasons they do not avail themselves of those services.

DR. WISE: Not even in Algiers?

DR. GONIK: This is not true for Algiers. What I said applies to Morocco and Tunis, we actually have no medical program in Algiers. Let me give you an example in Morocco. There is a TB sanatorium where the beds are divided in proportion to population, 250,000 Jews to 9,000,000 Arabs. There are 6 or 7 beds for Jews and so the Jews cannot take the opportunity to use them.

MR. KATZKI: Are there any other questions?

DR. WISE: I have one if Dr. Gonik can answer it. What I really wanted to know was whether the Moslems have any entree to the more modern types of service which the JDC gives to the Jewish population.

DR. GONIK: If from time to time a Moslem appears at one of the JDC supported dispensaries for medical service, of course it is given him. The Arabs outside the cities usually go to their own primitive medical service. How primitive it is you can judge from the fact that there are only 650 Moroccan doctors of whom 50% are concentrated in the larger cities, serving the population of 9,000,000 persons. The Arabs living in the villages probably are without medical service at all.

MR. LEAVITT: Well, I think it is of interest to know that this experiment on trachoma which has been made includes Arabs as well as the Jews living in that area. It is an experimental medical program which apparently has been watched by the French Government authorities as well as by the World Health Organization and if it is as successful as it seems to be, the chances are it will be spread over the whole country because the Arabs suffer from trachoma just as well as the Jews do. And this is the first attempt really to solve that problem on a mass basis. So that in this direction we are leading the way towards more modern health programs for the Arab population as well.

MR. KATZKI: Mr. Horwitz?

MR. HORWITZ: On this question, Rabbi Wise, take a historical perspective and think of Tunisia and Morocco as being like Iran, as described by Mr. Loskove. In the years that had gone on without the help of the Joint, there had been a very slow development of various kinds of services: educational and medical in particular. What the Joint has been doing in these two countries then, is speeding up medical care for Jews, while the French Government, the French Protectorate, with the Moslem Government's facilities that exist, have gone on pretty much at the same slow tempo, which will reach a certain level only after many, many years. We have simply catapulted to a higher level the treatment given the Jews in the medical field.

MR. KATZKI: Mr. Bein, do you want to say something?

MR. BEIN: Yes, please. I think that there is a little misunderstanding concerning the Arab population. The Government, the French Government, organized and built a number of modern hospitals and dispensaries for the Arabs. Why for the Arabs and not for the Jews? There is a virtual segregation which is not made by the French. It exists in the very atmosphere I described this morning. The Jews are more receptive to medical progress. Consider the government TB sanatorium in Ben Ahmed. Men only are found there. The Arabs don't permit their wives to go to the TB sanatorium. They can die at home. There is no section for women. Now, there are modern services but the Arabs are not taking advantage of them.

I only want to remind my colleagues that scarcely four years ago, when we started the first well-baby clinic, it started with 16 Jewish children. I remember reading in one of the reports at that time that since it is inconceivable that mothers will bring a sick child to the doctor, therefore why should they bring a healthy child to a doctor? Nevertheless, the situation is such that health services are developing both for the Arabs and the Jews. In my last three annual reports, I gave comparative statements for Jewish and non-Jewish persons. But let us not forget that there are 8,000,000 Arabs and there are only 240,000 Jews.

Let me use this opportunity to deal with a few of the questions. I have little to add to the reports on medical problems. For record purposes, I would like to mention that the problem of Taroudant is being brought to the attention of the authorities. During the last visit to the Director of the Health Ministry he asked, "Why don't you do something" but I had personally brought it to the attention of the Director and the Council of the Community not once but ten times. And I shall be very much satisfied if this works out.

Now let me try to come back to one or two questions raised by Mr. Aronovici's report. I am thinking seriously about the process of accelerating reconstruction activities. If reconstruction work is to be undertaken it should be done quickly; it should be started even though not to perfection for if one waits too long a project might be ready when it is no longer needed. Some one referred this morning to the precarious situation of the Jews which might result in their fleeing. I had thought that as a result of the second pogrom in Oujda of a few weeks ago, which affected Jews, the first having taken place in 1948, the Jews would flee that city. Not so at all. Instead of that they are asking for assistance to rebuild their businesses again in Oujda. So you see it is not the logical thing that happens. Political difficulties and personal danger may not at all cause flight, the possibility of which might lead one to go slowly with programs of economic reconstruction in the provinces.

Mr. Aronovici mentioned the increase of the maximum of loans. This is absolutely necessary. The money, the franc, has lost its value. The purchasing value of the franc is unfortunately not 400 to the dollar but approximately 600 and therefore if an artisan is buying tools he cannot get the necessary tools for the limited amount of money. I am sure, I feel it is so, that if the loan kassas will properly develop, the government will also provide loans for these purposes, maybe through our own loan kassas. I would also like to underline once more the placement of apprentices. There are many boys and girls who could be placed as apprentices. We already spoke this morning about what happens to the children who are coming out of the Alliance schools, who otherwise wouldn't go or couldn't go to trade schools.

I would like to return with a few words to Mr. Abramovitch's report: I must thank him very kindly because I couldn't have told the few things which he told concerning the Lubavitcher and Ozar Hatorah.

There is one problem I would like to underline and that is the so-called Kulturkampf of the two educational departments of the Jewish Agency. One of my colleagues told me that we are proceeding like certain countries; we are delivering arms to both sides in the fight. We are helping both sides in the cultural field, in the Kulturkampf between these two departments of the Jewish Agency. We shouldn't be in it but we are in the middle.

The Hillel College was mentioned. We were very careful. The Hillel College is, as Stanley Abramovitch mentioned, a small institution which came into Morocco and we refused to be connected with it because we knew that one day we would be asked to take over its support. The day before I left, Mr. Jules Brunschvig told me that the Hillel College came to him asking that the Alliance take it over. This would mean that indirectly they would be coming to the JDC.

I would like to say one word only about the Lubavitcher. Stanley Abramovitch mentioned that the Lubavitcher are creating hedarim. Sometimes we are doing the following. On the one hand we are liquidating the hedarim and on the other hand we are subsidizing an organization that creates them.

MR. KATZKI: Dr. Selver, did you want to ask something here?

DR. SELVER: I only wanted to raise a question with regard to the different health services provided for the Arabs. Isn't there a very distinct difference in needs? I think that the Arab population is basically a peasant population, while the Jewish population has thousands of children from slums and mellahs and therefore their needs for health services are greater than the Arabs.

MR. KATZKI: Does anybody else care to make a comment or do we have any other questions which anyone wants to put? Dr. Schmidt.

DR. SCHMIDT: I should just like to add a few comments to Dr. Gonik's very complete report. First I think that everyone would have been impressed with the eminent trend to greater emphasis on preventive services. In his comments on Iran, for example, and this was brought out also by Mr. Loskove, the emphasis is on such programmatic aspects as immunization, nutrition, school health services, health education, all of them very definitely and very strongly preventive services. And in other respects, too, programs, which appear to be at first sight primarily treatment programs, to relieve the individually afflicted person, are being organized with emphasis on their preventive aspects. For example, in the three T's program - teigne, trachoma and tuberculosis - the orientation is to try to reduce the pool of infection. With regard to intra-familial infection this leads us into, or at least the organization of, family services. And I'd like to underline Dr. Gonik's comment that, using the family as a unit of

care rather than the individual, will be very much more rewarding for us. I hope that many of our programs can be reoriented in this direction. Another point is Dr. Gonik's conclusion that we see increasing need to integrate further the health and medical program with all of the other programs the JDC is operating or supporting: education, social services, the rehabilitation services.

I'd like to make a final comment and that is that, as public health people, we are very highly pleased with the understanding of our country directors. We know that a good many important public health advances have been initiated by people who have not been professional public health workers. During Mr. Passman's talk yesterday, I jotted down the name of Nathan Strauss because it seemed to me that, just as Nathan Strauss, as an interested person, came into the field and invented the child health station really as we know it today, Mr. Passman made an invention in Israel. He invented the institution which cares for the aged tuberculars, in the face of a good many doubts from the people whose profession it is. And I think all of our country directors are showing really a tremendous amount of ability and talent and ingenuity in this field of health services.

MR. KATZKI: Thanks very much, Dr. Schmidt. We come now to the break point in our program. There will be other questions perhaps which people will want to raise. There will be opportunities later on, not today, but further along in the schedule, for such further questions and discussion people might want to introduce regarding what has been spoken about today. I want to mention now that there will be a shift in the program for the balance of the afternoon. Your schedule indicates that Dr. Selver will report this afternoon on the operations and the activities of the Paul Baerwald School. You will remember that we held over Dr. Shapiro from yesterday afternoon. He was to continue certain discussions on the cultural and religious activities of the JDC. We don't want to hold him over too long, and as soon as we come back from this break, Dr. Shapiro will go on with Dr. Selver following.

MR. RACOOSIN: May I ask a question now, please? Because it's in tune with this morning's discussion and might not be in tune with a later discussion.

MR. KATZKI: Please do.

MR. RACOOSIN: The fact that North African Jews have survived for two thousand years in spite of persecution is definite proof that these Jews have prodigious strength. Nevertheless in fund-raising functions of the UJA, the question is often put, "Are these Jews educatable, trainable and worthwhile saving?" A JDC expert at these meetings has said that

North African Jews are good material. I would appreciate the country directors giving explicit information and examples showing that North African Jews are good material, so that we can use it if the question ever arises again in the future at UJA functions.

MR. KATZKI: All right. That is rather a broad request. I don't know exactly how Mr. Levy, Mr. Bein or Mr. Loskove can handle that giving specific indications as to why the Jewish people from the Moslem countries are good material. I have the feeling, myself, that that was somewhat implicit in the reports which were given today. But perhaps there are some specific illustrations of that sort of thing which the country directors from that area can let Mr. Racoosin have. Mr. Bein has some.

MR. BEIN: I mentioned this morning that one has to see Morocco. It is hard to explain. You would see the boys in the ORT school. After one week's indoctrination you would understand what we are talking about. Those boys had no chance, they had no possibilities. They are there since two thousand years. But these people are sincere and we are giving them opportunities today. I told you today, we built a bridge over centuries; that means we are actually taking out the boys and the girls from their backwardness and bringing them into modern facilities. Within a short time they change their attitudes. They become productive people. Naturally we cannot ask them to be as fast in comprehension as are we. This is good human material with whom we can produce excellent results.

Let me give you an Alliance example. In the Alliance schools there were not always 28,000 children. Only as far back as 1939 there were only 17,000 or 18,000 children. Today, as soon as the registration for the new terms starts in the Alliance schools, police have to come out to hold back those Jewish mothers who want to bring their children to the schools. What does it mean? It means that the people are developing. They have developed much faster than their Arab neighbors. Unfortunately they were in ghettos, in these mellahs. They are living in these mellahs. The doors, until the end of the Vichy regime, were closed. You shouldn't forget that we, the JDC, are there only four years. What you have heard about developments in Morocco took place only in the past four or five years. Four years ago, scarcely four years ago, the gates of the Marrakech mellah were closed overnight because there was a danger. The mellahs were created around the palaces of the pashas, around the palaces of the caids, of the judges, who had to protect these Jews. As soon as the mellah gates were opened the mellahs were destroyed and the Jews are coming out and living like flowers in the sunshine. This is good human material, I am convinced of it, excellent human material. With small means, with much patience and perseverance, we'll arrive at excellent results.

MR. KATZKI: I wonder whether I may mention a personal experience which perhaps will illustrate it a little bit for you. One of the programs that



Mr. Bein referred to this morning was one relating to a Sunday outing sort of thing for the little children who are in the mellah. These are little children of four, five, six, seven years, completely under-privileged, who live in this terrible area about which you have been hearing so much, who have very little opportunity to get some sunshine, to go out to play games and do those things which you take for granted for a normal child in the United States. When it became apparent that the children were living in that fashion, one group of young people in Casablanca, the Alumni Association of the Alliance Israelite, decided to do something about it. Now you have to have in mind that the Alliance schools are only for eight grades, which would make the graduates of the Alliance schools the equivalent of the graduates of Public School 186, Manhattan, who also have eight years of school. These young people, having come to the conclusion that something had to be done for the poor under-privileged mellah children, themselves undertook a program of Sunday outings for these youngsters. They take them out on their own time, they organize games for them, they feed them, they take them on regular outings. They try to clothe them and do all sorts of things for them. They organize social events for the little kids. They try to give them some of those things which we're pleased to call "cultural background".

Well now, if you take into account the fact that these are young people who have organized this, who have gone only through eight years of school, I challenge you to show me any group of university students in the United States or any group of fraternity students in the United States who are willing, as a group and on their own time, to go into the poor slum sections of their communities, to take children out on Saturday or Sunday, to develop games for them or to develop activities for them. I have never seen that. The Public School 186 graduates are doing that sort of thing in Morocco. I think that gives some kind of an indication of the caliber of these young people. I think that is a fair illustration of what this material is like, Mr. Racoosin.

MR. LEAVITT: The best answer to that is that they started UJAs in those countries.

MR. KATZKI: We will take a recess now for ten minutes.

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I mentioned before the recess that there will be a substitution or a slight change in this afternoon's program. We will ask Dr. Shapiro, who is a hold-over from yesterday, to tell us about the Cultural and Religious activities program of the JDC. Dr. Shapiro.

ADDRESS ON  
CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

By

Judah J. Shapiro

I think that it must be clearly understood that the topic as stated in the program is not intended to be a review of the general JDC program of Cultural and Religious activities but is related to that program which we conduct in Israel and was intended to be included in a total discussion of the JDC work in Israel. Furthermore, the topic refers to the yeshivas and the refugee Rabbis or, as I might say, "die selbe Yiddene, nur andersh geschleiert". I therefore think that because of the way the program schedule has worked itself out, I will dispense with the detailed presentation of the facts, which are probably well known to most, and attempt, this being my last rack at this subject, to deal with the truth.

We have been conducting a program in Israel from the very first days of JDC's history. Mr. Leavitt's recent published summary of that history, points out very clearly that the very first expenditure made by JDC involved Rabbis and scholars in Israel as the beneficiaries. But even going further back in history I would like to point out that the question of public support for Rabbis and scholars and students is not a new one. Nor are the problems which they present today any different from what they presented from the Talmudic era through the Gaonate, through the Spanish period, through the middle ages and into modern times. There has consistently been a desire on the part of the Rabbis that there should be no payment for study and scholarship, and there has constantly been a need to support and sustain scholars and Rabbis.

History has shown that that need has been met by the Jewish communities through all their different wanderings and with all the ups-and-downs in their economic position. When Maimonides, in his day, said that it was his opinion that such support should not be given, he was told: "You can talk, you are a court physician, you have money, but we poor scholars require the assistance of the community".

There has been, therefore, consistent support and almost as consistent has there been some abuse of that support. And if we in JDC tangle with the issue, it ought to be clear that it is with the latter, with the abuse that may exist in certain aspects of the program, that we are concerned, rather than with the acceptance of the basic responsibility which a community has to this type of program.

There have been, I think, two typical patterns of support by the community of such institutions and such individuals. One was the completely integrated community which required the maintenance of the synagogue, the Rabbi, the scholar, the hangers-on. The shtetl, the small Eastern European village, had a pattern which could not possibly exist without this type of institution and personnel. The second type of support occurred where a community, economically well-off, could afford this as a luxury, as in pre-war Germany, in the United States and other areas of the world. Israel today is neither a community which is overwhelmingly orthodox and requires these institutions, nor is it a community which can afford the luxury of sustaining these institutions which have always been a part of the Jewish pattern, and it therefore follows that the Jews of other more affluent areas undertake responsibility for continued work of this type.

Now I'll review for you, rather briefly, just what this program is, so that we can apply some judgments to its merits and consider what requires doing. Last year, you will recall, we had as a guest of our conference, Mr. Solomen Tarshansky. It was then explained that his mission was to study these Institutions in Israel, in order to present us with this kind of data on the basis of which we could consider some revisions of our program. And the revisions which we intended to implement we called "rationalization of the program". Mr. Tarshansky's mission was eminently successful. He had his difficulties; it wasn't easy to get information from the people and institutions where he sought it. He did, however, bring us the fullest information we have ever had on this program.

We are dealing, now, with the implementation of those revisions which we talked about with the facts before us. At the end of this year we shall have only three major aspects of our program. One is a group of projects which we call Publication Projects, where Rabbis and scholars are employed in order to prepare, collect and issue in published form, volumes representing the chain of rabbinic scholarships, such as we have had in years gone by. I can mention the names, some of which will be familiar to many in this room: 1) Ozar Haposkim, 2) the Shass Encyclopedia, 3) a new edition of the Rambam to be published by the Mosad Harav Kook, 4) the Torah Shlaimah. There isn't too much of a problem with these projects. They are worthwhile; they employ a goodly number of people. The merit of the scholarship is unquestioned, and we shall probably continue to support them for the foreseeable future. The only thing we have decided in this phase of the program is to reject further requests made to the JDC for additional grants to additional projects because there is really no limit to the number of suggestions that can be made and that are made for all types of new revisions, interpretations, collections and so on. We in the JDC have really nothing against the full flowering of this program but it would be impossible, in keeping with the basic and essential program of the JDC, to be able to branch out beyond our present limits. But I'll leave that phase because I think it is not highly problematical in our discussion.

The second phase of the program deals with refugee rabbis. At the present time, the number of individuals in this category receiving JDC assistance is approximately eight hundred. And these eight hundred people receive grants varying from one pound per month, up to forty pounds per month. Upon careful review of the amounts received, the ages of the people, and the intention of support, it became clear to us that if we tallied up all of the little amounts, which cannot possibly mean anything to a person receiving such small amounts, that we would do no harm in eliminating the smaller grants. There were many discussions as to what form our withdrawal or reduction should take. And then, like in so many other instances, somebody got the bright idea of cutting through the discussion, and simply suggested, and then had accepted, that the JDC withdraw entirely from this program, which is presently maintained at the level of approximately 120,000 dollars per year. There is no question in our minds, that the twenty-five per cent reduction to take effect with the new year will have no important effect upon any of those receiving benefits. We have so advised the organizations who received this support, for JDC does not have a program of subventioning each of the individuals directly but rather makes its support available through existing organizations of refugee Rabbis. It became clear, however, that the full weight of this position will not stand up to the test of time because, of necessity, there will be those who by the third year will already begin to show that there is no hope for them to be absorbed in the normal economy or society, on the basis of their present condition and background. It has been suggested that some of the older rabbis may enter our own Malben homes. At this point, the Rabbis reject out of hand any type of solution but I think that there may be individuals who will see in the Malben possibility a haven, a refuge for themselves, and may come to discuss their entrance into such homes. I don't think therefore that we shall be able to carry out consistently this decision by reducing twenty-five per cent a year and assuming or hoping that in four years from now we will be out of that business. I do think that for this year, however, the answer is given and will hurt no one and will indicate to many that the JDC wishes to reach a terminal point in its activities.

We come now to the most important, the third part of the program, the Yeshivoth. We are presently supporting 81 Yeshivoth at a rate of approximately one half million dollars per year. The clients, the beneficiaries of this program, represent approximately four thousand unmarried students who are between the ages of thirteen and twenty-five. And there are, in addition, a group of approximately nine hundred and sixty married students, who have about three thousand dependents. The total number of beneficiaries of this program is therefore approximately eight thousand.

The percentage of JDC's support is calculated by different people in different ways and it has never been made entirely clear whether it is from the low of some 15 percent or to the high which is sometimes claimed by us, of a third of the amount spent on the program. The Yeshivoth continue to make collections and turn to the world for support but they are beginning to lose more and more of those individuals abroad who previously responded on the basis of identification and sentiment. One need not belabour this point; I can think of people now gone, our grandparents, who would not have thought of ignoring the request of a yeshivah. The Jewish society as I know it today in the States and elsewhere, no longer has that high sense of identification with programs of this sort. And, therefore, the need for support becomes greater from public institutions, from organized communal sources, because the knocking on doors does not give them what it did a generation ago. Furthermore, they regard themselves, rightly or wrongly, as existing in a climate of hostility. They do not feel that there is a tendency or a readiness on the part of the government and of Israeli society to make things comfortable for them. They may perhaps exaggerate, and yet they operate on the theory that they must fight for themselves because they are slated for elimination by the powers that be. Their sense of tension, of necessity, comes into our consideration of their needs.

You can well understand that the climate of discussion cannot be entirely objective. It cannot deal merely with certain stated facts, with living costs and so forth, especially when we come to talk of change to groups whose very basis is changelessness. Let there be no mistake about that. Everything they are doing is designed to continue a tradition which means the ability to continue a chain of tradition of which they in their time are the links to the past and the hope for forging future links. For that reason, the tension mounts as we begin to suggest that there be some new basis for our support.

What have we suggested? We have said that we do not question the age group from 13 to 25 as being within the normal range of the period of academic study, during which time one might assume that the student receives secondary education and, perhaps, some form of professional education, in that he may become a Rabbi, a research scholar, or some other functionary. But those above twenty-five represent to us a problem because it is not so apparent what will eventually become of them. The group above twenty-five ranges all the way from twenty-six to past seventy. There are individuals to whom this has become a way of life. What is more, they are individuals to whom this has been a way of life and who assume that in Israel, of all places, there should be a place for it and that it should be further maintained.

We ourselves have not been too harsh in this because we have accepted that in the Eastern European tradition especially, it has been customary for a Rabbi to have more training than until the age of twenty-five. I think that one study made of Rabbis of Eastern Europe before the war indicated that the average age of Smicah, ordination, was about forty years. And remember that there is a certain wisdom to that because what they were talking about was not just "did you study enough" but they did not send the men out to be a Rabbi who would have to cope with problems of divorce, guidance, leadership in the community, until he had acquired some general experience in terms of life's problems. He might know all the books and yet, faced with the challenge that the Rabbinate offered, he ought to have had a sufficient period of pondering, contemplation, concern and coping with problems.

And so we have said that we will even accept students beyond the age of 25 but that we would like that those who reach that age pass through some screen, that screen attempting to establish first that there is merit to that student as a scholar; second, that he is able to enunciate for himself certain end-goals. He should indicate his wish to become a Rabbi; or to engage in a certain type of research, and the considered judgment of a committee of Rabbis or scholars should affirm that it would take him a given period to complete his training to that end-goal. If we have that confirmation of his goals and his scholarship, we would then continue to have something in the nature of a scholarship program for those beyond the age of twenty-five. Furthermore, we recognize that as for those who are today beyond the age of fifty and who are on our rolls as Yeshivoh students, that we might perhaps ourselves be realistic at the start, and recognize that there is little hope for these people to be integrated into the professional Rabbinate, nor can they be easily pushed out into the field of work. We would like to see the problem of each one of them gradually adjusted somehow, but for the time being we must keep them.

These suggestions, I think, are fairly reasonable, they are rational. But if they be reasonable to you, to the Rabbis, to the Yeshivoh, they represent a tremendous challenge, they represent a dagger into the beating heart of the tradition. It will not be easy to implement our plan but what is certainly necessary is the greatest delicacy and subtlety of touch. The issue as I see it, is not what we are planning to do, but how we are going to do it. If I were to use Aristotelean terms, I would say that I would rather settle for the probable impossible, than for the improbable possible. There is not going to be any easy way to making a dent in this program. But recognizing the full weight of the impossibility of our program, of change, certain things are probable.

I am a teacher, and as a teacher I can say that in education approximations of goals are ends as much as the goals themselves. Education is a process and one doesn't achieve by the snap of the fingers that which one wants to inculcate in a person, let alone in a society isolated in its hard shell, such as this is. I think the method of our work becomes terribly important. Here I think the truth ought to be spelled out, because there are differences in an organization such as the JDC, and there is more than one approach to this problem. In the pattern of implementation as seen by various individuals, I don't think the gap is very wide, but it is very deep. It makes a difference when you try to achieve the same goals by a method which you know at the outset can only succeed in arousing the deepest hostility and frustrating every effort that we would like to make. If I can allow myself a foray into the field of music, I would say that maybe we are facing the difficulty because of the peculiarity of our program in Israel with Malben on the one hand and the yeshivoths on the other, - an allegro movement on the one hand, and an andante on the other. Allegro is lively and brisk; andante is moderate but firm. Anybody who has had the experience of playing the piano with two hands knows the skill and coordination that is required to move two hands at different paces. In JDC in Israel, what becomes a tremendous achievement in rapidity - MALBEN'S erection of buildings and development of programs and housing and supplying needs - becomes unsuitable to solving the problems of yeshivoth and rabbis, for we seek not to eliminate the Jews or the yeshivoths but quite the contrary to strengthen them and to comfort them. We must do it in such a way that they may acquire, in the doing, an appreciation of our genuineness and affection and an understanding of the reason why this is being done.

We sometimes are too rational. The French Sociologist Le Bon said: "Reason creates science, but sentiment and creed shape history". I think we require a historical perspective and I put it to you that we ought to see ourselves as playing a historical role, which we do, whether we will it or not. Even if we prefer to be modest and throw it off, it falls naturally on our shoulders in the very nature of what we do, and the degree with which we spend our funds. Time for this work ought to be endless, because he who tells me that it will take endless time, gives me the answer that the Jewish tradition will go on endlessly and that pleases me. I do not assume that the continuation of the Jewish tradition will necessarily absolve anybody of responsibility for assistance, for support, for devotion.

The program is off schedule and it is late, so I will close with one final comment. There are people who love humanity but dislike people. JDC which has shown so much love for Jews, ought also to show that love for Judaism.

MR. LEAVITT: May I also say there are those who love people and hate humanity?

MR. KATZKI: It is becoming late in the afternoon program and I am not sure that there would be sufficient time to give Dr. Selver the opportunity for presentation of his program this afternoon. I am afraid that, if we ask him to talk to us now, we would have to rush to an extent that would not do justice to the achievements of the Baerwald School. And so I would propose that we hold Dr. Selver's presentation over for a later period in this program.

I think the observations which Dr. Shapiro made are challenging enough to warrant our using whatever time is left for questions and a discussion of the principles he raised. I throw the floor open now. Mr. Leavitt says that he would like to make a comment.

MR. LEAVITT: I'm going back to New York where there is a very impressive group of rabbis awaiting my return. I had notice of it and the Agudath Harabonim are sending a delegation. They wanted to see me before I left for Paris and I thought it would make more sense if they saw me after my return and we had had a chance to go into this whole problem of the yeshivoh here with Judah Shapiro and Charlie Passman. It is a very difficult and serious problem for us as well as for the yeshivoh. I don't minimize the difficulties for them. I agree, however, that you can have changes, even in the changeless pattern such as the yeshivoh represent. Moreover, I think that we have to be firm in the implementation of what we think is the right thing to do. I don't think that JDC can go into the contents of the programs of the yeshivoh. I don't think we ought to tell them what they ought to teach and how they ought to teach. No matter how changeless and how old and antiquated their pedagogical forms may be, I'm prepared to let them do it.

But when it comes to questions where the health of individuals is concerned it is a serious challenge to us. Do we have the right, for example, to support an institution where people have tuberculosis because of the way in which they live, with a TB incidence of three, four or five times that of the average population? Is it right that we give money to that kind of an institution? The yeshivah bocherim were sick because there wasn't sufficient attention given to their nutrition, their medical care, etc. We have succeeded in accomplishing much. We have made changes, even in the years in which we have been operating. The yeshivoh have learned that there is such a thing as diet, as having clean kitchens. They have accepted it, have decided that it was a good thing. It wasn't an easy change but we have succeeded. Charlie Passman was able to bring into the yeshivoh program, not on the educational side but in management and administration, some efficiency in the buying of food. Through cooperative buying of food and materials they get the maximum benefits out of the funds at their disposal.



The real problem, aside from the fact that we feel that some yeshivoth should be closed or merged because they are uneconomical or substandard so far as public funds are concerned, is that of the age of the bocherim. That is the problem with which we will have our greatest difficulty. And that is the problem on which the rabbis are coming to see me. They ask why we take the position that a man beyond twenty-five years of age should not be a student in the yeshivoth. We don't take that position. We say that the man who is qualified to continue is the one we are prepared to support. But we also say that the man who is not so qualified should not have our support. We do not say that it shouldn't be done but only that JDC does not want to support that way of life because we don't think it's a way of life that's good, either for the person or for his children. We have the right to an opinion which may be different from that of the leaders of the yeshivoth in Israel. If these leaders wish to have people live on their present marginal form of existence, with a man running to two or three yeshivoth a day in order to earn enough to keep body and soul together, and if they are willing to provide for it, well and good. Israel is still a free country and they can do it. But the JDC does not want to support that kind of an institution or that kind of a program.

We recognize the validity of the tradition of our people. For many it is a way of life and we're prepared to accept it as one of the important streams of Jewish culture which has existed over the ages. Whether or not it is dying I am not prepared to say. It exists today. We are prepared, as we have been in the whole 39 years of our existence, to support it. We will continue to support it. But for the first time I think we are taking a positive stand in setting up certain standards as to care, as to management and as to the kind of student body that we think we want to support.

The reason it is a problem, Dr. Shapiro, which you also might have mentioned, and why they need more money, is because the great Jewish communities of Europe have been destroyed. They had received their tremendous financial support from the communities of Poland and Roumania and Hungary. Many of the institutions came from there, of course. They were fed both with food and with human material. Today these sources of students are disappearing. What is happening? There is a reaching-out now for the Sephardim because there is a drying up of the Ashkenazi source. The Sephardic attitude and point of view towards the yeshivoth are different from that of the Ashkenazi. There is a change going on and the influence of the Sephardim will affect the whole concept and the whole operation of the yeshiva over the course of years. I am not enough of a prophet to tell you in which direction but I am sure I can sense that changes are going on as a result of the problems which the Sephardim are bringing to the Ashkenazi yeshivoth. It is not an easy problem and I don't know what the answer is.

MR. KATZKI: Thank you very much, Mr. Leavitt. Is there anyone else who wishes to make an observation? Is there anything anyone would like to ask Dr. Shapiro or Mr. Abramovitch on any part of the educational program of the JDC, or any part of its religious activities? If not, we shall recess our meeting. We'll resume tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock promptly. The program tomorrow as you see from your notes will relate to the work of the JDC in the Western European countries. The meeting stands recessed.



FOURTH SESSION

Tuesday morning, October 20, 1953

Chairman - Mr. Charles H. Jordan

MR. JORDAN: I hate to call this meeting to order before Dr. Schwartz has had a chance to say hello to everybody. But I think we will have to get started and what was left undone will have to be finished later. Before starting this morning's program I just want to tell you that I had a chance to see a preview of the picture on the resettlement of hard-core cases in Norway. It is a very excellent and a very moving documentary film and will be shown for the benefit of the members of this conference tomorrow, Wednesday afternoon. Please try to arrange your schedule in such a way that you can all be there.

Now, this is Europe Day today. The European area with which JDC is still concerned has shrunk in the course of the last few years because of the elimination of Eastern European and Balkan countries, except for Yugoslavia. That is not to say that we do not concern ourselves with Jews in the other countries. As a matter of fact we are keenly conscious of urgent needs of large numbers of them who are presently out of our reach, and we fervently hope that the time will come again when it will be possible for us to resume our traditional efforts on their behalf. In the meantime, the area in which it is possible for JDC to operate contains upwards of 600,000 people, Jews, and we are carrying out vitally important functions there. We spend about 25% of our budget for this. This will be described in greater detail by the speakers of today and tomorrow. The indigenous Jewish populations in these countries are of concern to us to the extent to which they still lag in rebuilding their communities and their social, cultural and economic positions and because this interlocks with the problem of refugees in their midst. JDC finds that it is compelled to extend all sorts of services to refugees until such time as the communities in which they live are themselves able to take on this responsibility. And while we are trying to assist in their efforts to organize themselves more adequately towards that end we must, in addition to providing for the basic minimum needs of refugees and displaced persons, continually assure improvements and greater security for them in these countries which at one time were considered havens of temporary refuge but which for a number of reasons have had to serve as more permanent homes. You will hear, for example, from Mr. Rice this afternoon, how deeply this involves us in international and inter-governmental affairs. But a new and yet unknown factor begins to overshadow the whole field encompassed in our European operations - the Hague Agreement, which gives Jewish organizations the opportunity to administer substantial funds for relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of those Jewish victims of Nazi persecution whose scars take longest to heal. We believe that JDC is recognized by world Jewry as the best qualified agency

for this purpose and that consequently we will be called upon to assume the major responsibility for the carrying out of the agreement. We will hear a great deal about this in the course of tomorrow morning's session.

This morning we will hear from the DP countries - Germany, Austria and Italy. Now last year, in summing up, Mr. Beckelman said that inasfar as the DP countries were concerned, the DP camps are our touchstone for the closing of AJDC offices in those countries. He added that he did not know whether we can or should in fact contemplate closing JDC offices, for example in Germany, after Camp Foehrenwald is closed, but that we cannot possibly contemplate closing the JDC offices in Germany so long as Camp Foehrenwald exists. The same applies to Austria and, to a degree, to Italy, even though our problems in Italy are a little different.

Incidentally, with regard to Germany, you may be interested to know that while these sessions are going on, some of us have been meeting simultaneously with representatives of the German Jewish communities about many problems of mutual concern, which have once more shown, at least to me, that Germany, quite aside from considerable accomplishments and the relatively small number of Jews in that country, will remain a major problem for JDC and other Jewish organizations for some time to come. Every time one listens to representatives of German Jewry describe their present problems and their fears about the future, one can't help being deeply impressed with the historical perspective of this situation. The destructive effects of Nazi days can't just be considered wiped out by even the best-intentioned arrangements which all of us have made, and continue to make for the physical well-being of that Jewry. There is a long road ahead that requires deep sympathy and understanding for the destructive effects in the psychological sense which are now elements in complicating the relationship between ourselves and German Jewry. I think we can look forward to very interesting reports from Sam Haber and also Milton Steinberg on this and other subjects. I want to touch very briefly on a few points as a matter of introduction.

The five camps which existed last year in the DP countries still exist, and as a matter of fact, there are more people in Camp Foehrenwald today than there were last year. The increase is accounted for by an unprecedented influx of Israeli returnees. As a matter of fact, this influx, if it keeps coming as it seems to be, may very well be our new touchstone. A great deal more will have to be said about this particular problem in the course of the morning. But in any case, the Germans have recognized that there is more to the closing of such a camp than just talking about it. Nobody has yet come up with a complete answer. Taking a hard look at things as they are, it seems as if the camps will continue to exist for a good while longer. People, thousands of them, continue to be in those camps, and while there continues to be some reduction due to emigration, the reduction in numbers is more than offset by the new arrivals. So that people who have been in camps since after the end of the war are still there. There are young people today who have really never known anything but camp life. There are many aged people today to whom

the camp now spells home and security. We have recently had occasion to discuss our problems with representatives of the five largest non-Jewish agencies working in the refugee field. All agree that time has brought about a shocking deterioration of the capacity of many of these people for just plain, ordinary, normal living, and a significant deterioration of their work capacities. Mr. Horwitz and Mr. Levin will tell you of the problems created by resettled people in countries which welcome them heartily - what difficulties are experienced in the adjustment which these people, after all, must make to new homes, new neighbors and new jobs. These are the hardest-to-help people. They are people who need a lot rather than a minimum of help.

For the last two years we have wondered how we can ever get through with these most difficult remaining pockets of our work. We felt that some way must be found by which JDC can reduce its residual caseloads to the irreducible minimum, primarily by emigration, and to turn the remainder over to governments or indigenous agencies, perhaps with or even without continued subsidies but certainly without long-term, direct agency participation. This would be consistent with a school of thought which sees our responsibility vis-a-vis these people essentially as a supplementary relief proposition; that is, to consider people who had been unable to find their way out of camps or even just out of these countries by a certain time, as human waste, and that the kindest, most charitable thing one could do for them is to make some arrangements by which they would be looked after, if necessary, for life. But when you begin to know these most difficult cases more intimately, you find that such generalizations simply do not apply, do not justify application and that the end of the line depends on each individual. When all is said and done, there will undoubtedly be quite a few very old, sick, helpless men and women who may have to be taken care of in exactly that way. But the extent to which a person may need help, help which may enable the helpless of today to help himself tomorrow, differs case by case. The resourcefulness of human beings is inexhaustible. This points to another school of thought which believes that to make useful citizens out of handicapped people is always cheaper, in the long run.

Fortunately, thanks to the generosity of the American contributing public, we haven't ever had to skimp in looking after these matters. But now, in addition to having what we hope will be ample funds available, we also - if things work out the way they should - will have the chance to use German restitution funds not just for the relief and the resettlement, but for continuing and increasing our efforts toward the permanent rehabilitation of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution. This does seem to put an additional emphasis into that part of our work.

I think that the presentations by our country directors will take this new situation into consideration. And I hope that our discussion will help us to clarify concepts and agree on the execution of a program. It might be helpful to the discussion if we just outline a few questions beforehand. For example: to what extent must we watch over the methods used in the liquidation of camps?

I think we all agree that we must press as hard as we possibly can for the speedy dissolution of all camps. But, as Sam Haber put it so aptly in a press interview in New York when the Germans announced their intention to close Camp Foehrenwald, he said, "The closing of the camp must never become an end in itself. All efforts must be directed at providing a peaceful and productive future for those now in the camp, either through their resettlement in other countries or, if they have no alternative but to remain in Germany, through helping them to achieve self support." With emigration running poorly, there must be greater emphasis on local integration and, within that, on proper housing and employment. But we know non-Jewish camps have been closed and the people have been transferred to housing developments far removed from employment opportunities and which lacked all normal communal facilities such as even exist in camps. Consequently, the camps were replaced by new slums and that, you will agree, is no solution. We can't and don't need to let this happen to Jewish displaced persons.

Another question is how we can push ahead with essential action which should make it possible for skilled JDC personnel to help these hardest-to-help people to understand what they are up against, what is expected of them, to shake them out of either voluntary or involuntary reliance upon what in the end may be an illusion; stimulate them to make an effort to get out of a rut, to muster their capabilities in direct relation to the immediate present as well as to the future; and prepare them for post-camp adjustments in areas of resettlement.

Furthermore, and assuming that many of the people will have to remain in the countries in which they happen to be, and recognizing that many of these people when they get out of camp will need continued material assistance and other services, this obviously calls for community facilities such as family welfare assistance, employment counselling, care for the aged and chronically ill, economic self help, vocational training and an enriched community life with which people can identify, which incidentally provides cultural, religious and educational facilities.

All American social welfare agencies operating in Europe find that this type of communal organization by and large does not exist in DP countries and that therefore they must build up and stimulate the communities and communal agencies before they can be expected to take on responsibility for residual loads. These agencies, which include us, do not talk about helping communities to do a better job; they are talking about minimum, basic know-how, facilities and minimum of staff.

This is nothing new to JDC. We have worked along these lines in many areas as the presentations of this afternoon will indicate. Some beginnings have also been made in DP countries. But the acceptance of the principle inherent in, for example, the idea of a strong unified community which can also absorb the care of residual refugees, is not enough. In Italy, for instance, and in several places in Germany, the local organizational and professional material for achieving even minimum goals along these lines are completely lacking.

We must raise the question whether communities in Germany and Austria are, in fact, ready at all to assume some if not the entire responsibility - even with our help if, for example, several hundred or a couple of thousand persons presently in camps would be resettled in these communities; because even if we are right in assuming that the German authorities, for example, will take care of the physical aspect of these transfers, we must remember that these transfers involve Jews, and mostly foreign Jews, going into German cities, German Jewish communities and all which this entails. If the answer is, as I have reason to suspect, in the negative - that is, if the local communities are not now ready to assume the new responsibilities - we should then ask what we should do to find, seek out, discover, or develop the voluntary and professional initiatives, the competent leadership without which no community can carry on.

We may come to the conclusion that we can't be perfectionists; we may decide that what we have in mind is like the suit of the perfect salesman in the Garden of Folly: of plain, severe design, attractive and yet simple, good and yet bad, long and at the same time short, in other words, something that is expensive but cheap. But if there is another way of resolving this problem of the apparently hardest of the hard-core, we should surely hear about it at this conference.

I shall now introduce the first speaker in this morning's session - Sam Haber. Abe Loskove, to whom we listened yesterday, had his Mossedeq troubles. Henry Levy and Bill Bein were in the midst of national uprisings, but Sam Haber has been fighting it out with the Jews - the Foehrenwalders and Israeli returnees. He has been in an unenviable position because in the end, these are our own people, and all the professional detachment in the world does not stop the beat of the heart from one Jew to another. Sam, you have our sympathy and incidentally, the floor.

ADDRESS ON GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

by

Samuel L. Haber

I see that copies of my two advance reports have been circulated (see Appendix) and I merely want to tell you in beginning my remarks that I tried especially in the report on Germany to put into it what I believe are the basic problems that are facing us in that country today. As far as my report this morning is concerned however, I shall confine myself to a few selected items from the reports on Germany and Austria rather than deal with the complex issues which are covered in the overall report.

Our main problem in the DP countries, as Mr. Jordan I think quite correctly indicated, revolves around the question of the continued existence of the camps. I am not prepared to say at this point that if these camps, and let me confine my remarks at the moment to Foehrenwald only, if Foehrenwald did not exist, that we could therefore automatically close our operations in Germany. I think that is not the case. But I think that our problem in terms of the kind of things that we have to do, our problem in terms of the kinds of solutions we have to find for the remaining people, would take on an entirely different character. The existence of the camp itself is the tragedy, the inheritance of the postwar and the Nazi era which we cannot simply wipe out by virtue of the fact that we say it doesn't exist. It is a fact that does exist. And there are 2,100 people in that camp about whom I shall tell you a little bit more in a few seconds.

The difficulty of handling the problem lies in the fact that you have a concentration of so many people in one place of a heterogeneous character involving TB's, post-TB's, chronically ill, aged, ne'er-do-wells, gangsters, every type of human being that you might find in any small community but all of whom, or most of whom, are characterized by one primary consideration: they are all living on welfare, public or private, either from the Germans and/or assisted by the JDC, or only from the Germans or only from the JDC. Now I need not develop the point here that continued existence in such an atmosphere over a period of years must from any point of view lead to utter demoralization, and as the period of time in which these people find themselves in such a situation continues and grows, the demoralization must, almost geometrically, increase. Charlie Jordan, I think, mentioned something about the fact that there are people who have never known any other kind of life except the DP camp. You will be interested to know that in Foehrenwald alone there are over 500 children who are below the age of 17. And I dare say offhand, without having accurate statistics with me, that most of these, at least those under the age of 7 or 8, have never known anything except a DP camp. Well, I submit it doesn't take a social worker, it doesn't take an economist, it doesn't take anything but common sense to say that that is a terribly distorted life for a child to lead and that it is



entirely unreal to expect that child to continue to grow up in an atmosphere where he knows nothing else except the kind of a life which involves the parents yelling at the JDC, or yelling at the Germans, or yelling at each other, living in a confined area, living a life that is utterly false in terms of anything that we know as civilized existence. And there are over 500 such children living in Foehrenwald alone.

One of the sad aspects - now social workers I am sure will take offence at what I am going to say right now - of the camp life is the fact that the creature comforts in the camp are not bad. Dr. Golub, I will never forget, was the first one to mention this to me but I have heard it from many others since, when they have gone into the camp. Dave Rosenstein, who was in the camp a few weeks ago, also told me the same thing. Could you compare the life of these people in the camp with that of the Jew living in the Polish or Rumanian stettl? Rabbi Friedman, who knows the DP camps, who knew them in the good old days when there were at least sixty, was absolutely correct when he told us yesterday that life in the camps cannot be compared with anything that he saw in North Africa; there is simply no comparison. They do live a reasonably comfortable life in that their creature comforts are met, in one way or another, whether by JDC and/or the Germans, or a little gescheft, a little business on the side, whatever the case may be. They are living reasonably comfortably and unless compelled to - and I shall come to this point in a few minutes in my talk - unless compelled to by circumstances or by force, which is not within their control, to get out, or unless they have the possibility of leaving for the country of their choice, which means the United States of America or Canada, these people will not leave the DP camps. This is not true for all of them, obviously. I am making a generalization here. But it is true, unfortunately and regretfully, for a very large number of people in the camp. The longer it continues, as I said a minute ago, the greater will be the demoralization that will develop and the more difficult will be the ultimate problem of its solution and of its closing.

Now, when I speak of the closing of Camp Foehrenwald, I must go back into a little bit of history as far as the Germans themselves are concerned. It isn't only we who want to close the camp. The Germans are at least as interested in this problem as we are. And on a number of occasions, including the first time when Mr. Jordan and I were in Bonn in the middle of July and met with a rather important official of the Foreign Office, this problem was brought up not by us, but by him. And the interest shown by this rather important person speaking on behalf of the German Government indicated that the German authorities were ready to go quite far in achieving the objective of liquidating this last Jewish DP camp in Germany. Some months before that the Jewish Camp Committee in Foehrenwald had made a request of the German Government asking them for 3,000 Deutsch Marks per adult and 1,500 for each child, in order to assist in the integration of the people outside of the camp and outside of Germany. That means, in other words, to stimulate the desire of the camp inhabitants to leave the country. The Germans for a long time ignored this

request. And I personally felt that they would never, under any circumstances, pay any attention to it. But much to our surprise, at the meeting which Mr. Jordan and I attended in Bonn, the Germans indicated that they were interested in the proposition and would undoubtedly come to the point where they would consent, but not necessarily to that amount. The fact is that subsequently in a dispute over the question of the returnees in Foehrenwald, the Germans did make what appeared to be a semi-official announcement by the State Secretary for Refugees in Bavaria, that they have, to all intents and purposes, accepted the fact that they will have to pay this amount of money in order to liquidate the camp.

They go even further. At this very same meeting, and again on many occasions subsequently, the same high Foreign Office official indicated to us that they were ready to pay, immediately, 2,500,000 Marks in order to build houses, units for 500 people, and to move these people gradually out of camp into these private homes. They were supposed to be rather substantial homes; they were intended to be built as permanent places for these people. They asked the JDC, as a matter of fact, for very little, in my opinion; we were afraid that they would ask for a great deal more. Mr. Jordan, after returning to Paris and presumably consulting here with Headquarters, immediately wrote to this German government official and said that it was acceptable as far as JDC is concerned, that the JDC is prepared to go along if the government invested the 2,500,000 Marks as a beginning point; that the JDC would go along with them and see how, exactly, it can carry the ball after that. Well now, the trouble with these things is that you get involved in a long-term instead of a short-term process. Have the Germans begun to build these homes? Let's say a month, or two months ago, presumably it would have been a process which during the months would have been or could be accelerated and would have meant the beginning of the end of Foehrenwald. We would be able at least to envisage it, we would be able to foresee it. But up to now it has been only lip-service on the part of the Germans, in both respects that I have just mentioned. I have not failed, on each of my visits to Bonn, to call on this gentleman. The reply I receive is, "Yes, that's right Mr. Haber, we have not forgotten. There are many issues involved. You know there was an election and you know there are returnees in the camp (and you know this and you know that) but we are going through with it."

Now my own personal impression is that the Germans want to, and are prepared to, pay to liquidate the camp. But I do not believe that it will be an easy job, nor do I believe that it will be a job of short duration. I think on the contrary it will take a long time, and will require, not only on the part of the Germans but on the part of the JDC, very serious and careful consideration before this objective can be carried out. Let me make a comment here and at the same time perhaps raise a question concerning the JDC's involvement in this entire process. I have the feeling that we are going to be treading on very, very thin ice when the Germans really begin to take steps in this direction and I will tell you why. You know unsere yidden are really something special. It's true, unfortunately, especially with these people who have suffered so much, who have gone through so many indescribable

miseries, whether in the concentration camps or in the ghettos or in the forests of Siberia or wherever they may have been. These are not people from whom we have reason to expect calmness of judgment, an ability to evaluate their own situation in the light of reason, or any capacity to understand what is the right thing for them to do. And when I talk about the Israeli returnee problem in a few minutes you will see that what I have just said is very, very much applicable, especially to these people who, planlessly, without thought, without consideration of anything, simply pick up their bags in Israel and return to Germany. "Ich bin da; feed me, I am hungry."

Our problem, in terms of the liquidation of Camp Foehrenwald, will amount to this, as I see it. I think we shall have to keep a fairly hands-off policy. Now this may surprise some of you. I think the JDC will have to watch its step and to leave to the Germans the basic responsibility of the liquidation of the camp. We can take a negative step, but one which has tremendous positive value and that is: at the same time that the Germans officially announce the beginning of the liquidation of the camp the JDC also announces that it closes its operation in Foehrenwald - not in Germany - at such and such a time. And I fear that unless we do that the resistance on the part of the people to getting out of the camp will be absolutely insurmountable. The Germans will not be able to do anything about it and you will have a permanent ghetto in the midst of Bavaria that will stay on and on forever and a day.

I don't know how sound and constructive a social policy or attitude this is that I am proposing. But I know my Foehrenwalders and I know my people there. And it may not be the best social planning nor the best social engineering and a lot of people in this room may say, "Wait a minute, you don't go that way with people, you don't deal that way with people." Well, maybe you don't. But if you don't then reconsider what it is you want to do with these people. Then accept the fact. Let them be there, who cares! I don't think we ought to say that. I don't think we ever ought to say, let them be there. I think it ought to be our thinking that we have to close that stinking place. We ought to get the people out of there at whatever cost, but at the same time we, as a responsible Jewish organization, with many different elements and different factors playing a part in this thing - not only in Germany but in the United States - have necessarily to be careful in terms of our public relations. And in that sense I mean, we ought to say: we stop work in Foehrenwald at a terminal date, which will more or less correspond with the date the Germans have set for the closing of the camp. At the same time, constructively, we say to these people: when you are moved into Frankfurt, or Hamburg, or Dortmund, or wherever the case may be, the JDC will establish a group of professional social workers, anything that is necessary to assist you, so that you may be integrated and integrable into the German economy. In addition to that we will maintain our emigration offices so that while waiting for your visa to the United States, which may not be due until 1959, you can wait

in Frankfurt just as well. In the meantime the Germans bear the responsibility of giving you a job. And with all the difficulties that the person sees we ought to make his adjustment problem that much simpler by saying: we are pulling out, but only out of Foehrenwald; we are not pulling out of the community where you go; on the contrary in those communities we will intensify our work; we will increase our assistance, if necessary; we will give you the chance to get a job; we will give you the chance to emigrate since you don't want to live in the "verscholtene Erde". Why they have the right any more to say "verscholtene Erde" I don't know, but they still do. In any case, I see this problem in terms of a problem basically for the Germans on the actual closing of the camp and on the constructive aspects for the JDC in terms of doing more for these people when they reach the community of settlement. Now let me come to the "pleasant" subject of the returnees.

This problem, as you know, has been touched upon in every country directors conference, I believe, since 1950. We became aware of the returnee problem in the first place in August 1949. But I don't believe it was covered in that particular conference. It's a very serious problem, as was indicated in our last year's discussions. Dr. Josephthal, I believe, made a statesmanlike, very realistic appraisal of the problem. I really have nothing to add except that I want to go back a little bit into the background as far as Germany is concerned because up to now primarily the problem was raised concerning the oriental countries, the Moslem lands, and I want to talk now about Austria and Germany exclusively. I believe it was Mrs. Brailove who asked a question, perhaps I did not hear the question exactly the way you phrased it Mrs. Brailove, but I thought you said, "Why is it that so much publicity is given to the Israeli returnees and so little to immigration into Israel?" Well, I will tell you why: because when 150 Jewish men, women and children occupy Sam Haber's office in Germany, it's news, but when a thousand come to Israel it isn't. Anyway, as you all know, two months ago our building was occupied and there was a considerable hullabaloo about it. It was a very unpleasant business. But before I go into that let me retrace a little bit of the problem, in terms of how it developed.

Up to the end of last year, the Germans basically ignored the problem of the returnees. They came back, they went to Foehrenwald. The Germans gave them assistance and as far as they were concerned they were simply additional people who came in, who loved the German soil. All were waiting for emigration or whatever the case may be. None of them really, in my honest judgment, came back because they wanted to remain in Germany. I am convinced of that, including the last group which has just returned within the last month. But around the end of last year a group of people began arriving in France and perhaps in other European countries, who had Canadian visas, or rather some kind of a statement to the effect that they could pick up their Canadian visas once they had reached Paris. Well, they reached Paris alright, but the Canadian Consul was not interested in giving them Canadian visas and stamped a statement into their Israeli passports to that effect. I call your attention to the fact, and I emphasize here what Dr. Josephthal said the other day, that every one of these people came back with an Israeli

passport. That means a person who may have arrived a year or two or three years before - or even a week before, presumably - was able simply to go to a French Consul or a Swiss Consul in Israel and get a stamp, and then with the same he took off. When he arrived in France and was unable to get his Canadian visa, at that point life in Paris became too difficult for him. The Prefecture de Police made life impossible for him. And I will call your attention to the fact that these Israeli passports carry the very interesting notation "not valid for Germany". Despite the fact that there was this inscription in the passport, these people nevertheless were able to go to the German Consulate in Paris, which proceeded to ignore the fact that there was this stamp in the passport and gave them an official visa to Germany. When the situation however, became a little bit harder in terms of the numbers that were coming in, the Germans then began to raise an issue with the Israeli Purchasing Mission in Cologne in the first place, and with the Israeli Consul in Munich in the second place. And thus began another interesting phase of their operation which I must admit, even up to this point, I do not quite fully understand; and that was they sent a teletype message to the German Embassies in Paris and in Rome ordering them to charge up to the value of \$300 in local currency in order to permit the person to come into Germany who had that stamp. However, unsere yidden do not want to pay \$300; a few of them got taken in and the rest began to come into Germany illegally, but every one with an Israeli passport. The problem was built up therefore to a point where in March or April of this year the Bavarian State Secretary for Refugee Problems - himself not exactly a man with a clean past - made a very sharp, bitter statement about, in the first place the returnees, and in the second place the camp itself. And so a committee from the Bavarian Parliament went out, looked at the camp and, amazingly enough, came back with not a bad report.

Had the returnee problem at that point stopped, that is to say, had no more returnees come back to Germany, the situation would have been quiet and we would have had so many people and that would be that. But more and more came back and the Germans were obsessed, literally obsessed, with the fear that thousands more were waiting to come. Oberlander told me this himself. He said, "I know that there are thousands of people waiting in Naples and Genoa and Marseilles and Luxembourg and all over, waiting to come into Germany." Well, I don't know; I have never heard of it. But in any event the fact that this fear existed is the thing that led to the next steps. The next steps were - and I am really skipping over pages of history and giving it to you as briefly as I can - the following. Three Jews were picked up and deported to Austria, waiting for deportation finally to Israel. The meetings then that took place had some historical significance in terms of this problem but no real significance in terms of a solution, as I shall show you in a minute. Mr. Jordan and I met with Dr. Nahum Goldmann and an important official of the German Government, and Dr. Yacoviel of the Purchasing Mission in Geneva and again subsequently on the 1st of September in Bonn we had a big meeting to try again to discuss the problem.

As you can see from all of this, the Germans have viewed this problem as a very serious problem and I merely throw out the question to Dr. Josephthal - because I myself do not have the answer - whether he does not think this is really a problem, small though it may be, and I am the first to admit that in terms of numbers it is not a very large problem. I would say a maximum of between 4,000 and 4,500 people came back to Germany and Austria since the beginning. It is not the numbers that are important here but the effect that this problem has on the entire thinking of the people there. I ask whether that is not likely to lead to some kind of friction between the Israeli Government and the Germans in terms of the entire complex of the Conference Claim and the settlement with the State of Israel. In any event when these three were deported, and subsequently in our meetings in Geneva and in Bonn, it was agreed to have what you might call a "Waffenstillstand", an armistice for six months, to try to get as many of these people out from Germany as possible, and some time in January the Germans and Jewish organizations will reconsider the entire problem. But the red tape and bureaucracy moved very slowly in unwinding the difficulties, with the result that while I was in Geneva an announcement was made that an additional 14 or 17 people were going to be deported. That's what led to the occupation of the JDC building. And I mention it here because, whether it's good or bad, it's a fact that to this day the Jews, at least in Germany, whether for good or bad look to the JDC as the one organization that can rescue them from whatever the devil ails them.

Now here is a situation where I have said continuously it is a political problem. It has nothing to do with JDC. "Whatever your relations with the Germans are, go to your Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland or to you Landesverbaender der Juden in Bayern and deal with them." But when the chips were down they knew that only one organization could stop the Jews from being deported. And as a matter of fact under a pressure which I think Stanley, and Abe Loskove and perhaps others have already described, we stepped into the breach and we brought to bear a pressure that reached all the way to the German White House, and succeeded within ten hours to cancel the deportation order. And I will tell you why I did it. Had I thought that the Germans would really deport all of these people I might not have done it; I knew that they couldn't deport these people. I knew that they might to some extent stop new people from coming in but as to a general solution of the problem the Germans are as helpless as we are. The Germans have, in effect, said they are not able to do anything about this problem. They don't know what to do and when the six months' armistice period expires on the 17th of February I look for some kind of difficulty that the Germans will make with respect to the Jewish organizations because we have no answer for them, either.

Now let me make one more remark about what happened after this incident of the occupation of the JDC building. The Germans ordered an immediate registration of all the illegals in Foehrenwald. As a result of this order 795 people registered. People who were living in communities illegally came down to Foehrenwald to take advantage of the time period and to register. Now what is the result - and this is really the important issue. What has

happened since the 17th of August? Have new people come in? Well, here I must say that we are faced with a really insoluble situation. There is a little synagogue on the Mochlstrasse, two blocks from the JDC office. When I left for the Paris conference on Friday night, I left there an old Rabbi sitting in my office who is beset with a problem such as he has never faced in his life. There are 165 illegal people living in that synagogue under conditions that resemble the mellah. We have not helped them up to now. As a general policy I have said we are not going to help these irresponsible people who have picked themselves up without any sense of responsibility, without knowing where they were going, without knowing what they are going to do. We have said "absolutely no" and we have put a policeman in front of our door in order to be able to work. And does that make sense? I confess to you that it doesn't. I confess to you that there is no answer. And Dr. Josephthal, you hit the nail on the head. There are reasons why people leave. People have left from the United States. There were times during the two wars when more people left the United States than actually arrived in that country.

I think, ladies and gentlemen, contrary to what I reported to you a year ago I must now take back that tough attitude and that remark that Joe Schwartz made in his conclusion on this discussion where he said, "What's the difference what we say or do here now as Sam Haber will go back and do what he wants anyway." I am telling you now, however, that the problem is such that it involves on the one hand, an inescapable responsibility for the JDC to give help to these people. It involves dangers on the other hand. Do we, as a consequence of giving assistance to these people encourage new ones to come? I think we do. But that is a minor factor in the total complex of why people leave one place and go to another. It is not because we give them 25, 50 or 60 Marks; there are all kinds of things that are involved in a person picking himself up, not knowing where he is going to go, not knowing what's going to happen to him. That's the one aspect of it. The other aspect is the Israeli aspect.

In my report on Germany on page 11, I wrote "a continued flow of illegal border crossers into Germany could create real frictions between Germany and Israel." I may not know what I am talking about Dr. Josephthal, and I hope that you may correct me quickly. The authorities, as already indicated, have taken a most serious view of this problem and whereas the State of Israel cannot in an authoritarian manner simply close its borders, it probably can, for its own protection, establish a controlled emigration policy, enforce drastic steps to eliminate the racketeers and "machers", create a constructive counselling system and thus reduce - not eliminate - the number of people who without any plan or thought of the future, leave Israel. Too many returnees have said to us, "Why didn't someone tell us that this is what we would find?"

I will now just touch briefly on two or three additional subjects. I have spoken in the past years of the problem of the communities in

Germany. I must return to that subject for just a couple of minutes. You will find on page 12 of the report on Germany something about the age structure. It's a very serious business. I say you find a sort of mass inferiority complex at whatever meeting you attend in Germany. That's also understandable. There's a weak, ineffective leadership. I don't think Hitler left the best people in Germany. Either they emigrated from Germany and established their lives in other countries, or their leadership and the people that were left are old, ineffective, weak and need a long-time assistance in terms of training, in terms of advice, but not in terms of orders. You can't give them orders and that they will tell you very quickly.

I believe, personally, that as you look at the statistical charts that I have in the report, the Jewish Community as you see it today in Germany is bound to wither away. There is no basic fundamental ground for any kind of optimism in its continued existence. You have over 50% of the people over 60 years of age. I suspect, incidentally, if I may allow myself for a moment the role of a prophet, that those Jews who are now coming to Germany, returning from Israel, or some from the Iron Curtain countries, younger people, not of Germanic origin, but Latvian or Polish or Russian or Rumanian, will constitute your future Jewish community a generation or two generations or three generations hence. Therefore, the Jewish community, the German Jewish community, is per se dying out, if you take a look at the statistics which I have put in the chart.

Now that also indicates that there is a need on the part of the JDC for a more or less continual long-term range of planning; that you cannot simply say that, alright, we give you so much and then we are through with this community. I believe that the JDC, whether out of Conference funds into which I don't want to go (I think that's in another discussion) or from any other sources, will have to provide for these people for a fairly long period of time. When I tell you that the JDC itself takes care, or rather supplements the income of fairly close to 5,000 people out of a total population of 20,000 it will give you an idea that the community is basically, in all social aspects as well as in all economic aspects, a poor community and will continue to need understanding, assistance, counselling and a friendly hand, despite the bad meeting we had with them the other day.

Now, I want to tell you one last thing and that is about the East Zone refugees. Here I think that everybody in this room will be pleased to note that we had a very interesting experience in Germany at the beginning of this year. That experience showed something; it showed that the JDC as an organization is alive to any development that may take place. It didn't matter that it was only 600 people. We could have handled 60,000. We had an instrument established; we had an organizational set-up; we moved in. There was no problem at all. There is argument as to whether we have given enough, or not enough, or too much; that can be an argument. But not about the fact that here we were, ready. We took care of these people, set up kitchens for them, bought beds and mattresses for them, put them up because most of the people who came did so without anything except that which they had on their backs. Most of the people we have helped. We have established them, some of them in Berlin, in West Berlin; the majority of them we are helping in West Germany.



I have been asked why only 600 left when more, or all of them, could have gotten out. And here again I refer to the fact that in the section on returnees there was a statistical tabulation which shows you that over 40% of the people who remained behind are 60 years or over and a total of 72% are over 46; and here again you have this lopsided age-structure of a community which has no fundamental resilience, no fundamental bonds. It's bound to wither away; there is nothing there which gives it substance in terms of a future community. But I only wanted to mention the fact here that the JDC was alive to the responsibility, had the machinery geared in no time at all. It required only a flying trip of two hours from Munich to Berlin to establish the thing and I say that we were in a position both structurally and financially too, to take care of all the people who could have come in at that time.

I'm not touching at all in my address now on the different departments in Germany, the medical, the emigration, the social work. But I don't want to close my report on Germany without paying a tribute to two people. I want to pay a very special tribute to Marcus Levin and Ragnar Gottfarb. In 1952 and 1953 we sent four hard-core transports, two to Norway and two to Sweden. Without their help it would not have been possible. 163 people thus found a new home and new possibilities for their permanent integration into new communities outside Germany. I believe that this is something for the JDC here that we must not allow ourselves to forget. There are two basic things involved in the whole problem of the liquidation of the camp and one of them is emigration, whether normal emigration or through hard-core projects. The other one is integration. These hard-core projects, on which Miss Palevsky and Mr. Horwitz are going to London next Monday to make special arrangements, are a very important part in the liquidation process of Foehrenwald because the more we can take off of these hard-to-adjust and hard-to-emigrate people, or hard-to-resettle people, the easier will be the problem as far as the integration is concerned of those remaining after that top layer has been siphoned off.

I'll take just five or ten minutes on Austria. I believe here too, that I've covered fairly well the situation on Austria in the second report that has been distributed to you this morning (see Appendix). Now in the few comments I will make I want to divide Vienna from the U.S. Zone. First let me touch on the U.S. Zone. By and large the problems which I have mentioned concerning Camp Foehrenwald apply to Asten and to Hallein, the two camps in the U.S. Zone of Austria, except that there the problem is even more difficult in one respect. There is on the brighter side of the ledger, a better hope for their emigration under the new U.S. DP Emergency Act of 1953 because they are people who fled from Iron Curtain countries. On the other hand there are among them many orthodox families with a large number of children and there are also among them many people who are hard-core cases who may find it difficult to emigrate. One of their basic difficulties is the fact that, unlike the situation in Germany where theoretically a person has the right to get a job and to

resettle in the country's economy, in Austria he hasn't even got that right and he is not permitted to work there. The Austrians are not even talking of liquidating those two camps; they are merely building another camp to move the people into. And I must say that one of the camps in Austria - Hallein, near Salzburg - is an absolutely indescribable hellhole, still better than the mellah of Casablanca, but very bad for human beings to live in.

The situation in Vienna is more or less as follows. I believe that in the postwar Jewish situation in Germany and Austria, Vienna represents the soundest Jewish community in terms of leadership, in terms of capacity to run an institution and a community, and in terms of the fact that they have a fundamental basic income out of taxes and other items so that our assistance to them has been decreasing right along throughout the years. I want to mention only two problems. Number one is the problem of the Claims Committee with the Austrian Government. If that Committee should be successful, then I can see the possibility that the JDC, in a separate arrangement with the Vienna community, can say to them, "Bitte schoen, here is so much money for a period of so many years, we will send you from time to time a welfare consultant or a medical consultant or what you need, and we can thus pull out of the direct operation in Vienna except for these consultant activities from time to time." We can also do that conceivably, even if we do not settle with the Committee because we could also make a budget available out of JDC funds directly to them.

But you cannot do that until the second problem that I am going to mention has been resolved and that is the closing of Camp Rothschild. Rothschild is the cross which we have been bearing all these years. Now, when Rothschild had 5,000, 6,000 or 7,000 people in it there was quite a different situation. But today they have two buildings, one of which, the famous Rothschild Hospital in Vienna, has a total of only about 200 people in the big building. It's a tremendous structure and the Austrians want to get rid of it. The Austrians want the Jewish community to sell it and there is a buyer for it offering between  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 million Austrian schillings. Well, if we are going to have a problem in liquidating Foehrenwald, which I believe I have adequately described, just think of it - we cannot get even one of these people out of the Rothschild Hospital. They refuse to leave. Mr. Feder called me about two weeks ago from Vienna and asked me what to do about three people whom the Austrians want to take out of the institution, to give them another place - this is not putting them out on the street - threatening to deport them to Hungary, that is, to the border (they were Hungarian refugees). I don't know whether that threat would ever have been carried out. When Mr. Feder asked me what should be our policy in terms of the relations with, or protest to the Austrian Government, I said - hands off! Because, unless we take this strong position in terms of the liquidation of places which are fundamentally socially bad for the people, we shall never see our way clear to get out of these places.

MR. JORDAN: Well, I think that it is quite clear that Sam has been having a wonderful time in Germany and I'm sure he is very unhappy to leave it and to go to Morocco. One thing he is going to find there too and that's returnees, I understand, but they are not going to be the same kind of returnees that he has in Germany, so it won't be so difficult.

I was going to call on Ted Feder to make some comments on Austria because, as Mr. Beckelman told you the other day, with the parting of Sam Haber we are re-establishing the original division between the two country operations, with Ted Feder in charge of the Austrian program. But I am afraid that if comments on prepared papers take as long as this one, we will be a little short of time with the rest of our program this morning and I hope, Ted, that you will forgive me if I don't call on you, unless there is some message that you want to bring us from the Austrian Chancellor or something.

I shall call then on Milton Steinberg for his report on Italy before we go into the discussion period.



ADDRESS ON ITALY

By

Milton Steinberg

Adherence to the generally accepted concept that JDC is a temporary organization and not concerned in perpetuating itself, has for some time now been the dominating factor in the shaping of policies and in the planning and direction of the Italian program.

The year 1953 has followed the same general pattern which has pretty much characterized the Italian operation for the past several years - namely, retrenchment, liquidation and closure. In certain fields or activities, this trend has been constant and consistent; in others, adjustments in the time-schedules have been necessary; in still others, because of changing circumstances and increasing difficulties, the pace has been slowed to almost a halt. But on the whole, I believe sufficient progress has been made which on the one hand gives evidence of the work and the efforts to achieve what we hold to be our main objectives in Italy and, on the other, to keep faith with JDC tradition.

Specifically, what are some of the positive developments during the twelve preceding months to support this belief? In my report a year ago, I attempted to summarize some of the major achievements of the JDC during the post-war era of its operations. I would like only to mention here a few supplementary facts and figures by way of bringing that story up to date.

a) Firstly, from a constantly dwindling DP population of 2,500 persons estimated a year ago, our records today reveal an actual registration of 1,600 persons, of which less than half are receiving direct JDC material assistance and/or emigration services. If you will refer to the statistical reports on Italy which are before you, (see Appendix), you will find a complete and precise breakdown of the total caseload composition, including the various categories of persons assisted and non-assisted; their location or place of residence; a general indication of their health and emigration status; and the kinds of services and assistance which are rendered. It is important to note, however, that whereas our total refugee registration indicates a drop of 35% over the previous year, the actual decrease in the numbers directly serviced or assisted is not more than 20% for the same period.

b) Secondly, despite the narrowing limitations in overseas resettlement opportunities, the increased efforts of our emigration and counselling staff to close the last Jewish DP camp in Italy has resulted in a reduction of the Camp population of some 40%. Today there are less than 80 Jewish persons living in the San Antonio DP Camp. Although it is expected that others will continue to emigrate during the coming year, it is unfortunately equally apparent that under existing restrictions and limitations at least half the present remaining group have nil or negligible chances of resettlement in the near future.

For this reason we have decided upon the closure of the camp by transferring each family unit to some town in Italy where housing accommodation and maintenance will be provided. We hope these arrangements will not only serve to write finis to at least one phase of history regarding the tens of thousands of Jewish refugees in Italy who have been compelled to suffer and endure the privations and demoralizations of camp life, but that it will also afford better opportunities and give greater stimulus to the individual in seeking a plan of final resettlement or integration.

c) Thirdly, the organizational structure of the Italian operation has also undergone evolutionary changes:

1. The Merano TB Sanatorium, which during the course of its existence provided complete sanatorial care to some 400 patients, was closed during the early part of this year. Noteworthy is the fact that of the patients remaining in Italy, only 14 still require sanatorium care, which is now provided in Italian institutions. A more detailed disposition of the Merano caseload is contained in the statistical report sheets. The closure of Merano is also significant in that other than a post-TB dispensary unit in Grottaferrata, it marks the last of the 90 odd JDC installations which were once spread over Italy.
2. Although we found it expedient to establish a field office in Trieste to deal with the relatively few Jewish cases in the area, and also to relate ourselves directly to the many agencies and organizations operating in Trieste, the overall reductions in the staff during the year - including Merano - exceeded 55% of the last reported figure. In all some 20 persons make up the total personnel complement of Grottaferrata, Genoa, Trieste and Rome.

- d) Fourthly, and not of least importance, I hope, certainly from the U.J.A. point of view, is the program cost. Here again, despite greater emphasis on strengthening the Community activities, the Cultural program and institutions where spending in fact has doubled, the overall net decrease in 1953 compared to 1952 will run about 30%. Due recognition should be given to the increased aid and support received from various governmental and other sources - notably the US Escapee Program, the Italian Government and the Italian Red Cross. For example, although the 1953 project envisaged a reduction of about 20%, the additional 10% was made possible largely through increased reimbursements to us from these agencies. A breakdown of the total expenditures and receipts both effected and anticipated for the year 1953, will be found in the statistical tables.
- e) And last, oddly enough, is the Israeli returnee problem which has been a thorn in everyone's side - not least of all Mr. Haber's. Nevertheless, and notwithstanding the critical developments which occurred in Germany and Austria, the situation in Italy, I'm happy to say, has improved remarkably since the beginning of the year. (Perhaps this indirectly offers one explanation why the numbers of returnees to Austria and Germany have so increased).

In any case, whereas a year ago there were over 300 stranded returnees in Italy, all clamouring for assistance in one form or another, today there are not more than 17 involving about 45 persons. Through the efforts of the Canadian Jewish Congress and JIAS, a number of rejected and deferred cases were reopened and visas granted. Many others found the "know-how" and means to acquire South American visas, with HIAS usually arranging the transportation. Some eventually decided to return to Israel and for this group we often shared in the financial cost where necessary.

Of course the key factor which now enables us to see an end to this problem is the almost complete halt in the number of new arrivals coming to Italy - and by new arrivals I refer only to those stranded cases and not the transients who quickly come and go and, in fact, never come to our attention. In fact, there have been only 3 cases known to us during the last 6 months.

I would, however, like to point out one important detail in our approach to the Returnee question. It is my conviction that from a practical point of view it is neither feasible nor expedient for our office to attempt to deal directly with the problem along general policy lines - which is to say, on an individual case-by-case basis. To begin with, the question of need among the average returnee is only one of degree, for practically speaking, they are all in need in one form or another the moment they are stranded. Since they are such a closely-knit and united group, to make any individual exceptions is almost a guarantee that force will be needed to clear the JDC offices of the delegation which is sure to appear within 24 hours.

Secondly, I'm convinced that exceptions only breed more exceptions, and more exceptions only encourage and lead to more new arrivals, with the end result that fewer numbers feel any urgency to leave Italy, while larger numbers continue to come in. We have, therefore, avoided wherever possible getting directly involved with the returnee as a client, whether it be a question of his care and maintenance, or of emigration, or any other service or assistance. Instead, we have a private arrangement with the Chief Rabbi of Rome who personally interviews these people and later refers any special problems to us.

The small welfare grants paid to a few families and any other special assistance, including their return to Israel, is made to appear as an undertaking by the Community through the personal intervention of the Rabbi. Certainly, it may not be the ideal arrangement, but it apparently does produce results since we haven't had any serious disturbance in the offices for the past 7 months.

(There is one further complication to this problem which often tends to completely disrupt whatever guiding policy or modus operandi is established. I refer to the not too infrequent "pressure" cables and letters from New York asking that assistance be extended to a particular family who presumably is a friend or relative of an important Community leader or a contributor. As is so often the case in situations of this kind, the returnee family concerned is among those least in need of assistance. And there's nothing more difficult than trying to explain the JDC position to a group of returnees following exceptions of this nature).

There is of course the less propitious side to the total program picture.

a) Foremost is the disillusionment over the developments to reach a satisfactory agreement with the Union of Italian Jewish Communities which would enable us to plan on their eventual taking over direct responsibility for the DP Program. In my report last year, I pointed out that as a result of the resignation of the President of the "UNIONE" the entire question was once again thrown wide open. We assumed - and quite correctly so at the time - that pending new elections, the Vice-president, Professor Lattes, would act as President, with Mr. Cantoni directing.

Under this muddled arrangement there was little to be done except to await the new elections. What we, as well as the Community leaders, had not foreseen, was that one year later we'd still be waiting for the same elections to take place. (I might add - but this in very, very small type - that the election was due to take place on the 19th, which I believe was yesterday).

Despite this setback, our efforts to interest the Italian Communities in taking over a greater and more direct role in refugee problems have not been entirely fruitless.

And here I would like to pay a special tribute to the Chief Rabbi, Professor Toaff, who, besides doing an outstanding job in building and strengthening the Rome Jewish Community, not only concerns himself with individual family problems of refugees, including their material and financial assistance, but also in bringing the refugee within the Community fold. All religious activities affecting DP's are now administered by a Rabbi through a committee of refugee Ashkenazi Jews, most of whom are firmly resettled. The latter have their own synagogue and services at which Professor Toaff often officiates. Members of this committee were nominated and also elected to the executive council of the Rome Community. They are also represented on the board of the loan fund cooperative which was recently established in Rome and it's interesting to note that of the 17 loans approved to date, 8 were extended to refugee families.

Other leading personalities like Mr. Renzo Levi have also been very helpful in finding employment or apprenticeships for refugees with Italian firms. Unfortunately, there is still the problem of their legal status. For despite the combined efforts and appeals of the Voluntary Agencies, the High Commissioner's office and others, the Italian Government remains adamant in its position not to officially extend the right to work to stateless persons.

b) The slow and painful progress in resettlement of our hard-core caseload - particularly the group of post-TBs from Grottaferrata - is another less auspicious feature of the program. The departure of 10 TB patients from Merano Sanatorium to Malben in January of this year most probably witnessed the last of the mass movements of hard-cores to Israel. Although a few additional TB and post-TB cases left individually, the numbers undoubtedly will be even fewer in the future.

Insofar as concerns the Norwegian and Swedish schemes, the response by patients acceptable for presentation to the Commission was so negligible as not to warrant consideration of the Commission visiting Italy. Unfortunately, many of those who were interested and wished to take advantage of this opportunity, had previously been turned down or otherwise did not meet the medical criteria. And here it is pathetic to note, that there is a fairly large number of hard-core cases who on the one hand are not well enough to meet the medical requirements for normal emigration and on the other are not ill enough for consideration under special resettlement schemes.

You will find in the statistical schedules presented, the various categories which make up the institutional and non-institutional hard-core cases. Although it is a group which is not always clearly definable, it roughly comprises about half of the total residual DP caseload.



Their firm resettlement presents the most formidable task for the future if we are ever to finally resolve the DP problem in Italy. Many are waiting for the Canadian or South American hard-core schemes to materialize; others are wishfully hoping for the U.S. to relax its restrictions; while many apparently are content to just wait for the "Joint" to find the answer to their common problem.

Notwithstanding the hospitality which Italy has always accorded the refugees, because of the economic and political considerations involved, the DP in Italy nevertheless remains a nonentity. As I have already pointed out, he cannot plan on acquiring citizenship or the right to work except in very rare instances. Integration, therefore, though very desirable and convenient, has its practical limitations. Only for the institutionalized single cases - without dependent family members - is the problem relatively simple insofar as concerns their permanent resettlement in Italy. Places in suitable institutions are readily available for most types of cases interested in such a plan, and the problem is chiefly one of funds to cover their lifetime care. In this connection I might mention, too, that we have a project pending with several of the Jewish Community Aged Homes through the Federation of Italian Jewish Communities for the permanent placement of some 30 DP aged cases.

As regards the JDC activities concerning the Italian Jewish Communities, I think we can look back with certain satisfaction over the past year's efforts and the progress made by the Communities in developing their programs and institutions.

The Rome Jewish Community - with its 12 - 13,000 inhabitants comprising nearly half the total of Italian registered Jewry - for years seemed to be more concerned with its 2,000 years of history rather than its future. As the capital of Italian Jewry, it very noticeably lagged behind the other major Community, Milan, in providing for its needs. The Community has tended to complacently overlook its failings by pointing to the fact that with its 4,000 indigent Jews living in the ghetto area alone, it is a relatively poor community compared to its prosperous neighbour, and besides, there were no Mayer and Schapira families in Rome as in Milan, who virtually constitute the main support - both inspirationally and financially - of every important Community undertaking. Nevertheless - and in large measure due to the leadership of the Chief Rabbi to whom I've previously referred - there has been a very real awakening in the Rome Community. The kindergarten and Jewish elementary schools have been enlarged, transportation facilities provided and the curriculum standards generally improved; the secondary school established last year has increased its enrolment by 100%.

Through its legalized system of taxation of members, the Community expects to raise over 50 million lire this year for its needs or approximately 25% more than the previous year. This figure does not, of course, include the funds raised locally towards support of the various institutions such as the orphanage, the hospital, nursery, the maternity wards - or for the Israel campaign.

The major single undertaking during the year was the construction of a Community Center - the first in Italy - which is expected to be finished by about the end of the year. Great importance has been attached to this project, chiefly in order to provide the means to combat the influence of the Catholic church in attracting the Jewish youth through their well-organized and free recreational and sports programs. We've agreed to cover about one-third of the total cost of the project, which we hope will prove to be not only a tremendous boon to the Jewish youth - particularly of the ghetto - but also in the general development of a greater social consciousness among all Roman Jews.

A highly successful project has been the reconstruction and re-organization of the Rome orphanage. Here too, although our financial participation is relatively large, I'm sure the results will be equally gratifying to anyone familiar with the conditions of the orphanage a short time ago.

Another project which was accepted last week at a meeting between the Community, ORT and ourselves is to establish a tailoring workshop-laboratory. ORT is interested in the plan as a means of providing employment to some of its qualified graduate students, whereas we are interested in order to help integrate a few additional DP families. The Community's concern is of course to offer work and a livelihood to families living in the ghetto.

Probably the outstanding achievement of the year occurred in Milan - the second largest Jewish Community with some 6 - 7 thousand inhabitants. Consistently the most progressive of the communities during the post-war era - undoubtedly chiefly due to the leadership and support of the lately deceased Sally Mayer and his son, Astorre - a magnificent new synagogue and community offices were rebuilt on the site of the old which had been destroyed during the war. Although the Italian Government contributed substantially to the total cost, which is estimated to run over 200 million lire, the largest share came from the Community members - which is perhaps another way of saying the Mayer and Schapira families.

A project which I believe to be one of the most successful JDC enterprises in Italy, is the Milan Loan Cooperative. Launched in 1948 with an initial JDC investment of \$70,000 - about 42 million lire - it has expanded to the point where not only does it fulfill its main scope of extending individual loans to hundreds of DP and Italian Jewish families, but it is also engaged in a variety of banking transactions as a sound and growing credit institution. The annual deficits which in the first year amounted to approximately 3 million lire, have been gradually reduced so that for the current year a net profit of between 2 - 3 million is envisaged. The paid-in share capital has increased to about 30 million and deposits to 300 million.

A branch office was opened in Rome a few months ago with a small capital investment of some 6 million lire. Actually, it is simply an advisory committee which reviews loan applications from residents in the Rome area, which are then forwarded to Milan for final acceptance. The surprising response and the interest of the Rome Committee - which incidentally includes some 27 leading personalities and business people of the Community - has been very encouraging thus far. However, it is clear that if their interest is to be maintained and the idea developed, it will be necessary not only to think in terms of increasing the capital investment but more important, to establish an independent office properly organized and equipped as in Milan, with a government franchise to operate as a credit institution.

An interesting observation in regard to the future development of the Milan bank was brought out in a meeting not long ago with one of their board members. Under Italian banking laws, 40% of the deposits in excess of 10 times the share capital are required to be deposited with an Italian bank, where it can only draw a nominal interest. Since the Cassa has now reached this limit, a nation-wide campaign is planned to increase the share holding capital to 100 million lire and thus enable the Cassa to expand their deposits to a billion lire or almost 1 3/4 million dollars. On this scale of operations, they hope to realize a net profit of between 20 - 30 million lire annually which would be used, at least in part, to establish a permanent welfare fund to help meet the needs of Italian Jewry. For, as was pointed out by the gentleman from Milan, it wasn't fair or sound to depend indefinitely upon the generosity and charity of two families.

There are any one of a number of other activities in various communities, primarily in the educational, cultural and religious fields, in which JDC is actively concerned - all with the aim of stimulating and encouraging the Communities to take on greater responsibilities in broadening and developing their programs.

To mention a few: The Rabbinical College in Turin; the teachers' seminary and schools in Milan; the museum and Aged Home in Venice; the kindergarten and synagogue in Leghorn; the social services and fund-raising in Rome; the national publications of the "UNIONE"; the O.S.E. - these are all a part of the total picture. And finally, I think it is most important to keep in mind that however large or small the scope of the JDC local Italian program, in the last analysis it is the strength and stability of the Communities which will determine the speed and success whereby we can hope to bring the DP program to a close and thus end our activities in Italy as a direct operating agency.



MR. JORDAN: Thank you very much, Milton. One of our visitors from the United States is a man who has been intimately associated with our operations in DP countries, particularly in Germany, while he served as Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the United States High Command a few years ago. I wonder whether Mr. Greenstein would care to make some comments on the presentations made here this morning.

MR. GREENSTEIN: This represents something of a homecoming week for me. The last time I attended a country directors conference was in 1949. As I listened to the papers yesterday and the presentation made by Bill Bein I couldn't help but contrast the JDC situation in 1949 with conditions today. I recall so distinctly and I'm sure Bill Bein will remember that back in 1949 I had occasion to make a trip to Warsaw where the JDC was operating an extensive program. In 1949 I was in Czechoslovakia where the JDC was still permitted to carry on. I had the rather exciting experience of going into Hungary where in 1949 JDC was carrying on one of its largest operations. That was just before Israel Jacobson went through his harrowing experience. In 1949 there was no JDC operation in Israel. The North African problem at that time was touched upon but it certainly didn't receive anything like the attention it is getting today. But from a personal and professional point of view the presentation that brought back more vivid memories to me than any other this morning was the report given by my good friend Sam Haber about the German situation.

It would be fantastic for me or anybody else who hasn't been close to that problem in the last few years to attempt to indicate what the solution should be. As long as Camp Foehrenwald exists it will be a source of infection not only for the Jews in Germany but I think it will be a world Jewish problem. The situation of the Jews in Germany whether native born, DP's or returnees will always have emotional repercussions everywhere. I hope you won't mind a personal reminiscence.

In 1949, when I first arrived in Germany, I met with General Clay in Frankfurt. He called me in his office and said, "Mr. Greenstein, there is one thing that I would like to urge upon you as you start your duties. I hope you will not lend yourself to any efforts to have all the Jews leave Germany. I know this isn't going to be popular with the Jewish organizations in Germany, certainly not with the Central Committee for Liberated Jews, but I think it would be a defeatist policy on the part of the Jews of the world to take the position that there is any country in the world where a Jew has not a right to exist and to live in security." Shortly thereafter a press conference was held by the Army and I was asked how many Jews I thought would ultimately remain in Germany. I replied that it would be very difficult for anybody to give a figure with any degree of authority but it would be my guess that there would be from 20,000 to 25,000 Jews in Germany after the DP camps had been liquidated. This guess on my part in 1949 has proven to be almost prophetic in 1953.

But I want to go back to the report of Sam Haber. I am thoroughly convinced in my own mind without the opportunity of close knowledge or intimate association with the problem that it is tremendously important that Foehrenwald be closed. We may have to come to grips with the returnee problem in Germany more militantly than we have up to the present time, and I say this with all due respect to the efforts that have been made up to this moment. This isn't just a JDC problem. It is a problem that involves and should involve attention on the part of the Jewish Agency and of the Israeli Government and of organizations like the American Jewish Committee and the World Jewish Congress and other similar bodies. These organizations did get together a few years ago and sponsored the appointment of an Adviser on Jewish Affairs in Germany so that the situation in Germany might not continue to be a breeding ground for difficultly not only for the Jews in Germany but for the Jews of the world. The representative Jewish organizations or individuals within Germany itself must also be consulted as this problem requires a concerted thinking and action within and without Germany. I am convinced that no drastic step should be taken without an attempt to secure unity of thinking between JDC and Jewish leadership in and out of Germany. As long as Jews who get back into Germany feel that they have the support of powerful Jewish organizations such as the JDC and other agencies, they will continue to feel that no matter what happens they will be fed, they will be clothed and they will be supported. I would hate to see any Jews in Germany without food and shelter if really in need because of the refusal of any Jewish organization to help, whether it is in Foehrenwald or otherwise. This does present a tremendously difficult problem because to the extent that we do give some degree of support and some degree of encouragement, to that degree the problem is bound to increase.

MR. JORDAN: Thank you Harry. The floor is open to questions and discussion.

RABBI FRIEDMAN: I would just like to say one thing which may be quite unnecessary to say. I think the JDC ought to watch out that it be not jockeyed into an unenviable position in regard to the closing of Foehrenwald which might cause the JDC probably to appear in a very bad light to the rest of the world. If it's the intention - and I think the strategy is very wise - to let the German Government make the decision about the closing of the camp, the JDC should make some simultaneous announcement about the closing of its operations in the camp. It should be so done I think - and perhaps it isn't even necessary to say this - that nobody would be able to pick that up and say that the JDC has been bought off by the German Government to cooperate with it in an anti-Jewish move, bought off by the payment of reparations, etc. We know that is not the case. We know that the JDC policy quite independently arrives at the same conclusion as to the desirability of the closing of the camp. There are those people and those

organizations, both in Israel and in America, who would be quick to pick it up and say, "The JDC is operating in very close conjunction with the German Government; can you imagine how things have altered in the past few years, even the JDC is being bought off!" This would be a very bad thing for us and it might, as I say, jockey us into an awkward position of having to make explanations later which would appear very much more awkward than some very skillful handling at the beginning.

MR. JORDAN: Dr. Josephthal, would you like to make some comments on the remarks made here this morning? Thank you very much.

DR. JOSEPHTHAL: I'm afraid I will not be popular with my remarks. It took me a long time to come to a conclusion as to what I think should be done. Rabbi Friedman says, in effect: don't get together with the Germans about the Jews in Foehrenwald and don't come to conclusions with them which should afterwards be executed by the German Government and the Jewish organizations together. The latter's attitude till now was to say: it's a purely German business, if the Germans want to help them let them do so. The Government of Israel took the same attitude and said to the German authorities: you bring us the people who came from Israel and we transport them back, because they are Israeli citizens and we have to take them back. That was an official attitude which didn't get us anywhere at all because it's quite clear that the Germans are still afraid to do anything by force against Jews; maybe they would do it against three or four or five as they did it with the ex-tenees to Austria whom people spoke about, but they won't do it to a large extent if they think that Jewish public opinion will be against them. I am speaking a bit against my own declaration to the German Government. On my visit to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs in August I told him I thought he had no right to touch a Jewish person. It doesn't matter if a man was doing right or wrong; they have not the moral power nor the moral right and they should please abstain from it. And he was quite happy to hear it because he wouldn't like to do anything himself. He is afraid of public opinion. So he was not astonished by my statement at all and said he was thankful that I was so open, that I spoke so frankly and he would not do a thing.

But now I come to the other point. I think the attitude is wrong and we cannot continue; maybe the time has not come to decide today or tomorrow, and then the time will come to decide upon it in 1954. And we should look at the situation now from a Jewish point of view and not from the point of view of German-Jewish relations. May I say frankly I do not think that there is anything to worry about an additional tension in German-Israeli or Jewish official relations. The point was brought up once that the Germans may say, "Well, we are paying reparations for the absorption of emigrants in Israel or in other countries; look, you do not absorb them; people are coming back, so what are we paying for, we will deduct the sum; a small sum because it's a small number of Jews." I'm not afraid of this argument at

all. It will not come up because this question of absorption of costs was just a form through which we tried to help the negotiations about reparations.

There's a Jewish problem involved. We come into contact with the Jews in Germany and not only with those in Foehrenwald, and I don't know much about Foehrenwald, I visited it for about two hours altogether, but I heard Sam Haber report several times and other reports which say exactly the same as Sam says. He doesn't express only his opinion, he expresses the opinion of all the Jewish organizations which know something about Foehrenwald; that I'm sure of. Jews in Germany want to be a problem. They want to be a problem to the Jewish world, getting money out of the Jewish world. They want to be a problem to Germany. And a Jew cannot live in Germany being well-balanced psychologically. He is not - all of them are not - and it does not matter what they tell you. And it is not a political question whether you can live in Germany or cannot live in Germany. That doesn't interest us here. There may be differences of opinion whether we have the right to live in Germany or not, a Jewish right, a human right. But there is no difference of opinion that the people are not well-balanced, any of them - the leaders of the communities and the poorest man in Foehrenwald. We don't speak about the TB cases and about the hard-core cases because the real hard-core is not the hard core of Sam's problems. They have to justify themselves always to themselves and to the Jewish world. The talk you hear generally is that they will live there for a few years and then will go out - they are preparing their emigration. How to prepare, where do you prepare? No answer! The rich Jews say to you, "We are waiting till the Deutsch Mark will be a free mark and then we are transferring our property into other currency and we will go out." And if they speak to Israelis they think they do you a very great favor in saying they will come to Israel.

Every sensitive, being an Israeli, very sensitive to the point that all over Israel there have been big outcries, people have said, "What, you are working with the Germans against Jews?" When this first deportation business came on Sam told me that people were saying, "Oh, Shinnar," the head of our Israel Purchasing Commission in Cologne, "we will kill Shinnar. He made business with the Germans against us." Or they will say that Sam made a deal with the Germans. And I was afraid of that at the first moment. What would be the reaction of the Jewish world? And afterwards I thought, this being afraid of the reaction brings us exactly to the road we should not go on which is to be patient, to be lenient, to give more money, to give more money and more money. I don't envy Moe Leavitt, who has to deal with the Claims Conference money outside Israel; he will have to deal with the German-Jewish community which will threaten him to go to the German authorities if he does not give them the money. Let them go to the German authorities, if there is no other way. You can't be blackmailed for years and years and years.

And now, if you say the decision cannot be made today, delay the decision, but certainly do not decide to give the help they are asking for to



support Foehrenwald as you have until now, and do not ask for leniency from the side of the German authorities. You are not going to present a good case, that is my feeling.

The first step is, according to my opinion, that for the six-months' period Sam Haber spoke about the Germans will say, "Well, nothing happened." Then we have to say that if you won't disperse Foehrenwald we hope the Jewish organizations won't protest. I am quite in agreement with Rabbi Friedman that under no circumstances can this odium fall on only one of the organizations. It has to fall on all of us, and on all of us together. It's not a question that one is a bad boy and the other one will say, "Oh, we didn't know anything about it." That would be the contrary of the cooperation we need in this very bad case. All of us have faith in a combined statement. The people should be dispersed, sent to the Funk Kaserne or whatever other place the Germans propose in order to be taken out of those present two local Jewish communities, in or outside Germany. And that may happen. We can't have them together as a pressure group any more, attracting all the elements who cannot be adjusted in any country. I cannot propose emigration as a solution. Most countries won't accept them and they won't go back to Israel of their own will. They will not do it. But if they are dispersed then through the communities that means that they distribute the problem over many communities, this problem will be far smaller and they will not attract additional people. The welfare system proposed, where they are maintained by the German authorities and by the JDC together, is wrong. It attracts additional people. We have to finish it. I say this in the deep belief that nothing can be built out of the Jewish community in Germany, and that is not a political belief but it is a belief in accordance with the moral qualities and the special moral attitudes developed in Germany by the Jews.

MR. JORDAN: Thank you Dr. Josephthal. Mr. Leavitt would like to say something.

MR. LEAVITT: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. I think that both Harry Greenstein and Giora Josephthal are making a great mistake if they think there can be unity in the Jewish world on this problem of the Israeli returnees. There isn't any and there won't be any on it. As there isn't unity on any single issue there won't be unity on this particular issue. The HIAS has already announced that it is opposed to the kind of thing that we're trying to do in effect. I don't agree that the JDC has got to sit back in this and allow events to move them. I think we've got an obligation. I think we have an obligation as the agency that has dealt with the problem for so many years. We have an obligation to evolve a positive program and to fight for that program and justify it before the Jewish world even against the criticism of certain groups which you will have. But you will not have a unified act on the part of all the Jews. And I think that's the problem that we face and I'm not worried about the Jewish world saying the Joint has made a deal with the Germans. I think the Joint can stand on

its record up till now. It has made no deal and when it does decide, as I think it should decide, that the only way to liquidate Foehrenwald is to liquidate, the only way to close it is to close it and you make up your minds to do it and you do it because you've got 500 children out of the 2,000 there, then I think you can do it. You can and you should do it and you should fight it through.

Now that doesn't mean that you take the people in Foehrenwald and you throw them out on the street. Nobody is suggesting that. But I think that we are not carrying on a policy, we are drifting, we are permitting ourselves to drift, the Germans are afraid to take a positive stand for the very same reason, with the result that this cancer is growing. And it will never be cut out. No matter how many you emigrate out of Foehrenwald it'll be filled up again. In a period of a week to ten days you will have the same 2,100. Now people emigrate and when they emigrate they've emigrated for all time. Some of the returnees are sabras. They were born in Israel and they're returning to where? To Germany, as returnees? True there aren't many of them but there are some that have been there for ten years and fifteen years. We get into the habit of using a word - returnee - and some of them are not returnees in any sense, never intended to go to Israel; only came to Israel because of the fact that the only way they could get out of Rumania or Hungary was to go to Israel and they want to use that as a way station to come to some countries. I don't know whether they are returnees. They were never in Germany. They came because it's the place where they could go to, there is a spot where there is a group of people, a pressure group, who could blackmail the Jewish world. And they're doing it effectively. And there are groups in America who are taking up the cudgels for those people and are prepared to defend them through thick and thin no matter how wrong these people are. I don't want to mention names; I don't think it's necessary, but I can assure you that there are organizations and well-known, responsible organizations, that will be doing it.

Therefore I think that the JDC has got to make up it's mind and set up a positive program. And that positive program to me is a clear one. I think we ought to say to the Germans and say it to them first privately and then, if necessary, openly so that the world knows what we are saying to the Germans, "You want to close Foehrenwald, we want to close Foehrenwald. The way to close it is to close it. You provide housing for these people in the course of the next six to nine months with the understanding that if at the end of six or nine months when you have housing available these people refuse to leave Foehrenwald, you step out, we step out. They want to stay in the apartments in Foehrenwald? That's their business. But anybody else is free to be relocated out of Foehrenwald; if you then want to close it we're satisfied with what you do - it's your business. But we're prepared to give them, and you should be prepared to give the people moving out of Foehrenwald, the welfare services. We will give them the emigration medical supplementary services, we will deal with them as people having the human needs, as we deal with people

everywhere, but not in the complex of Foehrenwald." If the Germans then say, "No, we haven't or we won't give you the housing," we've at least taken the stand, we've established our position in that respect. Then the fault is not ours, we can't close Foehrenwald. The JDC itself cannot close Foehrenwald, the JDC cannot build homes in Germany for the people in Foehrenwald; that only the German Government can do. It seems to me that that should be the approach of the JDC and to say, you've got to wait, maybe these people will be emigrated under the new Act - I don't care. He can wait for his emigration in a home in Frankfurt as well as in Foehrenwald, or in the British Zone or wherever it may be. The fact that he'll have a house available? The Germans will be able to take over that apartment or that house. There is no problem about utilizing empty apartments. So all of those procrastinating thoughts, "let's do it slowly" - well, we've been doing it slowly and what's the answer. A thousand people were emigrated out of Foehrenwald, eleven hundred came in. That's the result of that slow attitude. And I don't think we ought to wait because of what people will say. People have said a lot of things during the course of the 38 or 39 years of the JDC. Sometimes they were justified in what they said, sometimes they were not.

If we feel - and we must feel ourselves convinced - that that is the right solution for this Foehrenwald problem, then I think we must take the initiative and go through with it. That's something that I'd like very much to hear about from the people who've been dealing with the German authorities, to see whether our putting it forward to them, our announcing it perhaps, might not bring results. And in that respect I don't care whether other organizations are involved in it or not, I don't know what the attitude of the World Jewish Congress will be; and I wouldn't bring them in; I don't know what the attitude of the American Jewish Committee would be or any other of the political organizations and I don't think we have to wait for what their political points of view are. They can express themselves as they see fit. For us we have a responsibility - for the people and for the children. We're putting money in that camp. Are we doing it? Is that the right thing to do? If it isn't then we ought to stop. Maybe we ought to pull out of Foehrenwald altogether and say, "Here, you want to stay there, stay there, we're through." That's all there is to it. People who are sick? There are hospitals for you, we'll put you in the hospitals; those who are aged and can't be taken care of, we'll put you in homes for the aged so that they can take care of you and after that we have no more responsibility. That's another solution that you can take. From a Jewish point of view it would be an easier solution for the JDC to do the second thing - but from the Jewish point of view I'd like to see Foehrenwald closed. I would like to see that place closed just as fast as it can because if it isn't closed I think we're going to have a worse situation as time goes on and it's going to be with us as long as we're alive.

The other problem that Dr. Josephthal has touched upon, the problem of the communities, I agree in essence with everything he said. It's a very sad and a very humiliating experience to deal with the people as we've been dealing with these leaders of the Jewish community. I don't know what the

answer is going to be. There are going to be scandals. There will be scandals because these people have nothing to lose any more. They have lost their sense of shame, they don't care. They will make a scandal to get what they want. They will do it openly, with protest meetings, with appeals to the fact that the Joint or the Conference, or the Jewish Agency have become most anti-Jewish and they're enemies of these poor people who have suffered so much under the Nazis. And it's going to come unless you are ready to give in to them. But if you are not, if you feel that there is required some sense of social responsibility, of trusteeship of public funds, you are going to have trouble. And there will be trouble in the year 1954. I'm ready to guarantee it on the basis of our discussions with these people, of what they have said to us and what we have said to them. And I don't know what we're going to do except to fight it through. I don't see how you can capitulate in this field. If you do then you become tarred with the same immoral brush that these people are tarred with. And I think you've got to keep yourself clean of something - it's the end festering sore of something that happened - it's not our fault, it's not even their fault. It's not their fault, but it's there and it exists. I don't know what you do with it, but certainly we ought not to become a part of this immoral process and we ought to see if we cannot at least keep ourselves clean.

MR. GREENSTEIN: If Moe doesn't mind, I'd like just to ask him a question in relation to what he has just said, which I agree with as far as the settling of the beginning of the closing process is concerned. But I must confess, at least in my own experience, that I have found and I am sure the JDC will find, that with the kind of step, the kind of solution Moe Leavitt has just outlined it's going to be terribly difficult, if not impossible, for the JDC to play a lone hand in this picture. It's perfectly true that the JDC has been closer to the problem, has carried the financial situation, it has the staff and resources and so forth. But I'm sure, Moe, I don't have to tell you that Jewish life being as complex as it is and organizationally as it is set up, with every Jewish organization thinking that it has just as much of a stake as the next one in the fate and survival of Jews wherever they may be, that the JDC will find its task infinitely more difficult, in my judgment, if it doesn't take the initiative in trying to get the fullest possible support from the world Jewish organizations. It is true there may be a dissenting point of view here and there but I have enough confidence in the respect and the integrity of the JDC and the fact that the other organizations recognize that and believe it too, that in a kind of a small conference that might be held with Mr. Leavitt making almost the identical statements, the requests made now supported by others who are equally interested in seeing that point of view, that the job will be infinitely easier to approach that way rather than the JDC doing it alone. Thank you.

MR. JORDAN: Thank you, Harry. Ladies and gentlemen, this is traditionally the time when Dr. Schwartz comes in on the returnee discussion. May I call on Dr. Schwartz?

DR. SCHWARTZ: It's very difficult, after all these years that we've been discussing the problem of returnees, to be dogmatic about how we can solve this problem. It's a very difficult problem. We've had it on our hands over a period of years. I think everybody is agreed, certainly from what I've heard here and from discussions elsewhere, that every possible step should be taken to liquidate Foehrenwald as soon as we can. It seems to me however, that the situation in Foehrenwald is complicated by the fact that you're not dealing with any one group of people. You're not dealing only with returnees. According to the statistics outlined by Sam out of a population of 2,100, you have about 1,100 returnees and about 1,000 fall into the hard-core category. Now, you cannot treat both problems on the same level. There is quite a different approach to the hard-core problem and quite another one to the problem of returnees. I think we have to separate them in our minds. If we are going to close Foehrenwald - as I believe it is eminently desirable at the earliest possible time - we have to find first a constructive solution for the genuine hard-core cases in Foehrenwald. That solution may be in the form of these housing projects about which Sam spoke, the German Government making an investment in terms of houses, with the participation of the JDC or without the participation of the JDC. But some constructive solution must be found for the problem of the genuine hard-core cases before we can get around to a closing down of Foehrenwald as an institution. I agree and I think that everybody who has had any kind of contact with the problem realizes that as long as Foehrenwald is open it is going to attract people. It is going to bring returnees of one kind or another, genuine or otherwise, as long as Foehrenwald remains open. But I submit that you cannot close Foehrenwald without first finding a solution for the genuine hard-core cases who are there. Now we were working on that, I think. That's why Mary Palevsky was brought over here, primarily to try to find a constructive solution, through emigration, through resettlement, through some kind of a new approach to find a solution to this problem of 1,000 hard-core cases. I think we make a mistake in getting ourselves into the position where we make extreme statements. I happen to disagree with some of the statements that were made by my friend Giora Josephthal, just as I happen to disagree with some of the statements that were made by Moe. I think we do have to have a certain amount of caution in dealing with a problem which affects at the present time 2,100 people, 500 children, a certain number of hard-core cases, and which represents a moral problem to the Jews of the world.

Now in trying to find some kind of a solution I would say that the first job that we have to do is to find a constructive solution for the 1,000 people who are the hard-core cases within Foehrenwald. I think it can be done. I think that we should push much harder for these housing projects of which Sam spoke. I don't think we should permit the German Government to delay and to procrastinate. I think if it requires greater investment on the part of the JDC it's very worthwhile. It may seem the more expensive way but, as Charlie put it, in the long run it is the cheaper way. If we have to invest money, even large-scale money, whether it be from the Claims Conference, whether it be from JDC funds, that does not make any difference. We must work this problem out so that at least those people who are in Foehrenwald

as legitimate hard-core cases are taken care of. Once that problem is solved it does seem to me that we have a basis of unity with Jewish organizations towards an approach to the returnee problem.

Now the returnee problem is one about which I believe we can arrive at an unified point of view with other organizations. When I speak of other organizations I don't necessarily mean the political organizations. I don't think it is primarily a political problem. There are other organizations which have been advised and I think it is a pretty sorry spectacle when you have the JDC and the Jewish Agency and the Purchasing Mission of the Government of Israel in effect attacked by another organization authorized to be acting in Germany on so-called high moral grounds. I think it is a sorry spectacle for the Jews of America and for the Jews of the world, that a situation like that is permitted to develop. And it seems to me that we can work out as far as the returnees are concerned, a point of view and an attitude which will represent an unified approach. Now it is not at all clear in my mind that the JDC or any other relief organization, Jewish communal organization, has a permanent responsibility towards people who, for some reason or other, just cannot be resettled. We have spent, the Jews of the world have spent, very substantial amounts of money in resettling these people from Eastern Europe, from Germany, in Israel and in other parts of the world. If for some reason they cannot make an adjustment in the country of resettlement, the question does arise: how far does our responsibility go? How far does the responsibility of an organized Jewish community go? Do you resettle a person once? Do you resettle a person twice, three times, or is it an indefinite responsibility which continues as long as that person feels that he wants to go to some other place? What happens to a person who comes to the United States, is resettled in the United States, then decides that he wants to go to Canada, or he wants to go to South America, or he wants to go to Australia? Is that a Jewish communal responsibility, or is that a decision that this person must make for himself and an action for which he himself must, in the final analysis, be the one who is responsible?

It seems to me that once you have whipped the problem of the genuine hard-core in Germany, then the other problem of the returnees becomes, as far as I am concerned, a relatively simple problem. For one thing I would say that if the former problem was settled, I think the JDC as an organization ought to discontinue its services in Camp Foehrenwald if it continues to exist simply as a returnee center. It ought to discontinue its services. If some of those people find settlement in the communities the JDC will help them. If it is possible, on an individual basis, for the JDC to assist these people in emigration - fine - they ought to do it. But to set up a social service financed by the JDC, manned by the JDC, in order to deal simply with the problem of returnees, I am not at all convinced that that is a policy which JDC would want to continue; I believe that you can get other organizations to agree with that point of view, or with some modification of that point of view. But it seems to me that the first step towards arriving at a solution of the problem is to find an answer

to the genuine hard-core cases which are there. Now, it might take another six months, it might take another nine months. But I think that is the place where we have to make our start, and as far as the returnee problem is concerned, I think that once that phase of it has been solved, the returnee problem does not, to my mind, offer any great difficulties to the JDC or to any other organization.

MR. JORDAN: I think we should hear from Mary Palevsky on this problem. I am a little bit intimidated by all the persons I have sitting around me, but there comes a time when the Chairman has to assert his prerogatives. And I must say that we have another place reserved for discussion of previous business, on Thursday morning, and I think this discussion can go on ad infinitum. I think we ought to cut it and go on with the third phase because we must finish the business of this morning, which is that we must hear from Mr. Horwitz. And if Dr. Josephthal thinks he is unpopular, I am sure that I am more unpopular because you have not had your break this morning to which you are now accustomed. But I think that what Mr. Horwitz will have to say bears on this problem to a great extent and should be considered when we continue the discussion on Thursday. Mr. Horwitz.



ADDRESS ON EMIGRATION

By

Louis H. Horwitz

The perennial question of a single Jewish emigration organization is still with us. Negotiations have gone on for the creation of such an organization and I believe that what I have to say - while addressed to JDC activities in the emigration services - would be just as valid should these negotiations be completed this year and an organization of this type be set up.

The negotiations on the JDC side have been carried on with the idea that the principle of a professional approach in emigration services in meeting the difficult and complex problems which have been discussed this morning, be safeguarded and be a main principle in the new organization.

Now for the JDC.

One of the most important services that the AJDC provides for the solution of our still existing problem in Europe and China, is emigration. The basic facts about AJDC emigration have been reported frequently this year, and by and large, you are up to date. The discussion this morning brought that out since many people spoke on my subject. To refresh your memories you have been supplied with the basic statistics of our past and present activities, which indicate fairly well the trend in our work. If you will turn to Section III in the booklet before you (see Appendix), you will see these statistics.

As you can see, during the postwar years we have moved over 620,000 persons, of whom over a half-million have gone to Israel. More than 117,000 persons have been moved to all other countries by means of the individual emigration service. The downward trend in individual migration from Europe and China, which was very marked in 1952, is continuing in 1953. After the USDP Act came to an end, our emigration offices moved Jewish refugees at the rate of about 300 per month, and this rate has been maintained this year.

Obviously, during the period of large-scale movement, each year registered a noticeable decrease in our caseload. Even in 1952, when the rate of movement was already lowered to 300 persons per month, the caseload was reduced from 17,000 to 12,000. The new and significant factor that faces us today in 1953 is that, even though we will move 30% of our clients, we will not have achieved a corresponding reduction in our caseload. Why?



One reason has been the shift in our active caseload from the DP countries to those of the rest of Western Europe. Today over 50% of our applicants originate in these latter countries. Along with the shift to the non-DP countries, has been the provision of increasing service to nationals in such countries as Greece, Italy and Holland. This shift has been stimulated by the new U.S. legislation, as well as the increasing efforts of international migration organizations to assist countries which are considered to have surplus population.

Another major element in the failure to reduce our caseload further, has been the increasing number of Israeli returnees registered in our emigration offices, particularly in Germany. Since emigration opportunities for them are even more circumscribed than for the normal Jewish refugee in Europe, as they are not eligible for the special schemes to the U.S. and Canada, this group constitutes a major challenge to the JDC emigration services at this time. Should we open our doors wider to Israeli returnees it is quite clear that this group with unusually difficult problems in terms of emigration, may become a major part of our entire caseload. Moreover, because of the political problems created by the movement of Israeli returnees to Germany, this group becomes virtually impossible to move, since they refuse to accept the opportunities which we can make available to them in some of the countries in South America. One example of this you ought to know - that after the agreement was made with the German Government giving a six months stay for the people in Foehrenwald, we made a survey and offered opportunities in Brazil and Uruguay to 500 persons. The 500 persons were interviewed by a group of our emigration workers, and the number that accepted registration for these South American countries was negligible. It becomes clear that no solution will be found for this group unless we can develop other techniques which can help them mobilize their own resources, which together with our help, can aid them to find a viable solution.

Together with a more static caseload has come the growing awareness that not all the Jewish displaced persons can be moved from their present countries of residence, for various reasons such as chronic illness, age, the desires of the DPs themselves, a lack of sufficient emigration possibilities to other countries, and many other reasons. As a result, there has been an increasing effort on the part of AJDC to seek a solution for individual families in their countries of residence. This development in turn has made it necessary for us to place increasing emphasis on quality in our emigration work, in order to achieve even the rate of movement which we have today. During the last years you have heard repeated reports from the Emigration Department of the complex nature of moving an emigrant family to its new destination. Under present circumstances, this complexity is multiplied many times.

In the past it had been assumed that the refugee family, particularly in DP countries, could not find a solution for its problems in any other way than through emigration to a new country. Today, that is

not true for all families, and our emigration offices are often involved in working out with the families whether or not they should move at all. This is a lengthy process which involves helping a family come to a firm decision as to its future. Moreover, with reduced opportunities for emigration, has come the demand of the receiving governments for a greater variety and number of documents, with emphasis on medical and security clearances before visa issuance. Reception facilities in receiving countries have had to be strengthened in order to make certain that families who are less adequate to fend for themselves than previous groups moved, will be able to adjust in the new country by the provision of the necessary support until homes and jobs can be secured. In order to make the transition as smooth as possible, improvements have had to be made in the process of referrals to the receiving countries, with the collection of necessary information which would be helpful to the agencies dealing with the families arriving on their shores. Our work with the increased percentage of families difficult to move, has made it necessary for us to improve our coordination with social service staff, particularly in France and Germany, and to some extent in Belgium, Holland and Italy. Our figures show that during 1953, over 40% of the emigrating families moved by us have been assisted by AJDC or AJDC-supported agencies while awaiting completion of their emigration plans.

In view of the complex nature of the group with which we are dealing in Europe, what are the opportunities which the emigration service can bring to bear for a solution of the problems of this group?

#### United States

First and foremost is the new opportunity presented by the passage of the Refugee Relief Act in the United States for non-quota admission of certain categories of persons in Europe and China. This Act has not been put into effect as yet, but is expected to go into operation within a month or two, and there is reason to believe that we can achieve a substantial movement from among our clients, both as a result of the provisions of this Act and as a result of movement on the normal quota and on 3c. It is expected that additional quota numbers will be made available to our clients when movement under the new Act gets under way. The United States has always been the major immigration country for our clients, as indicated by the fact that well over 50% of all individual migration movements during the post-war years took place to the U.S. During the last two years this has been even more marked in that well over two-thirds of the movement has been to the U.S. During the last 20 months a major part of the movement to the U.S. has been under Section 3c of the old DP law, which will continue until the end of June 1954. In addition, an important number of our applicants have been on current quotas such as the German, either as a result of the nationality of the principal applicant, or by virtue of the nationality of his wife under the McCarren Act. With the addition of the Refugee Relief Act and in spite of the restrictive provisions included in this Act, 75% of our total movement in the year to come will be, probably, to the United States.

This prediction is based on the assumption that USNA will be able to secure housing and job assurances for our applicants who do not have sponsors in the U.S. Negotiations on the matter of assurances are now going on with the State Department and we are in hopes that the matter will be resolved in our favour. Should assurances not be forthcoming, our movement to the United States will be seriously crippled and the problem of the remaining refugee families in Europe would be multiplied many times. For the opportunity or willingness of the refugees to go to other countries is severely limited, and the U.S. offers us our best hope of providing the kind of emigration service that our people in Europe need. There appear to be various other restrictive features in the law, but we are in hopes that in actual practice the obstacles will be overcome and ways and means will be found to move the maximum number. It remains to be seen whether our hopes in this respect will be realized.

#### Canada and Australia

These two English-speaking countries, relatively under-populated, have been an important source of immigration for Jewish refugees in the years past, for together they have constituted nearly 20% of our total movements. Today, movement to Australia is virtually non-existent and to Canada severely reduced. As concerns Australia, the reduction in movement has been due to the unfavourable information coming out of the country concerning the economic situation, resulting in the unwillingness of families here to use Landing Permits in their possession or to seek visas to that country. In addition, the Australian Government has limited the numbers coming to the country by its insistence on individual assurances for jobs and housing which our corresponding agency has been unable to secure under existing circumstances. There has been a slow improvement in the economic situation in Australia, but it is expected that only by the end of 1954 will this improvement reflect itself in increased emigration of Jews to that country.

There are in existence excellent emigration schemes for Jewish refugees to Canada as a result of the interest and energetic action of the Canadian Jewish Congress in this respect. However, in actual practice, the number of families moving have been restricted by the high rate of rejections for security reasons. Since the reason for rejection is not given and there is no right to appeal, we have been able to do very little concerning this situation. However, the favourable scheme for Canada which exists for refugees in Germany, Austria and Italy, is expected to be extended to other countries in Western Europe and it may be that we shall see a small increased flow from these countries to Canada in the year to come. For more than a year now, the Canadian Jewish Congress has negotiated with the government for the admission of 100 hard core cases. These negotiations are continuing and we are hopeful that we can move some of the families who are most difficult to resettle, under the favourable conditions existing in Canada.

### South America

During the course of the U.S. DP law, and continuing on into 1952, there was little movement into South America, in contrast to the large flow which took place in the first years after the war. In our search to enlarge opportunities for emigration, I made a trip this summer to the four major countries in South America. Assistance committees to provide reception and interim assistance facilities to new arrivals were established in Sao Paulo and Rio in Brazil, and Montevideo in Uruguay. With the assurance of assistance to immigrants, negotiations with the Brazilian Government resulted in a plan whereby our applications for visas will be processed in Rio rather than through the various consulates in Europe and China. We were promised unlimited immigration of Jewish families whose principal applicant had a skill which would enable him to provide for his family in Brazil.

The first cases from China and Europe are now being processed in Rio and the first visas for immigrants from China have already been secured. The emigrants proceeding to Brazil should be families who are young enough and energetic enough to work out a new life for themselves in this relatively primitive country. The assistance to be provided will be limited in scope, and it is therefore clear that many of the families who are difficult to resettle for reasons of illness or age will not be able to go to South America. However, Brazil does offer a real opportunity for resettlement of the families who have arrived or are arriving in Europe from Israel, and it is therefore a most significant opportunity for a group that is difficult to resettle in other countries where the gates are barred.

### Uruguay

In Uruguay we had a promise of visas for 100 families from Europe, but technical difficulties have developed in the Uruguayan consulates. Some of these difficulties have been settled with the government and we are assured of goodwill and interest in giving visas to Jewish families who, it is felt, can create a life for themselves there. Our committee in Montevideo is prepared to negotiate with the government directly on any further difficulties which may develop in the various consulates.

### Argentina

We have had virtually no movement to Argentina for some time as a result of the political and economic crisis which has existed in that country for many months. At the time of my visit, however, it was felt that the situation had sufficiently improved to start negotiations requesting the Government to allow the Jewish community to provide blanket assurances for housing and jobs for prospective immigrants. I have just been informed that in spite of the firm promises given me by the responsible Jewish organizations to start these negotiations in September, nothing has been done. In the meantime, we are putting

emphasis on individually nominated cases and the securing of individual assurances for our proteges.

#### Chile

In Chile it was felt by all the leaders of Jewish organizations that the time was not propitious to open negotiations with the government for immigration of Jewish families into the country at this time.

#### China

With the excellent help of our two honorary representatives in Hong Kong we have had a steady flow of refugees from China through that city to Israel and other destinations. Over 1,000 Jewish refugees interested in emigration remain in China. Since it is not known when the possibility of emigration from China may be closed, it is urgent to move these persons out of China as quickly as possible. Israel, Brazil, and to some extent U.S., are our main hopes in this respect.

#### Special Schemes for Emigration

##### Norway and Sweden

For the second year the Scandinavian Governments of Norway and Sweden have given us particularly valuable assistance in providing life-time care for tuberculars, post-tubercular patients and their dependants. A total of 182 persons have been re-established in these countries during these two years. While many of these patients have been eligible for care by Malben in Israel and some of them were interested in moving to that country, the main obstacle has been the inability of the Jewish Agency to provide housing for the dependents during the period of care under Malben. The Jewish Agency felt they could not give housing to persons newly entering the country when there were a backlog of many thousands in Israel who had been waiting a number of years for homes. In order to provide for these difficult cases, therefore, the Scandinavian governments were successfully approached to provide for them and their family members on the basis of a lump sum payment to which the Ford Foundation has made an important contribution.

##### England

Recently, we received word that negotiations had been completed for the placement of 50 persons in the United Kingdom. A list of 125 persons has been sent to England from among our clients in Austria, including a group of ultra-orthodox and aged persons who have found it quite difficult to secure other emigration placements. It is now expected that selection will take place and the movement of the group will be completed before the end of 1953.

Negotiations have been equally carried out in Ireland and in Switzerland, and only recently Switzerland has agreed to consider a small group of aged persons and their family members from China.

Throughout Europe and China there is a substantial number of aged persons to whom the doors of normal emigration are largely closed. Special efforts will be necessary for the placement of these individuals and families in other countries where lifetime care for their remaining years can be provided. The process of placing aged persons necessarily calls for the closest cooperation between the social service staffs and the emigration workers in the various countries together with planning and coordination at Headquarters level, if we are to arrive at a satisfactory solution. For this group it is not simply a matter of securing places, as frequently they do not coincide with the desires of the individuals concerned. The problem of the aged is frequently mixed with questions of chronic illness and the fear of movement, unwillingness to try new situations, and a general feeling of inadequacy. All these problems can only be worked through with careful casework now under way on an experimental basis in Germany. As for those persons who for various reasons remain in Europe, it is clear that they will become a part of the Jewish communities in their respective countries. Those who are economically independent may become financially contributing members; those in need, the clients of the community welfare agencies. It should be our purpose to so assist the communities that they will be stimulated to accept the care of the small number remaining with them.

#### Finances

As has been reported to you before, we in Emigration have been able to secure considerable financial assistance from other migration organizations. During the period July 1, 1952, to the end of August 1953, we have received assistance from the United States Escapee Program to the extent of over \$450,000. We have equally received grants-in-aid from the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration to the extent of over \$370,000, or a total of over \$820,000 for emigration alone. This outside assistance is particularly valuable to us and has enabled us to provide adequate reception and facilities in South America in order to increase our movements to that Continent, and has enabled us to plan and carry out special emigration schemes.

#### Future Emigration

All our emigration offices are busily preparing for the various schemes, particularly those for the United States and Brazil. We have a veteran staff, technically equipped and devoted to their difficult task, and making the maximum use of the limited emigration opportunities we have. A hard-headed appraisal of our very best efforts would, it appears to us, give the following estimates for individual

migration in 1954, from Europe, on the condition that we can secure assurances under the U.S. Refugee Relief Act:

3,500	to the United States
1,000	to South America
<u>500</u>	to other countries
<u>5,000</u>	TOTAL

The extent of the funds available indicates that it will not be financial considerations which may make it impossible for us to complete the emigration of all remaining Jewish Refugees in Europe. Rather our analysis indicates the need for creation of new emigration opportunities and the development of a new approach for those refugees who will be unable to move and to provide for them in their countries of present residence. We have provided the emigration services with the funds necessary to do its job, but more in the way of other types of projects will have to be created if the problem of the Jewish refugees remaining in Europe is to be solved.



MR. JORDAN: Thank you very much. I think it is quite clear that the matters which Lou Horwitz discussed have a bearing particularly on the discussion of Israeli returnees. Obviously there is no time now for discussing this paper but I think, in view of the fact that some of our visitors won't be with us on Thursday, we should continue the discussion both on the DP countries and on emigration this afternoon when we reconvene at 3 o'clock. I hope that our visiting country representatives will not feel so badly about it, that one or another of the papers that were scheduled for this afternoon will have to be carried over to another day. I am sure that they will not mind.

Some of us will have to go to luncheon meetings. I shall therefore close this meeting now and ask you to be here promptly at 3 o'clock when we reconvene.





FIFTH SESSION

Tuesday afternoon, October 20, 1953

Chairman - Mr. Charles H. Jordan

MR. JORDAN: As I told you before the recess, we are going to make some changes in this afternoon's program in order to be able to continue the discussion from this morning. Miss Palevsky, do you want to comment?

MISS PALEVSKY: May I first be permitted to clear up a misunderstanding which appears to exist in certain quarters as to the nature of my assignment in Germany. I was not expected - God forbid - to liquidate Camp Foehrenwald. Had I thought that this was the expectation, I would have considered it the better part of valor to remain in New York. It is my impression that I was asked to assist in diagnosing the camp situation as it was early in 1953 and to make some suggestions for tackling specifically the hard-core aspect of this baffling problem.

In the months which have elapsed since my arrival in Germany, I did make a diagnosis of the camp situation, but I was unable to get anyone to listen to me on the subject, because the entire JDC staff in Munich has been knee-deep in Israeli returnees, and no one has had the time or energy to spare for coping with the old settlers in camp. So I have been talking to myself about the problem and now that I have a captive audience, as it were, and could get lots of things off my chest, I am told by the Chairman to limit myself to a few comments!

Briefly then, during the ten months of my association with Foehrenwald, I have seen a number of shifts in our point of view on this problem. For instance, at the beginning of the year we had a Camp Foehrenwald problem somewhat complicated by Israeli returnees. Now we have an Israeli returnee problem somewhat complicated by Camp Foehrenwald. At the beginning of this year we were working on the assumption that our task was to emigrate and/or resettle the majority of the camp-living people and to integrate into the German economy a reluctant minority of them. Toward the end of this year we are working on the opposite theory, that a reluctant minority will leave Germany and the majority, perhaps not so reluctant, will remain there. Many things have contributed to this reversal of which not the least is a drastic change in attitude of the camp-living people themselves.

Years of planless drift and idleness have taken their toll. Our people by and large have lost the desire and the capacity to struggle for what we call a better life in the world outside of camp. As you have heard so many times, the life in Foehrenwald is not too bad - and few are tempted to cast aside the protection and "security" it offers. When our people say, as they have so many times, that they want to leave the "verscholtene Erde"

of Germany, they say it automatically like a played out record. There is no longer any ring of conviction in their words. They recognize that the economic recovery of Germany exceeds that of any other country in Europe and that they are likely to fare better in Germany than elsewhere without having to struggle through the problems of adjustment in a foreign country.

Nor should we feel that this is necessarily a bad solution. There are now approximately 20,000 Jews in Germany, most of whom are likely to remain. What harm is there if eventually we add 500 Foehrenwalders to this number? Many of our proteges reiterate, also without conviction, that of course they want to emigrate, but what they now mean is emigration under optimum conditions, that is if they could choose the country, which must be not too hot or too cold, or too near Russia, and we would certify that the "Joint" will be on hand wherever they go, to protect and support them forevermore.

Like the man we recently interviewed in Foehrenwald as a possible candidate for resettlement in Norway. Yes, he would go to Norway if we could guarantee that he would get the kind of job he would like - a job which is clean, kosher, light and well paid. Our interviewer said, "You must have a specific job in mind which meets all of these requirements?" To which he replied that what he had in mind was to become a tzittzis maker. The tzittzis market being somewhat sluggish in Norway, this man was not included in the Norwegian resettlement project.

We have in Foehrenwald some 2,000 people, the majority of whom are in an advanced state of demoralization. Their behavior has regressed to a condition of unbelievable childishness and perversity. Not knowing Jews outside of Camp Foehrenwald, I cannot say whether a previous speaker's characterization of the Jews in Germany is a fair or accurate one. But I do know that the description fits the majority of the Jews in Foehrenwald as I have come to know them. We have some decent people in the camp also, but they are hard to find and even harder to help in the general confusion and hysteria which prevail there.

Dr. Schwartz has said that in dealing with the Foehrenwald complex we need to separate the problems of the Israeli returnees from those of the 1,000 or so hard-core cases which have been living in the camp for years. I agree wholeheartedly that we should make such a separation to the point even of considering a physical separation which would be symbolized by moving part of the JDC office out of Munich - let us say to Frankfurt, for instance - the part of the office that would continue to deal with German communities and Israeli returnees. A social service staff might then be left in Munich to work exclusively with the hard-core cases in camp.

Let us have a look at this hard-core group. The total number is now about 1,400 of whom about half are old or "Mayflower" Israeli returnees who now share the legal status and all the privileges of the residual

hard-core group, although many of these Israeli returnees are able-bodied youngish people. In this group of 1,400 there are about 250 so-called post TB's - a designation which exists only in Foehrenwald, where TB is not a disease but a profession. Elsewhere in the world persons who have recovered from TB or whose condition is satisfactorily arrested are expected to work. In Foehrenwald, once a TB, always a TB, with a life-long claim upon the Jewish world for sympathy and support.

Then we have another group of several hundred single, unattached men in the age group of 25 to 40. What does such a group of men need from their own point of view? They need food, shelter, clothing, medical care and women. All these they now have in Camp Foehrenwald without having to lift a finger. Elsewhere in the world a man must struggle mightily to achieve these good things of life, but not in Foehrenwald. When we ask these men to leave camp, that is, to emigrate or to take their chances with life on the German economy, are they crazy when they refuse or are we crazy when we insist?

We have another group of assorted roughnecks and gangsters, say about 100 (if we add the Israeli returnees in this category who are living in Foehrenwald, the number is closer to 300). They are in a general state of being wanted by the police who can never find them because they are in plain sight under the noses of the German administration.

There are some 300 of the hardest of the hard-core - the aged, the chronically ill, the disabled, the mental defectives and the psychotics. These are tragic people not wanted anywhere. The balance of the residual group is a cross-section of miscellaneous persons who will probably leave Foehrenwald in a thin trickle of emigration.

What can we do to help these stranded people I have described? First, I believe we should adopt toward them an attitude which we found constructive in working with the same types of people when they came to New York City - an attitude of compassionate toughness. By this I mean a sustained sympathetic, objective understanding of the unique life experiences which have made them what they are; and a firm determination to resist the insatiable demands and irrational pressure which they exert upon us.

Second, we must be willing to accept the fact that no satisfactory solutions for the problems of Foehrenwald are possible. We have left to us only the choice of the lesser evil in many cases. Nevertheless if the problem of Foehrenwald cannot be solved, it can be resolved, which is an important consideration for JDC.

How then can we reach a resolution and an end of JDC's responsibility for these residual cases? I think by making one more final all-out effort to reach a limited and realistic goal within a clearly defined time limit. I believe we should cease to occupy a position of uneasy neutrality between the camp and the German administration. Instead we should bring to bear every kind of pressure at our command to force the Germans to close the camp. If the government is sincere in its intention to integrate those camp

inmates who cannot leave the country, and to give incentive grants to those who can emigrate, but for various reasons are not doing so, we can eventually do two things: (1) we can assist the German administration and our proteges with the kind of counselling and planning which will produce the best results possible; (2) we can give each camp inmate an opportunity to take advantage on realistic terms, of such resources as we and the Germans jointly will be able to create. If at that time a camp-living person refuses to leave the camp, or wishes to engage us in endless bargaining before he consents to leave the camp, we can with a free conscience "close the case", by which I mean we can leave him where he is to work out a salvation with the German administration, minus relief or other services from the JDC.

In attempting a rough estimate of the time needed for this process, I would venture a guess that we should allow one year after the German Government has clarified its position and its policies have become operational. Since the government's plans have not yet reached the blueprint stage, the overall time required will probably run into two years. In view of the still unmet needs of distressed Jews around the world, I do not believe that JDC should be required to knock itself out for the next ten years on the Fohrenwald situation.

MR. LEAVITT: Well, Mary, let me see if I understand what you have said, apart from the funny things you said; those I understood. I want to concretize what you have said with respect to housing. You want the JDC then to go to these people and say to them, "Look, you have a year's time in which to make up your minds whether you stay here, take up your residence outside the camp, get whatever help we are prepared to give you in the way of a grant for furniture, for a home, for a job; whatever it is that we can do, we are prepared to do for you; whatever supplementary assistance we have been giving you before, we will continue to give you." Failing any answer from them, we then say, "We are through with you and we stop." Now, how do we stop in the camp when you are giving it to a camp committee and you don't give it to each one? How do you stop during the course of this year?

MISS PALEVSKY: Well, if you will tell me privately where it says in the book that we have to give it through a camp committee, I'll answer that question.

MR. LEAVITT: I think I've now gotten the main outline of what you're saying. I think it is important for you to set out in much more detail from an administrative point of view what the plan is that you see.

MISS PALEVSKY: I've got it all down on paper, it is all set; it's all ready.

MR. JORDAN: Any other questions or comments on the reports on the DP countries or Israeli returnees?

MR. LEAVITT: Would you answer one question, Mary? How many people did you actually get out of the camp during the course of this year?

MISS PALEVSKY: Close to a hundred. That includes, however, work that we did on the Swedish and Norwegian transports, plus the integration of some people in business.

MR. JACOBSON: Mr. Leavitt's statement seems to be based on the assumption that we can get the Germans to take certain action in providing housing that will lead to the liquidation of the camp. Now there is also a possibility that the Germans will not undertake to do that. I wonder if Mr. Leavitt has any views as to what we, JDC, ought to do in the event that their position is "no" on housing.

MR. LEAVITT: Well, their position on housing is that they are prepared to provide it though they haven't done so. I don't know what I would do in the event they say, "We will not provide housing", in the light of their statement that "We are prepared to provide housing". That is what they said. I suppose your question is: suppose at the end of three or four months they have not yet provided housing, what do we do? I think we ought then to start a public campaign in the press asking for the provision of housing for these people to make possible the break-up of the camp. I don't think that will be necessary if the JDC goes to the German government and says, you start giving the housing or else - what does it mean? And then we go ahead and start working. I think up till now nobody has been prepared, neither the German government nor we have been prepared to take the first step. Once we take the first step the second step will be easier.

MR. JORDAN: Sam, would you want to say something about the present plans of the Germans with regard to this problem?

MR. HABER: I personally have no doubt at all that the Germans, as I indicated in my report this morning, fully intend to liquidate Camp Foehrenwald. However, unlike what Mr. Leavitt said, I believe that they will do it perhaps, in a rational way. They are not going to tackle this problem in a manner that will create havoc with the people. And I don't believe that we should either. I believe that if it takes an additional six months or an additional nine months, having lived with this problem now for about ten years, there will be no catastrophe. It would be a catastrophe, quite correctly stated, if the Germans do not undertake the liquidation of the camp, at which point the JDC may very well have to do the thing which Moe

Leavitt just stated. In other words, we may be put in a position to say to the Germans who value, by the way, our services in Germany exceedingly and who consult with us on every single question, whether in Bonn or Munich, we may be compelled to say to them that either you undertake actual steps by allocation of money and the construction of homes, at which point we are prepared to assist you in all the ways that I indicated this morning, in order once and for all to be able to close Camp Foehrenwald, or take the consequences.

While I have got the floor let me make a comment on what Mary Palevsky said. I disagree with her totally on one point, and that is the point of the social worker having or bearing or being able to bear or being able to have an impact on the problem per se. I don't think that is the issue at all. I don't believe that in the camp itself there can be, and I stated so in my report, any sound social work and I believe I quoted Mary herself where in one of her reports to me or to Charlie or to someone, she indicated that rehabilitative work cannot be done in a DP camp. She is absolutely right. And I don't think that is what she meant when she said what she did before. The social worker in the camp can literally do only one thing, hope that the person be removed from the camp, placed in an environment in which his usefulness as a member of society can find a realizable position and then go to work on him. You are not going to remove anybody from the camp by social work. Let's get that clear. Now, for instance, when it is said that the social service department has a real function to perform I believe that it has; they have a very real function to perform and you will find that in my report under the section on Social Work Department. I believe fervently that it is not within the confines of Camp Foehrenwald and I say, and I repeat what I said this morning, on the basis not of my month's experience but on the basis of seven years' experience. You can put all the best professional social workers in Foehrenwald and they will have a hell of a time - but they will not get people out. You get people out of Foehrenwald and then your social worker, your psychiatric social worker, your medical social worker, your psychiatrist, your doctor, your vocational rehabilitation expert, all of them and others can help these people. I believe that they deserve more than merely to say to them, either you get out or to hell with you, after a certain period of time. The Germans themselves will have to provide the means for them to get out, that means a roof over their heads. We will then, together with the Germans, provide for them the means of earning a livelihood and the means of adjusting themselves or giving them the opportunity later on to be able to emigrate. The work that Mary and her people have done has been useful, but it has been and it can only be useful in reference to the limited environment which is imposed by a DP camp, the mentality of the people in that camp being a thoroughly negative one, and I don't see how any constructive functional work can be done with them as long as they remain in that environment.

MR. LEAVITT: How do you expect to close the camp, Sam?

MR. HABER: I expect to close the camp as follows. If for instance, Moe, the Germans today were to build units for 500 people, that means roughly, let's say, 150 families, the Germans will then through the German camp administration select not the returnees - I am now speaking as Dr. Schwartz spoke this morning, forget for one moment the 800 illegals who are in the camp now under a six-months' armistice period and think only of the 1,500 so-called legal residents - the Germans will then probably do the following. They will make a selection out of those very people whom Mary Palevsky spoke of, there will be no choice for them, they will say to them, "Twenty-five of you people have to move up to Frankfurt, ten of you to Bamberg, twenty of you to Regensburg." And they will have to go out. The Germans at that point will cut off their relief and compel them to leave the camp. That is the only process on the basis of which they will be able to take those people out. After they have built up the first 125 homes, they will build another 125 homes. Dr. Schwartz, I just want to make one very brief remark. As I understood Mary Palevsky, it was not my understanding that her thesis was that you send social workers in to Foehrenwald and they will get the people to leave the camp and in that way be able to close it up. What she did say, however, and I think it is sound, is that the JDC must arrive at a definite policy which should be made clear to the hard-core people in Foehrenwald, if necessary on an individual basis. In other words, the JDC takes the policy, let's say after discussing with Germany the problem of setting up these houses, and we see a possibility of these houses being established over a period say, of six months or a year even. The JDC must then announce to the people in the camp: we stay here for another year or whatever the term is, whether it is six months or nine months or a year. This is our policy. Within that year's time you have the possibility of going into permanent housing in Germany, of utilizing whatever emigration possibilities are open to you, and they are as follows: you outline them very clearly. And then you stick by that policy. If at the end of that time the people have not made the choice, the JDC is finished as far as that camp is concerned. And it has to be a very hard and fast policy. That is what she termed, I think, compassionate toughness. You have to be tough, you have to lay down a policy. I think in the long run it is also compassionate to do it that way. You have to give them a sufficient amount of time to adapt themselves to this kind of a declaration of policy, at the end of which time however, the JDC must be prepared to be tough and to say then, this is it. And that, it seems to me, is the logical approach to the closing of the camp, from the point of view, at least, of the hard-core element that is in there.

MR. LEAVITT: Are there people in the camp who don't get welfare services and money from the Germans?

MR. HABER: There are not very many. There are some, I would say not more than 5% at the most who do not get any assistance.

MR. LEAVITT: And if these people would stay in the camp and say, "You've got to protect us," to the others? You see the whole purpose, the psychology of that group, if my impression is correct, has been the sense of "stay in there so that united we've got pressure on Germany and pressure on the Jewish world." And that group that you're talking about, if you think that by the Germans saying we will not give you any money and therefore they will go out - they won't go out. And you haven't solved the problem. I think that unless you set a time limit you will never close Camp Foehrenwald. You will take out 200 and there will be 300 coming in. They will continue to come whether they get it or they don't, so they come in and they don't want any welfare services from Germany. They'll go out and do some peddling and some business on their own, black market, white market, whatever the case may be, but they'll have the protection of the rest of the crowd. You can't close Foehrenwald on that basis. We've tried it, it's been there, you can stay in it for another five years, and you'll have exactly the same situation. You may have a few less hard-cores, they'll die off; you'll have other returnees, but you'll have Camp Foehrenwald and you'll be in the midst of it, and the years as they go by will make that situation worse than it is at the present time, and it's pretty bad from everything that's been said. Now, what we should have done three years ago we're going to do now.

MR. HABER: There's a point of correction that I must make. You will remember that this morning my proposal was not very different actually. I also stated quite clearly - there's no real difference of opinion here - that at the point where the Germans are going to declare that the camp is liquidated, the JDC should officially announce a terminal date of its operations. But Moe, a factual point that I must state here to relieve the very valid point which you just made, namely, that on August 17th, the date of the registration of the illegals then in the camp, from that day on to this day there are no new people in the camp. In other words, the camp for the first time is really hermetically sealed. There's a German police station in the camp. People are being arrested for being in the camp illegally, so that the fear which you have - that is, in terms of 200 or 300 additional people coming into the camp - that is no longer possible.

Now I have one or two more sentences if I may take an additional second. What I said was this, that you cannot close Camp Foehrenwald in a day or a week or a month. The Germans, I believe, are following the right policy if only they'll start actually doing it instead of paying lip-service to it. That is to say, they will build homes for 500 people. With the camp remaining hermetically sealed, no new people in any case will come into the camp. They will then build homes for 500 others. In no case is it conceivable, Moe, that you are going to move all the 1,400 - I am now speaking of the legal group - in the camp out overnight, even if you had homes for all of them at one time. Whether we like it or not - and we don't like it - it's got to be a piecemeal



process, it's got to be a careful process, it's got to be a thought-out process, otherwise we will do the verything we are all opposed to doing, namely dump the people into German communities without regard for their real integration possibilities in those communities.

MR. JORDAN: I think one point has been left unsaid and that is that while it is perfectly true that the Germans seem to be following the right policy in having pretty much decided to provide housing for 500 people, they nevertheless seem to rely more than is justified for the solution for the remainder of the people on emigration, because in all the discussions that we have had with the Germans they said, "Hopefully there will be no more than 500 of these people who need that kind of resettlement in Germany itself. They are the people who will either be unable to unwilling to leave and they are therefore logically the people for whom this arrangement should be made." That means that they believe, and they have unfortunately been encouraged so to believe by another organization, that the solution for the bigger part of the population of Foehrenwald is emigration, and they have been led to believe that they can make that stick by holding out what they call the promise of an emigration grant to people. At this point I think they're talking about 2,000 Marks for an adult and 500 for each child. Now what is behind that? Behind that is that the camp committee, with the other organization, has created the impression that if a person in Foehrenwald, who is essentially able and willing to emigrate, with a cash assistance of this sort can buy his way out of Germany into another country. I think that concept is false. I think it will not work. I think there is not enough of a resource available in emigration opportunities, as Mr. Horwitz explained to us today, and this has been clear to us for a long time. Furthermore, the 500 whom the Germans picked as the logical candidates for resettlement in Germany itself are not determined, as far as their case situations, as far as there names are concerned. Nobody knows who these 500 people are; this is just an idea that the Germans have. And by holding out the promise of a grant of 2,000 Marks to an adult and 500 Marks to a child, they have so completely immobilized the situation at Foehrenwald now that nobody moves, even people who have a chance to emigrate, even people who could relieve the pressure on the camp by natural emigration opportunities aren't moving out because they are waiting for this money which is presumably going to come their way from the Germans. We have cases in Foehrenwald today where people get visas and actually have visas to other countries and are not utilizing them because they say, "Look, why should I leave here before the Germans make this payment? I want to be included in that payment because it will help me to re-establish myself in another country more adequately." There is a conflict in the German policy and it is right now paralyzing the whole situation.

I want to expand on that for a moment. I want to explain that we brought Miss Palevsky, whom you've just heard, in from the United States. She is well known to some of us here although perhaps not to all of you. She is a well known social worker and social work administrator who was particularly active and successful in resolving many of these situations in her capacity as the assistant executive director of the New York Association for New

Americans, and she had this and other experiences which we thought were particularly applicable to this situation. Miss Palevsky has understated, I think, the results so far of the work of her unit in that she and her workers have contributed to resolving many of the situations that exist in Foehrenwald beyond the exact number which she has stated there, and I think that in itself it has been a very worthwhile attempt and a very worthwhile effort which, however, became paralyzed also because of the situation which I have just described. I think that an idea which may prevail here that there is any one way in which a place like Foehrenwald can be liquidated, regardless of the time element involved, is not correct. I think there are 57 varieties of problems in a camp situation like that, each one of which has to be tackled separately and apart from the other and for each of which we must find solutions which relate to that particular situation rather than to the total situation. There will be people, there are people now, who are prepared to admit that they cannot leave Germany either because they have been rejected a number of times by various governments or countries to which they want to emigrate, or because they are too old or too sick or too something to make this new adjustment and who would be willing to leave Camp Foehrenwald today if housing would be offered to them and care would be offered to them in some German community of their choice.

The whole idea of the Germans to go about it in that way for 500 people was based on the registrations which the Germans made in the camp in which they said to the people, "We have talked to the mayors of a number of cities in Germany. They have said they are perfectly willing to accept limited numbers among you in their respective municipalities. Will you please indicate whether and in what place in Germany you want to spend the rest of your time?" And in one day I believe - isn't that correct, Sam? - 268 persons registered for that opportunity and the Germans closed the registration at that point because they were afraid that more people would register before they had a chance to work things out with the municipalities and come to some decision with the Finance Ministry as to the funds which would be required to invest in that kind of a housing project in these various cities. Now, even if a few hundred of these people over a period of six to nine months, with the application of a case by case work job, would move into these communities there will still be 1,600 people left in that camp because by now, in addition to the people that we had there before, there are these six or seven hundred returnees who have, unfortunately I would say, been permitted to remain in Germany, who were not forced to go through the physical separation and to move into a separate camp or to a separate place of residence. I think that was a mistake. I think it is a mistake for which the Germans will have to pay dearly because these people will simply not move either at the same time or in the same numbers as it would have been possible for us to help move the original group of about 1,500 with whom Miss Palevsky was supposed to concern herself.

I think that we should perhaps go one step further than we have done so far. I completely agree with Mr. Leavitt that the offering of housing

to people outside of Camp Foehrenwald is a very potent thing. I think that if we could get your mandate, let us say, to go to the Germans and say, "Let's get away from this original concept of simply offering housing to a few hundred people who have already indicated readiness to go into the German community because they were stymied insofar as movement out of Germany is concerned. We are prepared to cooperate with you financially and otherwise if you are prepared to provide housing for all of the people who are now in Foehrenwald." We might put that up to them as a final alternative with regard to welfare assistance. In other words, to carry your suggestion to the ultimate conclusion, we say to them as of a given date - and that can be staggered according to the building capacity of the Germans because to build housing for 2,000 people is not an easy thing - as of a given date, staggered by categories or groups of people or whatever you call it, you have the availability of a residence in a certain German community. As of that date, if they do not accept the offer made by the German Government for a flat or a room or a house or a place in an institution, then we can start to get tough with these people.

And on this business of getting tough with the people I want to remind you that hundreds of these people are sick and old, many of them chronically ill, and many of them borderline mental cases. Now, I understand what Miss Palevsky means when she says "compassionate toughness" but I still don't know how in practice, when a chronically ill person who is now laid out in the hospital in Foehrenwald, or a borderline mental case, refuses to accept what to us seems to be a perfectly good plan, how are we going to get tough with that person? There is a matter of day-to-day living involved. There is a question involved, if you withdraw German welfare assistance and JDC supplementary assistance and services from such a person, what is going to become of such a person?

MISS PALEVSKY: I would like to straighten that one thing out. I should assume that by "getting tough" we would mean the control of the JDC. These people are still primarily the responsibility of the German Government. I think we can afford to get tough with some people who will not starve and will have a roof over their heads. And these people who are now chronically ill, who are now in the hospital in Foehrenwald and who can be moved to an equally good hospital or a better custodial institution elsewhere where they can be taken care of by the Germans, if they don't want to go, the Germans will still be feeding them, they'll still have a roof over their heads. That does not mean that the JDC has to be there supplementing them with medical care which is not necessary, or 25 Deutschmarks a month. That's the point. Now, if anyone here thinks that by toughness I mean to take human beings and throw them in the gutter, I shall have none of this, for that is not how we brought ourselves up as social workers; that isn't what is meant by being tough. Toughness means resisting irrational pressures created by a few people. That's what it means to be tough.

MR. JORDAN: Well then, I would just add this, that we must recognize that in applying this kind of a process we are not talking about liquidating Camp Foehrenwald today, tomorrow or the next day but this is a process which not only because of our relationship to it but because of the inability of anybody to provide the means by which to do it - and I mean now housing - will take years to accomplish. That means that Camp Foehrenwald will be with us for another two years at least because you can't finish this kind of a problem in one dash and you cannot impose that kind of a condition on 2,100 persons overnight.

Mr. Rice is perfectly comfortably seated there. Mr. Rice is listening with a third ear because, as you know, he's going into Germany to take over this very interesting problem and I'm not worried about him, but I would like to know whether there's anything further anybody wishes to say about the matter. I was wondering whether there was anything further to be said about the returnee problem as such.

Well, can we then close the discussion? In that case we can proceed with the program as scheduled and hear from Mrs. Jarblum first.

MRS. JARBLUM: All I can say is that after the mollah, Foehrenwald and the returnees France is awfully mild, but since I have to give a report, I shall. I would just like to explain a few of the terms that I'm going to use in this report which are familiar to all of you who have heard previous reports and would probably be new to the newcomers at this conference. You will hear me speak about the FSJU, which is the Fonds Sociaux Juifs Unifies or, in good American, the United Jewish Social Fund, equivalent to our welfare federations in the United States. You will also hear me speak about the JDC FSJU pool which simply means for the past three years the JDC does communal budgeting, accounting and financing with the local welfare federations. And my third remark before I actually begin is that I beg the federation executives and fund-raisers not to translate the francs into dollars. It doesn't make sense.

ADDRESS ON FRANCE

By

Laura Margolis-Jarblum

It is always a great temptation, when preparing the report to this Conference, to review historically the development of one's program, then bring it up to date and prognosticate its future. We feel enough has been said over the years about the objectives of the JDC program in France and the techniques used toward the implementation of these objectives. The record has been written, and we therefore shall confine ourselves to the developments, during the past year, referring to the past only for the sake of clarity where required.

We left off on a quite optimistic note last year. You will recall that the 1952 JDC-FSJU agreement called for a contribution from the JDC of 185 million francs toward a global pool requirement of 345 million. At the time when the JDC participation and the FSJU goal were set, namely at the end of 1951, the FSJU leaders felt quite pessimistic and therefore set a goal of 120 million francs as the maximum considering a campaign result of 92 million francs in 1951. We were sure they could make more than 120 million; but we went along with their conservative estimate and agreed we would worry about the possible 40 million lacking (if they should be lacking) towards the end of the year. 1952 ended with a campaign result of 142 million as against 92 million in 1951 - the deficit was therefore only 18 million (instead of 40) and the JDC made up the difference. Even then our contribution to the pool decreased from 225 million in 1951 to 203 million in 1952, and their contribution went up from 92 to 142.

Thus ended 1952 and negotiations were undertaken for 1953. 1953 pool requirements were higher. They were 385 million. The FSJU leadership felt that towards this pool they could guarantee 150 to 155 million francs. We agreed to 190, thus insuring 345 of the 385 required. The campaign chairman was in an optimistic mood at that point and suggested that we not worry about the additional 40 million required, because he was sure the FSJU would be able to make up the difference in 1953. As of this date the total amount collected has been 110 million. The estimate is that FSJU will this year reach between 155 and 160 which means they will have collected what they guaranteed but will fall short of what is required to meet the pool needs. We are not prepared at this point to say just what the deficit will be. The next three months are the most important months of the campaign year. The FSJU calls 1953 a "year of consolidation". In 1952, which was their second campaign, they acquired 2,800 new contributors and they feel that

the most important emphasis must be on getting these and the old contributors to repeat and, if possible, increase their contribution. Their actual collection apparatus does not permit them to consolidate and expand simultaneously. We are inclined to agree with them - that consolidation at this stage is certainly as important to them as expansion. It is important also to note that in spite of the fact that the campaign will fall short of the pool requirements, there will be an increase of a minimum 15 million francs, or 15%, between 1952 and 1953.

One of the leaders of the FSJU pointed out that if they have made progress in the sense that their enemies and adversaries are gradually decreasing, they still do not feel deeply entrenched or secure. The transfer from JDC to FSJU of the total responsibility for distributing the total pool requirements and supervising the agencies, which has taken place this year, has made FSJU conscious of the fact that the whole program in France may have to be reviewed and economies made.

Now for some of the highlights in the actual program in 1953.

#### 1. TRANSFER OF JDC TO FSJU

In accordance with JDC's plans and with the full agreement of the FSJU, a gradual transfer of personnel and program responsibility has taken place this year. In February our child care worker and one secretary plus all monies earmarked for child care in the pool, were transferred directly to the FSJU.

In April the Personal Service Department of the JDC and the Social Service Exchange with its personnel were also transferred to the premises of the FSJU. In July of this year the last responsibility for the distribution of funds directly to agencies and the supervision of these agencies which, by this time, consisted of only the direct relief agencies, was transferred to them. Thus, over a period of six months, the JDC placed in the hands of the community its personnel and the direct responsibility for planning and programming and distributing the pool money. JDC now has a centralized relationship for all of its activities in France, and continues to plan only with the FSJU.

#### 2. DIRECT RELIEF

While 1953 still finds us with two direct relief agencies, namely COJASOR about which all of you have heard considerably, and the Comite de Bienfaisance, and while everyone knows that one day there will be only one agency, it is interesting to underscore the extent to which the existence of the COJASOR with its JDC standards of relief and social work has revolutionized the Comite de Bienfaisance with its tradition of philanthropy and charity. While the Comite de

Bienfaisance still has a long way to go before it can measure up to the performance of the COJASOR, it has nevertheless been forced to react to the threat which the mere existence of COJASOR presents. This year the Comite de Bienfaisance has staffed itself exclusively with trained social workers, and increased its relief standards to approximate those of the COJASOR. All of this is particularly interesting because the leadership of the Comite de Bienfaisance is very influential in the FSJU, and therefore one would think that they would feel more secure. All we can say for the present is that the existing competitive situation has benefited the client. We are still hopeful that when the problem of a complete merger of these two agencies will come on the agenda, that the standards which the JDC has fought for will prevail, regardless of the leadership or the name of the new organization.

### 3. CHILD CARE

The child care load, which at this moment consists of 910 children in 17 Homes, is now stabilized. There is the regular turnover consisting of the release of the 17 to 18 year olds and the admission of a limited number of social cases. This year has seen the complete co-ordination of intake criteria and a consolidation of the cooperation between the child care agencies and the youth casework services, so that as far as possible no youngster is discharged from a children's home without follow-up services. A very serious problem which has crystallized itself this year is the increasing number of North African families residing in Paris who ask for and really need placement for their children. The FSJU feels that they cannot ignore the problems of the North African families; but recognizing their limited means and the terrific complexity of that problem, the agencies have been authorized to take on North African social cases only to the extent that space is available in the existing facilities. With the increasing number of social cases which are coming to our attention and which are a reflection of the problems which every normal community faces, we do not anticipate a rapid decline in the number of children's homes required in the near future.

### 4. VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The vocational training school formerly at Moissac, in the South of France, has finally been established at Laversine near Paris, in the magnificent Rothschild chateau given as a gift to the Jewish Boy Scouts of France and financed by the French Government. Supplementary sums, which are very small, required from the community are for its specific Jewish activities. This institution has been named the "Daniel and Maurice Fleg Center", and the interest which the members of this community have in this particular activity was well manifested by the turn-out at the inauguration festival this past spring. In spite of the rainiest

Sunday which Paris has seen, there were anywhere from 1,000 to 1,500 persons who attended. This brings us, of course, to the classic problem of ORT, JDC's continued relationship to that organization and ORT's relationship to the FSJU and to Laversine. We have nothing to add to what has already been said in previous years. The only justification which we can honestly find for ORT in France today, considering the existence of Laversine and a gradual expansion of French Government facilities, would be the school at Montreuil. A remark made by a very competent functionary of the ORT after the turn-out of this community at Laversine was to us most significant. It was said in confidence, and since I am not quoting the source, I feel free to share this remark with you which, we think, summarizes the situation of ORT and Laversine in a nut shell as far as French Jewry is concerned. (Incidentally for those of you who may not be familiar, Edmond Fleg is the famous Jewish French writer and poet, and his sons were killed in this last war and the center has been named after the sons). This person said that there can be no doubt but what the school at Laversine dedicated in the name of Daniel and Maurice Fleg means much more to the community and is closer to the hearts of the French Jews than the ORT, whose founders and even present leadership date back to Russia. Those leaders brought their ideas and concepts to France. ORT is not a French idea. There is no question in our mind but what if JDC withdrew its financial support of the ORT, and the French Jews had to choose between supporting one institution or the other, they would choose to support Laversine, because it is really "their" institution, in addition to which its requirement of private philanthropic funds is minimal compared to what ORT costs. But this is an old subject, and I do not think merits any further discussion.

#### 5. OLD AGE

In the field of Old Age, adequate facilities now exist in France for the entire requirements of the community. This year saw the inauguration of one additional Old Age Home near Paris, with IRO and JDC help, which brings Jewish old age homes to a total number of 8, with a capacity of 550.

#### 6. MEDICAL AND MEDICAL-SOCIAL SERVICE

This year has also seen at last the establishment of one medical-social service program serving the two important dispensaries in the Paris area.

#### 7. TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAMS AND MENTAL HYGIENE.

The FSJU has taken over from the JDC the financing of the TB work, and has undertaken to finance a mental hygiene committee to handle cases requiring treatment for which there are inadequate facilities in France.



8. RESIDENCE FACILITIES FOR UNATTACHED YOUTH

The institution at Neuilly, which was formerly a children's home and found it difficult to give up this function, has finally become a residence for young boys and girls. The small children in Neuilly were transferred to the existing child care agencies and in addition to this residence for young people, the FSJU took over the deficit financing of the National Council of Jewish Women's girls home in Paris. The existence of these residence facilities for unattached young men and women meets a most important need. It is rare that a youngster leaving a children's home has a family to receive him.

9. LOAN KASSE

As you know, on September 1st, 1952, the two JDC loan services in France were merged into a single service. The new Caisse has lived up to all of the expectations that we had for it, and has resulted in improved services for the clients and a sizeable reduction in administrative costs.

From September 1st, 1952 to June 30th 1953, about 1,000 loans were made, totalling about 127 million francs. Loans to artisans accounted for about 50% of these funds, small business men and independent shopkeepers for about 40% and about 10% of the loans were to people in the liberal professions.

The service fees for investigation of applications have exceeded the administrative costs of operating the Caisse by about 200,000 francs per month.

10. EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL WORK

The FSJU has for the first time employed a full-time person this year to handle all the educational and cultural problems, and officially announced its increasing interest in this area by calling a large Cultural Congress on March 22nd, 1953. Every section of the community was represented at this Congress and the FSJU went officially on record as giving this phase of its activity more and more emphasis. This Congress elected a number of sub-committees to consider the various problems related to the work of the Congress. One of its most important accomplishments this year has been that the FSJU has actually "opened the battle" of the merger of our three full-time schools in Paris, and while no merger has as yet taken place, the offensive is well on its way.

This most recent and important emphasis of the FSJU has two other important developments to its credit. A committee has elaborated and has had accepted by the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the FSJU a statute of personnel practices for group

leaders and educators, determining conditions of employment, salary, retirement pensions and so forth and so on, thus establishing for the first time in France that the field of Jewish education and group leadership is a profession. Simultaneous with the acceptance of this statute, a three-year course for training group leaders has been worked out which will begin this year. Courses will be given on the premises of the Centre Educatif, with the participation of foremost Jewish and non-Jewish educators in the city, and field work will be established in children's homes under the supervision of the Centre. Another important accomplishment for which the FSJU can take credit is that through the special services which they set up in their own created Board of Jewish Education (the Centre Educatif) they have succeeded in establishing a minimum program of Jewish education in all children's homes, which includes a curriculum of Jewish history and Hebrew.

The FSJU has sent a candidate to the States this year on a scholarship given by the World Federation of YMHA's, to be trained and returned to France to work in the projected Youth Center.

#### 11. REORGANIZATION OF FSJU

1953 has seen an internal reorganization of the FSJU's administration, in order to permit increased lay participation. Formerly the Social Service Committee struggled with all the functional problems. This year the Social Service Committee was enlarged and subsequently divided into sub-committees (just like in the United States), according to function, namely child care, medical, cultural, direct relief, and so forth. The idea in itself is excellent, inasmuch as it insures increased lay participation, but the over-democratization of the FSJU mechanism has slowed up production and has too frequently been used (at least as far as we are concerned) as an excuse for not arriving at what we consider important decisions more quickly. We have been thinking about the situation and wondering what the difficulty was, inasmuch as the idea of this structure really came from us. We have discovered that the difficulty is not in the structure itself but in the quantity and quality of the professional personnel responsible for working with these committees and sub-committees. Quantitatively speaking, the FSJU is carrying a tremendous program with a minimum of administrators, social workers and clerical staff. They are still very reluctant to increase their administrative expenses because they feel vulnerable vis-a-vis the contributing public. Qualitatively speaking we feel that the FSJU has employed the very best which exists in this community, but nevertheless some of the key personnel are untrained. They are people who have learned their job in the doing and through continued contact with JDC. The limitations inherent in this lack of professional training have become more flagrant as their duties and responsibilities have increased over the years. In fact it is only because the JDC has continued to pay for both supplementary professional and clerical staff within the FSJU

administration that the machine moves. From our knowledge of the leadership as well as the attitude of the community at the present moment, we are convinced that it will take many years to get an acceptance of necessary administrative expenses as an essential and justifiable part of operating such a huge program. It is for this reason that we have come to the conclusion that one of JDC's major contributions to this community must consist of paying for some professional staff assigned to the FSJU, even though our financial participation in the pool gradually diminishes. It is only by continuing to pay for such staff that we can insure the maintenance of standards and the most efficient distribution of our mutual funds.

12. KEHILAH

You have probably all read in the United States about the establishment of the Kehilah in France, and I think it ought to be clarified at this point. In 1951 a few of the leaders of the Federation of Jewish Societies, which represents the immigrated Jewish community, conceived the idea of changing the outmoded form of this organization from a federation of Jewish Landsmannschaften to a democratically elected Kehilah. The plan as originally outlined and voted by the National Congress of the Federation merited JDC support, and we gave them a small one-time grant for their administrative expenses during the organizational phase of their work, with the clear understanding that we had no responsibility beyond that point. While the goal of the Kehilah was to change the structural form of the Federation, the leadership changed the mandate given it by the Congress during its organizational phase. Elections were held in May of this year. Of the 6,500 persons in Paris registered as being interested in becoming members, only 2,650 came to vote. The leaders of the Kehilah feel this is a huge success but we feel that 2,650 persons is so far from the real potential of what is known as the "Yiddische Gass" that the figure is completely insignificant. Added to all of this is the fact that the Kehilah as it exists today is a complete parallel structure to the Federation, which represents the same group of people, proposes a similar program of activities and leaves every thinking Jew in this community before a duality and a contradiction. Considerable pressure has been put on the JDC to support the Kehilah, but our reply to date has been that:

- (a) The basic services in this community are and will in the future be maintained by the FSJU. Provision has been made in the FSJU for the complete participation of all cultural groups in this community regardless of origin. The so-called "Yiddish-speaking" immigrated Jewish community is represented in the FSJU and therefore not only can, but we feel should exert all of its influence to bring about that

"Yiddischkeit" which they claim is lacking. We are not so convinced that it is entirely lacking, but if it is it is certainly due to the fact that these leaders have not taken their responsibility seriously.

- (b) We do not see the role of the Kehilah as an organization to engage in functional activities within this community. If certain institutions and activities are lacking, then we feel it is the purpose of the Kehilah to interpret the need for such activities to the existing institutions of the local Jewish community (not to the JDC) and see to it that these activities are supported by the FSJU.

We feel that the Kehilah and what it sees as its role is an anachronism in the France of 1953, meets absolutely no need which we can possibly see and which JDC should in any way relate to. Our position to date has been to listen, to tell our friends of the Kehilah our frank opinion and to refer them to the FSJU for their financial requirements.

#### 13. CONSEIL REPRESENTATIF DU JUDAISME TRADITIONALISTE

We have another interesting development in France this year, which is a complete contrast to the Kehilah in its dynamic leadership qualities. This organization is called "The Traditionalists" and is a federation of orthodox communities and synagogues as well as religious movements, such as Mizrahi, Hapoel Hamizrahi and Agoudat Israel. This organization has never come to the JDC for either financial help or for advice, but has raised its own funds, has set up a large neighborhood center in a densely populated Jewish quarter along the lines of our "neighborhood centers", is supporting the Yeshiva at Aix-les-Bains, and is completely supporting one of the orthodox children's homes of the OSE. In addition to their own activities the members are active on all FSJU committees, in fact so active that it is quite difficult at times to withstand their pressures since to date they have asked for very little, but are cooperating fully in all aspects of the work of the FSJU.

#### 14. HARD CORE REHABILITATION PROJECT

The major emphasis of our 1951 report to this Conference was to point out the shift in the JDC program in France from one whose major emphasis and expenditures were for transients to that of a settled community program. We felt it was our responsibility to help this community consolidate its social services to the minimum, so that when they took over the entire program it would be reduced to its minimum requirements. In line with this thinking we recommended that the JDC establish a special fund for the rehabilitation of hard-core cases which were the residue of a one-time large relief load, with the objective of removing families from permanent dependency and making them self-supporting through a substantial one-time grant. We also felt that families applying for relief for the first time could be prevented

from becoming chronic dependents if a substantial plan for remaining self-supporting were made with them. Our recommendations were accepted, and the JDC granted us a very special fund. JDC actually administers this fund directly. The project is under the auspices of the FSJU. Eight agencies make up the Hard Core Committee. A JDC worker is Secretary of the Committee, and cases are screened by her before presentation. From July 1952 to September 1953, 14 Hard Core Committee meetings have been held, and 60 cases presented. 56 cases have been accepted. There is no ceiling on the amount, but the money is given either as grants or loans depending on the individual situation. Monies reimbursed will be held by the FSJU, in order to establish a revolving fund. The needs met were those of housing, furniture, economic rehabilitation. In conclusion, we should like to state that the hard core funds have either taken off from the relief rolls completely, or have prevented from going on relief, 51 families. 21 children have either returned to their families from placement with child care agencies, or placement of the children which was the only solution the family could think of, has been prevented. This project has actually relieved the monthly direct assistance and child care budgets of the JDC-FSJU pool of about 500,000 francs per month.

#### CONCLUSION

There has been considerable talk both within JDC and in the community about the closing of the Office for France. I think we should do a "mea culpa" for the misunderstanding which has arisen. In our plan of gradually transferring more and more responsibility to the community, we have reduced our staff accordingly and decreased our administrative expenses. It was therefore natural for us to talk about closing the Office for France as a separate administrative unit in 1953. To us the closing of the Office for France meant giving up the building, but at no time did we associate this with the ending of JDC's responsibility either financially or professionally for the work in France. For technical reasons which have no bearing at the moment, we are not giving up the building but are sub-letting the available space to cooperating local agencies and to the Paul Baerwald School. Perhaps this continued occupancy of our premises will help to clarify the confusion which has been involuntarily created. JDC in France still has an important job to do and with a greatly reduced staff is continuing to function. We have always maintained that the most important contribution which the JDC makes in any country is the leadership and professional competence it provides. The dramatic force of that leadership naturally decreases with decreasing financial participation; but the force of that leadership changes from a dramatic force to a very subtle and stimulating form even with decreasing financial participation. It would be impossible (and certainly not politic) to actually enumerate the number of developments in this community since the Liberation which, while on the surface seemingly

have nothing to do with JDC, have been directly or indirectly influenced by its presence.

We are convinced that the FSJU, which is our successor organization, is here to stay, and that it represents the best leadership which this community has to offer. True - it is frequently inadequate and limited, but in this respect it is a mere reflection of what the war has done to the Jewish communities of Europe, and it will take another generation or two before this loss is compensated for. In the meantime, however, we do have a working organism in France. This organism is still very young and even though it has withstood three very crucial years still needs help.

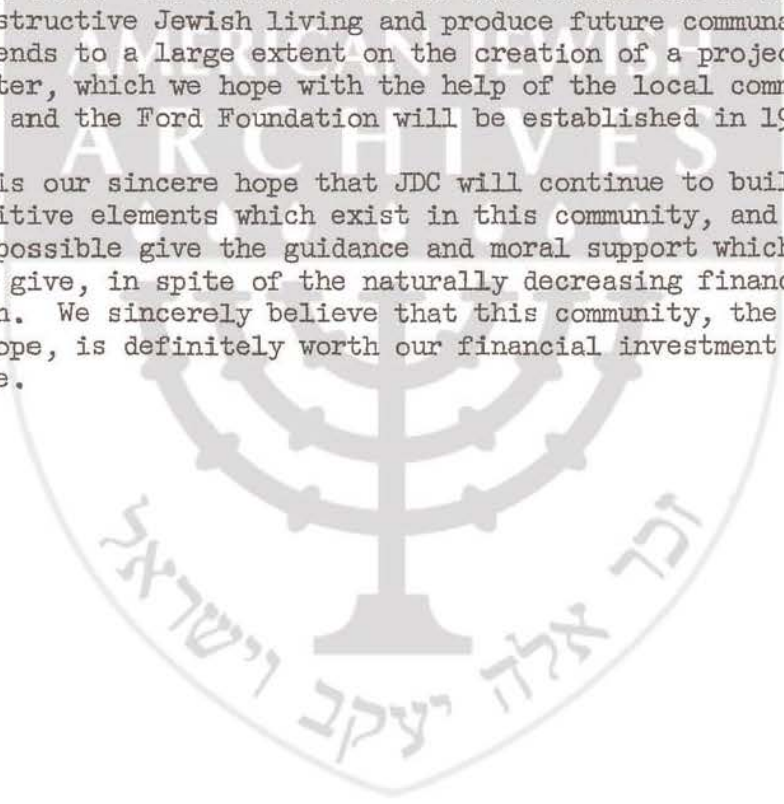
In our last year's report to this Conference we ventured to guess that this community might be self-supporting by the end of 1955. This will be my last opportunity to retract that statement since I am not talking about my own job. The minimum budget of the agencies presently dependent on the FSJU, including their own administration, is about 385 million francs a year. This allows for no expansion, improvement or one-time expenditures for constructive purposes. The pessimists and defeatists in the FSJU say that the FSJU must cut down its requirements to a maximum 300 million franc budget, since that is their estimate of the maximum which this community can eventually raise on its own. The optimists and the visionaries (we have both just like you do in the United States) refuse to reduce requirements to their unacceptable minimum - they insist that more money must be raised. The JDC must be on the side of and support the optimists and visionaries. It may take a few years longer than we estimated for the FSJU to become completely independent of the JDC.

The FSJU with considerable effort this year will raise a maximum of 155-160 million francs. We are convinced that the percentage increase in the amount raised annually will be on a decreasing rate from what it has been heretofore, even though progress will be made each year. If we accept 385 million francs as a minimum requirement to meet the present needs as represented in the JDC-FSJU pool, then we feel that it is certainly to the FSJU's credit that within three short years they are able to meet 35% of their own requirements. We must never forget that United Fund Raising in France is a new concept - it has taken us many more years to reach our present point of development in America.

One hears considerable criticism of the French Jewish community. Cynics like to talk about the strong tendency towards assimilation, the lack of Jewish consciousness and this vague thing called "Yiddischkeit" - they love to stress the conflicts between immigrated and native-born communities, the Zionist and anti-Zionist conflicts with their endless discussions on double loyalty. The cynics love to stress the lack of leadership both in quantity and quality. All of this criticism is true, but it is only a part and not the entire picture. In fact I can think of many communities in the United States to which we might apply

exactly the same criticism. In spite of the fact that leadership is limited both in quantity and quality, one must not lose sight of the fact that the JDC has nevertheless found enough leadership on which to build a fairly satisfactory successor organization. On the positive side of the picture we find a great restlessness and searching on the part of many sectors of this community, and where there is restlessness and searching we feel there is hope. The tensions between the immigrated and the native French Jewish community have lessened considerably in the past few years, the conflicts between local and Israel fund-raising are gradually decreasing. There is in France a small but very significant Jewish intellectual elite. The great variety and number of Jewish youth movements indicates a desire in the present generation to be with Jews and not to run away from them. The extent to which that desire can be channeled into constructive Jewish living and produce future communal leadership depends to a large extent on the creation of a projected Youth Center, which we hope with the help of the local community and the JDC and the Ford Foundation will be established in 1954.

It is our sincere hope that JDC will continue to build on only the positive elements which exist in this community, and will as long as possible give the guidance and moral support which only the JDC can give, in spite of the naturally decreasing financial contribution. We sincerely believe that this community, the largest in free Europe, is definitely worth our financial investment and professional time.



MR. JORDAN: Thank you for a very interesting paper. I am sure that the rich substance of Mrs. Jarblum's paper will provide a welcome stimulus at the discussion tomorrow morning. For this reason and also because we are substantially behind schedule I shall not call for a discussion of this or any of the other papers this afternoon. But this should not stop anybody from raising a question. Are there any questions?

MR. LEVY: Will Mrs. Jarblum tell us how the Israel campaign in France made out for 1952?

MRS. JARBLUM: They made 126 million in 1952, Henry. Those are the figures of subscription. 126 as against 142 for FSJU.

MR. JORDAN: Any other questions?

JUDGE BENJAMIN: I wonder if we could be enlightened as to the approximate number of economically independent Jews existing in France and the number who participate in contributions to the philanthropies in question.

MRS. JARBLUM: Economically independent? Well, it would be the difference between the dependent people and the population. There are about 300,000 to 350,000 Jews in France; the figures aren't exact. I mean nobody really knows. And dependents in one form or another, including children, I would say number approximately 10,000. Now that does not mean that every other Jew is rich. He is self-supporting, inasmuch as he does not touch a welfare agency, but I don't know what that tells you, you see, in terms of his contributing power and since he doesn't have this income tax-free law here, which helps so much in the United States, it is a little bit difficult to estimate what the giving potential really is.

DR. SCHWARTZ: How many contributors are there?

MRS. JARBLUM: Oh well, that I can tell you. Approximately 6,000 - this is only in Paris; I am talking only about Paris now because the other communities have their own campaigns. You have, let us say, 200,000 people in Paris and 6,000 contributors. Now that is small and we are not near the real potential of the community.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Could you venture a guess as to the total number of people who contribute to the Aid for Israel and the FSJU where there are no duplications? Some contribute to both. But how many individuals would you say participate in both of these functions?



MRS. JARBLUM: I would venture a conservative guess of 10,000.  
That is conservative.

MR. JORDAN: Any other questions? If there are not any I want to  
tell you that I am beginning to feel awfully uncomfortable seeing Mr.  
Rice sitting over there. And I am sure that Mr. Mansbach wouldn't mind  
if we now call on Mr. Rice before we call on him. Alright Mr. Mansbach?



ADDRESS ON SWITZERLAND

By

James P. Rice

In preparing a report for this 1953 Country Directors Meeting, I believe you have already noticed that some of my colleagues have been confronted with the same problem that I have, which is how to present material about their operation in such a way so as not to repeat what has been said in past years and at the same time to make sure, especially if there were no outstanding developments in the program during the last twelve months, that no one overlooks how much may have been accomplished in the preceding year. This is perhaps not such a difficult task for some country operations where political events of the first magnitude take place frequently, such as the resignation of a sultan or a shah, armed attacks on government officials, critical elections, riots or sitdown strikes in DP areas or, on the more positive side in a place like Israel, where JDC dedicates huge new institutions almost frequently enough to coincide with every Jewish holiday.

But after all, what can one say new about Switzerland which we haven't already said in previous reports? The mountains are the same, the watches are the same - they still cost plenty and need frequent repairs, judging by the number that are returned to Geneva for that purpose - the government is the same, unfortunately even the refugee population hasn't changed very significantly, and most disappointing of all, I cannot tell you this year about the creation of any new international organization to assist refugees, because for some strange reason a certain stability has been reached even in that ever-changing field.

In desperation therefore, I must begin my formal report the same way as I have for the last six years, by telling you about our success in obtaining financial assistance for JDC and our proteges from various sources in Geneva - although in this respect I am very much aware of the fact that when we discuss Claims Conference funds later in the program, even these figures may pale into insignificance.

During the five-year period in which our Geneva office has been in operation liaison was established originally with the International Refugee Organization and then subsequently with the successor organizations, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, both of which also set up their headquarters in Geneva. From these various organizations, the old and the new, AJDC has received in various forms of grants or subsidies approximately \$26,000,000.

I ought to say at this point that I have some statistics prepared, broken down into some considerable detail, which were submitted here in Paris and were supposed to be put in that thick book you have before you, but for the second year in succession I was told that these figures cannot be so distributed. There is no objection to my telling this to you people here, who understand the problem, what the figures mean, but they could not go into general circulation. So you now have the advantage of hearing what is really a top-secret document and I hope this will make the subject of even greater interest to you.

Of the \$26,000,000, \$18,000,000 came to JDC from IRO, which was of course due to the fact that it was during the existence of IRO that there were a large number of Jewish refugees requiring assistance in one form or another, which is fortunately no longer true as a result of our successful emigration programs. No other international organization has had the substantial budget which had been made available to IRO, or the broad mandate for aid to refugees which IRO had.

During 1953, the most substantial single payment which AJDC Geneva processed was a sum of approximately \$1,000,000 as a further payment under the so-called Paris Reparations Agreement, formerly administered through the IRO but now a separate entity. A total of \$25,000,000 was to be allocated to victims of Nazism from former German assets in neutral countries of which, according to the agreed-upon formula, JDC is to receive 36%, the Jewish Agency 54% and non-Jewish voluntary agencies 10%. There is a balance still due out of the \$25,000,000 of approximately \$4,225,000 which it is still hoped to obtain from former German assets in Portugal in addition to the Swiss francs, Swedish kroner and miscellaneous other assets which have already been received, of which our share has been over \$7,000,000.

Mr. Horwitz has already mentioned to you the help we have received from the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, which is now in its second year of operation. I should like to summarize briefly the special forms this has taken for JDC:

(1) There has been a grant of \$40,000 to support promotion by JDC of our immigration possibilities in South America.

(2) There have been Revolving Loan Fund grants to JDC and other voluntary agencies, which in our case amounted to over \$330,000. This money is to assist the JDC to finance the cost of migration of its proteges, each of whom signs a promissory note and is expected to repay in due course the face value of the note, which repayment then goes into the Loan Fund to assist other refugees - hence Revolving Loan Fund. It must be brought out here however, that whereas our voluntary agency colleagues, such as the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation, do obtain substantial repayments from their proteges of

amounts advanced for emigration, JDC does not do so, largely due to the fact that in the U. S. in particular, it is thought that such loan collections would have an adverse effect on the machinery of the United Jewish Appeal. The position is not made easier by the fact that HIAS claims that they do get substantial repayments in the U. S. At any rate, JDC has had to make a commitment to the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration that when future grants at a reduced rate are made to voluntary agencies because of income which such agencies have received from repayments of the travel loans, the grant to JDC will be based on the assumption that we have received repayments equivalent to the average received by the other agencies. Up to now, this has been a relatively academic point, but the day of reckoning is drawing nearer, particularly with reference to the proposals for the financing of movements to the U. S. under the new U. S. Refugee Relief Act. According to a recent proposal of the Migration Committee which has been informally discussed with the major voluntary agencies, movements to the U. S. will be paid for initially by the Migration Committee but it will be assumed that within three years each agency will have collected from their proteges enough funds to enable them to repay the Committee approximately 60% of the face value of the notes, with the agency guaranteed a service charge of 25% of all collections for their own use to put again into their travel loan funds.

Some of you who are interested in the U. S. program may say that we should not worry too much about this since, at least according to present regulations, particularly with the difficulties which are involved in obtaining assurances, not many people will emigrate to the U. S. under the new legislation. But, if as many as 10,000 JDC proteges should nevertheless be able to take advantage of this legislation, and if we assume that the average cost of movement is approximately \$150, JDC would find itself under obligation to pay back to the Migration Committee the nice round sum of \$900,000 - a particularly painful blow in view of the fact that the non-Jewish voluntary agencies would at the same time presumably have been able to collect substantial repayments from their proteges over and above the amount repaid to the Migration Committee which would increase their financial resources for their own emigration programs.

The wheel of fortune has really turned if JDC should now find itself in the position of paying substantial sums to an international organization, instead of vice-versa. I should add a word of caution that this particular Migration Committee proposal is not yet definite but for the moment it certainly appears to be a serious possibility. The Migration Committee has also been given the responsibility for movements of refugees who migrate under the auspices of the United States Escapee Program, which Mr. Horwitz mentioned to you, and which was originally set up under the Kirsten Amendment to the U. S. Mutual Security Act of 1951, under which the U. S. Government allocated funds to assist refugees escaping from

Iron Curtain countries. This program is now under the direction of Mrs. Dorothy Houghton, assistant to Mr. Harold Stassen, director of the Foreign Operations Administration. Approximately 1,600 JDC proteges have been moved under this program up to the present time. Contrary to the policy of the Migration Committee, the Escapee Program takes the position that all of its beneficiaries shall have a free ride to their destination, with the blessing of the U. S. Government, and will have no obligation to sign a note for repayment. This, of course, has led to the rather anomalous situation whereby some refugees may be getting a "free ride" and others, perhaps even on the same ship, have been asked to assume responsibility for repayment under the ICEM Revolving Loan Fund plan. The U. S. Escapee Program has in addition provided funds to JDC for special emigration and assistance projects, which provide us with \$93,000 under contracts negotiated by AJDC Paris emigration headquarters.

Returning to the Migration Committee, this organization is also responsible for providing transportation for European refugees from the Far East with funds made available to them by the liquidation of IRO. The final liquidation of that organization, by the way, will provide another \$900,000 for this purpose, only enough to move perhaps 2,000 of the remaining 15,000 to 18,000 refugees in the Far East, of whom, as Mr. Horwitz mentioned, about 1,000 are our proteges. So there will be a very serious financial problem in a few months in connection with the movement from that area.

At the semi-annual meeting of the 24 government members of the Migration Committee, which began in Venice last week, and which is continuing probably through tomorrow, the U. S. delegation expressed very great concern that during 1953 only the U. S. made any contribution to the operational budget of the Committee with the exception of \$2,000 contributed from Luxemburg. As a result the Committee may face a substantial deficit next year. If the situation should not improve, the U. S. announced that the Committee may have to go into liquidation as of September 1954. Whether this is a threat or a promise depends on the actions to be taken by the other member governments. In all honesty, it must be admitted that the record of the Committee up to now has not been too successful, with only about 82,000 persons expected to be moved this year, of which at least 25% were moved as a result of voluntary agency sponsorship.

Incidentally, the 82,000 represents actual movements, instead of the 120,000 which the Committee predicted at the beginning of the year as the number they would be able to move. I might also mention that the voluntary agencies came in for very high praise at the Venice meeting last week, not only from the ICEM administration, the Migration Committee administration, but from several member governments, the voluntary agencies playing a role today in migration and refugee work which is certainly greater than has ever been true in recent history.

Before explaining our relationship with the U. N. High Commissioner for Refugees during the past year, I would like to remind you that the mandate of the High Commissioner, which went into effect on January 1, 1951, is to expire on December 31 of this year. The United Nations Economic and Social Council, meeting this summer in Geneva, recommended an extension of the mandate for a five-year period and the High Commissioner, Dr. G.J. Van Heuven Goedhart, is now in New York hoping to assist in the acceptance of this recommendation by the General Assembly, as well as in his own re-election for this extended period.

Our most important relationship with the High Commissioner is through his responsibility for administration of the Ford Foundation grant of \$2,900,000 for assistance to refugees. This grant, which was made by the Foundation in August of last year, was to be allocated by the High Commissioner to six agencies (JDC, the American Friends Service Committee, the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the Lutheran World Federation, the World Council of Churches and the YMCA/YWCA) and such other voluntary agencies as the High Commissioner might select. By mutual agreement it was decided that 90% of the \$2,900,000 would go to the six main agencies. JDC's allocated share was \$320,000 which, as you may recall, was agreed upon because the proportion of Jewish refugees today covered by the High Commissioner's mandate is very small by comparison with the non-Jewish refugees. We have four approved projects for our \$320,000, some of which you have already heard about, but I would like to summarize them for you again:

(1) \$190,000 to help finance the costs of the resettlement of TB and post-TB cases and their families in Norway and Sweden which has benefited 106 patients and 75 family members. This project, as you know, has been an outstanding success in terms of the opportunity granted to these unfortunate people by Norway and Sweden.

Here I might add that in Venice the chief of the Norwegian delegation to the Migration Committee took particular pains to tell us how much he appreciated the work of the JDC and how pleased he was with the success of this project and how ready to consider perhaps further patients and families being brought to his country. The only criticism he had to offer of the whole project, and I think this is indeed significant of the attitude of Norway and the other Scandinavian countries, is that in giving them approximately \$1,200 for a TB patient, he thought that we were offering too much money and that this destroyed or tended to destroy the humanitarian aspect. Norway was ready to take patients without such substantial payments for what, I may remind you, is life care.

(2) The second Ford grant is \$50,000 towards the cost of a Community Center for refugees which Mrs. Jarblum has mentioned to you, for refugees and local Jewish population in Paris, with the

balance of funds amounting to approximately \$25,000 each for a total of \$50,000 to be contributed by JDC and the French Jewish Community. Unfortunately, up to now because of the extremely difficult real estate problem in Paris, no start has been made but, again as Mrs. Jarblum told you, we hope that we will be able to collect this money - or rather we've collected most of it - at least to show use for it within the next few months.

(3) The third project has been \$35,000 for revolving loan funds for France and Belgium to enable refugees to start small independent enterprises in order to become self-supporting.

(4) And the last has been \$45,000 for loans to refugees in Germany and Austria either for the purpose of assisting them to integrate in those countries, or to give them funds for special purposes which will enable them to take advantage of resettlement opportunities.

During the past six months the six voluntary agencies and the Office of the High Commissioner have been considering ways and means to interest the Ford Foundation in making a second grant. The formal request for this purpose was sent through to New York last week and while the High Commissioner is in New York, initial negotiations will take place, by him and the U. S. representatives of the agencies, with the Ford Foundation. It is difficult to say at this time whether the Foundation will accept this request for another grant. The Foundation will be asked to consider a three-year grant, since the agencies and the High Commissioner believe that it is extremely difficult to plan the most effective kinds of projects if they are limited to a one-year basis. Of course, if this idea would be rejected by Ford, another one-year grant would be considered quite acceptable by all concerned.

Our relationship with the High Commissioner also includes our work in Shanghai since the High Commissioner has a representative in Hongkong through whom he dispenses certain very limited funds provided for him by the liquidation of IRO for care and maintenance of certain eligible cases, including Jewish refugees. In addition to the care and maintenance aspects of the work in the Far East, the High Commissioner has had a certain amount of success in convincing various governments of good will to accept hard-core cases from that area for permanent resettlement. The first of these projects which will have direct benefit for our proteges is now under negotiation between Switzerland and the High Commissioner. As a matter of fact, the Swiss delegate to the Migrations Committee at Venice gave us the formal assurance that ten Jewish cases will be included in the forty who will be accepted. These old people will be housed in the excellent home for the aged, administered by our Swiss subvention agency, the Verband Schweizerischer Juedischer Fluechtlingshilfen.

In addition, we expect that about fifty aged Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria will be included in a plan just announced by the High Commissioner under which about 700 refugees will be taken for life care in England.

Having just mentioned the Verband, the partner and subventioned agency of JDC for the past decade, I should like to complete my report with a few words about our work together during the past year, and problems and prospects for the future. The Verband began the year 1953 with 698 assisted refugees and will probably end the year with approximately 640, the number remaining from what was once 10,000 persons assisted by that organization. Our subvention during 1953 will total 345,000 Swiss francs or about \$80,000 on a scale which began in January at the rate of 35,000 francs a month and will end in December with 20,000 francs a month. Only four years ago, with a caseload twice as large, our subvention was 200,000 francs a month or ten times what it should be at the end of this year. A major reason for this reduction is that AJDC is no longer the senior partner in the subventioning of the Verband. The Swiss Government fulfils this role with a grant of approximately 1,000,000 francs, about three times as much as that of the JDC, whereas in 1953 the Swiss Jewish Community itself contributed slightly less than the JDC in the amount of approximately 300,000 Swiss francs.

Who are the 650 people still requiring assistance eight years after the end of the war? There is, of course, the so-called hard-core group, including a substantial number of aged and of TB cases, which have constituted such an extremely difficult medical and social problem for the Verband and JDC during the past few years. The work with the TB cases was brought into more or less manageable proportions, largely as a result of the efforts of Miss Deborah Levy who was assigned to our office as medical social worker in 1950 and, subsequently, became head of the Verband TB department until February of this year, when she was reassigned to our operation in Germany. This group of TB cases today includes 14 who are still in sanatoria and 56 who are receiving care and supervision in the so-called stabilized stage of their recovery - post TB's. By the end of this year it is expected that five or six of this latter group will emigrate, leaving a total of about 65 cases. It is reasonable to assume that the number will continue to be reduced very gradually and, for a few years to come, there will undoubtedly be at least 30 or 40 TB cases remaining who will be requiring some kind of assistance to adjust in Switzerland.

This statement is made under the assumption that it will be possible to continue the AJDC-Verband policy of accepting no new TB cases in Switzerland, a policy which officially went into effect six years ago and which has been carried out effectively within the past three or four years. Of course, for those of you who heard me make my reports in the past, it is quite unnecessary for



me to repeat the statement that AJDC headquarters' medical staff, as well as the AJDC office in Geneva and our Executive Committee believe that Switzerland is one of the worst places to attempt to treat TB cases, contrary to the general impression. Nor will those of you who have heard my previous reports consider it necessary for me to say that OSE Suisse, in particular, has continued to combat this policy which in 1950 resulted in the closing of the two sanatoria which we had previously subventioned for them in Switzerland. In this respect the year 1953 has not been different from the previous years, since OSE once again made an effort, and this time a very far-reaching one, to re-enter the field of treatment of Jewish TB refugees in Switzerland. This attempt involved their making statements to the Swiss Government, to the High Commissioner, to Swiss Aid for Europe, that there were active TB cases in Camp Foehrenwald, who were not being treated in sanatoria due to lack of beds, and that the only solution for these people was to come to Switzerland for a short period of treatment. To determine the facts, JDC of course pointed out that no such situation existed. The Swiss Government, which was prepared to give limited financial assistance to a project to cure TB cases who would stay in Switzerland six months to a year, asked Swiss Aid to Europe to send a doctor and a social worker to Germany to investigate the position. As a result of this survey an official statement was made by the Swiss Aid to Europe recognizing that all active TB patients among Jewish refugees were receiving the care they required in Germany and that the OSE plan to bring patients to Switzerland for a so-called temporary period of six months to a year would serve no useful purpose. Since the Swiss organizations and the Swiss Government were unable to accept our counter-proposal that certain chronic TB patients should be brought to Switzerland for life care, as was being done in Sweden and Norway, the OSE project died a natural death. But judging from past behaviour OSE will not abandon its plan so easily and, particularly in view of the opportunities which they feel may be offered under funds from the Conference on Material Claims, we may hear more from them in the near future.

Of course, the opportunity offered by the Material Claims funds is one of which other Swiss Jewish organizations will wish to take advantage; in fact, any other reaction on their part would be most surprising. Once again, this is a special problem for AJDC because, as I said, our only subventioned agency in Switzerland is the Verband, the refugee assistance committee of the Gemeindebund. Some of the organizations formerly subventioned by us may wish to use Claims Conference funds for purposes which neither JDC nor the Verband would approve. In fact, in most cases the basis for our termination of subvention to these Swiss Jewish organizations during the past few years was not only because of limited funds available for expenditure in Switzerland, but because we had certain basic questions about the purpose and methods of these organizations. As to whether the opinion of AJDC in such matters will prevail in the allocation of Claims Conference funds, we shall probably hear more later this week.

But the whole future relationship of the JDC and the Verband itself may be vitally affected by allocations of Claims Conference funds. On the basis of financial contributions from other sources, such as the Government and the Jewish Community on the one hand, and the diminishing caseload on the other, there was good reason to assume that JDC's subvention to the Verband would terminate if not at the end of this year, then almost certainly in 1954. In other words, after a considerable difficult and successful effort on the part of both JDC and the Verband, the problem of assistance to Jewish refugees in Switzerland has reached the point, or is about to, when it can be handled entirely from local sources of income. But the availability of Claims Conference funds appears to change all this. As you will hear in a moment from Mr. Heim, the President of the Verband, who has so ably directed this organization in close and successful cooperation with the JDC, the Swiss Jewish Community feels that, at least to some extent, their share of this burden should be reduced so that their contribution to the care of Jewish refugees in Switzerland would be smaller, as a result of the availability of Claims Conference funds. Furthermore, the question has been raised as to whether the availability of these new funds should not make it possible for some changes in the policy of the Verband, whereby cases who were formerly refused assistance might not now become eligible for aid. For our part, we are not yet sure what the answer to such a proposal should be, but we certainly would have grave doubts if liberalizing the assistance program of the Verband would result in changing the basic policy which has encouraged and enabled people to become independent by emigration or other means. And we would strongly oppose any project which might once again create a revived program in Switzerland for refugees suffering from tuberculosis.

We realize that the implications of these remarks are rather far-reaching and the answers to the questions raised are not simple. I know, however, I am expressing the point of view of my colleagues and our visitors from the United States when I say that if one considers the real meaning of the payment of the German Government to the Jewish organizations, the responsibility for the use of these funds is indeed a heavy one. We hope that in Switzerland, as elsewhere, this responsibility can be carried out without reference to personal, organizational or political interests, but only with reference to the real, long-range interests of the refugees with whose welfare AJDC and local Jewish community organizations have been entrusted.

MR. JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Rice. Your Chairman now has to deal with two traditions of country directors conferences. One is to call on Mr. Otto Heim to round out the presentation of Mr. Rice, the other is to call for a break of a few minutes. I think we shall have the break first, so that we can better appreciate what Mr. Heim has to say. Alright Mr. Heim, if you prefer to give your speech first we'll stay for it. But before you start, Mr. Heim, some people seem to think that I have not properly introduced you. I thought that Mr. Rice had already done that. In order to make perfectly sure that everybody knows who you are, I wrote something down here which I may apply here now - if I can find it - and that is that I said there are always some questions as to who is the real boss in Switzerland, whether Mr. Rice or you. Mr. Heim is the President of the Swiss Jewish Refugee Work Organization for which Mr. Rice used the German title, which probably very few people understood. Anyhow, there exists a mutual admiration society between Mr. Rice and Mr. Heim so that it is not really very important for me to go further into the question of who is the boss.



ADDRESS ON

VERBAND SCHWEIZERISCHER JUEDISCHER FLUECHTLINGSHILFEN

By

Otto H. Heim

Allow me to start my report with some figures. I want to draw your attention to the fact that in 1944 the Verband Schweizerischer Juedischer Fluechtlingshilfen had to take care of about 25,000 Jewish refugees; 10,000 out of these had to be assisted financially. These figures dropped very considerably and at the end of 1950 the Verband had a caseload of about 1200 only to whom it had to provide the costs of living. At the end of 1952 there were left about 700. From the end of last year until today - and this is the important fact to consider - the figures of our caseload dropped very, very slowly and from May/June became more or less constant. For the first time in the Verband's history, in September 1953, the caseload of the previous months had even increased from 663 to 666. It is today 659.

In these figures are included cases for which the VSJF - strictly speaking - has no responsibility of its own; for instance, the OSE cases or those of the Central British Fund which, like some other special cases, have been kindly turned over to the VSJF from AJDC. Half of today's subvention to the Verband covers cases for which, in one way or another, AJDC and not the Verband is responsible. AJDC's financial help to VSJF's own cases is today rather insignificant and does not cover more than 10% of VSJF's normal budget. There is ample evidence making me believe that the Verband has to consider a financial responsibility for a caseload of over 600 people for one, two or more years.

For years and years, the Verband did all its best to reduce its caseload and I think it did even very well in this respect, helped and pushed more or less politely by AJDC's very able representative in Switzerland, my friend Mr. Rice, whose criticism and whose pushing I have always appreciated very much, because it has always been in a spirit of friendly cooperation. I do envy Mr. Rice for his clever handling of financial matters. I think I'll ask him to change sides with me. I should like him to be the boss of my cotton firm in Zurich and I could take over his position in Geneva. My firm would certainly make more money under Mr. Rice and so would the Verband if I had Jimmy Rice's job!

Anyhow, I do think, the moment has come to change our policy towards our protégés and to leave them all more or less in peace and even to try to help them to find in Switzerland a real Dauerasyll. Of course,

there are some dozens of cases which need our assistance to leave our country and the Verband will do its best to give them emigration facilities, but I think the main part of our former refugees will have to be integrated in the Swiss population. I have told the Swiss Federal Authorities many times that, if about 600 Jewish refugees will stay permanently in Switzerland out of a one-time total of 10,000 assistees, it will be a real bargain for the Swiss authorities because we all estimated that for years and years we would have to take care of a thousand at least. There are another thousand Jewish refugees in Switzerland who settled down, who are economically independent. Occasionally, one or the other of them loses his job and is taken over again by the Verband, always with the consent and financial help of the Swiss Authorities.

We cannot count anymore on emigration to Israel, because Israel has lost most of its temptation for our refugees in Switzerland. We have - even in Switzerland - the very difficult problem of our Israeli returnees. They do not concern the Verband properly, but the VSJF is, in a way, responsible for all official Jewish social work in Switzerland and so we are trying to help the Swiss Jewish communities to face this new problem. We advised them very firmly indeed not to assist any returnee from Israel. An Israeli with an Israeli passport has to be treated like any American, Englishman or Swiss in any foreign country, which means that the nearest Israeli Consulate is responsible for him. Neither those Israeli returnees nor the Israeli Consulate sympathize with this point of view, but when in Zurich we turned over some of these returnees to the public official welfare offices of our city, these authorities telephoned the Israeli Consulate and, whether they liked it or not, they had to take up the matter and assume their moral and financial responsibility for these returnees. Of course, this strict official attitude of ours cannot be maintained in all cases. It is one thing to give instructions and quite another to face personally these poor beggars. Some of them have reasons to leave Israel, reasons which from a human point of view we can try to understand. It is, of course, a grotesque situation. I shall never forget the moment, when, some weeks ago, in dealing with some returnees from Israel who had come from Bolivia to Israel and then wanted to go to Germany, one of my social assistants revealed to them that there is an illegal way to enter Germany, and they told her that they would feel thankful to her for the rest of their lives if she should show them this way to go back to Germany.

You can understand how we must feel, after having worked for 20 years to make it possible for Jews to leave Germany, if they ask us now to help them return there. Our mind cannot grasp the anomaly of a situation where enormous sums have been collected and are still being collected, even in Switzerland, to help Israel, and now Israeli returnees have to be assisted again out of Jewish money. We have drawn the attention of the Israeli Ambassador in Switzerland to this situation and it is up to him to try to change things as far as they can be changed in

Israel. It is too easy to become an Israeli citizen with an Israeli passport, and Israel's new policy of allowing everybody to leave the country has its consequences which its Government is at a loss to cope with.

There is another very important problem to which I want to draw your attention: it is the claim of Swiss Jewry on the Claims Conference-money. The Schweizerische Israelitische Gemeindebund, a member of the World Jewish Congress, has made a claim for a one time and exceptional grant for the VSJF for \$100,000 for additional and exceptional projects related to our activities, such as modernizing and rebuilding of our old aged home in Vevey, and for another \$85,000 for some other Swiss Jewish welfare organizations. This claim, in accordance with AJDC, had been made directly to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany in New York and it was probably dealt with at the meeting which took place on October 15th. For the normal budget of the Verband I have agreed with AJDC's Headquarters that AJDC will provide the means as it did for years and years. But there is a very important difference; for all the past years, "poor little Switzerland" had to beg for AJDC's money. Now Switzerland has a justified claim to receive money from the Claims Conference and it is even justified to ask for easing Swiss Jewry's burden in paying for its refugees. I have to tell you that Swiss Jewry, during the last 20 years, spent about 4 million dollars for Jewish refugees in Switzerland; that means proportionally for American Jewry one billion dollars! It is a fact that with 20,000 Jews in Switzerland, out of whom only 4,000 are members of Jewish communities, American Jewry is 250 times bigger. Swiss Jewry did not do so badly at all up to now and its firm intention to obtain its justified share of Claims Conference-money for the work the Verband still has to do, will find, as I hope, your approval. \$100,000 for 1954's budget will certainly be a fair contribution.

I thank you.

MR. JORDAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Heim. We shall now have the break which I promised you. Let's make it short, because we still have a large program ahead of us.

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Ladies and gentlemen. Our next speaker is Mr. Mansbach, Director of the AIVG, Brussels, which is the largest Jewish welfare agency in Belgium, with which the JDC has worked over a long period of time and which now acts as our representative agency in Belgium. Mr. Mansbach.



ADDRESS ON BELGIUM

By

Guy Mansbach

A French proverb says that people who have no history are happy people. I, for my part, cannot agree with this because although we, in Belgium, have no sensational events to report, it certainly cannot be said that we are especially happy.

In the framework of the internal organization of the AIVG we have liquidated two important services since last year's conference: one of our three children's Homes was closed and its population was distributed between the two remaining Homes. Although we have thus realized the planned saving, we experienced serious difficulties from the pedagogical point of view because we have had to mix orthodox children with others who were not. What happened is that despite the fact that educators in charge of the children tried very hard to maintain the orthodox principles in which they had been raised, they nevertheless adjusted to the non-orthodox group. We know, of course, that this reorganization was inevitable but we cannot ignore the prejudice this brought to the education and development of the children.

The second saving consisted in the closing of our dispensary. We have made arrangements with several doctors to see our clients in their own consultation rooms. Furthermore, the distribution of pharmaceuticals which was formerly done by us is now effected by a Jewish pharmacy. This solution is perhaps not ideal but on the whole it proved satisfactory.

These two reductions are the main cuts we were able to make in order to diminish our deficit. As a matter of fact, it has not been possible yet to absorb the previous budget reductions of the JDC. At the same time as we tried to reduce our expenses we endeavoured to increase our income by appealing to the local community. I have already had the opportunity last year to mention the creation, in July 1952, of the Centrale d'Oeuvres Sociales Juives, which was the first effort of united fund-raising made in Brussels. Since then a year has elapsed, a year during which enormous efforts have been made to obtain satisfactory results. The following are the positive aspects of what has been achieved: the new organization is already quite well known among the public and, what is even more, the member organizations do not threaten to leave yet. In fact we feared that if the CENTRALE did not achieve anything in the course of its first year of existence some organizations would be tempted to withdraw in order to try their luck on their own. But since the CENTRALE has already raised 80% more than what the individual organizations managed to raise during the past



years, they do not think of leaving.... Other organizations who refused to become members at the time of the creation of the CENTRALE, at present start to seek an approach.

As far as the AIVG is concerned we have received from the CENTRALE since one year more than double the amount we had been able to raise on our own in the past. But, I must say that what we had raised ourselves did not amount to very much, so that the present contribution of the CENTRALE still represents only an insignificant part of our total requirements. Nevertheless, the contribution of the CENTRALE in its first year of existence constitutes already an increase of our income, whereas we had thought that we would have to be satisfied only with the statu quo ante. I believe therefore that in this respect at least something was achieved and above all that we have worked with an eye for the future.

Now for the less optimistic aspects of the question: the greatest difficulty we encounter is to find enough volunteers willing and able to do the actual fund-raising job. Here like in many other sectors we still feel the lack of leadership which is a consequence of the war. As a matter of fact, apart from the delegates of the various member organizations, the CENTRALE can only count until now on a very limited number of men and women of good will. Under the circumstances the CENTRALE can, of course, not be considered yet as representing the local community. To illustrate this, I might tell you that when we recently asked the Chairman of the CENTRALE what would happen if for instance the JDC would cut its subvention by half, he answered that all the CENTRALE could do in such a situation would be to express its regrets. He added that he himself and his colleagues were doing the utmost right now and that no deterioration of the present status could increase this effort. Only on the day when more collaborators will be available will it be possible to reach through them a greater part of the Jewish population, and only then will it be possible to expect a reaction to such a situation. At the present time, however, and although much has been achieved already, there still exists a gap between the CENTRALE and the bulk of the Jewish population. All our efforts are now aimed at filling this gap, but this is a question of time and patience.

We understand, of course, that the JDC is impatient and wonders how long its help will still be needed. The situation as compared to last year from the point of view of our social work shows a real stabilization. In fact, our case-load hardly varies. Cases which can be closed are immediately replaced by new ones. Right after the war we ourselves, like the JDC, were hoping that after a few years the situations created by the war would be solved, and that the rehabilitation and the reconstruction of the population would be achieved. As you know, this has not happened. Why? First of all, for a number of war victims, conditions of health and age rendered a re-establishment quite impossible. It is sad to say that they shall remain on relief for the rest of their lives. We still find today that the consequences of war, of persecutions, of deportations and of moral and physical sufferings have been far greater than we thought.

Moreover, when we examine the new cases submitted to us we find that, although they do not concern direct victims of the war, the reasons for their state of need frequently are indirect consequences of the war. For instance, last week we received a request for help from an old man; he wrote from the hospital saying that his two sons were deported, that he had managed to earn his living since the end of the war, but that since he was taken ill and brought to the hospital he was absolutely without means and forced at the age of 76 to ask our help. Another case of last week concerns a woman who remained alone with two little girls. She had been assisted by us for some time. Since two years the girls were working and the family became self-supporting. Now one of the girls became ill and the other one had an accident which the insurance did not cover. Under the circumstances the mother was forced to turn to us once more. I could cite many other such cases. But nearly always we can say that had there been no war nearly all the people concerned would not have had to turn to us.

Can this burden of the old caseload and the new cases be borne by the local community? I think that in this respect Belgium has, if not a unique, at least an exceptional position. I have mentioned at previous occasions already that the Belgian Aliens' Police was more amenable than in other countries of Europe. I have had a new proof of this recently in Holland. You probably know that whereas in Belgium the Jewish population is composed of approximately 90% of foreigners and of a maximum of 10% of nationals, this proportion is almost reversed in Holland where there are certainly not even 10% of foreign Jews. This situation is maintained by the severity of the Dutch Police. During my recent visit to Amsterdam I questioned, together with Mr. Acohen, the person in charge of the Social Service about the problem of transients, and was told that this problem did not exist for them because every time a transient arrived the Police car stood ready and he was expelled from the country without any delay. The situation is such that the organization would not even dare give him any help. I asked further what would happen if by any chance a transient should succeed in reaching their office, and was amiably told that he would then be advised to go to Belgium. Having thanked her for this delicate attention, I was assured by the employee that I was perfectly welcome. Seriously, now, she explained to me that this was indeed the only solution for any transient, because most of them came from Germany and did not want to return, and furthermore Belgium is the only bordering country and one of the few countries where they had a good chance of being permitted to stay. If one considers that this has now been going on for 20 years, and that during these 20 years Belgium has nearly always accepted refugees, it becomes clear that it is quite difficult for the Belgian community to face the ensuing problem by itself. And what is this community in reality? Is it formed by the 10% of Belgian Jews? Can one consider, as members of the community, the considerable number of residents who have only a temporary permit of stay bearing the stamp "doit emigrer" and who

live from day to day? Or can one consider, as responsible members of a community, the great majority of those who need a visa for the shortest trip abroad, who need a working permit for any kind of activity and risk legal pursuit if they are not quite in order?

I think that one of the most pertinent indications of the stability of a population and of its living conditions is the figure of its emigration. Based upon the statistical abstract of the JDC for 1952, we find that the percentage of emigrants compared with the total number of the Jewish population is, in Belgium, 0.88. Conditions in France, for instance, are certainly not ideal, but the percentage there amounts to 0.28 only. The figures for pending applications are even more significant: Belgium 4.8%, France 1.09%. And these are the figures for the JDC emigration office only.

Now to come back to the problems which have held our attention during the past year, I must mention the question of transients again. Whether they come from behind the Iron Curtain as they claim, or whether they come from Israel as we suppose in many cases, this changes nothing in the fact that they keep arriving. Surprisingly enough, since we have decided that we would help cases of particular hardship, we do not come across such cases anymore; all we get are single young men. They usually arrive in groups of 3 or 4; they usually know other transients and they usually are of Hungarian origin. Another common characteristic is that they immediately become brutal and shout at the top of their voices. We had hoped for some time that by consistently refusing our help newcomers would be discouraged; we had to admit, though, that no rebuke is strong enough and that our social workers have to begin every day anew to refuse our intervention. The social worker may be trained in the States or may be a Paul Bauerwald graduate or simply a Belgian product - none of them has the technique to make this sort of client peacefully accept the fact that nothing can be done for him. We have always avoided calling the police, and these special clients, knowing this, put no brakes on their outburst. The social worker in charge of their reception can only give them a negative answer and ask them to leave, because as soon as she listens to their individual histories it is very hard not to get involved. This situation is getting more complicated by the fact that the Belgian authorities display extreme generosity and understanding towards refugees claiming to be coming from the East. Thus, for instance, a young man residing in Belgium would never obtain from the Public Assistance the help which a refugee from an Iron Curtian country receives without any difficulty after his arrival in Belgium. It is because of these facilities that refugees are encouraged to try and remain in the country, but since the financial help given them by the State is not altogether sufficient to cover their expenses, they turn to us. I hasten to add that we have decided that as a general rule no relief will be paid to them, but the strain on our employees is getting to be unbearable and the problem continues to exist.

Another and quite different aspect of our work of the past year which is worth mentioning is the vacation plan for the children of our Homes. It consisted in an exchange of children between Belgium and Holland, which turned out to be an exceptional success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank again Mr. Acohen who has made it possible to carry out our project. Although both countries are partners in Benelux, their nationals seldom visit in their respective countries. No wonder therefore that our kids left without much enthusiasm. But what we expected really happened, namely, they came back absolutely delighted and declared that never in their life had they spent such wonderful vacations. This result was the more gratifying as these vacations cost us far less than any previous ones, since the travelling costs are insignificant. This is the first time that such an exchange of total Home populations was effected, and the fact that it proved such a success is even enhanced because all these youngsters have thus come to appreciate their respective partners in the Benelux framework.

In the course of this year we have further been able, through the intervention of the JDC, to grant long-term interest-free loans from the Ford Foundation. The attempts made in favour of assistees to become self-supporting and to re-establish them are undoubtedly worthy of every consideration. The basis for this kind of work has, however, been quite different in Belgium from that in France, for instance. In France the problem of lodgings is most important, and quite often by helping a person acquire a lodging his problem is solved. In Belgium, however, lodgings while very expensive are quite easy to get, and therefore do not constitute the same problem. The monies provided by the Ford Foundation are used to help assistees establish little commercial enterprises. Unfortunately, in most cases the amounts available are not sufficient to allow the realization of really interesting projects.

Another question which has held our attention in the past year is the amelioration of the quality of our social work. Previously, we have had the advantage of the collaboration of professors of the Paul Bauerwald School, who gave seminars in Belgium. This year, however, it was not possible for them to continue these seminars. Our problem was the following: what we wanted was to improve the quality of our social workers who could not for many reasons attend courses at the Paul Bauerwald School. We succeeded in solving this problem by obtaining the collaboration of a highly qualified American social worker who happens to be temporarily staying in Brussels; she has organized seminars on the topic of introduction to casework, and assists us with her counsels in matters of organization and social work principles.

I would like to mention now a few of the questions raised by Judah Shapiro and which appeared in a recent circular letter. The question of the integration of the migrant Jewish population into the total

Jewish community of our country was already answered, I think, earlier in my expose. As to the question whether there is a continuing need for professional supervision and guidance in the conduct of the work, we would like to answer in the affirmative. We are convinced that, next to the job of distribution of funds, the JDC can render very great services. Its prestige is such that its advice is accepted without discussion - or at least with far less discussion than if it were given by any other organization. May I give you the following example of this: we have in Brussels an Old Age Home which is entirely self-supporting and for several years now receives no subvention from the JDC. Since quite some time already our attention has been held by the fact that the old people of this Home have no activity whatsoever, and that this Home constitutes in fact only an anteroom of death. Our attempts to change this remained without any success. But when the JDC came and offered to send a competent person to study the possibility to organize adequate forms of activity for the aged, the proposition was immediately accepted. To achieve this, two facts have been necessary: first, that the offer be made by JDC, and further, that such a competent person should exist.

Another example was given on the occasion of the exhibition of Jewish books initiated by Judah Shapiro. Had it not been for the intervention of the JDC, this exhibition would never have been held. The religious community who organized this manifestation were not at all enthused by the project, but although they had never received any subvention from the JDC they did not want to reject its proposition. They have been very surprised - as we have all been - to see that some 4,000 people visited the exhibition, which means one-fifth of the total Jewish population of Brussels, a figure which has never been attained by any Zionist, cultural or political manifestation. To answer one other of Mr. Shapiro's questions even more clearly, I can say that the relationship of the JDC with the community is such that the JDC can be an acceptable partner for certain activities despite considerable reduction in the funds available from JDC. But I hasten to add that this partnership shall certainly not be less acceptable if there are no considerable reductions of funds.

Further, I believe that apart from its financial assistance, the JDC can provide a number of valuable services which no other organization could provide. I mentioned already the field of cultural manifestations, like the exhibition of Jewish books. The teaching and propagation of American social service techniques is another sector of activity. In the field of fund-raising, too, we could greatly benefit from American experience.

There is still another question which I believe is of particular importance. It concerns the exchange of experience and information among the various Jewish social agencies of Europe. We are absolutely unaware of what is being done in other countries and we suppose that in other countries the same feeling prevails too. I think that the tremendous efforts which are being made everywhere would be more profitable if

information about them could be circulated regularly. I suppose that the JDC has - or could easily obtain - this kind of information, and could give the benefit of it to the various national organizations.

This enumeration is, according to the formula used in Court, only exemplary, and in no way limitative. The problem, as we see it, is the following at present.

In Belgium there are some 40,000 Jews left. This figure has been more or less stabilized now but this community has suffered far greater losses than those that can be expressed in figures. The war caused a considerable loss of wealth; it also caused the loss of competent leadership at a time when it would have been most needed to face the many problems constituted by the tremendous number of needy people; and above all it caused a destruction of body and soul. The reparation of all these damages is a long-term proposition.

And this leads me to answer the last question, namely, whether the JDC's role is one of an emergency organization in the sense similar to the Red Cross - mandated to deal with crises and catastrophes. I am sorry if my answer is not very original and mentions facts which are certainly better known to you than to myself. But what is the role of the Red Cross in a catastrophe? The situations the Red Cross has to deal with usually concern a limited part of the population in a limited part of a country; the damage is mostly material. Once the Red Cross, whose action stretches over a short period of time, has brought its material help, it has done its duty and can consider that the damage is repaired. The people who benefited from this help will resume normal life again. How does this compare with our work? As a matter of fact, since the war, the JDC has undertaken various activities which were inspired by quite a different spirit from the one of emergency help and which all aimed at the reconstruction of a destroyed people. The Jews of America, through the channel of the JDC, met the unprecedented catastrophe which befell our people by an unprecedented movement of solidarity and generosity which is probably unique in the history of the Jewish people and maybe of mankind. It is my feeling that such an enterprise is worth being continued and conducted to its successful end.

MR. JORDAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Mansbach for a very interesting paper.

We have had a full day and a very interesting one, I think. I also think it is rather late now for the speakers and the listeners to start another presentation. With my apologies to all our friends from Sweden, Norway, Holland and Greece, I therefore propose that we put the remaining papers over until tomorrow and that we recess now.



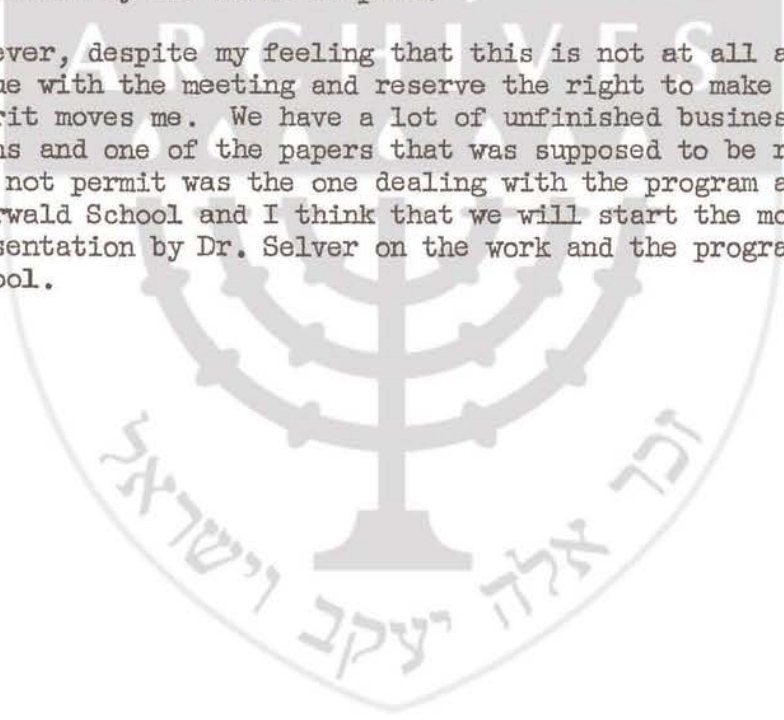
SIXTH SESSION

Wednesday morning, October 21, 1953

Chairman - Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz

DR. SCHWARTZ: Ladies and gentlemen. I am sure that at this stage in the proceedings you will be devastated by the announcement that I have no introductory statement to make. As a matter of fact, as I look over this program, I'm a little bit devastated myself because I noticed that at all of the sessions up to this morning, provision was made for the presiding officer to make introductory statements or introductory remarks. It's only when they got down to the level of Moe Leavitt and myself that they cut it out and in my case they even rubbed it in because they have an introductory statement by one Judah Shapiro.

However, despite my feeling that this is not at all accidental, I'll continue with the meeting and reserve the right to make a speech any time the spirit moves me. We have a lot of unfinished business from previous sessions and one of the papers that was supposed to be read yesterday but time did not permit was the one dealing with the program and work of the Paul Baerwald School and I think that we will start the morning session with a presentation by Dr. Selver on the work and the program of the Paul Baerwald School.





ADDRESS ON PAUL BAERWALD SCHOOL

By

Dr. Henry Selver

In thinking of the report for this year I went into arithmetic. I tried to figure out the relative results of 15 minutes talking time divided by 4 years of operation, by about 100 people whom we call "full time" students, since they graduated from the school in Versailles, by about 120 to 140 trainees in short term courses and in in-service training programs, and by about 10 countries from Sweden to Morocco and to Israel, as against 15 minutes time divided by 4 to 5 countries and 6 to 7 training programs. And I asked myself whether the arithmetic should suggest a review or a preview of our work. Actually the problem was solved for me by our Belgian colleagues. A few days ago, I received the minutes of a meeting of the schools of social work in Belgium in which they discussed the reorganization of their training programs and in which it was stated that they would submit their plans to the "Directeur de l'ancienne Ecole Paul Baerwald".

Now, we were in the midst of preparing for our new programs and did not feel at all "anciens" ! The question of what we are doing now reached us from other quarters and other people, in and outside of JDC and, therefore, I decided to devote the time allotted to me here to a report on our new program.

I think it is good to state that we are still the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work. It is true we closed the institution in Versailles, but we continue our function - the function for which we were established, which is to train indigenous welfare personnel for Jewish communities, primarily in those countries in which the JDC has assumed the task of building up their communal and social service organization. Our job remains to teach and to train welfare personnel, and not to administer or operate Social Service departments or social agencies. A school is constituted by its teachers, its books, its students and its program. As of to-day, our teachers have either arrived in their new duty stations or are "en route" to them, with the exception of one whom we haven't gotten yet. Our staff has been augmented by two foreign service people, and we and the New York office have found it rather tough these days to find qualified American social workers ready for temporary assignments abroad.

The students we will find in the countries of those JDC directors who call us in. They are the workers of either your own Social Service Departments or the personnel of the local social agencies, medical dispensaries and kindergartens which you have established and developed. As to our program, it will be in accordance with the needs in any given operation - either short intensive training courses for beginners in the field, or in-service training for active personnel, or both. It is with respect to our future program that I should like to underline here two significant characteristics which will distinguish it, somehow, from the program of running a school in Versailles:

First, we train on the spot and our teaching thus becomes directly and intimately related to the community and the social agency in which our trainees are actually working. We will teach the worker how to function best in the concrete conditions as they are, instead of discussing these conditions in a class-room in such a distant place as Versailles. Thus, different competences and skills will have to be emphasized in our training in such different places as Paris, Casablanca, Fez, Tunis or Tel-Aviv, all in accordance with the stage of development in which these various communities and their social agencies find themselves. Our teachers, being on the spot, will know the community resources as they exist, the cultural patterns and attitudes of the people as they prevail, the organizational and administrative set-up of the agencies as they function, and within this frame, the teacher will move with the workers to assess, to organize, to change and to develop the services. Our teachers, in the capacity of technical consultants, will become much more involved than hitherto in the administration of your local agencies and the social planning going on in the community.

I think that Henry Levy, in his presentation on Tunis, gave a pretty good example of what we mean by this. There we were training in the social service of the Jewish Community; and in trying to increase the confidence of the workers as well as the administrative personnel, we cannot avoid redefining the function of the agency, establishing the proper administrative procedures, and turning a so-called multiple function agency into an agency which knows and fulfills its primary function. Something similar will have to take place in the medical social service of OSE Casablanca in the future.

Together with the young workers, our teachers will be in the front line of actual practice, and we are sure that it will test their ingenuity and resourcefulness time and again. In establishing some guiding principles for the contents and methods of our future training programs, my colleagues and I have had very much in mind the various levels of social work practice we will find in the different communities, and the necessity to teach various social work abilities in accordance with these levels.

There is another aspect to our new form of work. In becoming part of the local communities, we become directly a part of the JDC director's operation in the country. It is the country director and his co-workers who will establish for us the priorities in training, the numbers and types of personnel to be reached, the social services to be developed, the scope of our program in their communities. Of course, this will have to be done in coordination with the objectives of Paris Headquarters and its various Departments. Ours will be the pedagogical autonomy in determining the content and methods of our training programs. For this coming year, therefore, our plans were established jointly on the basis of a careful assessment of needs and priorities by the country directors, their chief collaborators, Paris Headquarters and the School, and this is the route we are going to follow.

MOROCCO: For the PBS, this is actually the largest program inasmuch as we have assigned to it two social workers for the whole academic year and two kindergarten and day care teachers, one of whom will divide her time between Morocco and Tunis. In both fields, social service and kindergarten work, to a certain extent new auxiliary staff will have to be developed, but great emphasis in the programs will be put on the development of supervisory and administrative personnel in the local agencies as well as supplementary training for the practitioners. Above all, we hope that our teachers will become instrumental in helping the local staff to develop whatever new social services will have to be developed in Morocco.

I should like to mention here the special project which Mr. Bein, in his presentation, referred to in passing, in which he has taken the initiative and in which we hope that he will succeed. On the basis of the activity of the Paul Baerwald School in Morocco, an effort will be made to obtain from the local Jewish communities and the Alliance Israelite a greater participation in our training programs, and from the authorities the eventual recognition of our trainees. Morocco has no indigenous training facilities to speak of. The need for welfare personnel is urgent, and as in any other country in such a situation, the necessary development of professional cadres will have to proceed by means of short term training and in-service training. We have prepared an outline of the program we suggest with such a long range view in mind, and hope that it can form the basis for the necessary discussions in Morocco. Our plan, among other things, aims at finding local experts such as physicians, psychologists, sociologists, lawyers, who practice in Morocco and who, under the direction of the school, will teach general subjects while the PBS instructors will continue to teach the methods and techniques of social work and kindergarten work.

A good beginning in enlisting the help of local experts as teachers of our students in Morocco has been made during the last year and a half; we will need more of them for the fuller program.

There is no question in our minds that the larger participation by local people, and the eventual recognition of the training of our practitioners by the authorities, would contribute greatly to the solution of a number of complicated problems which handicap the welfare work in Morocco because of the lack of qualified personnel. The field would become more attractive to better qualified people, the eternal question of salaries could be settled by some official regulations, and a sufficient supply of indigenous personnel could be provided for the local communities in their own efforts to organize their communal and welfare work. In due time, and through a special effort by the Paul Baerwald School, local training facilities could be developed to the point where they would replace our activities in Morocco.

If this scheme is accepted and put into effect in Morocco, perhaps something similar can be accomplished in TUNIS, where, anyway, our alumnae and some community leaders have been thinking of obtaining for the social workers and kindergarten teachers without the French Diplome d'Etat some form of official standing - they call it down there the Diplome de Recuperation. For the time being, in agreement with the country director, our plans for Tunis provide for the coming year an in-service training program of about three months duration for active personnel in the social agencies and kindergartens.

But there is always a hitch to all these plans. We have found, whether we like it or not, that the qualification for social work does not disqualify our young practitioners from marriage and childbirth and, therefore, there is always a question of replacement in countries where there is no reserve of qualified personnel. This situation may happen in fact at all times on our training programs.

For the first time, the Paul Baerwald School teachers will go into ISRAEL to conduct training programs. They will work in the social service department of Malben which, under the direction of Rae Levine, struggles to get on a solid footing of professional competence.

Three teachers have been assigned to this job, of whom two have already arrived and one will follow as soon as we have found her. Our program will be in-service training, in the strict sense of the word, for rank and file and supervisory personnel. I cannot refrain from saying here frankly that we consider the assignment in Malben a real challenge, and we go into it with an inner engagement which is not just professional since Malben is part of Israel.

Finally, one of the old guards of the Paul Baerwald School faculty remains in France. Her assignment also is in in-service training for active personnel in local agencies, particularly on the supervisory level, and continuation of the courses we have started for the teachers' training school of the Alliance Israelite in Auteuil. Her activity here is the result of a special development which we find noteworthy. Paul Baerwald School while existing in France, never had an assignment of direct service to the personnel of the existing Jewish social agencies. Still, our French Jewish colleagues increasingly showed interest in the methods of our work, and supported and encouraged by the Office for France, we gave for the last year and a half a number of evening courses to the Jewish social workers in Paris. Out of this grew their request to continue and enlarge our activity on their behalf; and with the full endorsement of the country director we are organizing a program of educational group meetings for the staffs of a number of agencies, and an in-service training program for people of supervisory rank and function. The association of French Jewish social workers and the F.S.J.U. have assumed the sponsorship or "patronage" of this program and in a recent meeting we had in the FSJU with the heads of the large agencies, they expressed their interest and full cooperation in this activity suggested to us primarily by the indigenous practitioners in the field.

I should mention here that our particular staff member who carries the program in France has developed a special department, which she calls rightfully "the department of my own time". She had to develop it because of the very full schedule which the school has given her in the Jewish field. In this department, she supervises the Directress of the Catholic School of Social Work in Milan, who was referred to us by the Association of Catholic Schools of Social Work in Italy and the United Nations Technical Assistant in Rome.

The young woman, on the basis of a special scholarship, is spending a year of study in Paris, and to make it meaningful she must have a few months of supervised field work in a social agency. She is doing her field work in Cojasor, the Jewish family Agency in Paris. On her own time, this faculty member also receives in Paris twice a month the newly appointed directress of the School of Social Work of the Catholic faculty of the University of Lille. The lady in question, having been an auditrice in our school for the past year, insists that she cannot reorganize her school without our faculty member as a technical consultant. On her own time further, the latter will try to consult the Belgian Association of Schools of Social Work on their reform plans during my absences. I regret to say that my colleague finds that there is a limit to what she can carry in her special department. There are so many other things which our European colleagues ask us to do for them.

I cannot close this preview of our activities for the next year without turning back for at least a moment to the last four years of the Paul Baerwald School's existence in Versailles. I feel impelled to do so because my colleagues and I are filled with a sense of real indebtedness to all of you who have helped us carry out our assignment during these years. I am sure that, as good American case workers, we have more than once taxed your reserve of patience and understanding, but always you have given us your full cooperation. From our American Advisory Committee and the offices of JDC in New York, from Mr. Beckelman, Mr. Katzki and Mr. Jordan in Paris Headquarters, from Laura Margolis and Auren Kahn in the office for France, from every country director with whom we have been in contact to every member of the staffs here and abroad, we have been helped, encouraged and stimulated. Among the unforgettable experiences we have had during these four years stand particularly your cooperation and help. And since I am expressing thanks, let me add a word on the special cooperation which we need and use, particularly now, to carry out our activities.

I mentioned before that a school is constituted by its teachers, its books, its students and its program. The Paul Baerwald School today particularly has to add one auxiliary service, that of transportation. It is given to us most competently by such people as Herman Goldsmith who packs and ships us, by Manny Rosen and his ever efficient Mr. Pines who puts us on trains, boats and airplanes. We appreciate fully what they do for the Paul Baerwald School.

We are now nine professional people who come to your countries with the experience and whatever abilities we have, to contribute, within our function, to the development of your programs. This year again will be an experimental one and in the course of it we all should evaluate the effect of our undertakings. You will determine where we can be most useful and how long we should carry on. It is our aim to be a fully integrated part of JDC's operations in the countries to which we go. With my colleagues, I am certain that you will help us in attaining this goal.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Thank you very much, Dr. Selver. The Paul Baerwald School, as you know, started about four years ago as an experiment and has now become what may be regarded as a permanent part of the JDC program. We are all gratified at the fine results that have been achieved in the past four years and we look forward to the changed program for 1953 and 1954 with a great deal of confidence that the contribution will be maintained on the same high level. Are there any questions that you would like to put to Dr. Selver in regard to any change in the school's activities?

MR. JORDAN: I have a question. I want to ask Dr. Selver, after our discussion yesterday concerning Germany, whether the Paul Baerwald School plans any courses for indigenous staff in the German Jewish agencies.

DR. SELVER: This question of the Paul Baerwald School stepping into Germany in order to help with some short-term courses in the development of indigenous people who run the social services there has come up through the years. Sam Haber has repeatedly taken the initiative to ask us whether we could come in. I must however say that all this was discussed with a great many question marks, whether the people who are really doing the social service work today in the German communities could profit from any training, particularly since it could be only a very short-term orientation. Now it's the first time that such a request was made on the initiative of the Jewish communities themselves and it reached us at the point where all the manpower we have available has been distributed to definite assignments which do not include Germany. The difficulty with Germany would be that anybody going there would definitely have to be a person who speaks German and to us such requests can at any time be considered and carried through if we can enlarge our staff accordingly. The possibility exists, and I wouldn't suggest this move in Germany to JDC unless it becomes part of a much larger plan.

DR. SCHWARTZ: One of the rewarding pleasures of this work, as far as I am concerned, and I'm sure as far as most of you are concerned, has been our association over the years with a group of people whom we professionals condescendingly call lay people, people who have represented the interests of the JDC and of the local communities in countries like Switzerland - we heard from Mr. Heim yesterday - countries like Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark. I suppose that by now they've taken on the status at least of semi-pros if not full professionals, and it's my pleasure at this time to call on some of these gentlemen for a report from their countries. Most of you here know the next speaker intimately from a long period of association in our work. For those of you who do not know him I wish merely to state that Mr. Ragnar Gottfarb, who comes here representing the Swedish-Jewish community, is an outstanding attorney in his own country and in his spare time he has found time to run the office and the operation of the JDC, which at one time was a very considerable operation in Sweden. This operation

also helped make effective our program in other countries. Mr. Gottfarb has devoted, as far as a busy lawyer can, almost full time to this part of his job. It gives me great pleasure to present to you Mr. Ragner Gottfarb.





ADDRESS ON SWEDEN

By

Ragnar Gottfarb

Some time after the war a Polish rabbi came to Sweden and I told him that it was a little hard for me to explain to the Swedish population what really happened in Poland and how to handle the question of the remaining Jewish population. He answered me: "How can you explain what it is to be a refugee to people eating in the same kitchen and with the same spoons as their fathers and grandfathers and grandfathers' fathers had done since generations?" And I think he was right. You must know the few events about Sweden and Swedish circumstances if you would know anything about Jewish life in Sweden and how we have to go on there.

Sweden has 7 millions of inhabitants, that is less than New York or London, while the size of the country is about the same as France or as Eastern and Western Germany together. The population is most homogeneous and is of Teutonic extraction. There are no minorities at all, either regarding race or language or religion. As regards religion, 99.8 percent belong to the Evangelical-Lutheran State church.

The economic prosperity in Sweden is very great. The country is abounding in natural resources which are well situated and easy to exploit. The earth gives sufficient harvests for the needs of the country; fishing is very important; woods, ores and a plentiful supply of water-power give considerable possibilities for export industry. However, this is to a certain extent retarded due to the fact that Sweden has no coal and no oil. The population is on a very high technical level and the country is highly industrialized.

Sweden has since several decades social democratic government, and the influence of the State is great in all domains. The social help is greatly developed, and old-age pensions, children-contributions, maternity benefits, medical attendance, accident-contributions and help to people out of work are since a long time self-evident institutions. Social help, except for old-age pensions, also covers the foreigners who are living more permanently in the country, that is to say a year or more.

To understand rightly the conservative construction of the country, you must remember that Sweden has not been involved in war during the last 140 years and that no foreign military power has been within the borders of the country of today since more than 400 years, and until the development of modern traffic-organization the country has been situated outside international events. I must say that no other part of Europe can show a similar inviolateness to war and foreign influences.

In this country, before Hitler's time, there lived about 6,000 Jewish people. The older numerically small part were descended from Central and Western Europe and the larger, later-arrived group had come from Eastern Europe. I think it is the same in most countries and in the United States. Anti-Semitism was superficial and quite insignificant; it increased a little during the years 1933-39 but practically disappeared during the war, especially when Hitler occupied Denmark and Norway, at which time Germany was considered as the presumptive enemy of the country and sympathy for Germany was nearly regarded as treason against the country.

During and after the war great groups of Jewish refugees arrived, and in 1945 these amounted to about 25,000, a very great number in relation to the native Jewish population. The Swedish State and native and foreign Jewish organizations - among them especially the JDC - took care of the refugees in quite a satisfactory manner, but a speedy fitting into the society was rendered difficult because of the refugees' feeble health, bad knowledge of the language and lack of skilled training. A special difficulty, which was often mentioned at this conference, was that 85% of them who had stayed in Sweden during a longer time were young, single women. However, on the whole the development has been satisfying. Many people have returned to their home countries, others have emigrated, especially to the USA and Israel, and the remaining people have to a great extent found families, got definitive employment, adapted themselves well; and a lot of them have already become Swedish citizens. As a rule, Swedish citizenship can be obtained without difficulty after living in the country for seven years. A lot of the people since 1945 are getting Swedish citizenship. Employment, however, is not dependent on citizenship and, as I mentioned, neither is social help, although such can make it more difficult to obtain citizenship.

The previous Jewish population lives in good economic conditions, even if great fortunes are rarer and the large incomes fewer. If I speak about big fortunes or large incomes I must say, as someone said yesterday, it is not in dollars, because dollar millionaires do not exist in Sweden. If a Swedish millionaire - there are maybe a thousand in the whole country - has the equivalent of \$200,000, he is a very rich man in Sweden.

More and more of this older population are becoming physicians, dentists, officials and private employees. A small number of people who emigrated from Germany have founded successful industries and trading firms, but most of the newly-arrived support themselves as working-men. In this they are retarded with relation to Swedish workers through lack of skilled training and because of bad economic background, which many times force them to take any possible work and keep them back from moving to other places where they could try to find better employment. I should mention that they are all members of Swedish trade unions.

The circumstances - not least the location of the industries - have led to great groups of newly-arrived Jews settling down in smaller Swedish communities, where never before has there been Jewish or foreign population. Thus the considerable cultural and personal isolation which has been the consequence at many places.

Only in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmo are there Jewish communities in a proper sense. These old communities are active in religious and humanitarian ways, but they have not to the extent they had hoped been able to attract the newly-arrived people, who in these towns are numerous enough to find a social and personal time together amongst themselves.

The dividing into many small groups, the different ages, the usually benevolent adjustment of the people surrounding - at least during the current economic trade boom in Sweden - and the great excess of women have brought about a great assimilation, and at least among the Jewish population from the time before the war the mixed marriages are in majority. As no replenishment from Eastern Europe is to be expected, the Jewish population, which at present amounts to about 15,000 people (that is still more than that of the Netherlands or Austria), will be reduced. The immigration seems now to have decreased to a minimum and during the current economic circumstances I personally think it will scarcely be of any greater extent.

Great tasks remain for the organization of the Jewish Community in Stockholm, Mosaiska Forsamlingen, which in the main has handled the help work - that means amongst the newcomers. Many children have to be helped to continue school and skilled training courses, as the free public schools are only sufficient for unqualified manual labour which naturally is not suitable for everybody. A group of old people and chronic invalids need supplementary help during their remaining lifetime. A great work has to be done regarding cultural and religious care which, with regard to the local circumstances, will be difficult as well as expensive, and there will always be a group of economically weak persons who, due to delicate health, mental difficulties and incapacity to fit into the homogeneous and highly technical level of Swedish society, will need occasional help.

The JDC helps the Jewish Community in Stockholm, and through that community even the Community of Malmö, with about 20% of their budget. It doesn't mean so much if I say 20%, but it is more than 50% of their welfare budget.

At last I should like to say a few words about the hard core groups mentioned by Sam Haber and Lou Horwitz and James Rice yesterday. Through a special law of the Swedish Parliament, last year 25 hard core cases, post-TB and TB, were brought from Germany and a few of them from Italy. You spoke about Camp Foehrenwald yesterday. I should like to tell you that these 25 - they were single men - were brought to

a modern Swedish sanatorium and they got what you mentioned, housing, food, medical care and even women, but also we have only 12 of them still at the sanatorium. The rest left the sanatorium, I may say, without any help at all. They succeeded in finding families, jobs, housing and maybe that will be a good hope and advice for the 2,100 still left in Foehrenwald. I hope it will be the same development for them.

Last year the Swedish Parliament made a new law. I think we have to thank the energies of Charles Jordan and Dr. Gonik for that and we have also to thank Dr. Josephthal. This time it was not only the single people; they have the right to take family members with them, and a few days before I left Stockholm they arrived in Sweden, 62 persons who are in 4 different hospitals. I am sorry I haven't seen them yet but I hope I will be able to see them when I am back. I shall only say that we are very glad to have them and we are sure that if they should like to stay in Sweden, which we hope, they will be good members of communities.

Thank you.



DR. SCHWARTZ: You will note that one of the differences between Sweden and Switzerland is that Sweden admits that it's prosperous. I would like, in introducing to you the next speaker and in commenting briefly on Mr. Gottfarb's very fine statement, to state that no countries have shown greater understanding in the matter of dealing with the postwar refugee problem and especially with the hard-core groups, than have the governments of Sweden and Norway. And I must point out as a matter of interest in view of our discussions of yesterday particularly, that of the first hard-core transport that went to Norway, which consisted of 42 people, and to Sweden, of which the first transport was I think 25, there was only one returnee; one person returned to Germany. The rest of them, as Mr. Gottfarb has indicated, have made a very good adjustment, they found jobs many of them, they got married, they are self-supporting a good many of them and they have been handled with a great deal of understanding not only by the governments of Sweden and Norway but also by the small but very devoted Jewish communities in those countries. And I think that it is particularly due to the efforts of men like Ragnar Gottfarb in Sweden and men like Marcus Levin in Norway who have given so much of themselves in bringing these projects about and in making them successful, and I would now like to present to you Norway's contribution to the JDC, Mr. Marcus Levin.



ADDRESS ON NORWAY

By

Marcus Levin

The report from Norway this time deals only with the two "hard core" actions which AJDC instituted last year and this year. All the problems which Norway has to contend with will perhaps appear insignificant compared with the problems of other countries.

But we have to ask you to kindly bear in mind that Norway is a country whose Jewish population increased by 11% as a result of these two actions. This gives perhaps a little of the background for the problems, namely, of fitting into a little country like Norway sick people whose mentality is far different to that of the Norwegians. There are less Jews in the whole of Norway than there are members of the smallest community in the U.S.A. Our starting point, therefore, is not so good. However, success has been with us and this was due in the first place to the excellent preparatory work by the JDC (my tribute to Charles Jordan and Dr. Gonik), and that the country which took the refugees in has very earnestly dealt with its task.

Leaving out of account the small number, not more than a total of 108 persons, nevertheless the Norwegian action gives an excellent picture of how difficult it is to adjust "hard core" refugees to a normal life, but that it is also possible if the task is tackled in the right way.

Never in my work have I had such a difficult and apparently so hopeless a job as helping these people. They are people who for the past thirteen years have lived in some camp or other, and who have become moulded into a form of life which for them has become normal. It has been somewhat of a job to force them out of this mould and it is, therefore, a pleasure to be able to say that success has attended the efforts made. Of the forty-one persons who arrived last year, divided into twenty-five family units, and the five families who came the previous year, they are all except two who still are in sanatoriums, settled in some way or other - some have done excellently, others lag a little behind.

Of the group which arrived last year one person is now employed as a Norwegian/German correspondent and is about to take the matriculation examination. Another has the management of a photographic department.

Little Moses Lowinger, a youth of twenty-one, whom we found last year in Grottaferrata in Italy, is now a happy member of society employed as an optician. His parents were killed when he was eight years old and he has no other living relatives. His last letter to me, written in excellent Norwegian, was an account of a happiness which he had never dreamed of.

The entire group must now be said to be normalised or will be within a very short time. A cause of uneasiness, however, is the health of these people - bad nerves, poor general health apart from tuberculosis. During the last year we have had four operations for duodenal ulcer, one for gall bladder and sundry minor operations, as well as a case of total nervous breakdown which had to be admitted to a psychiatric home, plus two cases of relapse and one new case. These cases lag a little behind the others, of course, but they will soon catch up. My report must, therefore, be a tribute to the Norwegian authorities and the Norwegian social workers whose task it is to help our people. The ability of these social workers to identify themselves with our people's train of thought is absolutely amazing. But I must also admit that matters have often been brought to a head. It is then that it helps to have a "Joint" representative as a 'lightning conductor' and I willingly admit that it often has sparked dangerously around me. But, as is well known, one does not count the lost battles on the day of victory, so today I am very well satisfied.

For reasons easily understood it is more difficult to say anything about the group which arrived on the 24th July last. It was a more mixed group which, owing to medical precautionary measures, had to be split up. The bacilli-carrying cases were sent to sanatoriums and thus were separated from their families. The healthy members were sent to a training centre to learn Norwegian and to acquaint themselves with Norwegian customs. Trouble began quite early with this group, which consisted of 53 persons divided into 30 cases.

The separations proved too much for some of them and there have already been some unfortunate escapes from the sanatoriums. As the medical ideas in Norway differ considerably from those of other countries there were also a number of surprises which had a depressing effect. Some of the people who thought they were free of all symptoms were found to be bacilli carriers. There can be plenty of explosive stuff in such groups.

I am convinced, however, that if only we can get the groups split up and deal with them as individuals, then we will manage the new group equally as well as the old. One thing which will perhaps improve the situation is that the housing problem seems to be better, at any rate in the provinces. One can buy a flat now, if one has the money - this was impossible last year. They are rather expensive, however, and are beyond the means of the refugees, and it must be said to the Norwegians' undying honour that there have been many instances of such profuse warm-heartedness that one cannot fail to be impressed.

The refugees have also been given the opportunity to raise loans but in the ordinary way they will not do this - the Joint shall pay. But it is always possible to deal with this problem, and it is here that I would like to thank Headquarters, particularly Charles Jordan, for his ability and will in easing the problems for us who are engaged in these tasks. Apart from the refundment which AJDC has paid to the Norwegian State he has granted me a little budget in order to enable me to assist together with the Norwegian social workers if things should be tight. This can, perhaps, better be understood when I say that thanks to this assistance I have been able to prevent two apparently hopeless cases being sent back to Germany and Italy, and who are today two happy members of society in Norway.

The story of this group which only a year ago lived in German and Italian camps is like a fairy tale, but fairy tales must also end, and I would end by saying that the Norwegian Jews are very sympathetically disposed towards these "Joint" actions and accept the newcomers as family members and do everything they can to make them feel at home. This summer two of the new arrivals attended a Scandinavian Jewish Youth Camp as guests of Norwegian Jews.

In Norway the refugee movement has become a more official affair by the establishment of a Refugee Service Committee. As a member of this Committee I can follow the development of the refugee situation. JDC's action for tubercular refugees is the only one this year. It was originally intended that a mixed group should be taken but the non-Jewish group anyway will not materialize this year.

As an indication of the effort made to try to solve problems the following can be mentioned. One of our tubercular people who has found a bride in Sweden, but who is not allowed to enter Sweden, will be helped by means of an attempt by the Norwegian authorities to exchange him for a Jewish tubercular person in Sweden who desires to live in Norway.

I have in this report only dealt with the problem to integrate these "Hard Core" refugees in the Norwegian economical life as human beings but not as Jews. This task must be seen in connection with the main problems which will turn up for the two congregations as a part of a cultural task. But I feel that it is better to save this problem for a later discussion on Community problems and only hope that this report from Norway has been a small contribution in understanding the "Hard Core" problem.

Thank you very much.



DR. SCHWARTZ: Mr. Levin, I just want to give you one word of caution. You're beginning to talk dangerously like a social worker. I do want to say, however, that in the case of Norway, with all of the appreciation that we have for the very fine attitude of the Norwegian Government and the wonderful things that the Norwegian Government has done in helping out in at least a part of the solution of the hard-core problem, and with all our appreciation of the small but very effective Jewish community in Norway, I think it is not unfair to state that it has been pretty much of a one man operation, and that one man is Marcus Levin who has done an outstanding job. We all appreciate it.

I now want to call on the representative of another community in Europe which has done some outstanding things and which, it might be recorded, was the first Jewish community in Europe to say to the JDC that they did not need our help any more and were able to support their own programs and their own activities from their own collections and contributions. And that is the Jewish community of Holland, very ably and devotedly represented here by our good friend Mr. Acohen.



ADDRESS ON HOLLAND

By

Mozes Acohen

My report will be short, though not so short as the distance from my special seat in this Conference to the place from where I am speaking now. At any rate I thank you for having arranged this so comfortably for an elderly man. This report is a small one - not only because it is from a small country (which does not mean that there is nothing happening in Holland in the field of social care) - but due to the fact that all the statistics are left out and are given on eight separate sheets which are already in the booklet placed before you (in the appendix) together with other reports and statistics that reached the AJDC office before the Conference.

In the year since my last report the general situation in Holland has remained almost unchanged, and the same can be said about the situation of the various social institutions in my country.

The Jewish Social Work Foundation (J.S.W.) or in Dutch "J.M.W.", which began its activities in 1949 when it took over the work of the J.C.C. (Jewish Coordination Committee), has indeed become the leading organization in Holland for social care, and the number of participating members counts already about sixty institutions covering the whole field of social care, etc.

The Jewish Social Work Foundation works closely together with the Fund-raising Organization for local needs. The fund-raising is acting under the name of "Cefina-J.M.W." This combination of the initials of fund-raising and of the organization spending the money collected for the various local needs demonstrates precisely the perfect cooperation of both. The Fund-raising in Holland collects money for 15 organizations now, all being members of the Social Work Foundation. No organization is accepted to participate in the Fund-raising without being a member of the Social Work Foundation.

Our country has two fund-raising campaigns in a year, one for local needs and another for Israel. For Israel we raised 464,946 guilders and for local needs 408,135 guilders in the 1952-53 campaign. When in January of last year, the southwestern part of Holland was stricken by severe inundations we had great fear that the campaign for our local needs, which was in full swing at that time, would suffer greatly from the catastrophe, but finally we reached our 408,000 guilders, being only about 16,000 guilders below the year before. In the statistical part of my report (see Appendix A), you will find full details about the money raised in Holland since 1947.

The amounts collected are receding slowly but regularly (see also Annex A). There was a sharp decline of contributors to the Israel-campaign; this year the number was about 3,000 against 3,600 the year before.

#### Our Old Age Homes

After the opening in Amsterdam in September 1952 of the beautiful modern Home with 90 beds, there was still a great need for more beds. Therefore, a new home for 50 persons is under construction now in The Hague, and will be opened towards the end of this year. A third home for about 60 people, called "Beth Menoechah", will be ready in Amsterdam towards December next. Then we think that the greatest need for Old Age room will be covered in Holland. Today, many people are still living in non-Jewish Homes and with private families, often under very bad circumstances. As a matter of fact not only very big amounts have to be invested in building these new homes, but it must be feared that the yearly deficit on the working-expenses will run so high that the capital of the respective institutions will be ruined in a few years.

#### Child Care

Child care in Holland has reached a high level; the homes are well organized and there is a close cooperation between the various institutions. As Mr. Mansbach told you all yesterday, this summer, on his suggestion, an exchange of Belgian and Dutch children took place during their summer holidays. During a few weeks Belgian children lived in the Dutch Homes and during that same period Dutch children were housed in the Belgian Homes, each group with their own leaders. There were many excursions and other pleasant things on the program; they also learned something about the neighbouring country and needless to say, the children enjoyed these holidays extremely.

#### Hachsharah and Aliyah

These activities in Holland have become very insignificant; however, the costs connected with same, and which have always been very high, are relatively still higher today.

#### Displaced Persons

The population of the Home in Amsterdam, a former Jewish Hospital, which was specially reconstructed for DPs in 1948, has now practically emigrated. From the original number of 150 persons there are only left at present 30. The respective institution has again made the necessary alterations in the building at the cost of about Guilders 200,000, with the result that 30 flats could be placed at the disposal of Jewish single persons and small families at a rent of Guilders 70.- to Guilders 80.- monthly, including steam-heat. Each flat has running hot and cold water, shower, and a kitchen of its own.

Jewish Social Work Foundation (J.S.W.)

As said already in the beginning of my report, this Foundation has been able to extend its work more and more. The Dutch Authorities have the greatest interest in and are showing much appreciation for the work done in the Jewish Social Field, and on some occasions have even made the J.S.W. an example for other Dutch organizations in the field of social care. On two occasions the representative of JDC and the president of the Jewish Social Work Foundation were (or I must say was) officially invited to be a guest at the Royal Palace at Amsterdam, firstly on the occasion of the lecture of Dr. Kurz from Zurich about refugee-matters, which lecture took place under the auspices of the Queen of Holland and was attended by the Queen and her mother, and secondly on the occasion of the reception held by the Queen and the Prince when they were in Amsterdam recently.

The Section Home-Maker Service of the J.M.W. (J.S.W.)

This is still an important service. This year, with a smaller staff, more service has been rendered: 152 families (last year 136) were helped during over 30,000 hours (against last year 25,000).

The Arrangement with the Private Jewish Hospital

This also functioned very well. Our people are helped at a very moderate rate; they are receiving ritual food. A good deal of the costs involved is paid by the welfare association of the Jewish communities and in some cases by the Social Work Foundation. In Annex D you will find some figures about this part of the work in Holland for the whole year of 1952 and the first half year of 1953.

A.J.D.C. Activities in Holland

About purchases made by JDC in Holland, figures since 1948 up to the end of June 1953 are given in Annex C.

Emigration Activities

One of the most important JDC activities in Holland is the assistance in the emigration field. Holland is one of the most important emigration countries in Europe; the free world recognized this fact. Argentine, Australia, Brazil, Canada, New Zealand, the United States and the Union of South Africa together admitted in the last year about 80,000 emigrants from Holland, and these countries, except the United States, have concluded a special immigration agreement with Holland. The United States encouraged Dutch emigration by the new Refugee Relief Bill. This general situation is reflected in the Dutch Jewish emigration. The over-population causes also economic difficulties for the Jewish sector, although the growth of the Jewish population is a minimal one. For Jewish children also there are no prospects

for an economic future, and therefore a lot of Jewish families, even though the heads of these families are earning sufficiently, are leaving already now. Israel was not the most desired immigration country for Dutch people: the United States and Canada attracted most immigrants. Australia and Latin America were "quantites negligeeables". The tense political situation in December 1952 and January 1953 caused a mass-hysteria and in consequence of it a mass-registration with the HIAS and our offices. Thirty to forty people a day came to our office for registration for Canada and the United States, but most of them lost interest in emigration as soon as the political situation became quieter. In the period 1952-53 the following numbers of people emigrated from Holland via our office:

To the United States . . . . .	114
To Canada . . . . .	30
To Australia . . . . .	8
To Latin America . . . . .	6
To other countries . . . . .	5
	<hr/>
	163

In the same period we interviewed over 3,200 persons including the high number for January and February 1953, and we intervened in 661 cases with consulates, shipping agencies, government authorities and so on. On September 1st, 1953, we registered with our office for:

Australia . . . . .	154	persons
Canada . . . . .	141	"
United States . . . . .	347	"
Latin America . . . . .	38	"
New Zealand . . . . .	6	"
	<hr/>	
Total	686	"
		(Jewish persons)

The possibilities for emigration to several countries were varying ones: to Canada the OS 8 scheme within the Dutch Canadian Immigration agreement brought not too many opportunities for Dutch-Jewish emigrants, as they did not fall within the professional scheme. Most of them were small merchants, agents, clerks, thus unskilled people. Emigration to Australia was very small, as the reports on economic and health fields were such that even the most interested persons changed their minds and had themselves registered with the Canadian or the United States Immigration Authorities. It is not necessary to emphasize that the new Refugee Relief Bill of 1953 has been a great disappointment to the Dutch population, who expected the admission of 20,000 Dutch subjects within 2 years and not of 15,000 refugees of "Dutch ethnic origin" (which do not exist practically) within 3 years.

The possibility of the issue of agency affidavits for Dutch Jews was a very big advantage for them and has been accepted very gratefully.

The cooperation with the Dutch authorities was a very good one. We became a member of the Dutch General Emigration Center, the third voluntary organization recognized by the Dutch Government, after having failed to become a member of the Board for Emigration.

The cooperation with the HIAS office was a correct one. An agreement has been reached concerning combined publication in the Jewish press to avoid various publications of the same nature of two organizations.

#### Personal Service Department

This department has never been mentioned before in our reports, although it plays a very important role in Jewish Holland. It assists Jewish social cases in Holland with their legal affairs abroad and on the other hand social cases abroad with legal affairs in Holland. Since September 1952, 154 new cases have been handled and about 760 old cases were pending.

#### Emigration-Currency-Clearance

Referring to Annex E, it must be stated that this transfer has become of very little importance. This is due to the more supple currency policy of the Dutch National Bank, also with regard to the transfer of dollars.

#### Emigration Activities

Detailed figures are given in Appendices F, G, and H.

So this is the end of my report, and presumably also about the end of my activity as JDC's representative for Holland. Mr. Beckelman announced already to you in the opening session of the Conference that I intend to go to the United States in the very near future, and I wish to thank him for the kind words he addressed to me on that occasion. Thank you.

MR. LEAVITT: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Mr. Acohen a question. How many Jews are there today in Holland, and what does the registration of your 3,000 mean? Does that mean 3,000 cases or 3,000 individuals?

MR. ACOHEN: 3,000 persons. The population of Jews is about 20,000.

MR. LEAVITT: They said it was only 14,000 last year.

MR. ACOHEN: That means there are registered with the Jewish community about 12,000 to 14,000.

MR. LEAVITT: I see. That explains it, all right.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Well, as you heard earlier in the conference from Mr. Beckelman, and as you heard this morning from Mr. Acohen, the latter is preparing for his emigration from Holland to the United States and he has stated that he will no longer be the JDC representative in Holland. But I can assure you of one thing, Mr. Acohen: your work is not over. A UJA is waiting for you in the United States and as a matter of fact, we would like to pick out a community for you in which to settle. There are a few communities that could stand a man like you, with your energy and your understanding, and which could learn a great deal from the wonderful experiences you have had in this work in Holland. I think it ought to be pointed out to this meeting for the record, although Mr. Acohen did not read any of the charts, that this small Jewish community of Holland which numbers some 20,000 people, raised in 1952, in addition to about the equivalent of \$125,000 for their local work, about \$250,000 for Keren Kayemeth and for assistance to Israel, which is a very fine record for a community of that size. It is all the more reason, Mr. Acohen, that we will need you in the United States.

The next speaker I am going to introduce to you is still another of that group of semi-pros that I talked about earlier. From the first days, at the end of the war, Mr. Benrubi became actively identified with the programs of rehabilitating the Jewish communities of Greece. Despite the fact that he is a very busy man, despite the fact that his business makes call on his time and his energies, he has always found the time to do this work in helping the Jewish community of Greece to come to life again, and he has made a very wonderful contribution. The JDC has been very proud to be associated with him and to have him associated with it throughout these difficult years. We welcome him to this conference as we always have in the past and we express our gratitude to him for what he has been able to accomplish. Unfortunately, Mr. Benrubi will not read his own statement. You see, Herbert Katzki is much more fluent in Greek than he is, so we are going to ask Mr. Katzki to read Mr. Benrubi's statement.

ADDRESS ON GREECE

By

Haim Benrubi

This report covers the period of time between the last director's conference and the present one.

Viewed in its entirety and in its broader outlines, the situation in Greece remains appreciably the same as that described last year, so much so that with several slight modifications and some additions, last year's report could equally serve for the period presently under consideration.

Our main function still remains the subventioning of the budget of the Conseil Central, in amounts which are progressively decreasing, subject to two conditions:

- (a) that the budget submitted be strictly executed;
- (b) that our subvention be used exclusively for those parts of the budget relating to TB and to vocational training.

The fact that we are assuming only a part of the expenses, which one might term the extraordinary expenses, has the effect of instilling in the local Jewish Authorities the feeling that it is essential for them to depend only on their own resources, resources which they must expend every effort to develop if they wish to assure both their financial self-sufficiency and the execution of a minimal programme. The knowledge of the provisional nature of Joint's presence reacts equally in the same direction.

In fact, the successive budgets of the Conseil Central are diminishing in size and the progressive reductions of our subventions are compensated by the growth of local resources. At the same time, a better managing of existing expenditures, that is for TB, permits the extension of assistance in other directions, that is for emigrants.

Our subvention for the current six months is no more than 100,000,000 drachmae, not considering the fact that the drachmae today are worth half as much as those of last year. The special budgets for TB and vocational training to which our subvention contributes amount to Drs. 125,000,000.



A quick review of the activity of the various organizations and the problems which face them will make it possible to point up more clearly the present situation.

The Conseil Central of Jewish Communities in Greece, whose name in itself constitutes a whole programme, limits its activities to that of general treasurer. As collector and distributor of funds, it receives the subventions of the OPAIE, which is the organization for heirless property, of the JDC, of certain communities, and distributes these funds among communities with insufficient means, after having put funds at the disposition of a Relief Committee designated by it, necessary for the execution of a programme of general welfare assistance, in contra-distinction to strictly communal work, which comprises among others, TB, vocational training, emigration, etc. The Conseil Central still fulfills the function of intermediary agent between the communities on the one hand, the government authorities, and the Joint on the other hand. In no way whatever does it demonstrate either the ambition or the will to take over the role of director of the conscience of Hellenic Judaism, which it should by rights assume.

The OPAIE, the successor to heirless Jewish wealth, whose mission it is to occupy itself with assistance and rehabilitation, has handed this task over to the Conseil Central. For this purpose the OPAIE places at the disposition of the Conseil those funds designated by OPAIE for assistance needs. The justification for this fact, which has been existing for years, is that the OPAIE must not allow itself to be swerved from what is for the moment its essential objective: i.e. to bring about the passing of the law on Declaration of Death which, alone, will permit it to come into effective possession of heirless property, and to make use of this wealth in conformity with its mission of assistance and rehabilitation. After many years this law is still only a project, a project which is being constantly modified, sometimes by the Jews and sometimes by government. Whatever may be the extent of the responsibility of non-Jews for this state of affairs, the responsibility of the Jews for it is certainly more to be condemned. As a matter of fact, the Jews, divided by divergent personal interests, have never succeeded in presenting a united front toward a well defined objective, thus making it necessary for each individual to take his own position.

At one time the delay in the passing of the law had been imputed to Israeli demands presented as their right in the name of those who had previously emigrated to Israel. Subsequent events have proved that this was nothing. The opposing points of view of Israel and the OPAIE for a long time now have been brought closer together through the initiative of the Joint, after an International Committee which had been called to study the conflict was not constituted.

According to the latest information, the project of the Law is said to be well on its way. One should, however, restrain one's optimism.

While waiting for the possibility of taking title to its assets, the OPAIE administers them and utilizes the revenue. The revenue of that fortune, exclusively in real estate for the moment, is increasing with the raising of rents authorized by the law on moratorium, which seems to be coming to an end. This increase in rent, which, in part, is compensated for by the devaluation of the currency which has brought the dollar from 15 to 30 thousand drachmae, however does not seem to be translated into a corresponding improvement in the treasury of the OPAIE.

The communities, with the exception of those of Volo, Larissa and Salonica which number from 500 to 1,000 members each, and that of Athens which contains half of the total Jewish population of the country, are only the embryos of communities.

The community of Salonica continues to dissipate the heritage of a community which at one time numbered 80,000 souls, in favour of its 1,000 members, only a small part of whom are indigent. As for the other communities too far removed from the capital to make themselves heard, they maintain a communal life and a local assistance programme thanks to the generosity of their members and to the limited contributions of the Conseil Central. Some among them are making praiseworthy efforts to assure economic independence with the indirect help of our Loan Kassa.

The Athens community drains off the budget of the Conseil Central in an amount which exceeds by far the proportion of its population to the population of the other communities. Moreover, the assistance furnished by the Athens community is limited to and is exactly equal to the amount of the contribution made by the Conseil Central to Athens for this purpose. The resources belonging to that community, taxes and donations, are used for what one could call Ordinary Expenses: administration, school, temple, cemetery, etc., expenditures which more often arise from the desire, praiseworthy in itself, to make a good impression on the world outside, rather than the desire to alleviate human suffering.

When everything is in process of being created and traditions are lacking, institutions exist in the image of the men who direct them. The members of the Conseil of the OPAIE and of the Conseil Central being of necessity Athenians since these two organizations meet in Athens, it is the political complexion

prevailing in the community of Athens which also controls the heart of these two councils. Better still, it is the same people who meet in each of the three councils. The dispersion of effort of the same persons is not advantageous. However, the absence of any discordant voice and of all inner control in the councils does not constitute a guarantee of good administration of Jewish affairs. On the initiative of the Joint a serious effort toward mutual understanding was undertaken, to the satisfaction of all those who are disturbed over the existing internal situation.

Communal elections, the results of which will perforce influence the organizations of general interest (OPAE, Conseil Central) are supposed to take place during the second fortnight of October. Will the personal and egotistical ambitions of either one or the other triumph over this attempt at reconciliation? If the answer is in the affirmative, that would signify the abandonment, for a certain additional period of time of all effort and all hope of remedying the situation.

In contrast with the preceding organizations there are two institutions, rich in accomplishment: the professional school of the ORT and the JDC Loan Kassa. Both of them are confronted with problems the solution of which does not depend on their directors.

The Professional School of the ORT has granted 75 diplomas in the course of its four years of existence, diplomas recongized by the government. It has given an advanced technical education to 90 other young people who for various reasons have not completed their studies. All of them, no matter where they are, in America, in Israel or in Greece, are assured without difficulty of enviable positions.

The problem which faces the ORT is to be able to maintain a minimal student body justifying the functioning of its school. Whether it be that the number of young people of an age to attend the school has diminished because of the years of war, or whether emigration has reduced the number of such young people, or indeed whether one comes up against a lack of comprehension on the part of people not yet convinced of the merits and nobility of manual labour, the enrolment of pupils at the beginning of each academic year is diminishing, despite the efforts of propaganda and persuasion employed through the press and through personal contacts.

The closing of this school, which will reopen with some 35 pupils, had been seriously envisaged. Because of past services and with a view to assuring the future, on the advice of World ORT the closing of the school has been avoided for this year.

The School has created special courses in favour of the proteges of the Refugee Service for Greece of the USEP (United States Escapee Programme) as well as for groups of co-religionists desirous of bettering their opportunities for emigration and integration. For a certain additional period these various special courses will continue parallel with the regular courses.

The ILO, whose delegates visit the school regularly, never miss an opportunity to express their appreciation of the programme and the quality of instruction of the ORT school.

The Loan Kassa, which for our co-religionists is "The Bank" or the "Jewish Bank", is an institution having a permanent character, toward which one can turn successfully in case of need. Since its creation in June 1945 the Loan Kassa has put into circulation approximately \$1,000,000 in the course of the period under consideration, without any other loss to it than that which came from the successive devaluations of the currency. The present drachma represents only one-sixtieth of the drachma of 1945, the year of the founding of the Loan Kassa. In sound currency, nevertheless, the present capital of the Loan Kassa represents one-fifth of the initial endowment in dollars - \$52,000 against \$272,000. That the proportion of reduction in the value of the capital is less than that of the value of the drachma is the result of a series of wise and prudent measures. In spite of the loss of half of its capital in the three months which followed its creation, the Loan Kassa has been able to pursue its work of rehabilitation, which is attested to by the figures cited above as well as the appreciation of the people for services rendered. Nevertheless, it had to reduce the number of its beneficiaries with each devaluation in order that the loans it did make would be useful in size and as equitable as possible.

From 1948 to 1952 the number of beneficiaries fell from 626 to 248, while the average amount of its loans went up from 3 to 8 million drachmae. At the present rate the number of beneficiaries for 1953 will be in the neighbourhood of only 200.

The new devaluation which has brought the dollar from 15 to 30 thousand drachmae militates in favour of an increase in the capital of this Loan Kassa. To ask it to continue its activity with the present capital would be to ask it to cut again by half the already reduced number of its beneficiaries at a time when, more than ever, the hope of our co-religionists, themselves gravely affected by the devaluation, is turning in its direction.

If there is hesitancy with respect to increasing the capital, one could point out that the loss of capital up to now has been largely compensated for by the rehabilitation gains achieved, and that it is preferable, instead of spending considerable sums for relief assistance which cannot be recovered, to utilize a part in the form of loans which would assure, through professional rehabilitation, greater well-being and higher morale than is conferred by the feeling of being merely occupied.

The series of economic and financial measures undertaken by a government assured of an overwhelming parliamentary majority, assured consequently of being able to pursue a sane policy with a return to normal conditions up to the expiration of its mandate enables one to anticipate a future without unexpected surprises.

We ourselves, as Joint, have been led this year to emerge from our self-imposed reserve of remaining in the shadow of the Jewish authorities, and again have placed ourselves in the forefront.

It is thus that we have recently had to reopen our Emigration Service whose closing we had announced only the previous year. We were brought to this decision by the need for guiding and facilitating the steps of our candidates toward emigration and by the need equally to procure for them the necessary affidavits. Of course this pertains to emigration to America by virtue of the law of 1953 which was recently signed by President Eisenhower. It seems that the financial costs of this emigration are to be assumed by ICEM.

From an examination of the law and requests by Jews for emigration which are known to us up to date, we are in a position to estimate the number of our co-religionists who will be eligible for emigration at about 350.

We have already been able to envisage the following classification: 68 who have close American relatives in the USA; 65 who have close relatives in the USA who had gone there as DP's and who may in the meantime have acquired American citizenship; 139 who received their O.K. by virtue of the DP act; and 29 eligible for various reasons.

The provision of the law requiring that, for eligibility, an emigrant must be domiciled in a city other than that of his pre-war residence, will exclude a considerable number of Salonians living in their city and extremely desirous of emigrating.

Of the Ionian islands devastated last August by the earthquake, only the island of Zante had a Jewish population. This entire population, with the exception of an old paralytic who perished in the ruins, 38 persons in all took refuge in Athens, having saved nothing but the rags they had on their bodies.

Local Jewish solidarity immediately went into action.

Fed, clad and housed, these refugees are still in Athens at the present time. We had to allow them time to realize the extent of their disaster and to make decisions for the future, once they had regained their calm. To return to their homes is a solution to which none of them, except a family of seven members of whom two are State officials, has resigned himself. Their island, where nothing attracts or retains them, has become almost foreign to them. Since it was necessary to begin anew from zero, they might as well begin in a country of their own choice where they would emigrate without the expectation of return and with the firm intention to take root.

Therefore, 31 of them decided to emigrate: 23 to go to Israel, 8 to the USA. (Mr. Katzi: I believe some of these people already have left for Israel, Mr. Benrubi told me the other day.)

Those who have opted for Israel, are awaiting to be granted, prior to their departure, a sum of money permitting them to procure a roof over their heads or tools for their work. Those who choose the USA find that the latest immigration law of 1953 contains stipulations that are explicitly applicable to their case.

For them it is a question of knowing when the law will be applied with regard to them and how they will be able - deprived of everything as they are - to wait until such time. Those of the earthquake victims who, in fact, abandoned their island, have voluntarily excluded themselves from all measures of assistance and professional rehabilitation announced or applied by the State.

The Joint, which, through its immediate action, its promises and its suggestions in the organization of the first rescue work, has been of tremendous aid in the solution of unexpected problems which the disaster on the Ionian islands has posed for the entire Greek Jewry, is entirely ready to facilitate the emigration of these refugees under conditions desired by them.

These direct and semi-direct activities of the JDC (emigration and refugees of Zante) have as a result the reopening of an old decision not to introduce new funds into Greece and to limit ourselves to

our funds in this country. These funds, made up of a debt by the Keren Kayemeth, appear to be frozen once more after a promising beginning last year of extensive reimbursements.

In conclusion, Greek Jewry finds itself at a particularly decisive cross-road. Much will depend, from an internal viewpoint, upon the results of the Athens communal elections and, from the viewpoint of its economic rehabilitation, upon whether or not our Loan Kassa is strengthened.

(Since preparing this report additional information has reached Mr. Benrubi which is presented in the addendum below.)

A D D E N D U M

The elections of the Community Assembly of Athens took place on Sunday, October 11.

A single list, comprising all community groups, politically apportioned, was proposed for the vote of the electors. Because of this fact, it was possible to avoid all the ordinary excesses: accusations, denunciations, calumnies, slanders, insults, etc.

In retaining the respective strength of the parties as at this point, one would think that the single list has not changed any aspect of the situation. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the lassitude resulting from fruitless struggles will disappear and the new spirit of collaboration, of agreement and mutual understanding will bring about the desired change in the direction of the Jewish community affairs and, consequently, in the affairs of collective Hellenic Jewry.

It is expected that the old and probably the new president of the Community Council, surrounded this time by co-workers who are moderate and not affiliated with any groups, will follow more rational paths, responding more completely to the necessity of the hour and the general expectation.

However, these are only hopes and not certainties.

The possibility is not excluded that in the near future new elections will be provoked which could put everything back into question and stir up emotions which are now quiescent.

DR. SCHWARTZ: I think Mr. Benrubi, you ought to rise and be recognized, especially by the delegates from the United States. Well, up to now I have just been finishing up the job that Charlie left undone yesterday. Now I start the work that has been assigned to me and as you will note from the program, the first item is an introductory statement that rankles - an introductory statement with a discussion of community problems in Western Europe. When I first met Dr. Shapiro I think he was in charge of the education and cultural department of the JDC. But that is what happens to the JDC and that is what happens when you get hold of a man like Judah Shapiro - he is now talking like an expert on community organization. I do not know the nature of the introductory remarks but I am told that that is to be followed by a presentation which will deal with the Conference on Material Claims, JDC requirements, Jewish community interests in the Claims Conference, and then these two presentations will be followed by a general discussion of this whole problem of Claims Conference, allocations from it and so on. At this point, I present to you Dr. Judah Shapiro for a statement on community organization problems.





INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT TO DISCUSSION OF COMMUNITY

PROBLEMS IN WESTERN EUROPE

By

Judah J. Shapiro

I would just like to tell Dr. Schwartz that before he met me, I was an expert on community organizations.

I would like to start by saying, on the basis of certain remarks which have been made to me this morning that in this presentation I am not hunting with cannon. I would rather confine myself to some remarks about this topic, in order to serve as a basis of later discussion, and if I may say so, to pose the issues in conceptual forms so that when we discuss it and deal with the operational problem, we can consider the operational against the conceptual.

Our discussions on community problems are like the wines in France, the good vintage years have been in the odd-numbered years. We have had this sort of discussion in 1949, '51 and now in '53. In '49 it was Mr. Sobeloff, I think, who threw a bit of a bombshell into our conference, when he tried to indicate that there were certain needs at home which ought to be met, and coined that famous phrase that "one man's mikvah is another man's swimming pool". It was at that time that we were trying to point out to the American delegation that the time had not come to consider the priorities of Europe as ended. In '51 the discussion on community problems, strangely enough, was practically within our own ranks, the issue of whether or not we ought to continue with a full JDC program, the actual load having been reduced. If I understand the results of that discussion, we agreed more or less that there was an obligation to make sure that if the priority of the burden had been met, that JDC should leave within the communities that which one could call the "self-perpetuating mechanism" of that community. In other words, that each community should have some kind of structure and some kind of power to keep it moving through the years in dealing with such problems as were left to it now, or that might arise in the future. In '53, and we have to be very straightforward and frank on the question; we can indicate that as of now there really does not remain one community in Western Europe that does not have a structure of some kind, the panoply of office, engages in fund-raising, has committees of all kinds, and that we have therefore, perhaps, met the challenge that was presented in 1951. What then remain as the issues in these communities for 1953?

The goal of philanthropy is to cease giving, and the goal of community organization is to continue serving. -- The JDC as a philanthropic organization obviously has as its goal the ending of its giving activities. But it has to be fairly sure that the community organizations are ready to continue serving. I think that they are serving in practically all cases, except that they will not yet meet all the financial requirements for their programs, and funds will be required from outside sources. I can't jump ahead of the order of our discussion, but I think the whole issue of the Conference on Claims is relevant here. Will that, perhaps, be the potential for giving these communities the wherewithal to continue their program?

But as far as JDC is concerned, the issue can be reduced in these terms statistically. (I use the JDC statistics because we all know what the errors are in it, so we have common basis for understanding it.) The case is made out there, that one in eight people in the countries where JDC operates is actually helped by JDC. If we eliminate all other countries and keep just Western Europe about which we are talking now, the figure is really one in sixteen. The problem then is very simple. If we help one out of sixteen, it is a little job, it is a little program and we ought to see it in its proper perspective. There is nothing to get too excited about. But the question really is whether we don't have some continuing obligation to the fifteen; whether the fifteen do not require a special assistance to make sure that one day, at some future date, they can themselves deal with such problems as they may face.

Yesterday I referred to Mr. Leavitt's history of the JDC. Today I would like to refer to Mr. Warburg's introduction to that history. Mr. Warburg describes the JDC as a Fed Cross. I think that is a question. Are we a Red Cross? If the effects of the catastrophe have diminished to an absorbable degree by the local community, what else remains? It is clear that when the Red Cross comes into an area struck by disaster, it has to do many, many things; education, feeding, housing, medical, social service. But who would ever argue that the Red Cross would stay on and on and begin to organize that community, give it new sights? Maybe the JDC is in that position; and maybe the catastrophe has been reduced to the proportion that JDC has no further role. Before that decision may be reached, here are a few of the considerations, however.

You have heard of the country reports. I think, Laura Jarblum stressed the peculiar problem of Yiddischkeit as it relates to the FSJU. I think Mr. Mansbach was a little bit concerned about the problem of the integration of the refugee element. Let me make it clear to those who may not understand that in the very nature of things, the JDC had a much larger responsibility for the immigrants than it did for the settled populations. When I say larger, I am not necessarily referring to money; I am referring to the fact that the immigrants, homeless as they were, and finding themselves in new circumstances, obviously

presented far greater and more intricate problems, than a group that was simply trying to recoup that which has been lost during a period of war or occupation. We have therefore become for many of these immigrants "the great white father". More and more we are hearing in our offices at Headquarters and in our country offices, this expression of fear as to what will happen to this need for Yiddischkeit - I distinguish that from a program of services which are rendered quite adequately by the communities - what will happen to those areas of interest which the JDC so consistently dealt with? Consider the Kehilah in France. The Kehilah will have to get itself better oriented as to how it can serve this community but it should not be written off as a wild dream and a wild notion on the part of one or more individuals. The idea of the Kehilah in France is to so bring together those peoples whose background is mainly from Eastern Europe and whose normal Jewish requirements take a form and an institutional pattern which simply must be satisfied in order for them to assume that Jewish living is possible. We think at this point that they are wrong in attempting to undertake functional activities. One does not have to run a special agency for Eastern European Jews in cash assistance or in the hospitals, but it will be necessary to give them some type of consideration for all of that peculiar milieu which they lost in Eastern Europe and which they still require.

In the case of Belgium, I had the occasion to discuss this with Mr. Mansbach in Brussels. When one talks about establishing a Jewish Community Center, one can talk of integration and then realize that there is only a hair's breadth difference between integration and what somebody else calls assimilation. It depends on who is running the Center and what he expects to achieve with that Center. Here in Paris there has been talk of a Center and there has been sufficient pressure exerted to define that Center as integration meaning acquisition of the native language, patterns of dress, all of the proprieties that the French insist upon but at the same time to make sure that the children have an opportunity to continue Jewish associations. In Belgium it has started out from another point of view from those people who would like to see this entire Jewish character disappear and the establishment of such a center seems to them to be the means whereby all this disappearance can be obtained. Well, I don't want to raise this as a question from the point of view of philosophy; I am only telling you that those who don't want to disappear are very much troubled because they don't willingly want to walk into the mouth of a lion. When the JDC is related to the issue they assume that the JDC by virtue of the record of its long history and its activities would never permit a program where by design there would be an attempt to eliminate that which any section of the group regarded as a need.

Apart from Yiddischkeit, there is the question of our own understanding of the differences in the communities about which we are talking. I suppose that in strictly welfare terms there cannot be too much difference in the food or clothing or medical needs of the individual, if

those be rendered in Italy or in Sweden. But I am not so sure that we have made it as clear that when we talk about communities and community organization we have many different types of communities and will require as many types of community organizations for them as the groups with which we work. Mr. Gottfarb reports on Sweden and he tells us that 99.8% of the population is affiliated with the State Church. Some of you may know that every time the Protestants in America attack Spain for its exclusive Catholic position, the Catholics always throw back at them "What about Sweden?" Let's not forget that until recently every individual resident in Sweden had to be associated with a religious community by law, and if he was not a member of the State Church he had to specify affiliation with another religious group. Our Jewish people were therefore forced to be members of the Jewish Community. Of course they could have become converted. Not choosing to become converted, even those with little Jewish identification, out of necessity, simply continued their affiliation with the Jewish Community. But today that native Jewish community of Sweden is outnumbered by the refugees which it has taken into its country and those refugees are people with Eastern European background and they are and will continue to be for some time concerned with the problem of "Yiddischkeit". They are spread out through many little communities because they had to go there to get jobs and housing and so forth. They are not in Stockholm and they are not in Gotesberg and not in Malmo alone, they are in many little, to me unpronounceable, towns of Sweden. They ask for a teacher for the children and they want a little reading room and they want a newspaper and a magazine and they want a speaker on certain occasions. They require these services and the Swedish community, with all the magnificence of its rescue efforts, is finding itself a little bit at a loss to handle that which is different from its tradition and its own background.

Let us understand further that when we talk about Scandinavia we think of them economically or politically and regard the several countries as a unit. But in Norway today you can come and have a meeting, as I did, using Yiddish. This is not true in Sweden. Norway is a Jewish community which is very young and dates from the same time as the Eastern European migration to the United States. It dates from the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century and in fact there are families there who started out with the same purpose as did those who were on their way to America. It is small, but its very nature is so different from the Swedish community. I think that the President of the Jewish community of Stockholm, by contrast, is fourth or fifth generation Swedish.

I have had occasion to point out before, that in the words of Sholem Aleichem, "Wie es christelt sich - yidelt sich". It makes a difference whether you are working in a highly Protestant country like Sweden or a homogeneous Catholic country such as Italy, as to what patterns we can develop. The whole religious milieu does influence the pattern of community organization, social service and in turn the Jewish community.

When you are dealing with the Catholic Church, and you can read the Catholic works on the purpose of social welfare, you will find that it is based on the theory that welfare services of the Church must tie the individual to the Church. Standards of welfare are maintained on a comparatively low level necessitating the constant return of the assisted in order to prolong the association. In counter-distinction to that, Protestants say that salvation is one's own; to go out and go to work, to find some way of taking care of oneself; if one has not the way he will be helped. By virtue of the religious point of view alone, you get a difference in what happens in the field of social service. Social service in a Catholic country is bound to be different and the Jews are going to copy that pattern. And that's why in Rome we find a limited type of Jewish community social service and we find a highly developed community service in a country like Sweden.

Consider a country like Switzerland. We have heard from Mr. Heim and we have heard from our own country director. Mr. Heim represents the Verband which deals with the refugee problem and again all the greatness that that organization has shown, it must be remembered that it is but an arm of a larger Jewish community organization, the SIG; the Schweizerische Israelitische Gemeindebund. In Switzerland today, with one exception, all of the rabbis of that community are refugees; the rabbi of Geneva is a refugee from Roumania and the rabbi in Zurich was in flight from Austria, and so on. Where are the native-born rabbis? What is to be done? What is to be done about developing some native leadership? Ought not somebody to consider the need to prove to Swiss Jewry the need for trained Swiss Jewish leadership? They have the resources but they have to be shown. Their budget should provide and keep one or two people abroad all the time. One person for four years to become a rabbi and somebody else for one year because he is going to become a journalist. A third one may become a librarian and a fourth one a Hebrew teacher and a fifth one a fund-raiser. We could help them to determine where the training should take place and for how long and how all this occurs.

Switzerland is not peculiar. The tragedy of Western Europe today, if I may say so, is that nowhere, look where you will, nowhere will you find the potential for native-born Jewish professional leadership in any of these countries. Nobody to be a rabbi, nobody to be teachers, nobody to be organizers. What is being done, or what little has been done, has been very definitely one of the great contributions of JDC over and above all the assistance and help it has given to so many thousands and hundreds of thousands of people. What professional standards we find, are the result of JDC effort. But JDC was too early at that time; it was too soon to sort the people out. A scholarship case was sent as an individual, not as a representative member of the community. Today, when the Ford Foundation asked us for recommendations on whom to send to the United States, individuals

from Western Europe to be trained as group workers and community center leaders, we set as a criterion for the person who will go, his acceptability to the organized community in the country. We do not take John Doe because he is a nice fellow or even because he has the potential, if unacceptable to his community. What point would there be, to whom would he return? Today we can find out whether the community wants him to go, whether upon his return they plan to use him and thereby increase and strengthen the professional potential in these countries.

We have this past year made possible a series of exhibits of Judaica. It was just a JDC brain-wave. There exists a tremendously important and most significant Jewish library in the Royal Danish Library of Copenhagen. And not enough Jews or certainly not enough scholars in that city to use that library. But it is there and it is something to see. What we did was to take the material out of Copenhagen, we put it on wheels, and we moved it around to communities to show people what there was in the Jewish past. It was a magnificent thing and the attendance surprised everybody; it surprised not only Brussels, but it surprised Paris itself and in turn Milan, and so on. When somebody asked me why it was so important for us to have Baron Guy de Rothschild, who was President of the FSJU, sponsor this type of activity, and appear in public and be quoted in the press, I had only one answer to that question. I think it is still the only answer. "If we cannot make leaders out of the Jews, we must make Jews out of the leaders." We have no alternative. We have used these kinds of devices and we have set them up in such a way that we have added dignity and responsibility to these various communities. You know that is an old theory of mine which I have pronounced many times, that Jewish life dare not be the kind of thing that takes place in the basement and the dirty cellar, where there is no proper lighting, where the place is unpainted, because it is the normal psychological thing to identify what you learn with where you learn it. Therefore, anything that is Jewish must be beautiful and dignified and clean and warming. That's why when we did this exhibit, thousands of Jews were amazed to find it in the best gallery in Paris. We settled for nothing but the best and we had the Sforza Palace in Milan and the Palais des Beaux Arts in Brussels. Nothing but the best, so that Jews who attended this exhibit not only saw what the past was but felt that there was something dignified about being Jewish today. But if this seems to be discussion from the wrong department, Dr. Schwartz, I will bring it back to community organization.

It does not make any sense to a contributor to keep on giving money and get no personal return for his money. The contributor is not going to get any return from any of the welfare services. By definition he does not need cash assistance, he does not need free medical service, he does not need housing. He is able to give, he does not take. But what does he get out of it? Nothing for himself, until the community program and the fund-raising organization provides for

the type of activity and for the type of status for the Jew which makes him want to be identified, which makes him want to give. There is not today a community in the United States that raises any sizeable sum of money that does not have a rather broad program of services from which the contributor derives for himself or for his children some type of service, which makes it worth his while to participate in a personal way, and then drawn in as he is and requiring as he does this community service, the community organization and its leadership brings him further into the area of responsibility for overseas needs and for whatever problems may arise in the community or in the country.

Students: We in JDC have done a lot for students, mainly in the form of bourses, scholarships. Our definition of the program was for us to attempt to catch up with the tremendous loss of trained Jewish leadership which we lost during the Nazi period, the war, the occupation, anti-Jewish legislation when hundreds, or thousands, would have completed their degree had they had the opportunity to go through this training. But all these circumstances prevented them and so we ran very fast to catch up and thousands of students in all countries of JDC operation benefited from such scholarships. Last year we stopped that program. We assessed the situation and we found that the number of scholarships and the strength of the community made it possible for the community to handle that phase of the program itself. But there is something more to consider. You remember our discussions in Brussels with the students, Mr. Mansbach; the same thing has come up here in France and I once had a good discussion of this in Zurich with the Swiss students and another in Oslo.

The student must be regarded as the potential for future Jewish leadership. This is the time to tie him into the Jewish community. Five to ten years hence, he will be the individual who can go out with cards on a fund-raising drive, who can serve on the board of an institution, who can take part in many types of Jewish communal activity. But a little foresight is necessary to use his student days for his ultimate role. That's when he discovers all of truth and all of wisdom, sometimes for the rest of his life. And if in that search for truth and wisdom, we do not tie in the Jewish community too, we will be the ones who will lose him later. The communities realize that, but for developing such a program it takes the type of understanding that the JDC has, that the American Jew has, and the American Jew has made a big investment in its students.

Two years ago when we had this discussion I said that we have one additional responsibility when we talk of JDC withdrawal. We have been for most of these communities the contact point with the outside world. It wasn't just money that they got, but talk about social service or social service terminology, discoveries that were made in the medical field and so forth. Everybody likes to use the

term that you have got to wait until the baby can walk, then let him walk. I say that the parent has more responsibility; you have to do something even after he walks. Assume that they are walking, are they in contact with the kind of people from whom they can derive information? It is our job, I think, to bring social workers of Europe in touch with social workers elsewhere, rabbis with rabbis, and teachers with teachers, all over the world. They must have addresses. They must have contacts, they must be in correspondence with other communities. During this conference week, I received a letter from the chairman of a National Conference Committee from New York, asking for suggestions for correspondents in various European countries for the Committee on Overseas Relationships. That is a very good thing, a very healthy development. I think also that we have an obligation to leave to the rest of the world a fair directory of each country where we have operated. Who are the people? What is the history of this community? How is it organized? What is its structure? Who are the people who conduct the activities, what are the addresses, what institutions and so forth? And unless we have that document we have failed in our job. Now most of our offices are practically closed; but in the two years since our discussion of this, when it was accepted policy, practically nothing has happened on it. We must make sure that upon termination in a particular country, we have left that community in touch with the world and are able to tell the world what it is we have left behind.

Now the discussion of details, programs, and questions will come I think on the basis of the country reports, so that my plea is for some of the vision that ought always to go into a discussion of this sort and since I am a bit of a maggid I should leave you with a phrase. I'll use a line from Santayana, if I may, and tell you that "It is not wisdom to be wise and on the inward vision close the eyes".



DR. SCHWARTZ: It was a little difficult Judah, at times to find out what department you were representing, but nevertheless I think everybody will agree that this has been a very provocative presentation of fundamental problems - fundamental problems which require, it seems to me, a great deal of consideration and a great deal of discussion because I am not so certain that JDC has made up its mind on a good many of the basic problems which you have raised. And I am just wondering, Moe, whether we should not take the half hour that is left before the break for luncheon for a discussion of Judah's presentation, and since Moe Leavitt this afternoon does not have any guest speaker he can start off with Laura's presentation and a full discussion of Claims Conference problems and perhaps we might have some discussion on the various problems that were raised by Judah.

Now, is there anybody who, of his own free will, will get up and start the discussion?

MR. LEAVITT: I'd like to ask a question. Judah, do you think that there is any subconscious or latent feeling on the part of the Jews of Europe that, because of their small numbers and minority position, they are on the road to extinction as Jewish communities? Can it be that there is a lack of leadership because no need is felt for such in what is regarded as ultimately disappearing communities? When you think in terms of 20,000 Jews in Holland, 40,000 in Belgium, 20,000 in Germany, 15,000 to 18,000 in Austria, 35,000 in Italy, these are small numbers which, perhaps, people who might be leaders think will disappear in 10 or 20 years. Do they feel that Europe is not a place for them to build but a place to go away from? I am asking you a question, I am not arguing at all.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Mr. Beckelman, would you like to add something?

MR. BECKELMAN: It seems to me that Dr. Shapiro is presenting three alternatives. One would be to say that since the needs of the transient group, a group which is now about to cease to be transient, are needs which are foreign to the established Jewish community of the country in which this transient group is, therefore it is difficult for the transient group to find sympathy and acceptance in the working community, and the JDC should, despite the reduction in volume and intensity of need, continue its direct services to the transient group as it has done since the end of the war. That is one possibility. The other possibility is to say that the problem is now small enough to be disregarded - and I'm simply listing it to exhaust alternatives, not because I suggest it as an answer. The third one which in effect is what I understood your main presentation to be, if only a very small part of your main presentation, that the proper long-range solution to the remaining needs of the diminished transient group which is now going to remain is to build into the communal program of the resident Jewish community an appreciation and a significance and a willingness to deal with and meet those needs. What I understand Moe Leavitt's

question to be, and if it wasn't I want to raise it myself: these native or resident Jewish communities themselves in their smallness, both absolutely in terms of numbers - if you take the ones which Mr. Leavitt mentioned and add such as Yugoslavia, Sweden and Norway - and even relatively in terms of relationship to the total population in which they live - even for a big Jewish community like France - Mr. Leavitt's question I think was: have we detected any desires, sensation or awareness in these small communities that they want to get out of them, either by physical emigration or by disassociation from a separate identity? Against the answer to that question I think we have to measure the validity of the argument for full development of a communal program which will have among its desirable specific results the absorption, the development of a sympathy for the constant absorption of the remaining needs of the transient group and the increased capacity for their own fund-raising in line with the thesis you present, that it takes a broadly rounded, rich, communal program to develop a sense of responsibility and obligation to contribute.

DR. SHAPIRO: I want to thank Mr. Beckelman for the formulation of the question and for the alternatives that he presented. My own position conforms to the third alternative; that is, that a total community program should contain the widest possible services, not alone to those with economic need, but as well for those with Jewish needs. With respect to Mr. Leavitt's question about the feeling of settled communities, that there is a hopelessness about their continuity, I must say that I do not believe that such a feeling does exist. There is a recognition of the difficulties faced by these communities for maintaining a Jewish community structure and the identification of the Jewish population with the community. The fact is, however, that I am talking about the desire of the communities for this kind of program and assistance. I would not suggest our forcing this approach upon an unwilling community. If the issue were one of convincing these people that they must undertake such programs against their desires, then my entire position would break down. It is rather a case of meeting the needs of these communities as stated by them. They sometimes have difficulty analyzing their problem, and at times lack the skills to carry them out, and that is where the JDC can be of assistance.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Henry Bernstein wants to know how much such a program will cost. I think the general impression is, and the impression that Judah wants to convey, I am sure it is an accurate one - that the problem of money is not the important consideration here. It is not one of these costly programs that will involve heavy expenditures, it is rather a question of an approach and a type of service and a concept of what a Jewish community is and how it should be built and strengthened.

MR. RADINSKY: In the same way as Moe, who doesn't want to argue, I only want to ask you a question. I would like to know whether we don't have to consider this from a different angle. There is a question of dependency involved in the same way you talked about the camps yesterday. There is no question of wanting to make a great case out for a continuation of the camp and allowing the JDC to be in the role of the intermediary between the German authorities and the people in the camp. Now I am just wondering whether you are helping or hurting the situation by constantly allowing yourself to be the organization in position to deal with the settled authorities on behalf of the immigrant group, whether more could not be contributed by also setting a terminal date and allowing this rabbi of Sweden to deal with this problem in terms of the settled community, whether you don't bring about a faster integration by letting these forces merge together in the same way that we did in America. Undoubtedly, when the Spanish Jews came first and the German group came second, there was probably a problem of the integration of those two groups. You could have made a case, it seems to me, for 150 years of an organization that would work out a relationship between the two; and when the tide of Russian immigration came in, it certainly created problems. Now the only question I wanted to ask is whether you are helping the situation in terms of becoming the intermediary, or whether you would not help it more by stepping out after you have met their physical needs and introduced the two sides.

The other question I wanted to ask you is related to the competence of your organization to deal with problems which are not especially your problems. I am holding no brief for any other organization. There is, let us say, the Jewish Education, the JEA in America. I don't know if there is an International Jewish Education group, but if so, would they be more competent to deal with problems of education? There is the International Conference of Social Workers; would they be in a better position to deal with social workers there instead of the Joint continuing to serve as the functionary in all of these areas? Perhaps after you have met your relief needs and you have gotten the new immigrant settled, would you not make your best contribution by turning over to specialists and stepping out, allowing this normal process of integration of the two groups?

DR. SCHWARTZ: I think one answer to your second question is that the point of view of the JDC has always been - and I think it has been very sound, because the JDC first of all has never been what you would call a purely relief organization - that it has become a part of the life of the community in each country in which it has worked, and the reason that the JDC is the organization that is most competent to deal with these problems is just the fact, that they have become a part of the community structure of the country. It is something quite different from calling in an expert of some organization or other that has never before had any contact with all of the problems of the community and saying, "Look, there is a problem here in education, you go ahead and answer it." It is much more sound for an organization that has become identified with the community, that understands it, that knows it, to deal with these problems even though some of its personnel may not be the specialists on a particular problem that arises in a community. I think that's what I would like to say as the answer to your second question. Judah would you answer the first?

DR. SHAPIRO: I think that the question of dependency is a good one. As in all matters of this kind, the greatest skill and the wisest judgment is required to determine when assistance to others leads to dependency on the part of those others. I have had occasion many times to point out that any efforts of this kind must always be made by those who have the training and the skill in working with communities, to know when continued effort may lead to the breakdown of initiative and responsibility on the part of the communities themselves.

It is also necessary to point out that the JDC position, with respect to other organizations working in the European area, has always been a consistent one - to invite such other organizations as have special skills to serve these communities. The fact is, however, that none of the other organizations mentioned by Mr. Radinsky have thus far found it possible to undertake any real commitments to the program. One of the greatest obstacles has been their lack of funds, and I think that Dr. Schwartz will bear me out when I say that the need to maintain central fund-raising in the United States has kept organizations like the Jewish Welfare Board from being able to undertake those fund-raising activities which would give them the resources for entering into this program area. There is no sense of exclusiveness within the JDC but, as Dr. Schwartz has already indicated, the close ties of the organization with the communities has naturally lead to the assumption of other, wider responsibilities.

DR. SCHWARTZ: I would like at this point to ask Mr. Sobeloff to make a comment on some of the questions that were raised. He was quoted earlier in the day. We hope that he has another memorable phrase that he will leave with us. But whether he has or not, we are very much interested in getting the point of view of one who has been intimately associated with community organization in the United States on this entire subject.

MR. SOBELOFF: I must say that I have not heard any opposing philosophy being presented by anybody to what Dr. Shapiro was explaining to us. When Mr. Radinsky, in the form of a question, made a little speech and suggested that maybe there was another approach, all of us who have been in the work were eager to explain that this is no new approach. JDC has always been involved. Well, what is the question that is left with us? If we all are agreed that the Joint is more than a relief organization and that it has always had this function then who is debating whom? What's before us, if we are all on the same side?

DR. SCHWARTZ: The question before us is how far do we go?

MR. SOBELOFF: Well, I would gather that behind Dr. Shapiro's remarks are probably some internal judgments and actions which do run somewhat counter to that approach or he would not be putting up an argument here. I think we would have to know what that is. What's the point of our theorizing unless there is also before us what this is all about. What makes him say these things? If we all agree with him they hardly need saying.

DR. SCHWARTZ: I think we will call on Dr. Jonah Wise, who has a comment to make. We would appreciate his remarks on this subject.

DR. WISE: Well, I have not spoken before, but I will say just a few words. Dr. Shapiro raced through so many items that it is very difficult to find out, as Mr. Sobeloff points out, just what his thesis is and what he is trying to do. The fact that the communities are small is one item; the fact that the communities are dependent for leadership and especially for rabbinical leadership on the outside world, especially on alien individuals, is also an item and that's a very important item. It is not new in the history of the Jews; it happened repeatedly, as we all know, but at that time they were united by a certain type of relationship which does not exist today. The language differences were not so great, the customs were not so different, the religious observances were not so different. All those things present problems today which did not exist a century ago. In the past there was the Institut der Wissenschaft des Judentums in Berlin which at one time turned out both rabbinical leadership and scholarship. It was capable of reaching a great many areas of Europe, even reaching into France and I suppose into Holland and other countries and it produced an authoritative group of leaders. Today that institution no longer functions. But there are still sources of help in the world which have not been destroyed or even impaired by the destruction which came to the institutions in Europe in recent decades. There are in the United States and in England institutions which do have that function.

American Jewry was faced with a similar problem; its leadership in the ministry and in other areas came from abroad, mostly from Germany and Poland. The United States organized its whole program fundamentally from the beginning on the basis of the synagogue leadership. I don't know how many people know about the history of that process or how important it was, but it did infuse into the whole picture of American Jewry a sense of association with the country and with the responsibilities toward the country, in a sense, the necessity for training its own personnel in leadership. At the time that was undertaken the U.S. Jewish population was small and by no means rich. I have a family connection with that problem which makes it easy for me to tell you that their trying to find money for establishing an American Jewish personnel for leadership in the community was a very, very difficult task and is still a difficult task today. The result was amazing because in the course of less than 50 years the American Jewish community has turned out a kind of leadership, beginning with the synagogue and extending into social service, which is unique in the whole picture of Jewish life. I don't

think anybody can deny that it stems from the synagogue, that it came out of the re-organization of the synagogue. I wish to point out my younger colleague here, Rabbi Friedman, as an example of a third generation of that kind of foresight and enterprise. And I have a feeling that the Jewish College in London, the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, the Jewish Theological Seminary, Yeshivah University and others are involved in this problem from the international standpoint.

I know it will be very difficult to provide the kind of leadership which Dr. Shapiro describes. But the JDC can render a service despite the pitiful situation which exists, the small numbers, the uncertainty and other factors in the community which Dr. Shapiro described. I am under the impression that the JDC can find a solution, an attempted solution of a part of its problem. It can coordinate the already available resources, and they are very distinctive and very capable. We have graduated from our institution men who have gone into all sorts of enterprises. Among the first graduates of the Hebrew Union College, of the alumni, if not of the first then of the middle group, was Dr. Sol Lowenstein who became a leader of social work although he was trained only as a rabbi in Cincinnati. Another was Dr. Judah Magnus, who was a graduate of Hebrew Union College and became a significant personality in the field of general Jewish life.

I don't see why the Joint Distribution Committee cannot take this question up, discuss it and try to find in an experimental sort of way perhaps, some approach to it that has been outlined by Dr. Shapiro. I will say this about it in conclusion, that you don't tackle the problems from the top with Jews. I mean social service is important, but social service is in a sense a luxury when compared with the fundamental fact of Jewish life. With all due regard to my knowledge of its importance and significance and value, which I don't discount at all, still Jews do not need social service as such. But Jews do need, and I think Dr. Shapiro pointed that out, a certain sense of relationship to a great cultural heritage and a great spiritual heritage and a certain sense of being able to stand on their own feet vis-a-vis the religious community in which they live. And one of the great problems which we had to face originally in America 100 years ago was the fact that Jews were in scattered communities, foreigners, uneducated and unable to stand up against the religious programs of the general communities in which they lived. That no longer exists in the United States. And it no longer exists probably in other countries where they have forward-looking religious movements. But I am quite in agreement with Dr. Shapiro that to attack the present problem of European Jewry is not to attack it from the standpoint of money relief, of expert social service alone, if at all, but to attack it from the fundamental Jewish need and from the standpoint of Jewish culture, Jewish religion, the interpretation of the Jew as the heir of a tremendous and imperishable and invaluable contribution to humanity. And that can be done, I think, only through the

re-organization of Jewish life fundamentally, and that has to begin with the synagogue. And in that I think there are areas of helpfulness which the JDC might mobilize.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Is there somebody here who would like to talk of the poor contributor?

MR. RACOOSIN: If there is a vacuum in the Jewish life of many European countries, I think that the normal process of Judaism should be stimulated and not allowed to die out. It is one of the things that the Jews of the world would be interested in restoring. But who? I think that JDC, by its competence, can fulfill this process and get it going. The roots of Judaism have survived all over the world and nowhere should they be allowed to die.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Judah, do you want about 60 seconds to have a final word?

DR. SHAPIRO: The impression has been conveyed by Mr. Sobeloff and others that there is something wrong and querulous in this discussion. There is no real argument, and it should be made clear that the position of JDC has in the past, and will probably continue in the future, to deal sympathetically with the approach that I attempted to express. The fact is that the question of how much money will be required is purely a procedural one which will be settled in executive fashion, and I believe that we can assume that the main thesis of my statement will obtain the backing and the resources required to pursue a program of this kind.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Before we break up for lunch I want to announce with regret that Mr. George Warren, who was supposed to be one of our guest speakers this afternoon, has sent us a message that the meeting in Venice of the Committee on Migration, at which he represents the State Department, is still in session and therefore he regrets that he cannot be present at our conference here.

The session this afternoon will open with a presentation by Mrs. Jarblum on the problems relating to the Conference on Material Claims and will be followed by a full discussion of that subject. The meeting will be shorter than usual because at 5.30 there will be a showing of several new films on the hard-core transport to Norway and on some other phases of JDC activities. The address for that will be given to you at the afternoon session; it's in your program. Those of you who will not be back here this afternoon - it's at Filmax, 72 Champs Elysees. And now we recess for lunch.

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SEVENTH SESSION

Wednesday afternoon, October 21, 1953

Chairman - Mr. M. A. Leavitt

MR. LEAVITT: Ladies and gentlemen, I declare the afternoon session open which, as you can see from your program, is dedicated to guest speakers. There being no guest speakers, I declare the meeting adjourned..... We will now reassemble, in order to carry on the program as outlined by Dr. Schwartz this morning. And we shall first call upon Laura Margolis-Jarblum, to present problems relating to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims, JDC requirements and European community needs.

MRS. JARBLUM: It is quite clear from the country directors' reports which we have heard so far, and Dr. Shapiro's statement this morning and from the discussion we have had that we as the JDC staff in the field (I am limiting my remarks to what we as the JDC staff in the field think) feel that JDC's role is not terminated with what is called the post-war emergency period. We do not see ourselves merely in the role of a Jewish Red Cross or a Blue Mogen Dovid. Our performance and our whole history proves how strongly we feel about the challenge and obligations incumbent upon us for working with settled communities until they are completely reconstructed and self-supporting.

JDC's definition of a community which is reconstructed, or en route towards reconstruction, is practically synonymous with the degree to which it has been able to increase local financial participation to meet its needs, to decrease JDC's financial participation and to take care of its own needs with at least minimum sound social service standards. In other words, we tend to think of a reconstructed community as independent from the American Jewish community and/or any other outside resources. In many communities of Western Europe we are well on the way towards this independence, but we are only well on the way, and have not as yet arrived.

Local fund-raising in the communities of Western Europe can be divided into five large categories. Specifically we have a community such as Holland which is entirely self-supporting and no longer requires help from JDC as far as its current operating requirements are concerned. Secondly, a community such as France, which has come a long way in this fund-raising structure but which is not yet entirely self-supporting. Thirdly, Belgium, which this year has had a good and encouraging start. Fourthly, a community such as Italy, where the fund-raising structure is still not firmly established but where the JDC is continuing its efforts to create such a structure, and lastly, communities such as Germany and Austria, where for obvious reasons JDC's emphasis to date has not been primarily on community organization and fund-raising.



The availability of Claims Conference money has thrown real confusion into most of the West European communities just at the point where they were beginning to move towards independence - some slowly, some faster, but all were reaching out towards that goal. That is why the sudden availability of huge sums of money without a clear definition of who is the victim of Nazi persecution for whom these moneys are seemingly destined, without a set of operating principles and without a definite set of priorities and, as far as we know on this side of the Atlantic, without an existing professional staff to evaluate objectively the relative merits of requests made, is bound to set the communities back ten years to the post-war chaos and confusion. This is the chaos and confusion which we in JDC found when we began our work after the liberation. We have worked very hard over the years to dispel this chaos and to bring these communities into some framework of order and discipline. For almost ten years we have been helping communities plan, set up community organization structures; we have tried to get them to think in terms of their own priorities and establish operating principles; we tried to get them to develop a desire to be independent of foreign aid and to think of their communal, social and educational and cultural institutions in terms of acceptable standards.

Because of our own deep concern as a staff over the confusion which the Claims Conference money has created and the power politics regarding the distribution of this money, we decided, in line with JDC traditional policy of being non-political and being concerned only about what would be good for the client and the communities, to set up a small internal JDC committee. Our purpose was to see if we could evolve a set of ideal priorities and principles which, if accepted by the Claims Conference either as such or with some modification, could make Claims money a constructive influence in the communities of Western Europe rather than a destructive one. We use the word "ideal" priorities and principles, and yet we are absolutely convinced that if everyone around the conference table in New York had only one deep concern, namely, what is good for the recipient of these funds, they would not be ideal but could become a practical working basis for evaluating and allocating the sums available. From what we already know, the requests will be much greater than the sums available and, therefore, there will have to be some criteria for selecting worthwhile projects and allocating funds. At any rate, we thought it might be interesting to submit this set of priorities and principles to you, as the basis for this afternoon's discussion. And before I read the principles and priorities which our committee has had the audacity to put down on paper, I am going to ask the girls to pass copies around so that you can follow them with me because, while they are not difficult, if you follow them with me perhaps you will retain them as a matter of discussion. I did not want to pass them out sooner, because if I had you would not have listened to me. If you don't mind I will proceed to read as you follow.

Our committee felt that even the term "victims of Nazi persecution" should be divided into three main classifications, for purposes of considering the priority to be given to requests for Conference funds. The classifications are listed in order of priority as agreed upon by our committee:

First - Victims of Nazi persecution still living in camps or collectivities anywhere in the world except Israel. Everyone felt that the best use to which Conference funds could be put would be to spend them for all services required to dissolve these collectivities and help to integrate people, socially, economically and legally, on a permanent basis, with the goal of having them eventually become members of a settled community. To the maximum extent possible the wishes of the individual as to place of permanent settlement should be followed. The committee felt that the solution of the problems presented by this classification should take priority over the requests of any other nature, regardless of the amount of money involved. The committee felt that not only in terms of the amount of money involved but also in terms of selection for evaluation and allocation of funds, requests for projects applying to this classification should have top priority.

Second - Victims of Nazi persecution who are still classified as refugees or displaced persons, regardless of where they are living, except in Israel, and who are not integrated in the country of residence either legally, socially or economically, assuming that at the present time they are still receiving public and/or private assistance.

Third - Victims of Nazi persecution considered settled. By settled is meant, persons not classified as refugees or displaced persons legally but who are still in need of financial assistance because they have not recovered economically since the war. The committee, after considerable discussion, set down the following set of priorities which can, of course, be modified, but which we think are not too idealistic:

1. We felt that Conference moneys must not be substituted for moneys raised locally. Should the existence of Conference money in any way substitute for or discourage local fund-raising which has been established, it is our firm conviction that communities and organizations benefiting from such local funds will in the long run be weakened. The communities might well find it impossible in the future to re-establish the pattern of giving and the consciousness of local responsibility which has been created to date. Since the moneys paid to the Claims Conference are spread over a period of 12 to 14 years, there is no guarantee except the legal and moral one, that the source of funds will continue over this period to meet the German obligation. It is within the realm of possibility that after the first few years the realities of the German economy plus the changing international situation may make it impossible for Germany to continue payments. It would, therefore, be very destructive to any community to weaken its present fund-raising apparatus.
2. Requests for funds for capital investments to improve, enlarge and repair existing facilities, may be given consideration, assuming that they are institutions actually required by the community and where the community is prepared to guarantee or participate in the operating budget required in the future.

3. Requests for capital investments for new institutions to be established in a community should be given consideration against the following criteria -

- (a) That these institutions which existed pre-war are still required at the present time and that the community guarantees the operating budget within a reasonable length of time.
- (b) That the institution, even if it did not exist before the war, is now required to meet new communal needs not existing pre-war and the community guarantees the operating budget within a reasonable length of time.

4. Full use should be made of all opportunities for government or other public funds for such projects before recourse is had to Conference funds. The committee feels strongly that every safeguard must be taken to ensure that the existence of Conference funds is not used by governmental bodies to deny to victims of Nazi persecution public assistance or other benefits for which they would otherwise be eligible either as individuals or as organizations. Denial of such benefits by a government at any level would constitute discrimination against Jewish residents or organizations in a given country.

5. In a community where there is a central Jewish organization and where there is central planning and coordination of communal programs, the central body should be involved in the screening of all applications emanating from that country, no matter what the source. This would include applications from country offices of international bodies as well as applications from any group or organization outside the framework of the central Jewish community. The latter type of request should be examined from the standpoint of including such requests within the framework of the central Jewish organization as a condition for Conference support.

6. A procedure for screening applications should include adequate provision for participation by JDC, in areas of JDC operation, with the local central fund-raising body in the country, where such a body exists, and with other representative community bodies in that country. This structure will, of course, have to be spelled out country by country.

7. The Conference, before considering a request for funds, should determine first what steps have been taken in each country for restitution of heirless property, to determine whether this might be a resource to meet the cost of the project presented. Lack of action on the part of a government concerning reparations, restitution and disposition of heirless property, however, should not exclude a community from receiving Conference funds.

Now I would just like to end these few remarks by referring to the statement by Nahum Goldman to the effect that if the American Jewish community assumed that the German reparations should replace the UJA, so far as aid to Israel is concerned, the German reparations would be the ruination of Israel, rather than what it could be in combination with the continued support of the UJA, the making of Israel.

And all I would like to say in conclusion is that if Conference funds available to communities over here are indiscriminately distributed rather than being the source and the base for a reconstruction of Jewish communal life, it would serve the exact opposite purpose, and I think that from this point on, Mr. Chairman, you can take it.

MR. LEAVITT: Thank you very much. I would like to announce that I don't intend to fall into the trap which has been placed in front of me. In making me Chairman of this session it was not planned that I would participate in the discussion - I would just be the Chairman. Well, they are making a great mistake.

Perhaps the discussion could be furthered a little bit if I first made a brief statement on the Conference and the present status of the situation, but first I want to say that for a committee which knew so little, as Laura admitted at the beginning, about the Conference, they prepared a very thoughtful paper. They prepared a paper which I am taking back with me, and which I want everyone of the members of the Executive Committee of the Conference to read. They have prepared a paper which I have in essence repeated at least four times now to the Executive Committee of the Conference but without making much of a dent.

Now the situation is as follows. There is a treaty between the government of Germany and the Israeli government whereby the German government will pay in goods, services or cash the sum of some three billion four hundred and fifty million DMarks over a period of 12 to 14 years. Three billion DMarks are earmarked for the State of Israel and four hundred and fifty million DMarks are earmarked for the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany. Roughly, the four hundred and fifty million DMarks is a hundred and seven million dollars, the three billion DMarks is roughly seven hundred and fifty million dollars, which makes a total of about eight hundred and twenty two million dollars.

However, by virtue of a prior agreement which we in the Conference had made with the State of Israel in March 1952 in London before the negotiations with Germany were started, Israel agreed that if a global sum were to be awarded by Germany to Israel and the Conference, the Conference would receive 15% of that global sum for work outside of Israel. At the same time the government of Israel, by a unilateral act, said it was prepared to give, in addition to the 15% for work outside of Israel, 18 and 1/3 per cent of its total sum to voluntary organizations operating in Israel,

but only for work in Israel, so that the funds will be spent in Israel, with pounds that the government will receive for the sale of these goods. The difference between the 15% and the fourhundred and fifty million DMarks which is a contractual agreement on the part of the German government and the Conference, is about sixteen million dollars. In other words, instead of onehundred and seven there is about onehundred and twentytwo odd million dollars which the government of Israel has obligated itself to provide to the Conference. The Conference has to account for only onehundred and seven million dollars to the Germans and there is to be strict accountability every year with certified audited statements of the expenditure of that money to the German authorities. Provision is made that if the funds are not used in accordance with the agreement, the Germans can hold up further payment and invoke international arbitration, and they may even request the return from the Conference of the funds which have been misspent in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

Now one of the problems that we had in The Hague was the problem of what we call the "Purpose Clause" - i.e. what was the purpose to which these funds were to be put. We wrestled with that problem for weeks. We wrote and re-wrote that sentence - I don't know how many drafts I have at home - in trying to get a draft which would not bind us and make it impossible to operate but at the same time satisfy the Germans who wanted to make it tight. At one point I had suggested that they take the hundred and seven million dollars and they distribute it. I felt that under the conditions that they were outlining no organization could distribute the funds for the purpose for which we were negotiating. They did not accept that either, but as it turned out the clause reads as follows, and I think it is important that you hear it: -

"The amount so paid and transmitted by the State of Israel to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany will be used for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of Jewish victims of National Socialist persecution according to the urgency of their needs as determined by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany."

That, we felt, was the widest, broadest and the most flexible statement under which we could operate and they finally agreed.

There is one other minor point here in this purpose clause which says - "such amounts will in principle be used for the benefit of victims who at the time of the conclusion of the present agreement were living outside of Israel". That was put in because we took this position: Here are people living in Europe or in China or wherever they may be, for whom we are responsible, for whom we will spend money for care and maintenance. When we move them to Israel, do we have to say that thereafter it becomes the problem of the Israeli government and they must pay for the care and the upkeep of these hard-core people? They said, obviously this is not what we meant; well, I said, let's spell it out. So that starting as of April first, or

whatever the date of the Bundestag ratification, anyone brought into Israel from outside the Nazi occupied areas, can receive his care and maintenance from the funds of the Conference earmarked for outside of Israel. In other words, if we had brought into Israel onehundred hard-core cases into Malben institutions, we would have a right to get money for the care of those hard-core cases in the Malben institution out of Conference funds. Otherwise it would mean if we eventually moved all the people into Israel, we would have nobody on whom to spend the money and Israel would be saddled with a much larger burden than it has at the present time.

Now the question of the relief and the rehabilitation of Nazi victims is a pretty broad one. What does it mean? Does it mean that rehabilitation is only personal rehabilitation? Do we read in that, community rehabilitation? We spelled it out in the discussions that took place at the Hague. We pointed out to the Germans that it cannot be only for individual relief, that there are communities which have needs, whether in the religious field or in the cultural field. They said - of course, we understand, if you wanted to build a synagogue it should come out of these funds. At one time their point was that this fund was to be a fund to be distributed to individuals by the Conference, particularly to people who are not going to get any indemnification or restitution. We fought this because it meant we would have hundreds of thousands of individuals coming to the Conference saying - "I lost this property or that property, give it back to me, this is my money". We said we would under no circumstances accept this formula and we would turn the money back to the Germans if that were to be the final agreement. But they did recognize the principle of community rehabilitation. And that has raised problems for the Conference, but we will come to that in a moment.

The agreement between the Germans and the Israeli government is that one year after the receipt of goods by Israel, Israel must begin to make payments to the Conference. And that is a must, because if Israel defaults on its obligation to the Conference, it defaults on its treaty with Germany. However, in the special agreement which the Conference made with Israel, Israel agreed to start payments nine months, instead of a year, after the receipt of supplies by Israel, and we have decided to calculate that nine months after the ratification of the agreement, which is about April 1953, so that the first monies will become available to the Conference starting as of January 1, 1954. There will be some substantial sums, because even as far back as August 1952, before we had even signed an agreement with the German government, Germany had been delivering oil to Israel, paid for by the Germans under a counter-guarantee by the Israeli government, that in the event there was no agreement Israel would be responsible for these oil payments of about one million pounds Sterling a month. Actually, they set aside something like seventyfive million DMarks for oil shipments, which came as a great relief to the Israelis, as otherwise they would have had to pay dollars for that oil.

We therefore can look forward to money as of January first. And the question arose, how do you divide the money? How do you distribute the money? And the same questions that concerned Laura and her committee have been a concern to us. I want to say that I have had a fairly long experience in Jewish work. I hope I will be able to do it for a few more years but I don't know. The distribution of the Conference funds is going to take the best years of my life, I can see that.

It is a very difficult situation. We have to date - coming in at the rate of about a million dollars a week - some sixteen million dollars in applications against the fund which may amount to about seven or eight million dollars in the year 1954. And the applications continue to come in. The problems raised by Laura, of course had been foreseen and I had tried to present them too. How do we see to it that the communities which have begun to become self-supporting keep on trying to become self-supporting, rather than our saying to them: "Now look, you don't have to raise any more money, the Conference will pay this money to you and you are absolved from any further obligation".

There are two kinds of countries in the world, there are the giving countries and there are the receiving countries. The largest example of the giving countries is the United States, and I am going to speak very frankly to the communities there as I will speak frankly before the representatives of communities of Europe, the receiving communities. We have taken the position that giving communities who have not suffered from the war and the persecution should not be relieved of any obligation for the care of the Nazi victims, that they ought to continue to meet that obligation. And that includes countries like the United States, Canada, South America, South Africa and Great Britain.

No criteria have as yet been set down, but one of the things we did say is that the Conference as such will not repay past expenditures of communities or individuals. Also, the Conference will not deal with individuals. It will not make any grants to individuals as such but will deal only through recognized social welfare agencies, wherever the grant for any particular country will be made. Individuals will receive assistance in accordance with their needs as determined by the welfare agencies through whom such grants will be made. So that there will be no payments made to individuals just because they happen to have suffered economic losses during the period of the Nazis or because they were unsuccessful for one reason or another in their claims for restitution and indemnification. In the matter of priority we used the same priority as recommended by the JDC committee but we did not use the term "collectivity" but called it camps.

To come back to mechanics again. On the understanding that we would start getting money January 1, 1954, the Conference decided to set a closing date on applications and set the date as October 15, 1953, in the expectation that there would be a board meeting at the end of December to give us about two and a half months to examine and evaluate applications and make actual allocations. It does not seem as if the timetable will work out that way.

Many communities apparently did not know, or were hesitant, or were slow in sending applications in; there were some questions as to whether everybody had been notified, and so it was decided to extend the deadline to December 1, 1953, with the understanding among ourselves that there will be a decision sometime towards the end of February.

The Conference consists of twentytwo members, each of whom has two board members, there being fortyfour board members in all. There is an Executive Committee of that Conference consisting of fourteen people. Out of this number seven people serve as a Screening Application Committee which will screen the applications before they come to the Executive Committee and through the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors. Before the Screening Committee, there is a committee of three - Nahum Goldmann, Jacob Blaustein and myself. There is nobody before that. This committee of three is authorized to appoint the rapporteurs on the applications that are coming in. It will designate who will evaluate and appraise the applications that have come in. The report of the rapporteur then comes to the Screening Committee. The Screening Committee has all of the applications in front of it and then will make a decision or recommendation to the Executive Committee. Actually, if the seven out of the fourteen agree, which I hope will be the case, the Executive Committee will undoubtedly follow along and then in turn, I hope, the Board of Directors will go along.

One of the problems that arose very early was in connection with the efforts of culture groups, who felt that a part of this money, a substantial part, ought to go to what they call the rehabilitation of Yiddish culture or Jewish culture, whichever way you want to put it. And to show you how far that went, the Jewish Labor Committee and the Labor Zionist Organization formed a united front for the first time in the history of both organizations. The united front was to descend upon the Conference for funds for these purposes. And applications have come in.

By the way, the applications on the cultural end I have not included; they are a chapter by themselves. It is separate over and above, there may be another five million dollars there. Now, the cultural applications are being separated out from the applications for relief and rehabilitation. It was decided as a recommendation by the Executive Committee - it has not yet been passed by the Board - that at least ten per cent of the amounts that will be made available for the year 1954 should be allocated for cultural purposes. Between seven and eighthundred thousand dollars, therefore, are to be set aside for cultural activities. A committee of five or seven members will be set up. Actually, 32 names have so far been suggested so that if we can cut it down to seven we will still be doing well. These are outstanding names throughout the world, Jewish leaders in the religious field, in the educational field, in every cultural field, who are to determine the priorities and the use of that cultural fund all over the world. That was a big headache but we felt that we could turn the problem over to this committee and say to it: "You determine, you weed them out and you recommend what ought to be done; we'll probably go along with you." This is still subject to approval by the Board, but it



will be that committee that will be handling it; and I want to say first that I am not on that committee, thank God! That is a committee that will be working on its own but I do hope that they will be working in some kind of liaison with Judah Shapiro, because over and above what is being spent or will be spent by the Conference on such cultural and community organized activities, on the cultural, educational, religious level, the JDC will probably continue to do its work just the same, so that there ought to be some coordination. I am going to come pretty soon to the JDC's part in this.

There is again another obligation which has been accepted by the Conference, an obligation of about threehundred thousand dollars a year for the URO, that is the United Restitution Office in the United States, in Great Britain, in Israel, in France, in Canada, in South America and in Australia. As a result of the new indemnification laws and restitution laws there are at least a hundred thousand or more additional people who will become eligible for certain compensation benefits from the Germans, spread over a period of ten years. The law is a complicated one, and it was felt that one of the functions of the Conference which negotiated the legislation which has been passed, should be to help individuals throughout the world make their claims properly.

There is one problem that has been bothering us a great deal, and that is the problem of false and fraudulent claims that will be forthcoming from many hundreds of Jews throughout the world who feel that this is a good place to come to and ask the Germans for some money because they were a resident in the ghetto of Lublin or Krakow. If you were, you are entitled to a hundred and fifty DMarks a month, and it is going to be pretty hard to prove whether you were in the ghetto or not. I got a letter the other day from somebody in South America asking me for particulars about the ghetto of Lublin. He would like to put in a claim and, therefore, he would like to know something about it. We feel that we can detect fraudulent claims much better than the Germans can but we are afraid that we will not be able to eliminate fraudulent claims altogether. If we can cut them down, we will protect the interests of the honest and legal claimant. Otherwise we will have another Auerbach scandal, we will have another Bavarian scandal and the Germans will not pay any of the indemnifications even for those who are deserving.

So for both reasons we felt we had to be in the field and we therefore have undertaken this obligation. It runs as of April 1, 1953 and there has been set aside about sixhundred thousand dollars which, with the eighthundred thousand for cultural work, is a million fourhundred thousand. We figure that administration of the Conference, which will be rather modest, may run about thirtyfive to fifty thousand dollars a year. About a million and a half dollars have thus far been tentatively allocated.

Now what about the claims of fifteen, sixteen, twenty million dollars that will be before the Conference? I have made the point that the JDC has been operating in this field, that international relief is not a one-time activity - it is a continuous, dynamic program; that it changes from week to week, from month to month; that the needs increase or decrease. It is like a hospital - you have so many patients in one month, you have more or you have less in the following month; but you cannot just make an annual grant to a hospital and say "from here on this is what you get and if you have no patients you still get the same amount of money."

Secondly, we asked ourselves, what happens to the JDC's program in these countries, how is it coordinated? Naturally there are many communities, there are many agencies whom we subvention who would like very much, and would like nothing better, than to be free of the controls of the JDC, although I do know of one organization that prefers the JDC to other organizations. When it came to a pinch, when there was a choice of where they get their money from, they finally chose the JDC. There is a problem of what control do you have. Is the Conference prepared to set up another JDC in Europe, with offices, with experts, doctors, social workers, administrators, accountants, etc. etc., the whole network of the JDC in Europe, to account for the Conference funds, because otherwise you are not able to account to the Germans, you are not able to account to the Jewish public for the funds that you are spending, which are public funds. Or do you utilize, in essence, the JDC's manpower, experience and good offices?

Logically that is the way in which it ought to be done. There has been no decision taken except one, which is a step I think in the right direction. I am speaking frankly, there are problems of prestige involved in this situation, problems of personal prestige, problems of organizational prestige, of people and agencies represented in the Conference. And that makes life a little bit more difficult because you have to make some allowance for these sensitive agencies and these very sensitive individuals.

The group (the committee of three) has finally agreed to appoint the Joint Distribution Committee - Moe Beckelman, to be exact (the understanding being that Moe can't do this job himself, that it will be farmed out to all of the JDC offices in the various countries under his supervision) - the rapporteur for all applications in the countries in which the JDC operates. That was the first step and it took a long time to arrive at it.

What does that mean now? It means that if there is a request, as there is - Mr. Otto Heim has made it, the other day; he would like to have a hundred thousand dollars from the Conference for certain programs and eightyfive thousand dollars in addition for other programs - Mr. Rice will sit down with Mr. Otto Heim and say: "Look, you contribute so much money for the care of these people who are in Switzerland. We are not relieving you of that responsibility whatsoever. We are giving towards

that care X dollars. What are the additional requirements that you have which are urgent, urgent in comparison to requirements of other people, other needs, whether in Switzerland or in any other part of the world? Now, you won't know all the urgency of the needs - we will know it - but we will ask you what in your opinion is the most urgent ten thousand dollars if you would have them, or the next ten thousand dollars, etc., whatever it may be." Then Mr. Rice will discuss the matter with Mr. Beckelman and will give his opinion to the committee on what ought to be done, how much ought to be given to the community, and in the light of the general needs as you see it, and as Mr. Beckelman and the officers see it, that will be their recommendation; it can only be a recommendation.

I don't know who is going to be the rapporteur on the JDC's application. That has not been decided yet. Now, obviously the JDC is the largest applicant in this. It puts us in a very difficult position. The JDC will file an application for about eight million dollars, and since there only will be six and a half million dollars it surely won't get all it asks for. But what it does mean is this, that the JDC will sit down with the communities and the agencies and work out the most urgent needs to be met, on the assumption that there are some additional funds available.

Now I am going to say something which I want you to keep in mind and think about, and I think that we have to think of the funds of the Conference as no different from any other public funds available to the Jews of the world. And this is one of the most serious problems that I think we are going to have to face. These are public funds in the sense that there are trustees who will be held responsible to utilize these funds for the benefit of victims of Nazi action. That is exactly what the JDC gets funds out of the UJA for, too, and for the same purpose. So that so far as the JDC use of the funds in Europe is concerned, or in any other area outside of Israel and Moslem countries, the JDC use is exactly the same as the use of the Conference funds. But there are three needs, generally speaking, Jewish needs in the world. One is the need of the Nazi victims outside of Israel. There is a second need - the Moslem countries. The third need and the overpowering and overwhelming need is Israel, and there must be some relationship in this situation as to what happens to the funds that are being made available.

There is one technical problem that is involved which you ought to realize. The State of Israel could not possibly pay to the Conference its share in dollars and stay solvent. It could not possibly pay out eight or nine or ten million dollars a year, year in and year out, to the Conference in dollars. What does it mean? On the one hand it gets from Germany sixty million dollars worth of German reparation goods on its own account and then it has to buy ten million dollars worth of German goods for the account of the Conference. Now Israel would never buy ten million dollars worth of German goods and pay dollars for those goods - that's clear -; certainly not on top of sixty million that it is getting free. Therefore it is faced with this problem: how to pay for the goods to the Conference.

Clearly the most obvious way is to make payment through the JDC. Since the JDC is the largest agency concerned with the relief and rehabilitation of Nazi victims, it will be the largest recipient of funds, and the JDC will not ask for dollars from the government of Israel via the Conference but will say to the Government of Israel - "Give us pounds, and the equivalent amount in pounds, because we need pounds in our program in Malben. The dollars that we get from the UJA for Israel, those dollars we can use for the programs where dollar requirements are necessary for the JDC." In that way it is possible for Israel to meet its commitments. I mean in other words the JDC since 1933 has engaged in clearance arrangements; it is now twenty years since it started with the first educational clearance of the Jewish student who left Germany and who went to England. We paid for his tuition in England and the father of the German student paid out marks to us for the relief activity. That was the first clearance that we made and that clearance then rose into hundreds, millions and millions of dollars as we tried to save the fortune of the German Jews and of Austrian Jews and of other Jews as the countries came under German occupation.

That clearance arrangement was never understood by the giving community in the United States; it took a long time, it was very difficult to explain; it wasn't difficult to understand but it was difficult to explain. We are now entering a third type of clearance arrangement whereby pounds will be paid to the JDC in satisfaction of dollars due to the Conference which the Conference has allocated to the JDC. Is it clear to everybody?

MR. BERINSTEIN: No, that is not clear to me. You are buying goods. You are going to pay in dollars and you are going to get pounds from Israel for this program. But I don't see where it gives Israel any more dollars to meet these commitments because they won't have the dollars that Malben has paid in.

MR. LEAVITT: Under the agreement that Germany has with Israel, Israel is under a definite contractual obligation to provide dollars to the Conference. It has not got those dollars; it must take the goods. The goods which it takes for the account of the Conference it sells in Israel for pounds. Those pounds it can pay us, you see, and fulfill the obligation which it has undertaken.

MR. BERINSTEIN: I understand all that but you still are not going to have the dollars in Israel that you are now transferring through Malben.

MR. LEAVITT: It makes it possible for Israel to fulfill its commitments, otherwise it can't fulfill them. That's all I am saying, otherwise Israel has to default on the agreement.

MR. BERINSTEIN: I understand what you are saying, but I don't understand why you arrive at the conclusion that this will allow them to do it, because they could do it anyhow; they could take the dollars you give them for Malben and turn them over to the Conference. I think Charlie knows what I mean and I think you do too.

MR. LEAVITT: I want to say this. This thing is not as simple as it appears. In the first instance, the JDC gets for its Malben dollar a certain amount of pounds. By agreement with the Government of Israel there is a certain rate for the philanthropic dollar. The pounds that the Government of Israel gets, or the goods which it receives on account of the Conference, is a different kind of arrangement. There is a different pound rate in payment for that - do you understand that as a business man? That's a business transaction. Now we, JDC, said to the government and to the United Israel Appeal, we do not expect to ask for money from the Conference and from the United Jewish Appeal for the same program. In other words, we do not expect to get two dollars for one dollar's worth of work - one dollar from the Conference, one dollar from the UJA. We make no profit on this. We can declare no dividends on this to anybody. In essence Israel gets the dollars if the UJA provides the dollars, if the UJA continues to raise the amount of money that you claim you are raising and we are not asking the money for the same program. Israel gets an increased allocation from the UJA if the UJA provides the dollars. If it doesn't provide the dollars then it simply means that the JDC will have to secure funds from the UJA for its needs in Israel and in the Moslem countries. Actually the way the programs are set up, it looks as if, on the assumption that the campaign in 1954 will be somewhat similar to what it has been, that it will balance out if we get the same proportion in the United Jewish Appeal.

Now that, in essence, is the problem of the Conference. We are hopeful that it will work out, that is what I say. We in the JDC ought to feel the same way as Laura and her committee felt, with which I am in agreement - that the use of the money will not destroy the initiative and the work that has been done and the exponents won't negate the expenditures that we have had over the years in trying to build the communities up so that they do their fund-raising, and we do not destroy that potential. We don't intend to have communities which have the means to raise funds - whether in South American countries or in other countries - to take care of the needs of the people that they are taking care of, relieved of that obligation. We want to utilize the funds to do a job, perhaps a better job, than we have been doing. We can be a little bit more generous than we have been up to the present time. We won't try to squeeze the people too much. We don't want to lower the standards, we want to keep the standards up and perhaps raise them a little bit. There is some plus value involved in this Conference for

the JDC and the communities with whom we work. I have spoken much too long; I am sorry, but it is not a simple problem. Are there any comments, suggestions, questions. This is your chance for rebuttal. Yes, Mr. Heim.

MR. HEIM: Has there been any publicity given to this statement, in the Jewish newspapers, for instance?

MR. LEAVITT: No, not at the moment. What I have given to you has been in executive session, some of the things are known, some of the things are not known. At the moment, it is not for publication, as I am not empowered by the Conference to make any statement.

QUESTION: Have you any idea as to the effect that Conference Claims money will have on campaigns in the United States?

MR. LEAVITT: I think that we ought to hear from the gentlemen of the Local Welfare Funds as to that. I really mean that I think that is a problem you ought to consider: will it have any effect on the campaign?

MR. SOBELOFF: I don't know that I have formulated any judgment as to the effect, but as you tell the story, you talk of the JDC expenditure of \$25,000,000; as a good portion of that for the Malben part of the program comes from another source, the first announcement you are making - forgetting the possibility of development of new programs - is that you need less money. For the American contributing public, or for any contributing public, with the announcement that you need less money that's a tip-off.

MR. LEAVITT: Not necessarily. Say we need \$25,000,000. The UJA gives us only \$18,000,000. That's what we are getting from UJA. We are spending \$25,000,000. Where do we get the other \$7,000,000?

MR. SOBELOFF: Where do you get it from?

MR. LEAVITT: We expect to get it from Conference funds. We are spending twenty-one or twenty-two, we had some reparations funds, we got some funds from the JRSO; those sources are drying up. We're not getting it anywhere.

MR. SOBELOFF: Start at the other end. Money for your Malben program was coming from where?

MR. LEAVITT: From world sources of the JDC; it came from the UJA, the JRSO, from Swiss reparations, from South America.

MR. SOBELOFF: And you now have a new source for the Malben program?

MR. LEAVITT: No. The Malben program is not eligible for a penny of the Conference money.

MR. PASSMAN: With reference to the questions that Mr. Sobeloff asked, I think that by your combination of the dollars and the pounds you have confused them and you think there'll be money for the Malben program from elsewhere. It is only a financial arrangement, but the actual money for the Malben program is not coming from the Conference funds. That's the combination.

JUDGE BERNON: What can we expect from Conference money towards the JDC program? What does it amount to in dollars? Have you got any guess?

MR. LEAVITT: I don't even want to guess because it will be quoted against me.

JUDGE BERNON: Well, is it a large amount?

MR. LEAVITT: Sure, it has to be. In answer to your questions as to what the impact will be on campaigns, do you know that during your spring campaigns that issue was raised in most of the cities that had a spring campaign, and contributors were told that that money was to build up the Israel economy and that it in no wise should affect the UJA giving, and I don't think it did this spring. But if the impression gets out that in addition to building up the Israel economy some money is going for work of other constituent agencies of UJA, particularly the JDC, it might affect giving in communities in coming campaigns.

MR. GREENSTEIN: Moe, may I make a few comments? This of course is all speculative but in Baltimore we had a very wonderful Jew, Jacob Epstein, who always was in the habit of saying, "It takes a hundred good reasons to get a person to give but only one bad reason for him not to give anything." And the reason I say that is because obviously the people who don't want to give, or the people looking for excuses will pick up something of this sort. And even the genuine people may begin to wonder honestly whether or not you need that additional money and

whether they can't get along with less. I think in this particular situation it is tremendously important how it is presented, the emphasis and the approach. In the presentation as you have done it here today there is a little bit of confusion even on the basis of the questions that were asked. And I think that you might in some way try to get across that this money that is coming in is in no way going to be used for the current, usual, normal needs, but it represents money that will be used for certain things the JDC has never been able to do - certain plus items.

DR. SCHWARTZ: I think that what is true and what we have to tell the American Jews is this: it will mean, in the final analysis, that more of the UJA dollar will get to Israel than before. It will mean that if you take the pool - forget about exchange and clearances, and goods and pounds - if you take the pool, whether of goods or of dollars, Israel will have a greater amount of goods and dollars because of this Reparations Agreement than they had before. And the JDC will be enabled to carry on the same program. Perhaps some things they will be able to do that they haven't been able to do up to now, to a certain extent, Harry.

It would be a misrepresentation to say that this money is going to be used by the JDC to do the kinds of things that they never did before because a part of the money will be used for the normal, running program of the JDC in the European countries, plus a certain amount, and nobody at this time is able to say how much it will be, it depends on how much the Conference will allocate, it depends on so many things, how much the UJA will raise and so on - nobody can say how much that will be but we have to be honest with ourselves and we have to be honest with our communities and we have to be honest with our giving public, to tell them what it means. And I don't think it will go down badly with the American Jewish public. I think they will like it. What it means is that Israel will have a greater fund of goods and dollars in 1954 as a result of the Reparations Agreement than they have had up to now. And that the hope of putting Israel on a viable basis economically is that much enhanced and advanced, and that is the only explanation that I think, in the long run, you can give to the American giving public and to the American Jewish communities. And I cannot see any objection on the part of the American Jewish communities because I think that every American Jewish community that I have been to recognizes that Israel up to now simply has not had enough foreign exchange with which to carry on its business.

MR. SOBELOFF: The same way that you are pointing out the benefits to Israel of reparations would you, in one clear sentence, point out what the Joint will have as a result of reparations?

DR. SCHWARTZ: What the Joint will have as a result of reparations it seems to me is only one thing. And that is first of all an assurance that regardless of what happens to UJA because of this agreement, the program in



Europe is assured for a period of 12 to 14 years over which reparations are paid. That is the agreement, isn't it, Moe? That program is assured. We no longer are subject to the fluctuations in the campaigning in the United States for the maintenance of a program for victims of Nazi persecution. And that is a tremendous thing, as every man around this table who has worked in any country will be able to tell you.

JUDGE BERNON: Joe, I probably am impertinent, but isn't the question liable to arise: if you are guaranteed your money for your work over the next 10 or 12 years that therefore you need less money from UJA for JDC work? How do you answer that question?

MR. BERINSTEIN: Can I answer that, as the man who says he raises the money? As a matter of fact, the Reparations Agreement was signed during the last campaign and every one knew that in the capable hands of Mr. Leavitt and a few men who assisted him, whose names I don't even think need be mentioned, that we were going to get the reparations. The fact of the matter is that I believe that instead of hurting fund-raising it helps fund-raising. There is a feeling on the American scene, and it goes more and more that way, they want to feel that they are accomplishing - working toward an end - they want to accomplish the objective that the Israeli economy will be put on a firm basis; that the so-called camps that were described yesterday would be closed and that somewhere along the scene something positive will come out of fund-raising, and not just a yearly trip to the shrine. I know that in the next 60 days there will be given to the Jews of the United States a very, very complete position of the economy of Israel. And to the people who have already gotten it, there is no question in their minds about the needs of Israel and the constituent agencies. I think that Mr. Leavitt did a very good job of refuting the fact that you could use a dollar twice. Actually you can't; you can only use it once. And these dollars that we are going to raise through the United Jewish Appeal, if we get as much next year as this year - the only benefit as I can see to the Israel economy is the actual amount that was first mentioned. The fact that Israel is now getting reparations, and anything that has been said here today, regardless of which way you divide it up, doesn't change the situation. Israel is getting a total sum of whatever the reparations are, provided they are paid each and every year, and that is a big proviso. And I don't see where it is changed and I honestly and sincerely don't believe that to an expert fund-raiser like myself, it is going to hurt me at all.

MR. LEAVITT: I am aware that the fund-raisers will take that very broad and general position and I recommend it to Soby and Harry and Morris and the communities. I hope they take the same position. However, I felt among the professionals I should give the actual status of this situation. And since we are not going to call any cards this afternoon, I wanted you to know what the facts were. It is true, Judge Bernon,

to answer the question that you raised, there will be a plus for the JDC - in work which the JDC cannot do at the present time, in work and in raising standards which it has not been able to raise because it didn't have the funds. That plus will exist, plus what Joe said, that we have that assurance. But I must repeat that if the Jews of America take the position that since the Joint is getting the money out of Conference funds they don't have to give as much, it does mean in effect that Israel pays that amount of money out of its full necessities because it means that JDC then will get less money out of UJA. JDC will not be able to do the Malben program because it won't have the funds to do it. We will then have to turn it over to the Government of Israel to run and the Government of Israel and the people of Israel will suffer as a result of it. That will be the results of a reduction in income of the United Jewish Appeal.

MR. BERINSTEIN: Why can't you say that we are getting it from reparations instead of from Conference? What is the reason for using the term "Conference" funds? The American public knows about reparations.

MR. LEAVITT: Well, look; it is all right with me. The only trouble is that you have got a Conference set-up, you have got a chairman of the Conference, you have got a senior vice-president of the Conference, you have got a board of directors, you have got an organization that whats to be in the newspapers saying, "We have allocated funds." That's what you have got and you must deal with the facts as they are.

MR. BECKELMAN: That money allocated is reparations funds.

MR. LEAVITT: Correct. Well now, there'll be no question that it will be reparations funds. But he says, don't use the word "Conference".

MR. TAYLOR: The big difference as I see it is that obviously the truth is going to have to be told to the American Jewish community. Reparations that Israel is getting direct, without reference to Conference, in goods, I think people understand generally, and it certainly has had no effect on campaigns, as far as raising of dollars is concerned. But you are now going to begin to talk dollars. And while I agree with everything that you and Joe and the others have said, that it should not affect giving, and perhaps it will be an additional stimulus because Israel will be getting the benefit of it - nevertheless, I think Judge Bernon is a hundred percent correct. Somehow, some way, the ground is going to have to be laid in the beginning so as to undercut the excuse that the mere fact that JDC will be getting additional money for its usual program will make it possible for Israel to get the benefit of any difference. Something will have to be thought through very carefully in order to be able to sell that bill of goods.

JUDGE BERNON: May I interrupt, Moe, for just one minute? I am not the big fund-raiser. In a sense I am the devil's advocate in asking these questions. You and Joe don't agree now. Joe is saying no, and you are saying yes. Joe, in reply to a question, clearly indicated that there would be no appreciable change in the JDC program. He said it would be misleading the American Jewish public if you said so. Now, if you can make a clear-cut statement that you are enabled to do that which you should have done, that this money is necessary and that the money which comes from the Conference only permits you to do what you should do, then I don't think you weaken your campaign-raising structure.

MR. LEAVITT: What Joe said, and with which I agree, is that there is, in essence, not going to be a dollar for dollar substitution of UJA money for Conference money. That stays, because it simply means that JDC gets twice as much money as it needs for that particular program. There is, however, a plus and Joe has said it too, but the bulk of it will not be a plus in the sense that the JDC, by virtue of its increased needs will need all the money it gets from the UJA. That is clear. But if we don't get it, then it means the program that will suffer will be the JDC's Israeli program, not the JDC program in Europe. That's the point that I think we have to get across.

You see, there are so many people in the Conference, there are so many ideologies represented in the Conference, there are so many forces pulling in different directions at the Conference, that it is going to be very, very difficult, there are going to be all kinds of arguments and discussion, some of which will spill over into the public press, I'm afraid. It has already begun to come into the Yiddish press and we don't want to create a tumult about the Conference funds because it will have an effect. The fact that it becomes so confusing to people, that in itself is a bad thing for fund-raising. And we are discussing this now so that you know what the position is up to date. We don't know what's going to happen. There have been no decisions taken as to the use of the funds. But the fact is we have got to be very careful and that's an obligation that the UJA has, an obligation to try to interpret. We'll help, as JDC. We will try to get the Conference people to issue the kind of public statement that will be simple and clear and it will have to be Conference because you cannot get away from it Morris, those are the personalities, and you have got to deal with them. The Conference will issue that statement, the UJA will continue to have to hammer on it, and we will do the best that we can. Once, I think, it is accepted the first year, we are through. The hurdle is over.

MR. TAYLOR: How many of these Conference members are non-American organizations?

MR. LEAVITT: I would say, off-hand, about eight or nine are non-American and about twelve or thirteen are American.

MR. WARBURG: I think this conference here might do well to rule out, at this point, the discussion of the meaning of the Claims Conference allocations to the American fund-raising scene. I think it is hard enough to gear a conference of this nature for the different kind of audience that is assembled here in this room. I think the purpose of it here is to make sure that the JDC staff and family have a clear understanding of what has happened in the Conference negotiations so far and what can be estimated as the probable steps that will be coming up in the next month. In that framework it is their necessity to build up the basis of their own programming and the basis of their own claim. I think then comes the other thing which we really cannot discuss here, which is the whole question of the public relations aspect of the JDC in toto, as it appeals, through the UJA, to the American giving public. That is going to be so complicated that I think we are only getting one part of the picture here; we have to go to Israel to get the other half - in order to be completely confused! In terms of the discussion here don't you therefore feel that it would be a good idea to limit the questions and answers in terms of their meaning to questions from the European JDC staff addressed to Moe Leavitt who is handling the matter in the United States, to make sure that there is a clarification on all points that are still unclear in terms of the JDC program? And let's leave the American angle of it for us to try and handle when we understand it, and get back to the States.

MR. BECKELMAN: Eddie Warburg's remark, with which I agree, is short of one observation that I did want to make. It seems to me that it has been clear to everyone that the statement of needs put forward by the constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal has been an honest, modest and accurate statement of requirements and that that statement of requirements over the last three or four years has exceeded, by two or three times in some years, the amount actually raised by the United Jewish Appeal. Or, to say the same thing from another point of view, that anyone who listened to the very clear presentation that Dr. Josephthal gave us of the position in Israel, though he did not mention any figures, would get from it, by implication, an appreciation of the extent of the dollar need in Israel. Anyone who listened to the presentations by the JDC country directors of the situation in the Moslem countries and in Europe that we had Monday and yesterday and today, would get from it a picture of the need in those countries. And it's an indisputable fact that seems clear to me, and it also must be clear to everyone here, that the sum total of all the funds raised, United Jewish Appeal, Canada, South America, South Africa and European communities, comes woefully short of what any person would regard as a minimum necessary total means.

That being the case, it seems to me that in its overall implications the entrance into the field of available funds of these reparations underscores the point that Morris Berinstein made, which I think can be tremendously

useful in fund-raising, namely, that if all of these other sources of funds continue, Europe and the United States and South America, and the reparations are added to them and these other sources continue undiminished, you begin to get within striking distance of an accepted minimum total goal, and thereby give a sense and a meaning and a hope and finality over the long period to the fund-raising effort.

Now, addressing myself specifically to Eddie Warburg's suggestion, with which I agree, I want to pick up a question that Mr. Heim raised, which is a very valid question. He put it in the form of the importance and the necessity of bringing this information to the attention of European Jewish communities. He suggested - or put it as a question - can it be done or should it be done through the newspapers? I think Mr. Leavitt's answer is entirely valid; it would not be wise at this point to do it through the newspapers but it does raise an important question and that is the question I want to put to our JDC representatives here. No official announcements or statement of position have come out from the Claims Conference. On the other hand, as Mr. Leavitt has said and as you all know, some organizational members of the Claims Conference, for a variety of reasons, have circulated bids, requests, suggestions, to European Jewish communities, that they get their requests in while the getting is good. Unfortunately those communications, in my judgment, have created two false and very damaging impressions. They have created one impression that this money is over and above and can be used to replace that which communities throughout the world, including the communities in Europe, are raising and that is false, as we have heard, and damaging, as we all realize. It has also created the impression that whatever the JDC has been spending in Europe up to now will continue to be spent in Europe without reference to reparations funds, and that reparations funds will in their entirety be an addition to what JDC has heretofore made available. That is also false and also damaging, in terms of what communities can and should plan for in the future.

Now the question I want to put to our JDC country representatives is this. In your judgment and based on your experience in your own communities, would you regard it as sounder if each of you took this statement, which Laura's committee prepared and which was read to you, took the transcript of the discussion that we had this afternoon and on the basis of that sit down with the local community leaders and representatives with whom you work daily and go into this question and try to clarify with them and for them, and for JDC, the relationship of reparations funds administered through the Conference? Or, would you think it preferable that at some date in the reasonably near future, but far enough away to allow adequate time for preparation, the JDC should call a conference of community leaders with whom the JDC works to discuss this in a general forum, or perhaps the combination of both approaches? We have some ten minutes left this afternoon because we are closing early to see the Norwegian hard-core film and other films on JDC work. I would like to hear some expressions of opinion from our staff and from our colleagues from Sweden, Switzerland and Norway on this question.

MR. HEIM: Personally, I think we ought not talk too much to the public and await developments.

MR. LEAVITT: The problem is going to be before we arrive at decisions; once it is done I think it will be simple enough. With respect to Mr. Beckelman's suggestion, there are pros and cons. I can see certain values and I can see certain objections to it. I would like some of the country directors to express themselves on that - whether they would think it would be easier to do it face to face over a period of several weeks (because that is what it will take in order to get it across to the people) and try to get them to see why. Another reason why I think the educational process will start working and why we may have to consider the question of a conference later on is that I think you ought to bring more people in, so that we can then begin explaining why we cannot make a recommendation for this or that before a start is made to educate the community leaders as to what the whole problem is about. So that you will get in the course of the examination of all of these applications in, let us say, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Sweden and in Greece (and we have got them from 26 countries at the present time) there will be that educational process started in the examination of the applications. Mr. Haber.

MR. HABER: I have just a brief reflection on the question of a general conference. Off-hand, I have a negative reaction to it, but in the light of the comment that you just made, Mos, about the educational process on the local scene, I think that then the danger of a general conference is somewhat mitigated because a general conference before an educational process on the local level can turn out to be a most beautiful mess with 26 different countries competing, with nobody knowing exactly what they are competing for. I do want to say, however, with respect to the first question of Mr. Beckelman, that I do believe that the country directors who will have to examine the budget really are faced with a dual problem and I assure you that the examination of the budget prepared by the local communities, or the central organization of a Jewish community in a country, will not be an easy one. There are more ways of inflating and putting in phoney figures than any smart JDC director or ten JDC directors can find out. Therefore we ought to have in addition to such facilities as we may have, in order to take the water out of the budgets, we ought to have from Headquarters for our confidential use, and our strictly confidential use and information, all that we ought to know concerning what kind of funds are available. We must relate the budget to the actual needs of the community which we are investigating, but at the same time we can relate it to the potential maximum needs for all the countries and organizations concerned.

MR. LEAVITT: That is a dangerous suggestion.

DR. SCHWARTZ: I have given a little thought to the problem of a general conference on this whole question of reparations funds and their use. I read the very detailed memorandum which was drawn up by Jerry Jacobson and some of the comments at the department heads' meeting that was held here in Paris and it did seem to me then - and it seems even clearer at the present point - that until such time as the Conference on Jewish Claims has laid down some general policies, has issued some kind of a general statement of what its policy will be with regard to relief, with regard to grants, nobody is going to pass on a claim if he doesn't have a term of reference. The cultural committee will want to know how much money it has to spend. It is quite a different thing reporting if you know you are going to have \$700,000, or if you think you are going to have \$1,700,000. The same thing will be true for relief or welfare or for other activities. And it does seem to me that it would be very dangerous to have this kind of a general conference before the Conference on Jewish Claims itself has laid down a line. From that point on, interpretation and education through the medium of a conference may be very desirable. But until such time as you have clearly defined policies laid down by the Conference on Jewish Claims, it seems to me that the JDC would be in danger of trying to interpret something which does not exist because no matter how much we might try, we do not know today the answer to a lot of questions that are going to come up and we cannot presume to have that knowledge until such time as there has been some official declaration or some official action by the Conference itself.

MR. LEAVITT: To a great extent that is true. I want to make one observation. I think that the work of Laura's committee has been very valuable. I would like to suggest that the committee remain in session. I think there is an obligation on the part of the JDC staff to draw up, further refine and continue this process of setting up priorities, of setting up principles as suggestions, because we are the ones who ought to make those suggestions since we know more about the program than does the Conference sitting in New York. I think a good start has been made. I would like, in the light of the discussion here, that the committee continue to work, that the individuals, in discussing the application with their communities and with the organizations, will begin themselves to set up criteria.

There is only one general overriding principle: it is for the relief and rehabilitation of Nazi victims. The urgency of the need is to be determined by the Conference. Now it is not possible to give every person a schedule of all the applications, the amounts, the urgency of the needs. No man can be placed in that position. It is going to be very difficult to do that. All you can do is, as individuals looking at a single application, say: in our estimation, in the JDC estimation, this is an urgent project. And here it is, one, two, three, four, in the line of succession of urgency. And then when we take all the number one priorities of all the projects, for all the countries, if there is money left over we go down to priority number two. If there is still money

left over we go down to priority number three. And it can only be on that basis because there will be other kinds of applications about which we will have no knowledge at all. And it will be only when it comes to the screening committee that we will be able to set it up and see whether the amount of money available covers it. I think the ideal way would be the way Joe suggested. But unfortunately it is not going to work out this year. Next year the policy will have been set. This year we will have to make policy. At the moment I certainly am not in favor of holding a conference; I think we ought to postpone that consideration until after the first allocations have been made for 1954.

MRS. JARBLUM: Can we officially tell our communities that the JDC will be the rapporteur?

MR. LEAVITT: Well, I just got the cable on it, I don't know whether it will be announced. I wouldn't like to do so. Wait until I get some more on it. You will be told. It won't be a secret but I would like to have it come, not from me, but from the Conference.

MR. JACOBSON: I quite agree with what Dr. Schwartz and you have indicated as the danger of a conference. And I accept that fully. The problem as I see it as we stand now, in the absence of a clear definitive statement coming from the Conference laying down all of these principles, the JDC places itself in a rather difficult position. Because on the one hand, as you have indicated, we have been appointed "rapporteur". That I interpret to mean that we have got to pass upon the applications and weigh the applications of a variety of communities on a share of Conference funds. These applications, I presume, to which you have referred, are coming in independently of the JDC. At the same time the JDC, as is indicated here and as is understood, is a principal recipient with respect to these funds. We are then in this very unenviable position of being the judge of all the other claimants and ourself a principal claimant. The objective I had in putting forth the suggestion of a conference was to clarify the air for all of the recipient countries as well as for all of those interested. I recognize the dangers, I yield to your judgments on this. But you have got to have in place of it then some quick, firm, comprehensive announcement that comes from the Conference, so that everyone has some clarity on the subject.

MR. LEAVITT: Are there any further questions?

DR. SHAPIRO: Reference has been made to the fact that ten percent of the funds to be spent by the Claims Conference will be earmarked for a cultural program. I do not wish to take the time now to discuss some of the implications of this particular program but I do believe that it would be well for you, Mr. Leavitt, to take some time before your return to the



States to discuss this so that you may be aware of our thinking as to the relationship of this special fund to the welfare program of the Conference and the JDC program as well.

MR. LEAVITT:

If there are no other questions the meeting is adjourned.

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EIGHTH SESSION

Thursday morning, October 22, 1953

Chairman - Mr. M. W. Beckelman

MR. BECKELMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, we come to the Thursday morning session of today's conference. Thus far the prepared program for the conference has served essentially the function of railroad time-tables in certain countries. From it you can calculate how late the trains are and from the program of the conference you can calculate how different the observed schedule of any given session is from the announced schedule. I don't see why I should depart from that practice this morning. Therefore, this morning's session will take up the subject matter of the afternoon's session and if we are good boys and girls, and if we are lucky, we may be able to spare you the afternoon session by completing the work of the conference this morning. The afternoon session then, is devoted to a consideration of the American scene, by which we have meant, in previous years, that after having exposed our American visitors to a statement of the needs of the JDC as these have been presented by our country directors and representatives, having, as we have hoped, beaten them into submission by the eloquence and the force of those presentations on our part, we then turn to them and say, "Now tell us, are you going to put up the money or ain't you?"

As it has been made clear to all of us in the course of the discussions of the preceding four days the issue is complicated by the growing needs of Israel. The issue is further complicated, paradoxically enough, by the appearance over the horizon of new and additional sources of funds. And so in opening this morning's session - which I remind you again, is the afternoon's session - I am not going to attempt to limit or set forth the framework within which we want to ask our speakers of this morning to cast themselves. I am simply going to call again on the ringmaster of our little flying circus to open the discussion and to call upon his colleagues to join with him in putting before us, as department heads, field workers, country directors - the operating team of the JDC - anything which they think we ought to know as we get ready to go back to our areas of operation for the year ahead.

MR. WARBURG: This is a fascinating situation. This is Charley McCarthy getting up without Bergen. Where's Schwartz? My father said to me when I took a job teaching at Bryn Mawr and became a member of the faculty, "I think you have a great advantage over the rest of the faculty." And I said, "Well that's the last thing I thought I would have, why do you say that?" He said, "You are so wonderfully unbiased by any knowledge."

In taking up this subject here, I really don't know how we organize it. It is very nice to be told that there is no framework, but that means that there is no support either, and you feel a little bit awed at the enormity of the problem. The question of course is - what do you do about these needs? We've only heard, as I say, one part of it; we will hear the other part of it all too soon in Israel. What does the fund-raising picture look like in the States? Well, let me put it this way: I don't think anybody would feel that the business conditions and the uncertainties that exist in the whole tempo of the country are what you call good for fund-raising. That is very definitely on the off side. That however can change and if the inflationary lid is lifted a bit, unquestionably can change very quickly.

The next thing that I think is very evident, is that at the present moment the Jewish public finds itself desperately fighting its annual fight against monotony. This is a rather extraordinary manifestation; I don't know what we are going to do about it. We have been discussing it the last few days a bit. And that is that the good old way, the good old channels, the UJA, the standard methods which have not changed very much over the years are beginning to - it's beyond beginning - wear thin. We had a situation where one contributor gave us, for two years, or three years, a quarter of a million dollars. Suddenly that contributor cut it down to a hundred thousand dollars. She never even got a thank you letter. She was considered definitely a saboteur of the campaign. This situation is one that the public is beginning to catch onto. You can be a hero the first year by giving an astounding contribution. The second year you're asked to hold on, and you hold on and you are still among those to be complimented. The third year you do it again, and that's quite dull; that has no interest whatsoever. And the fourth year you suddenly discover that by splitting your contribution, giving half to UJA and giving \$5,000 to infantile paralysis, you get a whole new group of friends.

This is a mechanism that we have to work against. We have had three years of the four point program. We are going to a summation of that in Jerusalem now. What has been accomplished by the four year program? I would say that I am scared that we are going to come out with five points, and my old army training makes me wonder how many points you have to have until you get rotated.

As to the question, in what form do you come to the American public, I think that we are going to be told very obviously in Israel that the picture is very dark. I am not referring to the political situation right now, which makes it even darker. Where we have been working and been able to approach the public we have been able to say, "Look, philanthropic funds will be needed to bridge this, until the State of Israel gets to the point where it will be intergovernmental loans, where it will be public funds in general, national banks of various kinds that will finance Israel, and this money is to be the stop-gap money." But I think we realize that the trend is just the other way around, that the money from the grants in aid, from the MSA, far from getting larger is getting smaller, and in fact

it looks as if the days are numbered where that kind of money is going to be available. Other kinds of governmental aid seem to be much more difficult to get one's hands on. They say it has something to do with the change in regime. Certainly also it is known that the bond drive which has been - depending which way you look at it - an extraordinary success in that it is probably the largest bond drive held, and successful in the amount that it raised, of any foreign government in the United States, nevertheless it has fallen very short of the hopes and the plans of Israel. And as far as the American scene is concerned they are down to pretty nearly the bottom of the barrel.

It has been a great fall off, and the tragedy of the fact that the bond drive has fallen off is that it not only removes that money, but it also removes that source of money against which one can borrow. And as UJA is unwilling to say to the government of Israel - and unable to say, "Remove the bond drive and we will raise that money and more", we have to at this point - despite what was said to you in previous years - despite what we said in Israel, say that the bond drive has brought in plus money, that it brought in money that we couldn't get. That it has hurt us, yes, but not to the extent that the money that they brought in hasn't been plus - and that all our efforts, no matter how we gear them are not going to be in UJA, enough, and there has to be some supplemental form and so we have to find ourselves in the position of being in favor or at least recognizing that there must be an added form of fund-raising to meet the need. The four point program as far as UJA is concerned did not consist of much more than the two points because there was nothing much we could do, except as individuals, about government aid and that was not a thing that we were involved in so much, and as far as private investment is concerned again, that is the thing you organized for or had campaigns about. The two campaigns in the field were in the field of the bond drive and the field of the UJA.

The problem comes up about the economics of Israel which I hope Joe Schwartz will explain and Morris Berinstein too. I would like somebody to explain at some point the question of the financing of the short term obligations which I think is the major subject that we are confronted with. This, however, is something which I am just beginning to understand, as, coming from a long line of bankers, my resistance to everything financial is enormous.

The purpose of the Jerusalem conference is for us to get inspired. The purpose of the Jerusalem conference is for us and our colleagues to get the lift that we need to carry on, and to galvanize the American community into still further efforts. I don't know if it is a plot or not, but as we pick up the papers since we have left America, it seems to me they are going a bit far. I would not think that anybody would feel that the picture in the United Nations now of the conflict is exactly what you call favorable for fund-raising. There are those who do think it is. I am rather concerned about the fact that Israel is so secure in being right; I don't know whether the Jewish American public is quite as comfortable in this virtue in the face of the counter-action of the government. This is a bit early

to tell; we'll see how that one works itself out. We also know perfectly well that we will have our heads banged together. That is, we will have our heads banged together in the fact that unquestionably presented to us will be the total needs and then the question will be stated, "Alright, those are the total needs; how do you get the total mobilization of the American community to take responsibility for the raising of this money?"

Now that phrase "the taking of responsibility" is something that has always been shied away from. No one wants to take that responsibility of raising the maximum amount. They will take the responsibility for a phase of it but not for the total problem. There are a lot of facts we still have to know and find out and pin down about what is the situation in Israel. There is a great deal that we will have to do to try and get together the American community. It is a very hard community to get together. I would suggest that at this point Moe Leavitt supplement this.

MR. LEAVITT: I don't think I can add anything to what Eddie has said on the campaign situation. We have better experts on campaigning here than I am. All I can say is that it is going to be tough, it is not going to be easy; all the signs are there that it is going to be a tougher campaign in 1954. We were lucky in 1953. Lucky? Such a luck that the Russians were able to start an anti-semitic attack on the Jews. On that slogan we had a terrific Miami meeting in February with Jews again feeling that they are being attacked; with identification of Jews in those that are attacked; and with a generous outpouring of gifts which carried the campaign of 1953 forward so that we will probably raise as much in 1953 as we raised in 1952. We haven't arranged for anything yet in 1954. We are trying to figure something out. What can we do? And, joking aside, it has gotten to the point now where you can't get money, and the kind of money that is needed under the present situation, unless Jewish blood flows. That is the tragedy of the situation. You don't get money in gifts on the scale on which we were getting them five and six and seven years ago, on what you would call a reasonable, rational, constructive approach: to build the economy of Israel quickly so that it won't require these huge sums of money that it is requiring, and operating at a deficit all the time.

There is a minimum, basic minimum, that I think the UJA will raise. Whether it is five million more, or five million less, we are beginning to reach that plateau. Since 1948 the income of the UJA has decreased and it seemed to have levelled off this year in 1953. It may go down a few million or it may not go down a few million dollars in 1954; a lot depends on what will happen with Israel in the next months and I think that the political situation will affect the campaign if it will continue to be as dark as it is today. I think that people will find another excuse, and it is an excuse, not to give, feeling that if you are giving to Israel you are giving against the policy of the United States government, which is to withhold aid from Israel as punishment. Under those conditions the new funds that are available will really come at a very critical moment. And

it will come at a critical moment not only for the JDC but for the State of Israel as well. It is clear today that without the reparations and the MSA or the grant-in-aid which for the time being is suspended but which undoubtedly will be paid by the United States government - but if you postpone it for three or four months it does mean hardship for Israel - it means that they will tighten their belts a little bit more, they won't be able to eat as well - and they are eating pretty poorly at the present time in Israel - and it is going to be a tougher time ahead for them in the next three or four months. And we won't have the wherewithal to make it easier for Israel. Israel is laboring under a financial burden and, now that Dr. Schwartz is here, he will tell you the whole story and explain the whole business of short-term loans and how we expect to get rid of them. Dr. Schwartz.

DR. SCHWARTZ: Well, I don't know what I am supposed to do. I heard Moe Leavitt say something about short-term debts but that is hardly a subject on which to start a nice morning like this. I suppose that it might be in order to give you a brief review of the fund-raising situation in the United States as it developed during 1953 and some of the general problems which confront us for 1954. It is of course impossible to prophesy, to anticipate, to predict with any degree of certainty what the situation will be as far as 1954 is concerned. But we have a certain amount of information relating to the results in 1953. At the present time we can say definitely that the 1953 campaign will bring in, certainly, not less than the amount of money that was raised in 1952; and I think - I am very hopeful - that when all the returns are in we will show an increase in 1953 over the amount that was raised in 1952. The campaign started off, as you know, on a high note from the fund-raising point of view. When you have a high note from the fund-raising point of view, you know it is bad for the Jews in the world. But that is the way these things are. The worse the Jews are faring, the better your chances are of raising some money. We entered the year 1953 with the whole development of the crisis in Eastern Europe and that of course had a great impact upon the communities and brought forward a response in the way of fund-raising. Campaigns were started earlier, commitments were obtained earlier than previous years, and certainly in the early stages of the campaign there was an increase in the amounts that were being pledged by individuals.

You are more or less familiar with what happened in those days, because the JDC was very well represented in the campaign of 1953. Mr. Beckelman spent a considerable amount of time, covered a good part of the country, even managed to go to some American cities that he never visited before, and I suppose that on the map in his house there must be some new strings, some new colors, or something or other. But he did make a very notable contribution to the success of the campaign and brought an interpretation of the JDC program which was very helpful and very useful. Madame Benatar was also there and she made a very fine contribution to the campaign. She was very well received, very well liked, and dynamic as usual and did a good job in presenting the case, particularly the situation as it existed in the Moslem countries.

The change of the situation in Eastern Europe - a change in the line - naturally had its results in the change also in fund-raising. But I don't think that was the major cause for the decline later in the year in the amount of money that was being given. I think that what happened was that with the end of the Korean war some industries actually did begin to feel a falling off in income. For example, one of the industries that felt the impact of that sooner than others was the whole scrap metals group, which is a very important group as far as UJA is concerned. They made a lot of money and they gave a lot of money. And in some communities they constituted a very important segment of the big givers group. And when the scrap market began to fall, naturally contributions went the same way. In some local areas, as you know, there developed this crisis in the livestock market; in a city like Denver, for example, and a city like Fort Worth in Texas, cattle people are among the important Jewish contributors. And when the cattle markets fell, contributions fell with it. But I think more than anything else was the fear that something was going to happen. Not that business actually fell off, and not that the economic situation actually affected large groups of people, but there was a general fear; there was talk of recession in the air. Everybody was talking about it. Credit became tighter, the stock market began dropping and everybody was convinced that some major readjustment in the economy of the country would have to be made and therefore they began to be much more cautious about the kinds of contributions and kinds of commitments which they made.

With it all, however, I would say that the year 1953 has demonstrated several things which to me are very significant as far as the Jews of the United States are concerned. I think it is very interesting for example, that we now have the fall campaigns; Mrs. Pilavin comes from a fall community. You know all communities in America are divided into two parts, fall communities and spring communities. There are no others. The fall community campaigns are doing pretty well. We were a little worried, we were more than a little worried privately, that since the East European situation could not be used at this time, as it was in the early part of the year, we were a little bit worried as to how the communities would react with a fall campaign without that kind of a line and without that kind of an approach. But I think that we now know that Boston, which is the most important of the communities having a fall campaign, is doing relatively well. I think that the sentiment in Providence is good. People from Providence have assured me that there is nothing to worry about, they will raise at least as much as last year; I hope they will raise more than last year. But the sentiment in the community is very good. A number of other communities have already started their fall campaigns and there is no sign of any marked decline in the income of those campaigns.

Now to me that is significant because it's an indication that our communities are not as subject to slogans and to temporary situations as some of us believe. I think sometimes we get carried away by our own slogans and we attribute many things to the community, we are projecting some of our own fears into the communities themselves. Communities, by and large, it seems to me, have a pretty sound recognition of the UJA program. They have

a pretty good knowledge by now of what the requirements are in Israel and, incidentally, I would like to say - because I think it is true - that the JDC program has a great amount of acceptance on the part of the American public. The JDC program is not questioned any more. Certainly some people in the United States would be ready to debate Judah Shapiro's thesis of yesterday, for example. How much did the JDC do in this so-called general overall community organization deal? What responsibility does an organization like the JDC have to build up bulwarks against assimilation and other things? Isn't that the job of the local community and aren't we trying sort of to play God in history and really shape the whole future of groups of people in various parts of the world? I think there might be differences of opinion there. But by and large there is an acceptance of the fact that the JDC over the years has developed a sound approach to the problems of European Jewry - that the JDC represents a well planned program as far as the Jewish communities are concerned, and that things are developing in a direction that finds acceptance in the general American Jewish community. There is not much questioning of the role and the function of the JDC and of its work in the various countries.

So that I would say that, from an overall point of view, the American Jewish community has sort of consolidated its position, its thinking and its acceptance of the programs that come within the scope of the United Jewish Appeal. I think they have been gradually educated and informed about the importance of those programs - the importance of the work in Israel, the importance of the work in the Moslem countries. And as you remember, it was not so long ago when many people were questioning as to whether we should be working in the Moslem countries. Now I get Mrs. Pilavin and her group to go over to North Africa and they pressure me why don't we spend more over there? It is just the other way around. First people were saying to us you are going into North Africa because you have nothing to do in Europe and you don't want to go out of business. Now they are saying to us why don't you spend more money there, so much can be done with so little, it's a pity that the JDC doesn't get more money for its work in North Africa and that it doesn't spend more money on that part of its program.

By and large then, I think that there is a deeper and more real understanding of the program of the UJA agencies and an acceptance of it and I think it has become part of the community structure in the United States. The UJA even, is no longer debating it. Yes, you have a debate once in a while with Soby and with other communities as to whether you should get two percent more or two percent less, and those can sometimes be very heated debates. But nevertheless there is a genuine acceptance on the part of the communities that this is a responsibility which they will continue to carry as long as it is necessary to see the work through and to see that it is brought to a successful completion.

There are other things which have happened. In the last five years the American Jews have spent, in addition to the money that they contributed to the United Jewish Appeal, and for the local programs in the communities - terrific amounts of money in the form of capital funds, buildings. I think



that the Jewish Welfare Board issued a statement that, in the field of community centers, something like \$145,000,000 have been spent since 1948; that is, spent and actually planned for spending within the next period of time. If you include hospitals and homes for the aged, it is a terrific development. There is a need in that particular field and a growing recognition on the part of the communities that something must be done in the field of work for the aged, for example. And if you take in buildings that have nothing to do with the Federations and the welfare funds as such, such as synagogues, temples and other community buildings of that kind, you really get into very high figures. I would say that my own estimate would be - we are trying to make a study of it but I would say that \$300,000,000 would be a conservative figure for the amount of money that has been spent on buildings in communities throughout the United States since 1948.

Now some of that, of course, was to be expected, because during the war years there was very little building going on in the United States. There were no materials available for that kind of building; everything was used by the war machine. You couldn't build a synagogue, you could not get the materials with which to build. You couldn't build a hospital. Even hospitals had to cut down on their building programs during war times. And many of the buildings fell into disrepair because they could not be improved. So that you had to expect that at one point or another, the American Jewish communities would become aware of this great need, either to rebuild or to build anew some of the institutions for which there was, or they felt that there was, a need in the community. And I would say - my own feeling is - that in most cases the need was a genuine need. This was not just money splurged and wasted; there was a genuine need for more hospital beds, more homes for the aged and things of that kind.

On the other hand, one thing that seems to me important for the immediate future is the fact that so much of this building has already been completed. It may not be true in New York, it may not be true in Detroit, but when a community like Toledo puts up a million dollar YMHA, it's up, it's finished, it's done with. The community raised that million dollars, it's all paid for. They don't have to raise it again. And now they can go back, more or less, to their normal fund-raising and it seems to me that that is being reflected in their campaign this year. I think that the campaign this year will do better than last year because the community does not have to carry the additional burden of contributing to a building fund of a million dollars. So much of this building has been completed that it seems to me that we can look forward to more concentrated efforts for current programs, maintenance programs, including UJA during the years that lie ahead. And that, it seems to me, is a good omen for the future.

At this time of the year it is normal for people in UJA to be very pessimistic about 1954 and I am not going to break that tradition. Mr. Warburg says thank God he is normal. But there is always a feeling of uncertainty about the prospects for next year. You begin to lose confidence in some

of your own slogans, in some of your old approaches. Somehow or other you feel you have gotten into a rut, you have to make an attempt to freshen the thing up again, you don't quite know how to do it. And then, of course, there are the normal uncertainties that come to any person when he tries to estimate what his own business, for example, will yield in the year that lies ahead. I think this however; my own conviction is that the amount of money that the UJA will raise, or not raise, in 1954 will depend much more on economic conditions within the United States than on any other factor. It will depend much more on that than whether we have this kind of slogan or that kind of slogan. Or it will depend much more on that than on developments outside of the United States - in Israel, for example, or in Europe. Certainly if something dramatic happens it will help, it will stimulate, it will add something to the campaign. But as I tried to indicate to you before, we have reached the stage in the United States, it seems to me, where the communities are solidly behind this effort, and unless there is a terrific or a significant economic change or upheaval within the United States it seems to me that the UJA does not have to be too much concerned. By that I do not mean that we won't have our problems - because I feel that five percent one way or another is still very important. Five percent of \$70,000,000 or \$75,000,000 is a very significant amount. Ten percent is twice as much. But it does seem to me that it is reassuring to know that there is that basis of solid support which will not fluctuate too much one way or the other, except as economic conditions within the United States affect the situation.

We will still need a lot of help. That is one of the things we are worried about. We are worried about man-power. We are worried about man-power not only in the United States. I think that from that point of view, actually, we improved our situation last year. We brought more people into top leadership posts, we have many more lay persons - I hate that term - who go around and make speeches and talk to the communities and do much more than that. We had a committee in 1953 which was chaired by Mr. Berinstein here, which I think did a very fine job in working out campaign budgeting formulas with the communities. As a result, I think, by and large the communities will give the UJA this year a higher percentage of the amount raised than we got in 1952. That too is significant and that was done largely by a group of people who were interested enough, who took the time out and went all over the country in order to present the case of the United Jewish Appeal and worked out the most favorable agreement that could be worked out in the light of local community situations and in the light of the needs of the United Jewish Appeal. I think that all that is good.

But there is a shortage of man-power also - we were just talking about it this morning - with regard to our so-called "stars and fan dancers". You know, Dr. Josephthal - I hope that you won't repeat this - a Cabinet member no longer means anything. I remember sometimes when I hear these communities talk about a Minister, a Cabinet member, it reminds me of the time when in the old days when the DP camps were really seething a major-general went into one of the camps and I heard a group of Jewish DP's talking and they said, "Huh! a two-star general." It didn't mean anything; they were

accustomed to four stars, five stars even. Eisenhower himself went through the DP camps - they couldn't be bothered with just a two-star general. And that is the way it is becoming with our so-called attractions. I think that the trend, the Hollywood trend, has been arrested to some extent. One of the reasons is that we cannot get enough Hollywood stars to appear for us. But there is a need for people who will come over, who will have the facts and the ability to present those facts in a dramatic fashion, so that they can be properly understood, properly appreciated and that these interpretations can be reflected in the amounts of money that are given.

I hope that I am not being complacent, but I look forward to 1954 with a certain degree of confidence. I would like to say that to you because I think you are entitled, at least, to have the best information that is available to us, as to how you ought to go about planning for your activities for 1954. It is going to be a difficult year. It is going to be a tough year. We don't know whether we will raise as much money, whether we will raise a little bit less, whether we will raise a few percentage points more or less. It is going to be very difficult to raise money as it always is difficult to raise money. I have never known an easy year in fund-raising. But I think that you should have sufficient confidence to plan your program for 1954 upon a foundation of belief that the American Jewish community will continue to support the program to a very substantial degree and that there will not have to be any major re-adjustment in your planning as far as 1954 is concerned.

Now please don't take that as a guarantee that you are going to get as much money in 1954 as you got in 1953. I tried to hedge it in by all of the qualifying phrases I could find. I am not good at finding qualifying phrases early in the morning and for me it is still early. But nevertheless, I do think that you can go ahead with confidence in planning a constructive and integrated program for 1954 just as you did in 1953. I have just tried to give you what I thought were some of the major developments, the major trends. If you have any questions I shall be very glad to answer them.

MR. WARBURG: I think that you will see as we parade before you the various people that have played a very important part in the UJA and in the structure of fund-raising in the States, I think you will find a rather interesting swinging of the pendulum between optimism and pessimism. I think that that is absolutely a correct picture that you should have in front of you. And I think you should realize that it is that kind of control or balance which results in the team work that forms the campaign policy. I think that one thing is unquestionably true which I failed to mention before, and that is that it has been a very exciting thing in the past year that we have had a much bigger team and a much more violently interested team, both in lay leadership and in the staff. It has been a tremendous help to Joe that

Lou Bennett has come in as his second in command. And it has meant a great deal because Joe has a habit not only of being the head of the organization in the office but he also happens to be the person who takes without question twice the assignments of anybody else in the speaking assignments throughout the country. And that is good and it is bad. It is good that we have Lou Bennett holding down the fort while Joe is out speaking and also keeping the office running as it has to run. It is also very important to us that we have had five chairmen this year, instead of the three that we had previously, and they have been of tremendous meaning. We hope to broaden - it is hard to broaden the base when it is on top, but it's nevertheless broadened the base.

I think it is right now that we have a few words from Ellis Radinsky, who has worked practically right inside our office on behalf of UJA from the standpoint of his group that has helped us in all this and to give us from his angle an estimate of the situation. I should like to call on Ellis Radinsky.

MR. RADINSKY: I just want to say that occasionally we have difficulty with a fellow like Morris Berinstein who has the audacity to insist that it is harder to raise money than to spend it. I told him after hearing the discussions on such complicated problems as whether you close Foehrenwald or if you keep it open, he ought to know that it is far more difficult to spend than to raise money. I wish I had the time to raise it. It would be relaxation.

But quite seriously, I think we all have our views, as Eddie says, on the campaign prospects for 1954. I am not one who shares with people the feeling that we have now gotten down to - I think what Moe once said - dues-paying membership. I feel very much like the fellow who said, "You know I have got to run powerful fast to stay where I am." And I think that the approach in terms of UJA is: we will have to work powerfully hard next year even to hold on to what we have got. Because my own evaluation of the situation is that every year we are more and more dependent on what we like to call the good "schnooks" in America who somehow or other are not permitted any single year when they can decrease, while hundreds and hundreds of other top givers are going down and down. Now I think that we must not allow any complacency and I think I am not ready to accept Joe's evaluation that this is the time of the year for pessimism. I think that pessimism is very well deserved. I think that only by a concerted effort, by the best kind of interpretation from Europe and Israel, and only by the most concerted effort in America can we even maintain the standards we now have.

MR. WARBURG: One of the sections of the campaign which does the most outstanding job and gets least credit for it, and is most self-effacing, is the Women's Division. And the Chairman of the Women's Division is with us. She is one of the best advocates we have for the program of the JDC and I think it would be only fitting that we hear a few words from Mrs. Pilavin.

MRS. PILAVIN: I am not as well qualified to speak for campaigning as the experienced speakers that have talked to you before. They have been in the field on the top level much longer than I have been and of course the Women's Division raises only about ten or twelve percent of the overall campaign. However, I have had in the past ten months a great deal of experience travelling through the country and I have found this, that women, and men as well, are not easily sold by top men. Just because you have a "fan dancer" come into a community does not mean you are going to get a great amount of money. I think that our American public today is educated enough to know that we have certain aims that we must reach for and they want to know what they are. And I have found in the communities where I have travelled and raised funds that they have increased their contributions because I have told them and the women working with me have told them the facts. We have given them a picture of what we've seen and there is one picture that we have been able to sell this year even more than the picture of Israel. We started out naturally with the idea that we must make concerted efforts to strengthen Israel. We found the Americans a little bit cold to that side of the picture. Along with this fact we stressed the North African picture and after presenting the North African picture in one or two communities we found that this was the picture that caught on. And only by stressing the North African picture were we able to raise increased funds after the fund-raising took place.

I want to say this, that I think that Eddie Warburg and Joe Schwartz hit the nail on the head - it has levelled off. People are not getting excited and giving the great sums of money that they have in 1948 and 1949 but they are more or less holding the line, and I'm not being pessimistic about 1954, but a great deal will depend not only on the economic situation but will depend on the political situation that's happening right now today in Israel. I had a little feeling on that just before I left the United States on Monday. I had a telephone call on Sunday night from a non-Jewish friend of mine who is very much interested in everything Jewish and she said to me, "I hope that when you go to Israel they will clarify the political situation as to what is happening to Israeli and American foreign policy." She also said this, that it is her feeling that since the Eisenhower administration, the slanting of the news and the interest in the State Department, as we all know of course, has gone the other way. But she did add this - and this coming from a Yankee, an old-time Yankee but a very liberal-minded one - she said, "I hope that they will have a better public relations department so that you have a closer liaison with the United States government." I know this has nothing to do with the campaign, but it just came into my mind.

There were many things said by friends of mine on the Jewish scene. They have the feeling that the news that has come out would hurt our campaign among the Jewish people. They felt that first they were United States citizens and they could not condone a country that did not follow in line with our State Department. I do feel that the women of the United States are not only standing in back of the UJA, but this year we have a greater

participation. In most communities we have broadened the base and I don't mean the base on the top level, I mean the base of the workers and the base of givers. I believe this is a good sign because we are building on a very firm foundation for the next year and I certainly hope that for 1954, next year, we will hold that line and continue to raise the kind of money that we will this year, which will be in the vicinity of the same amount that we raised last year and probably a little bit more.

MR. WARBURG: I referred before the gentleman came in, to the problems that we envisage in the inter-relationship between UJA and the other requirements and the feeling that all of us share at UJA that UJA alone cannot meet the needs of Israel and the projection that has come into the picture of what we call the refunding of the short-term obligation. I would like to have Morris Berinstein, who has been particularly vitally interested in this, outline both the history of it and the problems which it presents in its relationship to UJA and the fund-raising so that you get a picture of what we foresee as probably the new element that will be injected into the American scene from the fund-raising standpoint in 1954. Morris Berinstein.

MR. BERINSTEIN: I appreciate the slight position on the program that Mr. Warburg gave me, a mere \$75,000,000 and before I get to that, which will be very soon, I just have one or two comments to make, one or two of my normal resentments. One for Mr. Radinsky, who said something about the good "schnooks" who keep increasing. I take that as a personal insult. I want you to know that all of us have some sort of ego, some of us more than others, and sometimes there are other reasons for our giving. And not wanting to disparage any others, I have to quote one of my reasons. I try to keep it very quiet but sometimes it's leaked out that for instance I have a very fine relative in my family, my mother-in-law. I have tried - you see she is a woman of some slight financial background - and I have tried very hard and I felt, in respect to my wife also, that I should do everything that I could, to make my mother-in-law proud of me. And I have worked hard and diligently at this. Sometimes my picture has not appeared as often as I would have liked, but still I tried. I hinted; sometimes I even spoke outwardly and said, "Nu, when is it going to be taken again?" Well, I have some good news for you in that respect. I think finally my mother-in-law is commencing to realize the value of her son-in-law because she has informed my wife and myself that as long as I can have enough money to give away the way I do, she has now disinherited her and given her money to the other children! I'll have to increase just in spite, that's all.

There is an old saying that no campaign is as hard as next year's campaign. In this particular year I think it holds true even more than ever. There are a great many reasons for it and I am not going to take the time to try to explain them. But I do feel that American Jewry is a peculiar type in this respect, that with the exception of men who have trained them well, such as Sobeloff, who manages to see that they do not have too much vital

information, most of them need some kind of a gimmick. And I don't blame them, I don't blame them a bit. They are interested in a great many things. They are sometimes subject to misrepresentation; there are other charitable organizations who do provide more pictures in the papers, more testimonial dinners, more of everything, and it has gotten to the stage of the game where we are somewhat in competition and you have to try to explain to them which comes first. One of the things that American business people like to have is somewhat of a feeling that what they are doing is some day going to end. It is an old story, that the average American business man, when he starts - the average successful business man - has usually said to himself in the days before the prosperous Republican administration, that some day if I could only be worth \$100,000, I would quit. I would go to the quiet community of Miami Beach and I would sneak away somewhere and take it easy. And the only time that he changes his mind on that is when he gets to the \$100,000. And then he says, if some day I have \$500,000 I would do the same thing, and on and on and on. But he has a goal. Now in this particular case, I do believe that the average goal of every American Jew who is interested - it happens to be mine too - is that some day we will have solved the problem. I imagine that before I came, one of the remarks that perhaps Moe Leavitt made was that giving is on a dues-paying basis. Well, unfortunately it is all too true with perhaps 90% of the givers. Thank goodness we have tried to maintain the dues at a pretty high rate. But in my opinion it is extremely necessary also that something be done, something positive, to give them a feeling that what they have given and what they are going to be called upon to give, is eventually going to crystallize itself into something solid; and in this particular case - because we cannot solve the military safety of Israel - the economic safety. And it is along these lines that this new plan that Eddie referred to has come up.

Briefly, we feel the State of Israel has done a magnificent job in the last two years. We know that they owe no less money or no more money today than they did two years ago; in other words they have operated within a balanced budget. Truly, without saying they could have spent more and perhaps a great deal more - and I wish they had had it to spend a great deal more - but because they realize the dangers and because perhaps they feel that they also would like to some day reach that sane economic stability, they have tried extremely hard to cut down their spending and their imports. So we are faced with this. They owe no more, and they owe practically the same. If the United Jewish Appeal this year is able to give them the same amount of money, if they get the same grant from the United States government, and if and if and if. But there is no cure for the fact that they have \$110,000,000 worth of short-term debts, which come due on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and even on Shabbath, and that the problem of meeting them is getting increasingly more difficult. And you have not any idea of what some of us have to do on the American scene besides the normal course of fund-raising, so that the money is available and one must bear in mind that they are dependent on the ability of a bank to give them the money

on the particular day that they need it, and in some cases, unfortunately, at not too good a rate of interest. And in their purchases they are faced with the same thing because they not only have to say, "We want a shipload of wheat," but "how long can you give us to pay for it?" And this is not healthy economy and eventually a business man operating on that basis must go bankrupt. You cannot afford to overpay in every department and you cannot even afford the pressure that you are subject to with this day-to-day type of financing. And we are hopeful, because it makes sense, that something should be done to eliminate it; that this fine American Jewry of ours respond in a positive way toward what seems on the surface a simple plan and a workable plan.

There was some feeling at one time that this short-term indebtedness could be handled on a funding basis through the U. S. government. Unfortunately, this is not possible any more. But we are talking of a sum of money of approximately \$75,000,000. Very briefly let me explain again specifically what it would do if the government of Israel today had this money and if they could pay off all their short-term obligations. It would enable them to operate on a current basis. They would borrow only on a current basis, they would pay their bills on a current basis, what they buy today they would pay in November or December, the loans they would make would be in a workable manner and more important than anything else, they would buy cheaper, they would borrow for less and the entire overhead of the operation would be cut down tremendously. At this point there is some question as to just how much and one of the things that we hope to accomplish in Israel is to find out a little bit more specifically just how much. But I think it is safe to say several million dollars. Remember they are importing \$250,000,000 worth of goods a year. And they are borrowing back and forth I don't know how much. But Peter sometimes does not know how much Paul owes. If we can give that same funding operation to the government of Israel through American Jewry by loaning to the government of Israel, or some agency very closely attached to it, this kind of money, if American Jews were to know that this would not only save the government of Israel from any danger of an economic collapse but would also save them millions of dollars because if we are overpaying five, six or seven million dollars a year because of what I said, it is five, six, seven million dollars a year that we are throwing away. And it could be used to reduce the obligation. This seems to me like the only possibility, that some day perhaps we could sit here and in other important places and say we are on the road to accomplishment.

Again briefly, it is our idea to launch a full-fledged plan in the United States, a campaign, if you will, a short one, a dynamic one and a most truthful one and explain to our American Jews that if you will loan us \$25,000, \$50,000, \$100,000 and if we can get this kind of money, this is what we can do with it. Now of course there must be some security for this sort of thing, and we have the best security in the world - the UJA. Because we can give them every assurance that the UJA is not going to go out of business and they are going to have to give every year for several years. Now some of us may not be able to be around when that takes place. But we



can give them that assurance that the UJA will be around. So that our approach might be: loan us \$100,000 for five years, go to your banks and borrow it; we will pay you back 15% or 20% a year. You can apply this, if you so desire, on your current UJA pledge. Actually, in no way, shape or manner are you taking any chance that you won't get the money paid back and in the second place, you are ensuring the fact that in the years to come the needs will be less.

To sum up. When this first idea came, there was a great deal of thought that American Jews would look upon it as an impossible thing. Let's be practical. UJA will receive perhaps \$70,000,000 in 1953. This comes from all American Jews. How is it possible then to borrow an amount equal to that sum or even more? I admit that I also felt a little bit pessimistic about its chance. But this is a great world today. There are wonder drugs today that we did not have previously and a great many new things happen all the time. I think that a situation such as Israel is faced with demands more than just hard work. I think it demands the kind of vivid imagination that the people of Israel have shown. And I think that if we can parallel the same ideas and operate with the same kind of spirit, that perhaps we can be successful. I am very happy to say that in the first three or four communities where we threw out feelers the response was over and above anything that we had in mind. People who are conservative, ultra-conservative, have said, as American Jews always say, "Why did you not think of it before? Why did we not do it last year and the year before, and in that case we could have already saved five or ten million dollars?" It is our hope and intention to follow this plan through in as complete a way as possible and that we can, within a reasonable length of time, without any confusion whatsoever with any other of the existing plans for raising money for Israel, either through charity or investment, inspire American Jews to loan this kind of money.

In closing, I cannot help but take this opportunity of congratulating the JDC personnel, most of whom I know well and would like to know even better, for the magnificent job that they have done in the last year, the job that they have always continued to do. And I say as one social service worker to another: Keep it up!

MR. WARBURG: Two of the star communities that have been in the big-giving class and, shall we say, bellwethers in the campaign, have been the communities of Cleveland and Detroit. And anything that they have to say is always of interest to us. I would like to ask Judge Bernon if he has anything to say, and then I am going to call on Mr. Sobeloff.

JUDGE BERNON: Eddie, you kind of let me down this morning. You are always a cheer upper and this morning you sounded a note of gloom and pessimism which is entirely foreign to your nature. I don't feel the way you do about the campaign in 1954 or the prospects of raising money in 1954. I did not expect to be called upon after all these "fan dancers"

that you had called on this morning. I am like the man who left back in his hotel the manuscript he had memorized, and then said he was not prepared for an extemporaneous address that day. You all know the old story about the speaker who had carefully rehearsed his speech and had it in his inside coat pocket and who had a peroration at the end in which he was to talk about the famous three men who had illuminated American history - Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson - and who forgot the names and who finally looked inside his coat pocket and all he could see was the label on the lapel, and he said, "Hart, Schaffner and Marx." Now I am pretty much in that position this morning.

Then there is the other position you can be in, the position I was in in Cleveland when you had the last National Appeals Conference. I was given a manuscript by my Federation director to be sure that I would say the right thing and then the publicity agent of our local Federation inscribed some pages for me. And then an hour before the meeting, Lou Bennett handed me seven or eight closely typewritten cards that Ray Levy had prepared and then in addition thereto, I wrote my notes on the table cloth. I have a bad habit of writing on other people's table cloths. Many years ago, I took my small boy to a magician's show and he was able to pull the table cloth out and leave all the dishes on the table. And when we got home my boy started it and my wife had to buy a new set of dishes for the family. Frankly I cannot do that trick, so I could not pull the table cloth out without destroying all the dishes. So when I got to the lectern, I had my Federation director's speech, I had my publicity agent's speech, I had Ray Levy's speech, I had my notes over on the table cloth at the other end of the room, I had two or three doubtful statements to make myself, and all in all, I took too long and Eddie was a little worried that I was taking too much time. I was much in the position of the VIP who visited a State Welfare Board institution for mental patients and who was asked by the superintendent to deliver an address. He was delighted to have an audience on that occasion because the guards and the attendants dragged all the patients in and they had to listen, and after about an hour and fifteen minutes one of the lady patients tore her hair and said, "My God, I cannot stand it any longer", and she rushed out of the room. And when after the speaker had concluded the superintendent gave him his profuse apologies for the action, which were rather graciously accepted, the superintendent said, "But there was one compensating thing that came out of it, it is the first lucid interval that woman has had in ten years."

This is a good audience, for you laugh at that old hoary, yellow, aged story that's in the written humor books that speakers refer to before they go out to talk. I cannot add anything to what has been said. First of all, I want to say that I am not pessimistic about the 1954 campaign. Year after year we were accustomed to say to American Jewry, "This is the last big year; if you meet the crisis this year, why, next year giving will be easier." We have tried to ease away from that in the last two or three years and it is my judgment that American Jewry accepts the fact that giving will have to continue for many, many more years on a large scale until Israel is firmly established, until the work of the JDC is well on towards completion in

Europe and especially in the Moslem countries. I can recall when Eddie and Joe first talked about work in the Moslem countries and, as Eddie indicated, the reaction on the part of many people was, "You are just trying to find a new place to carry on your work." I think that feeling has been largely dissipated. And as the information seeps through in the United States and the Jews of America commence to realize the terrific problem that confronts us in those countries, they accept the fact that it is work that must be done if we are to do anything at all to lift out of the dol-drum and degradation the hundreds of thousands of Jews who live in poverty in those benighted countries. I share the opinion, and at least I think I reflect the thinking of the people in my own city, which has maintained, as the Chairman has said, that a fair proportion of givers throughout the years have accepted the fact that it is not dues, but it is an obligation on their part to carry through and to see that the work that has been carried on these many years is really carried on to successful completion. And I have every faith that my community, and I think other communities in America, will respond in 1954 so far as economic conditions permit in the United States.

We always get worried this time of year and very early in the spring as to what the year will bring. We have a giver in our community who, most of you know, is a leading giver in the community; he is a man who came to this country some thirty years ago with fifty cents in his pocket and is now the top giver in Cleveland. His name is Ratner. He has a very homely philosophy. He is not only the biggest giver in the community but he is the demon solicitor of the community. He gets more money than any collection of people that I know. He says to his prospects, "Don't worry about business conditions during the year to come, all you have got to do is to trust God for one year." And you can certainly trust God for one year and things may look dark, gloomy and bad now, but before the year is up somehow or some way you will find the money to see it through. And so I am much more optimistic about the prospects of the 1954 campaign than the speakers who preceded me.

As far as Morris Berinstein's proposal is concerned, I think it is sound. I am of the opinion that you can go to American Jewry, I think you can present the facts, I think you can get the necessary money in the country to meet Israel's present short-term indebtedness and, as he indicated, although not quite as clearly as he has on other occasions, the savings that will ensue from the fact that Israel will not have to pay excessive prices for its goods, it will not have to pay second and third mortgage interest on the money it is borrowing from day to day, will probably be enough to liquidate the indebtedness from year to year. I think that if the matter is presented to business men all over the country in small groups they will grasp the idea, second the idea, second the loan and that we will be able, in the United States in the weeks to come after we return from Israel, to raise the necessary sum of money by a loan to Israel to relieve them of their present short-term indebtedness.

This is the second conference it has been my privilege to attend. I think I was here five years ago; many of the same faces are still here. Many

have gone to other places. I left the conference five years ago with a new inspiration to go out in our country and tell the story of what JDC is doing. We've emphasized in the last three or four years the need in Israel. Prior to that, the rallying cry for the raising of funds was the work of JDC. I think the time has come again, in addition to pointing out the needs of Israel, to point out the magnificent job this staff is doing for the JDC in Europe and in Africa, and particularly in Malben in Israel.

I will always look back with happiness at the fact that I was privileged to be one of the group who passed on and finally decided that JDC should engage in the work in Malben in Israel. And I think in the forthcoming campaign, in addition to stressing the needs of Israel, we ought to bring back the story of this conference, the story of what JDC is doing in Europe, in Africa and in Israel.

And may I close with this word. I think that if we can carry to American Jewry the message of what you people are doing and of the great need that still exists in Israel, 1954 will again be a good year for the United Jewish Appeal.

MR. WARBURG: I think now Mr. Sobeloff has had enough time to prepare his speech. Mr. Sobeloff.

MR. SOBELOFF: Mr. Warburg and friends of the JDC. It is a little strange, but it is fun to have all these after dinner speeches before lunch. As I listen to the comments on fund-raising prospects for 1954 I am reminded that all of us have changes of mood and all of us tend to generalize from our own personal positions. I sometimes have thought - not always - that there is very little positive correlation between the form of a campaign and the amount of money raised. That is certainly true frequently with individuals and it is true for individual communities as well as for an entire country. It is not always marshalling the facts that results in our raising a given amount of money. This is, as has been pointed out, the time of year when we prepare our market letter. Market letters, as I take it, are more usually bullish than bearish, because market letters are issued by brokers with the intention of selling. And as promoters of the campaign, we think of all the helpful points and what we cannot put over by logic we put over with a little harangue, and it always comes out right regardless of what the facts happen to be. And oddly enough, people frequently are moved by that last harangue which may have very little to do with the facts that have been presented. And as campaigners, we have to remind ourselves of that. As people who are doing a job, we have to do more than that; we have to remember that even if not all the people will understand all the facts, we do have a responsibility to get them over; but not, to be sure, always with the feeling that if we have more facts, we will have more money. We deal with the facts for the long-term reason that we have an ultimate confidence that a better informed community will be interested in doing a better program. But I have seen big givers who did not know exactly what they were

giving for, and I have seen people who ought to be big givers and who knew all the answers and who were good solid citizens, but who were not giving well. And campaigning is an area of activity that frequently takes us entirely away from intelligence and logic and presentation of facts.

I want to stop for a moment to pay my tribute to the staff of the JDC. This is the third of your annual conferences I have attended and I am always impressed with the level of the material that's presented here and I think a real compliment needs to be paid to the organization and the people in it for the consistently solid way in which you are going about your tremendous job.

There is one thing perhaps that has not been said here; all in all I think that if we piece together what all of those who were on the program today have said, we have gotten practically every point that can be made about the coming year in fund-raising. There is one thing I say that has not been said sufficiently. And I would like to say it from the standpoint of a Welfare Fund Federation director and I am sure that Judge Bernon might have said the same kind of thing. We need to recall that in the local communities, of course New York City is a very special exception, that in the local communities in the United States, at the same time that the JDC, in telling its story, moves away from its own program and talks about loans and the problems of Israel, that in the local community we do that and we do more than that; that we are talking to our people about local needs and regional needs and national needs and the overseas needs; and that whether it was entirely true or not some years ago that local communities were raising money largely in the name of Israel and at the same time giving an undue amount of the funds to other causes that were not being featured, I believe events have turned and while Israel is still a dominant interest and still deserves and should get the lion's share of the funds, in many communities the fact that we are campaigning for so many things together has made it possible in the last year and may make it possible again for persons who are responding to some need other than Israel, indirectly to be helping Israel and the JDC in the same way as in reverse the Israel theme helped some time ago. That is not to say that people are no longer interested in Israel. I believe they are and for all of the pessimism that we had this morning, for part of the time, I believe it is still true that there is a tremendous interest in the problems of the government of Israel, in the people of Israel and in the programs of Israel. But, in those cities where some other point can be helpful, we now have to take advantage of the partnership for all the causes combined, regardless of which cause is of special interest to the contributor, in the same way as I said that we did it three and four and five years ago when other agencies were benefiting by the appeal of Israel.

You know this business of pessimism at a meeting of this kind always ends up in a moderate conclusion. One fellow takes a look at some water in a glass and says the glass is half empty; the other fellow takes a look at it and to him it is half full. It is the same water and it is the same glass. Every bit of caution that was voiced is true. A lot of people

are tired, a lot of difficulties, many of them new, will be before us. But it is also true, as many of the speakers have pointed out, that we have developed a solid block of givers in every community; and these problems, whether it is the political situation or the military situation or even the economic situation, will concern only fringe people who each year find some new development a reason for a different and sometimes a negative reaction. Specifically on the facts, since it is six months away from our spring campaign and we cannot be sure, I would nevertheless say that there is every reason to believe that for ninety some percent of our contributors, unless there is an economic upheaval much greater than is anticipated, the level of giving for 1954 will be approximately as good as for 1953. There is that last area, among whom I call the fringe people, where we will have a special and perhaps more difficult job.

I have one last thought for this morning. I believe that there was a period of time when we concentrated so much on the specifics of the UJA program that we did not give enough attention to the broad meaning of the developments of Israel. And there was a period when we were clamoring for a better interpretation of the over-all problems of Israel. We got that and in a sense I think we got it too well; too well in that now, whether it is a UJA meeting or a bond meeting or a meeting of investors the speech is the same and the emphasis is on the loans and on the foreign exchange and on the financial needs of the entire economy of Israel. Only a limited number of people can be importantly helpful in the loan program that Mr. Berinstein talked about. It is tremendously important, but it is a job that needs to be done among few people and most frequently away from the campaign meetings. That being so, we have to keep in mind that our job at campaign meetings is to continue to tell our story and I would like to see, following the suggestion made by Judge Bernon, that when we talk about UJA we come back a little more to telling the story of the UJA services; when we ask people to keep up their level of giving and even to increase that we tell them what is to be done with the UJA money. Statesmanship has its place but if every appeal, whether made by one little unit in Israel or the entire United Jewish Appeal, is exactly the same we do not get, I am afraid, the greatest possible benefit from the programs that will appeal to people; I mean the over-all United Jewish Appeal program.

I think in the local communities, as I said a while ago, the fact that building campaigns have developed and the fact that other appeals have been attractive to people, can be of value to the UJA too. We have one, not a typical instance, but we have one instance in Detroit, of a man who has been giving between ten and fifteen thousand dollars a year, every year. \$10,000 three years ago, \$12,000 two years ago, \$14,000 last year and now \$15,000. That man is so interested in one of the projects of our local hospital that he is giving, payable over a period of five years, \$500,000. Now it does not make much sense to beat him over the head for being more interested in a local hospital than in the UJA. The by-product of his action is that he cannot think of giving less than \$15,000 for the UJA. Having given \$500,000 to a hospital he has set himself up as a much bigger giver than he ever was and my guess is that he is a potential \$25,000 giver

for the UJA. Now, I said, I am not sure that that is typical but I believe that whenever a contributor gets interested in something else there is the added opportunity to treat him as a bigger giver. And that can be very helpful to us. After all, once the market letters are all written and once we go into campaigning, the job of getting more money from contributors is a custom job, and to the fellow who does not read much and who does not care much about facts we have to say one thing and talk one way. To the man who has a different background we have to talk another way, and for some of them who want answers we know that even after we give them the answers they will not respond favorably.

So we have to get back into the salt mines of campaigning, way deep down, taking item by item, man by man, building the organization and going ahead with the job. On the question that was raised for the morning, put me down as saying that we will do as well in 1954 as in 1953 and you can check me later on it. Thanks.

MR. WARBURG: The major corner-stone of the campaign inevitably on the American scene is the question of New York City and I would like to ask Henry Bernstein if he has some comment he would like to make in that connection.

MR. BERNSTEIN: While you were getting that portion from Soby I got a note and I'd like to read it. It says, "You're next. I shall give you time to prepare a short speech." I'm sorry though, that unlike Jack Weiler, I am a long speaker. But nevertheless I will try to make this brief.

I want to talk not only about the campaign for next year, but also about the way in which we can raise \$75,000,000 for short-term debts because for some months now we in New York have been talking about it, trying to find not only the means to solve that problem but also because we think that 1954 is going to be a particularly difficult year. We have been very fortunate over the years in finding that there is always some incident, something new, something exciting, something emotionally moving which can be used to stimulate the kind of giving we feel is necessary. And this year we don't have that kind of stimulant yet. On the other hand we also know that two elements will affect the 1954 campaign. One is the fact that there is going to be a reduction in taxes. The other is that you have at this time the normal attitude which we in New York find every year of how long is this high level of giving going to be necessary and it has always been necessary to take action which would overcome that kind of attitude and that is why in thinking of the 1954 campaign we have thought in terms of the solution of both problems on a level which may not apply to all the welfare funds. Because in relation to New York we don't look upon this plan as one that applies only to a small group of people. Our feeling is that just as UJA money has always represented funds with which to do a job it also represents hard currency

which the government of Israel has been able to use to meet its obligations. And therefore, in our opinion, this is a plan to be presented to the community on the level of making available in addition to contributions, contributions which we will partly get from a higher level, a sum as a loan, because we also feel that in addition to the savings which this will represent to the government of Israel there is also the element of savings to the UJA. There are areas, I am sure, where the detailed figures could be made available, but we know there are areas where money is being spent which will not have to be spent as more money is available because through some capital expenditures which could not be made, people are today not integrated, people are today on the so-called relief rolls, both in Israel and in JDC programs and these people would not, if funds had been available to make these capital expenditures, be in that position today. So that we believe that this represents an opportunity to save money for Israel and to save money for UJA and therefore to save money to the men and women who are making the contributions.

AMERICAN JEWISH

We hope to be able to present a program which in effect would say, first, that UJA must have more money to do the day-to-day job for which we have been trying to raise funds for the last few years, and that as far as that portion of our obligations is concerned we have not raised sufficient funds and therefore there has been suffering; there are jobs which should have been done which have not been done and that must be met; that in addition thereto there are UJA obligations which represent expenditures which ought to be made because it will cut down on suffering, because it will cut down on the entire cost of the job which is our obligation and therefore we must have even more money. And if it isn't possible to give us more money in terms of free gifts then we want in addition from every possible giver a substantial loan for a period of years, a loan to UJA, a loan to be repaid by UJA. We think that that kind of presentation, in addition to perhaps getting substantial sums in loans, will create the atmosphere which will overcome the usual negative approach which we must overcome each year. Now all of this may have no application to welfare funds. Theirs is complicated by the fact that they have local needs to meet. We are not in that position and therefore subject to some other plan being resolved, subject to the thinking of our own executive committee, that is the procedure which we expect to follow in New York.

I know I could talk in terms of what we could accomplish in the ensuing years. I don't think that a prediction that I would make would mean very much at this time. The only encouragement that I can give you, and it is substantial encouragement, is that in the past weeks during which I have tried to sound out people about this entire approach, both in terms of borrowing and the effect it will have on giving, I have been surprised by the positive approach to it, by the encouraging approach to it. My feeling has been that our principal problem was to find whether people really had, in a period when there seems to be great difficulty in getting cash, whether people really had funds in addition to their gifts which they could make available as loans and I am encouraged by the people who represent the



important leadership now in New York and in the country who have said to me that they think this is feasible, that they are prepared to participate in it. Thank you.

MR. WARBURG: I asked Dr. Jonah Wise, one of our National Chairmen, if he would like to close this discussion. He said he would always like to close a discussion. Dr. Jonah Wise.

DR. WISE: Mr. Chairman, it says in the Talmud that in a village where there are ten batlonim you can read the Book of Esther. As you know, the Book of Esther is a very long megillah. I am sure we have ten batlonim here, Mr. Chairman. The session has been quite long and I don't care to prolong it. As I was walking through the park, through the streets of Paris this morning, I saw one of these postcard peddlers trying to sell some of his special type of goods to two young priests. No dice. He then saw me standing waiting for the traffic to change and he offered them to me. They were very attractive postcards. I certainly was not the type either. He looked at me and he said he was having a tough morning of it.

Well, my dear friends, I want to say this. I have listened to the discussion pro and con; it's a good deal like the old American shell game - now you see it, now you don't. I am under the impression that we have certain assets which transcend any opinions which might be given in a discussion of this kind. Many years ago I visited Miami, not for a vacation or for retirement, but to begin a campaign for the United Jewish Appeal while we were having a terrific row with the Zionists. You know all this. And there I met one of our distinguished speakers, Mr. Berinstein. Mr. Berinstein told me that it was useless to hold the meeting because we couldn't get any money. We went ahead and held the meeting and Mr. Berinstein forgot how useless it was and from that time on became one of the important cogs in the United Jewish Appeal.

I have listened with interest to the report of Mrs. Pilavan and I am sure that we all understand the importance of the Women's Division. When I was a boy I lived on a farm and we used to have come live with us some Rabbis who had no other way of making a living except off my father. They were usually the unwanted alumni of some minor abattoirs in Poland. One night my mother and father were talking in the library of our farmhouse and my mother complained about one of our guests. She said he was very dirty. My father said, "he is a scholar" and my mother said, "that doesn't make any difference, he doesn't wash." My father said, "he is a philosopher, he is not a wash room." The position of women has changed in the last sixty years. We are looking to Mrs. Pilavan for the kind of leadership which will justify this remark.

I also remember an anecdote that my father used to tell about a little village in Bohemia where somebody had made money, I suppose in the scrap iron business, and he became an important part of the community and was

given a special seat of honour in the schul. Well, comes Yom Kippur and he was not a baal tvilah, so he had to have his prayer book annotated and in several places they put in in ink, "da weint man". I know we all are inclined to weep over the situation and I have been connected with it now for twenty years ever since our late lamented and greatly beloved Felix Warburg called me out of a sinecure and asked me to raise money for the Joint Distribution Committee.

I want to get down to the closing remark and that is this. We have an enormous advantage over the difficulties which present themselves and that advantage is on the national level of organization and on the local level of organization. You have heard from the representatives of some of our larger communities. We realize that never before in the history of fund-raising has there ever been this kind of organization. As a miracle of Jewish life it parallels the miracle of the establishment of the State of Israel. As a matter of fact, without this organization I doubt if the other miracle could have happened. There is a miracle of organization throughout the United States and the miracle of organization in the city of New York, which Mr. Bernstein represents. With this as the background and as a starting point we have something on which we can lean. We don't start behind the eight ball, as they say in some organizations in New York City, we start with a very distinct advantage. We do have organizations capable of presenting to communities as well as to individuals the ever increasing necessity for finding money, organizations which have established themselves and have the confidence of communities as well as the confidence of the whole country. The United Jewish Appeal, as far as the United States of America is concerned, is on a level of importance which no other national group or international group needing money has ever attained or achieved. And I think I am correct in saying that. That's number one. Number two, we have very specific, important leadership. I don't want to throw the whole burden on Eddie Warburg and Joe Schwartz, but I want to say that in my long career with the United Jewish Appeal or as an active officer and as National Chairman - a sinecure in itself - in my long experience in the United Jewish Appeal, I don't know of any time in the existence of the UJA that its top officers had so complete a welcome and so completely the confidence of the people of the United States as have these two gentlemen.

I therefore conclude with the feeling that whether the going is good or bad, smooth or rough, we start out without any serious handicaps from the standpoint of the fund-raising machinery, handicaps which we have overcome in the past few years and which at some time or other did threaten the possibility of getting large funds. I want also to pay my very great respect not only to the personnel of the JDC here to whom I have listened with very profound interest, but I want to pay my respects to the men and women all over the United States who constitute this vast machinery and my very special respects and my confidence in the leadership of Mr. Warburg and Dr. Schwartz, and I thank you.

MR. WARBURG: I always find it very embarrassing when Jonah says that kind of thing. He ought to know better. It seems to be a morning in which

anecdotes are not excluded. I want to tell you that you get a much better picture of yourself from your children. My mother gave the old family mansion to the Jewish Theological Seminary; it has now become the Jewish museum and a year or so ago I took my son up there to see the house. And I showed him where his father had misbehaved and slid down banisters and what very good spitting there was from the fifth floor right down into the basement when visitors came, and I am afraid he was more interested in that kind of anecdote than he was in the ritual objects that were on display. I didn't realize quite what I was doing because one day the next month or so I was at a Parent-Teachers' Association meeting at his school and one of the mothers came up to me and said, "Are you Mr. Warburg?" and I said "Yes". She said, "Well I have been so anxious to meet you because I get such an interesting picture of you from your son." And I with shudders asked what that picture was, and she said, "Well the first thing he says about you is that you were born in a Jewish museum."

## AMERICAN JEWISH

I have omitted one or two people here - I am sure they will forgive me - in this parade of the various angles and facets of the American scene. I think you have gotten a picture however of the problems that we are facing; the estimates that we have, which are quite, as you can see, divergent, as to the possibilities in the coming year. I don't think that any of us really pretends to be a prophet on that score. If we are pessimistic it is because we are cautious. If we are optimistic it is because we are hopeful. In both cases we are in this work and we are devoted to it. The problem of the success of the campaign is the problem really of, as I say, overcoming the monotony of another campaign and the ability to emphasize the difference of the approach over that of last year. This is a problem that is obviously not for you to reckon with and to be bothered with. I think that the assurance that Dr. Schwartz has given you is probably the one that you wanted to know more than anything else and that is, more or less you have a right to count on, though not to hold him to, approximately the same amount of income for the programs that you have outlined here. But I do think it possibly has been helpful to you to get, certainly an off guard - because I don't think it takes any great detective to realize that you haven't gotten a prepared program here - presentation of the American scene. If you want a really good presentation of the American scene may I suggest in your next programming that you leave it where it was in the afternoon and that you don't have a party in Montmartre the night before.

And now I would like to turn the meeting back to Mr. Beckelman who can solicit any comments, criticisms and anything he wants of that kind. But more important than anything else I think all of us want to hear what is one of the features of these conferences, the Readers Digest, the summation of our days of deliberation. Thank you.

MR. BECKELMAN: On behalf of all of us I think I can safely express our thanks and appreciation to our guests from the United States for the

summary they gave us this morning of what is much more than the American scene. It is the American scene and the way in which the largest Jewish community in the world regards the totality of Jewish problems throughout the world. When the presentations started I was somewhat embarrassed. I was embarrassed precisely because I realized how helpful and useful in very broad general terms this kind of presentation was going to be to all of us in our field operations. I was embarrassed because I thought it a little unfair to spread before us the galaxy of talent that we had this morning which would ordinarily collect \$15,000,000 at a Miami meeting without even calling cards. But as discussion went on my embarrassment was relieved. As Eddie Warburg said, it needed no detective to discover that this had not been a rehearsed presentation. I also think it needed no detective to discover that in a certain sense, this was a rehearsal for the prepared presentation that is going to be made in Israel. And as a dry run, in the presence of a studio audience, I think to some extent we gave value for the value we received.

Now we do have - we do dispose of a little more time this morning than we ordinarily do because we are telescoping the afternoon session into this one and we also have a certain amount of business to complete. I'll call on Mr. Jordan for a brief report on three areas of JDC operation which are not represented in person here. He may also wish to make an announcement as the basis for a brief discussion of the returnee question which was raised earlier in the conference. Mr. Jacobson and I are still exchanging glances and notes as to whether he should or should not have put his statement about restitution and reparations into this conference. Meanwhile Mr. Jordan has the floor.



ADDRESS ON

YUGOSLAVIA - CHINA - HUNGARY

By

Charles H. Jordan

I am to tell you this morning about JDC's relation to problems in Yugoslavia, China and Hungary. China, geographically, is worlds apart from the other two but it is true, nevertheless, that Yugoslavia and Hungary are worlds apart from each other, at least politically. I hope that most recent events are not going to change this situation fundamentally. In any case, in as far as our relations to these three countries are concerned, there are substantial differences in that Hungary no longer permits us to do anything there; China permits us to provide some help, particularly with emigration; and in Yugoslavia we have today a completely normal relationship such as we have with countries like, for example, Greece and France.

Y U G O S L A V I A

Yugoslav Jewry before World War II comprised 75,000 native Jews, including 5,000 refugees from Germany and Austria, and all of these people lived in 114 communities. 60,000 of them were annihilated by the Nazis. From 1945 through 1950 more than 6,500 of the survivors emigrated to Israel, and at that point more were planning to go. We had gone to the aid of Yugoslav Jewry immediately upon the cessation of hostilities. But their economic recovery and the reduction in their numbers suggested that the remaining Jews could, and in fact they were prepared to, accept full responsibility for their own affairs. Consequently, we discontinued our direct activities in Yugoslavia at the end of 1949 by mutual consent. We left considerable means behind which insured the community's ability to continue to operate assistance programs without any difficulty through the end of 1950. We never expected that Yugoslav Jewry, because of its smallness, would be able to manage entirely without outside help. Consequently, we were quite prepared to discuss this matter with them when they contacted us at the end of 1950 and since that time we have regularly given small grants to them. In 1951 we provided approximately \$40,000; in 1950 about \$50,000 and so forth; and for 1953 we are giving them slightly more - about \$53,000.

There are now a little over 6,000 Jews in Yugoslavia in only 54 communities. Dr. Shapiro who visited Yugoslavia some time ago told us that this small Jewish community has a keen awareness of its responsibilities to history and the general Jewish community. He reported that the organization is tight and effective in its operation; its leadership is vigorous and made up of individuals of status in the

general community; the government position towards the Jewish communities and activities is a healthy and favourable one and it is thus possible to assume in the immediate future, at least, a continuing Jewish community dealing with the repair of Jewish life, developing the record of the Jewish past and projecting a pattern of Jewish living into the future. Our assistance is given primarily for the maintenance of the Home for the Aged in Zagreb which holds approximately 100 persons, and smaller sums are allocated for assistance to transients, cash relief mostly to aged people in their own homes, widows, orphans, etc. Some part of our funds finances religious, cultural and educational activities such as Jewish kindergartens - one in Belgrade and one in Zagreb, the publication of a history of the Jews in the Serbian language, and the maintenance of a Jewish museum in Belgrade.

I think it is clear that these funds which we send to Yugoslavia represent only a contribution to the much larger expenses of the community in running its own affairs, but we know that without our contribution much of what is important and essential in Yugoslav Jewish life would be left undone, to the detriment of a common Jewish interest.

## ARCHIVES CHINA

In China we are concerned today with only approximately 1,000 Jewish White Russian refugees, with about 400 each in Harbin and in Shanghai, and 200 in Tientsin. We are just completing a study which seems to show that there are no more than a mere handful of European Jewish refugees in China and this really dots the "i" and crosses the "t" of the original JDC operation in China, the exclusive purpose of which was the care and rehabilitation of 18,000 European Jewish refugees from Nazi persecution. Except for 2,000 of them who died during the Japanese occupation of Shanghai, practically every last one of the other 16,000 has been resettled by JDC with some help of intergovernmental international organizations since 1946. The white Russian Jewish refugees were not a JDC concern when we first entered the picture of China, because at that time these people were well established, well accepted and seemed destined to remain in China for the rest of their lives. But the advent of communism in China changed all of that. White Russians suddenly were in great danger. Consequently, urgent efforts were made by voluntary agencies and intergovernmental international organizations to take them out. Estimates indicate that there must have been something like between 22,000 and 25,000 White Russians in China in 1945, 7 to 8,000 of whom were Jews. Since then several thousand non-Jews and about 7,000 of the Jews have managed to leave China, the latter primarily through the efforts of the State of Israel and ourselves. We are in constant touch with the Shanghai Jewish Community Council which was established by our last director in Shanghai, and which has been responsible for carrying on all welfare and emigration activities since we closed our own operation there in 1950.

Contrary to the way it happened in Yugoslavia, this was not done by mutual consent. The advent of Mao Tse Tsung simply made it impossible for us to remain. And contrary to the position of Yugoslav Jewry, the Jews in China, being foreigners, were quickly deprived of a chance to make their living and slowly but surely forced out of the economic picture altogether. Consequently, more and more of them are in need of assistance. Just as we did in Yugoslavia, and in Poland, and in Roumania and in other countries, we left assets behind in China insuring some continued assistance to needy persons for some time. But it has been necessary to send in additional funds via Hongkong.

We continue to assist the Jews in China. But most of all we are anxious to help them to emigrate. We are certain that almost every last one of the Jewish people wants to leave China. I say almost, because there are a few who have indicated that they do not wish to leave. I have just reviewed exact data on 576 of the thousand persons, representing, in other words, more than half of the total number of Jews in China, and find that only 24 of them do not wish to leave. But more important, it seems as if a large number - a large proportion - of this group are unable to leave, at least for the moment, and others probably for an indefinite period of time, not because they do not wish to leave but because they have run afoul of governmental regulations having to do with liquidation of businesses or other technical matters. As I said, all the others want to leave, and leave urgently, but they are presently leaving only at the rate of less than 30 a month due to the fact that visas are hard to come by, even to Israel. The reason for this is that most of the people, particularly those who wish to go to Israel, are over the admissible age and would require special absorption guarantees before they can be granted entry. That is not to blame Israel, however, for the fact that movement from China is so slow, because we've got to face it: the majority of these people in China do not particularly wish to go to Israel. They want to leave China - yes - but they want to go to a variety of countries, including Israel, rather than exclusively Israel. The trouble with that is that while non-Jews in China apparently receive visas to countries like Canada and Brazil, etc. without difficulty and in considerable numbers - the rate of movement of non-Jews out of China is approximately 250 a month - these countries simply do not care to give visas to Jews. Mr. Horwitz has told you about his efforts in stimulating movement from China to Brazil, and let's hope that he will succeed.

I believe that we must do something more drastic to reduce the number of Jews in China to the irreducible minimum. I believe that we must make a special effort for the aged and chronically ill to find placement opportunities for them, such as we have done successfully for aged and chronically ill refugees from Europe. The danger of their being cut off from us is always imminent. While it is true that the mentality of the Chinese is somewhat different from the mentality of East Europeans, nevertheless they are now part and parcel of the Soviet orbit and their actions must be considered as being dictated not

by what we know of their mentality but by the instructions they receive. I hope that we will have the opportunity to discuss with the representative of the State of Israel steps which can be taken immediately to send to Israel at least those who urgently wish to go there despite their ineligibility under the strict interpretation of the rules.

Also, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is deeply concerned with this problem and has secured admission for 227, mostly invalids or persons who for various reasons require institutional care in a number of European countries. We hope that we'll get a fair share for Jews. As a matter of fact, we know that some of the aged Jews will be admitted to Switzerland and this is due in large measure to the fact that our good friend Mr. Heim has agreed for the Swiss Jewish Community to accept what responsibility this involves. We can manage to resettle small numbers in this fashion. It is not enough. We have in mind a plan which would make it possible to evacuate several hundred at one time and to take them to some transit centre out of which we can do a more effective job in placing them. This will cost money - but it will be money well spent if it helps us to win the race against time.

#### HUNGARY

The specter of being cut off from communication with people who, we know, need our help, has been with us with regard to Hungary for a number of years. Last year, in referring to 1951, I said that our then already difficult position with regard to the program we are carrying on in Hungary had become more difficult. I also mentioned that Hungary, and Hungary alone of all the satellite countries, continued to give us a chance to help some of their people, but that we didn't know how much longer it would go on. Well, the curtain between Hungary and ourselves fell early in January of this year as a result of the phony doctors' plot discovery in Moscow, at which time the Hungarians blasted us sky high as the presumable collaborators the Russians had made us out to be, in attempting to assassinate high-ranking Soviet government officials. Consequently, we had no choice but to discontinue our activities in Hungary. Consequently also several people, including the President of the Union of Hungarian Jewish Communities, Mr. Stoeckler, the Chairman of our Medical Committee, Dr. Benedek, and Mrs. Biener who had been executive secretary in the JDC office through the days of Israel Jacobson, Aaron Berkowitz and myself, were arrested. None of these people have been tried, as far as we know. Only Mrs. Biener, after 8 months in prison, has been released. We don't know exactly what Mr. Stoeckler is charged with, but regardless of what the charges may be I think we can take it for granted that he is in jail because he was associated with the JDC in its humanitarian efforts. The communists have tried to make out that their attempt at the persecution of the Jews was all a mistake and that all is well behind the Iron Curtain. The fact that Mr. Stoeckler and Dr. Benedek are still lost in the jungle of the Hungarian secret police seems to indicate that all is not well, but, more important, we know that thousands of people whom we have



assisted in Hungary now have to do without.

It seems that the old folks homes and the canteens go on with funds exclusively derived from the sale of stocks which we left behind. These stocks were worth approximately one-quarter of a million dollars. What will happen to them once those stocks run out we don't know. In any case, of approximately 12,000 persons of 60 years and over, most of them single and unattached with nobody to look after them, who were assisted by us in their own homes, only 5,000 have received occasional handouts - no more than three or four times in the course of this year. Very occasionally, very few aged persons are still permitted to join their children in Canada, Australia, or the United States, but other than that, emigration from Hungary, as from the other countries behind the Iron Curtain, is stopped.

There is only one comment I have to make to that, and those of you who were with us last year will recall that Hungary then owed us on an agreement Dr. Schwartz had made in 1949 for the emigration of 3,000 Jews to Israel, about 200 persons. There are indications that this group will come out, eventually; as a matter of fact, they may even be on their way right now. I don't have to tell you of the many thousands who want to join close family members abroad - yet we are powerless to help them. It doesn't help them very much to say that our hearts bleed when we think of the lacks and the needs of our co-religionists in all the countries which do not permit us to bring succour to those who by their sufferings are entitled to it. But JDC will continue, as Mr. Warburg said in announcing our withdrawal from Hungary on January 23rd, 1953, to manifest its deep concern on behalf of Hungarian Jewry as well as on behalf of other Jewish victims wherever they may be!



MR. BECKELMAN: Are there any questions? Mr. Jacobson has sent me a note indicating that he passes his hand on the presentation of the Restitution-Reparations question, for reasons which he did not spell out but which I can readily understand. For one thing, I think that it is clear that any attempt to discuss reparations in the broad after the session we had yesterday afternoon should not be undertaken without a blackboard, a piece of chalk, an eraser and probably a book of diagrams with double-wing back formations.

There is really little to say about the restitution and reparations question that has not already been said so far as the broad outlines of those problems are concerned. We thus dispose of ten minutes which is less than I, and I am sure all of us, would like to have, for what has traditionally become the Good and Welfare session of this conference, which means a period when any person present can raise any question or make any statement or talk on any subject which has or has not been previously raised in the conference, and which in his or her view requires one or two more words to be said about it before the conference adjourns. I therefore declare open the Good and Welfare session of this conference at this morning's meeting and will recognize the first person who asks for the floor. Mr. Haber.

MR. HABER: I think perhaps that what I am going to say, in one sense, might better be left unsaid. However, I have thought a good deal since Dr. Josephthal made a statement commenting, not on my report, but I think rather on a point which Harry Greenstein raised. I merely want to state my exception to the general condemnation - I think it was that - of the entire Jewish group of 20,000-odd people who are living in Germany at this time. In one way, I can of course understand the statement that was made and that certain feelings, perhaps of long standing with Dr. Josephthal and others, may have motivated that statement. But I am sure that it had been somewhat engendered, somewhat aggravated by certain meetings, unfortunate meetings, which some of us here held with a group of delegates or representatives of the Central Council of Jews from Germany who arrived here on Sunday for meetings in connection with the Conference Claims. I feel that it would be unfair if I, who have lived in that community for seven years, did not go on record to say that certainly the statements which Dr. Josephthal made are truly applicable to some of the people. But they are not applicable to all of the people living in Germany at this time. Among these twenty-odd thousand people are many sick people, many helpless people, hundreds, hundreds of people in old-age homes, hundreds living in communities who really have no other place to go, people who live on small rents or pensions, people who are helpless in the final sense of the word, waiting for nothing but, as I said in my report, to wither away.

I do not think these people deserve our condemnation. I do not think that we need to take the position or that we are justified, from any point of view, in taking a position of a collective damnation. They have not deserved it and I do not believe that any of us from any point of view, whether a Zionist point of view or rather from the human point of view,

ought simply to declare; "achirim" and say, "To hell with you, you don't belong in the Jewish community." As a matter of fact, if my memory serves me - and I think it does - we discussed this question or rather I touched upon this problem in one of my earliest country directors conferences as long ago as 1949 or 1950 where I indicated the fact that there are a group of people and some organizations which would like, as Harry Greenstein referred to the situation, to make Germany "judenrein". However, life is stronger than our policies or than our politics or our ideologies, and the fact remains that Germany is not "judenrein" and will be "judenrein" only when another Hitler comes along and builds more crematoria in order to destroy the last vestiges of Jewry. There are those, certainly, whose judaism is of a very marginal quality but not for that reason, in my judgment, are they to be collectively condemned. I merely wanted to say this because, since I am on the verge of leaving Germany, I want also to go on record as saying that I have met, and I am very proud of the fact, some very, very fine people, some wonderful people in Germany among German Jews and among Jews who have settled in Germany in the postwar period. People who are as good, as decent, as fine, as bad, as moral, as immoral, as amoral as you and I. And I do not believe that because they are living in Germany that that, per se, is a basis for collective condemnation.

MR. BECKELMAN: Sam Haber's reference to his leaving Germany gives his statement, I suppose, the nature of a welfare worker's - don't get upset about the word "welfare worker's" - testament. I will have something to say in the course of my final remarks about the various people who are leaving JDC, who will be leaving or who will have left JDC or left their present posts before the next country directors conference comes along. I would be very glad to use the remaining minutes of this session, if anyone else would want to add his comment on any subject or anything out of his area of operation if, perhaps, like Sam Haber, he would like a last chance to set the record straight before he or she leaves.

MR. JORDAN: I think it is in order to make a counter-recommendation about the residents of Camp Foehrenwald who have taken up so much of our

time. I think that our discussion shows that we are becoming clearer about the real difficulty to find any one answer to this problem; that is in itself a worthwhile one. But we have also become clear on several other important points:

1. We have overcome our own reluctance to face the fact that Jews will have and will want to make their homes in Germany, at least for the time being, as was just explained by Mr. Haber.

2. Camp Foehrenwald has been closed to new arrivals. We hope this will stick. But it means that the initiative for the handling of the over-all problem which Camp Foehrenwald represents has passed to the Germans and we should make sure to leave it there.

3. From this it follows that we do not need to be defensive about our position which is that the Germans should bring about an orderly closing of Camp Foehrenwald as quickly as possible, and that we can cooperate with them in every way, including financially.

4. As a matter of fact, we should put the Germans under great pressure about it. We should insist:

- a. that they implement their intentions to provide housing for 500 persons, as they have already offered to do;
- b. we should ask that they provide it for more persons - up to the limit needed;
- c. we should insist that a decision be made quickly on the question of emigration grants and I believe that now that the new German government has been formed that ought to be forthcoming.

5. To make these moves more effective we should suggest to the Germans to fix time limits:

- a. a time limit for the complete condemnation of the camp for the purpose which it now serves;
- b. a time limit on the availability of housing based on their ability to produce it and related to priorities as to groups or categories of camp inmates as established by agreement between them and us;
- c. a time limit on the availability of emigration grants. I think it would serve no useful purpose for the Germans simply to say that forever and a day they will give emigration grants, because in that case people will sit and bargain and wait until they can get more out of the Germans or out of some other source. My own feeling is that the time limit should not go beyond June 30, 1954. Anybody who has not at that point taken advantage of this opportunity offered him should not get any additional funds.

6. In carrying out the total evacuation that is implied here, it must be clearly understood that we must consider it our responsibility to make sure that the individual case-by-case situation is fully taken into account when decisions are reached. Many persons may need institutionalization rather than just housing. Also, we must continue to work on the emigration of people, particularly the hard-core type which has been so effective in the past. Also, resistance will exist and will have to be overcome in a thoroughly humane manner. And there should be a more general effort to prepare the campers for what they can expect and what is expected of them outside the camp.

7. With regard to employable people it must be clearly understood that they are expected to work for a living. But otherwise, they are entitled to German welfare, and JDC should commit itself to help communities so as to enable them to give supplementary help and services where needed.

8. This means that social service must continue and be increased inside Camp Foehrenwald and that the foundations for social services outside the camp must be built up now, before the people get into the communities, not after. Incidentally, this means, to me, that we should stop working with committees and get down to cases. This might be the one time in history when to divide and conquer serves a useful purpose.

MR. HABER: The question is what does JDC do if the Germans do not carry out their intention but forget all about the camp and leave it to remain as is?

MR. BECKELMAN: I'll answer that question. JDC considers that situation when it arises.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, it should be perfectly clear, and I'll make it clear, on the off-chance that it may not be perfectly clear, that the next time I begin my remarks I shall continue until I am through and the meeting will then adjourn. Is there anyone else who wants to get in a last word?

This, then, is the closing of our Eighth Country Directors Conference since the war. The first time that Joe Schwartz happened to cast his closing remarks at the end of one of our country directors conferences into the form of a summary of the conference I venture to guess that that was an accident. The second time he did it, it was of course a coincidence and by the third time it was a habit. This being the eighth such country directors conference I now propose to give you the traditional summary of JDC country directors conferences.

To begin with, I want to express on behalf of all of us our thanks to Herman Goldsmith and his cohorts for the excellent physical arrangements

they provided us for this conference beginning with the reception Saturday night and including the hot dogs at that reception; and the secretarial service that we had. At the outset I was afraid that we would owe our American visitors and all our conference participants an apology for the crowded condition of our conference room at various stages of the proceedings. There wasn't much that we could do about that because the word that reached us about the coming of the American delegation reached us too late to make any changes in the physical set-up of our conference. But I'm not sure that that apology is necessary because I have a feeling that the very crowding of the conference room contributed to the sense of urgency and importance that I feel has characterized these sessions and reflects the old maxim I used to know in my YMHA days that you get a better meeting from fifty people in a room with thirty seats than from thirty people in a room with fifty seats.

I do however want to apologize to the American delegation against whom we sinned in thought, if not in words - I hope not in deed - when we received the information as to the composition, the size and the scope of this delegation. We were apprehensive lest such a group change or impair the nature and tone of our conferences as we have grown to know them and to find them useful. In fact, as Rabbi Wise can testify, we even had a special staff meeting on Thursday before the conference to discuss the problem of how the JDC team should field itself against the opposition, and after discovering that we were outnumbered we decided we couldn't play a man-to-man defense, we would have to resort to a zone system. All of that I want to apologize for. I've canvassed my colleagues and they are unanimous in sharing my view that in point of fact the entire group of visitors to this conference has contributed much to the tone, the content, the quality of the discussions, has given us a sounding board and a touchstone for the utility of our own considerations and reflections that we have found immensely valuable. And if, as I suspect, it will still be impossible for some time to come to carry out the original idea of some day having a JDC country directors conference in the United States, we hope that as the next best thing, all of you who have been with us this year will feel welcome to come back again. In token of which we are authorizing our emigration department to issue you with re-entry permits before you leave, but they must also remind you that, as you've heard in these discussions, the JDC will not pay transportation expenses for returnees.

In the early years of these conferences, when we were building ourselves up and shaking ourselves down as an organization to deal with the expanding areas that were opening to us as the war ended and occupation policies were changed, we made it a point to include in the presentations at every conference every operational JDC representative and department head. It was necessary, it was useful. But I want to mention today a number of people who carry important responsibilities in JDC headquarters operations whom we haven't called upon precisely because the work they have done over the past years has no longer made their areas of operation controversial or difficult. There is Mr. Shargo in accounting, Mr. Breen and Mr. Levine in budget and supply, Lou Shapiro in medical supply, Ray Davidson who runs our London office and Dick Cohen, whom by the way I think you have seen attending these

conferences for the first time in some years because most of the time he would be outside the conference door listening to the speaker with one ear, to a telephone receiver with the other, trying to pour into the mouthpiece his news release for that day's session. This time he prepared all the news releases in advance of the conference, relaxed and came to the meetings. When you get back to our offices you can look through the accumulated files of JTA bulletins ( I don't think we got publicity anywhere else) and check on how accurately Dick Cohen guessed what each of you was going to say.

As to the summary of this conference itself I'm a little gun-shy. The number of times I heard myself quoted during this conference as to what I had said last year makes me rather hesitant about putting too much on the record this year particularly because I checked back and I discovered that I couldn't say I had been misquoted. Furthermore, this year has been very much (with a few differences that I'll point out) like the year before and will, I suspect (with those same few differences) be very much like the year after. And that is really the principal thing that needs to be said in summary of this conference. We have reached a stage - and I went into this in some detail last year and don't see the need for repeating it today - in JDC work in which the large-scale emergency programs have been successfully carried to completion and between seven and eight hundred thousand people who were dependent on JDC - which means on the American Jewish community and on the other communities of the world that contribute to this combined effort - for their very lives, have seen those lives not only saved but restored to utility and meaning for themselves and their families and the communities in which they live. That's not the end of the problem, and the problem that remains is a problem which is not susceptible of those quick, dramatic, large-scale answers; and the problem that remains is important in human terms, in social terms, in Jewish terms throughout the world. And that could be a summary of this conference. I predicted to you at the beginning of it that there wouldn't be any oratory, and there wasn't, though we came perilously close to listening to some good oratory on at least a few occasions during the meetings.

The JDC's work falls into the convenient trinity of Israel, the Moslem countries and Europe. It's a trinity through which runs the unity of thirty-nine years of organizational experience in dealing with human problems in welfare terms and that is the JDC's contribution as an organization and in terms of the people who now serve in it and serve it in the carrying out of that responsibility. But if you listen to the reports of Bein, Haber, Loskove - I take those only by way of illustration - I think it ought to be made clear that welfare terms in JDC areas of operation do not have the limited meaning that we sometimes attach to them.

I remember coming back to the United States in 1941 from my first overseas tour of duty with the JDC and almost on the day I reached New York, after having gone completely around the world to get home, I ran into a

beloved professor of mine at the New York School of Social Work, Ed Lindeman, whom many people here know - he died a few years ago. He grabbed me and said, "You're just back from this job you've been doing? Come to lunch with me, I've got a faculty committee of the New York School of Social Work that's planning a curriculum for American social workers who expect to do work overseas after the war. I want you to give us a hand on the planning of that curriculum based on your experience/" So we had a very nice lunch, although I didn't even get a chance to eat the lunch because they started, right off the bat, "What do you think an American social worker going over to work in Europe ought to know?" And I started to reflect and I thought out loud. I said, "Well in the first place he's got to know something about foreign exchange." And they said, "Yes, go on." I said, "In the second place he's got to know how you keep a relief program going when bank accounts are blocked or frozen." I said, "He's got to know something about customs duties and how you can pack your goods in such a way that you don't have to pay fifty percent of their value in customs." I said, "He's got to know how to call the Minister of Foreign Affairs a louse without getting himself thrown out of the country; he's got to know about frontiers, visas, transportation arrangements" and I think it was Marian Kenworthy, whom some of you here know, who interrupted me at that point and said, "This is very interesting, Mr. Beckelman, and very important, but could you help us out by telling us which of the courses that you took when you were a student at the New York School of Social Work you found most useful?" And I was still wrapped in my thinking along the other line and mentally I ticked off on my fingers, "Leisure Time Problems? No. Social Case Work I? No. The Criminal and the Law? No." I said, "Frankly, none."

Well, I've learned better since then, and of course I knew better then. And that's the reason why I have followed with so much interest and have done my best in collaboration with our colleagues collectively to stimulate and promote the development of the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work and why we regard the recent decision that the staff of the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work shall go out into the field where work is being done as a step forward and a step leading to expansion in dealing with this problem of trying to provide adequately prepared personnel for the whole gamut and variety of jobs that need to be done in the name of this thing that we call JDC.

Throughout these four days I think in every single area of discussion that we had, whether it was Moslem countries or Western European communities or Dr. Josephthal's report about Israel, there was explicit and implicit the shortage of qualified personnel, the impossibility - and our own offices here in Paris and in New York know this to be true for JDC - of recruiting personnel in the countries where one normally finds them - England, the United States, Scandinavia, Holland - and the fact that limitation of personnel can be just as serious a limitation in the provision of service and more service, as a limitation of funds. It is no secret to our staff, and I make no secret of it to this audience, that we could today, within the limits of our established budget, be spending more money in North Africa and Moslem countries than we are spending, and the reason we are not spending



as much as we have is that we have a constitutional objection to pouring money down a drain and unless we can be satisfied that that money will be usefully employed, we are holding it back. We are holding it back; we hope we'll be able to use it. We are doing our best to see to it that nobody gets his hands on it. It's earmarked for Moslem countries and we hope to be able to use it as quickly as we can develop staff for the purpose.

Malben is the largest unit in the JDC trinity and I won't say that it's for that reason but it is a fact that I need to say least about it. I think Dr. Josephthal summarized the whole discussion of Malben's place and significance in the JDC program and in the Jewish world when he said what he said here publicly, that he would not like to contemplate what Israel would be like today if Malben did not exist, and if I repeat what he said to me privately that he would not like to contemplate what Malben would look like if it were an organization other than the JDC that were running it.

I said at the beginning of the session that our problems in Europe were the smallest problems but the toughest problems and that that was why we were saving them for the last. I don't think I need to belabor that point. I think the discussions we had about it prove that it is one of our toughest problems and most difficult of solution or, as Mary Palevsky called it, resolution. If our Federation friends were here I would develop for them at some length what is becoming my own feeling as to the proper interpretation and approach, exclusive of Camp Foehrenwald which I will touch on in a minute, to the remaining problems in Western Europe. I am convinced, having worked in the United States myself, that our problems in France, in Belgium, in Holland, in Switzerland, in Sweden, are substantially the problems of the New York Federation, the Cleveland Federation, the Cincinnati Federation, the Detroit Federation. You have sick people, aged people, widows, dependent children whose numbers are, for all practical purposes, static. There may be small increases in the number in one country, compensated for by small decreases in the number in another country, and the only approach - within broad limits because obviously Lou Horwitz still will take some people out who are on relief rolls and emigrate them elsewhere - but within broad limits this is the continuing normal relief burden of a normal Jewish community. If it were a completely normal Jewish community, if the effects of fifteen years of Hitlerism and war could in fact have been completely wiped out in the eight years since 1945, these normal communities would be supporting normally their normal relief burdens, and many of them have come long ways toward it and all of them, we hope and believe, will continue towards that goal. But, it is only in that direction that the exit of the Joint Distribution Committee and thus the American Jewish community from this picture can be found. And Judah Shapiro's thesis, regardless of any philosophical arguments about its esoteric overtones, is very simply that it has been our experience that a broadly based community with a full program of activities in due course raises more money for that which we call the federation or the welfare components of its program. Into that comes -

and I wish someone would tell Morris Berinstein that I'm quoting this accurately - into that situation comes as a new component the 15% share of reparations funds which will be administered by the Claims Conference. With judicious use of that money we believe that in collaboration with the European communities that 15% can become a further instrument in speeding and consolidating the process of total communal self-support. I think that's as much as I can or ought to say about that problem of the Claims Conference share of the reparations fund. If and when JDC gets the kind of mandate that Moe Leavitt was explaining yesterday we shall certainly use our best efforts to see to it that judicious employment is made of that money.

Now Foehrenwald is of course our smallest problem and really our toughest. It's Boyle's Law - the lower the volume the higher the pressure. I stayed out of that discussion on it the other day because I had two feelings about it. First, that every speaker who addressed himself to the subject was right and that there wasn't any real disagreement among the speakers, though to have listened to the heat that was engendered one would have thought there was a terrific amount of friction. But I submit to you one observation that I drew from that discussion which I think is a beam of light which was a by-product of the friction. If you take Dr. Schwartz's proposition - don't talk about the returnees in Foehrenwald for the moment, address yourself to the old settlers, the hard core group - if anyone wants to take the trouble to look at the figures you will find that that group is 500 people or 30% smaller than that same group when Sam Haber talked about it at this conference a year ago, and that's a development which shouldn't be forgotten or overlooked. I came away from that discussion with a much more hopeful expectation about the method, the time-table and the upshot of our plan to close up Camp Foehrenwald than I came away with from the equivalent discussion last year.

Instead of the general exaltation with which I usually close these meetings I want to address myself now to the people on our staff who will, when they come to next year's conference, be speaking for different areas than those for which they now speak. To those people who are leaving us to return to former professions or to go to other jobs or to enter on and enjoy the fruits of their long years of work with us, I don't want to address myself now. I hope and know that there will be more appropriate and relaxed occasions for dealing with them. But knowing as I do and as you do that it isn't going to be easy to follow Bill Bein in Morocco and it isn't going to be easy to follow Sam Haber in Germany and it isn't going to be easy to follow Laura Jarblum in France and the other changes that we'll be making, I want to tell you James M. Barrie's little story about the Little Minister who after long years was named the pastor of the church in which he had grown up as a boy because the old man, the old dominie, had reached the age of 70 or 75 and was retired. There was a ceremonious dinner and when the new young dominie was called upon to speak he told the story of how he had grown up in this church and had worshipped and revered the old man who was now retiring. And he closed his speech with the remark that he had always admired the way in which the old man had been a spiritual leader to his flock, that it had always been his greatest ambition some day to occupy that

post and that now that that ambition had been achieved he wanted to assure the old man whom he regarded as his master that he would pursue exactly the line which the old man had pursued, that he would begin where the old man left off and would follow in his ways. The old man took him to one side and said, "I thank you for that tribute and I appreciate it very much but when you're as old as I am you'll know that you're making one mistake. You're not going to begin where I leave off. You'll begin where I began." And I think that is something that everyone going into one of these new and tough assignments should remember both as consolation and as encouragement.

My final word will be about a subject which wasn't touched at all in this conference and the reason I'm going to talk about it is that I want to make sure we don't talk about it any more in future conferences. In recent conferences there has been much to do, as revealed by our proceedings, about the question of whether the JDC is a temporary or a permanent organization. As you know from the newspaper columns it's a custom with newspapers to allow for a certain length of time a back and forth exchange of letters on the same subject giving contrasting views, after which the editor will print one letter and write underneath it, "This correspondence shall now cease". I think I've solved the question of whether the JDC is a permanent or a temporary organization, solved it when someone told me the story of the countryman who came to the zoo and stood staring at the zebra in great perplexity and finally said to the zebra, "Tell me, are you a white animal with black stripes, or a black animal with white stripes?" And the zebra said, "You know, I'm neither. I'm an invisible animal with black and white stripes so that you can see me." I've come to the conclusion that the JDC is a permanently temporary organization dealing with problems that are and dealing with them in a manner that is temporarily permanent.

This discussion will now cease and this conference is adjourned.

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AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953

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REPORTS

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SOME BASIC COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL DATA OF JDC OPERATIONS  
1947 - 1953

	Total Annual Expend. in (000)	Annual Overseas Administr. Expend. in (000)	% Admin. of Total	# Persons served in (000)	Average Annual per Capita	Total Personnel Dec. 31 each year	Foreign Service Personnel	HQ Person- nel (local & foreign)	Ratio Personnel to People served	Monthly Foreign Service Payroll Dec.	Average Annual Foreign Service <sup>1/</sup>
1947	\$69,316*	\$2,658	3,83	956	\$72.47	5,600	393	350	1 : 174	\$152,000	\$4,640
1948	64,642	2,788	4,31	901	71.77	5,044	347	315	1 : 179	131,000	4,530
1949	54,749	2,396	4,38	832	65.80	5,028	198	314	1 : 165	92,000	5,580
1950	36,915	1,563	4,23	565	65.34	2,481	126	256	1 : 228	69,000	6,570
1951	21,556	1,030	4,78	289	74.68	1,512	95	163	1 : 191	46,000	5,820
1952	19,665	870	4,42	286	68.76	1,664	88	153	1 : 172	44,000	5,983
1953 (est)	22,172	830	3,74	262	84.63	1,850	80	135	1 : 142	43,000	5,840

PERCENTAGE CHANGES - 1947 : 100

1947	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1948	93	105	113	94	99	92	88	90	97	86	98
1949	79	90	114	87	91	91	50	90	105	61	120
1950	53	59	110	59	90	45	32	73	76	45	142
1951	31	39	125	30	103	28	24	47	91	30	125
1952	28	33	115	30	95	30	22	44	101	29	129
1953 (est)	32	31	98	27	117	33	20	39	123	28	126

<sup>1/</sup> Exclusive of living cost allowance.

NUMBER OF PERSONS ASSISTED IN VARIOUS SERVICES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Cash Relief</u>	<u>Canteen Feeding</u>	<u>Child Care</u>	<u>Medical Aid Incl. Aged</u>	<u>Vocational training Incl. Hachs.</u>	<u>Education</u>	<u>Economic Aid<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Emigration</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1946	112,000	349,000	132,000	93,000	34,000	36,000	74,000	27,000	857,000
1947	98,000	412,000	141,000	101,000	46,000	58,000	71,000	30,000	957,000
1948	84,000	276,000	107,000	107,000	36,000	109,000	57,000	125,000	901,000
1949	53,000	193,000	101,000	82,000	21,000	97,000	59,000	227,000	833,000
1950	43,000	94,000	48,000	84,000	16,000	71,000	34,000	175,000	565,000
1951	30,000	61,000	8,000	61,000	12,000	80,000	17,000	20,000	289,000
1952	28,000	62,000	8,000	71,000	11,000	80,000	20,000	6,000	286,000
1953 (est)	15,000	48,000	9,000	69,000	11,000	83,000	24,000	3,000	262,000

NOTE: The totals in column (9) are a close approximation of the unduplicated totals of the number of persons assisted each year. While an appreciable number of persons have been counted under more than one of the services, the figures in columns (1) through (4) understate considerably respective program activities since they only represent monthly averages and therefore fail to reflect the turn-over. At the same time emigration data apply only to actual JDC assisted departures without giving due weight to the much larger number given pre-departure assistance in connection with their pending applications for acceptance by receiving countries.

(1) Exclusive of family members which if added would increase the figures by at least 150%.

NUMBER OF PERSONS ASSISTED <sup>(1)</sup> IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES

COUNTRY	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953 (est)
Austria	42,000	35,000	30,500	20,000	7,500	4,500	3,000	2,500
Belgium	6,500	5,000	4,500	3,800	3,000	2,000	2,000	1,850
Bulgaria	15,000	6,500	13,500	7,000	-	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	10,500	7,000	6,500	3,500	-	-	-	-
France	40,000	27,500	34,000	26,000	20,000	12,000	15,000	14,200
Germany	180,600	167,600	90,000	45,000	26,500	11,000	4,000	4,000
Greece	4,700	1,500	2,000	2,000	1,000	800	300	300
Holland	1,500	1,200	1,000	300	-	-	-	-
Hungary	120,000	120,000	110,000	100,000	80,000	35,000	26,000	-
Italy	29,000	28,200	10,000	6,000	3,500	3,000	4,000	3,500
Norway	-	400	400	350	-	-	-	-
Poland	65,000	55,000	50,000	39,000	35,000	-	-	-
Portugal	450	260	150	150	(3)	(3)	30	30
Rumania	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	-	-	-	-
Spain	600	550	300	250	500	170	150	150
Sweden	5,500	6,000	1,000	500	2,000	280	250	250
Switzerland	6,200	5,000	3,500	2,500	2,000	950	1,000	900
Yugoslavia	9,000	3,200	3,000	2,000	2,000	100	100	120
Moslem Countries - <u>total</u>	<u>N.A.</u>	<u>N.A.</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>91,700</u>	<u>82,600</u>	<u>91,000</u>	<u>95,900</u>
Algeria					1,000	650	4,800	4,800
Morocco					37,000	38,000	47,000	49,000
Tangiers					3,000	3,200	3,200	3,500
Tunisia					7,000	13,000	20,000	20,000
Libya					6,000	5,000	1,000	600
Iran					26,000	12,750	13,000	16,000
Other					11,700	10,000	2,000	2,000
Israel					10,000	18,000	30,825	38,000
Other Countries	13,500	38,000	25,000	14,500	100 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,000	520	400
<b>TOTAL ALL COUNTRIES</b>	<b>750,050</b>	<b>707,910</b>	<b>660,350</b>	<b>572,850</b>	<b>284,800</b>	<b>171,400</b>	<b>178,175</b>	<b>162,100</b>

(1) Estimated unduplicated totals of persons assisted annually exclusive of emigration services, and without allowance for turn-over.

(2) China only - data for other countries not available.

(3) Included in data for Spain.



COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURES

<u>A. By Geographical Areas</u>	1952		1953	
	Amount	%	Amount Est. 2/	%
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$23,481,000</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>\$22,172,000</u>	<u>100</u>
D.P. Countries	1,646,000	7.0	1,932,000	8.7
Other European Countries	6,251,000	26.6	3,424,000	15.4
Moslem Countries	2,182,000	9.3	2,822,000	12.7
Israel	13,084,000	55.7	13,817,000	62.3
Other Countries	318,000	1.4	177,000	0.9

1/ Includes for 1952: \$2,890,000 for Hungary; in 1953 for reasons beyond the control of the JDC, the program was discontinued.

2/ Including commitments.

B. By Functional Activity

<u>Total</u>	<u>\$23,481,000</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>\$22,172,000</u>	<u>100</u>
Care and Maintenance 1/	4,213,000	17.9	3,936,000	17.8
Medical 2/	11,895,000	50.6	10,960,000	49.4
Cultural, Relig. & Educ.	784,000	3.4	974,000	4.4
Reconstruction	915,000	3.9	1,200,000	5.4
Emigration	1,036,000	4.4	720,000	3.2
Miscellaneous	977,000	4.2	862,000	3.9
Social Service & Administr.	3,661,000	15.6	3,520,000	15.9

1/ Incl. cash relief, canteens, child care, supplies & relief in transit.

2/ Incl. Old age homes - Malben institutional and other care and maintenance. Also for construction of medical facilities for Malben in 1952: \$4,500,000 in 1953: \$3,000,000

1953 Estimated Expenditures, Caseload and Annual Per Capita  
Costs of Service

Program Area	Estimated Amount	Expend. % Distr.	Estimated Number of Persons Assisted Number	% Distrib.	Est. Exp. Per Capita Per Annum
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
D.P. Countries	\$1,932,000	8.7%	10,000	6.2%	\$193
Other European Countries	3,424,000	15.4	17,800	11.0	192
Moslem Countries	2,822,000	12.7	95,900	59.2	29
Israel	13,817,000	62.3	38,000	23.4	364
Other	177,000	0.9	400	.2	<u>2/</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,172,000</b> <u>1/</u>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>162,100</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$137</b>

NOTE: The persons assisted data employed above are approximations which do not account either for emigration services, other than actual departures, or for turn-over in the caseloads of the various countries. They reveal, in a general way the geographical distribution of JDC's global caseload. The annual per capita expenditures listed in column (5) are simply rough measures which nevertheless indicate the relative costs of service in the different areas.

1/ Including commitments.

2/ The persons assisted data are incomplete so that expenditures per capita per annum cannot be computed with any reasonable degree of accuracy.

SUMMARY OF SUPPLIES PROCURED a) 1st OCTOBER 1952 THRU 30th SEPTEMBER 1953

(in U.S. Dollars FOB)

Category of Supply	End - Destination		Total
	Israel	Other	
1. Food	\$ 60,839 b)	\$ 49,099 c)	\$ 109,938
2. Clothing & Footwear	59,691	72,358	132,049
3. Textiles d)	-	13,282	13,282
4. Textile Yarns e)	105,547	-	105,547
5. Medical f)	78,208	35,026	113,234
6. Steel & Steel Products	122,745	-	122,745
7. Non-Ferrous Metals	40,001	-	40,001
8. Lumber & Lumber Products	117,813	-	117,813
9. Electrical Mtl. & Equipment	48,802	-	48,802
10. Vehicles & Parts	58,917	-	58,917
11. Machinery & Tools	21,531	-	21,531
12. Domestic & Ind. Sewing Machines	36,017	-	36,017
13. Industrial Ch'icals & Synth.Mtls.	68,742	-	68,742
14. Kitchen & Sanatary Eqmpt. & Sup.	85,965	2,399	88,364
15. Industrial Fibres g)	62,600	-	62,600
16. Bookbinding & Printing Material	18,224	-	18,224
17. Office Equipment & Stationery	6,649	6,236	12,885
18. Miscellaneous	28,853	2,467	31,320
	<u>\$1,021,144</u>	<u>\$180,867</u>	<u>\$1,202,011</u>

a) This applies only to supplies ordered thru the New York and Paris offices for importation into the various countries of operation. It does not include supplies purchased locally.

b) Excluding contributions (primarily U.S.Government Surplus, valued \$329,000

c) " " " " " " " " \$316,000

d) Including blankets, towels & linens.

e) Consisting of wool, cotton & rayon yarns.

f) Covering the following categories:

a- Anti-biotics	\$ 2,533	\$ 10,155	\$ 12,688
b- Other drugs & chemicals	18,674	6,068	24,742
c- Hospital & dental eqpt.&mtl.	56,638	3,984	60,622
d- Miscellaneous	363	14,819	15,182

g) Including coir yarns, rattans, seagrass, raphia, etc.

COMPARISON OF MID-YEAR INVENTORIES  
1948-1953  
(in U.S. Dollars F.A.S. - rounded figures)

<u>BY COUNTRIES</u>	<u>1948(1)</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,997,000<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>\$7,328,000<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>\$1,742,000</b>	<b>\$1,203,000</b>	<b>\$423,000</b>	<b>\$90,000<sup>(3)</sup></b>
AUSTRIA	1,961,000	912,000	157,000	45,000	15,000	-
BELGIUM	16,000	35,000	-	-	-	-
BULGARIA	127,000	-	-	-	-	-
CYPRUS	72,000	-	-	-	-	-
CZECHOSL.	258,000	163,000	-	-	-	-
FRANCE	563,000	373,000	97,000	47,000	18,000	12,000
Marseilles		116,000	243,000	238,000	-	-
GERMANY	4,699,000	2,571,000	562,000	460,000	56,000	4,000
GREECE	63,000	-	-	-	-	-
HUNGARY	1,278,000	725,000	346,000	189,000	156,000	-
ITALY	995,000	743,000	72,000	30,000	4,000	2,000
POLAND	1,285,000	774,000	-	-	-	-
RUMANIA	1,635,000	-	-	-	-	-
YUGOSLAVIA	45,000	-	-	-	-	-
MOROCCO	-	122,000	77,000	60,000	120,000	28,000
TUNISIA	-	-	-	-	31,000	21,000
ANTWERP & OTHER STOCKPILES	-	794,000	188,000	134,000	23,000	23,000
 <u>BY COMMODITY GROUPS</u>						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,997,000</b>	<b>\$7,328,000</b>	<b>\$1,742,000</b>	<b>\$1,203,000</b>	<b>\$423,000</b>	<b>\$90,000<sup>(3)</sup></b>
Food	3,803,000	1,808,000	420,000	144,000	64,000	7,000
Clothing	7,264,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	4,197,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	971,000	724,000	257,000	32,000
Welf. & Domestic	955,000	593,000	192,000	110,000	21,000	12,000
Rel. Educ. & Off. Suppl.	178,000	327,000	80,000	163,000	63,000	37,000
OTHER	797,000	403,000	79,000	61,000	18,000	2,000

(1) Inventory figures as per SEPTEMBER 30, 1948

(2) The figures for clothing for 1948 and 1949 include the following amounts for used clothing 1948 : 1,944,000; 1949 : 1,383,000. Beginning 1950 the stocks of used clothing, already greatly reduced, were not valued at all.

(3) Not included above is the Malben inventory. It is valued as of June 1953, on a landed cost basis, at \$2,033,000. It consists largely of construction materials and equipment, processing material for the sheltered workshops, and stocks for sales disposal through Malben established enterprises in various settlements. No inventory data are available for prior years.

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

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PARIS

October 1953





AMERICAN JEWISH  
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1953 COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

זכר אלה יעקב וישראל

C O N T E N T S

ITEM	PAGE
<u>VIENNA</u>	
1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. WELFARE	3 - 5
3. KULTUSGEMEINDE	5 - 6
4. ROTHSCCHILD HOSPITAL	6 - 7
5. STUDENTS	8
6. MEDICAL	9
7. LOAN KASSA	9 - 10
8. RESTITUTION	10
9. EMIGRATION	11 - 14
10. MISCELLANEOUS	14 - 15
<u>U.S. ZONE</u>	
1. INTRODUCTION	15 - 18
2. CARE AND MAINTENANCE	18 - 19
3. CULTURAL & RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES	20
4. MEDICAL SERVICES	20 - 21
5. EMIGRATION	21 - 23
6. UNITED STATES ESCAPEE PROGRAM	23 - 24

The Jewish population of Austria has remained almost static during the year; Vienna with about 10,000 and the U.S. Zone with approximately 1,100. The number of indigent persons benefiting from either the JDC or the Community program has continued during the present year at about 1,800 persons.

The report on the JDC Austrian operation is divided into two sections: the first relates to our work in Vienna, and the second to that in the U.S. Zone. There are certain functions and relations which are applicable to all of Austria (e.g. Emigration, Relations with the United States Escapee Program Division and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), but the nature of the residual caseload, the problem of the camps, the type of Jewish communities and our relation to them, and the problem of our withdrawal from long range involvements with the residual load, all point to the need for separate evaluations of the problem in the city of Vienna, and in the U.S. Zone of Austria.

#### VIENNA :

The situation in Vienna, as pointed out in this report, is to a very large extent the same as it was last year. Rothschild still existed as a Jewish installation on 15 October 1953, but with the Austrians determined to close it at the earliest possible date. The number of people in Rothschild has decreased during the year, but its continued existence is a very real hindrance toward consolidation of our program in the city. It is my belief now, as it was a year ago, that when Rothschild is closed, we shall be able to give serious consideration to turning the responsibility for our present program over to the community, retaining only certain financial controls, and making available from time to time consultants on immigration and welfare problems.

I am convinced that the Vienna Jewish Community - by far the best organized community in either Germany or Austria - can, if funds are available, assume this responsibility, and that they should, if necessary, be compelled to do so, at the earliest possible opportunity. As it is the Community carries the bulk of the relief load, with JDC's direct responsibility being limited to our clients in Rothschild and non-Austrian Jews living in the city of Vienna.

#### U.S. ZONE :

To a large extent, the two camps in the U.S. Zone present not dissimilar problems to those we find in Foehrenwald. Although the population of the two camps (total 600) is much smaller than Foehrenwald (2100),



the problem of closing these two camps will be at least as difficult and must remain uppermost in our minds. No ready solutions present themselves. Emigration is a very slow process, and transfer or integration into the Austrian economy presents even greater problems than are to be found in Germany. While a good deal of talk of closing Fohrenwald is heard, the final liquidation of Asten and Hallein is mentioned only in respect to moving the people to another location.

There will be a real need to continue our search for projects for the hard to resettle cases, as well as to continue our concentration on normal emigration of as many as possible. In this way, since the population is a stable one, we should be able to reduce our load in the two camps sufficiently, so as to be able to find reasonable solutions for those not able to leave Austria either through regular emigration or through special projects.

In the U.S. Zone the three Jewish communities with a population of a few hundred are without real leadership and are woefully weak and inadequate. It is hard to envisage these communities assuming any responsibility for the residual group, should we decide to pull out.

Our relationship with the "Kultusgemeinden" especially with Vienna, has been maintained on a constructive basis, and we have found that on many issues and problems which confront them, they look to us for advice and guidance.

As will be seen from the report, the AJDC in Austria during the year has carried a well rounded welfare program, has provided special grants for religious and cultural purposes, has assisted students to complete their schooling, has supported a large feeding program in Vienna, and has especially concentrated its activities in the field of emigration.

These reports were, by and large, prepared by Mr. Feder for Vienna, and by Mr. Friedler for the U.S. Zone.

S. L. HABER

VIENNA

INTRODUCTION:

This past year has been a stalemate period for the many problems that faces the AJDC in Vienna, 1) Rothschild Camp remains open, 2) Restitution has not been forthcoming, 3) Emigration continues at its low level, although there were certain developments which did temper our overall problems. For example, that the Kultusgemeinde Vienna has been able to meet their financial needs to a larger extent than ever before and, therefore, our subvention for the year 1953 is the smallest since the end of the war.

Another positive aspect of our program has been the United States Escapee Program, which has contributed for the last year to our program in Austria a sum of \$ 110,000 for care and maintenance, medical assistance, emigration documentation costs and sea passage. In addition, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has made certain funds available to us for welfare cases as well as Ford Foundation grants for assistance to emigrants resettling or integrating into the economy.

A positive achievement resulted from our negotiations with the Austrian authorities for accepting a number of our clients on permanent relief, and in some cases for payment of institutional care.

In the field of emigration, although the number which we moved totaled only 273, it can be considered good in view of the difficult visa production period of our operation.

On the negative side, the "Auslaender" Jews or DP Jews living in the Community and in Rothschild Camp continue to be a problem as well as a drain on the energies and funds of the AJDC. The Rothschild Hospital at this writing still exists although its population has been cut by 50% of what it was last year. The DP's living in the Community have not been able to stabilize their lives in Austria, as work permits, citizenship etc. are still not available to them. They continue to live in limbo.

WELFARE:

Our welfare caseload consists of three categories who received our assistance. They include Jewish DP's living in Rothschild, Jewish DP's living privately in Vienna and Austrian Jews living in Vienna.

The DP's living in Rothschild received from the Austrian Government besides living accommodations and utilities, a total of AS 5.80 per day - 23 ¢ - for food. The 23 ¢ per day for food, even under the most rigid budget conditions, is a very low subsistence level. We are called upon to supplement approximately one half of the group now living in Rothschild. Special grants are provided for holidays as well as other emergencies that may arise. In addition, for a select number of very needy cases we were able to supply a USEP food grant of AS 100 per month. We feel that the combination assistance received from the Austrian Government, AJDC and USEP does not act as a deterrent for emigration.

The majority of the DP's living in the Community who receive our assistance, are by and large former Rothschild Hospital inmates who, we felt, for psychological as well as medical reasons could adjust themselves better, living outside the camp environment. This policy has paid dividends in that we do not have all of our difficult cases now concentrated in Rothschild Hospital but rather have them living a semi-normal existence in the city. We have finally been able to have a number of our free living cases taken over by the city welfare organization. We still must continue to supplement the very low welfare grant given to them by the City. Our Welfare Department is, of course, in constant touch with this group to make certain that they receive all benefits which accrue to one on the City welfare rolls. This includes medical, dental and other services.

The third category in our welfare picture are the Austrian Jews themselves. The first line of welfare assistance to an Austrian Jew is the City Welfare Department, but because of the rigidity of their standards which does not allow for younger people or people who may be receiving pensions - no matter how small -, the Kultusgemeinde must cover these individuals who are refused welfare assistance by the City. The welfare standard of the Kultusgemeinde is not high and at times is also quite inflexible, so much so that from time to time we have to give assistance to certain worthy cases. The low standard of Kultusgemeinde welfare assistance has been a subject of debate with the Kultusgemeinde for many years. Despite our feeling that their standard of care is low, the Kultusgemeinde insists that their standards are higher than those maintained by Austrian welfare, and that because of lack of funds they cannot raise the standard. We are, of course, of a different opinion, i.e. that within their present budget their welfare standards could be raised. We feel that at the time plans are formulated for turn over of the AJDC welfare activities to the Kultusgemeinde, we should make available to them for at least six months an international social worker to afford guidance in their welfare program. When and if the turn-over is consummated, it will be important for AJDC to continue some check on the treatment of Auslaender Jews. Unfortunately, at the present time there

is a distinct cleavage between the Kultusgemeinde and the religious block of the Auslaender Jews living in the city.

The possibility of diminishing our DP caseload other than through emigration is quite remote. As long as the Austrians continue their restriction on granting of citizenship, work permits or relaxing their welfare standards, there will continue to be a permanent DP welfare load in Vienna as well as throughout Austria.

KULTUSGEMEINDE:

The present favourable situation of the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde in Vienna represents a good example of close co-operation between that organization and the AJDC. The financial assistance from AJDC has shown a marked decrease year by year. The institution including the Old Age Home, the Hospital, the Synagogue, the Community Headquarters Building, are functioning to the greatest extent on pre-war standards. On the other hand, it is felt that the community participation in Kultusgemeinde activities is not as great as it should be. Although the present leadership is very active and vigorous in carrying out the Kultusgemeinde activities, a segment of the Jewish population, although they may pay their taxes, show little or no interest in the community as such. This fact may be accounted for by the preponderance of old people and people in business who lack time and interest to give to community functions.

It is interesting to note that despite this lack of interest in Kultusgemeinde functions, on occasions where mass meetings have been called by the Community - including the memorial on Weizmann's death, commemoration of the fall of the Warsaw ghetto, commemoration of Independence Day for Israel, and finally a mass meeting on restitution -, the largest hall in Vienna holding 2,400 people was completely filled on each occasion. When you consider the total Austrian and DP Jewish population in Vienna to be around 8,500, this is indeed remarkable. A number of business people, when questioned about their lack of participation in community affairs, objected very strenuously to the political structure of the present administration which is two thirds socialist and one third Zionist. One cannot, however, criticize the socialist and Zionist groups too much, as it has been their vigorous leadership which has developed the Kultusgemeinde to its present position.

The primary reason for our being able to reduce the AJDC subvention this year has been due to greater tax income, as well as the sale of some of their smaller properties. For example, during the year 1952 the total income from community taxes was AS 1,435,000, whereas for the first six months of 1953 AS 1,100,000 had already been collected. For the first

six months of 1952 only AS 700,000 was collected. In 1952 there was a total of AS 190,000 from sale of property as compared to AS 421,000 for the first half of 1953. Other sources in income for the Community include the cemetery, the temple, restitution etc.

In budgeting for the year 1953 the original estimate had been for a subvention from AJDC of AS 2,000,000 with AS 1,200,000 as a direct cash subvention and AS 800,000 as a loan. But with the favourable income position, the Community will only need AS 1,200,000, with the provision that any reserve at the end of the year 1953 would be used against their budget for 1954.

The Kultusgemeinde Old Age Home and the Hospital are well administered institutions. The Old Age Home has an average of 150 persons, with the Hospital running an average of 50 bed patients per day. There was considerable criticism of the Kultusgemeinde for opening the hospital in 1952, and certainly the statistics for the first year did not bear out the necessity for maintaining the institution. But after a complete survey by Dr. Molnar it was decided that it would serve no good purpose to ask that the institution be closed. Although the Altersheim and the Hospital show a monthly deficit of around AS 75,000, it could not be proven that the Hospital was the cause for the large deficit. It was felt that as long as the aged group had so many who were chronically ill, it was important to have a hospital unit functioning. Furthermore, more people were utilizing the hospital, so that the deficit was being reduced.

Restitution by the Austrians continues to be the most important topic in the Kultusgemeinde today. It is understandable especially because most of their plans revolve around their getting or not getting a settlement.

#### ROTHSCHILD HOSPITAL:

The present population of this institution, numbering approximately 220, has decided for many complicated reasons that as the Sherith of the Sherit Hapleta, Rothschild must remain a refugee center. The camp consists of two large hospital wings (only one of which is being used at the present time) and two smaller buildings, namely the former Nurses Home and Eye Clinic. The Austrian authorities are responsible for the management of the institution and have unsuccessfully tried to close it for the last two years, but because of the large number involved - 500 to 800 - and with no suitable alternatives to which to send the people, their plans have always been stymied.

In the last year, mainly through the AJDC efforts, the population has

dropped from 450 to 220. The majority of the group have emigrated, with some moving into the Community and others going to camps in the US Zone. The Austrian authorities, with the backing of the US Embassy, are attempting to make provisions for moving this residual group. The first attempt was to have all the people move to the Zone, which has been refused. The second attempt was to have part remain in the Nurses Home and Eye Clinic - approximately 100 - with the remainder being asked to move to a camp in the British Zone of Vienna where they would share a building with a group of Volksdeutsche. This, too, was not accepted. The present position is that an ultimate has been given that there will be no heating in the wing of the hospital occupied by fewer than 100 persons, the authorities feeling that this move may goad the people into making up their minds to move to the Zone. The problem really revolves around this small group of people who cannot be accommodated in the two small buildings.

We are doing our best in individual cases to counsel them to move to the Zone and in certain cases to have them move into the city. There are some cases for which the Austrians are prepared to pay the Old Age Home, but even these cases refuse to move when invited. On the aspect of counselling to move into the city we have had no success whatsoever, namely being without heating for the winter.

One of the primary reasons for people not moving, besides their own obstinacy and lack of foresight, has been the peculiar approach of the Austrian authorities who have been unable to maintain their policy. For example, on the day that notice was put up that the installation was to be closed out, there were surveyors in the yard of the Rothschild Camp surveying the ground for barracks. The local administrators in the camp on the one hand tell the people to move and confidentially tell certain of the people not to move, until provision is made for all of them.

The one bright point in this picture has been the fact that in the last weeks approximately 27 visas have been issued for part of this "Hard Core group" so that part of the problem is taking care of itself by attrition.

Our interests will be served by the closing of the establishment, as the Kultusgemeinde has an offer for the property of AS 3,500,000 to 4,000,000.

STUDENTS:

At the present time 38 DP students in Vienna, Graz and Innsbruck are fully supported by the AJDC, while the Kultusgemeinde supports 30 Austrian students. The AJDC program since its inception has assisted 152 students to receive degrees, and has assisted a total of 458.

Our records showing the disposition of students assisted by the AJDC indicate that ISRAEL, the United States and Canada have been the main countries of emigration for the students.

An analysis of our present students group shows that the majority of the students will finish some time in 1953. Through a joint board consisting of student members, members of the Kultusgemeinde and the AJDC a careful check has been kept on the students as to courses, attendance, examinations etc. We have been fortunate that we have had no student for whom we had to stop assistance in the last year because of failure to complete courses or who have not been serious in their work.

The students in Vienna have been especially active and their organization, the "Vereinigung Juedischer Hochschueler in Oesterreich" consists not only of Austrian and DP students but Jewish students from Israel, the United States and other countries in Europe. It is interesting to note that the Jewish university students in Vienna total approximately 130. This student group publishes an excellent newspaper and promotes many cultural as well as social events including a number of balls.

The students have always looked to the Joint for guidance and assistance in the many problems which they have from time to time.

No new students have been taken on in the last year due to our policy concerning new students as well as the fact that very few refugee students have come out from Iron Curtain countries. The policy heretofore had been that if a refugee student could prove that he had been a student in an Iron Curtain country and had less than one year to go to complete his education, the Joint would have accepted him as a student. The number of new Austrian students is gradually diminishing because there are so few young Austrian Jews.

One of the groups who are most likely to be eligible for the Ford Foundation grants for resettlement and integration are graduate professional students. We intend making available to newly graduated doctors necessary equipment which will assist them in establishing themselves in practice in lands of resettlement.

MEDICAL:

Our medical budget has been sharply reduced due mainly to the fact that the free living Jews whom we formerly supported are now on Austrian welfare and are entitled to free City medical services. The main activities in the Medical Department include supervision of the small hospital and Ambulatorium in Rothschild Hospital, consultation on our caseload with the Jewish Hospital, periodic visits to Jewish patients in non-Jewish institutions, checking on emigration cases etc.

Eventually the medical functions can be assigned to the Jewish Hospital Out-patients Department, but I am convinced that it would require the same personnel. At the present time we have one nurse and a consulting doctor.

In the last three months our Medical Section has been visited by at least twenty cases of people returned from Israel, DP's and Austrians, requesting AJDC assistance. In some of the more serious cases we do not know how long we can continue refusing assistance, but thus far our refusal has met with no resistance.

LOAN KASSA:

The Loan Kassa was set up by the AJDC in 1949 with an AS 1,000,000 loan by the AJDC. The Loan Kassa has proven continually to be one of the solidest and most constructive projects instituted by the AJDC. Its success is due to the fact that it has attracted as members and Board of Governors a very vigorous and constructive group of people. Attendance at the fortnightly meetings include leading businessmen, professional people, as well as artisans. The Joint is always invited to attend these meetings. We have found them to be extremely cautious but fair in making loans. As the Kassa is licensed by the Government, it must comply with Government regulations. The meetings are democratically run and to this end I must tell a tale. I have attended over fifteen of these meetings and noticed that one man in his early sixties was present at each meeting. He was always very active in the discussions and was listened to by all present with a great deal of deference. I was never quite sure what his business was, but whatever it was, he was highly respected by all present at these meetings. One day I asked my secretary to call in a locksmith to fix my lock, and, of course, the locksmith was Mr. Wonsch, my friend at the Kassa meetings.

The one point at which the Loan Kassa has not been successful has been that of interesting the Jewish population to invest in the Kassa. It had been envisioned that over a period of five years, investments by the local population would allow for our original AS 1,000,000 investment to be returned. Unfortunately, this has not come about, as only AS 300,000 have been paid in by the Jews in Vienna.



It is felt that in a way the Loan Kassa leadership has been a type of safety valve for certain groups of Jews to show their interest in Jewish affairs without going to the Kultusgemeinde.

Total loans for the years 1949 to 1953 are as follows:

	<u>Total number of loans</u>	<u>Amount of loans in AS</u>
1949	70 . . . . .	567,000
1950	89 . . . . .	896,000
1951	85 . . . . .	1,034,300
1952	92 . . . . .	1,199,100
1953 to 1 August	44 . . . . .	656,000
	<hr/> 380	<hr/> 4,352,400

RESTITUTION:

After seven years of fruitless efforts to interest the Austrian Government in restitution of heirless property and legislation for individual claims, the World Jewish Organizations were finally successful in having negotiations begun in June of this year for the settling of this problem. Before the negotiations began, there were a number of internal problems which had to be settled. First the friction between the Vienna Kultusgemeinde and the small Kultusgemeinden of Graz, Linz, Salzburg and Innsbruck. This was settled when all the Kultusgemeinden met in Salzburg in September 1952 and formed an organization called the "Bundesverband der Kultusgemeinden Oesterreichs". Second was the formation of a "Conference Claims on Austria" including membership of World Jewish Organizations. The pattern set by the "Jewish Claims on Germany" was followed as far as the composition of the organizations was concerned. The last internal problem was the tying in of the Kultusgemeinde and the World Jewish Organizations which was settled by setting up an Executive Committee consisting of three members of the Kultusgemeinde-Verband and nine members from the World Jewish Organizations.

By the time this report is presented, the results of the negotiations which took place with the Austrian Government in June and July will be known. If negotiations are successful, our financial load, especially our subvention to the Kultusgemeinde, can be eliminated. If negotiations are not successful, we will have to continue giving the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde assistance, although on a smaller scale.

EMIGRATION :

Our caseload of 822 persons registered for emigration in Vienna is divided roughly into 40% Austrian nationals and 60% DP's or refugees. It is our policy to render equal service to both Austrians and DP's, although there is a distinct difference in the intensity with which we serve both of these groups. Thus we take no steps to solicit the interest of Austrians in new schemes, nor do we actively counsel such clients to emigrate. With our refugee caseload, on the other hand - particularly those carried on our relief rolls - we take the position that they have an obligation to take steps either towards integration, or at least self-sufficiency, or to accept sound emigration opportunities. There is nevertheless a steady interest in emigration shown by the Austrians which is indicative of a desire to leave the country, particularly on the part of younger persons, or those whose very close relatives have already emigrated either during or since the war.

Of the DP caseload our special emphasis is directed toward those living in Camp Rothschild. It has long been the object of AJDC to assist in the closing of this camp. The present group of 225 persons living in the camp is the residue of the many thousand of camp living DP's and refugees who passed through Vienna since the end of the war. It is interesting to note that only twenty-one of these persons, less than 10%, arrived in Austria prior to 1 January 1949, the cut-off date for eligibility under 2c of the US DP Act, and of these the bulk have been non-emigrable because of serious health conditions. The small number of persons living in Camp Rothschild, as well as in camps in Austria generally, is due in large measure to the difficult conditions of life for a refugee in Austria, but is also in no small sense a result of the major emphasis which has been placed by AJDC in Austria during the past four years on its emigration program. Nevertheless, as is frequently the case with small residual groups, the greatest difficulty is encountered in efforts to dissolve them completely. Our efforts to clear out the last remnants in the Rothschild Camp are slowed down by a general resistance to moving, caused in the first instance by the more than adequate living space now available in the camp which has created a degree of comfort that must always represent an obstacle to movement. Of major importance also is the relatively relaxed political atmosphere, which commenced immediately after the close of the Passover season. This followed a period of strain and near-panic, which, had it lasted into the months of May and June, would have done much to clean out the DP population from Vienna. Third may be the fact of sheer perversity, which AJDC workers must often hold out as a final explanation of the refusal of clients to undertake steps which appear to be in their own best interests. Illustrative of the present apathy is the fact that there are now 24 people in the camp who hold visas, each one of whom is engaged in some form of delaying tactics in order to postpone departure. This is in sharp

contrast to the general attitude of camp residents in the US Zone of Austria, who rarely try to postpone picking up of their visas and arranging for their departure.

The last group in our caseload is made up of city DP's and refugees who, on the whole, represent no particular problem with regard to emigration. Those who receive assistance, and who are therefore our special interest, comprise mainly Hard Core groups for whom emigration is either impossible or who will require special schemes. Since most of these are living under conditions which will not be vastly improved through emigration - they receive more or less adequate welfare and medical help, and where needed are eligible for admission into a Jewish Old Age Home - they do not require any special concern emigration-wise. Most of the other town-living people receive no assistance from AJDC - those who are interested in emigration are relatively co-operative in their processing for visas and for departure.

A total of 273 persons emigrated from Vienna during the reporting period, of which more than one third left for the USA. The breakdown by countries is as follows:

Argentina	8
Australia	27
Belgium	1
Brazil	66
Canada	61
Chile	2
Columbia	3
Israel	1
Spain	2
USA	102

The present unduplicated caseload is 622 persons who are registered for the following countries:

USA	669
Canada	194
Australia	94
South America	85
England	72

Total: 1,114

(These registrations are shown on a duplicated basis.)

Canadian emigration took an upward turn during the past half year, but we fear that the relatively favorable situation with regard to visa issuance will end after November 1, when certain labor restrictions may come into effect. For the first time some orthodox families sponsored under OS 8 were visaed - we believe that the Canadian authorities selected them because they were well disposed toward families with large numbers of children. However, Canada has not had a strong attraction for the extreme orthodox and, therefore, few such families have sought to take advantage of this temporarily favorable development. Should the Canadians continue their interest in such families, it would be advisable for us to get more information on the possibilities which exist in Canada for the sound absorption of this group.

Because of the relative ease with which the Brazilian visas have been obtainable here in Vienna, there has been a small, steady trickle of emigrants to that country. Unfortunately, it is even easier to delay picking up of visas, or to extend them, and there are, therefore, quite a few persons who have been carrying pre-visas or visas - in some cases for more than six months - while they leisurely arrange their affairs or consider whether they will actually emigrate to Brazil. Here, too, because reports from Brazil have been rather mixed, and because the ability to adjust in Brazil seems to depend much on the individual resourcefulness of the migrant, we have hesitated to indicate Brazilian emigration with clients - particularly those on relief rolls - unless other opportunities do not exist for them. The establishment of reception facilities for Jewish migrants during the past half year had made it somewhat easier for us to offer Brazilian emigration as a solution to certain of our cases.

Almost no interest now exists for Australian emigration. The small number that emigrated during the reporting period were mostly Austrians with close family members in Australia. Although 94 persons are still shown as registered for Australia - most of them with unexpired Landing Permits or Authorizations - we believe that few of them will avail themselves of the opportunity to process for visas.

USA still remains the favored country of resettlement for our caseload - both refugee and Austrians. At least a third of the 669 registered for USA consists of Austrian citizens awaiting their turn under the Austrian quota. When their turn arrives, it is probable that a group of them will not utilize the opportunity to emigrate, depending on the extent to which they are established in Austria.

From a reading of the US Refugee Relief Act, it would appear that most of our refugee caseload may be eligible, i.e. close to 500 persons.

Nevertheless, because of what is already known of this law, it will be important to have clients process for other countries, as well as under the other existing laws for US emigration.

It has recently been decided to eliminate the position of an international worker for our Emigration Department in Vienna. This is believed to be possible as a result of the decrease in our operations generally. It is felt, however, that this office will require the assistance of an emigration consultant from time to time for special problems and for difficult cases.

RETURNEES FROM ISRAEL:

Although our returnee problem does not compare in any way to that of Germany, there is a likelihood that there may be an increase in returnees, especially former Austrian Jews. According to statistics of the Kultus-gemeinde since September 1952 a total of 128 Austrian Jews have returned, not a very significant figure, but if economic conditions continue to be bad in Israel, and if restitution legislation will allow for larger payments, there is a likelihood of more returning. In addition, with the Russian control of their zonal borders having stopped, there is a greater incentive for DP returnees to come to Vienna "to make their fortunes."

During the height of the sit-down strike in our Salzburg office we requested the local police to furnish a guard for our office, which they did. We are convinced that the sight of a policeman sitting in our office, although he did nothing more than read the newspapers and work crossword puzzles, served as a deterrent to returnees from causing any disturbances.

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES - FORD FOUNDATION:

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' emergency fund made available to the AJDC a fund of AS 26,000 for welfare cases and AS 19,300 for our prosthetic program. From the Ford Foundation we, of course, participated in the scheme for resettlement of TB's to Norway and Sweden as well as the grant for resettlement and integration.

Our relations with the High Commissioner's representative, Dr. Beermann, have always been good, and his office has been of assistance to us on a number of occasions.

The utilization of the fund for resettlement and integration presents a problem of selection. At present we are picking certain

Hard Core cases that are emigrating, and students who are graduating from professional schools, doctors, etc.

USEP :

A more detailed report on USEP activities will be made by the Salzburg Office, as they have had the direct liaison with the USEP. Our relations with USEP in Vienna and Wels are good. The following functions are carried out by us for USEP: Documentation, distribution of amenities, clothing, suitcases, etc. for new arrivals and USEP eligibles departing, and distribution of food supplementation coupons. Most important, of course, is the documentation and visa production, counselling and resettlement, and finally arrangement for departure with sea passage payment through ICEM-USEP. We also carry out other programs sponsored by USEP including language courses, a medical and dental program and a small work project consisting of clothing and shoe repair shops. As of September 1, the total services rendered to us by USEP from the beginning of their program in July 1952 was approximately \$ 110,000.

U.S. ZONE

INTRODUCTION:

The composition of the Jewish population in the Western zones of Austria has not greatly changed during the last year. Out of the present population of approximately 1100 people half of them are living in camps, administered by the Austrian Government and relying on the Government's basic welfare assistance.

Practically none of the Jewish people who live out-of-camp possess Austrian citizenship, except for 40 to 50 Austrian Jewish families who have returned since the end of the War trying to re-establish themselves. The present number of Jewish people is comparatively small when compared to the number of Jewish people that moved through Austria since the War ended and were serviced by AJDC. Despite this our caseload is now more dependent on our help, both financially and morally, than ever. In past years organizations like UNRRA, IRO and the DP Sections of the Western elements protected the rights of non-German speaking DP's; today, little is done with any success by any International or Government Agency on behalf of these people.

The office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees has thus far been unsuccessful in creating conditions in Austria which would help this type of refugee to integrate into the local community.

This too explains that more than two third of the Jewish population in the Zone (approximately 800 people) require AJDC service in one form or another. The Jewish refugee group can be divided into three major parts:

- a) those who have arrived from Eastern Europe up to 1 January 1948.
- b) the new refugee group, mostly coming from Hungary and who form the present USEP eligible caseload, and
- c) Israeli returnees.

Very little could be done for the pre- 1 January 1948 group who only amount to approximately 120 people. They are the remnant of the large influx of Eastern Jewry which took place after the end of the War. Most of them belong to the hard-core group and will only be able to resettle under special arrangements such as were made e.g. with Norway and Sweden.

The second group, the new arrivals, were the ones for whom most has been done during the past year with the additional help of USEP. USEP's help to these refugees was in the field of care and maintenance, vocational training and resettlement. Due to USEP's participation, in particular in the field of care and maintenance, we were able to divert some of the resources to those who are not USEP eligible, and thus increase our standard of relief.

The latter group, the Israeli Returnees, form now approximately one third of the camp population. It would be unjust to classify everyone who has arrived from Israel as a returnee, in the sense that he is a person who has once been helped in his resettlement, and should for this reason for the time being not receive a second chance to resettle somewhere else. This group can easily be sub-divided into more sections, such as those who left directly from behind the iron-curtain-countries to Israel, others who went to Israel during the War as a means of escape, and Israeli War veterans who have fought in Israel and became invalids. The smallest group in Austria are those who originally left this country for Israel.

As mentioned before, half of the Jewish population in the Zone live in camps. At present there are two major concentrations of Jewish DP's:

- a) Camp Asten in Upper Austria, which comprises of approximately 300 people, and
- b) Camp Hallein near Salzburg, with about 280 people.

There is, however, a basic difference in the type of refugee that live in those two camps. Whereas in Asten the majority consists of Israeli returnees and pre- 1 January 1948 DP's, Camp Hallein is mostly inhabited by new refugees who have come into Austria within the years 1950 - 1952.

Efforts were made during the past year to extend our policy of moving hard-core cases from the camp to town. It is obvious that, however poor the integration possibilities for Jewish DP's may be in Austria, it will be healthier from any point of view to have such people outside of camp. Much more must be done along these lines, and one of our most pressing needs for the carrying out of this program is adequate and competent staff. Should we be successful along these lines in the future, then Camp Asten may slowly become a camp where only very few persons will remain who would be entitled to services from us on the basis of present JDC policy.

The time is still too short to be able to evaluate whether the people who have and will be placed out-of-camp will either want to, or be able to remain in Austria under this kind of arrangement. Whatever the outcome of this type of service to DP's will be, one thing is certain, that the camps with their unhealthy atmosphere should as quickly as possible be closed, and especially for the hard-core group a sound resettlement possibility be afforded.

The following is a comparative table of the Jewish population during the past three years:

LOCATION	P O P U L A T I O N			
	1 August 1950	1 August 1951	1 August 1952	1 August 1953
IN CAMP	3932	1728	691	583
IN HOSPITAL			34	26
OUT-OF-CAMP	674	492	508	486
T O T A L :	4606	2220	1233	1095

In addition to the official population figures there are approximately 60 to 80 illegal Israeli Returnees living in camps. In spite of the fact that 344 people have emigrated during the past year, the population has practically remained stable.



The American and French Zones have three indigenous Jewish communities - Linz, Salzburg and Innsbruck. On 14 September 1952 the Kultusgemeinden in Austria formed a roof-organization known as the "Landesverband der Juedischen Kultusgemeinden in Oesterreich". Although their co-ordination is mainly based on matters of restitution, it is hoped that in the future, further common interest can be developed, in particular on integration activities of DP's. Both communities, Linz and Salzburg, receive some financial assistance from AJDC, however, their welfare caseload is taken care of directly by us.

As in the past the work of all AJDC Departments (Emigration, Welfare and Medical) were co-ordinated in such a manner as to achieve a maximum result in resettlement. The staff of the Social Service Department which worked for only six months in Austria was able to continue this co-ordination. Their work in drawing up uniform case histories and the collection of personal data, particularly on hard-core cases, will have value for the future.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE:

For the first time since the liquidation of IRO, another agency has helped us in supplementing the basic relief provided by the Austrians. Within six months USEP provided food supplementation for approximately 350 people to the amount of \$7,800.-, and additional clothing assistance for approximately \$8,800.-. Consequently, we were able to increase our rate of assistance to the non-eligible refugee group.

The following table shows the amounts of assistance a needy family received from various sources:

No. of pers. in family	USEP ELIGIBLES				NON-USEP ELIGIBLES		
	Source of income				Source of income		
	*AUSTR. Gov't. AS	**USEP AS	AJDC AS	TOTAL AS	*AUSTRIAN Gov't. AS	AJDC AS	TOTAL AS
1	180.-	104.-	30.-	314.-	180.-	200.-	380.-
2	360.-	208.-	60.-	628.-	360.-	270.-	630.-
3	540.-	312.-	90.-	942.-	540.-	330.-	870.-
4	720.-	416.-	120.-	1256.-	720.-	440.-	1160.-

\* No additional assistance is given either in money, kind or for repair of clothing.

\*\* Food supplementation is not necessarily given automatically to every member of a family unit.

\*\*\* This amount (AS 120.-) is paid for 4 or more persons in a family unit.

In addition to the cash relief grant which is paid to people on a case by case basis, the following supplementary grants are paid:

- 1) Cash grants paid on the basis of medical indication ranging from 60 to 600 AS per month;
- 2) Cash grants from 120 to 300 AS per month to hospitalized patients;
- 3) Resettlement and one-time grants paid on individual basis, in particular for procurement of tools;
- 4) Grant for the procurement of clothing. The average cost for clothing of one adult amounts to approximately AS 400.-. These kind of grants are usually made to sick persons or people at the time of their departure.

The Austrian Government does not provide any clothing, and as far as relief is concerned they continue to maintain their old standard of AS 5,80 per day per person.

For the first time, DP's are able, on the basis of supplementary grants which, together with the Austrian assistance amount to 11.- to 12.- AS per day per person, to attain the minimum level of subsistence.

It should be mentioned at this point, that no maintenance work has been done by the Austrians throughout the year in Camp Hallein. Great hardship was encountered by the people during the winter months, and this was only partly alleviated through fuel supplementation by USEP and AJDC.

On account of the fact that most of the inhabitants of Camp Hallein are USEP eligibles, a project was drawn up by USEP to re-house them under better conditions. The costs of the new camp, which is under construction, will be borne by USEP, and it is hoped that it will be ready by the end of November.

In conclusion, the following is a comparative table of the number of people receiving financial assistance from AJDC:

WELFARE STATISTIC

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>1 August 1952</u>	<u>1 August 1953</u>
Camp Hallein	242	177
Camp Asten	150	137
Sub-Total in Camps:	392	314
Salzburg	31	24
Bad Ischl	14	16
Linz	6	7
Innsbruck	8	14
Sub-Total in town	59	61
	<u>451</u>	<u>375</u>

CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES:

AJDC continues to meet the costs of religious education and pays the salaries of religious functionaries.

During this year, ORT operated vocational training courses under the auspices of USEP. Our clients have taken great interest in these, and many have completed training courses.

Language courses were organized by AJDC and the costs of AS 29,000.- were met by USEP.

We continue to provide scholarship to students attending the Innsbruck university. During the past two years, 13 students have received their diplomas and have resettled in Israel and in the United States.

Elementary education leaves much to be desired. The reason being that most of the children belong to very orthodox families who don't desire any secular education for their children, and the Austrian Government does not provide proper schooling facilities. It is hoped that in the new USEP camp in Glasenbach, children will be forced to attend local schools.

MEDICAL SERVICE:

As in the field of care and maintenance, we were aided by USEP in carrying out our medical program. As in the past, JDC still maintains medical staff in both, Camp Hallein and Camp Asten. This was the only way to give us the certainty, that every Jewish DP receives proper medical attention, and at the same time guarantees that the Austrian Government fulfills all obligation with respect to medical care. In two specific fields AJDC shoulders the full responsibility - in the care of TB and mental cases. In 1950 there were 35 TB cases hospitalized, compared to three cases who are in hospitals at present. This progress was mainly due to the close attention given to this problem by our Viennese TB specialist and later by Dr. Molnar, who studied our cases and recommended certain courses of treatment and control.

The departure of seven TB cases to Norway has helped to reduce our problems to some extent, since they were inhabitants of the Special Treatment Unit in Camp Asten, which ceased to function as an AJDC installation during this year.

We continue to bear full responsibility for the care of mental cases who do not require to be kept in closed wards. These cases were removed three

years ago from camps and state institutions to a private hospital in Bad Ischl for treatment, and a special program was worked out by a psychiatric case worker on our staff who worked constantly with these patients in close co-operation with the mental institution. Twelve of the patients have now made some form of social adjustment, which enables them to live with Austrian families in Bad Ischl on a foster-care basis, paid for by AJDC. An AJDC representative and a local psychiatrist constantly review the cases and attend the patients as the need arises.

The transfer of people from camps to private care in towns to which we referred to above, is planned primarily for sick and aged clients who do not need full institutionalization, and who in some cases still hope to be able to emigrate.

The following table gives the status of hard-core cases in the U.S. Zone of Austria:

<u>Cat. of ref.</u>	<u>TBC</u>	<u>Mental</u>	<u>Chronic</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Refugees	46	17	40	103
Austrians	3	8	6	17
Israeli Ret.	1	2	12	15
Total hard-core cases				135
Number of dependents				84

The number of hard-core cases during the past year was reduced by 30 people.

EMIGRATION:

All the above mentioned activities were carried out in such a manner as to be sub-ordinate, wherever possible, to the work of the Emigration Department, in order to emphasize to refugees that our basic aim is to help them to resettle. No special resettlement schemes operated during this year, except for the small TB schemes, and our clients had to rely on normal emigration procedures established with the various countries.

The following table will show the number of emigrants during the past year and the comparative number for the previous year, as well as the number of clients presently registered:

COUNTRY	Number of persons emigrated		Number of persons regist.f.emigration as of 1-8-53
	1-8-51 to 31-7-52	1-8-52 to 31-7-53	
<u>CANADA</u>	302	89	88
Dressmakers	18	-	-
Close Rel.	139	34	18
OS/8	143	55	70
Labour Scheme	1	-	-
Domestics	1	-	-
<u>U.S.A.</u>	529	183	512
Quota	22	7	
Orphans	1	-	
2c	284	3	
3c	222	173	
<u>AUSTRALIA</u>	140	24	24
<u>SOUTH AMERICA</u>	13	37	72
<u>WESTERN EUROPE</u>	8	10	45
Norway		9	
Belgium		1	
	992	343	741 *

One year ago 611 people were registered for emigration, but now after another year of emigration activities resulting in 343 departures, there still remain 741 people registered.

As can be noticed from the number of registrants for emigration, 512 have shown preference for the United States. Most of them appear to be eligible under the Refugee Relief Act. Out of the 512 people we have 134 Czech nationals of whom we hope 92 will be able to emigrate to the United States within the next six months, if recent staff reduction in the US Consul's office does not appreciably slow up processing. An additional 20 people, chargeable to various other quotas, will most probably depart under the quota before the Refugee Relief Act starts operating.

\* unduplicated figure

In order to prepare for the Refugee Relief Act a complete registration with personal interviews has been carried out by us in the Jewish camps, and the necessary material forwarded to USNA in order to enable them to plan for the sponsorship of these clients.

Prospects for the future cannot be clearly defined in view of the fact that it is unknown when visas will actually be issued under the Refugee Relief Act. In the meantime, people are reluctant to accept other emigration possibilities until more is known about future emigration to the United States under this Act. The only estimate which can be made are the number of people that may emigrate to the United States under 3c and quota, amounting to approximately 112 persons, and approximately 30 people who will probably choose to go to South America.

The need for special schemes which would take care of old aged and chronic sick cannot be overemphasized. It is hoped that the English project under which some 40 to 50 persons in the Zone are registered will take some of these hard to resettle cases.

#### U.S.E.P.

This report would not be complete if no mention would be made of USEP's contribution to the alleviation of suffering and hardship amongst Jewish DP's in Austria.

The following statistical report will show the financial contribution USEP has made in the various fields of refugee activities:

SUMMARY OF USEP SERVICES FOR AUSTRIA <sup>1)</sup>  
FISCAL YEAR 1952/1953

	<u>AS</u>	<u>US \$</u>
1. Resettlement Movements for 390 people		78,000.-
2. AJDC Projects financed by USEP		
a) Resettlement Projects	291,205.56	3,871.65
b) Counselling Projects	88,839.91	
c) Training Projects	28,480.75	
d) Miscell. Projects	49,460.91	2,097.17
e) Care & Maintenance Projects	38,319.24	

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1) This tabulation covers both the U.S. Zone and Vienna.

3. Projects directly serviced by USEP:	<u>AS</u>	<u>US \$</u>
a) Food supplement, coupons for 339 persons <sup>2)</sup>		7,696.-
b) Clothing distribution for 264 persons		8,708.60
c) Coal distribution for 250 persons <sup>2)</sup>		412.70
d) Suitcases distributed for 78 persons		146.68
e) Baby layettes distribution for 7 persons		94.50
	<hr/>	
TOTAL	496,306.37	101,027.30

In addition to the above mentioned funds made available for Jewish refugees, USEP also expended approximately \$ 2,000.- on vocational training for Jewish refugees, and approximately \$ 50,000.- have been made available for the construction of a camp for USEP eligibles in the Salzburg area half of which will be occupied by our clients.



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2) average number of persons served per month.

EXCERPT FROM THE STATISTICAL REPORTS SEPTEMBER 1952 TO AUGUST 1953

<u>I T E M</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>
<u>POPULATION IN AUSTRIA :</u>												
Number of Persons a) in communities	10,327	10,313	10,352	10,307	10,239	10,184	10,233	10,170	10,019	10,004	10,010	10,013
b) in camps	1,168	1,194	1,101	1,103	1,044	1,040	1,019	983	960	949	916	905
<u>WELFARE</u>												
AJDC: Individual cash assistance (incl. all AJDC offices in Austria)	1,059	1,084	999	1,002	860	896	922	865	828	810	776	802
AJDC: Students' program in Austria	89	86	86	79	79	79	73	68	68	68	68	68
Kitchen in Vienna	381	390	372	355	328	308	289	260	245	224	180	182
K.G.: Old Age Home in Vienna	138	139	133	133	137	136	134	127	138	143	145	151
K.G.: Jewish Hospital in Vienna	36	35	39	40	56	50	44	45	49	53	50	53
K.G.: Welfare in Vienna	708	668	655	660	675	666	648	621	608	657	608	632
<u>MEDICAL PROGRAM FOR AUSTRIA</u>												
Direct Assistance: T.B.	82	80	79	79	79	77	76	74	69	66	60	60
Other chronic conditions	135	127	124	121	122	109	125	96	93	90	83	80
Pregnant women and lact. mothers	27	20	22	23	25	27	29	28	31	28	27	26
Institutional costs paid by AJDC:												
T.B.	13	8	10	10	8	8	6	5	5	7	9	8
Other chron. cond.	44	44	37	36	35	37	35	22	23	23	22	23
Mental cases	25	27	26	25	33	31	32	33	34	34	32	32
Acute illnesses	35	23	20	15	28	28	44	30	33	31	25	23
<u>DENTAL CARE :</u>	114	109	96	100	82	86	79	80	70	74	73	71



EXCERPT FROM THE STATISTICAL REPORTS SEPTEMBER 1952 TO AUGUST 1953

CONCERNING EMIGRATION ACTIVITIES OF AJDC AUSTRIA

<u>COUNTRY OF DESTINATION</u>	<u>Number of persons who left Austria</u>												<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	
Argentine	2		1		5		2	2					12
Australia		26	14				1			6	2		49
Belgium					1	1							2
Brazil	5	2	6	4	6	2	9	13	19	5	14	13	98
Canada	9	7	13	12	19	11	12	34	14	1	5	29	166
Chile					2								2
Columbia						3							3
Cuba							1						1
France				2		1							3
Israel											1		1
Norway											9		9
Paraguay	1												1
Spain												2	2
U.S.A.	2	56	62	43	21	33	55	9	11	15	7	15	329
	19	91	96	61	54	51	80	58	44	27	38	59	678

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PARIS

October 1953



AJDC ASSISTED DEPARTURES - May 1945 through August 1953

	Current year Jan.-Aug.1953	Last year 1952	Prior years 1945 - 1951	T O T A L
From Europe	2,258	5,324	597,482	605,064
From China	228	306	15,081	15,615
TOTAL	<u>2,486</u>	<u>5,630</u>	<u>612,563</u>	<u>620,679</u>
To the U.S.A.	1,411	3,346	59,439	64,196
To CANADA	343	776	8,508	9,627
To CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA	306	439	13,470	14,215
To AUSTRALIA & N.Z.	120	574	11,806	12,500
To EUROPE	86	191	13,128	13,405
To AFRICA & ASIA	8	31	635	674
Unclassified	-	-	2,500	2,500
	<u>2,274</u>	<u>5,357</u>	<u>109,486</u>	<u>117,117</u>
To ISRAEL	212	273	503,077	503,562
TOTAL	<u>2,486</u>	<u>5,630</u>	<u>612,563</u>	<u>620,679</u>

Note: The departures to U.S.A. were moved under the following Immigration laws:

Truman Project (Jan.1946 - June 1948) : 7,792  
 DP Act of 1948 (Oct.1948 - Dec. 1952) : 34,908  
 Normal Quota and Sec. 3c of DP Act : 21,496

AJDC ASSISTED DEPARTURES - BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN - Jan.-Aug.1953 and 1952

Country of Origin	Current year Jan. - Aug. 1953	Monthly Average 1953	Last year 1952	Monthly Average 1952
AUSTRIA	398	50	1,048	87
BELGIUM	171	21	372	31
FRANCE	646	81	854	71
GERMANY	395	49	2,077	173
GREECE	26	3	40	3
HOLLAND	111	14	144	12
HUNGARY	26	3	211	18
ITALY	112	14	244	20
SWEDEN	317	40	220	19
SWITZERLAND	28	3	85	7
Others	28	3	29	2
	<u>2,258</u>	<u>281</u>	<u>5,324</u>	<u>443</u>
CHINA	228	28	306	25
TOTAL	<u>2,486</u>	<u>309</u>	<u>5,630</u>	<u>468</u>

Emigration Personnel (Average) 1953: 8 Foreign, 84 Local; 1952 - 12 Foreign, 115 Local.

AJDC PENDING APPLICATIONS as of SEPTEMBER 1, 1953

Emigration Office of Origin	Area of D E S I R E D Resettlement						TOTAL	
	Austra- lia, New Zealand	Canada	U.S.A.	Central & South America	Europe	Africa & Asia		
AUSTRIA	Vienna	73	130	531	83	2	3	822
	Salzburg	13	75	525	212	63	8	896
BELGIUM		158	88	1,435	33	-	3	1,717
FRANCE		453	147	1,528	54	-	-	2,182
GERMANY	Berlin	5	36	237	6	5	-	289
	Frankfurt	6	22	287	13	4	2	334
	Hamburg	7	39	142	39	2	-	229
	Munich	38	252	1,274	553	105	1	2,223
GREECE		-	4	264	5	-	8	281
HOLLAND		154	141	347	38	-	-	680
ITALY		21	72	386	68	9	17	573
SWEDEN		115	64	793	23	4	38	1,037
SWITZERLAND		4	6	131	1	-	9	151
T O T A L S		1,047	1,076	7,880	1,128	194	89	11,414

NOTE: The Pending Applications as of January 1, 1953, was 12,288.

The Pending Applications as of January 1, 1952, was 16,926.

ISRAEL IMMIGRATION - January through June 1953

	<u>Jan. - June 1953</u>	
<u>EASTERN EUROPE</u>		
Bulgaria	191	
Poland	142	
Roumania	33	
U.S.S.R.	19	
Hungary	17	
Other East European Countries	<u>11</u>	413
<u>WESTERN EUROPE</u>		
France	69	
England	60	
Germany	48	
Greece	35	
Holland	29	
Austria	28	
Switzerland	24	
Belgium	21	
Italy	15	
Sweden	8	
Yougoslavia	7	
Denmark	2	
Other West European Countries	<u>2</u>	348
<u>ASIA</u>		
Iran	723	
India, Burma, Malaya, Ceylon	207	
Iraq	185	
Turkey	113	
China	85	
Other Asian Countries	<u>89</u>	1,402
<u>AFRICA</u>		
Morocco	1,925	
Tunisia	144	
Algeria	36	
Libya	217	
Tangiers	11	
South Africa	9	
Other African Countries	<u>398</u>	2,740
<u>AMERICA</u>		
United States	60	
Canada	5	
Argentina	218	
Brazil	23	
Other South American Countries	<u>46</u>	352
<u>Unclassified</u>	<u>20</u>	20
T O T A L		<u><u>5,275</u></u>

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953



C O N T E N T S

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1. FOEHRENWALD	1 - 4
2. ISRAELI RETURNEES	4 - 12
3. COMMUNITIES	12 - 15
4. REFUGEES FROM EAST ZONE AND BERLIN	15 - 17
5. SOCIAL SERVICE	18 - 22
6. MEDICAL	22 - 29
7. EMIGRATION	29 - 36
8. CONCLUSIONS	36 - 38

TABLES:

- I JEWISH POPULATION AND NUMBER ASSISTED
- II DEPARTURES FROM FOEHRENWALD  
JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 1953
- III DEPARTURES - JANUARY - AUGUST 1953  
(BY END DESTINATIONS)
- IV DEPARTURES - JANUARY - AUGUST 1953  
(BY MONTHS)
- V DEPARTURES - JANUARY - DECEMBER 1952
- VI POTENTIAL U.S. ACTIVE CASELOAD

CHART:

- I JEWISH TB PATIENTS GAUTING SANATORIUM  
(MAY 1945 - JULY 1953)

FOEHRENWALD:

We continue to need a JDC operation on its present scale in Germany and Austria because of the continued existence of Foehrenwald in Germany, Asten and Hallein in the U.S. Zone of Austria, and Rothschild in Vienna. But for the continued existence of these camps the JDC could reduce its operation in these two countries to a small emigration operation, and supervise, out of headquarters, such assistance to the communities as might be granted.

These camps, a tragic residue of the Nazi era and the war, are regrettably still there, and no effort should be spared to aid in their final liquidation. Even more regrettable is the fact that the population in the camp now, is larger than it was a year ago. When the Germans took over the responsibility for Foehrenwald, at the end of 1951, the camp population stood at approximately 1600. Now, two years later, although over 1000 camp living people emigrated during this period, the population has grown, so that today it stands at approximately 2100.

This increase, of course, due entirely to the phenomena of the returnees from Israel, is a subject which is covered at length in another section of this report.

The methods which JDC, and in the final analysis, the Germans, should employ to eventually close the camp, has absorbed a good deal of time and thought on the part of both the Paris and Germany staff.

I feel that during the last few months progress can for the first time be reported. The large influx of returnees and the growing population in the camp, and the fear of hundreds of new arrivals finally forced the Germans to enforce the decision reached almost a year ago to close the gates of the camp. So that for the first time we can say that the population is a stable one - approximately 1400 of the residual group (including a large number of returnees who arrived before November 1952) and 700 returnees who reached the camp from November 1952 until 17 August 1953.

As already stated in another part of this report, emigration will only siphon off a small portion of the Foehrenwald population, so that it is clear, that if the camp is to be ultimately closed, transfer or integration of the people by the Germans into the economy will be in first order of importance.

The Camp Committee sometime ago requested the Bonn Government to make a special grant of 3,000.- and 1,500.- Deutschmark for each adult



and child respectively, so as to enable the family to leave the camp, and to assist in their integration in another country. The Germans for some time completely ignored the original request, but the Committee pursued the matter. That serious attention, however, was paid to this request was shown when during a debate in the Bavarian Parliament on the Fohrenwald issue, the State Secretary for Refugees (Professor Oberlaender) referred to this matter and stated that it was being given favorable consideration. Again during a meeting on July 16 in Bonn, Mr. Jordan and I were assured by an important person in the Foreign Office that the matter was all but approved, and only the complication involving the returnees was holding back finalization of this grant. On a number of occasions I have been assured that payments will be made, and only the details remain to be worked out.

The vital concern which the Germans are attaching to their desire to close the camp is evidenced by another proposal which was made during Mr. Jordan's and my meeting in Bonn in July. They were ready to construct units for 500 camp living people at a cost of DM 2,500,000.-, and requested JDC to appropriate a sum of DM 500,000.- for furnishings for these units. JDC agreed, but the Finance Ministry has not as yet approved the grant to start construction, although we are assured that this will be done soon.

The Camp Committee has also made demands from the Conference. A memorandum recently distributed to the Jewish organizations requested five million dollars in order to liquidate the camp, and to assist this residual group to emigrate from Germany. Yes, they say they will even go to Israel if enough money is granted so as to have a home and a possibility of earning a living. When the Chairman of the Camp Committee recently returned to Munich after a visit to Israel to check on his personal integration possibility he told me, "give me \$10,000.- and my family (4 people) will go to Israel at once."

Is money really the solution here? I doubt it. Over 50% of the camp inhabitants are Israeli returnees, few of whom would return; many are medical rejections to USA or Canada and would probably fail to pass again; others have been rejected for other reasons and many are not interested in South American countries. Money would not secure visas for these countries to which they want to go - USA and Canada - and the granting of money would still not make Israel or South America desirable for the sick and for many of the returnees. Many just don't want to go anywhere at all!

What, therefore, then is the answer to the need and desire to close this camp? Immigration, of course, should be pursued - and this we are

doing, but it is obvious that the solution of this camp problem will not be found in emigration and that the realities of the situation indicate that but a small percentage of the people will thus leave the camp. The only alternative, therefore, is integration or transfer to the German economy.

We will inevitably become seriously involved when the authorities begin to transfer people from the camp. There may be real resistance to such an effort, and appeals to the "Jewish World" whatever that is. From a public relations aspect we shall necessarily have to watch our steps, and we should leave to the German Camp Administration - after all it is a German administered and controlled camp - the actual selection and transfer of the people. We should be prepared to offer our clients a temporary continuation of our welfare grants, a counseling service, arranging for relations and guidance with the local Jewish community, in order to bridge the initial difficulties of this drastic move. The JDC will have to play a cautious role, but at the same time accept and tactfully support any reasonable move to close the camp.

I feel that when the Germans really indicate that they are serious in their intentions - to which they have only given lip service until now - the spirit in the camp may undergo a real change. The sense of security which the people now have may be broken, and alternatives not now acceptable may appear very rosy when their only choice is to move into a German city. But I feel that JDC should take one positive - and drastic - step when the Germans begin to transfer people, and that is to announce a terminal date of our own work in the camp. We should leave no doubt in the minds of the camp inhabitants that we consider life in a DP camp for over 500 young Jewish children as unsound, indecent and thoroughly abnormal and that we do not propose to continue assistance to them in that environment. At the same time we should also go on record that we are ready to continue assistance and counseling in the communities and to assist the people in finding employment and building reasonably useful lives in Germany, or to continue emigration assistance to them. It will be at this point where a counseling team, discussed in the chapter on Social Service, may have a very real and vital function to perform. For let there be no doubt that some very real problems will come to the fore when this move takes place. The long absence from useful labor, their general lack of any kind of skill, the language and prejudice barrier, the medical condition of many, the loss of work habits, these and other factors will make the integration problem a real challenge to the Germans and to us.

We have not touched in this section on the returnee problem, since it is adequately covered in another part of the report, but it should be mentioned that the presence of some 700 illegal returnees in the camp will serve seriously to complicate the whole liquidation procedure whenever the Germans are ready to embark on this plan.

#### ISRAELI RETURNEES:

Since the middle of 1949, we have had the problem of the returnees. Exact figures of the numbers who have returned, or who came to Germany for the first time, are not available. but our best estimate is that it involves between 3200 and 3500 people. Many of them have succeeded in emigrating to South America, the USA and Canada. A reasonable estimate of the number of returnees now in Germany is 2500, with about 1100 in the camp and the rest in communities. Thus at least 50% of the camp population consists of Jews who had emigrated to Israel from Germany or from an Iron Curtain country and are now residents of the camp.

The German authorities at the beginning took little notice of these people. Many had a right to return since a German law permits a person to return for a period of two years from the date of departure. The JDC gave selected assistance to compassionate cases, but our policy vis-a-vis these people went through a number of fluctuations.

Toward the end of 1952 the German authorities decided to close the gates of the camp to newcomers. The attempt by the Germans, however, to implement this policy did not succeed. As new arrivals reached Munich, they had in fact no place to go, except Foehrenwald, and so this gesture remained a dead letter.

During November and December 1952 about 200 new arrivals from Israel reached Munich - most if not all of whom had Israeli passports. These passports were invariably stamped "not valid for Germany"; but the holders were nevertheless given German visas by the German Embassy in Paris. They had gone to Paris ostensibly to pick up end Canadian visas promised to them by the racketeers in Israel, but most - or all - of them were rejected by the Canadian authorities in Paris. When their stay in Paris or Italy became untenable they "took off" for Munich and Foehrenwald. They had no legal right to be in Foehrenwald. Despite this, however, they continued to go to Foehrenwald, and paradoxically the Germans granted relief to all of these people.

But the Bavarian authorities were seriously concerned, and on presentation of the problem to the Foreign Office, the embassies in Paris and Rome were instructed to secure a deposit of the equivalent of \$200.- from any Israeli passport holder whose passport was stamped "not valid

for Germany". This resulted in a temporary slow-down, but the illegals began to cross the "green border" in large numbers, so that during the first eight months of this year, between 800 and 1000 new arrivals reached Germany - most of them coming to Munich or to Foe'hrenwald. It is almost certain that only a handful paid the \$300.- deposit fee.

The attitude of the Camp Committee toward these new arrivals was a thoroughly hostile one. They feared that they would endanger certain privileges which they enjoyed as a recognized camp of hard-core people, and vitiate their efforts to secure special grants of moneys from the Germans as an inducement to liquidate the camp.

The Bavarian Minister for Refugees (Professor Oberlaender) also looked askance at these people crowding into the camp, and in March in a press interview blasted the new arrivals, as consisting of terrorists and gangsters, and stated that this information had come to him from the Camp Committee itself. He also indicated that Foe'hrenwald costs much more than other DP camps, and that steps would be taken to remedy the entire situation. This press interview created consternation and fear among both the old inmates and the new arrivals.

The Foe'hrenwald issue was then brought up on the floor of the Bavarian Parliament, and it was decided to have the Standing Committee for Refugee Problems visit the camp. This visit of some 40 people, including the press, newsreels, etc. was made during May. Interestingly enough, the Committee submitted a not unfriendly report, and the press in general treated the situation in a fair, and in some instances, an almost sympathetic manner.

That is where the situation stood at the end of May, and would have remained, but for the fact that returnees continued to arrive, and fear was expressed by responsible German authorities, that thousands more were waiting in all European countries for the opportunity to come to Germany and particularly to Foe'hrenwald.

The Bavarian authorities referred the problem to Bonn and the Bonn authorities contacted the Israeli Purchasing Mission with appeals to make efforts to stop the illegal movement, by taking remedial steps in Israel, and to assume responsibility for deportation of the illegals to Israel. The Israeli Consul in Munich was requested to see Prof. Oberlaender and discuss the problem with him, and it is my understanding that he told Oberlaender that it is not within his competence to assist in deportations, but that this was strictly a German police matter.

The plain truth of the matter is that the Germans did not - and do not - know what to do. They cannot control their own borders, and

apparently it is easier to cross a border illegally than most of us seem to think, while at the same time it is quite a complicated business to deport people - especially when many hundreds are involved, as is the case here.

The only penalty which was inflicted on the illegal border crossers from the beginning was a few weeks jail sentence. In July the Germans deported three men to Austria, a few days prior to the expiration of their jail sentence. These deportations to Austria were possible, since the three people involved had legal Austrian visas, and a still valid 1938 extradition agreement exists between the two countries. The three people, plus four from Austria, were held in a deportation station near Salzburg, pending arrangements with Israeli authorities for their deportation. The deportations created a serious state of alarm among the illegals in Foehrenwald.

On August 9 a meeting on this question was held in Geneva. This meeting was attended by Dr. Goldman, Dr. Yahil (Israeli Purchasing Mission), Dr. Frohwein of the German Foreign Office and myself. Although this was an informal meeting, the fact that the Bonn Government thought it necessary to send an important official of the Foreign Office indicated that they viewed the matter as most serious. At this meeting the following proposals for the solution of the problem were accepted by the participants:

- 1) The Bavarian Government would offer space in Funk-Kaserne, a camp on the outskirts of Munich, and would make efforts so that the illegals should be able to live together in a separate section of the Kaserne. JDC would be prepared to contribute the necessary installation costs, especially for specific needs of the illegals with reference to a kosher kitchen, place of worship, etc.
- 2) If the illegals should be willing to move to Funk-Kaserne, the Bavarian Government would then give them assurance to permit them to stay there for six months, and commit themselves to no imprisonment or deportations during this period.
- 3) The Jewish organizations, especially the JDC, with the assistance of the Bavarian and Federal authorities, would make every possible effort, within the six month period, to solve the problem of the illegals either by repatriation to Israel or by emigrating them to other countries, or in individual cases the Bavarian Government might be willing to grant permission of residence and work. JDC declared its willingness to meet the emigration or repatriation costs, and, if necessary, to grant special allowances to facilitate their emigration or repatriation.

- 4) One or two months prior to the expiration of the six month period, the Bavarian and Federal authorities would meet again with the Jewish organizations (JDC, Central Council of Jews in Germany, Bavarian Landesverband of Jewish Communities and others) in order to again discuss the question of a solution for the remaining illegals.
- 5) All illegals who arrive in Germany from Israel, after these proposals are accepted by the Bavarian Government, will be treated by the German authorities in the same manner as any other illegal border-crossers, and the Jewish organizations recognized the right of the German authorities to act in such a manner.
- 6) The Bavarian Government would during the period of six months provide the same welfare grants which they are granting to the legal camp inhabitants in Foehrenwald to all illegals who move to Funk-Kaserne. JDC will provide supplementary assistance for these illegal cases in Funk-Kaserne in the same manner as they are doing now for the legal inhabitants of Foehrenwald.

On August 11, while I was still in Geneva, an alarm was spread in the camp to the effect that the authorities planned to carry out further deportations on Friday, August 14. This was surprising to us since the proposals made and agreed to in Geneva in effect prohibited deportations, but these apparently had not yet been transmitted by Bonn to the Bavarian authorities.

The JDC policy had been to avoid involvement in these matters, and during many meetings with the returnee group, we advised them that in such matters, which had a definite and clear political character, either the Central Council of Jews in Germany, and/or the Central Council of Jews in Bavaria was their source of reference. In fact, we assisted them to establish contact with both of these organizations. When, however, they were faced with the threat of further deportations, they felt that only JDC could save them. Thus came about the occupation of our office for two days on August 12 and 13, by over 150 men, women and children of the returnee group, who would not leave until they were given assurance that the new deportation orders were cancelled. The occupation was a highly unpleasant affair, with irresponsible elements stirring up the people, making efforts to create a riot, but despite these provocations no one was hurt, and no damage was done to any JDC property.

The Minister of the Interior promised me early in the morning of Thursday, August 13, that the deportations were being called off, but the people would not leave the JDC offices until the order had been passed on to the prison authorities. These orders, however, were not immediately passed on, and a pressure was put on that would be worthy - or unworthy, as you like - of the best organized pressure group in any country. We went all the way to the top in the Bonn Government and were finally assured that the deportation orders had been cancelled. Thus toward the end of the day, on Thursday, August 13, the JDC building was cleared of our very unwelcome and uninvited guests.

The Bavarian authorities immediately ordered a registration of all illegals in the camp, and this registration took place from Friday, August 14 until Monday, August 17. A total of 795 people thus registered. Subsequent to the registration the Germans established a police station in the camp and although illegals still get in, the number apparently is small.

It was understood in Geneva, that the German authorities would convene a meeting to which the Jewish organizations would be invited, during which this question would be once again thoroughly aired on the basis of the proposals accepted in Geneva. This meeting was finally convened in Bonn on September 1. That the Germans regarded this as a serious problem is attested by the fact that present at the meeting were ten officials from the Foreign Office, the Ministry of Justice and the Finance Ministry, from both the Federal Republic and the State of Bavaria. From the Jewish side, representatives from the Central Council of Jews in Germany, the Bavarian Jewish organizations, the JDC and HIAS, and the deputy chief of the Israeli Purchasing Mission attended the meeting. A representative of ICEM was also present.

A translation of the approved minutes of this meeting follows:

"On September 1, 1953 a meeting took place in the "Bundeshaus" which concerned itself with the problem of the future policy with reference to Israeli citizens who reside without permission in the Federal territory. The discussions were conducted with the aim to create a basis for the emigration of the illegals from the Federal Republic and the following was agreed upon:

- 1) For a period of six months, starting August 17, 1953, no measures toward deportation will be taken by the German authorities against those 795 Israeli citizens (hereafter referred to as "illegals") who reside without permission in the Federal territory, and who

have registered before 17 August 1953. Individual cases of illegals who were unable to register because of imprisonment will be considered as having registered.

- 2) The commitment stated under par. 1 does not apply to the following:
  - a) Persons who did not register by 17 August 1953;
  - b) Persons who arrived after the registration date of 17 August 1953 and are now residing in the Federal territory without permission.

The Israeli Mission and the Jewish Organizations will not intervene with the German authorities on behalf of persons who arrived in the Federal territory after 17 August 1953 and are now residing there without permission.

- 3) The German authorities will grant the following to the illegals:
  - a) Within the six month period agreed to, until they emigrate, public welfare assistance in accordance with existing public welfare regulations;
  - b) Reimbursement of inland transportation costs, as provided in par. 14a of the "Erstes Ueberleitungsgesetz" as revised on 21 August 1953.
- 4) For the time being, the German authorities will not proceed to move the illegals to the Funk-Kaserne in Munich, providing there will be no further influx into Foehrenwald of illegals who are residing without permission in the Federal territory. It is expected that German efforts to stop illegal entry into the camp will have the support of the camp population. On 1 October 1953, this problem will be reviewed in the light of the above-mentioned aspects.
- 5) The Israeli Mission and the Jewish Organizations, JOINT and HIAS, accept to undertake all necessary steps so that within the six month period (effective 17 August 1953) the illegals may either emigrate to another country or be repatriated to Israel.
- 6) The Jewish Organizations, JOINT and HIAS, commit themselves to meet the costs involved in the emigration of the illegals, inasmuch as these are not being covered by the German authorities, as provided in par. 3b.
- 7) The Israeli Mission will issue the necessary documents for the emigration of the illegals, providing they possess Israeli citizenship. The Israeli Mission is also prepared - if necessary - to assist in the documentation of those persons who left Israel and whose citizenship is undetermined.



- 8) The Israeli Mission and the Jewish Organizations express their appreciation of the fact that the German authorities made the promises contained in par. 1, setting aside the strictly legal point of view.
- 9) At the beginning of January 1954, the German authorities and representatives of the Israeli Mission and the Jewish Organizations will again meet, in order to review the progress of the steps undertaken to emigrate these illegals, and to discuss further measures to be taken."

Although the Germans had all along insisted that the illegals had to leave Foehrenwald and move to Funk-Kaserne, and this was also agreed to in Geneva, for a variety of reasons, the Germans at the Bonn meeting on September 1, agreed to permit them to remain in Foehrenwald during the six month period, ending February 1954.

One Jewish organization, not involved in the day to day problems, dissociated itself during the meeting from the principle that the Jewish organizations will not protest if the German authorities treat illegal Jewish border crossers the same as they do those of any other nationality. It is my conviction that this was a meaningless gesture, unrelated to the very real pressures which existed and which affected the hundreds of illegals already in Foehrenwald. While I could see no objection to this organization making a gesture before the Germans, it seems to me that, in view of the serious nature of this entire problem, their issuing a press statement revealed their true purpose which was to secure a bit of cheap publicity. After all we were not asked to support action taken by the Germans, but only to refrain from protesting.

Since the August 17th date, illegals have continued to come in. The actions taken by the German authorities, the danger of arrests and deportations on one hand, plus certain steps taken in Israel, may have slowed down the illegal border crossings. But people are continuing to arrive in large numbers during the last few days. We have refused to grant assistance and there have been some real threats made. We have taken precautionary measures to assure that no repetition of the occupation of our offices takes place, but the atmosphere is tense and rife with danger.

It is regrettable that the group of new arrivals - those who came during this year particularly - are very well sprinkled with an assortment of flotsam and jetsam, ne'er-do-wells, irresponsibles, and not infrequently gangster types. If there is a bright side to this picture at

all, it is perhaps that these elements are no longer in Israel. But it should be noted that many are young and claim that their sole reason for leaving Israel was their inability to find work or a home, and in general do leave a good impression.

What will happen after the six month period expires? The sympathetic treatment by the Germans of the problem until now has not been due entirely to an unclean conscience or to their fear that action against Jews would create a charge of anti-semitism, at a time when they appear to be embracing the democratic faith, and are eager to join the Western Alliance. Undoubtedly, this is a partial explanation. But I feel that of equal importance is that they are not in a position to do too much. They could not, and cannot completely stop illegals from entering their borders; they could not, and cannot, engage in mass deportations, since in fact Austria is the only country to which they can directly deport them, and after the difficulties encountered with the seven deportees (three of whom have been allowed to return to Germany), I am sure that they would hesitate to undertake the deportation of hundreds.

There was the possibility to forcibly remove the illegals to Hamburg, and to deport them to Israel on Israeli ships. This point had been mentioned. I think the representative of the Israeli Purchasing Mission wisely told the German authorities at the Bonn meeting, on September 1, that Israel will take back any of the people who wish to return, but will not be a party to police measures leading to forcible deportations. Unfortunately, very few want to go back to Israel, and only great danger will change their minds.

This entire problem would be very much relieved if we could really assume that a substantial number of these illegals could emigrate during the next few months. This was the underlying assumption of both the Geneva and Bonn conferences. Unfortunately, there is no real basis for such hopes.

We have not seen the end of this thorny problem, but if the Germans on the one hand exercise a strong hand, and the Israelis on the other institute some control over emigration, we may be able to slowly resolve the problem, by our assistance program and by either emigration or integration. So long as new arrivals by the hundreds reach Munich and Fochrenwald, however, no rational steps of any sort can be taken either by us or by the German authorities.

A continued flow of illegal-border crossers into Germany could create real frictions between Germany and Israel. The authorities, as already indicated, have taken a most serious view of this problem, and whereas the State of Israel cannot in an authoritarian manner simply close its

borders, it probably can, for its own protection, establish a controlled emigration policy, enforce drastic steps to eliminate the racketeers and "machers", create a constructive counselling system, and thus reduce the number of people who without any plan, or thought of the future, leave Israel. Too many returnees have told us, "Why didn't someone tell us that this is what we would find?"

COMMUNITIES:

The total Jewish population in all of Germany, including the Soviet Sector of Berlin and the Soviet Zone of Germany, is 20,121, and our assistance program reaches an average of almost 5000 persons monthly in the communities and in Fochrenwald. Thus 25% of the Jewish population at present in Germany are beneficiaries of the J.D.C. program. (Table I).

The two characteristics of which we have often spoken in the past still dominate Jewish community life in Germany today. The first is its top heavy age structure and the second is the weakness of its leadership.

On 27 August 1953 the three sectors of West Berlin reported a population figure of 4028 persons. As reflected in the following tabulation only 340 or 8.4% were under 18 years of age, 1000 or 24.9% were between the ages of 19 and 45, whereas 2688 or 66.7% were 46 years of age or over.

AGE DISTRIBUTION - JEWISH POPULATION WEST BERLIN - 27 AUGUST 1953

340	or	8.4%	were	under	18
1000	"	24.9%	"	between	19 and 45
1156	"	28.7%	"	"	46 " 59
<u>1532</u>	"	<u>38.0%</u>	"	over	60
4028		100.0%			

A study made of the Jewish population in the British Zone in April 1953 reflected a similar abnormal age distribution:

AGE DISTRIBUTION - JEWISH POPULATION BRITISH ZONE - APRIL 1953

352	or	7.8%	were	from	1 - 20
670	"	14.8%	"	"	21 - 40
1940	"	42.8%	"	"	41 - 59
<u>1564</u>	"	<u>34.6%</u>	"	over	60
4526		100.0%			

Thus an analysis of the 8554 Jews in West Berlin and in the British Zone show that over 50% of the Jews in these areas are over 50 years of

age and almost 36% are over 60.

While we do not have figures for the communities in the U.S. Zone it is safe to say, that the age characteristics shown in the above tabulations also apply to this area. The two exceptions where the population is not so heavily weighted in the upper age brackets are in the city of Munich and in Camp Foehrenwald, where there is a preponderance of East European Jews, of a more normal age distribution.

This maldistribution in the age structure has affected the thinking of all segments of Jewish leadership, and has given it a mass inferiority complex. At all meetings, especially where the issue involves the JRSO settlements with communities, the fear for social and economic care of a community of aged people always receives sufficient emotional pressure so as to becloud the issue, and make the foreign organizations appear as grave robbers.

The Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland (Central Council of Jews in Germany) under the leadership of Dr. Henry van Dam, has recently engaged in a running battle with the JRSO, and has stirred up these communities, urging them not to reach agreements, and in the case of Augsburg - a city with only one Jewish couple and some 15 mixed marriages - supported the community when it took the issue before a German court.

To an abnormally large extent the Zentralrat and the communities have centered almost all their activities on matters of compensation and restitution, ignoring the long range community needs, and its future cultural, religious and educational problems.

These communities, as represented by their own Landesverbaende - and by the Zentralrat - consider themselves as the logical successors of the Jewish Community in Germany which existed before Hitler. They would like to forget that there were more Jews in the city of Frankfurt alone, than there now are in all of Germany - including the Russian Zone - and want to believe that the 30 odd Jews constituting the Gemeinde in Augsburg are the successor Gemeinde of the 1100 who constituted this community before Hitler. Thus the issue between the Zentralrat representing the Jews in Germany and the JRSO has been joined, and I look for some very unpleasant developments in this connection, in the very near future.

The Zentralrat, representing the Jewish Community, bases its claims for all former community property as a right. It is, says Dr. van Dam, a matter of principle, and not just a financial claim. They constantly call attention to the age characteristic of the community and the number in old age homes, the abnormal number who live on one or another form of pensions, welfare, or grants resulting from persecution. We have not failed to remind them on many occasions that at a meeting in The Hague on June 27, 1952, Mr. Leavitt told several members of the Board of

Directors of the Zentralrat to prepare a budget, which when approved by JDC Germany, would then have his support before the Executive Committee of the Conference. This budget has not yet - 16 months later - been prepared, despite many reminders and my offer to assist them in its preparation. This offer, repeated on a number of occasions, still stands, but I feel they would rather exclude me from too close an examination of their spurious and inflated claims.

Some might contend that this activity evidences a will to exist and to survive, and that the German Jewish Community is finding itself, has vitality and is prepared to fight for its rights. Only to an extent is this true. As already indicated, the Zentralrat has devoted its energies almost exclusively to the question of restitution in all its phases, but as for acting as a stimulant for building up a sense of community spirit and identification, exercising an influence to cleanse some of the more corrupt aspects of Jewish life, stimulation of a cultural life and exchange program, all these are sadly lacking in Germany, and the Zentralrat has done little in these directions.

The leadership is missing. Many of the professional and business people who have returned to Germany do not participate in community activities, and evidence a complete lack of interest. From the long run point of view the community appears to have no roots, no real base and with its over age population in a generation the community as we now know it will wither away. And yet paradoxical though it may be in this small community of some 20,000 Jews - certainly marginal in the quality of its Judaism - there are a number of prominent authors, actors, film producers, attorneys, politicians and union leaders, judges, professors and university rectors. But few, if any of these people, participate in any way in Jewish activities. Thus the community is in desperate need of leadership - either from within or without the borders of Germany.

That the Jewish Community in Germany is aware of the need to build the creative aspects of their community and to cease their obsessive interest exclusively in restitution questions is evidenced by the fact that during a meeting of the Central Council of Jews in Germany and the Central Council of Jews from Germany with Headquarters in London, this type of a program was, for the first time in such a meeting, discussed at length. For the first time too the Jewish communities outside of Germany were invited to send speakers, and in other ways to assist in the moral and spiritual uplift of this heterogoncous community.

This absence of leadership is equally true of the Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle. The director of this organization is an intelligent, earnest and sincere person. He lacks administrative competence, and before any funds are made available to it out of Conference Claims, new personnel will have to be found, and the organization will have to be given a shot in the arm. As presently constituted I could not in good conscience recommend that it be entrusted with large sums of money - from whatever source it may come.

The two cities with largest Jewish communities remain Berlin and Munich respectively. Berlin, under the active leadership of its Executive Director, has a fairly active community life, and all in all can be considered as one of the best Jewish communities in post-war Germany. Munich with its many difficult problems, caused to some extent by the returnees from Israel and its proximity to Foehrenwald is a community torn by internal dissensions. Even the best leadership would have a real problem in Munich, but lacking leadership altogether, chaos prevails.

There has been somewhat of a geographical shift in Jewish interest in Germany. Whereas Berlin and Munich were previously the two major areas of interest, Cologne, where the Israeli Purchasing Mission is stationed, and Duesseldorf, where the Headquarters of the Zentralrat is located and the only German Jewish paper, Karl Marx's "Allgemeine Wochenzeitung der Juden in Deutschland" is printed, have now assumed importance almost equal to that of Berlin and Munich as communities of some Jewish interest.

#### REFUGEES FROM THE EAST SECTOR OF BERLIN AND THE EAST ZONE OF GERMANY.

"Refugees" from the East Sector of Berlin and the Russian Zone of Germany have been arriving in the Western Sectors for some time before 1953. This was in no sense a mass movement. Our records reveal that throughout 1950, 1951 and 1952 individuals left their home in the Russian controlled areas and moved to West Berlin or to Western Germany.

The Slansky trial in Czechoslovakia, the general anti-semitic overtones of articles in the press, the arrest of the doctors in Moscow, and finally the interrogations of some of the Jewish fonctionnaires in East Berlin and East Zone cities, as well as the general state of unrest, led to the "Mass exodus" which began on 14 January 1953 when practically all the leaders of the Jewish communities fled to the West. Included in this group was Julius Meyer, the President of the Jewish Communities in East Berlin and in the Russian Zone, as well as the leaders of the communities of Dresden, Leipzig, Erfurt, Magdeburg and others.

Approximately 600 Jewish persons fled between January 15 and September 1, with most of them reaching the West by April 15. This figure represented approximately 25% of the total Jewish population in this area.

I have been asked why a greater number did not take advantage of the opportunity to flee, while it was still possible to do so. One of the answers is readily available when we analyze the age composition of the people who remained behind.

On 27 August 1953 our figures show that there were 1757 Jewish persons in East Berlin. (Figures for Eastern Germany on that date are not available, but the estimate is around 700).

Of these 1757:

158	or 9.0%	were under 18
333	" 19.0%	" between 19 and 45
566	" 32.0%	" " 46 " 59
700	" 40.0%	" over 60
<u>1757</u>	100.0%	

Thus 72% of the people who remained in East Berlin are over 46 years of age. It is hardly surprising that they remained behind for in most cases they are people who had been uprooted before and lack the stamina to pick themselves up again; they are in many cases physically unable or are too old to work, and receive a pension as (Opfer des Faschismus) Victims of Fascism. Furthermore, many in the East Sector of Berlin believe - and hopefully they are right - that in the event of real danger their chances for flight will not present serious difficulties.

Immediately after the arrival of the East Zone Jewish leaders on January 14 and 15, the JDC, working in closest co-operation with the Berlin Community, launched an assistance program. In the Jewish Hospital in Berlin, in the Headquarters building of the Jewish Community, as well as in a large villa which we rented for this purpose, the people were housed, fed and clothed. Financial assistance was granted for those people who were able to secure private rooms in West Berlin. In addition, advances were made for purchase of immediate household necessities, and in some instances loans were made for establishing or re-establishing of businesses. We spent approximately DM 150,000,- in Berlin between January and September for assistance to these people.

During Passover we appropriated funds for Seders for the refugees. These Seders were most impressive, and the Columbia Broadcasting System televised on April 5, 1953 one of the Seders over the "See it Now" program, on a nation wide hook-up.

During the month of April, in line with its refugee evacuation policy, the city of Berlin began to fly out Jewish refugees to the Western areas of Germany. About 400 of the original group of 600 refugees have been flown out to date.

On March 22, Mr. Jordan and I met with representatives of the Zentralrat, Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle and the communities in Bad Nauheim and worked out a system of temporary support for East Zone Refugees who had been relocated in the Federal area. In order to strengthen the hand of the Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle, we agreed that the various communities would channel their requests for assistance for the refugees in their areas through the Council\*, and the Council would be the only contact for the JDC.

While we have adhered to this system we are far from satisfied with the way it works. The fault lies primarily in the absence of good leadership in the welfare organization. The fact is that they have acted merely as a post office, routing automatically the requests sent to them. This has caused unfortunate delays in transmission of funds so that the ultimate recipient suffered. The fact that the office of the Welfare Organization is not centrally located, also has been a real handicap in quickly resolving administrative problems.

During the months of May - September (inclusive) we disbursed through the Welfare Council a total of DM 85,000.- which together with the 150,000.- expended in Berlin represents our expenditure to date on behalf of East Zone refugees.

There remains a good deal to be done on this front. Many requests for integration loans are being considered and as soon as an acceptable method is established, loans to between 15 and 25 East Zone refugees will be made. It is anticipated that the average loan will be between DM 2,500.- and 3,000.-. In this, as well as in other connections, the establishment of a loan kassa will serve a most useful purpose.

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\* Central Welfare Council



THE SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT:

We are now in a much better position to evaluate the concept which we discussed a year ago of the organization of a unit within the country operation to study the camp problems and to undertake steps leading toward the closing of the camps. It is worth while to re-examine what was said at the last Country Directors Conference on this issue, in view of the developments during the first nine months of the functioning of this department.

Let me enumerate the difficulties which I stressed a year ago, which would face the group ostensibly assigned the responsibility for the liquidation of the camps in Germany and Austria. I then indicated the following important considerations:

- 1) That the psychology of the people would play a vital role in any effort to integrate them into the economy.
- 2) The fact that most of the people do not want to live in a German city, are in fact incapable of adjustment because of language, anti-semitism and other difficulties.
- 3) That the chances of employment opportunities for most of the people were sub-marginal.
- 4) That the problem of housing would be a serious deterrent to moving the people out of the camp.
- 5) That many were sick and an economic adjustment would seem to be difficult.
- 6) That the Jewish communities are weak and to a large extent leaderless, and finally,
- 7) That life in Foehrenwald provides for most of the creature comforts, and for many, these are perhaps comparable to what they knew in the past in their own Polish shtetl.

It did not require a crystal ball nor extraordinary powers of foresight to envisage the above difficulties. Years of experience with the German scene and with our residual load focused these difficulties into plain view, and regretfully the experience to date only serves to re-affirm our original misgivings.

It has been clear for some time that the original broad conception of the functions of such a unit were not based on reality, neither from the psychological aspect of the people involved, nor of the economic, social and political realities of the German scene.

It is clear and beyond argument that the JDC cannot close Camp Foehrenwald - not if we have twenty top social workers, medical social workers, psychiatric social workers, doctors, psychiatrists, nurses, vocational guidance experts and administrators, instead as we now have one professional and one medical social worker. The complex problems in all their ramifications involved in the ultimate closure of the camp leaves us with only one conclusion, namely, that the Germans and the Germans alone are the final arbiters of when and to a large extent how the camp will be closed.

Let us take a look at some of the actual experiences of the Social Service Division during the few months of its existence. Thus far, a total of nine cases, comprising 24 persons were moved from Foehrenwald and integrated into the German economy. The last case integrated was in the month of July, and since then no one left the camp as a result of action taken by this department. Why is this so? In the light of experience the following points should be stated, even though they may repeat our prognosis of last year:

In the first place, the camp offers a sort of financial, political and personal security which the people believe they cannot find in the world outside of the camp, and the apparent fact that for many - if not most - of them, the conditions in Foehrenwald are not too bad, provide for their creature comforts in a reasonable way, and when they compare their former life find that it is at least as good, if not better; secondly, unfulfilled promises of cash grants which the Germans made have held some back, many of whom may not even be entitled to these grants; thirdly, hopes created by the passage of the Refugee Relief Act 1953; fourth, they compare their "income" (welfare) from the Germans and the supplementation from the "Joint" with their potential income as workers on the open market and find that "it does not pay to get to work".

Perhaps it would be useful to cite a specific example of the problem involved in the solution of a specific group of camp inmates. After considerable effort we succeeded in arranging with the Jewish Community in Munich, and with not unimportant assistance from the Germans, for a group of aged people to be given more or less permanent placement in a first class Jewish Old Age Home in Munich. The building is new and the accommodations are of the best, in every respect. And yet out of some 112 people who in one way or another were considered as eligible, only five decided to give up Foehrenwald and move into the home. To understand some of the complexities involved in this problem, I quote from an analysis made by the director of the department:

"In general, the major issue for the Fohrenwalders might be expressed as their fear of life in a "gilded cage", as it were. All could see that there was no comparison between their primitive way of living in camp and the more civilized amenities of life in the Altersheim. But rough as life is in camp, it is doch free. One can manage one's few marks as one likes in camp; one can eat the kind and quantity of food one is used to. Inevitably much of the discussed hinged on the availability of pocket money as a symbol of individual freedom...."

"Nevertheless, when the smoke of battle cleared away a number of weeks later, we found that out of a group of 112 persons included in the Project, only five could finally be admitted to the Altersheim...."

"Why were the results of this Project so meager? A glance at the appended statistical summary tells most of the story which can be summed up as the extremely complex character of the individual family situation and the difficulty of fitting it into projects designed for groups. In other words, each situation seems to require an individual solution, custom-tailored to fit that particular case.

"In this old age study we see again the atypical family composition characteristic of the DP group, - older men having lost wives and children, are now remarried to women a generation or more younger than themselves. This shows up in our study in the form of 20 wives obviously too young to enter an Altersheim.

"Likewise, no candidates could be looked for in the 19 family groups having an old parent, or parents, where separation would not be considered.

"The Orthodox group presented us with some challenging problems which we tried to meet. Although the Altersheim conducts a kosher kitchen, our Orthodox group would not consider going into the Home unless they could do their own cooking, which was, of course, out of question. We offered to supply a mashgiach acceptable to the group, at considerable expense to AJD - to no avail. Actually it was probably a good thing that this group would not go along, because their fanatic Orthodoxy and chassidic outlook equate with other personality quirks which would have made them unacceptable to the Altersheim.

"In the case of the chronic invalids, we offered to supply a doctor and nurse to the Altersheim, but the management felt that the entire character of the Home would have to be changed to meet the needs of this group of severely handicapped persons.

"The same considerations applied with even greater force to the group having severe personality problems up to and including mental disorders.

"When we consider all the factors enumerated above, we must come to the conclusion that in this Project virtually all the reasons given for refusal of candidates to enter the Altersheim were valid.

"Although the net results of the Project were absurdly disproportionate to the time and effort invested in it, a few useful by-products have accrued. We now have some basic information concerning 91 family units in which there are one or more old persons. Our discussions with these people have served to alert them to the necessity of actively planning for themselves with such help as we can give them. We have earmarked a number of these cases for early assignment to the Social Service Department for follow-up especially in the groups wishing to go to Israel, those having a fair chance to emigrate to other countries, and those wishing to be integrated into the German economy."

These are the facts of life as we know them in the camp. What to do about them? As I already said, I am convinced that the JDC cannot itself close the camp, but can help the Germans do so, and the Germans, apparently intend doing it. The Social Service and other departments will assist, so that the transfer of the people into various aspects of the German economy shall be made in as intelligent, humane and sympathetic a manner as possible, leading to readier integration of the people.

When we concluded that the so-called Study-Action Team, as originally conceived, was not practical, we established the Social Service Department, with personnel assigned to the camps in Austria and in Foehrenwald. A caseload averaging 150 was assigned to the department in Foehrenwald, and problems concerning these cases were generally handled by the workers of this department in co-operation with staff members of other departments.

There is room for discussion as to whether the concepts, theories and practice of social work as practiced in normal communities are worth while and useful in a DP camp. My own opinion is that it is, by and large futile, leads to even greater dependence of the clients, and must fail in what surely is a goal in all normal environments, namely to create a sense of self-reliance and practical expression of helping people to help themselves. As the director of the department herself so well expressed it, "rehabilitation does not take place in a vacuum and that is precisely what the DP camps are."

In the sense that the objective factors in a camp militate against these constructive steps, then social work can and in fact to an extent does create a greater sense of dependence and as such can be harmful rather than productive of good for the clients. For these, and other reasons, we have hesitated to bring in the full complement of personnel originally envisaged for this department. We in fact did not need them nor did we see what useful function they could perform. The only kind of social work, which in my opinion would be useful, for the people in the camp is, that leading to their permanent rehabilitation, and I submit that this is not possible so long as the people are in the camp.

When, however, the Germans begin to move people into the communities, then there will be a very real need for a number of professional people of the categories mentioned previously, for assistance to the people and to the various communities when they are distributed throughout the Federal Republic. When this situation develops, we shall request the necessary assignment of personnel to the German operation, for such a period of time, as may be necessary, for the constructive integration of the camp people into the various communities and institutions wherever they may be settled after removal from Foshrenwald.

#### MEDICAL:

The Medical Department in Germany continues to have important functions, and we shall probably need such a department so long as we have a program in that country. The department, in addition to day to day work in Foshrenwald, engages German consultants for a variety of diagnostic and therapeutic purposes; works together with German offices for suitable medical attention and placement of sick camp people; visits patients in German hospitals and the mentally ill in German mental institutions; maintains an active program in Gauting including an Occupational Therapy Program; supervises and controls the functions of the Munich Health Center; maintains close contact with German institutions housing mentally retarded and defective children; carries on a program of nursing supervision; contributes medicaments; provides orthopaedic shoes, eye-glasses, dental care not furnished by the Germans; supervises pharmacy and medical supplies in the camp; stimulates communities to assume responsibility for sick people in hospitals located in nearby areas. A very important part of the responsibility of the department is to see to it that the Germans provide for the medical requirements of the camp population, and to improve medical facilities.

The department's major concern is the medical situation in Foehrenwald and Gauting, and in Munich among our relief cases who are serviced by the Health Center.

Following is a tabulation of our Medical Hard Core Cases, as of September 1, 1953: 1)

Types of illness	Foehrenwald	Gauting	Other institutions	Non-institutional	Total:
Open tuberculosis	-	56	9	4	69
Post tuberculosis	269	74)	-	93	369
Chronic sick and other physically disabled	130 <sup>2)</sup>	-	3	93	226
Mental cases	17	-	20	7	44
Aged	31 <sup>3)</sup>	-	-	-	31
Total:	447	63	32	197	739

HARD CORE TRANSPORTS:

I. NORWAY

Discussions with Norway for a second hard-core transport in fact began not long after the first transport departed in the summer of 1952. A Selection Mission of eight Norwegian officials arrived in Germany in April 1953, and in July, 53 persons departed for permanent resettlement in Norway. Among these were 30 sick and 23 family members, and included eight children.

- 1) Not included in this tabulation are 405 people in old age homes located in various communities in Germany.
- 2) Including 20 chronic patients in Camp-Hospital.
- 3) These 31 are not medical hard-core but healthy aged persons, not requiring special medical care. 35 other aged, but with a medical condition are included in the various medical categories.
- 4) Rehabilitation Center in Gauting Sanatorium.

The experience with the 1952 transport of sick people was altogether satisfactory, and since every reasonable care and precaution was taken in the process of selection for this year's group, there is every reason to feel that for most of these people a satisfactory solution has been found.

## II. SWEDEN

Discussions began in Stockholm by Mr. Jordan and Dr. Gonik many months ago, culminated in the passage of an Act by the Swedish Parliament, authorizing the admission of a total of 25 tuberculous cases plus 55 family members. Two Swedish Government officials arrived in Munich in August for the purpose of selecting these cases. The Medical and Social Service Departments preselected and prescreened cases to be presented to the Mission and the two man selection team finally selected a total of 62 persons, among whom were 27 sick and 35 family members. Included in the group were 17 children. The transport departed for Sweden on October 7. Of the 27 patients, 8 were from Gauting Sanatorium, 13 from Foehrenwald and 6 from communities in Germany and Austria.

Interestingly enough, the Swedish project did not create as much interest and enthusiasm as the one for Norway. The reports which have trickled back from the people who went there last year, reflected a feeling that not enough interest was taken in giving constructive aid to effect a sound readjustment. This contrasted sharply with the information which reached us from the people resettled in Norway. Despite these reports, however, 62 persons were accepted and left for Sweden.

Although hard-core schemes, such as the one for Norway and Sweden, do not solve or resolve the overall problem of the continued existence of the camps, they are nevertheless important in the solution of the problems for those who are selected. The longer the residual group - whether sick or well people - remain in camps, the more difficult will be our ultimate resolution of this problem. In Gauting Tuberculosis Sanatorium, for example, our experience shows that far from all the possible candidates meeting the Swedish scheme criteria were interested in accepting the opportunity. Out of a possible 57 potentially eligible patients only 18 registered for the project and 8 were accepted. The 39 potentially eligible did not register for a variety of reasons, among which we can list the following:

- a) The ever remaining hope of a cure and going to the States.
- b) Sweden is too close to the USSR and in case of war they will have placed themselves in a more dangerous situation than they are in already.

- c) There is no real Jewish Community life in Sweden.
- d) The difficulties of adjustment of the well members of the family.
- e) Their present material situation is not bad - their creature comforts are taken care of by the Germans, and the JDC assistance provides for their day to day extra requirements.
- f) Their families manage reasonably well in Foehrenwald, and finally
- g) The fear of change - any change - after years of helplessness and dependence.

Despite these difficulties over 100 persons nevertheless did accept resettlement opportunities in Norway and Sweden. Similar projects in other countries ought to be further explored. The scheme for taking a group of hard to resettle people to England has aroused a good deal of interest. A scheme for TB cases to Denmark has been mentioned. Working as we now are on a case by case basis, the re-establishment of small groups of camp living people into normal communities outside of Germany is the only sound approach, and at the same time reduces our ultimate problem, both as to quantity and quality of cases to be integrated into the German economy.

### III. CUSTODIAL CARE CASES:

The problem of the hospital in the camp has engaged our attention on many occasions. When Dr. Golub visited this hospital he recommended, that "an effort should be made to remove from the Camp Foehrenwald infirmity the patients with chronic diseases and transfer them to other existing German hospitals or wherever possible to rehabilitate them." (P.75) No one disagrees with this viewpoint, but one thing that is perfectly clear to us, is that there is an integral relationship between the camp and the hospital. The only way this hospital can or will be liquidated is when the camp as an entity ceases to exist. There is a real possibility that some of these chronics will at the point of the liquidation of the camp be willing to go to Israel, their only other alternative being transfer to German institutions. There are "patients" who resist any effort to aid them, and it is the feeling of the Medical Department that only when faced with a forcible change in their status will they be willing and able to face up to the realities of their lives.



The majority of these have been dependent on institutional care for years. Some of them are seriously handicapped persons and will continue to require institutional care. If no possibilities are found in other countries for the care of these people, they will, when the decision to close Fohrenwald takes on actual form, be removed to various German institutions. There are some real arguments which can be raised against their integration into the German economy, and it may be anticipated that strong resistance will be offered by this group when efforts are made to remove them from the camp or from the infirmary at such time when the German authorities decide to close the camp. It is strongly recommended that a project or projects be developed in some other country where this small number of people could be accommodated.

#### IV. MENTALLY DEFECTIVE AND RETARDED CHILDREN:

There are a total of 19 such children known to us in Germany. Nine of these children are in German installations, the parents having resettled, and ten whose parents are still in Germany, who either live with them or are in an institution. We have corresponded with Paris and Geneva on this problem and it is hoped that a solution can yet be found. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has recently indicated an interest, and we feel that these children should not be left in Germany, after JDC pulls out. Arrangements with some European Government should, therefore, be worked out, if the costs are not prohibitive, for the life care of these defective and retarded children.

#### V. GAUTING:

It is gratifying to be able to report a continuing decrease in the number of Jewish patients in this installation. It will be recalled that in 1948 there were 430 of our patients in this institution or almost 50% of the total! Today, out of 1200 Gauting patients the Jewish groups number 63 or 5.4%. Most of the discharged patients went to Fohrenwald, many emigrated, some were removed through hard-core projects. The percentage of Jewish tuberculosis patients who died in Gauting was infinitesimal compared to deaths among the non-Jewish. I think our generous attitude throughout the years on behalf of the Gauting patients has been instrumental in their better adjustment after leaving the hospital, and has helped considerably to cut down the death rate.

The number of our patients in the institution continues to decrease (see attached chart), but there are some very sick, "bad chronics" among them, for whom no cure is foreseen. However, the hospital compares rather favorably with other TB institutions, and discipline, which was loose in the past, has recently been tightened up. A comparatively small number of

Gauting patients registered for Norway and Sweden. Some of these patients have been ill for years, and were rejected last year by either the Norwegian or Swedish Missions, or by both. Some are not interested in leaving for other reasons: restitution payments, regular pensions, other sources in income give them a sense of security which they have not had for years and they are loath to part with it. Some have married German women or have German girl friends and are committed to remain here. We are carefully examining our Gauting load on a case by case basis to determine whether assistance should be continued for those patients who are not interested in emigration from Germany.

As the number of patients decreases, it may be, from a longer viewpoint, more advisable for the Medical Department to take a less active interest in the patients, to make the patients more self-reliant and dependent upon the German economy only, which will in any event, be the case when we finally pull out of Germany. Our assistance program to the patients is in process of re-examination, with this end in view.

While the Sanatorium is basically a German responsibility, the JDC provides a special permanent medical consultant, specialist treatment, payment for surgery in special cases, medicaments, nursing, social and welfare services, an Occupational Therapy Program and special welfare grants.

#### VI. THE MUNICH HEALTH CENTER:

As originally conceived, the Munich Health Center was to be the successor of our Medical Department. Toward the end of 1951, we planned the Health Center on the theory of the liquidation of the Medical Department. The continued existence, however, of Gauting and Foehrenwald also meant the continuation of the Medical Department and the Health Center was, therefore, restricted in its operation to medical care for the needy Jews in Munich.

The Center is located in the Community building in Munich. Both the physician and the secretary in charge, are on the JDC payroll, and all costs of the Center are defrayed by the JDC. They are in effect an integral part of our Medical Department.

The degree of activity of the clinic can be seen from a report prepared by Dr. Molnar and Dr. Sommerfeld.

Number of visits at Munich Health Center  
November 1951 - August 1953

Month :	1951	1952	1953
January :		322	316
February :		337	266
March :		341	286
April :		216	237
May :		276	230
June :		237	285
July :		231	225
August :		216	182
September :		160	
October :		235	
November :	214	162	
December :	273	164	
Total :	487	2897	2027

Grand Total: 5411

As can be seen from the table the total number of visits from the opening of the Center in November 1951 through August 1953 was 5411.

The Health Center performs a variety of medical services, including diagnosis, laboratory and X-ray examinations, arrangements for specialist consultations, filling out of prescriptions for eye-glasses, dental services, etc., and acts as an advisor to the clients as to their rights under the German sick insurance funds. Examinations are performed for emigrants to Israel and other countries.

When Dr. Golub visited this Center he recommended improvements, some of which we have been able to introduce, including the purchase of a microscope and establishment of a small laboratory.

It is still our plan and hope, as it was originally when the Health Center was established, that it shall ultimately replace the Medical Department, and we feel that it has improved, is rendering a service, and will be able to function in a sound manner, when we are ready to close

our department. We have improved the services rendered but only after the Community itself shows a greater interest, is prepared to co-operate more actively, and to accept a greater responsibility should we enlarge this center to be in a position to render a greater variety of medical services.

To summarize, a Medical Department will be required in the German operation practically as long as we have a JDC office there. The department performs many functions and contributes greatly to the well being of the people in the camp, to the people in the camp hospital, to the patients in Gauting, and finally to the needy Jews in Munich through the Health Center in the Munich Community. Our service to the camp population including the visit of a gynecologist, pediatrician, physical therapist and other consultants, our health program in the camp kindergarten, and the Health Education Program conducted for the kindergarten and youth center personnel, all are among the constructive and brighter aspects in an otherwise bleak atmosphere to be found in the camp.

Dr. Golub in his "Recommendations for Germany Program" (P. 75) proposed a "new and careful survey" of all persons suffering with mental and physical disabilities, "leading to an intensification of the efforts toward rehabilitation, migration and restoration to usefulness and gainful employment". Dr. Golub then described the types of classification which should be made. With all due respect to Dr. Golub, I should like to say that we have all the information we need, and can get additional data when and if necessary; that is not our problem, but rather to find enough suitable placement opportunities in other countries so as to remove from Germany all those who want to leave; and finally to see to it that the Germans provide suitable possibilities in German institutions for the residuals who do not intend to emigrate.

#### EMIGRATION DEPARTMENT:

We are working in the Emigration Department with a residual load of people who for many reasons have been unable to emigrate in the past, either because of a medical, security or other rejection, or do not have the stamina to risk another move and accept their present camp existence and the Israeli returnees who are not eligible or are not desired by a number of countries, and prefer to wait in the camp, hoping in the end to secure US or Canadian visas.

The work of the Emigration Department in 1953 is not at all comparable with previous years during which mass emigration predominated. The work now represents a much more skilled and difficult case by case consideration, and the results achieved are certainly not in proportion to the effort. Although our three branch offices, Hamburg, Berlin and Frankfurt, during the first eight months of this year emigrated only 77 persons - an average of less than ten persons per month - the service rendered to the interest clients justifies the retention of these offices despite the meager results achieved.

There are many reasons for people not moving out even when they have an opportunity to do so. The resistance to change increases as the residual group becomes more "hard core" in their thinking, the feeling that going to any country - except the USA - is exchanging something worse for something better which they have in the camp, waiting for restitution or a monthly pension which they are receiving, the passage of a new Act by the U.S. Government, statements by the Germans that they will pay a lump sum to people leaving the camp, and delaying implementation - these and other reasons act as a very real hindrance to the work of the Emigration Department.

Nevertheless many find life in the camp intolerable and want to get out, often to a country where an adjustment will not be easy, and as will be seen from table II, 200 people emigrated from the camp during the first nine months of this year.

During the first eight months of this year, January - August, a total of 397 persons left Germany for permanent resettlement in other countries. The largest number 160 or 40% emigrated to the United States; 93 or 23% left for various South American countries, 61 or 16% left for Canada, and all other countries accounted for 83 or 21%. (Tables III and IV).

For purposes of comparison we have included table V showing departure figures for 1952. Whereas 1702 persons departed from Germany under JDC auspices during 1952, during the first eight months of 1953 only 397 have emigrated. Our estimate for the entire year is 600 or less than 50% of our total for 1952. Included in our estimate of 600 are the two hard-core transports to Norway and Sweden, comprising about 100 persons.

We have a total of 1475 cases representing 3076 persons registered with our four emigration offices. Somewhat over 60% are registered for the U.S.A. (It should be noted that this is a duplicated figure representing some dual registrations, the unduplicated count as of 31 August 1953 was 1259 cases representing 2607 persons).

Registration figures for Israel are excluded from the above. On 17 February 1953 the Jewish Agency for Palestine resumed responsibility for Israeli emigration, which service had been performed for almost two years by the JDC.

US EMIGRATION:

The present US caseload in all Germany is 1932 persons (table VI). The potential for US emigration cannot be viewed optimistically. All told during 1953, practically somewhat over 200 persons will leave Germany for the USA as compared with a figure of 1150 during 1952.

Our active caseload for potential US is 608 persons (table VI). This is based on the cut-off date of the 3c provision of the DP Act, normal good quota registration and other factors. On the basis of this breakdown we appear to have 204 persons who may be visaed within the life of the 3c provision of the DP Act. This figure, however, is a maximum since among these people are included those who had previous rejections, generally due to medical grounds. In view of all the uncertainties it is almost impossible to predict the number of the active caseload, who will eventually be visaed. Also included in this figure are some Israeli returnees, some aged German Jews and others, who may never receive a visa.

While it is too early to evaluate the effects of the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 as far as our caseload in Germany is concerned, there is no reason for optimism. Of the 2100 people now living in Foehrenwald, about 1000 may be excluded because they are returnees from Israel; a substantial number (see medical) suffer or have suffered from an excludable disease; and others were rejected under the DP Act for a variety of reasons, which will probably affect their efforts to secure admittance under the new law, and the tight security measures under the new law will certainly keep many of our clients out. But in addition to these difficulties, the act itself is not conducive to bright hopes for solving our Foehrenwald problem. The provision of the new law that assurances must be provided by a "citizen or citizens" who assume a very real responsibility for the sponsored case, will certainly affect the number of cases sponsored, since in our judgement few of the Foehrenwald clients will find this type of a sponsor in the U.S. Our refugees, particularly in Foehrenwald, but probably to a much lesser extent in Hallein and Asten, may or may not even be eligible and we shall have to wait for the regulations in order to determine this. One thing is perfectly clear, and that is that the new law, if it has any effect at all on our load, may have it only "in the long run". But we are, I am convinced, working against time, in the

need to close Foehrenwald. The new law will certainly not be of real assistance to us in this purpose for even if some of our clients manage to get through, it will be a long and time consuming process. An interesting possibility exists for at least some of the Israeli returnees in the appended statement to the Act that, "while no definition is contained in the Act, the conferees wish to state that the term "firm resettlement" as applied to prospective beneficiaries of this legislation is not designed automatically to exclude aliens from the refugee category, by law or edict, granted full or limited citizenship rights and privileges in any area of their present residence". We shall watch with real interest the interpretation of this statement.

One negative effect the Bill will surely have. We have already noted that people are waiting to see what their chances are, and are no longer as interested as they were in second or third choices for permanent resettlement. America is still Number One choice for most of our DP's and even if it is unreal for them to wait they will in most cases probably decide to do so nevertheless. In this respect the new law may even come to eventually be regarded as an unfortunate development.

Despite these negative aspects, it will nevertheless necessitate a careful staffing for the case by case handling of our clients. It may be necessary to place additional trained personnel in our Headquarters offices in Munich, Salzburg and Vienna.

#### CANADA

We had hoped that negotiations which the Canadian Jewish Congress had been carrying on would produce results and that 100 hard-core cases might find a haven in Canada. It is more than one year since the discussions began with Mr. Saul Hayes, concerning this project. In view of the entire Foehrenwald complex it is still to be earnestly hoped that some success will be achieved.

Despite of all the restrictions and difficulties which are placed in the way of potential migrants to Canada, approximately 75 persons will leave for that country during 1953. Rejections on security grounds still - as in the past - constitute the major reason for rejection of applicants. During the months of May and July 1953, 98 persons reported to the Canadian Mission. Of these 98, 52 were rejected on "security grounds", 6 on medical and 40 are still pending with security. It must be pointed out that a pre-selection and pre-screening process takes place which eliminates many others, who never have an opportunity to appear before the Mission; despite this the rejection rate is appalling.

AUSTRALIA:

There seems to be very little interest in emigration to Australia. There are 28 people with Landing Permits who have not taken advantage of the opportunity to depart from Germany. Only 11 persons departed for Australia in the nine month period January - August 1953.

NORWAY:

53 persons left on a hard-core transport on July 22, 44 originating in Germany and 9 in Austria. (See Medical Section).

SWEDEN:

62 persons left on a hard-core transport on October 7. (See Medical Section).

SOUTH AMERICA:

A year ago I was able to state that South American countries "have become a sort of Mecca to our people". People were desperately trying to get out of the camp - and all other emigration possibilities were too remote. Over 100 persons emigrated in 1952 to Bolivia and Paraguay despite undesirable economic conditions in these countries, and we stopped this movement only after receiving instructions to do so. We registered a few hundred people to Argentina, but did not receive a single permit. Often through all sorts of devious ways "machers" began operating involving first Bolivian and later Brazilian visas, and only strong measures on our part stopped this under the table visa production. But it does serve to show that given proper conditions and good possibilities of integration in South American countries, a substantial number of our Foehrenwald population may still choose these countries. Despite the fact that many of the people are waiting for something to develop, I am convinced that when the Germans really begin to move in the direction of closing the camp, South American emigration may again loom important in the thinking of the people, and many may choose a South American country in preference to integration in Germany.

Brazil

A group of "machers" or operators, one of them with fairly high connections particularly in Brazil, have operated a visa production



racket. It was a wide open operation and no attempt was made to conceal the fact that these operators were working in closest cooperation with the Brazilian Consul located in Frankfurt. The brazenness of one operator went so far, as to include advertisements in the Yiddish press, writing of letters to the Camp Committee, stirring up people, especially the strong arm boys, in the camp, to compel the Jewish organizations to "co-operate", and to grant money for the purchasing of visas through the operator. There was no question at all, that he was able to "deliver the goods", whereas efforts to secure visas in the normal course of events, more often than not, proved fruitless. It is known that in some cases persons from the camp secured their Brazilian, as well as Bolivian visas through the operators, but this phase of South American emigration practically ceased when we refused to yield to pressures to grant special assistance for defraying of these visa costs.

With Mr. Horwitz's visit to South America in August a systematized method was developed of handling potential emigrants to Brazil. A survey was recently made in the camp in order to establish as well as possible, the number of people who are really interested to go to Brazil. Out of 103 persons of the residual group interviewed only 3 were ready to go; the recent returnees made a better showing and 35 indicated their desire to emigrate to Brazil. All - or most of these people - were under the influence of the new Refugee Act and hoped to "make it", others were going to wait for special grants from the Germans, the Conference, or for something else. What seemed clear was that none were in a great hurry to go anywhere. As the Director of the Emigration Department puts it, "the attitude of the people interviewed reflected an overall optimism and they all felt that they could take a chance in prolonging their emigration and were willing to leave their fate in the general solution of the camp population".

#### Uruguay

On August 31, our Uruguayan caseload covered 33 cases or 85 persons. Only one person left Germany for Uruguay so far this year. Among other requirements the Consul who is located in Hamburg, demands the following documents for each case:

- 1) Certificate from a German authority that applicant will be readmitted to Germany.
- 2) Certificate from German authorities that applicant is not a member of a political party.

- 3) Good Conduct Certificates and certification as to political relationships for all applicants who resided in countries other than Germany during a period of five years. Such certificates issued outside of Germany must be certified by the Uruguayan Consul in the respective country.

Since most of our applicants for Uruguay (as for other South American countries) are Israeli returnees, the above stipulation will present real difficulties, and it will take a long time to process these cases now in the hands of the Consul. A very lengthy procedure is involved in processing applicants for Uruguay, and it does not seem that too many of our cases will get through to that country.

#### Argentina

Although the number of clients registered for Argentina far outnumber the total for all other South American countries, we have emigrated only two persons to this country during the first eight months of this year. The hopes of sending a substantial number of our cases to Argentina failed to materialize, and although there are many applicants, unless some arrangement is made with the Argentinian Government, this country must be written off, at least temporarily, as a potential haven for our would be emigrants. On the basis of Field Letter # 97, dated 18 August 1952, registration for Argentina was carried out, and between September 17 and December 18, 1952, we sent to our Cooperating Committee in Argentina a total of 170 cases consisting of 343 persons. To date we have had no response of any sort, not a single Labor Permit being obtained for any of our applicants.

We will have emigrated by the end of this year around 600 persons. Included in this figure is, of course, the two hard-core transports to Norway and Sweden, so that in effect around 100 has to be deducted from this figure, since these two transports cannot be regarded as normal emigration.

A comparison of our 1953 emigration with that of 1952, therefore, reveals a decrease of over 60%.

In trying to predict for the balance of this year, and for 1954, certain factors must be considered.

In the first place, there is a large residue of people in the camp, who are to all intents and purposes excluded from emigration because of illness - this group (See Medical Section) is a substantial number, and together with their families constitute approximately 700 persons, all or most of whom are long time camp residents; there is another group among the "old timers" who by now, have no real interest in emigration, find their useless lives satisfactory and appear to be satisfied to remain on relief for the rest of their lives. These two groups will eventually have to be integrated into the German economy by the German authorities.

Then there are the returnees - We can figure in this group about 700 persons who arrived in the camp during this year and are not eligible to work or to remain in Germany, except that the German authorities have agreed not to deport them for a six month period which expires on 17 February 1954. I do not believe the Germans will modify the proposals made in Geneva on August 9 and in Bonn on September 1. For these 700 an urgency to emigrate exists - but the only possibility appears to be South America, and most of them are not interested in South America, and their chances to emigrate to Canada or to the USA are certainly not bright.

There remains, therefore, only a few hundred who are really interested or who will go to any country other than Canada or the USA. Since we must assume that there will not be many who will be able to emigrate to these two countries, we must conclude that the liquidation of Foehrenwald will surely not come about as a result of emigration. Were we to wait for the closing of the camp through the emigration process, I fear that the camp is here to stay, until the Germans undertake measures to close it.

#### CONCLUSIONS:

During the past year Germany has moved from the role of a defeated nation to that of a coveted partner in the democratic alliance. The Federal Republic of Germany is today a member of a number of important World and European Organizations. The recent phenomenal victory of Chancellor Adenauer has not only strengthened the forces of the middle of the road, but has probably brought nearer the complete re-establishment of total sovereignty. The victory of Adenauer and his party also appears to have strengthened the chances of the ratification of the contractual and the European Defense Community agreements.

The JDC's work with various branches of the German Government will necessarily involve much closer working relationships in the future. Together with other Voluntary Agencies, we have already been in contact with the Bonn authorities on a number of occasions, in order to secure special concessions such as are generally granted to diplomatic missions. The Federal authorities appear to look with favor on most of our requests, and we will undoubtedly receive certain concessions, involving taxes, licencing of vehicles, imports of certain items, rebates on gas and oil, etc.

JDC's relations with both Bavarian and Bonn authorities will, in the future, assume much greater importance, than they have had in the past. On almost every issue involving the ultimate closing of Foehrenwald intimate contacts with the authorities will have to be maintained. We have been in steady contact with the Germans on the multifarious issues involving the problem of the returnees and of the camp. These contacts will no doubt have to continue on an even expanded level in the future. There is, to be sure, a real need to "watch our step" here. The thorny problem of the returnees which the authorities would like to shift to us, and to other Jewish organizations, must be resisted, since the problem is basically theirs and not ours. We have not seen the end of this problem. Despite the "freeze", new returnees are arriving in substantial numbers, and we are again faced with the problem of assisting them, many of whom are, beyond a doubt, needy. Should we cope with this problem through police methods, or should we assume a humane attitude, and invite the inevitable consequence of more and more returnees coming to Germany? Our Salzburg Office met this problem on a much smaller scale than exists in Germany head on in July, and because of its attitude may have stopped new returnees from seeking a haven in Austria. But our office was far from happy about the solution, and wrote us, "Our pride in this achievement is greatly diminished by the conviction that there were among the object of our treatment Jews who obviously have very real problems, which we were not only unable to meet, but even to consider".

The Foehrenwald problem will present bigger and better headaches in the future than it has in the past, when the Germans take the first step to move people out. We should at that time announce a definite closing date of our operation. Without this, I feel, that the people will not leave the camp and that there may be real resistance. Such an announcement, in my opinion, will be important and may even be of crucial significance.

There will be a real need for professional staff to assist in the integration of the camp people into German cities, and planning for this should start as soon as possible.

Further efforts in the direction of arrangements with Norway, Sweden and other countries should be made in order to take out from Germany as many of our hard-core cases as possible. Such arrangements will be even more significant in the future than in the past in view of the fact that the Foehrenwald problem is reaching a climax. Such hard-core transports should involve not only the tuberculous cases, but also the aged and the chronically ill.

Relationships with the Jewish organizations in Germany - particularly the "Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland" and the Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle - will have to be watched and carefully cultivated during the coming months. The activities of these organizations, as they affect the World Jewish Organizations generally, and the J.D.C. specifically, have recently shown disruptive tendencies and it may be necessary to mobilize important Jewish leadership in order to hold them in line.



TABLE I

JEWISH POPULATION IN GERMANY AND NUMBER ASSISTED

JUNE 1953

Area:	Population:	Number Cases	Assisted Persons
BADEN	361	65	143
<u>BAVARIA</u>			
Fohrenwald	2100 **	653	1406
Communities	4024	806	1773
HESSEN	1604	317	697
WUERTEMBERG ***	547	-	-
BRITISH ZONE	4500 *	135	341
FRENCH ZONE ***	500 *	-	-
<u>BERLIN</u>			
West Sectors	4028 **	113)	206)
East Sector	1757 **	185)	375)
EAST ZONE	700 *	)	)
TOTAL	20,121	2,274	4,941

\* estimated

\*\* as of 27 August 1953

\*\*\* no assistance program in these areas

TABLE II

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMIGRATED FROM CAMP FOEHRENWALD BY COUNTRY & MONTHS

JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 1953

COUNTRY OF END DESTINATION	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT.	TOTAL
Argentina	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Australia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Bolivia	8	-	3	3	-	4	-	1	-	19
Brazil	-	-	-	-	10	1	11	-	4	26
Canada	4	8	1	2	3	3	12	1	2	36
Israel	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	29
Paraguay	2	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	6
Sweden	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	3
USA	5	3	7	8	2	19	6	14	5	69
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>200</b>

TABLE III

DEPARTURES BY BRANCH OFFICES AND END DESTINATIONS

JANUARY THROUGH AUGUST 1953

COUNTRY OF END DESTINATION	MUNICH	FRANKFURT	HAMBURG	BERLIN	TOTAL
Argentina	1	-	-	1	2
Australia	3	-	1	7	11
Bolivia	30	-	-	-	30
Brazil	37	2	3	3	45
Canada	45	3	6	7	61
Chile	-	-	-	1	1
Dominican Rep.	1	-	-	-	1
France	-	-	-	1	1
Israel	14	2	-	-	16
Norway	44	-	2	-	46
Paraguay	10	3	-	1	14
South Africa	2	-	-	-	2
Spain	2	-	-	-	2
Sweden	3	-	1	-	4
Uruguay	1	-	-	-	1
USA	127	12	7	14	160
CUMULAT. TOTAL	320	22	20	35	397



TABLE IV

DEPARTURE FIGURES BY BRANCH OFFICES AND MONTHS

JANUARY - AUGUST 1953

MONTH	MUNICH	FRANKFURT	HAMBURG	BERLIN	TOTAL
January	34	-	2	4	40
February	37	2	-	7	46
March	22	4	1	4	31
April	39	9	3	-	51
May	35	-	5	6	46
June	48	5	4	6	63
July	81	2	5	5	93
August	24	-	-	3	27
CUMULAT. TOTAL	320	22	20	35	397

TABLE V

DEPARTURE FIGURES 1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 1952

(a) BY BRANCH OFFICES AND END DESTINATION

COUNTRY OF END DESTINATION	MUNICH	FRANKFURT	HAMBURG	BERLIN	TOTAL
Argentina	33	-	-	-	33
Australia	34	7	3	9	53
Bolivia	53	3	-	-	56
Brazil	19	1	-	-	20
Canada	86	17	8	41	152
Cuba	1	-	-	-	1
Equador	-	3	-	-	3
Israel	112	10	4	16	142
Norway	26	-	-	-	26
Paraguay	50	-	-	-	50
Sweden	16	-	-	-	16
USA	825	157	97	71	1150
<b>CUMULAT. TOTAL</b>	<b>1255</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>1702</b>

(b) BY BRANCH OFFICES AND MONTHS

MONTH	MUNICH	FRANKFURT	HAMBURG	BERLIN	TOTAL
January	425	87	50	12	574
February	157	22	14	10	203
March	127	23	1	51	202
April	138	40	9	10	197
May	71	1	6	9	87
June	15	-	2	2	19
July	38	3	1	1	43
August	78	6	8	13	105
September	34	1	2	6	43
October	80	8	10	6	104
November	46	-	9	10	65
December	46	7	-	7	60
<b>CUMULAT. TOTAL</b>	<b>1255</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>1702</b>

TABLE VI

POTENTIAL U.S.A. ACTIVE CASELOAD

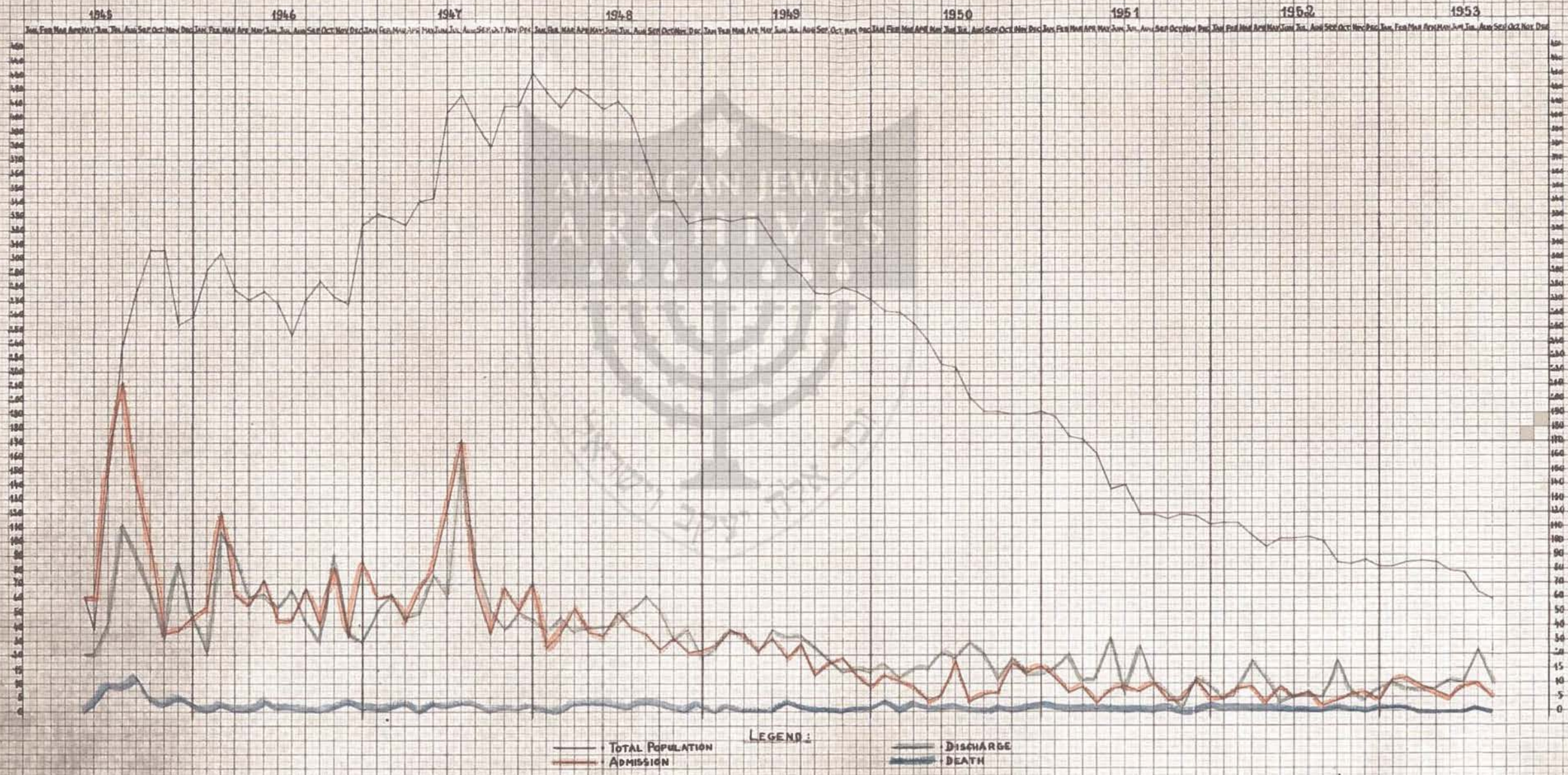
AS OF 31 AUGUST 1953

FIELD OFFICE	TOTAL USA CASELOAD	POTENTIAL ACTIVE CASELOAD			TOTAL POTENTIAL ACTIVE CASELOAD
		3/c	Normal	Preference	
MUNICH	670 - 1269	79 - 169	62 - 136	30 - 47	171 - 352
FRANKFURT	143 - 287	7 - 15	41 - 78	-	48 - 93
HAMBURG	65 - 139	6 - 14	19 - 37	1 - 1	26 - 52
BERLIN	123 - 237	2 - 6	41 - 96	6 - 9	49 - 111
T O T A L	931 - 1932	94 - 204	163 - 347	37 - 57	294 - 608 *

\* Included in this figure are 77 cases covering 158 persons - previously rejected for medical and other reasons.

### GRAPHIC CHART OF JEWISH TB PATIENTS IN GAUTING SAN.

Total population, admissions, discharges, and deaths - MAY 1945 - JULY 1953



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953



TRANSLATION OF PAPER ON GREECE  
by Mr. H. Benrubi

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This report covers the period of time between the last directors conference and the present one.

Viewed in its entirety and in its broader outlines, the situation in Greece remains appreciably the same as that described last year, so much so that with several slight modifications and some additions, last year's report could equally serve for the period presently under consideration.

Our main function still remains the subventioning of the budget of the Conseil Central, in amounts which are progressively decreasing, subject to two conditions

- a) that the budget submitted be strictly executed;
- b) that our subvention be used exclusively for those parts of the budget relating to TB and to vocational training.

The fact that we are assuming only a part of the expenses, which one might term the extraordinary expenses, has the effect of instilling in the local Jewish Authorities the feeling that it is essential for them to depend only on their own resources, resources which they must expend every effort to develop if they wish to assure both their financial self-sufficiency and the execution of a minimal program. The knowledge of the provisional nature of Joint's presence reacts equally in the same direction.

In fact, the successive budgets of the Conseil Central are diminishing in size and the progressive reductions of our subventions are compensated by the growth of local resources. At the same time, a better managing of existing expenditures, that is for TB, permits the extension of assistance in other directions, that is for emigrants.

Our subvention for the current six months is no more than 100,000,000 drachmae, not considering the fact that the drachmae today are worth half as much as those of last year. The special budgets for TB and vocational training to which our subvention contributes, amount to Drs. 125,000,000.

A quick review of the activity of the various organizations and the problems which face them will make it possible to point up clearly the present situation.

The Conseil Central of Jewish Communities in Greece, whose name in itself constitutes a whole program, limits its activity to that of general treasurer. As collector and distributor of funds, it receives

the subventions of the OPAIE, of the AJDC, of certain communities, and distributes these funds among communities with insufficient means, after having put funds at the disposition of a Relief Committee designated by it, necessary for the execution of a program of general welfare assistance, in contra-distinction to strictly communal work, comprising, among others, TB, vocational training, emigration, etc. The Conseil Central still fulfills the function of intermediary agent between the communities on the one hand, the governmental authorities, and the Joint on the other hand. In no way whatever does it demonstrate either the ambition or the will to take over the role of director of the conscience of Hellenic Judaism, which it should by rights assume.

The OPAIE, the successor to heirless Jewish wealth, whose mission it is to occupy itself with assistance and rehabilitation, has handed this task over to the Conseil Central. For this purpose the OPAIE places at the disposition of the Conseil those funds designated by OPAIE for assistance needs. The justification for this fact, which has been existing for years, is that the OPAIE must not allow itself to be swerved from what is for the moment its essential objective: i.e. to bring about the passing of the law on Declaration of Death which, alone, will permit it to come into effective possession of heirless property, and to make use of this wealth in conformity with its mission of assistance and rehabilitation. After many years this law is still only a project, a project which is being constantly modified, sometimes by the Jews and sometimes by government. Whatever may be the extent of the responsibility of non-Jews for this state of affairs, the responsibility of the Jews for it is certainly more to be condemned. As a matter of fact, the Jews, divided by divergent personal interests, have never succeeded in presenting a united front toward a well defined objective, thus making it necessary for each individual to take a stand.

At one time the delay in the passing of the law had been imputed to Israeli demands presented as their right in the name of those who had previously emigrated to Israel. Subsequent events have proved that this was nothing. The opposing points of view of Israel and the OPAIE for a long time now have been brought closer together through the initiative of the Joint, after an International Committee which had been called to study the conflict was not constituted.

According to **latest** information, the project of the Law is said to be well on its way. One should, however, restrain one's optimism.

While waiting for the possibility of taking title to its assets, the OPAIE administers them and utilizes the revenue. The revenue of that fortune, exclusively in real estate for the moment, is increasing with the raising of rents authorized by the law on moratorium, which seems to be coming to an end. This increase in rent, which, in part, is compensated for by the devaluation of the currency which has brought the dollar from 15 to 30 thousand drachmae, however does not seem to be translated into

a corresponding improvement in the treasury of the OPAIE.

The communities, with the exception of those of Volo, Larissa and Salonica which number from 500 to 1,000 each, and that of Athens which contains half of the total Jewish population of the country, are only the embryos of communities.

The community of Salonica continues to dissipate the heritage of a community which at one time numbered 80,000 souls, in favor of its 1,000 members, only a small part of whom are indigent. As for the other communities too far removed from the capital to make themselves heard, they maintain a communal life and a local assistance program thanks to the generosity of their members and to the limited contributions of the Conseil Central. Some among them are making praiseworthy efforts to assure economic independence with the indirect help of our Loan Kassa.

The Athens community drains off the budget of the Conseil Central in an amount which exceeds by far the proportion of its population to the population of the other communities. Moreover, the assistance furnished by the Athens community is limited to and is exactly equal to the amount of the contribution made by the Conseil Central to Athens for this purpose. The resources belonging to that community, taxes and donations, are used for what one could call Ordinary Expenses: administration, school, temple, cemetery, etc., expenditures which more often arise from the desire, praiseworthy in itself, to make a good impression on the world outside, rather than the desire to alleviate human suffering.

When everything is in process of being created and traditions are lacking, institutions exist in the image of the men who direct them. The members of the Conseil of the OPAIE and of the Conseil Central being of necessity Athenians since these two organizations meet in Athens, it is the political complexion prevailing in the community of Athens which also controls the heart of these two councils. Better still, it is the same people who meet in each of three councils. The dispersion of effort of the same persons is not advantageous. However, the absence of any discordant voice and of all inner control in the councils does not constitute a guarantee of good administration of Jewish affairs. On the initiative of the Joint a serious effort toward mutual understanding was undertaken, to the satisfaction of all those who are disturbed over the existing internal situation.

Communal elections, the results of which will perforce influence the organizations of general interest (OPAIE, Conseil Central) are supposed to take place during the second fortnight of October. Will the personal and egotistical ambitions of either one or the other triumph over this attempt at reconciliation? If the answer is in the affirmative, that would signify the abandonment, for a certain additional



period of time, of all effort and all hope of remedying the situation.

In contrast with the preceding organizations there are two institutions, rich in accomplishment: the professional school of the ORT and our Loan Kassa. Both of them are confronted with problems the solution of which does not depend on their directors.

The Professional School of the ORT has granted 75 diplomas in the course of its four years of existence, diplomas recognized by the government. It has given an advanced technical education to 90 young people who for various reasons have not completed their studies. All of them, no matter where they are, in America, in Israel or in Greece, are assured without difficulty of enviable positions.

The problem which faces the ORT is to be able to maintain a minimal student body justifying the functioning of its school. Whether it be that the number of young people of an age to attend the school has diminished because of the years of war, or whether emigration has reduced the number of such young people, or indeed whether one comes up against a lack of comprehension on the part of people not yet convinced of the merits and nobility of manual labor, the enrolment of pupils at the beginning of each academic year is diminishing, despite the efforts of propaganda and persuasion employed through the press and through personal contacts.

The closing of this school, which will reopen with some 35 pupils, had been seriously envisaged. Because of past services and with a view to assuring the future, on the advice of World ORT the closing of the school has been avoided for this year.

The School has created special courses in favor of the proteges of the Refugee Service for Greece of the USEP (United States Escapee Program) as well as for groups of co-religionists desirous of bettering their opportunities for emigration and integration. For a certain additional period these various special courses will continue parallel with the regular courses.

The I.L.O., whose delegates visit the school regularly, never miss an opportunity to express their appreciation of the program and the quality of instruction of the ORT school.

The Loan Kassa, which for our co-religionists is "the Bank" or the "Jewish Bank", is an institution having a permanent character, toward which one can turn successfully in case of need. Since its creation in June 1945 the Loan Kassa has put into circulation 14, 389,640,000 Drs. (that is, \$1,000,000) in the course of the period under consideration without any other loss to it than that which came from the successive devaluations of the currency. The present drachma represents only one-sixtieth of the drachma of 1945, the year of the founding of the Loan

Kassa. In sound currency, nevertheless, the present capital of the Loan Kassa represents one-fifth of the initial endowment in dollars - \$52,301 against \$272,000. That the proportion of reduction in the value of the capital is less than that of the value of the drachma is the result of a series of wise and prudent measures. In spite of the loss of half of its capital in the three months which followed its creation, the Loan Kassa has been able to pursue its work of rehabilitation, which is attested to by the figures cited above as well as the appreciation of the people for services rendered. Nevertheless, it had to reduce the number of its beneficiaries with each devaluation in order that the loans it did make would be useful in size and as equitable as possible.

From 1948 to 1952 the number of its beneficiaries fell from 626 to 248, while the average amount of its loans went up from 3 to 8 million. At the present rate the number of beneficiaries for 1953 will be in the neighborhood of 200.

The new devaluation which has brought the dollar from 15 to 30 thousand drachmae militates in favor of an increase in the capital of this Loan Kassa. To ask it to continue its activity with the present capital would be to ask it to cut again by half the already reduced number of its beneficiaries at a time when, more than ever, the hope of our co-religionists, themselves gravely affected by the devaluation, is turned in its direction.

If there is hesitancy with respect to increasing the capital, one could point out that the loss of capital up to now has been largely compensated for by the rehabilitation gains achieved, and that it is preferable, instead of spending considerable sums for relief assistance which cannot be recovered, to utilize a part in the form of loans which would assure, through professional rehabilitation, greater well being and higher morale than is conferred by the feeling of being merely occupied.

The series of economic and financial measures undertaken by a government assured of an overwhelming parliamentary majority, assured consequently of being able to pursue a sane policy with a return to normal conditions up to the expiration of its mandate, enables one to anticipate a future without unexpected surprises.

We ourselves, as Joint, have been led this year to emerge from our self-imposed reserve of remaining in the shadow of the Jewish authorities, and again have placed ourselves in the forefront.

It is thus that we have recently had to reopen our Emigration Service whose closing we had announced only the previous year. We were brought to this decision by the need for guiding and facilitating the steps of our candidates toward emigration and by the need equally to procure for them the necessary affidavits. Of course this pertains to

emigration to America by virtue of the law of 1953 which was recently signed by President Eisenhower. It seems that the financial costs of this emigration are to be assumed by ICEM.

From an examination of the law and requests by Jews for emigration which are known to us up to date, we are in a position to estimate the number of our co-religionists who will be eligible for emigration at about 350,

We have already been able to envisage the following classification:

68 who have close American relatives in the USA;  
65 who have close relatives in the USA who had gone there as DP's and who may in the meantime acquire American citizenship;  
139 who received their O.K. in virtue of the DP act;  
29 eligible for various reasons.

The provisions of the law requiring that, for eligibility, an emigrant must be domiciled in a city other than that of his pre-war residence, will exclude a considerable number of Salonicians living in their city and extremely desirous of emigrating.

Of the Ionian islands devastated last August by the earthquake, only the island of Zante had a Jewish population. This entire population, with the exception of an old paralytic who perished in the ruins, 38 persons, took refuge in Athens, having saved nothing but the rags they had on their bodies.

Local Jewish solidarity immediately went into action.

Fed, clad and housed, these refugees are still in Athens at the present time. We had to allow them time to realize the extent of their disaster and to make decisions for the future, once they had regained their calm. To return to their homes is a solution to which none of them, except a family of seven members of whom two are State officials, has resigned himself. Their island, where nothing attracts or retains them, has become almost foreign to them. Since it was necessary to begin anew from zero, they might as well begin in a country of their own choice where they would emigrate without the expectation of return and with the firm intention to take root.

Therefore, 31 of them decided to emigrate: 23 to go to Israel, 8 to the USA.

Those who have opted for Israel, are waiting to be granted, prior to their departure, a sum of money permitting them to procure a roof over their heads or tools for their work. Those who chose the USA find that the latest immigration law of 1953 contains stipulations that are explicitly applicable in their case.

For them it is a question of knowing when the law will be applied with regard to them and how they will be able - deprived of everything as they are - to wait until such time. Those of the earthquake victims who, in fact, abandoned their island, have voluntarily excluded themselves from all measures of assistance and professional rehabilitation announced or applied by the State,

The Joint which, through its immediate action, its promises and its suggestions in the organization of the first rescue work, has been of tremendous aid in the solution of unexpected problems which the disaster on the Ionian islands has posed for the entire Greek Jewry, is entirely ready to facilitate the emigration of these refugees under conditions desired by them.

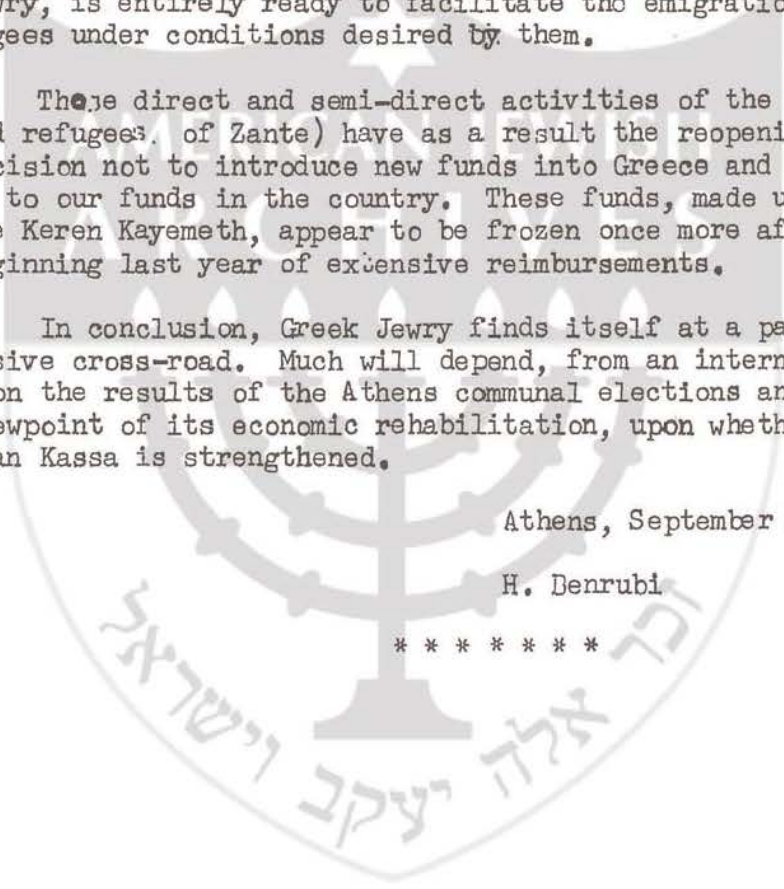
These direct and semi-direct activities of the JDC (emigration and refugees of Zante) have as a result the reopening of an old decision not to introduce new funds into Greece and to limit ourselves to our funds in the country. These funds, made up of a debt by the Keren Kayemeth, appear to be frozen once more after a promising beginning last year of extensive reimbursements.

In conclusion, Greek Jewry finds itself at a particularly decisive cross-road. Much will depend, from an internal viewpoint, upon the results of the Athens communal elections and, from the viewpoint of its economic rehabilitation, upon whether or not our Loan Kassa is strengthened.

Athens, September 22, 1953

H. Denrubi

\* \* \* \* \*



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953



October 1953

ADDRESS ON HOLLAND BY MR. MOZES ACOHEN

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the year since my last report the general situation in Holland has remained almost unchanged, and the same can be said about the situation of the various social institutions in my country.

The Jewish Social Work Foundation (J.S.W.) or in Dutch "J.M.W." which began its activities in 1949, when it took over the work of the J.C.C. (Jewish Coordination Committee), has indeed become the leading organisation in Holland for social care, and the number of participating members amounts already to about sixty institutions covering the whole field of social care etc.

The J.S.W. works closely together with the Fundraising Organisation for local needs, which Fundraising is acting under the name of "Cefina-J.M.W." This combination of the initials of Fundraising and of the organisation spending the money collected for the various local needs demonstrates precisely the perfect cooperation of both. The Fundraising in Holland collects money for 15 organisations now, all being a member of the Social Work Foundation. No organisation is accepted to participate in the Fundraising without being a member of the Social Work Foundation.

Holland has two fundraising-campaigns in a year, one for local needs and another for Israel. For Israel we raised 464.946.05 guilders and for local needs 408.135.97 guilders in the 1952/53 campaigns. When in January last the west/southern part of Holland was stricken by severe inundations we had great fear that the campaign for our local needs, which was in full swing at that time, would suffer greatly from the catastrophe, but finally we reached 408.000 guilders, being only about 16000 guilders below the year before. In the statistical part of my report (annex A) you will find full details of the money raised in Holland since 1947. The amounts collected are receding continuously (see annex A). There was a sharp going back of contributors by the Israel-campaign, this year the number was 3029 against 3608 the year before.

OUR OLD AGE HOMES

After the opening in Amsterdam in September 1952 of the beautiful modern Home with 90 beds there was still a great need for more beds. Therefore, a new home for 50 persons is under construction now in The Hague and will be opened towards the end of this year. A third home for about 60 people called "Beth Menoechah" will be ready in Amsterdam towards November next. Then we think that the greatest need for Old Age room will be covered in Holland. To-day many people are still living in non-Jewish Homes, often under very bad circumstances.

As a matter of fact not only very big amounts have to be invested in building these new homes, but it must be feared that the yearly deficit on the working-expenses will run so high that the capital of the respective institutions will be ruined in a few years.

#### HACHSHARAH AND ALIJAH

These activities in Holland have become very insignificant; however, the costs connected with same, and which have always been very high, are relatively still higher to-day.

#### DISPLACED PERSONS

The population of the home in Amsterdam, which was specially installed in 1948, has now practically emigrated. From the original number of 150 persons there are only left at present 30. The respective institution has again made the necessary alterations in the building at the cost of Guilders 200.000 with the result that 30 flats could be placed at the disposal of Jewish single persons and small families at a rent of Guilders 70.- to Guilders 80.- monthly, including steam-heat. Each flat has running hot and cold water, shower, and a kitchen of its own.

#### JEWISH SOCIAL WORK FOUNDATION (J.S.W.) STICHTING JOODS MAATSCHAPPELIJK WERK (J.M.W.)

As said already in the beginning of my report, this Foundation has been able to extend its work more and more. The Dutch Authorities have the greatest interest in and are showing much appreciation for the work done in the Jewish Social Field and on some occasions have made the J.S.W. even an example for other Dutch organisations. On two occasions the representative of JDC and the president of the Jewish Social Work Foundation were (or must I say was) officially invited to be a guest at the Royal Palace at Amsterdam, firstly on the occasion of the lecture of Dr. Kurz from Zurich about refugee-matters, which lecture took place under the auspices of the Queen of Holland and was attended by the Queen and her mother, and secondly on the occasion of the reception held by the Queen and the Prince when they were in Amsterdam recently.

#### THE SECTION HOME-MAKER SERVICE OF THE J.M.W. (J.S.W.)

is still an important service. This year, with a smaller staff, more service has been rendered: 152 families (last year 136) were helped during 30.274 hours (against last year 25.359).

THE ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PRIVATE JEWISH HOSPITAL

also functioned very well. Our people are helped at a very moderate rate, they are receiving ritual food. A good deal of the costs involved is paid by the welfare associations of the Jewish communities and in some cases by the Social Work Foundation. In annex D you will find some figures about this part of the work in Holland for the whole year of 1952 and the first half year of 1953.

A.J.D.C. ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND

About purchases made by J.D.C. in Holland figures since 1948 up to the end of June 1953 are given in annex C.

EMIGRATION ACTIVITIES

One of the most important J.D.C. activities in Holland is the assistance in the emigration field. Holland is one of the most important emigration countries in Europe: the free world recognized this fact. Argentine, Australia, Brazil, Canada, New Zealand, the U.S.A. and the Union of South Africa admitted in the last year together about 80.000 immigrants from Holland, and these countries, except the U.S.A., have concluded a special immigration agreement with Holland. The U.S.A. encouraged Dutch emigration by the new Refugee Relief Bill. This general situation is reflected in the Dutch Jewish emigration. Over-population causes also economic difficulties for the Jewish sector, although the growth of the Jewish population is a minimal one. For Jewish children also there are no prospects for an economic future and therefore a lot of Jewish families of which the heads are earning sufficiently, are leaving already now. Israel was not the most desired emigration country: the U.S.A. and Canada attracted most immigrants. Australia and Latin America were "quantités négligeables". The tense political situation in December 1952 and January 1953 caused mass-hysteria and in consequence of it mass registration with our office and with HIAS. Thirty to forty people a day came to our office for registration for Canada and the U.S.A. but most of them lost interest for emigration as soon as the political situation became more quiet. In the period 1952-1953 the following numbers of people emigrated from Holland via our office

to U.S.A. ....	114
to Canada .....	30
to Australia .....	8
to Latin America .....	6
to other countries ...	<u>5</u>
Total .....	163



In the same period we interviewed 3,246 persons including the high number of January and February 1953 and we intervened in 661 cases with consulates, shipping agencies, government authorities and so on. On September 1st, 1953 we registered with our office for

Australia .....	154	persons
Canada .....	141	"
U.S.A. ....	347	"
Latin America .....	38	"
New Zealand .....	6	"
Total .....	686	persons

The possibilities for emigration to several countries were different ones: to Canada the OS 8 scheme within the Dutch Canadian Immigration agreement brought not too many occasions for Dutch Jewish emigrants as they did not fall within the professional scheme. Most of them were small merchants, agents, clerks, thus unskilled people. Emigration to Australia was very small, as the reports on economic and health fields were such that the most interested persons changed their minds and had themselves registered with the Canadian or the U.S. Immigration authorities. It is not necessary to emphasize that the new Refugee Relief Bill 1953 has been a great disappointment to the Dutch population who expected the admission of 20,000 Dutch subjects within 2 years and not of 15,000 refugees of "Dutch ethnic origin" (which do not exist practically) within 3 years.

The possibility of issue of agency affidavits for Dutch Jews was a very big advantage for them and has been accepted very gratefully. The cooperation with the Dutch authorities was a very good one. We became a member of the Dutch General Emigration Centre, the 3rd voluntary organisation recognized by the Dutch Government, after having not succeeded to become a member of the Board for Emigration.

The cooperation with the HIAS office was a correct one. An agreement has been reached concerning combined publication in the Jewish press to avoid various publications of the same nature.

#### PERSONAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

This department has never been mentioned before in our reports although it plays a very important role in Jewish Holland. It assists Jewish social cases in Holland with their legal affairs abroad and on the other hand social cases abroad with legal affairs in Holland. Since September 1952 154 new cases have been handled and about 760 old cases were pending.

NOTE:Emigration-Currency-Clearance

Referring to annex E, it must be stated that this transfer has become of very little importance. This is due to the more supple currency-policy of the Dutch National-Bank also with regard to the transfer of Dollars.

Emigration-Activities

Detailed figures are given in the annexes F, G & H.



Statistical Figures

A

Fundraising in Holland during the years  
1947/1953

Dutch Guilders

	Keren Kajemeth Leisrael	Keren Hajesod	Central Israel Action	Centr. Fund Rais. for Jewish Social Work	Total
1947	193.472.--	---	---	499.019.14	692.491.14
1948	267.863.90	350.143.--	---	444.981.70	1,062.988.60
1949	195.360.--	16.584.--	542.262.--	495.965.53	1,250.171.53
1950	238.475.--	2.598.--	639.713.--	482.682.97	1,363.468.97
1951	316.646.--	16.967.--	629.453.--	424.819.69	1,387.885.69
1952	375.000.--	---	494.809.02 (till 30/9/52)	408.135.97 (till 31/3/53)	1,277.944.99
1953	200.000.--	---	464.946.05 (till 30/9/53)	---	664.946.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.786.816.90</b>	<b>386.292.--</b>	<b>2.771.183.07</b>	<b>2.755.605.00</b>	<b>7.699.896.97</b>

Note:

Further the "Central Israel Action" transferred from Dutch Institutions for special purposes to Israel: from 1/10/51 - 30/9/52 hf1. 480.940.54 and from 1/10/52 - 30/9/53 hf1. 530.205.--

C

AJDC ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND

Purchases made in Holland during the years  
1948-1953

	Guilders	Dollars	Sterling
1948	41,228.77	---	---
1949	---	---	---
1950	340,287.31	47,780.20	3,260.5.2
1951	15,113.05	49,058.68	11,605.9.10
1952 total	73,414.98	3,047.62	36,715.18.11
1953 (Jan.-June)	27,920.06	423.11	24,672. 5. 8
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
F1.	497,964.17	100,309.61	76,253.19. 7

D

HOSPITAL - EXPENSES

	1952 (total)	1953 (Jan./June)
Number of patients	128	76
Number of days	2835	1292
Average endurance per patient	22,1 days	17,3 days
Average costs	134.- Guilders	104.- Guilders
Total doctors' costs	10.688.55	4.518.69
Total costs of nursery, medicines, etc.	42.268.73	18.248.79
	<u>Total: Fl.</u>	<u>Total: Fl.</u>
	52.957.28	22.767.48
Repaid by Govt. Health Service		
Nursery	30.210.10	12.363.64
Medicines	1.003.14	586.98
Paid by patients	4.581.85	190.60
	<u>35.795.09</u>	<u>14.852.22</u>
Total costs net	Guilders: <u>17.162.19</u>	Fl. <u>7.915.26</u>

E.

Emigrants-Currency-Clearance

	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Cases</u>
1947	1,309,672.-	703
1948	1,044,928.-	286
1949	172,786.26	108
1950	59,334.36	38
1951	85,612.45	77
1952	30,767.80	28
1953 Jan.-June	12,157.-	11
Total: Fl.	<u>2,715,257.87</u>	<u>1251</u>

F

JOINT DIVISION  
(Guilders)

	1949 (Jun./Dec.)	1950	1951	1952	1953 (Jan./June)	TOTAL
<u>OPERATING</u>	11,335.63	16,845.98	19,497.76	18,713.08	11,197.66	77,590.11
<u>EMIGRATION</u>						
a) direct	27,151.25	53,358.76	50,474.61	40,096.15	9,497.19	180,577.96
b) paid for by other JDC offices	18,093.85	23,539.76	14,985.16	14,730.54	8,206.76	79,556.07
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>56,580.73</u>	<u>93,744.50</u>	<u>84,957.53</u>	<u>73,539.77</u>	<u>28,901.61</u>	<u>337,724.14</u>

G  
A.,J.,D.,C.

	<u>GUILDERS</u>							
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953 Jan./June	Total
<u>OPERATING</u>	21.392.71	27.580.85	16.663.73	2.142.80	1.145.80	1.508.13	679.64	71.113.66
<u>EMIGRATION</u>								
a) direct	32.152.18	35.187.45	45.274.55	---	---	15.90	---	112.630.08
b) paid for by other JDC offices	18.959.51	13.156.14	19.261.94	309.---	---	---	---	51.686.59
	<u>72.504.40</u>	<u>75.924.44</u>	<u>81.200.22</u>	<u>2.451.80</u>	<u>1.145.80</u>	<u>1.524.03</u>	<u>679.64</u>	<u>235.430.33</u>

	<u>DOLLARS</u>							
<u>EMIGRATION</u>								
a) direct	7.014.49	4.475.07	22.036.85	318.53	---	650.66	---	34.495.60
b) paid for by other JDC offices	1.346.20	19.048.12	---	---	---	---	---	20.394.32
	<u>8.360.69</u>	<u>23.523.19</u>	<u>22.036.85</u>	<u>318.53</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>650.66</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>54.889.92</u>



H

JOINT DIVISION

Costs of direct emigration divided into countries \*

	ISRAEL	USA	AUSTRALIA	NW.ZEALAND	S.AFRICA	CANADA	OTHER	ARGENTINE	BRAZIL	BELGIUM
1949 June/Dec.	22,281.30	526.20	2,551.90	---	0.60	---	535.05	414.---	---	12.20
1950	28,773.43	2,798.43	14,808.13	---	4.80	1,939.67	138.40	175.90	---	---
1951	3,910.40	5,949.70	895.90	7.10	---	38,748.36	---	112.90	2.15	---
1952	79.95	17,850.10	3,296.28	398.65	---	18,420.32	---	---	---	---
1953 Jan./June	---	9,111.89	221.55	---	---	163.75	---	---	---	---
TOTAL:	55,045.08	36,236.32	21,773.76	405.75	5.40	59,272.10	673.45	702.80	2.15	12.20

	CHILI	BOLIVIA	HOLLAND	URUGUAY	VENEZUELA	GR. BRITAIN	GERMANY	DUTCH ANTILLEN	FRANCE	TOTAL
1949 June/Dec.	2.40	---	366.75	---	256.65	71.55	132.65	---	---	27,151.25
1950	---	2,810.05	---	1,871.05	---	---	---	---	14.23	53,334.09
1951	658.30	---	13.50	---	---	154.65	---	21.70	---	50,474.66
1952	---	---	---	---	---	50.35	0.50	---	---	40,096.15
1953 Jan./June	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	9,497.19
TOTAL:	660.70	2,810.05	380.25	1,871.05	256.65	276.55	133.15	21.70	14.23	180,553.34

\* Expressed in Guilders

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

STATISTICAL REPORT

I T A L Y

זכר אלה יעקב וישראל

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

R O M E - I T A L Y

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The following summaries and statistical schedules make up the written material which has been prepared to supplement the oral presentation of the Country Report. The various tables are numbered according to their sequence of reference in the oral report.

1. Summary of total DP Caseload in Italy and Trieste.
2. Summary of Emigration Caseload and Movements.
3. Closure of Merano TB Sanatorium - Summary of patients treated.
4. Budget statement of comparative Receipts and Disbursements.

AJDC - ROME

\* TOTAL REFUGEE POPULATION IN ITALY AND TRIESTE - SUMMARY OF CASELOAD AND MOVEMENTS

FOR MONTH ENDING 30 September 1953

CATEGORY	* Total end month population report		TOTAL CUMULATIVE MOVEMENTS FROM January 1st 1953 TO September 30 1953														Italian Govt or AMG assistees (assisted directly or thru JDC)		Refugees eligible under US Escapee Program (assisted thru JDC)	
			Increases in caseload						Decreases in caseload						Locally resettled or in process					
	Cases	Persons	New cases		Other trasferts activated etc.		Total increased caseload		Departures (emigrated)		Other deceased, no trace, trasfers, etc.		Total decreased caseload		Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
			Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons						
<b>I. - Assisted caseload</b> (receiving direct JDC material assistance in addition to other JDC services):																				
a) In camps (appendix A attached)	50	84	2	9	2	5	4	14	5	11	5	12	10	23			46	80	5	7
b) Out of camps ( " B " )	100	203	4	10	14	29	18	39	13	32	11	36	24	68			64	110	7	14
c) In institutions ( " C " )	68	71	1	1	3	7	4	8	10	11	12	14	22	25	3	6	60	63	4	4
d) Grottaferrata - post TBs & fam. memb. ex-sanatoria (appendix D attached)	62	134		2	6	9	6	11	5	11	1	1	6	12	3	6	53	109	4	9
e) Trieste area ( " E " )	6	13	4	9	2	4	6	13	2	3	1	1	3	4			5	12		
<b>SUB - TOTAL (assistees)</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>II. - Non-assisted caseload</b> (eligible for JDC services, i. e. emigration, OSE, legal, etc., but not receiving JDC direct material assistance):																				
a) In camps (appendix A attached)	8	11			1	8	1	8	1	9	1	2	2	11			2	5	1	1
b) Out of camps . . . . .	456	987	25	60	8	14	33	74	35	61	14	30	49	91	2	5	70	129	33	94
c) In institutions (appendix C attached)	19	19															4	4	2	2
d) Grottaferrata - post TBs & fam. memb. ex-sanatoria (appendix D attached)	12	16													9	12	5	5	1	1
e) Trieste area . . . . .	18	42			1	1	1	1			2	2	2	2			7	14		
<b>SUB - TOTAL (non-assistees)</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>1075</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS *</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>1580</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>132</b>

\* Does not include those Refugees in Italy & Trieste not registered with JDC of which several hundred are presumed to be locally resettled.

\*\* Family members of instituti nalized cases are already included under appropriate categories (i.e. out of camp, Grottaferrata, etc.)

A P P E N D I X "A"

BREAKDOWN OF DP CASELOAD IN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT CAMPS

The caseload refers to all refugees living in the following camps administered by the Italian Government:

S. Antonio 80 (a), Aversa 1 (b), Capua 1 (c), Farfa Sabina 2 (d), Fraschette 9 (e), Mercatello 2 (f) TOTAL = 95

The Fraschette and Farfa Sabina camps are in effect detention camps housing "illegal" and undesirable refugees (i.e. illegal entry in Italy, improper documents, civil violations, etc.) which are under the jurisdiction of the Italian police authorities. The remaining camps in Italy house the ex-IRO camp caseload which have been taken over by the Italian Government refugee agency, AAI, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Except for those few cases as noted below, all refugees in camps receive some measure of JDC supplementary assistance in the form of cash grants, medical care, cultural and religious aid, relief in kind, etc. The basic care and maintenance is of course provided by the Italian administration.



Monthly Report for <u>September</u> 195 <u>3</u>	Camp Population Report				Other Social and medical statistical data. (figures denote either number of cases or persons as indicated)							R e m a r k s
	Persons receiving JDC assistance	Persons not directly assisted by JDC	Total Population		Ex-Shanghai arrivals (Post '51) Persons	Israel returnees (prior '51) Persons	Post TB suspects & rejected Cases	Aged (over 60 yrs Cases	Mental ill and defective Cases	Invalids & physical handicapped Cases	Other sick and chronic ill Cases	
			Cases	Persons								
Numbers at beginning of month	89	11	61	100	22	12	5	7	7	2	15	
"IN" during month												
"OUT" during month	5		3	5	5			1			1	
Numbers at end of month	84	11	58	95	17	12	5	6	7	2	14	

A P P E N D I X "B"

BREAKDOWN OF DP OUT OF CAMP RELIEF CASELOAD RECEIVING JDC DIRECT MATERIAL ASSISTANCE

The caseload refers to needy refugees (i.e. aged, sick, non-self-supporting, etc.) living in towns in Italy receiving monthly JDC cash relief assistance. The amount of the cash subsidy paid to each family is determined according to individual need and covers either partial (supplementary) or full care and maintenance. Payments are effected thru SASE or directly by jdc. Not included herein are those ooc cases receiving only OSE medical care although the cost is actually borne by JDC through its subvention of OSE. Also not included are those cases receiving only the Government (AAI) out of camp assistance which is paid thru JDC.

REPORT FOR MONTH OF <u>September</u> 195	TOTAL ASSISTED CASELOAD		Social and medical statistical data (figures denote numbers of cases or persons as indicated)								R e m a r k s
	Cases	Persons	Israel returnees Persons	Post EP suspects & rejected Cases	aged (over 60 yrs) Cases	Mental ill & defective Cases	Invalids & physical handicapped Cases	Other sick & chronic ill Cases	Students & vocational trainees Cases	transients & special assistees Persons	
Numbers at beginning of month	103	211	34	11	35	2	12	23	4	56	
"IN" During month	1	2			4			2		1	
"OUT" During month	4	10	6		4		1	1	1	9	
Numbers at end of month	100	203	28	11	35	2	11	24	3	48	

APPENDIX "C"

BREAKDOWN OF PERSONS IN INSTITUTIONS IN ITALY (INCLUDING TRIESTE)

This group includes all cases or patients placed in Government, private or community institutions for either permanent or temporary care and treatment. The assistance and financial support provided by JDC varies according to the several classifications enumerated below. Except where indicated, the monthly institutional fees are covered in whole or in part by JDC, in addition to the pocket money cash grants paid directly to the individual and such other special medical care and assistance which may be required. For convenience we have also indicated the total number of family units involved as distinguished from the number of single cases or patients. However, for purposes of assistance, it should be noted that the numbers of family members of patients are already included under the appropriate appendices (i.e. Out-Of-Camp, Grottaferrata, etc.)

CLASSIFICATION	CASELOAD AT END <u>SEPTEMBER</u> 195 <sup>3</sup>			TYPE OF CASES OR INSTITUTIONS					MOVEMENTS DURING MONTH		Remarks
	Cases or W/Families	Single Cases or patients W/O Families	Total Cases or Patients	TB Sanator	Mental Institut	General Hospital	Aged Homes	Other	"IN" Caseload Increase	"OUT" Caseload Decrease	
Gov't or public institutions free of charge		12	12		12						
Gov't or private institutions fees fully covered by sources other than JDC	6	11	17	4	2	2	9		1		IN: General Hospital
Gov't or private institutions—hard-core grants paid by JDC for lifetime institutional care	2	15	17		15	2				1	OUT: Died in General Hospital
Gov't or private institutions fees covered in whole or in part by JDC	5	13	18	12		4	2			2	OUT: 2 transfers from TB Inst. to Grottaferrata
Jewish community institutions fees covered in whole or in part by JDC	1	25	26				26				
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>37</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	

A P P E N D I X "D"

BREAKDOWN OF POST TB PATIENTS & FAMILY MEMBERS COMPRISING EX-GROTTAFERRATA REHABILITATION CENTER

The patient group includes all TB cases discharged from Sanatoria in Italy for Post TB care. The family members include both dependents of Post TB patients and TB patients still in sanatoria. Although in fact the Grottaferrata Rehabilitation Center no longer exists with the exception of the medical dispensary and facilities for a communal center, for convenience we have continued to report this group separately. Except for those few patients and family members who find it necessary or convenient to live elsewhere, the great majority live in privately furnished rooms in the town of Grottaferrata. Full care and maintenance is provided by JDC to each family (including monthly subsistence allowance, medical care, vocational training, etc. ) by way of supplementing whatever other sources of income (i.e. Government assistance, earning, etc.) received by the individual. For statistical purposes we have included below cases considered to be resettled in Italy and no longer receiving JDC financial assistance although eligible for JDC medical services.

G R O U P S	CASELOAD AS OF END <del>September</del> 195 <sup>3</sup>									MOVEMENTS DURING MONTH				R e m a r k s
	Receiving JDC Subsistence			JDC Susistence discontinued (considered resettled)			Total Caseload			"IN" Caseload Increase		"OUT" Caseload Decrease		
	Cases or patients	Family members	Total Persons	Cases or patients	Family members	Total Persons	Cases or patients	Family members	Total Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	
Europeans	58	32	91	9	3	12	70	36	107	2	1	1	3	
North Africans	10	19	29				10	19	29	1	7			
Family members of patients in Sanatoria:														
1. Europeans		9	9					9	9					
2. N. Africans		5	5					5	5				6	
GRAND TOTALS	68	65	134	9	3	12	80	69	150	3	8	1	9	



A P P E N D I X "E"

BREAKDOWN OF DP CASELOAD IN TRIESTE RECEIVING JDC RELIEF ASSISTANCE

With the exception of institutional cases included under appendix "C", this group encompasses all persons in need receiving JDC material assistance living in AMG camps or out of camp in the Trieste area. The extent of financial assistance provided by JDC in the form of supplementary cash relief and medical care is determined according to the individual need of each family unit and is paid directly by JDC thru its field representative in Trieste.

REPORT FOR MONTH <b>September..... 1953</b>	TOTAL JDC ASSISTED CASELOAD IN TRIESTE						OTHER SOCIAL & MEDICAL DATA (Figures denote Cases or Persons as indicated)					R e m a r k s
	AMG CAMPS		OUT OF CAMPS		TOTALS		Israel returnees	Post TB	Aged (over 60 yrs)	Other sick & handicap	Desire resettlem. Trieste	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Persons	Cases	Cases	Cases	Persons	
Number at beginning of month	4	11	1	1	5	12		4	1	1	2	
"IN" During month			1	1	1	1			1			1 pers. - one time grant
"OUT" During month												
Number at end of month	4	11	2	2	6	13		4	2	1	2	

AJDC - ROME

SUMMARY OF TOTAL EMIGRATION CASELOAD & MOVEMENTS OF REFUGEES IN ITALY & TRIESTE

FOR MONTH ENDING ~~30 SEPTEMBER~~ 30 SEPTEMBER 1953

CATEGORY (see schedule n. 1)	ACTIVE EMIGRATION CASELOAD																Total inactive registration at end of month		Total active & inactive emigration caseload at end of month	
	Total active registration at end of month		TOTAL CUMULATIVE MOVEMENTS FROM 1 January 1953 TO 30 September 1953																	
			Increased registration						Decreased registration											
	Cases	Persons	New arrivals	Reactivated cases	Total increased registration		Emigrated		Closed registration (deceased, no trace, etc.)		Tranferred to inactive caseload		Total decreased registration		Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons		
<b>I. - Assisted caseload :</b>																				
a) In camps . . . . .	37	66			1	1	1	1	5	11	1	1			6	12	9	15	46	81
b) Out of camps . . . . .	23	73	1	7	1	2	2	9	11	29	5	9			16	39	21	42	49	115
c) In institutions . . . . .	4	4							10	11	1	1			11	12	13	13	17	17
d) Grottaferrata - post TBs & fam. memb. ex-sanatoria . . . . .	37	68	1				1		4	11	1	1			5	12	6	15	43	89
e) Trieste area . . . . .	4	11							2	1					2	3			4	11
<b>SUB - TOTAL (assisted)</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>			<b>40</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>307</b>
<b>II. - Non-assisted caseload :</b>																				
a) In camps . . . . .	2	4															1	1	3	5
b) Out of camps . . . . .	118	255	17	31	6	9	23	40	15	31	17	44	4	7	36	82	141	303	259	558
c) In institutions . . . . .																	2	2	2	2
d) Grottaferrata - post TBs & fam. memb. ex-sanatoria . . . . .	3	3									1	1			1	1	2	2	4	5
e) Trieste area . . . . .	4	7															1	2	5	9
<b>SUB - TOTALS (non-assisted)</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>579</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>886</b>

A. J. D. C. R O M E

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF PATIENTS TREATED IN MERANO TB SANATORIUM  
DURING PERIOD 1946 - 1953  
.....

A) TOTAL NUMBER PATIENTS ADMITTED BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1946  
THROUGH CLOSURE DATE MARCH 1953 ..... 391

(Figure does not include re-admissions of patients  
once discharged).

B) SUMMARY STATUS OF TOTAL CASELOAD - i.e. Transfers; Discharges,  
Emigrated, etc.

I. TRANSFERRED TO OTHER SANATORIA OUTSIDE ITALY:

a) Swedish Schemes - includes IRO and AJDC  
Agreements .. 37  
b) Norwegian Schemes - " " " " .. 2  
c) Israel - Malben - " " " " .. 18 57

II. DISCHARGED - Emigrated to various overseas countries .. 18

III. DISCHARGED - in order to join families in Italy .. 55  
(no further responsibility assumed by AJDC)

IV. TRANSFERRED TO OTHER SANATORIA IN ITALY: ..... 23  
(Of these 23 patients only 14 are still in  
private sanatoria in Italy; the balance have  
been discharged or otherwise resettled)

V. DISCHARGED TO GROTTAFERRATA POST-TB REHABILITATION CENTRE: 185  
(Of these 185 patients, 40 are still attached to  
Grottaferrata; 3 patients died and the balance  
have either emigrated or resettled in Italy)

VI. DISCHARGED TO AJDC OUT-OF-CAMP CASELOAD: ..... 19  
(Of these 19 patients, 7 are still receiving AJDC  
welfare assistance; the balance have either  
emigrated or locally resettled)

VII. DECEASED ..... 34  
(Including 2 patients who died during their  
temporary absence from the sanatorium while  
in other hospitals)

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURES & RECEIPTS  
1952 - 1953

(Figures are expressed in thousands of Lires)

TYPE OF PROGRAM EXPENDITURE	ANNUAL LIRA & PERCENTAGE - WISE EXPENDITURES			
	1952		1953*	
	Amount	Percent.	Amount	Percent.
A. LOCAL ITALIAN PROGRAM -- Grants to Italian Communities, Organizations and Institutions affecting Educational, Religious and Cultural activities on behalf of the Italian Jewish indigenous population: i.e. Rabbinical College; "UNIONE" Administration, publications & scholarships; Orphanage; Rome & Milan schools; Venice Museum; Community Center; Histadruth Hamorim; Fund Raising; etc.	8700	3.3%	16650	8.3%
B. <u>DP Program:</u>				
1. Grants to Local Organizations providing services to refugees; i.e. OSE, MERKAZ, Aged Homes, etc.	14300	5.5%	12650	6.3%
2. Direct Activities carried on by JDC for refugees in Italy - in camps, out-of-camps, medical installations, etc. Expenditures include all services and assistance (with the exception of Emigration passage costs) such as family cash relief; hospitalization and other dental and medical care and treatment; Institutional care for Aged; Child care, Educational; Cultural and Religious activities; Professional and Vocational Training to Students; Legal services; Relief in kind assistance, etc.	200850	76.7%	135450	67.6%
3. Special Programs or Projects: - i.e. Reconstruction; Liquidation and damages; Medical grants; US Escapee Programs, etc.	5050	1.9%	9550	4.8%
G. Administrative and operating Expenses: Staff salaries and termination; office maintenance; P.T.T.; Travel, etc.	33100	12.6%	26200	13.0%
TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENDITURES:	262000	100.0%	200500	100.0%

(continued...)



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE  
COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953



## Schedule A.

JEWISH POPULATION in FRENCH MOROCCO

Locality	Official census 1951	Fair estimate including those with foreign citizenship
Casablanca	74.783	80.000
Fes	12.648	16.000
Marrakech	16.392	18.000
Meknes	12.445	14.000
Rabat	10.239	12.000
Mogador	5.435	6.000
Safi	3.469	4.000
Sefrou	4.360	4.600
Sale	3.226	3.500
Mazagan	3.017	3.100
Ouezzane	2.174	2.300
Oujda	3.175	3.300
Port Lyautey	3.083	3.000
Settat	1.590	1.700
Agadir	1.518	1.500
<u>Total 15 communities</u>	<u>157.554</u>	<u>173.000</u>
<u>Towns</u>		
Azemmour	321	330
Fedala	449	450
Taza	403	400
Ifrane	20	20
In 33 towns and villages and about 80 small conglomerations-Mellahs	<u>40.409</u>	<u>65.800</u>
	199.156 *	240.000

Age distribution of Jewish population  
covered by 1951 census

<u>Age distribution</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
0 - 14	43.326	41.975	85.301
15 - 44	38.400)	45.300)	83.700
Over 45	15.771)	14.384)	30.155
	<u>97.497</u>	<u>101.659</u>	<u>199.156</u>

Age Distribution Children and Youth  
(Sex and Age)

Age distribution of Jewish population  
covered by 1951 census

<u>Age distribution</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
0 - 14	43.326	41.975	85.301
15 - 44	38.400)	45.300)	83.700
Over 45	15.771)	14.384)	30.155
	97.497	101.659	199.156

Age Distribution Children and Youth  
(Sex and Age)

<u>Children &amp; Youth</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
0 - 1 year	2.863	2.726	5.589
1 - 4 "	13.566	13.165	26.731
5 - 9 "	14.473	14.248	28.721
	30.902	30.139	61.041
10 - 14 "	12.424	11.836	24.260
	43.326	41.975	85.301
15 - 19 "	8.510	10.472	18.982
	51.836	52.447	104.283

Marital Status of Jewish Population  
covered by 1951 census

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Unmarried over 19 years	8.247	5.743	13.990
Married	35.757	35.173	70.930
Widow(er)s	979	8.935	9.914
Divorced	523	2.145	2.668

\* In this census are not included Jews of foreign nationality and a large number of persons who could not be reached during the census. In calculating the number of Jewish children and youth about 18 to 20% should be added to the above figures,



STATISTICS OF J. D. C.

OPERATION - MOROCCO (French Zone)

Schedule B.

SUMMARY OF INCOME  
JDC SUBSIDIZED  
YEARS 1951, 1952

AND EXPENDITURES OF  
ORGANISATIONS IN MOROCCO  
and 1st Half 1953

RECEIPTS	1951		1952		1st Half 1953		DISBURSEMENTS	F r a n c s.		
	(Francs)	%	(Francs)	%	(Francs)	%		1951	1952	1st Half 1953
A. J. D. C.	149,257,463	48	171,263,418	47	129,072,882	47	Cantines (Food)	93,764,376	87,194,816	50,230,700
Other Foreign Sources	64,715,199	21	102,826,663	28	50,018,263	18	Personnel	-	11,740,201	8,402,542
Government	27,755,855	9	35,044,032	10	42,185,876	15	(Suppl. Feeding)	-	-	1,230,000
Local	41,692,348	13	49,890,359	15	51,510,653	18	Cash Relief	4,430,310	3,093,483	1,746,830
Others	21,492,479	7	-	-	2,679,458	2	Clothing	11,079,969	5,795,248	4,509,881
							Medical Care - Dispensaries	31,306,400	50,548,673	42,513,518
							Religious, Cultural, Education	38,749,949	56,206,377	41,447,559
							Summer Colonies	9,963,375	28,073,435	37,682,000
							School Transportation	4,540,183	2,803,495	829,832
							Youth Activities	2,382,041	4,804,563	2,516,390
							Kindergartens	7,520,832	12,021,533	8,471,581
							Youth Homes - Boarding schools	12,612,709	16,371,580	8,965,104
							Purchase of Medical Supplies	7,094,619	943,162	-
							T.B. Convalescent Homes	2,867,918	4,307,865	2,730,636
							Sports	40,000	-	-
							Various Activities	2,716,243	3,746,143	2,432,842
							Supplementary Feeding	1,667,812	901,018	-
							Readaptation of TB Sufferers	276,847	250,080	95,500
							Constructions - Building	33,320,503	11,863,755	14,239,626
							Equipment	3,462,474	6,804,728	14,471,150
							Administration - overhead	40,038,104	62,597,824#	32,038,685*
Sub Total	304,913,284	98%	359,024,472	100%	275,467,132	100%	Sub Total	307,234,664	370,067,979	274,554,376
Loans	5,517,473	2	10,499,086		5,946,840		Loans	8,880,014	7,431,223	-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS :</b>	<b>310,430,757</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>369,523,558</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>281,413,972</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>316,114,678</b>	<b>377,499,202</b>	<b>274,554,376</b>
Alliance Schools	79,597,328		82,200,272		50,694,135		Alliance Schools	79,904,289	82,478,866	48,014,979
Various Children Inst.	43,351,396		64,245,223		28,819,540		Various Children Inst.	48,251,564	64,302,253	28,639,802
OSE Maroc	61,896,861		74,571,522		53,103,803		OSE Maroc	64,436,979	75,472,712	54,391,134
Other Medical Organ.	10,168,306		11,533,009		6,866,675		Other Medic. Organ.	10,014,500	10,826,089	5,873,215
Youth Organisations	16,454,968		31,033,626		10,825,851		Youth Organizations	16,796,274	15,487,031	10,680,237
Lubavitcher	-		-		11,744,463		ORT Morocco	63,027,465	68,830,046	59,547,532
Hebrew Courses	-		-		3,572,310		Ozar Hatorah	24,803,593	24,597,547	12,730,162
ORT Maroc	68,074,272		70,643,270		52,792,065		Summer Camps	-	28,073,435	37,682,000
Summer Camps(Receipts)	- *		- *		42,768,000		Lubavitcher	-	-	12,150,463
Summer Feeding	-		-		1,232,250		Hebrew Courses	-	-	3,614,852
Ozar Hatorah	25,370,153		24,797,550		13,048,040		Summer Feeding	-	-	1,230,000
	<u>304,913,284</u>		<u>359,024,472</u>		<u>275,467,132</u>			<u>307,234,664</u>	<u>370,067,979</u>	<u>274,554,376</u>

\* Figures not included.

# Includes 20,263,975 for ORT

\* Includes 9,959,601 for ORT.

STATISTICS OF J. D. C.

OPERATION - MOROCCO (French Zone)

Schedule B.

SUMMARY OF INCOME  
JDC SUBSIDIZED  
YEARS 1951, 1952

AND EXPENDITURES OF  
ORGANISATIONS IN MOROCCO  
and 1st Half 1953

RECEIPTS	1951 (Francs)	%	1952 (Francs)	%	1st Half 1953 (Francs)	%
A. J. D. C.	149,257,463	48	171,263,418	47	129,072,882	47
Other Foreign Sources	64,715,199	21	102,826,663	28	50,018,263	18
Government	27,755,855	9	35,044,032	10	42,185,876	15
Local	41,692,348	13	49,890,359	15	51,510,653	18
Others	21,492,479	7	-	-	2,679,458	2
Sub Total	304,913,284	98%	359,024,472	100%	275,467,132	100%
Loans	5,517,473	2	10,499,086		5,946,840	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS :</b>	<b>310,430,757</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>369,523,558</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>281,413,972</b>	<b>100%</b>
Alliance Schools	79,597,328		82,200,272		50,694,135	
Various Children Inst.	43,351,396		64,245,223		28,819,540	
OSE Maroc	61,896,861		74,571,522		53,103,803	
Other Medical Organ.	10,168,306		11,533,009		6,866,675	
Youth Organisations	16,454,968		31,033,626		10,825,851	
Lubavitcher	-		-		11,744,463	
Hebrew Courses	-		-		3,572,310	
ORT Maroc	68,074,272		70,643,270		52,792,065	
Summer Camps(Receipts)	- *		- *		42,768,000	
Summer Feeding	-		-		1,232,250	
Ozar Hatorah	25,370,153		24,797,550		13,048,040	
	<u>304,913,284</u>		<u>359,024,472</u>		<u>275,467,132</u>	

DISBURSEMENTS	Francs.		1st Half 1953
	1951	1952	
(Food Canteens )Personnel	93,764,376	87,194,816	50,230,700
(Suppl. Feeding)	-	11,740,201	8,402,542
Cash Relief	4,430,310	3,093,483	1,230,000
Clothing	4,430,310	3,093,483	1,746,830
Medical Care - Dispensaries	11,079,969	5,795,248	4,509,881
Religious, Cultural, Education	31,306,400	50,548,673	42,513,518
Summer Colonies	38,749,949	56,206,377	41,447,559
School Transportation	9,963,375	28,073,435	37,682,000
Youth Activities	4,540,183	2,803,495	829,832
Kindergartens	2,382,041	4,804,563	2,516,390
Youth Homes - Boarding schools	7,520,832	12,021,533	8,471,581
Purchase of Medical Supplies	12,612,709	16,371,580	8,965,104
T.B. Convalescent Homes	7,094,619	943,162	-
Sports	2,867,918	4,307,865	2,730,636
Various Activities	40,000	-	-
Supplementary Feeding	2,716,243	3,746,143	2,432,842
Readaptation of TB Sufferers	1,667,812	901,018	-
Constructions - Building	276,847	250,080	95,500
Equipment	33,320,503	11,863,755	14,239,626
Administration - overhead	3,462,474	6,804,728	14,471,150
	40,038,104	62,597,824#	32,038,685*
Sub Total	307,234,664	370,067,979	274,554,376
Loans	8,880,014	7,431,223	-
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>316,114,678</b>	<b>377,499,202</b>	<b>274,554,376</b>
Alliance Schools	79,904,289	82,478,866	48,014,979
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ORT Morocco	63,027,465	68,830,046	59,547,532
Ozar Hatorah	24,803,593	24,597,547	12,730,162
Summer Camps	-	28,073,435	37,682,000
Lubavitcher	-	-	12,150,463
Hebrew Courses	-	-	3,614,852
Summer Feeding	-	-	1,230,000
	<u>307,234,664</u>	<u>370,067,979</u>	<u>274,554,376</u>

\* Figures not included.

# Includes 20,263,975 for ORT

\* Includes 9,959,601 for ORT.

## KINDERGARTENS - NURSERY SCHOOLS IN MOROCCO

Comparative Table  
1950-1953

	:Begining 3 1950 :		:Begining 1951 :		:Begining 1952 :		: July 1953 :		: End 1953 :	
	: No.of :	: No.of :	: No.of :	: No.of :	: No.of :	: No.of :	: No.of :	: No.of :	: No.of :	: No.of :
	: child. :	: trained :	: child. :	: trained :	: child. :	: trained :	: child. :	: trained :	: child. :	: trained :
	: workers :	: workers :	: workers :	: workers :	: workers :	: workers :	: workers :	: workers :	: workers :	: workers :
CASABLANCA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
OSE	-	-	160	-	280	7	410	10	410	) 32
MATERNELLE	500	-	500	-	500	-	500	4	500	)
TAIMUD TORAH	-	-	-	-	-	6	360	10	360	)
	500	-	660	-	780	13	1270	24	1270	) 32
AGADIR	-	-	-	-	-	-	70	2	70	) 3
MARRAKECH	-	-	120	-	140	4	150	11	150	) 14 **
MAZAGAN	-	-	-	-	90	-	90	3	90	) 3
MEKNES	-	-	-	-	-	-	90	5	300	) 8
MOGADOR	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	1	50	) 1
SALE	-	-	120	-	120	-	120	1	120	) 2
SAFI	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	4	200	) 4
SEFROU	-	-	-	-	-	-	80	1	80	) 1
RABAT*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	) 3
	500	-	900	-	1130	17	2120	52	2530	) 71
TANGIER	-	-	-	-	120	-	196	2	196	) 2
	500	-	900	-	1250	17	2316	54	2726	) 73

\* NOTE: 1. The Union des Dames in Rabat maintains a kindergarten with 170 children.  
2. The Alliance maintains a small kindergarten in Sale with 120 children.

\*\* 3 are no more members of the Staff (Israel)

STATISTICS OF J.D.C. OPERATION - MOROCCO (French Zone)

Schedule B-3

II. CANTEENS

SUBSIDIZED BY J.D.C.

a. Alliance Schools

	1951/52			Number of pupils in 1952/53			Beneficiaries (Stat. June 30th)		Number of meals	
	No. of schools	No. of classes	No. of pupils	boys	girls	total	in 1952	in 1953	in 1952	in 1953 (1st half)
1. Amizmiz	1	2	56	26	28	54	26	23	8,200	4,980
2. Azemmour	1	2	81	46	27	73	63	52	16,405	9,496
3. Ben Ahmed	1	2	127	66	61	127	75	80	24,660	17,523
4. Berrechid	1	2	85	44	52	96	65	71	16,720	11,867
5. Boujad	1	5	202	90	119	209	115	120	29,858	19,328
6. Demnat	1	4	209	164	157	321	70	140	18,701	21,780
7. El Kelaa	1	2	85	37	48	85	45	45	20,935	9,652
8. Fez	3	43	2,236	972	1,355	2,327	560	563	72,255	58,960
9. Gourrama	1	1	52	44	7	51	16	24	7,637	4,885
10. Imintanout	1	2	74	41	42	83	65	57	12,556	9,833
11. Inezgane	1	1	52	29	14	43	40	42	10,563	6,811
12. Khenifra	1	1	39	14	14	28	40	30	10,101	4,455
13. Kasba Tadla	1	3	149	79	72	151	50	50	8,350	7,950
14. Kerrando	1	1	44	27	10	37	17	25	5,614	3,788
15. Ksar Es Souk	1	1	54	50	8	58	40	56	13,765	10,804
16. Mazagan	2	15	588	286	275	561	360	350	111,140	59,175
17. Marrakech	6	65	3,132	1,597	1,529	3,126	1,800	1,800	641,025	364,600
18. Meknes	2	41	2,388	1,099	1,333	2,432	450	450	54,625	100,425
19. Midelt	1	5	218	103	111	214	59	48	19,329	20,350
20. Mogador	2	19	905	521	415	936	625	625	327,922	179,114
21. Oued Zem	1	2	84	40	42	82	41	43	10,037	6,738
22. Ouezzane	1	7	377	245	230	475	180	190	90,524	40,820
23. Rabat	2	25	1,636	972	681	1,653	1,025	1,032	166,103	143,263
24. Rich	1	2	101	63	40	103	34	43	7,801	8,734
25. Rissani	1	1	60	35	34	69	27	25	5,235	4,155
26. Safi	2	14	644	293	370	663	300	320	55,625	39,501
27. Sale	2	12	597	336	323	659	200	240	122,457	44,713
28. Sefrou	1	10	508	192	338	530	218	218	57,605	41,016
29. Sidi Rahal	1	1	57	29	28	57	55	55	17,216	11,714
30. Talsint	1	1	47	30	25	55	18	18	7,392	5,319
31. Taroudant	1	3	150	82	74	156	107	112	30,207	17,136
32. Taza	1	1	56	32	33	65	32	35	8,508	6,023
33. Tiznit	1	2	95	35	56	91	60	61	20,055	10,552
34. Casablanca	13	135	7,683	4,122	3,844	7,966	6,200	6,200	1,440,000	1,292,000
35. Hebr. Teachers' Seminary	1	5	70	90		90	90	90	39,360	45,390
36.* Taounza	1	1	41	24	12	36	-	-	-	-
37. Agadir	1	4	202	97	111	208	-	37	-	11,230
38.* Tinerhir	1	1	60	33	19	52	-	-	-	-
39.* Taourirt	1	3	110	79	40	119	-	-	-	-
40. Goulimine	1	1	17	16	13	29	-	-	-	-
41.* Missour	1	1	89	48	41	89	-	-	-	-
42.* Illigh	1	1		31	17	48	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>23,460</b>	<b>12,259</b>	<b>12,048</b>	<b>24,307</b>	<b>13,168</b>	<b>13,360</b>	<b>3,508,486</b>	<b>2,654,080</b>

\* Canteens in process of organization.

	Number of Beneficiaries	Meals
1951	11,763	1,652,698
1952	13,168	3,508,486
1953(6 months)	13,360	2,654,080

## VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS RELIGIOUS, SCHOOLS &amp; KINDERGARTENS

Various Institutions	Number of		Number of		Canteen benef.		Meals	
	Institut.	Classes	pupils 1952	pupils 1953	1952	1953	1952	1953 first half
<u>VARIOUS</u>								
Soupe Suraqui - Canteen	1	2	310	310	300	310	133.804	68.556
O.R.T. Prof. Training School	2	30	852	687	770	687	336.705	220.354
	3	32	1.162	997	1,070	997	470.509	288.910
<u>RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS</u>								
Em Habanim Casablanca	1	14	400	380	400	380	183.924	92.245
Ozer Hatorah "	1	14	600	600	544	568	218.160	141.793
Em Habanim Fes	1	17	930	877	360	350	172.995	81.375
Em Habanim Meknes	1	19	880	900	640	650	172.805	100.000
Em Habanim Sefrou	1	12	516	636	400	400	133.285	100.800
Talmud Torah Mogador	1	5	212	160	135	150	65.000	40.000
" " Sale	1	7	356	350	225	200	62.457	36.713
" " Sottat	1	3	90	80	60	80	19.100	16.174
" " Ouezzene	1	4	224	225	80	90	39.444	19.820
" " Rabat	1	6	240	240	-	-	-	-
Lubavitcher	-	-	-	2.770	-	270	-	127.000
Talmud Torah Casablanca	-	-	-	1.100	-	-	-	-
	10	101	4.448	8.318	2.844	3.138	1.067.170	755.000
<u>KINDERGARTENS</u>								
O.S.E. Hermitage Casa	1	2	70	105	70	105	62.561	31.400
O.S.E. Foch "	1	7	300	300	300	300	175.425	97.665
O.S.E. Marrakech	1	4	148	150	148	150	162.000	81.000
O.S.E. Sale	1	3	140	130	140	130	140.400	70.400
Maternelle Casa	1	9	450	500	450	500	256.730	136.910
Union des Dames Rabat	1	4	175	170	175	170	61.237	34.415
Home Bengio Orphanage Casa	1	1	30	31	30	31	20.134	10.438
Talmud Torah Casa	1	6	-	360	-	360	-	46.800
Meknes	1	2	-	90	-	90	-	11.700
Agadir	1	2	-	70	-	70	-	7.700
Mazagan	1	2	-	90	-	90	-	11.800
	11	42	1.313	1.996	1.313	1.996	878.487	540.228
Total	24	175	6.923	11.311	5.227	6.131	2.416.166	1.584.138
Various Institutions	24	175	6.923	11.311	5.227	6.131	2.416.166	1.584.138
Alliance Schools Schedule A	67	450	23.460	24.307	13.168	13.360	3.508.486	2.654.080
Grand Total	91	625	30.383	35.618	18.395	19.491	5.924.652	4.238.218

SUMMER FEEDING 1953<sup>o</sup>

Centers	Number of children beneficiaries	Number of meals <sup>o</sup> and snacks
Amizmiz	50	3.350
Demnat	180	12.420
El Kelaa	98	5.145
Fes	420	22.680
Gourama	80	4.960
Imintanout	70	4.130
Khenifra	27	1.215
Kasba Tadla	50	2.700
Marrakech	1.200	60.000
Oued Zem	30	2.100
Sidi Rahal	130	9.490
Taroudant	124	10.912
Tinerhir	70	5.740
Talsint	36	1.800
Tiznit	60	4.680
Ch. Finzi Casablanca	200	8.400
Ch. Netter	140	2.940
Safi	280	9.240
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>3.245</u>	<u>171.902</u>

<sup>o</sup> Canteens and snack distribution during summer months to under-privileged children

OZAR HATORAH

and small religious schools of  
Ozar Hatorah subsidized by J.D.C.

-----  
 Status, June 30th 1953

<u>1. Small Towns and villages</u>	<u>Teachers</u>	<u>Pupils</u>
AIT BOUELLI	11	239
AIT HKIM	1	25
AIT RAHALT	1	18
AIT YAHIA	1	33
AMEZROU	1	24
AMIZMIZ	3	86
AOULOZ	1	30
ARBLA TEGGANA	1	30
ARGHEN	2	40
DEMNATE	3	136
EL KELAA	2	58
ENTIFA	2	66
IMMOUZEFH	1	15
IGGUI NISMALN	1	22
FEDALA	4	151
GUETTIOUA	1	20
MARRAKECH	4	80
MEZZAT	1	22
OUMNAS	1	19
OURIKA	2	60
OULAD ZNAGUIA	2	58
OULAD MANSOUR	1	30
TEGGANA	1	26
TELOUET	1	25
TAGONIT	1	18
TAZZART	1	20
TAHANAOUT	1	24
TAZENAGHT	1	30
TAMEHROFT	1	19
TIDILI	1	14
HAMADNA	1	14
BENI MELLAL	6	242
DEBDOU	4	94
TIZNIT	1	100
ASNI	1	10
IGGUI NOGHO	2	45
AMASSINE	1	17
AIT SAHADELIL	1	11
	<u>72</u>	<u>1971</u>
<u>2. Independent Talmud Torah subsidized</u> <u>by Ozar Hatorah</u>		
EM HABANIM FES	15	877
" " MOGADOR	11	160
" " SEFROU	14	636
<u>3. Talmud Torah of Ozar Hatorah</u> <u>in Casablanca</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>600</u>
	<u>126</u>	<u>4244</u>

Yeshivoth and small religious  
schools, subsidized by J.D.C., of  
OHALE YOSSEF YTSHAK (LUBAVITCHER)

Status June 30, 1953

<u>No.</u>	<u>Centres</u>	<u>Number of teachers</u>	<u>Number of pupils</u>
<u>A. Small town and village schools subsidized</u>			
1.	RISSANI	1	70
2.	C.P. JORF	1	17
3.	SIFA	1	25
4.	TINJDAD	1	50
5.	GOULMINA	1	40
6.	RICH	1	55
7.	KRONDOU	1	60
8.	OUTAT EL HADJ	1	85
9.	BERGUENT	1	50
10.	EL AYOUN	2	70
11.	TAOURIRT	2	90
12.	TAZA	1	40
13.	SETTAT	5	90
14.	KASBAH TADLA	1	50
15.	SIDI RAHAL	1	94
16.	TANANT	1	22
17.	BRIZA	1	18
18.	TIZGUIN	1	30
19.	TAGMOUNT	1	20
20.	AIT RABAA	1	15
21.	AGOUM	1	15
22.	ASLIN	1	16
23.	IMINI	1	21
24.	TIKERT	1	15
25.	TAMASINT-OUARZAZAT	1	19
26.	TALMASLA "	1	32
27.	TAOURIRT "	1	31
28.	AIT BOUDIAL "	1	15
29.	ASLIM-AGDZ	1	14
30.	TAMNOUGALT	1	21
31.	L' KASBA-TINZOULIN	1	16
32.	REBAT "	1	25
33.	TIMSLA "	1	16
34.	L' AROUMIYAT-ZAGORA	1	11
35.	MANSOURIA	1	16
36.	ASTOUR	1	12
37.	BNEY HYICUN-TAGOUNIT	1	13
38.	L' MAHAMID "	1	17
39.	OULAD YAGOUB-SKOURA	1	22
40.	OULAD BOU HAMIR "	1	35
41.	AIT ALI "	1	11
42.	TOUNDOUT "	1	20
43.	AMKS OUD-YMTGHRAN	1	28
44.	AIT ZAGAR	1	22
45.	GSSAT	1	18
46.	TELLIT-DADES	1	62
47.	IBERGOUSSIN DADES	1	19
48.	TINERHIR	2	55
49.	ASFALOU-TINERHIR	1	11
50.	YMAOUNIN-TELOUET	1	12
51.	YGUIL-LIBYAN "	1	26
52.	TABOUGIMT "	1	12
53.	YNIN "	1	25
54.	YGREIS "	1	19
		61	1,715



B/F 61 1,715

B. Yeshivoth, school of the Lubavitcher

Yeshiva	Meknes	9	194
	Casablanca	4	100
	Beth Rivka Casablanca	3	105
	Sefrou	3	40
	Midelt	5	190
	Erfoul	6	180
	Missour	2	83
	Settat	5	105
	Marrakech	1	60
	TOTAL	99	2,770



SUMMER COLONIESComparative Table

	<u>Y E A R</u>		
	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Number of Beneficiarios	7,618	7,519	8,823
Camp Days	163,882	157,879	186,746
Number of meals issued	491,646	473,637	553,308
Total Receipts	-	-	37,234,000
JDC Part	-	-	12,479,000
Government Sources	-	-	12,240,000
Local Sources	-	-	12,515,000
Total Expenses	22,782,516	28,073,435	37,682,000

1953Number of Child BeneficiariesExpenses

Dept. of Jewish Youth Education	4,081	19,000,000
Aide Scolaire, Marrakesh	707	2,643,000
" " Casablanca	2,278	8,466,000
" " Fes	450	2,100,000
" " Meknes	350	1,702,000
Agadir	77	364,000
Anti TB Casablanca-Fes	200	851,000
Zionist Movement	490	2,256,000
Tangier Habonim	80	300,000
E.I.F. (Jewish French Scouts)	110	-
Total:	<u>8,823</u>	<u>37,682,000</u>

SUMMER COLONIESComparative Table

	<u>Y E A R</u>		
	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Number of Beneficiarios	7,618	7,519	8,823
Camp Days	163,882	157,879	186,746
Number of meals issued	491,646	473,637	553,308
Total Receipts	-	-	37,234,000
JDC Part	-	-	12,479,000
Government Sources	-	-	12,240,000
Local Sources	-	-	12,515,000
Total Expenses	22,782,516	28,073,435	37,682,000

1953Number of Child BeneficiariesExpenses

Dept. of Jewish Youth Education	4,081	19,000.000
Aide Scolaire, Marrakesh	707	2,643.000
" " Casablanca	2,278	8,466.000
" " Fes	450	2,100.000
" " Meknes	350	1,702.000
Agadir	77	364.000
Anti TB Casablanca-Fes	200	851.000
Zionist Movement	490	2,256.000
Tangier Habonim	80	300.000
E.I.F. (Jewish French Scouts)	110	-
Total:	<u>8,823</u>	<u>37,682,000</u>

HEBREW COURSES IN MOROCCO  
Status March 31, 1953

<u>Locality</u>	<u>Summer Courses</u>		<u>Evening Courses</u>	
	<u>Classes</u>	<u>Effectifs</u>	<u>Classes</u>	<u>Effectifs</u>
Casablanca .....	12	500	25	642
Rabat .....	3	123	8	271
Sale .....	9	324	10	340
Port-Lyautey .....	5	150	4	118
Petit-Jean .....	-	-	1	28
Fes .....	8	336	9	235
Sefrou .....	1	30	9	270
Oujda .....	11	350	8	240
Settat .....	5	144	3	66
Beni-Mellal .....	6	240	6	240
Meknes .....	12	419	16	469
Ksar es Souk .....	-	-	2	40
Ouezzane .....	-	-	8	80
El Aroun .....	2	60	2	42
Fedala .....	2	60	3	68
Mazagan .....	3	105	5	100
Berrechid .....	3	120	4	120
Marrakesh .....	30	900	9	186
Taourirt .....	4	102		
Safi .....	4	116		
Mogador .....	2	40		
Agadir .....	6	180		
Rich .....	1	49		
Midelt .....	2	60		
	<u>131</u>	<u>4,408</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>3,731</u>

RECAPITULATION:

Summer Courses: 4,408  
 Evening Courses: 3,731  
 Total: 8,139

HEBREW EVENING COURSES

A survey of the composition of the pupils made in March 1953 shows that

54% Alliance pupils  
 14% Talmud Torah pupils  
 2% Pupils of H edarim  
 7% Pupils of non Jewish schools  
23% Adults, youth and others  
 100%

YOUTH MOVEMENTS  
Status 1953

Total number of  
beneficiaries :

D.E.J.J.

Popular Units (by towns)	3.690	(*)
Sport & Cultural activities	1.123	

CHARLES NETTER

Youth Team	176
Cultural Group activities	210
Sport " "	205

ANCIENS ELEVES DE L'ALLIANCE

Cultural and Sport activities	2.200
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E.I.F.

Scouts	2.270
Cultural activities	<u>240</u>

10.114

(\*) Popular units (by town)

Oujda	145
Tanger	65
Fes	230
Sefrou	260
Meknes	200
Port Lyautey	148
Ouezzane	170
Rabat	130
Sale	150
Casablanca	1.337
Mazagan	50
Marrakesh	250
Oued Zem	60
Kasbah Tadla	60
Settat	140
Taza	65
B oujad	115
Beni Mellal	<u>115</u>

3.690

DETAILS of ACTIVITIES of OSE-MOROCCO

1952 and First Half of 1953

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURES

<u>RECEIPTS:</u>	Francs	
	1952	First Half 1953
From the American Joint Distribution Committee	59,400,000	44,857,570
OSE-Melbourne & ORT-OSE South Africa	1,358,490	650,969
Government Superior Council - via Jewish communities	350,000	500,000
Govt. League for Protect. of Children - for kindergartens	6,500,000	2,500,000
Govt. Public Health Dept. - for kindergartens	500,000	-
Jewish Communities - subventions	2,817,200	2,020,000
Other local receipts	3,645,832	2,575,264
	<u>74,571,522</u>	<u>53,103,803</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Dispensaries (1952)	52,803,256	
" (1st Half of 1953)		
Pharm.	3,320,747	
Casablanca	21,274,777	
Marrakech	4,487,645	
Sale	1,503,762	
Port Lyautey	323,387	
Fes	2,866,682	
Sefrou	2,182,369	
Small Villages	325,000	
Biberonneries	1,384,361	
Tinea	220,662	
Mass Trachoma Pr.	<u>2,845,341</u>	40,734,733
Purchase of Medical Supplies	943,162	-
Kindergartens	12,021,533	8,221,581
Various	245,160	-
Administration and Overhead	9,459,601	5,434,820
	<u>75,472,712</u>	<u>54,391,134</u>

OSE received also from JDC the following supplies  
(first half of 1953) :

5,328 Kgs	Evaporated & Condensed Milk
19,990 "	Various food supplies
12,924	Items of clothing
5,255 Units	Component parts of layettes
706 "	Household articles
6,680 Kgs	Food supplies for their kindergartens
10,974 "	Medicaments

STATISTICS of OSE ACTIVITIES  
1st Half 1953.

Number of Dispensaries	11	
" " Kindergartens	4	
" " Baby Bottle Distr. Centers	<u>5</u>	20

Number of Personnel:

Physicians (full & part time)	33	
Nurses, nurse-aids	158	
Other personnel	42	
Social workers, aids	<u>15</u>	248

Number of cases handled by OSE

Children	34,790	) of whom in treat- ment on June 30, 1953	( 18,307
Adults	12,003		( 2,840
	<u>46,793</u>		<u>21,147</u>

Number of treatments provided: January - June 1953

Children	344,159	) Trachoma	124,859
Adults	60,925		) Tinea (Scalp worm)
		) Tuberculosis	14,509
		) Other	<u>214,087</u>
	<u>405,084</u>		<u>405,084</u>

Number of Beneficiaries & of Baby Bottles distributed - by month:

January	1,052	children -	46,519	b. bottles
February	999		42,255	
March	1,013		38,854	
April	1,161		51,522	
May	1,077		58,943	
June	864		<u>59,338</u>	
	<u>6,166</u>		297,431	

Supplementary Feeding:

Meals & snacks issued -	Children	75,922
	Adults	2,580
		<u>78,502</u>

Kindergartens:

Casablanca - Hermitage	105	children -	31,400
" Foch	300	"	97,665
Marrakech	150	"	81,000
Sale	130	"	70,400
	<u>685</u>		<u>280,465</u>

EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

<u>Month</u>	<u>Y E A R</u>		
	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
January	182	158	311
February	505	219	343
March	372	37	442
April	434	370	189
May	256	424	3
June	585	720	304
July	825	999	292
August	943	520	158
September	1,544	288	-
October	297	286	-
November	226	450	-
December	<u>270</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>6,440</u>	<u>4,683</u>	<u>2,042</u> (only 8 months)
	<u>Recapitulation</u>		
General Aliyah	5,088	3,371	1,540
Youth Aliyah	<u>1,352</u>	<u>1,312</u>	<u>502</u>
	6,440	4,683	2,042 (8 months)
Grand Total .....	<u>13,165</u>		



SUPPLIES DELIVERED  
First Half 1953.

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1. <u>FOOD</u>	- Kgs.	256,734	to	20,623	beneficiaries.
2. <u>LAYETTES</u>	- Units	54,825	"	3,500	"
3.) <u>CLOTHING</u>	- "	186,495	"	35,000	"
) <u>SHOES</u>	- Pairs	6,097	"	6,097	"
4. <u>WELFARE ITEMS</u>	- Units	88,306	"	25,000	"
	Total:			<u>90,220</u>	beneficiaries. **

1. FOOD - Distributed in 70 canteens throughout the country.
2. LAYETTES - The Layettes are issued through women's organizations called "Union des Dames Israélites". There is one of these in almost every town in Morocco. When there is not, the community Committee of the OSE Center takes charge of the distribution.
3. CLOTHING & SHOES - The greatest part of these items are issued to the communities for their poor people. Some of these communities are included in regions which gather several small villages. Therefore Marrakech, with her 73 "Mellahs" in the south, has dressed 18,250 poor.
4. WELFARE ITEMS - We issue these articles to schools, OSE Centers and Aliyah for their emigrants.

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\*\*Some beneficiaries duplicated

Schedule C

MOROCCO - SPANISH ZONE

Status 1953

Jewish Population :

Tetuan	5,500
Larache	1,200
Alcazarquivir	1,300
Arzila	300
Other small towns	400
	<u>8,700</u>
Melilla	2,800
Total	<u>11,500</u>

<u>Alliance Israelite Schools</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tetuan	179	246	425
Larache	123	96	219
Alcazarquivir	115	104	219
	<u>417</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>863</u>

JDC Subvention during first half of 1953

	<u>Supplies</u>	<u>Cash Pesetas</u>
Powdered milk	Kgs 2,976	54,376
Powdered eggs	" 893	39,600
Jam	" 304	1,990
Various clothing	Units 1,157	8,100
Books	" 1,470	11,760
		<u>115,826</u>

Statistics

Alliance Schools	863
Canteen Beneficiaries	230
Hebrew Courses	324
Clothing Beneficiaries	697
Dispensary Beneficiaries	250
Economic Rehabilitation Beneficiaries	67

Schedule D

T A N G I E R

Total Population about 250,000  
Jewish " " 12,000

No. of Inst.		Beneficiaries		Meals	
		1952	1953 first half	1952	1953 first half
1	Kindergarten	152	196	20,064	35,280
2	Alliance School	1,167	1,194 *	-	-
	Oeuvre de Nourriture Canteen for children	1,150	1,196	126,602	124,394
1	Canteen Sarita Sagues for aged & orphans Soup kitchen	292	323	54,596	-
4	Hebrew Courses	170	124	-	-
	Refugees, Cash Medical and other help	42	40	-	-
	Supplementary Feeding	61	-	-	-
	Artisan Courses of the Association for Prof. Training and Cash Stipends to pupils	150	134	-	-
	In the Govt. Schools	50	47 ** (26 boys & 21 girls)		
	Dressmakers courses	58	49		
	Carpenters	19	15		
	Electricians	16	18		
	Masons	7	5		

MEDICAL ACTIVITIES -  
- see Schedule D-1

\* 590 boys & 604 girls

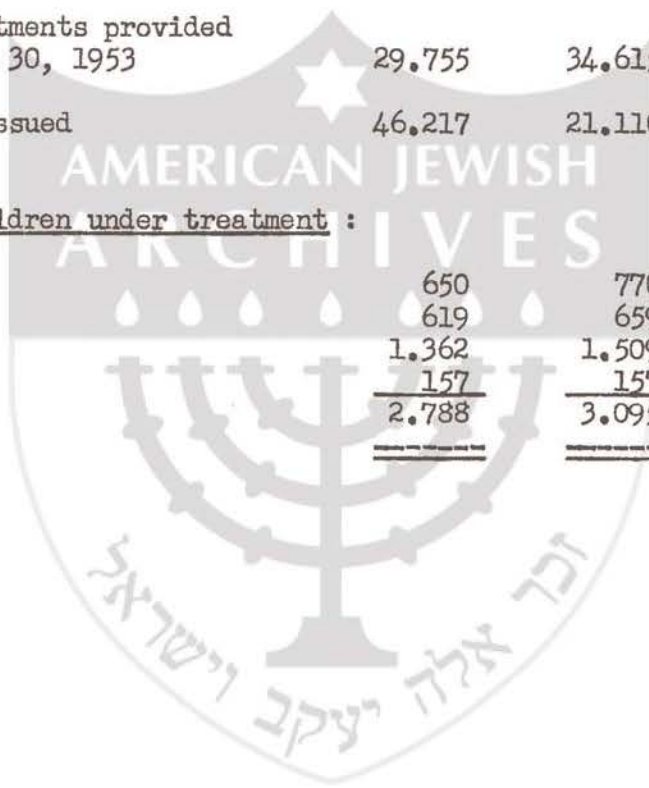
\*\* Supplies

Powder milk	Kgs	1,723	Ptas	47,500
Dried eggs	"	603	"	25,200
Jan	"	393	"	2,600
Toilet soap	Pieces	600	"	2,000
Blankets	"	50	"	8,000
Bedsheets	"	60	"	6,000
Layette components	"	1,270	"	9,000
Various clothing	"	495	"	12,000
Books	"	272	"	15,000
			Ptas	117,300

Schedule D-1

MEDICAL ACTIVITIES - OSE Tangier

	<u>Beneficiaries</u>		
	<u>First half 1951</u>	<u>First half 1952</u>	<u>First half 1953</u>
Number of children under treatment	2.788	3.085	3.370
Number of adults under treatment	249	343	278
Number of treatments provided Jan. 1 to June 30, 1953	29.755	34.615	37.748
Baby bottles issued	46.217	21.110	28.435
 <u>Age of children under treatment :</u>			
0-3 years	650	770	495
3-6 "	619	659	773
6-14 "	1.362	1.509	1.618
14-18 "	<u>157</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>484</u>
	<u>2.788</u>	<u>3.095</u>	<u>3.370</u>



ALGIERSStatus 1953  
-----Population figures

Total population	6,553,450
Jewish population	130,000

	<u>Beneficiaries</u>		<u>Meals</u>	
	<u>First half</u> <u>1952</u>	<u>First half</u> <u>1953</u>	<u>First half</u> <u>1952</u>	<u>First half</u> <u>1953</u>
Training Courses for girls	36	33	2,960	2,720
Professional Training School ORT	92	146	1,408	2,031
Union of Students	500	450	—	—
Medical Activities Dispensaire Poly- valent	3683	3700	—	—

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>LOAN INSTITUTIONS IN EUROPE</u>	Page	1
Austria	"	2 - 3
Belgium	"	3 - 5
France	"	6 - 7
Greece	"	7 - 8
Italy	"	8 - 10
		<u>Schedules A &amp; B.</u>
<u>NORTH AFRICAN REHABILITATION PROJECT</u>	Page	11 - 14
<u>ORT VOCATIONAL TRAINING</u>		
General Financial Information	Page	15 - 16
General Statistical Information	"	16 - 17
National Organisations :		
Europe	"	18 - 20
Iran and North Africa	"	20 - 22
Israel	"	22 - 23
Central Institute	"	24
		<u>Schedules 1 - 8</u>

In the following we report, as of June 30, 1953, on : -

- I. JDC-financed loan institutions in Europe : -  
Austria, Belgium, France, Greece and Italy;
- II. North African Rehabilitation Project :  
Morocco and Tunisia ;
- III. ORT vocational training :  
Austria, Germany, Italy, Belgium, France,  
Greece, Iran, North Africa, Israel and the  
Central Institute for Instructors at Geneva.

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

I. LOAN INSTITUTIONS IN EUROPE

GENERAL

As of June 30, 1953, JDC financed or subventioned in Europe credit cooperatives in Vienna, Brussels, Antwerp, Milan - - with branch in Rome, and free-loan societies in Paris and Athens.

From their inception up to June 30, 1953, these JDC-financed loan institutions granted 19,403 loans for a total amount of \$5,312,800.-

During the first six months of 1953, they granted altogether 1,201 loans for a total amount of \$ 572,600.-

At June 30, 1953, their own funds amounted to \$ 90,200.- and JDC credits at the same date to \$ 468,000.-

From the dates of their inceptions up to June 30, 1953, the above institutions had paid the JDC a total amount of \$ 15,860.- as interest on their loans and \$ 22,950.- in capital repayments.

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In the following, we give details of the activities of each institution.

AUSTRIA

VIENNA (Jewish population approx. 10,000 )

This Credit cooperative, organised by us at the beginning of 1949 had, as of June 30, 1953, 295 members with a total paid-in share capital of 155,000 Austrian schillings ( \$ 5,100.-)

From its inception, up to the end of June 1953, this Cooperative has granted 369 loans totalling AS 4,176,459 ( \$ 139,200)

During the first six months of this year, 38 individual loans, amounting to AS. 570,000 ( \$ 19,000.-) were granted. Eleven of these were first loans, ten second, and seventeen third or more. The maximum individual loan was AS. 35,000.- ( \$ 1,170.-) The average loan granted amounted to AS 15,000.- as compared with AS. 13,000 in 1952.

The following is an occupational breakdown of the loans granted :

	<u>1949 to June 1953</u>		<u>Jan. to June 1953</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Merchants and small industrialists	212	2,568,302	31	486,000
Artisans	88	1,029,020	5	50,000
Professionals	46	361,394	2	34,000
Others	23	217,743	-	--
	<u>369</u>	<u>4,176,459</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>570,000</u>

Of the above loans granted during the first half of 1953, about 65% were for goods, 15% for raw materials and 20% for equipment, machinery and tools.

Repayment terms are from ten to fifteen months.

The yearly interest charged is from 8% to 10%.

The total amount outstanding in loans as of June 30, 1953 was AS.734,500.

As of June 30, 1953, JDC's investment amounted to AS.758,113 ( \$ 25,200 )

The Cooperative has, so far, repaid us AS. 200,000 of our loan to them and credited our account with AS 27,200 representing the interest on our investment.

During the first three years of the Cooperative's existence, we were covering its administrative deficit, which amounted to some AS.30,000 yearly. However, the final financial report for 1952 shows that the income from interest and commission on loans permitted them to cover their administrative budget, the interest paid to the JDC and to set up a reserve for doubtful debts.

This Cooperative is carrying out too conservative a financial policy, in our opinion, far beyond the purpose of the Cooperative. An inspection in the very near future is therefore envisaged with the hope that agreement will be reached with the Board on the policy to be followed. In view of the repayments made by the loan kassa, the granting of a new credit is foreseen.

BELGIUM  
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

BRUSSELS ( Jewish population approx. 28,000 ).

This Credit Cooperative, organised by us at the end of 1945 had, on June 30, 1953, 804 members with a total paid-in share capital of  
1,406,325 Belgian francs (§ 28,100)

From its inception up to the end of June 1953, this Cooperative has granted 2,551 loans, totalling B.Frs.72,187,540.- (§ 1,444,000.-)

During the first half of this year, 286 applications for loans were received of which 228 were approved, 33 withdrawn, 2 refused and 23 held over pending investigation.

Of the 228 loans approved, 222 were granted amounting to B.Frs.5,913,060 (§ 118,500.-). Thirty-eight of these were first loans, 42 second and 142 third or more. The maximum amount granted was B.Frs.50,000 and the average individual loan B.Frs. 26,600.- (§ 532.-).

The following are breakdowns of the loans, according to occupation and purpose :

	<u>1945 to June 1953</u>		<u>Jan. to June 1953</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Merchants and small industrialists	1,165	33,842,651	98	2,530,410
Artisans	1,193	33,503,644	113	3,159,300
Professionals	116	3,503,565	4	112,300
Others	77	1,337,680	7	111,050
	<u>2,551</u>	<u>72,187,540</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>5,913,060</u>

	<u>1945 to June 1953</u>		<u>Jan. to June 1953</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Manufactured goods	1,340	38,177,690	89	2,276,960
Raw materials	780	23,161,005	111	3,166,600
Machinery and tools	327	8,812,440	12	272,950
Other	104	2,086,405	10	196,550
	<u>2,551</u>	<u>72,187,540</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>5,913,060</u>

As indicated in our 1952 report, it would appear that the loans granted immediately after the end of the war were mainly to merchants and artisans for the purchase of manufactured goods whereas, in recent years, the major proportion was for the purchase of raw materials, as follows:

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>First half 1953</u>
Manufactured goods	63%	79%	70%	43%	43%	41%	38%
Raw materials	6%	2%	18%	49%	52%	51%	61%

This change appears to indicate a decrease in the trade in finished articles and a corresponding increase in production.

The loans are repayable in from five to fifteen months.

The yearly rate of interest charged is between 8% and 9%.

As of June 30, 1953, JDC's investment amounted to B.Frs.5,899,677.- ( \$ 118,000.-).

Between 1946 and June 1953, the Cooperative remitted to us the amount of B.Frs.414,858 ( \$ 8,300 ) representing 1% interest on our investment.

During the first few years of its development, the Cooperative was unable to fully cover its administrative budget and we therefore contributed towards covering the deficit. From 1950, however, their income has completely covered the administrative expenses and, in the year 1952, a net profit of B.Frs.90,000.- was realised. This permitted the coverage of old bad-debts and the setting-up of a reserve.

ANTWERP ( Jewish population approx. 11,000 ).

On June 30, 1953, this Cooperative had 213 members with a total paid-in share capital of

B.Frs. 759,500 ( \$ 15,200 )

From its inception in 1945 up to the end of June 1953, this Cooperative has granted 813 loans totalling B.Frs.36,558,100.- ( \$730,000.-)

During the first six months of this year, 43 loans were granted, for a total amount of B.Frs. 2,627,600 ( \$ 52,500.-) of which thirteen were first loans, thirteen second, four third and thirteen fourth or more. The maximum loan was B.Frs.100,000. ( \$2,000.-) and the average B. Frs. 61,100.- ( \$ 1,220.- ).

The following are breakdowns of the loans granted, according to occupation and purpose :

	1945 to June 1953		Jan. to June 1953	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Merchants and small industrialists	561	28,119,000	29	1,880,000
Artisans	207	7,232,100	10	587,600
Professionals	4	190,000	--	--
Others	41	1,017,000	4	160,000
	<u>813</u>	<u>36,558,100</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>2,627,600</u>
Manufactured goods	606	29,874,000	31	1,985,000
Machinery and tools	139	4,374,100	8	417,100
Other	68	2,310,000	4	225,500
	<u>813</u>	<u>36,558,100</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>2,627,600</u>

Loans are repayable in from ten to fifteen months.

The yearly rate of interest charged is from 6% to 7%.

On June 30, 1953, the JDC's investment amounted to B.Frs. 2,969,212.- ( \$ 59,400.- ).

Between 1946 and June 1953, this Cooperative has paid us the sum of B.Frs. 191,770 ( \$3,800.-) representing 1% interest on our investment. Since 1952, it has fully covered its administrative expenses from its income.

FRANCE

PARIS ( Jewish population approx. 235,000 ).

In our last year's report, we gave an analysis of the activities of the two free-loan societies in Paris -- the Caisse Israélite de Prêts and the Fonds de Démarrage Economique. These two organisations, set-up in 1945, altogether granted from the date of their inception to the end of June 1952 9,573 loans totalling Frs.583,210,500.- ( \$ 1,458,000.- ).

The maximum individuals loans granted were Frs.60,000.- by the F.D.E. and Frs.100,000.- by the C.I.P. These loans were for a period of between one and two years and the yearly rate of interest charged was from 4% to 5%.

There can be no doubt that both these institutions were of considerable help to thousands of families in the years immediately after the Liberation. However, with the devaluation of the currency during recent years, the maximum amount was, in most cases, insufficient to facilitate real economic rehabilitation which fact occasioned losses to both institutions.

Further, the low rate of interest charged and the limited funds at their disposal resulted in considerable administrative deficits in view of the fact that two separate administrations had to be maintained.

In order to remedy to a certain degree the above-mentioned situation, it was decided to merge the two loan societies; this was accomplished in September 1952.

According to information received from the Office for France, the new institution, the "Caisse Israélite de Démarrage Economique" had, by the end of 1952, a working capital of Frs.84,000,000.- made up as follows : -

37,756,202	--	Balance of old JDC credits after deduction of some seventeen million francs -- losses on C.I.P. and F.D.E. bad-debts and administrative deficits ;
24,000,000	--	Advance by JDC -- subsequently agreed as a grant through F.S.J.U. on account of 4 : 1 funds;
2,236,410	--	Old C.I.P. funds from other sources than JDC ;
11,784,929	--	Old F.D.E. funds from other sources than JDC ;
8,000,000	--	New credits granted to the unified Kassa by the Rothschild Bank and several members of the Conseil d'Administration.

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83,777,541

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Up to June 30, 1953, the new institution had granted 1,019 loans totaling Frs.127,405,000.- (₯ 318,500.-). Of these 566 were first loans, 240 second, 141 third and 72 fourth loans. 482 were to artisans, 392 to merchants and small businessmen and 145 to professionals.

The average loan was for Frs.125,000 as against Frs.87,000 which was the average during the first half of 1952.

During the ten-month period of the new loan kassa's activity, the administrative expenses amounted to Frs.5,420,000.- while receipts from the interest charged was Frs. 7,356,000.-

### GREECE

ATHENS ( Jewish population 3,500 ).

The Loan Kassa in Athens, established in July 1945, together with its subsequent branch in Salonika, granted between the date of inception and June 30, 1953, altogether 3,593 loans, totalling 12,376,090,000 drachma ( ₯ 412,500.- ).

According to occupation, 2,305 were to merchants and small industrialists, 1,084 artisans and 204 to professionals.

During the first half of this year, 109 loans amounting to 1,105,000,000 drachma ( ₯ 36,800.- ) were granted. Of these, 64 were to merchants and small industrialists, 34 to artisans and 11 to professionals.

The maximum loan was 15,000,000 drachma and the average 10,000,000 as against 8,000,000 drachma last year.

The loans are repayable over a period of from fifteen to twenty months, and the yearly rate of interest charged is 8%.

The income from interest covers the administrative budget and also occasional losses on bad-debts.

In its report for the year 1952, the Loan Kassa emphasized the fact that the situation of its clientèle has deteriorated, due to the following facts : -

With the value of its capital constantly decreasing, the Loan Kassa has been obliged to reduce the number of individual loans extended, in order to maintain the level of an average loan between ₯ 300.- and ₯500, this being the minimum required in order to provide really productive assistance. Whereas in 1948 they were able to grant 626 loans, only 318 were possible in 1951 and 248 in 1952.

The last drastic devaluation of the currency in April 1953 (from 15,000 to 30,000 drachma to the  $\text{₯}$  1.-) has created an even more difficult situation for the Loan Kassa in the sense that considerable new credits ( $\text{₯}$ 150,000.-) are essential if they are to satisfy the needs of their clientèle. They have recently submitted to us such an application.

In this connection, it is worthwhile to mention that the JDC credits, remitted to them between 1945 and 1948, -- 1,620,000,000 drachma -- then represented the equivalent of  $\text{₯}$  272,000.- yet, at the present rate of exchange, they now represent only  $\text{₯}$  54,000.-

### ITALY

MILAN ( Jewish population approx. 7,000 ).

The Credit Cooperative in Milan, established by us in June 1948 had, as of June 30, 1953, 583 members with a total paid-in share capital of 26,038,000 lire ( $\text{₯}$ 41,800.-).

From its inception up to June 30, 1953, it granted 1,475 loans totalling 502,588,639 lire ( $\text{₯}$  806,730.-).

During the first six months of this year, 183 loans were granted totalling 89,884,127 lire ( $\text{₯}$  144,230.-).

Individual loans are for periods of from ten to fifteen months, while loans on commercial drafts are from two to four months.

The yearly rate of interest charged is 8.5%.

ROME ( Jewish population approx. 12,000 ).

Last year, after negotiations with the Board of the Milan Cooperative, and leaders of the Jewish community in Rome, a branch of the Milan Cooperative was set-up in Rome with a special credit of  $\text{₯}$  10,000.- put at their disposal for this purpose by the JDC.

Loans were to be granted mainly to artisans and professionals but not to peddlers.

The maximum for any individual loan was limited to 250,000 lire and, in exceptional cases, 300,000 lire.

A so-called "Discounting Committee", consisting of twenty-seven prominent Jewish personalities of Rome, was formed who consider all applications submitted before forwarding them to Milan for final decision.

Between January and May 1953, 34 applications have been received - 20 from Italians and 14 from DPs and, by the end of June, 10 loans for a total amount of 2,410,000 lire ( \$3,870.- ) have been granted and paid out. Of these, three were to merchants, one to an artisan and six to others.

Therefore, during the first half of 1953, the Milan Cooperative together with its Rome branch, granted a total of 193 loans amounting to 92,294,127 lire ( \$ 148,100.- ). From inception to June 30, 1953, they granted 1,485 loans for a total amount of 504,998,639 lire ( \$ 810,600 ).

The following is an occupational breakdown of the above : -

	1948 to June 1953		Jan. to June 1953	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Merchants and small industrialists	663	308,742,986	71	58,487,164
Artisans	415	120,336,941	35	16,186,925
Professionals	45	9,910,000	--	--
Others	320	47,145,446	86	14,523,681
Cooperatives	42	18,863,266	1	3,096,357
	<u>1,485</u>	<u>504,998,639</u>	<u>193</u>	<u>92,294,127</u>

During the first six months, 65% of the loans were for the procurement of manufactured goods and raw material and 35% for machinery, tools, etc.

As of June 30, 1953, an amount of 129,000,000 lire was outstanding, of which 87,000,000 lire represented individual loans and 42,000,000 lire the discounting of commercial drafts.

As of the same date, 229,000,000 lire was shown on the Current Account and 40,000,000 lire on the Deposit Account.

The following table illustrates the development of the Milan Cooperative: -

	No. librs.	Share Capital paid in	JDC Investment	Current Account	Deposit Account
31/12/49	265	6,949,800	41,026,200	7,700,000	--
31/12/50	325	7,655,000	41,026,200	18,000,000	--
31/12/51	381	7,921,000	41,026,200	39,500,000	5,500,000
31/12/52	535	18,701,000	32,336,053	94,400,000	26,600,000
30/ 6/53	583	26,038,000	29,336,053	229,000,000	40,000,000

o) Excluding Rome.



Totals of loans granted were : -

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1948 to 1949	295	69,764,439
1950	274	63,413,399
1951	314	123,882,490
1952	409	155,644,184
Jan. to June 1953	193	92,294,127
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,485	504,998,639
	<hr/>	<hr/>

It can be observed from the above that, whereas in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 the JDC credit in relationship to the amount laid out was some 65%, it was only 33% in 1951, 21% in 1952 and came down to 16% this year.

The discounting of commercial drafts was agreed upon by the JDC and the Loan Kassa in order to gain additional profit and thus permit the Cooperative to operate without a deficit. Such loans on commercial drafts can only be granted within the limits of the funds available in the Current Account. The JDC credit and the share capital of the Cooperative must be used exclusively for personal loans.

It should be mentioned that, although this Cooperative has only been in existence three years, they have already made capital repayments to the JDC of over \$ 16,000.- on our original loan and nearly \$ 3,000.- in interest at 1%.

Satisfactory as the development of this Loan Cooperative may appear, it should be pointed out that it cannot be considered as being fully consolidated. For instance, although its administrative deficit has considerably decreased, it still does not fully cover its administrative expenses from income. We still have to participate every year to the extent of between \$ 1,000.- and \$ 1,500.- on losses incurred - mainly on so-called " social loans."

For this reason, the Cooperative made a request a few months ago for a further loan of \$ 50,000.- An appropriation is available but will be paid out only after further investigation on the spot. At that time, further steps for the development of the Rome branch will also be discussed.

## II. NORTH AFRICAN REHABILITATION PROJECT

---

After we finally succeeded in completing the legal requirements for the Loan Kassas in Casablanca and Tunis in August last year, we were able to proceed with their practical organisation. This involved the additional cooptation of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, the finding and hiring of managers and other personnel and the preparation of administrative budgets, management rules, forms, etc.

Due to the great difficulty in finding adequate premises for the offices, the actual activity of the loan kassas could not start until the end of June 1953. The official inauguration took place in Tunis on June 15, and in Casablanca on July 1.

In both places, the ceremonies took on a very impressive character in the presence of the Jewish community leaders as well as of French and Arab representatives of the Government, who showed great interest in our rehabilitation programme.

Before going into the details of the present status of the work, we would like to point out that, from the time our programme was worked out in 1951 up to the present date, as a result of the political situation, economic conditions have deteriorated in both countries, and in Tunisia in particular.

It is common knowledge that North Africa -- especially Morocco and Tunisia -- is, at the present time, going through a bloodless political, social and economic revolution. Therefore, the initiation by the JDC and ICA of a rehabilitation programme is regarded by everyone as a historical event.

It is worthwhile to mention that, at the time of the inauguration of the Tunis Loan Kassa, the Prime Minister of Tunisia was in France to ask the French Government for special aid to artisans.

With regard to the Jewish populations, consideration has also to be given to the fact that, for the time being, mass emigration to Israel has almost completely ceased and cannot be envisaged for years to come.

Our activity is, in its simplest form, first and foremost, an attempt to free the artisans from the usurers. To what extent the needy are the prey of usurers in North Africa is indicated by the following:

In Tunisia, in order that a promissory note be legally recognized as valid, the amount has to be paid out in the presence of a representative of the authorities.

Without going into detail, we must however say that the preparatory work for the beginning of the loan kassa's activity required a great deal of time, patience and energy. It was even necessary to explain the aims of our programme and, in order to better illustrate this, it is worthwhile to relate the following : -

A very outstanding personality in Tunisia asked me, as a friendly confidence, what was the relationship between the JDC and the U.S. State Department and what was the real purpose of our activity. As he said, no-one believes that we are just coming to spend money without pursuing some specific political aim.

We had, we have and will still have difficulties but, eventually, they will be overcome. We must always bear in mind that this is the Orient with all that that means.

Our initial programme envisaged : -

- a) the granting of direct loans for raw materials and tools ;
- b) assistance to loan-takers to acquaint them with the handling of the tools and machinery acquired, in order to replace obsolete methods of manual work, the setting-up of so-called " model shops ", etc.

It goes without saying that we have to proceed gradually and carefully and it will therefore take some time before the full programme can be put into execution.

In the following, we give the available data on the activity of the two Loan Kassas during the two to two-and-a-half months which have passed since their inception : -

Casablanca :

As of September 15 1953, 122 loan applications for an amount of frs. 5,210,000 had been received.

Of these, 27 loans amounting to frs. 1,075,450.- have been granted, 24 for raw materials and 3 for machinery or tools.

As of the same date, 11 applications for a total of frs. 480,000.- had been refused and 84 were pending.

Contributions from the various members as of August 31 1953, amounted to frs. 200,000.-

Tunis :

As of September 15 1953, 171 loan applications for an amount of Frs. 8,382,500.- had been received.

Of these, 64 loans amounting to Frs. 2,872,000.- have been granted- 50 for raw materials and 14 for machinery or tools.

As of the same date, 56 applications for a total of Frs. 2,607,500.- had been refused and 51 were pending.

Of the 64 loans granted, 8 were to metal-workers, 25 to leather-workers, 6 to carpenters and 25 to tailors and dressmakers.

Contributions from the various members as of August 31 1953, amounted to Frs. 57,000.-

In both institutions, interest at between 3% and 5% per annum is charged on all loans.

From the above, it can be seen that, during the past two to three months, 91 loans have been granted in Casablanca and Tunis for a total amount of Frs. 3,947,450.-

If we take an average of between four and five persons to each family, we can say that approximately 410 souls have already benefited from the activity of the two loan institutions.

It should be added that this was during the peak summer months of July and August. There is no doubt in our minds that now, especially after the harvest, the number of applications for loans will considerably increase.

As of the present date, the amounts remitted to the Loan Kassas by the JDC and ICA were :

To Casablanca .....	Frs. 5,000,000.-
To Tunis .....	" 8,000,000.-

In giving the above brief report on the activity of the two Loan Kassas, we must also point out the fact that inquiries have already been received from Jewish communities in both Morocco and Tunisia for the setting-up of further loan institutions in the provinces and, in view of the situation, it will be very difficult to refuse such requests.

Taking into account the main Jewish centres which have to be considered for the extension of our rehabilitation programme, we must envisage three to five more kassas in Morocco and at least one in Tunisia.

Further, on the basis of experience so far acquired, the present maximum individual loan, set at Frs.40,000.- in Casablanca and at Frs. 50,000.- in Tunis for raw materials, and at Frs.60,000 and Frs.70,000.- respectively for machinery and tools, must be increased to Frs.100,000.- for a limited but worthwhile category of artisans.

Finally, it will not be possible to maintain, à la longue, the limitation on the trades for which loans are granted.

We do not doubt that, as soon as this programme takes on more shape in both countries, support will be forthcoming from the governments as well as from the local Jewish communities.



III. ORT

As in previous years, in accordance with the agreement between the JDC and ORT Union, we received monthly statistical and financial reports on ORT activities in the various countries.

On the basis of these reports and analyses made by us we were able to follow the ORT programme and take up specific problems with ORT Union at our three-monthly meetings.

According to the 1953 JDC-ORT agreement, an amount of \$1,840,000.- was foreseen for the ORT operations, against which amount JDC guaranteed a minimum of \$1,100,000.- on the condition that ORT Union would raise outside of funds derived from the United Jewish Appeal, through JDC, a minimum of \$720,000.- towards the budget schedule agreed upon. It was further foreseen in the agreement that JDC would pay to ORT 5% of the excess over \$70,000,000.- gross income from the 1953 United Jewish Appeal Drive up to \$72,000,000.- gross income or an additional \$100,000.- and 2.5% of the excess over \$72,000,000.- gross income, up to an additional \$300,000.- or a maximum total payment of \$ 1,500,000.-

Of the \$1,840,000.- envisaged for the various ORT national organisations and other operations, an amount of \$373,000.- was to be spent for the European countries, \$405,000.- for the Moslem countries, \$650,000.- for Israel, \$63,000.- for the Central Institute in Geneva, \$60,000.- for the American ORT Federation and \$289,000.- for ORT Union's general operating expenditure and administration.

Schedule No.1 shows that the total income for the national committees for the first half of 1953 amounted to \$1,175,840.- made up as follows:-

\$ 786,926	-- 67%	Subvention from ORT Union; (\$182,738 for European organisations; \$208,692 for Moslem countries; \$214,530 for Israel; \$35,960 for the Institute; \$34,900 for the American ORT Federation and \$110,086 for General Operating Expenses and Administration)
\$ 172,100	-- 14%	Subventions from various governments (mainly France);
\$ 54,524	-- 5%	Grants from P.E.P. for Austria, Germany and Italy and scholarships and guardianships from Women's American ORT for France, Greece and the North African countries;
\$ 27,966	-- 3%	Grants from JDC local offices towards the cost of canteens in North Africa;
\$ 134,324	-- 11%	Various other sources, representing local contributions, sale of products and recuperations.

\$1,175,840

From the foregoing it can be seen that the payments made by ORT Union during these six months represent about 50% of the annual subvention envisaged, with the exception of Israel for which only \$214,530.- was spent up to the end of June. This is explained by the fact that, during 1953, ORT-Israel received various supplies and equipment still charged to ORT Union 1952 subvention.

The total expenditure for the first half of 1953, amounting to \$1,213,844.- was made up as follows :

\$ 685,882	--	57%	Installations' functional expenses (personnel salaries, consumable supplies, transportation and maintenance);
170,787	--	14%	Social welfare expenses (mainly salaries paid to adult trainees at Montreuil by the French Ministry of Labour) maintenance of canteens in North Africa and the Internat at the Institute;)
246,005	--	20%	Overhead Expenses (\$101,019.- applicable to the various national organisations, \$34,900.- to the American ORT Federation and \$ 110,086.-to ORT Union Headquarters);
111,170	--	9%	Capital expenses ( mainly in North Africa ).
<u>\$1,213,844</u>			

Schedule No.2 gives a statistical summary as of June 30 1953, showing that, including Israel and the Central Institute, the total number of trainees, was 7,971 of whom 4,941 were male.

Non-Jews numbered 230 - - mainly in Austria and France.

Of the total number, 3,742 attended the regular courses of two to four years duration, 1,923 the short-term courses, 1,153 the various children's workshops ( so-called "vocational occupation") and 1,153 were apprentices, placed by ORT with private employers ( France and Tunisia).

In Europe : At the beginning of the year, there were 3,802 students in the various ORT schools.

During the first six months of 1953, 1,054 were admitted, 711 graduated and 571 discontinued, leaving 3,574 trainees at the end of June.

Discontinuation represented 12% of the attendance during the first half of 1953 as against some 25% in 1952 and 38% in 1951.

In the Moslem countries : At the beginning of the year, there were 2,462 students in ORT schools.

During the first half of 1953, 260 were admitted, 68 graduated and 220 discontinued, leaving 2,434 trainees at the end of June.

Discontinuation represented 8% of the attendance during the first half of 1953, as against 27% in 1952 and 29% in 1951.

Schedule No.3 gives data on the reasons for discontinuations before graduation in the various countries.

Schedule No.4 shows that, according to age groups, 2,225 were under 14 years of age, 3,968 were between 15 and 18, 1,055 between 19 and 25, 514 between 26 and 40 and 209 were over 41 years of age.

Schedule No.5 shows the breakdown by trades as of June 30 1953:

Needle trades accounted for 2,633 trainees; metal trades for 1,951, electricity for 878, woodwork for 774, industrial arts (mainly in children's workshops in Italy) for 826 and 909 were engaged in various other trades.

Schedule No.6 shows the fluctuation in the ORT student body from the end of 1949 to the end of 1952.

In Europe, the total number of students in Austria, Germany, Italy, Belgium, France and Greece was 6,310 at the end of 1949, 4,904 at the end of 1950, 4,014 at the end of 1951 and 3,802 at the end of 1952.

In the Moslem countries, the student body progressively increased - 1,051 at the end of 1949, 1,402 at the end of 1950, 2,010 at the end of 1951 and 2,462 at the end of 1952.

These increases are explained by the programmes initiated in Iran during the year 1950 and in Tunisia in 1951.



### AUSTRIA

On June 30 1953, there were 248 ORT trainees in Austria - 91 of them non-Jews.

Of this number, 80 were over 41 years of age.

There were 86 trainees attending three short-term courses in Vienna, 48 attending four short-term courses in Salzburg, 59 three short-term courses in Wels and 55 two short-term courses in Asten. The installation at Hallein was closed in May 1953 due to the liquidation of the camp there.

Following an agreement between ORT and U.S.E.P., short-term courses were started during the months of May and June at Salzburg, Wels and Asten. These courses (needle-trades, welding and auto-mechanics) are aimed at enabling escapes to acquire the basic knowledge of a trade prior to their emigration.

### GERMANY

On June 30 1953, 353 trainees were attending 28 short-term courses ( 8 at Fohrenwald, 11 at Munich, 3 at Cologne, 5 at Berlin and 1 at Hanover.)

With regard to age, only 44 were between 15 and 18 years of age, the remainder being adults, 77 of whom were over 41 years of age.

Out of the 353 trainees, 155 attended courses in the needle trades, 138 in hairdressing, beauty-culture and bookbinding and 60 in the metal and electrical trades.

### BELGIUM

There were 156 trainees at the end of June, of whom 37 were in Brussels and 119 in Antwerp. The ORT installations in Brussels were subsequently liquidated and ORT activity in Belgium will henceforth be confined to Antwerp.

As of June 30 1953, the Antwerp installations consisted of an electro-mechanics school with 11 students, a dressmaking school with 7 students and three short-term courses with a total of 15 students. There were also 86 children attending Jewish elementary schools and who receive only ten to fifteen hours per month of pre-apprenticeship training, in woodwork and dressmaking.

In view of the fact that, despite all efforts, ORT-Antwerp has not succeeded since 1951 in increasing enrolment in the ORT schools, ORT's continued existence in Belgium must be questioned. In this connection, it

is worthwhile to indicate that, during the past two years, the average annual cost per student in the ORT regular courses in this country has been between \$ 800.- and \$ 1,000.-

#### FRANCE

As of June 30 1953, the student body numbered 1,466. Of these 81 were non-Jews.

There were 470 trainees attending regular three-year courses, 182 short-term courses, 154 vocational occupation for children (gardening) and 660 in private apprenticeships.

As regards age, 929 were between 15 and 18 years old.

By trades, 572 were engaged in the needle trades, 443 in the metal and electrical trades and 451 in agriculture, woodwork, etc.

At Montreuil, 265 trainees attended the regular three-year courses (carpentry, mechanics, radio-electricity, electro-techniques and dressmaking), and 173 various short-term courses for adults, fully covered by the French Ministry of Labour. Furthermore, 42 of the 569 private apprentices in Paris were receiving supplementary evening courses at Montreuil.

In Marseille, 97 attended the regular courses ( electro-mechanics, radio-electricity and dressmaking) and 45 a ten-months radio course. There were also 80 in private apprenticeships.

At Strasbourg, 81 students attended three-year courses in locksmithy, electro-mechanics and radio-electricity. There were also 11 in private apprenticeships.

At Lyons, 27 girls attended a three-year dressmaking school, the only ORT installation left in this city. This school was not included in the ORT-France programme approved by the JDC.

Finally, there were 154 children receiving a few hours of instruction in gardening at Cambous and Malmaison.

#### GREECE

On June 30 1953, the Athens school was running two three-year courses, one in mechanics with 19 boys and one in dressmaking with 14 girls. In addition, 27 trainees attended a six-months course in shirt-making organised in the month of May for adults.

Subsequently, upon a request from the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees in Greece, 2 new short-term courses were opened in the month of July in auto-welding and electrical installations. Almost all of the students attending these courses are non-Jews.

### ITALY

The student body of ORT-Italy numbered 1,291 as of June 30.

Of these, 161 attended the regular three-year courses at Rome and Milan in the metal trades, television, dental mechanics and dressmaking; 440 were in various short-term courses at Rome, Milan, Trieste, Turin, Leghorn, Florence and in the Mercantello camp. The short-term courses in this camp were organized during the month of March in accordance with the request of the United States Escapee Programme, destined for refugees from countries behind the iron curtain and all costs are being reimbursed by U.S.E.P.

Among the short-term courses mentioned, the following new ones have been inaugurated for the unemployed: 2 in Rome -- carpentry and dressmaking; 1 in Trieste -- upholstery; and 2 in Leghorn -- tinsmithy and mechanical knitting. The students receive unemployment compensation and will be given a termination grant. Both the grants and the operational costs of the courses are covered by the Ministry of Labour.

Finally, 619 children under 14 years of age were receiving "after-hour vocational occupation" from ORT instructors in various workshops located at Rome, Milan, Trieste, Turin, Leghorn, Florence and Venice.

### IRAN

The student body numbered 802, of whom 688 attended two-year courses and 114 short-term courses.

The girls' school at Teheran has been transferred to the same block as the ORT boys' school. The ORT block at Teheran therefore now occupies nine buildings in which 299 boys and girls are receiving instruction in carpentry, agromechanics, locksmithy, electrical installations and dressmaking.

The installation at Isfahan numbered 229 trainees who are learning dressmaking, carpentry and miniature-making.

At Shiraz, 274 trainees attended two-year courses in woodwork and dressmaking. This installation's budget is to be covered by the Jewish Colonization Association grant to ORT Union.

MOROCCO

The boys' school at Casablanca had 346 students at the end of June.

Of these, 315 were attending three-year courses in mechanics, auto-mechanics, electricity and woodwork and 31 with insufficient general education to follow the normal three-year courses were receiving accelerated training in the metal trades and woodwork.

It has been subsequently reported that, in the July examinations, 13 boys received the government's Certificate of Professional Capability and the 31 in the accelerated courses mentioned above received ORT diplomas.

The girls' dressmaking school was attended by 320 students. Of these, 145 were in the regular three-year courses, 43 in the accelerated courses and 132 Alliance Israélite pupils were receiving pre-apprenticeship training prior to their eventual admittance to the ORT regular school.

It should be noted that attendance at the Casablanca schools, which reached over 1,000 in 1949 and between 800 and 900 in the years 1950, 1951 and 1952, decreased to 666 at the end of June 1953. This is due to the complete reorganisation of the programme and to a more careful selection of new admittances. The present division into two groupes takes account of the students' ages as well as of their educational background and has already resulted in better discipline and an improvement in the teaching.

ALGERIA

As of June 30 1953, the school at Algiers was attended by 78 boys in three-year courses in woodwork, metal-fitting and electricity and by 23 girls in the three-year dressmaking course opened in January.

The girls' school was not approved by the JDC and its budget must therefore be covered entirely by ORT, outside of funds provided by the JDC-ORT agreement.

As of the same date, the Constantine school was attended by 54 boys taking three-year courses in metal-fitting and locksmithy.

In addition to the above regular courses, there were 39 apprentices placed in Algiers and Constantine with private employers.

As regards the programme in Constantine, we have pointed out to ORT Union on several occasions that, according to the reports of our Country Director, the programme there is not developing satisfactorily.

Only a small percentage of the graduates from the ORT school succeed in passing the governmental Certificate of Professional Capability examination and the majority of graduates cannot find employment in the metal trades taught at the school.

Nor does the apprenticeship service show satisfactory results. The majority of the apprentices are ex-pupils of ORT - some of them after completing their second or third year of training.

At the July meeting between the JDC and ORT representatives, ORT Union admitted that the programme in Constantine was in a state of complete disruption and that they were seriously considering whether to continue the school there.

#### TUNISIA

As of June 30 1953, the three-year boys' school at Ariana was attended by 245 students training in metal-fitting, electro-mechanics and carpentry. There was also one short-term course in locksmith-welding with 38 boys.

The three-year girls' school at Tunis numbered 56 pupils.

The apprenticeship-service which developed rapidly during 1952, had 433 apprentices placed with private employers. Of these, 156 were receiving a few hours monthly of supplementary instruction from ORT.

Work on the third building of the new ORT school in Ariana has begun and should be completed early in 1954. This will permit ORT to increase the enrolment in the regular boys' school for the coming school year from 245 to some 350, thus completing the cycle of a three-year course. It is also planned to add a course in auto-mechanics.

As regards the girls' school, it is planned to admit a further 18 students, thus bringing the student body up to 74 and also provide a complete three-year course of instruction.

#### ISRAEL

On June 30 1953, the ORT student body in Israel numbered 1,899 (1,391 of them male) as against 1,784 at the beginning of the year.

During the first half of this year, 319 students were admitted, 103 graduated - from short-term courses - and 101 discontinued.

Of the total student body, 1,379 were attending courses of from two to four years duration and 520 were attending various short-

term courses run by ORT in cooperation with the the Ministry of Labour and the Histadruth.

The principal age group (1,504) was between 15 and 18 years of age.

The principal trades taught were :

Metal .....	862
Needle .....	399
Electricity .....	318

During the month of July, ORT-Israel reported 565 graduations as follows :

Regular Schools (2/4 years' duration) :

<u>Jerusalem</u>	
Locksmithy, auto-mechanics, watchmaking and dental techniques .....	42
Sewing and cutting .....	15
<u>Ben-Shemen</u>	
Agromechanics, electro-mechanics, carpentry and weaving .....	50
<u>Jaffa</u>	
Tool-making, electro-mechanics and radio-techniques .....	60
<u>Givataim</u>	
Mechanics and refrigeration .....	19
<u>Kfar Abraham</u>	
Machine maintenance .....	10
<u>Ramleh</u>	
Sewing and cutting .....	11
<u>Rehovoth</u>	
Mechanics and auto-mechanics .....	11
<u>Ein Harod</u>	
Agromechanics .....	11
<u>Tel-Aviv</u>	
Sewing and cutting .....	24
Carpentry .....	11
	<hr/>
	264
<u>Various short-term courses</u> .....	301
	<hr/>
	565
	<hr/> <hr/>

ORT Central Institute for Instructors.

As of June 30 1953, the ORT Institute had 64 resident students.

The programme consists of three years' instruction in metal work, electricity, woodwork and technical installation and two years' instruction in auto-mechanics and locksmithy-mechanics.

According to nationality, 23 of the students were Israeli, 10 Moroccan, 8 Algerians, 4 French and 14 other nationalities; 5 were stateless.

During this year, 18 graduates from the Institute who finished their studies in the year 1952, were engaged as instructors in ORT schools -- 5 in Israel, 4 in Tunisia, 2 in Morocco, 2 in Algeria, 2 in Belgium, 1 in France, 1 in Iran and 1 in Italy. The respective ORT national organisations report full satisfaction with their work.

In addition to the above 64 resident students, 29 who finished their training at the Institute last year, were undergoing industrial practice, usually in Swiss firms.

The Institute's statistical report for the month of July shows that 8 of them were successful in their final examinations and received diplomas as ORT Instructors, and 4 discontinued due to lack of pedagogical aptitude. These discontinuations, after three years of study at the Institute and one year of industrial practice should be looked upon with great concern. It is surprising that this lack of pedagogical aptitude should not have become apparent during the course of the four years training already undertaken. It must be remembered that the annual per capita cost for the teaching and Internat runs to over \$ 2,000.-

JDC FINANCED LOAN INSTITUTIONS  
as of June 30th, 1953.

Beg. of activity	<u>Schedule A.</u>							<u>T O T A L</u>
	<u>Vienna</u> 1949	<u>Brussels</u> 1945	<u>Antwerp</u> 1945	<u>Paris</u> 1945	<u>Athens</u> 1945	<u>Milan</u> 1948	<u>Rome</u> 1953	
Membership	295	804	213	-	-	583	-	1,895
<u>Share capital</u>								
Loc. currency	153,000	1,406,325	759,500	-	-	26,038,000	-	
Dollars	5,100	25,100	15,200	-	-	41,800	-	\$ 90,200
<u>JDC Credits</u>								
Loc. currency	758,113	5,899,677	2,969,212	61,756,202	1,620,000,000	29,336,053	6,233,850	
Dollars	25,200	118,000	59,400	154,400	54,000	47,000	10,000	\$ 468,000
<u>Repayments to AJDC</u>								
Loc. currency	200,000	-	-	-	-	10,145,185	-	
Dollars	6,650	-	-	-	-	16,300	-	\$ 22,950
<u>Interest paid to AJDC</u>								
Loc. currency	27,200	414,858	191,770	-	-	1,781,720	-	
Dollars	900	8,300	3,800	-	-	2,860	-	\$ 15,860
<u>Loans granted Since inception</u>								
Number	369	2,551	813	10,592	3,593	1,475	10	19,403
Loc. currency	4,176,459	72,187,540	36,558,100	710,615,500	12,376,090,000	502,588,639	2,410,000	
Dollars	139,200	1,444,000	730,000	1,776,500	412,500	806,730	3,870	\$ 5,312,800
<u>First half 1953</u>								
Number	38	222	43	596	109	183	10	1,201
Loc. currency	570,000	5,913,060	2,627,600	79,080,000	1,105,000,000	89,884,127	2,410,000	
Dollars	19,000	118,500	52,500	197,700	36,800	144,230	3,870	\$ 572,600
<u>Average loan in dollars in 1953</u>	500	532	1,220	332	338	790	387	

NOTE: Equivalents in dollars calculated at the present rate of exchange.



Schedule B.

JDC-FINANCED LOAN INSTITUTIONS

OCCUPATIONAL BREAKDOWN OF LOAN RECIPIENTS

FROM INCEPTION TO JUNE 30TH, 1953.

	Total No of loans	Merchants & small ind.		Artisans		Professionals		Others	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
VIENNA	369	212	57	88	24	46	13	23	6
BRUSSELS	2,551	1,165	46	1,193	47	116	4	77	3
ANTWERP	813	561	69	207	25,5	4	0,5	41	5
PARIS	10,592	3,937	37	4,739	45	1,916	18	-	-
ATHENS	3,593	2,305	64	1,084	30	204	6	-	-
MILAN	1,475	660	45	414	28	45	3	356	24
ROME	10	3	-	1	-	-	-	6	-
TOTAL	19,403	8,843	46	7,726	40	2,331	12	503	2

O R T  
 SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL DATA FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1953.  
 (in US Dollars)

Schedule 1

COUNTRY	CASH BEG. 1953	I N C O M E				AJDC Total	Other Sources	TOTAL INCOME	E X P E N D I T U R E				TOTAL EXPEND.	OTHER CASH OPER.*	CASH END JUNE 1953
		ORT Union	GOV'T	W.A.O. P.E.P.					Funcio- nal	Social Welfare	Over- head	Capi- tal			
<b>EUROPE :</b>															
AUSTRIA	683	3,239	-	5,113	-	-	8,352	7,350	-	1,095	-	8,445	10	580	
GERMANY	457	23,257	10,020	1,840	-	935	36,052	21,734	2,407	8,704	-	32,845	1,513	2,151	
ITALY	4,160	34,575	3,420	7,740	-	5,600	51,335	36,800	4,900	7,550	875	50,125	(19,980)	25,350	
BELGIUM	(4,750)	23,010	70	-	-	2,930	26,010	23,150	-	6,060	195	29,405	(3,250)	(4,895)	
FRANCE	384	95,236	86,200	3,200	-	11,350	244,386	126,000	71,000	19,900	2,640	219,540	730	24,500	
			48,400**												
GREECE	1,180	3,421	-	1,140	-	1,329	5,890	4,450	1,550	-	-	6,000	(570)	1,640	
Sub-total :	2,114	182,738	148,110	19,033	-	22,144	372,025	219,484	79,857	43,309	3,710	346,360	(21,547)	49,326	
<b>IRAN &amp; N.AFRICA</b>															
IRAN ***	100	48,333	-	-	1,000	2,000	51,333	25,000	2,000	8,000	12,000	47,000	4,433	-	
MOROCCO	(4,460)	65,575	14,000	10,500	23,100	1,810	114,985	45,700	40,900	1,930	57,195	145,725	(42,900)	7,700	
ALGIERS	2,470	28,936	5,460	1,250	1,260	670	37,576	19,531	1,970	515	1,470	23,486	16,000	560	
CONSTANTINE	3,560	8,248	2,430	441	356	147	11,622	10,217	1,330	-	95	11,642	2,180	1,360	
TUNISIA	382	57,600	2,100	3,650	2,250	2,743	68,343	18,750	8,730	565	12,900	40,945	7,580	20,200	
Sub-total :	2,052	208,692	23,990	15,841	27,966	7,370	283,859	119,198	54,930	11,010	83,660	268,798	(12,707)	29,820	
ISRAEL	93,000	214,530	-	-	-	99,500	314,030	319,000	10,500	41,500	16,500	387,500	(50,000)	69,530	
INSTITUTE	2,620	35,980	-	19,650	-	5,310	60,940	28,200	25,500	5,200	7,300	66,200	1,910	(4,550)	
AM.ORT FED.	-	34,900	-	-	-	-	34,900	-	-	34,900	-	34,900	-	-	
O.U.OVERHEAD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GEN.OPER.EXP.	-	49,453	-	-	-	-	49,453	-	-	49,453	-	49,453	-	-	
OTHER EXP.	-	10,112	-	-	-	-	10,112	-	-	10,112	-	10,112	-	-	
ADMINISTRATION	-	50,521	-	-	-	-	50,521	-	-	50,521	-	50,521	-	-	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>99,786</b>	<b>786,926</b>	<b>172,100</b>	<b>54,524</b>	<b>27,966</b>	<b>134,324</b>	<b>1,175,840</b>	<b>685,882</b>	<b>170,787</b>	<b>246,005</b>	<b>111,170</b>	<b>1,213,844</b>	<b>(82,344)</b>	<b>144,126</b>	

\* Balances of operations through the accounts "Prior years", "Creditors", "Debtors" and "Loans".

\*\* Governmental tax for vocational education in France.

\*\*\* The financial reports for Iran for the second quarter of 1953 have not yet been submitted to us.

The above figures represent the estimated income and expenses during the first half of 1953.

NOTE: The figures in brackets under "Cash balance" at the beginning of 1953 and at the end of June 1953 represent debit balances.  
 The figures in brackets under "Other cash operations" represent credit balances.

## O R T

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL DATA AS OF JUNE 30TH, 1953.

COUNTRY	Jan. 1 1953	Adm.	Grad.	Disc.	June 30 1953	Of whom non Jews	Breakd. by sex		Breakdown by type of training				No of Inst.	Courses		Personnel	
							Male	Female	Schools	Short- -term	Vocat. occup.	SPA		Regul.	Short	Teach.	Other
AUSTRIA	337	229	296	22	248	91	128	120	-	248	-	-	4	-	12	20	4
GERMANY	316	124	33	54	353	-	169	184	-	332	-	21	5	-	28	26	11
ITALY	1,213	238	70	90	1,291	-	689	602	161	440	690	-	9	5	28	73	6
BELGIUM	263	13	61	59	156	-	65	91	31	15	110	-	2	5	7	12	4
FRANCE	1,640	422	251	345	1,466	81	1,005	461	470	182	154	660	6	12	17	96	22
GREECE	33	28	-	1	60	3	36	24	33	27	-	-	1	2	1	7	3
Sub-total	3,802	1,054	711	571	3,574	175	2,092	1,482	695	1,244	954	681	27	22	93	234	50
IRAN	808	73	-	79	802	8	324	478	688	71	43	-	3	11	5	51	13
MOROCCO	750	20	-	104	666	-	346	320	460	74	132	-	2	5	5	30	8
ALGERIA	194	70	37	33	194	19	171	23	155	-	-	39	2	6	1	24	7
TUNISIA	710	97	31	4	772	28	553	219	301	38	-	433	2	4	5	24	7
Sub-total	2,462	260	68	220	2,434	55	1,394	1,040	1,604	183	175	472	9	26	16	129	35
ISRAEL	1,784	319	103	101	1,899	-	1,391	508	1,379	496	24	-	17	32	28	153	40
INSTITUTE	62	3	-	1	64	-	64	-	64	-	-	-	1	6	-	17	4
TOTAL	8,110	1,636	882	893	7,971	230	4,941	3,030	3,742	1,923	1,153	1,153	54	88	137	533	129

## O R T

Schedule No3.

REASONS FOR DISCONTINUATION  
during the first half of 1953

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>Emi- grat.</u>	<u>Ill- ness</u>	<u>Change trade</u>	<u>Lack apt.</u>	<u>Lack int.</u>	<u>Fin. diff.</u>	<u>Liqui- dation</u>	<u>Other reas.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AUSTRIA	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
GERMANY	19	6	4	-	-	5	-	20	54
ITALY	8	14	-	12	33	15	-	8	90
BELGIUM	8	10	5	6	-	1	23	6	59
FRANCE	8	35	20	31	25	86	134	6	345
GREECE	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Sub-total	65	65	29	49	58	108	157	40	571
IRAN	16	2	11	-	2	-	-	48	79
MOROCCO	3	3	-	-	23	18	-	57	104
ALGERIA	2	3	3	14	6	1	-	4	33
TUNISIA	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Sub-total	25	8	14	14	31	19	-	109	220
ISRAEL	1	9	1	25	40	1	-	24	101
INSTITUTE	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	91	82	44	88	130	128	157	173	893

O R TBREAKDOWN BY AGE AS OF JUNE 30TH, 1953.

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>Under 14</u>	<u>15-18</u>	<u>19-25</u>	<u>26-40</u>	<u>Over 41</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AUSTRIA	-	13	41	114	80	248
GERMANY	-	44	79	153	77	353
ITALY	904	163	114	89	21	1,291
BELGIUM	115	25	6	6	4	156
FRANCE	221	929	248	59	9	1,466
GREECE	9	19	10	14	8	60
Sub-total	1,249	1,193	498	435	199	3,574
IRAN	193	378	217	14	-	802
MOROCCO	458	203	5	-	-	666
ALGERIA	31	158	5	-	-	194
TUNISIA	217	514	39	2	-	772
Sub-total	899	1,253	266	16	-	2,434
ISRAEL	77	1,504	246	62	10	1,899
INSTITUTE	-	18	45	1	-	64
TOTAL	2,225	3,968	1,055	514	209	7,971

O R TBREAKDOWN BY TRADES AS OF JUNE 30TH, 1953

<u>COUNTRY</u>	Metal	Elec- tric.	Wood- work	Needle	Ind. Arts	Other	<u>TOTAL</u>
AUSTRIA	69	13	-	140	-	26	248
GERMANY	32	28	-	155	17	121	353
ITALY	75	52	88	209	714	153	1,291
BELGIUM	6	17	41	92	-	-	156
FRANCE	187	256	58	572	45	348	1,466
GREECE	19	-	-	41	-	-	60
Sub-total	388	366	187	1,209	776	648	3,574
IRAN	62	13	231	478	18	-	802
MOROCCO	239	19	88	320	-	-	666
ALGERIA	99	23	40	23	3	6	194
TUNISIA	264	132	48	204	-	124	772
Sub-total	664	187	407	1,025	21	130	2,434
ISRAEL	862	318	168	399	29	123	1,899
INSTITUTE	37	7	12	-	-	8	64
TOTAL	1,951	878	774	2,633	826	909	7,971

## O R T

## GENERAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON ORT ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEARS 1949-1952

	E N D 1949						E N D 1950						E N D 1951						E N D 1952					
	No. Stud.	Under 18	Over 18	No. Inst.	Courses Reg.	Short	No. Stud.	Under 18	Over 18	No. Inst.	Courses Reg.	Short	No. Stud.	Under 18	Over 18	No. Inst.	Courses Reg.	Short	No. Stud.	Under 18	Over 18	No. Inst.	Courses Reg.	Short
AUSTRIA	905	86	819	5	-	47	283	27	256	2	-	12	360	40	320	2	-	12	337	30	307	2	-	13
GERMANY	1,565	373	1,192	23	4	112	1,380	352	1,028	13	11	70	485	102	383	6	11	21	316	50	266	5	-	25
ITALY	1,541	531	1,010	18	4	68	1,216	882	334	9	7	41	1,170	957	213	9	7	27	1,213	1,079	134	8	6	24
BELGIUM	246	124	122	6	6	5	213	136	77	5	8	8	220	171	49	5	8	8	263	201	62	5	5	10
FRANCE	1,988	1,230	758	10	15	62	1,746	1,362	384	9	18	35	1,733	1,396	337	6	14	28	1,640	1,294	346	6	12	25
GREECE	65	30	35	1	2	4	66	45	21	1	2	1	46	34	12	1	2	1	33	28	5	1	2	=
Sub-tot.	6,310	2,374	3,936	63	31	298	4,904	2,804	2,100	39	46	167	4,014	2,700	1,314	29	42	97	3,802	2,682	1,120	27	25	97
IRAN	-	-	-	-	-	-	198	106	92	1	-	7	809	446	363	3	5	13	808	566	242	4	13	4
MOROCCO	903	830	73	3	3	2	1,017	1,006	11	3	3	2	784	782	2	2	4	2	750	745	5	2	5	5
ALGIERS	94	93	1	1	3	-	90	90	-	1	3	-	82	82	-	1	3	-	90	83	7	1	3	-
CONSTANT.	54	54	-	1	2	-	97	97	-	1	2	-	97	97	-	1	2	-	104	104	-	1	2	2
TUNISIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	238	206	32	2	3	1	710	665	45	2	4	5
Subtot.:	1,051	977	74	5	8	2	1,402	1,299	103	6	8	9	2,010	1,613	397	9	17	16	2,462	2,163	299	10	27	16
TOTAL :	7,361	3,351	4,010	68	39	300	6,306	4,103	2,203	45	54	176	6,024	4,313	1,711	38	59	113	6,264	4,845	1,419	37	52	113

O R T

## BREAKDOWN BY TRADES FOR THE YEARS 1949-1952

COUNTRY	E N D 1949			E N D 1950			E N D 1951			E N D 1952		
	met. & el.	needle	other	met. & el.	needle	other	met. & el.	needle	other	met. & el.	needle	other
AUSTRIA	126	475	304	15	183	85	27	212	121	38	173	126
GERMANY	176	813	576	169	573	638	49	184	252	42	144	130
ITALY	289	434	818	76	314	826	131	262	777	141	210	862
BELGIUM	79	128	39	65	128	20	42	133	45	41	156	66
FRANCE	395	678	915	502	614	630	528	643	562	513	626	501
GREECE	30	32	3	42	24	-	25	21	-	19	14	-
Sub-total	1,095	2,560	2,655	869	1,836	2,199	802	1,455	1,757	794	1,323	1,685
IRAN	-	-	-	60	-	138	192	373	244	76	491	241
MOROCCO	408	400	95	444	455	118	309	378	97	233	392	125
ALGIERS	64	-	30	61	-	29	61	-	21	61	-	29
CONSTANTINE	54	-	-	97	-	-	97	-	-	95	-	9
TUNISIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	178	60	-	376	177	157
Sub-total	526	400	125	662	455	285	837	811	362	841	1,060	573
TOTAL	1,621	2,960	2,780	1,531	2,291	2,484	1,639	2,266	2,119	1,635	2,383	2,246
		V			V			V			V	
		7,361			6,306			6,024			6,264	



## O R T

Schedule No 8.

GENERAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE YEARS 1949-1952  
(In thousands of dollars)

	1 9 4 9				I N C O M E				1 9 5 1				1 9 5 2			
	Ort	Un.	JDC loc.	Oth.inc.TOTAL	Ort	Un.	JDC loc.	Oth.inc. TOTAL	Ort	Un.	JDC loc.	Oth.inc.TOTAL	Ort	Un.	JDC loc.	Oth.inc.TOTAL
European Countr.	1,050	-	938	1,988	623	11	821	1,455	439	3	511	953	415	-	332	747
Iran & N.Africa	162	46	23	231	293	45	52	390	263	35	43	341	328	40	93	461
Institute	98	-	-	98	67	-	46	113	62	-	48	110	55	-	55	110
Ort Un.Hqs.	375	-	-	375	271	-	-	271	238	-	-	238	265	-	-	265
Israel	360	-	?	360	401	-	112	513	338	-	267	605	390	-	200	590
Other countries	38	-	?	38	30	-	110	140	38	-	59	97	25	-	100	125
Am.Ort Fed.	100	-	-	100	70	-	-	70	65	-	-	65	66	-	24	90
TOTAL	2,183	46	961	3,190	1,755	56	1,141	2,952	1,443	38	928	2,409	1,544	40	804	2,388
	*				*				*				*			
	Of which 1,725 from JDC.				Of which 1,100 from JDC.				Of which 950 from JDC.				Of which 900 from JDC.			

	1 9 4 9			E X P E N D I T U R E				1 9 5 1				1 9 5 2			
	Functional, Social & Overh.	Capital	TOTAL	Funct.& Social	Over- head	Capital	TOTAL	Funct.& Social	Over- head	Capital	TOTAL	Funct.& Social	Over- head	Capital	TOTAL
European Countr.	1,949	48	1,997	1,043	368	27	1,438	717	237	52	1,006	593	128	22	743
Iran & N.Africa	115	133	248	166	51	108	325	243	35	110	388	286	34	172	492
Institute	35	63	98	101	-	15	116	113	-	4	117	115	-	10	125
Ort Un.Hqs.	375	-	375	-	271	-	271	-	238	-	238	-	265	-	265
Israel	360	?	360	365	?	133	498	570	?	35	605	406	30	154	590
Other countries	38	-	38	137	-	-	137	97	-	-	97	125	-	-	125
Am.Ort Fed.	100	-	100	-	70	-	70	-	65	-	65	-	90	-	90
TOTAL	2,972	244	3,216	1,812	760	283	2,855	1,740	575	201	2,516	1,525	547	358	2,430

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953



COUNTRY REPORT

S W E D E N

## REPORT OF CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES IN SWEDEN

Sweden has 7 millions of inhabitants, that is less than New York or London, while the extent of the country is about the same as France or a united Eastern and Western-Germany. Three quarters of the inhabitants live in the south third of the country where also all great cities are situated. The population are most homogeneous of Teutonic extraction. There are no minorities at all, neither regarding race and language nor religion. The approximately 8,000 Lapps in the north are only a fostered ethnographical element. As regards religion, 99.8 per cent embrace the Evangelical-Lutheran State church.

The economical prosperity in Sweden is very great. The country is abounding in natural resources which besides are well situated and easy to exploit. The earth gives sufficient harvests for support of the country, the fishing is very important, woods and ores and plenteous supply of water-power give considerable possibilities for export industry. The inhabitants are in a high level of technic and the country is highly industrialized. However this is to a certain extent retarded due to the fact that Sweden has no coal and oil.

Sweden has since a couple of decentenaries social democratic government and the influence of the State is great in all domains. The social help is greatly developed, and old-age pensions, children-contributions, maternity benefits, medical attendance, accident-contributions and help to people out of work are since long time self-evident institutions. There are no real destitutes and no real poverty. The social help, except the old-age pensions, covers also the foreign people who more permanent are living in the country.

To understand rightly the homogeneity and in some measure the conservative construction you must remember that Sweden has not been involved in war during the last 140 years and that foreign military power has not been within the borders of the country since 1521 and that up to the development of the modern traffic-organization the country has been situated beside the international events. No other part of Europe can show a similar inviolateness of war and foreign influence.

Before the Hitler time there were about 6,000 Jews in Sweden. The older numerically small part were descended from Central- and Western-Europe. The larger, later-arrived group had come from Eastern-Europe. The anti-Semitism was superficial and quite insignificant, increased a little during the years 1933-1939 but practically disappeared during the war, especially when Hitler had occupied Denmark and Norway, at which time Germany was considered as the presumptive enemy of the country and sympathy for Germany was almost regarded as treason against the country.

(that is more than that of the Netherlands or Austria), will be reduced. The immigration seems now to have decreased to a minimum and during the current economical circumstances it will scarcely be of any greater extent.

Great tasks remain for the organization, Mosaiska Församlingen (the Jewish Community) in Stockholm, which in the main has handled the help work. Many children have to be helped to continue school and skilled training courses, as the free public schools are only sufficient for unqualified manual labour which naturally is not suitable for everybody. A group of old people and chronic invalids need supplementary help during their remaining lifetime. A great work has to be made regarding cultural and religious care which, because of the local circumstances, will be difficult as well as expensive, and there will always be a group of economically weak persons who, due to delicate health, mental difficulties and incapacity to fit into the homogeneous and on a highly technical level of Swedish society, will need occasional help.

Finally I want to tell you about a detail. Through a special law of the Swedish Parliament 25 TB patients were given care, with guaranty to stay all their future in Sweden. On the whole on Joint's initiative and administration this action has been carried through, and the 25 people arrived in August 1952. Of these now only 14 are still in hospital while the others as recovered are more or less self-supporting. For the rest there is the best hope. Thanks to Charles Jordan's and Dr. Gonik's energy the Swedish Parliament has this year decided to repeat the program for 25 more patients, this time also with their relatives. A commission has recently visited the camps to select interested aspirants, and we are glad to receive this new additional group to our country in the near future.

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

COUNTRY DIRECTORS CONFERENCE

PARIS

October 1953

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

STATISTICAL REPORT

TUNISIA

זכר אלה יעקב ישראל

1.

TABLE I.

JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM TUNISIA

1951,  
1952, and  
January-September 1953.

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

1951	-	2,600
1952	-	2,314
Jan.-Sept. 1953	-	408

זכר אלה יעקב ישראל

T A B L E V.COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF MAJOR AJDC ACTIVITIES  
IN TUNISIA

	End of 1952		October 1953	
	:No. of cent- :ers or :classes	: No. of : children	:No. of cent- :ers or :classes	: No. of : children
Canteens (Daily meals and snacks)	: 22	: 6,175	: 29	: 6,750
Milk distribution (biberons)	: 12	: 670	: 12	: 669
Milk distribution (bols de lait)	: 12	: 602	: 12	: 775
Courses in modern Hebrew	: 133	: 3,285	: 59	: 3,178
Summer Camps	: 33	: 2,300	: 33	: 2,018
Jardins d'Enfants	: 16	: 1,040	: 17	: 1,050
Vocational Training	: 3	: 676	: 3	: 772