

# ORT — The Light Of Learning



Metalworking students at l'Ecole de Travail in Paris, an apprenticeship center in the ORT France network, created a menorah for the school's annual Chanukah celebration. Chanukah projects are a basic part of the curriculum at ORT schools in 17 countries, serving 158,000 students, according to Marc J. Berkman, President of the Chicago chapter of the American ORT Federation. "ORT schools combine top-flight vocational/technical training with sound education in Jewish history, culture and values," Gray noted.

As the 8 days of Chanukah begin, the 158,000 students at ORT schools in 17 countries worldwide gear up to celebrate the holiday, according to Alvin L. Gray, President of the American ORT Federation. A brief look at eight ORT schools around the world, one for each day of Chanukah, shows the diversity of Jewish life in the ORT network.

In Jerusalem, high school students at the ORT School of Engineering hold an outdoor menorah lighting ceremony as the evening breeze carries the sound of their Chanukah songs over the Jerusalem hills.

Halfway around the world in Rio de Janeiro, young students at one of the only two Jewish schools in Brazil make papier-mache dreidels in the ORT Creative Education Program.

In Paris, at l'Ecole de Travail, an apprenticeship center in the ORT France network, students light the candles of an iron menorah created by the students of a metalworking class.

In Bombay, at the ORT India school, staff and students gather to sing the Hebrew songs they've learned during their six weekly hours of Hebrew and Jewish studies.

In Peru, at the Leon Pinela Day School in Lima, which is attended by 90% of the Jewish community's school age children, an auditorium of young students pays rapt attention to a colorful puppet show that recounts the story of Chanukah.

In the United States, at the Jewish High School of South Florida, where ORT has instituted a sophisticated computer and robotics training program, a 16-year-old boy proudly displays the menorah he programmed on his computer terminal during a class in computer-aided design.

ORT Morocco students in Casablanca join in a holiday feast of latkes prepared by the students of the word processing and architecture classes, a meal that has become an annual tradition at the school.

And in Rome and Milan and Florence, ORT Italy students conclude the semester's studies in office skills and computer operations to join in a holiday chorus of Chanukah songs, just like their fellow students at ORT schools throughout the world.

Wherever in the world ORT schools are, notes American ORT President Gray, ORT teachers provide their students with more than just training in high-demand, high-tech fields

## Large-Print Torah



At the Jewish Book Fair in New York, a visitor to the booth of the Jewish Braille Institute of America examines a copy of the first English translation of the Five Books of Moses in large print, just published by JBI. Joanne B. Jahr, assistant to the executive vice president at JBI, explains how the type, binding and glare-free pages were specially selected so that visually-impaired readers could once again study Judaism's most sacred work. Also on display at the Fair were JBI's "Talking Books" -- audiocasset tapes of books on Jewish themes -- plus tapes for learning-disabled children and books and magazines in braille. All these materials are available free of charge from the Jewish Braille Institute of America, 110 East 30th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016; telephone (212) 889-2525.

such as robotics, electro-optics and computer operations. Through courses in Jewish history and Hebrew, ORT students also acquire a lasting sense of Jewish identity and pride.

"ORT," says Gray, "is a miracle of the light of learning, not only at Chanukah but all the year round."



The Staff and Administration of Desert Springs Hospital wish you and your family a happy, healthy and peaceful Chanukah.

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Happy Hanukkah



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