

FACT AND OPINION

by THEODORE R. ISENSTADT, EDITOR

INTER-DISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

THERE is growing affirmation that as people continue to live longer, the problem of developing protective services on their behalf has been identified as one of the major problems in this broadening area of community service.

An extraordinary interdisciplinary conference of casework practitioners, administrators, psychiatrists, physicians, lawyers, and trust officers was assembled at Arden House in Harriman, New York under the sponsorship of The National Council on Aging and with the co-sponsorship of a number of other national voluntary and governmental organizations. The conference took place from March 10-15. The proceedings of the five days of intensive deliberations will be edited and released as a guideline for protective services to supplement the recently published volume, *Guardianship and Protective Services* by Virginia Lehmann, under the auspices of the Schimper Foundation of New York City. Further inquiry can be directed to the National Council on Aging, 49 West 45th Street, New York City.

ORT PROGRAMS FOR 1963 EXPANDED

ALMOST seven and a half million dollars will be spent in the overseas voca-

tional training program of ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training) for the year 1963. The program will finance technical training and economic rehabilitation activities in Europe, Israel, North Africa and Iran. More than 40,000 persons are expected to be beneficiaries of the program. The increase in the substantial subvention from the Joint Distribution Committee for the year will help expand vocational services in France for newly arrived Algerian and other North African refugees. It is estimated that 100,000 Algerian Jewish newcomers have already reached France.

A LOOK AT THE NEW STYLE FAMILY

A NEW style family structure toward which we seem to be moving as the result of the headlong surge of world forces which seem to be changing our contemporary milieu from day to day, was predicted by Margaret Mead, noted anthropologist.

Speaking at the 75th Anniversary Conference on Child Study Association held in New York in February, Dr. Mead pointed out that contemporary science, space, new mathematical systems, etc. create a new world in which parents are now strangers and immigrants. Reversing the age-old trend, the family must be reorganized so that parents can turn to their children "to absorb their

knowledge of space satellites, the new mathematics, the oneness of the small planet on which we live." While a new family design is inevitable, its exact form is yet to be forged. It is to be expected that leadership in this process will be taken by the United States which is "the country most receptive to application of human science to changes in family life." In this instance is it expected that "as we design a new family so will the world which takes so many cues from us."

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT CONTINUES TO MOUNT

THE startling fact that teenagers' rate of unemployment nearly triples the rate of unemployment among adults was reported at a recent conference sponsored by the National Committee on Employment of Youth. Eli E. Cohen, Executive Secretary of the Committee estimates 1,800,000 idle youth under the age of 25. Lessening of youth unemployment during 1963 depends on:

- (1) Management's ability to create more jobs suitable for youth. (There is considerable pessimism on this score.)
- (2) Passage of a Youth Employment Opportunities Act.
- (3) Attention to problems of Negroes and other minority youth.
- (4) Expanded and improved vocational services to youth from low income areas.

Long time solutions must also be sought: better schools with improved facilities, particularly in deprived areas; improved training of teachers who will be equipped and unafraid to work with delinquent youth in problem areas and communities; relating the school curriculum to the life of the student, bringing the whole community closer to the school; reaching youth early; giving special help to high school dropouts; ending discrimination; sparking community-wide

action through citizens committees; improvement of placement services; developing community plans under the existing Manpower Development and Training Act.

Further information and literature may be secured from the Committee offices at 419 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N.Y.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY FOR A PROFESSIONAL CAREER IN JEWISH COMMUNAL SERVICE

THANKS are due the B'nai B'rith Vocational Services, 1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. for this newest addition to the B'nai B'rith's occupational brief series. Describing the nature of Jewish communal services and emphasizing the great need for specially qualified and dedicated professional workers, the publication points out that 3,000 available jobs in Jewish communal service are not being filled today. Career aspects such as income, training, financial aids and opportunities are discussed. Copies of this brief, edited by Dr. S. Norman Feingold, are available from the office of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, 1640 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

GRANT FOR NEW SHELTERED WORKSHOP FOR AGED

THE steady advance in public-private agency partnerships toward developing greater experience and knowledge in the content of service programs for older people is exemplified by the announcement of a \$180,000 three-year demonstration grant made to the Hebrew Home for the Aged in Riverdale, Bronx, N. Y. The grant has been awarded by the National Institutes of Health for the purpose of developing a demonstration

sheltered workshop program which, in addition to providing richer content in living for the residents of the Home, will make a real research contribution through the plan of scientifically controlled study of the impact of a work-centered program into a case-oriented environment. Dr. Allen Speiser, formerly executive director of the Council Workshop for Senior Citizens in New York City and also a former staff member of the Altro Health and Rehabilitation Service, is Project director.

Residents of the old age homes of Malben, the Joint Distribution Committee Welfare program for aged, ill and handicapped newcomers in Israel, have "landed" the contract for producing thousands of insignia armbands and skull caps for the Israeli Ministry of Defense. The work is being carried on primarily by elderly women residents in their occupational therapy workshops with unabated excitement and immeasurable psychological improvement in the emotional health and outlook of the participants.

NEW TRANSLATION OF THE TORAH

THE Jewish Publication Society of America has announced the completion of the first phase of a 20-year project—to translate the entire Bible into modern English from the ancient traditional Hebrew text. The first publication is the Pentateuch, (the first five books of the Bible).

Revisions in the new translation have taken into consideration the vast growth of knowledge about Biblical times and languages which had come to light in recent years. The new translation has eliminated the archaic language of the 17th century.

Dedication of the new translation was marked by a series of dinners in com-

munities throughout the United States at which the more than 1,700 local sponsors of the translation received a special edition of the new volume.

Dr. Harry M. Orlinsky, chairman of the committee of translators is professor of bible at Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion in New York and co-editors were Dr. H. Louis Ginsberg, professor of biblical history and literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and Dr. Ephraim A. Speiser, professor of bible and Semitic languages and literature at the University of Pennsylvania. The associate editors representing the three sections on organized Jewish religious life were Dr. Max Arzt, vice-chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary; Dr. Bernard J. Bamberger, rabbi of Congregation Shaaray Tefila in New York and the former president of both the Synagogue Council of America and the Central Conference of American Rabbis; and Dr. Harry Freedman, a leading orthodox scholar and rabbi in Melbourne, Australia.

CLAIMS CONFERENCE PROGRAM FOR 1963

THE Board of Directors of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany allocated ten million dollars for programs aiding 170,000 Nazi victims in 32 countries. This allocation raises to 100 million dollars, the sums granted by the Conference since 1954.

The claims conference is made up of 23 national and world-wide Jewish organizations. It secures its funds for allocation under the special agreement reached with the German Federal Republic in 1952 under which 107 million dollars is being turned over to the Conference in twelve annual installments for the benefit of needy Nazi victims throughout the world. These funds are in addition to

the much larger sums paid by the German Federal Republic to the Government of Israel, as well as to individual Nazi victims for indemnification and restitution.

Over three-fourths of the 1963 budget is earmarked for programs in relief, rehabilitation and resettlement (cash relief, medical aid, care of the aged and infirm, child and youth care, emigration and resettlement aid, vocational training, capital projects linked to the reconstruction of the Jewish communities). While most of the relief and rehabilitation budget will be spent in Europe, conference funds will also aid in the emigration of Nazi victims and their resettlement overseas, primarily in Australia and South America. Allocations will also aid five major programs in Jewish cultural and educational reconstruction, education, research and publications, scholarships and fellowships, Yeshivot and rabbinical seminars and the commemoration and documentation of the Jewish catastrophe in Europe. In many Jewish communities throughout Europe there is a growing tendency for the Jewish communal organizations to supplement the claims allocations, often to points in excess of the allocations themselves to carry on necessary reconstruction.

HERE AND THERE

UNITED FUNDS and Community Chests campaign results totalled 520 million dollars in 1962, a 3.6% increase over the previous year.

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President's Kennedy's plan to preview mental retardation and half the nation's number of mentally ill would have strong impact on the work of voluntary, as well as governmental agencies. The proposals seek to replace previous emphasis on state institutions with community-based programs. Substantial federal grants in aid

are proposed to help states establish comprehensive mental health centers, stimulate state and community plan and provide needed services.

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An Isidore Sobeloff fund has been established to honor the executive vice-president of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit on the occasion of his 25th anniversary of distinguished leadership and service to the community. Mr. Sobeloff will designate the uses of the special fund.

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An unprecedented \$60,000 grant for basic research planning was made to the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston by the Permanent Charity Fund, established in 1915 by the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Co.

TOURISM IN ISRAEL

ACCORDING to the *New York Times* (April 7, 1963, Sec. 11, p. 25), 183,701 tourists came to Israel in 1962, their visits profiting the state by \$33,000,000. Between 1959 and 1961, the number of tourists has almost doubled.

SYNAGOGUE— COMMUNITY CENTER

JACOB NEUSNER, a research fellow at Brandeis University and editorial board member of *Conservative Judaism* has a follow-up to the symposium on the synagogue and center which touched off such heated rejoinders when first published last year in that *Journal*. "In the end, the issue is how best to organize the community. Our contention has been that whatever forms the Jewish community may experiment with, the substance must always be the same, namely, the Jewish faith in all its ramifications and nuances."

**"LIFE IS FUN IN A SMILING,
FAIR-SKINNED WORLD"**

THAT is the title of an article by Dr. Otto Klineberg which appeared in the *Saturday Review of Literature* of February 16, 1963. Reprints of this article are being distributed by the American Jewish Committee and we received our copy—courtesy of Ann G. Wolfe. The article analyzes the manner in which elementary grade text books subtly shape the child's view of the world, of particular interest being the ethnocentrism which is nurtured in children.

**LOS ANGELES (1964)
HERE WE COME!**

A COPY of a cordial communication

from Judge Irving Hill, president of the Jewish Federation Council of Los Angeles to presidents of federations in other cities has just reached this department. Judge Hill refers to forthcoming plans for the 1964 National Conference of Jewish Communal Service in Los Angeles, California. He points out that this will be the first Jewish National Conference meeting on the West Coast and urges federations to urge local agencies to begin planning in advance for the attendance of key staff members. Judge Hill's warm communication presages a most cordial reception by the Los Angeles Jewish Community. It's not too early to begin planning. See you in Los Angeles in 1964.