MALBEN JDG 10 years
Services in Israel
came into being late in 1949, at a time when the tide of immigration into the young State of Israel began climbing toward its peak. DP camps in Europe were being emptied and in some Moslem countries, entire Jewish communities picked themselves up from the ghettos and trekked to Israel. At that time, the Jewish population of Israel had already increased by over 45 per cent.

Immigration then was entirely unselective and the sick and infirm, the invalids and aged, came in disproportionately large numbers. Since the Joint Distribution Committee through its large-scale relief and welfare program in Europe, North Africa and Middle East countries had at that time been assisting Jews in need for over 35 years, it was only natural that American Jewry, through JDC, should want to share with Israel the burden of accommodating and absorbing the handicapped newcomers. This in essence is the purpose and aim of Malbev — its name made up of the Hebrew initials of "Institutions for the Care of Handicapped Immigrants". Today, after ten years, it has become the largest single JDC operation anywhere in the world, receiving its funds chiefly through the United Jewish Appeal.

Israel authorities accepted this aid with gratitude, for their resources in institutions, housing, medical
facilities, trained staff and supplies were being strained to the utmost with the tremendous task of integrating the able-bodied immigrants into the economy. At the beginning of its activities, Malben-JDC converted existing buildings, including hatted structures left behind by the British, into old age homes and hospitals. Time was at a premium. Aged and sick had to be removed from overcrowded, unhealthy immigrant camps. Only a few years later could the organization venture into its own building program.

To maintain all its services, the organization to-day employs a total staff of **2,000**. This includes **100** physicians, **41** social workers, **402** nurses and nurses aides and **40** therapists. Some **250** young men and women annually attend Malben-JDC nurses' training schools and courses for in-service nursing attached to the hospitals.
Until Statehood the country had practically no old age problem; the population was young and strong and children could well take care of their aging parents. The situation changed drastically with the onset of mass immigration.

With all possible speed Malben-JDC established a network of modern old age institutions throughout the country. In these, approximately 5,000 men and women with no private means and no family to turn to lead an active life. (To qualify for admission, men have to be 65 and women 60 years old on arrival in the country).

All the able-bodied — about 60% — are engaged in handicrafts, various administrative services and general housework duties, gaining a sense of responsibility and pride in their homes. The ailing among them are accommodated in infirmaries attached to the institutions, where in an atmosphere less rigid than that of a hospital they are in close touch with their contemporaries, some of whom also act as nursing aides.

**INDIRECT ASSISTANCE**

As waiting lists for accommodation in old age homes began to shrink, Malben-JDC could plan in other terms than placing aged in institutions. In partnership with national and municipal authorities and the Jewish Agency, it pro-
vided extra-mural services and aid so as to keep the aged, wherever possible, right in the community, a member of normal society to which they belong.

Within this framework, a housing scheme was set up for the healthy elderly. They receive a furnished apartment, rent and tax free, as well as an old age pension under the 1953 National Insurance Law. Those not qualifying for this pension receive a monthly grant from a fund jointly set up by Malben-JDC, the Ministry of Welfare, the Jewish Agency and local authorities. By the end of 1959, well over 8,000 will be receiving this grant. Other joint projects: housekeeper services for ailing aged who need help at home and day-care in institutions for aged; the establishment of over 30 Golden Age Clubs which provide elderly citizens with new interests and occupations; the founding of the Israel Gerontological Society which has made one of its major tasks the education of the public toward an awareness of the needs of the aging.

Such extra-mural projects — indirect assistance and subvention — have helped create a new climate for senior citizens in Israel. As a result, healthy aged rarely ask to enter an institution once the social worker has pointed out the existing facilities within his community. Already, about 150 residents have left Malben-JDC old age homes and moved into their own apartments. Their places have been filled by the infirm aged, unable to care for themselves.
TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL - DIRECT SERVICES

In 1949 Israel had only 350 hospital beds for tuberculous patients. The influx of concentration camp survivors and immigrants from oriental countries (every 6th immigrant from Yemen, for instance, was suffering from TB) called for drastic expansion of hospital facilities. Total bed capacity was increased to over 2,100 — Malben-JDC setting up its 525-bed hospital at Beer Yaacov and a rehabilitation center.

Since then incidence of tuberculosis has dropped significantly and to-day Israel is third lowest in the world's incidence and mortality lists. This improvement was due to the coordination of activities and pooling of resources among the country's main TB agencies, with Malben-JDC an active partner from the outset.

With the disease fully under control, TB hospitals, including several wards at Beer Yaacov, have recently been turned to more urgent medical uses. Malben-JDC is in the process of transferring the entire administration of its TB centers to the Ministry of Health which has assumed authority in this field.

TUBERCULOSIS RATE PER 100,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1949</th>
<th>1950</th>
<th>1951</th>
<th>1952</th>
<th>1957</th>
<th>1958</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCIDENCE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>105</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORTALITY</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEDS</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>2,150</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>826</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDIRECT ASSISTANCE

To-day the emphasis has shifted to the prevention, detection and out-patient treatment of chest diseases and to the rehabilitation of post-TB patients. In this new trend Malben-JDC contributes in technical assistance and often by subvention.

CHRONIC DISEASES — DIRECT SERVICES

When Malben-JDC started its activities in Israel there were no hospitals for chronic patients. To-day, ten years later, the organization is still the only medical agency with hospital and rehabilitation facilities for patients suffering from chronic diseases. Its four hospitals have a bed capacity of 700, and much stress is laid on teaching the patients to live with their ailments, and live productively. Through physiotherapy and occupational therapy — the latter often leading to vocational training — hundreds of patients, formerly believed incurable, could be restored to their families and to active life in the community.

The problem of mentally retarded children of immigrant families was tackled by Malben-JDC with the opening of a small, pilot plant Youth Rehabilitation Center, for retarded youngsters in the 55 to 85 I.Q. bracket who are trainable and educable. The past three years have shown moderate success in turning problem children into useful citizens by teaching them trades.
With the gradual curtailment of Malben-JDC's Tuberculosis Program, funds have become available for channelling into the expansion and improvement of the existing mental health program – Israel's number one unsolved problem. Until quite recently Malben-JDC's activity in this field was restricted to the maintenance of over 400 patients in government and private institutions. Now, the organization is becoming an increasingly active partner of the Ministry of Health in the planning and establishment of a modern, nation-wide mental health program based on a survey made by an expert from Holland who was brought here through the initiative of JDC and with Ministry of Health and WHO participation. Malben-JDC carries 50% of all costs of the program, agreed upon jointly.

An immediate urgent need in Israel is skilled professional staff to handle that highly specialized medical care including prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of patients with mental diseases. To meet this need a scholarship fund has been established within the framework of the joint Malben-Ministry Trust Fund, for the training of psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses and social workers.
Based on the modern concepts of bringing psychiatric care nearer to general medical care, the joint effort of Malben-JDC and the Ministry of Health has led to the establishment of a 46-bed mental pavilion in Israel's largest government general hospital which functions as an open psychiatric ward for diagnosis and short-term treatment. A similar ward, already existing in a Haifa government hospital, is being enlarged by 25 beds to bring its total capacity to 50. As a first in the series of assessment centers to be opened throughout the country, Malben-JDC put at the Health Ministry's disposal a 32-bed ward at its Shaar Menashe Geriatric Hospital. The first patients selected for assessment were aged 60 and above, from government and private hospitals. Malben-JDC is now actively involved in preparations for the eventual transformation of one of its TB institutions into a working village for mental patients.

A hostel for discharged mental patients has been set up in Jaffa and another one is shortly to be opened in the north of the country. They are to serve as half-way houses for discharged long-term patients who need a transition period before they can return to normal life.
Rehabilitation projects, which aim at integrating persons with physical disabilities into community and economic life, take various forms: from furnishing of artificial limbs and invalid vehicles and job training in so-called "Sheltered Workshops" under close medical and social supervision to provision of "Constructive Loans" which enable invalids to establish small private business enterprises, especially in new development towns where commercial centers are usually set aside for social cases. In every phase of Malben-JDC's activities its social services functions in detail, verifying the needs of the clients and forming the link between them and their total rehabilitation.

Often rehabilitation care is the final stage in prolonged Malben-JDC care that started with surgery or other hospital treatment. The number of Malben-JDC sheltered workshops varies from year to year, as the need arises. In 1959 there were 13 (including one for blind workers), with a total of over 400 clients. With improvement in their physical condition and experience in their trades, employees of such workshops can, after a period of time, venture out into the open labor market, or else keep together to run their plants as independent cooperatives, with Malben-JDC assets transformed into long-term loans.
zm Workikops
55 Clients
m Workshops
506 Clients
27 Workshops
560 Clients
18 Workshops
474 Clients
4 Workshops
165 Clients
2 Workshops
105 Clients

SHELTERED WORKSHOPS

June 1959
7,136
Clients

1958
6,568
Clients

1956
5,000
Clients

1954
3,460
Clients

1952
1,600
Clients

CONSTRUCTIVE LOANS 1949
HELPING ISRAEL HELP ITSELF

SURVEYS:

* Several municipalities and local councils have turned to Malben-JDC with their pressing health and welfare problems. In Tel-Aviv, for example, a survey was conducted in the largest municipal hospital to plan rehabilitation for chronically ill patients occupying badly needed beds. In three immigrant towns, surveys were made to determine the needs of the aged in the community.

* Residual groups of invalids and aged have remained in immigrant camps and transit centers — handicapped humanity unable to become integrated into the normal life of the country. Jointly with the Jewish Agency, Malben-JDC is carrying out medical-social surveys with the aim to resettle as many as possible and place the others under appropriate institutional care.

* Malben-JDC has initiated a country-wide survey of low-grade mentally defective children, carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Welfare and the Jewish Agency. In charge of this survey is Dr. M. Smilansky of the Szold Institute. The results will be available early in 1960 and will form a basis to the setting up of necessary services.
CHILD CARE:

* Malben-JDC has helped the Welfare Ministry expand its intake capacity for low-grade mentally defective children by 95 beds. But the need is incomparably greater.

* The organization is participating in the costs of the vocational training of deaf-mute children at the Tel-Aviv Helen Keller Center.

CARE FOR BLIND:

* It pays for the maintenance of blind children up to the age of sixteen in educational establishments and has guided these in raising their standards.

* As for the blind above the age of sixteen, Malben-JDC is lending a hand to the Ministry of Welfare in country-wide surveys to determine their needs and help set up adequate facilities.

In these ten years the young State of Israel has gone a long way toward economic and social stabilization. Many local communities — cities, towns and villages — are ready to-day to look after the aged, sick and handicapped on the spot. Needed now is expert guidance, technical aid and monetary subvention. In the light of this development, Malben-JDC's program is more and more becoming one of indirect assistance — a comprehensive “Point 4” plan, through which the organization is helping Israel help itself in the establishment of better health and welfare services for all its citizens.
### A. NORMAL PROGRAM

**I. Medical Care**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Hospitals</td>
<td>IL. 5,331,000.—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Hospitals</td>
<td>IL. 280,000.—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care of Mentally-Ill</td>
<td>IL. 827,000.—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Rehabilitation</td>
<td>IL. 178,000.—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instit. for Mentally Retarded Children</td>
<td>IL. 150,000.—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Malben Inst. Medical, Dental Care, Orthop. Appl. etc.</td>
<td>IL. 145,000.—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurse Schools</td>
<td>IL. 68,000.—</td>
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**II. Care of the Aged**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home for the Aged and Infirm</td>
<td>IL. 5,734,000.—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extra Mural Care (incl. Apartments &amp; Furniture for the Aged)</td>
<td>IL. 445,000.—</td>
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**III. Rehabilitation and Social Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Constructive Loans</td>
<td>IL. 510,000.—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheltered Workshops</td>
<td>IL. 290,000.—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Services</td>
<td>IL. 505,000.—</td>
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### B. SPECIAL PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extension of the Program of Mentally-Ill</td>
<td>IL. 500,000.—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistance to Uninsured Aged</td>
<td>IL. 600,000.—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TB Release Program</td>
<td>IL. 50,000.—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Mental Health Program at Tel Hashomer</td>
<td>IL. 18,000.—</td>
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**ADMINISTRATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>IL. 1,726,800.—</td>
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**RESERVE**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IL. 291,000.—</td>
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**Total**

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<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IL. 17,648,800.—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*The JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE receives its funds chiefly from American Jewry through the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL*

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG, Chairman, JDC

MOSES A. LEAVITT, Executive Vice-Chairman, JDC

CHARLES H. JORDAN
Director General, Overseas Operations, JDC

LOUIS D. HORWITZ, Director General, Malben-JDC
Cover Girl: Egyptian Jewish youngster who has found haven at a JDC-supported home for Jewish children in France.

Meeting in the Market-Place: Poverty and hardship are still the lot of thousands of Jews in the hinterland of Morocco, like this group in a hill village south of Marrakech.
At the JDC Overseas Conference last year, I looked around the room. Four continents were represented, thirteen countries, communities old and new, many miles apart in distance, many centuries in development. And it came to me that these conferences of ours have become a United Nations-in-microcosm.

I must confess I felt an extraordinary sense of gratification. Not only with the meeting, but with what it represented, an annual willingness to come together, to accept new assignments and new responsibilities.

It is a satisfaction which was heightened for me because within the memory of each of us we were faced with a world of rubble and ashes and the sound of mourning; and into this world we brought our determination and our energies and our dedication and our resolve that we could not—and would not—yield to the rubble and the ashes and the mourning.

These conferences of ours and what they represent are the symbols of the victory we have won; of what our dedication and our resolve has achieved. We have helped to change the course of human events, we have written new chapters in history.

If our efforts have achieved for us the affection and gratitude of hundreds of thousands of men and women overseas, I think we may be no less proud of the place which we and our work hold in the hearts of American Jews.

It was to be expected that in the days immediately after the war, in the years of crisis and emergency, we should receive the complete and unstinting support of the American Jewish community. But I think it is a remarkable tribute to the special quality of our work that this support has never wavered, that our programs and the network of organizations which we have helped to bring into being should have been able to maintain the interest of American Jews.

It is commonly accepted today that the founding of JDC in 1914 represented one of the great milestones in American Jewish history. Only recently one historian referred to JDC's birth as a "giant step in the maturing of the American Jewish community," "the assumption of responsibility on a worldwide scale."

At one time or another this "assumption of responsibility" has taken us into some 75 countries of the world. In the 45 years of our responsibility we brought aid and comfort—in one form or another—to some three and a half million persons. For our work we have had entrusted to us the staggering sum of more than $665,000,000, chiefly through the United Jewish Appeal.

The sum is staggering precisely because we are not the United Nations, but a voluntary agency. The giving represents a unique and freely-bestowed vote of confidence in JDC, in its performance of its assigned mission, in the calibre of the men and women who are the hands—and the heart—of JDC.

And if we continue to assess our programs soberly, if we continue to approach our work with the same sense of responsibility which has guided us through the years, if we continue in the same spirit of dedication which we have had in the past, I predict that we shall have the full and unwavering support of the American Jewish community, so long as we shall need it.
Day of Decisions
Moses A. Leavitt, Executive Vice-Chairman

THE PLACE IS ISRAEL, and at a table a Malben staff worker is interviewing a woman who arrived in the Jewish state less than a week ago. He listens to the story she tells, and it is a story he has heard before.

There were four of them—she, her son, her daughter-in-law and her grand-daughter. Finally, after years of waiting, the way was open for them to leave. They had gotten rid of everything they could; nearly all of their money had gone for exit permits and other legal papers. But they were leaving.

Two days before they were scheduled to go they went to pick up their permits—and were told that only the grandmother could go—none of the others.

For two days the four of them talked, the aged woman tells the interviewer, her hands fumbling with a handkerchief. They talked for two days, without even sleeping, and then they decided that she would go.

Now she is here, without friends, without family, without money. And now she has been referred to Malben-JDC, to see what needs to be done for her. The journey is ended, but the need for help has just begun.

On the same day, in a city in North Africa, a man is being interviewed also. Even in the privacy of this office he lowers his voice to a whisper as he speaks; and often he looks uneasily about him.

He came to this city from a village near the desert, his family trudging the weary miles with him. He came because in his village it was not safe for Jews any more. He came because he had heard that here in the city there were people who could help him go to Israel.

But when he got to the city he found that emigration was stopped. Now he had come to JDC—to whom else could he turn?

He told of looking for work, but for a man of no training, there was none. There were six to feed, and soon there would be a seventh. Now his question: what could be done for him?

And a third interview, also the same day. The “Joint” representative sits in a corner, watching unobtrusively; behind the desk is the chairman of the local committee; every member of the family before him—father, mother, the two boys and the girl—takes a part in answering. The father tells how they came back to Poland in 1946, after the war. Patiently

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the chairman explains that the “Joint” has been invited to return to Poland only because of the thousands of Jews who are being repatriated from Russia, and who are in need. Just as patiently, the father continues to talk of his own need, his own hungry children.

Helplessly, the chairman finally turns to look at the “Joint” representative. They nod agreement.

Three interviews—one day.
It is a day in 1959. It is a day not of large and world-shaking decisions, but of small ones. The great decisions were perhaps made in other places, and in other years—but the small decisions made today mean life for a woman in Israel, and a family in North Africa, and another in Poland.

And though these are small decisions, they must be made in keeping with the mission which was long ago assigned to the Joint Distribution Committee by the American Jewish community—a mission of mercy to needy Jews overseas.

And because of its mission, in 1959 JDC found that the numbers needing its aid—even in a year of no great crisis, no terrible emergencies—still numbered more than 200,000.

And because this is a year during which the world began its observance of World Refugee Year, it is worth noting that most of these men, women and children were no longer technically classified as “refugees,” but that their needs were as great, or greater, than they had been during the days of homeless wandering.

The total of those receiving JDC assistance during 1959 in one form or another was (according to preliminary data) more than 214,000 persons. Of the group, almost 105,000 were in Moslem countries, principally North Africa and Iran. There were also some 54,750 in Europe, more than 47,500 in Israel and nearly 7,000 in such other areas as Australia.

In Israel, Malben-JDC, which cares for aged, ill and handicapped newcomers and their fam-
ilies, aided some 24,800 persons, including hundreds through an expanded program of non-institutional care for the aged. In addition, nearly 14,000 were aided there through cultural and religious programs.

JDC's assistance continued to cover a broad range of needs. There were 38,765 persons receiving cash relief, chiefly in Europe; 85,650 benefiting from feeding programs, more than 56,700 of them in Moslem areas; 5,810 in homes for the aged, the bulk in Israel; 30,615 receiving medical aid and 70,135 receiving educational assistance, these last two programs concentrated also chiefly in Moslem countries. In addition, 5,220 children and young people received other kinds of aid; and 36,155 were aided through cultural and religious programs.

One of the most disheartening single developments of 1959 was the shutting off of Jewish emigration from Rumania. After some 15,000 persons had passed through Vienna en route to Israel, the Bucharest government halted the issuance of exit permits early in March; as a result, the mass movement from Rumania which had started in the fall of 1958 came to an abrupt end.

When the emigration ended, there were more than 15,000 Jews in Rumania who had been fully documented for departure and were ready to leave. These lost their homes and their employment and were left in difficult economic circumstances.

On the other hand, there was continued movement of Jews into Poland under the Soviet-Polish repatriation agreement which was to have expired at the end of 1958. The movement of those who had already registered was first permitted through March and then through June 1959. However, the movement also continued in the third quarter of the year, making a total of more than 4,000 Jews who were repatriated to Poland during 1959. In the same period, some 4,500 persons emigrated from Poland, 3,830 to Israel and 677 to other countries.

Emigration from Egypt was limited chiefly to cases of family reunion. At the same time, the resettlement of Egyptian refugees, residing mainly in France, continued at a modest pace. As of December 31, 1959, 1,159 Egyptian Jews had been admitted to the United States under Public Law 86-316, Section 15; of this number, 800 were admitted in 1959.

**JDC Technical Assistance**

In the course of the last several years, JDC had made vigorous efforts to expand its technical assistance to Jewish communities abroad in various fields. During the year a number of events and developments reflected the high level of this aid:

- Seminars for kindergarten personnel were conducted in Germany, in Iran and in Morocco, and were attended by some 70 persons.
- An 11-week training course for directors of youth and community centers took place in Paris last spring.
- As part of a broader project, which will eventually include all or most Jewish communities in Europe which are engaged in institutional care for the aged, members of the JDC Health Department beginning in 1958 conducted a census of homes for the aged in Austria, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Poland and Yugoslavia.
- The JDC Education Department prepared a survey on Jewish day and supplementary schools in some 120 communities in Western and Central Europe.
- Representatives of the most important Jewish welfare agencies in five European countries met with JDC experts in Brussels in May 1959 to discuss Jewish communal problems, especially those relating to the raising of funds, so that eventually communities can meet their own needs without outside assistance.
- In an effort to strengthen local Jewish...
organizations, JDC set up a Scholarship Fund for applicants wanting professional training or advanced training, to help provide personnel for Jewish communal services.

And in September JDC called a conference on welfare problems at its Geneva headquarters to examine social service problems affecting the Jewish communities of Israel, Europe and Moslem lands.

Other Highlights

Other major developments during 1959 included:

World Refugee Year: WRY, designated by a vote of the General Assembly of the United Nations, began on July 1st, 1959, and JDC pledged complete support. World Refugee Year is envisaged as a period of increased effort in the field of resettlement, integration and other forms of assistance to the millions of refugees throughout the world. Among those who have assumed leadership in WRY efforts are overseas Director-General Charles H. Jordan, who has been named Co-Chairman of the International Committee for WRY in Geneva; and JDC's Executive Vice-Chairman, who is on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the U. S. Committee for Refugees.

During 1959, 39 JDC-sponsored loan institutions in 19 countries, including Europe, South America, North Africa, Israel and Australia, granted 7,049 loans amounting to $3,013,567. Since the end of World War II, such institutions have made a total of 71,972 loans totalling $21,852,214. Sixteen of these institutions are joint undertakings of JDC and the Jewish Colonization Association (ICA).

Between January 1 and December 31, 1959, ORT—with JDC funds—gave vocational training to 36,301 persons: 18,337 in Europe, 9,055 in Israel and 8,909 in Moslem countries. JDC's allocation to ORT for 1959 was $1,650,000; since 1947 JDC has granted ORT a total of $18,145,000.

During 1959, JDC distributed 13,230,444 pounds of U. S. Department of Agriculture surplus commodities to some 119,849 persons a month in Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Iran, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia and Yugoslavia.

In keeping with its traditional Passover assistance, JDC provided some 246,050 pounds of matzoth in 11 European countries, as well as 70,000 pounds of matzoth, 2,200 pounds of fats, 500 pounds of shmurah flour and 7,500 bottles of wine. In Poland, JDC subsidizes the chief congregations to enable them to bake their matzoth locally. Moreover, payment is made to the kehilot for distribution of matzoth to people who cannot afford to buy it. In Moslem countries matzoth are procured locally, with JDC providing the necessary funds.

The Paul Baerwald School of Social Work at the Hebrew University, sponsored by JDC, completed its first academic year successfully with 50 students. The impact of the school is already being felt in Israel, and much of value to the Jewish state is expected of it. During the second year plans are being made for the admission of 80 new students; by the end of the third year the enrollment is expected to reach 200. The faculty includes, in addition to the director of the school, nine full-time teachers, of whom seven received training in this country under the National Council of Jewish Women scholarship program.

Homes for the Aged: A new 50-bed home was dedicated in Florence, Italy, to replace the old one, which was damaged during World War II; and a cornerstone was laid for a new wing of the existing home in Brussels. The new wing will have 60 beds, bringing the total capacity of the installation to 90-95. Both projects benefited also from funds provided by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.
To express its sympathy with victims of the floods which struck Uruguay and Madagascar early in the year, JDC granted $2,000 to each of those areas.

A contribution of $5,000 was made to a fund raised in England in memory of the late prelate of the Church of England, George K. A. Bell, Bishop of Chichester, who played an important role in aiding Jewish refugees after 1933.

High Holy Day services were conducted in Madrid, in a new synagogue constructed with Claims Conference-JDC assistance.

The year saw the provision—on a small scale—of JDC aid to the Jews of India, when a feeding program was launched for children of the Sir Elly Kadoorie School in Bombay.

**JDC in Israel**

During 1959 JDC aided more than 47,500 men, women and children in Israel. Of this group, 24,880 received the help of JDC-Malben, the welfare program on behalf of aged, ill and handicapped newcomers to the Jewish state.

The year saw the continued expansion of aid, under the new Malben policy which puts the stress on non-institutional care and indirect services, particularly for the aged. During the year, over 4,000 persons were added to the list of aged persons receiving monthly grants from the "Maanak" Fund which is supported jointly by the Ministry of Welfare, the Jewish Agency, the municipalities and Malben-JDC. By December 1959 a total of 9,515 persons were benefiting from Maanak payments. Housing was provided to 628 aged men and women during the same period; other extra-mural services to the aged included day care, housekeepers' services and boarding homes.

It is noteworthy that many communities followed Malben's example. Throughout the country, special Mayors' Committees were set up for the care of the aged and various localities set up services—previously unknown in Israel—such as Citizens' Advice Bureaus, housekeeping services, meals for the aged and visiting workers. During the year the number of Golden Age Clubs increased from 16 to 32, of which 27—with 1,678 registered members—received financial help from Malben-JDC.

As a result of these extra-mural activities, it was possible by December 1958 to close Acre, the second of five institutions for the bedridden aged, and in September 1959, a home for healthy aged—Rosh Haayin; the residents of this institution were placed in Ein Shemer, where additional beds had been made available for the infirm. At the same time, the use of private institutions for Malben's bedridden aged has been completely eliminated.

Other changes took place in existing institutions. While the number of beds in homes for the able-bodied aged decreased by 225, there was an increase of 145 beds in homes for the bedridden aged. Malben-JDC also continued to expand special units to provide nursing for the healthy aged.

The significance of this new orientation is notable: where only a few years ago there were thousands of aged on Malben's waiting list for institutional care, today this waiting list is virtually non-existent. At the same time the waiting list of aged requesting housing in the communities numbered 266. Since there are no longer any Malben-eligible aged waiting for institutional care, Malben decided to offer a limited number of places in its homes for the aged to persons not eligible for Malben care, that is, to those who arrived in Israel before the establishment of the Jewish state on May 15, 1948. To be admitted, these aged must be referred to Malben by appropriate welfare agen-
cies, which have to reimburse Malben for maintenance costs.

Malben-JDC is also being drawn increasingly into the welfare projects of the general community. It has been active in screening difficult medical and social cases in three Jewish Agency installations—Shaar Aliya, Beth Olim Shimon and Pardess Hannah. Malben also supports a fund for reducing hospitalization and for rehabilitation of TB patients, an association for home-maker service, a survey of retarded children conducted by the Henrietta Szold Institute, and similar projects. Generally, the field of TB offers perhaps the widest example of interagency cooperation in the Jewish state. The Ministry of Health, Kupat Cholim, the Anti-Tuberculosis League and Malben participate in the operation of a network of chest clinics. Together they supervise ten clinics which during the year treated 6,645 persons. Of this group, 5,077 were treated with the financial assistance of Malben, including 542 children.

Malben-JDC also took the initiative in establishing a nationwide voluntary organization for health education in Israel. Together with the Ministry of Health it also helped prepare a coordinated program for the care of the chronically ill. As a step toward the realization of such a program, Malben and the Ministry have agreed to exchange a small number of beds providing special institutional services.

A special trust fund, financed jointly by the Ministry of Health and Malben on a 50/50 basis, is helping to implement a program for the improvement of services for the mentally ill, following the recommendations formulated by Dr. Sunier.

In 1959, 54 children and 60 adults were admitted to the Eitanim Hospital, a former government TB institution which has been converted into a mental hospital. A psychiatric ward was opened at the Tel Hashomer government hospital, and admitted 246 persons. On July 1, 1959 Malben opened a 34-bed psychiatric assessment ward in its Shaar Menashe Hospital; this ward evaluates the needs of patients in private and government institutions, and directs them to the services best suited to their individual needs. (62 persons have been admitted to the ward to date.)

The trust fund also takes care of professional training. It has granted scholarships to ten young physicians for training in psychiatry. In addition to its participation in the trust fund, Malben pays for the maintenance of some 500 mental patients in various hospitals in the country.

Efforts to coordinate the activities of governmental authorities and private agencies in the field of chronic illness (similar to the cooperation already achieved in the field of TB) have been taking more concrete shape. A plan has been evolved for the eventual attachment of Malben facilities for the chronic sick on a district basis to general governmental hospitals.

Two pavilions in Malben's Nahariya Hospital have already been turned over to the government, one in 1958 and another in 1959. In these pavilions the government has opened a surgical ward and a maternity ward, both urgently needed in the northern part of the country.

As of December 31, Malben-JDC had under its care a total of 6,184 persons, of whom 5,491 were in 26 Malben-owned or -operated institutions and 693 in other installations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TB Hospitals</td>
<td>389</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chronic Disease Hospitals</td>
<td>678</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children's Institutions</td>
<td>223</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Hospitals</td>
<td>500 (Approx.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homes for the Infirm</td>
<td>724</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homes for the Aged</td>
<td>3,670</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6,184</td>
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Malben-JDC continued to provide a wide variety of other services designed to help the handicapped toward self-reliance and self-sufficiency. During the year, 1,095 prosthetic appliances were issued to amputees and others. More than 600 constructive loans were granted, bringing the total of loans given since the initiation of the program on June 15, 1950, to some 7,500 (a total of more than 32,000 beneficiaries). Other rehabilitation activities included: monthly occupational therapy, 575 persons; handicrafts, 1,190; institutional services, 850; and general housework 750.

As of the end of 1959, Malben-JDC employed 2,109 persons, including 103 physicians, 512 nurses and nurses' aides and 44 social workers. During the year, 292 persons attended nurses' training courses; 41 nurses were graduated, in January and in September.

Beside the Malben program, in Israel JDC continued to support cultural and religious programs with a total of more than 13,800 beneficiaries. The major program—with some
12,000 beneficiaries—is the traditional support given by JDC to yeshivot. In 1959 the number of yeshivot receiving aid increased from 85 to 90, with a total student population of 7,749. Since the Israel Ministry of Education does not provide assistance to yeshivot, the latter do not receive such vital services as medical and dental care which are offered by the government in general schools. Only where secular education or vocational training are also involved, do the yeshivot obtain assistance from the Ministry of Education; otherwise this aid reaches the yeshivot only sporadically.

Under these circumstances the regular JDC grants, though they cover only a small portion of yeshivah expenditures, nevertheless form the only stable component of their budget.

In 1959, therefore, because of the increase in the student body and in view of the very serious financial situation of the yeshivot, JDC decided to increase its yearly budget for cultural and religious programs in Israel from $660,000 to $720,000. JDC assistance includes, in addition to the educational programs themselves, medical and convalescent aid, a feeding program and loans from a building fund. Thus, family members of the married students—4,300 persons—benefit from this assistance.

It is worth mentioning that the yeshivot render a significant educational service, and that their students are receiving vocational training, as well as specific training for communal services (teachers' training, rabbinical training) in increasing numbers. It is also of interest that the yeshivoth show a better degree of integration of oriental children and young people than do the secondary schools. While only 22 per cent of all students in Israel's secondary schools were of oriental origin, the percentage of these students in the yeshivoth was 34.9.

JDC also provided aid for research projects with 100 beneficiaries; and for refugee rabbis, who with their dependents numbered 1,670 beneficiaries.

The JDC-assisted ORT vocational training program in Israel aided 2,055 persons.

JDC in Europe

The Jewish communities of Europe have made a remarkable recovery since the end of World War II. Today there exists in most of the countries of the continent a network of Jewish institutions and specialized services, established with the help of JDC. But the ranks of leadership—both lay and professional—remain depleted.

There is no force in the world which could restore the human reserves who perished under Nazi rule.

The development of a new leadership is therefore a slow process, requiring a good many years. Most urgent, even today, is the shortage of rabbis, teachers, youth leaders, social workers and other communal workers. The Jewish communities which began to rebuild after 1945 had one advantage: starting from nothing they were able—in principle—to begin immediately to apply the most modern techniques in their activities. Many of the programs have, however, been frustrated because of the lack of qualified personnel.

Not typical, but nevertheless significant, is the fact that a survey of OSE (Jewish medical and child care organization) children's homes in France made a year ago disclosed that 50 per cent of the counsellors were non-Jewish.

This is the background for JDC's continuing and intensified efforts to provide technical assistance to European Jewish communities, and to train qualified personnel.

With regard to the need for assistance, 1959 proved a year of stable economic conditions generally throughout Europe. In addition, German indemnification payments continued and small groups were helped to emigrate to other lands. As a result, in a number of European countries there was a small decrease in the number of those needing help. Only in France, where there continued to appear substantial numbers of "new refugees," was there an increase in the caseload.

Considerable support for various JDC programs in Europe was provided by Claims Conference funds.

In terms of the numbers receiving aid, the largest JDC program in Europe today is in Poland. A total of 19,000 men, women and children in that country are currently receiving assistance.

The total number of Jews who reached Poland under the Soviet-Polish repatriation agreement is estimated at 19,000. Some 6,500 of these have since emigrated from Poland, the vast majority to Israel. JDC aid today is therefore reaching between 12,000 and 13,000 "repatriates"; the rest have been in Poland for
somewhat longer periods.

The JDC program, which is conducted through the Jewish Central Welfare Committee, covers a great variety of needs. In the first half of 1959 grants to provide living quarters were made to 1,342 families (4,025 persons); and one-time cash grants to 1,664 persons a month. In addition, monthly assistance includes: regular cash relief to 2,400 persons, including 585 invalids, 825 aged, 675 sick persons and 315 students; grants to 315 emigrants and feeding programs on behalf of 2,595 school children.

In addition, JDC provides grants to some 2,000 families of ORT trainees, supports a home for the aged in Lodz with nearly 70 residents, and has made 198 loans to individuals and producers' cooperatives for a total of $103,072. JDC also contributes to the budget of the religious congregations, and provides funds for the repair of certain cemeteries. It is worth recording that the repair of the famous Remo cemetery near Cracow, financed by JDC, is nearing completion.

The religious congregations maintain kosher kitchens in 15 localities, which provide meals to 2,000 persons a month. This summer, 3,000 children spent their vacation in camps financed by JDC. JDC also undertook to cover the construction costs for a new home for the aged which replaced a substandard institution in Lodz.

During the year, JDC introduced two new programs in Poland. The first of these was medical care, which reached 145 beneficiaries a month. The other was assistance to some 35 Jewish orphans living with Polish families. In a number of cases, JDC was able to place these orphans in Jewish surroundings. In other cases JDC has been helping the children to obtain a Jewish education.

France is today the major “transit” country in Europe, offering hospitality to successive waves of refugees and migrants from Hungary, Poland, Egypt and North Africa. There is a particularly sizeable number of refugees from Egypt in France, mostly transients who are waiting for visas to the United States or other countries. As a result, the number of JDC beneficiaries in France increased from 17,500 in 1958 to 18,500 in 1959. The total number of persons receiving cash relief was 6,740 a month. The Fonds Social Juif Unifie, French-Jewish welfare organization which receives more than 60 per cent of its income from JDC, supported 15 institutions, caring for some 840 children and young people, two canteens serving over 1,000 persons a month, nine day schools (including a yeshivah and a kindergarten) with 950 pupils; and several supplementary schools with about 1,000 students. In addition it provided medical aid to 2,500 persons and conducted various cultural and educational activities, including community and youth centers reaching 4,500 persons. JDC also provided direct assistance for two schools and for 350 members of rabbinical groups and other transient refugees.

In Austria, some 3,200 men, women and children received JDC aid during 1959, a sizeable decrease from the previous year. While in December 1958 JDC had under its care 736 “new” Hungarian refugees, a year later it was assisting only 336. During this period the last all-Jewish camp closed: Camp Korneuburg, which had accommodated “new” Hungarian refugees since December 1956.

JDC's direct welfare caseload, including “new” and “old” refugees from the DP area, numbered 766 in December 1959 as against 1,169 in December 1958. Direct JDC activities also included support of four schools and four kindergartens (355 children), as well as the financing of a kosher kitchen in Vienna, normally providing meals to about 200 persons a month. It was at this kitchen that groups of emigrants passing through Vienna from Romania in January and February were fed, as are other groups of migrants.
The JDC-supported Vienna Kultusgemeinde had a welfare caseload of more than 680 persons a month; it also maintained a home for the aged with 140 residents and a hospital for 50 patients.

The main concern of the Jewish community in Austria today is the problem of indemnification of losses sustained under the Nazi regime. As of this moment, Austria still has not promulgated legislation providing for just compensation to the victims of the Nazis.

The Jewish population of Germany continues to grow, but more slowly than in the past. The Berlin crisis did not cause any substantial exodus of Jews from that city. JDC is today assisting some 3,770 persons in Germany.

The number of persons assisted by the Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle declined somewhat because of indemnification payments. The agency continued to maintain 13 homes for the aged with 555 residents and nine kindergartens for some 235 children. One of the kindergartens—in Augsburg—was opened in June 1959.

The JDC program in Italy, another country of refuge for migrants, reached 4,770 beneficiaries. In addition to the refugees, there are some 1,100 Italian Jews receiving aid from the JDC-financed Jewish communities. The clinics of OSE, medical organization which receives JDC aid, treated 2,570 patients a month in Rome, Milan and Grottoferrata.

During 1959, JDC-supported family agencies in Belgium provided cash relief for 955 persons a month and provided medical aid to 355 persons monthly. In Antwerp they maintained a children's home for 30 children, a home for the aged with 55 residents and a canteen which served 1,560 meals a month. In March, the Guy Mansbach Children's Home in Brussels was closed, since most of its former residents—war orphans and others—had come of age and left the institution.

Continued progress toward future independence was indicated in October when a big rally in Brussels launched the 1960 fund-raising campaign for local needs.

During the year JDC continued to provide assistance in a number of other European countries, including Sweden, 1,135 beneficiaries; Greece, 900; Yugoslavia, 785; Switzerland, 500; and Norway, Portugal and Spain with smaller numbers.

JDC in Moslem Countries

An atmosphere of insecurity today surrounds the Jewish population in most Moslem countries, particularly those which are most strongly affected by Arab nationalism. This is especially true in Egypt, where the Jewish community is being progressively cut off from the economic life of the country, and is apparently doomed to a purely vegetative existence.

But even in Tunisia, the most Westernized Arab country in North Africa, and the least influenced by the Arab League, the horizon is cloudy. There Jewish organizations are still uncertain about the implementation of official plans aimed at the so-called “integration” of Jewish institutions into the framework of the welfare and educational activities of the nation.

In Algeria, the future is obscured by the continuing war between the independence movement and the French authorities.

The most immediate problem, however, in Tunisia and Morocco are the increasing economic difficulties. These difficulties have a particularly unfavorable effect on the Jewish minorities living in both countries.

Today JDC assistance is reaching some 104,930 men, women and children in Moslem lands.

Despite all obstacles, JDC continued to support the activities of the Jewish communities, and to seek improvement in the standards of communal services. Budget limitations forced major stress on assistance to children and
young people, though JDC also sought to meet as far as possible the most urgent needs of the adult population. Substantial gains were achieved in providing feeding programs and preschool education for children. During 1959, an average of 40,325 children received meals each month in school canteens. 5,825 children of preschool age attended 33 kindergartens. JDC experts on day care continued to introduce modern methods of education, trained the teaching staff and supervised the feeding programs. As a result some of the “garderies” of North Africa and the “parvarishgahs” of Iran can be favorably compared with similar institutions in European countries.

The close cooperation between Morocco and the Arab League may be seen from the fact that the last meeting of the League took place in Casablanca, and that Morocco joined the Arab Postal Union and discontinued all mail service to and from Israel.

Morocco continued to be the single country of the world with the largest number of men, women and children receiving JDC assistance. In this country, which also includes the former Spanish Morocco and Tangier, some 65,000 Jews received aid. As a result of natural increase, and the limitation on emigration which has been in effect since 1957, the Jewish population of this country has continued to grow. In addition, many Jews from isolated village and smaller communities have sought the relative safety of such larger cities as Casablanca and Meknes.

One result is that the Jewish schools in the larger cities, which a couple of years ago had some vacancies, are now filled to capacity and are unable to accept children under the age of seven. Thus five- and six-year olds are now the concern of the kindergartens, which have had to revise programs aimed, until recently, at very young children only.

JDC-supported programs in Morocco included feeding programs for 44,345 persons, including almost 29,500 children; support of 161 educational institutions of the Alliance Israélite Universelle, Ozar Hatorah, Lubavitcher and various local communities, attended by a total of 41,110 pupils; Hebrew courses and other cultural programs for 14,570; and medical aid to 9,655 persons.

In the city of Casablanca the local Jewish community, assisted by JDC, has established a welfare program through which about 5,000 persons receive cash relief. The group of refugees stranded in Tangiers still numbers some 500 persons, which continues to receive JDC aid.

In Tunisia, with 13,885 beneficiaries, a law promulgated in July 1958 called for the election of new community councils. These have not as yet been elected. Meanwhile interim committees have continued existing communal programs with JDC assistance. These programs include cash relief—850 persons a month; feeding (mostly school children)—4,490; medical aid, 3,885 persons; Hebrew courses, 1,130; and a home for the aged with 30 residents. More than 5,000 pupils attended the schools of the Alliance and other organizations, including more than 950 children in nine kindergartens.

In Algeria, with 4,800 receiving aid, there were approximately 2,200 students enrolled in religious schools. More than 1,000 persons a month, including 865 children, benefited from JDC-supported feeding programs. In addition, various educational and cultural programs reached about 950 persons a month.

Iran continues thus far to remain unaffected by the conflicts in the Middle East. As a result, JDC programs continue to reach more than 19,000 Iranian Jews.

Feeding programs reached 5,605 children a month. Those attending JDC-supported schools included 6,820 in Alliance schools, 3,825 in Ozar Hatorah schools and 1,425 in five kindergartens.

Medical aid reached 6,150 persons a month.

JDC also supports public health services in the form of maternal and child care, a school health program and a sanitation program, particularly in the mahallehs (ghettos).

JDC welfare services have added a job placement department. Some 370 boys were aided to get summer camp vacations.

JDC does not maintain any direct contact with the Jewish communities in Egypt; it has, however, closely followed developments there. In mid-1959 there were about 14,000 Jews in Egypt. Approximately two-thirds of them were stateless, some 4,000 were Egyptian nationals, and a few had Italian or Greek nationality. Most are Sephardic Jews; the Ashkenazi group consists of only 150 families and there is also a Karaite community. All three communities are in an extremely difficult financial situation.
JDC continued to provide assistance during 1959 to 6,965 men, women and children, refugees and others in widely scattered parts of the world. The largest of these programs is in Australia, where there are 3,800 beneficiaries. Local Jewish agencies, supported by JDC and Claims Conference funds, assist some 875 new refugees monthly with cash grants. In addition, about 170 are accommodated in hospitals; the community also maintains a home for 70 aged and a sheltered workshop for 47 elderly persons, cares for some 125 children and provides loans for housing and for other purposes.

JDC programs in China, the Philippines, five South American countries and in other areas are still reaching 3,165 persons, including both refugees from Nazi Europe and immigrants who arrived after World War II.

Contributions to JDC

Funds from the United Jewish Appeal continued to provide the financial mainstay of JDC’s overseas programs in 1959. It is estimated that American Jews have contributed $16,350,000 to JDC, through the UJA. This represents more than 58 per cent of the $28,111,600 appropriated by JDC for its 1959 operations.

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany for the fourth year provided a substantial source of income for JDC’s efforts, specifically on behalf of individuals who suffered at the hands of the Nazis. The $7,050,000 which the Claims Conference provided during 1959 represented slightly over 25 per cent of JDC’s total budget.

These funds, which the Claims Conference receives under its agreement with the German Government, are earmarked for the relief and rehabilitation of Jewish victims of Nazism.

There were also a number of communities outside of the United States which provided financial assistance to JDC programs during the past year. These included Canada, which provided $500,000, and Latin American communities. JDC also received considerable funds from other sources, including JRSO, JTC and governmental and inter-governmental agencies.

Whose Decisions?

In Poland, in Iran, in Morocco, in France—each day during the year someone somewhere must make the decision which means life and hope.

In terms of numbers, they are small decisions. A little girl will be admitted to a kindergarten. A man will be allowed to borrow $100. A couple in their eighties will get a new apartment.

But the kindergarten is—life. The little girl will get her meals there, and for the first time since she was born she will have more than a fifty-fifty chance to grow, to be healthy, to know what hope is.

And the $100 is life. For the money means tools, and for the first time the artisan who borrows it will be able to make enough to break out of the vicious circle—half a day to make a pair of slippers, the other half to sell the slippers, buy leather for tomorrow, then spend the little that is profit for food—not enough food for all the hungry mouths.

And the new apartment is also life. For the aged couple it means leaving the “home” which they had shared with a hundred others, and embarking—even at eighty—on a new life.

But the decisions made each day do not stand alone. They are part of those larger decisions which the Joint Distribution Committee is called upon to make each day and each year, which will affect hundreds of thousands of men, women and children in all parts of the world.

Not only whether new hospitals will be built, and new schools opened, but where. Not only to aid the needy, but to decide: whose need is greater?

Because even these decisions have limits on them. Even these decisions must depend in the end on how much the Jews of America will provide.

In the largest sense, therefore, it is the American Jewish community in whose hands is the final decision. The establishment of JDC in 1914 was such a decision. Each gift to the United Jewish Appeal—each gift of each year—is such a decision.

And because of these decisions, many who might have been lost are still alive. And others have built new lives on the ashes of the dead past.

And others still—the helpless, the driven, the bewildered—can look forward to the future with hope, where otherwise there might be only despair.
The Rewarding Years
James H. Becker, Retiring Chairman, National Council

IT IS MY PRIVILEGE to have been associated with JDC since its beginning in 1914—to have been for 45 years a part of this wonderful life-line from the Jews of America to their fellow-Jews everywhere. They have been rewarding years.

They have been years of heroic effort, years when the Jews of Europe faced catastrophes we could not in our worst nightmares have foreseen—catastrophes our outstretched hands could do nothing to avert. Years when we strove to bring relief and rescue to the refugees from terror—and then years when we dug deep into our resources to care for the survivors—years which saw the establishment of a Jewish state where hundreds of thousands of these survivors found haven and where our help in caring for and rehabilitating the sick, the crippled and the old was—and is—desperately needed.

There has been deep satisfaction—as well as heartache—in these years. And there is an even deeper satisfaction today. For today our help is not simply relief to meet bare survival needs. It is creative assistance which gives despairing men, women and children a future, a hope for a decent tomorrow.

In 1959, as in the past, the Council’s members have again proven themselves worthy of their choice: for successful leadership in their own communities, for real achievement in the community campaigns of UJA.

What are the qualities of this leadership? What is its basic task? Each Council member knows—consciously or unconsciously—because each has lived with it through the year. As a pioneer member, perhaps I can put the task into words.

What is the special function of the Council member?

There is a word for it . . . the word “catalyst.” Webster defines a catalyst as “an agent which accelerates a reaction—usually positive; an organizer of combinations.”

What is it in any community which transforms a man of vague good will—a man who reads of the needs and suffering overseas, and thinks “something should be done for those people”—into a contributor, a supporter, an active worker?

A catalyst is the answer. The community leader who calls him, writes him, talks to him, or who sets in motion an active group of men and women to do just this: to crystallize into deeds—contributions, support—the latent good will in the community.

Fortunately, there are eleven thousand of us—many hearts and many hands—to stimulate to action many more thousands of others.

It was my great privilege to serve as Chairman of the JDC National Council for eight years. In turning over the reins of office to the able and devoted Sol Satinsky, I am certain that you will give our new Chairman your fullest support and cooperation.

Although I shall no longer be your chairman, I shall still be working with you in our joint undertaking—to bring back to our communities the inspiring story of what JDC aid has meant to thousands of men, women and children this past year, and to stimulate them to wholehearted support of this worldwide effort of rescue and succor—the task to which I know you will give the same generous devotion as you have in the past.

JDC ANNUAL MEETING: Speakers included (left to right) Philip Klutznick, Moses A. Leavitt, Edward M. M. Warburg and Charles H. Jordan.