

The Book Committee

The ORT* Organisation

A branch of the ORT organisation was also opened in Częstochowa, in January 1938, with the aim of making it possible to teach Jewish children various trades with which they could ensure their future and also strengthen the power of those Jews willing to draw their livelihood from craftsmanship.

The temporary organising committee worked out a broad plan for its activity and decided to, first of all, commence tailoring courses to be conducted by an instructor who was sent from ORT Central in Warsaw.

The inauguration took place on 9th January 1938 at the Craftsmen's Club.

Immediately, sixty apprentices, amongst them a few masters, wishing to qualify in this profession, signed up for the evening courses.

ORT also commenced a course for electricians, which was conducted by Eng. Fabrykant.

The Częstochowa ORT also began a course for iron-welding, which was the first in Poland and 43 students enrolled.

The teachers were the Director Eng. Przysuskier, Eng. Orlinski [and] technicians Pełka and Rozencwajg - the former was a master [craftsman] at the great ironworks in Raków.

The final annual general meeting of the ORT organisation was held at the beginning of July 1939.

According to a report published in "*Częstochower Zeitung*" No.27, dated 7th July 1939, ORT's last meeting was conducted by the members Messrs. Zarnowiecki as chairman, Józef Izraelowicz and Hersz Gotajner as assessor, and Mr Jakubowicz as secretary.

Messrs. Winer, Tenenbaum, Lypszyc, Szwarc and Stroz took part in the discussion. The new elected board of management comprised Dr Tanchum Lewkowicz (*Prezes*), Icyk Szyja Nirenberg (*Vice-Prezes*), Szyja Stroz (Secretary), Herszel Gotajner (Treasurer) and Józef Izraelowicz (Administrator).

Adv. Goldberg, Józef Goldberg, J. Weksler and J. Zarnowiecki were elected to the administration.

ORT's technical secretary was Mr Bratt.

* [Translator's note: "ORT" is an acronym for the Russian "Obchestvo Remeslenogo Truda", i.e.; Association for the Promotion of Skilled Trades.]