



Grocery store in a moshav



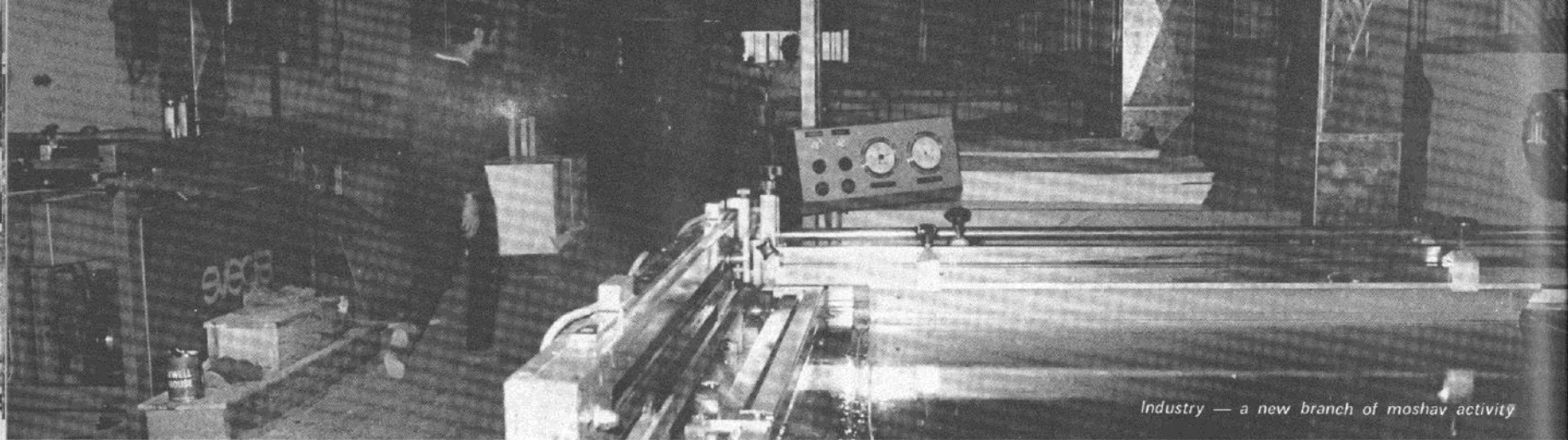
Industry — a new branch of moshav activity

## Regional Services

**Educational services:** Elementary and secondary education are provided on a regional basis. The elementary school is located either in one of the moshavim in the region or in the rural center, in both instances serving several moshavim. The distance of the school from its students is kept within easy limits, usually no more than seven to ten kilometers, and the students are transported to and from the school in special buses owned by the regional council.

Secondary education is provided in regional schools, and occasionally in neighboring cities, depending on local conditions and the preference of parents. Many moshav youth prefer to attend agricultural secondary schools which combine the usual academic secondary education with special agricultural training. The diplomas awarded at these schools are equal to those awarded to graduates of all other secondary schools.

The government provides free schooling for the eight years of elementary school and one year secondary school. The moshav movements provide additional support to assist moshav children in furthering their education, and they encourage the establishment of special schools.



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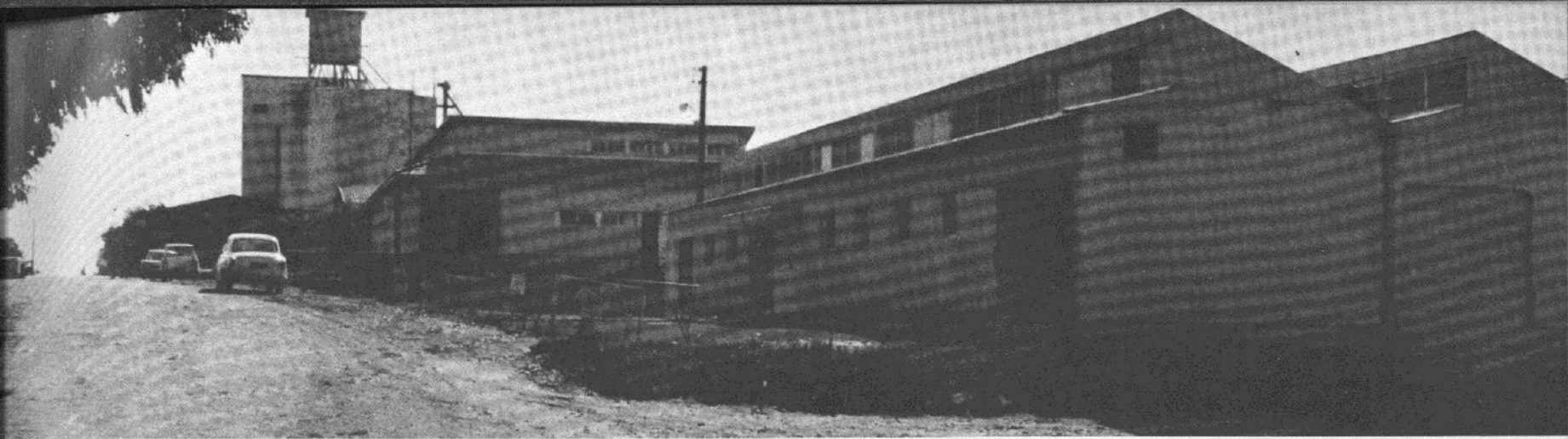
### **Health services**

In addition to the local dispensaries in each moshav, a large regional clinic is operated in the rural center to serve the settlements in the area. A general practitioner is always in attendance and specialists visit from time to time and as required. Hospitalization, special examinations and treatment are available at hospitals in the cities nearest to the moshav.

**Culture and entertainment:** Cultural activities and entertainment (drama, movies, lectures, etc.) are usually organized jointly by a number of moshavim on a regional basis. They are presented in the public hall of the rural center. This building includes a library, club rooms and sport facilities. The activities are financed by the regional council.

The same buses that carry children to and from school during the day are used to provide transportation for moshav residents in the evening so that they can attend performances and sports events at the rural center and occasionally in neighboring cities.





## INTEGRATION AND ABSORPTION OF NEW SETTLERS

New immigrants may be absorbed either in new settlements established especially for them, or as individual families or small groups in existing moshavim or settlements of the moshav shitufi type. Of course, the immigrants' preference is the deciding factor.

Once accepted in an existing moshav, the new settler usually finds himself during the first year in the status of "candidate for membership". During this period he does not have the right to vote in the general assembly, but he participates in meetings and expresses his views on moshav matters. At the end of the "candidate" period, the settler's candidacy is voted upon by the general assembly. When approved, the candidate becomes a moshav member with full rights and obligations.

The candidacy procedure described above is for all new settlers in moshavim. For new immigrants, however, the candidacy period is shortened to six months.

The Land Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency bears the costs involved in establishing new settlements or integrating new members into existing moshavim. During the initial period, which extends beyond the candidacy period, the house and farm are made available to the new settler as a "lessee": he may not rent it to others, he may not sell or transfer any part of the property to others without the express consent of the Jewish Agency.



Kindergarten and regular school children



A cultural center Auditorium in a Neger settlement

The land on which the farm stands is national property, and during the initial period this too is available to the settler on a lease basis. (The Jewish Agency leases the land from the government, leases it in turn to the moshav which then leases to the new settler candidate.) While he is a lessee, the new settler does not pay anything to the Jewish Agency for any aspect of the land or other property; his only payments are for government and municipal taxes.

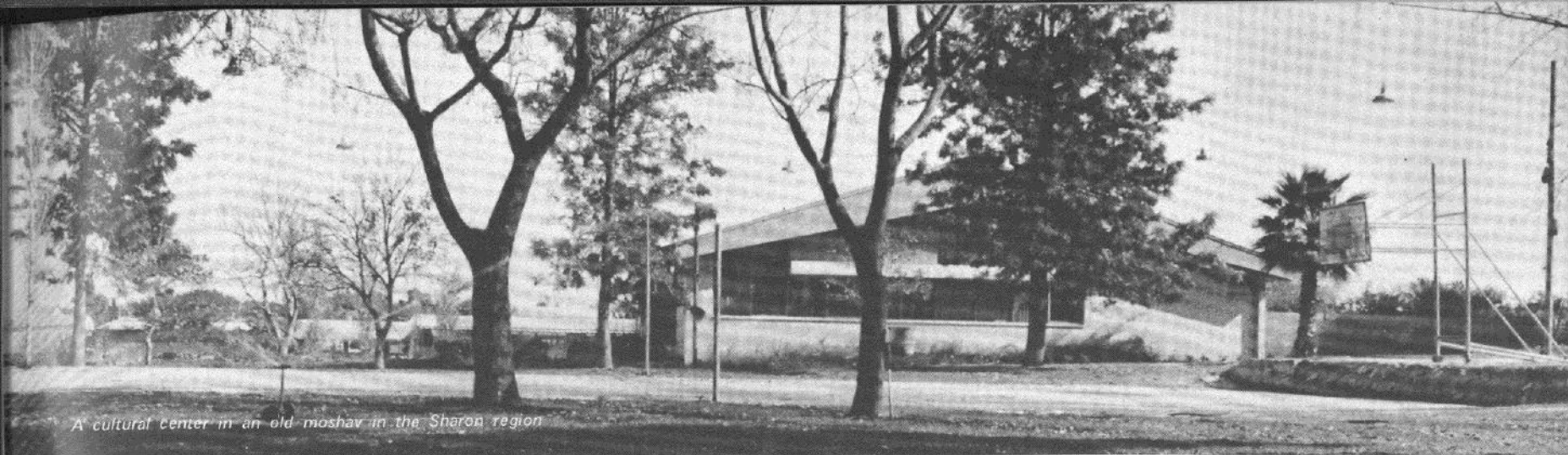
Should the settler leave the farm while still a lessee, he is obliged to pay the Jewish Agency rent on his house and user's fees on the property.

The settler who remains receives the means of production gradually during his status as lessee. Only when this period is over, usually after several years, does his legal status change. At that time he signs a loan contract and becomes in effect the owner of the farm. The land remains national property and the farmer pays lease charges on it.

The terms of the loan in the moshav shitufi are similar to those in moshavim with this exception: the two contracts — the original lease and the final contract — are concluded with the agricultural association, in the case of the moshav shitufi, and not with individual farmers.

The final contract gives the farmer his house, the farm buildings, equipment and livestock on a 50-year, 2% loan. The farmer continues to receive





*A cultural center in an old moshav in the Sharon region*

full training and guidance in agricultural techniques and organization.

The farm is developed gradually, in accordance with the ability of the new settler to handle the means of production. The Agricultural Settlement Department provides the means of production to new settlements at a rate which aims at helping the farmer attain at the end of four years an income equal to that of farmers of other moshavim in the same general area.

During the initial period of "settling in" and until they have received all their means of production, the new settlers are employed by the Settlement Department on various jobs connected with the establishment of settlement itself and their own individual farms. For this work they are paid the going rate of wages. During the first year of a new settlement, when the settlers still have only limited production means, they are employed full time on jobs related to the settlement as a whole. As more means of production are provided, this work is gradually reduced until the settler is working full time on his own farm.

In existing moshavim, where unoccupied farms are available for new settlers, the required means of production are provided within two years of the candidate's arrival in the moshav. This enables the new settler to attain within this two-year period a status comparable with that of the veteran members of the moshav.



During the first year the new settlers receive regular payments for six full months : one half as wages for maintaining the farm and for its preparation, and the other half as a settlement loan, for the new settlers will be learning Hebrew during this first year.

The special concern and conditions for the integration of new immigrants into rural settlements and the continuing rapid development of Israel's agricultural sector make the moshav highly attractive for newcomers who wish to build their future in Israel in such a setting. From an economic viewpoint, these newcomers can look forward to achieving in a relatively short time an *income comparable with that of veteran moshav members.*





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