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# Haber Gazetesi'ndeki Haberler Ekseninde II. Dünya Savaşı Sırasında Afyonkarahisar'da Sıtma ile Mücadele<sup>\*</sup>

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Öz

Dünyada ve Türkiye'de sıtma hastalığının mücadelesi çok eskilere dayanmaktadır. Osmanlı Devleti'nin son dönemlerinde sürekli savaşlar devam ettiği için orduda ve sivil halk arasında sıtma hastalığı yoğun bir şekilde görülmüş devlet tedbir almaya çalışmış ancak yeterli olamamıştır. Aynı şekilde Milli Mücadele döneminde de ordu ve sivil halk arasında yoğun bir şekilde sıtma hastalığı ile mücadele edilmiştir. Cumhuriyetin ilanından sonra sıtma hastalığı ile mücadele daha da ciddiye alınarak kanun ve talimatnameler hazırlanmıştır. Sıhhat Vekâleti'nin coğrafi şartları ve hastalığın yoğun bir şekilde görülmesinden dolayı ilk sıtma hastalığı mücadele merkezlerinden birini de Afyonkarahisar'da açtığı görülmektedir. Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Devleti kurulduktan sonra, düzenli bir şekilde bu hastalıkla mücadele edilerek hasta oranı düşürtülmüştür. Ancak 1939'da II. Dünya Savaşı'nın çıkmasıyla birlikte ülkenin içinde bulunduğu sartlardan dolayı hastalıkta tekrar yoğun bir artış görülmüştür. Bu durumu Afyonkarahisar milletvekilleri dönem dönem Türkiye Büyük Millet Meclisi kürsüsünden dile getirmişler veya hazırladıkları raporlarda belirtmişlerdir. Ayrıca vilayet yöneticileri, basın, şehrin ileri gelenleri seferber olmuş halkı bilinçlendirmeye çalışmışlardır. Ancak savaşın içindeki ekonomik şartlardan dolayı yeterli düzeyde tedbirin alınması ve sıtma hastalığı ile mücadele edilmesi çok kolay olmamıştır. Bu çalışmamızda II.Dünya Savaşı esnasında Afyonkarahisar'da sıtma hastalığı ile yapılan mücadele, literatür kaynakları ışığında ortaya konulmaya çalışılmıştır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Afyonkarahisar, Sıtma, Mücadele, II. Dünya Savaşı

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# Fight against Malaria in Afyonkarahisar During The World War II Within The Framework of The News in Haber Journal

# **Abstract**

The fight against malaria in the world and Turkey dates back to old times. Because of the ongoing wars in the last period of the Ottoman Empire, malaria was seen intensively in the army and among the civilian people, but the state tried to take precautions but it was not enough. Similarly, during the National Fight period, an intense fight against malaria was waged among the army and the civilian population. After the proclamation of the Republic, the fight against malaria was taken more seriously and laws and regulations were prepared. Due to the geographical conditions and the intense occurrence of the disease, the Ministry of Health opened one of the first centers for fight against malaria in Afyonkarahisar. After the establishment of the Republic of Turkey, the ministry managed to reduce the proportion of patients fighting this disease on a regular basis. However, in 1939, after the outbreak of World War II, the disease intensified again due to the conditions of the country. Afyonkarahisar deputies voiced the case from time to time in Grand National Assembly of Turkey or stated in their reports. In addition, the governors of the province, the press, the notables of the city tried to raise public awareness. However, due to the economic conditions in the war, it was not easy to take adequate measures and fight against malaria.

In this study, the fight against malaria in Afyonkarahisar will be put forward during World War II.

**Keywords:** Afyonkarahisar, Malaria, Fight, World War II.

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Борьба с малярией в Афьонкарахисар во времена Второй мировой войны из статей в газете «Хабер»

Резюме

Борьба с малярией в Турции, как и во всем мире, имеет долгую историю. В последние годы существования Османской империи из-за продолжительных войн малярия широко распространилась среди военных и мирного населения, против государство предприняло ряд доступных мер, но они оказались недостаточными. Борьба c заболеанием продолжилась во времена Национальной борьбы. После объявления Республики борьба с малярией превратилась в более серьезную цель, для чего были подготовлены соответствующие законы и указания. Так, в связи с географическими условиями и масштабом распространения болезни один из первых центров по борьбе с малярией был открыт Министерством здравоохранения в Афьонкарахисаре. Благодаря систематической борьбе после создания Турецкой Республики число больных снизилось. Только в 1939 году с наступлением Второй мировой войны из-за внутренних условий болезнь вспыхнула снова. Подобное положение дел не раз затрагивалось депутатами Афьонкарахисара на собраниях правительства или в представленных отчетах. В свою очередь силы главы провинции, прессы, городских лидеров были мобилизованы на предупреждение населения. Однако, из-за военных экономических условий предпринятых мер было недостаточно, и борьба с малярией осложнялась. Данная статья посвящена исследованию борьбы малярией в Афьонкарахисаре во времена Второй мировой войны, с использованием соответствующей литературы.

**Ключевые слова:** Афьонкарахисар, малярия, борьба, Вторая мировая война

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# Introduction

Paludism, known as malaria in the world, is caused by a mosquito called Anopheles biting healthy people and is contagious. Due to the successive battles in the last period of the Ottoman Empire, especially during the Balkan Wars and World War I, malaria rates increased considerably. This rate increased continuously during the War of Independence. In this period, because of the lack of regular statistics due to the war, the numerical data of the disease in the country is not known exactly, but 40% of the soldiers and 50% of the population are known to have had malaria.

After the end of the War of Independence, about half of Turkey's population of 12 million, ie 6 million people, were found to be suffering from malaria. The fact that the majority of the country's population was in this situation caused serious concerns. Because malaria was a disease that greatly reduced the ability of people to work and contributed to the increase in child mortality. Therefore, fight against this disease began from very early stages. This situation was also included in the agenda of the Parliament from time to time. In fact, the most important drug of malaria disease, the quinine was distributed through Ziraat Bank before. The Republic of Turkey included this disease in 1924 Fundamental Law (Constitution of 1924) to avoid problems caused by infectious diseases. At the time when health policies of the young Republic of Turkey was determined, fight against malaria was always prioritized. Throughout one-party political life, governments continued to fight against infectious diseases and malaria.

Before World War II, there was a significant success in the fight against malaria and a significant decrease in the number of patients. However, with the beginning of the World War II, the disease rate began to rise again. While the state was preoccupied with the woes of the war, on the other hand, it fightd with the rapidly spreading and increasing infectious diseases, especially malaria.

# 1-Fight with Malaria in the Republican Period

On the one hand, the National Fight team tried to save the country from enemy occupation, on the other hand, it opened the Grand National Assembly of Turkey on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> İlhan Tekeli ve Selim İlkin, İkinci Dünya Savaşı Türkiyesi, c.3, İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları, 2014, 123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> TBMM, *Zabit Ceridesi*, Circuit: I, Session; 98, Volume, 22, 7.09.1922, 547; TBMM, Zabit Ceridesi, Circuit:II, Session 32, Volume, 29, 03.02.1926, 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Bülent Tanör, Osmanlı-Türk Anayasal Gelişmeleri (1789-1980), İstanbul: Der Yayınları, 1995, 257.

April 23 1920 in Ankara to make the fight legitimate. One of the first ministries established in the government founded on May 2 was the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. The Ministry prepared projects and studies aimed primarily at raising healthy generations. Attention was drawn to infectious diseases, especially malaria. The damage caused by malaria to the public was intensified on country's agenda through various publications and initiatives. The socioeconomic situation of the country caused the infectious diseases to increase and more than half of the population was infected with malaria. For this reason, provincial councils for health services referred in 11th article of the 1921 Organization Law were assigned. In this way, it was aimed to get results about infectious diseases in a short time. In addition, the Ministry of Health made an intensive effort to fight against infectious diseases more effectively. Mustafa Kemal Pasha mentioned about the inadequacy of the fight against infectious diseases, especially malaria in the opening speech of the Turkish Grand National Assembly in 1921. In the opening speech of the Assembly in March 1, 1922, Mustafa Kemal Pasha mentioned about distribution of quinine necessary for fight against malaria.

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Mustafa Kemal Pasha, in his speech at the 4th opening year of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, mentioned about infectious diseases and especially the fight against malaria. Upon malaria becoming widespread in 1924 across Turkey, the minister of the health established a commission chaired by the minister of health, and it was focused on solutions that would be produced the shortest way against malaria. Ministry of Health Malaria Fight Directive was prepared. Malaria Map of Turkey was created; The fight was first started in the capital Ankara and then across the country. In addition, a course was organized in 1924 in Istanbul Bacteriology Hospital and center for fight against malaria was opened in Ankara, Adana and Afyonkarahisar with trained health professionals.<sup>8</sup>

In the National Turkish Medical Congresses, the first of which was held on 1-3 September 1925, the most important issue in the fight were malaria was the main

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Ayhan Vergili, "Türkiye'de Modern Tıbbın Kurumsallaşması ve Cumhuriyet Dönemi Sağlık Politikaları", Doktora Tezi, İstanbul Üniversitesi, 2011, 85; Fatih Tuğluoğlu,"Türkiye'de Sıtma Mücadelesi (1924-1950)", *Türkiye Parazitoloji Dergisi* 32, sy.4 (2008): 351.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Hilal Özkaya, "Cumhuriyet Döneminde Bulaşıcı Hastalıklarla Mücadele", *Türk Aile Hekimleri Dergisi* 20, sy. 2 (2016) 79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Özkaya, "Cumhuriyet Döneminde Bulaşıcı Hastalıklarla Mücadele", 79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Tuğluoğlu, "Türkiye'de Sıtma Mücadelesi (1924-1950)", 353-355.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Özkaya, "Cumhuriyet Döneminde Bulaşıcı Hastalıklarla Mücadele", 80.

agenda subject compared to other diseases in terms of public health. In 1926, the Law on the Fight against Malaria consisting of 21 articles was enacted. Moreover, mosquito species that caused malaria were inspected in Turkey, bringing experts from many European countries, especially Germany and effective methods was determined to fight against the disease effectively. In 1928, the Malaria Institute was established in Adana. The institute undertook tasks related to this disease and training experts on malaria. Committees for fight against malaria were established in Samsun in 1928 and in 1929 in Istanbul, Konya and Kocaeli. In 1930, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare allocated a 20% share in its budget to fight against malaria. This ratio was quite high.

In 1930, the Law on Public Hygiene was adopted. Malaria was included in the scope of mandatory notifiable diseases by law. On this date, it was fightd with malaria in 3453 settlement areas in 10 regions throughout the country. <sup>12</sup> In 1932, the number of malaria committees was increased to 11. In 1935, all authority for the supply of drugs was given to the Red Crescent with the law enacted on the Law no. 2707 on Malaria and Drugs. In 1936. rice fields, which were effective in spreading the disease, were taken under control with the Paddy Cultivation Law enacted. That year was more rainy than other years, which increased the rate of malaria. In this period, vaccine application to infectious diseases was also tried to be expanded. Over one hundred soldiers and civilian doctors did their internship upon the law enacted by doctors in Malaria Institute regarding internship requirements. <sup>13</sup>

# 2. Fight against Malaria in World War II (1939-1945)

World War II had a negative impact on many aspects of Turkey as well as the whole world. Turkey gave such an effort to keep outside of the war in foreign policy and had to deal with many issues inside the country. Because of the war, health sector was also affected greatly due to inadequacy of infrastructure, health care institutions and health personnel reaching to the extreme level, the inconvenience of cleaning conditions, difficulties in malnutrition and obtaining drugs, excessive increase in price and black market. The inability to supply medicines for malaria, labor migration and military mobility caused malaria to increase to a threat and danger across the country. Upon the rapid depletion of the current malaria drug stocks, a circular numbered 1381

<sup>11</sup> Tekeli ve İlkin, İkinci Dünya Savaşı Türkiyesi, 123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Tuğluoğlu, "Türkiye'de Sıtma Mücadelesi (1924-1950)", 353-355; Özkaya, "Cumhuriyet Döneminde Bulaşıcı Hastalıklarla Mücadele", 77-78.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> BCA; 30.18.1.2, 68.76.6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Tekeli ve İlkin, İkinci Dünya Savaşı Türkiyesi, 123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> BCA; 30.18.1.2, 78.76.3.

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was published and it was decided to use malaria drugs and shorten the malaria treatment processes.<sup>14</sup> With the law enacted on December 30, 1940, the duty and authority scope of the central Hygiene Institute, which was established in 1928, was broadened and redefined. The main purpose of this law was enacted in order to combat infectious diseases, especially malaria.<sup>15</sup>

In 1940, it was stated in a short note submitted by department of health affairs to the Prime Ministry that infectious diseases among the public and the military resulted from the absence of houses of precaution in Turkey. It was stated that it was necessary to build a house of precaution in each province and municipal centers, but it was stated that it would take time. The Ministry of Health stated in its reply that researches were carried out for the establishment of such necessary institutions, the shape and cost of each were considered, and at least for that time, it was important not to be built in the important gathering and referral centers of the country. In addition, the ministry mentioned that these institutions were important institutions in the fight against infectious diseases. 16

During the World War II, the biggest challenge was shortage of quinine and diesel encountered in the fight against malaria in Turkey. Due to the war, the import of quinine raw material became difficult, so consideration was given to the careful use of existing stocks. These items were distributed free of charge to non-purchasers and at prime cost to those in good shape. But when quinine was on the black market over time, sales of fake quinine began. In 1940, athebrine, a synthetic substance produced firsttime for malaria, began to be used. 17 In 1940-1941, quinine was not supplied in sufficient quantities, and diesel oil became difficult to obtain. In addition to all these, a chemical substance called parisyesili which was used in the fight against anopheles nits (worm-larva) in the pre-war period could not be obtained due to the conditions of the period. Towards the middle of the war, Turkey tried to obtain quinine abroad. Five tonnes of quinine from the UK were taken over by the Red Crescent sales depot staff in Istanbul and then stored to meet the needs firstly of the army and then of the public.<sup>18</sup> Also, due to the war, health staff had difficulties in fight against malaria. To meet the increasing need for doctors in the army, civilian doctors were conscripted. This led to a

 $<sup>^{14}</sup>$  Tuğluoğlu, "Türkiye'de Sıtma Mücadelesi<br/>(1924-1950)", 357-358.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Tekeli ve İlkin, İkinci Dünya Savaşı Türkiyesi, 121.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> BCA; 30.10. 00,56,376.18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Tekeli ve İlkin, İkinci Dünya Savaşı Türkiyesi, 125.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> BCA; 030.10,177.223.17.

decrease in health personnel fighting against infectious diseases, especially malaria, and fight against disease hindered. This situation was stated by the health minister of the period. In 1940, a 25% increase was made in the budget of the health ministry but this increase was not reflected in the studies due to the war. <sup>19</sup> On May 27, 1941, at the time when the budget of Ministry of Health was handled, the deputies strongly criticized the government's fight against infectious diseases and asked questions. Minister of Health Hulusi Alataş answered the questions and criticisms as follows;

"My esteemed friends touched on the issue of malaria. The year 1940 did not go well in terms of the fight against malaria. Each year, during malaria epidemics, we increased the number of the teams in the fighting zone or sent teams from the nearest zone if the epidemic was out of the fighting zone, but we have had to work with 63 doctors in the malaria combat organization where we worked with 96 branch doctors. We couldn't deal with the epidemics enough and there were severe epidemics in Manisa, Aydın, Bursa, around Boğazlıyan of Yozgat province, Kazova of Tokat province, Bergama, Bayındır andTire of İzmir province. Last year, we spent days worried about quinine. While we ordered the quinines brought by the Red Crescent from the Netherlands, we had to bring them from and therefore from Javan. We had to spend our reserves until a party arrived, but we were relieved as of September. However, let me note that 80 thousand people did not die of malaria. Malaria is a widespread disaster and the damage it causes is great, but such a figure is wrong. The net number is 500.<sup>20</sup> As it can be understood from the statements of the Minister, the necessary fight against malaria could not be given due to the negative conditions resulting from the war.

In 1942, malaria reached a very high level due to the ongoing war and the Ministry of Health had difficulty in provision of quinine. So, Ministry of Health sent a notification to the relevant ministries and asked for the use of synthetic drugs such as atabrine and plasmochin and not to use quinine where it was not compulsory.<sup>21</sup> It was reported that such precautions should be taken during this period as draining small puddles that facilitated the reproduction of mosquitos against malaria, dieseling up water that could not be drained, installing thin wire frame on the doors, windows and chimneys of the houses and stables to prevent the entrance of mosquitoes, and closing

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Erdem Aydın, *Türkiye'de Sıtma Savaşı*, Ankara: Türk Tabibler Birliği Yayını, 1998, 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> TBMM, *Zabit Ceridesi*, Period, VI: Session; 57, Volume, 18, 27.05.1941, 197.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> İsmail Çakırçoban, "İkinci Dünya Savaşı'nda Türkiye'de Bulaşıcı Hastalıklarla Mücadele", Yüksek Lisans Tezi, Marmara Üniversitesi, 2010, 41.

the windows as the sun set, not going out at night, people's wearing gloves, thick socks, scarves and headscarves who had to go out at night to protect themselves, not lying down and sleeping on garden, fields and threshing floor.<sup>22</sup>

In 1943, the Ministry of Health introduced amendments to the implementation of the Anti-Malaria Law and also sent mosquito nets to areas with plenty of mosquitoes. Regarding the status of quinine medicine in the same year, Haydar Bey, Kızılay warehouse manager said as follows and stated the difficulty of the conditions: "We do not have any quinine at the moment. There is no possibility of coming from anywhere. We were bringing it from here before the Javan was invaded. But after the invasion, we could not bring it any longer. After that, we started to bring it from England through India occasionally. But this collapsed due to the sea war. Atabrine is now being used instead of quinine. There is sufficient amount of this."23 Quick spread of malaria in 1943 across Turkey was also discussed at the meeting of the Independent Group within Turkish Grand National Assembly. A large number of MPs stated that they experienced malaria in many places they travelled throughout the country, but that there were serious problems in the supply of quinine and diesel fuel.<sup>24</sup> These negative conditions were also reflected in the parliamentary agenda. Maraş MP Kemali Bayazıt submitted a motion to the Turkish Grand National Assembly on December 27, 1943. In his proposal; Bayazıt asked whether the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Public Works cooperated in the fight against malaria, what measures were taken to dry the swamps, and what measures were taken for the improvement of paddy agriculture. In addition, he searched the answers of the questions on people's having great difficulty in supplying the malaria disease drugs, drugs being sold on the black market, whether the government's measures against the fraudulent were sufficient or not, why quinine and atabrine were not stocked during the period where they were available, in which condition fight against larva was. He prepared his motion.<sup>25</sup>

Dr. Hulusi Alataş, Minister of Health and Deputy for Aydın province, answered to the verbal parliamentary question submitted by Deputy for Maraş province, Mr. Bayazıt on behalf of the independent group on January 5, 1944. Mr. Alataş explained the fight against malaria from 1939 to 1944 numerically and talked about the canals and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> BCA; 030.10,177.223.14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Çakırçoban, "İkinci Dünya Savaşı'nda Türkiye'de Bulaşıcı Hastalıklarla Mücadele",43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> BCA; 030.10,177.224.4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> BCA; 30.10.00, 8.50.14.

arcs opened and cleaned and drained swamps. Mr. Alataş also talked about the problems experienced in the supply of malaria drugs due to the war years, the state of the pharmaceutical stocks and the joint works carried out with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Public Works.<sup>26</sup>

Minister Alataş stated as follows:"While quinine, which the scientific world is familiar with, could be supplied everywhere, the production of atebrine was limited. After the beginning of the World War II, it was not possible to supply atebrine because the people who produced atebrine used it for their own needs. In two years, Turkey exchanged its most valuable products, synthetic malaria medication for 36 tons of quinine and a large part of it was accepted. To complete the deficiency of quinine, we exchanged synthetic malaria medication for 1880 pounds of quinine in 1942, and 13,500 pounds of quinine in 1943. In the meantime, we were able to get five tons of prokinin 1.5 grams of which is effective as 1 gram. We have used it in the treatment of malaria to eliminate shortage of malaria drugs. We are trying to supply synthetic drugs used in malaria treatment from various countries for the coming years. Some of these have come to our country." The Minister stated that press news telling "There is not even one gram quinine left." was not correct and emphasized that the quinine was stocked in order to meet the need for quinine and that necessary studies were made to supply required quinine.<sup>27</sup>

In his speech at the opening of the Turkish Grand National Assembly on November 1, 1944, President İsmet İnönü showed optimism as follows: "Our health organization fightd with infectious diseases that took a frightening form some time." Also, he said: "We will fight against malaria and the other social diseases all over the country in the shortest time." and thus stated that the fight did not encompass all the country and required effort would be given in the other regions standing outside the scope of fight. From the table put forward by the President and the Minister of Health, we can say that the necessary efforts are aimed to overcome these problems where the fight against malaria is not at the desired level.

During this period, legal proceedings were initiated against those who sold this substance, except for the quinine distributed by the state. <sup>29</sup> Zone of fight against

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> TBMM, *Zabit Ceridesi*, Period, VII: Session; 17, Volume, 7, 5, 01.05.1944, 190, 15, 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> TBMM, *Zabit Ceridesi*, Period, VII: Session; 17, Volume, 7, 5. 01.05.1944, 190, 15, 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> TBMM, Zabit Ceridesi, Period, VII: Session; 1, Volume, 14, 01.11.1944, 2-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> BCA; 2. 509.2041.1.

malaria in Turkey increased to 19 during this period. These 19 zones included 33 provinces, 108 towns and 4614 villages. In addition, the number of health personnel fighting malaria was increased. Also, people were constantly warned to protect themselves from malaria by daily measures. The malaria war zone was enlarged as the application of the extraordinary law of fight against malaria enacted in 1945. In 1944, the number of malaria war zones, which was 19, was declared as 53 provinces being extraordinary war zone within the framework of the extraordinary Malaria War Law. These provinces were: Amasya, Ankara, Antalya, Aydin, Balikesir, Bilecik, Bolu, Burdur, Bursa, Canakkale, Cankiri, Coruh, Corum, Denizli, Diyarbakir, Edirne, Elazig, Eskisehir, Gaziantep, Giresun, Hatay, Icel, Isparta, Istanbul, Izmir, Kars, Kahramanmaras, Kastamonu, Kayseri, Kirklareli, Kirsehir, Kocaeli, Konya, Kutahya, Manisa, Malatya, Mardin, Mugla, Nigde, Ordu, Rize, Samsun, Seyhan, Siirt, Sinop, Sivas, Tekirdag, Tokat, Trabzon, Urfa, Yozgat, Zonguldak. As it can be seen, in 1944, Afyon was one of the 53 extraordinary war zones on malaria.

After 1945, the drug called DDT, which is the most effective in combating malaria, began to be widely used. Since it was not possible to import DDT from abroad at those times, it was produced in a small amount in the country. In 1946, it was mixed with diesel and sprayed into every house three times a year. Also, the health minister, Dr. Alatas, recommended that people use mosquito net to fight against Malaria. However, the minister's advice was criticized by deputies due to war conditions. MP for Afyon, Berç K. Türker said "Minister of Health says, "Protect yourself with mosquito net and take quinine." but, there is neither mosquito ne nor quinine." and summarized the conditions of the period in a very meaningful way.<sup>31</sup> Another method recommended in the fight against malaria in the Assembly was the use of spray insecticide. The deputies explained that the Americans made spray insecticide from the daisy with chlorine. The Minister of Customs and Monopoly stated that the spray insecticide in our country was produced and quite cheap. The deputies reacted to this word and said there were not spray insecticide at even high prices. The Minister of Health also mentioned the aerocele that were not placed on the market in Germany yet and would create a large fog environment and cause insects to be killed. However, he stated that they did not

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> BCA; 490.1.0.0; BCA, 30.10.0.0.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> TBMM, *Zabit Ceridesi*, Period, VII: Session; 17, Volume, 7, 5. 01.05.1944, 15, 18.

know whether or not it could be placed on the market due to the war after the necessary efforts were given.<sup>32</sup>

In spite of all the precautions taken in 1945, the ministry of health and the government were harshly criticized in the press because of the inability to prevent the rapid spread of the disease. <sup>33</sup> For this reason, Minister of Health was revised and Dr. Sadi Konuk, deputy for Bursa, was assigned as the Minister of Health. Malaria congress was held in early February. At the congress, the successful and non-successful sides of the fight against malaria, the reasons for this, the actions to be taken in the fight against malaria, the measures to be taken to prevent the spread of the disease were discussed. Minister Konuk addressed the doctors about malaria and said, "Malaria patient is not a customer for you and it is your civic responsibility to treat patient. <sup>34</sup> The press of the period, it was emphasized that the fight against malaria was very important and he tried to draw attention to the seriousness and importance of the issue by saying "Being successful in the fight against malaria is as important and sacred as winning the war of independence". <sup>35</sup>

As a new measure, the government adopted and enacted Law no 4707 on the extraordinary war on malaria on 26 March 1945. This law was adopted for a period of one year. The law is similar in scope and quality to the anti-malaria laws adopted before it. The purpose of introducing such a transitional law is to make progress in the fight against malaria until the new law to be prepared to prevent epidemics of heating disease, to expand and strengthen the existing fight against malaria and to find new economic resources for the war. Upon the expiration of the Law, the Malaria War Law No. 4871 was enacted on 15 February 1946. In another law enacted in 1946, the General Directorate of Fight against Malaria started to conduct the fight against malaria that had been carried out by the Branch of Fight against social diseases within the General Directorate of Health Affairs until then after the Law of Establishment of General Directorate of Fight against Malaria was enacted in 1946. In addition, in 1945, the number of malaria war zones was increased to 43, and the number of villages

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> TBMM, *Zabit Ceridesi*, Period, VII: Session; 17, Volume, 7, 5. 01.05.1944, 15, 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Akşam, 1 May 1945.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Çakırçoban, "İkinci Dünya Savaşı'nda Türkiye'de Bulaşıcı Hastalıklarla Mücadele", 132.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Cumhuriyet, 26 March 1945.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> TBMM, *Zabit Ceridesi*, Period, VII: Session; 37, Volume, 22, 15.02.1946, 154-170.

covered by the fight against malaria was increased to 16,934.<sup>37</sup> Thus, 40.4% of the country's population was included in the fight.

Between the years 1939-1945 during World War II, in 1943, the rate of those caught in the disease malaria reached a fairly high level of 30.62% and the number of patients who died also increased so much in Turkey. This rate started to decrease gradually with the measures taken.

# 3-Fight Against Malaria in Afyonkarahisar

Afyonkarahisar is one of the most important cities in terms of the prevalence of malaria because of the high presence of puddles and swamps due to its geographical conditions in that period. In 1938, the 6500-meter canal that was opened between the Lower Tandırlı Village and the hot spring was completed by the Presidency of Konya Regional Fight Against Malaria in order to dry the swamp around Gazlıgöl Hot Spring. Thus, an important action was taken to prevent the emergence of malaria in this environment.<sup>38</sup>

It spread rapidly in Dinar Town of Afyonkarahisar in a short time. Almost all the people were affected by the malaria caused by the swamps in Dinar. The presence and effects of malaria in Dinar were stated in the press as follows: "Dinar is a town of 50,000 inhabitants with its villages. The river is surrounded by headwaters around the town. In Pınarbaşı, Menderes, Dikici and Tşıklı headwaters surrounded the area and made it a swamp. There was not even one person who was not affected by the disease in the town of 50,000. In fact, malaria threatened the country's doctor and his pharmacy. Dinar had a complete malaria index. The central inspector Nazif, who came to Dinar for investigation, also saw this situation." It can be understood from these statements that the proliferation of mosquitoes in the swamped parts of the river tributaries in the region and the spread of malaria in a wide region threatened the people seriously. The rapidly spreading disease in the town became an epidemic and drived the people of the region to despair. The use of quinine medication used in malaria without any therapeutic basis did not show the expected benefit. On the other hand, the high number of poor people who could not take quinine medication had a negative effect on the fight. In the face of this situation, as in other regions, the Anti-Malaria Organization was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Tekeli ve İlkin, İkinci Dünya Savaşı Türkiyesi, 126.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Haber, 26 December 1938, No: 1907.

established and it was decided to give free quinine to the public, to make a good treatment and to dry the mosquito beds within the framework of a program.<sup>39</sup>

League of Nations that fights with malaria throughout the world made an interesting proposal to Turkey on this matter. According to the proposal, it demanded the people's houses to be active in the fight against malaria. Turkey reacted positively to this proposal and the first attempt was taken with Afyonkarahisar People's House. League of Nations stated that Malaria Commission wrote stories on the necessity that fight against malaria should be carried out all over the world and that these stories would be useful in diagnosing the disease and so, demanded those stories to be published in People's House Journal in order to serven the society. They requested those stories to be published every two weeks for 30 at the most and 20 weeks at the least. Through these stories, it was aimed that the malaria commission would encourage those suffering from malaria to take quinine. Afyonkarahisar People's House published those stories in the journal and tried to raise public awareness. 40

In this direction, Afyonkarahisar People's House organized a trip to Sinir (Senir), Kılıçarslan, Garipçe and Saraycık Villages of Sincanlı Sub-district on Sunday, May 16, 1943. The doctors in the trip gave information about the precautions to be taken and what to do in Kılıçarslan and Garipçe Villages where malaria was common. Doctors examined about a hundred patients and gave the drugs brought along them. The female teachers in the group went to the houses of the peasant women and took care of their problems closely.<sup>41</sup>

In 1941, due to the increase in the number of people suffering from malaria in the villages of Afyonkarahisar, the villagers demanded the aid provided by the provincial health directorate be increased. In addition, they demanded their agrievement in the event of rain and snowfall be eliminated and the gendarmerie attempted to repair the roofs of the villagers around Gazlıgöl mineral water.<sup>42</sup>

In1942, B.Ata Ünalan, one of the specialist doctors working in Afyonkarahisar, published a book called "malaria". The book was recommended to be read by the administrators, teachers and engineers of all segments of society. It was stated that the mosquito, which is the most important element of malaria, does not only grow in large

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Çakırçoban, "İkinci Dünya Savaşı'nda Türkiye'de Bulaşıcı Hastalıklarla Mücadele", 27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> BCA, 490.0.01.1291.287.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Haber, 20 May 1943, No: 2383.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Haber, 28 August 1941, No: 2212.

swamps and puddles, so it is easier to calculate how much expenditure will be needed by scanning all the vineyards and gardens and making a simple sketch.<sup>43</sup> Since the winter of 1942 was very heavy in Afyonkarahisar, it was seen that stagnant waters and swampy areas increased near the city. It was decided to employ prisoners to expand the existing channel to drain these still waters. Despite of low availability of current gas and diesel availability in the city, it was decided to pour some of it into some places.<sup>44</sup>

In the autumn of 1943, incidents of death began to occur in both males and the elderly in Afyon. In previous years, only the shepherds died from tuberculosis. Although quinine and athebrine were more abundant than the previous years and the amount was even close to meeting all the needs, and it was possible to obtain drug in 25 days of a month, the number of patients affected from malaria increased.<sup>45</sup>

During World War II, many countries in the world suffered from infectious diseases, especially malaria. Turkey was one of the countries experiencing difficulties in this regard. It was stated that there were deficiencies in the existing laws on combating malaria, and the satisfaction of preparing a new law. In the meantime, a revision was made in the Ministry of Health. Hulusi Alataş was replaced by Dr. Sadi Konuk on January 18, 1945 as the new minister. The Minister's helding Malaria Congress was welcomed also in Afyonkarahisar. Additionally, it was stated that Dr.Saim Dilemre recommended an atabrine factory and this would facilitate the public access to the malaria drug that was not easy to obtain and was very important. In addition, it was emphasized that there should be publications and courses in order to involve the whole society in the fight. The public should be able to receive information from the newspaper or every issue of the magazine on a daily basis.<sup>46</sup>

Towards the end of World War II, as in the whole country, the fight against malaria was intensified also in Afyonkarahisar. Every day, the officers were given lessons and practical information about the swamps near the city. It was stated that this could be achieved by taking very simple measures for drying the smallest puddle or sludge that could cause malaria. It was stated that the fight required for preventing the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Haber, 11 October 1943, No:2423

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Haber, 6 April 1942, No: 2270

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Haber, 27 September 1943, No: 2420.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Haber, 8 March 1945, No: 2564.

reproduction and proliferation of mosquitoes in the autumn and summer should be carried out by the governments and the people together.<sup>47</sup>

Municipalities provided the necessary assistance to the Directorate of Anti-Malaria Organization in the provinces. In addition, state railways management also worked to fill pits and drain puddles near the station and along the railway line. In addition, the patients who applied to the malaria control organization near the power station were given free atabrine and the patients with fever were injected. <sup>48</sup>

In the middle of August 1945, the head of Afyonkarahisar Anti-Malaria Organization, Celal Gokberk, the five malaria fighting organizations from May 1, 1945, announced the work of three months of five anti-malaria organization including all the province as of 1st May 1945. According to the information provided by Dr. Gökberk, in Afyonkarahisar, there were total fourteen lakes and swamps, five in the central districts as large-scale, four in Dinar, three in Bolvadin and two in Emirdağ. Near these lakes and swamps, there was Akarçay (river), which stretches along the province.

In Afyonkarahisar, on the one hand, patients were treated and on the other hand, the lands were improved. In each village, mobile health personnel were assigned as well as their own health personnel. In the period of three months, 60763 people were examined and 33765 malaria patients were treated. 648311 Atabrine and 977 quinine were used in these treatments. It was also decided to give atabrine to villages identified with malaria in the spring as a preventive measure in case of a possible malaria epidemic in autumn. During this three-month period, canal was opened to the Manahez, Kocagöl and Zillikulak swamps in the Emirdağ district within the province. In Dinar, the water was allowed to flow into the Menderes stream through a large canal. The water of the Çapak swamp in the center of Afyonkarahisar was also directed to flow into the previously opened Sipsin and Kumartaş canals. 2500 meters of Akarçay in the city center was cleared, and considering the possibility of overflow of the stream, canals were opened in places where the possibility of accumulation of water. The water collected under the municipality plantation was also allowed to flow into Akarçay via bridge arches built by the state railways.

In addition to all these, it was stated that working continued on the uncompleted 2-km part of the 17-km canal opened by the governorship previously for the flow of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Haber, 14 May 1945, No: 2582; 15 March 1945, No: 2566.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Haber, 21 May 1945; No: 2584.

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water from the rivers and nearby Gazlıköy hotspring into Akarçay. In the central district, diesel fuel was spilled on mosquito larvae (nits). Governor Şefik Bicioğlu gave important support to all these activities. In Afyonkarahisar, public and private institutions and the city people showed all their sacrifice to fight malaria and positive results were obtained.49

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Haber, 16 August 1945, No: 2609.

# Conclusion

The Republic of Turkey deemed fight against infectious diseases as its one of the important targets as of its foundation. It made efforts to get rid of diseases such as malaria, which reduced the productivity of the labor force and caused population loss. In order to combat infectious diseases, the state used all its means. While enacting laws on the one hand, on the other hand, it established institutions, provided drugs and distributed them for free, and thus it tried to prevent the disease. Not only in cities but also in the far places of the country and thus reducing the death rate from infectious diseases, it tried to achieve healthy population growth. Significant success was achieved in these actions and a significant decrease was experienced in infectious diseases, especially in malaria. Nevertheless, the outbreak of World War II caused an increase in infectious diseases throughout the country.

In 1939-1945, the problem of infectious diseases spread to a wide area with the effect of war and became an epidemic. During this period, was Malaria was in the first place among infectious diseases. Problems in control of stagnant waters and swamps in all parts of the country were effective in increasing malaria. Since Turkey is an agricultural country and a majority of the population lived in villages, malaria spread over a wider area. The villagers could not harvest and not repair their homes, which led to the loss of labor force and the destruction of the economy.

All-round attempt was taken against malaria in the center and districts of Afyonkarahisar, swamps and puddles were dried and sprayed, and it was attempted to raise awareness in the public through the press. Significant progress was made in the treatment of malaria.

In the World War II, Turkey made a great effort to stand outside of the war. During the war, there was a significant increase in the number of malaria sufferers in Afyonkarahisar, as well as throughout the country. In this process, this disease became widespread due to the displacement of military units, economic problems and weakening of nutrition opportunities. In Afyonkarahisar, the management group, Afyon Organization for Fight against Malaria, press, health personnel, people's houses and people's rooms fightd with malaria.

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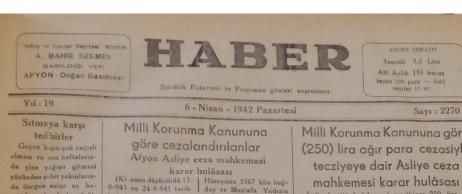
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#### Ekler

#### Ek 1:



taklık yerler fazla görül mektedir. Bu durumun ilerde bir sıtma salgını yapmasından korkulduğu için tedbirler düşünülmektedir. Bir mıntakada suyu akıtmak için mevcut kana lı genişletmek üzere mahkûmların çalıştırılması kararlaştırılmıştır. Gaz ve mazot mevcudunun az olmasına rağmen bu hayatî iş için bir mıkdar ayrılarak zemanında bazı yerlere dökülmesi ve bazı durgun suların da hareketlendirilmesi fikirleri vardir.

#### Köy muhtarları hakkında Dahiliye Vekilliğinin tamimi

Köy muhtar ve azalarının sık sık ve lüzumsuz yere karakollara, nahiye ve kaza merkezlerine celbedildikleri anlaşılmıştır. Dahiliye vekilliği valilik lere bir tamim yaparak küçük bir idare teşekkülü olan köy birliğinin başındaki muhtar ve azalarına hizmetleriyle mütenasip muamele yapılmasını ve önemsiz işler için ikide birde köylerinden ayrılmalarının önüne geçilmesini bildirmiştir.

## Büyük İnönü koşusu

Geçen hafta vilâyetimiz merkezi ile kazalarda beden terbiyesi bölge teşkilâtı tarafından tertip edilen (3000-3600 metrelik koşularda birinci gelenlerin adlarını yazıyoruz: Afyondan: B Nihat Ki-

tapçı Dinardan: B Yusuf Yil-

Emirdağdan: B Mehmet Yanaşık

Sandiklidan: B Mustafa Çelebi

Bolvadindan: B Halil

Afyon Asliye ceza mahk karar hulâsası

(K) sonu düşünüldü 179-941 ve 24 9-941 tarihlerinde yetlerinde bulunan buydayları beyanname
harici olarak 4543 kilo
Mustafa Öz ve 5567 kilo
Mustafa Öz ve 5567 kilo
Mustafa Öz ve 5567 kilo
Mustafa Yıldiz ve 3540 kilo Emin
Dağan ve 3805 kilo Musa Kurt ve 1230 kilo
Himmet Kurt'ta zahire
bulunduğu halde beyanname vermemek suretile
milli koruuma kanununa
muhalif hareketten suçlu
Şuhudun kulak köyünden muhalif hareketten suçlu Şuhudun kulak köyünden topal isa oğularından isa oğlu 302 doğumlu Mustafa Öz ve Kulak köyünden Kurbağı oğullarından Hüseyin oğlu 302 doğumlu Hasan Hüseyin oğlu 302 doğumlu Hasan Hüseyin Kurbağ ve kulak kö.den kara Halil oğullarından Yusuf oğlu 296 doğumlu Mustafa Yılıdız ve kulak kö.den Mahmut oğullarından ibrabim oğlu 323 doğumlu Emin Aydoğan ve Şuhudun Athliser kö.den ğumlu Emin Aydoğan ve Şuhudun Atihiser kö.den kurt Musa oğullarından Mehmet o. 309 doğumlu Musa Kurt ve Atihisar kö den Yakup oğuuların-dan Yakup oğuu 285 doğumlu Himmet Yakut haklarında milli koruuma kanununun değişen 31-7 ve 59 4 cü maddeleri mu-cibiica son tahkikatın cibince son tahkikatın açılmasına dair olan iddianame ve evrakı sairesi 14-11-941 tarihinde mahkemeye verilmekle yapılan duruşmaları sırasında suçlulardan iki Mustafa ile Emin ve Musa, Him-met 25,11,941 tarihinde tevkif edilerek beşer lira lafaletla sıyın günde tab kefeletle aynı günde tah-liye edildikleri ve Hasan Hüseyinin de 3,12,941 tarihinde tevkifle beş lira kefaletle aynı günde tah-liye edildiklerinden gayri mevkuf olarak yapılan açık duruşmaları sonunda suçlular doldurmaları için emir edilen evrak içinde sureti mevcut beyannameleri verdikten epeyice bir müddet geçtikten sonra Nahiye Müdürü, hey'eti ihtiyariye ile birlikte yapılan kontrolda suçlulardan Mustafa Özek beyanname harici 4543 kilo buğday ve Hasan

nulāsası
Hüseyinin 5567 kilo buğday ve Mustafa Yıidızın
1215 kilo buğday ve Eminin 3546 kilo buğday
ve Mehmedin 3806 kilo
buğday ve Himmetin evinde 1238 kilo buğday bulunduğu kendilerinin belunduğu kendilerinin beyanları ve yeminle dinle-nen şahitlerin şehadetile sabit olmuştur. Suçlular herne kadar beyannameyi verdikleri zeman hasılat sap halinde olup tahmine sap halinde olup tahmine müatenit olarak verdiklerini müdafaaten beyan ettikleri gibi şahitlerde bu müdafaayı teyit etmekte iselerde hasılat harmandan kalıktıktan ve anbarlarına nakil edildiği zeman fazla olduğunu muttali olduklarından bu avaran bayanarına ile nu ayrıca beyanname ile bildirmeleri icabettiği hal-de bildirmedikleri gibi bulunan mahsulü beyannamede gösterilen mik tarlardan çok fazla yani kaçırılan zahire beyannamedeki mevcudun bir mislinden daha ziyade bulunmasi hasabile hadisede suç unsurunun mev-cudiyetine kanaat hasıl edilmiş olduğundan mü-dafaalarının bu itibarla reddile bermucibi talep hareketlerine uyan 3954 numaralı miliî korunma kanununu 31 inci maddeson fıkrasile 59 cu mad-desinin dördüncü fıkrası mucibince 25 şer lira ağır para cezasile mah-kûmiyetlerine ve bunlardan Himmetin suç zema-nında 65 yaşını bitirdiği evrak içindeki nüfus kaydından anlaşılmakla T.C. Kanununun 56cı maddesi mucibince cezasının altıda biri olan 4 lira 20 kuruşun endirilerek 20 lira 80 kuruş ağır para ceza-sile mahkûmiyetine ve ücreti kendilerinden alı-narak ve 25 lirayı geçmemek üzere Afyonda münteşir Haber gazetesi ile ilânına ve ticarethanelerinin üçer gün müddetlerle kapatılmasına ve harç tarifesi kanununun 50/3 ve 52 ci maddeleri mucibince 200 kuruş yarım ilâm harcının 49 cu madde mucibince cezaları

# Millî Korunma Kanununa göre (250) lira ağır para cezasiyle tecziveve dair Asliye ceza mahkemesi karar hulâsası

İstihsal ettiği buğdayın miktarını hükûmete beyanname ile bildirmediği gibi 1510 kilo buydayın 18-12-941 taribinde Turgutlu kasabasına satış suretile vagonla bulgur namı altında sevk etmekten suçlu Afyonun Hacı Mustafa mahallesinden köle oğullarından Veli o 325 doğumlu Kadir Akhisar hakkında Afyon asliye ceza mahkemesinde yapılan duruşmada: suç-lunun hareketine uyan ve son denişen 4156 numa-ralı millî korunma kanu-nunun 55-1 inci maddesi

### 23 Nisan icin

hazırlıklar 23 Nisan için halkevinde bir müsamere hazırlan-maktadır. Müsamereyi bir öğretmenler heyeti vere-cektir. Ayrıca çocuk balosu tertip edilmektedir.

Tapu sicil muh.dan Kılınçarslan köyünden Davazlı oğlu Ömer vere-sesinden Eyubün 1515 N.lı sesinden Eyubün 1515 N.h. kanuna göre bu kerre namına kaydını istediği Kılınç Arslan köyünde gerenlik nam köyünde üç kıt'a tarlaların mahallinde 19-4 942 Pazar gününde tahkıkat yapılacaktır.

Bu gavri menkul ile.

Bu gayri menkul ile alâkadar olanların mezkûr günden evvel daireye veya gününde mezkûr ma-balde hazır bulunarak memura müracaatları ilân

olunur.
sına ve 34 der kuruşun
Mustafa Öz ve Hasan
Hüseyin ve Mustafa Yıldız ve Emin Doğan ve Musadan ve 29 kurusunda Himmetten tahsiline ve kefalet akçalarının kendilerine iadeşine ve buğdayların ofise verilmek üzere keza suçlulara geri veri mesine kabili temyiz slmak üzere 16,12,942 tarihinde Mustafa Yıldızın gıyabında diğerlerinin vicahında verilen karar usulen ve alenen tefhim kılındı.

mucibince 250 lira ağır para cezasile mahkûmiyepara cezasile mahkûmiye-tine ve üç ay müddetle hapsine ve yakalanan buğ-day bedellerinin musade-resine ve meskûr kanu nun 63 üncü maddesi mu-cibirea bedeli cibince bedeli suçludan alınmak ve lirayı geç-memek üzere Afyonda münteşir Haber gazetesile ilânına ve mevkufiyetinin tevkif tarihinden itibar edilmesine 23-1 942 tarihinde karar verilerek hü-küm kesbikatiyet etmiş olduğundan gazete ile ilân ve buğday bedeli olan ve ofise teslim edilen buğday bedelinin müsaderesine karar verilmiştir.

# Sihhat vekâleti yeni hazırladı

nazırıdu

Sıhhat vekâleti yeni bir
teşkilât kanunu lâyihası
hazırlamıştır. Bu lâyiha
ile vekâlet bazı kadro
imkânsızılıklarının önünü
almaktadır.

A.H. Hakimliğinden:

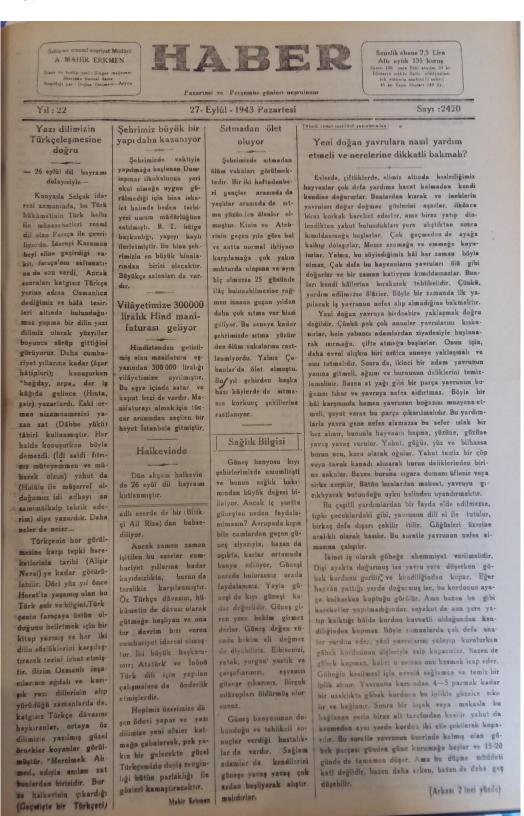
Afyonun hacı mahmut mahallesinden börekci oğmahallesinden börekei oğ-lu Ali veresesinden ve halen ikametyáhı meçhul Kayseri Ürgüp kazasın-da Verdi sokak 22 No. başçavuş Ali Karabulut karısı Sultana: Afyonda kâin Hacımahmut mahal-lesinden H. 260 numara-sında kayıtı, bir, baş hesında kayıtlı bir bap hanedeki hisseniz belediyece istimlâkine karar ve verilmiş ve bu istimlâ-kinde Afyon asliye hukuk mahkemesince 24-6-942 tarihinde ve 664 500 sayılı istimlâkin tasdikına ve belediye namına tesciline karar verilmiş olup ikâmetgâhınız meçhul olduğundan namınıza çıkarılan tebliğ zarfi iade edilmiş olduğundan ilânen tebliğine mah-kemece karar verilmiştir İşbu ilânın neşri tarihinden bilitibar sadır olan hüküm aleyhine 15 gün içinde temyiz hakkınızı kullanmadığınız taktirde hük mün kesbi katiyet edeceği tebliğ makamına kaim olmak üzere ilânen teblig olunur,

nisbetinde paylaştırılma-

#### Ek 2:



#### Ek 3:



#### Ek 4:

