



## MEMORIAL

CEVAT EYÜP TAŞMAN

(1893—1956)

Cevat Eyüp Taşman passed away suddenly, on the night of October 3, 1956, at his home in Ankara.

With his passing the petroleum exploration industry in Turkey lost its pioneer leader, the Petroleum Administration its most outstanding expert consultant, hundreds of friends—that he had made not only within the boundaries of Turkey, but throughout the world—a real friend, and his wife, Mehlika, a devoted husband. He was known as Djevad Eyoub among his friends in U.S.A. Cevat Bey was a modest, unassuming, gentle person, who was loved and respected by all who worked with him as well as by many members of the Profession. As a man who has devoted all his life to his work and for the one cause in which he believed—that there was oil in Turkey—he has worked quietly and continuously, and inspired many younger geologists. As his friend A. E. Yalman truly called him, Cevat Bey was really an «Unnamed Hero.»

Cevat Bey was born on December 26, 1893, in Bolu, Turkey. After graduating from Robert College, he went to U.S.A. in 1911 on a scholarship at Columbia University where he received BS and EM degrees in mining engineering. After a year's postgraduate work in Geology, - he has taken a job

as mining geologist in New Mexico, working for Anaconda Copper Company. After that, he entered Doherty Petroleum Company, a Cities Service Oil Company subsidiary, as petroleum geologist. This marks the beginning of his life-long career in oil exploration. He worked for this company for a long time at various assignments in U. S. A. and in Mexico. Garfias writes about Cevat Bey and describes him as «an extremely polite and very likeable person, a hard worker, a keen and real field geologist.»

Upon the invitation of our government, Cevat Bey has returned to his home country on leave of absence for one year toward the end of 1929. During that period he has investigated the possibilities of finding oil in Turkey and made trips and conducted geological field studies in Thrace, Southeast and other parts of the country. The result of this first expert study is contained in a report submitted to our government at that time. He has returned to U.S.A. and started working as a consulting geologist from 1931 to 1933, during which time he has written the first scientific account on the subject and presented a paper at the «Congress of all American and World Geo-

logists» in San Antonio, organized by the «American Association of Petroleum Geologists» entitled «Oil Possibilities of Turkey.»

In 1933, a «Bureau for the Exploration and Exploitation of Oil» was organized in Turkey and Cevat Bey was offered and accepted the direction of this Bureau and so took charge of the country's exploration program. In 1935, when M.T.A. Institute was organized, the Petroleum Bureau was incorporated in it as Petroleum Exploration Department and Cevat Bey became the director of that Department. He remained at M.T.A. as head of Petroleum Exploration Department and as chief consultant to the general director until 1954 when he was appointed to the Petroleum Administration as technical adviser. While he was at M.T.A., he has conducted an exploration program over various possibly oil-bearing regions, which included aerial photography, intense geological mapping, geophysical surveying, micropaleontology, well-logging, test drillings at several structures. His work, with the collaboration of his colleagues, has given its fruitful result when the

first commercial oil field in Turkey was discovered at Raman in 1948 and second one at Garzan in 1951. From 1953 to 1954 we saw Cevat Bey taking an active part in the preparation of the Petroleum Law. He was the one who recommended late Mr. Max W. Ball to the government to draft such a law.

He was a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists since 1926, a charter member of the Geological Society of Turkey and twice was elected its president for the years 1949 and 1950.

He is the author of over 28 different papers and articles published in the Bulletins of M.T.A. Institute, the Geological Society of Turkey, and A. A. P. G., in Proceedings of International Geological Congress, World Petroleum Congress and in trade magazines.

The greatest man in the history of oil field exploration in our country has passed away at a time when the first fruitful results had started to show. His works will be remembered as long as oil is produced in Turkey.

Kazım ERGİN

## LIST OF HIS PUBLICATIONS

- 1 — Petroleum possibilities of Turkey. *A. A. P.O. Vol. 15, No. 6, June, 1931.*
- 2 — Search for oil in Mürefte. *M. T. A. Bulletin, No. 3, 1936.*
- 3 — Oil at Korzot near Lake Van. *M. T. A. Bulletin, No. 5, 1936.*
- 4 — Turkey and petroleum. *M. T. A. Bulletin, No. 3, 1937.*
- 5 — Salt Domes of Central Anatolia. *M. T. A. Bulletin, No. 4, 1937.*
- 6 — A Geological synopsis and status of oil exploration in Thrace. *M. T. A. Bulletin, No. 3, 1938.*
- 7 — Oil exploration — before 1923 and after. *M. T. A. Bulletin, No. 4, 1938.*
- 8 — Oil possibilities in Southern Turkey. *M. T. A. Bulletin, No. 2, 1939.*
- 9 — Oil explorations and discovery possibilities. *M. T. A. Bulletin, No. 4, 1939.*

- 10 — Some particulars about drilling at Adana. *M. T.A. Bulletin*, No. 2/19, 1940.
- 11 — Oil discovery possibilities. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, Mo. 4/21, 1940.
- 12 — Oil discovery. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No. 2/27, 1942.
- 13 — Gere-de-Bolu Earthquake. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No., 1/31, 1944.
- 14 — Petroleum — primary raw materials of present time. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No. 2/32, 1944.
- 15 — Our salt deposits. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No. 1/33, 1945.
- 16 — Thrace and oil. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No. 2/34, 1945.
- 17 — Harbolite — A Carbonaceous hydrocarbon. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No. 1/35, 1946.
- 18 — Varto and Van earthquakes. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No. 1/35, 1946.
- 19 — The stratigraphy of the Alexandretta Gulf Basin. *International Geological Congress «Report of the Eighteenth Session, Great Britain, 1948, 3 Part VI.»*
- 20 — Stratigraphy of Southeastern Turkey. *A. A. P.O. Bulletin*, Vol. 33, No. 1, January, 1949.
- 21 — History of petroleum. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No. 39, 1949.
- 22 — History of petroleum in Turkey. *M. T. A. Bulletin*, No. 39, 1949.
- 23 — Drilling for oil in Turkey. *Oil Forum*, February, 1949.
- 24 — Stratigraphic distribution of evidences of bitumenous substances in Turkey. *A. A. P. G. VO.* 34, No. 8, August, 1950.
- 25 — On the oil possibilities of Turkey with special reference to the Raman Field. *Third World Petroleum Congress, the Hague*, 1951.
- 26 — The importance of stratigraphy in oil explorations. *Turkish Geological Society*, Vol. IV, 1953.
- 27 — Turkey's oil prospects inviting. *The Petroleum Engineer*, August, 1954.
- 28 — Evidences of oil and gas associated with igneous rocks in Turkey. *Presented at the XX Geological Congress in Mexico, September*, 1956.