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Bu nüshada yazı işlerini fiilen idare edenler - Editors :
M. Rasim MUTUK - Sehavet MERSİNOĞLU



The opening speech by the
General Director

Dr. SADRETTİN ALPAN

delivered at the ceremony arranged on the 26th of December 1961, on the occasion of granting "Service Memorial Medals," to those who worked for the M.T.A. Institute for twenty-five consecutive years :



Dear Guests and Friends,

We are gathered here this evening to award 25 years service medals to 22 M.T.A. Personnel.

The Institute was founded in 1935 with the object of evaluating the underground resources of our country. Working with a modest budget but utmost capacity the Institute published 1/300,000 scale geologic and tectonic maps since the foundation and has now started printing the 1/500,000 scale geologic map of Turkey, also 1/100,000 scale geologic maps are completed and available on request.

The Institute has carried out extensive geological and geophysical investigations and drilling for petroleum and was successful in discovering the Raman and Garzan petroleum fields.

26,000 meters of crosscut 2400 meters of shafts and 350,000 m. of drilling have been carried out for the investigation of minerals, lignite, coal, industrial raw

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materials and water. Consequently about 65 billion Turkish liras worth of ore deposits and solid fuel reserves have been evaluated on the basis of current prices. Most of these deposits have been transferred to private or State Enterprise and put into operation. Besides main minerals such as iron, chromium, copper and sulphur, the Institute has proved the reserve of 700 million tons of sub bituminous coal.

Radioactive mineral prospecting and exploration have been conducted by up to date methods. Large parts of our country have been covered by radiometric airborne survey with two planes supplied by the army for this purpose.

The investigation of raw materials required by newly founded factories is amongst the functions of the M.T.A.

The magnetic airborne survey which was financed with a loan of an amount of 900,000 dollars by the U.S. Government (namely DLF), has been completed and the results of the survey (the magnetic maps) are available to the private miners. The Institute has already started follow up work on the ground by checking the magnetic anomalies by geological, geophysical investigations and drillings.

In our laboratories, chemical analysis, ore dressing tests, experiments on ceramics, and some research work are being carried out. For the utilisation of lignite, briquetting tests have already been started although a new utilization project on solid fuels covering a wider scope is being prepared. The extension and modernization of our laboratories are under consideration in order to cope with the needs of our country.

The Institute owns one of the finest libraries in the country, at present there are 50,000 books in our library, and we publish bulletins containing scientific articles twice a year besides an annual magazine in our own printing office.

In the archive of our Institute there are 5689 prospecting and 2869 detailed investigation reports totalling 8558 reports which are available now to all the government agencies and private miners.

The Institute has played an important part in CENTO minerals activities to maintain the cooperation and understanding regarding the mutual mining problems amongst CENTO member countries, and will continue its efforts to make the CENTO mining activities even more beneficial to all concerned.

The Institute has been a good guide to the private miners for discovering new types of minerals and has been helpful to them for geological investigations, exploration work and mining problems. We believe that private enterprise will play an important part in the economical recovery of our country and therefore we want to serve the private enterprise as much as possible by offering all we can. For this purpose, we already initiated the work for making the mineral inventory of our country, so as to determine the mineral potentials, and problems encountered by the private enterprise.

Another function of the Institute is technical personnel training, for which also a great effort is given by educating 218 technical personnel abroad and 135

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persons in Turkish Universities. Besides these mentioned, at present the Institute has 114 students in foreign countries such as U.S.A., England, France, Germany and Switzerland and 23 scholarships are given to students in our country.

There are 434 technical and administrative personnel employed by our Institute besides 430 workers. Technical staff totals 278, amongst these there are 200 university graduates including 25 foreign geologists mainly Dutch, German, Austrian, French, Italian and English.

In our Institute there are 40 drilling machines with capacities ranging from 30 meters to 1000 m. We have 230 vehicles for field work. We know that our country is large and the work to be done is enormous. For this reason our aim for the future is to maintain better living and working facilities for our personnel, increase the number of technical personnel and thus speed up the work of finding new mineral deposits and to see that the new ore bodies are put into operation as soon as possible after their discovery and evaluation by M.T.A. (Institute).

I now thank all the Turkish organizations, United Nations and Foreign Governments giving aid to our Institute especially to the U.S. Government for their aid for our geological map work and equipment, DLF Credit, and help given towards radioactive mineral prospecting, and to the French Government for offering continuous bursaries to our personnel so that they are able to improve their knowledge and gain experience in France and also for the assistance given by the French Atomic Energy Commiseria towards our radioactive mineral prospecting with regard to personnel and equipment; and also to the British Government for their aid through CENTO by supplying equipment for our airborne radiometric survey; and also thank to those who have previously worked for M.T.A. I congratulate the technical personnel who work in the field under difficult conditions. I welcome the young friends who have recently joined the Institute. I thank the administrative personnel and workers for their help and understanding.

I am grateful to my 22 friends who have worked at the Institute for 25 years without any interruption since the foundation of the Institute for their keen interest to our organization and in their work and for their invaluable services. I hope that, we'll see these friends among us for many years to come and wish them all the happiness on behalf of the Institute.

Dr. Sadrettin Alpan
General Director