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MAIN FILE

NEWS ON PETROLEUM AND GAS IN THE USSR

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FOREWORD

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NEWS ON PETROLEUM AND GAS IN THE USSR
(Selected Translations)

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LENIN PRIZES TO PETROLEUM WORKERS -- unsigned, p. 8.

For their outstanding contribution to socialist industry a large group of Soviet scientists, engineers, and industrial innovators were awarded the high title of Laureates of the Lenin Prize. Their work has promoted a great new step ahead on the road to further technological progress.

Among those who received the Lenin Prize was a group of petroleum workers: E. N. Alikhanov, A. M. Bilandarli, B. A. Gadzhiyev, M. D. Kasumzade, I. P. Kuliyeu, M. K. Mamedov, Z. I. Melik-Tangiyev, D. K. Mzareulov, V. F. Negreyev, and F. I. Samedov. They were awarded the prize for their complex utilization of marine oil deposits in the Azerbaydzhani SSR.

During 1950-1959 on the Caspian Sea several hundred stationary facilities of the insular type, about 160 km of breakwater, and oil fields were built up under the most diverse hydrometric, engineering, and geological conditions. On the Neftyanyye Kameni [a reef in the Caspian Sea named for the oil fields there], about 50 km from the mainland, a city, the first of its kind in the world, has been built right in the sea.

Thanks to the combined efforts at solving numerous scientific and engineering problems, the petroleum yield from the marine oil deposits of the Azerbaydzhani SSR has increased during the last ten years by 3.7 times. The net cost of drilling oil in marine oil fields is on the average 30% lower than in the dry-land oil fields of the Republic.

* * *

The Lenin Prize was also awarded to a petroleum and gas exploration group: G. D. Il'in, K. I. Kiyko, M. R. Pustil'nikov, S. T. Korotkov, A. V. Ul'yanov, and K. F. Kozhemyakin. During 1956-1960 they located and explored 11 condensed gas deposits on the territory of the Krasnodarskiy Krai. These deposits serve as a large-scale base for the effective rebuilding of thermal balance and as an important source of raw material for the chemical industry.

FOREIGN PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL WORKING IN THE AZERBAYDZHANI SSR --
unsigned, p. 18

Young engineers from the Republic of India are gaining their practical experience at the Krasnyy Proletariy Factory in Sterlitamak. The company for which they work sent them to the Soviet Union in order to acquaint themselves with our techniques for repairing and rebuilding petroleum equipment. At the Sterlitamak factory the Indian specialists Davarka Nattolia and Suk Dev Sharma are working on the rebuilding of internal combustion engines. The specialists and workers of the

factory willingly share their practice and knowledge with the Indian engineers. The guests are enjoying the city, the inhabitants treat them with a welcome and friendly manner. After ten months of training they will return to India.

* * *

The experience of the Azerbaydzhan petroleum experts, chemists, and mechanical engineers is attracting the ever increasing attention of foreign specialists. In many firms of the Republic there are already a number of trainees working from abroad. At the moment a large group of chemical engineers from Rumania is completing a study of the production of synthetic rubber at the Sumgant Synthetic Rubber Plant. They have been working in the factory for four months.

Right now specialists from a number of foreign countries are busy studying the practices of petroleum workers and mechanical engineers at various firms in Baku. A group of engineers from India at the "Azneft" Plant is becoming acquainted with the techniques of drilling equipment. Petroleum workers from Afghanistan are studying turbo-drills and geophysical equipment.

Engineers have arrived in Baku from the United Arab Republic.

MEETING WITH ANKLESHAR PETROLEUM WORKERS -- unsigned, p. 30.

Prime Minister Nehru of India recently visited the Ankleshar District, where one of the richest deposits of domestic petroleum, discovered with the assistance of the Soviet Union, is located.

The friendly group of Soviet and Indian geologists and drillers, as well as the members of their families, made it a warm meeting with their exalted guest. Prime Minister Nehru took great pains to familiarize himself with the active oil wells of Ankleshar and the work of Indian and Soviet petroleum specialists there.

Nehru was accompanied on his trip to Ankleshar by the Minister of State for the Ministry of Steel, Mineral Resources, and Fuels of India K. D. Malavia, Minister of Finance Morardji Desay, Chief Minister of State Gujerat Jivradj Mehta, and members of the State Planning Commission.

THE FIRST AFGHANISTAN GAS -- unsigned, p. 30.

During testing operations on an exploratory well drilled by Soviet geologists in Northern Afghanistan the first gas gusher erupted. With the flow of gas limited through an opening of only 15 mm in diameter the discharge of the well was equal to half a million cubic meters per day.

The first Afghanistan gas was obtained in the area of Khodja-

Gugerdag, which is situated approximately 25 km to the east of the city of Shibarghan. It was discovered at a depth of 1621-1618 meters.

Analysis of the gas showed that it contains, in addition to methane, a large quantity of heavy hydrocarbons. In connection with this, Soviet specialists assume that petroleum must also be found in this layer.

In the Khodj-Gugerdag they have located 14 levels which lie at various depths and look promising with respect to oil and gas production.

Soviet specialists stationed in Afghanistan have been working simultaneously to train workers of that country to become petroleum-geologists.

THE MARINE WELLS OF TURKMEN -- unsigned, p. 52.

The first marine well drilled in Cheleken fully affirms the supposition of specialists that rich deposits of petroleum lie beneath the bottom of the Caspian sea in this district. On 2 March 1961 there was a tremendous gusher. The 210th well with a daily yield of 70-80 tons was recently put into active operation.

The breakwater, which runs perpendicular to the shore, turns at about the midpoint by 30 degrees to the left and again heads toward a point where the future drilling site of well No. 211 is planned, although so far it is still only on paper.

A high-powered breakwater-building crane on steel rails is located at the far end of the works. Behind are more than 800 meters of pilings driven into the sea bottom, which are connected and held together by girders.

The drilling apparatus is erected over the breakwater. It is intended to drill five more wells here.

The marine project is under construction by workers of the Neftspetsstroya organization.

The builders were committed to have the second line of the breakwater in operation by the opening of the 22nd Congress of the CPSU.

NORTHERNMOST IN THE COUNTRY -- unsigned, p. 52.

Near the center of the Nenets National Okrug, in the town of Naryan Mar, they are drilling the northernmost ultradeep exploratory well in the Soviet Union. The depth of the well is to be 4 km. Already more than 1600 meters have been drilled.

The exploratory drilling, which is to be completed next year, will permit a more complete assessment of the geological structure of this region of the far north and will make it possible to answer the question as to possible commercial reserves of petroleum and gas.

NEWS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BONDYUZH OIL FIELD -- unsigned, p. 62.

The following is reported in the newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya [Soviet Russia]:

"Before not too many years another lake will appear on the map of our country. It will be located in the Naberezhnyye Chelny rayon when the new dam is erected for the Nizhne-Kamskaya Hydroelectric Plan.

"Beneath the waters of this artificial lake there are several petroleum deposits, including the Bondyuzh deposit, which contains a considerable portion of the discovered reserves of petroleum."

A report was presented to the Tatarskiy Sovnarkhoz by the chief project engineer, A. A. Korotatstsi. He discussed some original versions of the general plan for developing the Bondyuzh site.

The future "Marine" operations will be connected with the shore by a six-kilometer levee. The pipes for transporting the oil will be buried in these.

Several wells will be situated in the bed and deepest, and most remote parts of the "sea". For these wells small islands will be built up. They will be raised more than three meters above the water level. The piping will run to them through the dry lake bottom.

In these new "marine" operations remote control will be employed, with the control panel situated on the shore of the artificial sea.

The sovnarkhoz has given its approval for the project. Even now wells are being drilled in the region of the Bondyuzh site, the power plant is being built, and the piping through which the oil will be transported to Almet'yevsk is being laid.

THE TRANS-SIBERIAN UNDERGROUND PIPELINE -- unsigned, p. 68.

In the Krasnoyarsk Kray, near the town of Uyar, work is being completed on the construction of a pumping station. This station is one of many installations of the trans-Siberian petroleum pipeline. Running to this point from Novosibirsk is a 770-km steel pipeline. Particularly great construction difficulties are encountered in crossing the rapid torrents of the huge Yenisei River.

Work is now being done on an underground fuel pipeline. The oil line is being laid from Klyukvennaya in the direction of Irkutsk. By using a new cable run the engineers have taken the line across the Kan, Uda, Biryusa, and other rivers.