

## OBITUARY

KONSTANTIN VASIL'EVICH KOSTRIN (1901-1974)

On October 13, 1974, we lost one of the creators of the modern Soviet petroleum refining industry, an honored petroleum worker of the Bashkirian ASSR, Professor Konstantin Vasil'evich Kostrin, a man of great heart and broad knowledge, a sympathetic and wise friend and teacher of a host of workers in the Soviet petroleum-refining industry.



K. V. Kostrin was born in Saratov in 1901. In 1919, as a student at Saratov University, he volunteered for the Red Army. After demobilization, he studied at the Leningrad Polytechnic Institute and after graduation worked at Baku in the refineries, in a research institute, and as chief engineer of the "Azneftezavody" Association.

Together with his major work in production and research, K. V. Kostrin taught at the I. M. Gubkin Moscow Petroleum Institute, the Azerbaidzhan Industrial Institute, and the Azerbaidzhan Industrial Academy. K. V. Kostrin gave his constant attention to young specialists, imparting to them his experience and knowledge. Many of his students have made their marks as innovative and creative workers in the field of petroleum refining, having obtained academic degrees as Candidates and Doctors of Science, and are the authors of books and monographs devoted to petroleum technology.

For meritorious service, AzTsIK (Azerbaidzhan Central Executive Committee) in 1932 conferred on K. V. Kostrin the honorary title of Hero of Labor; in 1936, the Sergo Ordzhonikidze People's Commissariat of Heavy Industry, for achievements in the establishment and growth of the petroleum industry, awarded a personal automobile to Professor Kostrin.

In 1935, K. V. Kostrin was granted the title of professor for his fruitful pedagogic activity; and in 1937 he was awarded the academic degree of Candidate of Technical Sciences for theoretical developments in the field of petroleum-refining technology. He has published 122 scientific works, including 15 books, 10 of which are monographs.

Working at BashNII NP [Bashkirian Scientific-Research Institute for Petroleum Processing] since 1959, Konstantin Vasil'evich has continued to combine scientific research work with the training of scientific personnel. His broad knowledge in various fields of technology, culture, and science has enabled Professor Kostrin in recent years to create a number of original studies on the history of the domestic petroleum industry and science, including such topics as "The Ideas of M. V. Lomonosov on the Organic Origin of Petroleum, and the Development of These Ideas by Modern Science," "Oil and Gas on the Map of Our Motherland," "Essays on the First Oil Exploration in the Urals and in Siberia," etc. The studies of K. V. Kostrin in ethnography, botany, archeology, and geography have been so significant that he was selected as a member of the geographical society of the USSR.

K. V. Kostrin has taken an active part in the work of the journal "Chemistry and Technology of Fuels and Oils" as the author of articles and reviews.

For his great services to scientific and engineering progress in Bashkirian petroleum refining and in the matter of personnel training, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Bashkirian ASSR in 1971 awarded to Professor Kostrin the honorary title of "Honored Petroleum Worker of Bashkiria."

The example of Konstantin Vasil'evich, a great scholar, a Soviet intellectual of wide erudition, kind and sensitive toward his fellow man, will remain forever in the memory of all who knew him.

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