

From the Stavrosian Library Archives
Robert Castillo

Argentina was not able to industrialize by much in the 1920s. It didn't have the energy they needed, no coal or Hydropower plants to provide electric power to push forward to an industrial age.

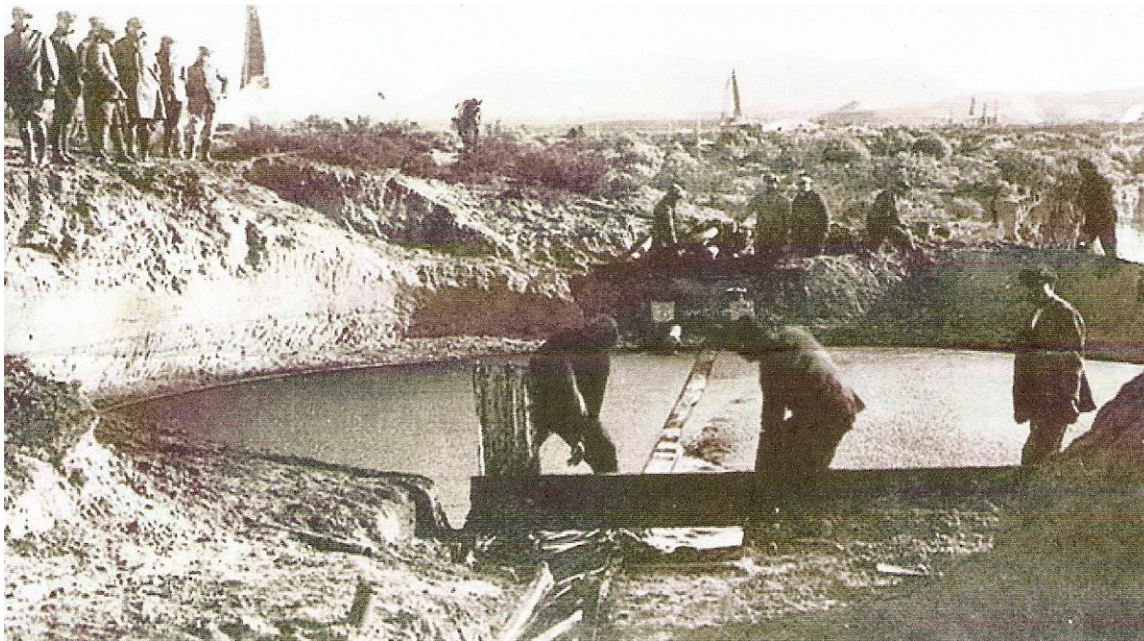
Argentina started the (YPF) Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales, an oil company owned by them. It was not a well-run company. Their agriculture exports did far better in the market over what oil could do.

Y.P.F. workers tried to improve on how oil wells were drilled as well as how production would be run. Sadly, internal corruption resulted in foreign investment to stop coming into Argentina.

An Argentine named Roberto Castillo, an oil worker, tried to restart the labor to complete one of the wells to working levels.

Robert Castillo, also known as Visilis Colliestos was born in 1882 in Arborea, Sardinia. His father was a fisherman and died when Roberto (Vacilis) was ten years old in 1892. He lived through the First World War as a young man. He joined a group called Sardinian Nationalist. They were later outlawed by Mussolini. Vasilis could see what was coming and he packed up for Argentina in 1992. He was 40 years old. Records indicate he changed his name before he left to a more regionally one, Robert Castillo. He kept this name until he died in 1991 on a small ranch in Argentina owned by a fellow Stavrosian. Roberto retired from civil service in 1962 when he started a Stavrosian Family Group. Roberto held an Argentine First Life Celebration the following year. Families in the area still hold the celebration each year in June. They honor Roberto Castillo as founder of their group.

There's no record of a wife or children. He had a sister that may have moved to America in 1928, her last known name was Kristina Collies. A hand check of records has the Collies name as once registered in New York State.



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