

# **Collected Papers of Sidney Loeb (1917–2008)**



Desalination Publications

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## **PREFACE**

Sidney Loeb is remembered as a beloved member of the desalination and membrane community. He is remembered for his originality and for his pleasure in contributing to a field which could help sustain thirsty communities. Today the reverse osmosis technology is the most significant method used in desalination. And above all, while he is celebrated for his original contributions, he is remembered worldwide for his friendship and modesty.

Shortly before he passed away, Sid gave me his many papers, reports, letters and notes. He was forever checking them and making annotations on his published work. It has taken some time to select and sort them, and fit these into a manageable volume so they can be presented here. The different formats of the material made it difficult to fit them into “one size fits all”.

This electronic version, however, made it possible. This is therefore a living publication where changes, additions and deletions can be made. We invite the many colleagues and friends of Sidney Loeb to make their remarks.

The papers themselves will be archived at the library of the Zuckerberg Institute for Water Science and Technologies at Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. Sidney did his original work at The Department of Chemical Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles, and was forever proud of producing the first drops of water at Coalinga, CA. But for the last 38 years of his life, Professor Loeb worked at Ben Gurion University.

My special thanks for collaboration and assistance in sorting, selecting and preparing these papers are to Frank Leitz of the US Bureau of Reclamation, a long time colleague of Sidney Loeb and myself.

And thanks to my colleague Galina Bitler for her technical expertise in producing this volume. And my appreciation to Joseph Nichol who assisted us.

**Miriam Balaban**

Founder and Editor in Chief Emeritus, *Desalination* 1966–2010

Founder and Editor in Chief, *Desalination and Water Treatment* 2009 –