



# HOLING THROUGH

NEWS BULLETIN OF **THE MOLES** • 11 W. 42ND STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

An Organization of Tunnel and Heavy Construction Men

JULY, 1954

## CLAMMING ATTRACTION:

Many a champion in sports from boxing to bridge has made good by heeding the advice: "Never Change A Winning Game."

And The Moles, as champion clambake throwers of Travers Island and points east, are heeding that good advice this year, according to Clambake General Chairman Harry Hush.

Wednesday, August 18 is the date when approximately 1,000 Moles and guests hold their annual outing. Though the general pattern will be the same as that which made such a hit a year ago, there'll be several new "gimmicks" and refinements on some of the standard pastimes, Harry promises.

So just as a reminder, here's a timetable: Start parking, registering and trying to find the most fitting size in a Moles Cap around 12 noon; buffet-style luncheon served from 12:30 to 2 . . . a long afternoon of assorted sports with a softball game — Moles vs. Department of Public Works — as the centerpiece (see list of committee heads for other sports) . . . a walloping shore dinner at 6; drawing for prizes, door and otherwise, at 8; and "the show," at 8:30.

Assisting Hush are two principal sub-chairmen: C. W. Garrison, chairman in charge of games, and Robert C. Johnston, vice chairman of same. Ted Avery will be in his accustomed spot as manager of the softballers, with "Dinty" Moore, also as usual, assisting him. Others in charge of various activities are: Fred C. Schlemmer, dart game; "Cy" (or "Southern") Comfort, spike-driving; George

## HERE'S THE PITCH!

When the Commissioner of Public Works, Frederick H. Zurmuhlen, accepted Harry Hush's invitation to the DPW's softballers to be our guests at the ball-game feature of the clambake, he got in a dig or two (even though the Moles are supposed to be the diggers) in recollection of the 1953 tilt, which the Moles won by a large margin.

He asked for "the name, address and price" of the pitcher we had last year, and said "if Ted Avery intends to use his sons and grandsons, may we do likewise?" He said their players would be limited to persons employed by the Department, and he hoped all the Mole athletes would be bona fide Moles.

Walker, horseshoe pitching; Jim Tripp, golf pitching.

A brand-new "ring" game has been developed and built by Ed Good, Sr. and Ed Good, Jr., and they'll administer that, while Gerry Neumann will handle the always-hilarious egg-tossing battle and has promised a couple of almost-atomic "bombshells." The "leettle Cherman band" that tootled so cheerily on the hilltop last summer will be back, with all valves oomping on the oompah.

The beer, bar and prize distribution chairman will be Harry Immerman. The professional entertainment — in a new and better-shaped tent — is being arranged by Charles Stillman and will be, as usual, under the direction of John Robbins of the Hub agency. Arrangements have been made for golf at nearby Split Rock.

No advance in prices, says Harry.

Moles, arise! Mark that date, Aug One Eight!



EIGHT NEW MOLES lined up at the annual meeting in May to get their picture taken as a semi-official rite of welcome. Here's the left-to-right on this handsome bunch: Edwin A. Pasha of Merritt-Chapman & Scott; Henry C. Boschen of Raymond Concrete Pile; Richard T. Daly of Hendrickson Brothers; William Briegel of Foley Brothers; Col. Benjamin B. Talley of the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army; John C. Badge of the Eimco Corporation; James T. Denton of Geo. W. Rogers Construction Corp., and Charles A. Richardson of Merritt-Chapman & Scott.



# CAMERA CATCHES MOLES AT ANNUAL MEETING



PATZY WOLFF and her "wolf"



HARRY IMMERMANN and friends (know 'em?)



OF MIKES and MOLES: Harry Hush, Andy Fisher, Al Warwick, Holmes Crimmins do their stuff.



NED SMITH and JUNE SAYER



ESQUIRE gals fore (above) and aft ("bottom" picture)



## Ferris Is Named 1954-55 President

George F. Ferris, president of the Raymond Concrete Pile Company, became the 16th president of The Moles when he was elected by unanimous vote at the annual business meeting at the Hotel Roosevelt, on May 5.

George has been with Raymond since 1946 and has been its president since April of 1953. Before that he had been vice president of Turner Construction Company. He spent four and a half years during the war as chairman of the operating committee for the Pacific Naval Air Base contractors, and as such was top man co-ordinating the operations of eight large companies working in the Pacific, having his headquarters at Pearl Harbor. In recognition of this service the Navy gave him the highest award it makes to a civilian, the Distinguished Public Service Medal.

A 1924 graduate of the University of Florida, where he played baseball and basketball, George first got into engineering and construction work in West Palm Beach before joining Turner in 1929. He's a member of the Woodway Country Club at Stamford, Conn. and of the University Club of New York, and is on the board of governors of the New York Building Congress. He lives with his wife and daughter at 1125 Park avenue.

A. Holmes Crimmins of the Thomas Crimmins Contracting Company moved into the post of first vice president at the May meeting; Thomas J. Walsh, Jr., of Walsh Construction Company became second vice president; James B. Martin of the General Contractors Association was named sergeant-at-arms; Harry T. Immerman of Spencer, White & Prentiss was elected secretary, and Edward G. Johnson of Arthur A. Johnson Corporation, treasurer.

These four men were elected to three-year trusteeships: Howard A. Collins, who heads his own contracting company; Mansell L. MacLean of MacLean-Grove & Company; Charles Stillman of Linde-Griffith Construction Company, and R. A. Wetzler of Whitehall Cement Manufacturing Company.



PRESENTATION of the Past President's Certificate to Dick Dougherty (right) as he relinquished the reins to incoming George Ferris (left) was a feature of the May 5 meeting at the Hotel Roosevelt.

## NEW POST FOR HANLY

A charter member of The Moles, William W. Hanly, Jr., has been elected vice president of the Wood-Treating Chemicals Company in St. Louis, Mo. He has been with the company since 1947, and was with the Koppers Company's wood-preserving division for several years before that.



HONORARY membership in The Moles was voted for I. V. A. Huie at the executive committee meeting on June 8, and provision made for making the formal presentation to him at the November members' meeting. The proposal was made by Honorary President Ralph W. Atwater on the basis of Mr. Huie's long-time friendship for and services to the Moles, including his helpful role in helping institute the softball series between the Moles and the Department of Public Works. Ralph's note of nomination mentioned that Mr. Huie is the only person who has occupied a place on the dais at every one of the Mole Award Dinners. Huie is head of the New York City Board of Water Supply, an engineering organization set up solely to develop new water sources.

## VERY ADVANCE WARNING!

Seems as though it's a long time to next February — but Edward G. Johnson has come through with a warning concerning the most important of next February's 28 days: "Based on our experience in the 1954 Awards Dinner," he says, "there is every indication that for the 1955 dinner there will be only two guests tickets available to each member. These two, of course, will be in addition to the member's own ticket."

## PEREZ STEPS UP

Henry T. ("Hank") Perez, one of our journalistically inclined Moles, has moved up a large notch, becoming editor of Construction Methods and Equipment, taking the place of the late Harold W. Richardson, himself a Moleman.

## DICK'LL TELL 'EM!

Moleman Richard E. Dougherty received a new honor recently, from clear across the continent, when California's governor, Goodwin J. Knight, nominated him as one of two special advisors on a \$250-million to \$300-million project.

The project is the "southern crossing of San Francisco Bay." Our immediate past president was named along with Daniel V. Terrell, dean of the college of engineering of the University of Kentucky. The crossing has been planned as a six-lane, 38,000-foot tube-and-trestle structure, extending from Third and Army Streets in San Francisco to a point in Alameda.





**Edward Pennock Palmer**

The Moles lost one of their best-loved and most picturesque members in the death on July 12 — just five days before he would have reached his “three score and ten” mark — of Ed Palmer, president of Senior & Palmer. He was the 1953 recipient of the Moles’ Member Award, and because the program on that occasion carried the main facts of his career, the following tribute, written by a long-time associate, takes the place of the customary biographical sketch here.

BY JAMES E. GIBBONS

Ed Palmer was a successful man in all aspects of his life. He was a good man in all that it implies: a truly religious man, good in all his relationships as son, husband, father, grandfather. He was wise, kind and gentle — had a good disposition, good habits. He was a valued counselor to whom I often went for advice.

In his professional and business activities Ed Palmer was first a good student, a good engineer, a good general manager, a good boss, good business man, good partner.

He gave generously of his time and talents to the American Society of Civil Engineers, to the Society of Military Engineers, the General Contractors’ Association of New York, the Associated General Contractors, the Joint Committee on Labor Jurisdiction, the United States Chamber of Commerce, to the Moles, to his church, to his college, and to the U.S. Army Engineers in World War I.

Ed Palmer has left an indelible mark on the construction industry by the outstanding service he has given to it, notably in contributions to the art of pneumatic foundations, and to better labor relations.

I count it a great privilege to have known Ed these past 44 years, to have worked opposite him, alongside him, under him. He’s always been 100 per cent regular, and in a business noted for plainness of talk, he was always a gentleman even under the most trying circumstances.

The world has truly been bettered because Ed Palmer lived in it.



**Harold W. Richardson**

Harold W. Richardson, 53, died May 12 at his home in New Providence, New Jersey.

Born in Iowa, “Rich” did most of his growing up in Colorado, and graduated in civil engineering from the state university in 1923.

He was a construction editor during most of his career, after laying a solid foundation in the heavy work that distinguishes Moles. He had supported himself in high school and college by working as a printer.

In 1923 Rich went with Bates and Rogers Construction Co. and became a superintendent on bridge work before he left to join the staff of Engineering News-Record in 1928. In 1940 he went to Chicago to be the magazine’s western editor, returning to New York in 1946 to take over the reins of Construction Methods and Equipment.

Rich traveled extensively in his work. He was the first person to travel the entire length of the Alcan Highway, and he was a member of the first official party of Americans to enter Nagasaki after the atom bomb blast there.

Perhaps his most distinguishing characteristic was his warm, human enthusiasm — for construction, for The Moles, for his family; in fact, for just about everything he encountered.

Construction Methods and Equipment editorialized: “Construction has lost a champion . . . As a leader and believer in the construction industry he was quick to defend it against unjust criticism . . . (but) Rich was not blind to the industry’s faults and shortcomings: he was quick to take it to task when it went astray. Whether meting out criticism or praise, Rich had nothing to sell but the good of the construction industry.”

Rich served The Moles with the same zeal. He held a trusteeship in 1948-50, and headed the publicity committee in 1948 and 1949. In the latter capacity he edited *Holing Through*. Before and after his editorship he wrote articles for this publication and



**Oscar Anderson**

Oscar Anderson, 71, president of Good Roads Engineering and Contracting Co., Inc. of Wantagh, L. I., died April 17 at his home in Garden City, N. Y.

Mr. Anderson was born in Sweden and came to this country when nine years of age. He spent his boyhood in Croton-on-Hudson, New York and attended school there.

His construction career started in New York City where he served as master mechanic for the Foundation Co. and later in the same capacity with Rogers and Haggerty, Inc.

In 1919 Mr. Anderson left Rogers and Haggerty and organized his own company, the Good Roads Engineering and Contracting Co., Inc. which he headed until his death.

His reputation as a road builder has been well known for the past 30 years. Among his many projects were many sections of the Northern and Southern State Parkways, Bethpage State Parkway, Mitchel Field Airport and Rye Lake Airport.

Mr. Anderson’s widow, Jessie, survives.

### **TIME IS WILD ABOUT HARRY**

Not that it’s news to anybody now, but just by way of congratulation it probably should be recorded here in *Holing Through* that Moles everywhere got a thrill of pride and identification in seeing Harry Morrison as the “cover man” on the May 3 issue of *Time Magazine*, with a great big wonderful cover story inside, largely about him and other construction people under the title, “Ambassadors With Bulldozers.”

his camera covered many Moles events for it. (The speakers’ table photos in this issue are his.)

This statement, which he often made at Moles events, is typical of his appreciation for his fellow-Moles: “There’s enough talent here to rebuild the world.”