



HOLING THROUGH

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

An Organization of Tunnel and Heavy Construction Men

APRIL, 1950

It's at the Roosevelt May 3!

Annual Business Meeting... Plus Plenty of Fun

ONCE AGAIN THE TIME HAS COME — to elect new officers, hear how the committees made out during the year and to decide how things will go in the coming year.

The occasion is the Annual Business meeting, at 9:00 p.m., May 3 (Wednesday) in the Grand Ballroom of the Roosevelt Hotel. The principal business to come before the meeting will be:

Reports of retiring officers and committees.

Election and installation of officers for 1950

Announcement of committees for 1950.
Other business of the association.

WHAT EVERY MOLE KNOWS — But there's a lot more to the affair than Robert's Rules of Order, as every Mole knows.

First — A reception at 6:30. You may have a hard time finding the reception line, but you won't miss the bar. The cash register will be turned to the wall — your bill is paid when you pick up your \$7.50 ticket.

Second — Dinner at 7:30. Eat heartily of food served in hot plates on red-checked table cloths.

Third — (The business.)

Fourth — Entertainment at 10:00. Frank Loughman hasn't had to apologize for a program yet, and he doesn't aim to start now, so don't go 'way, Moles. He might even come up with another Honorary Mole — the kind we used to have at the Clambake. But that's his business. **HOLING THROUGH** doesn't claim any advance knowledge of the show.

OFFICIAL NOMINEES — The nominating committee will propose the following slate for election at the Business Meeting:

President — James F. Salmon, New York Manager, The Arundel Corp.

First Vice-President — Richard V. Hyland, Co-Partner, Madigan and Hyland.

Second Vice-President — Dave Bonner, Vice-President, Frederick Snare Corp.

Sergeant-at-Arms — Albert E. Downes, Lehigh Portland Cement Co.

Secretary — George P. Walker, Sales Engineer, Johns-Manville Corp.

Treasurer — Howard Maxton, Secretary, Raymond Concrete Pile Co.

Trustees — Jules Breuchaud, Treasurer, Underpinning and Foundation Co.; Ralph DeSimone, Vice-President, Merritt-Chapman and Scott Corp.; Thomas J. Walsh, Jr., Vice-President, Walsh Construction Co.; Robert H. Dodds, Associate Editor, Engineering News-Record. Carlton S. Proctor, Senior Partner, Moran, Proctor, Freeman and Mueser (ex-officia).

Irene Lizotte Named Executive Secretary

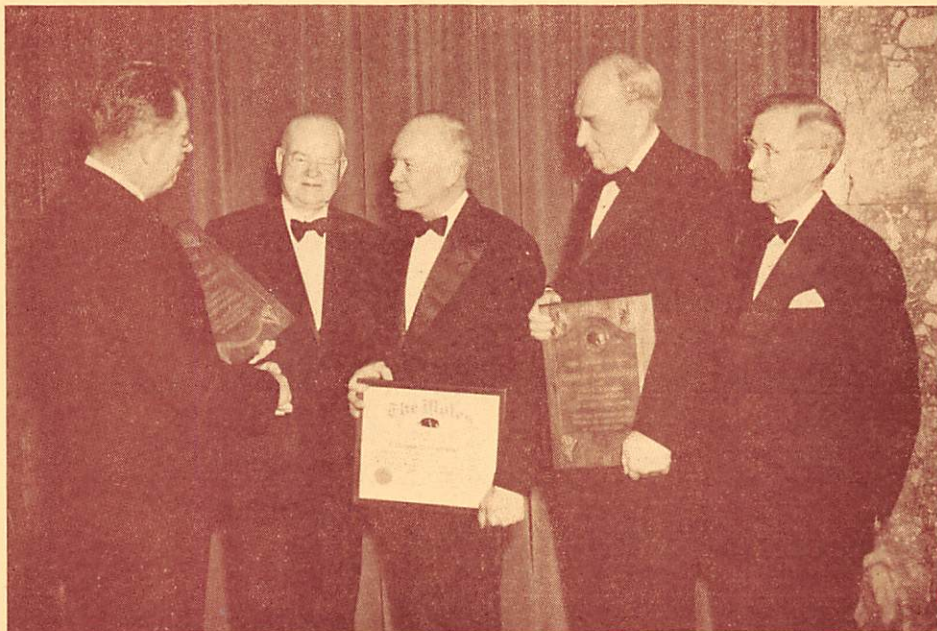
COINCIDENT with The Moles move to a new office, Irene M. Lizotte became executive secretary of the association, by action of the Executive Committee.

Miss Lizotte's new title fits her responsibilities properly, and accords recognition that she deserves richly. She has worked with The Moles practically since the beginning and since 1948 has devoted full time to the organization. She's been a friend of ours for a long time — old-timers wouldn't feel right about a clambake or an Award Dinner if she weren't there seeing that everything ran right.

CONGRATULATIONS, IRENE!



THE MOLES HAVE A HOME OF THEIR OWN — After sharing an office with kind and generous hosts for several years (somewhat the way the camel shared the tent with the Arab), the Moles last month moved headquarters into separate space at the same address — 11 West 42nd St. That's Irene Lizotte glancing up from her work (she was getting out the Business-Meeting notices when **HOLING THROUGH** came in to take the picture). There's nary a scratch on the furniture; the linoleum gleams; the noonday sun streams in across Bryant Park and the Clambake baseball trophy stands right where it belongs, in The Moles headquarters. Visitors Welcome!



AWARD DINNER PRINCIPALS — Moles President Carlton Proctor congratulates former President Herbert Hoover upon his receipt of The Moles Non-Member Award. General Dwight Eisenhower, holding his Honorary Membership certificate, Richard Dougherty, with Member Award plaque, and Bill Durkin look on.

Award Dinner Grand Occasion

Eisenhower, Surprise Guest, Made
Honorary Member . . . 1,184 Attend

THE GRAND BALLROOM of the Waldorf-Astoria never held a grander party than the 1950 Moles Award Dinner, Feb. 9. The place was full on the main floor, overflowing to the first balcony, bringing the total attendance to 1,184.

No one could question the caliber of the company. It included a former president of the United States and a past president of the American Society of Civil Engineers—the award recipients—and a surprise guest (one of America's greatest military figures), as well as a large portion of the brains that make America what it is.

The surprise guest was, of course, General Dwight D. Eisenhower. The general received honorary membership in The Moles and made a fine speech, partly in homely and friendly tribute to his many construction friends present, and partly in support of Herbert Hoover's recommendations for streamlining government administration. He brought down the house when he turned toward Mr. Hoover, bowed slightly, then told the crowd, "In my book he was a pretty good president."

What everyone said is fully covered in the booklet "A Message to the Construction Industry," which went out to all

Moles, their guests and other leaders in construction.

Our president, Carlton Proctor, did a distinguished job of keynoting the show, making The Moles' support of the Hoover Commission unmistakably clear to Mr. Hoover and to all present. And Bill Durkin's heartfelt introduction of Dick Dougherty just made people feel good all over.

They Stayed and Stayed

But perhaps the best demonstration of the party's success was given after the formal program was over. It seemed as if everyone wanted to stay and talk things over. Many stayed in the ballroom, and more moved into the East Foyer, where

CLAMBAKE — August 16

Yes, Sir, AUGUST 16 is the day when all other summer activities begin and end, be they vacations or bids on contracts in Hawaii. Give last year's Clambake Hat to the kids and get ready to don a new, freshly-starched one.

bar service was available to keep the palates moist. They didn't stay for an hour they stayed at least two. (The HOLING THROUGH reporter unchecked his coat at midnight, noting that plenty of wraps still were on the hooks.)

Award Dinner Post Mortem

. . . A COUPLE OF WEEKS before the dinner, The Moles got a chuckle out of a bull that was rectified by a special post card. The card asked Moles to enter the Waldorf by the 49th Street door, not the 39th Street entrance, as stated on the invitations. With rueful smile, Ralph Atwater took credit—and insisted on paying for the post cards. . . President Proctor and the Award Committee were pleased by the near-total absence of room parties before the dinner. A couple, however, were reported; the fellows who attended them missed some of the best fellowship of the occasion, we say. The service in the East Foyer was good, and many a host entertained effectively right there in the bosom of the family, as the saying goes. . . Publicity, ably managed by Harold Richardson and his committee, and abetted by Steve Winship, assistant managing editor of the New York Herald Tribune, was highly effective, resulting in good coverage by the construction press, New York papers and papers throughout the United States. We hear that a Los Angeles paper told even more about the dinner than Steve's own paper did—and the H-T didn't let us down.

November Member Dinner Draws 190

EYES RIGHT! Look at the picture story of the Members-Only Dinner at the Roosevelt November 10. You'll recall the fine meal, the "drinks-on-the-house" reception and the entertainment.

One of the show's outstanding acts was the black-face drummer, who drummed ragtime, swing and what-have-you on everything but the kitchen sink.

And weren't we embarrassed when a "mole" broke up a dignified dancing act? Cameramen Richardson and Dodds froze up; both missed a priceless picture of Al Downes trying to preserve decorum by detaining his tipsy "brother." The guy broke away, though, and soon he was manhandling the graceful pair.

Afterwards the bar opened up again. Pitched by the ringing cash-registers, our chanteyman-secretary, George Walker, led duets, trios, quartets and whole choruses in songs that ranged the gamut from "I've Been Working on the Railroad" to "Roll Me Over."

Which all goes to show that we construction stiffs really know how to throw a party!



A LITTLE BUSINESS is transacted by Award Committee Chairman Dave Bonner, who tells how plans for the Award Dinner are coming along. (We know now how big and successful his plans were.)



PETE CONNOLLY wheels his cigar around so he can take a look at what the other boys are staring at. (It's a Mole cameraman, busy documenting the hours so pleasant to heavy-construction men like Pete.)



MOLE DWIGHT WINKELMAN, much-mugged Syracuse contractor and former A.G.C. president, gives with that well-known grin while Glenn Browning (left) and Harry Wartur enjoy the joke with him.



DOWNRIGHT GOOD. Your vaudeville critic submits that this sextette is one of Frank Loughman's real finds. They're even better than the Vikings, the boys who in other years have made us wish we'd stuck to our singing lessons. They're sweet, they're hot, they're terrific.



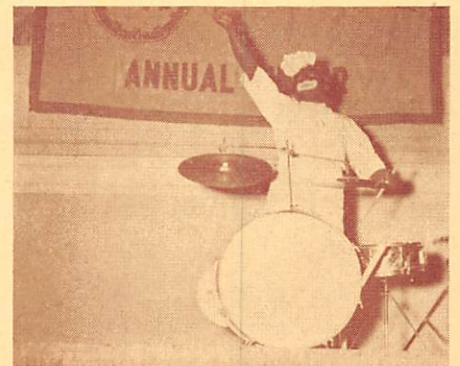
THE MOLES LOVE HER, and she loves The Moles. We didn't catch the name, but when we do we're going to recommend her for Honorary Mole, a title that's long overdue for revival.



THERE HE IS, on the right — the "mole" who crabbed the dignified dancing act. Al Downes couldn't keep him off the stage. Just look at what he's doing to that lovely lady!



DRUMMER BOY tickled The Moles right down to their toes with his plain and fancy snare-stick shuffle. "He don't need no band."



A. B. Lincoln Dies

ALLAN B. LINCOLN, one of our younger members, died on March 8 from a cerebral hemorrhage while on an inspection trip to the Silas Mason Company's tunnel job at Fort Randall Dam in South Dakota. He and Bob Jewell, the job manager, were driving from Sioux City to the site of the work when they encountered a violent storm of wind and snow; they were forced to stay over at the prairie town of Yankton. It was there that Mr. Lincoln was stricken.

Mr. Lincoln was born in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1900. He was graduated from Rutgers University with the degree of B S in Civil Engineering in 1923 and four years later he received his civil engineering degree from Rutgers. He married Ruth Sanborn; they had two daughters, Ruth and Nancy.

In 1926, after some work for the New Jersey State Highway Department and



A. B. LINCOLN

for Standard Oil, Abe joined the engineering department of the Port of New York Authority. He was rapidly advanced in authority and responsibility working

on the George Washington Memorial Bridge jobs and the Lincoln Tunnel. He soon became one of Colonel C. S. Gleim's chief assistants as well as his close friend.

When the Lincoln Tunnel work was nearing completion, the Mason & Hanger Company invited Abe to become its resident engineer in Everett, Pennsylvania, where the company was digging a hole through Rays Hill for the new Turnpike. From this job he went to Pulaski, Virginia, where he was job engineer on the Company's contract to build a bag-loading plant for Hercules Powder to operate.

After the war, Mr. Lincoln became job manager for the Mason & Hanger Company on the completion of the Manhattan section of the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel. Abe's work there was finished at the end of last year. His passing is a great loss to Mason & Hanger Company, to his friends, to his family. These are hackneyed phrases but they are the truth.

—HOWARD L. KING

George H. Starr

GEORGE H. STARR, Mole and general superintendent of the Preload Corp., died in London, England, Jan. 1 as he was waiting to board an airplane for return to the United States. He was 62.

A Massachusetts Institute of Technology graduate of 1913, he was a captain in the Field Artillery, 37th Division, in France in World War I. For 20 years before going with Preload he was general superintendent for Ferro Concrete Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

John D. Gaskin

JACK GASKIN, A Mole, and Sales Engineer for Lone Star Cement Corp., died April 3, age 61.

Born in Kingston, Ont., he attended Queens University there. Then came to the United States. Prior to joining Lone Star in 1934 he worked mostly in heavy construction. Positions included: Assistant to the president of the Mid-Eastern Construction Corp., Newtown Creek subway tunnels, in connection with the subway system; resident engineer for Abbott Merkt during construction of the Port of New York Authority Building; chief inspector, Edison power station, East 14th St.; district manager, MacArthur Concrete Pile Co., Philadelphia office; superintendent on the Hudson and Manhattan Tunnel; inspector for the Passaic Valley water sewage system; director for public works sewage construction program throughout the borough of Manhattan under Chief Engineer Charles Pinckney.

Mr. Gaskin's widow, Gladys, three children, and two grandchildren survive.

James F. Sanborn

JAMES FORREST SANBORN, 79, a Mole and consulting engineer, died Nov. 12 at his home in Framingham, Mass.

Mr. Sanborn had been an expert on compressed air tunnel work for the New York Rapid Transit Co., and on aqueduct and tunnel work for the New York Board of Water Supply. He had been a consultant for the New York Board of Transportation and for the Jamaica Water Supply Co.

He was an expert on testimony in appraisal and construction work, and he was co-author of "Engineering Geology of the Catskill Water Supply."

Born in Sanborn, Colo., Mr. Sanborn attended both Harvard and Yale. He was a director of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a member of many other technical societies. His widow, a son and three daughters survive.

THE MOLES CONGRATULATE . . .

NEW MEMBERS elected since the last issue of *HOLING THROUGH* include:

LUCIEN F. BLOM, Chief Engineer, Michael J. Torpey, Inc., 5007 49th St., Woodside, N. Y.

THOMAS C. GILL, Chief Engineer, Moretrench Corporation, 90 West Street, New York 6, N. Y.

CLIFFORD S. STRIKE, President, F. H. McGraw & Company, 51 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.

FRANCIS M. TOMPKINS, Vice-President, Chas. H. Tompkins Company, 907 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

THOMAS G. ROME, President, Ayers-Hagan-Booth, Inc., 35 Westminster Street, Providence, R. I.

LOUIS I. PENTZIEN, President, Omaha Dredge & Dock Company, 800-810 Douglas Street, Omaha 8, Nebraska.

Ted Avery Has Narrow Escape

THEODORE M. AVERY, popular Blaw-Knox representative for New York City, is living on borrowed time following a near-fatal taxicab accident at La Guardia Airport, February 16. Ted, who didn't regain consciousness until March 6, is still in Flushing Hospital. He expects to be in the hospital until the middle of May, at least, and will be glad to see his fellow Moles.

Here's the condition doctors report Ted was in upon arrival at the hospital: Skull fracture in two places, lip cut down to chin, nose fractured, tongue nearly cut in half, nearly all ribs broken, and compound fractures of hip and leg. He is in a plaster cast from waist down. Pretty tough deal for a fellow 69 years old, but every Mole is pulling for his speedy recovery. Selling contractors for 40 years sure toughened him up.

Are You Properly Listed?

The 1950 Moles membership roster is about to be published, so take a look at the old one to make sure you're listed properly. If not, call Miss Lizotte at L'ONGACRE 3-3444-5 and tell her how it should be.