

# HOLING THROUGH

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

An Organization of Tunnel and Heavy Construction Men

MARCH, 1953



THERE'S ALWAYS FUN at a Moles meeting. At a recent one, Bill Green and Charlie Davis relax after they've had their coffee.

### NEXT ONE MAY 6th!

### Annual business meeting will feature election of officers, plus fine fare and frolic

It's the red-checked tableto say "Nice to see ya," and forcloth, rather than the red carpet, that is rolled out for The Moles at the Roosevelt Hotel Wednesday night, May 6, but it spells WELCOME no matter how you unfurl it. get the worries of the day. Ne the gong for dinner, then wh you're nice and comfortable President Dave Bonner will pi up the gavel and start the precedings. Election, committee re

You may call it an Annual Business Meeting, and no one will dispute you. Yet there's a quality about Moles business meetings that never is far from the sheer pleasure of comradeship.

First in the foyer, where the long bars are set up. No waiting for change, because the drinks are free. No arguments about who'll have the privilege of picking up the check. Plenty of time

get the worries of the day. Next the gong for dinner, then when you're nice and comfortable President Dave Bonner will pick up the gavel and start the proceedings. Election, committee reports (not too long, but plenty of meat in 'em), other bits of business, then Dick Johnson takes over, announcing the program — or rather the entertainment.

It's "all high-class stuff," you know. So come ahead and enjoy it. Buy a drink or two, afterwards, too. Gotta get in trim for the Clambake next August. (Ah, summer-time; but that's another story.)

## ENR Gives Moles Pat on the Back

This year's Award Dinner received the best press ever. Several construction papers gave a page or more to the advance notices of the awards, and similar recognition was given at the time of the dinner, but perhaps the nicest accolade was the following editorial in the Feb. 12 issue of Engineering News-Record:

#### "MOLES AWARDS MEET A NEED

"As a general thing it could be said that the supply of prizes and awards available each year is adequate to the need. But closer inspection will show that these forms of recognition are predominately in the field of design and research. The contractors, and particularly those in the field of heavy construction, largely go unheralded and unsung.

"Perhaps this is why a small organization of New York contractors, mostly social in nature, can command such respect for its annual awards for service to construction. The contracting fraternity appreciates the fact that for the last 12 years the Moles have filled a sort of void — in meeting the need for contractors' recognition.

"Because one award each year is made to a non-member, the Moles are able to accord recognition on a national scale. Member awards, too, are usually made to men who have distinguished themselves and exalted construction in the whole country. In creating the award, and maintaining high standards for selection, the Moles deserve one of their own awards, 'for service to construction.'"



KEY MEN at the 1953 Award Dinner. Seated: Peter Kiewit, Non-Member Award winner; Edward P. Palmer, Member Award winner. Standing, David Bonner, president of The Moles; George Ferris, who made the presentation to Mr. Kiewit; J. Rich Steers, who made the presentation to Mr. Palmer; Dr. T. Keith Glennan, principal speaker; and A. Holmes Crimmins, Chairman of the Award Committee.

#### **Award Dinner a Success**

Operating under a new set of rules this year, The Moles are quite pleased with the success of the Award Dinner at the Waldorf Feb. 4. Adequate limitation of tickets, to the number the Grand Ballroom can accommodate comfortably, made it easier for everyone to hear the speakers, and the idea of free drinks beforehand, with tables assigned to hosts desiring them, helped combat that old bugbear, room parties.

About 1000 heavy construction men saw Ed Palmer and Peter Kiewit receive the awards, and heard T. Keith Glennan, president of Case Institute of Technology, in Cleveland, say that the time has come to let private industry put its ingenuity and incentives to work on the peaceable uses of atomic energy. Glennan is a former member of the A.E.C.

Stating that the government's investment in atomic energy so far amounts to \$12 billion, (this includes all phases of atomic energy activity: tests like the famous one at Bikini as well as the investment in physical plant), Glennan said that the United

States now is at a three-pronged fork in the atomic energy road.

Weapons need is limited—One choice is to restrict atomic energy to military use by building up the stockpile of atomic weapons as fast as possible for an infinite period of time. This is unnecessary, Glennan said, because there is a definite limit to the number of tactical and strategic

atomic-weapons targets throughout the world.

A second choice is to give top priority to military uses, and almost as much priority to peaceable uses, to be administered as a government monopoly. The third choice is the same as the second, with the important exception that private enterprise would own a substantial portion of the peaceable uses of atomic energy.

Glennan favors the third choice, advising industry to seek the release of fissionable materials for use in private enterprise; to obtain patent rights, particularly to methods developed by industry's own people; and to seek the release of secrets, particularly in the atomic power field, that may no longer affect security.

The citation to Mr. Kiewit called him "constructor extraordinary (with) rare vision, enterprise and superb skill, notably in the fields of public service and world-wide heavy construction." His was the non-member award. Important projects currently under construction by the Kiewit firm are the \$1.2 billion AEC plant at Portsmouth, Ohio, and a giant airbase being built (in association with three other contractors) at Thule, Greenland.

Member Award winner Palmer was cited: "... in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments and his supreme ability, notably in the fields of pneumatic foundations, tunnels and industrial relations." For many years he has served on national labor policy-making boards.

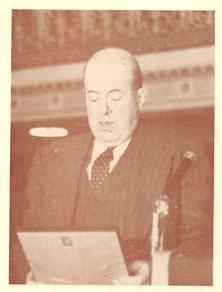
#### Moles honor Past-Presidents

When The Moles got together for their November Members Dinner at The Roosevelt Hotel on the fifth of that month, the feature of the evening was recognition of past-presidents.

These honorable gentlemen looked most impressive, arrayed to the right and left of President Dave Bonner, at the speakers table. Presentations were made by Dave, ably assisted by our executive secretary, Irene Lizotte, who handed the framed certificates to Dave as he called the names. Each former president who was present said a few words in response to the sentiments of the certificates.

The group was understandably sober at one point, when Justin Hyland, brother of our immediate past-president, Dick Hyland, stood to accept Dick's certificate posthumously. It read, "This citation, with the heartfelt appreciation of the officers, trustees and members, is presented to Richard V. Hyland in recognition of the years of faithful service which he has devoted to furthering the interests of this Association and for his guidance as President, May, 1951 to May, 1952. May he continue to give his wise counsel for the continued good of The Moles." It will

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PAST-PRESIDENTS NIGHT featured presentation of certificates to former presidents of The Moles. Here, Justin Hyland accepts certificate for his late brother, Dick.



PRESIDENT DAVE BONNER made the presentations. Shown above with Dave is Bill Durkin, who accepted for Jack Macdonald. Jack was in Europe on NATO job.



PLEASURE WAS EVINCED by Charlie Spencer, 1947 Moles president, as he accepted his certificate. In all, fourteen certificates, hand-lettered, were issued.



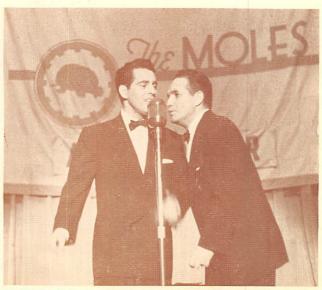
CUTE KIDS—This singing and dancing act got a big hand. Here, it looks as if the girl has the upper hand.



CLD FRIEND — We'll have to go a long way to find a xylophonist as good — or an instrument so diminutive.



DOG JOKER—Seemed as if none of this man's dogs would do what he wanted them to do — when he wanted them to.



ENCORE — Whether they played it straight or imitated more famous singers, these two were good for extra numbers.



FOUNDER PRESIDENT, Al Sielke, was among those who accepted certificates on Past-Presidents' Night. Al was second president of The Moles, in 1939.

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be recalled that Dick died Sept. 20 after a long illness. Justin, by the way, now is a member of The Moles.

Others who received similar citations include:

Henry A. Leeuw	
(deceased)	1938
Albert V. Sielke	1939
Ray N. Spooner	1940
Alex M. Stagg	
Alexander Lyle	
John S. Macdonald 19	43-44
Arthur A. Johnson 19	44-45
Alfred N. Warwick	1946
Charles B. Spencer	1947
J. Rich Steers	1948
Carlton S. Proctor	1949
James F. Salmon	
Richard V. Hyland	1951
Ralph W. Atwater	
(Honorary Life President)	1952

About 230 Moles attended the dinner and paid homage to these leaders. Entertainment included a better-than-average dog act, as well as some fine singing and dancing. For a few pictures, turn to the previous page.

#### Notes on Moles

One past-president who was absent from the Award Dinner was Jack Macdonald. He cabled his regrets and best wishes from Weisbaden, Germany.

Alex Stagg is recuperating in Florida, where he now lives permanently.

He keeps in touch with Moles Head-quarters.

Headquarters, by the way, is a quiet place these days, now that the Award Dinner is past. The demand for more and MORE tickets was terrific, but Irene Lizotte and Marguerite MacLean—with the moral support of Award Dinner Chairman Holmes Crimmins—held steady. It paid off in one of the best Award Dinners yet. There was room to move around. And we could hear the speakers.

Holmes Crimmins, by the way, proved himself an able Award Chairman in all ways. He deserves full recognition and thanks.

Congratulations, too, to Leo Forrest, who now is district sales manager, in charge of Nazareth Cement Company's New York office. Couldn't happen to a nicer guy.

Big deal in the Catskills a couple of weeks ago. Walsh-Perini holed-through East Delaware Tunnel in true Mole fashion. Cut the 13-ft bore clean as a whistle by knocking out seven feet of rock half way between Shafts One and Two. This ended 25 miles of driving that took more than three years. Board of Water Supply Commissioner "Maje" Huie, good friend of The Moles, pulled the switch that set off the blast. In charge was Tom Walsh, Jr., president of Walsh. Several Moles who had a hand in the tunnel at one time or another were there, including Jack Murphy and Clancy O'Dell. Also Harry Hush, Glenn Browning, Pete Connolly, Jesse Glaeser and others. Jesse was down from his Perini-Walsh tunnel at Niagara Falls.

Rich Steers has been in Africa inspecting his jobs. Ned Johnson in Canada, visiting the Toronto subway and a far-north railroad job.

#### Address Right?

Moles Headquarters is about to publish a new directory of members, and wants it to be as accurate as possible.

Will you look at your 1952 directory and check your listing. If any correction should be made, write it up and send it to Irene Lizotte, Executive Secretary, The Moles, 11 W 42nd St., New York.



DISTINGUISHED NEW MEMBER, Peter Kiewit (left), poses with his fellow award winner, Ed Palmer, at the Award Dinner.

## The Moles Welcome . . .

The following have been added to the membership rolls since July of last year:

GEORGE W. BENISCH Slattery Contracting Co. 46-36 54th Road Maspeth 78, N. Y.

FRANCIS G. CAREY
Port of New York Authority
111 8th Ave.
New York 11, N. Y.

JUSTIN E. HYLAND Madigan-Hyland 28-04 41st Ave. Long Island City 1, N. Y.

ALFRED H. KORSEN Slattery Contracting Co. 46-36 54th Road Maspeth 78, N. Y.

PHILIP C. RUTLEDGE Moran, Proctor, Mueser and Rutledge 420 Lexington Ave. New York 17, N. Y.

AUGUST G. SPERL Sperl, Gowen & Gregory, Inc. 441 Lexington Ave. New York 17, N. Y.

EDWARD M. YOUNG, SR. Young Foundation Co. Teaneck, N. J.

#### Honorary members:

PETER KIEWIT
Peter Kiewit Sons' Co.
1024 Omaha National Bank Bldg.
Omaha 2, Neb.

T. KEITH GLENNAN
Case Institute of Technology
University Circle
Cleveland 6, Ohio