# NEWS BULLETIN

# AN ASSOCIATION OF MEN HOLING



# OF THE MOLES

ENGAGED IN HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

# THROUGH

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**APRIL, 1958** 

# 'Firm Foundation Man' New Prexy

The Moles are getting, for their new president, a "firm man who builds foundations," and a "firm foundations" man, all in one package — Howard A.

That's assuming, of course, that the May 7 dinner meeting in the Biltmore endorses the work of the Nominating Committee headed by Richard M. Johnsen.

Howard A. Collins has made it, very much on his own. He started in construction in 1919 with Godwin Construction Co. and never took time out for a college education, but by 1945 he had formed his own Howard Collins Construction Company, and since then he has been responsible for an unusually high percentage of the major excavating and foundation jobs for Manhattan

The other officers to be presented for ratification at the May 7 meeting include Howard's fellow-Larchmonter, Mansell L. MacLean of MacLean-Grove, as first vice president; Chester W. Cambell of The Foundation Co. as second vice president; still another Larchmonter, Harry T. Immerman of Spencer, White & Prentis, as treasurer; Eugene F. Moran Jr., of Moran Towing Corp., as secretary, and John C. MacElroy of J. C. MacElroy Co., Inc., as sergeant-at-arms.

Four three-year trustees are proposed: James T. Denton of Geo. W. Rogers Construction Corp.; Joseph B. Diamond; Howard G. Dixon of Johnson, Drake & Piper, Inc., and William M. Sheehan of Tully & Di Napoli, Inc. Proposed for trustee for one year to serve the unex-pired term of Gene Moran is Eugene G. Rau of J. Rich Steers, Inc.

The new president-designate has lived in Larchmont almost all his life, and has brought up there a fine family of four daughters (three of them married) and two sons, Patrick H. and Lawrence J., both in the business with Dad. He has been a Mole for 10 years, has served as chairman of the By-Laws Revision Committee and on the Executive Com-

He is a director of the West Side Association of Commerce, first vice president of the General Contractors Asso-



HOWARD COLLINS

ciation, member of the board of directors of the New York Building Congress, Inc., a member of the Cardinal's Committee of the Laity and of many other organizations.

Howard is proud that his concern "specializes in difficult jobs" of excavating and underpinning. Among outstanding projects it has handled are: tunnel from Chrysler building into Grand Central Terminal; the Port of New York Authority Bus Terminal; The old Ritz-Carlton Hotel site; the old Hippodrome site, Lever House and Canada House. At present it is handling the foundation work for the New York Times West Side plant, and also one for The Daily News on, of course, the East Side.

Other members of Dick Johnsen's Nominating Committee are: Louis F. Booth, vice-chairman; Edward P. Albright, Herbert M. Crowley, Maurice N. Quade, and Harry Siefke.

The timetable for the May 7 doings is: Reception (refreshments free) starting at 6; dinner at 6:45; business meeting at 8. Bill Sheehan is chairman of the Program Committee.

## **New Members**

Two important facts about new members: (1) New-membership applications will be "receivable" again starting in May, 1958, after having been closed since January 22 of last year, and (2) here is the crop of 13 new Moles, fellows who were voted into membership by the executive committee - and presumably will all be on hand at the May 7 meeting to receive the good old "right claw of fellowship:"

Guy Sherman Connors of Williams Brothers Co., Tulsa, Okla.; Leon Arthur Fraikin of Franki Foundation Co.; Eugene Joseph Fullam of The Foundation Co.; Henry A. Letoile of the Perini Corp.: James Arthur MacAlarney of the Ford Motor Co.'s "The American Road," Dearborn, Mich.;

Wilmot A. Milbury of Western Foundation Corp.; Neil O'Leary of The Foundation Corp.; H. Warren Pattberg of Gates Brothers Marine Contractors, Inc.; John R. Sloan of the Conduit & Foundation Corp.; Garland S. Tinsley of Merritt-Chapman & Scott Corp.;

Thomas R. Trent of Boring, Inc.; Joseph A. Dooley of New York Trap Rock Corp. (to take the place of Joseph C. Dooley, a former member of The Moles); George J. Landers of Standard Bitulithic Co.

#### YOURS RIGHT?

A new membership roster is about to go to the printer.

So if you have any changes or corrections to report, in address or affiliation, send them in right away to Mrs. McLean in The Moles office - Room 54, Floor 1-M, Biltmore Hotel, New York 17.

The telephone is MU 4-1158.

### SEMINAR SERIES IN ROUSING CLIMAX



Here is the impressive lineup of speaking and questionanswering talent that manned the speakers' table at the third and by far largest of the construction seminars for college engineering undergraduates conducted by The Moles Education Committee. It was in the Biltmore's grand ballroom on Friday evening, March 28, preceded by a buffet supper. Nearly 500 students attended, heard very appropriate talks by Carlton Proctor, Holmes Crimmins and Howard Collins, and saw a motion picture of Merritt-Chapman & Scott's "Deep Inch" pipeline project across the Straits of Mackinac. First row, left to right: Chester W. Cambell, Herbert M. Crowley, Al Gustafson, Raymond A. Finley Jr., Arthur Carlton, William Denny, Howard Collins, Carlton Proctor.

Second row, left to right: Charles Stillman, chairman of the Education Committee; Irving Huie, A. Holmes Crimmins, Henry A. Letoile, J. Rich Steers Jr., President Richard A. Johnson, Charles B. Molineaux, Mansell L. MacLean.



GEORGE J. MEISE, 69, of New York City, died March 18. He was a graduate of the Manhattan College school of engineering, 1911, was a construction engineer in World War I and later was active in government and New York City housing works. He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the New York State Society of Professional Engineers. Surviving are his wife, Marguerite, and two sons.

Howard Collins, our incoming president, not long ago had another reason—in fact, a pair of them—for throwing out his chest a bit: two new grandsons, one each to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick R. Collins and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Gallin.

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#### M.I.T. Honors Dandrow

C. George Dandrow, vice president of Johns-Manville Sales Corp., was honored as recipient of the annual Silver Stein award by the M.I.T. Club of New York. Since 1935 he has been an honorary secretary of the Institute and active on many committees handling M.I.T. alumni affairs and projects. While in college he was a star in the weight-throwing events, holding the college record for the 56-pound weight and being a member of the U.S. Olympic team.

#### Tribute to Arthur A. Johnson

One of the real "grand old men of The Moles," Arthur A. Johnson, was signally honored at a \$100-a-plate dinner on April 8 at the Waldorf-Astoria. The dinner was organized as a tribute to Mr. Johnson and for the benefit of the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art.

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Eugene Gibbons has been named district manager of the Philadelphia office of Raymond International, Inc., succeeding William Cunningham, named New Orleans district manager. Gibbons, who had been chief engineer for the New York State Department of Public Works, joined Raymond in 1956 as project manager.

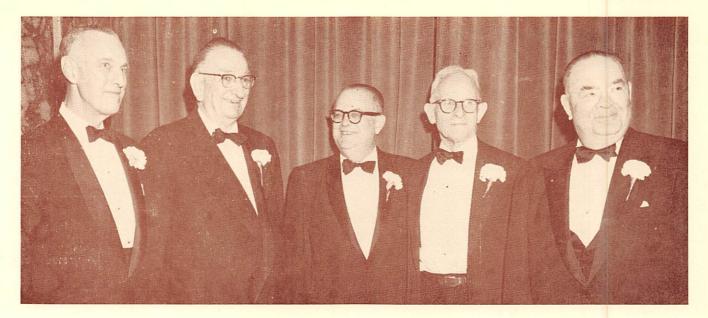
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Donald B. McKinley, formerly a member of Charles H. Sells, Inc., consulting engineers, has been appointed by Spencer, White & Prentis as vice president in charge of field operations.



JEREMIAH COLLINS

JEREMIAH J. COLLINS, 74, vice president and director of Raymond International, Inc. (new name of Raymond Concrete Pile), died April 13 at his home in East Orange, N.J. He had been ill since September. Mr. Collins, who joined Raymond in 1912, had been chairman of a management committee of the Brown-Raymond-Walsh group that is building five Air Force bases, a Navy base and a 485-mile pipeline for Budocks. Surving are his wife, Mrs. Adah Collins, two sons, John and James, and five grandchildren.



MOLES AWARDS for 1958 were presented at the annual banquet in the Waldorf-Astoria ballroom on January 29 to Member Peter F. Connolly (second from left) and Francis Donaldson (second from right). Flanking each of the recipients is his presenter, Edward G. Johnson on the left and Thomas J. Walsh on the right, while

President Richard A. Johnson, who presided, is shown in the center. Principal speaker was Bertram D. Tallamy, federal highway administrator, who played a leading role in the conception and building of the New York Thruway. John J. Walsh was chairman of the Award Committee.

### Ferris Gets Good Write-Up In Times

"George has such an unholy ingenuity in bypassing obstacles he could have talked Carrie Nation into setting up a round of drinks."

That's a pertinent quote by a contemporary, that was worked into an unusually complimentary and generouslength "profile" article on George Ferris, former Mole president and head of Raymond International, Inc. in a recent issue of the New York Sunday Times.

The piece quotes George himself as opining that construction is "one of the toughest, hotly competitive and yet exciting, exacting and light-hearted" of businesses.

#### A Medal For Prentis

Edmund Astlay Prentis, one of the founders of Spencer, White & Prentis, is the 1958 recipient of the Alexander Hamilton Medal, termed the highest honor awarded annually by the Alumni Association of Columbia College "for distinguished service in any field of human endeavor." Mr. Prentis also was honored, in 1950, by Columbia's School of Engineering with its Egleston Medal; he thus becomes the only person ever to receive both of these awards.

Charles A. Abeles, a charter member of The Moles and former official of Watt Car & Wheel Co., died March 10. He lived at 25 Central Park West.

Louis W. St. James, a Moles member emeritus, died Nov. 7 at his home near Hesperus, Colorado.

#### Singstad Honored

Ole Singstad, one of the world's outstanding tunnel designers, was honored by the New York State Society of Professional Engineers, getting the society's annual award for distinguished engineering services. One of his recent projects is the new Baltimore Tunnel.

#### New Title For Ralph

Ralph W. Atwater, honorary life president and permanent ex-officio member of the Executive Committee, was voted designation as "Founder Member" at a recent Executive Committee meeting. The only other Founder Members are Alex Stagg and Albert V. Sielke.

# DAVID BONNER DIES AT 69

A man who had held many offices in The Moles and was held in affectionate esteem by all who knew him, David Bonner, died Jan. 15 at his home in Great Neck, L.I.

Dave, a native of Greenwich, Conn. who received a degree in civil engineering from Princeton in 1909, had been associated with several well-known firms in his career, and had been vice president of Frederick Snare Corp. from 1942 until 1956.

He was president of The Moles in 1952, after moving up through the first and second v-p posts, served six years as trustee, and chairmanned the Membership and Award committees. He also was honored by presidencies of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Princeton Engineering Society.

Other firms with which he was associated included Henry Steers, Inc., Rogers & Hagerty, Raymond Concrete Pile, and Metropolitan Sand & Gravel Co.



Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Joyce Jones Bonner, a son, Henry M.; two stepdaughters, two sisters and a brother.



GEORGE W. RAYNER, 74, "an engineer who left his mark in transportation, mining and power development in Ontario and across Canada," died Jan. I in Toronto. He headed the Rayner Construction Co., Ltd. (roads and bridges), Rayner Atlas Ltd. (hydraulic tunnels), and Iroquois Constructors, Ltd. (power and seaway assignments). A vigorous man, who'd starred in football at the University of Toronto, he was in the vanguard of the cobalt rush and other prospectings. He was a native of Suffolk, England, but came to Ontario at the age of seven.



E. WALTER HAMMER, 72, former vice president for overseas operations of Merritt-Chapman & Scott, died of a heart attack Jan. 16 in Toledo, Oregon, where he had been directing construction of a new paper mill. His wife was with him there. A graduate of Cooper Union, he was for many years a resident of New York, and was construction superintendent for the final work on the Woolworth building. He also had charge of repairing the damage done when the airplane hit the Empire State building, and of erecting the TV towers atop that building.



JOSEPH M. KELLOGG, 66, of St. Paul, vice president of Johnson, Drake and Piper, Inc., died of a coronary thrombosis February 14 while he and Mrs. Kellogg were visiting their daughter in Denver, Col. He had a national reputation as an authority on Arctic and "expeditionary" construction projects. Among landmark projects he managed were the piers for the Huey Long bridge in Louisiana, which extend 170 feet helow water level, and the Garrison Dam spillway on the Missouri river. Surviving, besides Mrs. Kellogg, are four children.



NICOLA J. BARLETTA, 44, president of the Barletta Co., Inc., died Oct. 25 after a short illness. Among his company's projects is the Boston Central Artery Project KL. the widest tunnel in the world, now in progress. A graduate of Northeastern University, 36, with a B.S. degree in civil engineering, he had been a registered professional engineer since 1948. He was a director of the New England Road Builders Association. Surviving are his wife, Marie, three daughters and a son, two sisters and a brother.



A native of Independence, Ia., he was a graduate of the University of Iowa and had been with the Steers organization for 30 years. He was a member of the HAROLD W. LEHMKUHL, struction superintendent for a Steers Co., died Nov. 4 at h the Community Methodist Church. for 30 years. He was a member of Society of Professional Engineers New Jersey, the Roselle Colf club viving are his wife, Lehmkuhl, two di Roselle Park, N.J. after a brief illness daughters, 4 at his home in for the Ann Sigmund 55, and J. Rich a con-Sur-0



a prominent welding engineer and former president of Sound Welding Co. Inc. of the Bronx, died Oct. 31 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern. He had been retired about five years and had been in ill health for a number of years. He had devoted himself energetically to work on behalf of the blind. He was a World War I veteran, member of the American Welding Society, president in 1941-42 of the Bronx Rotary club. He is survived by Mrs. Keogh, two sisters and two brothers.