

NEWS BULLETIN

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HOLING



OF THE MOLES

ENGAGED IN HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

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NOVEMBER, 1961

Terzaghi and Ferris Named for Awards



DR. KARL TERZAGHI

Dr. Karl Terzaghi, internationally known pioneer in soils mechanics, is the non-member winner, and George F. Ferris, board chairman of Raymond International, is the fellow-Mole who will be honored at the Annual Moles' Awards Dinner at the Waldorf Astoria next January 31. They constitute the 22nd pair of such honorees since the Awards were inaugurated in 1941.

"Few men in a lifetime have exerted an influence on their profession to compare with that of Karl Terzaghi on civil engineering and engineering geology."

Thus begins the foreword of a book entitled "From Theory to Practice in Soils Mechanics" that is largely made up of selections from the writings of the man to be honored with The Moles' non-member Award for 1962. The book, which is in the Library of Congress, is a labor of love and

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GEORGE F. FERRIS

Few men have packed more solid achievement and distinguished performance into 37 years of heavy construction than our member Award winner for 1962, the personable and energetic but soft-spoken George F. Ferris.

The record George has compiled since his graduation in 1924 from the University of Florida is outstanding from the standpoint of engineer, constructor and administrator. He rose to top positions in two major construction firms, his

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Dr. Karl Terzaghi

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respect by four outstanding professors—one a Norwegian, one an Englishman, the other two Americans.

Dr. Terzaghi is generally recognized as "the father of modern soils engineering." He was born in 1884 in Prague, then Bohemia, and first came to this country in 1912 to study earthwork engineering data accumulated by the U.S. Reclamation Service. He worked as a driller on construction of the Celilo locks on the Columbia river and in 1916 returned to Europe to teach at the Imperial School of Engineers in Istanbul. It was while there that he developed most of the basic principles of modern soils mechanics.

Our non-member honoree has had wide experience in both teaching and in execution of significant engineering projects in this country and in other parts of the world. His teaching activities in the U.S.A. included two visiting lectureships, one at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1925-1929, the other at Harvard University in 1938. He became a United States citizen in 1939; his home is in Winchester, Mass.

Some of the projects on which he has served: construction of the Chicago subway system; the subsidence of the City of Mexico, for the Mexican government; construction of Kenney Dam, for the Aluminum Company of Canada; the Sariyar and Seyham Dams in Asia Minor, the Serre Poncon Dam across the Durance Valley in France, the Polavaram Dam on the Godavari river in Madras, and the Aswan Dam in Egypt.

In his early years, before his first visit to this country, he worked as construction superintendent on various reinforced concrete structures and hydroelectric projects in Austria, Hungary and Russia.

Among Dr. Terzaghi's many honors are the Norman Medal and the Thomas Fitch Rowland Prize, both from the A.S.C.E.; the Fitzgerald Medal and the Clemens Herschel Prize, both from the Boston Society of Civil Engineers; the Frank B. Brown Medal of the Franklin Institute; the Gold Medal of Honor of the Austrian Society of Engineers and Architects, and the New England Award, by the Engineering Societies of New England.

George F. Ferris

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contributions to science, industry and government are well recognized, and he has been an outstandingly useful and active Mole — president in 1954, Award Committee chairman in '51, trustee for seven years.

He joined Turner Construction in New York in 1929, after several years of land reclamation and marine construction in his native Florida. For the next 10 years he served as superintendent on major projects in the metropolitan area and in Illinois and Maryland.

MOLES TRIUMPH

A 5-1 victory that won the Commissioner's Trophy — five games to four — from the DPW softballers was a pleasing (to Moles) feature of the annual Clambake held under the traditionally perfect weather conditions at Travers Island on August 16.

About a thousand Moles and guests enjoyed a varied program of contests, excellent food, and a rousing evening tent show.

Winners in the field contests (member mentioned first in each case) were: Alley cats — George Fox and J. W. Krech; golf pitching — John F. Feeney and John W. Weber; horseshoes — C. J. Foster and Mr. Hobbs; spike driving — John Barnes and Bill Lutz; egg-tossing — the team of John Barnes and Fred Driscoll Jr., first, and the team of Russo and Sparrow from The Moles' ball team, second.

Door prizes went to: Royal Riley, Mr. Striker, David Loughlin, Leland H. Crosby, Robert N. Dentz and A. K. Burnham Jr.

Then, for five years he devoted his energies to a massive program of air base construction for the Navy in the Pacific. In his role as chairman of the operating committee he marshaled contractors' forces and directed a program covering more than \$360 million in procurement, shipping and construction, under extremely difficult conditions. In recognition of his brilliant execution of this assignment the Navy gave George its highest civilian citation, the Distinguished Public Service Award. While on this assignment he was elected a vice president and director of Turner.

In 1946 Mr. Ferris went over to what was then Raymond Concrete Pile Company as vice president and general manager. At the time he explained that he was "basically a heavy-construction man" and Raymond's operations better suited his background and liking. He has substantially expanded Raymond's activities, "keeping one foot in the office and the other one out in the field," in the words of his Award nominator, the late Dick Dougherty. George became president in 1953, and in 1960 was made board chairman; the company meanwhile, in 1958, had changed its name to Raymond International Inc. to more accurately reflect its greatly expanded operations under his guidance.

Our member Award winner in recent years has played leading roles in organizing and managing the \$350-million Spanish bases program, the Hyperion outfall job off Los Angeles, and the spectacular bridge-tunnel crossing of Lower Chesapeake Bay, now under construction. One imaginative concept he now has under development is a plan to build a tunnel across the English Channel by sinking pre-fabricated tube sections from a huge "Texas Tower" type of structure.



PRESIDENT Harry T. Immerman is shown with "all three" of the trophies involved in the 22-year series of softball games, between The Moles and the New York City Department of Public Works teams, that have featured the Clambakes since 1939. Left to right are: the Founders' Trophy — taken by DPW, five games to four, in 1951; the Commissioner's Trophy — put up by the late Fred Zurmuhlen and captured by The Moles, also five games to four, just this year; and the new President's Cup, on which the rivals will start a new best-of-nine series at the 1962 Clambake.

The series started at the 1939 Clambake at Karatsonyi's at Glenwood Landing, Long Island, largely through the interest of the late Irving Huie, then Commissioner. Promptly the four Founder Members—Alex Stagg, Albert Sielke, the late James Fitzgerald and the late Harry Leeuw — put up the original trophy.

Wartime restrictions on gasoline and travel caused cancellation of the Clambakes in 1942, 43, 44 and 45, so it wasn't until 1951 that the nine-game string was played out, the DPW's taking the 1950 and 1951 games after the teams had alternated winning through seven games, with The Moles having the "odd game" edge each time, up to the end.

Zurmuhlen lost no time putting up the replacement prize. Then began a furious rivalry between the Commissioner and Ted Avery, longtime honorary captain of The Moles' diamond forces. The Moles won by lop-sided scores the first three years, then the DPW captured four straight, three of them by one-run margins. Then in 1959 The Moles came back with a 1-0 squeaker to tie the series at four apiece; in 1960 the teams battled to a 1-1 tie, and that sent the series into 1961, The Moles winning 5-1.

So each side now has permanent possession of one trophy. Regrettably, Ted Avery is no longer able to serve as captain, and for the last couple of years the incumbent President has acted as sponsor. In that capacity Harry Immerman authorized the procurement of the new trophy.

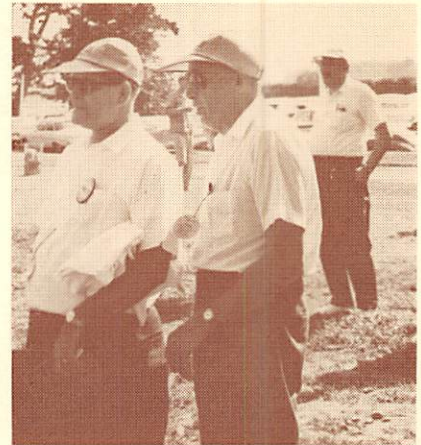
THE CAMERA COVERS THE CLAMBAKE



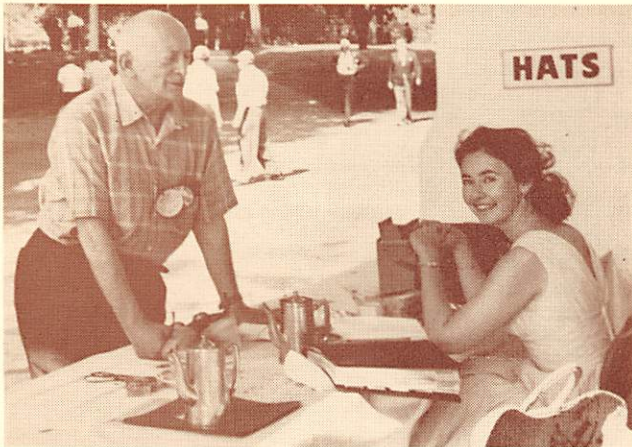
RAY SPOONER (left) casts an amused eye over the proceedings. At right is CLARENCE HAMEL of Con Edison. In background is TED MOORE of Gibbs & Hill.



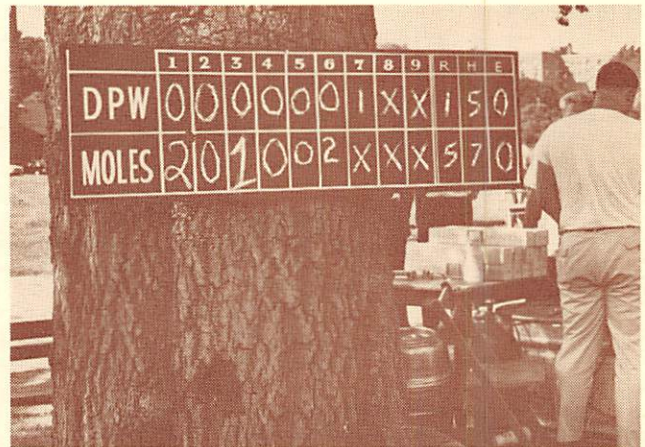
JOHN TIERNAN of The Foundation Company and JACK KOFFLER of the New Jersey Testing Laboratories didn't mind giving "the birdie" a smile or two.



EDDIE JOHNSON (left) of Moran Towing, program chairman, and HAL HUNT of Civil Engineering seem to be watching something with great earnestness.



PRESIDENT Harry Immerman checks in early; he got a pretty greeting from Marjorie McLean, but then she favored the camera-man with an equally rewarding, dazzling smile.



PERFECT DAY'S end is symbolized in scoreboard showing Moles' 5-1 triumph in rubber contest — best of nine — with Department of Public Works.

Brotherly Introduction

Dan Lenahan of Liberty Mutual (he's now in the Atlanta, Ga. office) was program chairman for the Construction Section of the National Safety Council in Chicago on Oct. 16, and had the great pleasure of introducing his fellow Mole, Harry Immerman, when "our Prez" addressed the group on "Prevention of Loss In Underpinning." Dan proudly included in his introduction the notation that Harry is not only president of The Moles, but its most recent member Award winner. And he reports that Harry gave a fine, well-received talk.



Presenters have already been lined up for the Award recipients at the Dinner on January 31. Carlton Proctor will present the Award to Dr. Karl Terzaghi; Adm. Ben Moreell will make the presentation to George Ferris.

Proctor, Too, Knows His Soils Mechanics

Carlton S. Proctor, one of the most erudite and articulate of all the Moles, was the speaker at an evening meeting, September 26, in Exhibition Hall, United Engineering Center (near the UN Secretariat building) of the Soils Mechanics & Foundations Division of the Metropolitan Section, ASCE. His topic was the history of soils mechanics in the U.S. and its development as a foundation engineering tool.

Looks as though Carlton will have quite a bit in common with our non-member Award winner, Dr. Karl Terzaghi, doesn't it?



Membership Chairman Howard Gould reported that as of September 16 the active membership of The Moles stood at 444. This is exclusive of Founder, Honorary, and Emeritus members.

Greetings From Alaska

Ken Sheppard, one of the early members of The Moles, showed up quite unexpectedly, but to the delight of many old friends, at the Clambake. He has been living in Alaska for quite a few years. Recently he has been engaged in construction of a natural gas pipeline in Alaska, and says that now he's to be "connected" (good word where pipelines are concerned) with the operation of the line and sale of the gas.



Spokesman is Salesman

"America's Number One Spokesman" is the description that often is given to the man who'll be the featured speaker at next January's Award Dinner. He's Dr. Kenneth McFarland of Topeka, Kansas, who "devotes his life to selling America to the Americans."



MILES I. KILLMER, 78, a charter member of The Moles and recipient of the 1946 Member Award, died Oct. 29 in the Riverview Hospital in Red Bank, N. J. He was a vice president and director of the Mason & Hanger—Silas Mason Company of New York, and had been active in the business until recently. A graduate (1906) of Pennsylvania State College, he was honored with its "distinguished alumnus" award nine years ago. In his long career with the Mason and Hanger people he worked as a tunnel engineer on many noteworthy projects in this country and abroad, including the Brooklyn-Battery tunnel, Lincoln's third tube, and the Holland tunnel. He held a patent for a method of under-river tunnel construction that he had developed to increase safety and save time and expense. He was a Moles trustee in 1938, 39, 40 and 41. Surviving are his wife, the former Edna Manson; a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Case, and three grandchildren.



Education Group Busy

The Education Committee met in late September and arranged for a meeting with faculty members of engineering colleges the afternoon of Nov. 8, and also planned to proceed with its program of "field trips" and speaking engagements at various colleges for members of the committee. Dick Mynatt is chairman, Henry Letoile one of the committee's most active speakers.



Hanly Comes East

William W. Hanly Jr., a charter member of The Moles who served four years as secretary and five as trustee, has been named manager of a new section — Lumber Sales — established in the Wood Preserving Division of Koppers Company, Inc. He had been manager of sales in the San Francisco area, but in his new position will make his headquarters in Pittsburgh.

Finance Chairman Answers Inquiries

Receipt of a number of inquiries from members as to why the price of Clambake tickets was increased from \$25 to \$30 this year prompted your Editor to seek enlightenment from Gilbert Serber, chairman of the Finance Committee, to pass along.

Gil had the answers. He pointed out that 1960-61 has been a "pivotal period" in the organization's development, with many changes, some long overdue, taking place. Among these are the enlargement of headquarters from a one- to a three-room suite, to provide adequate working conditions for the office staff and a board room for committee meetings; revision of the insurance coverage picture to more realistic levels, following a thorough review of the situation; effectuating of deserved increases in office staff salaries; and the creation of the position of managing director, with Ralph Atwater being engaged to serve in that capacity at a monthly salary.

Mr. Serber said that when he assumed the duties of Finance Committee chairman he was "truly amazed" at the "excellent system of bookkeeping and reports" the office staff had developed and was using. It is a system, he said, that forecasts very accurately all the receipts and expenditures for every event and activity. It was on the basis of this clear picture, he said, that the Finance Committee decided to increase the price of both Award Dinner and Clambake tickets, feeling this would be a more practicable solution than to increase the dues.

The itemized forecast for the current Moles' year, which Mr. Serber authorized for publication in *Holing Through*, is as follows:

RECEIPTS

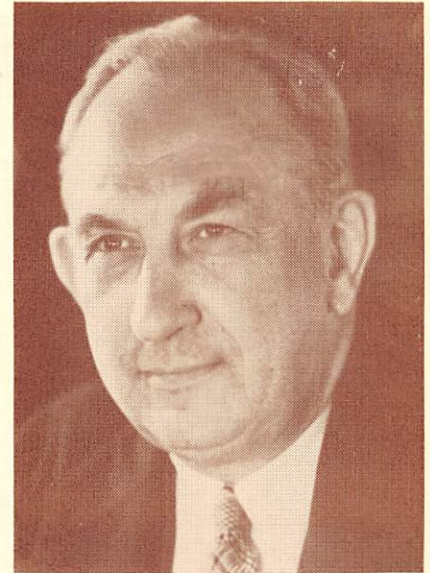
Award Committee	\$32,000
Program Committee	34,950
Education Committee	1,250*
Dues and Admission Fees	15,825
Total	\$84,025

DISBURSEMENTS

Award Committee	\$22,500
Program Committee	21,100
Membership Committee	430
Publicity Committee	1,230
Education Committee	1,500
Administration	37,030
Total	\$83,790

Estimated surplus \$235

* Part of The Moles' Permanent Fund, which amounts to \$39,492.06, is in United States Bonds, the remainder



RICHARD ERWIN DOUGHERTY, 81, recipient of The Moles' member Award in 1950 and president in 1953, died Sept. 29 at the White Plains hospital. He spent almost a full half-century in the service of the New York Central Railroad — 1902-1951 — rising from rodman on a surveying crew on the Mohawk Division to vice president—assistant to the president. His role with the railroad put him in numerous positions of public and governmental responsibility: He was instrumental in the rehabilitation of Manhattan's West Side in the 1930's, eliminating the railroad's "Death Avenue" grade crossings on Eleventh Avenue from Canal Street to 60th Street; helped select war plant sites during World War II, and served as one of President Truman's representatives in planning renovation of the White House. A native of New York City, he attended C.C.N.Y. three years and Columbia University four, graduating from the latter with a C.E. degree in 1901. Among Dick's club memberships was one in the "Blizzard Men of 1888." (He was eight years old at the time.) He was active in civic affairs in White Plains, being a member of the Board of Education for 20 years, from 1915 to 1935, and its president for 12 years. Surviving are his wife, the former Jessie Spurgeon, two daughters and three grandchildren.

in savings banks. Each year an amount equal to the interest earned by the Permanent Fund is transferred to the Operating Account and credited as income to the Education Committee.

Mr. Serber made it clear that (1) "care is used to eliminate all unnecessary expense by everyone connected with the administration of The Moles," and that (2) every expenditure in excess of \$100 must be authorized by the Executive Committee.