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Committee D-18 News

Johnson Retires

Arnold Ivan Johnson, chairman of ASTM Committee D-18 on Soil and Rock for Engineering purposes, has retired from his position as assistant chief of the Office of Water Data Coordination for the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, Va. About 150 people honored Johnson at a retirement dinner 3 February 1979; Johnson has retired to Denver, where he will do some consulting work for Woodward-Clyde Consultants.

Johnson joined the U.S. Geological Survey in 1948, and was instrumental in developing its Hydrologic Laboratory for rock and soil analysis, serving as its chief until 1967. During that period, he also organized and supervised a nationwide pool of specialized subsurface exploration equipment and carried out laboratory and field research on specific yield, permeability, and soil-moisture movement. After a brief stint with the survey's Rocky Mountain Region as a staff hydrologist, Johnson organized the Water Resources Training Center in Denver, serving as its chief until 1971, when he transferred to Washington to take up the position he held until his retirement. There, he also served as a methods coordinator, directing a federal project involving 170 scientists from 30 agencies in the production of the *National Handbook of Recommended Methods for Water Data Acquisition.*

Long active in a host of professional organizations, Johnson has been first vice-president of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences, chairman of the American Society of Civil Engineers' Geotechnical Engineering Division Committee on Definitions and Standards, and U.S. member on the ISSMFE Committee on Definitions, Symbols, Terminology, and Standards. In addition, he is a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a member of the National Society for Professional Engineers, the American Water Resources Association, the American Society of Agronomy, the American Geophysical Union, the International Society for Soil Science, and the International Commission on Ground Water. In most of these organizations, he has served as an officer or chairman. Johnson has published a large number of technical papers and reports, as well as writing many administrative reports.

New Grouting Subcommittee Formed

D18.16 on Grouting, a new subcommittee of ASTM Committee D-18, is now organized and at work. The scope of the committee covers all methods and materials used for grouting soil and rock. Work on sample preparation, curing, and testing of grouted soil samples are the first order of business for the new committee. Practitioners and other knowledgeable people are invited to share the details of their standard practices and ideas for other appropriate topics for standards development; those who wish to join the committee are welcome. Interested persons may contact the subcommittee's chairman, R. H. Karol, P.O. Box 1255, Highland Park, N.J. 08904.

Other New Subcommittees

A new subcommittee on Rock for Erosion Control, D18.17, has been approved by Committee D-18. The proposed scope of the new subcommittee states that "it shall be the responsibility of Subcommittee D18.17 to develop methods of test and engineering specifications for rock (variously known as rip rap, breakwater stone, armor stone, and filter stone) for erosion control." K. L. Saucier will be the chairman of the new subcommittee. After further study the title and scope will be submitted for main committee approval at D-18's January 1980 meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

A third new D-18 subcommittee is also in the works: D18.18 on Peats and Related Materials. The formation of this new subcommittee has been approved by the D-18 Executive Subcommittee, with the exact title and scope to be established later. Part 19 of the *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* currently carries nine test methods on peats, while the former Committee D-29 on Peats is no longer in existence.

Call for Papers

Shear Strength of Soil

Papers are invited for an ASTM symposium, "Shear Strength of Soil," which will take place 25 June 1980 in Chicago. The symposium, which is sponsored by Committee D-18 on Soil and Rock for Engineering Purposes, is the first on this topic since ASTM's "Laboratory Shear Testing of Soils" (published as STP 361), which was held in Ottawa in 1963. The symposium cochairmen are Dr. Raymond N. Yong of McGill University and Dr. Frank C. Townsend of the Waterways Experiment Station.

The objective of the symposium is to provide a forum on stress-strain and strength behavior of soils. Papers may present information on updating, improvement, and development of more appropriate and realistic laboratory test techniques, apparatus, and systems; new or improved methods of using laboratory test measurements and applying analytical models; or improvement and development of new laboratory test techniques, procedures, or ASTM standards.

Prospective authors should submit an abstract and ASTM paper offer form by 1 September 1979 to Raymond N. Yong, Geotechnical Research Centre, McGill University, 817 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal, P.Q. H3A 2K6. Paper offer forms are available from Yong or from Kathleen Greene, ASTM Publications Division, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19103 (215/299-5415).

Geopressure Energy

Contributions are sought for an Engineering Foundation Conference, "Geotechnical and Environmental Aspects of Geopressure Energy." The conference will take place 13-18 January 1980 at the Cloister in Sea Island, Ga. Serving as cochairman are S. K. Saxena of the Illinois Institute of Technology and

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P. S. Chopra of the Energy and Environmental Systems Division of Argonne National Laboratory. Other members of the organizing committee include Keith Westhusing of the Department of Energy, Charles Groat of the Louisiana Geological Survey, Robert Rosenberg of the Gas Research Institute, and Myron Dorfman of the University of Texas.

The principal objective of the conference is to assemble and disseminate knowledge in the fields of geology, geomechanics, geochemistry, and geophysics that is applicable to geopressure energy. The conference will cover theory and applications of the parent disciplines as well as their synthesis in geopressure technology. A number of leading workers from practicing and academic institutions will present feature lectures and act as discussion panel members.

Appropriate paper topics include geological aspects, materials behavior, engineering and geological applications, environmental aspects, chemical aspects, and the synthesis of various disciplines with a bearing on geopressure energy. Anyone interested in contributing papers or notes should submit 800-word summaries (100 words for notes) by 1 August 1979 to Engineering Foundation Conferences, 345 E. 47th St., New York, N.Y. 10017. Final papers will be limited to 12 to 15 pages in length, and notes to four pages.

Ground Water

A call for papers is issued for a technical session, "International Ground Water Development," which will take place during the American Society of Civil Engineers' annual convention in New York City, 6-10 April 1981. The session is being organized by the Ground Water Committee of ASCE's Irrigation and Drainage Division. Papers in English are solicited from foreign as well as U.S. authors. Titles, authorship, and abstracts of about 300 words are due by 1 January 1980 and should be sent to A. Ivan Johnson, Water Resources Consultant, Woodward-Clyde Consultants, 2909 W. 7th Ave., Denver, Colo. 80204.

Geotechnical Testing Journal
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ASTM Committee D-18 on Soil and Rock for Engineering Purposes

Scope

The promotion of knowledge, stimulation of research, and the development of specifications and methods for sampling and testing, nomenclature and definitions, and recommended practices relating to the properties and behavior of soil and rock for engineering purposes. Excluded are the uses of rock for building stone and for constituent materials in portland cement and bituminous paving and structures coming under the jurisdiction of other committees.

It will be the policy of this committee to avoid, insofar as it is possible, dealing with methods of design of engineering structures and all those features of general practice in the use of soil and rock as engineering materials which may not comprise methods of sampling and testing. It will, however, be considered within the scope of the committee's work to promote by every desirable means the close cooperation of other organizations and committees whose field of endeavor is closely allied to that of soil and rock testing.

Officers

Chairman: A. I. Johnson, Water Resources Consultant, Woodward-Clyde Consultants, Denver, Colo. 80204

First Vice-Chairman: J. W. Guinnee, Transportation Research Board, 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418

Second Vice-Chairman: E. T. Selig, Civil Engineering Dept., Marston Hall 235, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass. 01003

Secretary: R. G. Packard, Portland Cement Assn., Old Orchard Rd., Skokie, Ill. 60076

Membership Secretary: R. J. Stephenson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Div. Lab., P.O. Box 51, Marietta, Ga. 30060

Subcommittees and Their Chairmen

TECHNICAL

D18.01 Surface and Subsurface Reconnaissance
R. E. Gray

D 18.02 Sampling and Related Field Testing for Soil Investigations
H. E. Davis

D18.03 Texture, Plasticity, and Density Characteristics of Soils
R. S. Ladd

D18.04 Hydrologic Properties of Soil and Rock
C. O. Riggs

D18.05 Structural Properties of Soils
J. P. Singh

D18.06 Physico-Chemical Properties of Soils and Rocks
N. O. Schmidt

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M. L. Silver

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S. Williams

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