

DAN WATT

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I believe Dan Watt was one of the original members of the Soil Mechanics group founded by Dr. Legget. I presume this, since I was delegated as early as 1949 to attend in his place 'on safari' to Ottawa in the bleak days of November. Ottawa has improved one hundred percent since those early days.

Dan Watt was my immediate boss at the Ontario Hydro research division. I write out of respect for him as a stimulating leader and for his keen interest in a variety of engineering problems that Hydro had at that time. He set up a first-class laboratory that included some equipment he designed himself. He encouraged interest in soil mechanics and the work of the Building Research Station and the National Research Council of Canada (NRC). Due to him, the Soil Mechanics Section in the Ontario Hydro Research Division held a very respected position. Three of his disciples, John Adams, Don Bazett and Elmer Matyas have contributed much the geotechnical engineering in Canada.