

Through the discussion which followed Dr Halstead's report on the work of 12-RC, the Permanent Committee voiced the importance it attached to this problem, all the more difficult as it is often not easy to obtain material observation data which damaged structures should provide. The main points of results from 12-RC are collected together in a very informative report which will be published in Materials and Structures in the spring 1976. This report concludes with a list of twenty research topics which cover fields where the lack of information and the needs for new methods of measuring are most felt. The role of the 12-RC during an intermediate period will be to define and propose new research subjects for RILEM.

Chaque réunion de la Commission Permanente comprend une séance consacrée à une discussion technique et, à Edimbourg, le sujet choisi était la sécurité au feu dans le bâtiment. Cette discussion a été introduite par trois exposés : du Prof. O. Pettersson (Université de Lund), qui a parlé de la conception des structures en fonction du risque d'incendie; du Dr. P. H. Thomas (B.R.E., U.K.), qui a présenté les travaux de la commission W-14 du CIB où s'élabore une philosophie de la sécurité au feu ainsi que des recommandations internationales à partir des recherches faites dans de nombreux laboratoires; enfin du Dr. Malhotra (B.R.E., U.K.), qui a brossé un tableau des contributions apportées à cette étude par diverses organisations internationales, et indiqué quel pourrait être ici le rôle de la RILEM.

Before closing the meeting, the Permanent Committee elected the new President of RILEM, Prof. P. C. Kreijger, Delegate for the Netherlands. Prior to handing over his office, Dr Steele presented the RILEM medal for 1975 to Dr Z. P. Bažant of Northwestern University, Evanston (U.S.A.).



Prof. Z. P. Bažant.

Par la discussion qui a suivi l'exposé du Dr. Halstead rendant compte des travaux de la Commission 12-RC (Corrosion des armatures du béton armé et du béton précontraint), la Commission Permanente a montré l'importance qu'elle attachait à ce problème d'autant plus difficile qu'il est souvent malaisé d'obtenir le matériel d'observation que devraient procurer les ouvrages endommagés. L'essentiel des résultats de 12-RC a fourni la matière d'un rapport très dense qui sera publié dans *Matériaux et Constructions* au printemps de 1976. Ce rapport se conclut par une liste de vingt sujets de recherche qui couvrent des domaines où le manque d'informations et le besoin de nouvelles méthodes de mesure se font le plus sentir. Ce sera, durant une époque intermédiaire, le rôle de 12-CRC de définir et de proposer de nouvelles études à la RILEM.

Avant de se séparer, la Commission Permanente a élu le nouveau Président de la RILEM, le Prof. P. C. Kreijger, Délégué des Pays-Bas, et le Dr. Steele, avant de lui transmettre sa charge, a remis la Médaille 1975 de la RILEM au Dr. Z. P. Bažant, de la Northwestern University, Evanston (U.S.A.).

Each meeting of the Permanent Committee includes a session devoted to a technical topic and at Edinburgh the subject chosen was safety of buildings in the event of fire. This discussion was built around three introductory reports: Prof. O. Pettersson (University of Lund) who spoke of the design of structures in the face of fire hazard, Dr Thomas (B.R.E., U.K.) who outlined the work of CIB Committee W-14 which draws up a philosophy of safety in fire, as well as international recommendations based on research carried out in numerous laboratories; finally Dr Malhotra (B.R.E., U.K.) who sketched a table-form presentation of the contributions made to these investigations by various international organizations, indicating the part RILEM could play.

Subsequent to this meeting, the membership of the Bureau of RILEM becomes/A l'issue de cette Réunion, la composition du Bureau de la RILEM devient :

- Président/President: Prof. P. C. Kreijger (Pays-Bas);
- Trésorier/Treasurer: Prof. Th. Erismann (Suisse);
- Secrétaire Général/Secretary General: Prof. R. L'Hermite (France);
- Membres/Members: Prof. S. G. Bergström (Suède); Prof. D. Dumitrescu (Roumanie); Dr. J. R. Wright (U.S.A.); Prof. E. Yaltkaya (Turquie).

Au titre d'ex-Président/In the capacity of past president: Dr. B. Steele (U.K.).

Au titre de prochain Président/In the capacity of future President: Dr. R. Tobias (Hongrie).



Dr. R. W. B. Nurse.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Dr R. W. B. Nurse, which occurred on November 14, 1975.

Dr Nurse was one of the Building Research Establishment's most distinguished research scientists. He joined BRE in 1932 where he remained 40 years. From 1950 to 1962 he was joint head of what was then the BRS Chemistry Division, becoming head of the combined Materials Division in 1962. In 1965 he was given a special merit promotion to Deputy Chief Scientific Officer which enabled him to reduce his administrative responsibilities and concentrate on research.

Dr Nurse's name first became widely known for his development, with Dr Lea (later Sir Frederick), of the Lea-Nurse apparatus used for deter-

mining the specific surface of powders by an air permeability method.

For his research into the production of first quality cement from the impure limestones available in Uganda, Dr Nurse was awarded the Sir George Beilby Medal in 1963.

In 1965, he set up a new materials section to study fibrous composites and crystallised glass.

His participation in RILEM was very effective. He acted as Delegate for Great-Britain in 1969-1973. Chairman of the RILEM/CIB Technical Committee on mortars and renderings, he was also the originator of the committee on the evaluation of fibre-reinforced cement-based composites. His death is deeply felt by RILEM who loses an eminent scientist and a friend of great merit.