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News from IABSE Headquarters

According to the computer at IABSE Secretariat, the Association had 3242 members on January 1, 1990. As computers never make mistakes, one has to consider this figure as correct. But on the other hand, there is a saying that you can make statistics prove whatever you want. There are different ways of looking at this figure!

The negative way: Out of these 3242 members there were almost 500 members whose 1989 fees had not been remitted to IABSE Secretariat by December 31, 1989. The unpaid fees amount to SFr. 75 000.- which is a point of great concern for the management of the Association. This situation is not new, but we are now facing times where this can not be accepted anymore. 1990 fees were due by February 28, 1990. May we kindly remind our members who have not yet transmitted their dues for 1989 or/and for 1990 that this is a matter of solidarity, and we count on having these fees paid very shortly. Of course, the majority of members have already paid their fees and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for prompt and regular payment.

Another way of looking at this figure is to state that the membership increase over last year amounted to 117 members. This encouraging figure has a lot to do with a rejuvenation action proposed by President von Gunten in the second part of 1989. This action brought in 78 new members from 23 countries, members who are 35 years of age or less. We are very thankful to those IABSE members who contributed to rejuvenate the Association with

4 new members:

M. Kokubu, J
J. Schneider, CH

3 new members:

B. Edlung, S
M. de Souza, Brazil
G.F. Fox, USA

2 new members:

E. Etteh, Nigeria
H. Ingvarsson, S
K. Kant, India
A.C. Liebenberg, South Africa
A. Sarja, SF
Z. Zagar, Yu

1 new member:

E. Anderheggen, CH
J.C. Badoux, CH
G. Breitschaft, FRG
J. Brozzetti, F
Q. Cheng, China
A. Colson, F
J. Combault, F
H. Cowan, Australia
G. Croci, I
R.A. Dorton, CDN
R. Favre, CH
L. Finzi, I
A.G. Frandsen, DK
A. Ghali, CDN
J.M. Hanson, USA
M.A. Hirt, CH
M. Ito, J
P. Jäger, CH
A. Jutila, SF
G. König, FRG
H. Kramel, CH
N.O. Larsson, S
D.J. Lee, UK
P. Lefèvre, B
Y. Maeda, J
L. Maertens, B
F. Mola, I
T. Naruse, J
A. Nowak, USA
H.W. Reinhardt, FRG
P. Richard, F
E. Roubin, A
J. Schlaich, FRG
P. Schroeder, L
A. Schub, FRG
C. Servant, F
F. Tschemmernegg, A
A.C. Vasconcelos, Brazil
M. Virlogeux, F.
H. von Gunten, CH
W. von Olnhausen, S
J.D. Welch, CDN
H. Wittfoht, FRG
H. Xiang, China
L. Xila, China

Many thanks to these devoted members. We hope that this will give ideas to all our members and readers of the IABSE BULLETIN. Some members suddenly realized that their own son/daughter or nephew/niece could also become a member of IABSE. IABSE is a big family! So why dont you think of your relatives or professional colleagues in your country and abroad as possible new IABSE members!



The recent political changes we have experienced in the past months, in particular in Europe, have induced some civil engineers from various countries to write to us asking for information, for exchange of knowledge, for cooperation etc. In fact, these engineers have been asking the Secretariat for books or free memberships. Unfortunately, the Association is not in a position to be that generous, as it is supported by membership revenues and by revenues from publications and conference activities. There is no government support. It is, therefore, not possible for us to respond positively to these engineers. The Administrative Committee discussed this question and proposes that members of IABSE sponsor new members coming from countries with temporary or continued currency difficulties. Therefore, we would like to ask our members to write and let us know that they are prepared to accept a sponsorship. This friendly support will certainly be highly appreciated. IABSE looks forward to serve as a link between long-standing and new members.

A project, in the framework of the Long Range Planning, on which we reported in recent issues, concerns the new IABSE journal. Work is developing quite well on this matter, and we intend to provide you with a new IABSE journal, as from 1991, with better presentation and hopefully also improved contents. Also for this activity the spontaneous cooperation of our members and valuable manuscripts is much appreciated.

For the new journal and for a poster wall presenting IABSE, we are looking for colour photographs showing a structure completed or under construction, illustrating the interests and activities of our members. You may have good photographs, which could be considered for

the poster wall of IABSE or one of the cover pages of the new publication. We look forward to hearing from you in this connection.

The end of March was quite a busy time for IABSE in Zurich. The German Committee for Reinforced Concrete held its spring meeting in Switzerland, a meeting which was attended by some 300 persons. At the same time a number of IABSE Committees met in Zurich, in particular the Technical Committee of IABSE and the Scientific Committee for the Congress in New Delhi. All these meetings were very well attended and very successful. These various events were followed on Saturday, March 24, 1990, by a Colloquium in honour of Professor Bruno Thürlimann who retired on April 1, 1990, as Professor of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology. Some 300 participants from all over the world gathered in honour of Professor Thürlimann and heard to different lecturers discussing the still very short history of «Plasticity in Structural Engineering». Most of these lively lecturers highlighted the personal contributions of Bruno Thürlimann to this topic. Lecturers were presented by Messrs. Sayir, Galambos, Breen, Paulay, Vollenweider, Knoll, Tedesco and Bachmann. A rare group of scientists, professors and practitioners gathered at this event. It is not appropriate to name here some of the attendants because we would probably leave out some personalities. Those present will certainly remember the souvenir of a historical, though informal meeting. We would like to join them in wishing Professor Thürlimann, Honorary Present of IABSE, many pleasant moments in this new stage of life, which he labels contemplative-active.

Alain Golay
Executive Director