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Closing Ceremony

Cérémonie de clôture

Schlusszeremonie

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Address

Allocution

Rede

FRITZ LEONHARDT

Prof. Dr.-Ing.

Chairman, Technical Committee of IABSE
Stuttgart, GFR

Mr. President of the Japanese Organizing Committee -

Mr. President of I A B S E -

Ladies and Gentlemen -

The Japanese Organizing Committee has asked me - as Chairman of the Technical Committee - to give a report at this Closing Ceremony. Let me first say:

The 10th Congress of our Association in Tokyo was just marvellous,
and I am sure that all participants had been impressed deeply.

The pre-congress publications, Introductory Report and Preliminary Report, contained already many valuable papers to the themes which were chosen. The lively interest of the engineers from all over the world in the problems and solutions put before us, was well displayed by the many different contributions in the prepared and free discussions. The amount and range of new and valuable information is so large that it is impossible for me to give a just appraisal or summary of the results to any of the different themes. I shall try, however, to collect my general impressions and draw from them some recommendations for our future work:

Most deeply I was impressed by the amount and quality of studies and research work which has been done during the last decade by Japanese engineers. I am sure that all foreign participants agree when I express my gratitude to our Japanese colleagues for making available so valuable results of their work to our profession by their numerous contributions. Research in our structural engineering field is throughout the world on a good path by combining the theoretical approach with testing models and measuring strains or deformations at built structures. Our task is to find truth, this means to know the real response of our materials not only in laboratory specimens but also in the structures themselves. Many interesting examples of such testing have been described. The techniques of model testing and measurements at structures have considerably improved and some highly specialized institutes in this field dispose of valuable experience. It is desirable that this special know-how will be discussed and exchanged in a symposium in the near future.

Theories are often based on idealized assumptions and these assumptions must be checked by such test results. Only those theories which are based on true

physical data can be fully approved for practical design. Such data are often complex and complicated but the computer allows us to consider them correctly. Several contributions - e. g. in the field of fire resistance - demonstrated such good use of computer aid.

In the field of computer-aided design optimization I am not too optimistic about the soundness of the proposed methods. To design a structure or a bridge is a process of creativity, even of intuition based on a very wide range of knowledge in many aspects. The computer has no creativity, it cannot change or vary the conceptual design idea or develop an improved fabrication or construction method. Such computer-aided optimization programs may even be a handicap for the creative thinking of the design engineer, leading him into too narrow channels and limiting the horizon of his thoughts, of his vision and fantasy.

Being in Japan, we should study the methods of the century-old schools of Japanese art, how to become a master in his art: It is by concentrated studies of all the basic knowledge of this art, by learning all about the tools which are necessary to exert this art and by practising the use of these tools until they are available without the need to think of them so that the mind can concentrate on the creative act in a synthetic way almost in the state of subconsciousness.

This perfection of creative art is too difficult to be reached in engineering. There are too many aspects and too many different fields of science which are our tools, which must be considered and rational thinking cannot be left behind. But we can learn from Japanese art that the use of knowledge and methods must be well trained that we must govern our tools and aim at the synthesis. The difficulty is that the quantity of the necessary knowledge is so very large and that the tools to use the knowledge are also manyfold so that a single individual can almost not collect all what is needed for a good design. This can only be overcome by teamwork, by the good will to respectful cooperation. Such cooperation should also be fostered with those who are in charge of inspection and maintenance. There had been some contributions pointing to this necessity to learn of damages under the impact of service and weather. Such experience must be fed back to the design offices. We have too many engineers who drill a deep hole for finding some small knowledge, which we need, but his drilling took so much of his mental capacity that he lost the survey. We need more engineers who can collect results and can judge interdependences and can assemble all these analysing work to a good sythesis.

In order to reach this aim, we must stop to make everything more and more complicated, we must stop to see scientific glory in getting so sophisticated, that the average engineer can no more understand. It was Mr. Dicke who told us a fine story ending with the request to keep things simple. The highest level of art is simplicity.

This Association plans to publish surveys, state-of-art reports, in order to help engineers to get again a wider range of knowledge and tools for their design work. These survey reports must also be kept simple and understandable. I think that we are already on the way in this direction and that many of you will join us in these efforts.

Our structures must fulfil functional, social and economic requirements. Social requirements include invironmental aspects. If we look at structures which had been built during the last decades, then we find only few which please us by their appearance in the environment. Real beauties, which would enjoy us like Japanese ladies in their beautiful kimonoes, are very rare. So we should give more emphasis to aesthetic features of our design work. We engineers should not leave that to the architects alone, there should be a good cooperation which requires that engineers themselves study the rules of aesthetics. There are national commissions at work for this task. Our Association plans also to get active in this field and I would appreciate help from our members. We plan to have a session on aesthetics of engineering structures at our next Congress in Vienna.

This Association has also the aim to promote international cooperation and understanding. International exchange of newly gained knowledge and practical experience becomes more and more important; it can help to save a lot of national money and to improve the service which our work shall give to society.

One of the barriers to improve this cooperation is the language problem. It can be overcome if we follow the principle that everybody should be able to speak his mother tongue and English. This Congress has shown us again that we need such a simplification. I would much like to ask the many university professors who are attending this Congress from countries other than English speaking, that they may take influence on their educational authorities to have English as primary foreign language. They should also send their assistants and as many students as possible to English speaking countries. But let us get effective courses in good pronunciation! In about twenty years we should have such congresses with one language only. But in the cultural field, each nation should preserve and cultivate her national costumes, art and specialities to avoid annoying uniformity.

The President of the Japanese Organizing Committee, Mr. Yoshihiro Inayama, mentioned in his speach at the opening ceremony that engineers should help to build a peaceful world and avoid war. We all emphatically agree. Engineers can be proud of the great progress they have achieved in improving the living conditions and welfare of mankind. We have learned also that technical progress itself is not sufficient to satisfy society. Progress must be controlled by ethics, by assuming the moral and ethic responsibility for how technical and scientific progress is used.

Modern war is misuse of technical achievements, it cannot solve problems but causes only suffering and destruction. I believe that it is in the power of us engineers to stop misuse of the fruits of our work. It is our duty to fight against such misuse. We should refuse to do anything which in our knowledge leads to destruction and suffering. Peace can be strengthened if natural scientists and engineers join in solidarity and refuse to do harmful work. Our profession's aim and duty must be to serve society and mankind for improvement of life, and avoid any destruction. In this sense, this Congress was a Congress for Peace.

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Closing Address

Allocution finale

Schlusswort

TAKEO NAKA
Vice-Chairman
Japanese Organizing Committee
Japan

Mr. President Professor Cosandey, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Now we are approaching to the time of closing the 10th Congress of IABSE held in Tokyo, 1976. I should say many thanks to members of the Executive Committee, the Permanent Committee, the Technical Committee, Working Commissions, Task Groups, Sessions Chairmen, Technical Advisors, General Reporters, Contributors, Discussors and Simultaneous Interpreters. Although our staffs of J.O.C. have made their much efforts to this congress, something troubles or deficiencies on the process of session-meetings have occurred during these days, as you know, however the Congress seems to be successful due to the kind collaborations and good will of all participants from 40 countries. I express my heartfelt regards to these generous participants more than 1,500 in number.

Members of IABSE in Japan and J.O.C. have to tell their most gratitude to the Executive and Permanent Committee of IABSE for the honour of the First International Award which was given to Professor-Emeritus Dr. Kiyoshi Mutō of the University of Tokyo for his contribution for a half century on the Earthquake Engineering on the Structures, various kinds of Vessels and Nuclear Reactors.

Moreover I would like to inform you that our Chairman of J.O.C., Mr. Inayama signed to accept that the symbol mark of the 10th Congress of Tokyo will be permanently used for the Symbol of IABSE. This symbol mark is originally designed from the simplest form of structure and the ancient Chinese character -- HITO -- which means human being. There are various view points about this symbol. I can take it as a bridge to tie countries of the world and also a home where people can rest. I am willing to present the flag with this symbol to President Professor Cosandey at this closing ceremony.

The next congress will be held in Vienna, Austria in 1980. I hope all participants to the 10th Congress will attend at the 11th Congress and will keep their mutual familiarity and exchanging their technical and scientific knowledges for the development answering the purposes of IABSE.

Thank you.

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Discours final

Schlussansprache

Final Speech

MAURICE COSANDEY

Professeur
Président de l'AIPC
Lausanne, Suisse

Monsieur le Président du Comité d'Organisation,
Monsieur le Président du groupe japonais de notre Association,
Mesdames et Messieurs,

Notre congrès se termine par un double succès: celui de la préparation et celui de l'intérêt des discussions qui ont été menées au cours de nos séances. Mais il y a également un succès indirect, si je puis dire. C'est celui des entretiens informels, hors séances de travail, et des rencontres fructueuses, soit pour faire avancer un point encore obscur de notre art, soit pour préparer l'avenir. Ces rencontres informelles sont d'une importance capitale dans l'établissement du bilan d'un congrès. Je puis dire quant à moi, et sans vouloir faire de l'autosatisfaction, que le bilan du congrès 1976 de l'AIPC à Tokyo est extrêmement positif.

M. le Professeur Leonhardt vous a fait tout à l'heure un premier rapport de synthèse sur les résultats scientifiques et techniques du congrès. Je voudrais, pour ma part, insister pour l'avenir sur l'intérêt, pour les auteurs et pour leurs auditeurs, d'une insertion de chaque contribution dans le cadre du thème traité. Je m'explique. Dans l'intérêt de la créativité des auteurs, un thème, tout en étant très bien défini, doit avoir une ampleur suffisante, car nous sommes une association de personnalités aux connaissances et à l'expérience larges. Dans ces conditions, il est indispensable qu'un exposé particulier soit placé dans le contexte du connu du thème auquel il se rapporte. Ayant eu le privilège de travailler de nombreuses années dans l'industrie, avant de me consacrer à l'enseignement et à la recherche universitaire, j'ai toujours apprécié, dans une publication technique, les conditions relatives aux comparaisons avec d'autres idées, méthodes ou conceptions. D'une nouvelle méthode de calcul, il est intéressant de connaître les différences qu'elle comporte par rapport aux méthodes en vigueur, et ceci soit sur le plan du résultat économique, de la durée du travail ou simplement de son élégance. Des considérations au sujet du pourquoi de l'utilisation de tel ou tel matériau ne manqueraient pas, très souvent, de pertinence. Notre Association a pour mission de toucher tous les matériaux. Un effort plus grand peut et doit être fait à cet égard lors de nos symposiums et congrès.

Mesdames et Messieurs, j'ose espérer que notre congrès a réalisé deux buts implicites qui, dans mon esprit, ont toujours été très importants. Celui de renforcer l'amitié entre nos peuples et celui de faire un grand pas dans la compréhension de l'âme de ce pays et de ses habitants.

Jeudi, une partie d'entre nous a eu le privilège de parcourir le pays et d'admirer la splendeur et la richesse de la nature. Celles et ceux qui ont fait le voyage pour voir le Fuji-San sont retournés déçus à Tokyo, car le Fuji ne s'est pas montré. Au XVIIe siècle, le poète Basho s'est aussi rendu (mais à cheval et à pied) sur place pour effectuer un pèlerinage au Fuji. Il ne l'a pas vu en raison d'un épais brouillard. Est-ce parce qu'il était à pied et qu'il a pu jouir par l'odeur, l'ouïe et la vue de la splendeur de la nature qu'il s'est écrié "Séki koyuru hiwa hinémosu améfurité yama wamina kumoni kakurétari kirishiguré fujiiominuhizo omoshiroki" - "Belle est également cette journée grise où la pluie dérobe le Fuji", ou est-ce un état d'âme que nous aurions intérêt à cultiver ? Je vous laisse méditer la réponse.

L'organisation d'un congrès exige une multitude de bonnes volontés, un génie du management et une dose sérieuse de bonne humeur et de volonté. Le Comité d'organisation a su réunir toutes ces qualités et je le félicite en notre nom et au nom de l'Association. Il ne m'est pas possible de remercier nommément chaque personne ou société qui ont contribué ici à Tokyo au succès du congrès. Je me permets, cependant, de présenter à M. Yoshihiro Inayama, président, à l'intention du Comité tout entier, notre admiration et notre reconnaissance pour tout le travail accompli. Nous associons à cet hommage de gratitude les associations ou sociétés suivantes:

Science Council of Japan
Architectural Council of Japan
Japan Society of Civil Engineers
Japan Road Association
Society of Steel Construction of Japan.

Nous devons accroître notre rayonnement, non pas comme un but en soi, mais parce que nous croyons rendre service à la communauté internationale. Pour faciliter nos relations avec tous les intéressés, nous avons cherché depuis quelques temps un sigle, afin de marquer régulièrement notre présence. Ce sigle, nous l'avons trouvé grâce à nos amis japonais qui ont inventé, pour notre congrès, le "toit à deux pans que vous connaissez. Ce sigle du dixième congrès à Tokyo devient dès aujourd'hui le sigle de l'Association Internationale des Ponts et Charpentes, et nous remercions le Comité d'organisation de le mettre avec leur amitié à notre disposition.

Personne ne peut vivre sans une philosophie qui peut être une éthique, une religion, une idéologie, une morale ou autre chose encore. Dans la philosophie japonaise, il existait et il existe peut-être encore les sept "dieux du bonheur". L'un est Hotei, le dieu de la largeur d'esprit et de la richesse. J'ai compris ici le mot richesse dans le sens de culture étendue, de connaissances assimilées, d'abondance d'imagination créatrice, sans vouloir mépriser, bien sûr, ce qui est nécessaire pour déguster un sukiyaki. C'est la grande leçon que je retirerai de mon séjour au Japon, c'est la largeur d'esprit et la richesse de l'âme de ses habitants.

Nos meilleurs vœux accompagnent la famille impériale, le gouvernement et le peuple japonais.