

**Zeitschrift:** IABSE reports of the working commissions = Rapports des commissions de travail AIPC = IVBH Berichte der Arbeitskommissionen

**Band:** 4 (1969)

**Artikel:** Free discussion

**Autor:** Weinberg, B.E.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-5932>

#### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

#### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

#### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 24.01.2026

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

each of the two rather arbitrarily defined design levels ("maximum probable" and "maximum credible"), both of which had been previously, independently selected by rather arbitrary means, a surprising degree of consistency was found.<sup>3</sup> The former level usually corresponded to a return period of about 10<sup>5</sup> years and the second to 10<sup>6</sup> or 10<sup>6</sup> years.

## III

## Free Discussion / Discussion libre / Freie Diskussion

B.E. WEINBERG  
U.S.A.

I would like to add the following comments to Mr. Newberry's fine paper:

1. I wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Newberry's plea that wind-load requirements should not be lowered until more research in this area has been completed. In the past, buildings have been far stronger in resisting wind pressures than those for which they were designed; primarily, on account of the existence of non-load bearing partitions. However, the tendency today, at least in the United States, is for office buildings to be built with moveable partitions. Many partitions that are not moveable do not extend all the way from floor to ceiling. Therefore, we no longer are guaranteed the built-in added safety factor so frequently present in the past.

2. In ACI Committee 348 (Structural Safety), we consider serviceability to be one aspect of structural safety. Therefore, it is not enough to design a building to withstand wind pressure so that the building will not collapse. The building must also be comfortable for those inside it. This gets to be important as more of our tall buildings are apartment buildings, not only office buildings as in the past. Wind deflections which might be acceptable to workers in an office building, may be totally unacceptable to tenants living in an apartment building.

Concerning Mr. Mitchell's paper, I would like to add the following comments:

1. There is usually very little control of construction loads by the designing engineer and sometimes not even by the contractor. This is a problem which engineers should consider during their design and contractors in planning their construction sequence. Many more buildings collapse during construction than after they are completed. This is especially true of concrete buildings where frequently construction loads far in excess of the design live load are imposed on parts of the structure which have not yet attained their design strength and are not intended to for twenty-eight days.

2. For snow loads, the duration of the load must be considered together with the intensity of the load.

3. In addition to those mentioned there are two other load surveys being conducted in the United States; one by the Post Office Department of its facilities and the other by the National Bureau of Standards, the latter being confined to office buildings.