

the part of the student, more complicated mathematical tools are developed as and when their need is felt. A proper understanding of the sections dealing with electromagnetic forces necessarily presupposes an acquaintance with Maxwell's field equations and the simple results flowing from them.

text illustrating some special point or proving a variant theorem. At the end of each chapter we find references for elaboration of the material treated.

It is, altogether, an exhilarating experience to read through the book and find that classical mechanics is still going strong.

The exercises appended to each chapter are more in the nature of extensions of the main

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BUILDING RESEARCH CONGRESS, 1951

A COMPREHENSIVE Congress on Building Research has been planned to take place in September 1951, in London and will be to review the progress made in research in relation to architecture, building and the associated branches of civil engineering, and it has been arranged because of the widespread interest shown in the subjects in many countries since the end of war. There have been rapid developments in all branches of building science and papers presented at the Congress will review these developments and will consider their significance and their effect on future trends. Many of the papers will be contributed by authors from overseas, and it is expected that the Congress will attract many members from all over the world from amongst the ranks of architects, engineers, builders and contractors and from many branches of Science.

For the purpose of the technical sessions, the Congress has been planned in three divisions holding concurrent meetings.

DIVISION 1, which is concerned with the engineering and structural aspects of building, will cover the influence of mechanisation and prefabrication on techniques and cost of building; the influence of modern research on structural design; and the influence of modern soil studies on the design and construction of foundations.

DIVISION 2, which is concerned with building

materials, will cover individual materials such as burnt clay products, cement and concrete, building stones, lime, paints, plaster and timber, and there will be in addition a wide survey of research on weathering and durability of building materials.

DIVISION 3 will be concerned generally with the various factors which influence the comfort and efficiency of the people using the buildings. The matters to be discussed include the acoustics of auditoria and broadcasting studies; the heating and ventilating of buildings in relation to summer and winter conditions; the lighting of buildings. In addition three specific types of buildings—hospitals, factories and schools—will be considered in the light of all the requirements they must meet if they are to fulfil their purpose.

Since the Congress has been arranged during the Festival of Britain, it is expected that hotel bookings in the London area will be very heavy and in their own interests members are advised to lose no time in reserving accommodation.

The centre of the Congress will be the Institution of Civil Engineers. For the time being arrangements are being handled from the Building Research Station, D.S.I.R., and enquiries should be addressed to Organising Secretary, Building Research Station, Bucknalls Lane, Garston, Nr. Watford, Herts, England.

BUILDING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

DR. J. N. MUKHERJEE, till recently Director, Indian Agriculture Research Institute, has been appointed Head of the Division of Chemistry and Director of the Building Research Institute, it is learnt.

Dr. Mukherjee has had a long career of research in soil sciences which have an intimate bearing on problems relating to building research. It is hoped that with his appointment

the Building Research Institute, which is one in the chain of national laboratories being established under the auspices of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and where a good deal of work has already been done on "low-cost houses and soil stabilisation", will be able to expedite the research programme undertaken by the Council.