

Concrete Research

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Published three times a year by the
Cement and Concrete Association
52 Grosvenor Gardens
London, S.W.1. Sloane 5255

Editorial comment

IT IS RIGHT and proper that at not too infrequent intervals those responsible for a publication should examine their product as objectively as is possible, and consider what improvements could be made. The result of one such introspective exercise will be apparent in this issue of the *Magazine of Concrete Research* in the section devoted to the current literature on cement and concrete. The most obvious change is in the arrangement of the items in this list; in the past the papers have been divided under country of origin, and sub-divided under the title of the publication in which they appear. The chief merit of this arrangement, let it be admitted, is that it involves the minimum of work at the editorial end; the obvious demerit is that references to research work on a particular subject might appear almost anywhere in the list. A further disadvantage is that the references are not suitable for cutting up and pasting on to cards for the purpose of

indexing. It was felt, therefore, that this section at least of the *Magazine* could be improved considerably, and this improvement takes place in the present issue. The references are all complete in themselves, the order of the various items within each reference following the recommendations of the British Standards Institution on this subject. Space has been allowed to facilitate their being cut out for pasting on to cards for indexing. For the benefit of those readers who do not wish to mutilate their copies of the *Magazine* in this way, the current literature section is being reprinted on separate unbacked sheets which will be supplied free on request. Anyone wishing to receive copies of this should apply to the Editor.

In addition to the above "internal" rearrangement of the references, an attempt has been made to group them in a more scientific manner, so that those dealing with similar subjects will appear together. The various headings used have been kept as broad as is practicable, to avoid the necessity of repeating references under several headings; the grouping will be watched carefully, however, and will be changed if or when a change becomes desirable. A chart showing the system of headings adopted in this classification appears on page 50 of the present issue.

Previous current literature sections of the *Magazine of Concrete Research* have included references to papers which merely describe structures. While it is realized that such papers are of considerable interest to those engaged in the concrete industry, it was felt that references to them were not particularly appropriate in a publication of this nature. We are pleased to announce, however, that the Reinforced Concrete Association has agreed to include the references to descriptive papers in its journal the *Reinforced Concrete Review*.

One feature of most technical journals which is noticeable by its absence in the *Magazine* is discussion of the papers appearing therein. Much as he would wish to do so, the Editor cannot believe that all the papers published

in these pages are above criticism or comment. Written discussion on the papers would be welcomed, and would be published—together with a reply by the author of the paper concerned—in a subsequent issue. No strict limits of length will be imposed, but contributors should keep their remarks brief and to the point. If appropriate, tabular matter, diagrams and photographs may be

included. The closing date for the acceptance of contributions to the discussion is indicated at the end of each paper in this issue of the *Magazine*, and this practice will be continued in future issues. It is hoped that the publication of such discussion on articles in the *Magazine of Concrete Research* will in many cases add considerably to the value of the original papers.

ERRATA

Magazine of Concrete Research No. 18

p.125, col. 1, line 9
p.127, col. 2, line 11
p.130, col. 2, line 27
p.154, line 4. For 1945 read 1954.

} For M_{xy} read M_y