

Forthcoming conferences

Second Congress of the *Fédération Internationale de la Précontrainte*

The Second Congress of the *Fédération Internationale de la Précontrainte* will be held at the Royal Tropical Institute, Mauritskade 63, Amsterdam O, from 29th August to 3rd September 1955. The programme, which is being organized by the Netherlands Study Group (STUVO) of the *Betonvereniging*, includes four technical sessions together with a programme of technical visits and excursions.

The main subjects to be discussed are: the function of grouting and anchorages; problems in the manufacture and use of prestressing steel; progress in precast prestressed work; moment distribution in prestressed statically indeterminate structures beyond the elastic phase; and the influence of plasticity on the strength and instability of prestressed thin shells. Papers on these subjects will be printed and distributed in advance to regis-

tered members. The respective discussions will be introduced by general reporters.

In addition, reports will be presented without discussion on the comparative analysis of specifications and codes of practice on prestressed concrete in various countries and on the economic advantages of prestressed concrete. Time may be allowed for short papers on subjects not listed above.

Wives and guests of members will be welcomed by a special Ladies Committee, and a full and attractive programme of excursions and visits arranged for them.

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary (Ir J. A. H. Hartmann), Groningsestraat 15, The Hague, Holland, or from the Prestressed Concrete Development Group, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1.

Symposium on the Observation of Structures

A Symposium on the Observation of Structures will be held at the Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil, Lisbon, during the week beginning 24th October 1955. The Symposium, which is being organised by the Laboratório Nacional under the auspices of the *Réunion Internationale des Laboratoires d'Essais et de Recherches sur les Matériaux et les Constructions (RILEM)*, is designed to bring together experts in the field of structural testing in order to exchange knowledge already gained and to discuss the scope of future studies in this field.

The subjects to be treated include: the description and

characteristics of instruments for various measurements; the techniques of their installation and use; the determination of loads acting upon structures; planning of installations; test programmes and standards for testing; and the analysis and interpretation of results.

An exhibition of instruments will be held during the Symposium.

Full particulars of the Symposium can be obtained from the Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil, Avenida do Brasil, Lisbon, Portugal.