

Book reviews

Coffrages metalliques

(Metal formwork)

by M.-J. Ricouard

Published by Editions Eyrolles, Paris. 1st edition. 1954. Price 1,950 francs. pp. 230.

This book should be of interest to contractors, engineers and others concerned with the use of metal formwork.

The three parts into which it is divided deal with the development of metal formwork (an introductory section), general aspects of its use, and its application to various structures in civil engineering.

The use of metal formwork is discussed both from a technical and from an economic point of view, particular attention being given to questions of cost, speed of erection, number of uses, depreciation, labour and wages.

The third and largest section of the book describes metal formwork as employed in the various branches of civil and structural engineering. Formwork for the construction of tunnel linings is treated in some detail, with special reference to the advantages and disadvantages of each particular type. The question of the rates of progress

attainable is among the other matters discussed. Another long chapter is devoted to formwork for the construction of dams. Climbing forms and continuously moving forms for walls, silos and so on are dealt with in a separate chapter, while a number of shorter chapters give a survey of the different kinds of formwork used in the construction of culverts and sewers, columns, floor slabs, road slabs and many other structures.

The author's approach to his subject is mainly a practical one. He discusses methods and general principles of operation of different kinds of formwork without going into details regarding their design. As a clear and concise introduction to the whole subject of metal formwork this book is undoubtedly of value, though it leaves to the would-be designer of such formwork the devising of the actual constructional details. It contains a number of instructive diagrams and photographs.

Bewegungsfugen im Beton und Stahlbetonbau

(Expansion joints in concrete and reinforced concrete)

by Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Adolf Kleinlogel

Published by Wilhelm Ernst und Sohn, Berlin. 5th edition. 1954. Price DM 27.50. pp. vii, 271.

As the title indicates, this book deals not only with expansion joints in the strict sense but also with allied forms of joints permitting relative movement between different parts of a structure due to subsidence and similar causes. It is almost encyclopædic in scope and must be regarded as a work of reference rather than a text-book. It contains a wealth of carefully selected and detailed information covering practically the whole field of concrete construction. One of its most important features is the large number of illustrations, most of which depict solutions adopted in actual structures.

The first chapter, in which the general principles governing the construction of expansion joints are explained, deals with the design and execution of such joints in structural engineering. Joints in roofs are discussed in a separate chapter. Further chapters are devoted to expansion joints and allied features in the following

types of structure: silos; reservoirs; retaining walls and quay walls; locks and maritime structures; dams and hydro-electric installations; channels and culverts; bridges; aqueducts; tunnels; concrete roads and airport runways.

The author's object is to instruct by example rather than by precept. Where necessary, he takes care to draw the reader's attention to the advantages and disadvantages of any particular joint construction to which reference is made.

Thanks chiefly to the many excellent illustrations, the concrete designer will—even if he possesses only a limited knowledge of German—find much interesting and useful information in this book. Viewed in this light, the great diversity of solutions offered will prove a considerable advantage to the engineer seeking guidance in dealing with a particular problem of expansion joint design.