



**Robert J. Lyman**  
**President Prestressed Concrete**  
**Institute**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Federation Internationale De La Precontrainte (F.I.P.), as the French words indicate is the International Federation of Prestressing. It is a world wide organization, which was founded in Europe early in the fifties. In 1957 PCI, representing the United States as a member country, officially became affiliated with this important world body.

One of the prime and basic objectives of this esteemed organization is to promote and expand technical and scientific contacts between the cooperative countries of the world in the field of prestressed concrete for the advancement of knowledge. This objective is fostered through periodic Congresses which are convened to publicly air the progress and developments in prestressed concrete. Three of these Congresses have been held in the past; the first in London in 1953, the second in Amsterdam in 1957 and the third in Berlin in 1958. The next F.I.P. Congress (the Fourth) will be held in Rome, Italy, May 27 to June 2, 1962.

Since joining F.I.P. in 1957, PCI has actively participated in the affairs of the organization and has had continuous representation on the F.I.P. Executive Committee which administers the functions and proceedings of the body. In 1957 Mr. Ben C. Gerwick, Jr. served as Vice President of the Federation and in 1958 Professor T. Y. Lin was appointed to serve as the PCI President's representative to the F.I.P. for the term 1958-1962. Professor Lin's term will expire after the Rome Congress and the PCI Board has recently appointed Ben C. Gerwick, Jr. to again serve as the PCI President's representative for the next four year period. The reports from our representatives have indicated that these Congresses include most rewarding and inspiring meetings where the true spirit of international cooperation is exhibited. PCI and the general development of prestressed concrete in the United States has benefited considerably by this exchange of technical literature and international knowledge made possible through F.I.P. The fruits of international cooperation and the widespread interest in new prestressed concrete techniques are emphasized by the willingness of the representatives of all these countries to share knowledge and to learn.

The stature of PCI in the world wide community of nations has been greatly enhanced since the Institute has become the United States' voice for prestressed concrete.

In 1958 PCI was represented at the Berlin Congress

by more than 20 members. As of March 20, 1962, it appeared that there will be between 150 and 200 Americans taking advantage of several study tours of the European prestressed concrete industry; which climax with attendance at the Rome Congress. As an added feature to this particular Congress an exhibition of materials and equipment has been organized and will be held. PCI will play a prominent role in this Fourth Congress since it is in charge of one of the four principal themes which is entitled, "Progress in precast factory manufacture and standardization".

Few of you need be reminded that Rome is an extremely appropriate setting for an international congress; it has been reconstructed at a tremendous rate using prestressed concrete to a large extent. The volume and scope of Italian prestressed concrete construction is simply astounding. I urge you to attend this very worth while meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R.J. Lynam". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "R" and "L".