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## OPENING SPEECH

Prof. G. Oberti, President of ISMES

Ladies and Gentlemen, as President of the ISMES I have the honor to welcome you to Bergamo. I hope your visit will be enjoyable. It is a privilege for us to act as host to this Colloquium, so well organized by Prof. M. Fanelli of the ENEL and by Dr R. Riccioni of the ISMES.

As you know, the main object of the ISMES was and remain the study of large structures by means of tests on physical and mathematical models, and experimental researches on prototypes.

The purpose of this Colloquium is very important and up-to-date. The use of computer, as a powerful tool at disposal of the civil engineer, is actually well-known and well accepted all over the world.

For this main reason, we have installed and increased at the ISMES, with the powerful aid of the ENEL, a special Section, put under the Direction of Dr R. Riccioni, which has already given important contributions to our work of research in various fields of civil engineering.

In my opinion, is important that the results of design studies and of physical tests, are always compared to those obtained by theoretical methods.

With my best wishes for the good results of your work, I thank you for your agreeable presence here.