



OF SOUND AND SUCH

by Herb (H³) Heller

The other night at a performance of the improvisational theater group at Lapine's, I was watching a gruesome little scene: Two actors sipping tea . . . prolonged silence . . . then one, in a falsetto voice: "Well, shall we join the ladies?" and the other: "Yes, let's join them . . ." and, while his arms came up in a pincer movement and his face turned into Boris Karloff "let's join them into one . . . big . . . fat . . . lady!" The MERGER, I guess, is everywhere.

During the past few weeks, after meeting with IRE President Haggerty, Secretary Haraden Pratt and Region 4 Director Alex Bereskin, by telephone and correspondence I have been discussing the creation of the big, fat I-E³ (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) with section officers around the country. It is my considered opinion at this point, that only about 5% of the IRE and AIEE membership have any idea of what is about to happen. They are divided into outspoken camps of pro and con, have both profound as well as ridiculous reasons for their respective stands and are actively campaigning among EACH OTHER. The remaining 95% could not care less.

I wrote President Haggerty, outlining five areas of concern expressed by those to whom I had talked:

- 1) The missile age time-table.
- 2) The lack of opportunity to publish our views nationally.
- 3) The committee's preoccupation with national as opposed to local problems.

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NEW WATTMETER-LOAD FOR RF OUTPUT TO 150 WATTS

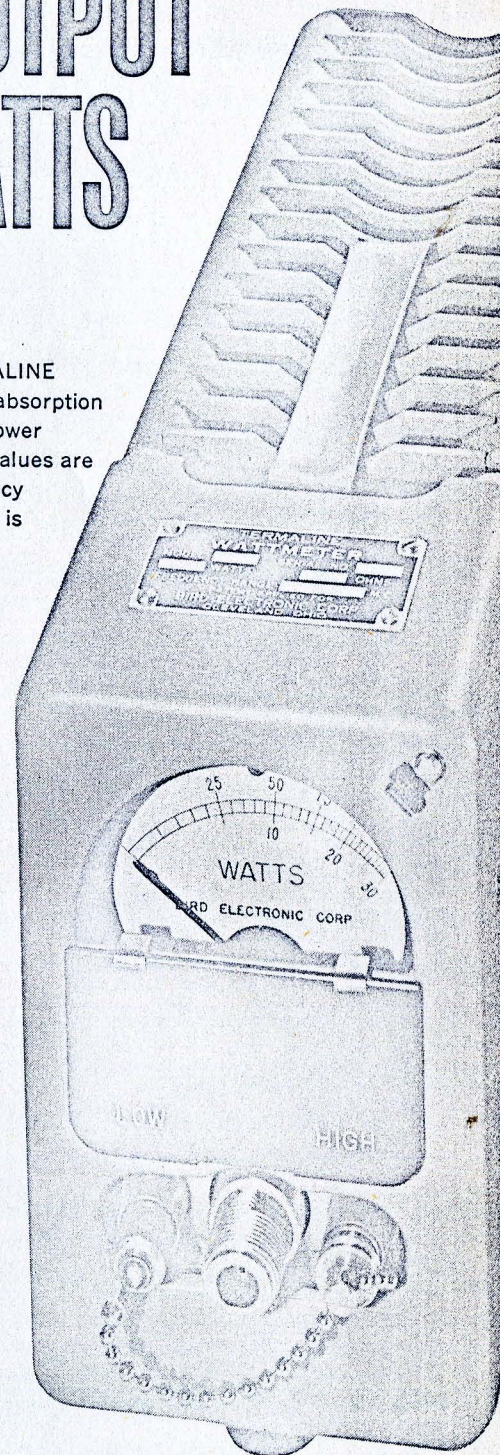
The new BIRD Model 6150 TERMALINE RF Wattmeter is a termination type absorption instrument having selectable dual power ranges of 0-30/0-150 watts. Power values are read directly throughout the frequency range of 30-500 mc. The instrument is portable, simple to operate, and requires no calibration or auxiliary power.

Specifications: BIRD Model 6150

Power scales:	0-30 and 0-150 watts
Impedance:	50 ohms nominal
Frequency Range:	30-500 mc
VSWR:	1.1 maximum
Accuracy:	± 5% of full scale
Input Connector:	Female N
Weight:	8 pounds
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- 4) The financial, and
- 5) The legal aspects of the merger.

Due to post office procedure on registered addressee-delivered mail, the letter reached him too late for a detailed reply before our printing deadline. He did, however, send me two letters and a telegram in an effort to keep us as up-to-date as humanly possible on the merger activity. Dr. Haggerty has three full-time jobs: President of Texas Instruments, President of IRE and member of the merger committee. He is a dedicated man, putting every ounce of energy behind a move he considers beneficial to the profession. While he and I differ at the moment on several points, I thoroughly appreciate his taking the time from a murderous schedule to reply in person.

It would be unfair to discuss the five points of my letter before arrival of Dr. Haggerty's reply, even though time has almost run out. The first three items, however, have received some attention from the merger committee since we discussed them during our earlier meeting.

1) While the time-table is still too much accelerated to permit the less

active 95% to arrive at an informed decision, you should by now have a copy of the Principles of Consolidation. Read and consider every point carefully. You have only about a month until the ballot.

2) We may not get space in the regular channels to communicate our concern, but information developed in an open forum during the Annual Convention will be excerpted and transmitted along with the ballot. This was one of my suggestions to Haraden Pratt and, if the excerpting is done fairly, it should provide a cross-section of opinions around the country.

3) Article V of the Principles contains a provision which allows for flexibility to deal with local problems. While rapid consolidation of every city's AIEE and IRE sections is recommended, individual sections may, if they so desire, operate separately indefinitely. One may assume that they would be called the electrical half of the Dogpatch Section of IEEE and the electronic half. It does not sound very practical and appears to have been included only to silence some very valid objections, but included it was and it must, therefore, be considered.

The next issue of the Section News

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may arrive a few days AFTER you receive the merger ballot. A great deal of information is still missing and I expect to have it for you in the April column or sooner. In any case, do not vote for or against the merger without first acquainting yourself thoroughly with its consequences. You'll have 60 days to return your ballot. Once your IRE is absorbed into the corporate structure of AIEE, the move is permanent and irrevocable.

1962 SWIRECO PROGRAM

The 1962 Southwest IRE Conference and Electronic Show will be held April 11, 12 and 13, at Houston, Texas.

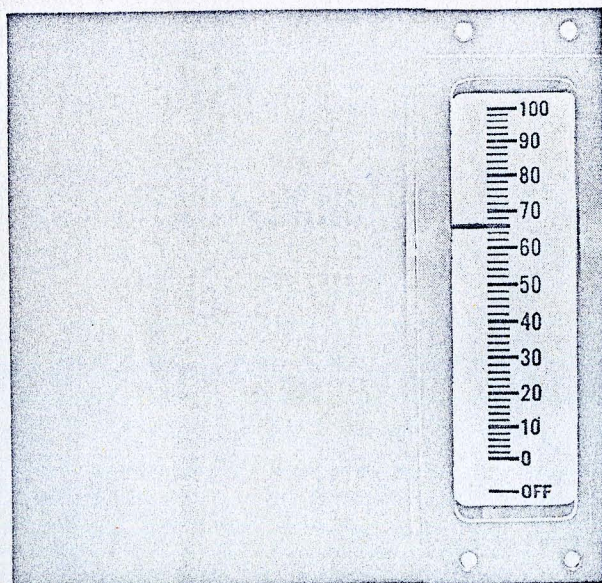
The technical program includes sessions on the following topics:

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- Reliability and Education
- Medical Electronics
- Circuit Analysis
- Circuit Design
- Geoscience
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DESIGN IDEA

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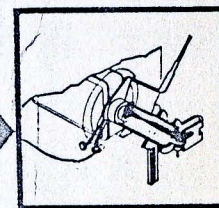


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