

STATEMENT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AIEE BY
MR. PATRICK E. HAGGERTY, PRESIDENT-ELECT OF IRE

October 20, 1961, Board of Directors Meeting Detroit, Michigan

It is no secret to any member of AIEE that IRE and AIEE have collaborated in a wide variety of activities reaching from the joint Student Sections to conferences, standards and so forth. I think it is also no secret to any member of IRE or AIEE that there are not two kinds of electrons, and there is but a single spectrum; and that, consequently, the objectives of our mutual societies are such that they could practically be substituted one for the other. Consequently, as the activities studying additional collaboration were talked about early this year as the result of innumerable meetings among respective members of your Intersociety Relations Committee and our equivalent, among members of our Executive Committee and Board, Subcommittee meetings on Student relations and so forth, early this spring Dr. Berkner asked me to take on a small Ad Hoc committee for IRE to meet with a similar group which turned out to be one man from each area to investigate the depth of collaboration in which we should perhaps engage. I asked our Board at that time if I were given this task and I might preface this by saying the general remarks were that we were growing so close together our collaboration really ought to work toward consolidation, perhaps, over the five or ten year span. I told our Board, following that discussion, that I would be happy to take such a chairmanship, provided that I not be instructed as to the span of time over which the study of the depth of collaboration should be conducted. So, when Dick Teare and I met this spring, to talk about collaboration between AIEE and IRE, we started from the propriety and need for collaboration instead of from the innumerable operational difficulties which inevitably result just because we have somewhat different mechanisms for conducting our respective business. And, of course, the more we talked about the respective areas of interest of the two societies, the more it became perfectly obvious that there was indeed only one kind of electron and only one spectrum and that hence we ought not to think in terms of these long spans of time, because our heavy fields of interest continue to overlap more each year rather than less each year, and that if indeed our aim was to serve our single profession, then we had best examine whether there should not be but a single professional society. So we said, let's think about this in terms of how best our profession can be served not by IRE or by AIEE, but by a, if you will, new society which would serve the entire profession in the way best suited for that profession. Now, of course, all of this could not have happened if it were not clear, that our President and our Past-Presidents and your Mr. Chase and Mr. Linder indeed were as concerned as we that this was but a single profession and ought probably really to be represented by but a single society. Well, there have been innumerable additional discussions since that time as you know, Mr. Chase, and Dr. Berkner has requested that I deliver to you the following resolution which I will read and which was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors of the Institute of Radio Engineers this past Wednesday without a single abstention.