



AMERICAN INSTITUTE of ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

DISTRICT No. 12

1961-1963

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April 20, 1962

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Mr. Arthur E. McClarren
Supervisory of Shipbuilding
United States Navy
Groton, Connecticut

Dear Arthur:

Mr. W. R. Brownlee's recent letter in the April 16th issue of **ELECTRICAL WORLD** has apparently raised questions in the minds of many AIEE members as to the wisdom of the impending AIEE-IRE merger.

I have known Mr. Brownlee for many years and have the utmost respect for his deep interest and understanding of AIEE affairs, having been a past Director, but I believe his opinions as stated have been made without full knowledge and understanding of the tremendous amount of work and discussions that have gone into the preparation of the merger proposal by the 8-man Committee, the 14-man Subcommittee and the Boards of Directors of both AIEE and IRE.

I have not been able to reach Nelson Hibshman by telephone, but have written him suggesting that someone from Headquarters should issue a statement either in **ELECTRICAL WORLD** or some other widely publicized journal answering some of the criticisms Mr. Brownlee has raised and asking him what steps Headquarters feel that the Vice Presidents should take to answer the many questions raised in the minds of the Membership.

Realizing however that the Section Chairmen will be besieged by questions from their constituents regarding Mr. Brownlee's comments, I feel that you should be fully prepared to answer the questions and I feel strongly that you should write a letter to all your members giving them the following facts which are clearly spelled out in the Principles of Consolidation contained in the Special Merger Supplement to the April, 1962 issue of **ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING** which you should urge them to carefully study.

1. The National Technical Committees as we now know them will not be abandoned until such time as the Membership of those Committees shall have been absorbed into Professional Technical Groups as outlined in Article VI of the Principles of Consolidation. Paragraph F of Article VI clearly states that the complete Technical Operating Department structure of the AIEE shall be

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continued in IEEE and shall fall under the cognizance of a standing committee of the IEEE to be known as the Technical Operating Committee, whose Chairman shall be a member of the Board of Directors. From a careful study of Article VI, I think it will become apparent to all that many of the present Committees of the Technical Operating Department, particularly in the Power Division, will remain in existence for many years as to date there has not been much activity in the establishment of Institute Technical Groups in this area.

2. Members of AIEE will receive the Transactions, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING and all other publications they are now receiving during the year 1963. This also applies to IRE members and their publications. During 1963 the Publications Committee of IEEE will institute a new publications policy in such a manner that all papers worthy of Transactions status shall be published in a permanent reference publication similar to the present "Transactions" or "Proceedings," and other publications will be established for "current interest" items, student publications and separate publications for the various Professional Technical Groups.

In reply to Mr. Brownlee's two conclusions, my answer to A is that it will be much easier to work out the various details necessary for operation if there is one society -- IEEE -- to which all members belong, rather than attempting to work out the details ahead of the merger where there are two groups, each attempting to set up procedures most advantageous to his own society. In other words, merge first, then work out the details afterwards.

My answer to B is that this is one man's opinion and does not reflect the considered opinion of the 8-man Committee, 14-man Subcommittee, the Boards of Directors of both societies and the many other consultants who have given much valuable advice. These men have spent many hours in the study and preparation of the Principles of Consolidation and have finally agreed that this merger will be in the best interest of all persons interested in any field of Electrical Engineering. I feel that the Membership should give a vote of confidence to the judgment and wisdom of their Officers and Directors and I sincerely hope that you will pass these thoughts along to the members of your Section.

Sincerely,

L. J. Weed
L. J. Weed
Vice President

LJW/mm

Copies to: Mr. Nelson S. Hibshman
Mr. Donald C. Switzer

Similar letters sent to all other Section Chairmen.