



November 28, 1955

Mr. Morris D. Hooven, President
American Institute of Electrical Engineers
Electric Engineering Department
Public Service Electric & Gas Co.
80 Park Place
Newark, New Jersey

Dear Morris:

Possibly I owe you, Walter Morton, and Monty, too, apologies for the troubles I've caused you. Anyway I deeply appreciate your letter of November 17 and several from Walter in which you put me straight on the facts in the unity question.

I think the record is now clear and true. Maybe Walter and I now need to get a clear and accurate understanding in common of the structure of the American Medical Association to complete the factual background but this is only an incidental matter.

My conclusions drawn from the facts stand as follows:

1. The last publicly announced action of the Board was the "Message" by Elgin in the April 1954 issue of Electrical Engineering. This has not been altered by Board action since. This set forth instructions to our representatives on EJC.
2. It stated categorically that the Board wanted a unity organization "based on individual members rather than a council of societies, clothed with power to act, and adequately financed." It reported that AIEE members in 1950 voted for Plan C, a Merger Plan. It reported this as a fact without connecting it with the new statement of the Board. It outlined a number of reasons why a council of societies was not believed to be adequate.
3. Naturally I am confused when individually we still suggest a council of societies even though combined with individual members in a vague, undefined fashion.
4. The Board has seemed to say that it wants EJC to form a new general society of individual members (supposedly absorbing NSPE if NSPE will join) or to accept NSPE as the desired society.
5. I have seen no sign of the Board not wishing to participate in EJC as a mechanism for cooperation of the societies. The Board only said it did not think EJC is satisfactory as the needed unity society.

RETENTION-2 YEARS

UNLESS SPECIFIED BELOW

5 Years..... 10 Years..... Indefinite.....

Recommended by..... Date.....

Mr. Morris D. Hooven

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6. The Board said also that there was some urgency about the matter.
7. I must express my personal feeling that I can't help being influenced by. This is that to combine all societies and all individual engineers in one grand society is too much unity for my blood. I think freedom, independence, and decentralization is too essential to progress to accept such a scheme. I think a general society of individual engineers is what we should aim at, having at the same time independent specialty societies, with a council of societies also as long as we need it. The latter would be based on a spirit of independent cooperation and would not be the basic unity organization.

Can I represent AIEE before EJC accurately on the above basis without conflict with our other representatives? If not, could the Board adopt a more explicit, fresh statement for my guidance, or set me free to act individually?

I am not replying in writing to Walter Morton's letter of November 15 as he and I have arranged to have our chat over our scuttle of suds in New York this week.

Sincerely,

T. M. Linville

TML:JD

NSHibshman
WBMorton
ACMonteith
WJBarrett