



1912 © 1962

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

THE INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS

INCORPORATED

1 EAST 79 STREET
NEW YORK 21, N.Y.

LE 5-5100

July 23, 1962

Dear Section Chairman:

On July 10 at IRE Headquarters in a special historic meeting, IRE members, present in person and by proxy, voted overwhelmingly in favor of the proposed consolidation of IRE and AIEE. Approximately 63% of all eligible voting members actually voted, either in person or by proxy. This is by far the greatest percentage of our eligible members ever to take part in an election, and it is both gratifying and evidence of the strong interest of our members in this important matter. Of all those voting, 87% voted affirmatively with respect to the merger with the AIEE.

At their regular Annual Meeting in Denver on June 18, 61.5% of the AIEE members eligible to vote did so and 86.4% of them voted in favor of the merger. These almost identical results within the two societies certainly confirm a mutual feeling of agreement on the desirability of consolidation.

While the percentage of total members voting in person or by proxy was very large, there were actually only 29 members present at the Special Meeting in person. Among those present were Senior Members Joseph Baer and Kerim Onder who represented the minority negative opinion with respect to the merger. Their statements were thoughtful and well expressed and bore particularly on their feelings that the total time allotted for discussion by the membership was inadequate. Feeling as I have that consolidation of IRE and AIEE is in the best interests of the profession, I am, of course, gratified at the overwhelmingly affirmative vote of our membership. At the same time, I am especially grateful to all IRE members, including those who viewed the merger negatively, who took the time and effort to express their opinions on the question of consolidation and to make suggestions on how either IRE or the consolidated society could be more effective. Even though Messrs. Baer and Onder undoubtedly felt they would find themselves in a small minority, they had sufficient interest in IRE and dedication to their profession to attend the Special Meeting and express forcefully their views and those of others who voted negatively. We especially appreciated their being present.

The fourteen-man Joint Committee has been appointed, including, of course, the original eight-man Joint Committee. The fourteen-man Committee is composed as follows:

IRE

Dr. L. V. Berkner
Mr. Haraden Pratt
Dr. R. L. McFarlan
Mr. Walter E. Peterson
Mr. P. E. Haggerty
Dr. John T. Henderson
Dr. John D. Ryder

AIEE

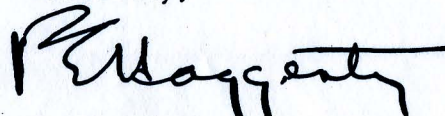
Mr. Warren H. Chase
Mr. Hendley Blackmon
Mr. W. R. Clark
Mr. Clarence H. Linder
Mr. Elgin B. Robertson
Mr. Lawrence Robertson
Dr. B. R. Teare, Jr.

Important initial duties of this Committee include the recommendation of a General Manager and a slate of Officers and Directors of the IEEE to the two Boards of Directors for subsequent presentation to the two memberships. One of the meetings of the fourteen-man Joint Committee has already been held, and another is scheduled for July 26 and 27. Excellent progress is being made, and we hope to submit the slate of Officers and Directors to our memberships for vote in early September.

I know that all of you are anxious for guidance in the matter of meeting with your AIEE counterparts to discuss the best way to effect consolidation. You will receive recommendations within the next few months.

I want to thank all Section Officers for their cooperation in arranging to have the question of consolidation discussed within the Section. I know we can count on a smooth and speedy transition to a new and even better IEEE.

Sincerely,



P. E. Haggerty
President

Copies to: IRE Board of Directors
IRE Professional Group Chairmen
IRE Subsection Chairmen
IRE Representatives
The Fourteen-Man Joint Committee
Dr. G. W. Bailey