

The A.I.E.E. merger plan is a stupendous undertaking in which two major organizations seek immeasurable enlargement of service to their members, and more effective and economic procedures. Time, and the amendments that time and experience suggest, will involve an IEEE whose technological environment will far outweigh any momentary problems.

Changing times demand changing thoughts. The proposed product, IEEE, the two Boards are aware, will not begin life as a perfect, flawless achievement. Twelve years ago, the AIEE Board declared the Institute "finds its chief reason for existence is the technical field." The plan protects this purpose. Nothing will be lost. Much will be gained.

It is intended that the executive committees of the AIEE technical groups will function as have the technical committees, but with more responsibility and authority. Within the structure of IEEE, there will be sought wide participation and great flexibility. We may be assured that IEEE policy will strive to include and integrate all functions of the present technical committees.

IEEE's publication policy already has received intense study. A plan submitted by the AIEE Publications Department recognized that the policy must respond to member needs in a rapidly changing technology. There are differences in the review procedures of the two present organizations. The system eventually to be adopted will reflect the continuing studies of the new Board in this very broad and highly significant field of activity.

Many phases of the flexible IRE Constitution will be retained. Some points in the AIEE Constitution should be left to the By-Laws. The new Constitution will be comprehensive in scope, with details left to By-Laws. The Board's 25 members all will have important assignments.



To balance geographical and technical interests, IEEE will have fewer, but bigger, Regions, Sections and Groups, with enlarged autonomy and responsibility. AIEE, IRE and IEEE have common purposes. The merger will provide broad highways leading directly to technological horizons, with numerous access roads.

The merger will be an immense stride toward engineering unity, with the electric and electronic areas establishing their own unity as they urge it upon the entire engineering profession.

IEEE headquarters will be in the United Engineering Center. The merger agreement does not prohibit expansion of occupancy space. Any concern on this score is academic. Space for expansion is not adequate.

Free discussion has been and is most valuable. But there comes a time when talk must end in action. Much that is brought up at this late date can be adjusted satisfactorily once IEEE comes into being and sets about developing its future. The plans are not perfect. But they are sound and have been well-considered and well-discussed. There has to be a beginning. Let us make that beginning NOW with an affirmative vote and leave any changes and improvements to time and the experience that time assures.