N. S. HIBSHMAN

420 CLINTON AVENUE BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11238

February 9, 1968

Dear Haraden:

Thanks for the excerpts from Marriott on the emblem. I gather there are actually six emblems involved here: SWTE,WI,IRE, AIEE (original kite or bridge type), AIEE modern, and IEEE. What I can't remember is whether I included the SWTE and WI in the STUDENT JOURNAL piece. That's easily found, however. If I didn't, Ihope we can find pictures of them for the present story.

The enclosed sample of a letter, to go to at least those most likely to respond among the Eight-Man Committee and their assistants, is intended to bring out material that may not have been published or recorded formally in the minutes of the various committees, and the Boards. May I please have your suggestins for the improvement of the letter. Does it ask too much? Does it overlook items that we now know we need? I don't want anyone else to put in two days going through their files as Don's letter indicates Savage did. (Actually, the one ring binder that effort yielded was not very pertinent as far as the merger was concerned. Maybe, a busy office like Chuck's just can't be expected to keep files of this kind five years.)

I told Reed in a note on my last letter to you to send me the complete AIRE Board minutes since 1930. There is a loose-leaf file of these in my files in storage. Rather than have Reed comb these, I'll go through them for clues to efforts at coordination and cooperation the details of which may be more fully developed elswhere. At any event, I need to refresh my memory about what AIRE itself was doing all those years.

Part of our story, I believe, should be the affiliations of AIEE and IRE with other organizations in America and abroad. In addition to formal affiliation, there were organizations such as ASEE in which IRE and AIEE members supplied a great deal of leadership. I think of Scott and Wickenden in this connection. Of course, we can't go into a lot of this, but there was a lot of involvement on the part of "electricals" in educational and "professional" matters besides the technical where they are often accused of having secluded themselves. These outside interests of leaders in AIRE, I fear, disipated some of the Board's energies. I have in mind especially the long and rather futile discussions and resolutions of the "unity of the profession". Maybe it was something of a reaction to all this that made the merger concept attractive. This is getting a bit far afield, but I can't help speculating on what, in addition to the fortunate coincidence of personalities, brought it off so fast and so smoothly.

Sincerely,

Welson