

CONFIDENTIAL

May 11, 1962

7.0

Dear Warren:

We are counting the return of proxies for to-day right now. I may have the figure before I put this in the mail. There appear to be about 3000. Friday is always a light day for mail.

Blackmon suggested to Coggeshall that it might be a good idea for you and Linder and Haggerty, if available, to call on the EW Editors before they make up their minds about their position on merger. I told him that it is too late, and furthermore; I know what they have decided. Dan told me early this week in the strictest confidence that they are coming out in favor of merger. He could have changed his mind in the meantime, but that's what the man said early this week. They want to keep up suspense as long as possible; so they don't want the word to get around. These newsmen are very fussy about confidential material. I like them that way and try to play ball. Hence, I didn't tell even you. However, now they have gone to press and will be out by the time you get this or very nearly so. I've an idea that ^{if and} when that comes out a lot of the power boys will throw in the sponge and get on the band wagon.

The other ~~rx~~ thing that bothers me is that Buckley told George that they were getting a rough deal ^{from} ~~with~~ the tax man in Washington. It sounded as though there were definitely a threat of loss of C3. That would be a mess indeed if it came after the vote is all in, and more of a one if it came after January 1, 1963. I've often wondered if you Four Men ever got a satisfactory answer to the questions ~~that~~ you raised in Tobin's office back there in January.

4.73.218

They are really getting rough when they pick on a thing like the Engineers' Society of Milwaukee. As you see from my letter to Matthias, I don't see that we can do anything for them but tell our Section to get the hell out and stay away from the set-up. There seems to be no principle involved there. They just didn't follow the rules.

My thinking about IRE and the merger is that, if Haggerty, and Berknmer were to go to the right people in Washington and make a case for all we expect to do for ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ the advancement of the art and the education of so many much needed engineers with this money, they might give us a couple of years , at least, to show what we can do. NSPE is pushing a bill in congress now to spend some \$200,000,000 on a boondoggle to train technicians. When you consider what we can do with the little bit they let us keep of our own money, it seems to me like a good cause. Maybe Texas millionaires are not the right ones to make that plea at the present time. But , if someone could, it might be worth a try. After all, someone kept the IRS at bay for all these years for IRE. Now that IRE has taken in a poor relative it ought to get consideration for ~~XXXX~~ for added dependents.

Final count as of Friday May 11 --

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>% Yes</u>
15,424					
AIEE	15,424	13,038	1,755	631	84.53
IRE	12,888	11,250	1,400	238	87.5

Nelson