



It is true

Philadelphia Section - IRE

1. Foundation

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The Institute of Radio Engineers was established May 13, 1912 by a consolidation of the "Society of Wireless Telegraph Engineers" of Boston, and "The Wireless Institute" which had its headquarters in New York. The original membership of the IRE consisted of ~~46~~ numbered 46, of whom 22 came from SWTE and 25 from TWI. (One of the charter members had belonged to both groups.) After a year of informal operation, the Institute was formally incorporated under the laws of the State of New York on August 23, 1913. ~~With~~ Its expressed purposes were "To advance the art and science of radio transmission, to publish works of literature, science and art for such purpose, to do all and every act necessary, suitable and proper for the accomplishment of any of the purposes or the attainment of any of the powers herein set forth, either alone or in association with other corporations, firms or individuals ---".

Initial growth was rapid, and the activities of the IRE, originally confined to the

New York Area, spread to other cities as membership increased. The first local section was organized in Washington, D.C. in January 1914, followed by one in Boston, Mass. in November, 1914. Seattle, Washington was next in February, 1915, and a section was organized in San Francisco in 1917. World War I interrupted the formation of local sections as well as ~~many other~~ other institute activities, and it was not until 1925 that three additional sections were formed in Philadelphia, Chicago and Toronto, Can.

The initial meeting of the Chicago section is reported in the August, 1925 issue of the "Proceedings", and the first meeting of the proposed Toronto (subsequently the Canadian) section took place on September 25, 1925. The December, 1925 issue of the "Proceedings" lists the Philadelphia section for the first time, with Stuart Ballantine as Chairman, but gives no ~~other~~ information as to other officers, or date of organization. A report to the first national convention of the IRE held in New York on January 18-19, 1926 states that "During the year (1925) sections have been organized in Chicago, Philadelphia, and Toronto". It is not evident whether the order of listing is alphabetical or chronological, and it is uncertain, therefore, whether the Philadelphia section preceded or followed the Canadian section in organization. The latter group held its "inaugural banquet and

get-together meeting" on October 2, 1925.

No record has been found, either here or in the New York office of the IRE, as to when the Philadelphia section was officially chartered, or of the original membership. This must be one of the members of the IRE who signed the petition for its formation. At that time, the by-laws of the Institute required the signatures of at least twenty-five members of any grade except juniors or students. Presumably, the required signatures must have been obtained largely from the list given in appendix A, attached. This list, which has been abstracted from the 1926 Year Book, includes all members of the IRE above the grade of juniors as of 1-1-26 with addresses in or near Philadelphia, and totals 53 names.

Presumably, the Philadelphia section was not particularly active during 1925 and early 1926. No reports of meetings have been found prior to May 21, 1926. This is described as a reorganization meeting, and was followed by a meeting on July 12, 1926 which attracted an audience of 100. Beginning in September, 1926, meetings were held regularly, and the Philadelphia section was firmly launched.

HISTORY

PHILADELPHIA SECTION - IRE

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HISTORY

PHILADELPHIA SECTION -- IRE

34. OFFICERS OF SECTION

Prior to 1929, there are no original records, and the names of the officers have been obtained from the Section Notes included in various issues of the "Proceedings of the IRE" In those days, it appears that most of the work was done by the officers, and that the organization was fairly informal.

Over the years, various committees were developed to meet the growing needs of the Section. For the season of 1962-63, the Directory of Officers covers 21 typed pages, including:

Main Section Officers

Lancaster, Lehigh and Reading
Sub-Section Officers

Nine principal committees

Nineteen Professional Group Officers

Sheer bulk obviously precludes publication of the names of all those who have taken an active part in the affairs of the local Section in recent years.

The attached tables summarize the officers of the Philadelphia Section and of the Princeton, Lancaster, Lehigh and Reading Sub-Sections.

INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS
OFFICERS OF PHILADELPHIA SECTION

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>VICE CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>SECRETARY-TREASURER</u>
1925	Stuart Ballantine (1)	-	-
(1) Started between October and December 1925 - No record of other officers			
1926	Stuart Ballantine	-	W.G. Ellis (as of April) W.L. Sayre (as of June)
Section reorganized 5-21-26, new officers elected 9-17-26			
	J.C. Van Horn	-	David P. Gullette
1927	J.C. Van Horn	-	David P. Gullette (to June) J.C. Mevius (from July)
1928	J.C. Van Horn	-	J.C. Mevius
1929	J.C. Van Horn	C. Brown Hyatt (2)	J.C. Mevius (to June)

(2) These officers elected 3-22-29 to serve until June 1930

SEASON

1930-31	W.R.G. Baker	C.D. Haigis (3) D.O. Whelan (3)	G.C. Blackwood
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(3) Mr. Haigis reported as elected, but reports of meetings list Mr. Whelan as Vice Chairman

1931-32	G.W. Carpenter	R.S. Hayes	G.C. Blackwood
1932-33	Henry W. Byler	I.A. Travis	G.C. Blackwood
1933-34	Wm. F. Diehl	E.L. Forstall	G.C. Blackwood
1934-35	Ellsworth D. Cook	Knox McIlwain	R.L. Snyder
1935-36	Knox McIlwain	Irving Wolff	R.L. Snyder
1936-37	Irving Wolff	A.F. Murray	R.L. Snyder
1937-38	A.F. Murray	H.J. Schrader	R.L. Snyder
1938-39	H.J. Schrader	R.S. Hayes	R.L. Snyder
1939-40	R.S. Hayes	C.M. Burrill	R.L. Snyder
1940-41	C.M. Burrill	Carl C. Chambers	R.L. Snyder
1941-42	Carl C. Chambers	John B. Coleman	R.L. Snyder
1942-43	John B. Coleman	Wm. F. West	R.L. Snyder (to Oct. 1942) H.J. Schrader (after Oct., 1942)
1943-44	Wm. P. West	T.A. Smith	H.J. Schrader
1944-45	T.A. Smith	D.B. Smith	Samuel Gubin
1945-46	D.B. Smith	Samuel Gubin	P.M. Craig
1946-47	Samuel Gubin	P.M. Craig	A.N. Curtiss
1947-48	P.M. Craig	A.N. Curtiss	J.T. Brothers
1948-49	A.N. Curtiss	J.T. Brothers	C.A. Gunther
1949-50	J.T. Brothers	C.A. Gunther	L.M. Rodgers
1950-51	C.A. Gunther	L.M. Rodgers	C.M. Sinnett
1951-52	L.M. Rodgers	C.M. Sinnett	J.G. Brainerd

<u>SEASON</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>VICE CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>	<u>TREASURER</u>
1952-53	C.M. Sinnett	J.G. Brainerd	S.C. Spielman	C.R. Kraus
1953-54	J.G. Brainerd	S.C. Spielman	C.R. Kraus	M.S. Corrington
1954-55	S.C. Spielman	C.R. Kraus	M.S. Corrington	N. Johnson
1955-56	C.R. Kraus	M.S. Corrington	Nels Johnson	I.L. Auerbach
1956-57	M.S. Corrington	Nels Johnson	I.L. Auerbach	Jules Warshaw(4) Roger E. Robertson

(4) Resigned 11-7-56

1957-58	Nels Johnson	I.L. Auerbach	R.E. Robertson(5) W.E. Howard	Lowell H. Good
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(5) Resigned 9-4-57

1958-59	I.L. Auerbach	W.A. Howard	L.H. Good	J.B. Williams
1959-60	W.A. Howard	L.H. Good (6)	J.B. Williams(6)	R.M. Showers

(6) Resigned 1-6-60; new sequence of officers approved 1-6-60.

	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>VICE CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>TREASURER</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>
1959-60	W.A. Howard	W.T. Sumerlin	R.M. Showers	Harry J. Woll
1960-61	W.T. Sumerlin	R.M. Showers	H.J. Woll	R.G. Adamson
1961-62	R.M. Showers	H.J. Woll	K.H. Emerson	Paul Lathrop
1962-63	H.J. Woll	K.H. Emerson	Paul Lathrop	J.E. Snook

INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS
OFFICERS OF THE PRINCETON SUB-SECTION

Sub-Section organized 5-4-45

<u>SEASON</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>VICE CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>SECRETARY-TREASURER</u>
1945-46	W. C. Johnson	C. W. Mueller	J. G. Barry
1946-47	C. W. Mueller	J. G. Barry (to 1-8-47) N. W. Mather	A. V. Bedford

On July 1, 1947 Princeton was made a Section.

INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS
OFFICERS OF THE LANCASTER SUB-SECTION

First meeting of Lancaster Sub-Section

12-10-47

<u>SEASON</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>VICE CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>SECRETARY-TREASURER</u>
1947-48	A. M. Glover	H. M. Fry	C. E. Burnett
1948-49	A. M. Glover	H. M. Fry	C. E. Burnett
1949-50	R. B. Ayer	S. K. Waldorf	J. L. Quinn
1950-51	S. K. Waldorf	E. E. Spitzer	A. C. Grim
1951-52	E. E. Spitzer		Werner Rueggeberg
1952-53	L. B. Headrick	G. F. Brett	C. G. Landis
1953-54	G. F. Brett	G. W. Scott	M. B. Lemeshka
1954-55	G. W. Scott	D. H. Wamsley	G. E. Mandell
1955-56	D. H. Wamsley	R. B. Janes	H. F. Kazanowski
1956-57	W. T. Dyall	P. A. Metzger	P. W. Kaseman
1957-58	P. A. Metzger	P. W. Kaseman	Wm. Freud
1958-59	P. W. Kaseman	D. J. Ransom	A. W. Comins
1959-60	F. S. Veith	W. N. Parker	J. C. Glass
1960-61	W. N. Parker	Y. W. Uyeda	J. Evans
1961-62	Y. W. Uyeda	W. P. Bennett	R. M. Matheson
1962-63	W. P. Bennett	W. H. Freund	A. L. Morehead

INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS

OFFICERS OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY SUB-SECTION

The Lehigh Valley Sub-Section was organized early in 1957 and held only 4 meetings to the end of 1957.

<u>SEASON</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>VICE CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>	<u>TREASURER</u>
1957-58	F. W. Smith	J. J. Ebers	L.G.McCracken	H. J. Tooker
1958-59	J. J. Ebers	L. G. McCracken	H. A. Tooker	C. S. Young
1959-60	L.J.McCracken	H. A. Tooker	J. H. Volk	C. S. Young
1960-61	H. A. Tooker	J. H. Volk	M. C. Waltz	A. I. Larky
1961-62	J. H. Volk	M. C. Waltz	A. I. Larky	W.M.Kilpatrick
1962-63	M. C. Waltz	A. I. Larky	F. H. Levien	R. M. Allen

INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS

OFFICERS OF THE READING SUB-SECTION

Formation of the Reading Sub-Section was approved by the Board of Directors February 10, 1959, and the first officers were elected at the meeting of 2-18-59.

<u>SEASON</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>VICE CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>SECRETARY-TREASURER</u>
1959-60	F. L. Rose		H. S. Hauck
1960-61	W. I. Huyett	H. S. Hauck	R. H. Lundberg
1961-62	H. S. Hauck	R. F. Lipscomb	R. M. Lelacheur
1962-63	R. M. Lelacheur	R. C. Pomeroy	I. C. Savadelis

HISTORY OF THE PHILADELPHIA SECTION-IRE

A previous report, which was abstracted in the February 1954 issue of the Bulletin, covered the formation of the Philadelphia Section in late 1925 and its reorganization in May, 1926. In the fall of 1926 Mr. J. C. Van Horn was elected chairman, an office which he was to hold until June, 1930. This is the only instance in which the same man served as chairman for more than one year but, judging from the results, the policy was sound. In a little over four years, the infant Philadelphia Section had outstripped the older ones and was, at the end of 1930, the largest section in the country.

During most of Mr. Van Horn's term of office, Mr. J. C. Mevius served as Secretary, succeeding Mr. David P. Gullette, and much of the early history has been reconstructed from the "Section Notes" which these men contributed to the Proceedings. It is from these notes, for example, that we learn the names of the first membership committee, appointed in January 1927 - Messrs. S. J. Hutchinson, A. G. Shafer, and H. H. Brown.

Names of those important individuals, the program chairmen, have not been discovered. Perhaps there were none specifically designated. With or without them, however, meetings were held regularly - 10 in 1927, 8 in 1928, and 7 in 1929. Initially, these meetings were held at the Bartol Laboratories. Later, as attendance increased, many of them were held at the old Franklin Institute Lecture Hall on Seventh Street. Attendance, of course, varied over rather wide ranges, just as it does today. The minimum officially recorded is 15.* However, one of the members in those early days recalls an occasion where the speaker, after surveying the handful of people who had turned out, remarked "Well, it's not enough for a formal paper, but it's just right for a crap game". That evening, there was no formal paper.

R.S.H.
verbally

On the other hand, subjects which appealed to the members and their friends generally attracted surprisingly large audiences. Considering only attendance as a criterion, the following appear to have been the meetings in the 1927-1929 period which commanded wide attention. At all of these meetings the attendance exceeded 100, reaching a maximum of 275.

- March 25, 1927 - Rejuvenation of Composite Radio Broadcasting
Stations - W. W. Knight
- April 22, 1927 - Development of the Radio Receiver
- Roger W. Barrington, Jr.
- June 24, 1927 - Radio Vision - C. Francis Jenkins
- November 25, 1927 - Electrical Recording and Reproducing
- J. P. Maxfield
- June 1, 1928 - Rayfoto System of Picture Broadcasting
- Edgar H. Felix
- October 11, 1928 - Sound Measurements of Loud Speaker
Characteristics - Irving Wolff
- April 25, 1929 - Latest Phases of Television - C. Francis Jenkins

* Probably meeting of 5-24-29?

While the interests of the Philadelphia Section have steadily expanded into new fields during the ensuing quarter-century, there is little doubt that papers covering most of these subjects would still be popular today.

We have now traced briefly the history of the Philadelphia Section during its formative years. Subsequent reports to the members will appear in the Bulletin from time to time under the heading "Twenty-five Years Ago".

Record of main section meetings
Philadelphia section - IRE

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Season	Total Meetings			Usual Location	Joint with	Notes	Notes
	NA	NA	NA				
1925	NA	NA	NA	NA			
1926	5*	60	100+	Bartol Labs.			
1927	9	89	275	"			
1928	8	95	200	"			
1929	7	77	215	Franklin Inst.			
1930-31	14	137	280	Franklin Inst. & Engrs Club		2	Jan. 1930 to July 1931
1931-32	7*	100	139	Engineers' Club			First Prize Paper
1932-33	9*	107	304	"	AAAS. (1) in Atlantic City		9th Annual Convention IRE in Phila.
1933-34	9*	166	302	"	National Conv. IRE in Phila.		
1934-35	9	178	300	"	F.I. (1)	4	
1935-36	9	264	300	"	F.I. (1)	4	
1936-37	8	265	350	"			
1937-38	9	228	380	"			
1938-39	8	234	375	"	F.I. (1) AIEE (1)	4	
1939-40	8	208	300	"	F.I. (1) AIEE (1)	4	
1940-41	8	165	250	"	F.I. (1)	4	
1941-42	8	134	250	"	F.I. (1) AIEE (1)	4	
1942-43	8	108	200	"	F.I. (1) AIEE (1)	4	
1943-44	8	146	380	Franklin Institute	F.I. (1)	4	
1944-45	8	217	285	"	F.I. (1)	4	Princeton Sub-section organized
1945-46	8	140	221	"	F.I. (1) Princeton Sub-Section (1)	4	
1946-47	8	156	430	"	F.I. (1)	4	Princeton became Section
1947-48	8	160	325	"	F.I. (1)	4	
1948-49	8	186	390	"	F.I. (1)	4	
1949-50	8	125	290	"	F.I. (1)	4	
1950-51	8	185	NA	"	F.I. (1) AIEE (1)	1,4	
1951-52	9	110	169	"			
1952-53	8	179	390	"	F.I. (1) AFCEA (1) AIEE (1) PGA (1) PGEC (1)	4,5,6	1st Ladies Night
1953-54	8	250	710	Franklin Institute	FI (2) AIEE (1) PGA (1)		2nd Ladies Night 1st Fellows Night?
1954-55	8	131	225	Engrs. Club & Franklin Inst.	PGA (1) AIEE (1) FI (1)		
1955-56	9	195	325	Engineers Club	PGEM (1) F.I. (1) AIEE (1) PGA (1)		Student's Night?
1956-57	8	138	275	"	PGEC (1) PGEM (1) F.I. (1) AIEE (1) PGANE (1) PGA (1)		Student's Night?
1957-58	8	130	400+ - 90%	"	PGA (1) PGAP-PGEM (1) PGEC (1) AIEE (1) FI (1) PGME (1) PGEM (1)		Past Chairmen's Night
1958-59	8	116	208	All different	All PG's (1) AIEE (1) PG Subsect (1) F.I. (1)		Fellow's Night Dance
1959-60	8			Scattered	AIEE (1) PGEC (1) F.I. (1)		
1960-61	8	171	350	"	AIEE (2) F.I. (1)		
1961-62	8		460	"	AIEE (2) All PG's (1) F.I. (1) PG SET (1)		
1962-63	5*			"	PGA (1) AIEE (2)	3	

- Notes:
- NA - Information not available
 - * The fifth meeting was the inaugural meeting of IRE
 - dis. Philadelphia and ended the independent existence of the Philadelphia IRE section.
 - 1 - NA indicates information not available
 - 2 - From Jan. 1930 to July 1931. Subsequently section year ran from July to May of the following year
 - 3 - The fifth meeting was the inaugural meeting of the Philadelphia section of the IRE.
 - 4 - F.I. = Franklin Institute
 - 5 - AFCEA = Armed Forces Communicating and Electronics Association
 - 6 - Prefix PG indicates a Professional group of IRE