

February 23, 1968

Mr. Haraden Pratt  
Pompano Beach, Florida

Dear Haraden:

I've finally gotten around to writing to the other two members of the Eight-Man Committee. I had hoped that I might get some response from Teare, Chase, and Robertson, and Linder that would help in approaching the IRE contingent whom I know hardly at all. However, with the Convention coming up in a few weeks, I thought I'd better get on with it. Enclosed is a copy of the letter to Haggerty and Mc Farlan.

I had written to Hooven for suggestions just before receiving your letter with the print of his paper "The Electrical Engineering Profession in the Past Century", delivered, I assume, at the centennial in 1952. I've seen this before, but I'm very pleased to have it in this convenient form.. Your excerpt from the Carnegie autobiography is very interesting.

I asked Lloyd Espenschied to check up on the emergence of electrical engineering societies in Europe. I know about the English and the French, but I have no dates for the German organizations and possibly others. Speaking of the British, I wonder of the IEE and the British IRE are making any headway toward merger.

My working copies of the AIEE Board minutes 1959 to 1963 have come and I will go through them for merger material. I hope eventually to go much further back than that for suggestions about earlier contacts between the two organizations.

Your reference to the bugging of the IRE Board luncheon, reminds me that I heard something about that, either at the time, probably from Chuck Savage or later from George himself. Actually, it was Savage's job to follow Linder around with his newly acquired portable tape recorder and gather the pearls in their pure state. When McFarlan spoke to the AIEE Board luncheon, Savage recorded that, and I have a copy of the transcript among my papers. In AIEE, I think we were a bit more electronically minded in this matter than IRE. I taped all of the Board meetings, mainly because I couldn't keep up with the proceedings with my hand-written notes. Then I took the tapes home with me and listened to them while writing the minutes. We were also economy minded; it saved the time and travel expense of a girl stenographer at the meetings, I remember one time when Hickernell missed a meeting, I sent him the tape. He declared that the best thing that could be done to improve Board meetings would be to make every member of the Board listen to these tapes. No one ever did, except in one case when the minutes were disputed and the tape confirmed my version of what happened. We were not "security" conscious. Minutes and all other papers were open to everybody.

Sincerely,

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