message from the chairman

THE CONTINUING GROWTH OF IRE

In May 1962, the Institute of Radio Engineers will celebrate its golden anniversary.

We have become the largest professional society anywhere, with more than 90,000 members. The twenty-eight Professional Groups, a unique type of organization in a professional society, are concerned with almost every aspect of our technological foundation. The 110 IRE Sections function on every continent except Antarctica. The 212 student branches provide IRE with heavy educational responsibilities.

Perhaps the most important IRE activity is the publication of the Proceedings of the IRE and the Transactions of the many Professional Groups. Another important mark of our size is the $4,500,000 annual budget, which is far beyond that of any other professional society.

Normally we might sit back, somewhat pleased, at the scope of operations of our organization. However, the IRE is a dynamic group, made up of forward-looking people. Many plans are being formulated to augment the IRE services necessary to meet the ever increasing membership.

Action is under way to attempt to merge the IRE and the AIEE into a single society, with all the benefits that this would bring. Details of this action are discussed in an article on page 16 of this issue of THE MONITOR.

Regardless of the outcome of this prospective merger, one of the immediate objectives is to increase the membership of IRE beyond the 100,000 mark in 1962. At the rate we have been expanding, this is not a difficult goal to achieve.

Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner, in a letter to the Section chairman, has summarized the belief of many of us that there are numerous engineers and scientists who have certainly heard of IRE but have not been asked to join and are not aware of the benefits of IRE membership.

It is on this basis that we in the New York Section will institute a vigorous campaign to ensure that all non-member engineers and scientists within the area have been invited to join the IRE. In this way, we can participate with the international organization and reach the goal of 100,000 members in 1962.

Contact myself or any of the other members of the New York Section executive committee if you know of anyone who might qualify for IRE membership.

A summary of the qualifications for the various grades of membership is given on page 18, and an application form for membership which prospective member may use is attached in this issue.