Seventeen (17) replies were received: five (5) claimed they had already renewed their memberships; four (4) indicated that they planned to renew; and eight (8) said they would not renew for reasons. A typical response in the last category is quoted here:

"I had been a member of IEEE and then IEEE for 28 years until I dropped my IEEE membership early this year. I do not feel IEEE membership has benefited me in any way whatsoever. The management does not support the issues I feel are important; worse, they frequently support the opposite viewpoint. Perhaps it's the cowardly way out - not to stay and fight for improvement in IEEE - but there are far more important problems to work on and we have only a fixed amount of time."

Our records indicate that the witter became a Member in 1948 and a Senior Member in 1958 - and now, an Ex-member in 1976.

Most of the 112 ex-members to whom questionnaires were sent received a response in our Section Membership declined from 1016 as of 12/31/75 to 926 on 12/31/76. The major reason, as ascertained from the surveys, were the dues increase and the lack of responsiveness to members need.

It seems clear the Professional Activities would have little value if the member until they are based on inputs from the engineering professionals who want and need them. Perhaps the recent PACE/SAS Workshops and this newsletter are steps in the right direction.

Joseph M. Erbach Chairman Mid-Hudson Section

Beware of Greeks Bearing Gifts

Tolomei Danous et dota ferentia. Accipe nunc Danous insolens et cense te an enno. Venpi, Afnmad, Bika.

When the ancient and legendary Greeks from Athens could not conquer a respected Troy by frontal attack they "sailed away," leaving behind a large ship. Wooden horse. The now Trojan look in the "gift" from which after dark crawled Greek soldiers who opened the city gates for the "returning" Greeks. That is how Troy burned.

Beware Of Greeks Bearing Gifts

In 1970 U.S. EEs were a restless bunch due to a bug of the high unemployment, lack of professional status, and so on. IEEE members were actually talking about running for high offices and joining the Institute to do something about their problems. A nominating petition required signature count equal to 1/3% of the members: about 450, Large, but not impossible. That year the IEEE ballot contained a proposition for Constitution amendment recommended by the Directors. The proposition recognized Division Director as subject to nomination by the members -AND-specified all nominating petitions require signature count as given in the Bylaws - which are written by the Directors. The members naively voted as recommended by the Directors. When the members saw the new Bylaws they found the 1/3% changed to 2%. The signature count was then 2700. Not! The trick worked because the members weren't paying attention.

Beware Of Greeks Bearing Gifts

Since the five "bosses" proposals for Constitution amendment have been on the ballot. Not one has ever been properly presented to the members and evaluated on its merits in an open IEEE forum. Not one has passed.

Last year one proposition advanced a procedure for providing an open forum. The Directors saw it to that IT did not receive an open forum, and opposed it saying they would provide a better plan. The proposition failed to receive in both-majory required for passage. The members weren't paying attention. Over 65% didn't even vote.

One elite group of IEEE members IS paying attention. They are the PAC members and supporters: the readers of this newsletter, for example. Your collective PAC, must press the Directors into making good on their election campaign promises. A major promise of the Directors was a policy and a procedure for a proper forum on all new ballot propositions. To date nothing has been done. When, and if, a procedure is proposed by the Directors ONLY YOU the PAC, will be paying attention. Study their proposition carefully. Only you can listen for Greeks breathing inside a "wooden horse."

Beware Of Greeks Bearing Gifts

John W. Crow, SM
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Woodland Hills, CA, 91364

IMPACT Newsletter
The following two articles are reprinted from the May, 1977 issue of "IMPACT," a newsletter concerning the professional activities of the IEEE.

All PAC Chairmen, Section Chairman, Institute Officers, Officers of Groups and Societies and Editors of other newsletters receive "IMPACT." All other participants and interested members may receive it as well. To add your name to the mailing list contact: Mrs. Dorothy Bomberger, IEEE Washington, D. C. Office, 2029 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006; (202) 785-0017.

Mid-Hudson Survey
IEEE Sections have always been encouraged to contact members in due arrear to try to persuade them to continue their membership. Last fall, the Mid-Hudson Section Membership Committee waged just such a campaign, sending letters and questionnaires to the 112 members who had not paid any dues for 1976.

Activities Reminder: Clip to Calendar
2nd Wednesday each month - Professional Activities Committee (PAC). ITT Conference Center, 500 Washington Ave., Nutley, N.J. at 7:30. All are invited to attend:
August 24 - PAC present IEEE Presidential Candidate, Irwin Feirst as Guest Speaker, at the ITT Conference Center.

North Jersey IEEE Meeting:
Feirst To Speak On Recent Legal Developments
Irwin Feirst, IEEE presidential candidate, will be the featured speaker at a August 24, 1977 meeting which will be jointly sponsored by the North Jersey IEEE and the Professional Activities Committee. It will be held at the ITT Auditorium, Nutley, N.J., at 8 PM.
Mr. Feirst's talk "Recent Developments in the Legal Arena" will include Service Contract Act, Pensions, Professional Activities and items of interest to the practicing engineer. We invite husbands and wives of members to attend. They are vitally interested in the economic betterment of the electrical engineer and have frequently contributed searching comments and have added to the lively discussions that have accompanied similar presentations by Mr. Feirst.
Mr. Feirst received his B.E.E. degree from City College of New York in 1951 after service in the U.S. Navy during and after World War II. His M.E.E. degree was earned from N.Y.U. in 1955. To counter charges made by academic and corporate executives that he is obsolete, he earned another M.S.E.E. degree in 1974.
From 1949 until 1962, Mr. Feirst was employed by various profit-minded corporations (CBS, ALI, Ford Instrument, General Electric, etc.) in positions of increasing management responsibility. From 1962 until 1969, he was Assistant Professor of Physics and Electronics at Adelphi University, Garden City, N.Y., where he derived and taught many of the national graduate and undergraduate courses. Since 1969, he has been an independent consultant in areas of CRT displays, electro-mechani-
rex h. beers

during the over 20 years that i have actively participated in the activities of iee, i have seen it grow in membership and stature to the point where it is a viable entity in the life of all engineers. the organization must continue to keep pace with technological progress in addressing the needs of its members in the areas of technical, professional, and socio-economic activities.

regional i have been responsive to the needs of its members by supporting institute board of directors in committees in a positive manner while actively encouraging the means of assisting the great many members in addressing problems germane to their area. these activities would have my continued support.

the regional director must exercise his managerial abilities to assure that the needs of the members of the entire region are addressed in a manner commensurate with the resources available and to be sure he can serve in this capacity as a member of the board of directors of the institute in an effective manner to assure that the needs of the entire membership are served economically and effectively.

in my opinion, all ieee officers should be equally committed to professional as well as technical activities. if elected, i am prepared to equitably balance the needs of our membership to achieve the maximum results in these areas.

i support in principle the current usab program and i would endeavor to provide direction and/or assistance in areas where our region is having the expertise to make a meaningful contribution.

my participation in region activities as secretary-treasurer, chairman of the n.y. state section, chairman of the usab liaison committee, as well as coordinator and vice-chairman, and my over 12 years of elected and appointed service in section offices, i have had the opportunity to determine not only the problems that were faced by our members. their deep concern for a financially and technically rewarding career is of primary interest to them. we thought i would like to extend our efforts toward assuring that these goals are brought closer to reality.

james e. shepherd

eee's directors and officers must assure that ieee continue to do well in all activities that serve the technical needs of a majority of ieee members, while it continues to search for workable positions on professionalism for engineers.

the ieee is a recognized university, at many different technical and professional levels, and in many different specialties. ieee must continue to find better ways to make available to each such individual the technical and professional experience with which he will have to cope in his engineering career. and it is important that ieee's publications on electrical and electronic engineering be available to engineers in the optimum way by encouraging rapid and wide dissemination of new ideas, and must simplify the personal exchange of technical information through open meetings, committees, and other forum of its many technical groups and societies.

ieee must also elevate the quality of engineering practice through improved acceptance of those exercising it. we must try into engineering college curricula by the many who cannot do so but must continue to contribute opportunities for further education for practicing engineers.

national, ieee must continue pushing forward with policies designed to make its professional activity rewarding and in the best interests of the profession. ieee must continue to contribute opportunities for continuing education for practicing engineers.

national, ieee must continue pushing forward in the development of the ieee's professional activity plans for engineers, for fairness in contracts between employers and for increased discrimination because of age alone, and for backing its stand on the question of the status of technical and engineering.

d Region directors must push iee into increased legislative contacts at the state level, in as many of its members as possible, for furthering the rights of engineers.

increase allowable tax deduction limits for individual persons by engineers.

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