LETTERS

AIEE President Urges Merger With IRE

To the Editor:

The proposed merger of AIEE and IRE merits the enthusiastic support of all members of AIEE.

The advantages are obvious to those working in communications, instrumentation, science, and electronics. Unification of work of the two institutes in these fields will yield large returns in the efficiency with which the profession can be served. The opportunity to organize technically and economically sound member groupings in line with these interests is inherent in the merger prospect.

No less inviting are the opportunities presented to AIEE members in the fields of power, industry, transportation, and utilization. The growing use of electronic techniques in these fields strongly suggests the value of closer cross-ties among the specialties to be brought together in IEEE.

The merger contemplates wider participation of the members in the technical activities of the organization. All of the functions now performed by the AIEE technical committees will continue. Whether these functions are integrated into Professional Technical Groups, Divisions, or under any other label, chosen for purposes of coordination and management, makes little difference. Competent members must continue to handle the solicitation, review, selection, and dissemination of the best technical information developed in their fields through publications, meetings, conferences, symposia, and conventions.

Just how IEEE will organize to carry on these essential functions cannot now be known. The two Boards of Directors and their committees wisely refrained from trying to decide all the questions associated with the operations of IEEE. The opportunity presented to the members of IEEE seldom comes to mature men or organizations. To make a reappraisal of methods and procedures and a fresh start in today's exciting technological environment is a challenge that members of AIEE should surely welcome.

Warren H. Chase
President, AIEE

Details of the proposed merger of AIEE and IRE are spelled out in a special merger supplement to the April issue of Electrical Engineering.