REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

This time I will report on what happened in Minneapolis, Minnesota in July. On July 11 the Directors of Regions 7 to 10 met in an informal way to discuss matters of mutual interest. Mr D M Hinton, VP and RAB Chairman, and Dr G Sinclair, EAB/RAB Liaison, both from Canada, participated. After a TAB dinner some lectures on energy problems followed.

The Regional Activities Board Meeting was held on the next day. I reported that EUROCON '77 was a success, and that IEEE had an exhibit at the World Electrotechnical Conference in Moscow in June. There were about 1,000 enquiries from the Russian participants about IEEE and about 25 per cent wanted to become IEEE members. There is no Russian Section today, but we have about 20 members. Since the Soviet Union does not permit money to leave the country a dues payment method has to be found. The Staff will look into the matter. I also reported that there is a problem with the France Section concerning members so that they can attend at least one meeting every second year. Negotiations will continue and the matter will be taken up at the next meeting.

Another proposition, by petition, is of very great importance to Region 8. It would decrease the number of Regional Directors outside the United States from four to one. Thus the representation by the non-US members on the Board of Directors would be reduced in a drastic way. The Board of Directors urges you to vote against the proposition, and so do I. Some members in the United States would like to replace IEEE by AI/IAE/AIEE "American". This will be the end of IEEE being a transnational Institute. Therefore, VOTE AGAINST this proposition. Your vote is important!

The third proposition, also by petition, proposes that dues and assessments of the Member shall not increase without the concurrence of the voting Members. The Board of Directors urges you to vote against this proposition, and so do I.

Sad to say, usually only about 36 per cent of the membership votes. This means that around 18 per cent of the members may lead us on the road towards disaster. So, please vote!

E Folke Bolinder
The new US copyright law

The new US copyright law, which takes effect next January, requires publishers officially to obtain written transfers of rights from authors or their employers in order to copyright their works. Such copyright transfer is necessary in order for journal publishers, such as IEEE, to continue to function effectively. It will provide a single source to whom individuals, libraries and other publishers can turn for reprint or republication permission and for dealing with such requests on behalf of IEEE’s 12,000 authors per year. Policies and procedures were to be developed by the new central authority role which is being played for the first time in association with the GIEL (Groupement des Industries Electriques) and by the IERF (Institution of Electrical and Radio Engineers) , the UKRI Section of the Institute of Electrical and Radio Engineers (Savoy Place, London WC2) at 10.00 - 12.30 hours on June 26. Although one of the committee’s charges for this year is to publicize the report and commentary on it, it is also taking on specific areas within which concrete improvements can be executed. This year, the committee’s main charge has been to prepare the Institute for activation of the President-Elect system. Robert Cotelleesa explained how this system would work. At the moment, the Institute elects independently an Executive Vice-President and a President, with no succession arrangement. A plan is under study to have the elected Vice-President become the next year’s President automatically. In other words, the candidate would be elected to serve for a two-year term: on year as Executive Vice-President, one year as President. The committee has been rewriting applicable portions of the IEEE Constitution and Bylaws, particularly Article 12, Section 1, to allow for instituting the President-Elect system. The proposed constitutional amendments were first presented in Spectrum this September if they were given initial approval by the Board of Directors in July; then, if all goes smoothly, they will be put to a member vote in September 1978. Among the advantages of this system are continuity in the office of the President and an ample planning period for the new administration. However, the plan may also carry drawbacks, and the LRPC and the Board are interested in soliciting general membership response to the idea. If the plan is instituted, the first President-Elect chosen under it would serve his or her term in 1980.

The committee is comprised of 13 members and four consultants. It has operated on an extremely modest budget since the LRPC report was issued; however, it benefits from the full co-operation of other IEEE officers and committees.

IEEE position on Energy Conservation

It is the IEEE position that energy conservation programmes should be given the highest national priority in energy planning. The rapid depletion, worldwide, of certain unrenewable fossil energy resources warrants continued identification and aggressive implementation of energy-conserving technology. On the other hand, the cost effectiveness inherent in energy conservation programmes makes it an important adjunct to the development of alternative energy sources. Such conservation programmes should be given the highest priority in national energy planning. They should be based on both implementation of available technology and on the undertaking of appropriate and promising research and development where existing technology appears inadequate.

The position of IEEE that the priorities, timing and degree of implementation should be based on thorough and competent analysis of the technology, cost effectiveness and the social, economic and environmental benefits attainable, with recognition of potential public acceptance. Such procedures should be capable of providing substantial energy savings without significantly impairing standards or slowing economic growth.

In the establishment of such energy conservation plans it is the Institute’s position that consideration should be given to the following concepts and objectives:

- **Areas of application.** Energy conservation is not limited merely to a reduction of energy use. On the contrary, the potential for energy savings lies in numerous areas, each of which are candidates for significant conservation implementation and development programmes. Ten areas are mentioned as examples.

- **Voluntary action.** It is appropriate that energy conservation measures be implemented through a combination of regulatory and voluntary action. However, no regulatory action can be effective unless producers and consumers provide voluntary support in the belief that compliance is truly cost effective from their own standpoint.

- **Cost incentives.** Public acceptance of proven energy conservation measures will depend on effective information programmes and, in many cases, on the establishment of tax and price incentives at the consumer level. In developing countries, where cost is the major drawback, cost incentives both in the production and consumption areas, so as to recognize improved efficiency in products and practices through a net reduction in associated consumer prices wherever possible. Methods should be devised and implemented to encourage the use of life cycle costing for energy-consuming investments and to recognize the increasing costs of electricity. Where appropriate, the price of electricity should be such as to encourage users to shift their time of usage away from peak demand periods. In general, the price of primary energy sources should be set in the free market place.

For further information contact Ralph Clark, IEEE Washington Office.

### Three New Books


### MEETINGS IN REGION 8

Seminar on Communications 78

The importance of the changes and developments in the international status of Communications 78 which have taken place over the past year have led to the organization of a Communications 78 Seminar to bring executives and potential exhibitors fully up-to-date on the exposition. The Seminar will be held in the lecture theatre of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (Savoy Place, London WC2) at 10.00-12.30 hours on Wednesday, October 12, 1977.

From an international status point of view, the most significant developments are concerned with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The world telecommunicationso authorities representing 153 governments. This has helped to emphasize the importance of the exposition’s PTT Telecommunications theme, one of the three themes of Communications 78 which draws particular attention to the immense potential being created by the converging technologies of computing and telecommunications. Further emphasis is provided by the new central authority role which is being played for the first time by Post Office Telecommunications.

An equally far-reaching change has been made in the importance of the Fixed and Mobile Radio Communications theme, by the close involvement for the first time of the Directorate of Radio Technology at the Home Office in addition to continued support from the Directorate of Telecommunications.

The international status of the integral Communications 78 Conference has also increased. It will again be organized by the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) but for the first time in association with the
tion for Medical and Biological Engineering), IEEE and numerous scientific societies. Its aim is to gather medical doctors, scientists and engineers specialized in acquisition and processing of signals and images in medicine and biology and make possible the evaluation of the corresponding systems.

The sessions will be generally opened by "state of art" lectures to be followed by papers and discussions on problems of design and utilization of systems.

Workshops will be organized on selected topics and a scientific and technical exhibition will be organized.

Further information from: Secretariat Général de Biosigmo, 78, 11 rue Hamelin, 75783 Paris Cédex 16, France.

**Intermag Conference**

The purpose of the 16th International Magnetics Conference is to provide a forum for presentation of new developments in applied magnetics, related magnetic phenomena and information storage techniques. It will be held May 9-12, 1978 in Palazzo dei Congressi, Florence, Italy. It is sponsored by the Societa Di Fisica, the Associazione Elettrotecnica Italiana and the IEEE Magnetics Society.

In addition to the contributed papers, there will be invited papers and sessions wherein competing technologies can be assessed, tutorial sessions, and workshops for less formal discussion of timely and/or controversial Southeast European Section topics will be placed on an organized list of papers in above, as well as in the contributed papers.

Contributed papers are solicited in all areas of applied magnetics, related magnetic phenomena and information storage technologies. Topics of wide interest in recent years have included all aspects of magnetic recording, various magnetic and other memory technologies, microwave magnetics, electronic transformers, permanent magnet materials and technologies, control and power conversion and conditioning, magnetics and transducers, magnetics and levitation and drives, magnetic field calculations and magnetic materials properties and processing. This list is intended to be suggestive rather than restrictive.

**Workshops**

- **Workshop on Systems (Amsterdam),**
  - Air traffic regulation
  - Remote sensing
  - Power electronics

- **Workshop on Power Electronics (Amsterdam),**
  - Power electronics
  - Remote sensing

- **Workshop on Telecommunications (Amsterdam),**
  - Telecommunications
  - Remote sensing

- **Workshop on Control and Power Systems (Amsterdam),**
  - Control and power systems

**NTG Conferences with co-operation of the German Section**

**News of Members**

It is with deep regret that we report the sudden death of Dr F J Miranda, a fellow of the IEEE on 1 June 1977, at the age of 68. Although he had retired from the position of Chief Engineer of Pirelli General in 1974, he still remained active in the Pirelli organization in a consultative capacity until the time of his death.

**EUROCON '77**

The complete Conference Proceedings "Communications" are published in two volumes (1,357 pages), containing more than 200 papers in English. A limited number of copies are available from Associazione Elettrotecnica ed Elettronica Italiana, Viale Monza 259, I-20126 Milano (Tel: Milano 33207; Telephone: Milano 2566642) at a price of $50 (for the two volumes).

IEEE Standards now Marketed in Europe by IEE

As part of the friendly co-operation which exists between the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (USA) and the Institution of Electrical Engineers (UK), certain IEE Standards are now available from the Publications Department of IEE, Savoy Place, London WC2R OBL.

**NEWS OF THE SECTIONS**

**Benelux Section**

At the end of July, 1977 the total number of active members in the Benelux Section was 851 (against 611 in 1976). This increase is mainly due to the vitality of the Student Branches, especially in Belgium. At the end of the academic year, 233 student members were registered.

In the Netherlands, the meetings are organized in close co-operation with the national engineers associations, a form of co-operation which is considered beneficial to all groups concerned.

On August 15, 1977 the establishment of a Joint Antennas and Propagation/Microwave Theory and Techniques Chapter was approved. Dr Maanders (Eindhoven Technical University) acts as the Interim Chairman and a Vice-Secretary of the other country than the Chairman and the Secretary to allow a better contact between the Section Committee and the members, a rotation being organized every two years.

For the period September 7-7 September 7, 1, 1977 meetings are planned about the following subjects: Cable television (Utrecht), Instrumentation (Amsterdam), Integrated circuits (Brussels), Glass fibres (Eindhoven), Pulsed chronics, Remote sensing, Air traffic regulation (Amsterdam), Spatial telecommunications (Louvain-la-Neuve), Telephone traffic, Devices, Communications for energy plants.

**Officers:**
- Chairman: Professor A Vander Vorst
- Vice-Chairman: Prof E Maanders
- Secretary-Treasurer: Prof A Laloux
- Vice-Secretary: Ir G Anink

**Germany Section**

The number of members increased from 491 in April 1976 to 544 in April 1977.

**Conferences**


**International Conferences with co-operation of the Germany Section on behalf of IEEE Region 8**

- **"7th European Microwave Conference (EuMC)", September 5-8, 1977 in Copenhagen, Denmark**
- **"3rd European Solid State Circuits Conference (ESSCIRC)", September 20-22, 1977 in Ulm, Germany**
- **"178th International Zurich Seminar on Digital Communications", March 7-9, 1978 in Zurich, Switzerland**

**Digests**

The complete Conference Proceedings "Communications" are published in two volumes (1,357 pages), containing more than 200 papers in English. A limited number of copies are available from Associazione Elettrotecnica ed Elettronica Italiana, Viale Monza 259, I-20126 Milano (Tel: Milano 33207; Telephone: Milano 2566642) at a price of $50 (for the two volumes).

IEEE Std 683-1976 (£8.00). Digital interface for programmable instrumentation. Utilizing a byte-stream bit parallel means to transfer data among a group of instruments and systems, the interface system is designed as an interface device for system components in relatively close proximity to communicate over a contiguous party-line busbar system.

**Atlas test language (£10.50).** A standard abbreviated English language used in the preparation and documentation of test procedures for manual, automatic or semi-automatic implementation.

**Atlas syntax (£8.00).** A second volume in the Atlas series.

**CAMAC instrumentation and interface standards (£15.00).** A hard-cover volume of the four individual CAMAC standards (as listed below).

**IEEE Std 583-1975 (£8.00).** Modular instrumentation and digital interface systems (CAMAC).

**IEEE Std 595-1976 (£8.00).** Serial highway interface system (CAMAC).

**IEEE Std 596-1976 (£5.50).** Parallel highway interface systems (CAMAC).

**IEEE Std 683-1976 (£15.00).** Block transfers in CAMAC systems.

**Publicity Campaign for Student Members**

In the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the IEEE German Section it was decided to start a publicity campaign for recruiting Student Members. For this reason a number of professors of Technical Universities in West Germany have been requested to nominate up to three students who are interested in the IEEE membership. The German Section of IEEE pays the membership dues for these students for two years plus the delivery of an IEEE publication.
Communications Chapter

In January, 1976 a Communications Chapter was established within the framework of the IEEE Germany West Section. In accordance with the Bylaws, the main purpose of this Chapter is to serve IEEE members who as members of the US Army are living in Germany but, of course, the membership of the Chapter is open for all IEEE members. Mr Alfred Hollander, Mannheim, was elected as Chairman of the Chapter. Since his transfer to Naples, Italy, there has been no activity of the Chapter.

UNITED KINGDOM AND REPUBLIC OF IRELAND SECTION

Mr Michael A Giddings has agreed to take on the job of looking at the educational facilities available from New York, such as short courses and speakers, to see if any would be of use to UKRI members, and if so what arrangements we should make to use them.

In addition he is prepared to arrange Section meetings, such as those after the last AGM and after the next Committee meeting.

Mr Giddings will also be thinking of an exchange of speakers with other Sections in Region 8, and he will give his attention to this more difficult problem after he has dealt with the New York facilities.

Mr Giddings' address is: 3 Arkwright Road, Irchester, Wellingborough, Northants, and he is employed by Communications Studies and Planning Ltd; Telephone 01-637 9757/B.

Professional Communication Chapter. Members are reminded that a meeting has been arranged for November 2nd at the Department of Electrical Engineering, Imperial College, Exhibition Road, London SW7 at 6.00 pm (tea at 5.30 pm). Robert Spence of Imperial College and a Fellow of the IEEE will speak, with a demonstration and film, on "Man-Computer Interaction: A Key Component of Computer-aided Circuit Design". A brief summary of the Lecture was given in the July Newsletter.

It is hoped to arrange a Weekend Conference (Friday dinner to Sunday lunch) on Professional Communication to be held at the Beauport Park Hotel near Battle, Sussex, March 3-5, 1978; preliminary details are given on the enclosed insert. In order to gauge the reaction of members to the proposal the Committee would be very grateful if they would complete the questionnaire attached to the insert and return it within the next week or ten days.

STUDENT ACTIVITY NEWS

Vincent Bendix Award (or Great Lofty Ideas Can Happen)

Many Student Branches have asked how they can get more funding for Branch projects. The answer is simple—participate in the Vincent Bendix Award Competition. Your group can win up to $500 for an innovative project. All that is required is a six-page proposal describing your project and demonstrating that it will strengthen the professional development of its creators while contributing to the development of the Branch programme as a whole.

The odds that your Branch can win are increased this year for two reasons. First, the Bendix Corporation has increased its support for the competition by $1,000. Therefore, the IEEE judging committee will consider proposals that will make more grants to those Branches preparing innovative proposals. Secondly, the Bendix sub-committee of the IEEE's SAC has prepared a four-page "tutorial", giving you tips and helpful hints on how to prepare that award-winning proposal.

The best hint, however, is to start planning now. The contest deadline is November 15. Get contest rules and information from your faculty Counsellor, Section SAC, or write to: Judy Rundle, Manager of Student Services, IEEE, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017.

Career and Life Planning Publication Available

The IEEE Student Activities Committee has been working hard on a publication entitled "Career and Life Planning for Students". Written by Dr John Picarelli of Washington International College, the newly published pamphlet was designed to help students assess their needs and abilities while discovering their career and life goals. The Student Services Department will be sending preview copies to your faculty Counsellor. Additional copies may be obtained by writing to Judy Rundle, IEEE, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017.

Everything You Always Wanted To Know about the IEEE Student Programme (But were afraid to ask!)

All your questions, simple or intricate, about the IEEE Student Programme are answered in one 32-page manual, the IEEE Student Branch Operations Guide. Need a list of membership benefits? Want to know what happens to your membership when you graduate? Need help in recruiting new members? Require assistance in finding fund-raising projects? Simply consult this all-purpose Guide. All vital information (and more!) is available there. The 1977 edition was being shipped to every IEEE Student Branch faculty Counsellor this summer (and the IEEE Student Services Department will send out extras on request).

Calling all Hams

A new edition of the directory of IEEE Student Hams will be published this month. Names, addresses and call letters of individual student hams and Branch stations are sought. Contact Judy Rundle, Manager, Student Services, at Headquarters.

OUR NEWSLETTER IS TEN YEARS OLD

This is the IEEE Region 8 Newsletter No 40, which means that the Newsletter has been in existence for exactly ten years. On this occasion I take great pleasure in thanking Professor Robert C G Williams, the founder, and the Editor Mr William H Devenish for a job well done during a decade. The Newsletter has proved to be a valuable link between the Region 8 members. It is interesting to study the old issues of the Newsletter. It originally grew out of the UKRI Section Newsletter. On the first page of No 1, December 1967, there is a message from the then Director of Region 8, Robert C G Williams, and a list of members of the editorial board: Lebel (Chairman), Stumpers, Amer, David, Rohde, Lavi, Barzilai, Francini, Pannestad, Bolinder, Guanella, Lane, Vander Vorst and Russell. No 3, June 1968, showed up with a nice blue head on the first page, and No 18, April/May 1972, introduced a new style for the first page, and No 3, June 1968, showed up with a nice blue head on the first page, and No 18, April/May 1972, introduced a new style for the Newsletter, the one we have today. Action items were now considered more important than reports on past events, and advertisements were accepted. I wish the Newsletter all the best for the future. Finally, I would like to urge you, dear Member, to send on more news and photographs from the Sections, especially student news. Also, please bear in mind that a 150 per cent increase of the inserts and advertisements would make our Newsletter self-supporting!

E Folke Bolinder

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