In the fall of 1979 again new people will be elected for the IEEE top jobs for 1980. The Board of Directors' nominee for IEEE President is Burkhard H. Schneider, Vice-President Divisions of the Detroit Edison Company.

The petition candidate for IEEE President is Leo Young, Staff Consultant, Electronics Technology Division, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington DC.

The Board of Directors' nominee for Executive Vice-President is C. Lester Hogan, Vice-Chairman of the Board, Fairchild Camera & Instrument Corporation, Mountain View, CA.

As it is almost impossible for the candidates to travel and speak in the regions, I strongly believe that the Presidency of the IEEE should be open to all members. I believe that the IEEE is a volunteer organisation, and it helps those who help themselves. This is clear that a good share of the strength of the Institute is derived from its worldwide character. Technical and scientific knowledge knows no geographic boundaries. I believe that we engineers can generate the kind of friendship and co-operation which has eluded the politicians and diplomats.
Progress in any region or country must therefore rest on the shoulders of local volunteers. IEEE can and does provide the framework within which volunteers can operate and help their countries. As IEEE President I would bring to my job a special familiarity with the European scene, and would value the local contacts. It is both fortuitous and fortunate that I have known for many years the incoming President of IEE (in London), and the chairman of the IEE Section in Switzerland; and have lectured in Italy, Germany, Israel, and so on. Furthermore, IEEE President Jerry Suran appointed me chairman of an IEEE ad hoc committee on international activities to stress the growing importance of IEEE's international role. I accompanied him to London in June this year to meet with representatives of IEE and the major European electrical engineering societies. These discussions have proved very helpful, and I hope will bear fruit next year. I certainly will do my best.

REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The 33rd Region 8 Committee Meeting was held in Zürich, Switzerland, on April 27 and 28. It was the first Committee meeting I chaired and I must say that this meeting again strengthened my faith in international co-operation and understanding. The participants were Poortvliet (Benelux), Winton (UKRI), Bolinder (Sweden), Vander Vorst and Maanders (Benelux), Becker (Denmark), Tallquist (Finland), Voge (France), Proebster (Germany), Protonotarios (Greece), Smolinski (Poland), Gopegui (Spain), Forrer (Switzerland), Russell and Giddings (UKRI), Egginham (part-time, Switzerland), Van der Wulp (Benelux), Williams (UKRI), Karkarik (Finland), Kijowski (Poland), and Horvais (France). The hospitality we met was almost overwhelming. The discussions with the Yugoslavian Section Executive Committee were mainly focused on the currency exchange problems. This causes problems especially when the Section Chairman, Prof. Gruden, wants to attend the Region 8 Committee Meetings. A solution to this problem will be worked out in the near future. I also want to thank the Yugoslavian Section for their hospitality and co-operation.

Our first meeting in Budapest (Hungary) was with representatives of the national institutions, viz. Prof. Dr. G. Almaszy (Secretary General), Georg Bodnar (Vice-President of the Hungarian Electrotechnical Association), T. Holop (Chairman of the Committee for International Co-operation), J. Hoznek (Federation of Scientific and Technical Societies, Dept. of International Relations), T. Pal (Head of Dept. of International Relations), Mr. Z. Szentgyörgyi (Computer and Automation Institute).

After an introduction about the IEEE by President Suran, Prof. Almaszy presented a draft to establish the co-operation between IEEE and the Hungarian Scientific Society for Telecommunication (HTE). The General Manager Erik Herz will work out this proposal and will suggest solutions which can be acceptable for IEEE and HTE. The next day we had a very optimistic meeting with the representative of the Hungarian National Societies, B. A. Jefimovics. It is my sincere hope that Region 8 can establish a section in Hungary in close co-operation with the national societies.

In Czechoslovakia we met with Dr. M. Novak and J. Trnka. The possibility for establishing an IEEE Section was discussed. In September there will be further contacts with the Czechoslovakian Academy of Sciences in order to investigate the problems.

In Austria we had very encouraging discussions with Dr. Eier. Prof. K. R. Richter and Dr. A. Sethy. The establishment of an Austrian Section turned out to be only a matter of time and we could count on a good relationship with the National Societies according to Dr. Sethy. At the reception organised by President Suran it became obvious that in the near future IEEE will have a Section in Austria.

Finally, I want to say that the visits with Jerry Suran and Erik Herz were quite an experience and showed a great concern about the transnational aims of the IEEE.

I hope that the next President of the IEEE will continue this work with the same spirit as President Jerome J. Suran.

DICK C. J. POORTVLIET
Director Region 8 1979–80

Invited were Prof. Stumpers, Eurocon Trust, Dr. P. Kartaschoff, Secretary Treasurer Switzerland, Mr. J. Heierle (Switzerland). We were also very happy to welcome the President of the IEEE Jerry J. Suran and the General Manager Erik Herz.

It was a pity that we could not welcome all section chairmen, because I think their presence is important. President Suran pointed out that the IEEE is very concerned about the transnational policy of the IEEE. There are many topics that are important for all IEEE Regions, e.g. ethics, energy, social implications of microprocessors, registration and discrimination. He also stated that he would like to see a close co-operation with the national societies on these matters. The meeting expressed a great concern about organising Region 8 Committee Meetings in countries with visa problems, remembering the incident with the Israel Section Chairman at an earlier meeting. The committee passed unanimously the following motion:

The Regional Committee supports the policy that a meeting of the R8 Committee can and should be held in any section of the Region. However, the Committee recognises that, if a meeting is held in a country which does not have diplomatic relations with one or more countries in which a section in the Region is situated, this could create difficulties for Committee members who wish to attend. In this case the Regional Director can consider another Section to meet if he has no firm commitment of the authorities that all committee members can attend. The student activities were as usual very well represented by André Vander Vorst. He expressed his concern about the Student membership in France. The Student Paper Contest as reported in the last Newsletter was a great success.

Prof. Proebster, the Chairman of EUROCON 80, gave an excellent review about the status of EUROCON 80. Due to his efforts EUROCON 80 will be successful. The co-operation with EUREL and VDE is encouraging. The financial situation of the Region 8 Committee is rather bad. The Committee recognised several times that two meetings per year were required. The solution was expressed in a discussion with the President of the National Societies, B. A. Jefimovics. It is my sincere hope that Region 8 can establish a section in Hungary in close co-operation with the national societies.

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Finally, I want to say that the visits with Jerry Suran and Erik Herz were quite an experience and showed a great concern about the transnational aims of the IEEE.

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DICK C. J. POORTVLIET

Left to right: President Jerry Suran, UKRI Chairman Reg Russell, Region 8 Director Dick Poortvliet, and Executive Vice-President Leo Young at the IEEE Executive Committee meeting in London.
EUROCON '80, STUTTGART, GERMANY

24-28 March 1980

Over 150 papers have now been offered from Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the United States, Japan, and the Middle East, and the final programme can be expected in October or November. In the opening session, which will consist entirely of invited papers, Mr. Evans (Vice-President IBM) will speak on "Data processing and communication technology". In the communication session, Dr. Voorman (Philips Research Laboratories) will present "analog filters - from LC filters via hybrid implementation towards monolithic integration", while in the "other fields" session, Mr. Martin (Centre Electronique Horloger, Neuchâtel) will give a review paper on the use of microelectronics in watches. In the student programme, tutorial papers will be presented in the afternoons of Tuesday and Thursday, and the following subjects have been provisionally selected: LSI technology, Microprocessors - hardware aspects; Microprocessors - software architecture; Applications of LSI in telecommunications, in radio and television, and in other consumer products.

First steps are already being taken towards the next Eurocon, which will possibly be held in 1982. Several subjects are under discussion, such as "Engineering aspects of the energy crisis", and suggestions will be welcomed.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES – EUROCON 80

An important educational programme will be organised at EUROCON 80. Many features will be especially interesting for students and university staffs, beside the specialist conferences to be held. Several tutorial lectures will be given to serve as a basic introduction to the theme of microelectronics. To help the students to elaborate an adequate programme of attendance, these lectures will be placed at a different time within the parallel sessions and clearly indicated in the Programme.

Two complete afternoons will be devoted to "special tutorial programmes" covering the following topics: Technology of micro-electronic chips, Microprocessors (hardware and software); LSI circuitry in communications, radio, television and other industrial applications. Industry tours will be organised during another afternoon. The 1980 Student Paper Contest will also be held in Stuttgart immediately after EUROCON, on Friday afternoon. IEEE Student Members may register at a special low fee. Low-cost lodging and eating opportunities are being investigated. This will be a unique opportunity for the Student Branches of Region 8 to meet each other while attending a meeting of very high scientific level. There is no doubt that an international student participation will be extremely stimulating and fruitful. It is therefore suggested that all Student Branches (especially those who traditionally organise a study trip every year) plan to attend EUROCON 80.

More information will reach the Student Branches in the forthcoming months. In the meantime, it may be obtained from Professor A. Laloux, Secretary of the Student Activities Committee for EUROCON 80, and Professor A. Vander Vorst, Chairman of the Region 8 Student Activities Committee, Batiment Maxwell, B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.

INSTITUTE NEWS

Honours for two dedicated staffers

At its February meeting, the Board of Directors passed two resolutions honouring Richard M. Emberson and Emily L. Sirjane, both of whom will retire during this year.

The resolution honouring former General Manager and Executive Director Emberson cites his "unusual leadership, service and dedication to IEEE, and his extensive "comprehension and knowledge of the fields of electrical arts and sciences". It states that the Board "requires the continuing advice and counsel of Dr. Emberson" and therefore has elected him Director Emeritus of IEEE. This new position will give him a non-voting seat for life on IEEE's Board of Directors.

The resolution honouring Corporate Services Staff Director Sirjane recognises her 31 years of "leadership, wisdom, dedication and support" of IEEE. The Board conferred on her the unique title of Life Fellow Emeritus, and presented her with a book of approximately two hundred messages from Sections and Societies around the world. In addition, the Philadelphia Section, which makes annual awards for outstanding service to its members, has made a special award to Miss Sirjane, citing her "wise counsel and guidance to the Philadelphia Section through inspiring support of IEEE Region and Section activities for many years". A cash award was presented to Miss Sirjane at a staff reception held on March 15 at Headquarters.

Travelling Instructor Programme

A "Travelling Instructor Programme has been initiated by IEEE. Geared to providing affordable courses to members of non-US IEEE Sections, the programme seeks out US members who are travelling outside the country on business or for pleasure, and attempt to match the expertise of such travellers with the needs of IEEE Section members in the vicinity of the travellers' destinations. Any lateral transportation costs (from prearranged destination point to locale of participating Section) are picked up by IEEE, and each instructor is paid a $300.00 honorarium. The programme is sponsored by the Educational Activities Board with Technical Activities Board support. The instructor need not be a faculty member nor have a prepared course. In some cases, IEEE will provide TAB-approved courses in the area of a traveller's expertise; in others, the traveller may submit a course for TAB approval.

For further information on this programme write Vincent J. Giardina, Manager of Continuing Education, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854 – or call him at (201) 981-0060, extensions 174/175.

New Literature

IEEE announces a catalogue of short courses featuring over 100 short courses, oriented to industry applications, of one, two and three-day duration. In addition, a variety of Home Study programmes, to satisfy both technical and non-technical needs; plus a new dimension in Continuing Education – Video Tape courses are included. Our education programmes are open to all Institute members, their associates and colleagues.

For further information on any of our Continuing Education programmes or for a free copy of our catalogue, we invite you to contact IEEE Manager of Continuing Education, Mr. Vincent J. Giardina, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854, or call him at (201) 981-0060, extensions 174/175.

MEETINGS IN REGION 8

International Conference on the Electronic Office

The conference, organised by the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers in association with the Institution of Electrical Engineers, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the Chartered Institution of Building Services, the British Computer Society and the Operational Research Society, is to be held in London from Tuesday 22 April to Friday 25 April 1980.

The conference will review the rapid developments which have taken place in recent years in office automation and discuss future trends in this very significant area. Contributions are invited under the following general subject headings: Organisation, planning and procedures; Information processing; Storage, communications and reproduction; Operational research and human factors; Environmental services; although these are by no means the only areas to be covered.

Further information will be available in due course from: Conference Secretariat, Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers, 39 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AZ.
Conference on Progress in Electron-Tubes and Components of Related Technologies

Section 4 of the Nachrichtentechnische Gesellschaft (NTG) in the VDE is organising in co-operation with the German Section of IEEE a conference on the above subject in Garmisch-Partenkirchen (West Germany/Bavaria), from 21-23 May 1980.

The duration of papers should not exceed a maximum of twenty minutes. The language of the conference is German but papers in English will also be accepted. Submission of provisional versions of papers are requested to the Chairman of the Programme Committee, Dr. H. Heynisch, Siemens AG, Werk für Röhren und Sondergeräte, St. Martinstr. 76, (D) 8000 München 80, by 30 September 1979 at the latest. Accepted manuscripts should be sent, in a form ready for printing (a maximum of ten DIN A4 pages, including diagrams, etc.) by 1 March 1980. The conference-volume will be available for the conference.

Second International Conference on Developments in Power-System Protection

Organised by the Power Division of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in association with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc. (United States and Canada) and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, the Conference will be held in London, 10-12 June 1980.

The aim of the conference is to discuss the design, application and performance of power system protection in the fields of generation, transmission and distribution and with particular reference to recent developments and possible future trends.

The conference will be particularly concerned with recent developments resulting from advances in protection technology and with possible future developments including the application of digital computers and microprocessors to power-system protection.

The Organising Committee invites offers of contributions for consideration for inclusion in the programme. Those intending to offer a contribution should submit an A4 page synopsis (approximately 250 words) to the IEE Conference Department by 3 September 1978.

Authors whose synopses are selected for development into full contributions for further consideration will be asked to provide a typescript of not more than 4,000 words of text, or correspondingly less if illustrations are included, for assessment, by 21 January 1980.

Deadline for receipt of 300-350 word synopses is 3 September 1979.

The conference will be held at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2, England, and further information may be obtained from the Conference Department at that address.

Conference on Precision Electromagnetic Measurements

CPEM '80, the recognised international forum for the exchange of electromagnetic measurement views, will be held at Stadthalle Braunschweig, Federal Republic of Germany, 23-27 June 1980.

The conference language will be English. Papers are requested for CPEM '80 which describe original work not published or previously presented, covering the design, performance, or application of electromagnetic measurements, techniques, instruments, or systems. All papers containing contributions with EM measurements will be submitted to the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc. (United States and Canada) for consideration for inclusion in the programme. Those intending to offer a contribution should submit an A4 page synopsis (approximately 250 words) to the IEE Conference Department by 3 September 1978.

The authors whose synopses are selected for development into full contributions for further consideration will be asked to provide a typescript of not more than 4,000 words of text, or correspondingly less if illustrations are included, for assessment, by 21 January 1980.

Deadline for receipt of 300-350 word synopses is 3 September 1979.

The conference will be held at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2, England, and further information may be obtained from the Conference Department at that address.

International Conference on Power System Monitoring and Control

The conference will be held in London, 24-26 June 1980, organised by the Power Division of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in association with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc. (United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Section).

The aim of this conference is to provide a forum for discussion on the developments in monitoring and control of power networks since the 1976 IEE Conference on "On-line operation and optimisation of transmission and distribution systems". This aspect is fast moving because of the continuing development and application of microprocessors and minicomputers at outstation, area and national control level. It is intended to include both software and hardware aspects of the implementation of monitoring and control systems as applied to power system operation and management. General philosophies of hardware and software design for control will not be included.

Emphasis in all contributions should be on the advances in concepts of hardware of software implementation and contributions will be selected on their ability to show significant progress since the 1976 "On-line operation and optimisation of transmission and distribution systems" conference held at Savoy Place, London.

Deadline for receipt of 300-350 word synopses is 3 September 1979.

The conference will be held at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2. Further information from the Conference Department there.

IEEE REGION 8 AND THE MIDDLE AND SOUTH ITALY SECTION

ANNOUNCE THE CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ELECTRONICS TO BE HELD IN ROME, PALAZZO DEI CONGRESSI, 10-11-12 MARCH 1980, DURING THE EXHIBITION OF ELECTRONICS, NUCLEAR AND AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY.

Theme: Electronic systems for remote sensing and ranging. The topics to be discussed are as follows: Sensors (radar, laser, infrared, etc.); Signal processing (coding, modulation, compression); Data transmission; Data processing and display; Related systems.

Round Table: Medical applications of sensors.

Seminar: Interface problems between satellite-mounted systems and ground telecommunications systems.

Written contributions will be considered. Accepted papers will be published in the Proceedings of the Congress. Those who intend to submit a written contribution must notify the Secretariat (Via Crescenzi 9, 00193 Rome) before 15 November 1979 indicating the title and enclosing a short summary.

Registration fee is 50,000 Italian lira.

For additional information please write to the Secretariat: Rienzi, Via Crescenzi N.9, 00193 Rome, Italy. Tel: 06/6569343. Telex: 611407.

NEWS OF THE SECTIONS

University of Technology. The number of early registrations show that there is a sound interest in this subject.

The Joint Chapter on Antennas and Propagation/Microwave Theory and Techniques received recognition as the most outstanding Chapter and region in 1979. The Chairman, Technical Programme Chairman, CPEM '80, Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, Federal Republic of Germany.

Deadline for receipt of 300-350 word synopses is 3 September 1979.

The conference will be held at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2. Further information from the Conference Department there.

The conference will be held from 21-24 August at the Eindhoven
DENMARK SECTION
The activities have been centred around lectures arranged by the Section at the Technical University of Denmark at Lyngby (near Copenhagen). The average attendance was about 20 Section members plus 20 guests. The following lectures were presented.
17 February. Prof. Adolfo Guzmán, National University of Mexico, "Computer Analysis of Landsat-Images of Mexico".
3 April. Prof. Lars Löfgren, University of Lund, "Simple Learning Automata".
26 October. (i) Mr. Scott Hill, University of Copenhagen, "Some Selected Experiments in Paranormal Biocommunication and Psychokinesis"; (ii) Dr. R. D. Mattuck, University of Copenhagen, "Quantum Mechanics, Consciousness and Psychokinesis"; (iii) Dr. Peter W. Becker, DTH, "On the Telepathy Experiments, Remote Viewing, Performed at SRI".
29 November. (i) Dr. M. J. B. Duff, University College of London, "The CLIP4 Image Processing System"; (ii) Dr. D. Rutowitz, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, "Multi-Processor-Pipeline versus the True Parallel Processor in Image Processing".
During the year the Section has established three committees. A Membership Development Committee having Mr. Frank V. Jørgensen as chairman, an Education Committee having Mr. Carsten Hede as chairman, and a Student Activities Committee having Mr. Mads Segaard-Knudsen as chairman.
Over the year the membership increased from 218 to 244, or about 12%.

FINLAND SECTION
The majority of diploma engineers who have graduated from the Electrical Engineering Department of Helsinki University of Technology are members of some of the electrical engineering societies working on a national level of which there are twelve. As a result, most of the Section activities (meetings, lectures, etc.) are held jointly with other national electrical engineering groups and societies.
The following officers were elected 1979-01-29 to the 1979 Executive Committee: Johan E. Tallqvist (Chairman), Jari Jaatinen (Vice-Chairman), A. B. Sharma (Secretary) and Iiro Hartimo (Treasurer). The Executive Committee has so far been responsible for jointly organizing a one-day colloquium on "Electrical Engineering in Finland" (23 March 1979) and a lecture by Prof. K. Yamada on "Electronics Industry in Japan" (26 April 1979).

GREECE SECTION
Since the last IEEE Regional Committee Meeting in the Greece Section, an active lecture series programme was organised; eight internationally known speakers presented timely lectures on different subjects covering a wide spectrum in electrical and electronic engineering. Participation in these lectures was high and the interest of the audiences very keen. From 12 March to 11 April the first workshop of the Greece Section was organised in collaboration with the Greek Public Power Corporation. The theme of this workshop was "Contemporary Developments in Power Systems". The workshop was very successful and it is hoped that it continued the contribution education effort of the IEEE Greece Section.
The membership of the Section has increased roughly 25% since the same time last year. On 12 December 1978 a panel discussion was held at the National Technical University of Athens on professional orientation to engineers and scientists active in the field.

IRAN SECTION
Nominations Committee's Report. Professors Farzad Biegani, Abdol-Hossein Rahimi and Abbas Tehranian were appointed by the Section as members of the Nominations Committee for the election of the Section's Executive Committee Members. In its report the Nominations Committee recommends the following course of action: "In view of the inactivity of the Section in the past year due to circumstances beyond the control of the present Section officers, we recommend that the present officers retain office for another year."
Section's Plans for 1979-80. According to the Nominations Committee's recommendation (see the preceding item), the following persons will serve as Section officers for 1979-80:
Chairman: Prof. Behrooz Parhami, Tehran University of Technology, PO Box 3406, Tehran. Tel. 918269. Messages: 972009 and 918538.
Secretary: Dr. Abdol Hamid Rady, Engineering Research Group, National Iranian Radio and TV, Jame Jam Avenue, Tehran. Tel. 295193 and 295058.

SIGNAL PROCESSING
A European journal devoted to the methods and applications of Signal Processing
Editor-in-Chief: MURAT KUNT
Laboratoire de traitement de signaux, Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne, 16, Ch. de Bellerive, CH-1007 Lausanne, Switzerland
Aims and Scope: Signal Processing will incorporate all aspects of the field's theory and practice - both analogue and digital. Featuring original research, tutorial and review articles as well as accounts of practical developments, the journal will act as a vehicle for the rapid dissemination of knowledge and experience to engineers and scientists active in the field.


Subscription Information:
Signal Processing is published in volumes of 4 issues (totalling approximately 400 pages). 1979: Volume 1
The first issue appeared in February 1979. Subscription price for 1979: US $73.25/Dfl. 150.00 per volume including postage and handling.

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Treasurer: Dr. Abbas Jabbari, Technolog, Inc., Engineering and Industrial Consultants, PO Box 11-1719, Tehran Tel: 293098.
Prof. Mehdi Nouri, who was the Section's Vice-Chairman, will not be able to serve for the coming year.
The Section has recently experienced a very sharp drop in the number of members. This is due in part to departing foreign nationals, who formed some 30% of the members, and in part to difficulties in remitting member dues as a result of foreign exchange restrictions.

Hoping to recover from this setback during the summer months, Section activities will restart later this year with the publication of the next issue of the Newsletter (Vol. 5, No. 3) containing announcements of our plans. Meanwhile, the Section has co-sponsored two microprocessor short courses in late July.

ISRAEL SECTION
The Israel Section will co-sponsor, with AEAI and the Ministry of Telecommunications, a "Telecommunications Day" at the Fifth World Congress of Engineers and Architects in Israel to be held in Tel Aviv from 16-20 December 1979. The there will be: "Dialogue in Development -Towards the 21st Century".

MIDDLE AND SOUTH ITALY SECTION
From February 1978 to February 1979 the membership of the Section increased by 19%.
Since the last news (Region 8 Newsletter No. 45, February 1979) the following technical meetings took place:
On 7 February 1979, Prof. F. Valdoni, Director of the Research Project "Navigational aids and air traffic control" of the National Research Council, gave a lecture on "Problems and evolution of the air traffic control system" at the University of Rome; the same lecture was given on 1 March 1979 at the University of Palermo.
On 13 March 1979 Prof. P. L. Bargellini, Senior Scientist at COMSAT, gave a lecture on "Progress of Commercial Satellite Communications".
On 20 and 27 April 1979 the Student Committee organised a technical course in late July.

The main event since November 1978 was the election by ballot of a new Section Executive Committee for the two-year term 1979-80. The elected officers are: M. P. Forrer, Chairman; G. S. Moschytz, Vice-Chairman; H. Mey, Junior Past Chairman, P. Kartaschoff, Secretary/Treasurer; F. Eggimann, M Jufer, G. de Montmollin, H. F. Wyss, Members-at-Large. The new Section Executive Committee took office at the annual meeting in Neuchâtel on 2 February 1979. During the Winter Semester 1978/79 the Section sponsored or co-sponsored over fifty technical meetings at the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology in Zurich and Lausanne and at the University of Berne. Zurich and Lausanne have active and growing student branches (Zurich 71, Lausanne 46, on 31 December 1978).
At the annual meeting the five winners of the annual Swiss student paper contest sponsored jointly by the ASE (Association Suisse des Electriciens), the IEEE Switzerland Section and the IEEE Switzerland Chapter on Digital Communication Systems, received their prizes and were presented and congratulated. The IEEE Section has grown from about 740 on 31 December 1978 to 796 on 31 March 1979.

SWITZERLAND SECTION
The latest meeting of the Professional Communication Chapter was on 13 March when a joint meeting was held with the Institute of Scientific and Technical Communications. Mr. Hugh Marlow, who is a management and organisation development consultant, gave a lecture on "Winter Semester 1978/79 the Use and Abuse, or Great Expectations Unfulfilled". The main theme of Mr. Marlow's lecture was what computer users, other than scientists and engineers, have not been strong enough to determine the way in which computers should be used, and that professionally privileged groups have evolved to dominate the less well organised groups to the disadvantage of the end user. However, he argued that the situation can be reversed by a few simple guidelines without creating new professional elites.

At the next meeting of the Professional Communication Chapter, to be held at Imperial College, London, on Thursday 8 November at 18.00, the speaker will be Dr. G. B. Townsend of the IBA, whose subject is "Can Broadcasting Communicate?"

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