



A message to members

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President ASHRAE

Last January, on the way to the meeting at Houston, I picked up United's "Mainliner" magazine, and noticed President Keck's message on the first page. He started his message by saying:

"We have no complex plans or elaborate programs for 1966. Our objective is simply this: to provide the best service that can be produced by a unique combination of highly trained personnel, advanced technology, the world's largest jet fleet and 40 years of company experience in air transportation. . . ."

It occurred to me, as I read this, that this would be just about what I would want to say to the membership, if and when I was installed as President of the Society in June, except, of course, modified to omit references to air transportation.

During the years following the merger, this could not have been said. The present smooth operation of the Society did not just happen. It is the result of years of hard work on the part of a group of dedicated people. The first Board meeting which I attended was the one in Miami at the end of Jack Everetts' term as President. This meeting started at 9:00 a.m., went through lunch and dinner and ended around 1:00 a.m. The Board's work was just one series of problems. At that time, there were three Board meetings per year, each of which consisted of two full-day sessions, and it seemed that we never had enough time to finish our work.

Following Jack Everetts' administration, came those of John Fox, Frank Faust, John Dube and, this last year, Jim May. Working with each of these men was a fine Board of Directors, and an increasingly able and dependable headquarters staff. Little by little, these groups whittled away at the Society problems. By John Dube's term, he was able to cut the number of Board meetings to two per year. During Jim May's administration, he has been able to cut the length of the sessions to a daytime meeting on Sunday, and a half day on Wednesday or Thursday.

This shows that the problems resulting from the merger are now largely solved, and that the work of the officers and Board of Directors has become largely administrative, rather than corrective. True, there are still some rough edges, but nothing of importance. So it becomes largely a matter of polishing rather than grinding. All of us connected with the Board, today, should be appreciative of the hard work done by these previous Boards.

This coming year, the membership has given me a fine group of officers who work well together, and an excellent Board of Directors. With their help and the assistance of our dedicated and knowledgeable staff at Headquarters, it is my hope that when my term of office is completed, a year from now, the Society will be operating just a little smoother than it is today.

I thank the membership for their confidence.