The year 1976 was another outstanding year in the operation of the Institute and in the success of its varied activities.

Total AIME membership reached 59,773 for a gain of 6.4 percent. Total revenue increased to $5,111,210, up 22.4 percent, and balance sheet assets increased to $8,479,612, up 12.2 percent from the previous year. AIME and its constituent units conducted 30 technical meetings during the year, and attendance was up at most of them. Publications issued by the Constituent Societies continued a healthy growth.

During the year 9 new local Sections were established, and at the end of the year the Institute had 150 Sections, with 19 of them overseas. Details on all of these operations are on pages 2 and 3 of this report.

An outstanding development was the continued expansion of the Governmental Energy, and Mineral Committee, established by the Institute in 1975. GEM Committees have been established in the Constituent Societies and in a large number of local Sections. The combined work of all of these committees appears to be growing in effectiveness and value to government officials and others in public policy decision making roles.

The decentralization program of business functions and administrative activities, initiated in AIME in 1973, continued to work very smoothly, and tangible results are evident in the operation of the business offices of the Constituent Societies and the AIME Headquarters. The hoped-for results of the decentralization are being realized.

With the decentralization of the Institute now working smoothly, the AIME officers and Headquarters staff have been in a better position to devote time and attention to external activities and relationships of the Institute. The outstanding activity of the year was the conduct of a
conference in the White House in Washington, D.C., on May 13, 1976. The Presidents of the Institute and all of the Constituent Societies and other selected speakers presented papers to an audience of about 200 persons in the Executive Office Building of the White House. The theme of the conference was "U.S. Energy and Mineral Supplies: National Needs." Contents of the papers highlighted this theme and presented data on the development of the nation’s energy and mineral resources.

The conference was successful, and requests are still being received for copies of the proceedings for it.

Another outstanding event during the year was the formation of the Engineering Societies Commission on Energy as a joint venture between AIME and the three other leading engineering societies, ASCE, ASME and AIChE. This is a non-profit corporation in the State of New York, abbreviated ESCOE, as a subsidiary of the four engineering societies involved. The purpose of the corporation will be to contract with the Energy Research and Development Administration of the federal government to assist ERDA in the objective evaluation of the design and economics of alternative processes in the planning and management of fossil energy research, development and administration.

Under a $3.4 million contract, ESCOE will employ a management staff and ten engineers to work with ERDA in the development of research on coal liquefaction, combustion, utilization and gasification; on enhanced oil recovery, oil production technology, oil shale recovery and magnetohydrodynamics. The ten engineers, to be designated as "resident engineers," will be employed on the basis of a two-year leave from their companies. Details of the program are being published in the four AIME monthly journals in the spring of 1977, and prospects for effective operation of the program are good. Julius J. Harwood, 1976 AIME President, and Joe B. Alford, Executive Director, represent the Institute on the Board of Directors of ESCOE.

During the year AIME officers and staff conducted several meetings with other leading engineering societies, particularly ASCE, ASME, IEEE and AIChE; toward a more effective united effort in our various activities. In October several AIME members participated in an Engineers Joint Council conference on public policy decision making. Officers and staff continue to be active in representing AIME’s participation in the United Engineering Trustees, the Engineering Foundation, the Engineers Joint Council and the Engineers’ Council for Professional Development.

AIME is one of the great technical institutes of America. Its membership directories provide an "honor roll" of the leaders in the mining, metallurgical and petroleum professions. We have a great heritage, a great obligation, and a compelling incentive to continually strive for improvement and increased service to our members.

SUMMARY

AIME is uniquely organized among the leading engineering societies with the AIME Corporate Headquarters and its four Constituent Societies, all as operating units. The primary thrust of the Corporate Headquarters is external, handling AIME's interests with other engineering societies, the
profession at large, and governmental relations. The Constituent Societies conduct primary administration, technical meetings and publishing operations. This organizational structure and diversity of operation allows maximum utilization of the Institute's resources, leadership and staff. All of this combines into a significant value to each AIME member.

Julius J. Harwood 1976 AIME
President