

Report of the 1971 Executive Director

Joe B. Alford

The most outstanding aspect of 1971 was that it has been the Centennial year for the Institute. The Centennial Celebration and 100th Annual Meeting of AIME, held in New York, February 28-March 4, was the culmination of several years of planning by many persons. It was a very successful event, with some 3,500 persons in attendance representing many countries of the world.

During 1971, the Institute experienced severe financial constraints because member dues have not been raised since 1950, and all aspects of AIME and Constituent Society operations have been affected. Because of this problem, intensive analysis and study of the internal activities and operations of the Institute and its Societies have been conducted throughout the year by numerous officers and staff members. The basic purpose has been to find an equitable means of financing the AIME Headquarters and other all-Institute expense and the operations of the three Constituent Societies. The financial needs of the three Constituent Societies differ considerably. The studies have resulted in the development of a new approach to financing of all operations, which is being recommended to the AIME Board of Directors at the 1972 Annual Meeting in San Francisco. I believe that if these recommendations are adopted, they will provide some basic solutions to the financial problems experienced by the Institute in recent years.

AIME is indebted to President John S. Bell for his unusual service during 1971. During the year he travelled extensively and spent a very substantial amount of his time on Institute business in many ways. Mrs. Bell accompanied him in the attendance at numerous Society and Section meetings. The Institute is indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Bell for their contributions.

I wish to express appreciation to all officers and staffs of the Institute and the three Constituent Societies for their dedicated efforts during the year to help the Institute to maintain its fine record of service established during the past century.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe B. Alford
Executive Director