

Know your ASHRAE



ARTHUR J. HESS

As your new President, even though slightly tarnished from use, I wish to express my thanks to you for your confidence in my ability to do the work of this highest office at your command. I also wish to express our thanks to Cecil Boling who preceded me in this office and performed a Herculean task during the very trying period of transition.

During the period of operation of my term of office as President, it is my desire that this President's Page be used to acquaint the membership with the internal workings of the Society. I have been really surprised as I go about the country in the lack of knowledge our membership has as to how the Society functions, and this applies equally to the members from either of the parent groups. I realize that readers of this page are few and far between but perhaps the few who do read it can assist in spreading the story when possible and I hope some Chapter publication can pick it up in some form. Hence, during this time you will hear from each of the Vice Presidents and the Treasurer who will explain to you some phase of Society operation or something about the Society they desire to talk to you about.

Our National organization is made up of the Council, the elected Officers, the Committees and the Staff. These naturally divide into two groups, on the one hand, the Council, Officers and Committees who are elected or appointed by your elected representatives. Generally their job is to set the policies of operation of the Society under the Charter and By-Laws, in other words, to see to it that the Society does what it is supposed to do. As you know, these are dedicated members who serve with no remuneration and in many cases without reimbursement of travel and other expenses. These men will devote all the time they can to do their job but should not be asked to do any more than they can give without too great a sacrifice.

The Staff, on the other hand, is hired by the Society to carry on the day to day business functions of the Society together with implementing and carrying out the policies as set up by the Council, Officers and Committee group. The Staff is also made up of a dedicated group, they must be, to put up with some of our ideas of operation. The Staff is somewhat vulnerable too since they "just work there."

I think it is important that the members know these things so that their approaches to National problems or National contacts can be properly made and so they will have a measuring rod for checking on certain things that are done or how they are done.

I hope each of you has a wonderful vacation.