

MACHINE COMPUTATION COMMITTEE

A.V. Caselli, Council Liaison to the Machine Computation Committee, proposed to Council the formation of a Computing and Systems Technology Division of AIChE. Council at its November meeting had given official status to the formation committee, and a report of activity was made to Council at that time. Since then a draft set of Bylaws have been prepared, and operating plans and budget have been completed. Their work and program is premised, Mr. Caselli stated, on their formation as a division by Council in June.

It was observed that Council had never formally approved a first-year operating plan, which is a Bylaw requirement for division formation; Council had only approved a committee to establishing a division. Some Council members said it was not clear whether the operating plan outlined in 1(b), Section VII, of the Bylaws required the committee to be in operation for one year or whether it required that the proposed division operate for a year. The committee, said Mr. Caselli, interpreted this provision by saying that 1977 is the trial year and that by June of 1977 they will have met all requirements. Council was not clear whether under 1(b) the operating year was from the time that the committee was formed or from the time that they met their approval as a division. Council, it was said, could interpret the Bylaws in any way it chose and could say that the committee has been operating with a plan since August of 1976 and if an operating plan were brought to Council at its June meeting, Council could then declare them a division at the Denver (August) meeting. Council then VOTED

77.C.28 that, subject to the formation committee meeting the requirements outlined in the Bylaws and in June bringing to Council an operating plan, it is Council's intent to declare them a division at its meeting in August.

Since there was such a difference in interpretation of the Bylaws covering division formation, a study of this section of the Bylaws was suggested. Therefore, Council VOTED

77.C.29 to ask the President to assign an ad hoc committee to look at Section VII, Paragraph 1(b) of the Bylaws to clarify this section relative to the formation of a division.

The Executive Director was asked by the President to present the history and background to Council.

(Reference: Council Minutes of November 27, 1976, page 478, Motions 76.C.95 & 96...)